

[Eth-C]

R.W.WILBUR
S.C.SPENCER
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W.E.FARRELL

WILBUR & SPENCER
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
BOARD OF TRADE BUILDING
PORTLAND, OREGON

Nov. 6th 1908.

Excutive Board,
City Hall,
City.

Gentlemen:

It has become a nightly custom of the police officers of the City of Portland to go through the new Chinese building on North Fourth Street in Portland and, without any regard to conditions or circumstances, smash down every door that may be closed in said building, irrespective of whether or not there is anything to lead the officers to believe that improper conduct is being carried on by the Chinamen. For instance, last evening Thos. Kay entered one of the stores in this building at 4th and Flanders Streets and smashed certain of the doors in said building and committed other depredations, without giving any reason therefor and after said smashing had been properly executed, left the place, no arrests having been made, no incriminating evidence being found, and in fact we know of our own personsl knowledge that there was nothing going on in the said building that was improper or illegal.

The same law ought to be applied to Chinamen as is applied in the City of Portland at the present time to white people, as it is a matter of common knowledge that white people are continually violating the particular rules or laws that the police officers claim are being violated by the Chinamen. This is not fair in any sense of the word.

We have today notified the Chief of Police that we shall hold him and the police officers who take part in these raids responsible for all damages that are committed and would ask you to make such orders as may be necessary to fairly and properly protect the Chinamen and their property and also to make such orders as will apply the laws to white people the same as is applied to the Chinese and would like also to have your Executive Board make such a provision as will compensate the Chinese for wanton and malicious damage caused by the acts of the police officers of the City of Portland.

Yours very truly,

Walter J. ...

RWW/K

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Communication from
Wilbur & Spencer relative to
raids being made on Chinese and
requesting that said Chinese be
protected the same as white men.

~~NOV 11 1908~~

~~REFERRED TO J. & E.~~

~~NOV 27 1908~~

~~REFERRED TO POLICE~~

*Recommendation be placed on
file 12/11/08 T. G. W. W. W.*

Filed NOV 10 1908 90

A. L. Barber

Auditor of the City of Portland

By *W. S. Fox*

DEC 11 1908

ADOPTED