

[Exh-C]

To the Honorable Mayor & Common Council of the City of Portland.

The undersigned comprising the Chinese merchants and business men of the City of Portland desire to call your attention to Ordinance No 3280 approved October 24-1881 and herein respectfully represent.

That

The Chinese theater building in this City was erected about two years ago at an expense of \$14,000, and the arrangements for the proper presentation of Chinese plays therein necessitated an expenditure of \$2,000, in addition thereto.

That

We caused the erection of said building entertaining the belief that we would be permitted to occupy the same for the purposes for which it was constructed provided the rights of the public and reasonable municipal regulations were not violated.

That

The theater attending portion of the Chinese people demand that the presentation of theatrical entertainments

shall not commence at a time not earlier than ten O'clock P.M.

That,

Our plays require from you to eight hours in their complete presentation and any time less than that renders them necessarily unattractive and valueless.

That,

In the rendition of our plays music of various kinds are employed consisting usually of drums - gongs - violins and bagpipes.

That,

While music of this character is desirable to make our plays more entertaining to our people yet we will freely dispense with so much of it as ^{is} in any degree annoying to the public.

That,

If your Honorable body should so direct we will most cheerfully exclude all kinds of music from our performances after twelve O'clock midnight desiring only to retain the use of a violin

or days without - which our performances would cease to be attractive or the enterprise remunerative.

That,

If completed our entertainments requires until about two or three o'clock A.M. before its termination and if said theater is permitted to keep open a time sufficient for the full and complete rendition of our plays we will undertake that no musical instruments other than a violin or banjo shall be used after midnight and that they shall be so used that the music will not be objectionable to any person or class of persons.

That,

Said ordinance requires our theater to be closed at 12 o'clock midnight - whether musical instruments are employed after that time or not. Thus practically closing our only place of amusement

That

We believe your Honorable body did not intend to discriminate against

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us by the passage of the ordinance referred to but that the spirit and intent of said ordinance only requires that no noisome musical instruments shall be employed to the detriment and annoyance of the public.

That

Respecting and complying with said ordinance the management of said theater suffers great loss in consequence thereof.

That

We desire to conform to such rules and restrictions as are prescribed by law and municipal regulation and therefore ask your Honorable body to take such immediate action in the premises by resolution or otherwise to the end that we may lawfully and peaceably enjoy those entertainments that are peculiar to our people and which do not offensively or injuriously affect the public peace or the rights of other persons.

Respectfully submitted.

November 8th 1881.

Hoop Chong & Co Wang Gin

Yuen Wa & Co Ah Gin

Chung Yuen & Co Van Low

Tong Duck Ching ah chung

Kwong Pui & Co ah Sing

Wing men Lung & Co pun Baund

Luong Wah Yuen & Co Chin Foo

Yee Wa Long & Co Wang Duck Wa

Kwong Loon Kee & Co Lee Kim Lee

~~Lee Kim~~
Loon Chong & Co Chow Sing

Luong Yick & Co

Yee Yuen Ching

Kam Duck

Loong Ching

On Wa Lee