

Willmott's and Why-Not's

By David J. Willmott, Editor

Almost Gone

For a number of years we have had the pleasure of hunting on some property in the Manorville area. Even though the game has never been as abundant as we would like, we have always considered it a privilege to hunt there. This particular piece of property is like the eastern Long Island we used to know - wild and undisturbed by progress. On an early morning duck shoot you can sit in the blind and see magnificent sunrises which are heightened by the vapor rising off the pond. Occasionally you might be lucky enough to see deer with grace and beauty come down to the edge of the pond to drink. Considering what has made this area so attractive even beyond its considerable natural beauty was the complete peace of the area - its total quietness. The stillness on this pond was in extreme contrast to the rest of the world.

A few weeks ago we were hunting here and something just did not seem right. The air was brisk and clean; the sunrise was as beautiful as ever. There was that fresh smell in the air that only a bit of wilderness has in it. The pond, the trees and the brush were as wild as ever but still something was amiss. Then we realized what it was. Sound.

Gone was the stillness, the peace and serenity of the area. In its place was the steady, incessant drone of cars from the Long Island Expressway a mile or so to the south. This happened in the very early hours of the morning long before traffic, as we know it, builds up to daily fever pitch. The noise, when you listened to it, was acutely loud, yet through daily conditioning, we had become accustomed to it. Another form of pollution. Another bit of unnoticed ruination of our once truly wonderful eastern Long Island.

Why do mortals ruin so much that is so beautiful. We pity our children. And why not?

Great Clubs

Riverhead and the eastern Suffolk community are fortunate in having three strong service clubs in the area that work together for the communities. The Lions, Kiwanis and Rotary clubs of Riverhead have been active in many joint projects, but their most recent effort may pay the biggest dividends. They have just assisted in opening a drug center in Riverhead.

This center is designed to give advice and offer aid to people who are or have been addicted to drugs. The center will act in both an advisory and functional capacity. Drug centers, while no utopias, are in the forefront of the battle against drug addiction.

We congratulate the Lions, Kiwanis and Rotary clubs on this community effort and hope that their efforts in this direction will not go unrewarded. And why not?

Not So Good

Fiscally, it looks as if the country is out of the doldrums and headed for a profitable year. Joblessness is still much too high, but money is loosening up, building is beginning to boom and it appears that interest rates will be at their most favorable level in years before 1971 is over. We don't think, however, that there is much to be said that is

really good with the American economy.

Basically, the problems which have caused our recessions and dismal economic morass are still with us. Government spending goes up to the point where we are just one step from bankruptcy. Socialistic programs to ostensibly help the disadvantaged only waste money and tend to perpetuate the problems they were intended to cure. Inflation gallops forward at such an alarming rate that while we may have a little more money than we did two years ago, 1971 dollars aren't worth 1969 dollars. Wasteful, profligate government officials look for new ways to tax a very overburdened taxpayer public. They totally, immorally, wrongly and willfully refuse to exercise restraint as they push for more new and costly programs. So, there we are. It isn't a very pretty picture.

Mr. Nixon looks forward to the 1972 elections. He wants to win. So he needs a seemingly prosperous economy - prosperity to woo the voter. 1970 was such a bad year that he has put into motion steps to get us out of the doldrums before the next presidential election. So he will see to it that the economy loosens up. But where will we be three or four years from now? How much less will be the purchasing power of our dollars? How much more will be taken from us in taxes? How many more useless socialistic programs will we be supporting? How many new ways will our fatuously paternalistic politicians with their windy rhetoric find to put the financial squeeze on us?

Well, the taxpayers don't seem to give much of a damn about things really. As their freedom is gradually eroded away - that's right, we said their freedom because, make no mistake about it, every penny that is taken from you is a portion of the fruits of your labor - your freedom - they just shrug and vote the party line. So where will it all end?

First of all we will see more terrorism because the dreadfully poor will see no end to their plight. Frustration will lead them to overreact violently. The vast and so-called silent taxpaying majority will become more resentful and more prone to a taxpayer revolt whatever that will mean. All in all, we are not very

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GENERAL INFORMATION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR - We encourage our readers to express their views regardless of opinion thru the Letters to the Editor column. All letters must be signed with 2 r's signature and address. We will withhold names on request and assign a nom de plume.

NEWS AND PHOTOGRAPHS - Readers are welcome to submit ideas of interest and photographs for consideration of publication. All news and photographs become the property of Suffolk Life upon submittal and can not be returned for any reason.

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optimistic about our prospects. The only possible thing that we can do is for more of us to rise up in our wrath and keep hammering away at the idiots in Washington and Albany. There really isn't any answer, is there? And why not?

Wise Words

The following anonymously penned credo came across our desk too late for the new year editorial. We think the message is so good that we are going to print it anyway rather than withhold its wisdom from you until our 1972 Happy New Year editorial.

- This year mend a quarrel
- Seek out a forgotten friend
- Dismiss suspicion and replace it with trust
- Write a love letter
- Share some treasure
- Give a soft answer
- Encourage youth
- Manifest your loyalty in word and deed
- Keep a promise

- Find the time
- Forego a grudge
- Forgive an enemy
- Listen
- Apologize if you are wrong
- Try to understand
- Flout envy
- Examine your demands on others
- Think first of someone else
- Appreciate
- Be kind; be gentle
- Laugh a little
- Laugh a little more
- Deserve confidence
- Take up arms against malice
- Decry complacency
- Express your gratitude
- Welcome a stranger
- Gladden the heart of a child
- Take pleasure in the beauty of the earth
- Speak your love
- Speak it again
- Speak it still once again
- And why not?

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Spreading The Load

Legislation has been prepared by Assemblyman Jerabek of Bay Shore that would spread the cost of the near-billion dollar sewer district construction over the entire county. Mr. Jerabek has chosen this method of financing rather than limiting it to the district that voted for and will supposedly benefit from it.

This sewerage district was turned down once by the voters. Not to be discouraged by this overwhelming defeat, the county and the sewer agency waged one of the dirtiest, most unethical and misleading campaigns to panic the voters into passing this politicians' pork barrel dream. Opponents of this measure were never given the chance to voice their opposition. Those who criticized it on the grounds that pumping effluent into the ocean, rather than returning it to the ground, would endanger our fresh water supply more than sewage were labeled "aginnners" and severely criticized for standing in the way of progress. Today we still don't know what the effect will be of taking water from our limited ground supply and pumping it into the ocean and how this would affect our water reserves. With today's ecological concerns it is almost scandalous that the conservationists have not had their say about what the effects of billions of gallons of chemically treated effluents into the ocean will be. Not only will these effluents contain normal household wastes, but they will also contain all industrial waste including petroleum products, mercury, acids, sulphur and other harmful non-biodegradables. What will the effect be on sea life? How will this project upset the balance of nature? All that goes into the sea eventually washes up on the shore. We are surprised that the county executive, who prides himself on being a thorough planner and is a big supporter of this project, has offered no factual answers to these questions. It is obvious that his silence is based on the fact that there are no existing situations of this magnitude on which he can draw conclusions. Nowhere have such enormous amounts of effluent, that will emanate from well over 2½ million people in Suffolk, been treated as proposed without upsetting the balance of nature.

Now, with these questions still unanswered, Jerabek proposes that the entire county be held responsible for paying for this one sewer district in the towns of Babylon and Islip. The residents of this district were the only ones given the opportunity to vote on whether they wanted sewers or not. The rest of the county was denied a vote on this vital issue. Now this attempt to mandate that the whole county pay for this project is out and out taxation without representation - and this is TYRANNY!

We urge you to contact the following representatives of this area on the county legislature: Tom Strong, 93 Pantigo Road, East Hampton; Beecher Halsey, 61 White Oak Lane, Westhampton Beach; Buddy Fuoco, 95 Durkee Lane, East Patchogue; William Morrissey, 67 Barbara Drive, Centereach and Walter Hazlitt, Highview Road, Stony Brook. Ask them to block the home-rule measure before the county legislature. We also urge you to write to Assemblyman Duryea, Peter Costigan and Senator Giuffreda asking them to block this move if it makes it to the state assembly. While asking them to block this "spreading-the-load" measure ask them also to have the entire sewer project

shelved until we are absolutely sure what effect this project will have on our ecology and our future well-being. And why not?

Dear Perry

We are writing to you to ask you to STOP. As Assembly Majority Leader we are asking you to stop and look at the chaos that you and your cohorts have been responsible for over the last decade. We believe that your intentions were good in trying to make our state the best in every respect - maybe too good. Under the governor's leadership you have set out to do everything at once. The result is that you have grown too fast. You have projects going in all directions and none of them are accomplishing very much. You have regularly overspent your budgets, over-borrowed your resources and have had to over-tax to try to meet your obligations.

In reality, you have handled the state's finances much like an irresponsible homeowner. Once you got a taste of the good life you wanted all of it. Once you could afford a new car and bought one of the low-priced three you were no longer satisfied and had to have one of the high-priced three. Now that you finally owned your own home you had to have a swimming pool and a riding lawn mower to impress the neighbors. You weren't "in" unless you had a full membership in the country club and allowed your children freewheeling charge privileges. Like the homeowner you gambled on an annual increase in salary and borrowed from every source to finance your pipe dreams. Then came the day of reckoning when your abilities have outrun your potential for more income. There are too many payment demands coming in at the same time and your stock broker is calling your margin account. You have two choices - you can go bankrupt, which means that you lose everything, or you have to cut back drastically in your style of living. You sell your expensive car and drive a secondhand inexpensive one. You cash in your stocks and hope that you have enough in equity to pay off your broker. You try to consolidate all of your loans and make one manageable payment. But, most of all, you cut back on all spending. This, of course, means giving up the good life. You have to give up all the good things that you have become used to. You can no longer afford them. It hurts to admit it, and it is going to make everybody in your family mighty unhappy, but this is the reality of life.

The same thing has happened with the state. You have reached the end of your taxing rope. The people and the businesses just can't give any more. We don't have it to give. You are well aware of the drain of profitable businesses from New York. They are leaving because the cost of doing business in New York is too high. People with higher incomes are taking up residence out of New York. You know that it is hard to get someone to come to New York even at substantially higher pay scales. They know that their higher pay will be eaten up in higher living costs and higher taxes. If you allow the governor to get away with his plans to exploit the captive residents and businesses of this state the situation will only worsen.

Perry, the time has come for you to stand up and be the leader that you are capable of being. You alone must gather the leadership in the Assembly who will say to Rockefeller, "We can no longer ask our people to finance your utopia." "They cannot stand any more." You must be able to ward off the pressure from special interest groups that want more state aid for schools,

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A Hot

Dog Time At Tommasini's

Remember how good those hot dogs cooked on the charcoal grill tasted last summer? Well, this weekend you are invited to an indoor weiner roast featuring hot dogs cooked on the new exciting "jet air grill" that charcoal barbeques food indoors. The place is Tommasini's of Riverhead located on Route 58 opposite Robert Hall. This will be taking place during their annual Winter Open House.

The reason that they do this is to give the ladies and their interested husbands a chance to see what team kitchens look like. Tommasini's has displayed, under one roof, the latest in kitchens in modern, colonial and provincial designs. They are the type of kitchens that would put an end to the women's lib movement if you could get some of these protesting ladies in to look at them.

Besides the free hot dogs and beverages, Tommasini's is having surprises for all, plus offering some substantial savings on floor models that they have available.

Environmental Center At S.C.

Southampton - A group of citizens from the East End of Long Island have joined with students and faculty of Southampton College to form an organization called The Environmental Center.

The organization was born out of the idea that Suffolk County needs a group to give direction to already existing environmental organizations. To fulfill this assignment, The Environmental Center will be at the disposal of these groups to help them research information, take surveys, and supply expertise.

Edward Archer

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PRESIDENTS DAYS HALF PRICE

SALE

FRIDAY - FEB. 12TH. SATURDAY - FEB. 13TH. MONDAY - FEB. 15TH.

SUITS & OVERCOATS 1/2 PRICE

WERE	\$65.00	NOW	\$32.50
"	\$75.00	"	\$37.50
"	\$80.00	"	\$40.00
"	\$85.00	"	\$42.50
"	\$90.00	"	\$45.00
"	\$95.00	"	\$47.50
"	\$100.00	"	\$50.00
"	\$110.00	"	\$55.00
"	\$125.00	"	\$62.50

SPORTS COATS 1/2 PRICE

WERE	\$35.00	NOW	\$17.50
"	\$40.00	"	\$20.00
"	\$45.00	"	\$22.50
"	\$50.00	"	\$25.00
"	\$55.00	"	\$27.50
"	\$60.00	"	\$30.00
"	\$65.00	"	\$32.50
"	\$70.00	"	\$35.00
"	\$75.00	"	\$37.50

RAINCOATS & OUTERWEAR 1/2 PRICE

WERE	\$25.00	NOW	\$12.50
"	\$30.00	"	\$15.00
"	\$35.00	"	\$17.50
"	\$40.00	"	\$20.00
"	\$50.00	"	\$25.00
"	\$60.00	"	\$30.00
"	\$70.00	"	\$35.00
"	\$75.00	"	\$37.50
"	\$80.00	"	\$40.00

500 PAIR SHOES 1/2 PRICE

WERE \$14.95 to \$35.00

7⁵⁰ to 17⁵⁰

FAMOUS JARMAN SHOES AND EUROPEAN IMPORTS

SPORT & DRESS SHIRTS 1/2 PRICE

WERE \$5.00 to \$16.00

2⁵⁰ to 8⁰⁰

DACRON & COTTON PERMANENT PRESS CORDUROY & FLANNELS

KNITSHIRTS & SWEATERS 1/2 PRICE

WERE \$5.00 to \$24.00

2⁵⁰ to 12⁰⁰

SLEEVELESS CARDIGANS & PULLOVERS BANLONS & COTTONS

700 PAIR Bells & Flairs 1/2 PRICE

WERE \$7.00 to \$16.00

3⁵⁰ to 8⁰⁰

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were completely cut off. The telephone service cable just happened to be in the middle of the fire and no one knew how long the Police Department would be without such services.

Your radio-telephone setup and equipment put us back in-service within a short period of time for both incoming and outgoing calls.

Your working staff exemplified themselves in the highest degree of effectiveness and bring due credit to your office.

We in the police field are very grateful for such assistance, service and equipment, you were just plain "wonderful."

Yours for Service,
S. J. Grodski, Police Chief

EDITORIAL from page 3

welfare, local governments, cities, parks, recreation, highways, beautification plus the thousands of other proposals you will be hit with that all seem urgent and absolutely essential. As much as it would be nice to say yes, you must say "NO!" because that is what the people, who have to pay the bills, are saying.

The state budget must be trimmed down to size. You have the power to mandate cuts, and you must use these powers as you did to mandate these expenditures. Nothing is irrevocable. Perry, you have the power to stop the fiscal insanity that is ruining New York State. Please use it for all the people who you represent in this state. And why not?

Willmott's and Why-Not's

By David J. Willmott, Editor

Dear Perry

Three weeks ago we wrote in this column about a single, centralized tax and one centralized disbursement agency. Last week we wrote to you about how your constituents felt with regard to any new taxes and how they can't tighten their belts anymore. We noted with interest this past week that you proposed a little of both of the things we have been talking about. You want the state to take over all rights to sales taxes and to increase the local sales tax here by one percent. We all know that the sales tax going to the state amounts to 3 percent and an additional sales tax of 2 percent goes to the county. For taking over the 2 percent local sales tax you propose that the state absorb 80 percent of the county's welfare costs. This still leaves us with the responsibility of funding 20 percent of our welfare costs. From where we sit that doesn't seem like a very good deal for Suffolk County or for your constituents in the First Assembly District.

Such a move also seems ridiculous with regard to the fact that there seems to be a good possibility that the federal government could take over all welfare costs and put them on a national rather than a local basis. If this happens, as some in higher circles feel it will, the state will end up with Suffolk's receipts from the sales tax and we would end up with nothing.

Perry, you seem to have missed the point altogether. Your people out here, and most of the people throughout New York State, want a cutback on services. They want the frills cut out of the budget. They demand some kind of tax relief. They can no longer afford your and Rockefeller's style of living. They don't have the capability of financing your extravagant tastes.

Your recent proposal will only work if you are willing to abolish every tax in the state outside of, let us say, the sales tax and use this as the single basis of financing the state programs. This, of course, would mean that you would have to abolish all local taxes including real estate and income taxes. The way it is going now, you fellows up there at the state level want to take more and give back less. You know that this will mean that the fellows down here on the local level, be it county, town or school board level, will have to raise property taxes to finance what they call "needs." This will mean a double taxation, and we can't and have not been able to see where we are getting anything more for our money.

No, Perry, you are going to have to come up with a better idea than this to finance the government you are responsible for running. We suggest that you take a look at the other alternative, that being to cut your style of living down to a point which you can afford. You have some great fans down here in the First Assembly District who feel that you do have the ability to get us out of the fiscal mess that the state government is in. You know how hungry the state is for an alternative to the present regressive tax set up. Just look at the headlines you got last week with your sales

tax idea. Just think of the headlines you will get with ideas for controlling spending. To do so would hold out hope that perhaps, in a year or so, taxes might be reduced here in New York. That is what the people really want. As we said before, Perry, you, and your fellow legislators, mandated many of the costly programs in the state, and now you can mandate reductions in them if you want to.

Go ahead, Perry, be the leader we know you are capable of being. Accept the challenge, and fight for the people of this state. These are the same people who have made this state a good one. We're counting on you. And why not?

Should Be Supported

A bill has been introduced into the state legislature that would require any company, which discharges petroleum products into any coastal or navigable inland waterway, to be responsible for the removal of the pollutants. Operators of storage plants, pipelines and tankers would have to install anti-spill equipment on their facilities to guard against such mishaps. In addition, if a spill occurred, the offending company would be required to clean it up or, if it failed to do so, reimburse the state for the clean-up charges. This bill is modeled after a similar Florida law.

Such legislation could do much to protect our environment. All of us have been witness to the numerous oil spills in our local waters. There are a number of tank farms on Long Island Sound and on the south shore. There have been accidents which have wreaked havoc on our shore, the wildlife and the water life. We must be protected from this happening again.

We urge you to write your state senator, assemblymen and the governor and ask them to support this bill. And why not?



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Dear Perry

If there is one thing that is bothering most people back here on the east end it is the schools. It is bothering both those with children in school and those who do not have children of school age. You indicated some awareness of the problems we face concerning schools when we talked at length before the last election. We covered many subjects: the cost of education and its quality; aid to private schools; attitudes within the schools; the burdens placed upon the taxpayers and some of the reasons why education costs have skyrocketed. We talked about the things that you fellows up there in Albany have mandated. There seemed to be quite a bit of confusion between taxpayers, school boards, administrators, bureaucrats in the regents department and legislators like yourself as to who mandated what. You promised to send us a copy of a publication outlining mandated items - remember, you made a note of it. Somehow you failed to send it to us, but that's OK; we got one from the Hampton Bays Board of Education and are printing it in this week's edition of the paper.

Reading over this guide, and recalling the various school board meetings we have attended, we can come to one very obvious conclusion. There seems to be a great lack of understanding on the part of school boards as to just what is mandated by the state. Also, the bureaucrats in Albany from whom the school boards get their rulings, seem to interpret these guidelines differently than we do. It also appears that you fellows up there have demanded a lot from us down here on the local level without providing the dough to pay for it.

One of the things that bothers us in these rules and regulations is that they demand we follow strict guidelines to fall into line with the board of regents or se. The problem is that these guidelines are only mechanical and do not give us any goals to accomplish by following their unalterable path. It would seem that it doesn't matter how much we spend on education as long as we follow the rules - the end result being education of no specified quality. With all the money we have been spending, one would think that all of those smart people up there in Albany would expect something more in terms of specific results than just the broad term "education." With all of the money that the overburdened taxpayer spends on mandated school costs isn't it only right that guidelines be spelled out as to what must be specifically accomplished as educational goals? We think so.

As you can see, it is not just the cost of education but the quality of the education we are buying that bothers us. It seems to us that when we spend our money we are entitled to know what our dollars are expected to accomplish. It is a little disconcerting to the home folks to know that they are paying many times the cost of what they were paying ten years ago for what appears to be basically the same education.

Talking about costs, we think you are aware that school board members are publicly stating that it is conceivable that 80 percent of the school budgets are going to be turned down by the taxpayers this Spring. And, Perry, this is no ploy to get you fellows up there to give more state aid. These fellows know the mood that their taxpaying constituents are in. The taxpayer

knows it doesn't make any difference which source education funds come out of. Whether it be directly out of increased real estate taxes, sales taxes or income tax - or any of the other annoying ways you have at your disposal - it all comes out of the same deeply resentful taxpaying public's pocket.

From where we sit, we would say that you have put yourself in one heck of a spot. You have mandated certain costs, particularly in the area of fringe benefits for those who work for schools. Now, you know, the time is coming to pay for them. You know, as well as we do, that there is no more money down here to be given in the name of education so you are going to have to say "NO!" This, of course, means a cut-back in the vaguely stated "quality" of education, or you fellows could un-mandate some of the things that you have mandated - the things that have little or nothing to do with better education.

Perry, how about taking a hard look at what you have mandated that is costing us so unnecessarily and then taking a hard line on educating our young productively? And why not?

Education "What" Mandated

There isn't a person here on the east end who has attended an annual school board meeting and not heard the presiding officer of the board say, "It is mandated" in answer to a financial question. To clear up some of the questions on this matter, we were fortunate in obtaining, from the State Board of Regents, a summary of what costs are and are not mandated. The Hampton Bays Board of Education was good enough to get this for us and our thanks go out to them.

So that all residents will know what is mandated and what is not and then be able to approach their individual school board meetings with knowledge, we are reprinting this information in full. We urge you to save these pages and to refer to them often. You will find them on page 8. An informed voter is an effective voter. And why not?



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GENERAL INFORMATION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR - We encourage our readers to express their views regardless of opinion thru the Letters to the Editor column. All letters must be signed with author's signature and address. We will withhold names on request and assign a nom de plume.

NEWS AND PHOTOGRAPHS - Readers are welcome to submit ideas of interest and photographs for consideration of publication. All news and photographs become the property of Suffolk Life upon submittal and can not be returned for any reason.

ERRORS - Responsibility for errors in advertisements is limited to the value of the space occupied by the error.