

FILE NO. 31634

Petition  
OF  
Unitarian Club  
for  
an investigation of the  
conditions of the  
city jail.

FILED MAR - 4 1907

BY

ADDRESS H. W. CARROLL, CITY COMPTROLLER  
BY *R. H. ...* DEPUTY

ACTION OF THE COUNCIL

REFERRED MAR - 4 1907	To P. B. & G. COM.
REFERRED	TO
REPORTED	REPORT ADOPTED
REPORTED	REPORT ADOPTED
REF. FOR ORD.	C. S. ORD.
MAR 18 1907	DISPOSITION

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Mr. President:

Your

*Public Policy*  
*Committee*

to which was referred the within

would respectfully report that we have considered the same and respectfully recommend that the suggestions therein contained as to sleeping quarters for the men be adopted.

CHAIRMAN

1-1761M-216-07

*Wm. H. ...*  
*James ...*

Seattle, Washington,

March 2, 1917.

To the Honorable

Council of the City of Seattle:

The Unitarian Club of Seattle appointed a committee to investigate the city jail, with reference to certain conditions alleged to exist and, if found, this committee was instructed to formulate recommendations, for presentation to the City Council, towards bettering those conditions.

On the many inconveniences and poor accommodations the improvement of which would seem impracticable we shall not dwell. One condition however we do feel should be improved. The male prisoners working on the chain gang, and others incarcerated for considerable periods of time unless dangerous characters, should not be compelled to sleep on the cement floors and without blankets.

Cells 2-3, 10-11-12-8-9-6 and 7, 9 cells in all, <sup>are</sup> used for male prisoners. In certain of these, perhaps not more than four or five, hammocks similar to those in the women's cells, could be installed at a very little cost, in sufficient number to accommodate the above mentioned two classes of prisoners.

It seems to us that it is far from humanitarian to compel these men, many of whom are not especially bad characters, to work for the municipality, and then give them no place to sleep, other than a damp cement floor.

Therefore we recommend that an appropriation be made, sufficient to install at least as good sleeping accommodations as are at present furnished in the women's cells, and also to furnish blankets for these men.

We wish to express our appreciation of the courtesies shown us by the officials in charge of the jail, and our approval

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of the quality and quantity of the food furnished the prisoners  
and of the general cleanliness maintained in so unsanitary a  
building.

Respectfully submitted,

E. C. Houston

Geo. Martin Savage

W. A. Covington

John R. Jacobson

Dr. H. J. Davidson M.D.

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MR. PRESIDENT:

Your Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds to which was referred the matter of investigating the City Jail as to providing sleeping accommodations for the men serving sentences and working on the chain gang and also as to the ventilation of the cells, would

Respectfully Recommend that the Chief of the Department be authorized to furnish sufficient cots, similar to those in use in the women's cells, for the accommodation of the men working on the chain gang, and that the ventilation of the jail be improved by opening the ventilators heretofore in use and now closed.

Dated, March 18, 1907.

*J. H. Hand*  
Chairman.

*H. Murphy*

*J. W. Mullin*

*James H. Hild*

*Sawyer*  
Committee.

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