TASMANIA.

THE IMPOUNDING ACT, 1930.

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TASMANIA



1930.

ANNO VICESIMO PRIMO

GEORGII V. REGIS.

No. 34.

AN ACT to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the Impounding of Animals.

[23 December, 1930.]

BE it enacted by His Excellency the Governor of Tasmania, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly, in Parliament assembled, as follows:—

PART I. PRELIMINARY.

1—(1) This Act may be cited as "The Impounding Act, 1930."

Short title and commencement.

- (2) This Act shall come into operation on the first day of January, one thousand nine hundred and thirty-one.
- 2 The Acts set forth in the First Schedule, to the extent Repeal. respectively indicated in that schedule, are hereby repealed.
 - **3**—(1) In this Act, unless a contrary intention appears—

"Clerk" means the town clerk in the case of a city and the council clerk in the case of a municipality:

"Council" means the municipal council of a city or municipality:

Interpretation.

A.D. 1930.

6 Ed. VII. No. 31.

- "Fenced land" means land enclosed by such a fence as the court in any proceedings under this Act may think sufficient to prevent trespass by the animal in respect of which the proceedings are brought:
- "Municipality" means a municipality constituted under the Local Government Act, 1906, and includes a
- 'Owner" and "occupier," in relation to land, include any manager, superintendent, overseer, or other person lawfully acting on behalf of an owner or occupier:
- "Owner," in relation to any animal, means the owner, whether jointly or severally, and includes the authorised agent, manager, or superintendent of the owner, and a lessee or hirer from the owner:
- "Poundkeeper" includes the person for the time being lawfully in charge of any pound:
- "Section" means section of this Act.
- (2) Any reference to a schedule shall be read as a reference to a schedule to this Act.

PART II.

POUNDS AND POUNDKEEPERS.

Establishment of pounds and appointment of poundkeepers.

- **4**—(1) The council of every municipality may—
 - I. Establish pounds within the municipality:
 - II. Abolish any pound: and
 - III. Appoint poundkeepers.
- (2) The establishment or abolition of any pound and the appointment or removal from office of any poundkeeper shall be notified in the Gazette.
- (3) All pounds lawfully in existence at the commencement of this Act shall be deemed to have been established under this Act for the respective municipalities in which the same are situated respectively.

Remuneration of pound-keepers.

- **5**—(1) Subject to the provisions of this section, the salary of a poundkeeper shall be paid by the council out of the municipal fund.
- (2) The council, in any case where it thinks fit, may permit the poundkeeper to retain for his own use the whole or part of the fees payable under this Act, in lieu of such salary or part thereof.

6 During the absence or incapacity of any poundkeeper, A.D. 1930. or in the case of a vacancy in the office of poundkeeper, the clerk, or some person appointed by him, in writing, for that Absence or purpose, may act as poundkeeper, and while so acting shall be poundkeeper. deemed to be, and shall have and may exercise all the powers and functions of, the poundkeeper.

Pound build-

7 Every council shall—

I. Provide and erect all necessary buildings and fences ings, &c. and supply all necessary equipment for every pound within the municipality, and keep and maintain every such pound in good repair:

II. Take all necessary steps and adopt all proper means to prevent the spread of any disease in any pound

under its control:

III. Erect and maintain at some conspicuous place in every pound under its control a board displaying in legible characters a table setting forth the poundage fees, charges, and damages, prescribed under this Act and for the time being in force in the municipality.

8—(1) Every poundkeeper shall keep the pound under his Duties of control clean and free from nuisance and shall supply all poundkeeper. animals impounded therein with sufficient quantities of whole-

- some food and water. (2) The poundkeeper may send any animals out of the pound for grazing or watering at fit times and to fit places not more than six miles from the pound, but shall be responsible to the owner of any impounded animals for any loss or damage occasioned by any wilful act or neglect on the part either of himself or his servants.
- 9 When any impounded animal appears to the poundkeeper Destruction of to be—

I. Seriously diseased:

II. So injured or disabled as to be apparently in continual pain: or

III. Owing to its condition, or for any other reason, of no marketable value—

the poundkeeper may apply to any justice for authority to destroy such animal, and the justice, after such inspection or inquiry as he may think sufficient, may give such authority.

10—(1) Every poundkeeper shall keep at the pound a Poundkeepers pound-book in the form in the Second Schedule, and shall enter to keep poundlegibly in writing in such book the full particulars of all records. matters specified therein, under the proper heads, at the time when such matters occurred or as soon as practicable thereafter.

diseased and worthless animals.

A.D. 1930.

(2) The pound-book shall be produced to the clerk for inspec-

tion by the poundkeeper once in every month.

- (3) Every poundkeeper shall keep a book, in a form approved by the council, for entering the brands or other marks of animals, and any person, on payment of the fee of Two Shillings and Sixpence, shall be entitled to have particulars of his brands and his name and place of residence entered in such book.
- (4) Every book kept by a poundkeeper shall be open to inspection at all reasonable times by a member of the council or a police officer free of charge, and by any person on payment of the fee of Sixpence, and the poundkeeper shall supply extracts therefrom, signed by him, on payment of the fee of One Shilling for the first one hundred words or less; and Sixpence for each additional hundred words or part thereof.

(5) Every poundkeeper shall keep at the pound a copy of this Act, which shall be available for public inspection at all

reasonable times free of charge.

(6) When a poundkeeper ceases to hold or is removed from office, he shall deliver to the clerk all books and documents kept by him in connection with the pound.

Notice cf impounding to be displayed on pound.

11—(1) Within twenty-four hours after any animal has been impounded, the poundkeeper shall affix to the gate, or set up at some other conspicuous part of the pound, a written notice setting forth a description of the animal impounded and any brands or marks on such animal, and shall keep such notice continuously displayed until the animal has been removed from the pound.

Penalty: Two Pounds for every day on which the notice is

not displayed.

(2) One such notice as aforesaid in respect of any number of animals impounded together by the same person shall be sufficient.

Notice of impounding to be sent to owner.

12—(1) Within forty-eight hours after an animal has been impounded, if the animal has not been claimed by the owner or by some person on his behalf, and the owner is known to him, the poundkeeper shall give notice in writing of such impounding in accordance with this section.

(2) If the owner resides within five miles of the pound by the nearest practicable route, the notice shall be served by the poundkeeper or some person on his behalf by delivering the same to the owner or at his residence addressed to him.

(3) If the owner resides at a greater distance than five miles from the pound by the nearest practicable route, the notice shall be given by telegram, or by registered letter if it is not practicable to give such notice by telegram.

- (4) Every notice of the impounding of any animal shall A.D. 1930. contain-
 - I. A description of the animal impounded, with its brands and marks:
 - II. The place from which, and the person by whom or by whose authority, it was impounded:

III. The date of the impounding:

IV. A statement of the time and place when the animal may be sold if it is not released: and

v. A statement of the fees, charges, and damages then lawfully chargeable in respect of the animal, including the cost of giving the notice—

except in the case of a telegraphic notice which shall contain a brief statement that an animal belonging to the owner has been impounded, and shall be supplemented by a registered letter containing the particulars above prescribed.

(5) Where more animals than one belonging to the same owner are impounded at the same time, one notice of impound-

ing only need be given to such owner.

13 If the owner of any animal which has been impounded Notice where is not known to the poundkeeper, within forty-eight hours owner not after the impounding the poundkeeper shall forward to the poundkeeper. clerk a notice of the impounding containing the particulars required by Section Twelve, and shall cause such notice to be advertised once in a newspaper circulating in the municipality.

14 The poundkeeper shall keep a copy of every notice of Copy of notice impounding given by him, and any such copy shall be available of impounding. for inspection by any person at all reasonable times, free of charge.

15—(1) The poundkeeper may detain any animal that has Animal to be been impounded until all the prescribed fees, charges, and detained until damages in respect of the animal are paid or until the animal charges paid. is sold or otherwise disposed of in accordance with this Act.

- (2) On receipt of all fees, charges, and damages due in respect of any impounded animal, the poundkeeper shall deliver the animal to the owner thereof.
- **16** Upon the expiration of ten days after the release of any Payment of animal the poundkeeper shall pay to the person entitled thereto damages to the prescribed charges and damages payable to such person, person impounding. except as otherwise hereinafter provided.

17—(1) The fees, charges, and rates of damages set forth Impounding in the Fourth Schedule shall be payable in respect of the several fees and matters to which they apply respectively until altered or super-other charges. seded as hereinafter provided.

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- (2) The Governor, by regulation, may prescribe any other fees, charges, or rates in lieu of those set forth in the schedule.
- (3) Any such regulation shall be in the form of a new schedule, and a full copy of the schedule as altered or amended shall be published in such newspaper as the Minister may direct.

PART III.

IMPOUNDING AND DETENTION OF ANIMALS.

Impounding of trespassing.

- **18**—(1) The owner or occupier of any land upon which animals found any animal is found trespassing may cause such animal to be impounded in accordance with the provisions of this section.
 - (2) Such owner or occupier, or his agent, as soon as practicable after the animal is found, shall drive or take such animal to the nearest pound, and there deliver the same to the poundkeeper to be impounded, together with a written statement specifying—
 - I. The descripion of the animal:
 - II. The marks and brands thereon so far as it is practicable to ascertain the same:
 - III. The name of the owner (if known to him):
 - IV. The place where the animal was found trespassing:
 - v. The amount of the driving charges and the damages, if any, claimed by him.
 - (3) In determining which pound is the nearest to the place where an animal is found trespassing, those pounds only to which there are practicable routes from such place shall be counted.
 - (4) If the place where the animal is found is the same distance from two or more pounds, such owner or occupier may cause such animal to be impounded at either of such pounds; and, if the poundkeeper is absent from the nearest pound, such owner or occupier may cause such animal to be impounded at some other convenient pound.

Power of owner or occupier to detain animal in certain cases.

19—(1) If the owner or occupier of any land which is situated more than five miles from the nearest pound, and upon which any animal is found trespassing, knows the name of the owner of such animal, he may detain the animal on his land for a period not exceeding four days.

(2) Such owner or occupier, within twenty-four hours after A.D. 1930. the animal is found on such land, shall give notice in writing to the owner of such animal specifying the description of such animal, the place where such animal is detained, the date of the finding of such animal, and particulars of the marks and brands thereon as far as it is practicable to ascertain the same.

(3) If such animal is not claimed by the owner thereof within such period of four days, such owner or occupier shall cause such animal to be impounded in the manner provided

by Section Eighteen.

(4) Such owner or occupier shall supply such animal while so detained with sufficient quantities of wholesome food and water, and shall be entitled to recover from the owner of the animal the charges prescribed for maintenance, and for giving notice in the case of animals impounded, and for damages for trespass.

20—(1) Any animal at any time found—

I. Straying or at large in any street, road, or thorough-

II. Trespassing on any reserve, park, public place, or land vested in or under the control or management of a council—

may be impounded by any person.

- (2) The provisions of Subsection (1) hereof shall not apply in respect of any road, not being a State highway as defined by the State Highways Maintenance Act, 1929, which is not within the boundaries of any city or town and which is not fenced.
- **21**—(1) There shall be payable by the owner of every Charges for animal found trespassing on fenced land and impounded, as damage by provided by Section Eighteen or Section Nineteen, to the owner or occupier so impounding the same, such charges by way of animals. damages for trespass as are prescribed.
- (2) The owner of every entire horse or bull more than one year old, impounded or detained under this Act, shall pay to the council or person impounding or detaining such horse or bull, by way of damages, the sum of Two Pounds, in addition to the prescribed fees, charges, and damages.

Impounding of animals straying in public places.

A.D. 1930.

PART IV.

SALES OF IMPOUNDED ANIMALS.

When impounded animals may be sold.

22 When an animal is impounded and is not claimed by the owner within seven days after notice of the impounding has been given, as provided by this Act, such animal may be sold in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

Advertisement of sale.

- **23**—(1) Except as hereinafter provided, no impounded animal shall be sold until after the expiration of seven days after the publication of an advertisement in a newspaper circulating in the municipality, specifying the time and place of the sale and the animals intended to be offered for sale.
- (2) With the consent in writing of the owner thereof, an impounded animal may be sold without advertisement at any time.

Provisions as to sales.

- **24**—(1) Except as hereinafter provided, every sale of impounded animals shall be by public auction, and shall be held by the poundkeeper, or some person appointed by the council for that purpose, at the pound or at some convenient place in the vicinity.
- (2) Not more than ten head of sheep or goats, or five pigs, and not more than one horse or one head of cattle shall be put up for sale in one lot, but a cow may be sold with her calf or a mare with her foal in the case where such calf or foal is less than six months old.

Certificate to sale.

- **25**—(1) Before any sale of impounded animals is held, the be given before clerk, or some person authorised in writing by the Council for that purpose, shall examine every animal intended to be sold, and the pound-book, and shall certify in writing that the animals intended to be sold are correctly described in the pound-book and in the notices of impounding and advertisements of the sale, and that the provisions of this Act have been complied with.
 - (2) Except where otherwise expressly provided, no impounded animal shall be sold until such certificate has been given.

Penalty: Twenty Pounds.

- (3) Any person who knowingly gives any such certificate which is false in any particular shall be guilty of an offence.
- Penalty: Fifty Pounds.

26—(1) Where any impounded animal is offered for sale A.D. 1930. in accordance with this Act and is not sold, and the value of Provisions such animal, in the opinion of the poundkeeper, is less than where animal the amount of the charges then payable and the charges which not sold. would be payable if such animal were kept until it could be sold by auction, the poundkeeper, with the consent of the clerk, may-

- I. Sell the animal by private contract: or
- II. Destroy the animal and sell or dispose of the carcase as he thinks fit.
- (2) The proceeds of the sale of the carcase of any animal so destroyed shall be deemed to be the proceeds of the sale of an impounded animal.
- 27 The proceeds of the sale of any impounded animal shall Disposal of be applied by the poundkeeper, first in satisfaction of the sale by poundimpounding fees and charges due in respect of the animal, and keeper, next in payment to the person impounding the animal of the prescribed amount for damages and driving charges, and the balance, if any, shall be transmitted to the clerk as provided in Section Twenty-eight.

28-(1) Within three days after the last day of every Accounts of month, the poundkeeper shall forward to the clerk—

poundkeeper.

- I. The balance of the amounts realised at each sale during that month, after payment of the items mentioned in Section Twenty-seven:
- II. A statement containing the particulars in the form in the Third Schedule of every sale of impounded animals for that month: and
- III. The certificates referred to in Section Twenty-five in respect of each sale.
- (2) The clerk shall examine the particulars contained in the statement with the certificates authorising each sale, and shall certify the correctness or otherwise of such statement to the council at the next ordinary meeting after the receipt of such statement.
- (3) The clerk shall post up in some conspicuous place in his office a copy of such statement, and keep such copy posted for at least one month.
- 29 All moneys received by the clerk in respect of the sale Application of of any animal under this Act shall be paid into the municipal moneys by fund, and shall be applied first in payment of any charges and expenses due and payable under this Act in respect of the animal, and the balance, if any, shall be paid on demand to the owner of the animal.

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Recovery of fees, &c., where proceeds of sale insufficient.

30 In any case where the proceeds of the sale of any impounded animal are insufficient to satisfy the fees, charges, and damages in respect of the impounding of such animal, or for any other reason the same or any part thereof remains unpaid, the same or the balance thereof, as the case may be, may be recovered from the owner of the animal on the complaint of the poundkeeper.

PART V.

REMEDIES OF OWNERS OF IMPOUNDED ANIMALS.

Right of owner to recover possession.

31—(1) The owner of every animal which is, or is being, or is liable to be impounded shall have the right to recover possession of such animal upon payment of all charges lawfully due under this Act in respect of such animal at the time such recovery is claimed by him or on his behalf.

(2) If such recovery is claimed before or during the transit of the animal to the pound, the person having possession of the animal shall inform the person making such claim of the name of the person on whose behalf the animal is held and of the amount of such charges which he claims to be then due.

- (3) If the owner or his agent, as the case may be, thinks the amount so claimed is excessive or that the impounding is unlawful he may pay the same under protest, and the person receiving such payment shall give to the person making the same a receipt, if required, acknowledging that the payment is made under protest, and the owner may proceed as hereinafter provided.
- (4) Every person having possession of any such animal as aforesaid, on demand being made to him, shall comply with the requirements of this section.

Owner of impounded animal may appeal.

- **32**—(1) In any case where the owner of any impounded animal disputes—
 - I. The legality of the impounding: or
 - II. The amount of the fees, charges, or damages claimed in respect of the animal—

he may proceed as hereinafter provided.

- (2) Any such owner may obtain the release of the animal by payment under protest of the fees, charges, and damages stated to be due in respect thereof, and the poundkeeper shall give him a receipt therefor acknowledging that the payment is made under protest.
- (3) When any animal is released as aforesaid the poundkeeper shall retain the fees, charges, and damages paid in respect thereof until the expiration of the time limited for

taking proceedings under this Act in respect of the impound- A.D. 1930. ing or until the determination of such proceedings, if commenced.

33—(1) Within seven days after any payment has been Mode of made under protest, as provided by this Act, the owner of the proceeding animal in respect of which such payment was made may proceed by way of complaint under the Justices Procedure Act, 10 Geo. V. 1919, against the person to whom such payment was made.

(2) Such complaint shall set forth the grounds upon which the amount paid is alleged to have been wrongfully demanded, and shall claim any repayment which is alleged to be due to

the owner.

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(3) Where such complaint alleges the illegality of the impounding, a summons thereon shall be addressed to and served on the person impounding the animal.

(4) If the court, on the hearing of the complaint, is satisfied

that the impounding was unlawful, it may order—

I. The repayment to the owner of the fees, charges, and

damages paid by such owner:

- II. The payment of any such fees, charges, and damages to the poundkeeper by the person impounding the animal: and
- III. The payment to the owner by the person impounding the animal of such compensation, not exceeding Ten Pounds, as the court thinks fit.
- (5) If the court is satisfied that the amount of the fees, charges, and damages demanded in respect of the animal is excessive or incorrect, it may—
 - I. Assess the amount of such fees, charges, and damages:
 - II. Order the repayment to the owner of the animal of any amount paid in excess of the amount so assessed.
- (6) The court may hear and determine the complaint, notwithstanding the fact that any question of title is involved therein, and may determine any such question.

34—(1) This Act shall not—

Saving.

- I. Affect the provisions of any Act in relation to animals straying or grazing: or
- II. Affect or take away the right of any person to bring any action for trespass or any other action or any remedy available to any person at common lawexcept as hereinafter provided.

(2) If the plaintiff in any action for trespass by an animal does not recover, by way of damages, more than the prescribed amount of damages for trespass, he shall not be entitled to any costs of the action.

A.D. 1930.

PART VI.

OFFENCES: PROCEDURE.

Offences.

35 No person shall—

I. Impound any animal, except in accordance with the provisions of this Act:

II. Rescue, or attempt to rescue, or assist in rescuing, or counsel or procure any person to rescue, or attempt to rescue, or assist in rescuing any animal impounded or seized for the purpose of being impounded:

III. Wilfully leave open any gate or slip-panel or make a gap in any fence for the purpose of permitting or causing any animal to trespass, or otherwise wilfully cause or procure any animal to trespass.

Penalty: Twenty Pounds.

Offences by poundkeeper.

36 No poundkeeper shall—

I. Refuse or wilfully neglect to receive into the pound any animal brought there to be impounded:

II. Impound any animal in the pound of which he is

the keeper:

- III. Wilfully suffer any animal affected with any contagious disease to remain in any enclosure where such animal can come into contact with any animal not so affected:
- IV. Give, or post up, or make any notice or entry which is false in any particular, or wrongfully erase or alter any entry:

v. Work or use any impounded animal.

Penalty: Twenty Pounds.

Poundkeeper and person impounding not to buy impounded animal. **37** No person who—

I. Is the keeper of the pound where an animal is impounded: or

II. Has impounded, or authorised the impounding of, any animal—

shall purchase such animal, directly or indirectly, alone or jointly with any other person, upon any sale thereof under this Act.

Penalty: Twenty Pounds.

Penalty, procedure, &c.

38—(1) Where by this Act any act is directed or forbidden to be done, any person who offends against any such direction or prohibition shall be guilty of an offence, and, where no penalty is elsewhere in this Act provided, shall be liable to a penalty of Five Pounds.

(2) Where a poundkeeper is charged with failing to pro- A.D. 1930. vide an impounded animal with sufficient quantities of wholesome food and water, the burden of proof that such food and water was so provided shall be on the poundkeeper.

(3) All proceedings in respect of offences against this Act shall be heard and determined, and all penalties shall be enforced and recovered, and all fees, charges, and damages payable may be recovered respectively in accordance with the provisions of the Justices Procedure Act, 1919.

10 Geo. V. No. 55.

THE FIRST SCHEDULE.

Section 2.

Regnal Year and Number.	Title of Act.	Extent of Repeal.
11 Geo. IV. No. 3 5 Vict. No. 13	The Impounding Act An Act to repeal the Thirtieth Section of an Act, &c.	The whole Act The whole Act
46 Vict. No. 6 58 Vict. No. 20 5 Ed. VII. No. 30	(11 Geo. IV. No. 3) The Impounding Act, 1882 The Impounding Act, 1894 The Police Act, 1905	The whole Act The whole Act Sections 136 and 212

THE SECOND SCHEDULE.

Section 10.

FORM OF POUNDKEEPER'S BOOK.

Date.	Тіте.	Particulars of Animals Impounded.	Brands and Marks.	Оwner.	By Whom Impounded.	For What Cause Impounded.	Time and Mode of Giving Notice to Owner.	How Disposed Of.	Time When Released or Sold.	Particulars of Release or Sale; if Sold, the Proceeds of the Sale.
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		Impounding.										
A.D. 1930 Section 28.	THE THIRD SCHEDULE. PARTICULARS of the Sale of Impounded Animals at Month of											
	Date of Sale.	Animals. Brands or Marks.	To Whom Sold.	Gross Amount of Sale.	Particulars of Expenses Deducted.	Net Produce of Sale.	Particulars of Charges, for Driving, with Dues and Tolls.	Amount of Damage.	Particulars of Moneys Paid.	To Whom Paid.	Remarks.	
		ated at			the at		day	4	A.B.,	to be	19 lkeeper. correct. Clerk.	
Section 17.	For ea Ewes, For every Fo	ch entire lend the character of the character of the cows, steed the cows, steed the cows, steed the character of the cows, steed the character of the characte	gelding ove the rs, heir pove the property of	bove , col age fers, e ag os For geldi , ste or gel liver	e of 9 in for the for a DIVISIMAINT DIVISIME OF ing, or	ION GE F e of 1: foal, conths es month he firs he nex he n	2 month mule, as for the for the for all as	sss, gosee firs e next e next other	at, and t 10 at 10 at 30 ars abo	d pig	s. d. 1 6 1 6 0 1½ 0 9	

A.D. 1930.

Impounding.

DIVISION IV. DRIVING CHARGES.

Horses, mares, geldings, bulls, cows, oxen, heifers, steers, calves Every one hundred rams, ewes, sheep, or lambs Every goat Every goat Every goat For the first of such animals: Three Pence; and for every additional one: One Half-penny. For the first hundred of such animals: Sixpence; and One Penny for every hundred or fractional part of a hundred above that number. One Half-penny	Description of Animals.	Per Mile.				
every pig One Shilling	cows, oxen, heifers, steers, calves Every one hundred rams, ewes, sheep, or lambs	Three Pence; and for every additional one: One Half-penny. For the first hundred of such animals: Sixpence; and One Penny for every hundred or fractional part of a hundred above that number.				

DIVISION V.
RATES OF DAMAGE TO BE CHARGED FOR TRESPASS.

Description of Animals Trespassing.	In any Paddock of grass on fenced land.	In any garden, uncut meadow, or growing crop of any kind on fenced land.
For every horse, mare, gelding, colt,	s. d.	s. d.
filly, ass, mule, bull, cow, ox, heifer, steer, or calf For every ram, ewe, sheep, or lamb	0 1	4 0 0 4
For every pig	} 2 0	6 0

Note.—The fees and charges set forth in Divisions I. and II. respectively of this schedule shall be payable in respect of each day during which the animal is kept or fed, as the case may be, in the pound, and any fractional part of a day on which the animal is so kept or fed shall be counted as a day.

Where a fee or charge is prescribed in respect of a specified number of animals the same shall be payable in respect of any less number if the total number impounded is less than the number so specified.

All such numbers as aforesaid shall be calculated in respect only of animals trespassing and impounded at one time.

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