

In The Mail-box:

Editor, The Pilot: I wish to convey a thought of not only a ball player who has found in Brookings many friends and a sincere interest in the community, but of many of the friends I have talked to about a new community park and recreation center. With this need of the community filled, a large part of the question I've have asked me many times "What is wrong with the ball club?" would be answered.

To get down to what is commonly called "brass tacks" and to the heart of the reason for my writing this letter, I would like to offer a possible solution. I grant you it is not in its entirety original but someone has to stir up the question and bring it to the attention of you—The Public!

We have two plans, either of which if administered properly with action and not dilly-dallying around taking place, would be successful. Plan number one, roughly would be:

To form a non-profit corporation, with stock being sold at a low and nominal figure whereby we all could feel as if we had a part of what is really community spirit. In the by-laws, a clause could be written to the effect that if the City of Brookings wished to take over the management and upkeep of the park and grounds, the city could do so.

Plan number two could roughly be as follows:

For the City of Brookings to float a bond issue which could be retired over a period of years.

I believe either one of these plans would go a long way in answering not only the question "what is wrong with the ball club?" but could in reality solve a bigger and certainly a more important question, a means of having a place to not only see some good baseball but recreational facilities for adults and our children.

All of these words actually mean very little if written without the foresight to see that you have to build it somewhere. There is a place and it can be had. The location of this property is ideally suited for not only having the best playing field in the Southwestern Oregon League, but the other facilities available such as tennis courts which could be converted into roller skating rinks and an excellent location for a swimming beach or pool with parking no problem.

This property is located on the north bank of the Chetco at the north end of the bridge. It offers excellent protection from the wind and can easily be worked to provide a 22-acre park. I am

Along Azalea Row

By Mrs. E. F. Rapraeger

In her talk at the January meeting of the Azalea Garden Club Mrs. Almo Newton described the rose as the world's favorite flower. The rose flourishes in many parts of the world and is at its best in the mild climate of the Pacific coast where it plays a major role in festivities of the summer Rose Festival in Portland, and the Tournament of Roses at Pasadena on New Years Day.

Mrs. Newton's study of roses dates back to the days when she and her husband ranched near Tulelake, Ore. As a sideline they started a rose nursery and to their pleasant surprise this developed into quite a profitable business. Then Mrs. Newton delved more deeply into the science of rose culture, concentrating on types which would flourish in the cold Tulelake climate.

The rose is of ancient lineage and has been found in fossil deposits which date back 35 million years. The earliest Egyptian architecture depicts the rose, and for many centuries the rose has been a favorite flower of artist as well as gardener.

Throughout the years the rose has been a symbol of affection.

quite certain from the people I have talked with that enough volunteer contributions of machinery, labor and material to work with, that the expense would be very nominal and inconsequential compared to the advantages such a recreation park affords to all.

I personally am enthused about the idea, not only as possibly a ball player that would like to play in such a park, but as someone who is really interested in the growth of the community. There could be organized a Pee-Wee Baseball league such as Medford, Grants Pass, Drain, Roseburg, Coos Bay-North Bend and other cities around us have organized.

Some other possibilities that can be thought about are, with a park such as the one proposed traveling ball clubs, such as the Harlem Globetrotters and the House of David could probably be had for mid-week night baseball games. More and better teams could be induced to play here for the enjoyment of all as well as Brookings getting a better brand of young and talented ball players. The drawing area of teams such as I have mentioned could be extended south as well as north. Concessions could be set up by either the non-profit corporation to pay off the expenses or by the city if a bond issue was floated.

The pros and cons of such an idea I grant you are many, but I believe if given careful consideration not only from a present day outlook but into the future, sooner or later it must take place. It is not a project that will hinder or hurt community pride but can be a project we can point to with pride. This letter was written on my own undertaking, but if you would like to express your views, pro or con, on such a plan as I have proposed, please let the following people know if they have your support and how soon we can expect action to take the place of words.

Ross Putnam
Floyd Swearingen
George Funk
Homer Haggerty
Pete Lesmeister
Respectfully yours,
FRANK W. BURDELL.

Seven centuries ago nomad Mongols riding shaggy ponies pillaged much of Europe and some of them returned homeward with a rose cutting for a wife or sweetheart in Mongolia. In this way the rose of Persia found its way into the Orient. A century before, courtly Crusaders fighting for possession of the Holy Land and returned homeward carrying the rose of Persia and Palestine to their homes in western Europe. In this way the rose spread from the Middle East to the Baltic. Soon it was found in all parts of the world. When sea captains visited the Orient in the sixteenth century they brought home roses to show the extent of their travels and to gladden the hearts of their beloved.

Nothing of note was done towards domesticating the rose in western countries until Napoleon Bonaparte was at the height of his power. While he was engaged in wars, his wife, Empress Josephine, lent the prestige of her station and used a liberal amount of her full purse toward gather-

ing together the roses of the day. She employed the foremost botanists and gardeners of her time to build the finest rose collection in the world. Although her collection was considered to be very extensive, it numbered only 210 varieties, whereas today there are over 20,000 known varieties of roses.

Modern roses began in 1837 with Laffay's work in France when he hand-pollinated the native French rose which bloomed once a year with the Bengal rose which bloomed several times a year. The resultant hybrid was a persistent perpetual bloomer and the class of roses resulting was called Hybrid Perpetuals. In great-grandfather's time Hybrid Perpetuals were the vogue, and on many a Sunday afternoon he would bring his sweetheart a bouquet of roses. Since then other classes of roses have been developed from the Hybrid Perpetual, among these being Hybrid Teas and Polyanthus or Cluster Roses.

Probably no other flower has had so much love and attention lavished on it by gardeners. Each new introduction is the product of years of loving labor. Through the centuries the rose has been the focus of attention of the

leading gardeners in all parts of the world, in Persia, in China, in France, in this country, in your garden and in mine. Francis Meilland, one of the world's foremost rose culturists, spent twelve years developing his famous Peace rose, one of the foremost roses of the present day and one of the 20,000 varieties of the modern rose.

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