

(GENERAL)

FILE NO. 244547

Protest  
OF  
residents  
vs.

mass eviction of apartment dwellers in connection  
with turning them into motels for Fair, etc.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

Mr. President:

Your

Committee

to which was referred the within.....  
would respectfully report that we have considered the same and respectfully recommend that.....

CHAIRMAN

CHAIRMAN

FILED February 5, 1962

**C. G. ERLANDSON**  
COMPTROLLER AND CITY CLERK

BY W. A. Perrine DEPUTY

**ACTION OF THE COUNCIL**

REFERRED	TO
FEBRUARY 5, 1962	C/W
REFERRED	TO
REFERRED	TO
REPORTED	DISPOSITION
FEB 5 1962	On File
RE-REFERRED	TO
REPORTED	DISPOSITION

105 Mercer Street,  
Seattle 9, Washington

January 30, 1962

The City Council,  
City of Seattle, Washington

Gentlemen:

We, the undersigned, wish to go on record as opposed to action by the City Council which permits mass eviction of apartment dwellers in apartments such as the one in which we live. The apartments are large and certainly not appropriate for overnight tenancy. It is felt to be unjust to oust persons who have made their homes in Seattle for years, supporting Seattle industry and merchants with our trade and taxes, in favor of persons who may at best be in our City for a period of a few weeks and who will contribute very little to Seattle in the long run.

The apartment in which we, the undersigned, reside is located at 105 Mercer Street and consists of forty units.

Mrs & Mrs Ralph Cheney (213) Pat Luthi (312)  
Mrs. Emma Freeburg (212) Arlene Kruse (312)  
Marion E. Henderson (211) Maryellen Smith (314)  
Isabel M. Smith (209) Earl Williams (308)  
Mr & Mrs G. E. Edwards (207) John E. Kennedy (305)  
Mrs Pearl Reis (203) Albert Marco (304)  
Margaret L. Russell apt (204) Anna Forlund (302)  
L. L. Larrant apt (202) 7 Lawrence Ray (105)  
Mr & Mrs H. E. Barnes (206) Florence C. Lynch (202)  
Betha Long (310) Alice J. Fay (apt. 107)  
Amy Houlton (311) Richard E. Dinsley apt 109  
Mr & Mrs Ray Price (112) Laura Russon (113)

1114 Marion  
Seattle 4, Washington

January 30, 1962

To the City Council:

I want to enter my protest at the action taken by the apartment owners in the eviction of permanent tenants for the benefit of visitors to Century 21.

It is an outrage that people who have occupied apartments in a given building for 10, 15 or 20 years or more, paying the rents set by apartment owners, should be penalized and victimized on the strength of something that will last 6 months. After all, we who have lived in Seattle in both lean and prosperous years, have supported all manner of business, including apartment owners, and, if not forced to leave this area because of no place to live, or higher rents than the average person can pay, will continue to support the economy of this area for many years to come, picking up the slack after Century 21 is ended.

I urge the repeal of the ordinance as passed recently premitting apartment houses to be used as hotels for the duration of Century 21 (except normal vacancies) and the setting of a rent ceiling which is in keeping with the ability of the average person to pay.

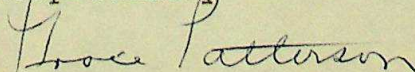
If apartment owners could understand that it is probably to their advantage to maintain a steady, permanent income over many years rather than living off the fat of the land for six months, then be faced with continued vacancies due to the mass exodus of people from Seattle and the Puget Sound area because of their inability to find a place to live during the six months of Century 21.

Why must Century 21 become a catastrophe for permanent residents of apartments and other rented units? I am all for Century 21, but not at the expense of the people who live in modest apartments - the best they can afford, - but nevertheless - HOME to them.

Also, some apartment owners are proposing to charge their tenants an extra fee if guests visit them. Has anyone the right to dictate that people cannot entertain their personal guests or relatives in their homes without an extra charge?

Up to now the tenants in this apartment have not been notified, but I have reason to believe we will be given notice to vacate or up the rent to an unreasonable figure.

Respectfully

  
Grace Patterson

Maybe you could take some of those old houses we saw out in the blighted areas last week (League of Women Voters), and make us a sort of displaced persons camp. Then the hotels could arrange tours for their Fair visitors to go out and see how the displaced persons live - tours for profit, of course!

706 Pike Street  
Seattle 1, Washington  
January 30, 1962

City Council of Seattle  
County-City Building  
Seattle, Washington

Gentlemen:

Having never been a displaced person before, I am in need of advice. After due deliberation last August, I decided to give up my modest apartment and move into a modest hotel, which, heretofore, has catered to and advertised for permanent guests. With every expectation of remaining permanent, I disposed of or have committed for disposal, my linens and other household items needful for even a furnished apartment. This, of course, represents loss as well as inconvenience. I have lived in Seattle for three years - again with every expectation of making it my permanent home - have been steadily employed in my profession of Christian Science nurse during this entire period, and further contribute to a better society and Seattle by active church and civic work. I may not be a special asset to the city, but the city could do worse in the type of citizenry it may find among its potentials.

Today, I received the enclosed letter. My present rent is commensurate with my present income. To exceed this and remain solvent would represent stringent economy or withdrawal of financial support from church and other activities deserving of that support. To meet the increased rate set forth in this letter would be economic folly. To invest one's savings or reserve in exorbitant bread-and-butter living would be superlative folly. But what gain is there in moving to another address in Seattle - the fat is no hotter than the fire.

So my question is, are we displaced persons expected to become pioneers in space while the local hotels and apartment houses wax fat on their six month's spoils? Doubtless, my fellow Texans, to whom I have boasted of finding a place I like better than Texas, would - with proper show of contrition - welcome me back to the plains. And, pardner, right now I'm thinkin' mighty like packin' and headin' fer the Rio Grande! You got any ideas before I cinch' up?

Sincerely,  
*(Mrs.) F.S. Huddleston*  
(Mrs.) F.S. Huddleston

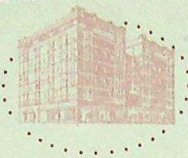
cc: Mr. Mr. Richard C. Miller, Manager  
Doric Waldorf Hotel  
706 Pike Street  
Seattle 1, Washington

NAME OF UNIT

Seventh Avenue at Pike  
Seattle 1, Washington  
MAin 2-8567



DORIC



WALDORF

Executive Offices

**CANADA**

in Victoria, B. C.  
Doric Victoria Motel

in Vancouver, B. C.  
Doric Howe Motor  
Hotel

**WASHINGTON**

in Bellingham  
Doric Bellingham  
Motor Hotel

in Seattle  
Doric New  
Washington Hotel

Doric Mayflower  
Hotel

Doric Towne Motor  
Hotel

Doric 6th Avenue  
Motor Hotel

Doric Waldorf Hotel

in Tacoma  
Doric Tacoma Motor  
Hotel

in Kennewick  
Doric Black Angus  
Motor Hotel

**OREGON**

in Portland  
Doric Palms Motor  
Hotel

**CALIFORNIA**

in Oakland  
Doric Leamington  
Hotel

in Hayward  
Doric Hayward Motel

in Santa Barbara  
Doric Mar Monte Motor  
Hotel

in Santa Monica  
Doric Surf Rider Inn

in Los Angeles  
Doric Wilshire Motor  
Hotel

in Gardena  
Doric Gardena Motor  
Hotel

in Mission Hills  
Doric Mission Hills

in Long Beach  
Doric Hotel Capri

in San Diego  
Doric Point Loma  
Motor Hotel

in Palm Springs  
Doric Ocotillo Lodge

The Desert Inn

January 29, 1962

Mrs. F. Huddleston  
Doric Waldorf Hotel  
Seattle, Washington

Dear Mrs. Huddleston:

Effective April 1, 1962 the rate on your room will be changed from \$ 55 per month to a daily rate of \$5.00 per day plus 4% state sales tax.

The reason for the change in rate is that the high cost of labor and the high cost of materials makes a permanent rate inadvisable at this time. We hope that at a later time we will be able to resume with monthly or weekly rates.

It has been our pleasure to have served you in the past and we hope we may continue to do so in the future.

Very truly yours,

DORIC WALDORF HOTEL

Richard C. Miller  
Manager

Sidney W. Gilford  
The Queensborough  
101 Olympic Pl.  
Seattle 99, Wash.

Seattle City Council  
514 City Hall  
Seattle, Wash.

Gentlemen:

Thank you so much for the so helpful suggestions given to me over the telephone this morning.

For five years I have been a tenant at the Queensborough, from whom I have rented a furnished bachelor apartment and garage stall. During the entire time I have endeavored to cooperate to the fullest extent to observe all of its rules and have regularly paid my rent, monthly. After I had lived through my first years lease - no other lease was ever offered to me. (During this time and until recently there have been several increases in my rent.)

It has been given to me that the interest of the "owner" is to evict from the building the present tenants of the upper four floors of this apartment house to make it available for rental for transient visitors. (Perhaps they also then plan to evict all the other remaining floors to further personal gain?)

This of course would cause an unfair and discriminatory hardship on me and all the others evicted.

Since I read and was also told it definitely is not the intent of our city council to create any unfairness to justice it seems to me they should proceed immediately to correct this situation in whatever emergency positive methods are attainable.

In addition to making it unlawful to evict tenants, the landlords and owners should have "frozen" the present prevailing rental rates until such time as they cannot force realistic hardships upon their present tenants by squeezing them into unfair situations. Also they should not be allowed to remove the furniture from an apartment already rented in this manner as this is a method being suggested to force a tenant to move.

We living here are proud of our city and its past record and feel sure our government representatives will continue to do everything possible to warrant this so strong feeling.

I would appreciate hearing from you and would be happy to cooperate in any suggestions you might have to offer that would help keep our present "roofs over our heads" and at the same time be able to extend a hearty welcome to the visitors of Seattles World Fair.

Thank you in advance.

Very truly yours,

*Sidney Gilford*  
Sidney Gilford