

To the Honorable, the President
and Members of the City Council

(continued)

defense. The court decided that this was the type of activity which the municipality could exercise under the police power and used the following language:

"The police power extends to the protection of the lives, limbs, health, comfort and quiet of all persons and the protection of all property within the State. Consumers' Co. v. City of Chicago, 313 Ill. 408, 145 N.E. 114; Condon v. Village of Forest Park, 278 Ill. 218, 115 N.E. 825, L.R.A. 191E, 314. Moreover, it may be exercised in the interest of public morals, safety and for the promotion of the general welfare. It need not be constitutionally delegated, for it is inherently necessary to the effective conduct and maintenance of government. The authority of the States to enact such laws as they deem reasonably necessary to promote the public health, morals, safety, and general welfare comprehends a wide range of judgment and discretion in determining the matters which are of sufficiently general importance to be subjected to State regulation and administration. Nor do the limitations of the Federal constitution deny to the State the power to establish all regulations reasonably necessary to advance and secure the health, morals, safety, and general welfare of the community. The legislature may not, of course, under the guise of protecting the public interest, interfere with private rights. With the growth and development of the state, the police power necessarily develops, within reasonable bounds, to meet the changing conditions. The power is not circumscribed by precedent arising out of past conditions but is elastic and capable of expansion to keep up with human progress. It extends to the great public needs, that which is sanctioned by usage or held by prevailing morality or strong and preponderant opinion to be greatly and immediately necessary to the public welfare. City of Aurora v. Burns, 319 Ill. 84, 149 N.E. 784.

"It is only in comparatively recent times that the world has experienced such tremendous concentrations of population as we find in our modern cities, or the disastrous and calamitous effect that modern war, with all of its lethal and destructive devices, may inflict upon the civilian population. War is no more a creature of the restricted battlefield, a deadly enterprise conducted according to rules and limitations. Today its destruction may spread throughout the nations, by-passing the soldier and spreading havoc among the all-civilian population. It is, therefore, altogether fitting and proper that the police power extend its protection of the health, safety and property of the community and its promotion of the general welfare by providing for 'civil defense.' The experiences of the late world war demonstrate well the valuable possibilities of civilian defense efforts. Being an enactment