

*Influenza*

November 12, 1918.

Marion H. Phillips,  
855 Wasco Street,  
Portland, Oregon.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of November 9th, regarding street car windows and in reply will say that the matter of car windows has been left to the State Board of Health which body was considered qualified to determine how best to handle the question of street car ventilation. Orders regarding the windows of the cars were given to the Street Railway Company by the State Board of Health direct. There are many complaints such as yours and there are as many others just as forcible against the opening of the windows from the top or the opening of any windows at all. In face of the circumstances I have left it to those whom I have felt have been qualified to pass on the subject.

I have referred your letter to Dr. Seely, State Health Officer who has handled the street car problem.

Yours very truly,

WM

MAYOR



*Influenza*



**CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON**

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

**GEORGE L. BAKER, COMMISSIONER**

**BUREAU OF POLICE**

**N. F. JOHNSON,  
CHIEF OF POLICE**

October 31, 1918.

Hon. George L. Baker,  
Mayor, City of Portland  
City Hall.

Dear Sir:-

Attached are some additional reports concerning street cars. These reports are for the hours between 5:30 and 7 A.M.

Yours very truly,

*N. F. Johnson*  
Chief of Police.





N. F. JOHNSON,  
CHIEF OF POLICE

**CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON**

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

GEORGE L. BAKER, COMMISSIONER

**BUREAU OF POLICE**

October 25, 1918.

Mr. N. F. Johnson,  
Chief of Police,  
Portland, Oregon.

Sir:-

The following is a report of cars leaving the different car-barns yesterday, between 3:00 o'clock and 4:50 o'clock P.M.:

PIEDMONT BARN:

107 Cars leaving barn as trippers.  
8 Cars left in barn.

These cars left for the following routes:

St. Johns,	35 cars;	Mississippi Ave.,	15 cars;
Alberta	10 cars;	Broadway St.	8 cars;
Wms. Ave.	8 cars;	Woodlawn	6 cars;
Vancouver	5 cars;	Russell St.	3 cars;
Bridge Trf.	3 cars;	Union Ave.	10 cars;
Irvington	4 cars.		

EAST ANKENY BARN:

16 Cars left the barn  
1 Car left in barn

COUCH STREET BARN - West of 28th St.

18 Cars left barn  
12 " still in barn.

COUCH STREET BARN - East of 28th St.

8 Cars left barn  
3 " still in barn

SELLWOOD BARN:

16 Cars left barn  
17 Cars remaining in barn

*East Side*



SAVIER STREET BARN:


18 Cars left the barn for the following routes:

Sixteenth St. 3 cars; Twenty-third St. 1 car;  
N. & S. line 14 cars;

Four crews were ready to leave barn with cars after  
4 P. M. leaving approximately 20 cars in barn and yard.

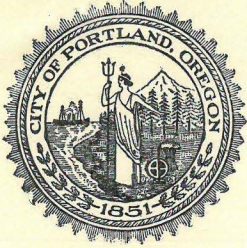
Number of cars leaving SAVIER ST. BARN on Raleigh St:side  
Sixteenth St. 2 cars; N. & S. Line 4 cars.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Captain of Inspectors.

HAC  
K.





# CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

GEORGE L. BAKER, COMMISSIONER

## BUREAU OF POLICE

N. F. JOHNSON,  
CHIEF OF POLICE

October 26, 1918.

Mr. N. F. Johnson,  
Chief of Police,  
Portland, Ore.

Sir:-

The following is a report on the number of cars leaving the different carbarns on October 25th, between 3 and 5 P.M. and the number of cars left in barns:

### SELLWOOD BARNs:

64 Cars sent out between 3:00 and 5:00 P. M.  
16 " left in barns and yards after 5 P. M.

### PIEDMONT BARNs:

19 Cars with trailers left out bet 3 and 5 P. M.  
73 Single cars sent out between 3 and 5 P. M.  
5 Cars left in barn

### EAST ANKENY BARNs:

13 Cars sent out after 3 P.M. and up to 5 P.M.  
0 Cars left in barn.

### COUCH ST. BARNs - West of 28th St.

33 Cars left the barn between 3 and 5 P.M.  
5 Open cars left in barn.

### COUCH ST. BARNs - East of 28th St.

9 Cars left the barn between 3 and 5 P.M.  
1 Car left in barn.

### SAVIER ST. BARNs

29 Cars left the barn between 3 and 5 P. M.  
1 Car left in barn.  
13 Cars used for circus duty also left in yards.

K. Respectfully submitted,

CAPTAIN OF INSPECTORS.



*Influenza*

January 9th, 1919.

Mr. Franklin T. Griffith, President,  
Portland Railway, Light & Power Co.,  
City.

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto is letter from Edgar L. Lowell, asking for information relative to number of passengers that the Portland street railway company can crowd into their cars. Would ask that you give this your attention and make an effort to remedy this condition.

Very truly yours,

M A Y O R

MLO



November 12, 1918.

Dr. A. C. Seely,  
State Health Officer,  
Selling Building, City.

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto is communication from Marion H.  
Phillips, regarding the question of street car ventilation,  
same for your attention.

Yours very truly,

M

MAYOR



UNITED STATES SHIPPING BOARD  
EMERGENCY FLEET CORPORATION

October 31, 1918.

RECEIVED  
NOV 1 1918  
GEO. L. BAKER  
MAYOR

Hon. Geo. Baker, Mayor,  
Portland,  
Oregon.

Dear Sir:

Just a line to tell you that we appreciate what you are doing to safe guard the health of the people of Portland and prevent the spread of the scourge of Influenza, which is sweeping over all lands.

You cannot be everywhere nor can you know what is transpiring unless friends inform you correctly.

Something more should be done to prevent people crowding on street corners and in street cars, during the rush hours. Last Friday afternoon I took a car at the corner of Sixth and Morrison, at 5:45 P. M. Tripper No. 13, Conductor 264. The car was well filled when I boarded it on my way to the North Bank depot. When the car stopped at the corner of Fifth and Morrison a large crowd jammed the car until there was no more standing room inside. The conductor stood on the rear platform and remarked, "If there was a cop on this corner I would have to go on." I protested that no more people should be permitted to board the car and when he saw that I was going to take his number he rang the bell and went on.

Last night, October 30th, Fifth Ave. was jammed with people at 6:15 P. M., at the corner of Fifth and Washington, waiting for cars. When the Rose City Park cars arrived they were filled until all standing room was taken, inside the car and on both platforms. I had to walk three blocks north before I could board a car. When we left the corner of Fifth and Washington every seat was taken and all standing room, inside the car and on both platforms.

I notice through the papers that the War Service Board requests people, having empty seats in their automobiles, to pick up people going to and from their places of business. This morning, between 7:30 and 7:45, eleven automobiles passed me on the corner of Forty-fifth and Sandy Blvd. with only one and two seats occupied in five and seven passenger cars. I gave them friendly signals and thought that I would see how well the public were inclined to heed the request to lend assistance and prevent the spread of the Spanish Influenza. There was no response and I boarded a crowded car for my office, where I am trying to serve my country as District Plant Engineer of the Emergency Fleet Corporation.

I hope you will soon be well again and that something further can be done to prevent the spread of this disease.

SCL/R

Very truly yours,

Samuel B. Laureates  
District Plant Engineer

F&F  
MAYOR BAKER  
N. F. JOHNSON,  
Chief of Police





*Influence*

PORTLAND RAILWAY, LIGHT & POWER CO.  
PORTLAND, OREGON

November 7, 1918.

*answered  
by telephone*

George L. Baker,  
Mayor City of Portland,  
Oregon.

Dear Sir:

The street car schedules now in operation will not begin to take care of the expected travel when the ban is lifted and Theatres and Picture Shows are opened, and people are permitted to come and go as they please.

With this in mind, I would request or suggest that we be given sufficient time to rearrange our schedules to take care of the situation satisfactorily. We should be given at least 3 days notice, otherwise, inadequate street car service, caused by a big rush of people, will result in a great deal of adverse criticism of the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company which would be unfair and not justified. If given a fair chance, I assure you that we will be equal to the occasion.

Appreciating your cooperation, I remain

Yours very truly,

*F. W. Cooper*

Superintendent, City Lines.

FC-HB

RECEIVED

NOV 11 1918

GEO. L. BAKER  
MAYOR



*Influenza***JOHNSON CONTRACT COMPANY****GENERAL CONTRACTORS**

311 LUMBER EXCHANGE BLDG.

PORTLAND, OREGON, 11/8/18

Maor George Baker  
Portland, Oreg.

Dear Sir:-

There are a whole lot of things the doctors do not know, among them is influenza, they have demonstrated that.

I have a brother a physician in the east. He wrote me what his treatment was, also that he found it no worse to treat than measles, nor any more fatal, tho where he is, in Pennsylvania, they are dying like flies and unnecessarily.

Now, among other things he says, "Fresh air and plenty of it, but dont let it blow directly upon you." It strikes me that the way our street cars are ventilated is much worse than it would be to not ventilate them at all. Still, if all ventilators in the top, and the back door were open and all windows closed I believe we could get rid of the flu in Portland much faster. I have had the worst cold in some winters and it keeps up, and I feel sure it is the open car windows with a cold fog blowing down your neck at 20 miles an hour.

Our condition is not so bad as most cities, but that is probably because we have not been required to use the germ acumulators they call masks. Doctors can get more freak notions and a lot of them "fool" notions and this open car window is surely one.

Yours truly

*E. T. Johnson*



*Influenza*

Portland, Ore., Nov. 8, 1918.

6130- 47th St. S.E.

Mayor Baker,

CITY

Dear Sir:

Feeling certain that you are keenly interested in the welfare of the people of Portland I take pleasure in writing you as follows.

The order requiring the Traction Company to open the windows of its cars was good, but could easier have been made better. From the scientific point of view we are replacing a belief of germ laden air with a belief of exposure to draughts and rain. A ride on the cars will show you people huddling together away from the wet seats and draught.

Now it seems to the writer that if all the windows were open say six or eight inches at the top, instead of opening so many all the way, the demand for fresh air would be met and much fear and discomfort avoided. This could be done very easily by inserting sticks, cut the desired length, into the wall of the car before the window is lowered.

The writer wrote in a car this evening when the car was carrying its limit load and only six people were seated. The rain was pouring into the car in torrents.

I, for one, appreciate your efforts in our behalf and heartily thank you.

Very respectfully,

E. E. Birkenbeuel.



Street cars will be strictly limited as to the number of passengers carried and will be required to have four windows open in each car at all times. Conductors have been given strict orders to close the car doors to additional passengers when the number of passengers specified for that particular car are on board. Each car will allow the use only of the seating capacity plus limited standing room as agreed to today in a schedule adopted by the City Council covering each car. Each conductor has been given instructions as to the limit of passengers allowed on his car and under no circumstances will be permitted to take any additional passengers.

Persons having no absolutely necessary reason for using street cars are requested as a patriotic duty to remain off the cars and particularly during the rush hours of the morning and evening.

It is imperative that the above orders be followed by all persons and institutions. Policemen have orders to enforce the rules strictly. The penalty will be the arrest of individuals violators and the closing of stores or firms or buildings failing to observe the order.



Influence  
**RECEIVED** W.G. SMITH & CO.  
CARD ENGRAVERS AND STATIONERS  
OCT 28 1918 Third Floor Morgan Building  
PORTLAND, OREGON

GEO. L. BAKER  
MAYOR

Mr. Baker  
Mayor.

Saturday 26/18

Dear Sir -

The order to have four windows open on all street cars is I believed obeyed, but on many cars the blinds are drawn down - on the Montaville Car that arrived at 3<sup>rd</sup> Morrison 7.55 this morning the two front open windows had blinds down I called the attention (at Montaville) of the Conductor but he only laughed & would not do anything. Blinds were down all the way - This car left Stark & 30<sup>th</sup> St.

Perhaps a word from you at once to the manager will help.

Yours truly

W. G. Smith