

## MAYOR CENSURED BY COUNCIL VOTE

Resolution Calls His Richards-  
Case Letter Intention-  
ally Misleading.

### STORMY SCENE AT MEETING

Follows Reading of Communication  
From Chief Executive in Refer-  
ence to Matter—"Absolutely  
Untrue," Wills Declares.

Open warfare was declared last night in the Council Chambers between Mayor Lane and 13 members of the municipal legislative body, and from the adoption of resolutions, it can not be denied a close scuffle. It may be some time before the breach is healed, if ever, and at all events the wounds inflicted in the heat of the strife will leave scars that shall be an everlasting reminder that the Mayor and Council were not always in harmony.

The contributory cause of the serious rupture was the report of a special committee appointed several weeks ago to investigate the situation with reference to Patrick Brun's appointment as a Captain of Police by the Municipal Civil Service Commission. Trouble has been brewing, however, ever since Mayor Lane assumed the reins of municipal government and undertook by high-handed methods, to run things in his own way.

The Council, after a whole hour, rejected his encroachments upon its rights and in consequence there has been more or less friction ever since the Lane administration began.

#### Mayor Starts a Backfire.

Upon the hypothesis that the best way to head off a destructive configuration is to start a backfire, Mayor Lane anticipated the report of the Chief Service Investigation Committee by submitting two communications, which took precedence under the rules over all other proceedings after roll-call. No sooner had Auditor Devlin finished with the last-named task than the reading of the Mayor's two letters followed. The first related to his alleged notice served upon the Council to the "Richards Place," and was as follows:

#### "Convict Him," Says Gray.

"The license committee has given every cause brought before it an impartial hearing," said Gray, "but Richards has been tried and acquitted. What right have we to try him a second time if you have the facts? Convict him and we will take away his license."

"I have the evidence," said Mayor Lane; "but in order to convict him I would have to ruin the reputation of certain young girls. I have the evidence here in my pocket—evidence that I will show the Judge of the State Courts—but I will not produce it in court."

Councilman Vaughn said: "If there was a farce enacted before a jury, the Richards trial was one, and that at the next meeting of the license committee he would be ready to move that Richards' license be taken away. Councilman Shepherd tried to pour oil on the troubled waters and moved to postpone consideration of the resolution, but he was voted down.

The resolution was then adopted, Bennett saying he believed it should carry in order to have the Council set right in the face of Mayor Lane's open accusation. The resolution, which was signed by Councilmen A. N. Hill, John Annand, H. A. McFadden, George D. Dunning, Thomas Gray, Dan Kishner, R. E. Menefee, R. A. Preston, Hon. W. W. Weller and Frank S. Bennett, and which was adopted by the vote of all the members with the exception of Vaughn, reads as follows:

#### Text of the Resolution.

Whereas, His Honor, the Mayor of this city, published or caused to be published in The Sunday Oregonian of January 22, and in other newspapers of this city a letter over his signature in which he attempts to explain to the public the aims and his actions in relation to the arrest and prosecution of the proprietor of a hotel doing business as "Richard's Place" in this city, and in which letter he states: "And if, after I am again called before your Council to take away the license of the place, which I have been granted, and if you do not grant me a new license it will render it extremely difficult for the police authorities to break up what has been proved to be a real evil."

Whereas, His Honor may see your way clear to grant this relief and asking it only in the name of the good order and decent government of the city, I am, very respectfully yours,

HARRY LANE.

Mayor.

#### He Wants Boxes Abolished.

"I would respectfully suggest to you," said the Mayor in the other letter, "that there is at this time an immediate necessity for the passage of an ordinance providing for the entire abolition of all boxes from saloons and restaurants within the city."

"The 'boxes' in restaurants have no claim upon the forbearance of this community and are destructive to good morals."

"The 'boxes' in saloons in many instances are but mere hiding grounds for saloons and gambling, and the police force in its efforts to check the epidemic of 'hold-ups' and 'house breaking' from which we are now suffering."

"Asking this of you in the name of that portion of the community which earns its living by honest effort, yet is the prey of the outlaw class."

The reason for these two letters was the signal for trouble. Bennett was on his feet instantly with a motion to table them, but before the vote was put, Wills got the floor. He arraigned the Mayor, sarcastically stating that only a short time ago when the Bennett-Wills box ordinance was up to His Honor upon a tie vote was offered the opportunity again to town by favoring it, and that the Mayor had dodged the issue by taking it under advisement, thus defeating the purpose of the measure.

#### Tie Passed in Gentle Way.

Under the circumstances, Wills thought it was a little bit out of order for the Mayor to pose as a great reformer, and declared it to be a "positive outrage" that the Mayor had tried to secure the passage of any ordinance aimed at Richards' place, and at no time was any such ordinance presented to the Council or any committee thereof.

Mayor Lane retorted with equal vim. He is pastmaster in the use of cutting expressions, and he exercised his arts with skill.

"I am sorry for the illification of Mr. Wills and others," he retorted, when the accent on the others "that I had never seen the so-called Wills-Bennett ordinance prior to the tie vote on its passage, and was therefore in no position to decide intelligently. The names of its authors did not impress me very favorably and under the circumstances I could see for myself what its provisions were without waiting weeks to decide the matter," Wills shot back.

"Emanating from any other source I should have considered that phase of the situation," replied the Mayor frostily.

#### Vaughn Set Into Operation.

The discussion had the effect of starting Vaughn in eruption, and for more than 20 minutes he poured forth a volca-

no of denunciation against everybody in general that favored the boxes, and the seven members of the Council in particular who had voted to sustain the Wills-Bennett ordinance. The Councilman from the Tehu Ward was not nearly so keen in his fire as the Mayor, and some of his words fell among the other members like huge boulders, and were about as harmless in their explosive effects. On the other hand, the Mayor has a way of using harsh language that harmonizes so neatly with the eternal fitness of things that the victim of his oily wrath always retreats into a corner of the operation.

Vaughn finally submitted to the exhortation, which can best be described by the turf expression that he "blew up in the stretch," and Gray's motion to refer the Mayor's communications to the liquor license committee prevailed.

A sharp skirmish between the Council

and the Mayor followed the introduction of a resolution censuring Mayor Lane for his letter published in The Oregonian on Sunday, January 21. Mayor Lane declared that he had called the attention of the Council to the Richards resort, and asserted that the censure was not justified. A motion by Councilman Shepherd to continue indefinitely the consideration of the resolution, seconded by Vaughn, was put and lost, and a motion by Bennett to adopt it was passed.

During the reading of the resolution Mayor Lane began to sit up and take notice. Looking around the room at the members of the Council, he said and the document, he stated with some heat that he had called the attention of the Council to the nature of the Richards hotel at a certain session shortly after he was elected. At that time they were considering the passage of a box ordinance.

"I told you gentleman it was the vilest joint in town," he exclaimed. "Don't you know, sir," pointing a finger at Bennett, "the conversation we had on the subject?"

"I, for one," said Bennett, "cannot see why the executive head of the city attempts to throw the responsibility of this on the Council."

Then followed the session speech of by the Mayor," said Councilman Gray, "and I am free to say that I did not think we were treated with much courtesy. You told us plainly, Mr. Mayor, you wanted the box ordinance to stay as it was, but the majority of the Council did not agree with you on that subject. I expressed my opposition to the exemption of hotels, and when the question was spoken of, you said: 'Leave that to me. I will tend to Richards.' Those were the very words you used."

"There is a difference in the facts and that resolution you make there," said the Mayor, heatedly. "We have had evidence of fake auction houses, where women are sold, and the city is tricked and robbed, but we could not get a license committee to revoke their licenses and we had to put the police in these places."

"I have the evidence," said Mayor Lane; "but in order to convict him I would have to ruin the reputation of certain young girls. I have the evidence here in my pocket—evidence that I will show the Judge of the State Courts—but I will not produce it in court."

Councilman Vaughn said: "If there was a farce enacted before a jury, the Richards trial was one, and that at the next meeting of the license committee he would be ready to move that Richards' license be taken away. Councilman Shepherd tried to pour oil on the troubled waters and moved to postpone consideration of the resolution, but he was voted down.

The resolution was then adopted, Bennett saying he believed it should carry in order to have the Council set right in the face of Mayor Lane's open accusation.

The resolution, which was signed by Councilmen A. N. Hill, John Annand, H. A. McFadden, George D. Dunning, Thomas Gray, Dan Kishner, R. E. Menefee, R. A. Preston, Hon. W. W. Weller and Frank S. Bennett, and which was adopted by the vote of all the members with the exception of Vaughn, reads as follows:

#### Text of the Resolution.

Whereas, His Honor, the Mayor of this city, published or caused to be published in The Sunday Oregonian of January 22, and in other newspapers of this city a letter over his signature in which he attempts to explain to the public the aims and his actions in relation to the arrest and prosecution of the proprietor of a hotel doing business as "Richard's Place" in this city, and in which letter he states: "And if, after I am again called before your Council to take away the license of the place, which I have been granted, and if you do not grant me a new license it will render it extremely difficult for the police authorities to break up what has been proved to be a real evil."

Whereas, His Honor may see your way clear to grant this relief and asking it only in the name of the good order and decent government of the city, I am, very respectfully yours,

HARRY LANE.

Mayor.

"I would respectfully suggest to you," said the Mayor in the other letter, "that there is at this time an immediate necessity for the passage of an ordinance providing for the entire abolition of all boxes from saloons and restaurants within the city."

"The 'boxes' in restaurants have no claim upon the forbearance of this community and are destructive to good morals."

"The 'boxes' in saloons in many instances are but mere hiding grounds for saloons and gambling, and the police force in its efforts to check the epidemic of 'hold-ups' and 'house breaking' from which we are now suffering."

"Asking this of you in the name of that portion of the community which earns its living by honest effort, yet is the prey of the outlaw class."

The reason for these two letters was the signal for trouble. Bennett was on his feet instantly with a motion to table them, but before the vote was put, Wills got the floor. He arraigned the Mayor, sarcastically stating that only a short time ago when the Bennett-Wills box ordinance was up to His Honor upon a tie vote was offered the opportunity again to town by favoring it, and that the Mayor had dodged the issue by taking it under advisement, thus defeating the purpose of the measure.

"I am sorry for the illification of Mr. Wills and others," he retorted, when the accent on the others "that I had never seen the so-called Wills-Bennett ordinance prior to the tie vote on its passage, and was therefore in no position to decide intelligently. The names of its authors did not impress me very favorably and under the circumstances I could see for myself what its provisions were without waiting weeks to decide the matter," Wills shot back.

"Emanating from any other source I should have considered that phase of the situation," replied the Mayor frostily.

Fourth—The Council of the city has acted promptly upon such reports and demands in the past, and is at all times ready and willing to receive reports concerning the character of places of public resort, and to hear the representations of the proprietors in action as is within its power to eradicate the evils complained of and to protect the virtue and good character of its people and the fair reputation of the place, and to do so without unnecessary publicity or scandal affecting the reputation of any one.

Fifth—Resolved, That the following statement of facts be and is hereby adopted and approved and confirmed by this Council as the truth and the same given to the press of the city for publication.

First—No complaint has ever been filed with the Council during the present administration against "Richard's Place," or Richard's Place, located on the corner of West Park and Alder streets, in the city either by the Mayor or the Chief of Police or any other person or persons.

Second—Never, so far as at any time requested the Council or the liquor-license committee of the Council to revoke or to change the liquor license granted to the said Richard's Place.

Third—It has been customary for the Chief of Police to report to the Council or to the liquor-license committee of the Council, disorderly places, or places detrimental to the public welfare, and to request that the liquor license for such places be revoked, setting forth in writing the reasons therefor, but no such request has ever been made by the liquor-license committee of the Council or the liquor-license committee thereof relative to the Richards place.

#### Council Ready to Act.

Fourth—The Council of the city has acted promptly upon such reports and demands in the past, and is at all times ready and willing to receive reports concerning the character of places of public resort, and to hear the representations of the proprietors in action as is within its power to eradicate the evils complained of and to protect the virtue and good character of its people and the fair reputation of the place, and to do so without unnecessary publicity or scandal affecting the reputation of any one.

Fifth—That the published statement by the Mayor is misleading and we believe intentionally so, and is therefore resented and denied.

CAUTION IS THE WATCHWORD.

#### Council Will Proceed Slowly in the Matter of Granting Franchises.

Action on the three ordinances granting franchises to the Banfield Company, the Mount Hood Electric Company and the Cascade Power Company was postponed by the Council last night until they can be further considered by the streets and judiciary committee, to which they were referred. The members of the Council will be furnished with copies of the ordinances in the meantime, together with whatever amendments may be suggested by the committee.

Mayor Lane retorted with equal vim. He is pastmaster in the use of cutting expressions, and he exercised his arts with skill.

"I am sorry for the illification of Mr. Wills and others," he retorted, when the accent on the others "that I had never seen the so-called Wills-Bennett ordinance prior to the tie vote on its passage, and was therefore in no position to decide intelligently. The names of its authors did not impress me very favorably and under the circumstances I could see for myself what its provisions were without waiting weeks to decide the matter," Wills shot back.

"Emanating from any other source I should have considered that phase of the situation," replied the Mayor frostily.

Fourth—The Council of the city has acted

promptly upon such reports and demands in the past, and is at all times ready and willing to receive reports concerning the character of places of public resort, and to hear the representations of the proprietors in action as is within its power to eradicate the evils complained of and to protect the virtue and good character of its people and the fair reputation of the place, and to do so without unnecessary publicity or scandal affecting the reputation of any one.

Fifth—That the published statement by the Mayor is misleading and we believe intentionally so, and is therefore resented and denied.

CAUTION IS THE WATCHWORD.

#### Council Will Proceed Slowly in the Matter of Granting Franchises.

Action on the three ordinances granting franchises to the Banfield Company, the Mount Hood Electric Company and the Cascade Power Company was postponed by the Council last night until they can be further considered by the streets and judiciary committee, to which they were referred. The members of the Council will be furnished with copies of the ordinances in the meantime, together with whatever amendments may be suggested by the committee.

Mayor Lane retorted with equal vim. He is pastmaster in the use of cutting expressions, and he exercised his arts with skill.

"I am sorry for the illification of Mr. Wills and others," he retorted, when the accent on the others "that I had never seen the so-called Wills-Bennett ordinance prior to the tie vote on its passage, and was therefore in no position to decide intelligently. The names of its authors did not impress me very favorably and under the circumstances I could see for myself what its provisions were without waiting weeks to decide the matter," Wills shot back.

"Emanating from any other source I should have considered that phase of the situation," replied the Mayor frostily.

Fourth—The Council of the city has acted

promptly upon such reports and demands in the past, and is at all times ready and willing to receive reports concerning the character of places of public resort, and to hear the representations of the proprietors in action as is within its power to eradicate the evils complained of and to protect the virtue and good character of its people and the fair reputation of the place, and to do so without unnecessary publicity or scandal affecting the reputation of any one.

Fifth—That the published statement by the Mayor is misleading and we believe intentionally so, and is therefore resented and denied.

CAUTION IS THE WATCHWORD.

#### Council Will Proceed Slowly in the Matter of Granting Franchises.

Action on the three ordinances granting franchises to the Banfield Company, the Mount Hood Electric Company and the Cascade Power Company was postponed by the Council last night until they can be further considered by the streets and judiciary committee, to which they were referred. The members of the Council will be furnished with copies of the ordinances in the meantime, together with whatever amendments may be suggested by the committee.

Mayor Lane retorted with equal vim. He is pastmaster in the use of cutting expressions, and he exercised his arts with skill.

"I am sorry for the illification of Mr. Wills and others," he retorted, when the accent on the others "that I had never seen the so-called Wills-Bennett ordinance prior to the tie vote on its passage, and was therefore in no position to decide intelligently. The names of its authors did not impress me very favorably and under the circumstances I could see for myself what its provisions were without waiting weeks to decide the matter," Wills shot back.

"Emanating from any other source I should have considered that phase of the situation," replied the Mayor frostily.

Fourth—The Council of the city has acted

promptly upon such reports and demands in the past, and is at all times ready and willing to receive reports concerning the character of places of public resort, and to hear the representations of the proprietors in action as is within its power to eradicate the evils complained of and to protect the virtue and good character of its people and the fair reputation of the place, and to do so without unnecessary publicity or scandal affecting the reputation of any one.

Fifth—That the published statement by the Mayor is misleading and we believe intentionally so, and is therefore resented and denied.

CAUTION IS THE WATCHWORD.

#### Council Will Proceed Slowly in the Matter of Granting Franchises.

Action on the three ordinances granting franchises to the Banfield Company, the Mount Hood Electric Company and the Cascade Power Company was postponed by the Council last night until they can be further considered by the streets and judiciary committee, to which they were referred. The members of the Council will be furnished with copies of the ordinances in the meantime, together with whatever amendments may be suggested by the committee.