

Willmott's and Why-Not's

By David J. Willmott, Editor

Buzz's Monument

Every politician, with any self-respect, hopes to leave behind him a monument that will endure through the ages so that future generations can look at it and say, "He must have been a great man." All of these monuments, of course, are built at the taxpayers' expense. In some cases, they represent a worthy cause and actually give the taxpayer some benefit for his money.

Unfortunately, the monument that the esteemed county leader of Suffolk Republicans has chosen to leave behind is just a pile of rocks - not an ordinary pile of rocks but a colossal pile of rocks which will cost the taxpayers \$5,578,420 - That's quite a monument.

This pile of rocks will be placed in the ocean off Dune Road in Westhampton as jetties. They will be placed there to undo the damage done by the last pile of rocks placed there to undo the damage done by the first pile of rocks there at the brilliant suggestion of the Army Corps of Engineers - the pork barrel branch of the Federal government. The plan to continue wasting the taxpayers' money on this darn foolishness was all but dead until the Republican leader, as we have heard, twisted the arms of members of the County Legislature. It was suggested that their political careers would be in great jeopardy unless they went along with this "special interest" project.

We wonder why it is so important to proceed with this project of such questionable good and, which previous experience has proven, can do even more harm. The answer lies in the registry of some of the residents along Dune Road. Their names are registered on the books at Blue Point as being substantial contributors to the Grand Old Party, and we all know that you have to

pay for what you get even if it is with all the taxpayers' money.

To make this project even more deplorable, and to reiterate our major objection to the original jetty construction, the public, who pays the bills, will not benefit from the project. To build the jetties, rights of way have to be built. The county will acquire these rights of way, but the people of the county will be denied their use to get onto the beaches. The people who own the homes, that the taxpayers' dollars are going to protect, don't consider the average taxpaying citizen of Suffolk County worthy of being on their beaches. You have to go all the way from the county park at Moriches Inlet to the county property at Shinnecock Inlet in Hampton Bays (about twelve miles) before you can get on the beach unless you are a resident of Southampton Town or pay a fee.

Buzz Schwenck likes to say that Suffolk is the No. 1 Republican county in the nation. It will stay that way as long as its voters remain the No. 1 suckers in the nation and allow their votes to be bought by their own money.

Well, Buzz has his monument, and the voters have their honest and ever-concerned Republicans to thank for it. And why not?

Right To Choose

Another typical case of arrogant, misguided, political authority has been brought to our attention. The Conservative Party in Southampton Town has asked the Southampton Town Board to hold a public referendum on the controversial master plan prior to its adoption. Supervisor Cameron stated in one of the dailies that the plan "won't go to a referendum. We don't have to do that. All we do is hold a hearing, and that is what we are going to do."

The reason that the Conservative Party has asked for a referendum on this matter is that the master plan, if adopted, will vitally concern the life of the people of Southampton Town today and in the future. Many people in the town have questioned various aspects of the plan but have not received adequate answers to their questions. Prevailing is the old, sickening attitude that the politicians know what is best for you more than you do. It seems that Mr. Cameron & Co. feel that they are God in Southampton Town and that anyone who questions their infinite wisdom is an idiot.

This attitude has prevailed too long here. Thank God the Conservatives are here to act as watchdogs - no one else does. The crowd that runs Mr. Cameron has all-too-long done with this great town just as they damned well pleased and has said to hell with the average guy. Just what the Conservatives are asking is that the average guy be given the right to express his preferences as to his future before the wide-ranging proposals of any master plan are rammed down his throat by those in political control.

What we would like to know is just what is so wrong with people wanting to have a say in their future. What makes an orderly democratic procedure so unpalatable to Mr. Cameron & Co? Is it that their unchallenged authority is at last being challenged in a way that they will no longer be in complete control of the outcome of a situation? Apparently, the thought of a referendum, which is democracy in its purest form, is frightening to them.



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FOR Spring...



Sew a cool spring wardrobe including the latest "HOT PANTS" in the newest fabrics Crochets, silks, prints, knits, and more in our selection.

Also a full line of notions, too.



"The Yardstick of Fine Fabrics"

301 EAST MAIN ST.

RIVERHEAD, N. Y.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Willmott:

I thank you for printing in your February 24 edition of your Suffolk Life the Statement of the Minimum Requirements for schools of New York State. I had this information and was wondering how I could get it to the taxpayers. You solved my problem and did a great service to the taxpayers.

As you said in your second editorial, the taxpayers are told at the school budget meetings that the budget cannot be reduced because everything in it is mandated by the State Education Department. Reading this statement which you printed should prove to the taxpayers that this is not so.

The State Education Department has not mandated the excessively high salaries now being paid to the teachers and the principals or the excessive number of teachers and administrators. (Ill.) Pierson High School, Sag Harbor, N.Y. has three administrators (with clerks) and 49 or 50 teachers for approx. 750 pupils (approx. average of 15 pupils per teacher instead of the maximum 30 allowed by the State).

I think that it is time for the taxpayers to realize that it isn't the school boards whom we elect but the principals of the schools (in most cases) who are controlling the budgets. The principals do the negotiating with the teachers re: salaries instead of the school board whose duty it is to do this according to N.Y. State school law.

Since the principal's salary is based on the teacher's salary for same year of service etc., certainly it is to his interest to adopt a higher schedule of salaries than is mandated and to employ more teachers than are really needed with good planning, for the more teachers a principal can pay he has under him, the better qualification he has when applying for a new position.

May I suggest that each taxpayer of civic organization get for \$3 the following book and then see p. 6:69.1 in it: the "1970 Revision Education Law Handbook for School Boards" by William J. Hagény, address New York School Boards Association, Inc., Albany, N.Y. 12210. In this paragraph the taxpayer will learn how the new teachers salary schedule may be adopted, going back to the 1966 Salary Schedule (or almost). There is a surplus of teachers now and salaries (schedules) should be lowered despite the Taylor Law.

Viola S. Chester
(Retired New York City High School Teacher)

Dear Sir;

After reading "A Last View of Paradise" in the February 24 issue of Suffolk Life, I was very surprised to learn that Mr. Austin Van Scoy was the last member of the Squires family. Would you believe that right here on the Ellis M. Squires property on Canoe Place Road, there are twenty-one living Squires, ages 69 years down to 6 months, all direct descendants of the Ellis M. Squires who settled Squiretown in 1773?

My husband's father was Ellis M. Squires who died in 1932. My son is Ellis M. Squires Sr. and one of my grandsons is Ellis M. Squires, Jr. In fact there are so many ninety-ninth cousins in this town it would be impossible to count them. Austin is one of those cousins.

It is a pity the beauty of a place does not always remain the same but the world progresses and the people in it change. Mr. Van Scoy is living too much in the past. He's got to get with it to-day.

Yours very truly
Burnice Squires
(Mrs. David Squires)

Editor's Note:

Pardon the inference made in the story, "Last View of Paradise" that Austin Van Scoy is the last living member of the Squires Family. We should mention that Mr. Van Scoy made it perfectly clear that this was not the case. What we meant to say

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SPRING'S IN THE AIR
Plan Now for a new Kitchen
for Easter



A WHITEHALL KITCHEN IS LIKE A WOMAN

Exciting to look at, geared for action and alive with a sparkling individuality that's all your own!

Step out of the ordinary into a Whitehall world of modern, provincial, contemporary and much more. Enjoy new luxury with America's most envied kitchen... a Whitehall fine-furniture masterpiece that will be the center of your home.

Call or Visit Today!



CUSTOM KITCHENS
TOMMASINI
KITCHENS

1179...Route 58
Riverhead 727-4332
across from
Robert Hall

How To

Live With

Gypsy Moths

Suffolk County residents must again decide how to combat the gypsy moth. Controls are necessary to prevent the spread and defoliation of plantings by this pest.

Cooperative Extension suggests how communities can minimize the spread of gypsy moths throughout Long Island and how individual property owners, whose properties are infested, can prevent defoliation of trees and ornamental plantings by the ravenous, hairy caterpillars. Unfortunately, eradication or complete elimination of the gypsy moths from L. I. is not practical, therefore we must learn to live with them.

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Well, Mr. Cameron, the people do have a voice in Southampton Town, and they are going to express it whether you like it or not.

We encourage every taxpaying resident of Southampton Town to sign a petition demanding that they be allowed to express their feelings on the master plan which is a vital issue affecting your town. We care little whether you choose to pass it or not, but the arrogance displayed by Mr. Cameron must be put down. And why not?

Dear Perry

Just a quick note this week to remind you about the feasibility of condemning the land at the proposed site of the Long Island - New England bridge. Remember we talked about this matter last Fall, and you were going to look into the possibility of having this land taken now so that it would not be built upon thus costing the taxpayers millions of extra dollars in future condemnation proceedings.

Perry, it makes sense, and it is good planning. The area is basically uninhabited, but with the building boom we are going to experience it is only a matter of time before some developer decides to put up houses. Then where would we be? In the meantime, while we are waiting for a bridge, this land could be used for parklands and recreation without placing any additional financial burden on the state.

Hope you have gotten things moving up there in Albany. And why not?

Willmott's and Why-Not's

By David J. Willmott, Editor

Private Schools - Public Support

This past few weeks the papers have been filled with the controversy raging over the possible usage of public funds for the aid and education of private school children. In a limited way, this has already taken place. This year the state funneled down over twenty million dollars in aid to local private schools. This does not include indirect aid such as usage of books, provision for special instructors and courses or transportation.

Behind this controversy is the constitutional amendment which provides for the separation of church and state. Opponents of any aid to private schools say that when the state uses public moneys for church-run schools it is breaking this constitutional ban. Proponents of state aid say that it is the child who is being helped and educated by these funds - not the church.

Behind these emotional arguments is the stark reality that unless private schools get some form of aid they are going to close. It is also interesting to note that private schools are able to educate their charges at far less cost than the public schools.

Under present setup the maximum time that can be spent to educate a child in religion at a private school is about 80 minutes during a normal school week. Most churches spend upwards of 70 percent of the congregation's total offering to run these schools. The amount of time allocated for religion is one twentieth of the normal school week. This means that parishes spend upwards of 70 percent of their revenue for education but only 5 percent of this time is given to religious education. From a business standpoint that is not a very good return on investment.

When you look at all of the hullabaloo being raised on the issue of the separation of church and state it appears that the whole thing has been blown out of proportion. We, the taxpayers, should be eternally grateful to the churches that have provided private schools. Up to this point they have received very little in return for what they have given to our entire community. In the town of Riverhead there are 1,578 students being educated by the private grade schools: St. Isidore's (Polish Catholic) 318, St. Johns (Catholic) 581, St. David's (Episcopal) 94, Mercy High School 585. In Riverhead it costs the school district an average of \$990.48 to educate a student. At St. Johns, the average is \$225 per student. This means that the churches in Riverhead have saved the taxpayers of this school district over \$1,218,794 per year which otherwise would have had to be raised from general taxation. Multiply this figure by the number of private schools in all of the communities throughout the state and you can see what a tremendous contribution the churches have made.

This is all coming to a fast halt though as the private schools have had to go out into the market place to hire lay teachers to replace the diminishing supply of teachers in religious orders. Today church schools pay salaries that are on a par with public schools. Withal, they have still kept the cost of educating down to an

average of \$225 per child compared to \$990.48 on the public level.

What the private schools are asking for is some of their own money back. This is the money that families, who have children in private schools, pay into the state in general taxation. They give all that they can to their churches, and now they are asking for their tax money, which is earmarked for education of their children, to be channeled to the schools that they choose to support.

The fact is that if this money does not find its way to the private schools, they will close down and the taxpayers will then have to bear the burden of educating all children. There is a real and definite crisis here, and if the money is not forthcoming this year it is predicted that there will be a wholesale closing of these private school facilities by this Fall.

We believe that the church-state separation argument is irrelevant when one compares the small amount of religious instruction a child gets to the amount of additional dollars it will cost the taxpayers if these facilities are closed. The time for emotional arguments has passed. It is time that we faced the plain financial facts. Unless someone has the figures to prove that it is not going to cost a devastating amount of additional tax moneys to take over the education of great number of students in private schools, we as taxpayers had best back the move to have state aid for private schools.

We urge you to write to your assemblyman, state senator and the governor on this matter. And why not?

Proposed Campus Site

The Suffolk County Planning Commission has proposed that the eastern branch of Suffolk Community College be located on the Riverhead Moriches road in the Bald Hill area. Apart from the fact that this site is conveniently located halfway between the north

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Dear Perry

On different occasions we have discussed the problems you occasionally face with your mixed responsibilities to both the people of the First Assembly District, as our elected assemblyman, and your responsibilities to the people of the state as a whole in your capacity as Assembly Majority Leader. At present, you have before you a bill that brings this mixed responsibility situation into sharp focus. The bill deals with the creation of special hurricane and erosion control districts. From what we read in the dailies you favor this measure. Your reasons must be personal. We say personal because the feeling we get down here in the First Assembly District is that the majority of people have had it with jetties. They have had it not only from the standpoint of seeing their tax money going to pay for this special-interest project but also, and more important, from the standpoint of seeing the harm that these jetties have caused.

We understand that this bill would make the people who demand erosion work bear some financial responsibility for it. This looks good on the surface until you take a look at the percentage that these individuals will end up paying. From past experience the formulas arrived at to allocate financial responsibility will see those who benefit from these projects paying less than ten percent (local portion) of the cost and the overburdened taxpayer will end up paying the remaining ninety percent.

This is not right. We also understand that this bill does not provide for any environmental safeguards. Experience has shown that every time a jetty is put up to solve a problem it just creates another problem. The so-called experts have been wrong, with regard to this matter, on almost every occasion. With the Corps of Army Engineers having such a dismal track record, and since they seem to be the only judges we have at the present time, it seems to us that the passage of this bill would only make it easier for them to perpetuate their disruptive mistakes. This bill should not be allowed out of committee.

Perry, your responsibility to the people of the First as well as to all of the people of the state is obvious in this matter; you should use your powers to block the passage of this bill. And why not?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Queen Of St. Paddy's Parade

Dear Dave,

Regarding 'a final shot in the groin' 3-3-71, concerning the jetties. One of your captions reads - 'Dune Deck beach 'protected' by jetties left and right - has watched the sea roll ever closer despite the presence of the Army Engineers stoneworks.' May I correct that to read -- BECAUSE OF -- instead of despite?

Orient State Park has done the same thing - and had the same problem - the further worsening of the beach erosion each year - following each storm. BUT, our problem has had an inexpensive solution at hand for years - inexpensive to the Federal Government as well as State, County, Town and Orient Village. Every property owner on the south side of Route 25 in Orient will be affected from the moment the State Park road breaks thru' - they, and their water supply, will be under salt water! Such a tiny spit of land to mean so much - yet the 'simple' solution has never been tried.

Orient had no problems of this kind until the

Miller Place - Twenty-four year old Gloria Deatrich will reign as Queen of the Twenty-first Annual St. Patrick's Parade to be held in Miller Place and Rocky Point on Sunday March 14. The Queen's Lady In Waiting will be Terry Angus also of Miller Place. The Queen and her Court will hold the center of attraction as they ride at the head of the parade in the annual St. Paddy's Day affair.

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EDITORIAL from page 3

and south shores, there is little else to make it an ideal location.

At present, the county owns vast quantities of land in and around Riverhead. There is the Indian Island property at the mouth of Peconic River, the county center property with its adjacent wetlands and parklands, the former Bomarc Missile site property, now partly occupied by the seventh squad of the county police, and the air base with its thousands of acres of condemned property, just to name a few. Any or all of these sites, as we see it, would make ideal locations for a college, and they are all in the vicinity of the Bald Hill property.

It is difficult to comprehend how the planning commission, with all of the necessary property already available, can favor taking more property off the tax rolls. Don't these men realize how hard the citizens of this county are working to pay for what has already been created and that the people have a breaking point as to what they can financially absorb?

Wouldn't it be a better plan and far wiser to utilize what is already available rather than go out and overburden your sources of income and bring yourself to a point that nothing can be completed because the funds are not available?

We encourage the planning commission to look over the properties that are available and to utilize one of these sites rather than look for more property which the county cannot afford. Quite obviously these men need a little more direction from our elected leaders.

And why not?

Willmott's and Why-Not's

By David J. Willmott, Editor

Dear Perry

We are pleased to see that you are now publicly acknowledging the problems which face the residents of your district and the people of New York. We believe that you have a feeling for the frustrations felt down here on the local level and that you are firmly resolved to try to do something about it.

The theme of your speech last Thursday at the county Republican luncheon at Canoe Place was "mandates." Yes, this is the basis of many of the spending problems we discussed at length last November. Mandates, however, are only the cause of the problem; the root cause goes even deeper. The real problem engendered by excessive mandated costs is the breakdown of individual responsibility. Over the years politics has perpetuated itself by assuming more and more of the responsibilities of the individual. It seems to have reached a point where even hardened politicians begin to believe in Santa Claus.

Perry, the biggest challenge you have ever faced in your public career is not just the formidable task of cutting the budget but in changing the thinking that started back during your father's days in public office. During the days of the great depression FDR, with his all-embracing powers, changed this country from a people who felt it was their responsibility and even pleasure to do for themselves to a country of whining neurotics who would rather let the government solve their problems. We have had thirty years to assess the situation, and we believe you and most other people do not particularly like the direction that paternal government has taken us.

Now, you are at one of the major crossroads of your political life. How you act will determine where you go from here. You can use this situation as a political publicity tool to gain headlines and never really accomplish anything for the public, or you can bring your great potential to bear and do something great. Either avenue is open to you. How you act can lead you to political oblivion or bring you to the heights that the governor has only been able to dream of.

At the moment the state budget is the focal point. There is no question that it is way too big to handle, even for such a state as New York. There just isn't the money to support such extravagances. We believe the governor knew this when he submitted it. We all know the old, worn out games that he plays. He's hoping for an uproar from the school people, the welfare people and the local government people so that the legislature will be pressured into passing most of the budget. Then when the parts he favors are passed, and the squawks over higher taxes are heard throughout the state, he can say, "But you made me do it." Then he will have a budget loaded with fat that he hopes he can use to bring him one step closer to his most cherished dream - the White House.

Well, Perry, you do know what you have to do. You have to eliminate many of the mandates. You have to cut back on allocations across the board not only to the point where there will be no new taxes but to the point where there might be hopes for some tax cuts. We

could not hope to ask this from the average politician, but, we the people of the First Assembly District, are lucky to have a man of your caliber as the Assembly Majority Leader.

Even more important than cutting the budget will be how you go about it. You are charged with the task of convincing the people that they are truly responsible for and the masters of their own destinies. You must convince them that, by cutting state spending, you are not hurting them but, once again, giving them an opportunity to stand on their own feet - to assume the responsibility for their own needs and development. Convince them of this Perry, and you will be giving each and every one of the citizens of New York State the opportunity for greatness.

This is YOUR opportunity for greatness. It may be our blind faith in you, but we feel that you have the ability to overcome what has been done during the past thirty years. You have the intelligence, the conviction and the ability to meet this challenge. Your years of training as a politician and public servant, if applied diligently, can now yield enormous dividends.

We wish you luck and success in this the biggest challenge that you have ever faced. We know you will be successful. And why not?

Telephone Company Wants Blood

Fresh from its conquest of sucking a multi-million dollar rate increase from the people of this state last year, the telephone company has had the audacity to come back this year and demand additional rate increases that amount to 29.1 percent across the board for its inferior services. If the phone company had competition we could go elsewhere, but it is a monopoly, and we have nowhere to turn but to the

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Public Service Commission. The Commission offers little hope if they act as they have in the past. They are utility oriented and not public oriented as they were intended to be. Our only hope is the new chairman who the governor appointed last year. He has been hailed as above political reproach. Time will tell.

Before the Public Service Commission considers the telephone company's demands for a rate increase it should consider the public's long-running cry for help in the following areas:

SERVICE: Service provided by the telephone system is at its lowest point in recent history. Breakdowns and poor attitude are at their lowest ebb. Service which the phone company provide must be spelled out. If established minimums are not met then rate reductions must be granted to subscribers to coincide with services performed. That's the way it works in the free enterprise system. If you sell a shoddy product you can't charge quality rates. That's fair.

BILLING: The telephone company's message unit system of billing is nothing more than a license to steal. The telephone company does make mistakes and the consumer has no protection against this. There is no way that the subscriber can see what he is buying. This is dishonest. The telephone company must be made responsible for submitting itemized billing on all charges upon request. This is fair.

CALLING AREA: The gerrymandering by the telephone company in its free calling areas is totally dishonest. Some areas permit a wide range of free calling areas while others are limited to almost no free calling areas. This gerrymandering is discriminatory.

LOST OUR LEASE

OUR LANDLORD WANTS OUR BUILDING FOR HIS OWN USE AND HAS CANCELLED OUR LEASE. WE MUST REMOVE OUR INVENTORY IMMEDIATELY!

\$100,000

INVENTORY MUST BE SOLD NOW - EVERYTHING GOES!

- ALL UNPAINTED FURNITURE
- ALL MODEL KITCHENS
- ALL UPHOLSTERED GOODS
- TABLES & CHAIRS, ETC.

SAVINGS GALORE!

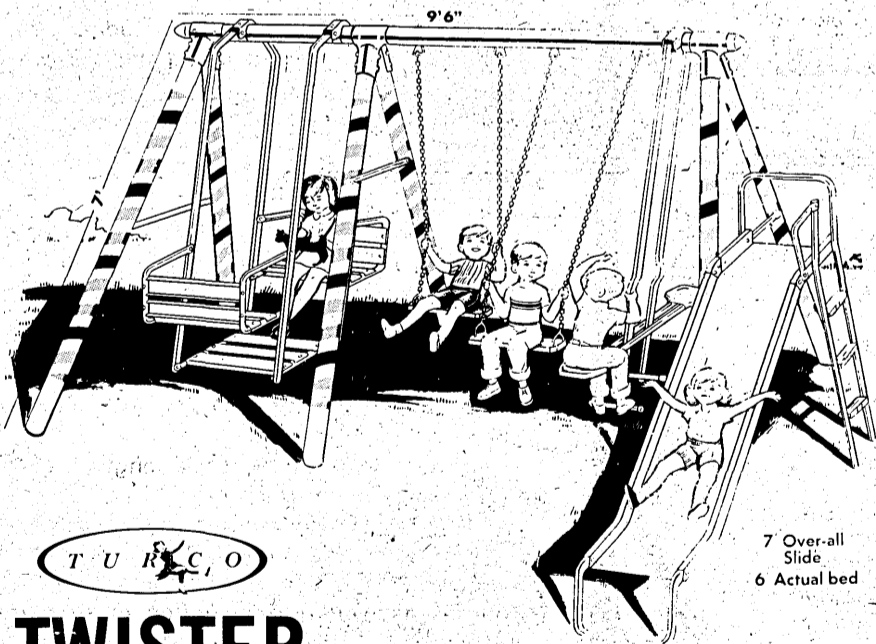
UP TO 60% DISCOUNT

We will be reopening at our gigantic 4-floor home beautiful furniture showcase on Griffing Ave. at the railroad tracks with all new merchandise for the 70's.

FLAXMAN'S RIVERHEAD

ON THE CIRCLE

SPRING IS HERE AND KID STUFF IS READY FOR YOU



TURCO
TWISTER PLAY GYM

\$33⁷⁷

REG. PRICE - \$39.99

NOW ONLY

NOW THRU MONDAY

Yes, Dad we will deliver and install for a small charge

• Popular 2" frame with 6 legs for extra strength. • Features unitized hardware packaging. Each component part has separate hardware bag to eliminate sorting. • All steel materials with baked-on enamel finish of beautiful carousel colors. • Two swing seats, two passenger lawn swing with steel slat seats, two seat air-

filled, 7' over-all attached platform slide with NEW DURA-LUSTRE finish on slide bed. • Strong one-piece corner fittings give greater stability. • Chain and hardware zinc plated to resist rust. • Nylon bushings and bearings. • Self-locking protective end caps for exposed bolts below headbar.

KID STUFF E. MAIN ST. RIVERHEAD

The difference in base rates is not in line with services rendered. This is not fair.

The public has asked for hearings and action on these matters for many years. These questions take precedent over the phone company's request for a rate hike. These questions should be settled to the public's satisfaction before the phone company's demand for a record-breaking 29.1 percent rate increase is considered. This is fair. If the Public Service Commission is the fair and impartial agency it claims to be, let's see some proof. We urge you to write to the Public Service Commission and demand your rights. The address is: 199 Church Street, New York, N.Y.. And why not?

This Week

SHELTER ISLAND AND SOUTHDOLD

Shelter Island and Southold area American Association University Women; "It's Your Environment: Pesticides"; Guest speaker Dr. Charles Scheer; free; Cutchogue Presbyterian Church; 8 pm March 24.

RIVERHEAD

St. John the Evangelist school & St. John's Parent Association; St. John's Sport Night; basketball: St. John's CYO champions, vs. Sacred Heart of Southampton, St. John's All stars, vs. Sacred Heart of Southampton and St.

John's Girl Team vs. Mercy Freshman; adults 75 cents, children 50 cents; Mercy High School; 6 pm, March 26.

MIDDLE ISLAND

Longwood High School Honor Society; Fashion show; fashions from Robert Hall Clothes, door prizes and refreshments; adults \$1.50, students \$1; Longwood High School Cafeteria; 8 pm, March 26.

YAPHANK

Yaphank Presbyterian Church, Youth Group; Spaghetti Supper with Folk-Rock Gospel sing to follow; adults \$2, children

\$1.25; Yaphank Presbyterian Church on Main Street; 5 to 9 pm, March 28.

WADING RIVER

Wading River Civic Association; speaker from Suffolk County Defenders of the Environment; free; Wading River School Library; 8:15 pm, March 26.

SOUTHAMPTON

Southampton Town Conservative Party; Roast Beef Dinner; admission \$5; Bowden Square; 6 to 10 pm, March 26.

Willmott's and Why-Not's

By David J. Willmott, Editor

Dear Perry

We note, via the dailies, that the governor has proposed a softening up of the drug laws. You hinted about this last November in our discussion. If you recall, you showed real concern about young people who were apprehended with marijuana in their possession and what it could do to their lives and future.

Yes, there is some merit in reducing the penalty and stigma attached to being nailed for the first time with marijuana. There might be circumstances over which some youngsters have no control, and unduly harsh penalties imposed for possession and subsequent conviction could well jeopardize their lives.

We are appalled though at the lightening of sentences for those caught for the first time selling or causing others to use drugs. A person who sells drugs does so with a well-thought-out plan in mind. It is not something they do on the spur of the moment. They do it for profit and for no other reason. A drug pusher is a potential murderer, and he peddles his wares with premeditation.

We know that you want to pass laws that are for the good of all. You won't be by passing a law that makes it easier for someone to sell drugs to your children or mine. We believe it would be wise for you, and the committee you have formed to deal with the drug problem, to look into the laws passed in Ohio. The Suffolk County Police mentioned at a public meeting that Ohio has reduced its drug problem by 85 percent through the administration of its laws. A track record like this is worth investigating, don't you think?

Perry, a lot of the hullabaloo about drugs has died down since election day, but this still remains in our minds as the number one problem facing you up there and us down here. It's not the nicest problem because its one that can strike the closest to home. It should command our immediate attention. And why not?

What Do We Want?

A letter in last week's Letters To The Editor column from a Mr. Williams of Sag Harbor brought up an interesting point. What do we want for a future here on eastern Long Island? His letter chastised us for encouraging the Suffolk County Industrial Commission to go after industry that is being driven out of the city by the antics of Lindsay & Co.

One might surmise from reading Mr. William's letter that now that he is here, a recent immigrant from the west, we should close our doors to all newcomers. A lot of people who grew up here fifty years ago felt that way then. They couldn't do anything about it then; neither can we do anything about it now. We've got a lot of land out here, and it's going to be settled whether we like it or not. What we can do is try to have it settled in a manner that is beneficial to the area. This was part of the point of our editorial which Mr. Williams evidently missed.

People and industry are going to come to this area. How the area develops will be determined, to a large degree, by how we handle the situation. We can control growth through our zoning laws. By requiring larger building lots and bigger houses which conform to specific standards we can control many of the problems that will surely be ours without proper planning. Industry presents another problem. Under existing zoning some of our land is zoned industrial. On this land one can do just about anything. Obnoxious development can take place without our being able to control it. It's a fact that once a certain type of industry develops, similar industry will follow on its heels. The point is that once we permit one factory with belching smoke stacks others will surely follow. If you have a research facility others will follow. Similarly, if we encourage corporate headquarters to move here others will follow suit. The point of our editorial was to suggest that the industrial commission go after the type of industry and corporate headquarters that will best fit into this area. Particular businesses can add to the harmony of our area without detracting from all of the things we value on eastern Long Island such as the air, the beaches, the recreation and the small-town atmosphere. If we encourage this type of business to settle here we can become known as an ideal location for like industry, and we won't have to worry about being invaded by sulphur plants and oil terminals.

Yes, industry does create jobs, and jobs have to be filled by people. To some out here the prospect of jobs is the best news they have heard in years. It means that they can improve their standard of living, and their children can find employment here at home without traveling across the country. Is this bad?

We think that the residents of eastern Suffolk are a lot wiser today as to the pitfalls of industrial development than they were a few years ago. We have had Nassau and western Suffolk as teachers. The hard lessons, so graphically pointed out by their mistakes,

cont. page 9



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.
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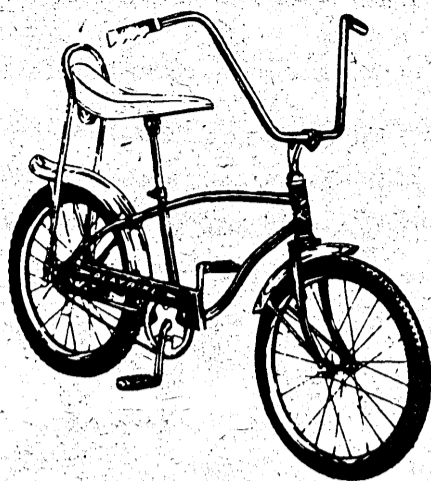
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EDITORIAL from page 3

will surely be ours if we stick our heads in the sand and refuse to accept the premise that eastern Long Island is going to be developed.

We can do something about it now by planning and encouraging the right kind of development. We must do it or there will be sad tomorrows for ourselves and for our children. And why not?

Bad Scene

As we sit here and watch the county and state officials go after the tiny Bay View Hospital, we have the same feeling from watching a big bully beat a sick pup with a club. It's rather revolting.

In the eyes of the public officials Bay View has never been what one could call a leading hospital. It's very small in size. It's not overly staffed with prestigious personnel, but, to the people it serves, it's all they've got. In its area Bay View has been a sizeable accomplishment. It has been a focal point of the Mastic, Moriches and Shirley community. The people of the area have taken the same pride in their hospital, in fact often more so, than those who live in more affluent communities.

The hospital has continually run into trouble with the state with regard to mandated rules and regulations. Some of the mandated regulations are for the good of the patients; others are for the good of the bureaucrats who are kept in jobs. When one looks at the 96 alleged violations, which the hospital is accused of perpetrating, one finds that the great majority of them are nothing more than violations of red tape procedures that tend to drive all hospitals into financial disaster.

If these branches of the government that are persecuting Bay View truly wanted to serve mankind, as they are supposed to do, they would take steps to eliminate much of this nonsensical red tape and get down to the real problem of lending a helping hand to this hospital and the community it serves.

Maybe the real problem can be found in some misconceptions held by many with regard to the area and its people. Many people have a way of looking at

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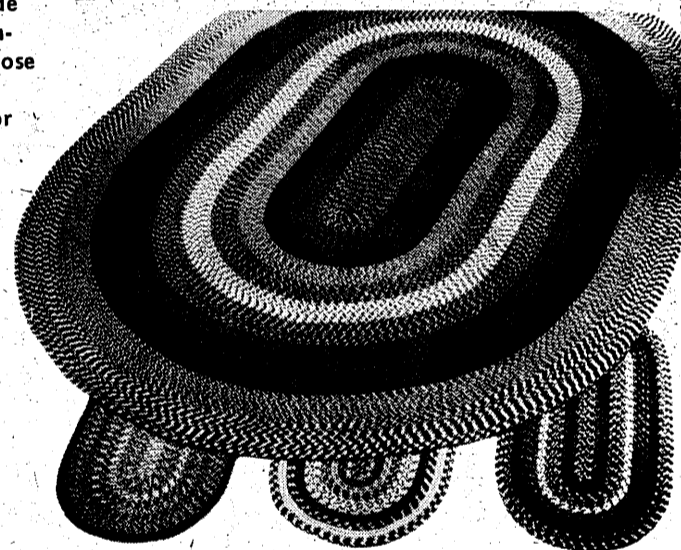
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this community with a sneer. It was basically settled about twenty years ago by people of modest means who came from the city to their place in the sun. Over the years a lot of the tiny beach homes were converted to nice year-round homes, the occupants found work in the area, and a substantial community resulted. These residents, who are so looked down upon, earn nearly one and a half million dollars per week which they save or spend just as the residents of any other area do. We are sure that if all of this buying power were suddenly removed from the economy, those who look down on the area would take quite a different view.

If the county and state truly want to serve the people of this area they will make it as easy as possible for the people of the Bay View area to keep their hospital. We think that the public officials should take a very close look at the human ramifications of what this facility means to the community. Bay View Hospital is more than cement and mortar; it serves more than health needs. It is a focal point of the community. It is the people's hospital, and it is worth fighting for. And why not?