

R.W.WILBUR
S.C.SPENCER
A.M.DIBBLE
W.E.FARRELL

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

Nov. 6th 1908.

Hon. Harry Lane,
Mayor,
Portland, Oregon.

Dear Sir:

We represent some of the Chinese firms doing business at 4th and Flanders Streets in Portland, Oregon. It has become a part of every night's program for certain of the police officers to enter the Chinese building at 4th and Flanders Streets and go through the building generally, smashing every door that is locked. Last night certain officers, headed by Thomas Kay, went into certain of the stores of the building and smashed doors and without giving any explanation for their outrageous proceeding, left the building. I have made a demand upon Chief Gritzmacher to have the damages suffered on account of the acts of these officers made good at once or suits will be immediately begun against all persons responsible for such proceedings.

Why this tremendous effort should be made against a few Chinamen, irrespective of whether there is anything to lead the officers to believe that they are gambling, when gambling is allowed in a number of public places in the the City of Portland, which places are well known, is more than we can understand. There ought to be the same law for the Chinamen that there is for the white man and we would like to enlist your efforts in seeing that the Chinamen are dealt fairly with and that all people are

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treated alike and a damage committed by officers when they have no reason to suspect that a wrong is being done, is made good.

We would dislike very much to commence suits against the various police officers, but unless something is done to cause the rights of the Chinamen to be respected it will be necessary for us to proceed immediately.

Trusting that you will investigate the matter spoken of herein, we are,

Yours very truly,

Wilbert S. Powers

RWW/K

November 7, 1908.

Messrs. Wilbur & Spencer,
Portland, Oregon.

Dear Sirs-

I am in receipt of your letter of the 6th inst. calling my attention to the action of the police force in inspecting the chinese building at Fourth and Flanders Street. I do not know what the facts are in regard to this place, although the police have been ordered to stop gambling wherever they find it and I presume that must be the reason they are making so many visits to these particular premises. I will take the matter up with the Chief of Police and ask him to request that your clients be treated in the matter with the fairness which is due them.

Very respectfully,

Mayor.

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

Nov. 9th 1908.

Hon. Harry Lane,
Mayor,
Portland, Oregon.

File

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 7th inst. received relative to Chinese matters. I am busy at the present time in Court but will call upon you in a day or so with a representative of the Chinamen to see if some adjustment of discriminations between the whites and the Mongolians can be made.

Yours very truly,

Wilbur Spencer