

Seattle City Clerk's Office

Comptroller File

221809

(GENERAL)

FILE NO. 221809

Petition

OF  
Robert H. Chase

for

protection from bees.

8/10/53 - Harman Sec.  
8/18/53 ref. to Chmn  
9/13/53 - Health -  
10/14/53 - filed not by

August 7, 1953

FILED

W. C. THOMAS  
COMPTROLLER AND CITY CLERK

BY W. A. Perine DEPUTY

### ACTION OF THE COUNCIL

REFERRED	TO
AUGUST 10, 1953	PUBLIC SAFETY
REFERRED	TO
REFERRED	TO
REPORTED	DISPOSITION
OCT 19 1953	On File
RE-REFERRED	TO
REPORTED	DISPOSITION

### REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Mr. President:

You

Public Safety

Committee

to which was referred the within

petition

would respectfully report that we have considered the same and respectfully recommend that  
the same be placed on file.

CHAIRMAN

Acting

CHAIRMAN

October 15, 1953

Mr. Robert H. Chase  
938 West 51st Street  
Seattle 7, Washington

Dear Mr. Chase:

Your petition for protection from bees was before the Public Safety Committee of the City Council at its meeting yesterday.

After considering the reports of the Director of Public Health and the Manager of the King County Humane Society, the committee recommended that the petition be placed on file. Enclosed are copies of these reports for your information.

Yours very truly,

W. C. Heib, Jr.  
Council Aide

ej  
Enc.

NOTICE: IF THE DOCUMENT IN THIS FRAME IS LESS CLEAR THAN THIS NOTICE  
IT IS DUE TO THE QUALITY OF THE DOCUMENT.

SEATTLE-KING COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
ROOM 1500 PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING  
SEATTLE 4, WASHINGTON

S. J. LEHMAN, M.D., M.P.H.  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
PHONE: MAIN 6000

October 7, 1953

Councilman Clarence F. Massart  
Chairman, Public Safety Committee  
Seattle City Council  
514 County-City Building  
Seattle 4, Washington

Dear Councilman Massart:

This will reply to your request for a report and recommendations on a matter referred to in Council File No. 221809 regarding the keeping of bees in the City of Seattle.

It is noted from attached correspondence that Mr. R. W. Hinea, Manager of the King County Humane Society, has investigated the situation complained of by Mr. Robert H. Chase, 938 West 51st Street, regarding the keeping of five hives of bees by his neighbor. Mr. Hinea recommends that legislation be adopted requiring a permit and limiting the number of bee hives which could be maintained on a single lot to one hive. He further suggests that the permit be subject to revocation at the will of the Pound Master. In our opinion, the advisability of such legislation is seriously questioned. Although the suggestion to cut down on the number of hives has some merit, it is felt that in some areas several hives might be kept on one lot without creating a problem while on other lots one hive might be too many. The determining factor as to whether or not the bees become a nuisance to their neighbor seems to be the distance the hive is located from the adjoining lot.

We have discussed this matter with the Washington State Department of Agriculture Bee Inspector and it is his feeling that any reduction in the number of bees would further interfere with proper pollinization of fruit trees. He further stated that the keeping of bees is quite wide-spread throughout the city and any legislation adversely affecting bee owners would meet with considerable opposition. At the present time, the State Department of Agriculture requires a permit for the keeping of bees within this state.

Inasmuch as we have had so few complaints regarding honey bees and have been able to work out agreeable settlements in most instances, it is suggested that no action be taken toward the passage of controlling ordinances at this time. The State Bee Inspector has agreed to work with us in keeping the bee problems under control.

NOTICE: IF THE DOCUMENT IN THIS FRAME IS LESS CLEAR THAN THIS NOTICE  
IT IS DUE TO THE QUALITY OF THE DOCUMENT.

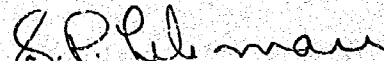
Councilman Clarence F. Massart  
Chairman, Public Safety Committee

October 7, 1953

Page Two

It is suggested that Mr. Chase be advised to contact our Division of Sanitation if he is troubled in the future and we will endeavor to aid him. Mrs. Chase has informed us that lately they have had no problem which is probably due to the bees becoming less active during this season of the year.

Very truly yours,

  
S. P. Lehman, M.D., M.P.H.  
Director of Public Health

JEV/mr

NOTICE: IF THE DOCUMENT IN THIS FRAME IS LESS CLEAR THAN THIS NOTICE  
IT IS DUE TO THE QUALITY OF THE DOCUMENT.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
**THE CITY OF SEATTLE**  
514 COUNTY-CITY BUILDING  
SEATTLE 4, WASHINGTON

CLARENCE F. MASSART, CHAIRMAN  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

RECEIVED  
SEP 16 1953  
SEATTLE & KING CO.  
DEPT. OF PUBLIC HEALTH

September 15, 1953

Sanford P. Lehman, M. D.  
Director of Public Health  
City of Seattle

Dear Sir:

Attached is File No. 221809, being petition  
of Robert H. Chase for protection from bees.

Will you please return the file, together  
with your report and recommendation in duplicate.

Very truly yours,

*Clarence F. Massart*

Clarence F. Massart

hj  
Att.

NOTICE: IF THE DOCUMENT IN THIS FRAME IS LESS CLEAR THAN THIS NOTICE  
IT IS DUE TO THE QUALITY OF THE DOCUMENT.



THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
**THE CITY OF SEATTLE**  
514 COUNTY-CITY BUILDING  
SEATTLE 4, WASHINGTON

CLARENCE F. MASSART, CHAIRMAN  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

942-1151-11 mv  
L. P. Hine  
(1)

August 10, 1953

Mr. R. W. Hinea, Manager  
King County Humane Society  
601 Elliott Avenue West  
Seattle 99, Washington

Dear Sir:

Attached is File No. 221809, petition of Robert H.  
Chase for protection from bees.

Please return the file, together with your report  
and recommendation in duplicate.

Yours very truly,

*Clarence F. Massart*  
Clarence F. Massart

ej  
Att.

PLEASE FURNISH REPORT IN DUPLICATE

IT IS DUE TO THE QUALITY OF THE DOCUMENT

Battle Post-Intelligence  
6 S★ Fri July 31, 1983

## Bee Sting In Throat Is Fatal

SPOLETO, Italy, July 30.—  
(AP).—Mario Marchetti, 34,  
opened his mouth to take a bite  
of bread and then fell down  
dead. Doctors said a bee flew  
into his mouth and stung his  
throat, causing suffocation.

(Advertisement)

Te  
to  
don  
test  
Co  
noc  
We  
ha



Aug 6, 1953  
938 - W. 51<sup>st</sup> St.  
Seattle 7, Wash.

City Council  
Seattle, Wash.

Gentlemen:

I have been annoyed by a neighbor who keeps many hives of bees adjoining my lot-line. The bees sting my children while playing in the lawn, sting my wife while hanging up clothes, sting the baby in the crib.

Bee stings are definitely a nuisance as well as could be fatal -- see clipping attached. I have heard of many other instances.

I have talked to the City Police Dept, Sanitation Dept, County Prosecutors office, State Bee Control etc and it seems the City of Seattle has no laws on its books prohibiting bee-keeping in the city altho they have laws on other farm animals and insects pertaining to quantity - how kept etc. Some are incorporated in the Building Code.

I know the City of Everett

has ordinances regulating Bee keeping.

The prosecuting attorney's office says they can't prosecute bee keepers because aggrieved persons cannot prove it was ~~at~~ a specific bee that stung them.

When one has a large quantity of bee hives & bees swarming all around your head when you try to go outside in your own back yard, it seems as tho action should be taken by the City to pass legislation pertaining to bee keeping.

Please let me know your opinions on this matter.

Yours very truly,

Robert H. Chase

# King County Humane Society for the Defenseless

## Board of Trustees

STEPHEN J. MORRISSEY	President
W. L. MORAN	1st Vice-President
I. L. BOLING	2nd Vice-President
GEO. C. NEWELL	Treasurer
WALTON G. LECKEY	Asst. Treasurer
W. K. LEE	Secretary
C. C. HARRISON	Trustee
J. E. DRUMMET	Trustee
L. K. SCHOENFELD	Trustee
ARTHUR OCHSNER	Trustee
R. C. COOK	Trustee

RAY W. HINEA  
Manager



## A Corporation Organized 1907

The Society receives no State or County aid in the enforcement of cruelty to animal laws. It is not an agency of the Community Fund. It conducts the official Pound for the City of Seattle and the County of King (outside of incorporated cities). It operates ambulances for disabled animals. It merits remembrance in your will.

Office, Kennels and Pounds  
601 ELLIOTT AVENUE WEST  
Phone ALDER 1100

SEATTLE 99, WASHINGTON

August 12, 1953

Mr. C. F. Massart, Chairman  
Public Safety Committee  
514 County City Building  
Seattle 4, Washington

Re: File No. 221809 "Bees"

Dear Mr. Massart:

Upon receipt of your letter August 10, 1953, concerning the nuisance of "Bees" as reported by Mr. Robert H. Chase of 938 W. 51, we checked the complaint in person.

Mrs. Chase pointed out where 5 hives of Bees were located on the corner property, owned by Mr. L. R. Lewis, 942 W. 51 and located on the Northeast corner of 11 Avenue and W. 51. Was unable to contact anyone at the home of Mr. Lewis. I left a card for him to call us regarding same.

It is my opinion that 5 hives of Bees, located on a lot 40' x 100', constitutes a definite hazzard to the children and the neighborhood. One single hive on this particular lot would be somewhat of a nuisance.

It is also our opinion that 5 hives of Bees would produce around 150 to 200 pounds of honey per year. If so it would seem Mr. Lewis is making a profit by selling some of the honey and also creating an unfavorable feeling among the neighbors.

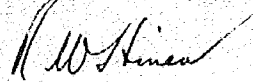
Referring again to File 221026 on the Bee question, you will note in the second paragraph a suggestion is made, if it is the wishes of the Council that an ordinance be passed to limit the number of hives on any one lot, giving the Poundmaster authorization to have such nuisance abated, please permit us to suggest that an ordinance be passed, placing the Bee question in the same category, as all animals or fowl, be by permit (section 7-8 of ordinance No. 81599, limiting the permit for one hive per lot, subject to revocation at the will of the Poundmaster.

-2-

We shall endeavor to sell Mr. Lewis on the idea of moving all but one hive of his bees, for the building of a better feeling of good will among his neighbors. Respectfully submitted,

Yours very truly,

KING COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. H. Hines", written in a cursive style.

Manager

RWH/hp