ORDINANCE NO. 249

AN ORDINANCE relating to and regulating the conveyance of passengers and baggage for hire in the City of Kent, fixing the rates to be charged for such service and providing penalties for its violation.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENT DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS

Section 1. (a) The term "person" wherever used in this ordinance shall be held and construed to mean natural persons of either sex, firms, copartnerships, associations and corporations, whether acting by themselves, or by servants, agents or employees. The singular shall include the plural and the masculine the feminine and neuter.

(b) The term "taxicab" wherever used in this ordinance shall be held and construed to mean and include every motor driven vehicle for the transportation of persons and/or their baggage and not operated exclusively over a fixed and defined route and termini.

(c) The term "motor vehicle" wherever used in this ordinance shall be held and construed to mean and include every self propelled vehicle used upon the streets, alleys and public highways for the transportation of persons and/or their baggage except vehicles used and operated upon stationary rails or tracks.

Section 2. It shall be unlawful for any person to conduct, manage or operate any taxicab or taxicab business on the public streets, alleys or highways of the City of Kent, for the purpose of transporting persons and/or their baggage for hire from any point in the city to any other point therein or from any point in the city to any point outside of the city, unless such person shall have a valid subsisting license so to do, obtained in the manner provided in this ordinance.

Section 3. The person making application for a license to operate or cause to be operated a taxicab shall be the owner of such taxicab, but nothing in this ordinance contained, shall be construed to impose upon such owner the duty of driving such taxicab in person.

Section 4. Every person desiring to procure a license to operate a taxicab under this ordinance shall make application therefore to the city clerk upon a form to be furnished by the city, which application shall state the applicant's name, place of residence, post office address, whether he has previously held a taxicab license, and if so where and when, the name of the car, the maker's name and the motor number and number of the serial where manufactured, the rated seating capacity as originally built or as rebuilt after leaving the factory. Each such application shall contain upon its face the express agreement of the applicant to abide by, observe and perform each and every of the provisions of this ordinance and all other laws and ordinances incumbent upon the owner of such taxicab to perform, and shall be signed and verified by the applicant before some officer authorized to administer oaths.

Section 5. The license fee per annum for each taxicab license shall be and the same is hereby fixed at Ten Dollars, ($10.00), per annum and no license shall be issued for a period of less than one year, and no license shall authorize the operation of more than one taxicab. The city clerk shall not issue any such license until the applicant shall produce a receipt of the city treasurer showing that the applicant has paid to the city the full license fee for one year, as herein provided. Such license shall not be transferable, provided however, that in case the licensee named in such license shall permanently discontinue the use of the taxicab.
described in the application for such license, or shall all such taxicab covered by such license during the term for which such license was issued, and in such case shall desire to use another taxicab instead, then upon payment of an additional fee of one dollar, to the city and making an application in writing containing all of the information required in his original application, a new license shall be issued to him for the unexpired portion of the period covered by the original license, and thereafter covering the other taxicab.

Section 6. The owner of any taxicab operated under the provisions of this ordinance shall procure an appropriate metal plate or card board in a square form not less than six inches by six inches in size, which shall bear upon its face the inscription "Kent Wash., Taxicab License No. ___" (the blank space shall have inscribed therein the serial number of the license under which the vehicle is operated), and shall cause such plate to remain displayed in some conspicuous place upon the said taxicab at all times throughout the term of the operation of said taxicab.

Section 7. The fee for transporting persons from one point in the city to any other point in the city shall not be more than fifty cents for one person and ten cents additional for each additional person all carried at the same time.

Section 8. Any person violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction shall be punished by a fine of not more than twenty-five dollars.

Section 9. For the violation of any of the provisions of this ordinance or of any of the ordinances of the city or of the laws of the State of Washington, by any licensee hereunder the license issued to him may be revoked at the discretion of the city council.

Section 10. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force five days after its passage, approval and publication as by law provided.

Introduced April 2nd, 1945.
Passed April 2nd, 1945.
Approved April 2nd, 1945.

Approved as to form,

Acting City Attorney.
Ordinance No. 749

Repealed by Ordinance 1923,
and 1922.