

— EDITORIAL —

Politics Vs. Government

We have often editorialized that to be elected (or re-elected), one must start to campaign the day after Election Day. The campaign that we have in mind is that of developing a good public image through one's actions. It does not mean playing politics 365 days of the year. Unfortunately, some of the members of our town boards have gotten off on this foot. We are not talking about patronage appointments, as government and politics can't work without the spoils going to the victors. What we are talking about is decisions that affect the good of the community as a whole and are not the personal property of the politicians. There are some glaring examples. There is the matter of all the files being removed from the incoming Supervisor's office, Judith Hope of East Hampton, by the outgoing administration. This is pure childish politics and does not make for good government. In the Town of Riverhead, we are talking about the appointment of a Democratic Committeeman and an employee of Northville Dock to the Planning Board when there are numerous other persons available for the position who are politically independent and free of any possible conflicting interests. We are talking about the Brookhaven Town Board being faced with granting a special favor to Richard Zeidler, Republican Party Leader. They are expected to abandon a restrictive covenant on his property which has been allegedly violated by his constructing a building.

Politics, not good government

All of these things fall into the realm of politics rather than good government. We urge Town Board members of all political faiths to put aside partisan politics for the next two years and get down to the nitty gritty of running our towns as effectively and responsibly as they can. This is the reason they were put into office in the first place. There will be plenty of time for creating a political image in the fall of 1975. There is no better political image than that of having done their job to the satisfaction of the voters. We want and we demand our various governments' effectiveness, and we believe the people who have been elected to office, if they put aside their political attachments, can give the residents this government. And why not?

Contest offers free "Millionaire's Weekends at Laurels" as prizes

SUFFOLK COUNTY - A fabulous all-expenses-paid, millionaire's weekend for two at the famous Laurels Lake Hotel and Country Club, Sackett Lake, Monticello, New York is the grand prize in a contest which area merchants are sponsoring in association with Suffolk Life starting January 28.

To win, all you need to do is fill in your name and address on an entry form at any participating firm advertising in the special "Win A Millionaire's Weekend At Laurels Lake Hotel" pages which will appear in both the January 28 and February 4 issues of Suffolk Life. The participating firms will also be identified by big, attractive, black and yellow window posters which invite you to "Enter Here -- Free!"

Three grand prizes will be awarded. One will be provided for those who enter in Northern Brookhaven firms. Another is provided for those who enter in Southern Brookhaven firms. And a third weekend for two is provided for those who enter in Eastern Long Island firms. Three prizes make it three times as easy for you to win!

And what prizes they are! The friendly management at Laurels year-round resort hotel in the mountains has planned everything to make the winners' weekends truly memorable. Deluxe accommodations include private bath, wall-to-wall carpeting and air conditioning. There's

a new Sun Valley indoor pool, health spas, a new indoor skating rink, pool-a-rama recreation center, two ski hills, toboggan run and railway lift, ski tow, and 12 all-weather tennis courts.

But that's just the beginning. The all-expense-weekend includes all meals, tips, entertainment in the night club, even a complimentary bottle of champagne and complimentary cocktails! And of course the food at Laurels resort is famous the world over. There's just none better anywhere!

If you choose to take your Millionaire's Weekend at Laurels in summer, you can play the championship golf course, swim in the outdoor pool, boat, fish or water ski on five-mile Sackett lake. Laurels has anticipated your every wish to make your stay the greatest weekend in your life.

It all starts January 28 and lasts for two big weeks. The contest closes Saturday, February 9. Impartial drawings will be held at Suffolk Life's office on February 11 and winners will be announced in the issue of February 18. As usual, the editor of Suffolk Life is sole judge and judge's decision is final.

Watch for the special pages in Suffolk Life and get ready to enter this super contest that you can win. Watch for the bargains which local firms are advertising during the event, too, and you'll be a double winner!

letters

Fuel shortage affect boat business?

Open Letter

Dear Congressman Pike:

I am an outboard boat and motor dealer. We sell new and used boats. I would appreciate your taking the time to read this letter and advise us as to how we stand.

There is a lot of concern as to how the fuel shortage is going to affect our business. Naturally, people are skeptical in purchasing new equipment with the anticipation of no fuel next summer to run their boats.

I have researched several facts that you may not be aware of. Recreational boating consumes approximately 1/2 of 1 per cent of gasoline used by Americans each year. This is a relatively small amount of fuel, considering the amount of people who own pleasure boats. Total sale of boats and related equipment in the nation represents \$4 billion worth of business. There is approximately 1/2 million people employed in our business by some 16,000 individual firms. Long Island is the largest recreational boating area in the country. Boating is second only to defense contracts as the largest industry on Long Island.

The normal question being asked is, "Can we get fuel to go boating next year?" Maybe not as much, but I hope with your consideration of these facts we can get your support in helping to insure the stability and future of this industry.

Sincerely yours,
Russel L. Carpenter
Patchogue

"Energy crisis as a vehicle"?

Dear Mr. Willmott:

At a time when fuel is in short supply to the nation and decrees of energy conservation are coming not only from groups such as Zero Population Growth and Friends of the Earth but also from official Washington, advertisements suddenly appear in the newspapers crying "Beat the Oil Shortage: Install Electric Heat". LILCO themselves ("we're living together, LILCO and you") promise a substantial monetary kickback to the home owner who installs electric heat.

We will all find out soon if the end of readily available, abundant energy is in truth now or perhaps thirty years hence. But to advertise electric heat as a method to circumvent a current oil shortage is irresponsible and immoral. A high school physics student can explain that (1) electricity is derived mainly from the combustion of fuel, (2) to heat domestically with electricity is manifold less efficient than heating with fuel burned in the home. To obtain electricity, the fuel is burned to boil water into steam, the steam is transformed into mechanical energy through a turbine which turns a generator. The resulting electric power must be distributed and transformed into low voltage domestic supply where it is passed through a resistor to heat water or air and thereby heat the house. Each step in this train has an inherent efficiency factor, some steps losing 50 to 60 percent of the available energy. Since it is a series chain of events, the total efficiency of the system is the product of the individual efficiencies, i.e., if step one is 50 percent efficient and step two is 40 percent efficient, the efficiency of the process involving step one and two is 50 percent x 40 percent equals 20 percent efficient. And the more steps in the chain, the lower the efficiency. Therefore, processes with few steps (oil burner flame heating water to heat house) are inherently more efficient than processes with many steps.

So before reacting to this sensationalism concerning the economies of electric heat, consider the point that perhaps some of the more profit-oriented corporations are using the



"energy crisis" as a vehicle to increase earnings. If total oil supplies are decimated, the power companies will be as short of fuel as the home consumer. To add additional inefficient domestic heating loads on an undersupplied electric network does not appear to be the most well-thought-out method of alleviating a fuel shortage.

Hampton Zero Population Growth has in supply a helpful folder published by Concern, Inc. (a Washington-based environmental group) which deals with methods of conserving fuels. For a free copy, drop a card to Box 31, Westhampton, New York. Also several of the local newspapers have run articles and editorials on this subject. The rational approach in dealing with a cutback in available energy supplies is to use what we have frugally and not selfishly reacting to "scare" advertising that, in reality, demands even more consumption.

Very truly yours,
Charles R. Hedberg, Chairman
Zero Population Growth

"Liveliest paper on L.I."

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Here is my \$5 for two years of Suffolk Life, which is probably the liveliest paper on all of Long Island. That includes the big fat ones who are so busy running to the bank they forget that a newspaper is supposed to contain some news.

But if I may offer a suggestion: Give some more hell to the Long Island Railroad. Suffolk County desperately needs public transportation, because most of the natives are held virtual bondage by the lack of it. How working people can continue to support two and three cars is entirely beyond me.

The rich people that live could use public transportation, too! Very soon, the air will be so befouled of car exhausts that their snug little hide-a-ways will be as unhealthy as any tenement over the West Side Highway in Manhattan. And maybe we should all be grateful for this fact of life: Even the very rich have no place else to go, because there are no more unspoiled spots. Therefore, it behooves them to help the rest of us get some public transportation here in Suffolk.

Keep up the good work.
I.H. Hunt
Westhampton Beach

The 4th annual all-family BOAT SHOW



FEBRUARY 4th thru 16th



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- * Special show prices
- * Nationwide manufacturers
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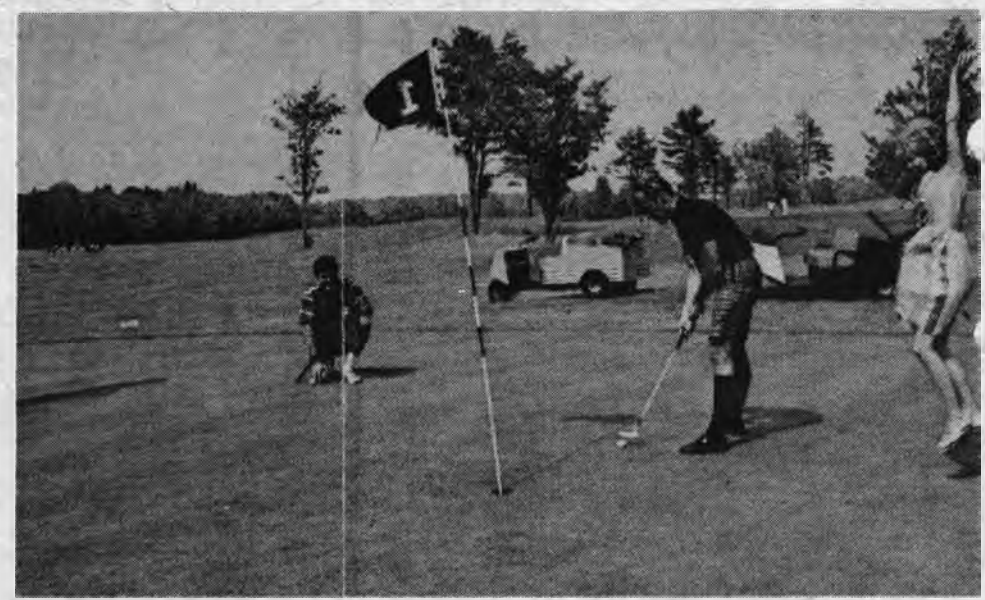
LAKE GROVE NEW YORK 11755 At the intersections of Jericho Tpke (Rte. 25) and the Smithtown Bypass (Rte. 347)

Last week to win a "Millionaire's Weekend at the Laurels"

SUFFOLK COUNTY - You can still win an all-expense paid "Millionaire's Weekend at the Laurels". Your local merchants and Suffolk Life are sponsoring

this fantastic free contest which offers a wonderful weekend for two at the Laurels Lake Hotel and Country Club on Sackett Lake, Monticello, New

York. The contest is absolutely free and it's easy to enter. All you must do is fill out an entry blank at a
cont on page 10/14/22 F



Putting on the first green of the Laurels championship golf course. The course is one facet of the many fine sports facilities available at the Laurels. Win a free "Millionaire's Weekend". The contest is sponsored by your local merchants and Suffolk Life.

refineries, pipelines, and storage facilities, but also controls the entire marketing and distribution within this country. In addition these same companies control, or at the least are able to influence, the management and political policies of almost all foreign oil resources. When foreign oil interests raise their prices, the American oil companies receive a higher percentage of return on their investment. They have everything to gain from these raises. Only the consumer is the ultimate loser.

If you have followed the alleged oil crisis as closely as we have, it would be as obvious to you that our government has been duped by the oil companies. They have relied almost exclusively on oil company figures as supplied by the American Petroleum Institute, and have made almost no attempt to independently audit and substantiate these alleged facts. These alleged facts trip themselves up continuously. The question is why the government has continually gone along using these facts as gospel truth when it is so obvious that they are not facts but figments of the imagination.

As to your allegation that it was and is the environmentalists who have caused the oil shortage, we believe you should do more investigation on your own. The environmentalists have continually said drill wherever there is oil. They have no objection. Only make this drilling fail-safe so there are no oil spills or accidents that will ruin the environment. They have said refine where it is profitable. But the refineries cannot be polluters and must be clean. Were the environmentalists asking too much that our air, our water, and the quality of life that makes living worthwhile be protected? We think all they were asking for was a compromise.

Our suggestion that ultimately, if the oil companies persist on the same path they are now on, nationalization was a possibility -- but only a very last step, and one to be taken out of desperation.

As you indicate you are a long-time reader of Suffolk Life and should know from our past editorials that we are conservative in thought and philosophy. For a conservative publication and a conservative editor to suggest nationalization, you must realize the desperate straights the average person finds himself in. This publication is a capitalistic organization and this editor is a capitalist. We are proud of it. We are proud to be able to operate under a system that allows us to own property, to use this property, our own abilities, our own ambitions, to garnish a profit. Profit is not a dirty word. It is what has made America a strong country. But profit, like any other freedom, can be abused. And when there is flagrant abuse, there must be a nullifying factor.

Here at Suffolk Life, we manage this business in a responsible manner. Our responsibility is to operate our newspaper to provide a communications service for our readers and our advertisers. Both are expected to profit from this availability. For providing this service, we expect a reasonable return, or profit. If our return of profit became exorbitant and at the same time caused harm to our readers and or our advertisers, and there were no other competitive factors to neutralize us, we would have to expect outside intervention to protect those readers and advertisers. By our actions, we would be inviting government intervention. We would expect this as a capitalist operating in a democratic society. If we could expect this as a newspaper business, are we any less responsible than the oil interests? Shouldn't they, if they persist in their path, expect the same?

Crisis continues

Dear Sir:
Your editorial "Credibility Crisis Continues" was splendid. I feel the same way about it as you do, only stronger. You say "why won't our President tell us the truth ...". I don't know why but never in the history of mankind has a dictator ever told the truth or has he ever tolerated any criticism.
E.W. Feibleman
Bridgehampton

SHOULD WE SUBSIDIZE?—cont from page 3 F

Mass transportation in the suburbs has always been a tremendous problem and will continue to be. One of the aspects of city living or centralized living, that we gave up with the concept of suburban development, was mass transportation. This, of course, was replaced by the two-car family where everyone shuffled themselves wherever they wanted to go. There is no feasible or economical way you can institute a real mass transportation system within the communities, particularly door-to-door service that the buses and subways are able to offer in the city.

No mass transportation is the cost of living in suburbia. It is unrealistic and unfair to ask all the taxpayers to finance the riding convenience of a few. Those that do not own a car can always use a private taxi. Of course, this is high-cost transportation. But is it fair to ask those who are providing their own transportation to subsidize others, which is what this scheme is all about?

At present, we have privately owned bus lines connecting our various towns. There is no way we are going to accomplish door-to-door transportation other than by cars on a reasonable and economical basis. To attempt to do so is opening up a

Pandora's Box that will not only be costly, but will be a waste of all the taxpayers' money. We recommend that the Suffolk County Legislature turn thumbs down on this proposal and accept the realities of living in Suffolk County that door-to-door mass transportation will not work economically. And why not?

letters

The Energy Czar and Suffolk Life

Dear Mr. Willmott:
I am enclosing your recent Editorial, (January 28, 1974), which I consider to be one of the most misleading and erroneous articles among the many biased ones appearing in some newspapers recently.

I am sending herewith an article by Mr. Simon, who does know something about the energy crisis and the oil industry whereas, quite obviously, about which your editorial writer knows little or nothing. If you read the article carefully, especially the marked passages, you will see how wrong your editorial is. I hope that you will correct the misstatements in a subsequent edition and point out that governmental and environmental decisions are as much or more to blame for the crisis than is oil industry.

Furthermore, I am reluctant to continue my subscription to a paper that is socialistic enough to advocate nationalization of the oil industry an event that would be an economic disaster to the U.S. Look what happened in England after nationalization of various industries!

I am disappointed that a paper which started out so well could take such an uninformed position.
M. Aldrich
East Hampton

EDITORS NOTE:

At your request, we re-read Simon's message as published in U.S. News And World Report as we have read everything, pro and con, we have been able to get our hands on concerning the alleged oil crisis. We are still firm in our opinion that the oil companies have definitely contrived and have been in collusion to cause a shortage of petroleum products. The big twenty not only owns and controls American oil fields,

David J. Willmott, Editor

Ridiculous Regulations

The regulations that are coming out of our bureaucrats regarding the gas shortage are becoming more ridiculous by the day, infuriating and frustrating the average person.

Wasting time

What imbecile's mind conceived the idea that stations should limit the amount of gas they sell? Anyone with one ounce of common sense would know that if you limited a customer to \$3 worth of gas, he is just going to have to visit two or three service stations to get filled up. He will waste two to three times the amount of time, and cost two to three times as much work to accomplish the same end. Isn't it more realistic to insist that all customers fill their cars and take a minimum amount of gas if you do stop for gas?

No preference

The second regulation that a service station cannot show preferential treatment to its regular customers goes against every bit of common sense that is used in building the American free enterprise system. A business gains customers by performing special services and meeting those customers' needs on a regular basis. A service station has a responsibility, as does any other business, to take care of its customers first. The customer that has skipped and jumped around from service station to service station, buying from the fellow who sold the cheapest, is being rewarded for his lack of patronage by being allowed to go into a service station that is patronized by regular customers and demand equal treatment.

Penalize for loyalty

Patronage and patriotism are synonymous. Both of them require loyalty -- something that the bureaucrats don't seem to understand, but prefer to penalize people for. It is unfortunate that our government is staffed with such incompetents, particularly at the level where it affects the everyday man and woman. Service station managers, for the most part, are a pretty ingenious lot. Left to their own devices, they would make sure their customers were taken care of and at a fair price. When you tie their hands with asinine regulations your bureaucrats design on paper to

solve people problems, you screw them up and everybody else, too.

Let it be?

Let what gas there is flow freely without governmental regulations and you will have gas for everybody -- at a reasonable price. Continue to let the government stick its bumbling hands into the situation and it will create further hardships and one of the biggest black markets this country has ever seen. And why not?

State of the People

President Nixon gave his state of the union address. Governor Wilson gave his state of the state address. It's about time the people gave the politicians a state of the people address. The way we see it, it would go something like this:

The year is 1974 - one hundred ninety-eight years after our forefathers fought for their lives to develop a country where a man could be free to do, to think, to act, and to use the natural resources surrounding him, to profit and to gain from. It is one hundred ninety-eight years since we shed the bureaucracy of the faltering English empire. We rid ourselves of dictators, petty tyrants, and outlandish rules and regulations imposed upon man to enslave him to the system that other men determined he should live under.

Big Brother does it

We are two years short of our 200th birthday and yet closer to what we shed than we have ever been in the last one hundred ninety-eight years. We have become a nation of coddled children, content to allow Big Brother to manage our daily lives and thoughts. We willingly accept the dictates of incompetent bureaucrats who determine, in their almighty wisdom, the quality of the air we breathe, the conditions under which we labor, the amounts of energy we may consume to sustain ourselves. We gleefully pay tribute to this bureaucracy in the form of sweat and blood, amounting to almost half our normal week. And for this, we only ask to be left alone.

All on file

We tolerate Big Brother eavesdropping on our conversations, gathering dossiers on our personal


lives and storing this data in complex computers to be withdrawn at his servants' will. Our leader has brought contempt and disrespect upon himself and the office he holds. The Congress of advisors and consenters gathered around him has removed itself from our reach and by manipulating the system, has confused the average person beyond knowing what is good and what is bad. Therefore, once in office, they insulate themselves from removal.

Color it black

It is frustrated men or women who today waste precious moments of their lives, never to be gained again, in line to purchase a pittance of fuel to move themselves from place to place. In communities that must depend upon automotive transportation, it will be even more frustrating for a person who, in the weeks to come, goes to the supermarket and finds shelves bare of essential items, and those few that remain commanding prices beyond their reach. The state of the people must be colored black, not because they have not tried, but because they have been apathetic and placed in office leadership that was incompetent who, in turn, engaged others more incompetent to run the bureaucracy.


Year of awakening

There is an answer though -- the only answer -- that the bureaucracy fears. The answer is the people themselves must awake and see that it is they themselves who have created the situation, and change it. 1974 will be a year of awakening, and the change will take place. For the state of the people is one that demands the change. And why not?



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Rocky Point	Patchogue	South Fork

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Sal DeFontes - Sales Manager	Darlene Albin - Art Director
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR - We encourage our readers to express their views regardless of opinion through 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 cannot be returned for any reason.
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National Health Plan: another ripoff in the planning

President Nixon last week unveiled his long-awaited national health plan. The plan, as envisioned by Nixon, will provide medical services for everyone in the country -- duplication of services that are already available at far less cost. The plan calls for a joint financing (or taxation) of both employer and employee, with additional federal and state subsidizations, which will be paid out of regular taxes such as income tax and sales tax. Every American who enrolls will be covered under this plan for catastrophic illnesses that have led many families that didn't have private or group health insurance (or whose coverage was too little) to the verge of bankruptcy.

Those who cannot afford

Initially, as was the case with Social Security, it will not be mandatory for everyone to become enrolled. It is expected, though, that once the plan becomes a fact, mandatory enrollment will be required. The plan primarily is designed to insure that people who cannot afford health insurance will have the coverage. But, in fact, it is these same people that have coverage available to them now do not take advantage of it because of the cost. There is no reason to expect they will take advantage of it because the federal government is involved in it.

A serious weakness in the plan is it will be administered on a state level. The cost and services that are provided will vary from state to state and, therefore, you will have no uniform medical cost or service available throughout the nation.

Who pays?

The estimated direct cost of the plan will be \$415 per year for the first year, but will accelerate each year according to the actual utilization and cost. Of this, the cost will be split 65-35 between the employer and the employee. The plan will provide for the recipient paying out of his pocket the first \$150 of his medical bills in any one single year, plus the first \$50 in any actual drug bills he incurs in the first year, plus 25 per cent of all bills up to \$1,500. After that the plan will be self-financing at 100 per cent. The federal government will subsidize the plan the first year for \$6.4 billion, or an average subsidization for a person enrolled in the plan of \$35 per person (or \$147 per family). The states will subsidize the plan for an additional \$1 billion plus 25

per cent of all additional costs incurred. Private health insurance companies will administrate the plan and they will receive, according to an article in the Wall Street Journal, 150 per cent of the present packages they now offer an individual.

Choice, not force

This plan is nothing more than an outright extension of our present Social Security system. Social Security costs every American employee 11.7 per cent annually of the first \$12,600 of his salary -- for a questionable amount of benefits he gets back under this system. It is also estimated that a man or woman working from age 20 to age 65 should have in his Social Security fund (the money he was paying in and compounded simply at 6 per cent) a fund in excess of \$250,000., but the maximum he can withdraw from this fund under present day rates, if he lives to age 72 (which is the national average is you reach age 65), is a little more than \$60,000. This, of course, means that the government in reality is picking up a tidy profit of \$190,000 of the average workers' income. The justification for this has been the worker is too incompetent to save for himself for his old age and, therefore, the government must do it for him.


At present, a worker can buy for himself top notch medical insurance, both individually and through group purchase, in the organization in which he works. At Suffolk Life we have a plan that provides for in-and-out-of-hospital doctor's bills, hospital cost, life insurance, prescriptions, covers catastrophic illnesses up to \$250,000, a full range of dental services, psychiatric services, and other extraneous benefits for a per-family cost of under \$600. The plan is a participation plan with the company paying comensurate to the length of time that an employee is engaged in the position he holds. We are a small-medium sized business and have been able to secure a plan of this scope for this cost of under \$600, and yet the plan the government is trying to force on the American public will cost about the same amount of money without providing the benefits an individual is able to obtain for himself.

In addition, as with anything else that the government becomes involved in, they set up rules and regulations that inhibit the individual and drive him mad with paper work. When you

think of it, good medical services for everyone who needs it is an excellent aim, but the average American is able to take care of himself, and those that are not are covered under our present welfare system. Here is an area where the government wishes to step in -- which should be the choice of the individual. Like any other government operation, it will become top heavy with paper-pushing bureaucrats to the point where it will choke itself (and all those that have been enrolled) to death.


We can find almost no merit in this plan and can foresee the extreme hardship that it will cause on each individual worker. The government will try to sell this plan on the merit that the employer will be paying part of the cost. One fact that every individual should keep in mind is that any employee cost is part of an employer's direct labor cost and whether he gives the employee cash or a paycheck minus this cash, the same amount of money will be expended. The employee, as with any other benefit he receives, is only receiving the benefit in lieu of cash. This is a fact of life we all too often forget to take into consideration.

The bureaucrats have a way of telling the public that there is a Santa Claus. There is no Santa Claus except for you and I. The illusion of Santa Claus is the taking of money out of one pocket and putting it in another after taking a cut out of it. No matter how you slice it, the public comes out the loser. We hope you keep this in mind as the bureaucrats and the politicians bombard you with all the good things this plan is going to do for you. It won't. And why not?



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