

76862 ✓

FILE NO.

Report  
OF  
Corporation Counsel

For Year ending Dec 31, 1919.

FILED APR 1 - 1920

BY

ADDRESS

H. W. CARROLL  
CITY COMPTROLLER AND EX-OFFICIO CITY CLERK

BY

*C. M. Scott* DEPUTY

ACTION OF THE COUNCIL

REFERRED APR 5 - 1920

TO ON FILE

REFERRED

TO

REPORTED

REPORT ADOPTED

REPORTED

REPORT ADOPTED

REF. FOR ORD.

C. B.  
ORD.

DISPOSITION

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Mr. President:

Your

Committee

to which was referred the within

would respectfully report that we have considered the same and respectfully recommend that

CHAIRMAN

J

April 1, 1920.

To the Mayor and City Council:

In order to comply with the provisions of Section 16, Article XXIV, of the City Charter adopted at the general municipal election March 2, 1920, requiring the head of every department of the city government, except the Mayor and City Council, annually, on or before the first day of April, to make a report to the Mayor and City Council for the year ending December 31st preceding, I submit herewith a general statement (attached hereto) respecting the business transacted in the Law Department during the period commencing December 1, 1918, and ending December 31, 1919, and which is to be deemed supplemental to the report heretofore filed by me for the year ending November 30, 1919.

Since the report heretofore filed commented at some length upon the transactions of the department during the period covered by it, I deem it sufficient at this time to make only a summarizing tabulation of the business handled by the department during the thirteen months period involved.

Respectfully submitted,

*Walter Z. Meier*

Corporation Counsel.

Pending  
Dec. 31  
1919

35

30

2

1

7

30

3

7

1

20

300

140



2. PERSONAL INJURY ACTIONS.	Number	Amount Involved
Pending November 30, 1918,.....	20	\$108,271.95
Commenced since Nov. 30, 1918,.....	63	368,707.40
Total,.....	83	476,979.35
Tried and concluded since December 1, 1918,	20	101,141.25
Actions pending December 31, 1919,	63	375,838.10
Claims pending Nov. 30, 1918,	20	108,271.95

3. DAMAGE TO PROPERTY SUITS.	Number	Amount Involved
Suits pending November 30, 1918,.....	45	\$259,771.23
Commenced since Nov. 30, 1918,.....	34	610,661.83
Total covering period of this report,.....	79	870,433.06
Tried and concluded since December 1, 1918,	14	67,919.90
Pending December 31, 1919,.....	65	802,513.16

4. ACTIONS FOR DAMAGES OTHER THAN DAMAGES TO PROPERTY AND PERSONAL INJURIES	Number	Amount Involved
Pending November 30, 1918,.....	2	\$ 26,500.00
Commenced since Nov. 30, 1918,.....	5	54,843.47
Total covering period of this report,.....	7	81,343.47
Tried and concluded to Dec. 31, 1919,.....	1	15,000.00
Pending December 31, 1919,.....	6	66,343.47

From November 30, 1918, to December 31, 1919, 30,304 cases were tried in United Court, resulting in fines and forfeitures of \$157,100.20. Of these cases, 1,112 were for violation of liquor ordinances.

6. STATEMENT AND INVESTIGATION OF DAMAGE CLAIMS FILED AGAINST CITY.	Number	Amount Involved
Claims for damages under investigation November 30, 1918,.....	31	\$ 71,626.00
Claims for damages referred to this department for investigation, Nov. 30, 1918, to Dec. 31, 1919,.....	830	1,948,515.00
Total covering period of this report,.....	861	2,020,141.00

6. (Continued)

CLAIMS DISPOSED OF AS FOLLOWS:

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Amount Claimed</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
Settled, .....	214	\$234,679.50	\$63,895.96
Rejected, .....	389	1,236,772.05	
Total, .....	603	1,471,451.55	
Claims pending Dec. 31, 1919..	258	548,689.45	

Number of street railway accident reports received from Department of Public Utilities and investigated, April 1, 1919, to December 31, 1919,.....5,693

Number of circulars and letters mailed in connection with the investigation of foregoing claims and reports.....19,200

7. GARNISHMENTS:

From November 30, 1918, to December 31, 1919, ninety-seven writs of garnishment were served upon the City and answered, of which eighty-one were against wages of city employees and sixteen were for miscellaneous subjects.

\* \* \*

V

WORK OF CITY ATTORNEY

1. From November 30, 1918, to December 31, 1919, 20,304 cases were tried in Police Court, resulting in fines and forfeitures of \$169,408.90 Of these cases, 2,459 were for violation of liquor ordinances.

VI

O P I N I O N S

During the period of this report, 163 written legal opinions were rendered to the heads of the several departments of the city government.

VII

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Complying with requests from various other departments, this department has prepared 231 ordinances and resolutions for introduction in the City Council.