

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor, The Pilot: I have read with interest and some regret the letter from Ted Steenberg regarding our present planning commission and its so-called dictator. Perhaps there are many who agreed with the writer, without a second thought or due consideration of the reason for writing such a letter. I wonder how many of our taxpayers and citizens have taken the time or trouble to go to the city hall and see how much work, planning, drawing and engineering have gone into the planning for the city of Brookings.

Plans which were made and designed to benefit the majority of those affected and not for a few "beefers." It is not child's play or the task of a few hours. It is a tremendous job and the ones responsible are to be congratulated for a fine piece of work. The writer of that letter, not being a taxpayer or interested in a decent or clean city, evidently didn't take the time or trouble to investigate the process open to him to rezone any area within the city limits. Or maybe he didn't care, just wanted to start calling names. What business did the writer want to go into or what kind of house did he want to build? It is my understanding that he was refused permission to build as he wanted to in our neighboring community. Why? There are approximately 20 acres zoned for heavy industry, wrecking yards, etc., within the city limits, but of course not right out on the hiway where the writer wanted it.

So far we have a beautiful city and the planning commission has planned it so as to keep it that way. As a taxpayer and home owner, I am glad my property is in a protected zone and hope it continues to be so. What a sight to remember, night or day, as one enters Brookings from the north. Through Harris Park and on into town. Beautiful modern buildings, motels, markets, stores and homes. Compare this with the entrance to our community to the north of us or Crescent City to the south. Wrecking yards, dumps, shacks, etc. It really doesn't take much observation to see the difference as to choose which one we'd rather live in. Let's keep ours a clean and beautiful, well-planned city. Here's a big "thank you" to the ones who have done such fine planning and to the one who directs it.

Sincerely,
LOYD S. WEEKS.

Editor, The Pilot: The letter last week from Steenberg indicates a misinformation. Let me point out to him the several hundred people who have each invested several thousand dollars in Brookings homes expect this investment to be protected by the zoning laws. I speak of actual investment, not conversational.

It will become anyone to apply the adjectives "dictatorial, whimsical or impractical" to Mr. O. D. Arp.

Mr. Arp was onetime superintendent of parks in Sioux City, Iowa. He later was superintendent of the estates of the McCormick interests in Long Beach and Pasadena. He directed the activ-

ities of four hundred people, erecting dwellings, greenhouses, swimming pools and playgrounds. Mr. Arp worked hundreds of hours, unpaid, to get the Brookings zoning ordinances to comply with state law and with cities of similar size. He is a man of unassailable integrity.

Mr. Robert Dimmick, mayor of the city of Brookings, should be in position to judge the qualifications of the people he asks to serve on the planning commission.

The deliberations of this body of seven men are factual, sober and intensive and are guided by state law. And by the merest coincidence, all the men have invested in the city, cash, not conversation.

We may make the mistake of falling down and worshiping one local industry or other in this area. We have metals, timber, tourists and weather, to name a few.

The preservation of the values in Brookings homes is the job of the zoning officer and the planning commission.

The State of Oregon says so.
LUTHER L. TISDALE,
Member, Planning Commission

Editor, The Pilot: Ballot enclosed. It does not seem possible to vote other than "Yes" upon the question you have posed.

The Azalea Festival means a very great deal to Brookings, in the gain that accrues from maintaining a wonderful tradition in the town, and in the many renewals of friendship with those who return. That it means much to the city, every way, to have so many outsiders visit us, at a time so favorable as is made by the Azalea Festival, goes without saying. The loveliness of the park itself, the spring days, always so favorable, the good spirit prevailing, how else could Brookings be better presented?

Recently two letters came to my desk, one from Downey, California, asking for the date of the festival and the other from Salem setting the occasion for the visit of friends.

To those who lead us in putting on the festival we are greatly indebted. Perhaps the thing to do is to acknowledge our indebtedness, and prepare to share the load this year, by subscriptions and work.

We must have the Festival surely!
CHARLES DURDEN.

Editor, The Pilot: I see by The Pilot where Chad has moved his restaurant to the Coffee Mill location. We left Brookings January 17 so missed the chance to eat in his new location.

Mrs. Brooks and I certainly enjoyed our eating at Chad's during the seven months we were in Brookings. We had never seen a restaurant where everyone was at ease like they were in Chad's.

Not only was the food good and at reasonable prices, but in the evening especially when Bill Brady, Tony Christensen, Gordon Goetz and some of those fellows sat down to play cribbage at the counter during their meals we knew we were in for some entertainment on the side. Of course, having Carol, Charlotte and Muriel in their pitching food at us

didn't hurt anything either.

We are planning to visit Brookings during the festival next summer. Maybe festivals.

Sincerely,
BILL AND DORA BROOKS.

Editor, The Pilot: I received a copy of your paper and was much disturbed over the possibility that the Azalea Festival might be discontinued.

A number of the Portland Garden club members are planning on coming to Brookings this year to the festival and it would be a great disappointment to all of us if we couldn't come.

I do hope you all reconsider this big boost it gives Brookings and Harbor.

Sincerely,
NORA DANA
(Mrs. Marshall Dana).

Dear Mr. Phelps: In signing your ballot regarding continuing the Azalea Festival, we do so with the following reservations:

Both Ed and I are of the opinion the Azalea Festival is an asset to the community and should be continued if possible. However, in the past few years it has grown beyond the point where a mere half-dozen residents can handle it. Certainly the burden has been shifted to the shoulders of a very few.

None of us in a community of this size is in a position financially or physically to drop our own business completely for a week or so at festival time in addition to all the previous ground work necessary through several months. If enough people would step forward and take a responsible position in the All-Year Events Association, the festival could undoubtedly be continued

and more and more people could be introduced to the beauties of our community.

Sincerely,
MRS. C. ED DEMPSEY.

Brookings-Harbor Pilot 9
THURSDAY, FEB. 11, 1954

For City Police—Phone 3193.

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