

No. 31 OF 1933.

A LAW TO AMEND AND CONSOLIDATE THE LAW RELATING TO THE IMPORTATION, POSSESSION AND USE OF FIREARMS. A.D. 1933. 31 of 1933.

Amended by Law

R. E. STUBBS,]

[31st July, 1933.

*5/1934
11/1934
17/1937
19/1942*

Governor.

BE it enacted :—

1. This Law may be cited as the Firearms Law, 1933.

Short title.

2. In this Law, unless the context otherwise requires—
“ certificate of registration ” means a certificate issued under section 7 of this Law.

Interpretation.

“ Commissioner ” means the Commissioner of the District.

“ Comptroller ” means the Comptroller of Customs and Inland Revenue.

“ firearms ” includes a firearm of every description and an air-gun, air-rifle, air-pistol or any other kind of gun from which any shot, bullet or other missile can be discharged, and every part thereof, but does not include any toy gun or toy pistol from which any shot, bullet or missile is discharged by force of a spring alone nor a firearm which is preserved for antiquarian interest and not for use.

“ Local Commandant ” means the Local Commandant of Police of the District.

“ principal officer of Police of the District ” means the Local Commandant or the Inspector in charge.

3.—(1) The importation of the following firearms is absolutely prohibited—

Prohibition of importation of certain types of firearms.

(a) rifles ;

(b) air-guns, air-rifles or air-pistols of a type declared by the Governor in Council to be dangerous.

on possession. Law 5 1934

(2) The importation of the following firearms is prohibited—

(a) revolvers ;

(b) pistols :

Provided that the Governor may in his discretion and subject to such conditions as he may think fit grant a special permit to import any firearm specified in this sub-section.

Law 5 / 1934

(3) Any person who imports or attempts to import or aids, abets, counsels or procures any other person to import or attempt to import ^{or who has in his possession} any firearm specified in this section contrary to the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding three years or to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds or to both such imprisonment and fine and any firearm in respect of which the offence has been committed shall be forfeited. *Law 5 22954*

Importation of certain types of firearms.

4.—(1) The Comptroller may in his discretion grant a licence to import any firearm other than those specified in section 3 of this Law to any person who has obtained from the Local Commandant of the District in which such person resides a certificate that he is a fit and proper person to possess a firearm and that such firearm is being imported for the personal use of such person.

(2) Every such licence shall contain the name and residence of the person authorized thereby to import a firearm under this section and a description of the firearm in respect of which such licence is granted.

(3) Every such licence shall be in force for such period not exceeding three years as may be specified therein provided that the Comptroller may at any time, upon giving one month's notice to the holder thereof, cancel such licence.

(4) Any person who imports or attempts to import any firearm contrary to the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding one year or to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds or to both such imprisonment and fine and any firearm in respect of which the offence has been committed shall be forfeited.

Possession, etc., of firearms without registration and licence prohibited.

5.—(1) From and after the date of the coming into operation of this Law, no person shall have in his custody, possession or control, or shall use or carry a firearm unless such person is ~~provided with~~ ^{the holder of}

(a) a certificate of registration ; and

(b) in the case of a firearm other than a revolver, pistol, air-gun, air-rifle or air-pistol, an annual licence in the Form A in the First Schedule hereto issued by the Commissioner (hereinafter called a "firearms licence") :

Provided that the Commissioner may in his discretion issue a firearms licence to any person to have in his custody, possession or control or to use or carry a firearm in respect of which a certificate of registration has been issued to any other person :

Provided further that no person shall between the 21st January and the 10th September, both days inclusive, use or carry a firearm except under a special permit in the Form B in the First Schedule hereto under the hand of the Commissioner authorizing the carrying of a firearm for the purpose specified in such permit or by virtue of a licence issued under the provisions of section 5 (3) of the Game and Wild Birds Protection Laws, 1922 to 1933.

(2) A firearms licence shall expire on the 31st July next following the date of issue and there shall be payable in respect thereof a fee of one pound :

Provided that no fee in respect of the period ending 31st July, 1934, shall be payable by any person who is in possession of a game licence issued under the provisions of the Game and Wild Birds Protection Laws, 1922 to 1927, and expiring on the 31st March, 1934.

(3) The holder of a firearms licence in respect of which the fee prescribed in sub-section (2) hereof has been paid shall be entitled, during the period such firearms licence is in force, to be issued with a firearms licence in respect of any additional firearm in his custody, possession or control, upon payment of a fee of five shillings for each such additional firearm.

(4) Any person who has in his custody, possession or control, or who uses or carries a firearm in contravention of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding three months or to a fine not exceeding ten pounds or to both such imprisonment and fine and any firearm the property of such person in respect of which such offence has been committed shall be forfeited.

(5) The provisions of this section shall not apply—

- (a) to any person carrying a firearm belonging to a person provided with a certificate of registration and a firearms licence in force and by order of such person and for the use of such person only ;
- (b) to any licensed repairer of firearms or to any person actually employed by such repairer for the purposes of his trade ;

repealed
& replaced
See sect. 5-6
of Firearms
Law 5/1934

not repealed

(c) to the heir, executor or administrator of the estate of a deceased person who at the time of his death was entitled to keep a firearm, until the expiration of six months from the death of such person.

Deposit of
firearms
with
principal
officer of
Police.

6.—(1) Any person having in his custody, possession or control any firearm for which a certificate of registration has been issued but who does not desire to obtain a firearms licence may deposit free of charge such firearm with the principal officer of Police of the District within which such person resides for a period not exceeding one year and may at any time during such period withdraw the same on production of a firearms licence or for the purpose of export.

(2) Any firearm deposited under the provisions of subsection (1) hereof may, if still on deposit, be destroyed by the principal officer of Police of the District at the expiration of one year from the date of deposit without payment of compensation.

(3) The principal officer of Police of the District or any person acting under him in that behalf shall not be liable for any damage, loss, or destruction of any firearm deposited under the provisions of this section except where such damage, loss, or destruction is due to the wilful default of such principal officer of Police or person acting under him in that behalf as the case may be.

Registration
of firearms.

7.—(1) Any person who desires to register a firearm shall make an application in writing to the Local Commandant specifying his name and residence, the description of the firearm in respect of which registration is desired and, when the application is made in respect of a firearm which has been previously registered, the registered number of such firearm.

(2) On receipt of such application the Local Commandant may, in his discretion, unless the applicant is disqualified by virtue of the provisions of this or any other Law from possessing, carrying or using a firearm, issue to such person a certificate of registration in the Form C in the First Schedule hereto.

(3) Before issuing a certificate of registration the Local Commandant shall require the applicant to produce the firearm and thereupon, unless such firearm bears any number or mark which in the opinion of the Local Commandant is sufficient for purposes of identification and convenient for registration, shall cause such firearm to be marked either on the stock or barrel in such manner as not to injure or disfigure the same with a number whereby the same may be known and identified.

(4) There shall be payable in respect of a certificate of registration a fee of two shillings in stamps :

Provided that no fee shall be payable for any firearm in respect of which a licence was granted under the provisions of the Firearms Law, 1930.

(5) The Local Commandant shall register every certificate of registration granted by him in a book to be kept for the purpose wherein he shall enter the particulars of each certificate.

(6) The Local Commandant may in his discretion at any time cancel any certificate of registration and thereupon the holder of such certificate shall return the same to the Local Commandant and if he fails or refuses to do so he shall be guilty of an offence and shall on conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding ten pounds.

8.—(1) If any certificate of registration issued under the provisions of this Law shall be accidentally destroyed, defaced, or lost, the Local Commandant may, if he shall be satisfied as to the destruction, defacement, or loss of such certificate of registration, supply the person in whose name the certificate of registration had been issued with a duplicate of such certificate, and such duplicate shall have the same force and effect as the original certificate of registration.

Loss, etc., of
certificate of
registration.

(2) There shall be payable in respect of every duplicate of a certificate of registration a fee of one shilling in stamps.

9. All forfeitures under this Law may be sold or otherwise disposed of as the Governor may direct.

Disposal of
forfeitures.

10.—(1) Any person—

(a) to whom the Local Commandant has refused a certificate of registration ; or

Payment of
value of
firearm in
certain cases.

(b) whose certificate of registration has been cancelled ;
may within ten days from the date of the refusal or the cancellation of a certificate of registration, or in the case of an appeal under section 15 within ten days from the date of the decision of the Governor in Council upon such refusal or cancellation, or upon the expiration of the firearms licence, as the case may be, deliver such firearm to the Commissioner who thereupon shall pay to such person the value thereof at a rate to be assessed by the Comptroller, and if such person fails to deliver such firearm as aforesaid such firearm shall be forfeited.