

City Attorney's report on Calendars Nos. 2862-16 and 2862-17 in regard to the strike situation.

FICE OF CITY ATTOR PORTLAND, ОПЕДОН РИЛИК 9, СПАЛИТ СИЛАНСТИВИИТ

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OFFICE OF CITY ATTORNEY PORTLAND, OREGON FRANK S. GRANT CITY ATTORNEY

May 31, 1934.

To the Council:

We are returning, herewith, Calendar Nos. 2862-16 and 2862-17 in regard to the strike situation. As a result of the consultation with George LaRoche, special counsel for the Commission of Public Docks, the Council is advised that in the opinion of Mr. LaRoche the Commission of Public Docks has the jurisdiction and power to comply with the suggestion of the resolution presented by Commissioner Bennett and that no ordinances or resolutions are necessary to confer such jurisdiction on the Commission.

Mr. LaRoche will be present at the meeting of the Council today and will be glad to discuss the matter with the Council.

Respectfully yours,

City Attorney

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WHEREAS, there has been carried on in Portland for the past twenty days a strike that has seriously affected all of the people of Portland and surrounding territory; and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the City Government to do all within its power to bring relief; and

WHEREAS, the City is the owner and operator of a number of public docks: and

WHEREAS, we have a Dock Commission charged with the responsibility of assisting in bringing business to this port and seeing that it is properly taken care of, as well as making provisions whereby products of the City and the State may be exported;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Attorney hereby is instructed to prepare forthwith such ordinances as may be necessary to enable the Dock Commission to assume the functions that are ordinarily performed by the stevedoring companies in connection with the loading and unloading of vessels at the publicly owned docks, and that said Dock Commission be given authority to cooperate with the *Willing* longshoremen and the ship owners, and present such ordinances to the Council.

The City Attorney hereby is authorized to confer with the attorney for the Dock Commission in preparation of the necessary ordinances.

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I am extremely anxious to see the present labor troubles existing on our water front terminated and hope that this may be brought about as the result of the present negotiations that are being carried on, but if not, it will be necessary for the City government to take some definite action in the matter without delay.

There are two courses open, as I see it. One would be for the City to supply sufficient police protection as would enable the stevedoring companies to operate in spite of the strike. The other course, and the one which I favor, would be for the City, through its Public Dock Commission, to assume the functions now performed by the stevedoring companies in connection with the loading and unloading of vessels at our public docks.

We do not want in Portland a condition such as now exists in other cities where an attempt has been made to break a strike by force.

JSBen



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