

The PILOT

BROOKINGS-HARBOR PILOT

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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SOMETHING DIFFERENT THIS TIME

The Red Cross has been to many just another contribution. It has been an abstract thing, away off in the distance. "It could happen to those other people, but not to us" has been the thought.

However, this Sunday, when the canvassers cover the Brookings-Harbor area, perhaps another thought may come to mind. The thought of the help the Red Cross provided, quickly, when the recent flood hit neighboring areas—Klamath, and other cities.

The Red Cross expenditures in the Western States in the recent floods was over \$4,604,000 by February 21, which included mass care, food, shelter clothing, medical care to over 52,000 people—YOUR Neighbors.

They provided individual assistance to 7,720 families and small businessmen. Disaster aid is based on NEED, not on loss, supplying what cannot be otherwise obtained without excessive hardship. Over 10,000 families have applied for post-disaster recovery aid. This aid is entirely free—an outright gift of the American people through the support of the Red Cross. Remember that Sunday.

Council Meetings Are A Problem . . .

It may be harder and harder to get good men to serve on the City Council of Brookings because of the time element. Even now it is difficult, because most businessmen or others capable of serving on the Council have plenty to do usually in their own right.

In Brookings, as in hundreds of other communities, there are church and social and service club meetings by the dozens. It is difficult for a man to stay home once a week to watch his favorite TV program—and it is important to attend the various meetings, too.

Not too long ago, the Council met only once a month. The Charter of the City of Brookings says that the Council shall hold a regular meeting at least once a month.

The Charter also says that "The Mayor upon his own motion may, or at the request of two members of the council, shall, by giving notice thereof to all members of the council then in the city, call a special meeting of the Council for a time not earlier than three nor later than forty-eight hours after the notice is given."

But it appears that the Brookings Council now meets once a week. We certainly should give the council credit for the time they are giving to their work.

However, we feel the council should definitely announce to the citizenry that their intentions are to meet once a week at a given night, at a given time and at a designated place. We are not going to set ourselves up as critics and accuse the council of having "secret meetings" because they aren't. However, they have abandoned the idea of notifying the press—who represent the public as much as the council, as to their meeting time.

Three weeks ago, the Council met on an "off" Tuesday and O.K.'d the arrangement with Elmer Bankus and the Beresa Tract sewage. We feel that the public was entitled to know that at the time, because the Council did authorize the expenditure of \$50.00 a month of the taxpayers' money. Last Tuesday the Council met and discussed the license committee recommendations, and presumably acted upon them. We were criticized because we didn't present a report on the meeting in the Pilot. We in turn feel obligated to criticize, because we didn't know of the meeting.

We feel that the Council could consider all their business in their regular meetings — perhaps twice a month if necessary. They do that in most other communities.

If, however, they feel that they must meet once a week—then we feel that it is their obligation to make that fact public so that the taxpayers can attend the meetings and listen to the arguemens and recommendations that come up from time to time.

ROY MILLER REPORTED ILL

Roy Miller, a member of a large and old time Curry County family, is said to be quite ill at the Sensitive Hospital, Crescent City, following surgery. He lived at Agness and Gold Beach, as a boy.

— NOTICE —

Anyone interested in establishing a Southern Baptist work in the Brookings-Harbor area please write or call Rev. Troy Kelly, Box 569, Crescent City or phone Crescent 8333.

HOUSE NUMBERS —

Pop Reed, City Works Superintendent, tells us he has sent to the West Coast Telephone Co. a street and number listing of all their subscribers hereabouts, for inclusion in their new directory.

BEACH CLEANING —

Declared by Fire Chief Lyle Griffin, of Crescent City, an extreme hazard, the supervisors of Del Norte county have authorized the expenditure of money for the disposal of the tremendous amount of flood drift on the beaches at that city.

Acknowledging the value of the drift to beach combers, and especially to tourists, this is offset by the dangers of fires in the drift. The supervisors advised Griffin to obtain equipment and build suitable fire breaks, piling the drift, and burn it. There is also a lot of drift around the docks, which is hazardous.

In many places, the beaches have belts of debris a hundred feet wide and several feet high, consisting mostly of logs, trees, limbs, parts of houses and bridges, and all the material was sluiced down in the winter's floods.

MRS. CHASE VISITS KIN —

Recent visitors to relatives in Harbor and Smith River were Mr. and Mrs. Red Chase, of Chilcoquin, and their twin daughters, Sharon and Karen. Mrs. Chase is the daughter of the late "Pat" Van Pelt. The couple are employed at the Klamath Indian Agency.

Bank deposits in Curry county went up from \$7,928,247.80, on Dec. 31, 1954 to \$9,520,342.28 a year later-up \$1,592,094.48, a jump of 20 percent.

Department store sales in Portland dropped greatly during the first week in February, when the weather was bad, and Seattle stores noted a similar drop.

THE BERRIES —

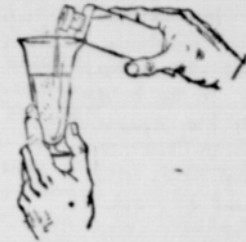
Cane berry growers of Oregon are facing a favorable market this year, according to an OSC release but the prospects for strawberry growers isn't so good. It looks like this luscious fruit will be overproduced, out where the growers really make a business of growing them. The carry-over of frozen strawberries, according to the report, is pretty high.

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