

# Willmott's and Why-Not's

By David J. Willmott, Editor

## Today's Letters

In today's Letters to the Editor there is an opinion expressed about the Jews in this country being outraged about the Soviet Union's persecution of a group of Jews who allegedly conspired to hijack a plane and escape to Israel. The writer of the letter takes the view that this group, after all, are lawbreakers and should be dealt with accordingly. On the surface we would tend to agree with his opinion, particularly in view of our own problems with hi-jackers. However, let's look a little further into the question.

There is no excuse for hijackings within this country. Anyone who wishes to leave the United States can do so freely. There are no iron walls; there is no gestapo or NKVD to apprehend you if you wish to leave. You can dispose of your property profitably. You can gather up your family and relocate elsewhere in the world provided your chosen country permits you to do so. There is nothing stopping you and there is no need to hijack a plane to get to your chosen destination.

Such is not the case behind the iron curtain. One is not freely permitted to leave the Soviet Union. One cannot dispose of his property or move about as he wishes. One cannot practice his religion freely because Russia does not permit open, organized religion. Russia has systematically applied pressure to all forms of organized religion including the Jews, Catholics, Protestants, Hindus, Buddhists and all other sects. These groups represent a threat to Godless communism. Under communism there is only one God - that being the man or regime that happens to be in power at any given time. They are in power not because they are the choice of the people but because they possess the military power to crush all opposition.

As long as there are people who believe in a Supreme Being there will be people who try to get out from under the oppressors' heels. As long as religion is suppressed there will be airplane hijackings; there might even be a good, old fashioned revolution. The desire to believe in and worship God as one sees fit is a force far more powerful than any nation or government can successfully crush. History has taught us that lesson. People will suffer any kind of hardship to be free to worship in their own way.

As we see it not only the Jews, but the entire free world should cry out for the Soviet Union to release these captives so they can migrate and achieve religious freedom. And why not?

## Public Housing Out Of Proportion

A few years ago when county reapportionment was discussed, the population spread was the basis for the reapportionment formula. The five eastern towns, had eight times less the population than the five western towns. The fact that the five eastern towns had been paying 22 percent of the taxes was conveniently disregarded. We said then, and we say now, that the east end would be (and is) trapped if the west end were given this total power over the east end. Since reapportionment there have been many instances that have

borne us out. At this Monday meeting of the county board we will once again be reminded of how we on the east end are on the short end of the stick.

Under the Nassau-Suffolk bi-county planning board there is a formula set up for low-cost public housing. The Suffolk County Welfare Commission, using this formula for a basis, has recommended another formula for Suffolk County's operation of these housing units. The east end, with only 1/8 of the population, ends up with 1/4 of the welfare units. Where is the one man - one vote, equal representation and distribution, with this formula? We'll tell you where it is. It is safely in the hands of the power brokers of the west end.

They know, and you know, that welfare families put a terrible burden on the communities in which they live. It is not only the drain they put on general taxation, through the increase in welfare rolls, but welfare families seem to have the habit of growing within themselves. After all, we live under a system that pays one more for the more children one has, so anyone knows there is a profit to be made in volume. These large families wreak havoc with school tax dollars. It costs over \$1,100 per year to educate one child in school. At present, the schools get a little over \$800 per child in state aid. The balance is made up through your real estate taxes. Low cost public housing means multiple units on small parcels of land. Today, the zoning regulations of our towns limit the use of land to one or two families per acre. This was done to control the kind of haphazard growth that has taken place in the west.

The west end now knows from its experience that it can no longer tolerate this type of growth, so it is shoving it off on the defenseless east end. The power brokers have not taken into consideration the fact that most jobs lie in the west or that the industrial wealth lies in the west or that adequate public transportation lies in the west. All they take into consideration is the fact that the east end is defenseless and a good dumping ground for their problem.

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## SUFFOLK LIFE

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# RIVERHEAD SAVINGS BANK

## Has The Savings Plan Designed To Suit Your Needs!



### 2 Year Savings Certificates\*

- \* All interest compounded quarterly. This means interest earns additional 6% interest for you.
- \* Or you may withdraw your interest as earned.
- \* Big 6% per annum interest guaranteed full 2 years.

Also available 5% a year on 1 year savings certificates - \$500 minimum\*

### Day of Deposit to Day of Withdrawal Savings Account

- \* Your money earns big 5% per annum dividends every day while on deposit.
- \* No dividend penalty while open with minimum balance of \$10.00
- \* All dividends compounded quarterly at big 5% per annum.

**BONUS DIVIDEND DAYS ON 5% REGULAR SAVINGS ACCOUNTS**  
 Deposits made by January 8, earn dividends from January 1st.



YOUR PLACE TO SAVE

## RIVERHEAD SAVINGS BANK

MEMBER F.D.I.C.

RIVERHEAD • LAKE GROVE • EAST NORTHPORT

### EDITORIAL from page 3.

So, this is the kind of government we have under H. Lee Dennison and his county board. If the east end is ever to have the freedom to chart its own future its only alternative is to secede. To do this we are going to have to get ourselves out of the doldrums. We are going to

have to bring every pressure to bear on our Assemblyman, Perry Duryea, who is the second most powerful government official in New York State, to reconsider the needs of his constituency and act accordingly. The time is NOW - not a year from now. ACT! And why not?

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Why is it suddenly "legal" to hi-jack airplanes? I am specifically referring to the sudden public wailing of the Jews to save a pair of criminals. Is it just because they are jews that makes them exempt from obeying laws? Just recently there has been organized a Sky Marshall group, trained to kill if necessary, would they too be condemned if they shot a jew hi-jacker? The pilots association was very vociferous (until recently) in denouncing hi-jackers, calling for international controls, UN action, etc. but now are strangely quiet. Recently two criminals committed murder in their illegal attempt to escape from their other crimes and these too were publically exonerated because they are jews. There was a public outcry for the death penalty for the Cuba-bound hi-jackers, what is so different with these criminals. Since the crime is the same, why not the punishment?

Very truly yours,  
 (Name withheld upon request)

Dear Mr. Willmott:

You recently wrote in an editorial that you would welcome the opinions of others. I feel that perhaps the opinion of an outsider, though very unflattering,

might serve to slightly awaken one of the most lethargic populaces of any place in the United States.

Two years ago, I moved to Long Island because the price of a comparable home, equidistant from the city of New York but in New Jersey or Connecticut, was considerably more expensive. Since my arrival and purchase of a Long Island home, I have been planning my escape to another state because of the undesirable conditions existing here.

Consider first, the creeping decay and hodgepodge construction. Take an afternoon drive on Montauk Highway from Queens to Westhampton Beach. If you have the inclination, try to count the abandoned, boarded up, or otherwise unoccupied homes and businesses. You might even notice the tons of paper, beer cans, bottles and miscellaneous junk thrown haphazardly in every ditch and gutter. By turning on any unpopulated road, you will undoubtedly find heaps of discarded trash previously spurned by our illustrious garbage collection agencies. The new construction consists of housing developments, scattered multiple family units, and assorted small ugly, business structures, all arranged in a fashion that permits each type to detract the maximum amount from the surrounding area and buildings.

So much for the area, and now for a few of the political maladies. The creation of the Brookhaven Industrial Development Committee is the most recent example of politics for personal gain. Imagine a group of five committeemen with the power to condemn land and to ignore local zoning regulations, all while maintaining closed books.

Just think of having the man who was removed from the office of water commissioner because of misuse of office, a man of questionable moral character, as head of the strongest political party in Brookhaven. For another example, take the trailer park scandal in Islip involving a judge and other supposedly respectable citizens. The list of illegal or unethical political deals seems endless, and the crusading of Newsday, one of the few bright spots on the Long Island scene, seems to make almost daily exposes.

Let's take a quick look at the school systems repeatedly racked by racial and narcotics problems, staffed by underpaid overworked teachers, of whom almost all but the most dedicated, or least capable, soon leave for the more financially rewarding environment of industry. In addition, these teachers we have are mostly required to work in overcrowded and under-equipped classrooms.

Lastly, but probably most important, is the overworked subject of taxes, state, property, sales and those hidden on products such as tires or cigarettes. Ask yourself why should I be taxed, and you find the answer should be to support the cost of government and the services that should be provided by government such as police, fire protection, schools and highway maintenance. Where are these exorbitant taxes going? Our police and fire protection are good but deteriorating; our schools are poor; and our highways are a wheel alignment firm's delight. Perhaps the cost of government is rising because we have

# Willmott's and Why-Not's

By David J. Willmott, Editor

## Planning Problems

Suffolk Life has always been an advocate of sound planning. A look at the west end which has had explosive growth without adequate planning should make anybody a believer. In the past few months a regional plan for Nassau and Suffolk has been presented. There are also Southampton and Southold master plans. All of the plans have come under heavy fire by citizens and public officials.

The Nassau-Suffolk plan was recently attacked by the Riverhead Town Attorney. He maintains that state law requires if the Nassau-Suffolk plan is adopted (which it was) any official maps contained in that plan will override local planning and zoning. In that case, we, as local residents, are giving up control over our own destiny. We must, therefore, scrutinize these plans with the utmost care. Many of us have looked at these plans and seen many aspects of them that we felt did not meet the needs of the east end. We were under the impression that we could decide to alter these plans in order to better fulfill the needs of our locale. It now seems that this might not be the case.

The Southampton master plan, although good in some ways, seems to have been prepared from afar. One gets the feeling, after plowing through the many pages of this plan, that it was not custom-tailored to the needs of the town - that many of the ideas and theories were lifted from other plans and just generally applied to the Town of Southampton. Certain existing areas of development offer a case in point. The plan calls for the area along Montauk Highway in Hampton Bays to be developed residentially even though several pieces of property have already been developed commercially. Similar proposals are made for Montauk Highway in Westhampton and on other major highways. It almost appears as if the town board had the master planners deliberately upzone these areas higher than necessary. In this way every variance application would have to come before the town board for a hearing. This could lead, in future years, to the same kind of corruption that has existed in the westend towns. Besides, it would negate the whole purpose of the master plan in that each change weakens the original plan.

In Southold businessmen and farmers have organized to protest the adoption of that plan. They feel it stunts the development of the north fork. On their opinion farming is a dying business on the north fork and to kid ourselves that we will be able to keep things as they were in the past is not planning. They criticize the lack of provision for industrial development, and they have a valid point.

We have noted a widespread attitude of our town officials with regard to these master plans. Once the plans are drawn up our officials are very reluctant to admit that they might be wrong or that these plans do not serve the best interests of the people. Instead of being open-minded they are defensive. This is wrong. A plan which is unacceptable to the people should be altered or scrapped. To be workable these plans must be responsive to the needs of today as well as fifty years from now.

We do not think that any of these plans are cure-alls, nor are they necessarily bad. The main thing is that the planners must realize that the plans must be responsive to the people of these areas. This is critical.

We must have planning and not let our areas develop in the hit and miss fashion that our brothers in western Suffolk have let come to pass. And why not?

## No More Dollars

Our state leaders have finally come to the same conclusion that most homeowners came to a couple of years back. They have no more tax dollars to give. They have no more tax sources to turn to. The Governor, in his state of the state address, acknowledged this. The state has no further sources of tax income unless it wishes to hurt our already crippled state economy. He held out a glimmer of hope though when he suggested he could persuade, con or blackmail the federal government into forking over more to New York so he could continue his profligate spending.

The Assembly majority leader took a more realistic view of the situation in a recent TV interview. He stated that it appears that services will have to be cut back in New York. It is that or we face a drastic raise in taxes. Possibly we face both, but definitely one thing or the other has to happen.

"Services" is a catch-all word for government spending. It suggests that all of his spending is for the benefit of the taxpayer alone. In reality, the taxpayer requires very few of the "services" provided by the government.

Now that New York is in a serious financial dilemma, it is obvious that we must determine priorities on services which are absolutely essential to the majority of the taxpayers. Non-essential services must be cut out entirely, and marginally necessary services must be severely curtailed. Is this not what we all do when we find ourselves spending more than we earn? Do we not change our own mode of living, by cutting out the unnecessary frills which we enjoy but which are unessential, when we find it impossible to make ends meet? Obviously we cannot afford to ask any less of our government.

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# Save Big With RIVERHEAD'S JANUARY CLEARANCE SALE

Townwide reductions this weekend.

## ★ BONUS SPECIAL ★ Riverhead Easy Money

AT MERCHANT DIVISION STORES ONLY

For every dollar you spend you get free

10% equivalent in Easy Money

Redeem this Easy Money for 10%

of your purchase on February 4-5-6

See participating merchants' ads on following pages

- Arch Preserver Shoes page 17
- Edward Archer page 7 RNS
- Bertson Furniture page 9
- Bomarc Men's Wear page 21
- Carl & Bob's page 6 R2
- Caron Shop page 6 R4
- Ivan's Shoe Store page 7 RNS
- Kid Stuff page 8
- Lentin's page 6 R2
- Long Island Shades page 13 S
- Swezey's page 8
- Tommasini page 11 R
- Richard York Shoes page 6 R4

### EDITORIAL from page 3

A letter or postcard to the assemblymen from this district telling him you want priorities set up and non-essential services eliminated or sharply reduced would give him an indication of your deep concern. Their address is: Speaker Perry B. Duryea, Jr., Room 349, N.Y. State Assembly, Albany, NY 12224, or Honorable Assemblyman Peter J. Costigan, Assembly Chamber, State Assembly, Albany, NY 12224. In this way you can have a voice in the determination of the state budget and help determine its outcome. Have your say in what you will have to pay in state taxes this year. And why not?

## Shopping Spree - Final Report

1. Retail sales started strong and finished strong thanks to your patronage of our local stores.
2. 90 turkeys were given away. One turkey was not picked up.
3. \$5,000 in gift certificates was awarded and \$4,900 was claimed. Two second prize winners evidently decided that they had done enough Christmas shopping.
4. Over eighteen hundred children and one adult, age 72, entered the coloring contest. The first prize winners received bicycles, the second prize winners art lessons donated by the Peconic Art Studios and the third prize winners ten dollars worth of toys. All of the entrants received a certificate of merit, personalized with their own name, in recognition of their efforts.
5. YOU elected the Salesperson Of The Year. She has won a \$50 Savings Bond. The second and third prize winners won \$25 Savings Bonds.
6. Mrs. H. C. Herrmann and her husband will spend 9 days in the Italian Dolomites, all expenses paid, as second prize winners in the grand tier of the drawing.
7. John Plock, Jr. of Southold will be driving a brand new 1971 automobile as the Super Grand Prize winner.
8. Over 1,000,000 coupons were deposited during the eight weeks of the shopping spree promotion. Suffolk Life, and all of the merchants who participated in this promotion, thank each and every one of you who shopped at home this year and entered the contest.

We hope you enjoyed the contest and will continue to support your local stores who work that much harder to serve you better. Again, thank you! And why not?

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Can

You

Spare

An

Hour?

Mr. Willmott:

You score again. Again congratulations on your grit. Your editorial on Hypocrisy goes to the root of all evil. In church and state, and most particularly in church, the higher you look the more you see "Leaders" at the pinnacle of power obviously and devoid of fixed convictions - called "principles" the past.

God destroyed the wicked world with water - the time it will be fire. In the eyes of God a thousand years is like a day. See Second Epistle of St. Peter the First Pope Chapter 3, Verses 6, 7 and 8. Seldom quoted (More of the new founded corruptions)

F. M. Field McNally  
Southampton

Dear Mr. Willmott,

My letter is in reference to your editorial December 23, 1970. This particular editorial dealt with abortions, and hypocrisy. I agree with you

Little Flower Children Services of Wading River is looking for volunteers who can spare one or more hours a week to help underprivileged children with reading.

If you are interested, phone Mrs. Adrienne Carr at 929-6102.

# Willmott's and Why-Not's

By David J. Willmott, Editor

## Revenue Sharing

In the last year we have heard quite a bit of excited talk about revenue sharing. President Nixon talked about it last Spring, the governor is banking on getting it to get him out of a financial jam, and our Assembly leaders say it is a must if they are to function. These politicians look upon revenue sharing the way children look at Santa Claus with Christmas lasting all year long. Our leaders are looking to Washington instead of the North Pole.

Let's look at the situation for a moment. The moneys the federal government proposes to distribute have to come from the taxpayers. Uncle Sam may own the printing plants that produce paper money, but this money has to be backed up with something and that something is in the form of hard cash generated through taxation. If the paper money the government distributes is not backed up by cash its worth declines and it buys that much less. It also takes more dollars to buy the same things. This is called inflation - a subject with which we are all too familiar. The federal government, during the current fiscal year, expects to overspend its projected budget by 8 to 17 billions of dollars. That is 8 to 17 billion dollars more than the government will take in.

We then must look to the sources from which the federal government will get all these additional dollars that our state leaders hope to get. It has been suggested that these funds will come from the release of money if we end the Viet Nam war. It looks as if the war is far from over - scaled down, maybe, but still dreadfully costly. Economists and federal officials tell us that even if the war were to end tomorrow there would be no great outpouring of extra money because the government's spending commitments are firm. Therefore, the only place that these additional funds can come from is from taxation. This means that the federal government will have to raise taxes in order to give the state the extra funds they need to prevent raising state taxes. Anyway you look at it, it is going to cost the taxpayer.

Federal tax sharing is particularly disadvantageous to this state. First of all, the national revenue sharing plan that is being envisioned will give New York State a disproportionate share of the funds that the government siphons out of New York. New York State gets back less than 12c out of every dollar its businesses and residents pay in Federal taxes. Our moneys go to less affluent states. Our needs may be greater but they have the political power to force the unequal distribution of funds. Under any new revenue sharing plan New York will undoubtedly come out on the short end of the stick once again. Secondly, when one sees how New York State spends its tax dollars, the utter waste and fiscal abuses will never be corrected by just finding new avenues for income.

New York State officials would be wise to operate the state on an austerity basis. They would be wise to put New York back on a paying basis and to take the opportunity to realign priorities and needs before jumping off the deep end and looking for a handout. The way the cards are stacked at present, and with the weak hand New York has to play, we will be at the mercy of all the little states who can only benefit from our dilemma.

It will take a strong leader to turn down this handout if, as it now appears, New York is to get a disproportionate share of the money it pours into the federal coffers. It will take a strong leader to say "No, we do not want it; we will straighten out our own affairs and raise our own funds." After all, the funds will have to come from the same taxpayers; it's just a question of who will be doing the taxing. And why not?

## Cross-Endorsements Barred

We were happy to see the Republican and Democratic parties bar cross-endorsements. We have despised the blanket endorsements given by some elements of the Conservative Party to entire town slates as in the case of Brookhaven Town. There were candidates running on that slate in the past who were a disservice to the principles promulgated by the people of the Conservative Party. By giving blanket endorsements, the leaders of the Conservative Party prostituted themselves.

In reality, the barring of cross-endorsements can actually build a stronger Conservative Party. As we see it the Conservative Party is no longer a weak-kneed fledgling. It has been molded into a distinct and different ideological force where many disenchanted Republicans and Democrats can ally themselves.

It is said that the Conservative Party is a third party. This is true insofar as enrollment figures are concerned. But let's look at the facts. This third party did elect a federal senator in the last election over a strong run by the Democrats and the Republicans. Let's also remember that the Republican Party itself was a third party over a century ago and, we imagine, was faced with the same feeling that the Conservatives face today.

The Conservatives now have a golden opportunity to show their independence. They will now have that much more incentive to work, plan and make sure that they do not deteriorate into just another passing

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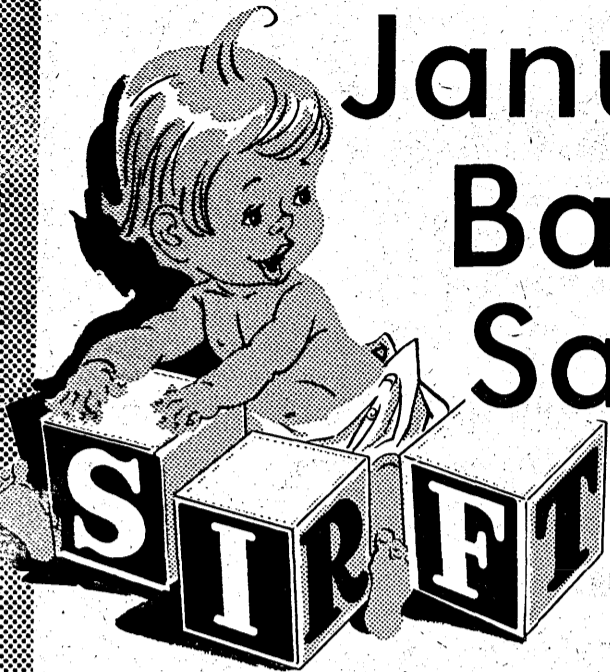
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# KID STUFF'S January Baby Sale

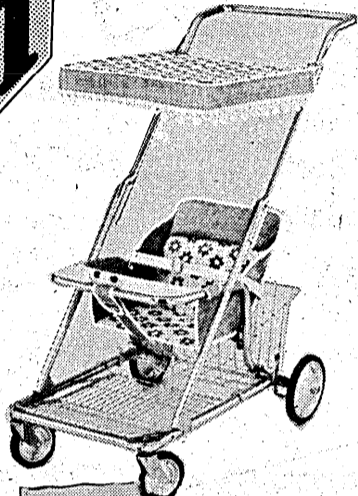


## Peterson swivel wheel STROLLER

Complete with basket, tray, adjustable foot rest and back rest, Reg. \$21.99

SAVE \$4.22

**17<sup>77</sup>**

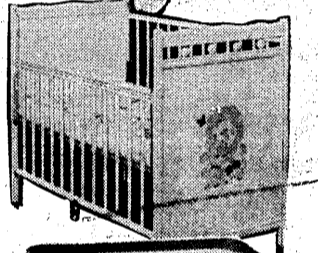


## Thayer full size double drop side CRIB

4 position adjustable spring teething rails complete with water proof inner spring mattress, in white or walnut, Save \$10.00

SAVE \$10.00

**39<sup>99</sup>**

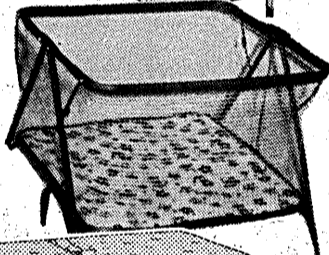


## 36 x 36 Trimble PLAY YARD

Baby's safe in this sturdy tubular steel nylon mesh yard, complete with comfortable pad, Reg. \$23.99

SAVE \$6.22

**17<sup>77</sup>**



## Special Purchase padded wicker DRESSING TABLE

Indispensable aid to every mother. 2" pad and 4 convenient drawers, in white or walnut

Special Purchase

**19<sup>99</sup>**



## Peterson Padded Folding HIGH CHAIR

Sturdy steel frame with adjustable foot rest, 3 position chrome tray, Save \$5.00

SAVE \$5.00

**14<sup>99</sup>**

See our complete line of juvenile furniture, the largest selection under one roof on Eastern Long Island.

# KID STUFF

209 East Main St. Riverhead Phone 727-4164

EDITORIAL from page 3

political fancy. The fact is (though all-too-many conservatives fail to realize it) that the Conservative Party is fully capable of fielding and electing its own candidates. We hope that they keep reminding themselves of this. We believe that the leaders of the two major political parties have done much to restore competition to politics here in Suffolk County. We also suspect that their move will give them many a bad dream in the future. Get going conservatives! And why not?

## Open Gambling

It was only a matter of time before some state officials pushed for New York State to become the Las Vegas of the east. Senator Brydges made it official when he asked for a study.

Without commenting pro or con on the matter of gambling we do suggest that Montauk put in its bid for a casino. It would be a natural spot for such an operation. Actually gambling once flourished illegally there. Montauk has the natural resources for a gambling resort - partially built but potentially unlimited.

It would be 1974 before gambling, on this scale, could be made legal, but, if it is, we should be on the receiving end and not let an opportunity like this go by. And why not?

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To

*Pioneer*

### "Educational Redesign"

A trio of school districts - Southold, East Quogue, and Three Village - will be the local participants in an important educational effort now in motion across New York State, announced Dr. George Hillman, Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Suffolk County's Regional Education Center. The effort is called "Educational Redesign."

What the three districts learn in their exciting program will be made available to others throughout Suffolk. Hopefully, as information and results become public, other districts will join these initial pioneers of "Redesign."

The Regional Education Center, under Dr. John Keough's direction, aided in selecting the three districts. Dr. Keough noted that they shared some common

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Suffolk County Executive H. Lee Dennison  
County Center  
Riverhead, LI, NY

Att: Mr. H. Lee Dennison

Dear Sir:

As a taxpayer residing in Dist. 32 (Mastic, Mastic Beach, Moriches, Shirley), I am intensely concerned about ever-rising taxes in this and other districts on Long Island.

Currently, the question facing the taxpayers of this District is relative to a 50 percent exemption from school taxes for those over 65 years of age, meeting certain qualifications.

My question is this...if the 50 percent exemption is voted on and passed in return

"Would it be legally possible that the eligible elderly (would have to) relinquish their right to vote on school money issues?"

I ask the same question, relative to those receiving welfare assistance.

I submit, that it is a conflict of interest to have those voting on money issues who will benefit by the vote.

Yours very truly  
(Mrs.) Rita Rech

Dear Mr. Willmott,

You forever mock the welfare system as though it were dirt.

There are many a construction worker and aircraft personnel laid off due to a shortage of work especially in plants such as Grumman and Fairchild Aircraft. Quite a few of these people cannot supplement their incomes on unemployment and Union wages and need welfare to help them until the lay off period is over.

Many a deserted young mother who have lost their jobs have only this to supplement their incomes. There are many a person I will admit who can work and who won't look for work. This part I believe is in the wrong.

cont. page 5

# Willmott's and Why-Not's

By David J. Willmott, Editor

## One Single Tax

Some time ago we had a discussion with a rather wise and learned man on the subject of taxes. We reviewed the positive and negative aspects of the American system of taxation. It was agreed that one of the worst aspects of our tax set-up is the fantastic number of different taxes each and every individual and business is subject to. Consider the unbelievable waste of money and manpower in the administration of existing tax programs caused by the complexity of the thousands of laws governing taxation.

In the course of the conversation the idea was suggested that if all tax laws and levies from the local level to the federal level could be wiped out and substituted with one single tax, we could save billions of dollars for government, business and the individual. Because of the way we have been trained to think, and our adherence to precedent, such an idea seems too wild to imagine. Yet, given some logical thought the idea has much merit.

A single tax, of a fixed amount, could be determined for any transaction, exchange of time material or property. At the time of exchange the tax would be payable to a central tax bureau. By setting up a tax formula, without any exceptions or favoritism, we would have a very fair tax method that could produce all of the needed tax revenues without permitting any individual or group to evade their share of tax responsibility.

A single bureau, administering the collection of taxes, could also set up a system to distribute these funds to the various levels of government in order to accomplish a prescribed set of goals and needs. This, in itself, would make for equal distribution on a national basis and would go far in stopping the wasting of funds which is bankrupting our citizenry. Each branch of government would have a pre-determined amount of money with which to accomplish its objectives. It would either be successful or it would fail, but it could not stick its hand back in the taxpayers' pockets because it would not be allowed to set up its own tax apparatus every time it felt a new need.

We would be the first to concede that this idea is far-fetched and to put it into operation would be a mammoth job. One has only to look however, at how archaic and damaging our current tax system is to realize that there is a crying need for tax reform. We have split the atom and put men on the moon. Surely we must have people who could work out an equitable single-tax system that would relieve the ills of today's hodgepodge of government fund raising. And why not?

## Congratulations

We wish to congratulate the New York daily papers for rendering one of the wisest services to their readers that we have ever observed. They played it cool during the recent city police strike. They kept their news coverage to a minimum, reporting the facts and leaving out the emotion. They presented an air of calm and assurances of citizen responsibility.

As a result, what could have been a devastating situation amounted to a situation of near normalcy. If

they had chosen to blow up the strike out of proportion, they may well have caused a condition of rioting and ruination.

Congratulations on responsible journalism at its best. And why not?

## Shoplifting Is A Crime

Somewhere along the line many people have come to the false conclusion that stealing from a store is all right and, if they are caught, it is something to be laughed off. How wrong they are. Shoplifting is a serious offense, and, upon conviction, it cannot be easily removed from one's record. The time was when many stores were reluctant to prosecute if they caught someone stealing. Not any more. Store owners are now throwing the book at offenders, and they are willing to invest the time in court to insure that the thief gets his just rewards. Consider the reasons why the storeowner is no longer willing to forgive and forget. Last year national statistics pointed out that shrinkage cost the average retailer anywhere from 2 percent to 5 percent from floor thefts. One chain has a store in Brooklyn that reports shoplifting costs at over 15 percent.

Shoplifting costs the consumer in two ways. The first, and most important, is that estimated shrinkage losses have to be made up. These estimated losses add to the store's cost of doing business, and a shopper pays for these stolen goods through higher markups. The second aspect is that stores have to invoke security precautions which sometimes makes shopping much less enjoyable.

No matter how you look at it, shoplifting is stealing. When you steal from a storeowner you are stealing bread from his table. There is absolutely no justification for this or any other kind of theft.

The penalties for shoplifting are becoming more and more harsh. Where once offenders were let off with warnings, they now face stiff fines and possible jail sentences. As our courts contend with an ever-

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## SUFFOLK LIFE

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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.

# Charney's Liquors

SALE EFFECTIVE TODAY THRU SATURDAY

RIVERHEAD SHOPPING PLAZA ON ROUTE 58 NEXT TO GRANTS

All prices subject to change to comply with price filings with state liquor authority for Jan. '71-Feb. '71

 <p><b>Wm. LAWSON SCOTCH</b> Full Quart \$ <b>4.91</b> Less Than</p>	 <p><b>SEAGRAM'S 7</b> Full Quart Less Than \$ <b>5.02</b></p>	 <p><b>DEWAR'S WHITE LABEL SCOTCH</b> Less Than \$ <b>5.70</b> Fifths</p>	 <p><b>PARK &amp; TILFORD SCOTCH</b> Less Than \$ <b>4.88</b> Full Quart</p>	 <p><b>GORDON'S DISTILLED LONDON DRY GIN</b> 90 Proof Less Than \$ <b>4.32</b> Full Quart</p>
		 <p><b>FOUR ROSES RYE</b> Less Than \$ <b>5.12</b> Full Quart</p>	 <p><b>HIRAM WALKER GIN</b> 90 Proof Less Than \$ <b>4.13</b> Full Quart</p>	 <p><b>Imported CANADIAN MIST RYE</b> Full quart \$ <b>4.86</b> Less than</p>
		 <p><b>BARTON'S RESERVE RYE</b> 90 Proof Less Than \$ <b>4.14</b> Full Quart</p>	 <p><b>Hankey Bannister VODKA</b> Less Than \$ <b>3.67</b> Full Quart</p>	

**MANY MORE UNADVERTISED SPECIALS!**

**WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES**

**WE WILL MEET ANY LEGAL PRICE ADVERTISED IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA ON ITEMS IN STOCK.**

Page 5 • SAY YOU SAW IT IN SUFFOLK LIFE • Wednesday January 27, 1971

**EDITORIAL** from page 3

increasing case load of shoplifting offenses judges are increasing the penalties - and rightly so. Stores are becoming more efficient with their detection devices and can readily pinpoint the thief even when there is no one around. On top of this large and small stores have placed eagle-eyed security people, without uniforms on their premises to mingle and watch.

We believe that the percentage of shoplifting will go down in the future as more and more people are apprehended. Unfortunately, many otherwise respectable persons are going to have their lives messed up for these infractions. Their reputations will be tainted for life. When you think about it, if you steal even a little bit you are a thief and should be branded as such. And why not?

**Letters** from page 4

Assemblyman from Suffolk's Second Assembly District, Peter J. Costigan. His local mailing address is 154 Old Field Road, Setauket, NY 11785. Otherwise address mail to Assembly Chambers in Albany.

Following are mailing addresses for some other elected officials representing Suffolk County:

State Senator Leon E. Giuffreda, 15 North Coleman Road, Centereach, NY 11720 and Senate Chambers, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224.

United States Congressman Otis G. Pike, 132 Ostrander Avenue, Riverhead, NY 11901 and House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515. (Telephone number - (202) CA4-3121.)

Thanks for the suggestion Mr. Wells and we'll find out Senator James Buckley's New York address and let you know next week. Perhaps it would also be a good idea to present addresses for county officials?

**Improve**

**Middle Island** - An Adult Basic Education class is now being formed at the West Middle Island School on Swezey Lane in Middle Island. This class provided reading and mathematics instruction for those who did not have the opportunity to develop the basic skills. The class is geared to meet the individual needs of the students.

Gentlemen:

The final report on the Suffolk Airport, by R. Dixon Speas Assoc. Inc., which cost the taxpayers of the county \$95,000.00, states that plans for the next twenty-five years would require acquisition of some 3,000 acres of land, and increase two runways to 10,000 feet each. This extension of runways is made necessary to accommodate large freight planes and Transatlantic Airline Charter Activities.

When our County Executive was questioned about this he said "I would go for this." He also commented that "this still doesn't mean that's a "Jetport."

Call it what you may, the people in our Community do not want this expansion of the present Suffolk Airport. We feel the existing airport has ample space for use as a general airport and it should be kept to the existing size.

Reported acquisition of land by condemnation would put a still greater financial burden on the

remaining taxpayers. The resulting pollution of air, water and land will destroy the realization of our Town Plan for our area.

It is apparent that regardless of opposition, our County Officials are intent on moving ahead to establish a major airport at this location.

Yours very truly,  
Frank Masin, Vice President  
East Quogue Taxpayers Assoc., Inc.

To the Editor:

Here, on the east end of Long Island, we lack some of the desirable stimulations that the city provides. Living theater, the art museums, and art schools, in fact, the whole gamut of cultural activity, offer close contact with the arts and their creative efforts.

Now, we are given a fascinating opportunity. Some outstanding programs will be brought here, in which everyone can take part.

On February 18, 19 and 20, a distinguished group of artists and performers will present various aspects of "Time Out For Man." They will interpret and clarify some of today's emotional problems: loyalty, love, anxiety, loneliness, courage. These programs are directed by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship under a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

During the three days the team will be here, any of the programs will be available to interested groups or organizations. One such session is already arranged for the Westhampton High School. All sessions are free and open to the public. For further information, call Mrs. Jerome Rogers at 325-0797.

This is an exceptional opportunity to enjoy and profit by the inspiration of the best thought of our own times as well as of the past.

Suffolk Life will be kept advised of the times and places.

Alfred Soman  
Remsenburg