

Seattle City Clerk's Office

Comptroller File

222644

(GENERAL)

FILE NO. 222644

Petition
OF
Robert H. Chase

re.

protection from bees, etc.

10/26/53 - Health
11/10/53 - file & notify

October 21, 1953

FILED

W. C. THOMAS
COMPTROLLER AND CITY CLERK

BY W. A. Perine DEPUTY

ACTION OF THE COUNCIL

REFERRED	TO
OCTOBER 26, 1953	PUBLIC SAFETY
REFERRED	TO
REFERRED	TO
REPORTED	DISPOSITION
NOV 16 1953	<i>On File</i>
RE-REFERRED	TO
REPORTED	DISPOSITION

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Mr. President:

Your

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.

W. A. Perine

CHAIRMAN

W. A. Perine

CHAIRMAN

938 West 51st St.
Seattle 7, Wash

Oct 19, 1953

Seattle City Council
514 County-City Bldg.
Seattle 4, Wash.

Attention Councilman Clarence F. Massart:

Gentlemen:

Re: File No. 221809 "Bees"

I am in receipt of your letter of October 15, 1953 regarding my petition for protection from bees. You state your committee recommended that the petition be placed on file. Does this mean pigeon-holed?

The Director of Public Health states that on certain lots in the City, one hive of bees might be too many. That statement applies in my particular case precisely. In his letter he seems to infer that the State Bee Inspector would keep the problem under control. Nothing is farther from the truth in my particular case. The State Bee Inspector says he has no jurisdiction over the number of hives or distance from property lines owners keep them--so what good would he be in my problem--no more than a State Dairy Inspector would be if my neighbor kept ahead of cattle next door. Another thing the Director states that I be advised to contact his Division of Sanitation if troubled!! I have in the past contacted his department and his Ballard District Investigator looked into my problem and agreed the bees were a menace to my childrens health and security but he couldn't do a thing about it only recommend -- and if the recommendation to the owner of the bees is unacceptable no further action can be taken--which was the case. He further infers there would be opposition to legislation from bee keepers--I don't believe the opposition would be any greater than say from chicken keepers, who are required by law to confine their chickens. Who ever heard of a chicken stinging anyone? Many people have been killed from bee stings. As far as pollinization of fruit trees are concerned--most trees now sold at nurseries are self-pollinizing and many trees need no pollinizing at all and most fruit is grown in the country the same as most honey is raised in rural areas.

Now, another thing, the Director states few complaints are received regarding bees. The reason is I believe, two-fold, first, that people who are bothered by bees and have sued, or complained to the different enforcement agencies have received no relief and secondly, I doubt seriously that many people would keep bees if they knew they were a definite matter of harrassment to their neighbors. I can envisage many instances where there would be no danger in keeping bees in the city.

I believe legislation such as recommended by the Manager of the King County Humane Society, that is, limiting the number of hives to one to a city lot and also the distance the hives can be to adjacent property lines if used for a dwelling and the distance from side-walks, alleys etc. is only fair and just to all the citizens of this fair city of ours. Of course, if human nature was such that all men could live together in peace and harmony I would agree with the Director of Public Health that nothing need be done. But until such a day arrives it is necessary that laws be passed for the good of all.

Robert H. Chase

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

November 10, 1953

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

Dear Mr. Chase:

Your petition re. protection from bees, etc., was before the Public Safety Committee of the City Council at its meeting this morning.

After considering the report of the Director of Public Health, the committee recommended that the petition be placed on file. Enclosed is a copy of the report of the Director of Public Health for your information.

Yours very truly,

W. C. Haib, 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. P. LEHMAN, M.D., M.P.H.
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH
PHONE: MAIN 5000

November 3, 1953

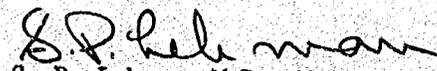
Councilman C. F. Massart, Chairman
Public Safety Committee
Seattle City Council
514 County-City Building
Seattle 4, Washington

Dear Councilman Massart:

This will reply to your letter of October 26, 1953 asking for a report and recommendations on Council File No. 222644 which is a complaint from Mr. Robert H. Chase regarding his neighbors bees.

In our letter of October 7, 1953, addressed to the City Council, it was suggested that Mr. Chase be advised to contact this Department when bothered by his neighbor's bees. It is recommended that Mr. Chase contact Mr. J. E. Van Amburgh of our Division of Sanitation regarding this matter when the bees again become a nuisance which will probably not be until next spring. Every effort will be made at that time to clear up the problem and if the cooperation of the owner of the bees cannot be secured, it may be necessary to consider governing legislation.

Very truly yours,


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

JEV/mr

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

CLARENCE F. MASSART, CHAIRMAN
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

RECEIVED

OCT 27 1953

October 26, 1953

SEATTLE & KING CO.
DEPT. OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Sanford P. Lehman, M. D.
Director of Public Health
Public Safety Building

Dear Dr. Lehman:

Attached is File No. 222644, petition of Robert H. Chase re. protection from bees, etc.

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