

San Diego, California.
July 22nd, 1914.

TO THE HONORABLE, THE COMMON COUNCIL

of the City of San Diego, California.

Gentlemen:-

I return you herewith, proposed ordinance prescribing rules and regulations governing sparring and boxing exhibitions in the City of San Diego, with my veto.

My reasons for vetoing this ordinance are --

First.- I do not believe that twenty roud contests are to the best interests of the City of San Diego. Boxing contests of twenty rounds are, in my opinion, prize fights, and do not tend to elevate sportsmanship or the morals of the community.

Second.- Section D of the proposed ordinance states that no minors under the age of eighteen will be admitted to a sparring exhibition or boxing contest, either as a member of the club, or as a spectator, or as a principal. This statement on the part of the Council means that exhibitions of this character are detrimental to youths of 17 years, 11 months, 29 days, but not to the same youth when he is two days older. If exhibitions or contests of this nature are detrimental to people, I cannot see any reason why they should be permitted or if permitted why minors under the age of twenty-one should be admitted at all, unless with the written consent of parent or guardian.

Third.- Section 4 of the proposed ordinance states that this is an ordinance for the immediate preservation of the public peace and safety and is one of urgency.

The reason stated in this section is not, in my opin-

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF SAN DIEGO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CHARLES F. O'NEALL, MAYOR

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ion, a good and sufficient one for passing this ordinance as an urgency measure. I cannot understand how the holding of boxing contests preserves the peace of the public or insures the safety of our citizens. Every ordinance passed by your Honorable body could be made an emergency measure with as much reason and justification as this proposed one cites. This is apparently made an urgency measure in the hope that, as such, it will not be subject to a referendum, a previous ten round ordinance having been suspended, and that in consequence said ordinance will become a law. I do not believe it just to all citizens that this Council should pass any legislation as an emergency measure, that deprives any citizens of the right of the referendum, unless the emergency clearly and unquestionably exists and undoubtedly affects the public peace, health or safety.

This ordinance is class legislation, inasmuch as by passing same as an emergency measure it deprives ^{some} ~~the~~ citizens of the use and benefit of the referendum as granted to them by charter, and grants privileges to other citizens. The people should be accorded every right granted them by charter particularly as to matters affecting the moral welfare of the community. The ballot is the proper method of settling every question of this character. Why not let the people decide by holding an election on the ordinance previously suspended?

For these reasons I have vetoed this ordinance.

Yours very truly,

Charles F. O'Neall

MAYOR OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.

DOCUMENT No. **79254**

Filed **JUL 22 1914** 190

ALLEN H. WRIGHT

City Clerk

E. D. JOHNSTON

By

Deputy

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR

*Vetoing
Bonding
Ordinance*