

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 Rafael Cheney (213) Pat Luthi (312)
Mrs. Emma Freiburg (212) Arloose Kruse (312)
Marion E. Hendon, son (211) Marybell Smith (314)
Isabel M. Smith (209) Earl Williams (308)
Mrs & 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. Jarrant apt (202) 7 Lawrence Ray (105)
Mr & Mrs H. E. Jones - 206 Therese C. Funch (102)
Betha Long (310) Alice I. Fay (apt. 107)
Amy Houlton (311) Richard E. Rindley 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 permitting 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.

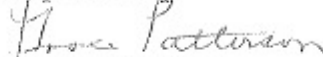
If apartment owners could understand that it is probably to their advantage to maintain a steady, permanent income over many years rather than living off the fat of the land for six months, then be faced with continued vacancies due to the mass exodus of people from Seattle and the Puget Sound area because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

Letters and petition sent to Council protesting the raising of rental rates for Fair along with copy of notification of said increase in rent sent by owner, January 29 & 30, 1962. Comptroller File 244547. Comptroller Files, 1802-01. Seattle Municipal Archives.

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 Grandel! 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

Letters and petition sent to Council protesting the raising of rental rates for Fair along with copy of notification of said increase in rent sent by owner, January 29 & 30, 1962. Comptroller File 244547. Comptroller Files, 1802-01. Seattle Municipal Archives.



GROUP OF HOTELS

DORIC WALDORF

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



CANADA

In Victoria, B. C.
Doric Victoria Hotel

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 Leanington Hotel

In Hayward
Doric Hayward Hotel

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 Quail Inn

The Desert Inn

Executive Offices

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