



City of Cambridge

25.

IN CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILLOR WOLF

SEPTEMBER 14, 1987

- WHEREAS: Henry Fine was born in 1899 into a family of Russian Jews, all newcomers to East Cambridge having migrated from the West End over the Craigie Bridge; and
- WHEREAS: Henry settled with his four brothers, Abe, Sam, Joe, and Irving, his lovely sister, Ruth, his mother, Fanny and his father Charles in a predominantly Irish neighborhood where Charles engaged a Rabbi to come from the West End to teach the children Hebrew; and
- WHEREAS: Henry entered Cambridge High School but found the allure of professional baseball more enticing; and
- WHEREAS: Henry worked his way from batboy for the Harvard team into the farm leagues, to the Red Sox training camp, where he was challenged to a pocket billiards match by Babe Ruth, and finally on to Fenway Park as a rookie southpaw pitcher; and
- WHEREAS: Henry's future in baseball was curtailed when he fell from a scaffolding while dismantling a brewery in the course of a winter's work in his father's scrap metal business; and
- WHEREAS: Henry followed his father into the scrap metal business on Portland Street and thereby contributed for the next half century to commerce in and around Cambridge, assisted at first by his trusted horse, Dick, who was eventually replaced (against Henry's father's objection) by the first of many scrap-hauling trucks; and
- WHEREAS: Henry married Isabel Slavin of Brookline in 1946 and moved his residence from Cambridge to Newton, where they raised two children, but he did not forsake his commercial loyalty to Cambridge, and remained in the scrap metal business until the winters in the Portland Street yard became too cold; and

WHEREAS: Henry began a new career in the 1960's with the purchase of an interest in a package store at 660 Cambridge Street in East Cambridge, and from there developed the practice of setting up new package stores throughout our City, thereby offering business opportunities to entrepreneurs wishing to launch their own enterprises; and

WHEREAS: Henry has owned and operated University Wine Shop at 1739 Massachusetts Avenue for nearly 20 years, thereby providing to the surrounding neighborhoods as astonishing array of fine wines, imported beers, single

WHEREAS: > malt scotches, exotic liqueurs, and other potables; and Henry has been assisted in his commercial endeavors by his loyal wife Isabel, his enterprising son, Robert, countless indispensable employees and appreciative customers; and



WHEREAS: Henry has regaled us all with tales of local history and jokes of every stripe, thereby contributing not only to the commercial prosperity of our City but also to its cultural richness; and

WHEREAS: Henry is now withdrawing from the bustle of commerce to embark on a more leisurely life; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council expresses its appreciation of the foregoing contributions of Henry Fine and wishes him a fine, retirement; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution for his retirement celebration on September 26, 1987.



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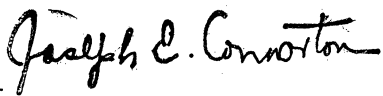
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In City Council September 14, 1987.
Adopted by the affirmative vote of 9 members.
Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:- 
Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

Order #25 S-509

C. Wolf re: resolutions congratulating
Henry Fine on his retirement.

In City Council,

September 14, 1987

C. Wolf
v/v
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