

Willmott's and Why-Not's

By David J. Willmott, Editor

A New Look In '72

This editorial is being written in the closing hours of 1971. As we look into the new year, we see before us a mammoth problem that has faced us in the past and grown worse instead of better. The problem is, of course, taxes and the revenue needed to finance the business of government.

Taxes on all levels have skyrocketed over the last decade. The reasons are plain and simple. The bureaucrats who run our government have stepped in to fill the void that we have created by our apathy. They have provided services that we once provided for ourselves as individuals. We pay dearly for these services through taxes.

The tax picture is clouded. We pay local, county, state and federal taxes. We pay not only direct taxes such as on income or real estate but also hidden taxes on thousands of items from bread to gasoline. Every step of the way, we are taxed either directly or indirectly. Our total annual tax bill is 290 billion dollars. 195.7 billion of that goes to federal, 51 billion to the state and 43.3 billion is used locally. These are the amounts collected by government, but these figures in no way reflect the amounts it actually costs the individual and business to collect and pay these monies.

Some three years ago, as we were in the process of paying some ten different taxes on the fifteenth of the month, we stopped and took stock of this ridiculous situation. It seemed asinine that all of this bookkeeping had to be done to accomplish these ten transactions. It was a wasteful process which thousands of others also had to do. A thought struck us - why couldn't there be just one tax that would finance all forms of government? There doesn't seem to be any logical reason why this couldn't be accomplished. All that is needed is a common denominator that would require equitable payments from all.

In Europe, particularly in the Scandinavian countries and France, such a system is in effect, and it is called a value-added tax. We have studied the system carefully and can see no reason why the scrapping of our present tax system for the value-added method would not provide us with a simpler method of tax collection. It would be much less expensive both for government and the individual, yet it would be more effective, particularly if it were exemption free.

What would this tax cost us? First, let's take a look at the gross national product, which is the measure of all private and government expenditures for both goods and services nationally and internationally. Our GNP is 1 trillion, 40 billion, 500 million dollars. In addition, the national income from all sources was 843 billion, 200 million dollars for fiscal 1971. This figure represents all income from wages, profits and like sources. If you combine these two figures, you come up with 1 trillion, 883 billion, 700 million dollars of monies to be used as the basis for the value-added tax. With the total tax liability of 290 billion dollars for fiscal '71, we are talking about something less than 14 percent of the combined GNP and national income.

A value-added tax of 14 percent on all national production and wages would totally fulfill the requirements of local, county, state and federal revenue requirements and would put an end, once and for all, to the massive tax problem. Such a tax could replace all taxes - local real estate, sales taxes, state and federal income taxes plus all of the hidden taxes both direct and indirect.

One of the more attractive aspects of this tax is that it could be both collected and administered on the local level, thus returning to us some measure of control over our own lives. Under a prescribed formula, the local municipality would forward to the state and federal government a percentage of its revenues to be used solely for purposes belonging to the state and federal government. State and federal bureaucracies could no longer threaten to withhold funds from local government lest we run our affairs their way. All necessary services would be provided by the local municipality according to its ability to generate taxes within that municipality.

We fully recognize that a proposal of this nature is radical; yet, its implications are too important to throw out. Basically, everyone would pay the same tax - nobody gets a special break. One and only one tax is paid in a single transaction. Conceivably, this tax could be less than 14 percent if economies were effected in government. As it is, it would be 8 percent more than we pay in sales taxes in New York State and, on an average, some 6 percent less than we pay in federal income taxes. The fact is that we would pay more for our goods but much less in taxes. The confusion and

unfair disproportion of the tax burden would be done away with, and local government would, once again, have control over its destiny.

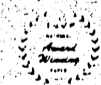
We have thrown a lot of figures at you in one short editorial, and, as the year progresses, we will present more information on this subject. It is our feeling that a tax of this nature will be proposed at some future date. The problem, however, as we see it, is that this tax will be proposed as an additional burden to what you are already paying rather than to supercede existing taxation. This would be just a new way of taking your money and having you pay more for your goods without eliminating your tax problems. That would be a burden of the first magnitude. And why not?

So, how 'bout a few predictions for '72?

Let's begin at 11:20 on a dark and rainy Monday night in March in front of a Montauk Barber Shop. Perry Duryea will be snatched then. His hands and feet will be bound with two wide, yellow rubber bands. His captors will place him gently in a large lobster crate. A plaque with the words "Assemblyman From Peconic County" will be nailed to the lid and at precisely 11:45, Mr. Duryea will be heading for Maine.

On April 1, appropriately enough, the Suffolk County Legislature will decide to admit that repairs to the old Shinnecock Bridge came to a cost of less than \$5,000 in the four days it took to patch it up. The balance of the \$45,000 appropriated by the Legislature was used for buttered rolls and coffee for the league of County workers who labored at the site. The latter was explained as an attempt to bolster the sagging Hampton Bays economy.

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SUFFOLK LIFE

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GENERAL INFORMATION

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SEE OUR MODERN SELECTION OF LIVING ROOMS — ALL MARKED DOWN TO REFLECT JANUARY CLEARANCE SALE.

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6 PC. MEDITERRANEAN STYLE BEDROOM SET WAS \$420 January Clearance **\$319⁰⁰**

ALL SIZE BEDDING January Clearance **10 to 50% OFF**

from our dining room dept. -
5 PC. CONTEMPORARY DINETTE January Clearance **\$177⁰⁰**
table w/leaf & 4 cane back chairs WAS \$227

from our furniture dept. -
SWIVEL ROCKERS January Clearance **\$69⁰⁰**
WERE \$89.00

from our unpainted furn. dept. -
PIRATES CHESTS January Clearance **\$39⁸⁸**
WERE \$46.95

ALL OTHER CHESTS January Clearance **10 to 50% OFF**

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SAVINGS UP TO 40%

\$250 YD.
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Choose from hundreds of bolts of tweed, plaids, flannels, wool, crepe and bonded wools. Yes, every type of woollens you can think of...luxurious woollens for coats, suits, skirts, slacks, and dresses.

SPECIAL SALE

20% OFF ALL FABRICS IN STORE

SPECIAL ON CUSTOM MADE DRAPERIES
3 PAIRS OF DRAPERIES UP TO 99 INCHES LONG **Special \$69⁵⁰**
choose from large selection of antique satins, flberglass, sailcloth, prints & solids.

WENDY FABRIC SHOP

RTE. 58 RIVERHEAD SHOPPING PLAZA PA 7-3527 Open Thurs. & Fri. 9:30 am to 9 pm

PREDICTIONS — from page 3

Northville Dock Corp. will begin work on its fixed mooring and unloading platform 7,000 feet out in Long Island Sound on April 18. The first pile that punctures the floor will strike oil. The Corps of Army Engineers will temporarily revoke Northville's permit to build the structure so that an environmental impact statement can be drawn up on the project.

Richard Cummings of Bridgehampton will accept the Conservative Party nomination on Wednesday, May 10, to run for the First Assembly District seat. In so doing, he'll be making good a prediction made by Wick Tyte of Riverhead last October during the First County Legislative District race. Said Mr. Tyte then of Mr. Cummings, "He'll make a damn good Conservative some day."

On Friday, June 9, after all efforts to locate Mr. Duryea have failed, the Republicans will select R. Thomas Strong of East Hampton to run against Mr. Cummings. Mr. Strong will be almost as hard to find as Mr. Duryea and it will take a phone call by Buzz Schwenk to a Patchogue car dealer to get a lead on his whereabouts. Mr. Strong will be giving tips on ecology to a pack of cub scouts at Peconic Inlet on the North Fork when he finally learns of his nomination at 2:15 on the afternoon of Tuesday, June 20.

Suffolk County Airport will receive international recognition on June 18 when 747 type jets from 12 nations execute simultaneous take-offs from the facility's dozen new runways.

Mr. Cummings will announce on Friday, June 23, that he has contacted Ralph Edwards

Southampton Hospital
Thanks Holiday Well-Wishers

Southampton Hospital Administrator, John Pfister, Jr., would like to express thanks to those who have so thoughtfully remembered patients in the following ways:

(1) The students of the East Quogue School District who provided a number of presents. (2) The first and second graders at Most Holy Trinity School in East Hampton who sent a group of cards to the children in the Pediatric Department. (3) Thomas Buttke and a group of 10 of his fellow students at Southampton College who entertained patients and distributed gifts. (4) Miriam Circle from St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Amagansett who made and distributed stuffed dolls. (5) Everett Hanyo, R.N., of Hampton Bays, who entertained and distributed presents to the children in Pediatrics. (6) James Strong and the Whaler's Chorus who carolled on December 20. (7) "Tiny" Wilson who, according to his tradition of many years, dressed as Santa Claus on Christmas Day, and distributed candy canes (donated by Southampton's Christmas Decorating Committee).

Willmott's and Why-Not's

By David J. Willmott, Editor

Dear John

You are an incredible man. Last fall, when we interviewed you for Suffolk Life's 240,000 readers, we were left with the feeling that you were cold and calculating. In the last few weeks you have borne out our feelings to a degree we never imagined. After you were elected by such a nice margin we hoped that people had seen something in you that we hadn't. It looks like they were as wrong as we were.

Just so you do not feel we are just taking pot shots at you, let's look at some of your statements. Let's go back to the airport situation, on which you accused us of treating you unfairly. At a public meeting, you categorically stated that you had seen a check from the FAA for the development of the air base. The fact of the matter is that there never was nor could have been any check for this amount because the preliminary study that would have been needed had not been done. You were questioned about this at the meeting, but you held to your view. Your questioner chose not to embarrass you even though he knew the facts. It might have been better if he had taken you to task and revealed your "honest mis-statement" or deception.

Also, back in the fall, you were making, as the Congressman from this district called, "Brownie Points" on the offshore oil issue. You attended the oil conference in Montauk and stated that, as of that day, you were instructing the county attorney to institute suit. You said that time could not be wasted. Remember? If you don't, it's in the conference report. Now, we see, that you are doing what you said you had done. Kind of incredible isn't it?

In our office, we questioned you about the budget and the need for new taxes. You indicated that the budget was one you could live with - that you did not foresee any need for new taxes. After election, we called you down for what appeared to be an unannounced agreement with the Nassau County Executive about an increase in the sales tax. You denied this and had a few choice words to say about this publication and its editor.

Now let's take a look at this budget that you felt you could live with. As County Chairman, you should have been able to live with it as you did have a part in molding it with your father confessor, Mr. Dennison. It just so happens it was you who passed it as

the officer-in-charge of the legislators. It seems incredible that now, only two months later, you say that this budget is insufficient, that it will not meet the needs of the coming year and that the people of Suffolk County will have to give up another 1 percent of their buying power. Let's be realistic, John. If what you say is true, back when you passed this budget, you had to know it was not realistic. You fraudulently passed this document off to the voters as being accurate for your own and your party's political gain. This was not a very honest way to start a new year.

The BULL you are handing out now is that if we don't panic and grab this extra one percent now, as allowed under the state constitutional limit, the state will take it. You know, better than anyone else, that this could never be accomplished. New York City is already at 7 percent, and the city politicians would never give up that one percent.

John, the way we look at it, you got yourself into a pickle. The people of Suffolk County don't owe you one damn cent. You shouldn't look to them to get you out of this jam. The only honorable way you have out is to rid the county of the waste, particularly in the patronage areas such as parks, the Sheriff's Department and Public Works which is the old standby for backroom politicians. You do owe the people something. You told them you were good, that you were honest and that you had their interests at heart. Now you have the ideal opportunity to prove it. And why not?

Accountability In Government

It's a fact of life that each of us is accountable for our own actions. This goes for both individuals and a business. Somehow the government has been able to weasel out of this very basic responsibility. The result is the government which now we have. We know of few people who are happy with it, be they liberal or conservative or anything in between.

As governments are not accountable for their actions or reactions there is virtually no control on cost. These costs are out of hand and we are being forced to pay the taxes for their errors. This accountability is supposed to be brought forth at each election but it is

made impossible in today's era of high priced image-building.

We do believe in the system of government under which we operate, but there appears to be an inherent weakness in that there is no accountability mandated for the actions of our public officials. There is no control over why or how they spend our monies nor a system for insuring a given production for this outlay.

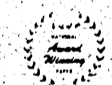
As we have often said, a business would go broke if it attempted to operate under the principles of government. If a business must operate successfully and profitably and must give a return to its investors, shouldn't government? Shouldn't we demand that there be an accurate accountability from those we charge with handling such vast amounts of money for us?

Until there is direct accountability for deeds done, cost of government will continue to skyrocket and we will pay the bills. The bureaucrats and politicians like it the way it is. They would be reluctant to change the system, but a forceful outcry from the people might cause them to change their action. Why not drop a letter to your public officials encouraging this? And why not?

Too Big To Serve

Out of the sunset and into our office rode the Wild Bill Hickock of Brookhaven this past October. At first glance, we said, "Oh no!" It was the end of our interviews with the can-

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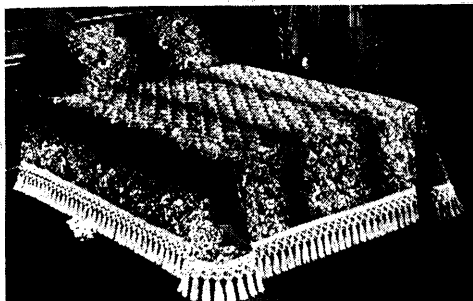
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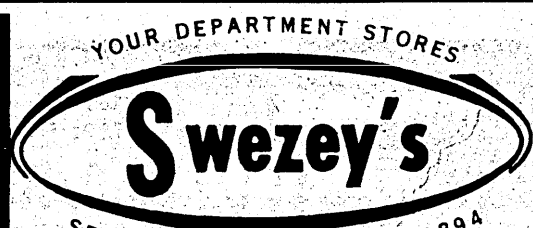
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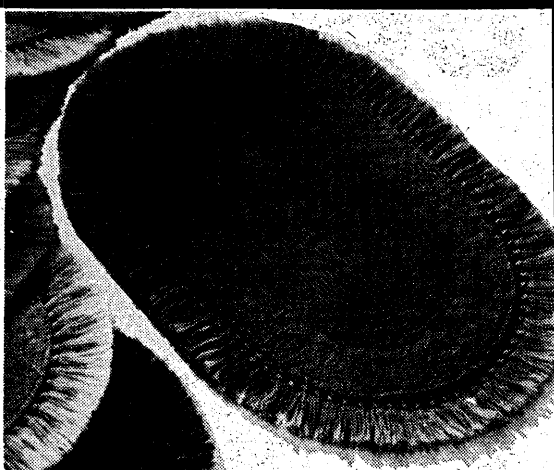
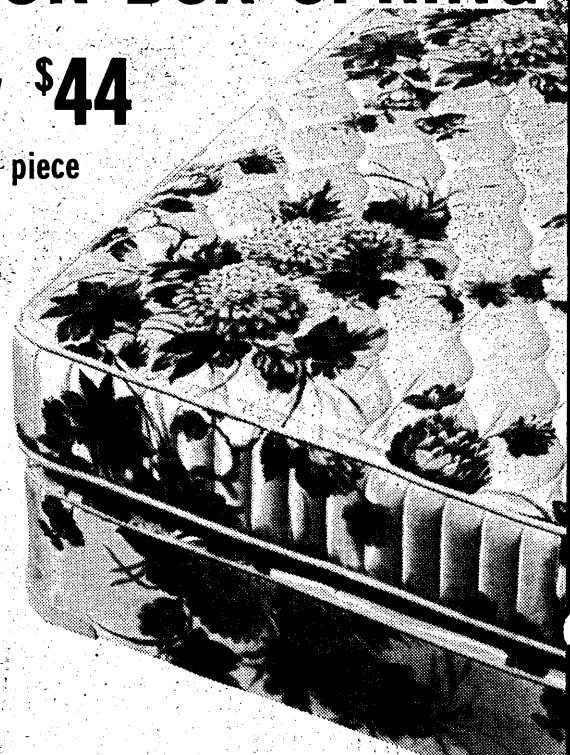
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Quality Simmons Dutchess bedding at our lowest price in years. A special purchase for a limited time only and available only in twin size. Firm quilted mattress, no buttons or tufts in high quality cover. Engineered for years of service with firm coil springs covered with top quality padding.

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24 x 36	Reg. \$8.	Special	4.99
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Oversized Lid Cover . .	Reg. \$3.50	Special	2.49

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PATCHOGUE

1 West Main Street
 475-0280



RIVERHEAD

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EDITORIAL — from page 3

didates for supervisor, and, at this point, we were both bored and tired. After we had finally subdued the liberal Stalker, quieted his hysterics and persuaded him that we had a responsibility to listen to this man because we had invited him to our offices, we proceeded to be overwhelmed by Arthur McCombs the Conservative candidate for supervisor of Brookhaven. Here was a lucid, down-to-earth hombre who had a practical solution to the overwhelming problem of Brookhaven which, very simply, is the fact that it is too big to be a Town.

At present, Brookhaven stretches from the ocean to the sound and is 360 square miles. It is practically the size of Nassau County and is the second largest town in the state. Brookhaven will have over a half-million people living in it before this century is out. Throughout this huge Town, there are pockets of people whose interests and desires very markedly from those of their fellow townspeople. Because of its size, the town is unwieldy to administrate. No one seems to know what is going on except for the Republican leader, and he uses this information gap to his best advantage. Brookhaven should either become a city with local bureaus, a county with

local towns or, as McComb recommends, five separate towns. Any of these plans would bring the government closer to the people. What has happened is that Brookhaven has developed into a series of villages. This will happen more and more as the people's desire for local control grows stronger and they feel they can no longer put up with unresponsive government. Villages offer little in the way of unified government or coordinated planning. They are definitely not the answer but offer a better form of government than is being offered now. The leadership of Brookhaven, particularly the Republican leadership with its enormous power, should reconsider this problem and provide a non-political, people-oriented solution to the situation.

We can understand the reluctance of the present political machine to do this as it would diminish its power base. In reality, though, unless something is done, their political empire will collapse and the result will be chaos.

As we said, we were amused by the dress and image that Mr. McCombs portrayed, but he offered the best bit of constructive information of any of our interviews. As expected, he lost the election, but we hope that his ideas don't suffer the same fate. And why not?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear David:

Your New Year's predictions seemed pretty accurate to me, except for one thing. If Ralph Edwards were willing to do the show, I probably would use the American Legion Hall in Greenport because of its size.

To other matters. Your editorial on reforming our tax structure was one of the best outlines I have seen for the change we need immediately. For it to work as well as it should, there must be responsible government on all levels.

I have a feeling that 1972 will not see a let-up in the people's demand for that kind of government. Sooner or later, they will remember Al Smith's directive: "Throw the bums out!"

With best wishes for the New Year.
 Sincerely,
 Richard M. Cummings

Dear Sirs:

Congratulations on your article concerning the problem of oil pollution, dated Dec. 29, 1971. I do believe almost all of what you have printed concerning this possible problem and I am very concerned.

I noticed, however, there was a curious lack of information telling people where to write to voice their views. Being a recent resident of Eastern Long Island, I would like to know who I should contact regarding this matter effectively.

Please be so kind as to help me out in this respect, as I would like to write, and above all, be heard.
 Yours truly,
 C. E. Rossback

Editor's Note:

(Please read the letter with that information in this edition.)

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By David J. Willmott, Editor

The Second Government

At Suffolk Life's suggestion and encouragement, the supervisors of the five Eastern Towns got together this past week to form an association of town officials. The purpose of the association is to exchange information among member officials and to work for common concerns affecting the development of the East End. In unity, there will be strength.

Before reapportionment, the East End supervisors met every two weeks and had a chance to keep each other informed as to developments within their towns which might affect the people and government of the adjacent towns. After the demise of the Board of Supervisors, and its replacement by the County legislators, there was little communication between the towns.

This resulted in many serious complications in the areas of planning and development. The legislators, who are supposed to know what is going on, and, it was hoped, would act as liasons between the towns, have turned out to be totally useless. It was claimed, during the last election, that Strong, the legislator from the First District, only showed up on the North Fork three times during his two-year term in office.

It is encouraging to see that these men, all of whom gave their word prior to election, have come through and formed this organization. Now that it has been formed, and its purpose defined, the supervisors will hold regularly scheduled meetings in a public place. At present, they will be rotating the meeting from town to town and we do feel that the people can benefit most from having these meetings open.

In reality, this organization, if it wishes, can become a second government - more powerful and more effective than an official type. Working together as a unified force, they can protect and insure the rights of the East End. Instead of rolling over the individual towns, the power brokers, who will attempt to exploit the East, will have to deal with a united, five-town force. Exploitation then won't be so easy.

It is good to see that the East End supervisors have revived the fight to create Peconic County. We were afraid that, after being sold out by our state representatives, they might have been willing to give up the fight. This

is what was hoped for, and, of all times, we do not think that these representatives, who are up for re-election this year, will want to see the new County movement succeed. If every resident of the East End, who reads these words, will take just a few moments to write Perry Duryea and Leon Giuffreda, c/o the State House in Albany, and let them know that you want them to do everything within their power to see Peconic County a reality, we might just get somewhere. But time grows short, and the next two and one half months are critical if anything is to be accomplished during this legislative session.

In the meantime, we congratulate our East End supervisors for keeping their word to the people. We hope that they use the opportunities they have before them to the fullest. And why not?

Anything Right?

Isn't there anything the State of New York can do right? The latest boondoggle it got itself involved in is the new fifty-cent lottery.

The fifty cent, no-name - just-a-number idea is great. This is the way it should have been set up all along, and, from what we understand, it has been going well. It has been going so well, in fact, that most lottery ticket outlets were sold out within a day or two after the new tickets were put on sale. This was the first problem. The lottery officials did not adequately project the number of tickets that would be necessary to meet the demand. The second problem was the misunderstanding over just how many tickets a vendor had to take in order to sell the tickets. Some said it was \$100 worth, others, \$800 worth. We have been told that \$100 is the correct amount. Then the State mandated that any unsold tickets could not be returned, and the vendor had to assume responsibility for them. This little goodie knocked out the great majority of the former outlets.

The final blow came last Thursday when ticket buyers started to read frantically through their papers to look for the winning numbers. The numbers weren't there because the drawing is not going to be held for another week. Nowhere did the lottery officials clarify this. In fact, they make a big deal out of saying, "Drawing every Thursday, payday

every Friday and ticket sales end on Tuesday." Oh, well, what can you expect from a state run by a governor who thinks that the Long Island Railroad is the greatest railroad in the world? And why not?

Too Real

A single picture appeared on the cover of a Long Island daily last Tuesday. It said everything we have been preaching for a long time. Right in the middle of Suffolk County at Port Jefferson Harbor was a barge split right across the middle. We were lucky this time because it had already unloaded its 6,000,000 gallons of gasoline and fuel oil. It is like a bad dream to think of what could have happened to Port Jefferson. It is no less frightening to realize what could happen to the Long Island Sound shore.

Let's take a look at some of the other happenings in the oil picture that have taken place this past week.

The New York Division of the Army Corps of Engineers reportedly jumped into action last Monday on Northville Dock's application to construct a fixed mooring and unloading platform 7,000 feet out in the Sound. After six months of being sat on in New York, it was finally kicked upstairs for a Washington decision. With what has happened in Port Jefferson Harbor, it is all the more imperative for the Corps to honor the public demand for a hearing on the application.

Then, we have former Secretary of Interior Udall on Long Island as a paid consultant to Northville Industries saying in a study released last Monday,

Cont. page 4



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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 non-descript name.

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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January Sale On Serta Bedding



Beautiful Basics

Heavy-duty ticking for extra long wear

mattress and box spring sets
TWIN OR FULL SIZE

sets **\$88**

Comparable Value \$119.95

Limited Quantities On Sale
In Patchogue and Riverhead

Each mattress and box spring set is built to Swezey and Serta high quality standards using the famous Serta multi coil construction with matching box spring for co-ordinated support. Covered in a luxury quilted heavy duty ticking for longer wear.

Riverhead - Parking Lot Level

Matching Box Spring... Co-ordinated Support

RIVERHEAD EASY MONEY GIVEN HERE!

OPEN MONDAY TIL 9PM

YOUR CHOICE

only **\$6**



Button front or two pocket zippered back shift . . . the basic dress that you can add your personality to with an accent scarf or pin . . . dress it up. Washable acetate and nylon blend. Choose from as assortment of colors.

Sizes 12 to 20
SPECIAL SIZES 14½ to 24½



Cannon No-Iron Floral Print "Rhapsody" Sheets Soft long wearing polyester/cotton. Needs no ironing.

Shades of Blue, Pink, Gold.

72 x 104, or twin fitted Reg. 4.50 ea. 2 for 5.79
81 x 104, or full fitted Reg. 5.50 ea. 2 for 6.50
90 x 115, or queen fitted Reg. \$8 ea. 2 for \$11
pillow cases, pkg. of 2 Reg. \$4 \$3 pkg.

Matching Velour Towels

Bath . . . Reg. 2.75 . . . 1.99 Hand . . . Reg. 1.70 . . . 1.29 Face Cloth Reg. 75¢ . . . 59¢

PATCHOGUE

1 West Main Street
475-0280



RIVERHEAD

111 East Main Street
727-6100

EDITORIAL from page 3

that Melville is the best site for Northville's terminal and tank farm and that he came to that conclusion by using "a total environmental approach." What money won't buy!

And on Tuesday, the same Long Island daily that ran that fantastic shot on its cover again stated the results of an investigation it conducted last month that showed how the 22-mile pipeline Northville proposes would give Northville close to an

unregulated monopoly on most petroleum products. Mr. Udall's study also endorses this.

Add the fact that the petroleum industry is perched off our shores just waiting for the signal to drill for oil and you begin to get the picture. Northville Industries is right smack in the middle of it. And, unless we stand up and do something, we are going to find ourselves knee deep in more oil than we ever saw before. And why not?

Legislation to limit the number of vessels a foreign power can actively fish here; and present a five-year phase-out plan of these foreign fishing vessels.

I am at your disposal to discuss the aforementioned facets of the phase-out plan, and would most sincerely welcome your response on this issue.

Very truly yours,
Neil Tully
Tully's Lobster Co.

Open Letter:

Dear Congressman Pike:

I urge you to support HR 11546 which, if passed, would curb the spread of obscene materials through the mail.

HR 11546 would give the receiver of mail of an obscene nature the right to initiate a lawsuit against the mailer of the obscene materials on the grounds that such obscene materials would interfere with the recipient's right of privacy. The bill would also provide for compensatory and punitive damages against the sender of unsolicited obscene materials.

HR 11546, if passed, would discourage the purveyors of filth from sending their unsolicited obscenity through the mails, as the fines would soon put them out of business. This bill would prevent unsolicited obscene material, that is morally and socially non-acceptable, from reaching the public.

Very truly yours,
John Bellport
Councilman
Town of Brookhaven

Dear Mr. Willmott:

I have taken the liberty to send a copy of your "It'll Never Work" editorial to the following:

Honorable Richard Nixon, Honorable Jacob Javits, Honorable James Buckley, Honorable Otis G. Pike, Honorable Nelson Rockefeller, Honorable Peter Duryea and Honorable Leon Guiffreda.

You are terrific . . . keep up the good work!

Cordially,
Lawrence A. Ruddell

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

The Suffolk County Chapter-March of Dimes, through its Chairman, Harry W. Melsha, Vice President of Security National Bank, today announced that the annual Mothers' March Campaign traditionally held in January, will officially commence on Wednesday, January-26th.

This year, the Suffolk County Chapter has enlisted the aid of over ten thousand marchers in this, its most important fund-raising venture. In announcing the Mothers' March, the March of Dimes points out that the money raised is used for research into the causes of birth defects. Each year, over 250,000 children are afflicted with some form of birth defect. The March of Dimes, since its successful campaign against the elimination of Polio, has turned all of its efforts toward birth defects and hopefully, their eventual elimination.

The people of Suffolk County are asked to support the Mothers Marchers in this endeavor as they make their calls in their respective neighborhoods:

This year the March of Dimes has set its goal at \$150,000.00 and it is only through its successful Mothers March Campaign that it can begin to realize the achievement of this goal. In conjunction with the Mothers March Campaign, those areas not covered by the marchers will be solicited by mail.

It is hoped that each and every citizen in Suffolk County will aid in this most worthy cause.

Sincerely,
THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION
BY: Charles J. Melton
Executive Director

Open Letter:
Honorable Otis G. Pike

Dear Sir:

We physically oppose the Communists in Vietnam. Yet, off the coast of Long Island, Communists are usurping the rights of private enterprise by the indiscriminate mass haulage of our fish. They are stationed inside our continental shelf for long periods of time, and it is more than apparent that the Russians are sending their fishing vessels here as rapidly as they build them. There is no limit imposed on this depletion of our waters. A person in your position could introduce

Willmott's and Why-Not's

By David J. Willmott, Editor

What Have We?

In response to last week's editorial concerning the near-tragic oil spill at Port Jefferson Harbor, a reader asked, "What the hell do you have against oil? Why are you always against things like this that can economically help this area?"

This is a fair question and deserves an answer. To put it pointedly, we are not against oil. We use oil for heat, we use its by-products to print this newspaper, we run our cars and trucks with gasoline, and oil is the source of our light and power. It is not oil that we fear, but the attitude of the people who are involved with oil. By their example, we have come not to trust them or their motives. Almost without exception, until forced by a court of law or public opinion, oil companies have done what is most profitable for them. They have shown no regard for the people and the environment in which they operate.

We don't have to go back to the Twenties to see what oil can do. We have Santa Barbara and the Gulf of Mexico, the Gulf of Alaska and West Falmouth, Mass., Harbor. We have the 42,000 gallons of oil that covered Arthur Kill between Staten Island and the New Jersey Shore last week and the coating that appeared along 25 miles of Sound shore the week before.

And, we don't have to look far for an example of the public-be-damned attitude that has come to characterize the men who deal in oil. It could all too easily have meant destruction for the Village of Port Jefferson on January 10.

We would be happy to see them drill for oil off our shores and find a mother-load if they could and would guarantee that there not be the kind of "accidents" that have brought ruin to other shores across the country. We would gladly welcome their refineries if they could and would keep them from polluting our air, our land and our water. But the oil men have given us no reason to have faith in them. They will ruin us and all we have if we give them the chance.

Our future lies in the fact that we have good air, good recreational facilities and a good environment and are fairly accessible to the metropolitan center. We can and should be out actively soliciting the type of industrial and commercial development that is necessary for our future, but is also compatible with our present quality of life.

It is easy to settle for the fast buck and to sell out what you have on the gamble that what somebody is saying will give you a better return. Before we are ready to make an investment of this type, we would do well to look at the person who is making the pitch. At present, the reputation of oil companies is not one we would care to bank our future with.

We not only have businesses, but families and this is the most important thing of all. We must be willing to give up potential financial gain to make certain that the environment our families will be brought up in is good, clean and healthy. What good is all the money in the world if you can't go outside your home to use it? And why not?

Act Now

As we mentioned, in last week's editorial, we are delighted that the East End supervisors have renewed the battle to create our own Peconic County. It is going to be an uphill fight all the way. Unless every resident of the East End who wants to see the new county become a reality makes his or her desires known to the powers-that-be, we don't see much chance for success.

Recently, new legislation has been introduced in Albany that would circumvent the state constitution population requirement heretofore necessary before a new county could be formed. At the same time, the legality of such legislation is being studied. Whether or not this legislation and its legality comes out in our favor remains to be seen, but we cannot and must not wait for the outcome before we, as residents of the five eastern towns, take action. Our state legislature will adjourn by April 1st. This leaves us two months to speak out, and, with all of the other legislation facing our lawmakers in Albany, every day we wait will make it that much harder to get our point across.

Back in 1968, when the "new county" movement was barreling along, it was brought out in the Miller Report that nine percent of the population of Suffolk County (that's us) was paying twenty-one percent of its taxes. We don't have the latest tax figures by town, but today, the population of the five eastern towns is approximately seven and one-half percent of the


Suffolk total. Our taxes are higher now, which means that a smaller percentage of the total county population pays an even greater percentage of taxes into the county coffers. Is there any logical or justifiable reason why we should continue to pay the expenses of people who don't give a damn about us in, let us say, Brentwood?

Suffolk's welfare costs are staggering; hardly a week goes by when something isn't written in the daily papers which reflects the monumental crisis in our whole welfare system. With most of the welfare monies paid by the state and federal governments, Suffolk still bears about twenty percent of the overall costs which, believe it or not, accounts for about half of the total Suffolk County budget. The five eastern towns pay around twenty-one percent of the county share. The west end gets over ninety percent of the welfare money.

The whole point is that taxes should be considerably lower for the residents of Peconic County. Suffolk County's 1972 budget is astronomical. Those county departments, for which we have no use, we still pay for. With our own county, we would just eliminate services and departments we don't need. Peconic County would be financially sound because of the high property valuation in the five eastern towns. Valuation per capita in the east (about \$10,000) is twice as high as that in the west end. Suffolk County is about at its limit on property taxation. Peconic County would have lower property taxes and NO sales tax.

While the financial situation points up ample justification for the for-

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SUFFOLK LIFE

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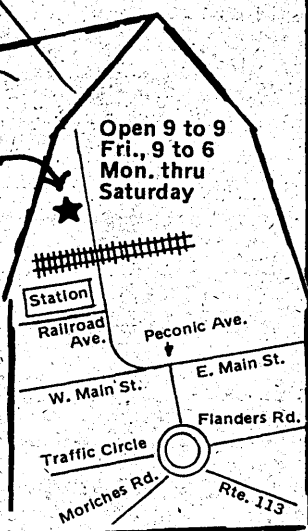
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SALE

"The Big Red Barn"

EVANS KILLEEN'S
Home Beautiful
 403 GRIFFING AVE.,
 RIVERHEAD
 TELEPHONE 727-2355



FURNITURE
BEDDING
CARPET

10 TO 50% OFF

LAMPS ACCESSORIES CEDAR CHESTS.
 FURNITURE IN THE RAW OCCASIONAL PIECES
 **CUSTOM KITCHENS.**
"SEEING IS BELIEVING"

Hearing Aid Sale

DEMONSTRATORS



EAR LEVEL	Retail Price	SALE PRICE
DELEGATE	\$275.00	\$235⁰⁰
IN THE EAR		
Z - 70	\$295.00	\$245⁰⁰
EYE GLASS		
CARLYLE	\$295.00	\$245⁰⁰
CONVENTIONAL BODY		
CRUSADER II	\$190.00	\$165⁰⁰
SUPER EXT. RANGE	\$250.00	\$210⁰⁰
HERITAGE	\$295.00	\$225⁰⁰
E. L. P. A.	\$325.00	\$270⁰⁰
ROYAL REGENT	\$250.00	\$200⁰⁰

J. Sauer, Inc.

312 ROANOKE AVE., RIVERHEAD • 727-7676

EDITORIAL — from page 3

mation of a new county, perhaps the most compelling argument in its favor can be found in our current lack of "home rule." Do you enjoy being told how to live by the politicians in Islip, Babylon and Smithtown? That's exactly what's happening. Under reapportionment, a couple of western towns can control Suffolk County. We think we have two representatives on the county legislature who represent our interests exclusively. Even if we did, they are so outgunned they can't do us a bit of good. But the sad fact is that we don't have two legislators we can call our own. As the population

burgeons to the west of us, the legislative districts in the east expand to encompass those people to the west of us whose interests are not our own. Actually, right now, we have about one and a half votes in the County Legislature. That's representation? The fact of the matter is that we don't have any effective representation on the county level at all. Suffolk County can do as it pleases with the five eastern towns.

Stop and think about what we have out here - beauty, natural resources, tranquility; you name it. If you were looking for THE ideal environment, you couldn't find better. Do you want a jetport? Do you want hordes of

people invading our rural vistas via a L. I. Sound bridge? How about factories along the North Fork? Think about it. Whether or not you want these things isn't the main point. The point is that you don't have a real say in the matter the way things stand.

Suffolk Life has always supported the concept of Peconic County. It is the ONLY way we can control our own destiny. Write to Perry Duryea, Assembly Speaker and State Senator Leon Giuffreda, Capitol Building, Albany and urge them to do everything they can to make Peconic County a reality. Time is growing short. Write them today! And why not?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir:

The East Hampton Town Baymen's Association wishes to go on record as being opposed to the dredging in Gardiner's Bay, on the east side of Louse Point, and the following remarks substantiate our position.

This newly dredged beach would not be in the interest of the most people. There are available to the local residents many many miles of bathing beaches, in their natural state, both on the bay and the ocean. There are adequate bathing facilities within a short distance of Louse Point, practically on the same road, at Barnes' Landing Beach, Albert's Landing Beach, and the beach at Fresh

Pond, not to mention an existing Town-owned and Town-maintained beach just across Accabonac Channel a few hundred yards to the north. In addition, just a few miles further to the south, there are some of the most beautiful ocean beaches on the entire East Coast.

The dredging of this area, which is adjacent to the channel into Accabonac Harbor, could conceivably endanger that channel by causing a new set of tidal movements in the dredged area, possibly being instrumental in filling the present channel.

Our organization is extremely interested in the survey being conducted, which is privately financed, by the Marine Biology Department of Southampton College, in Accabonac Harbor. Without a doubt this proposed dredging would cause a complete disruption to the studies being undertaken, studies which we feel will lead to the re-establishment of a failing shellfish industry.

The proposed 8 foot depth at M.L.W. would do nothing more than create another channel, 2,000

feet long, parallel to the beach, creating the same situation as the one which prompted this action in the first place. Boats will use this newly dredged area and still cause danger to the bathers. Further, on a windy day, with an on-shore wind, the bathers would just cross the narrow strip of land and bathe in the Harbor side of Louse Point, which is the crux of the problem to begin with. The number of bathers who would use this new beach would be small, and the cost to build it would be large. We feel that it is not in the best interests of our Town to proceed with this project.

It will mean eventually a larger parking area, comfort stations erected, and more pollution of different kinds which will definitely not be good for the area.

Past experience dictates that this dredged beach would not last long because prevailing winds and tidal action would very soon fill it up to the point it was at before dredging was started. This is an