

BROOKINGS-HARBOR PILOT

THERE'S NO SUBSTITUTE FOR CIRCULATION

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DEWEY AKERS, Editor and Publisher

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Dewey Is Gone

Dewey is gone! Brookings with its various civic projects, organizations, school, and churches has lost a true friend. I was privileged to know him rather well, a privilege which has enriched my own life and widened my vision. Dewey was vitally interested in the school. He wanted better opportunities for boys and girls. He wanted as complete offerings as possible. He wanted high scholastic standards. He was interested in each boy and girl finding his vocation, and for that matter, finding himself in high school. Having been a football player, he was interested in sports. Win or lose, he wanted to know that each member of the team did his best.

He was the first president of Rotary in Brookings, and did much to establish the clubs both at Brookings and Gold Beach. He could be counted on to be on hand each Tuesday luncheon, each board meeting. He often remarked that Rotary's philosophy of "service above self" was a thing to be lived.

We often talked about religious ideals. His deep seated conviction was that a man must live his religion.

No man ever made more plans nor was more interested in the welfare of his family, and of the plans for their education and training.

Dewey is gone, but his memory will challenge each of us to put "service above self." The town is a better place to live because Dewey passed this way; it will improve because of the challenge he left us.

Guest editorial by Lynn O. Hampton
Secretary of the Rotary Club and
Superintendent of Schools.

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Obituary

Dewey Akers was born at Tekoa, Washington, May 19, 1898, son of Robert and Mary Jane (Range) Akers.

He married Minna Stunz at Boise, Idaho, June 17, 1933, who survives him. He is also survived by his son Ronald, one daughter Virginia, and a son Hugh Allen, all of Brookings. Eight half brothers Thomas, of Seaside, John and Ronald, of Lewiston, Idaho; James, of Newport, Washington; Earl of Wilbur, Washington; Will or Seattle, and Marian, who is in the priesthood of the Catholic Church. One brother Kins preceded him in death.

Dewey's Mother passed away when he was seven months of age. When he was thirteen he left home, and has been on his own ever since. He was determined to have an education, and worked his own way through high school and Washington State College. He enlisted in the first World War three weeks after the war was declared; served 18 months over seas in the Heavy Artillery, and in the army of occupation. He was wounded during the activities of this war.

After his discharge, he finished his educational course at Washington State College, receiving his Masters Degree. He then took Journalism at the University of Illinois. From that time on he has followed the newspaper work. He became owner of the Whitfish Independent, of Whitefish, Montana, and also an interest in the paper at Columbia Falls, Montana.

In February 1940 he purchased the Dayton Tribune, at Dayton, Oregon. At this place he built up a fine and well equipped paper and office, and in 1946 he divided the equipment, moving part to Brookings, and selling the remainder at Dayton to parties taking over the paper there. Thus on March 7, 1946 the first edition of the "Brookings-Harbor Pilot" was issued. The first newspaper venture in this Coastal Area. He had planned that this venture would be a crowning event in his Journalistic efforts, for the ground had been purchased, and the materials ready for the erection of a "Pilot" building to be started this week. Death, however, ended his career.

In his death Brookings has sustained a real loss—a man who stood for the better things, who was a real booster for all things worthwhile. He never failed to support the Educational system for youth. He was the soldiers friend, and during the second world war corresponded with all of the boys in the vicinity in which he lived sending them his paper with the news from home. While on their furloughs they always made his office one of their headquarters.

Dewey was a believer in God and the Bible, and a member of the Smith River Methodist Church. He was a member of the Legion and active in the Rotary Masonic Lodge, the American Club of Brookings.

Funeral services were held at the Community Church in Brookings on Tuesday, August 19th at 2:00 p. m. under the direction of the Roy Brown Mortuary with Rev. J. L. Mumbower and Rev. E. C. Hicks, a friend of long years standing in charge of the Memorial service. Music was by Lucille Patterson at the organ. The Lord's Prayer, a solo by Otto Turley and the Old Rugged Cross a favorite of Mr. Akers was sung by a quar-

Just PERSONAL



By DEWEY

"30"

Christiansen, Mr. Dimmick and Mr. Turley. The local Barber-shoppers paid homage to Mr. Akers by singing a Farewell number at the internment service. Interment was at William James Ward Memorial Park.

In Memoriam

With the sudden termination of the exemplary life of our esteemed neighbor and friend, Dewey Akers, the City of Brookings mourns the loss of a "Fostering Father".

The courage displayed in founding the "Pilot" when times were hard.

The persevering efforts to help the growth of our school system in place with the increase of our juvenile population, enabling them to compete on equal terms with the youth of other localities.

The splendid and diligent help in promoting the civic life of the community culminating in the incorporation, and his continued labors and care for the welfare of his "Baby City" and

His genial personality and sense of fairplay will long be remembered by his fellow citizens in every walk of life.

J. J. Gallagher

IN APPRECIATION

The brothers and sisters of Mrs. Dewey Akers wish to thank the Community for assistance and support of their Sister during her recent berevemeit. The many neighborly deeds were appreciated.

The Stunz Family

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