



TAX PAYERS ARISE

The New York State Regents Advisory Committee has come up with a five point program designed to rob the taxpayer of his only defense against rocketing school taxes - to deny him the right to vote on his school budget. The Advisory Committee wants all budget decisions to be made exclusively by the school board. Another point of their program wants to lengthen the term of a school board member to three years. If these proposals become a reality we poor taxpayers will have absolutely no recourse against spiraling school taxes and irresponsible school board members. A lot can happen in three years when a school board is given free rein in its community.

School taxes, today, average over 45% of the local tax assessment. We all want our children to have the best education but realistically this education must be in harmony with the financial structure of the community. We need good teachers, administrators, and educational buildings that will fulfill the potential of our students. We don't need extravagantly designed schools with expensive woodwork, marble inlay, and acres of unused property that must be maintained. Some of the best colleges and universities throughout the world are in the midst of crowded cities and housed in modest structures. Yet our most gifted young men and women graduate from them enriched and ready to enhance our civilization.

The Advisory Committee urges larger school districts which we are against. Many communities that are geographically adjacent have very different socio-economic milieu. Bigger districts do not reduce school taxes but they do reduce local interests in education. Furthermore, sometimes the large central school is overcrowded. It must accept any and all pupils. Yet, it cannot enlarge its facilities when outlying factions are against new buildings. Bigness and uniformity are quite often liabilities rather than assets.

A school is a reflection of the community it derives its pupils from. It's unthinkable that the community should have no voice as to what kind of schools it can afford and want. The United States has grown and prospered because people from different communities all over the world contributed their particular talents and ingenuity to making our Country great. Why is it so popular today to abdicate our individuality, rights, and responsibilities? Taxpayers arise, don't give away your right to directly control the budget of your school. And Why Not?



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sirs:

In regard to "Willmotts and Why-Not's" October 13th issue of a Longer School Year Mr. Willmott and the Suffolk Life thinks its a good idea, because of the saving of quite a bit of money tax wise, etc. I believe as you say, that money will be saved but now here are my arguments against it.

If they shorten the school life of a child by one or two years, this means the child will be turned loose at the age of fifteen or sixteen from High School. I thought the unemployment problem was bad enough now, What happens when a fifteen or sixteen year old youngster with a High School Diploma looks for work. I doubt very much if anyone would hire them at that age.

Now, the ones that will attend college and the percentage is small compared to the percentage of High School graduates. They will graduate at the ripe old age of nineteen or twenty. Where do they go from there where they haven't even reached the age of responsibility which is still to my knowledge twenty-one.

How about the poor business man in the resort areas, that depend on the summer vacation time to make a buck. They might as well fold up and forget it and join the welfare rolls. How about people like myself. I'm only forty and I believe in enjoying life while you can, even if its only once a year at vacation time. The old saying is, enjoy life while you can because you're too long dead. Most if not all have to pick vacations according to seniority, but what's the use, you can't go away for a couple or three weeks and

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Election '65

The 1965 elections are over and we congratulate all the winners. It was unfortunate that the Democratic Party in Suffolk was completely swamped by the Republicans. County Executive Dennison will have almost an impossible job working with the GOP Board of Supervisors. If the Democrats are ever to grow into an effective second party there must be a terrific shake-up within their organization. They need leaders to raise funds, promote cooperation, and to generate a spirit of optimism. The Democratic Party in Suffolk must have something to offer the voters. It must be able to attract progressive, competent workers and candidates.

The current rise of the Conservative Party demonstrates the need of another political party. The Republican Party, no matter how strongly entrenched in our midst, cannot answer all our political wants. Ironically, the election of Republican John Lindsey in pro-Democratic New York City, should give hope to the Democrats and Conservatives of Suffolk. His winning proved that you can beat a powerful political machine with an attractive, aggressive candidate, enthusiastic workers, and intelligent planning.

Now is the time for the Conservative and Democratic Parties to start correcting their drawbacks and to organize for a win in 67. And Why Not?

Display your Flag

Veterans Day, tomorrow, November 11th, we set aside to honor all those who have fought so valiantly to preserve America and free nations everywhere. We must not let the current anti-American - anti - Viet Nam war demonstrations destroy our esteem of our gallant men and women. Today as we did in World War I and II, we are fighting to safeguard man's freedom and human dignity. It matters little whether it be Dunkirk or the Mekong Delta. Let all of us be proud to be Americans. Our President, our Country, and our Armed Forces need our constant support and encouragement to win the Cold War. So let's all speak out for patriotism and hold our heads high on Veterans Day. Make sure you display your American Flag if you have one. And Why Not?

November 4, 1965

Dear Sir:

The big show is over. The hard-pressed taxpayer---the Voter can go home---and the old politicians are back in power and will run the show for the next two years--NON-STOP!

"Kill the Sales Tax", was the cry of the hour. Thousands of signatures--in protest of the sales tax--were collected by our Editors throughout Suffolk County. God bless them! And what is the situation today, a day after election?

NEWSDAY tells us that former Assembly Speaker Joseph F. Carlino just said that "there was never a chance for repeal---the idea of dropping the tax is ridiculous".

So spoke Rockefeller's 'Son-a-boy'. In other words, We, The Voters, were just "ridiculous" (or even stupid enough?) believing in the words of our local politicians--all of them stated clearly that they were in opposition to the Sales Tax and would do everything in their power to "repeal the tax".

From now on the hard-pressed taxpayer has to swallow the dictate of Carlino and will pay the 2% tax---which became a reality a day after the election, and which proves again the saying of Barnum: There is a sucker born every minute. In two years from now "4% sales tax" will become a reality just as the 2% now became a reality.

Sincerely yours,
Frederick Brotte
Yaphank, N. Y.

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BLACKMAIL ?

The recent struggle between the Government and the titans of the aluminum industry seems a far cry from the free enterprise system which has always been the basis for our successful economy. Three of the biggest aluminum companies simultaneously announced a rise in prices to which Alcoa Aluminum concurred. We thought Anti-trust laws were supposed to protect the public from large corporations entering into collusion. An investigation should be made to find out if the aluminum companies were violating these laws when they all went along with raising prices.

President Johnson far overstepped the boundaries of executive power when he threatened to flood the market with 200,000 tons of aluminum. Such retaliation forced the aluminum companies to rescind their price rise and dealt another death blow to our free enterprise system. The Government financed with our tax money has become our competitor; a competitor who always has the upper hand and who almost places itself above the laws which business must adhere to. If the Government had released 200,000 tons of aluminum on the market, the aluminum companies would have had to stop producing or reduce their prices lower than the Government's. What right has the Government to interfere with private business? Ironically, our Government leans more and more towards socialism at a time when the Communist countries of Europe are admitting that socialism negates creativity, growth, ambition, etc., and are turning more towards a capitalistic economy.

We hope Congress will be much more than President Johnson's rubber stamp in the upcoming legislative session and take action to protect our free enterprise system against monopolies and the mushrooming Executive Branch. And Why Not ?

ALWAYS LOOK A GIFT HORSE IN THE MOUTH

Under the Federal Aid Program for poverty stricken children, there will be more than \$6,000,000 available to Long Island schools. These monies can go to all districts for special education projects regardless of whether they contain poor children or not. Unfortunately, this \$6,000,000 will not be given without restrictions. In order to qualify for this aid a school district must submit a special education project for clearance to the State Education Department.

SUFFOLK LIFE is not so naïve as to believe that each school system can be self sufficient. However, all of us should realize that any federal money comes directly from us; that it is our money to begin with, and that a large part of each collected dollar financially sustains the internal revenue department and any services involved in the allocation of our tax money. It is only through Congress that we, the people, have taxation with representation but more and more of the government's functions are being taken over by the growing executive branch. As our taxes grow, so does the federal government, and so does its permeation of our private lives.

Most objections to federal aid to education have been based on fear of federal control in the classroom. The recent announcement that this \$6,000,000 will not be automatic but completely contingent upon approval of the state education department shows such fears were justified.

We are confident our local school boards and administrators can determine how this federal aid can be best spent without state interference. We urge all school boards to vigorously object to the restrictions the Federal government is putting on this school aid. And Why Not ?



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

November 10, 1965

Dear Mr. Willmott:

With the coming of Veterans' Day near the public's momentary patriotic pride is once again aroused. This yearly "Thank You" to the countless thousands of individuals, who have served their country and given their lives for it brings to mind a discerning fact. The patriotic pride which once was readily displayed is now a thing of the past. This is indeed a sorrowful situation. It is a pity that people no longer swell

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SHOPPING SPREE

The progressive retailers of Eastern Long Island and SUFFOLK LIFE are co-sponsoring a gigantic Christmas shopping spree. Each week SUFFOLK LIFE will hold a drawing for several hundred dollars worth of gift certificates. To be eligible for these prizes all you have to do is print your name and address next to a participating retailer ad and deposit it in that store or you may fill out a coupon in the Shopping Spree promotion ad in this edition and deposit it at one of the participating retailer's stores. You may also enter the contest as many times as you like by just leaving your name and address at any of the participating shops. You are under absolutely no obligation to buy in any of these local stores. However, the merchants do hope you will look around at all the lovely gift items they have on display.

All our Eastern Long Island shops have a wide variety of merchandise in all sizes and colors at comparative prices with any West End store. Their personnel take a special interest in all your needs and all local stores have a liberal exchange policy on Christmas gifts. Shopping locally is a pleasure because it's convenient. Dragging a hundred or more miles round trip is exhausting and aggravating when winter weather and holiday fatigue contribute to hazardous driving conditions.

Don't forget to participate as often as you like in SUFFOLK LIFE's Shopping Spree. All the merchants are looking forward to seeing you this Christmas season. Remember there's no obligation; just an opportunity to win hundreds of dollars of gift certificates.

BUILD THAT BRIDGE

The best news of 1965 is the result of the Long Island-New England Bridge feasibility study. A bridge from the far east North Fork to Connecticut will open up our economy with the right kind of industry, jobs, and opportunity for all. It will change our dead end status so that we can be discriminating about the industry that settles on Eastern Long Island. Contrary to the view held by opponents to the bridge, it will not destroy and our countryside. In fact, the bridge can aid us to grow with proper planning. Good transportation is a must to industry. Better transportation attracts better industrial growth and plant and factory development that will blend and not ruin our landscape.

SUFFOLK LIFE urges the Nassau-Suffolk Regional Planning Board and the Suffolk County Board of Supervisors to endorse the Eastern Long Island-Connecticut Bridge and to work for its rapid construction. And Why Not?

WE GIVE THEE THANKS

We give Thee thanks for all our young men who are fighting in Viet Nam and stationed in other parts of the world so that the rest of us can enjoy life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Our thanks and prayers to their wives, parents, children, and sweethearts who will be without their loved ones this holiday season.

We give Thee thanks for living in the most prosperous country in the world where even our poorest have food, lodging, and the opportunity to better themselves. We give Thee thanks for all our law enforcement officers, our firemen, our doctors, our conscientious leaders, our priests, ministers, rabbis, and any and all who labor to make life more worthwhile. We give Thee thanks for our most precious gift of all - life. No matter how imperfect, it is still better to exist than never to have been here at all. And Why Not?



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

November 18, 1965

Dear Sir:

You've headed your editorial column; "Always look a gift horse in the Mouth". I am one who has received the "gift" of your "paper" for several months now. I have been wondering why you consider yourself so expert in so many fields??? Now I see red. You have hit a low in irresponsibility.

The Federal Government is trying with all of its might to raise the quality of education in all parts of the country. Local school boards have done a marvelous job over the years. Yet they have not been able

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