

# willmotts and why-nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

## Why not Cohalan

cont. from cover could no longer stand by and do nothing. He also knew if he did not make the run, the Republican Party would go down in defeat in November.

Rolls had shown Klein would be a loser. His loss would take the legislature and many supervisors' posts to defeat with him.

Cohalan's campaign has been run on his record in public office vs. Klein's. Suffolk Life has been a constant critic of Klein's administration. As a man, we hold nothing against him. As an administrator and a politician, he represents everything bad we have fought against.

Klein, politically and as an administrator, has shown blatant contempt for you, the average person and taxpayer. Your ability to survive in Suffolk County has not been his concern. He has pushed through program after program without regard to your ability to fund. He used deceit and trickery to twist facts to serve his and his cronies' vested interests. His arrogance has provided fertile ground for scandal and corruption.

Few Republicans can be proud of the mess Klein has made and the shame he has brought on the party.

Loyal rank and file Republicans have an opportunity this Tuesday to repudiate Klein. They can show the world they will not tolerate corruption, scandal and mismanagement any longer.

We ask every registered Republican to vote this Tuesday, September 11th, for Peter Cohalan, one of the most outstanding men ever to be offered for office in Suffolk County. And why not?

### Conservative Primary - County Executive

Conservative Bill Matthews is running a primary against Republican John Klein for the Conservative line in November's general election.

Klein is on the Conservative line because of a scandalous deal made between the bosses of the Republican and Conservative Parties.

Klein is no more a Conservative than Rockefeller was. Klein is closer philosophically to Rockefeller than he is to former Conservative Senator James Buckley.

Bill Matthews is philosophically a genuine Conservative. He has labored long and hard for the Conservative movement. He was repulsed by the shoddy deal made by the leaders selling out the ethics and principles of the rank and file Conservatives in Suffolk County.

Matthews deserves the Conservative nod for county executive. A vote for Matthews by Conservatives will be a vote to restore integrity and principles to the Conservative Party which were traded away cheaply and without honor. And why not?

### Republican Primary - 1st Legislative District

Not even the Republican town party leaders had an opportunity to choose the Republican candidate for this race. A deal was cut between Gil Hanse, Suffolk County Republican Boss, and the Conservatives to give the Conservatives this legislative seat. Hanse ignored a number of qualified Republicans who were seeking to run for the office which has been occupied by Denis Hurley, for the past two years.

The First Legislative District is the only district that is solely an East End district. The legislator has the one vote and one voice of the East End. Hanse's arrogant trade-off of the seat to the Conservatives without listening to the East End's Republican leadership is disgraceful and an example of West End power brokerage.

Needless to say, the Republican leaders of the East End are up in arms, as every registered Republican in the five East End towns should be.

One of the candidates, Gregory Blass, who had sought the nomination through Republican channels, is challenging the big bosses' handpicked, Conservative candidate in this Tuesday's primary.

Blass is a novice in politics. He is young and energetic. He is an attorney in the Town of Riverhead, and a lifelong active Republican. His philosophy places him in the center of the Republican mainstream.

His opponent for the Republican nomination is Tom Lakeman, a registered Conservative. Little is known of this candidate other than he is the by-product of a deal produced by the bosses. Grave questions must be raised whether his allegiance will belong to the Conservative Party, the County Republican Boss or to the residents of the East End. The three are not the same.

To maintain the integrity of the Republican Party, East End Republicans must turn out and vote for the only Republican running in this race, Gregory Blass.

### 4th Legislative District - Conservative

Philosophically there is no question Mike Walter deserves the Conservative line. He has been an active party Conservative member. He is a staunch Conservative whose philosophy almost borders on those of the libertarian wing of his party. His op-

ponent for the Conservative endorsement is John Sorli who is running a write-in campaign. Walter deserves the Conservative line.

### 4th Legislative District - Republican

John Sorli, without question, should be the standard-bearer for the Republican Party in the 4th. He was denied the designation to run as a Republican in a deal made by the bosses of the Republican and Conservative Parties. They chose Walter who philosophically cannot, in good conscience, run as a Republican. Sorli has entered the primary as a registered Republican to give the rank & file a chance.

The fourth legislative district has been in the hands of the Democrats for several years.

If the Republicans wish to regain control, they must offer the voters of this district a candidate whose philosophy is at least center of the Republican Party. Sorli's is and he deserves the Republican nod to run in November.

### 4th Legislative District - Democrat

The primary in the fourth for the Democratic nomination is a three way race between Frank Loccoriere, Bruce G. Brodsky and Anthony Chiovaro. Loccoriere is the choice of the Democratic committee.

Loccoriere's political philosophy is in the mainstream of the Democratic Party, possibly with twinges of Republicanism. He is an advocate of social programs but is quick to ask what will they cost. Since his first enrollment, he has been a Democrat, and has been a committeeman for a number of years. He has worked as an aide in the legislature as well as in the comptrollers office. Democrats in the fourth should have little problem in voting for him.

Brodsky is reported to be a product of the liberal wing of the Democratic Party, the NDC'ers. Little is known about Chiovaro or why he is running.

### Conservative-Democrat Primary - 9th Legislative District

Patricia Mitchell sought the Republican appointment to fill the legislative seat being vacated by Joseph Caputo, who had been elected comptroller. She was denied this appointment and now is running on the Democratic line in a primary against Wayne Duckfield. She also is seeking the Conservative line in a primary running against Lawrence F. Hall.

In our interview with Mitchell, although a recent convert, philosophically she is Democratic. If anything, her philosophy lies on the liberal side of the Democratic mainstream. She has the Democratic designation for this seat and is comfortable with it.

Outside of political convenience, we can see no reason why she should be on the Conservative line. Conservatives who are being asked to support her should know before they go to the voting booth that philosophically she is opposed to what they stand for.

### Southampton Town - Supervisor - Conservative

Martin Lang is the incumbent supervisor in the Town of Southampton. He first ran for this office as a Republican in 1975 and was defeated by Democrat-Conservative candidate Dode Hulse. He again opposed Hulse in 1977 and was victorious.

As supervisor, he had trouble with the Republican leadership in Southampton Town. Lang is independent in his fiscal policies. He does not believe in political patronage at the expense of the taxpayers. He refused to knuckle under the bosses' demands.

Lang was offered the opportunity to run on the Democrat and Conservative lines this November. On the Conservative line, he is being opposed by Rocco Oliverio.

Lang's Conservative credentials are his record as supervisor. He has opposed the haphazard development of Southampton Town. He has been a tight fisted fiscal manager. In the past, he worked actively on Conservative-Republican Barry Goldwater's campaign. He was the Suffolk Coordinator for Conservative Senator Jim Buckley's senatorial race.

His opponent has just recently registered as a Conservative. His petition to run on the Conservative line came about the twelfth hour of the last day for registration. It is felt by many, both inside the Conservative Party and out, that he is being used by a small group within the Conservative Party to gain leverage within the Republican Party.

A deal has been cut to try to eliminate Lang from the Conservative line thus enhancing the Republican candidate's chances of winning, and a payoff will come if they are successful. The rank and file Conservatives are being used and should show their independence by voting for Lang on September 11th.

### Islip - Supervisor - Democrat

The candidates for the Democratic nomination to run for supervisor in the Islip Town race are Gary Hausler and Phil Nolan. Both candidates philosophically are true Democrats.

Nolan has been involved as the son of a state committeeman in Democratic politics since his pre-teen years.

Hausler has been active in the Democratic Party for the last several years and is an attorney by profession. He has an awareness of the problems and credentials to make him an acceptable candidate.

Nolan, likewise, will not be an embarrassment to the Democrats as a leader of their ticket. He is young, but mature, and has a background in public service and economics. He, too, is aware of the issues.

Democrats in Islip have a tough choice to make between these two candidates. Both promise to be good representatives of their party.

## Readers' Opinion

### "World-Wide Shortage"

Dear Mr. Willmott:

I have just read your editorial, "Suddenly the crisis is over" - my compliments. Originally a Long Islander, I have spent the last several years living on the Canadian border. I have a few following observations I am sure would interest your readers. It appears that the so-called "World Wide Shortage" is not as world-wide as we've been led to believe.

The price of gas in Quebec has not only remained stable over the past two years, it actually dropped 4 cents a gallon this past July. In fact, competition in Canada has led individual gas stations to giving out "car wash" coupons and various gratuities reminiscent of the gas wars in days of old.

Specifically: In July, the two-year-old 21.9 cent litre dropped to 20.2 cents (76 cents a gal.). There is also an added factor. Over the past two years, the Canadian dollar has

declined 18 per cent in American currency value. Thus, a 20.2 cent litre reduced by 18 per cent currency exchange, equals 62 cents a gallon in U.S. currency.

That's right - In Canada, there are and never were gas lines. In fact, competition has stiffened to unload the gas. Big car sales are up 11 per cent while ours are down in excess of 28 per cent. What your readers might really like to know is that the names of the gas stations are familiar to us in the U.S. - Shell, Gulf, Texaco, B.P., etc.

What I would like to know is how this is unknown to the American public or why the oil companies go relatively uncriticized in the big newspapers?

As I said -- my compliments.

Sincerely,  
Joseph Garbera, Jr.  
Mastic Beach

USPS 098-300

## SUFFOLK LIFE

NEWSPAPERS

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Wednesday, September 2, 1979

## Testing Teachers Attacked

We received a release from the president of the New York State United Teachers castigating the New York State Education Department's suggestion that teachers be tested periodically. This release protests too much. It defines teachers as being saints in white robes who, once licensed, should never be questioned again.

The State Board of Regents and the State Education Department is contemplating testing teachers because of the alarming number of students who are receiving sub-standard educations here in New York, where the cost of education is the highest in the nation.

Tens of thousands of students over the last decade have been pushed through the system without even acquiring the basic skills in reading, writing and arithmetic.

Thomas Hobart, president of the New York State United Teachers, claims in his release that tests are unfair. Ironically, he states, "Very few testing instruments adequately measure job skills for a given occupation." He states further, "NYSUT believes careful scrutiny must be given to the legality of any attempt to force current teachers to take competency examinations in order to maintain their teaching certificates."

He goes on, "and to understand once and for all that a sterile test, drawn up in some secluded corner of the State Education Department, is not a fair measure of the performance of an individual teacher."

This liberal, progressive educational thinking countermands the very basis of all education. Knowledge is given through books and teaching. The student studies and absorbs and the absorption of this knowledge is then tested.

We have been a critic of the educational system here in New York State. We feel that our educational process has become a costly, unmanageable bureaucratic maze that is self-perpetuating without true interest and regard to its end product.

We have constantly called upon

teachers and the educational unions to clean up their own act and to make production part of the criteria of being licensed.

Obviously, by this NYSUT release, teachers are opposed to accountability. They wish to continue in a no-man's land where they are able to draw their outlandish salaries and benefits without having to be measured by the product they produce.

Education is serious business; one to which we commit 60 to 70 per cent of our real estate taxes plus one-third of our state revenues to accomplish. We, as taxpayers and residents, are willing to make these sacrifices to give our young people the very best educational system available in the world. Those within the system must take this into account and demand of their own the very best or get out of the system.

There are thousands of young teachers who have been graduated in the last decade in the best and most modern of teaching skills. They have not been able to find employment within the system because incompetent teachers have insulated themselves from removal through antiquated tenure laws.

There is not a school system that does not have one or more on its staff; burned out teachers who no longer possess the knowledge, desire or determination to teach and yet they occupy classrooms. Their boring attitude wastes students' time and their valuable lives. They learn little but do develop a resentment against the system. This resentment carries on into later life and is part of the rebellion by our youths against organized society.

We hope the New York State Teachers' Union and other organized educational labor forces recognize the responsibility they have. Instead of trying to protect incompetence within their membership, they should demand an expulsion of their misfits. They must be replaced with bright, young professionals who have a quest to teach, to help and to develop the next generation. And why not?

John Klein was quoted at a campaign rally as saying, "I am making a list, checking it twice, to see who has been naughty and who has been nice." He was referring to the county workers who had been active in his campaign and in his challenger's, Peter F. Cohalan.

The primaries are now over and the victor has been determined by the voters. But this kind of threat cannot go unchallenged.

County employees should not have to fear for their jobs because of their political activities. They are free American citizens just like anyone else. They should have the right to be John Birchers or right wing socialists if this is their persuasion. They should have a right to speak out on behalf of the causes, the issues and the politics of their choosing.

No man should have his livelihood threatened for taking part in the system that has made this country great.

We here at Suffolk Life represent just about every political persuasion imaginable. Personnel are encouraged to speak out on behalf of their beliefs. There is one golden rule that keeps it all together: "To have the right to speak out on your own, you must tolerate a difference of opinion from someone else."

If people at Suffolk Life can be hired and promoted according to their abilities, regardless of their political beliefs and persuasions, should we expect no less from our government?

There are laws already on the books covering government workers. If anyone on either side of the fence finds they have been discriminated against because of their political beliefs, we will be glad to give them copies of the court cases and recommend competent council to defend these rights to be free Americans. And why not?

## Readers' Opinion

### "But it's not too late"

Dear Mr. President

I listened very closely to your speech as millions have done. I went to congratulate you on this. I do feel you do want this country to get back on its feet.

I do have a real concern. My concern is my life and the lives of the people who live on Long Island.

I know, Mr. President, you endorse Nuclear Power. I knew this even before you mentioned nuclear power in your speech Monday, July 16, 1979. I also know you've said "Freedom At Any Cost". This does not have to be.

If our government had put as much money into "safe" energy alternatives such as solar, congeneration, biomass, small hydro and wind, with a national manpower policy and full employment program as they have in nuclear power, we would not be in this mess. But it's not too late!

A conservation program and "safe" energy could be designed to better serve national interest, people's interest and achieve full employment...of all sources, solar power must be the people's power.

Almost 40 per cent of U.S. energy production is wasted. Billions of dollars now slated for investment in energy would find more productive uses. Expansions of decentralizing energy technologies would increase the self-sufficiency of the U.S. and diminish the destructive impact of events as oil embargoes and central power station blackouts.

Alternatives may provide as much as five times the number of jobs, than would be created by building new nuclear power plants. Nuclear power plants are built for one reason and that is to make large profits for utilities and oil companies. The oil companies will be in command again.

On Long Island, we have a nuclear power plant 80 per cent built in Shoreham. This frightens me and many others because we can't be evacuated off of Long Island in case of a serious accident.

We all know with more and more nuclear plants in operation, a serious accident

becomes more of a reality where thousands of people will be killed and injured. The more plants we have, the more radiation we have and more nuclear wastes which our government had taken responsibility for. The responsibility is theirs, but the answers for it are not.

Lilco is the utility company on Long Island. They claim to have an evacuation plan. It is physically impossible to evacuate the people off of Long Island. The people of Long Island know this and fear for their lives.

Mr. President, you said in your speech your major concern over and above energy is getting the people's trust back in the government. If you are sincere in what you have publicly stated, then you must visit Long Island and see for yourself the situation that exists and endangers every living being in Suffolk County.

I and the concerned people of Long Island insist that you, Mr. President, make a public announcement to ensure the absolute safety or condemn this plant before it is licensed to operate.

You owe this to the American people of Long Island.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. P. Williamson  
Smithtown

### "Don't wait!"

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Will you please remind the people via your paper - voting the whole staff "in Islip and Brookhaven" out as they have betrayed us and it's our privilege to fire them.

I feel the majority of them are taking it for granted that Proposition 13 is a settled matter. You have to keep reminding them to "fight until our goal" is attained. Don't wait till it's too late as the fat cats are still operating with their diabolical schemes.

Sincerely,  
Agnes N. Mazar  
Ronkonkoma

USPS 098-300

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David J. Willmott, Editor

## The Republican Mandate

Last Tuesday, Republicans turned out in astonishing numbers. They spoke loud and clear. They want their house cleaned from top to bottom.

Normally, a Primary race only brings out 5 to 10 per cent of the eligible voters. Over 30 per cent of the registered Republicans came forth. They trounced John Klein and what he stood for by a margin of two to one. They selected Peter Cohalan to head their ticket this coming November.

The Republican voters not only spoke for themselves, but for all residents of Suffolk County. We want this county run in a business-like fashion. We want honesty and decency to replace scandal and corruption. We want production to replace pay-offs.

The voters of the Republican party mandated a house cleaning within their organization.

By law, within ten days, town Republican organizations must reorganize, and within twenty days, the county.

The voters have given the direction they want the committeemen to go in. They want new leaders with ethics and a sense of responsibility. They will not tolerate the county being used to enrich individuals or the

organization itself. They will expect their new leaders to be men of integrity, honesty and willingness to respond to their needs. They have told Cohalan they believe in him. He is the man they are counting on to lead the charge.

Cohalan has an enormous responsibility to live up to. All voters will be watching carefully who he supports as county leader and how he will address himself to the rebuilding of honesty and integrity in the county.

A new code of ethics should be required of all leaders and all who seek public office. There is no reason why Suffolk can't enjoy good government and good politics. One goes along with the other.

In the future, as Cohalan has done with Islip, all contracts must be awarded on the basis of competitive bidding. Candidates for jobs to be filled should be of the highest caliber. They must be hired on their credentials and not their politics. We anticipate Mr. Cohalan will insist upon no less in the county than he did in Islip.

The Republican voters in the county have spoken loud and clear. Let's hope their message has been heard. And why not?

## On Equal Representation

Ten years ago, the United States Supreme Court ordered the Suffolk County Board of Supervisors to reapportion itself into equal population districts or adopt a weighted vote system.

The county board was broken into eighteen equal population districts. Each district elected a representative and they became the county legislature.

Recently, the board of elections issued a breakdown of registered voters in the county by legislative district. The average district has 24,500 voters.

The East End, where the First and Second Legislative Districts are, have from 50 to 100 per cent more registered voters than their counterparts. These East End districts cover 60 per cent of the towns in Suffolk County. They contain approximately one-third of the land mass in Suffolk. They pay, according to the last survey, about 25 per cent of the county taxes.

The First Legislative District has over 40,000 registered voters. The Second Legislative District has over 31,000. Between the two, they represent 16 per cent of the voters, yet

only have 11 per cent of the vote. Hardly what you would call equal representation under the definition laid down by the Supreme Court of the United States.

It would be a horrendous task to reassign legislative districts each year to reflect their current population. The impossibility of this and the lack of voice for the East End of the Island on the county legislature is strong argument why our county legislature should be returned to a board of supervisors with a weighted vote system.

Each supervisor can cast votes weighed to reflect either the population or the registered votes within his district. The registered voters would be more reflective of the current true strength of the district as

their numbers change each year in proportion with the population.

Denis Hurley, legislator from the First Legislative District, has introduced a bill again this year requiring a vote be taken of all Suffolk residents to determine whether they wish to be represented by the legislative system or a board of supervisors who would vote according to the weighted system.

This bill has been bottled up by the Charter Revision Commission. Hurley intends to see this bill brought out of committee and placed on the floor so each of the current legislators can once again let you know whether they feel you have the intelligence and the knowledge to make a decision on this issue. And why not?

## Readers' Opinion

### "I am confused"

Dear Mr. Willmott:

#### Abortion and Welfare

I must confess that I am confused in trying to rationalize the voting behavior of our elected State Legislators as to whether they are interested in the well being of their total constituency or subjecting their conscience to the whim of a vociferous minority.

On the question of funding for abortions, the latest figures available indicate that in N.Y. State, 5,111 abortions took place at an average cost of \$153 per. If these females were forced to have the child and invariably end up on Social Service Welfare, it would cost the taxpayers approximately 8 to 10 thousand dollars per year for 16 years until that child and mother can fend for themselves. Every political hack who has been in office knows that our two biggest tax costs are child support welfare and school systems.

I have been told by "Right to Lifers" that they don't want their tax dollars to support abortions, but I, as a taxpayer, don't want my tax dollars to support a system of enforced welfare for my life time; my children's life time and so on to perpetuity. Those who believe in "Law and Order" must realize that the law permits abortion. The rich or middle income citizens can have an abortion; but the young females who are in or below poverty level cannot afford to pay even \$153, so there goes another welfare long-term payment situation. This is the same society that insists

on creating a Karen Quinlan situation where the family is penalized to years of hopeless agony. The "bluenoses" who were involved then, are now shrugging it off as just one of "God's will." Isn't it strange that most people insisting on "Anti Abortion" are fervently dedicated to the "death penalty." Isn't it strange that all civilized nations have set aside a day to honor the millions of dead who were killed in service to "God and Country?"

God seems to get blamed for every inhuman indiscretion perpetrated by our society. When a young, married, loving couple lose a baby by natural abortion, popularly known as "miscarriage", it is shrugged off as "the will of God." It is not the end of the world for this couple; they just try again and eventually will have the joy of their family beginning. The trauma of the first loss is not insurmountable. There are many highly respected grandmothers who at some time in their lives indulged in intake of Ergot to induce an abort to correct an error in their life plan.

So, in conclusion, I would like to recommend a system of tax dispersion that should satisfy all taxpayers on this "Right to Life" question. Each taxpayer will indicate on their tax check whether the welfare portion shall support abortion or "Right to Life" welfare costs for child support. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Michael A. Graziano  
Lindenhurst

### "My thoughts exactly"

Dear Mr. Willmott:

In reference to your editorial on energy sales taxes in the Aug. 15th issue of Suffolk Life, I suggest that you contact Suffolk County Legislator John Foley, whose interest I stimulated on this subject back in early July.

He has correspondence on this subject, in which you may be interested. Ask him.

By the way, Newsday printed my letter on this subject back in the month of May, and your editorial follows my own thoughts exactly.

I have had further correspondence and phone calls with Bianchi, LaValle and Wm. Carney (Carney did not answer me on the

matter).

I would propose (and did, to these people) that energy products be placed on the Exempt List, along with other necessities, such as food and medicines. This has already been done in several other states. We are paying a total of 20 cents a gallon in taxes on gasoline - sales and excise taxes.

I trust that you will continue to investigate this situation and focus public attention on it, with a resultant lifting of these onerous taxes.

Thank you.  
Yours truly,  
Walter Bigelow  
Lake Ronkonkoma

### "It was a great success"

Dear Mr. Willmott:

The Rosary Altar Society of St. Rosalie's Church would like to express its sincerest appreciation for your excellent coverage of our Card Party. It was a great success both socially and financially and we thank you for

your contribution.  
Sincerely,  
Marge Kauth  
Regina Vertifeuille  
Co-chairpersons

USPS 098-300

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR - We encourage our readers to express their views regardless of opinion through the letters to the Editor Column. All letters must be signed with author's signature and address. We will withhold names on request and assign a nom de plume.  
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ERRORS - Responsibility for errors in advertisements is limited to the value of the space occupied by the error.

## Gone with the Wind

We are happy to note LILCO is now exploring the harnessing of the wind as a free source of energy.

LILCO has announced they are seeking federal funds to build three wind-generated electrical facilities in Montauk. This is part of the federal government's attempt to end dependency on fossil fuels for generating electricity. This attitude is a change in LILCO's public position.

A number of years back, Suffolk Life published a story where M.I.T., in conjunction with Grumman, had developed a system for wind-generated electricity for Long Island that would supply a generous amount of Long Island's energy needs. LILCO ignored this idea. They advocated only the concept of atomic energy as being the feasible alternative for generating electricity in the future.

The M.I.T. -- Grumman concept appeared to us to have been well-researched, logical, and an answer to Long Island's energy needs for the future. Its costs, when compared to the creation of atomic energy plants, was miniscule. The source of generating the energy was free.

We became aware that LILCO's charges for electricity were based

upon the amount they spent for capital construction and the cost of using this facility to generate electricity. From a business standpoint, it was in LILCO's best interest to spend the maximum on developing facilities and for generating electricity from this product. All costs incurred by LILCO plus a uniform profit could be passed on to consumers in their charges for electricity.

The more LILCO or any other utility spends means the more the utility could make, as their profits are fixed and must be maintained by law. This is the reason why so little has been done to seek out and develop source-free sources of energy.

LILCO today is experimenting with a concept which has been around for decades. This is a start, a good one. But if LILCO is to become serious about using a source-free method of generating electricity, the laws must be changed to make it profitable for them to do so. Once these laws are changed, LILCO and the rest of the utilities will direct their energies and their efforts in developing cheap electricity they can profit from. Let's change the law. And why not?

Last year, Mr. Average paid between \$800 to \$1,000 to heat his home. This year, it is estimated the cost will be closer to \$1,500 to \$2,000. Where is this extra \$500 to \$1,000 going to come from? Mr. Average gave up his traditional vacation this past summer to pay for increases in the cost of gasoline. He gave up his pursuit of many leisure time activities to meet the increased cost of food and clothing. He has little left on the luxury side of his ledger to give up.

To achieve his \$19,000 family income, Mr. Average is working one full-time job, one part-time job or overtime. His wife is also working full-time. Mr. Average sympathizes with the plight of the poor, but his real concern is his own ability to survive.

The concern for this man's plight by our public officials is long past due. It's his survival here on Long Island that should be the concern and demand the attention of everyone who is in office, and of those who seek a place of public trust.

We suspect this latest round of fuel increases will be the straw breaking the back of many productive workers.

His choices are limited. He can quit like others have done and accept the life of the dole. He can run, abandon Long Island as thousands of others before him have been forced to do.

His stone has been squeezed dry. Few hours are left for Mr. Average to work in a week. There are few part-time jobs available for him to seek. His diminished spendable income has been eroded by taxes and inflation. He can no longer cope with the cost of survival.

The outlandish rises in the cost of fuel could have been handled if it was the only problem he faced. But compounded with the highest real estate taxes in the nation, the highest state taxes in the nation, a 7 per cent sales tax, exorbitant increases in social security taxes, and a diminished buying power, the day when he must make his choice is upon him. Mr. Average can no longer be a Long Islander.

Unless substantial relief comes soon, Long Island will no longer have a middle class. This is the most pertinent issue of 1979. And why not?

## The Deal of the Bosses

If it wasn't false, we would find Dr. Feldman's charges of Peter Cohalan giving insurance work to the Republican Leader Pace's brothers' firm ironic.

When Cohalan became supervisor, the firm in which Pace's brother is a partner had almost 200 per cent more of the town business than it now handles. The proportion it handles was awarded through competitive bidding. Hardly what you might call lucrative patronage given as a political favor.

Dr. Feldman's charge is ironic because he is the beneficiary of a deal made between the bosses: His Democratic boss, Dominic Baranello, and the Republican Boss, Gil Hanse. This deal had profited Dr. Feldman to date \$15,000 personally.

Three years ago, Dr. Feldman and his cohorts on the county legislature decided to reward themselves with a pay raise. Not a 5 or 6 per cent pay raise but an outlandish 22 per cent increase. This was done underhandedly with almost no public

input. Its timing was deliberate, long before the election when it could be an issue.

This was not good enough for Dr. Feldman and the bosses. They made a secret deal where no county legislator, current or challenger, would debate or discuss this pay raise as a campaign issue. This deal was blown apart because Denis Hurley, legislator from the First, didn't like it and felt it was unethical and brought this situation to the attention of the constituents in the First.

Dr. Feldman never discussed this deal, which he profited from when he ran two years ago, nor did his opponent. The whole thing was unethical then and still is now.

It makes you wonder where Dr. Feldman gets the moral indignation to talk about Cohalan awarding Tony Pace's brothers' insurance agency part of the town insurance through opened bidding which was and has been opened to public scrutiny. And why not?

## Middle Class Concern

It's about time our government officials displayed concern for the middle class. The media has been filled with bleeding hearts crying about the impact of fuel costs on our poor. There are a number of programs already in existence and in the works to aid the poor in meeting their increased fuel costs. What is being done to help the middle class meet the devastating effects on their existence brought about by the projected doubling of last year's fuel and oil costs?

Middle class on Long Island is defined as having an average combined family income of \$19,000 per year. At first blush, this looks like a lot of money. When this gross income is reduced by federal and state income taxes, social security taxes and

other normal deductions, it is in reality between \$12,000 and \$13,000 net.

Deduct from this the mortgage on a very average \$50,000 home with a twenty-year payout and it's down under \$9,000. Deduct from that local real estate taxes, which today average over \$2,000, and Mr. Average Long Islander is left with less than \$7,000 disposable income. This \$7,000 income has to put food on the table for four people. To feed a family of four a balanced diet, you must deduct another \$4,000 per year. Mr. Average is left with \$3,000 to clothe his family, meet medical needs, pay insurance, phone, automotive and transportation costs, but most important support the balance of his necessities -- his utilities.

## Readers' Opinion

"But speaking of takeover..."

Open Letter to the Editor:  
An Answer to Tom Neppell, Jr.

As a member of Suffolk County Committee for over forty years to be told that I am being used by anyone is a laugher, my friends and acquaintances will all agree. Using Peter Cohalan is another good trick.

But speaking of takeover, inviting the man who scuttled Suffolk's best prospects in the last few years and whose grip on Nassau is slipping to come and bail out a slipping regime, sending me a ticket to a \$125.00 dinner to hear this man and be listed as Honorary Co-Chairman is a blatant attempt to use me and my name.

Your statement that Mr. Klein was chosen

by rank and file is a barefaced lie. He was chosen by a Convention with an open bar and Nick Barbato with his cohorts busy in the back twisting arms all night. Rank and file will make their choice Sept. 11, 1979.

As for your pledge not to interfere in future Islip politics, I believe because I don't think you will be around that long.

I also remember that since I have been around since W. Kingsland Macy to Gil Hanse there always has been a Republican Party and I have been part of it and expect to remain so.

Louis Bodanyi, Jr.  
Committeeman Islip District No. 118  
Zone Leader Zone 7 Islip  
State Committeeman 3rd Assembly District

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## SUFFOLK LIFE

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