

GEORGIA F. LEONARD
407 WASHINGTON STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Jan. 20, '26.

Members of the City Council
Cambridge, Mass.

Gentlemen,

We, the undersigned,
feel that it is a matter
of deep regret that in the
difficult work of bringing law
breakers to justice, it should
be necessary to employ either
men or women as decoys.

Yet as law enforcement
seems impossible without such
aid, we earnestly hope that

GEORGIA F. LEONARD
407 WASHINGTON STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

you will uphold Sergeant
Presko, and will not fail
to remunerate the young
woman employed by him
to secure the arrest of one
selling liquor in defiance
of law.

Yours respectfully

Georgia F. Leonard

Mary E. Fisher

Harriet M. Leonard

To the Honorable, the City Council
of the City of Cambridge:

The undersigned respectfully pray

In City Council Feb. 10th, 1925.
Placed on file.
Frederick H. Burke
City Clerk.

Commencement

PETITION

from

of *Georgio F. Leonard et al.*

for *Commending Sergeant Pesho*
of the Police Dept.

for his efficient work.

Jan. 20 192*5.*

In City Council, JAN 20 1925

Referred to the Committee on

Public Safety

Attest:

Frederic H. Cook

City Clerk.

MRS. J. C. TEBBETTS
1 FROST TERRACE
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.
TEL. UNIVERSITY 1813W

Jan. 20, 1925

To the
Members of the Council of the City of Cambridge;-
Dear Sirs;-

As a resident of Cambridge for fifteen years
I have had an opportunity to note the need of efficient officials.
I know of no one who has served the city with greater fidelity, intelligence and courage than Sergeant Preshe. In passing judgment upon his work and methods I beg that your Honorable body will bear in mind all that this man has done for North Cambridge, of which we are justly proud.
I think I may honestly say that the churches and the the clubs stand back of the Sergeant and congratulate the city that it has such a man in its employ.

Respectfully yours,

Mrs. John C.) Elizabeth C. Tebbetts

**To the Honorable, the City Council
of the City of Cambridge:**

The undersigned respectfully pray

Communication

PETITION

from

of Mr. John C. Tebbetts

for relative to the efficient

work of Sargent Pease of Ohio
Const.

Jan. 20 1924

In City Council Feb. 10, 1925.

Placed on File.

Frederick H. Burke,
City Clerk.

In City Council, **JAN 20 1925** 192

Referred to the Committee on

Public Safety

Attest:

Frederick H. Burke

City Clerk.

Jan. 20, 1925

To the City Council,

Gentlemen,-

I am writing
to ask you to uphold Sgt. Presho, head
of the Law Enforcement Squad, of our city,
and also to have the woman who so bravely
exposed the sale of liquor on Upland Road
paid for her courageous work.

Yours respectfully,

Fannie E. Holmes.

(Merc. Frank W.)

**To the Honorable, the City Council
of the City of Cambridge:**

The undersigned respectfully pray

Communication

PETITION

from
of Mrs. Frank W. Holmes

for commending Sergeant Presko
Police Capt.

for his efficient work.

Jan. 20 1925

In City Council Feb. 10th, 1925.
Placed on file.

Frederick H. Burke,
City Clerk.

In City Council, JAN 20 1925

Referred to the Committee on

Public Safety

Attest:

Frederick H. Burke

City Clerk.

14 Upland Road,
Cambridge, Mass.
Jan 19th, 1925.

Cambridge City Council,
Dear Sirs,

I wish to commend
Serg't Presko and the
Liquor Squad, for their
splendid work. The thanks
of the Community are due
them. It is to be regretted
that a woman was needed
to apprehend a law-breaker,
but we honor her courage.
We expect the Mayor

and City Council to
uphold law enforcement.

Yours truly,

Marion J. MacKeehan.

~~The~~
~~I studied with the [illegible] about the~~
~~matter and [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible]~~
~~in the [illegible]~~

**To the Honorable, the City Council
of the City of Cambridge:**

The undersigned respectfully pray

Communication

PETITION

from

of Marion K. MacKechnie

for commending Sergeant Presko
of the Police Dept for his
efficient work as head of the
Liquor Squad.

Jan - 26 1925

In City Council Feb. 10th, 1925.

Placed on file.

Frederick H. Burke,

City Clerk.

In City Council, **JAN 27 1925**

Referred to the Committee on

Public Safety

Attest:

Frederick H. Burke

City Clerk.

~~112~~ I feel confident that the Mayor and gentlemen of this Council will be unprejudiced in their views, and trust that this little incident will only "open our eyes" to enforce laws which we all have made in view of being "fair and square."

Very respectfully,

Isabell Hall

10 Cogswell Av.,
Cambridge, Mass.

Jan. 19, 1925.

The Hon. Mayor & City Council,
City Hall
Cambridge, Mass.

Gentlemen: I wish to bring to your attention the unfair and unjust criticism which our "Liquor Squad" under the faithful guidance of Sergt. Presko, has been receiving through the public press of various newspapers in this vicinity. When we as citizens of Cambridge, as well as citizens of this great nation of ours, make laws which if enforced are a benefit to our generation and our posterity to come, we are in

III helps make and votes upon? Are not women equally as intelligent as men, and after all are they not the ones who train our boys to be loyal men and citizens? It is up to us all if we want to make our city the best in not only this Commonwealth, but in the Nation, to see that laws which are made in just faith by the citizens of this community, are upheld by our chief advisers and chief executive of Cambridge.

Citizens of Cambridge are proud to feel that we have such a splendid "Liquor Squad" as well as a woman who is anxious to see the right win.

reality only being loyal to our own true conscious by upholding a man who is honest enough to do everything in his power to enable him to perform his duty successfully.

For several years past, and as this criticism shows, there still remains a prejudice against women doing intellectual work of men. Are not women holding offices to-day through out this vast nation of ours as judges, lawyers, and ^{carrying on} professional duties in all stages, successfully?

Are not women voting, helping make the laws, then why not is it perfectly proper for women to help enforce the law which she

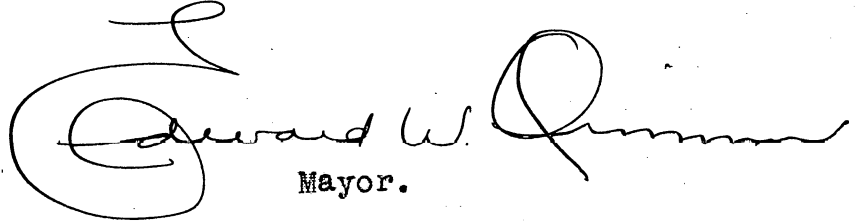
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY HALL - CAMBRIDGE

Jan. 26, 1925.

The Honorable, the City Council:

I transmit herewith communication
from Mrs. Isabell Hall, 10 Cogswell Ave.,
Cambridge, relative to criticism of the
Cambridge liquor squad.

Very truly yours,


Mayor.

COMMUNICATION

from the Mayor, transmitting
one from Isabell Hall
commending Sergeant Presko of
the Police Dept. for his efficient
work as head of the "Squad"

In City Council Feb. 10th, 1925.
Placed on file.

Frederick H. Burke,
City Clerk.

In City Council JAN 27 1925

Referred to the Committee on

Public Safety

Frederick H. Burke

City Clerk.



City of Cambridge
POLICE DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF VICE SQUAD

Station No.

Cambridge, Mass., JAN 24 1925 192

To John J. McBride,
Chief of Police,
Sir:

About the middle of November 1924. I employed a Mrs. Lillian Middleton of Wakefield to do some work for me as an investigator.

Her duty was to make an investigation where there were complaints of violations of the liquor law. This she did with much success and resulted with convictions in Court.

She was paid by me and not from either money of the Police Department or City.
I have never employed or



City of Cambridge
POLICE DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF VICE SQUAD

Station No.

Cambridge, Mass., JAN 24 1925 192

used a United States Soldier
either in or out of uniform.

Mrs. Middleton stopped work-
ing for me January 10.

at present she is employed
and living out side of Cambridge.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles B. Presho

Sergeant.



City of Cambridge
POLICE DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF VICE SQUAD

Station No.

JAN 24 1925

Cambridge, Mass., 192

To John L. McBride,
Chief of Police.
Sir:

As head of the Cambridge
Vice Squad. I wish to report
to you our work with the
four stations

To my mind there has been
a willingness to cooperate with
all four of the Police Captains
in charge of each of the four
Police Divisions

Whenever they have asked
any help from ^{us} we had done
our best to assist them and
whenever we have asked aid
from any of the stations either
captain or other officers it



City of Cambridge POLICE DEPARTMENT

Station No.

Cambridge, Mass., 192

has been always given.
This has been from many
times in the past as results will
show.

Respectfully submitted.

Charles B. Presko,
Sergeant.



City of Cambridge
POLICE DEPARTMENT

Station No.

Three.

Cambridge, Mass.

Jan. 24, 1925

*To John J. McBride,
Chief of Police,
Sir:*

*I am very much
pleased, to cooperate with
Sergt. Preeho and all the
officers under his command.
I never employed any soldiers
or sailors to assist in any way
in the prosecute liquor cases.*

*Respectfully submitted,
Dorothy P. Leahy, Capt.
Police Div. Three.*

In City Council Feb. 10th, 1925.

Placed on File.

Frederick H. Burke,

City Clerk.

Sheet #1,

City of Cambridge

Massachusetts



Cambridge, Mass.,

January 24, 1925.

Police Report

Station No. 2

To JOHN J. McBRIDE, Chief of Police.

Sir:

Complying with your instructions I herewith submit to you the following report:

On Oct. 23, 1924, while doing street duty, and about 9 P.M. I was called to the police station, and on arrival there Lieut. Wyman informed me there was a man in the Guard-room who wanted to see me. In the Guard-room I met for the first time John Silvia of 25 Sixth St. Cambridge, in the uniform of a National Guard. He there told me who he was, and what he wanted to do. He said there was a place on School St., run by a man named O'Connor, who was doing a rotten booze business; he said that he could buy liquor there for me, that O'Connor would sell to almost anybody; that if I would give him a dollar he would go down to O'Connor's house and buy. Accordingly I gave him a dollar bill, and he left the station, returning in about twenty minutes with a pint of liquor; and a searchwarrant was procured, and Silvia was brought along to identify the man from whom he bought the liquor, who proved to be one Maurice O'Connor of 59 School Street.

Continued on Sheet #2.

Sheet #1

City of Cambridge

Massachusetts



Cambridge, Mass., January 24, 1925.

Police Report

Station No. 2 To JOHN J. McBRIDE, Chief of Police.

Sir:

In doing this I know of no statute that I have violated. There is a possibility that Silvia may have violated the statute, but that is doubtful, because he was not employed for gain or reward. In fact he offered his services gratis. (On Oct. 23, 1924, I did not know of the existence of the statute in question).

Respectfully submitted,
Sergeant Joseph Kelly

Respectfully forwarded
John J. Manning
Capt

City of Cambridge

Massachusetts



Cambridge, Mass.,

January 14 1925

Police ReportStation No. One To JOHN J. McBRIDE, Chief of Police.

Sir:

All liquor complaints received
by me - since January 1924 to 1925, was turned
over to Sargent Presha head of liquor squad
no case by other officers

I have never employed or used a United States Soldier
either in or out of uniform -

Respectfully Submitted
J. J. McBride
Capt.

City of Cambridge

Massachusetts



Cambridge, Mass.

January 24 1925

Police Report

Station No. 1

To JOHN J. McBRIDE, Chief of Police.

Sir:

I have cooperated with Sergt Presko and men detailed to his division since his appointment January 26 - 1922. and still intend to cooperate with him in the prosecution of liquor cases - will say that Sergt Presko and the officers under him have my confidence second to none in State.

Respectfully Submitted

W. J. Remond
Capt.

City of Cambridge

Massachusetts



Cambridge, Mass.,

Jan. 24 1925

Police Report

Station No. 2

To JOHN J. McBRIDE, Chief of Police.

Sir:

In order to bring about a more efficient enforcement of the liquor laws in this Division I am cooperating with Sergt. Presko as head of the Liquor Squad.

Many of my officers are in constant touch with the officers of the liquor squad reporting liquor violations and assisting them to enforce the liquor laws.

I have never employed a U.S. soldier or sailor to assist in the enforcement of the liquor laws.

Respectfully submitted

John J. Garvey
Capt.

In City Council Feb. 10th, 1925.

Placed on File.

Frederick H. Burke, City Clerk.



City of Cambridge

Office of Chief of Police

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
JOHN J. MCBRIDE
CHIEF OF POLICE

Cambridge, Mass., January 27th 1925.

To the Honorable City Council,
Cambridge, Mass.

In compliance with your request of January 20, 1925, I have made a thorough investigation of the circumstances relative to the employment of persons other than the regular personnel of the Police Department for obtaining evidence of the violation of the liquor laws.

Attached hereto are reports from Sergeant Charles H. Preshe, head of the liquor squad and Sergeant Joseph Kelley of Station 2 in reference to a man in soldier's uniform voluntarily offering to obtain evidence.

Also attached are letters from Captain Michael J. Brennan of Station 1, Captain John J. Canney of Station 2 and Captain Timothy F. Leahy of Station 3, certifying that they have given full co-operation to the liquor squad. Due to the fact that Captain James M. Keaney of Station 4, is seriously ill, I have been unable to obtain a written report from him but from information received I feel that he also has willingly given the liquor squad any help or assistance asked for.

Also attached is a report from Sergeant Charles H. Preshe stating that he has received the hearty co-operation of the four Captains in charge of the four stations and that they have always given any assistance required and he has always worked hand-in-hand with them.

When I appointed Sergeant Charles H. Preshe head of the liquor squad, I gave him the understanding that he was to conduct his own raids without furnishing me any information beforehand, but to give me a written report of his work for the previous day, which he has done. All of his reports are on file at my office.

I personally have the utmost confidence in Sergeant Preshe and the men under his command. I feel that they have done splendid work in enforcing the liquor law, and I think the City of Cambridge is in as good condition in this respect as any city in this state.



ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
JOHN J. McBRIDE
CHIEF OF POLICE

City of Cambridge

Office of Chief of Police

Cambridge, Mass., January 27, 1925.

(2)

I might add that I have gladly given him my hearty co-operation at all times.

In regard to expenses, I would say that the liquor squad have never received from this department any money for expenses except their regular salary. I have paid out of the Police appropriation for the storage and maintenance of the city owned automobile used in this work.

I have never paid any person outside of the regular personnel for procuring evidence of violation of the liquor law. To my knowledge the city has not been put to any expenses whatever for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted

John J. McBride
Chief of Police.

In City Council Feb. 10th, 1925.

Placed on File.

Frederick H. Burke,
City Clerk.

*Communication
from Chief of Police relative
to employment of persons other
than members of the Police Dept.
in obtaining evidence of the violation
of the League Law.*

JAN 27 1925

Public Safety

Frederick H. Burke City Clerk.

City of Cambridge

In City Council February 10, 1925.

The

Committee on Public Safety

to which were referred sundry communications (6)

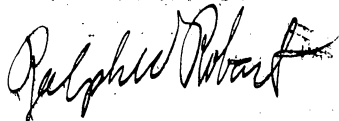
Reports

Recommending that the following

be placed on file:-

1. Communication from Mrs. John C. Tibbette relative to efficient work of Sergeant Prescho of the Police Department.
2. Communication from Georgia F. Leonard et al commending Sergeant Prescho for efficient work.
3. Communication from Mrs. Frank W. Holmes commending Sergeant Prescho for efficient work.
4. Communication from Marion K. MaKechne commending Sergeant Prescho.
5. Communication from Mayor transmitting one from Isabell Hall commending Sergeant Prescho for efficient work.
6. Communication from Chief of Police relative to employment of persons other than members of the Police Department for obtaining evidence of the violation of the Liquor Laws.

For the Committee.



REPORT

Committee on *Public Safety*
recommending placed on file
sundry communications
relative to work of Sergeant
Trusho of the Police Dept

February 19, 1925
Report received, and
recommendation ADOPTED.

Attest: *Fredrick H. Burke*
City Clerk.