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"Letter to the Editor: 'Zealously Downgrading Police', 'Majority Threat'"

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Zealously Downgrading Police

To The Commercial Appeal:

There is a reason for everything in our Lord's plan and all things work together for good if we will allow it.

The recent erroneous statements regarding complaints against our police department pointed up the fact that in your zeal to downgrade our police department you committed the most grievous sin a newspaper can commit. You became lax in your search for truth and recklessly printed very damaging information which was completely untrue.

Your hurt your city, your police department and most especially your own credibility and integrity as a newspaper.

It is our hope and prayer that this example will force you to question your motives in future news-gathering and lead to more careful dissemination of facts, which although they enhance your preconceived ideas, may not be true facts.

May I take this opportunity to bring to your attention a more recent quote from our chief of police, which expresses his true philosophy. (The one about the

"\$20,000 garbage" is a bit old.) This is taken from the graduation program of the police recruit class, and says:

"Treat every man as your brother for a policeman is truly his brothers' keeper."

This seems to be good advice, even for newspaper editors.

MRS. W. O. CRUMBY, JR.
6895 Stout Road

Majority Threat

To The Commercial Appeal:

Congratulations to state Sen. and City Councilman John Ford for his interesting as well as intelligent statement that those opposing and I-40 route through Overton Park number "about 10, compared to 4 million people who need and want it." No doubt these figures are accurate and will be verified when the senator's off-the-cuff poll is published. Then the myth of the well-informed politician will be sustained.

More important than Ford's mumbo jumbo figures, however, is the revelation of the traditionally dangerous attitude of the 10 people opposing 4 million people somehow means that the 4 million know best.

There are finally a few architects and environmental planners who realize through observation of contemporary urban ruins, atmospheric pollution, and intolerable noise levels that man's runaway construction and industrial growth is outdated, as well as self-destructing. The area of the Earth is shrinking, and what people do to that area requires more effort and consideration for the future than has ever been given.

Unfortunately, the majority still shouts, "faster and cheaper are better!" and it pains me to read that an influential politician will join his voice to theirs so casually. Though temporarily satisfying the majority buys votes for a senator, it has the majority's children trembling with fear.

STEVE SHORT

2114 La Salle Place

THE COMMERCIAL APPEAL

Letters ^{to the} Editor

Memphis, Sunday, July 25, 1976

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