

NEW CONSTITUTION—NO! TRANSPORTATION BOND ISSUE — YES!

An Editorial

Millions of words and sentences have been written and spoken about the proposed new Constitution to be voted on Election Day, November 7, 1967. From our standpoint of view, this is a good thing — and we hope that the voters of this state have given as much thought on the issues about the charter before they vote.

We have already commented on some of the specific parts of the Constitution that we don't approve of, and have already taken a stand against voting for the "package issue".

However, so far, we haven't seen any written comment on ARTICLE II, the Suffrage Article. This article defines the right of citizens to vote.

We have studied this article at length and as far as we can see, the only qualification that a voter needs is: "Any citizen who is domiciled in a county, city, or village of the state for at least three (3) months, and in his election district for at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of an election — is entitled to vote in such election." And, "in elections for president of the United States, or statewide offices, domicile in the state for 3 months and in the election district for 30 days is sufficient". "Property qualifications or other tests for voting are prohibited" etc.

Nowhere do we see where a citizen is required to pass a "literacy test" — or be able to "read or write"! How can anyone be qualified to vote in any election — if he can't read — or write? To us it appears as if this opens the door wide open to allow the illiterates to control elections. Also, a pressure group has to do is show them which lever to pull down — make them a lot of rosy promises — perhaps buy them a drink — and there goes our "Democratic form of Government down the drain."

Then too, we are opposed to repeal of the so called "Blaine" amendment, an act which opens the state treasury to financial support of church schools. This wouldn't be just for Parochial Schools — but for any Church School that is — or might be — in operation at a future date. This is contrary to the principles on which our Government was founded — namely — a complete separation of Church and State. Furthermore, we can't understand anyway, why any Church School could possibly want "State Aid" or "Federal Aid" — for along with State or Federal Money goes State or Federal CONTROL!

This — this could lead to nothing but trouble — with the possibility of a continuing feud between Church and State or Federal Authorities.

Also, the proposal in the new Constitution which would deprive taxpayers of their right to vote on bond issues is scandalous! The Legislature which in recent years has done nothing to warrant such trust — would be able to increase the state's debt as it wishes.

The proposed Constitution also gives the Court of Appeals a voice in reapportionment — even though that same court may have to pass on the legality of the districts it creates. This is an intolerable conflict of interest and should be rejected.

The new charter also takes control of welfare out of local departments and places it in Albany; and also opens the door to free tuition for everyone desiring higher education — which would "sky-rocket" state costs until they were absolutely oppressive to the taxpayer.

With all of these bad features written into the "one-package deal" — the only choice that intelligent voters have to make — is to vote NO! Then get the State Legislature to present the "good features" to the voters next year — so they can have a choice on each article!

As far as the Transportation Bond Issue is concerned — new roads mean Progress — Economical Development — and the saving of lives on our overcrowded highways.

Thus, "Highways for the Future" built for "Our Use Today" deserves a "Yes" Vote from our view!

THE ANDOVER NEWS

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50 YEARS AGO

Nov. 2, 1917

J. H. Backus, Publisher

John Arthur, little son of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Baker, died Tuesday, October 30th following two weeks illness. Burial was in Hillside Cemetery.

C. E. Hann has purchased Jay Scribner's residence on East Ave. and will move his family thereto.

The following young men from Andover received their summons last Friday to report at Belmont for examination: James F. Cocoman, Raymond O. Snyder, Herman Dean, Roy M. Courtney, Raymond J. Hammond and George Gleason.

Will Green and family of East Valley enjoyed a visit from his aunt in Pennsylvania last week.

Mrs. W. S. Calhoun has gone to New York City to visit relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. James Redmond of Canisteo have been visiting Andover friends this week.

Miss Ella Giann of Oil City, Pa. is the guest of Miss Alice Dowd.

Mrs. Mary Kelley returned home Friday from Albany where she has been passing the summer.

Mrs. Chas. Collins is enjoying a few days visit from her sister, Mrs. Arnold Mull of Sarnia, Canada.

Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Bloss returned home Friday from a few days visit with his brother, Leon, and family at Sayre, Pa.

Miss Ella Mulcahy returned home from Olean Wednesday after spending a few weeks with her aunt, Mrs. Maher.

40 YEARS AGO

Nov. 4, 1927

J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers

Silas Green Burdick, 85, died at his home in Ott. October 19th.

Mrs. Gertrude Helena Griggs of Andover and Floyd B. Spiker of Whitesville were united in marriage Saturday, October 22th.

Mrs. Maude Clarke of Independence is spending the week-end with her daughter, Mrs. Alfred Whitford at Watsontown, Pa.

John Dean of South Hill visited his sister, Mrs. J. D. Magner of Whitesville last week.

Mrs. Elmer Spicer and family of Canisteo and Jean and Miss Florence Burdick of Whitesville left Tuesday for Seneca to join the winter.

Stephen Byron Kilborn of Andover died Tuesday, October 25 at his home on Center St.

Mrs. Ophelia Clark is attending her daughter, Mrs. I. A. Potter of Independence.

Mrs. Flora Crittendon of Canisteo is visiting at the O. A. Potter home in Independence.

Mrs. Mary Cable was a guest and guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. Brown of Whitesville.

R. V. Akin came home on Monday Friday from White, Raven Fla. where the family is passing the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. B. G. Propper are passing the week guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. J. Kway at Westfield, N. Y.

Deputy Sheriff Harry Kemp was in Belmont from Wednesday until Friday assisting in the case of the County Jail during the absence on business of Sheriff Brigham.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bossard of Angelica were Andover callers Sunday. Mr. Bossard's sister, Mrs. Emma Robbins accompanied them home for a visit.

30 YEARS AGO

Oct. 29, 1937

J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers

Mr. and Mrs. Teledo Cook are the parents of a son, born Wednesday, October 13th.

Mrs. P. J. Byrnes of Whitesville is visiting her nieces, Mrs. Dougherty and Mrs. Dean.

S. W. Clarke of Independence attended a dairymen's league meeting at Syracuse from Wednesday until Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Shirley Evans of Avoca, spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. N. Mullen and family of West Greenwood.

Mr. and Mrs. William Burge visited relatives in Elmira and



Dear Editor,

Two weeks ago I wrote a letter to your column because I felt compelled to do so. Had I thought that my letter was "unnecessary" as did last week's columnist, I would have left it unwritten.

Now about last week's columnist — Perhaps we should ask him to define his terms, "misunderstanding" and "incomplete" as he uses these words in reference to the report card article in Hi Herald, October 12. We might also ask him what he means by "clarified" in last week's letter to the editor.

Anyone can see that there is very little similarity between the Hi Herald articles appearing October 12 and October 26. Anyone can read and understand that the October 12 article states, "The minimum passing grade throughout the whole school is now 65% and the honor roll has been eliminated in grades 1 - 6". Anyone can also read and understand that the Hi Herald October 26 states, "The passing grade will be 75 for grades 1 - 6". "There will be no honor roll in grades 1 and 2. There will be an honor roll in the remaining grades." Anyone does not need special powers to see that the Report Card item has not been "clarified". It has been changed. Wouldn't it have been more honest for the clarifier to have said that the "unique adults" had decided to change their minds?

I choose to ignore most of the relevant remarks made by the columnist regarding 54 for N. Y. S. Regents, high school graduation, etc. Anyone who wishes can also see by referring to the letter to the editor, October 19 that no comment whatever was made concerning these 55's. Also there was no statement that indicated every child should attend college which idea was so brilliantly belabored by the same columnist.

How he managed to come up with the assumption that I believe all are of the "futile and unproductive and unhelpful" in our lives completely stymies me. There is a remark that is thoroughly ASHINE.

My fact is that teachers are receiving higher salaries than ever. Teachers are receiving higher salaries than ever. If someday they overtake, equal and surpass those of coveted industry, Bull, and Huray for them! After all I'll be riding the band wagon too! I really could go on but I have to budget my hours as an "author". We are glad that the plans were changed for character reasons.

Mrs. Charles G. Lynch

Backus from Saturday until Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Wade Fleethen entertained his brother and wife Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Theetge of Syracuse from Friday until Sunday.

William Joyce, H. S. Thorne, Floyd Pease and Erwin Lewis attended the G. I. F. meeting in Syracuse Wednesday and Thursday.

Miss Edna Smith, R.N., of Corning, passed the week-end at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Smith.

Miss Marguerite Wightman of Almond passed the week-end at the home of her Aunt, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Wightman.

Mrs. Sara Hunt spent from Wednesday until Friday at the home of M. H. Gath in Whitesville.

Mrs. John Dolan, Mrs. James Baker and two children motored to Buffalo Saturday, returning with Miss Mae Cocoman, who remained until Monday at the home of her sister.

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Sheppard and son, Mark, of Pittsburgh, Pa. arrived Wednesday for a couple of days visit with her parents, Atty. and Mrs. C. L. Early. Mrs. Sheppard remained for a longer visit, and Mark, Jr., entered Alfred High School.

Miss Ruth Walton was a guest of her aunt, Mrs. Louise Corwin at Friendship over the week-end.

Boost Your Home Town!

Convention Viewpoint

For many weeks under this heading "Convention Viewpoint" we have presented an explanation of the different articles in the proposed new Constitution.

This week we are presenting the actual Viewpoint of men and organizations that have come out in opposition to this hastily constructed and hurriedly rushed thru document that was pushed thru the convention with a time dead-line!

Lieutenant Governor Malcolm Wilson — "I intend to vote 'no'. My conclusion has not been reached by weighing 'good' against 'bad' and trying to strike a balance but rather is based on my conviction that no matter how many 'good' things there may be in the proposed new Constitution the people of this State would be ill-served by having their basic charter contain even a single 'bad' item. In my view, the achievement of 'good' things at such a price would represent a Pyrrhic victory.

Senator Jacob K. Javits (R. N. Y.): — In the final analysis, it was fundamentally wrong to submit this Constitution to the people on a one-vote basis, with so many, separable and highly-controversial articles embodied in it. And, much as I favor revision of the Blaine Amendment and other improvements of the new charter, I cannot become a party to imposing upon the people of our state a "take it or leave it" choice, which I deeply believe offends the self-respect and dignity of the individual citizen.

Association of Towns, State of New York — A "Yes" vote would virtually foreclose us all from ever again casting a meaningful vote on the contracting of State debt, a right we've had since 1846 and which we've exercised on many occasions to defeat undesired statewide spending proposals.

Approval of this new charter would freeze in the Constitution a new formula for the payment of state aid to public schools based on school registration figures, rather than as presently on actual attendance. This not only would encourage absenteeism but would require taxpayers to pay for education not furnished.

From the "Church State" Service — One can hardly overstate the crucial importance of the decision to be made by the voters of New York on November 7. In voting up or down a constitution which would open the door wide for state aid to parochial schools, they are actually voting on the separation of church and state. They are voting on the tax for religion. For when a charter goes into force without the religious liberty protections which New York citizens have so long enjoyed, in that moment the clerical pressures for public funds will begin. The politicians at Albany will have no defense against these pressures. They will saddle New York taxpayers with the entire bill for the church's schools.

One church is trying to put this over. One church is standing up in hand at the head of the line. But there will be others. Tax funds will flow to a variety of religious schools and the public system, already starving, will be finished.

Worst of all, we shall again have the tax for religion with all its evils. For to tax for a church school is the same thing as taxing for the church that owns and manages it.

There have been many instances of a people being deprived of their liberty by force. Now we are to see whether, for the first time in history, people will go into the polling booth and voluntarily vote it away.

Here is a partial list of other organizations that also urge a NO vote on Election Day: "Citizens Public Expenditure Survey, Inc."; "New York State School Boards Association"; "New York State Council of Churches"; "Empire State Chamber of Commerce"; "Farm Bureau"; and the "League of Women Voters".

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