

willmotts and why-nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

Open letter to Governor Carey:

Dear Hugh,

You've got a problem on your hands. The restless residents of this state are furious at the legislature's unconscionable 40 per cent raise they just granted themselves. You'd better do something about it, like veto the bill, or there is going to be hell to pay.

We know you heard the voters last November. They want the cost of government brought down. You have been saying very loudly and plainly to the legislature and to local governments that they have got to hold down their costs. They have to reduce the expenses of government. Raising their salaries 40 per cent isn't the way.

This outlandish raise sets the

pattern for demands from every government employee. They will rightly want increases to match their leaders. We both know we can't afford it. Further, it would be unjust to say "yes" to the leaders and "no" to the workers. That's not fair. Liberals and Conservatives would agree on that.

It has been observed in the past that when the legislature grants itself a raise, particularly of the magnitude of this one, the legislator's conscience bothers him. To make up for this, they go through wasted motions of keeping the legislature in session longer than necessary, so time will justify the amount they are being paid.

There isn't a legislator sitting in

Albany who doesn't agree all the important business could be conducted in half the time at a fraction of the cost.

Right now, it's the general consensus of the people that what the legislators have become the best at is

sticking it to the taxpayer. Our only hope is that you have the courage to stick it back to them, and let them try to hustle up the votes to over-ride your veto with angry taxpayers at their heels. We are countin' on you, Gov. Don't let us down. And why not?



BOSS, I WANT A 40% INCREASE IN PAY

SURE... GET YOURSELF ANOTHER JOB. WE CAN'T AFFORD YOU!

Public pay - public uses

The Corps of Army Engineers is again in the process of developing plans for stabilizing beaches along Dune Road. The funding for the work will come out of your tax dollars. Part will be paid for by your federal taxes, part by the state taxes and part by county taxes. Whatever plan the Corps comes up with, let's hope they have the good sense to make a provision for the public's use of right-of-ways that will be needed for construction of the project.

When the present groins were built to stabilize the beach, the government agencies involved agreed to close the right-of-ways for public use, thus denying access to the beach.

There is no general public access to the ocean from Shinnecock Inlet to Moriches Inlet. On either end of this 14-mile stretch of beach, if you are a county resident, you may gain access at two locations. If you are a town resident, there is no town beach in Hampton Bays. The Villages of Quogue and Westhampton Beach have beaches exclusively for the village residents. The rest of the people of Suffolk County, the State of New York and this nation have ab-

solutely no way of getting on to the beach their tax dollars are stabilizing.

This is ridiculous and is as discriminating as you can get.

The weekenders who have their homes along the dunes can't be blamed for wanting their privacy. But these same people can't come to us and say, "Hey! My beach is washing away and I want you to stabilize it." They can't have their cake and eat it, too. If they want all of our tax dollars to be used in stabilizing the beach, they are going to have to put up with all of us using it.

Most of the right-of-ways created could not accommodate hordes of people, but they could accommodate from six to twelve cars each. Granted, this would not make a world of difference, but at least it would provide some access to miles of beach property denied to us.

If our taxes are going to be used to fund this project, then the agencies involved have a responsibility to see that the beaches are opened to one and all, whether they have a few dollars in their pocket or a few million. And why not?

Readers' Opinion

"What is the purpose?"

Mr. Stanley Abrams
Superintendent
Middle Country School District No. 11
Administration Building
Centereach, New York

Dear Mr. Abrams:

As concerned parents we must make our opinion on the adding of a sex education course known to you. Since the schools are not permitted to give moral views in the area of sex education, we know that this course or series of courses can not be effective. It would be, in our minds, like telling a teacher he could teach math but must exclude all odd numbers or that he could teach spelling but must eliminate all the vowels and work only with consonants. The idea is ridiculous! The object of the course would be... what? Is it to give all our children the information necessary to perform the sex act - notice we do not say anything about lovemaking - and how to avoid pregnancy or if necessary the means of having an abortion... for what purpose? No studies done so far have shown that areas with sex education courses taught in the schools have more responsible young people or young people more sensitive to the feelings of others, so what is the purpose of instituting a course of this nature? No matter how fine the outline of a course like this would be on paper, we would find the course offensive if morality as we know it would not be included. Of course, that in turn would be offensive to someone else. We

therefore, state that a sex education course has no place in the schools as it always will offend a segment of the community no matter what is included or excluded. Also, it can not possibly be taught without inflicting the views of the teacher upon the children. The idea of an optional sex education course is also unacceptable since once a course is part of the school curriculum, the School Board may at its discretion mandate it at some future date.

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Altman
Centereach, New York

We do not believe that sex education has any place in the school; we do not believe that the schools are doing any child good by taking over the responsibilities that belong to the family; we do not believe that it is beneficial to the parents to be relieved of these responsibilities; we do not believe the schools should be asked to take on any more responsibilities. We do believe that, as certainly as our children are gifts to us from God, we, the parents, are the only ones qualified to teach our children - with much love and understanding - of the many facets of human sexuality for His honor and glory!

Respectfully,

John Altman
Karen Altman

"I wish to give my opinion"

Dear Mr. Willmott:

In reference to Reader Opinion, I wish to give my opinion.

Where does Joseph Durinick get the nerve to suggest that senior citizens not be allowed to vote for school budgets? If such were the case, senior citizens should not be expected to be taxed for same. I believe seniors do not especially enjoy voting for same. I had two children who never attended public schools. Still, I, at 84 years of age, am being taxed

for school budgets, including bussing and lunches. Why don't they bring their lunches from home?

Also, on days off from school, kids run like crazy in the streets. But, on school days, they can't walk but have to be bused.

I am on a fixed income (Social Security) and can ill afford school taxes. Joseph Durinick, do you have another opinion:
Sincerely,
G. Murphy

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Mattituck
Medford

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Patchogue
Port Jefferson
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Time of Happiness

Easter is the most joyous holiday of the Christian world. It is the day we commemorate the opening of the doors of Heaven that had been locked shut by the original sins of Adam and Eve. It is joyful for it marks Christ's rising from the dead and his journey to join his Father. It is a time of rebirth and renewal.

The Jewish world simultaneously celebrates one of their more important and joyous holidays - Passover. This holiday marks the successful flight of the Jews from the bonds of slavery from their Egyptian rulers.

For the first time since this exodus,

this holiday has particular meaning for Jews and Egyptians. They are finally at peace with each other. The Egyptians have recognized not only the physical state of Israel but their right to exist in peace. The leaders of these two countries have just signed a peace treaty which all of us throughout the world hope is a sign of a lessening of tensions and lasting peace in the Mid-East.

Christians and Jews, individually, should reflect collectively on the meaning of these two holidays, and rededicate themselves personally to finding peace within themselves and with their fellow men. And why not?

Windfall Taxes From Energy

President Carter, in announcing the deregulation of oil, asked Congress to pass a windfall profit tax on the oil industry, which is expected to reap enormous profits from this measure.

At first blush, this seems to be an equitable proposal. But, when you realize that American industry already is taxed up to one-half their profits, and these profits, when distributed to the stockholders can be taxed up to 70 per cent, you have to question the need for additional windfall taxes.

There is a definite need, though, for protection against the windfall taxes to be received by our government. If gasoline goes from 70 cents a gallon to \$1.40 per gallon, our sales taxes to the county will jump from .021 cents to .042 cents a gallon. On top of this share, there is a state excise tax of .08 cents per gallon, and on the federal level, .04 cents a gallon.

Typical of the hot air being expelled recently on television, Jimmy Carter

tried to take your eye off the ball by directing it at the private sector. But our government stands to be the biggest gainer of any windfall.

The county should impose a cap on sales taxes collected on gas and fuel. The state should do likewise. Legislation should be introduced in Congress that would hold the limit in dollars on taxes currently being charged.

Those in government are fond of pointing out how we are being held up by the OPEC nations. Yet, every time the OPEC nations raise the price of crude, our own government is standing right in line with their hands out, the beneficiaries through ever accelerating taxes.

There may be little we can do to stop the OPEC nations from robbing us, but our concerned elected officials have it within their power to weaken the bite by eliminating the increased taxes tied by percentage to the cost of energy. And why not?

Readers' Opinion

"A note of congratulations"

Dear David:

We all here at Rains, Pogrebin & Scher want to send along a note of congratulations and best wishes on your paper's eighteenth birthday. If Long Island ever comes to age mentally and morally, you should be credited

with your significant contribution.

Best wishes for another eighteen plus.

Sincerely,
Harry H. Rains
Rains, Pogrebin & Scher

"A great American"

Dear David:

The death of Robert Hopkins of Stony Brook without of notice of the busy world, brought a rhyme to mind.

Bob Hopkins, twice decorated for heroism, died at the age of 90. He was a life member of the American Legion Harbor Post 417, Setauket and a member of the St. James, Over Fifty Senior Citizens Club of Setauket.

My appraisal of him is easy to write:
"A Great American." He served in France under General of the U.S. Army, John J.

(Black Jack) Pershing, American Expeditionary Force World War I. R.I.P. Comrade.

"God and the soldier all men adore
In time of danger and not before
When the danger is passed and all things righted
God is forgotten and the soldier slighted."

Sincerely,
J.M. O'Shea
Director
Suffolk County Senior Citizens Council, Inc.

"Concerned about the Airport"

Dear Mr. Klein

The property owners of West Lake, Westhampton, N.Y., have recently joined together to form an Association, for the purpose of maintaining a high quality of residential living, and have established a Not-for-Profit Corporation, West Lake of Westhampton Association, Inc., to further this goal.

Our members are year round residents, who for the most part, are employed in the local community, and take an interest in local issues that affect our families everyday living. West Lake is located within two air miles of the Suffolk County Airport.

All of us are greatly concerned with your decision to allow large aircraft, such as DC 8 and 707's to operate, almost unrestricted, at the Airport. In the past, we have been subjected to a sample of the noise these planes can generate, when Robert Rosasco, then the Commissioner of The Department of Aviation, on occasion, allowed Overseas Airway's DC 10 aircraft to practice touch-downs, at the Suffolk Airport. We voiced our objection then, and we vehemently protest now, to the unbearable noise and the air pollution we will be exposed to.

Our knowledge of the Airport runways, indicates that they were never built to support large aircraft, but rather for the lighter

fighter planes. Various officials have testified, at open meetings, as to the need to spend large amounts of money to rebuild the air strips to accommodate heavy planes.

We were encouraged by some of the planning process that has been underway with Transplan Inc., as outlined at their open informational meetings. However, we find it extremely discouraging that you plan to go ahead with an objectionable nuisance such as Skylift, that will create both air and noise pollution, probably increase our taxes, and prove profitable only to the operators of the cargo planes.

Many local residents have assured us of their support in voicing our objection to allowing large aircraft to operate from Suffolk County Airport, when other alternatives are being proposed.

We understand the need to utilize the Suffolk Airport and realize an income, so that it is not a tax burden on Suffolk County. However, we ask you not to burden us with this unbearable noise and pollution from fumes, that will alter our quality of living in Westhampton, N.Y.

Respectfully yours,
(Mrs.) Marie H. Doyle
President
West Lake of Westhampton Association Inc.

"Another burden on business"

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Your story about the man who lost his job because his employer could not afford the government established minimum wage emphasises what I have always said - the establishment of a minimum wage by the government actually creates more unemployment and is another burden imposed upon business. Enterprises which are essential must raise their prices because of this increased expense and this in turn adds to the current inflation.

As long as the government enacts legislation establishing wages and other

working conditions why doesn't it go the full course and thus do away with the unions with their constant and unreasonable demands which invariably result in higher cost to the consumer?

These facts are so obvious one would think our officials would see them but apparently they are so involved thinking of their own security, enormous salaries and benefits that they forget all about the people who placed them in office by their votes.

Very truly yours,
William M. Sauter
Calverton

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Is legislation the answer?

The state legislature is considering raising the minimum legal drinking age from eighteen to twenty-one. Proponents of this move argue this will cut down on teenage alcoholism and result in a saving of young people's lives by reducing auto

deaths. We personally doubt this conclusion.

When we were teenagers, beer and liquor were available. There always was a store where fourteen-year-olds could buy their beer. There were a half-dozen different dives that never

Stop railroad monopoly

From their inception, railroads have had awesome power granted to it by the state and federal governments. In the name of progress, they have been able to trample over people and property. The use of this power has enriched many of the famous families of America while breaking the poor working class. We don't even have to look at the development of the West for past examples of misuse of this power. Even today, when railroads are considered third rate transportation, they still have powers to trample on the little guy and impede progress.

A current example of a little guy getting trampled on is the Hampton Jitney Service. Jim Davidson, owner of this company, provides a reliable and dependable transportation service from the city to the East End. He has watched his business grow from 7,000 passengers in 1976 to 29,000 passengers in 1978. The demand is accelerating past capacity. He made application to the state Department of Transportation to run a thirty-nine passenger vehicle. The hearing was held on March 8th. On March 30th, Howard Fisher, chairman of the MTA which operates the Long Island Railroad, objected to the Jitney application and requested a new hearing.

The LIRR, as a competitor and in compliance with the law, had been served papers making them aware of this hearing. If they had objections, they were required to appear at the March 8th hearing. The MTA failed to appear. Their request for a reopening of these hearings guarantees a delay in time, making it impossible for Davidson to introduce this much needed service this coming summer. Why shouldn't the Long Island Railroad be treated as anyone else? If another competitor of Jitney objected to the increasing service and failed to appear at the hearing, they would be told tough luck, buddy. You had your opportunity, your day in court, and you muffed it.

Over the years, we have watched a number of independent bus and transportation companies offer to provide better quality transportation, more reliable service and competitive rates. The LIRR and the MTA, in an attempt to protect their monopoly, have used their political powers to th-

wart competition.

Mass and specialized transportation is a major and serious problem on Long Island. This problem has not been dealt with honestly or with any real attention or purpose by the MTA. The MTA has literally squandered billions of dollars made available to cure some of their problems. In a maze of mismanagement, union abuses and a callous disregard for commuters and taxpayers, they have developed the LIRR and their feeder bus lines into one of the worst public transportation systems in the country. The equipment is in despicable shape, their schedules are a laughing stock, and their monopolistic rates contribute heavily to the high cost of living on Long Island. This abominably high cost, unreliable service is a reason why so many cars are used for commuting. Thousands of people prefer to put up with bumper to bumper driving and high gasoline costs rather than subject themselves to riding the railroad.

The Eastern Long Island tourist economy one time boomed solely because the railroad offered good, economical, fast and frequent transportation. Not so today. Many vacationers to this area do not come back because the railroad's transportation here is so utterly ridiculous. With gas, when available, predicted to go over \$1.00 a gallon this summer, it is in Eastern Long Island's best interest to seek out all alternative means of transporting vacationers here.

Hampton Jitney offers riders reliable schedules, comfortable accommodations and competitive rates. William Hennessey, Commissioner of Transportation for Governor Carey, must take this into consideration and personally intervene and stop the reopening of the Jitney hearings. The LIRR - MTA had their day in court. They deserve no more special treatment than any other citizen or corporation in this state.

Governor Carey pledged, both in his first election bid and his campaign last November, to be a Governor of all the people and not to favor any group or special interest. Hennessey must follow these dictates and let the Jitney application stand on the merits of the March 8th hearing. And why not?

asked for identification. And for those that did, forged and borrowed identification were the ticket through the door.

In Massachusetts, where we went to college, the minimum drinking age was twenty-one. In this state, the law was even more flagrantly abused than in New York. Liquor was not kept out of the hands of fourteen to fifteen-year-olds let alone nineteen and twenty-year-olds anymore than it was in New York. Prohibition against youth drinking is no more successful than it is against adults. Putting a law on the books that will be violated is just inviting otherwise lawful people to make a mistake resulting in having a record for the rest of their life.

Currently, we have a law on the books making it illegal to smoke marijuana. Only a small minority of those under twenty-one through their teens have not at one time or another experimented with marijuana. In fact, it has been estimated 70 per cent of the residents of New York State, young and old, have tried marijuana at least once. To try to enforce this law, we have special narcotic squads set up by our state, county and some local police departments. Most officers involved concede they are ineffective in stopping the usage of marijuana.

Raising the drinking age from eighteen to twenty-one will not have any better chance of success. Drinking or smoking marijuana, in effect, is a personal choice people are making at a younger age than ever

before. Our only hope is through parental education; having parents realistically talk with their children about the inherent danger and harm caused by overindulgence. Kids should be impressed with the damage that alcohol and marijuana abuse can do to their minds and bodies. When their minds and bodies are still developing, they are more susceptible to damage than at a later time in life.

There isn't a kid around today who doesn't have a relative or friend who is an alcoholic and whose life has been ruined by this addiction. These people should be pointed out as graphic examples. It should be shown that if the person had a choice, they would have never allowed the condition to take hold of them. Young people must be made to understand that although you may freely make the choice to take the first drink, with every drink you take after that, your options become more limited. Some place, somewhere down the line, if the chemistry of your body and your mind is predisposed, you will no longer be able to make the choice. You will become enslaved by alcohol and everything you do from that moment on will be controlled by a power often stronger than your consciousness.

Raising the drinking age and giving to society as a whole the responsibility of controlling morality never could and never will be anywhere near as effective as parents accepting their own responsibility and making sure their children know forthrightly what the real world is all about. And why not?

Readers' Opinion

"Does he realize?"

Dear Mr. Willmott:

I'm shocked at reading the opinion of a Mr. Joseph Durinick pertaining to Senior Citizen should not be allowed to vote on "School Budgets"!

Does he realize that approximately 70 per cent of our taxes are for schools! Does he realize that Senior Citizens are paying a large part of that money! I would gladly agree to his statement providing Senior Citizens are

omitted from paying the school tax and furthermore, I and also many other Senior Citizens would gladly & handsomely compensate said Mr. J. Durinick: undoubtedly said Mr. J. Durinick has't been in this country long or has he?

Yours truly,
M. Wade and Senior members of Mastic and Mastic Beach

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David J. Willmott, Editor

Klein-the Republican albatross

The Republican Party of Suffolk County just recovering from their own scandalous past and the Watergate calamity, is again heading pell-mell towards ruination. Republican leaders, for reasons best known to themselves, are sticking to their plan of re-running John Klein for County Executive. They're putting aside political savvy, the public's reaction, plain common sense and political logic.

When a candidate runs for office, his first two claims to fame normally are honesty and integrity. As an incumbent his third claim is his record. Republican leaders should be looking at John Klein in regard to these three factors.

John Klein has been involved in the South West Sewer District since its conception; first, as a member of the County Legislature, second as presiding officer of the County Legislature and for the last seven years as County Executive. The Department of Environmental Control was solely answerable to the County Executive. Klein cannot deny nor can he lay the blame on anyone else but himself for the South West Sewer District debacle. He was the big cheese; the big boss. He was the one calling the shots and as Chief Executive it was his duty to know exactly what was going on.

The South West Sewer District has bankrupted landowners of the district. Homeowners have been forced to sell at substantial losses because real estate values have plummeted. The creation of the South West Sewer District was a lie from the beginning. Today it is a serious question as to whether it was ever needed. Even more alarming is the fear the system will never be operable. It was over-built, and cost over-runs have almost tripled the promised completion price. The district is being investigated by the County, the State and the Federal Government. Indictments have already been handed down and a host of others are expected momentarily.

Every resident of Suffolk County now is indebted to pay for the South West Sewer District through Klein's manipulation. Our sales tax in future years will have to be diverted to bail out this political pork barrel. Either real estate taxes or sales taxes will have to be increased. Klein has been part and parcel of the sewer district. He must accept the responsibility for the devastation it has rained down upon Suffolk County. On this issue alone, Klein could not stand up and be elected if you use the criterion of honesty, integrity or his record.

Klein's political mentor is Nicholas Barbados, Smithtown Republican Boss. Klein came into existence through the Barbados machine. Insiders have long said Klein doesn't

make a move without checking with Nicky first. Barbados himself has played it cool in the past staying out of the limelight but pulling the strings of those he elected. Barbados was able to operate under this cover until the federal investigation into the South West Sewer District tied him directly to the contractor.

George Tobler, a former Republican political heavyweight, in testimony revealed that Barbados had been on the payroll of a contractor being investigated. Tobler, an ex-insurance kingpin, who handled a major portion of the county business, said the cost of getting the county business was putting Barbados on his own payroll in a no-show job. These revelations and other insinuations have severely cast a shadow of darkness upon Barbados. When these accusations were brought to Klein's attention, Klein was silent.

Under the CETA program, all citizens of the United States and the County of Suffolk are supposed to be hired on an equitable basis. Under Klein's labor commissioner, Lou Tempora, this has been turned into a patronage dispensing operation. Labor programs have been used to reward both those faithful to Klein and the political organization, and to club others into submission. When revelations were made about Tempora's handling of these matters, Klein again remained silent instead of demanding his commissioner's immediate resignation. Again his lack of honesty and integrity and silence give tantamount approval to these abuses. Even Klein's farmland preservation program is now being questioned. It's been revealed that instead of being a bail-out for farmers, the program has been a salvation for speculators. The great majority of property the county took during the first phase of the program was not owned by farmers but by speculators. Some of the speculators are known to have been heavy contributors to the Republican Party. This is the one program Klein had hoped to use as his ace in the hole.

Klein's office is now being investigated for failing to hold open bidding. In one instance, it's charged the county paid for the same lab equipment twice. Klein is supposed to have paid for it, then a year later, under questionable circumstances, got bids and possibly may have paid for the equipment the second time.

His past and recent actions on the Suffolk County Airbase pose a host of other questions which by themselves should leave the voter questioning his motives and integrity.

These individual cases of misuse of power, whether by Klein's mismanagement or lack of it, have caused the county budget to jump from a little over one hundred million

dollars to seven hundred and fifty million dollars since his involvement, in less than a decade.

If County Republican leaders are not suicidal, they should damn well be taking a cold, hard, calculated look at supporting John Klein. The furor built around him will not pass. It will defeat him this November. With him, many honest, hard working, dedicated Republicans are going down to defeat.

Suffolk County suffered for too many years under one party rule - it

was Republican. We also don't need a repeat of history under the Democrats. They have got just as many sinners aching to get their hands in the public till without the safeguard of an opposing force.

Republican leaders should write John Klein off and look among their ranks for another candidate who has proven he is honest, independent and has demonstrated the integrity needed to restore faith in the Republican Party. And why not?

Creative truths didn't help

When word leaked out about the impending danger at the Three Mile Island nuclear plant, it was guarded and cloaked in secrecy. The lack of disclosure and denials both by government and corporate officials can best be described as creative truths, bordering on the fine line of outright, deliberate lies. How much truth we are being told today still remains in question. We, like most Americans, want to believe the best but have the uneasy feeling in the pit of our stomach that we are not being told the full story.

Over the last three decades, government officials have classified information about everything from health materials to national security. We are told this information is being withheld because the public might panic or reach some kind of a snap decision and attempt to do something

rash to protect themselves. How many of these decisions to withhold information are based on what is good for the public and how many are based on what is good for the corporations and bureaucrats?

Congress has a responsibility to address itself to this question because it affects the entire nation. When people no longer believe their leaders, seeds of anarchy and revolution are sown. When people no longer feel they can change the attitude by changing the politicians, rebellion is ripe.

We believe in the democratic system. It can work. It does work, but not if it is allowed to become a mockery where people are kept in the dark and are not allowed to freely choose what they consider good or bad for themselves. And why not?

Readers' Opinion

"Yours for a better America"

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Your very strong and informative editorial about our Panama Canal expresses exactly how most of us feel about the disgraceful give-away of the canal being shoved down our throats.

The editorial was so factual and I might add alarming that I have taken the liberty to forward a copy to Congressman Norman Lent, who is a member of the subcommittee on the Panama Canal. I also asked him to show it to Congressman Bob Bauman, who is

also a member of the canal subcommittee. Senator Jesse Helms and Congressman George Hansen, who are working closely with the above named, were also invited to read it.

I even suggested to Congressman Lent that it would be a good idea for the entire Congress to read it. It just might move them to vote against implementation altogether.

Yours for a Better America,
Arthur E. Hoffman
Jamesport

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SUFFOLK LIFE

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Sayville
Selden
Shoreham, Wading River
Southampton, Hampton Bays
Southold, Greenport
Three Village
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willmotts and why-nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

Two-for-one must stay

Teacher unions across the state have made elimination of the Taylor Law their most important legislative action. The two-for-one provision forfeit of two days pay for each day on strike is the guts of the Taylor Law and the only thing keeping teachers and others covered by the provisions of this act from walking out at will in a strike against the public.

Under the Taylor Law, those covered are forbidden to strike. When they do, they willfully take the law into their own hands. They knowingly practice anarchy, setting an example for everyone else to follow.

New York State has had its share of teacher and municipal strikes. There

would have been hundreds more if it was not for the two-for-one provision. When public employees know they are going to personally lose something by making absurd demands upon the taxpayers, they think twice. Teacher unions are demanding that the legislature repeal this penalty. They argue that in the private sector, when employees go on strike, they only lose their current salaries and are not subject to fines.

This argument would have some logic and justification if schools were privately owned and profit making.

Public schools are supported handsomely by taxpayers. Currently, 60 to 70 per cent of our local real

estate taxes go to fund our educational facilities. Almost one-third of the state budget is allocated to educational expenditures. Even with this drain on the taxpayers, teachers want more and don't care to what ends they must go to get it. Not only are the teacher unions continually demanding higher salaries, they are demanding increased fringe benefits, smaller class sizes and a reduction in the number of school days.

The teacher unions are enormous in size, and have an inordinate amount of political clout. This clout has been developed through contributions made to legislators across the state, the educational lobby and the parents of students who, through blackmail, are being continually threatened by alleged reduction in the quality of education unless the teacher's demands are met.

The two-for-one provision of the Taylor Law is the only thing keeping them in check. It imposes a penalty everytime they illegally strike. When it comes to paying for their own conviction they are forced to think

twice.

We encourage you to write now to your State Legislator to counter-balance the letters, telegrams and personal visitations being made by the teachers and the unions which represent them.

If the two-for-one is repealed, you are going to see your school taxes jump considerably, and there will be virtually nothing you can do about it except elect hard-nosed, fiscally conservative people to the school board, whose only intent and purpose will be to strip the educational product back to basics. If this happens, you can say goodbye to extra curricular activities, after school sports, music programs and the elimination of technical and specialized courses.

The teachers who remain will be the privileged class, commanding an appropriately high salary at the cost of the student, the taxpayer and even those fellow teachers who will be by necessity, economically locked-out of the system. And why not?

"By turning the ladder does not bring the top to the bottom"

Dear Editor:

I am not a teacher either, but I am a homeowner and a taxpayer and have been reading "Readers Opinion" for quite some time and watch the "Lip Service Citizen" repeat their pros and cons on issues. This one in the Selden edition dated March 28th, "Reeking with Hypocrisy" coming from the President of PATCO Local 201 really rated high on Hypocrisy and I just had to let him know that his mouth was in High Gear but unfortunately, his brain was in Low Gear.

I first want to make two straight-forward statements. Without all the union members on the books and the dues that are being paid, he would not be a president - and That the Taylor Law and any other laws which prohibits strikes should be enforced to their fullest extent. Unions were useful in yesteryear but nowadays accomplish nothing but loss of money and loss of jobs by union members. THINK...when you are striking, your salary is eliminated but your union representative is still on his payroll and if the demands upon the company are too great, they are "Out of Business" and you are unemployed but your union representative is still employed to exploit others. By this time, we should all realize that demanding more for less only creates what we are trying to eliminate and that is Unemployment and Inflation.

Management and Employee should both negotiate with purpose and realism...Remember all the newspapers that were, all the bakeries that were, all the breweries and dairies that were and many others that I may not be aware of and today are almost non-existent. Unfortunately you single out teachers...to that I say, if they feel what they have today is insufficient or unsatisfactory, they should resign and allow others the opportunity to fill these positions and that goes for any and all union or civil service groups. Open the job market to all that have the qualifications without the barriers placed by unions and civil service groups; there are many who would be pleased and content with these so-called terrible working conditions.

Any establishment, in the outside world, to remain in business is judged by productivity and the non-productive undesirables are eliminated; this dream world of unionism and civil service has been created for the non-productive undesirables. Remember that both worlds are trying to better the lives of their families but the outside world are willing to strive harder to receive more but the dream world does less and demands more.

This president speaks of "Collective Begging"...I don't remember his attending and striving to eliminate Higher Taxes by

attending CLOUT or any other tax reduction agencies and volunteering his time and efforts to help ALL the people. If he wants to see "Collective Begging" in action, come to some of these meetings and see what a small but great productive group are fighting to attain for a large non-productive group voluntarily and at their own expense.

Trying not to circumvent from his issue, I like to state that all Big Business...Lilco, N.Y. Telephone, School Districts and Civil Service Commission which are our biggest pain on Long Island should also be corrected but let's start with the basic fundamentals and then climb the ladder...by turning the ladder does not bring the top to the bottom.

Cutting useless spending, cooperate jobs, reduction in fringe benefits, and once again to have the desire to be a craftsman in whatever field of endeavor shall make this world a much better place to live and raise a family.

Finally...you may be sick and tired of hearing from people like me who tell you how much we have given you. Well...people like us are nauseous giving into your whims and demands and should now bury all the parasites and clean up our environmental working conditions and allow a free world of jobs and opportunities for all.

Emphatically,
R.N. Bonsignore
Centereach

Readers' Opinion

"She did a special service to your readers"

Dear Mr. Willmott:

As a practicing hypnotherapist, I was favorably impressed with Barbara Selvin's article, "Hypnosis", in last Sunday's Suffolk Life. She did a special service to your readers in pointing out that there is no licensing of hypnotists in New York State, placing the burden of the client to check on the qualifications of the practitioner. Minimally, the therapist should have a master's degree in one of the mental health professions (psychology, social work, psychiatric nursing, counseling, etc.) and should evidence the successful completion of a recognized training program in hypnosis. Membership in one or more related professional organizations and some affiliation with a hospital, clinic, university, school district or other self assignment may give further proof that the person is satisfactorily recognized by his/her colleagues.

The following are some warning signs of practices to steer clear of in selecting a hypnotherapist:

1) The "one shot cure". Except for "marathon sessions" (four or more consecutive hours), one session habit removal is the exception rather than the rule that anyone who advertises it is misleading the

public.

2) "Guarantees". This is another example of misleading and unethical advertising. "Lifetime guarantee" programs are expensive. In the majority of cases of hypnotherapy, progress is made, follow up is not necessary and the person has overpaid. When success is not seen, the person tires of coming. In either case, the therapist, not the client, profits.

3) "Contracts". No therapist worth his salt would oblige a client to pay for anything more than services actually rendered. I've heard all the rationales for using the contract to force the client to stay in therapy but none of them excuse the fact that a contract for service in the mental health profession is unethical.

Finally, never volunteer to be a subject for a stage or nightclub hypnotist or for an arm-chair hypnotist at a party. Avoid being a subject for a friend who's "studying hypnosis" unless it's in a supervised setting. Hypnosis with a qualified professional is safe and effective. Hypnosis for entertainment in a non-professional setting is a foolish risk.

Sincerely,
Robert Schur, M.A.
Southold

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Over-assessment is government robbery

For almost two decades, even before the last nail had been driven, the value of a house increased here on Long Island. Assessors had it easy. Even when they raised assessments on houses, homeowners' complaints were kept to a minimum because, in most cases, the assessments did not keep pace with the increasing value of the homes.

Over the last five years, values of homes on Long Island, compared to most of the nation, have been dropping. The reasons are well known. On

the south shore of Western Suffolk the South West Sewer District is the culprit. Throughout the rest of Suffolk the various governmental agencies and their insatiable need for more tax revenues have driven real estate taxes way beyond the nation's norm of 1 to 2 per cent of real value.

Today, in Suffolk many homes carry a tax burden of \$1,500 to \$4,000 a year. When a prospective buyer looks at a house and realizes he will be faced with a huge monthly tax bill on top of his mortgage of \$150 to \$300, he

takes himself out of the market. The law of supply and demand takes over and the value of houses goes down.

Currently, thousands of homeowners who formerly kept quiet are outraged at paying taxes based upon their property assessment in excess of what the property would bring on the open market. When taxpayers come to the conclusion that their assessment is based upon imaginative assessment rather than the actual market value of their house, they may file for a grievance and be heard on Grievance Day, in mid-June.

Last year, a record number of homeowners made this appeal and Grievance Boards were overwhelmed. It has been charged that they did a slipshod job of investigating complaints. After grievance, the only alternative left is a costly lawsuit brought in Supreme Court. Thousands more taxpayers this year plan on filing grievances. If the record numbers being predicted turn out, it will be virtually impossible for the members of the Grievance Boards to properly in-

vestigate every case. Anything less than full consideration to each individual petitioner is an injustice and a weakening of the democratic system under which we are taxed and live.

Each town board should direct its assessors to keep a running computation of the resale prices of every home within the community. They should be made to keep assessments below or on a par with their actual market values.

We recommend that every homeowner in Suffolk County check with local real estate agents to find out what the current resale value of homes similar to theirs are. If they are unable to obtain the information from realtors, they should check with the County Clerk on comparable pieces of property within their area that have been sold recently. This information is on file, available for your inspection.

It's bad enough to have to pay taxes, but it's just plain stupid to be paying more than you should. And why not?

"The retired need housing, not jobs"

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Regarding your recent article by Alan Miller of 3-7-79, concerning a possible mobile home park in Brookhaven. It is very difficult to educate the Brookhaven Taxpayers' Association. Our association tried several years ago but we were rudely treated, shouted down and all but thrown out. True, as they pointed out, it was not our town. We had come from the towns of Riverhead, Southampton and East Hampton to a night-time, supposedly, open meeting to try to help.

I shall try again, however, herein, to clarify for their own good. Perhaps they will read. I don't know why there should be a problem at all with a park at the former track. If they would truly examine their neighboring towns' parks, as we asked them to do, they would learn how great they are for both the people and the townships. You cannot accomplish this, by driving around on main roads. Some of the old 'trailer parks', the few that remain, are there and naturally nobody wants this. There is no relationship between the old time 'trailer-camp' and the newer mobile parks. If they could allow themselves to go into the Mac Leod's Park, Glenwood Village Park, Thurms Park, East Hampton Park, they would find clean, neat, beautifully kept parks with retirees from the ages of in the 50's to 100. Ask the park owners about the life in these parks and the rules and regulations. It is a unique way to live but you must make a study of it to really know what you are talking about.

These people, mobile home citizens, and there are more than 3000 here on the East End are permanent residents, year round, for the most part, and contribute millions to the economy as well as pay their taxes each year.

Yet, they have need of the fire department and police department less than any other sector of the population. Since the park owners maintain the roads in said parks, being private roads, they are not a drain on the town in this respect. The biggest factor is that you can have the park designated for 'retirees only', thereby eliminating any extra drain on the schools. There would be no additional students in their schools as no children are allowed in retirement communities. The retired citizens would also not be looking for the jobs that they mentioned at the Taxpayers' Association meeting. The retirees need housing, not jobs.

This has all been said and written before but some people just do not want to listen and learn. It is a viable option to housing in this day of rising costs and can be had for approximately \$10,000 - \$25,000 a unit. They are efficient, energy-saving, and work-saving homes. If towns as lovely and wise as Riverhead, Southampton and East Hampton enjoy them, isn't Brookhaven missing something?

Very truly,
G. Ruggiero, Corresponding Secretary
Mobile Home Owners Association of Eastern Suffolk, Inc.
Riverhead

Readers' Opinion

"How could we escape?"

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Regardless of what one's position on the nuclear generation of electricity might be, our real concern should revolve around the placement of nuclear plants on Long Island. The Penna. incident showed us a feature of a nuclear plant mishap which we don't seem to consider...mass evacuation. At Penna.'s 3 Mile Island, total evacuation was a widely considered option. With the geography of L.I., and the prospect of nuclear reactors on the East End, how could we escape this area on sudden notice? Simply stated, this is the worst place to locate nuclear plants. Also, Supervisor Smith and the yes-men Town Board of Riverhead will no more achieve their pie-in-the-sky tax utopia to finance their

spending sprees than they can get us through the LI Expressway traffic in the event we all have to flee quickly. Nuclear power plant accidents have the severest potential of any kind devised by man. With such accidents here, how do we get away? Perhaps the Town Board could formulate an escape plan. Can you imagine the quality of such a plan from them?

This is not a question of politics. If it matters, I'm neither a candidate nor a newcomer. This is a question of survival. The fact is that the Riverhead Town administration again acts irresponsibly - it again plans ahead for itself, but not for us.
Gregory J. Blass
Jamesport

"Inflation? No, just greed"

Dear Mr. Willmott:

I have just finished reading your article in the Mar. 21, 1979 edition re: "Deregulation in the oil industry." Quote your article on fuel oil. "The price of fuel oil in 1960 was 20 cents a gallon." Enclosed you will find a bill dated 1966: Price per gal. 15.6 per gal. The price of gasoline was 30 cents in the late sixties, not 1950. I do suggest that you do your homework prior to printing such statements.

Let us go back a few years when the price of sugar and coffee went skyhigh. How much have those prices dropped? Electric rates have gone skyhigh and we even have an extra charge so we can pay their oil bill. Food and meat prices have tripled. Another quote from your article, "Most products and services have doubled and tripled in price. Why shouldn't fuel?" 15.6 in 1966 to 61.9 this date and will probably be 64 cents (quadruple) by the time you get this letter. Maybe we should lobby for a "Truth in Printing" law so the people could read the real facts once in a while.

Inflation? No, just greed with a capital "G". My job, Mr. Willmott, takes me into

many corners of Suffolk County and I meet a lot of young people in their 20's and 30's and almost all do agree that there is no future for them on Long Island. They have watched their parents struggle all their lives and wind up paying everything to taxes and higher prices. These young people are going south and west in order to find a better way of life. I wish them well....

I can only suggest to you, Mr. Willmott, that you get out of your chair and interview people who can give you sincere and truthful answers regarding the economy of this nation. In time, Long Island will be known as "Welfare Island". Forgive me if I sound bitter, but I'm sure that we all look ahead and say, "What does the future hold for my children and grandchildren?" I vaguely remember one of our former statesman's address to the nation - "of the people, by the people and for the people." Then again, he did not specify the American people. Did he??

Sincerely yours,
Edward McGann
Hampton Bays

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