

NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS FROM

SEPTEMBER 25, 1956 to APRIL 30, 1957



AUTUMN FANCY

Scrap Book

Appeal Made to Electorate by De Cianlis

Town Solicitor Cites "Essential Service" Accorded People

The West Warwick Democratic administration, on the eve of a party primary, appeals to voters of the town to go to the polls tomorrow and support the endorsed ticket so it "may continue to give the services it has in the past."

Speaking for the Democratic Town Committee before a group of party workers last night, Town Solicitor Michael DeCianlis labeled several improvements which he said "were just a few of the most essential services this administration has rendered to the people which affect every man, woman and child in the town."

They were listed by Mr. DeCianlis as follows:

- "1. Weekly garbage and rubbish collection.
- "2. Reduction of water rates.
- "3. Town fire department.
- "4. Permanent police department.

Wage Increases

"5. The increase of wages of the police and fire departments, the highway department, sewer department, janitors and all other employees of the town, and a social security program.

"6. A recreation program for all of the children of the town.

"We have done these things, we are proud of them, we ask your approval of them by going to the polls and voting for the endorsed candidates. Vote the first column from top to bottom.

"The unendorsed candidates," the town solicitor said, "admit that the Democratic administration has done everything possible for the people of the town for each and every one of them has sought the endorsement of the town committee.

"The town committee did not see fit to change the situation any because of the good administration the people of the town had received under the present officials.

"So we urge all of the voters to back the endorsed slate in tomorrow's election."

Polling Places Listed for West Warwick

Polling places in the West Warwick Democratic primary will be open tomorrow from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. as follows:

- REP. DIST. NO. 1
 Vot. Dist. 1—Holy Ghost Hall, Ventura Street.
 Vot. Dist. 2—Natick Grammar School, Providence Street.
 REP. DIST. NO. 2
 Vot. Dist. 1—Portuguese-American Citizens Club, 97 East Main St.
 Vot. Dist. 2—Arctic School, Main Street.
 REP. DIST. NO. 3
 Vot. Dist. 1—Town building, Murray Square.
 Vot. Dist. 2—Turcotte's Hall, 63 Brookside Ave.
 Vot. Dist. 3—Flore Pontiac, Inc., 191 Washington St.

Says Record Worthy of Party Vote

LaChapelle Again Refers to "The Old Double Cross"

Senator Francis J. LaChapelle of West Warwick, running without endorsement for renomination in the Democratic primary tomorrow puts up his record as worthy of the majority of votes.

"When I entered politics," Sen. LaChapelle said, "I knew a public office was a sacred trust and I conducted myself in that manner. I defy anyone to show when I asked for any remuneration for favors done. And in appreciation I received the old doublecross."

Referring to the entrance of Judge Eugene J. Laferriere into the race as the endorsed candidate for senator, Sen. LaChapelle said, "My opponent said he would not run if I returned and then said he was misquoted and meant if he didn't get the endorsement.

"It seems fitting to explain to the people, here is a candidate running for public office being misquoted before he ever gets in."

In his appeal for votes tomorrow, Sen. LaChapelle said, "I have been your senator for two years and my record speaks for itself. Ask yourself these questions:

"Why Change?"

"Why does West Warwick need a change in the Senate?"

"Have I brought too much to the town in two years to suit the town fathers?"

"Have I embarrassed the state organization to a point where they had to give West Warwick what they did?"

"Is it because I refused to be bossed by the party leaders?"

"Is it because West Warwick had a page and a doorkeeper in the Senate and that was unheard of in its history? One was a college student and the other a World War I veteran who could both use the positions instead of politicians who are looking for the fat of the state.

"Or is it because of the many favors I was willing to do for the taxpayers without remuneration?"

"Let's take a page from Al Smith, the greatest of all Democrats, 'Let's look at the record.' Please look it over and then vote in the second column. Push the lever to the right of my name. You must get out and vote on Wednesday for the winner will be the candidate on Nov. 6th."

Sen. LaChapelle offers transportation and baby sitting service for those who calls VA 1-8443.

'Doublecross' Assertion Denied in West Warwick

An assertion by Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle (D-West Warwick) last night that Probate Judge Eugene J. Laferriere, his endorsed opponent for the senatorial nomination in tomorrow's primary, "doublecrossed" him by running against him brought a quick denial from Judge Laferriere.

Citing his Senate record, Senator LaChapelle declared, "and in appreciation I received the old doublecross."

He maintained, in a radio address in both English and French, that Judge Laferriere had said he would not run if he returned from an extended Florida vacation "and then said he was misquoted and meant if he didn't get the endorsement."

"Here is a candidate running for public office being misquoted before he even gets in. If he is confused now, how will he be later? I have never been misquoted and always called a spade a spade," Senator LaChapelle said.

Judge Laferriere later last night declared, "My position in the matter was and still is that, if the town committee felt that they wanted me to be their candidate for the state Senate, I would accept it.

Senator LaChapelle asked the Democratic voters to ask themselves these questions:

"Why does West Warwick need a change in the Senate?"

"Have I brought too much to the town in two years to suit the town fathers?"

"Have I embarrassed the state organization to a point where they had to give West Warwick what they did?"

"Is it because I refused to be bossed by the party leaders?"

"Is it because West Warwick had a page and a door keeper in the Senate and that was unheard of in its history?"

"One of them was a college student and the other a World War I veteran who could both use the positions, instead of politicians who are looking for the fat of the state.

"Or is it because of the many favors I was willing to do for the taxpayers without remuneration?"

He declared the Democratic organization waged an underground campaign against him while he was in Florida on a much-needed vacation, but maintained that he "made my job in the Senate a 24-hour a day service to the people of West Warwick, Democrats or Republican."

Roberts Writes Letter to LaChapelle Praising Efforts for New Bridge

Sen. Francis LaChapelle, running without endorsement for renomination in the Democratic primary today displayed a letter from Governor Roberts in which the governor said he wanted to clear up any misconstruction the senator may have over his remarks at the local Democratic outing at Natick, Sunday.

In his message Sunday, in which he was stressing the efforts of the Democratic party to maintain low taxes, the Governor referred to the state assistance to the town in the construction of the new Factory Street Bridge at Arctick.

Governor Roberts said, "Frank Fazzano and other town officials came to me asking for help with the bridge problem. Senator LaChapelle, in a previous address be-

fore the West Warwick Democratic Women's Club, left little doubt that he feels that he played the major role in having the state appropriate over \$200,000 to replace the Factory Street Bridge.

The letter from Governor Roberts to Sen. LaChapelle and displayed by the senator today reads in part as follows: "Dear Frank: In my talk at the West Warwick outing, I did not mean to imply that you had not displayed an intense interest and leadership in having the state assume responsibility for the construction of the new Factory Street Bridge. As a matter of fact, I was amazed when you told me that you felt my remarks could be misconstrued as to your participation in the matter and I want to take this opportunity of clearing it up with you."

James 9-25-56

Mrs. Marsella Makes Eleventh Hour Request to West Warwick Vote

An 11th hour appeal for a win at the polls in the West Warwick Democratic primary has been voiced by Mrs. Joan F. Marsella, unendorsed candidate for state senator. She faces the opposition of Judge E. J. Laferriere, the endorsed candidate and Sen. Francis LaChapelle who is running without endorsement.

Looking back over her primary campaign, which was her initial vote seeking drive, Mrs. Marsella asked that her "rather mild" campaign be not interpreted to mean that she "lacks a fighting spirit." Those who know me, Mrs. Marsella said "realize that I am well endowed with courage and am not afraid to speak out for what I think is right."

Mrs. Marsella's final statement of the primary campaign follows:

"In this my final appeal to the Democratic voters of the town to support my candidacy for the nomination for senator from West Warwick, let me remind the people that during my campaign, I have not indulged in personality-sniping or mud slinging against any office holder or any other candidate, despite the fact that at a recent meeting of the town committee, Mr. DeCiantis called upon the party cohorts to give

the unendorsed candidates" a shellacking that the people of West Warwick will never again think of a primary and that word shall be forever forgotten by our party."

"I know that Mr. DeCiantis was surely joking because everyone knows that he is a firm believer in the virtues of the party primary. After the Democratic primary in 1954, Mr. DeCiantis stated, "I think a primary fight is a good thing for a party. It stimulates interest. It put life into it and makes a stronger party."

"Do not let my rather mild campaign be interpreted to mean that I lack a fighting spirit, for those who know me well realize that I am well endowed with courage and am not afraid to speak out for what I think is right. I believe that everyone who engages in political life is motivated by a desire to offer service to the public. Many times his efforts are rewarded only by making personal enemies and he becomes the victim of public criticism and personal attack as has happened in the councilmanic contest of this primary.

"Supposed authorities on politics have declared that a woman candidate can work up a strong personal dislike for her opponent, but despite concentrated efforts on my part, I have only admiration and a warm feeling of friendship for both Judge LaFerriere and Senator LaChappelle. They, like myself are offering their time, their efforts and their abilities to the people and are asking them to choose from among us.

"To summarize my candidacy, let me state that the firm basis of my platform is, 'PLAIN ANSWERS TO SIMPLE QUESTIONS.' I do not claim to know the answers to all our farm, business, industrial, school, social and local governmental problems and anyone who does, is stating a falsehood. Nor can I truthfully claim that if I should be nominated and elected, that in my two years office, I, alone can make West Warwick a tourist's paradise or a business' man's utopia. I can honestly pledge to work with our local government for our common good, and to work diligently for our town without fear of endangering my own political career, for I am not a lawyer, and I do not aspire to the governorship."



James Sept 26, 1956

LARGE VOTE BEING CAST

West Warwick Primary

A large vote was being recorded in the West Warwick Democratic primary early today. By noon 443 electors had gone to one of the seven polls in the town to cast their ballots. The outcome will determine if any of the four unendorsed candidates can upset the candidates running with the support of the Democratic Town Committee.

The figure of 443 is about 10 ahead of the number of votes which were cast by a similar hour in the Democratic primary two years ago. When the polls closed at 8 p.m. in 1954, 2223 votes had been cast. If the present pace continues that large number will be surpassed. Political observers in the last primary had estimated there would be 1200 voters and the most popular figure expressed this year was 1500.

Principal interest is in the senatorial race between three can-

didates. Probate Judge Eugene J. Laferriere is running with the party endorsement against Sen. Francis LaChapelle and Mrs. Joan F. Marsella. The other contest is between Francis X. Kennedy who is out to unseat the endorsed candidate Francis J. Fazzano from the town council. Both Mr. Kennedy and Anthony R. Lombardi are running as unendorsed candidates for a town committee post.

The largest number of votes cast was in the Natick area, Vol. Dist. 2 of Rep. Dist. 1, where despite the denials of party leaders, reports keep emanating there is a popularity contest between the two incumbent and endorsed committeeman, Albert Muschiano and Frank A. Giorgio, Jr. By noon, 123 votes had been recorded on the voting machines at that district.

The vote cast, all reported orderly, before noon today follows:

- Rep. Dist. No. 1**
Vol. Dist. 1, Holy Ghost Hall, Ventura Street, 54; Vol. Dist. 2, Providence Street School, 54.
- Rep. Dist. No. 2**
Vol. Dist. 1, Portuguese-American Citizens Club, East Main Street, 60; Vol. Dist. 2, Main Street, School, Arctic, 42.
- Rep. Dist. No. 3**
Vol. Dist. 1, town building at Murray Square, 73; Vol. Dist. 2, Turcotte's Hall, 46; Vol. Dist. 3, Fiore Pontiac, Washington Street, 45.

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Del Sesto Promises He'd Serve Only Two Terms as Governor

Christopher Del Sesto, GOP candidate, promised yesterday to serve no longer than two terms if he is elected governor in November.

He made this promise at a meeting of the Barrington Council of Republican Women at the Rhode Island Country Club.

FINANCIAL SET-UP OF KENT COUNTY'S WATER AUTHORITY CHANGED LITTLE IN 3 YEARS

Board Wants to Borrow Money for Improvements but Its Hands Are Tied

Kent County Water Authority keeps flowing along with the same financial setup it has had the past three years. The authority states that because it still has its hands tied to borrow money it cannot make the capital improvements it should and what construction it has made has been paid with cash available from excess of income over operational costs.

However, KCWA, in releasing its annual fiscal report today for the year ended June 30, 1956, states that the operations of the authority the past year, are, in the opinion of the board members, "very satisfactory in view of the obstacles with which the authority has been confronted, these being chiefly of a financial nature."

Took In \$394,218.89

In the last fiscal year, the water authority took in \$394,218.89 chiefly from sales of water and hydrant rentals. Its excess after expenses, including bond obligations, was \$69,900.67 and this extra income was spent for the improvements. This has been about the size of the next profit of the authority for the past three years.

Since June of 1950, KCWA has accumulated \$229,597.40 excess of income. For the past three years, or specifically since July 1, 1953, the water authority has been operating on a rate schedule, authorized by the Public Utilities Administration calling for a minimum payment of \$20 for 50,000 gallons of water. The authority serves approximately 10,000 customers.

A vote of thanks is extended in the fiscal report to the Providence

Water Supply Board and to Philip J. Holton Jr., the chief engineer of PWSB. The authority said they came to its rescue during the peak water consumption months in the Natick and Oaklawn areas by opening water valves into the local system in those areas.

"Our two other troublesome areas," the water authority states, "are Tiogue Hill and Cowesett. These troublesome areas are being investigated presently and we hope to have a solution in the very near future." The authority announced through its chairman, Gerard DiFiore of West Warwick, that it is exploring all means of income so it can embark on an expansion program which will enable it to "furnish service to the many sections that are now ready for expansion but await an adequate water supply."

Many Improvements

Improvements listed in the report released today and made over the past five years follow: nine miles of new pipe lines, approximate cost, \$150,000; Scituate extension and pump house, \$150,000; new one million gallon stand pipe, West Street, Arctic, \$75,000; Post Road and Cowesett pump house, \$53,000; Hill Street extension, \$11,000; Fairview Avenue, \$7500; Bedard Street main, \$6500; new wells and pitometer surveys, \$8000.

Albert V. Wood, secretary of KCWA, said all bond obligations have been met.

The authority, before the new rates were affected, withdrew cash from the reserve account and (Continued on page 8, col. 4)

Financial Set-up of Kent County's Water Authority Changed Little in Three Years

(Continued from page 1)

debt service fund to pay the current interest and principal payments on bonds and this created a deficiency of \$95,750. However, after the rates went into effect in 1953, the authority began to make up the deficiency in the reserve account by periodic payments calculated to restore the fund in full over a five-year period. On June 30, 1956, the balance in the reserve account amounted to \$58,520.23, leaving a deficiency of \$37,229.77. By maintaining yearly payments of about \$19,000 the water authority plans to make up this fund in the next two years.

Made Body Corporate in 1946

Organized July 8, 1946, the water authority is a body corporate and politic and is made up of the water supply and distribution

properties of the former East Greenwich Water Supply Company, the Pawtuxet Valley Water Company, and Warwick & Coventry Water Company and some water supply properties of Good Earth, Inc.

It is set up under long-term debt with water revenue bonds dated June 1, 1950, to mature serially to 1980. Interest is payable semi-annually on June 1 and Dec. 1 at the annual rate of 2 1-4 per cent to 1970 and 2 1/2 per cent thereafter. Principal payments are due on June 1 of each year. One June 1, 1956, bonds in the principal amount of \$40,000 were retired in accordance with this schedule.

The financial reports of the authority for the year ended June 30, 1956, follow:

Assets and Other Debits			
Utility Plant—			
Property, plant, and equipment— at cost	\$2,754,328.65		
Less allowance for depreciation	756,294.91		
	\$1,998,033.74		
Utility plant acquisition adjustments— in process of being amortized	419,452.59	\$2,417,486.33	
Current and working assets:			
Cash:			
Operation and maintenance fund	\$ 38,586.84		
Consumers' advances for construction	2,153.63		
Fiscal Agent for current debt service charges accrued	7,554.16	\$ 48,294.63	
Accounts receivable	\$ 39,401.53		
Less allowance for doubtful accounts	1,200.00	38,201.53	
Materials and supplies	42,975.86	129,472.02	
Debt Service Fund—on deposit with Fiscal Agent—Note B:			
Reserve Account—			
Cash	\$ 28,767.62		
U. S. Treasury securities, including accrued interest	29,752.61	\$ 58,520.23	
Sinking fund	1,680.61	60,200.84	
Deferred Debits—			
Unamortized finance expense	\$ 27,136.98		
Prepaid insurance and other miscellaneous debits	7,575.09	34,712.07	
		\$2,641,871.26	
Liabilities and Other Credits			
Long-term Debt—			
Water Revenue Bonds—Note B	\$2,095,000.00		
Less bonds to be redeemed June 1, 1957— classified as current liability	40,000.00	\$2,055,000.00	
Current and Accrued Liabilities—			
Accounts payable	\$ 16,693.90		
Interest accrued on bonds	4,220.83		
Bonds to be redeemed June 1, 1957	40,000.00	60,914.73	
Deferred Credits—			
Consumers' advances for construction	\$ 18,357.28		
Water charges billed in advance	117,140.90	135,498.18	
Contributions in aid of construction		160,860.95	
Reserves:			
Debt service fund—			
Reserve account	\$ 58,520.23		
Sinking fund	1,680.61	\$ 60,200.84	
New construction	169,396.56	229,597.40	
		\$2,641,871.26	
Statement of Income			
Income—			
Sales of water	\$ 343,489.79		
Hydrant rentals	46,158.70		
Other	4,570.40		
Expenses—	\$ 394,218.89		
Operating	\$ 144,900.95		
Maintenance	17,477.51		
City and town charges	29,431.62		
Provision for depreciation of utility plant	39,437.27		
Amortization of utility plant acquisition adjustments	40,000.00	271,247.35	
		\$ 122,971.54	
Other Deductions—			
Interest on bonds	\$ 51,475.00		
Amortization of finance expense	1,595.87	53,070.87	
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENSES AND DEDUCTIONS FOR THE YEAR	\$ 69,900.67		
Accumulated excess of income of prior years	159,696.73		
ACCUMULATED EXCESS OF INCOME SINCE JUNE 14, 1950	\$ 229,597.40		
Allocation of Excess of Income:			
Reserve for Debt Service Fund—			
Reserve account	\$ 58,520.23		
Sinking fund	1,680.61	\$ 60,200.84	
Reserve for new construction		169,396.56	
		\$ 229,597.40	

R.I. Parties Conduct Platform Hearings

Revision of Election And Primary Laws Urged by Democrats

A Democratic platform embodying planks pledging wholesale revision of election and primary laws, increased state aid to education, consideration of state employes' wages and a strong stand on civil rights was urged by a parade of witnesses yesterday before the party's platform committee.

This is the first time the Democratic Party has opened its platform committee hearings to the public. The committee will recommend a proposed platform to the Democratic State Convention next Monday.

Appearing before the seven-member committee, appointed by Frank Rao, Democratic state chairman, were Governor Roberts, representatives from industry and labor, the League of Women Voters, attorneys and a representative of the state's hourly-paid workers.

Edwin C. Brown, secretary-treasurer of the Rhode Island State Federation of Labor, AFL, was the only witness who spoke against a signature identification system to prevent fraudulent voting.

A signature identification plank was among the election reform planks proposed by Governor Roberts, Mrs. Horton Quinn, president of the League of Women Voters of Rhode Island and several other witnesses.

Mr. Brown argued that signature identification would "discourage" many persons from voting. "I know people who won't vote if they have to sign their signatures," he said.

He suggested as an alternative a photo identification card similar to a passport "if the state is not concerned with the cost of providing honest elections."

Mr. Brown argued also that a signature system would not be foolproof unless hand-writing ex-

amples were available at the polling places.

Other platform committee members are Albert J. Hoban of North Kingstown, chairman; Mrs. Eleanor Slater of Warwick, Edward T. Hogan Jr. of East Providence, B. Albert Ford of Providence and Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick.

Other election and primary law reforms proposed by Governor Roberts include improvement of voter census procedures, elimination of paper ballots, appointment of capable election officials, same-day primaries, and representation at the polling places for all candidates. He added that the state should be prepared to meet the cost of additional polling places to implement the reforms.

Governor Roberts suggested that the platform call for an evaluation study by independent experts on all state employe positions with regard to proper wages.

Earlier, Charles Steinberg, representing the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employes, appeared before the platform committee to urge a \$520 a year across-the-board salary increase for most state employes, payment of time-and-a-half beyond 40 hours and amendment of the State Labor Relations Act to include state employes.

The union was accused by Governor Roberts a week ago of trying to intimidate him with an election coming up.

"In Right Direction"

Mr. Steinberg said it would be "an enormous step in the right direction" if the administration indicated a willingness to study the pay problem around budget time. He said also the union would agree to the naming of a fact finding commission to study means of raising the money needed for the salary increase, which he estimated would cost about \$3,500,000 annually.

Governor Roberts also advocated a program for a greater state appropriation to the equalization fund for school teachers' salaries and legislation to allow the state to contribute on a percentage formula to amortization of school plant costs by local communities.

The governor also called for a constitutional amendment to permit cities and towns to determine the manner and time of their elections, reapportionment of the Rhode Island House of Representatives, a state minimum wage to equal the federal minimum wage, a strong statement on tariffs, a "broad and deep" civil rights plank, and a real program in disaster insurance and an expedited flood control program.

Study Urged

He plugged also for a study to determine the feasibility of paying out of the Second Injury Fund for persons who have congenital defects so that "some type of limited exemption could be given to employers engaging our citizens who have physical defects or latent weaknesses which make them unsuitable for employment because of the risk involved by virtue of the Workmen's Compensation Law."

Other witnesses called for the broadening of Workmen's Compensation and Unemployment Compensation, further extension of home rule powers to cities and towns and combination of the juvenile and domestic relations courts into a family court.

Other witnesses included Frank S. Shy, president of Associated Industries of Rhode Island, Inc.; Edward Courtemanche of the 13th Ward Voters League of Providence; Sidney L. Larson, staff representative of United Steelworkers of America, CIO; Thomas F. Policastro, state CIO president; James N. Williams, executive director of the Urban League, and Leo Connors, a Providence attorney.

Largest Committee In State's History Organized by GOP

The largest platform committee in the history of the Rhode Island Republican Party organized last night at a public meeting to start work on a statement of principles for the Oct. 13 GOP state convention.

The committee is made up of 700 members who are part of 25 subcommittees, according to Sen. James H. Donnelly of North Kingstown, Senate minority leader and platform chairman. Between 125 and 150 of the members turned out for the first session at Plantations Auditorium.

Edward V. Healey Jr., campaign manager for the Republican candidate for governor, Christopher Del Sesto, told the group, "We feel that it is on the platform you draw that we will rise or fall."

Harold R. Shippee Jr., platform committee secretary, said the adoption of the platform in mid-October would make it possible for the Republican candidates to go before voters with constructive proposals in the campaign against the Democrats. "The Republican Party cannot always be the party of attack," he said.

Senator Donnelly gave some indications of the course the GOP platform will take. At the

Continued on Page 19, Col. 5

same time he took a few round house swings at Governor Roberts and the Democrats generally. The hall was decorated with Eisenhower-Nixon and Del Sesto posters, and tall standards marked the seating space for members of each of the committees.

The reason for the large committee, Senator Donnelly said, "is that we want a platform from the people, not a platform that comes from a smoke-filled room late at night from professional politicians who are members of a rusty political machine."

Based On Consultation

The Democrats, he went on, "have been in power so long that they don't care or know what the people want. We want a platform based on consultation, not on dictation."

Some of the issues Senator Donnelly mentioned:

Institutions—"Much money is being spent on buildings, little on remedial care."

On bridge and ferry tolls — "These things are main arteries in our state and I think they ought to be free of tolls." He mentioned the Mount Hope and Jamestown bridges and the Jamestown-Newport ferry.

On home rule legislation—"I have introduced legislation to expand home rule for communities, but the Democrats always have killed it. One year my bill passed a Republican-controlled Senate, but died in the House which was controlled by the Democrats. That shows how much the Democrats mean their platform promises."

On Election Laws

Primary and election laws—"Whether we should advocate one-day primary again, is very important. We did last year. Redistricting of the seats of the House also is vital. The Democrats have been violating the constitution in not redistricting."

Constitutional questions—"For several years we have had hurried constitutional conventions. They have met for one day and into the night. Many of the amendments produced by these conventions either have been turned down by the people or have been so poorly written that they should be done all over again." He indicated the Republicans may take a stand against the constitutional convention method of amending the basic law of the state. That method, adopted by the Democrats, is based on a Supreme Court advisory opinion, and is not in the constitution of the state.

William D. McAdams, GOP National Committee consultant to the local party, said the large platform committee reminded him of "a town meeting."

Distributed to the committee members before the meeting were copies of a "newsletter" issued by the AFL-CIO Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

Dissatisfied

It said "union members have expressed complete dissatisfaction with the present state administration's attitude toward the union's request for decent wages and improvements in conditions of employment. The state has neglected to take care of its employes' needs. Very few employers have such a poor record of improving employes' pay."

"If they can't do better," the letter said of the Democrats, "perhaps it's time for a change. State employes are sick and tired of listening to political double talk as to why they are so poorly paid. The present state administration has sole responsibility for these unusually low wages scales."

Only last week, Governor Roberts told officials of that union who called on him: "If you think you're putting a gun up to me six weeks before the election, you're nuts."

Mr. Shippee last night told the Republican platform committee members that they would meet Saturday and Oct. 6 from 10 a.m. until late afternoon at both GOP headquarters, 59 Jackson St., and at campaign headquarters, 86 Weybosset St.

A schedule of the times of the various subcommittee meetings will be available later, he said, adding that all interested groups will be invited to present their views.

R.I. Democrats

Continued From Page One

amples were available at the polling places.

Two members of the platform committee, Probate Judge A. Norman LaSalle of Warwick and the Rev. John C. Agnew of Newport, said they supported popular election of the state judges.

They took their stand when Judah C. Semonoff, a Providence attorney, urged a five-member commission to recommend candidates to the governor for appointment to the bench and elimination of confirmation of judicial appointments by the state Senate.

Mr. Semonoff suggested that the commission consist of one member each appointed by the state Supreme Court and the Rhode Island Bar Association and the other three members would be the presidents of Brown University, the University of Rhode Island and Providence College.

Mr. LaSalle criticized Mr. Semonoff's plan as removing judicial appointments "one step

Democratic Voters Pick 6 Unendorsed For Assembly Race

McCabe Nominated For Warwick Mayor CIO Supported Men Defeated In Two Towns

Democrats in 14 cities and towns generally stood by organization candidates in yesterday's primary, but six unendorsed candidates for legislative nominations managed to overwhelm their party-blessed opponents.

Harry F. Curvin of Pawtucket, veteran speaker of the Rhode Island House of Representatives, easily won renomination in that city's 10th District by snowing under his unendorsed opponent, Thomas F. Kenney. Mr. Curvin's victory margin was about 4 to 1—539 to 139.

The state CIO worked vigorously for the House speaker, but in two other communities where it attempted to defeat General Assembly incumbents, the labor organization's candidates were beaten.

The CIO had gone after Sen. Thomas D. Santoro of Westerly and Dr. Hubert F. Powers, Burrillville senator, because both men had voted against the \$1 minimum wage bill in the General Assembly last spring.

Mr. Santoro, endorsed, won by 557 votes, and Dr. Powers, unendorsed, scored a victory by 82 votes.

There was no statewide primary. At stake were nominations for 33 legislative seats, the largest number of Assembly contests in the eight-year history of the primary — and control of party organizations.

Voting generally was light, except in Westerly where more voters than ever before in a primary turned out to settle nomination disputes that went from Senator Santoro to the local level.

Next to the victory of Dr. Powers, probably the biggest upset of the day was scored by Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle, who won renomination in West Warwick as an unendorsed candidate and in doing so defeated Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis' efforts to give the nomination to Probate Judge Eugene J. Laferriere. Senator LaChapelle won by 76 votes.

Sen. Brady Loses
The president of the state senate, James J. Brady of Cumberland, was unable to withstand the opposition of the town organization, of which Atty. Gen. William E. Powers is an important member.

Denied endorsement by the Democrats, Senator Brady lost to the endorsed candidate, John E. Moran, a wholesale liquor

dealer, by 2,074 to 1,846. Because of the vacancy in the lieutenant governor's office, Senator Brady acts as governor when Governor Roberts is out of the state.

In Providence, the endorsed slate won with one exception. In the 17th representative District, Rep. James E. McDonnell, unendorsed, defeated former City Councilman Ernest C. Munroe, 683 to 291. The waters were muddied there.

Backed By Committee
Mr. Munroe had the endorsement of the district committee, which is controlled by Councilman Thomas S. Luongo, but Mayor Walter H. Reynolds had backed Representative McDonnell.

Westerly
Senator Santoro overcame the strong and vocal opposition of the State CIO in defeating his unendorsed opponent, Natale L. Urso, young attorney, 1,439 to 902. Mr. Urso, nephew of the Democratic town chairman, Sylvester Morrone, failed to win a plurality in any of the town's four voting districts.

Endorsed candidates won all the town office nominations at stake.

Burrillville
Dr. Powers was denied endorsement by a town committee headed by John W. LaPorte, manager of the Northern Rhode Island Joint Board of TWUA, CIO.

The town committee gave its endorsement to Mr. LaPorte's close friend, Raymond D. George. Dr. Powers defeated Mr. George 501 to 419.

In another contest in the primary, this one for a place on the Democratic State Committee, Dr. Powers defeated Mr. George again. The senator's victory this time was 490 to 410. Dr. Powers was unendorsed in that battle, also.

Central Falls
Rep. Stanley Legawiec defeated Armand H. Landry, unendorsed, 585 to 427, in a hot contest for the nomination to the House in the First District. The result spelled victory for Mayor Raymond J. Garvey who backed Mr. Legawiec in his capacity as Democratic city chairman.

But in two ward committee contests a majority of supporters of the mayor were beaten, meaning that he may not be able to retain the helm.

Cumberland
Senator Brady's defeat, 2,074 to 1,846, by Mr. Moran raised the question whether the veteran legislator will run as an independent in the November election. Some of his friends predicted last night that he would get into the November

race to make the election a three-way fight.

Mr. Moran is close to Congressman John E. Fogarty of the Second District.

Cranston
The forces of City Chairman Michael Sepe were victorious in two of three ward contests over supporters of Mayor Turnbull. Mr. Sepe's followers won control of committees in the Third and Fourth Wards, but in the First Ward the mayor's unendorsed supporters took most of the seats.

There was one upset at the legislative level in the Cranston voting. In the First Representative District, John F. White, unendorsed, defeated Joseph A. Kelly, 357 to 337, a margin of 20 votes.

Otherwise, the Cranston voting for Assembly candidates followed the endorsed line.

Joseph Pezza, endorsed, defeated Lawrence J. Cull, secretary to Mayor Turnbull, for the State Senate nomination. Mr. Pezza polled 1,896 votes to 1,346 for Mr. Cull.

Rep. Arthur Viola, unendorsed, lost his bid for renomination in the Third District. There, William L. Walsh, endorsed, polled 753 votes to defeat Mr. Viola, who received 447 votes, and another unendorsed candidate, Antonio Picano, who gathered 144 ballots.

George C. Sornberger, endorsed, took the Fourth District nomination by defeating Pasquale J. Nero, 496 to 348.

Pawtucket
Speaker Curvin led virtually his whole endorsed slate to victory in a day of orderly voting. There were echoes of frauds at the Republican primary of 10 days ago. A total of 67 voters cast ballots after signing affidavits that they had not voted in the GOP primary. They said their names had been crossed off voting lists fraudulently in the Republican primary.

Only one unendorsed candidate beat out the Curvin organization. Councilman George Langlois, unendorsed, gained a place on the Second Ward district committee by nosing out the committee chairman, Eugene A. Bannigan.

At the Assembly level, Sen. James J. Pollitt, endorsed, was re-nominated by polling 1,338 votes to 389 for John W. Flynn, and Andrew J. Loiseau, endorsed, won nomination to the other Pawtucket Senate seat. He took 980 votes in defeating William H. Cheatham, who was given 418.

Rep. Raymond L. Davignon won renomination, 284 to 259, over Eugene J. Staszak in the First Representative district.

Woonsocket
One upset victory marred an

otherwise perfect sweep by endorsed candidates in the primary contests for all of Woonsocket's legislative nominations.

Rep. Gerard Lanoie, running unendorsed, defeated the party's candidate, Bernard M. Chamberland, 185 to 122, for the House nomination from the Sixth District.

State Senator Francis P. Smith garnered 3,518 votes to win the Senate nomination against three unendorsed candidates, who tallied 3,476 against him. His opponents and their votes were Rep. Michael J. Mahoney, 624; Councilman Bernard W. Poirier, 2,364, and former Rep. Eugene Lanctot, 488.

Other House contest results were:

District 1—Rep. Fernand J. St. Germain, 838; Thomas Saparito, 330; District 2—Rep. John J. Skeffington Jr., 750; George L. Lamoreaux, 206; District 3—Rep. Orist D. Chahary, 529; John F. Head, 226; District 4—Rep. John F. Doris, 234; Napoleon Lopes, 117; District 5—Edward D. Costello, 453; Clement D. Baro, 130; District 7—Rep. Rolland H. Chapelaine, 808; Herve F. Morisseau, 476; District 8—Rep. Noel A. Giguere, 312; Conrad O. Ayotte, 229.

The forces of Mayor Kevin Coleman won all 10 seats on the Democratic city committee.

East Providence
Joseph Perry Jr. won nomination to the House seat in the Second District by defeating Manuel Sousa, 719 to 268. Both were unendorsed because the district committee had tied in attempting to give its official sanction.

The seat for which Mr. Perry was nominated now is held by Rep. Julio F. Rocha.

Mr. Rocha, running unendorsed for Council nomination, lost to Charles A. Reilly in the Third District by 173 votes.

Only one unendorsed candidate won a Council nomination in the town. Former Police Chief John Thorburn, endorsed, lost nomination for the Seventh District seat to Raymond Hannan. Mr. Hannan's margin was seven votes.

West Warwick
Senator LaChapelle, in knocking down Mr. DeCiantis' attempt to liquidate his political career, defeated Probate Judge Eugene J. Laferriere, the endorsed candidate, 1,044 to 968, a margin of 76 votes.

Mrs. Joan F. Marsella, also running as an unendorsed candidate, polled 336 votes.

Senator LaChapelle, now serving his first term in the Assembly, was the only unendorsed candidate to win in West Warwick. Town Council President Francis J. Fazzano, an assistant attorney general who was endorsed, won renomination to the Council over Francis X. Kennedy, 1,115 to 813. The endorsed candidates for town committee also won.

Smithfield
The only contest in that town was for a Council renomination. In it, Councilman Walter J. Campbell, endorsed, defeated his opponent, Councilman William J. Sullivan, 440 to 115.

West Greenwich
Race-track adherents in the small, rural town lost two attempts to induce voters to go for a track in the town, but the backers of the betting proposal won undisputed control of the Democratic organization in the town.

Senator Henry C. Hoxsie won re-nomination for the State Senate seat, defeating State Rep. Harold E. Bocook, 143 to 86, a plurality of 57. Charles Koszela, a Hoxsie follower, won

the House nomination over Council President Walter W. Wolslegel, 137 to 86.

Neither faction had been endorsed because of the inability of the secretary of state's office to identify the legal Democratic organization in the town—up to last night. Now, Senator Hoxsie has been established as the ruler, taking control of the town committee as well as winning Assembly nominations.

Newport
Edward K. Oakley won a not wholly unexpected upset victory by a 130-vote margin over the endorsed candidate, former Rep. Max Levin, in Newport's First Representative District. Mr. Oakley received 206 votes to Mr. Levin's 76.

Mr. Oakley, who entered the primary because he disagreed with the method of endorsing Mr. Levin, engaged in a spirited door-to-door campaign. Mr. Levin and the party organization did almost no campaigning.

Mr. Levin, who served in the House for one term when he won the election in 1948, has been the party's traditional candidate each time since then.

Providence
Organization forces triumphed in all Providence primary contests except for the House nomination in the Sixth District where Rep. James E. McDonnell knocked off former Councilman Ernest C. Munroe by 392 votes.

The vote cast for Mr. McDonnell was 683 against 291 for Mr. Munroe. Mr. Munroe was backed by Councilman Thomas S. Luongo, 13th Ward boss. Mr. McDonnell was backed by Mayor Walter H. Reynolds.

Former Rep. Harold S. Moskol won the nomination in the First Senatorial District handily from three unendorsed candidates. He got 1,745 votes. His opponents and their votes were Francis T. O'Halloran, 985; Daniel O'Grady, 595, and Bernard C. Gladstone, 378. The district was represented by Superior Court Judge Frank Licht before he resigned to go to the bench.

Sen. Joseph L. Luongo, son of Councilman Luongo, garnered 1,580 votes to turn down a bid for the Senate nomination in the Third Senatorial District by Vincent J. Baccari. Mr. Baccari received 818 votes.

Thomas Luongo, who won renomination for City Council in the 13th Ward, ran more than 200 votes behind his endorsed running mate, Councilman Jerry V. Lorenzo. Votes for the three unendorsed candidates running against them were Joseph Caprio, 299; Anthony Caraccia, 772, and Alfredo Pennine, 271.

Despite the backing of Edward P. Gallogly, nominee for the Senate in the Fifth Senatorial District, Rep. Bernard J. Gallagher lost his fight as an unendorsed candidate for the House from the 24th District to the organization's choice, Joseph P. McNulty. The vote was 900 for Mr. McNulty and 469 for Mr. Gallagher.

In two other battles for House nominations Rep. Thomas F. Kelleher, endorsed, defeated Bernardo A. Maroccio, 1,005 to 128 in the Eighth District, and Rep. Samuel C. Kagan, endorsed, turned down the bid of Michael Hasset Jr., 853 to 238, in the Tenth District.



Victory buss is given happy senator Francis J. LaChapelle by wife, Yvonne, as primary returns confirm his reelection. Occasion also marked his birthday of jubilant solon. —Times Photo



Dr. Augustus Marsella casts skeptical look at camera but wife, Joan, appears pleased as results at Natick polls show she won that area by three votes. But returns in other areas give victory to incumbent Senator LaChapelle. In huddle with unendorsed candidate at left in Appollonia. —Times Photo

Sept 20 1956
SIDELIGHTS OF PRIMARY

An extra big gift was handed to one of the successful candidates. Sen. Francis LaChapelle's win yesterday came on his birthday.

One West Warwickite returned from a point thousands of miles away to cast a vote for a favorite candidate. Domenic Lombardi of 67 Prospect Hill, Natick, arrived home yesterday from Europe in time to vote for his brother, Anthony R. Lombardi, the unsuccessful unendorsed candidate for a town committee post.

This newspaper had complete and accurate returns from the seven polls within about 30 minutes after they closed at 8 p.m. They were given out in answer to the hundreds of telephone inquiries. The TIMES had to withhold "official" from its announcements until after the tabulations by the canvass authority at the town hall, completed about 9:45. There was no change, however.

While poll officials at Rep. Dist. 1, Vot. Dist. 1, town building at Murray Square, Centreville were opening the number three voting machine, an electrical fuse was blown and the lights went out. A new heating system is being installed in the building and because it is not yet operative, electric heaters were brought in during the day. They kept the primary workers warm, but the electrical circuit too hot.

From canvass authority reports the election was an orderly one.

Victorious Sen. LaChapelle headed a motorcade which started out from his home at about 11:15 p.m. The cars travelled principally in the Natick area. When they passed Club 400, Natick, the place was in darkness the drivers report.

In a post election statement, Sen. LaChapelle called for a "big" Democratic victory in November and for all party members to unite for this purpose. He would not let the opportunity go by without expressing his thanks to all who supported him in the primary.

Senator LaChapelle Is Renominated

Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle, running without endorsement for renomination in the West Warwick Democratic primary, yesterday registered a close, upset victory over Probate Judge Eugene J. Laferriere, endorsed candidate for senator.

The senator, a UTC bus driver with one term behind him in the Senate, chalked up a plurality of 76 votes, or 1,044 to 968 in beating the organization candidate.

Mrs. Joan F. Marsella, Natick physician's wife, also running unendorsed in a three-way race for the senatorial nod, showed surprising strength, especially in her own Natick district, which she carried by three votes, 207 to 204, over Judge Laferriere. Senator LaChapelle garnered 129 votes there.

Francis J. Fazzano, Town Council President and endorsed candidate for the councilman No. 1 nomination, turned back the challenge of Francis X. Kennedy, unendorsed, by a plurality of 302. He defeated Mr. Kennedy by 1,115 to 813.

All 15 endorsed town committee-men emerged victorious, defeating Mr. Kennedy and Anthony R. Lombardi of Natick, the only two unendorsed men who challenged them for seats on the policy-making committee.

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis and other Democratic organization leaders were taken aback by the senatorial upset. The Democratic nomination in West Warwick is usually tantamount to election, the GOP having had control of the town for only three of its 43 years existence.

There was an air of straight-faced gloom at the Town Hall, where party leaders assembled and the results came in.

Leaders attributed the loss of the senatorial nomination to Mrs. Marsella's unexpectedly good showing, saying that many of the pre-

ponderantly Democratic Natick votes might ordinarily have gone to the endorsed man.

Other Democratic leaders who worked around the polls all day said that another contributing factor to Senator LaChapelle's carrying four of the seven voting districts was the fact many normally Republican voters came out to vote for Senator LaChapelle.

There were more than 2,600 voters checked into the polls, or about 400 more than two years ago. More than one-fourth of the over 10,000 eligible voters turned out.

Many voters who turned out, especially where Senator LaChapelle carried at the Arctic School,

Murray Square, Turcotte's Hall and Fiore Pontiac polling places in the Crompton and Centreville and Arctic sections, were Republicans, Mr. Petrarca said. He said many were told they were unable to vote because they had signed GOP nomination papers two years ago.

Another contributing factor to the loss to Senator LaChapelle, observers said, was the rivalry in Natick between town committeemen Frank Giorgio and Albert Muschiano as to who is No. 1 committeeman in Natick since the death of Mr. Giorgio's father. Many voters were voting for just one or the other of the two men, it was said, and about 100 of 647 voters at Natick didn't even bother to vote for senator.

In the town committee popularity contest, Mr. Giorgio topped Mr. Muschiano town-wide by 1,275 to 1,237. In Natick, Mr. Giorgio had 366 to Mr. Muschiano's 272.

"We just didn't have the votes," said Judge Laferriere dejectedly.

After the results of the senatorial race became known, Senator LaChapelle, who was entertaining a group of supporters at a combination victory and 43rd birthday party at his home, said, "this is the best birthday anyone could get."

He attributed his victory to "hard work in the Senate," and hard work by his "small band of workers," particularly the West Warwick Citizens Committee for the public schools. He singled out Clarence J. Coutu, former chairman of the citizens' committee, for special praise.

Senator LaChapelle said he thought the vote in his favor was "definitely" a protest against the town's Democratic organization, and acknowledged that Mrs. Marsella's heavy vote in Natick was instrumental in his victory.

Mr. Kennedy said, "The voters

participating in today's primary of the successful Democratic candidates in the November election. Mr. Giorgio, who with his brother, Anthony, is following in his late father's footsteps in politics, polled the largest town committee vote with his 1,275.



Senator and Mrs. Francis J. LaChapelle
—State Staff Photo

Primary Results In West Warwick

STATE SENATOR			
	Laferriere	LaChapelle	Marsella
Rep. Dist. 1	220	167	22
Rep. Dist. 2	204	129	207
Rep. Dist. 3	294	116	26
Rep. Dist. 4	59	119	9
Rep. Dist. 5	150	291	42
Rep. Dist. 6	62	170	17
Rep. Dist. 7	69	112	14
TOTALS	968	1,044	336
LaChapelle nominated by 76 votes.			
COUNCILMAN NO. 1			
	Fazzano	Kennedy	
Rep. Dist. 1	163	106	
Rep. Dist. 2	283	140	
Rep. Dist. 3	224	74	
Rep. Dist. 4	76	70	
Rep. Dist. 5	202	217	
Rep. Dist. 6	78	125	
Rep. Dist. 7	87	79	
TOTALS	1,115	813	
Fazzano nominated by 302 votes.			
TOWN COMMITTEE			
Richard	1,053		
McKenna	1,030		
Giorgio	1,275		
Muschiano	1,237		
Nisette	1,210		
Flynn	1,217		
DeCiantis	1,070		
Silva	1,233		
Bolavert	1,232		
Pani	1,204		
Maznicki	1,259		
Noette	1,226		
Petrarca	1,232		
Kulaszewski	1,174		
Kennedy	654		
Lombardi	493		

*Indicates endorsed candidates.
†Top 15 vote-getters are elected.
‡All endorsed candidates elected.

LaChapelle Victory Has Halted Inter-Democratic Fight at Nov. 6 Election

The victory of Sen. Francis LaChapelle in the Democratic primary yesterday has prevented another inter-Democratic party fight, this time in the general election.

Clarence J. Coutu, well known lumberman and former chairman of the West Warwick Citizens Committee for Better Public Schools, today confirmed the report that he was to file independent nomination papers had Sen. LaChapelle, the unendorsed candidate, lost out in the primary.

Mr. Coutu said that he and an-

other man were ready to file independent papers for the school committee posts by the filing deadline 5 p.m. tomorrow. He said there were many disgruntled Democrats who differed with the administration and if they couldn't show it through Sen. LaChapelle he was going to offer them the opportunity to do it through himself.

Concerning his efforts to have Sen. LaChapelle renominated in yesterday's primary, Mr. Coutu also confirmed that he worked hard for this purpose.

Role of Sen. LaChapelle in Election Big Question

Two of the biggest questions evolving from the West Warwick Democratic primary are: What role will Sen. Francis LaChapelle play in the election campaign? Will Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis continue to be as quiet as he was in the primary contest?

In the face of repeated attacks upon himself and the administration, Mr. DeCiantis, usually a fiery political speaker, remained tight-lipped.

In a statement shortly after the primary results were announced, Mr. Kennedy said: "The voters participating in today's primary have made their decision. The candidates nominated now become the candidates of all Democrats. We now close ranks and unite to oppose our common foe, the Republican party."

However, West Warwick Democrats have consistently made up differences in the past and it could happen again.

Francis X. Kennedy, the unsuccessful unendorsed candidate for town council and town committee nominations, lost little time in declaring his pledge to work for the success of the party in the November election.

In a statement shortly after the primary results were announced, Mr. Kennedy said:

"I want to thank the many people who supported me and appreciate their efforts on my behalf. I also want to thank the Pawtuxet Valley Daily Times and the Providence Journal - Bulletin for their fair coverage of the efforts of all of the unendorsed candidates."

"I heartily congratulate Frank LaChapelle, Frank Fazzano, Michael DeCiantis and all of the successful candidates. I pledge to this ticket my support and will actively work for their success in the November election."

Sen. La Chapelle Wins in Upset

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The senator, a UTC bus driver with one term behind him in the Senate, chalked up a plurality of 76 votes, or 1,044 to 968 in beating the organization candidate.

Mrs. Joan F. Marsella, Natick physician's wife, also running unendorsed in a three-way race for the senatorial nod, showed surprising strength, especially in her own Natick district, which she carried by three votes, 207 to 204, over Judge Laferriere. Senator LaChapelle garnered 129 votes there.

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There was an air of straight-faced gloom at the Town Hall, where party leaders assembled and the results came in.

Leaders attributed the loss of the senatorial nomination to Mrs. Marsella's unexpectedly good showing, saying that many of the preponderantly Democratic Natick votes might ordinarily have gone to the endorsed man.

Other Democratic leaders who worked around the polls all day said that another contributing factor to Senator LaChapelle's carrying four of the seven voting districts was the fact many normally Republican voters came out to vote for Senator LaChapelle.

There were more than 2,600

voters checked into the primary about 400 more than two years ago. More than one-fourth of the 10,000 eligible voters turned out.

Many voters who turned out, especially where Senator LaChapelle carried at the Arctic School, Murray Square, Turcotte's Hall and Fiore Pontiac polling places in the Crompton and Centreville and Arctic sections, were Republicans, Mr. Petrarca said. He said many were told they were unable to vote because they had signed GOP nomination papers two years ago.

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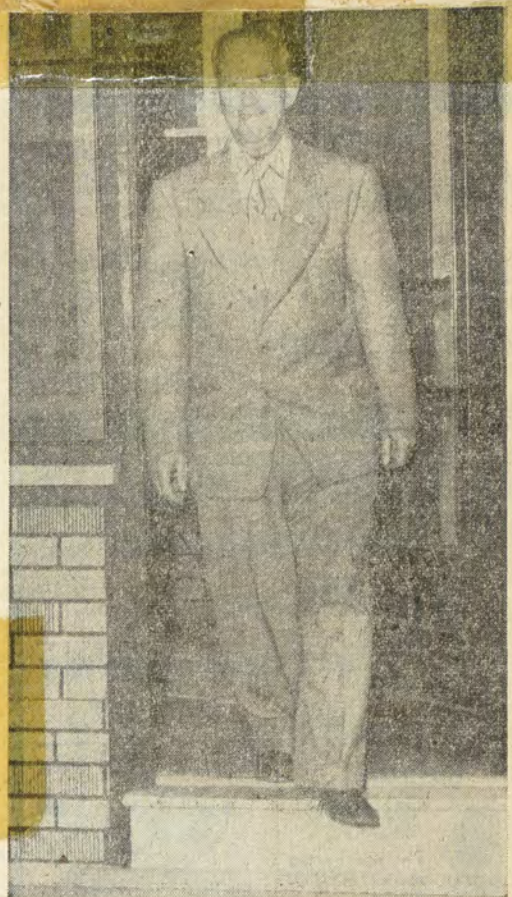
He attributed his victory to "hard work in the Senate," and hard work by his "small band of workers," particularly the West Warwick Citizens Committee for the public schools. He singled out Clarence J. Coutu, former chairman of the citizens' committee, for special praise.

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endorsed candidates." He said he will actively work for the success of the successful Democratic candidates in the November election. Mr. Giorgio, who with his brother, Mr. Anthony, is following in his father's footsteps in politics, polled the largest town committee vote with his 1,275.

The successful endorsed town committee candidates, besides Mr. Giorgio and Mr. Muschiano, are deputy sheriff Alfred Richard, Harry F. McKanna Jr., councilman Hervey Niquette, John J. Flynn, Mr. De Ciantis, Manuel Silva, Town Sergeant Frank D. Boisvert, Councilman Antonio Paul, Stanislaw Mazicki, Gerard P. Nolette, Thaddeus M. Kraus, Mr. Petrarca and Councilman Chester Kulasevski.



West Warwick Winner: Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle. —State Staff Photo

Primary Law Quirk Unexpected Aid to Sheriff

A primary law quirk, which requires unendorsed candidates' names to be spread horizontally across the voting machines, yesterday helped put Deputy Sheriff Alfred Richard, West Warwick Democratic chairman, at the bottom of the list of 15 endorsed Town Committee candidates in vote-getting.

He thus replaced town solicitor Michael De Ciantis, endorsed group's low man of two years ago, as the low man on the endorsed candidates' Town Committee totem pole.

Sheriff Richard polled 1,053 votes compared to the high man, Frank Giorgio, with 1,275. Mr. De Ciantis, a step above Mr. Richard, had 1,070 votes.

Sheriff Richard's name was on a line with those of unendorsed candidates, Francis X. Kennedy and Anthony R. Lombardi, on the machines. Some voters reportedly thought they could vote for only one of the three on the line.

In Natick, where Mr. Lombardi lives, Sheriff Richard got only 185, while Mr. Lombardi got 254 votes. Mr. Kennedy got 151 votes there.

However, Sheriff Richard also ran behind in several other districts, especially in Crompton, Cen-

treville and the Fiore Pontiac polling place, Arctic.

Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Lombardi were generally regarded as having polled substantial votes for their first try at politics. Mr. Kennedy polled 638 and Mr. Lombardi 493 for Town Committee.

Mr. Kennedy also made a good first run against Mr. Fazzano, taking his own Centreville district 217 to 202, and also carrying the Turcotte's Hall polling place, Arctic, by 125 to 78. Mr. Fazzano, however, snowed him under in his own home district of Natick 283 to 140 and in Riverpoint 224 to 74.

W. Warwick Vote

STATE SENATOR			
	Laferriere	LaChapelle	Marsella
Rep. Dist. 1	229	107	22
Rep. Dist. 2	204	129	207
Rep. Dist. 3	39	119	9
TOTALS	968	1,044	336
COUNCILMAN NO. 1			
	Fazzano	Kennedy	
Rep. Dist. 1	165	108	
Rep. Dist. 2	283	140	
Rep. Dist. 3	224	74	
TOTALS	1,115	813	

Fazzano nominated by 302 votes.

TOWN COMMITTEE	
*Richard	1,053
*McKanna	1,070
*Giorgio	1,275
*Muschiano	1,237
*Niquette	1,210
*Flynn	1,217
*DeCiantis	1,070
*Silva	1,235
*Boisvert	1,232
*Paul	1,204
*Mazicki	1,259
*Nolette	1,226
*Kraus	1,232
*Kulasevski	1,232
Kennedy	638
Lombardi	493

*Indicates endorsed candidates.
Top 15 vote-getters are elected.
All endorsed candidates elected.

SENATOR LACHAPELLE UPSETS DEMOCRATIC MACHINE AT POLLS

Times
Sept. 27,
1956

Defeats Laferriere in West Warwick Primary by Margin of 76 Votes

The usually powerful West Warwick Democratic machine was shaken to its roots in the party primary yesterday.

Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle, running without endorsement from the town committee, always, in former years, a prerequisite to an election victory, won over the endorsed candidate, Probate Judge Eugene J. Laferriere.

Although Mrs. Joan F. Marsella, the second unendorsed candidate for the senatorial nomination had to bow out to Sen. LaChapelle, she won a moral victory. Mrs. Marsella, newcomer to politics, copped the majority of votes in Dep. Dist. 1, Vol. Dist. 2, the Natick area, which has always showed the greatest strength for the Democratic machine. She beat both Sen. LaChapelle and Mr. Laferriere here.

Sen. LaChapelle racked up a total vote of 1044 to 968 for Mr. Laferriere and 336 for Mrs. Marsella. The senator's plurality stands at 76.

All of the other endorsed candidates won.

Out of an eligible electorate of 10,195, a total of 2614 voters went to the polls.

In Other Contests

In the other contests, Town Council President Francis J. Fazzano was renominated over the unendorsed candidate, Francis X. Kennedy, by a count of 1115 to 813.

Mr. Kennedy and Anthony Lombardi lost out in their attempts to gain one of the 15 seats on the Democratic Town Committee. In this race, Mr. Kennedy polled 698 and Mr. Lombardi 493.

When the official count was announced at the town hall, about an hour and a half after the seven polls had closed at 8 p.m., party leaders were visibly upset, raising eyebrows in the general area of Natick.

In the Natick voting district a total of 647 voters went to this respective poll. Yet, when the senatorial candidates tallies were made, the total vote was 107 less. Mrs. Marsella registered 207 votes, Mr. Laferriere 204, and Sen. LaChapelle 129. "What happened to the 107 others, party leaders were asking.

Giorgio Polls 366

This questioned gained significance when the tallies were made for town committee. Frank A. Giorgio Jr. polled a staggering 366 votes for town committeeman, 94 more than Albert Muschiano of the same district and an average of over 125 more than the other endorsed committee members.

In the last Democratic party primary, two years ago, Natick was the party stronghold. Sen. LaChapelle, the endorsed candidate

(Continued on page 4, col. 3)



FRANCIS FAZZANO

ate in that contest, polled 320 votes to 79 for Archambault. Alfred Richard, party chairman, said last night the party suffered a defeat because it lost the late Frank Giorgio Sr.

Also sure to be the target for some questioning at the next Democratic Town Committee meeting are the members from Rep. Dist. 3, Vol. Dist. 1, the Crompton area in general. "What happened in Crompton where Sen. LaChapelle polled 291 votes to 150 for Mr. Laferriere?" was another question of party leaders at the town hall.

Chairman Low Man

It was the party chairman himself who, although one of the 15 endorsed candidates to regain his seat on the town committee, was low man on the totem pole. However, Mr. Richard found himself in the unhappy position on the voting machines of being opposite the names of the unendorsed candidates, Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Lombardi. Mr. Richard polled 1053 votes, Mr. Kennedy received a tally of 698 and Mr. Lombardi chalked up 493. Mr. Giorgio led the town committee contestants with 1275 votes because of his big plurality in Natick.

Senator LaChapelle carried four of the seven voting districts. They were all but the two in Rep. Dist. 1, Natick and Phenix, and Vol. Dist. 1 of Rep. Dist. 2, at Riverpoint. With the exception of Natick, Mr. Laferriere won those two voting districts.

Town Council President Fazzano won all but one voting district in his bid for re-election. Mr. Kennedy scored a victory of 125 to 78 votes in Vol. Dist. 2 of Rep. Dist. 3, which is in Turcotte's Hall, Arctic.

Although it was only a token vote, there being no contest, Governor Roberts and Congressman Fogarty polled more than one-half of the votes cast. The governor received a total of 1305 votes and Rep. Fogarty 1307.

The other state candidates, also running without opposition, scored as follows: Armand Cote, lieutenant governor, 1264; John A. Notte Jr., secretary of state, 1222; William E. Powers, attorney general, 1244; Raymond Hawksley, general treasurer, 1195.

Local state candidates, without opposition like their big brothers on the state level, tallied as follows: Rep. Gerard DiFiore, 431 in the first district; Rep. Ulysses LaRoche, 354 in the second district, and Rep. Thaddeus Kraus, 509 in the third district.

Where there were contests, the vote was cast by the electors as follows:

Senate Nomination

Rep. Dist. 1, Vol. Dist. 1, Holy

Ghost Hall, Lippitt, Laferriere, 220; LaChapelle, 107; Mrs. Marsella, 22; Vol. Dist. 2, Providence Street School, Natick, Laferriere 204; LaChapelle 129, Mrs. Marsella 207.

Rep. Dist. 2, Vol. Dist. 1, Portuguese-American Citizens Club, Riverpoint, Laferriere 204, LaChapelle 116, Mrs. Marsella 25; Vol. Dist. 2, Main Street School, Arctic, Laferriere 59, LaChapelle 119, Mrs. Marsella 9.

Rep. Dist. 3, Vol. Dist. 1, town building, Murray's Square, Centreville, Laferriere 150, LaChapelle 291, Mrs. Marsella 42; Vol. Laferriere 62, LaChapelle 170, Dist. 2, Turcotte's Hall, Arctic, Mrs. Marsella 17; Vol. Dist. 3, Fiore Pontiac, Washington Street, Arctic, Laferriere 69, LaChapelle 112, Mrs. Marsella 14.

Town Council Race

In the race for a seat on the town council between Mr. Fazzano, the incumbent, and Mr. Kennedy, the vote was cast by dis-

tricts as follows: Rep. 1, Vol. 1, Fazzano 165, Kennedy 108; Vol. 2, Fazzano 283, Kennedy 140.

Rep. 2, Vol. 1, Fazzano 224, Kennedy 74, Vol. 2, Fazzano 76, Kennedy 70.

Rep. 3, Vol. 1 Fazzano 202 Ken-

neddy 217 Vol. 2 Fazzano 78 Kennedy 125; Vol. 3, Fazzano 87, Kennedy 79.

Town Committee

The town committee vote totals were registered as follows: Mr. Richard 1053, Mr. Kennedy 698, Mr. Lombardi 493, Harry F. McKanne 1230, Mr. Giorgio 1275, Mr. Muschiano 1237, Herve Niquette 1210, John Flynn 1217, Michael DeCiantis 1070, Manuel Silva 1235, Frank Boisvert 1232, Antonio Paul 1204, Stanislaus Maznicki 1259, Nolette 1226, Rep. Kraus, 1232, Henry Petrarca 1233, Chester Kulasewski 1175.

Town office candidates running without opposition received total votes as follows: town clerk, Mrs. Susan V. Lamb, 1282; town council, Mr. Niquette 1278, Thomas Mello 1272, Mr. Paul 1258, Mr. Kulasewski 1286; town treasurer, Robert Harrop, 1283; town sergeant, Mr. Boisvert, 1280; director of public welfare, Joseph Lawrence, 1281; tax assessor, Herminegelde Nadeau 1275 and Richard Hughes 1234; school committee, Dr. Richard P. Duffy 1248 and Anthony Paliotta, 1238.

On the ballot, unopposed in their nominations for state committee members were James Sweeney and Aline Hill, both of Rep. Dist. 3, who received 489 and 471 votes, respectively.



Mrs. Joan Marsella, unendorsed candidate for senatorial nomination in West Warwick, is caught by camera as she leans against door in corridor to scribble primary results before being escorted to Natick polls. Attractive candidate won in Natick.

Kent County-South County

PS - Oct 2, 1956

W. Warwick to Air Pension Progress

West Warwick police and firemen, last night made plans for a showdown meeting with the Town Council at 7:30 tonight on their long sought pension plan.

The Council has arranged tonight's meeting, as a result of a request from pension committee leaders.

While tonight's meeting is ostensibly to receive a report on progress the administration has made on a plan since a meeting with police and firemen last March, the Council also is ex-

pected to receive some proposed changes in the overall plan previously suggested.

Patrolman John Bruno, chairman of the police pension group, said after last night's meeting that the men still would like retirement at age 55, but after 25 years of "active duty," and not the 25 years' continuous service.

If a man doesn't have 25 years service by the time he's 55, he could stay on until 60 and his pension then would be pro-rated according to years of service, under the new proposed change. There are other more definite plans to be submitted, Patrolman Bruno said.

He said that James O. McManus, attorney, was at last night's meeting and is expected to be with the men when they meet with the Council tonight.

10

Democratic Plank Highlights

Oct 2, 1956

These are the highlights of the 1956 Rhode Island Democratic Party platform:

- Education—State aid for school construction costs.
- Economic development—Assist private and municipal groups to develop industrial parks; develop and expand tourist and recreation industries.
- Civil rights—Increase staff of Commission Against Discrimination so it may make more surveys without waiting for complaints.
- Highways and bridges—Work for a southern Rhode Island turnpike including bridge or tunnel between Jamestown and Newport.
- Labor—Increase minimum wage from 90 cents to \$1; establish a state division to train apprentices for industry; revise mechanics' lien law.
- Consumer protection—Create position of public counselor to represent consumers at public utility rate hearings.
- Hurricane and flood control—Speed construction of flood control projects and hurricane barriers with federal aid.
- Agriculture and conservation—Enact striped bass "hook and line" bill.
- Primary and election laws—Same day primaries; signature identification of voters; eliminate paper ballots; supply capable and trained election officials; increase powers of boards of canvassers.
- Home rule—Seek constitutional amendment to permit communities to determine when and how to hold local elections; give home rule powers to communities which have not adopted home rule charters.
- Reapportionment—Reapportion House of Representatives seats to give better distribution of representation.
- Legislative rules and procedures—Permit suit against state on all claims up to \$10,000.
- State employes—Study by experts of state employes' pay standards.
- Youth—Assist communities to establish child guidance clinics.
- Taxes—Hold tax line without reducing services.
- Family court—Combine domestic relations and juvenile courts into family court if current study shows need.

DE CIANTIS SEES UNITY

James Jones 9-29-56

Declares Democrats Will Be As Strong As Ever Nov. 6

Michael DeCiantis, West Warwick town solicitor, today retaliated at the Republican spokesman, Leo Charbonneau, by saying the Republican Party "ought to realize by now that any primary fight between Democrats is just like a spat between husband and wife."

This means, Mr. DeCiantis declared, "outsiders, keep out." If not, "the husband and wife will turn on you," and that "is the thing that is going to happen within a few days when the election campaign starts," he added.

"The primary is over; there will be Democratic unity now. We have joined in our good fight to retain our leadership," he said.

"That leadership will be strong as it ever was, to keep the Republicans in this town where they have been the last decade."

"I might ask," Mr. DeCiantis said, "why doesn't the chairman of the Republican party keep umpiring his own ballgame, which, I understand, is already fouled up. Tell the people what happened at your last town committee meeting, what there is left of it. If you don't, I will give it to the people, blow by blow," Mr. DeCiantis stated.

One in 4 Voters Cast Ballots In Primary

9-28-56

The West Warwick Board of Canvassers announced this morning that 2,591 electors out of an eligible total of 10,195 voted in the Democratic primary, Wednesday.

The tabulation shows that the heaviest vote was cast in Natick where the total was 636 and the next heaviest vote was in Centreville where 537 voters were checked. The breakdown by precincts is:

Representative district 1, voting district 1—393; voting district 2—636.

Representative district 2, voting district 1—362; voting district 2—196.

Representative district 3, voting district 1—537; voting district 2—264; voting district 3—203.

P.J. Oct. 2, 1966

R.I. Democrats Back Voting Law Reform

Platform Asks Broader Home Rule Authority

Voting law reforms including signature identification for every voter who goes to the polls and specific proposals to broaden the home rule powers of cities and towns were pledged by the Democrats last night at their platform convention.

They took pains to nail down to individual office holders the responsibility for carrying out the pledges.

Again this year—as in 1954—the Democrats promised to hold “the tax line without reducing services.”

The happy Democrats, who crowded Elks Auditorium to cheer their party leaders, promised to continue efforts to obtain federal assistance for construction of Blackstone River flood control projects and Narragansett Bay hurricane barriers.

School Construction Aid
In the field of education, the Democrats, following a theme Governor Roberts has been espousing, advocated state aid to help cities and towns build schools.

For the first time, the platform attempts to nail down the responsibility for executing pledges made in the various planks.

Like many other planks in the platform, the specific responsibility item was suggested by Governor Roberts at a platform committee hearing last week.

This is what the responsibility plank says:

“If (platform) is a pledge not only by all the Democratic candidates, but by each of them. By subscribing to this statement, each Democratic candidate for office campaigning on this platform personally binds himself to fight and vote for legislation which will embody the pledges herein set forth.”

Ovation for Fogarty
The convention keynoter, U.S. Rep. John E. Fogarty of the Second District, was greeted by prolonged applause from the crowd of about 500.

He characterized the Republican Party as the “party of big business” and said the Democrats on the other hand are for the working people. “What is good for business is not necessarily good for our country,” he added, saying the Democratic Party believes prosperity can be guaranteed by making sure average citizens have enough money to buy goods.

Locally, he said, Rhode Island Republicans are shouting, “Me too, me too, me too,” and he likened them to birds whose songs become “harsh, insistent and repetitious” in the fall.

Sen. John O. Pastore quipped he thought Congressman Fo-

garty had been about to say: “The Republican campaign is strict.”

When Senator Pastore was given prolonged applause, he said with a big smile: “You’ve got to learn to take it easy. This is on my time.”

In his short speech, Governor Roberts spoke of the accomplishments of his administration, and emphasized the platform pledge that there will be no tax raises.

The reason for that, he said, is an awareness by his administration that taxes have to be held down for the average home owner and for the businesses and industry which employ the state’s residents. “If we have no industry, we have no jobs,” he told the convention.

He accused the Republicans of raising “fictitious issues” and said his administration has increased state expenditures \$15,000,000 without raising taxes. Of the total state appropriation, about one-third or \$20,000,000, goes to cities and towns in various forms of assistance, he added.

No Dissenting Vote
The platform was adopted without a single dissenting vote after its adoption had been moved by House Speaker Harry F. Curvin, platform committee chairman.

Both the signature identification and broadened home rule pledges made last night by the Democrats were killed during the last session of the General Assembly by the Democratic-controlled legislature.

Also killed last spring—and promised again last night—was a proposal to reapportion the seats in the House of Representatives to give a better distribution of representation.

At the last Assembly session, the governor and the legislature backed the report of the special Hogan election laws study commission which advocated card identification for voters. That was enacted and will be in effect Nov. 6.

The League of Women Voters and a few others asked for signature identification, but the governor, the special study commission and the Assembly stuck by card identification.

Only a few days after the Pawtucket frauds of the Sept. 17 Republican primary, Governor Roberts came out for signature identification, and the platform last night followed his lead.

Training of Poll Officials
The Democratic convention also advocated, for the first time, the training of election officials in their duties, additional powers so that boards of canvassers “may provide clean,

accurate and honest voting lists” and the elimination of paper ballots, “except under unusual circumstances.”

Again this year, the Democrats came out for one-day primaries. Democratic and Republican primaries now are held on separate days.

To give cities and towns more home rule, the Democrats prom-

ised to fight for passage of:

1. A constitutional amendment that would allow the communities to establish their own election procedures. The State Supreme Court has ruled that only the Assembly, under the present Constitution, may determine when and how local elections can be conducted.

2. A bill that would spell out in detail the powers of cities and towns which have not adopted a charter under the home rule amendment. Legislation to that effect has been introduced for several years, but it always has died in committee.

Study of State Jobs
The platform, also following the lead of the governor, proposed an evaluation study of all state employ positions and pay.

Throughout the platform, the Democrats took swipes at the Republicans, both locally and nationally. They accused the national Republican administration of “discriminatory” credit policies, and, locally, they referred several times to a lack of awareness of problems on the part of local Republicans.

Governor Roberts’ old proposals for a public counsellor in the division of public utilities was picked up by the platform committee. The plank on that item referred specifically to natural gas users as a field in which a public counsellor could have acted.

Consumers complain, the platform said, that “while rates remain high, natural gas is failing to perform as well as it should.”

Child Guidance Clinics
In the area of social welfare, the platform proposed local child guidance clinics to help combat juvenile delinquency. It also said the party intends to support the idea of a family court if a study committee now examining the proposal comes up with a favorable report.

Also pledged was a continuance of highway construction work.

The Democrats promised, as they have before, to continue fighting for federal reinsurance to insure the solvency of state unemployment compensation funds.

Secretary of State Armand H. Cote, candidate for lieutenant governor, was the convention’s permanent chairman. Democratic State Chairman Frank Rao opened the session, and Rep. Gladys M. Brightman of Bristol, candidate for the state Senate, was permanent secretary.

Other speakers were U.S. Rep. Aime J. Forand; Attorney General William E. Powers; John A. Notte, candidate for secre-

tary of state, and Raymond H. Hawksley, general treasurer. Invocation was by the Rev. Joseph

J. Lamb, chaplain of St. Vincent de Paul Infant Asylum, and the benediction by the Rev. John B. Lyte, rector of All Saints’ Episcopal Church.

10/2/66

11

P.J. Oct 3, 1956

Groups Discuss Fire, Police Pension Plan

The West Warwick Town Council, about a score of police and firemen and their legal counsel and three insurance firm representatives held a closed discussion of a proposed police and pension plan last night in the town hall.

At the end of the meeting, it was announced that the insurance firm will figure cost of a revised plan proposed by the men last night and that the men will try to find estimated cost to the town if it operates a pension fund itself.

The men presented a proposal under which a five-member pension fund committee would be created by the Town Council to administer a fund into which police and firemen would pay three per cent of annual salary and the town would provide such additional amounts as would be needed to pay pensions.

Under the men’s plan, drafted by their attorney, James O. McManus, in the form of a possible Council ordinance—the town already has General Assembly authorization to establish a plan—the town treasurer would be fund custodian and the town clerk would be clerk of the committee. The money could not be transferred to other town accounts.

The groups will meet again in about two weeks, it was said.

Denied permission to attend the meeting, besides reporters, were another man and Leo B.

Charbonneau, chairman of the Republican town committee, who said he intended only to listen to the proceedings so that his party could act intelligently on any pension plan.

“All they want us to see is the frosting, not the making of the cake,” Mr. Charbonneau said. He said he did not want to hurt the police and firemen’s chances of getting a pension and quickly offered to leave when the presence of others than the police and firemen and officials became an issue.

Before the meeting got started, and while about a score of police and firemen listened from seats in the Council chamber, the point was raised by Town Clerk Susan V. Lamb and Francis J. Fazzano, Council president, that the meeting was intended to be a closed discussion. Mrs. Lamb said she would have advised the newspapers of the meeting if it were to have been a special Council session.

Mr. Charbonneau said he could see no harm in conducting the pension progress discussions in public.

Mr. Fazzano said there could be differences about a possible pension plan and that their appearance in the press might hurt the cause of the police and firemen. Mrs. Lamb said she understood the men asked for a closed meeting.

Mr. Fazzano finally said he would leave it up to the men whether they wanted the meeting open.

While the men were apparently willing to have the meeting an open one, their pension committee representatives, Patrolman John Bruno and Fire Capt. Michael Pimental, agreed to a closed meeting after considerable discussion.

Captain Pimental said he could see where the town officials might have interpreted a letter from the men requesting a discussion meeting of the pension as meaning they wanted it closed. He said that did not mean that the men had to keep quiet about the meeting afterward.

Captain Pimental said the main differences in the proposed Council ordinance presented by the men and Mr. McManus last night and proposals by the men last March are:

1. Creation of the committee by the Council to regulate the pension plan, with the treasurer as custodian.
2. A requirement of 25 years active service, instead of 25 years of continuous service.
3. A provision for counting of prior service which the men might have put in as a regular employ in determining his length of service.

Text of Platform Approved by Democratic Party of Rhode Island

P.J. Oct. 2, 1956

Preamble

Here is the text of the Rhode Island Democratic state platform adopted by the Democratic state convention in Elks Auditorium last night. Every truly Democratic society requires that its elected representatives submit their records and their proposals periodically for public discussion and the decision of the electorate. Relying upon the accomplishments of the Democratic state administration and of our Democratic senators and congressmen in Washington, we delegates to this 1956 convention welcome this opportunity to account for our stewardship.

Inspired by the leadership of Adlai Stevenson and Estes Kefauver, and with confident faith in the capacity of all our candidates and the Democratic philosophy of government to respond successfully to the challenges of the next two years, we set forth in this platform, for the consideration of the people, a full and frank statement of the policies which we shall follow and the specific steps which we shall take to solve the problems that will confront the government of Rhode Island in the immediate future:

Education

Universal education in the United States has been the greatest single factor in our progress toward freedom and security. Today, the demand for more education far exceeds our supply of schools and teachers, and the demand is still rising. Fundamentally, the problem is national in scope. What is happening in Rhode Island is going on all over the country. The tremendous expenditures of money involved cannot be made entirely out of local or state taxes. The Democratic members of Congress have pressed for the passage of legislation providing for Federal aid to education over strong Republican opposition, and they will continue to do so. As chairman of the New England Governors' Conference, our Democratic governor has urged united New England effort for passage of this vital legislation.

Pending federal assistance, Rhode Island has undertaken a program to relieve local taxpayers by assisting local communities.

Upon the basis of analysis and recommendation of experts in the field of education and finance, the state Democratic administration has taken action to meet our need for more teachers:

1. By providing for a new College of Education.
2. By establishing a minimum salary schedule of from \$3,200 to \$5,200 a year for all teachers in the state.
3. By raising the educational requirements of our teachers.
4. By establishing an equalization fund so that the state can assist the taxpayers of our towns and cities to meet the increased costs.

State Aid for School Construction

School buildings and facilities in our cities and towns are critically short of minimum requirements. The cost of constructing additional buildings is so great that many communities are being compelled to place excessive burdens upon small taxpayers.

Only the federal government has sufficient resources to give our towns and cities the financial help they require to build adequate schools.

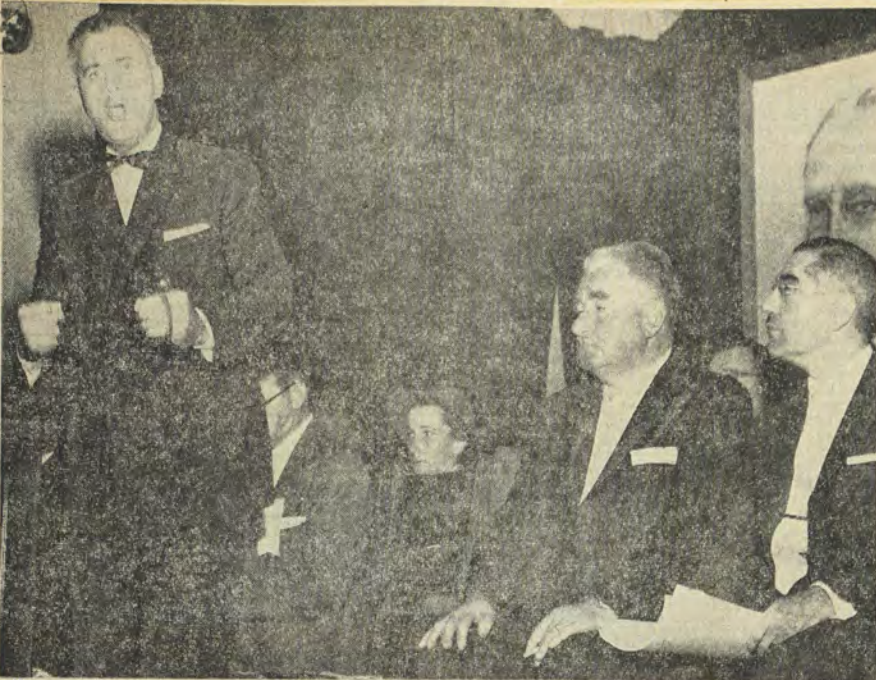
The Republican administration in Washington and the Republican members of Congress have delayed and postponed federal aid to education to such an extent that our state government must use every means we can to avert the crisis that we face because the national government refuses to assume its proper obligation.

We therefore pledge ourselves to enact legislation providing funds whereby the state will assist the communities in meeting part of the debt service costs incurred by them in school construction.

We urge approval of the referendum providing for bond issues to finance construction of the Henry Barnard Laboratory School, the Rhode Island College of Education Gymnasium, and new construction at Rhode Island University.

Economic Development

Long before the Republican Party was even aware that such a problem might exist, the Democratic administration discerned that the economy of our state manifested symptoms of imbalance and decline. Under the leadership of Democratic administrations, we have used every resource of our scientific skill and expert knowledge to uncover the causes of our difficulties.



Keynote: Congressman Fogarty addresses Democratic state convention last night at Elks Auditorium. Listening, left, are State Chairman Frank Rao and Senator Pastore.

stantial gains toward a balanced economy for Rhode Island.

1. Rhode Island employment is at a high level, an indication of our strength under a Democratic administration.
2. Wages and salaries are higher than ever before.
3. Since the beginning of 1952, over \$140,000,000 has been invested in new industrial plants, machinery and equipment in Rhode Island.
4. The recreation and tourist industry in Rhode Island is growing.
5. The Rhode Island Development Council now provides planning and technical assistance to cities and towns.

During the next two years, we promise to carry on our program to build a strong economy:

1. We shall continue to hold the tax line. We shall impose no new or additional taxes upon the taxpayers of Rhode Island.
2. Through the Rhode Island Development Council and every other agency of our government, we shall take bold and vigorous action to protect the industries we have, and seek new and diversified industry.
3. We shall assist private enterprise and municipal organizations to lay out and develop industrial parks.
4. We shall assist small business which holds the key to Rhode Island prosperity.
5. We shall develop and expand our tourist and recreation industries to their full potential.
6. We shall design and construct the highways, air terminals and port facilities needed by our growing commercial activities.
7. In concert with governments of the other New England states, we shall plan and carry out programs for the economic welfare of the region.

Of course, in the interdependent world of today, the welfare of Rhode Island is inevitably affected by the acts and omissions of the federal government. While we struggle here at home to maintain and improve the textile industry, that is the cornerstone of our employment structure, the Republican administration in Washington simply ignores our pleas for protection against the infiltration of Japanese textiles. While we call upon every resource at our command to husband our employment security fund against the hazards of nationwide fluctuations, a Republican administration refuses to push for reinsurance of state funds. While other states have unfilled backlogs of private and public orders, a federal administration, dominated by the giants of industry, refuses to channel a fair share of government contracts to the small businessmen of our state.

Therefore during the next two years, our Democratic senators and congressmen, with the vigorous assistance of our state government, will:

1. Continue their fight for federal action to provide better tariff protection for Rhode Island's textile, lace, rubber, jewelry and other industries threatened by the paralyzing and destructive competition from low-wage industries abroad.
2. Seek federal tax relief for small business.
3. Back the adoption of a federal reinsurance program to insure the sol-

veny of unemployment funds throughout the country.

4. Urge that fresh consideration be given by Congress for federal aid to ailing industries and surplus labor areas through loans, grants and technical assistance.
5. Make every effort to promote the development of atomic power for industrial purposes in Rhode Island.

Social Welfare

A flourishing economy is the best guarantee that the needs of the vast majority of our people will be fulfilled. While the Republicans saw no need to go further, the Democratic Party recognized that government also has the obligation to protect and care for those who, through no fault of their own, cannot share fully in the rewards of an industrial society. Often, the causes of disability are temporary, and with proper guidance, an individual or family group can be returned to fruitful participation in community life. Scientific progress, particularly in the medical field, has opened up tremendous opportunities for rehabilitation. Under this Democratic administration, Rhode Island has become a model for other states in lending a hand to those who need only a little assistance to be rescued from the shadows of despair.

By now it must be obvious, even to the most callous, that the community will not tolerate abject poverty. As long as there is a Democratic administration in the State of Rhode Island, no man, woman or child shall be without the food, clothing and shelter needed to sustain life on a level in keeping with the dignity of a creature of God. Above that minimum, we shall continue to strive for the improvement of our public assistance standards.

We feel that the people of Rhode Island approve our approach to the welfare of the aged, the retarded, the physically and mentally ill. The goal of a progressive social welfare program must be to return as many persons as possible to active participation in the life of the community. It is the best possible thing for these people themselves, and it is the most economical approach for the taxpayers of the state. The improvements in facilities and personnel in our state institutions, the clinics we have established, the special rehabilitation and education programs now in operation are investments in our fellow man and will return dividends a hundredfold.

Recently, we have taken more great strides in the field of social welfare:

1. The geriatrics building for women and the extension to the Adolph Meyer Building have been completed.
 2. We have the most successful program for the treatment of alcoholism in the country.
 3. Our vocational rehabilitation program has aided hundreds of persons and saved the state thousands of dollars.
 4. We have recruited additional specialists and expanded our mental health services.
 5. We have completely overhauled the administration of our correctional institutions.
- We have made a concentrated effort on behalf of retarded children which has produced:
1. New buildings and more trained personnel at Exeter School.
 2. A community census of retarded children.

3. Special training and education in our town and cities.

4. Diagnostic and evaluation clinics.

We urgently request that the bond issue for the chapel auditorium and gymnasium at Exeter be approved.

The Democratic Party plans to continue the expansion of its welfare services to meet the new demands which develop as the medical and social sciences throw light in the dark corners of our society, and our material progress gives us the means to assist our fellow citizens.

Civil Rights

Actions speak louder than words in the field of civil rights. The Democratic Party in Rhode Island has based its every action on the first principle that all men are born equal in the sight of God and are entitled to seek out their destiny without discrimination because of their race, religion or national origin. In this spirit, we support unequivocally the decision of the United States Supreme Court outlawing segregation in public schools.

Fortunately, segregation in education and public employment is a thing of the past in Rhode Island. In public housing, procedures have been adopted which will assure first-come, first-served treatment to all. A Democratic administration has enacted one of the first and best laws prohibiting discrimination in private employment, public housing and public accommodation.

The Commission Against Discrimination will continue to employ persuasion, education and finally enforcement, until the remaining pockets of bias and prejudice are wiped out. We propose to increase the staff of the commission so that it may conduct more surveys of its own initiative without waiting for complaints. Upon the basis of the data obtained, the commission can then suggest extension of our basic law into other areas of everyday life where discrimination is found to exist.

Highways and Bridges

The most reliable prediction is that the number of motor vehicles traveling over the roads of the United States will, during the next 20 years, increase to one hundred million. We are the most mobile nation in world history, and we are becoming more so. A state which fails to plan and construct a modern system of highways and bridges will find its commerce by-passed or strangled by tomorrow's traffic. Because of the foresight and vision of a Democratic state administration, Rhode Island has a master plan of long-range construction which is ready to meet the growing demand for more highways and bridges. We are prepared and ready to participate immediately in the new federal highway program recently passed by the Congress under Democratic auspices.

Our record of major construction includes the following:

1. Completion of Tower Hill Road, Nooseneck Hill Road (Route 84 to Baker's Corners) and the Sakonnet River Bridge.
2. The new Providence River Bridge section of the north-south freeway is in mid-construction and will be opened in July 1957.
3. Work is underway on Louissett Pike.
4. The contractors will be bidding on the Pawtucket Bridge before the

end of this year.

5. Contractors will bid on the several more major projects in 1957 and 1958: Nooseneck Hill Road to Quaker Lane; Louissett Pike (northern extension); East Providence expressway; widening of Wampanoag Trail; Huntington Avenue expressway.

Air transport is growing even more rapidly than highway traffic, and Rhode Island must have the facilities to keep up with progress in the air. We recommend approval of the proposed bond issue for further state airport development.

The importance of our great bays and rivers cannot be overestimated, but years ago, these natural assets created transportation problems, which exceeded the vision of Republican administrations. The policies under which the Republicans built bridges and ferry systems were the same policies under which the Republican administration in Washington is building power projects today. First consideration is given to the profits of the few; the future needs of the many come second. For years this selfish and shortsighted policy has isolated the City of Newport behind a barrier of high tolls and slow ferries.

The task of correcting the mistakes of the past and making the southeastern part of our state accessible by way of a system of free highways and free bridges cannot be completed in a day. But we are making progress. Tolls on the Mount Hope Bridge have been reduced, and they will be reduced again in 1957. West Main Road and Metacomb Avenue are being rebuilt to become part of the Providence-Newport through highway route. The establishment of the Jamestown Ferry Authority has improved service between Jamestown and Newport. We propose, and will strive for, a Southern Rhode Island turnpike to include a bridge or tunnel between Jamestown and Newport as part of the federal interstate highway system.

We recognize the lasting economic significance of each highway project, whether it be construction of a major downtown freeway or repairing of a secondary road. With more than 20 per cent of the total state highway mileage rebuilt or under construction by the present Democratic administration, we have greatly strengthened the economic potential of Rhode Island. We have added to the efficiency of business, increased the recreational opportunities for our people by improving access to our natural resources, and stimulated industrial growth and new commercial and residential areas. Within the past year, the pace of highway construction has been doubled, and we have launched a \$103,000,000 major road program. We pledge to maintain this pace until our master plan is completed, with a network of expressways reaching all corners of our State and top-notch secondary roads serving every community center.

Labor

The Democratic Party of the State of Rhode Island has led the way to the enactment of the best labor laws in the entire country. Its actions in the field of labor legislation were motivated by the principle that the welfare of the workers of Rhode Island must be adequately protected in the interest of all our citizens. When the Republican Party ignores the rights of labor it ignores the welfare of Rhode Island.

Democratic administrations in Rhode Island have written into law and later improved programs for workmen's compensation, unemployment and cash sickness benefits; have enacted a model state labor relations act, an anti-injunction law and, most recently, a minimum wage law and a law providing for the arbitration of labor disputes.

In carrying out our duty to maintain a strong base for our economic prosperity and a living wage for all, we favor the immediate increase of the ninety-cent per hour minimum wage under our present law to \$1. We intend to keep our state standard abreast of the federal level at all times in the future, for we see no justification for a differential between employees who happen to work in industries affecting interstate commerce and those whose activities are confined to the State of Rhode Island.

Temporary unemployment in a particular state is caused by national economic fluctuations. An ideal program of employment security would be based upon a national law providing for uniform standards throughout the entire country and a common fund. Pending the enactment of such a national program it is vitally important that the federal government reinsure the unemployment compensation funds of the individual states.

Blackstone River flood control projects and the integrated system of hurricane barriers on Narragansett Bay have been completed.

High on the priority list is approval by the voters of the \$500,000 Blackstone River flood control bond issue at this election, authorization of additional protective works for the Social district of Woonsocket and an intensive campaign in Congress for construction funds for Narragansett Bay hurricane barriers.

We shall introduce legislation in the coming session of the General Assembly to provide whatever local assurances are required to permit the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers to proceed with this project in 1957 as soon as Federal funds are made available.

Agriculture And Conservation

Down the years the Democratic Party has insisted that state government has a primary responsibility to conserve and develop natural resources, our farms and our public lands.

Most recently we have:

1. Completely reorganized and modernized the Department of Agriculture and Conservation.
2. Enacted laws which have led to stricter enforcement of our fish and game laws.
3. Improved fresh water sport fishing opportunities by acquiring more ponds and streams and purchasing an additional hatchery.
4. Transplanted quahaugs to clean waters to assist commercial fishermen and safeguard the health of consumers.

We plan to take additional steps along the same line:

1. Step up the shellfish transplanting program.
2. Reforest burned out areas and abandoned farms with pine seedlings.
3. Acquire sites along the bay and coastal area for use of commercial and sports fishermen.
4. Develop more hunting areas.
5. Enact legislation prohibiting the seining of striped bass and allowing only limited trapping.

We have always maintained that the most valuable asset of our state is the skill of its workers. We cannot permit these skills to deteriorate in the next generation. The Democratic Party in Rhode Island favors the expansion of our vocational education program and the establishment, within the Department of Labor, of a division of apprenticeship, to coordinate the training of apprentices in Rhode Island industry.

More than any other single group, Rhode Island workers who own their own homes are adversely affected by the provisions of the mechanics lien law. It is our intention to have the enactment of the legislation introduced in the last General Assembly which will eliminate the antiquated provisions of that law.

Recreation

Nature has blessed Rhode Island with the materials from which we may fashion programs of leisure for ourselves and for our visitors. With automation to achieve a second industrial revolution, opportunity is knocking at our door. Rhode Island must develop its natural resources and capitalize on the increased leisure time that science is bestowing on the people of America. Nationally, and at the state level, Republicans have been notoriously lax in developing natural resources for the leisure of our people. Our Democratic administration has doubled state efforts in the field of recreation. We have created and expanded a Division of Parks and Recreation. Since the recent hurricane we have rebuilt the Scarborough, Sand Hill Cove and Block Island bathhouses and beaches.

It is our firm purpose to continue to enlarge and develop our recreation facilities.

Pollution

We advocate that the program to eliminate water pollution, initiated by and advanced under the present Democratic administration, be pursued with continued vigor.

Primary and Election Laws

The Democratic Party has always been in the forefront of the fight for free elections. Our party waged the battles that abolished property qualifications and other obstacles to the extension of the franchise. At a single stroke, we wiped out the stuffed ballot box and the padded vote count by introducing voting machines. We sponsored the present primary law.

In keeping with this tradition, the Democratic Party pledges itself in the following specific reforms:

1. To amend the primary law so that the primaries of each political party will be held on the same day and unendorsed candidates will have representation at the polls.
2. To amend our election laws and improve their administration to provide for signature identification voting; sufficient powers for their boards of canvassers so that they may provide clean, accurate and honest voting lists; the elimination of paper ballots, except under unusual circumstances and subject to definite limitations; an adequate number of capable election officials trained in their duties and such other safeguards as time and experience prove necessary.

Our attorney general will continue to enforce vigorously the

election and primary laws of this state, recommending imposition of penalties without regard to political affiliation.

Home Rule

The Democratic Party is the party which originally advocated home rule for our cities and towns. It is the party which made the Home Rule Amendment to our Constitution possible. Now, in order to achieve complete benefits of home rule, we pledge ourselves:

1. To seek a constitutional amendment that will permit our cities and towns to determine for themselves the methods, manner and time of local elections.
2. To support legislation which will spell out in detail the powers of those cities and towns which have not adopted a Home Rule Charter under the Constitution.

Reapportionment

Article XIII of the amendments to our state Constitution provides that the General Assembly may, after any new census, reapportion the House of Representatives. The purpose of that constitutional provision is to assure that the House of Representatives shall always reflect population trends and be truly representative.

The Democratic Party pledges itself to carry out the letter and spirit of our Constitution by seeking the immediate enactment of the necessary legislation to carry out reapportionment of the House of Representatives.

Legislative Rules And Procedures

We believe that the rules and procedures of the General Assembly can, and should be, revised and improved so that proposed legislation may be carefully considered, fully debated and speedily acted upon.

We advocate the enactment of a statute under which all claims against the state not exceeding \$10,000 would be brought before our State courts.

State Employees

Our state government would not be able to render services to its citizens without the unselfish devotion of its employees. In dollars and cents their wages have not always kept up to the rates in private industry. We know that public employment has other features which make it attractive. However, our party has always maintained that the earnings of civil servants must be as close as possible to standards in private employment. Our state employees are entitled to a living wage and if they do not receive it we cannot expect to retain them in the service.

We propose that an evaluation study of all state employ positions be made by experts in the field with a view to improving pay standards throughout the service within the limit of the state's financial ability.

Youth

Juvenile delinquency is often the outward sign of disorders within our society which cannot be reached by correctional programs. In an area where an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, our Democratic administration is striving to create opportunities for our younger people to develop their talents to their full potential.

We have already expanded our vocational training programs and have increased the facilities and capacity of Rhode Island University.

Recognizing that sound emotional health goes hand in hand with sound education, we propose to assist our cities and towns to establish child guidance clinics in which the emotional problems that handicap the education of many youngsters may be diagnosed and cured.

Behind the Iron and Bamboo Curtains, the Communists are training millions of young engineers and scientists. The democratic effort must be just as large, but broader in subject matter. We urge the adoption of federal legislation to provide national scholarships in all fields for talented young men and women who need financial assistance.

Veterans

The debt of our nation and our state to the veterans of our country's wars cannot be repaid. The federal government, under Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman, set up a liberal program to give all veterans the assistance they needed to readjust to community life and to take complete care of those who were wounded and ill.

In Rhode Island, successive Democratic administrations have augmented the federal program, The Soldiers' Home in Bristol has been reconstructed to take care of a great many more veterans and to provide them with better care.

The Democratic Party shall
Continued on Next Page

P.J. Oct. 2, 1956

Democratic Text

Cont. From Preceding Page

continue to advance the welfare of this group to whom we owe so much.

Holding Tax Line

The Democratic administration, and Governor Roberts in particular, have steadfastly refused to impose additional taxes upon the taxpayers of Rhode Island. We pledge ourselves to continue our present policy of holding the tax line without reducing the services which have been furnished to the people of Rhode Island.

Law Enforcement

Under the leadership of our Democratic attorney general, Rhode Island maintains standards of law enforcement which are the envy of our sister states.

Our Democratic administration has made great progress in coordinating the work of state and local police. Successful law enforcement depends on trained law officers. We have made the state police school available to trainees of local police departments. At the crime laboratory at the University of Rhode Island officers already in service take courses in the recognition, gathering and presentation of physical evidence.

We pledge ourselves to expand and develop these programs in the earnest hope that Rhode Island may some day have a police academy where state and local officers will be trained side by side in the important duties they will perform side by side.

Republican Credit Policy

The discriminatory credit policies of the Republican national administration should be replaced by policies that are fair to all.

We condemn the high interest rates and the artificially induced restriction of credit which are helping money lenders at the expense of veterans and the ordinary man who wants to buy a new home, a new car or a major household appliance. The jobs of workers in the construction industry and small businesses are threatened because their employers must borrow money at high rates and some banks postpone loans while they await another round of interest rate increases from their

Republican friends in Washington.

During the past four years rising interest rates have cost the taxpayers an additional three billion dollars to meet the interest on the national debt and approximately an equal increase in the amount required to meet the interest on the borrowing of state and local governments and private borrowers.

The money has been taken out of the pocket of the taxpayer and put into the pockets of big banks and insurance companies.

This tight money policy is also increasing the costs and consequently restricting the construction of vitally needed schools, hospitals and other necessary community improvements.

Family Court

A study is now being made of the advantages which might accrue from the establishment of a family court which would have jurisdiction over the legal problems arising out of the family unit. This system has proved valuable in other states and if the study committee finds that it would be advantageous to Rhode Island, it is our intention to enact the necessary legislation to provide for a family court.

Conclusion

This platform has been conceived and written out of the living faith that our party has in the people of our state. It is more than a declaration of minimum propositions upon which all candidates for public office can reach agreement. It is a pledge not only by all the Democratic candidates but by each of them. By subscribing to this statement each Democratic candidate for office campaigning on this platform personally binds himself to fight and vote for legislation which will embody the pledges herein set forth.

In this document we have set forth our record and our plans with confidence and a certain amount of pride. And we earnestly hope that, on November 6th, the voters of Rhode Island will signify by their ballots that they approve what we have done and desire that we continue on the course laid down in this platform.

P.J. Oct. 16, 1956

LaChapelle Called Question Mark By His Opponent

Peter E. Lemoi, Republican candidate for the Senate last night called the West Warwick Democratic organization "a self-centered, self-interested group" and termed his Democratic opponent a "question mark."

Speaking on Radio Station WWRI, Mr. Lemoi said the Democrats "have a personal club and no new members are welcome."

He criticized their alleged methods of choosing candidates, saying "they were concerned only with paying favors for personal services, trading officers for personal power, and worst of all, choosing candidates in a bold attempt to appeal to national groups, with complete disregard for the qualifications of individuals."

Without mentioning his Democratic opponent, Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle by name, Mr. Lemoi said Mr. LaChapelle would be a "question mark" because if elected he could not count on the support of his party.

P.J. Oct. 15, 1956

School Board Reaffirms Bus Stand

West Warwick school committee members last night declared that they have not established a walking distance policy for pupils and indicated that they felt the establishment of such a policy might lead to inequities and dangerous conditions.

They took their stand in reply to a letter from Carter Handy, chairman of the steering committee of the West Warwick Council of PTA, inquiring whether such a policy had been established.

They reaffirmed a stand taken earlier this month by the retiring school committee chairman Vincent Lukowicz.

The matter had been brought to question by Ernest Frenette, GOP candidate for Town Council, who said that the committee should formulate a walking distance policy. Mr. Lukowicz replied at that time that bus transportation schedule had been readjusted to meet the needs of all students.

In his final school committee meeting last night, Mr. Lukowicz reiterated his position that the school committee is complying with state law by providing transportation for children at a reasonable walking distance.

S.J. Oct. 14, 1956

Missouri Incident Harry Truman Within Inches But DeCiantis Speechless

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick, a leader in Pawtuxet Valley Democratic politics, admitted yesterday he stood within inches of former President Harry S. Truman in Independence, Mo., last week and didn't have the nerve to introduce himself.

The Missouri incident happened like this: Mr. DeCiantis, in Independence on a legal matter, was staying at a Kansas City hotel. He arose early for a 45-minute early morning ride to Independence, thinking he might bump into Mr. Truman on one of his daily walks.

The Valley Democratic leader likes to stroll for relaxation, too, and his court appointment wasn't until 9:15 a.m. While walking around, he learned from a pupil bound for school that Mr. Truman lived at 219 Delaware Ave., at the corner of W. Truman Highway. He walked there and looked between the pickets of the seven-foot high iron fence around Mr. Truman's home.

A uniformed and armed policeman, or guard, came out and put a briefcase in the tonneau of a car. Mr. DeCiantis then was sure the ex-President was there and waited eagerly. But the guard looked suspiciously at him, so Mr. DeCiantis sidled behind a tree and looked on from the sidewalk as Mr. Truman and another man came out of the house and got into the car. There were other cars blocking that driveway, so Mr. DeCiantis rightly figured the car would leave by another driveway on Delaware Avenue. He ran there to get a closer look at the former President and maybe speak to him. "I saw him when they stopped where the driveway met the street and, like a country boy, just looked at him," he said. "I was as near to him as I am to you, but I just didn't have the nerve to say 'hello.'" Now when people ask him, "Did you see Harry?" he replies, with somewhat less verve than if he had barged right up and told the ex-President he was a big Democrat from Rhode Island. "Yes, I did."

Friendly Sen. LaChapelle Now Looking Toward November Vote

W. Warwick Victor, As Genial as Ever, Thanks People for Win

By JOHN B. LAKE JR.

The best seller in West Warwick after last week's Democratic primary fight, if he had time to write it, would have been, "How I beat the machine," by Sen. Francis J. La Chapelle.

But, while such a tome might have sold as fast as town tax books—they were off the shelves within a few days—the potential author didn't have the time to write it.

He was back at the wheel of his big yellow wagon as a UTC bus driver accepting back slaps and handshakes and grinning a happy, toothsome grin. His ruddy, outdoor face was flushed more than usual under the praise.

The first man to run unendorsed in the town's Democratic primary and beat the endorsed candidate, the short, energetic and gregarious senator was somewhat of a celebrity.

Folks asked how come he was still driving a bus. "You still driving a bus, Frank?" they asked, acting as though they thought he must have had movie and TV offers. Bustling Mr. La Chapelle laughed it off. He had known he was going to have to continue working for a living, win or lose.

There seems to be something deep in the nature of people that makes them like to see an underdog succeed, and they were enjoying the situation as much as the bus driver-senator.

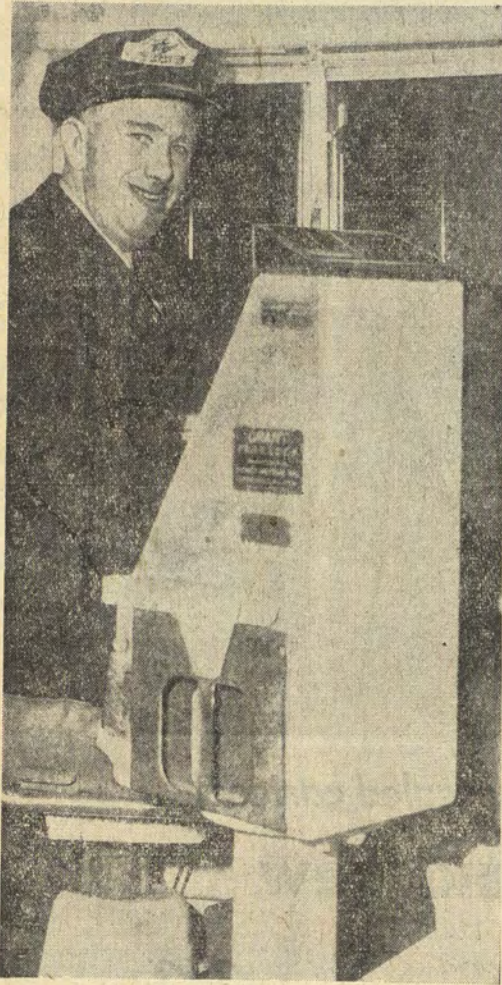
"In general it was a protest vote," said the man who now has won both as an endorsed and unendorsed candidate. "It's a fact that the people more and more are voting for the man and what he does in office. I think in the future people are going to send people up there who do a job for them."

Two years ago the senator got 1,034 votes as the endorsed candidate. Although he got 1,044 votes this time as unendorsed man, he says he's going to look into the possibility of making some changes in the primary law if he is re-elected Nov. 6. It's too rigged against the unendorsed, he thinks, after first-hand experience.

And Senator La Chapelle is a man who can be counted upon to make himself heard up in the marble halls, if his first two years are a criterion. A member of the La Salle Academy debating team, Class of 1931, he held his own when it came to talking up in the Senate with Sen. Hoyt W. Lark of Cranston, a recognized speaker.

It was hard to pin down all the reasons for his victory last Wednesday. They no doubt include the fact that he seldom fails to turn up and cheer a sick friend in the hospital, or to console a bereaved towns-

man. It is his wife, Yvonne. Like her husband's success, her help was invaluable. She encouraged him



Sen. Francis J. La Chapelle of West Warwick is back to work on a UTC bus after his primary victory.

—State Staff Photo

when they said no one could beat the machine, got on the phone for hours at a time asking votes for her husband.

Besides his wife, there were four other active workers on the La Chapelle campaign team, he said. Being friendly with people, doing as many favors as possible, counted considerably. "The people wanted me. I could tell by walking along the street," he said. "People told me they were with me, and they were sincere."

"Another thing that helped a lot was the fine slate of unendorsed candidates," he said, citing Francis X. Kennedy, Anthony R. Lombardi "and, of course, the wonderful showing" Mrs. Joan F. Marsella made.

"And another thing was the fairness of the press," he said. "The unendorsed candidates could get their messages to the people. The Citizens' Committee for the Public Schools and Clarence Coultu helped a lot."

The bus driver's union endorsement early in the campaign and the AFL-CIO endorsement in spot announcements over the radio the day before the primary also helped, he believes.

He has no illusions that he can be a one-man show. Now that the

battle is over, Democrats must close ranks and defeat the common enemy, the Republicans, on Nov. 6, he feels.

Heading the Democratic ticket will be the friendly bus driver the old pros said would never beat the machine. But he didn't know it couldn't be done, so he went out and did it.

Del Sesto Sees Bridge Job as 'Vote Buying'

Christopher Del Sesto, GOP candidate for governor, yesterday told West Warwick Republicans that Gov. Roberts was "trying to buy votes" when he extended state funds to replace the Factory Street bridge.

The candidate was the principal speaker at the West Warwick GOP rally held at the Hollywood Inn, Crompton. More than 200 attended.

Departing from the prepared text of his speech, Mr. Del Sesto called the governor a "scared" candidate who "will do anything for votes."

He charged that Mr. Roberts is "trying to buy the votes of West Warwick for a quarter million dollars of state money" to be spent to replace the Factory Street span which was washed out last spring. Construction is now in progress.

error made "one last desperate move" when he took \$250,000 out of a maintenance fund for the bridge project.

Thomas Needham, candidate for Congress, spoke later on the program and said that Congressman John Fogarty has been bound to inactivity by an alliance with Southern Democrats.

Coleman Zimmerman, candidate for attorney general, also spoke briefly.

West Warwick's GOP candidate for the Senate, Peter Lemol, served as toastmaster and introduced candidates for the House, Town Council and school committee. Dominic Angelone was chairman for the rally dinner yesterday. A floor show, following the dinner and speaking program, was staged by Al Angelone.

Oct. 15, 1956

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY DIFFERENCES TARGET FOR REPUBLICAN SPEAKERS

DelSesto Leads Attack Against Gov. Roberts, De Ciantis at Dinner

Any notion Democratic leaders may have had that their primary differences would go unheeded by Republicans during the election campaign were "bombed" sky high yesterday at the West Warwick GOP campaign dinner at Hollywood Inn, Crompton.

Christopher DelSesto, GOP gubernatorial candidate, who was greeted by the sounding of aerial bombs at his arrival at the dinner site set his own target on Michael DeCiantis, leading West Warwick Democrat who last July announced he would oppose Governor Roberts in a party primary.

"It was Mr. DeCiantis," the Republican candidate told the large gathering who said "Governor Roberts has served three terms as governor and five terms as mayor of Providence. It's time for a change". And it was Mr. DeCiantis, he continued who accused Democratic State Chairman Frank Rao of waging a 'fear campaign' against state employees.

Mr. DelSesto set off all of his bombardments against the West Warwick Town Solicitor in getting at his real target, Governor Roberts.

It wasn't the Republicans but was Mr. DeCiantis, he said who labeled the Democratic party in need of new blood, faces, vigor and enthusiasm. The Republican ticket agrees, Mr. Del Sesto continued, with Mr. DeCiantis' statements that it wasn't good for the party for one man to monopolize and to have an heir-apparent to any office in the state, especially to that of governor.

Park Bench Conference
The subsequent actions of Mr.

DeCiantis with his exchange of letters with Mr. Rao which included charges of "fear campaigns" and the park bench conference with Governor Roberts during the Kent County Sheriff's outing in August lead to the sixty-four thousand dollar questions, Mr. DelSesto said.

Those questions, the Republican candidate said are: "Why did Mr. DeCiantis change his mind? Why is he now silent? What was said at that famous bench conference?"

Before that famous bench conference Mr. Del Sesto said, when Mr. DeCiantis "dared for a brief moment to revolt against the Roberts-Rao machine" he declared it was time for a change; that in order to win, the Democratic party needed new leadership; and that it was not good for the state to have one individual to monopolize an office.

Mr. Del Sesto said there were eight important lessons to be learned from the debate between Mr. DeCiantis and Mr. Rao which provided a glimpse of what is wrong with the Democratic party in Rhode Island.

Those lessons Mr. DelSesto listed as follows:

"(1) A political machine too long in power no longer serves the people. Such a machine is dedicated only to keeping itself in office for the benefit of friends and relatives. It does not serve the public interest.

"(2) Because its stay in office is based upon power, it fears democratic processes and is afraid of free primaries and honest elections. That is why our primary and election laws are a mess.

"(3) An entrenched political machine, in order to remain in office, needs a strong political boss. One who will resort to almost any method to win.

"(4) Because such a machine's rule depends upon power and not its performance, it needs a big war chest of campaign contributions during election time to fool the people with billboards, TV shows, radio speeches, and now even tea parties.

"(5) An entrenched political machine cannot have a free election. Thus, it wages a fear campaign against those who have city or state jobs. Threats, coercion, and intimidation are the order of the day.

"(6) This machine demands loyalty oaths of its members with threats to insure that those oaths are given.

"(7) It demands that job holders request a supervisor to go into the voting booth with them on election day, so that they vote the "right" way.

"(8) In short, an entrenched political machine is inconsistent with our democratic form of government.

"Now just one more matter, the interchange of letters, Mr. De Ciantis, by his courageous attitude last July, gave us a good lesson in political science. He should continue his good work not only for the sake of the voters of Rhode Island, but for the sake of his own party.

"Last July he said that, if the people of Rhode Island knew the

KULASEWSKI DEFENDING TOWN POLICY; ANSWERS CHARBONNEAU'S ATTACK

POINTS TO MANY FACILITIES IN WEST WARWICK THAT AID PUBLIC

Republican charges that the small home owner in West Warwick cannot afford the protection he is receiving from the incumbent administration drew fire today from a Democratic candidate to the town council.

Chester Kulasewski of Crompton, seeking re-election to the town council took issue with the statements of Leo B. Charbonneau, GOP chairman. He said that Charbonneau's latest speech was a revelation of a party disparate for votes and which "as usual, is going no where fast."

Mr. Kulasewski's statement which includes several questions put to the Republican town chairman follows:

"Do you mean, Mr. Charbonneau, that the town cannot afford to pay the extra policeman who protects little boys and girls going to and from school?"

"Do you mean, Mr. Charbonneau, that the town cannot afford an ambulance that takes the sick and the injured West Warwick Taxpayers to and from hospitals?"

Points To Highways

"Do you mean, Mr. Charbonneau, that the town cannot afford to spend as much money as it does on its highways, keeping them free from snow and ice?"

"Do you mean, Mr. Charbonneau, that the people in West Warwick cannot afford to have their lives and property protected by these government agencies?"

"Do you mean, Mr. Charbonneau, that the town cannot afford the Fire Department Rescue Wagon?"

"Do you mean, Mr. Charbonneau, that the small homeowner in West Warwick, who is being protected by the policeman and the fireman of West Warwick twenty-four hours a day, is receiving a luxury that is too good for him?"

"Or Mr. Charbonneau, do you mean just what Mr. Cournoyer your Town Council Candidate, means, that the Republican Party will cut salaries and fire town em-

ployees who supply that protection to the people of the town of West Warwick

"You cannot cut School Teachers pay; it's against the law. Whose pay are you going to cut? A policeman—a fireman—a highway department employee's or a school janitor's pay? Or are you going to fire men from these departments? Cutting taxes is good election year talk, but let's hear how you are going to do it. And let's hear some answers to these questions."

Avers Arctic Bridge is Out of Politics

De Ciantis Calls Span Emergency for Re- lief of Public

In his first campaign speech to date, Michael DeCiantis, town solicitor of West Warwick, today tore into Republicans who looked with favor upon the recent statements of their party's candidate for governor in his reference to state aid to the rebuilding of Factory Street bridge, Arctic.

Mr. DeCiantis said the Republican party, by its applauding Christopher DelSesto's charges that Governor Roberts was buying votes in getting state relief for the bridge rebuilding job raises an important question.

"Let me ask the Republican administration one question," the town solicitor continued, "Do they or do they not approve the fact the governor gave the town relief in building the \$250,000 bridge? This is one of the first questions I am asking. Now give us the answer."

"You applauded the former Democrat, now are you going to keep applauding him?"

Mr. DeCiantis said that if the people of West Warwick ever had any doubts of voting for Governor Roberts, "I think that Mr. DelSesto, the former Democrat, has made up their minds that they should do so because he has relieved the town of a tax increase in order to raise \$250,000.

"The people of the town ought to realize now how much this former Democrat would give them if he were elected governor of this state. He came into this town and dared to tell the people that had he been governor he would never have built the bridge on Factory Street for the people of the town. That is bad enough, but the worst of it is that the Republican organization of the town and the candidate of the Senate, Peter E. Lemoi, applauded Mr. DelSesto.

DE CIANTIS DECLARES ADMINISTRATION 100% BEHIND LA CHAPELLE

Times Oct 17, 1956

A strong defense of the Democratic administration in West Warwick was made today in face of fire leveled against it by a Republican spokesman.

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis picked up the charges against the Democratic administration and threw them back at the GOP leaders with the challenge to look into their own closets. At the same time Mr. DeCiantis declared that the Democratic organization is 100 per cent behind Sen. Francis LaChapelle for re-election.

Peter E. Lemoi, Republican candidate for state senator charged that the Democratic machine was putting itself above the people and that Sen. LaChapelle who won the senatorial nom-

ination without the party endorsement would be a question mark senator if elected and consequently the town would suffer.

Afflick and Gillespie

Where is Robert R. Afflick and where is Norman E. Gillespie, the town solicitor asked. "Why" he questioned Mr. Lemoi "don't you look into your own closet before you begin to talk about the Democratic town committee?"

Referring to Mr. Lemoi's latest charges that the Democratic town committee lops the heads of unwanted candidates to show who is boss and who is not, Mr. DeCiantis said:

"Mr. Lemoi has been giving us the same old political chestnut since he was a member of the now defunct Republican Club and now as a member of the broken down Republican Town Committee. He needn't worry about the Democratic organization. The town's people the past 10 years have shown what they think about the organization and the administration it has given them by re-electing them and that is good enough for us."

"Broken Down"

"But", Mr. DeCiantis continued, "since he is talking about the town committee, how about the broken down organization of the Republican party. Who is going to resign next. I can tell you but I won't at this time. And while you are talking about question marks what has happened to some of your town committee members? Where is Mr. Afflick? Where is Mr. Gillespie? It might be a good idea if some of you town committeemen gave the public an account of that harmonious 'meeting' you had." There is about as much unity in the Republican party today as when the Republican Club was formed, Mr. DeCiantis added.

In referring to the support of Sen. LaChapelle, Mr. DeCiantis said: "Let me tell you sir, in so far as Sen. LaChapelle is concerned the Democratic organization wants you to understand that Sen. LaChapelle is that type of a question mark that is going to be backed up heartily 100 per cent to give you the sheenacking that you have got coming."

De Ciantis Answers Del Sesto on Bridge

Michael DeCiantis, West Warwick town solicitor and Democratic leader, last night answered Christopher Del Sesto's comments Sunday on the help given by Governor Roberts to the town in financing the reconstruction of the Factory Street bridge.

Mr. DeCiantis, addressing a group of party workers of the Second Representative District in his office, said that the action of the governor in providing state aid of from \$200,000 to \$300,000 has prevented a substantial increase in the tax assessment in the town to meet this emergency expense.

"This was an emergency which Governor Roberts should be congratulated by every man and woman in the town for meeting promptly," Mr. DeCiantis said. (Bul - 10-16-56)

Duffy Sees Need Soon For New High School

P.J. Oct. 17, 1956

Dr. Richard P. Duffy, candidate for reelection to the West Warwick School Committee, last night indicated a new high school may be in the not too distant future in West Warwick.

Replying to a question about the need for a new high school during a question and answer panel in which the four candidates for school committee took part at a PTA council meeting, Dr. Duffy said a new high school must come.

"When, I don't know," he told Carl Hawkinson at the meeting in the junior high school, "but I don't think it should be too long."

Dr. Duffy was a member of a panel that included also, Antonio Paliotta, the other Democratic school committee candidate; Harold Hayes and Mrs. Helen P. Coutu, their Republican opponents for school committee.

Dr. Duffy said he is seeking reelection because much has occurred in the four years he has been on the committee and there is much unfinished business. He said more plans have been laid in the past four years for the schools than any other four-year period. He mentioned the proposed new consolidated elementary school, the mechanics of elementary school consolidation involving disposal of most of the present elementary schools, and renovation of existing buildings.

Improvements may seem slow in coming at times, he said, predicting that the next four years will see more changes in the town school system than in many years.

The candidates generally appeared to favor open school committee meetings, when asked their feeling on the matter by Mrs. Norman Cayouette, PTA council president.

"I have no objection," Dr. Duffy said. "I wonder what it would accomplish. It doesn't seem to matter when a group of men has been chosen and the power is delegated to them. They can go into the back room before, after or in between the open meeting."

Mr. Paliotta said the committee "sometimes might have to straighten out some things beforehand," but that meetings would be open as far as he is concerned.

Mr. Hayes said a meeting would not necessarily be secret because it was private. Some open meetings might continue to midnight or one a.m. later, he said, apparently thinking they would be extended by citizens attending. He added, "I don't think that would be a good policy. I don't know what they would gain. If they want to come, let them come."

Mrs. Coutu said that a meeting might be set up once a month to discuss special matters with PTA representatives or any other group that might require much time.

Mrs. Cayouette interposed that the State PTA Congress advises that a PTA educational chairman attend school committee meetings.

W. Warwick GOP Candidate Attacks 'Hidden Costs'

Republican candidates for local and state legislative posts spoke to about 75 persons last night at a "meet your candidates" evening sponsored by the West Warwick Council of Republican Women at the Polish Falcon Club, Crompton.

Joseph E. Cournoyer Jr., candidate for Town Councilman No. 1, said Council President Francis J. Fazzano, his Democratic opponent, should really have said "hidden costs" in a statement last week that said 80 per cent of the town's funds are used for "salaries and fixed costs."

Mr. Cournoyer, who said he believes the town can cut unnecessary expenditures, keep the tax rate where it is without upping assessed valuations, and thereby get more for its money declared that one of the town's major "fixed costs" is paid out each year in interest on money the town must borrow to meet expenses after tax money runs out.

When the Republican administration was unseated in 1948 after a two-year term, according to Mr. Cournoyer, the town treasury boasted a few thousand surplus dollars. Ever since, he said, the town has had to borrow money around January—nine months after the March financial town meeting — at about 4 per cent interest.

Mr. Fazzano said last night of Mr. Cournoyer's remarks that the budgeted amount for interest on tax anticipation notes is \$4,000. Compared to the total \$1,200,000 annual budget, he affirmed, the amount is not too significant.

Borrowing money in anticipation of taxes, Mr. Fazzano said, is not unique in West Warwick. It is common in many communities, he said. The year was to be the year when tax pay...

slowly than at other times, according to Mr. Fazzano's explanation.

He said that on restudying the budget, he had determined that what he called "fixed costs" run probably over 80 per cent.

By "fixed costs" Mr. Fazzano said he meant salaries—\$102,000 in the police department and \$101,000 in the fire department, for example, insurance and bonding, bonded indebtedness, donations, and interest. He was not even including the town's telephone bills, he said.

"I don't know of any hidden costs," Mr. Fazzano declared, in pointing up an earlier assertion that the Republicans probably wanted to cut salaries or reduce the number of town employees in order to cut the budget.

Roberts Pledges Aid For Town Planning

Gov. Roberts, on a swing through Coventry and West Warwick yesterday and last night with other state Democratic ticket leaders, stressed that he is aware of the problems of local communities.

With only the real property tax as their main source of local revenue and no other likely means of local taxation, local towns and cities feeling the impact of population shifts from the big municipalities have serious problems in sewerage, highways and water distribution, the governor said.

Some long range planning is needed, and he has plans for the state to make exact studies and obtain expert recommendations, he said.

Many areas have a sewerage problem and so ask the state for relief, he said, adding sewerage is traditionally a municipal matter. However, some communities can't raise the money, he said. Some financing arrangement will have to be worked out so as not to subject the local communities to high taxes, he said.

"This is one of the things I'm concerned with from Westerly to Woonsocket and down to Newport," he said.

The governor spoke and later answered questions at a meeting of about 40 Valley Democratic leaders and businessmen after a luncheon in the afternoon in Club 400, Natick. Last night he addressed a campaign kick-off dinner of Natick Democrats attended by about 450 at the same place.

The governor and other leaders last night also made a tour of six campaign teas held throughout Coventry, speaking briefly at each. Sen. James F. Murphy, Coventry Democratic chairman, pronounced the teas, which are apparently replacing the old-time rallies, a success. About 300 persons turned out, he said.

Also addressing the Coventry teas were Cong. John E. Fogarty, Armand H. Cote, candidate

GOP Blasts W. Warwick Regime, Democrats Defend Record

West Warwick Republicans last night lambasted the incumbent Democratic administration. Democratic spokesmen defended it and some of about 100 spectators put questions to both last night at a Jaycees-sponsored political forum in the junior high school auditorium.

Mortimer W. Newton, canvassing authority chairman and former Democratic Town Council president, and Leo B. Charbonneau, GOP town chairman, gave the main speeches for each side.

Shorter talks were given by Dr. Richard P. Duffy, school committeeman, and Francis J. Fazzano, Town Council president, both Democrats, and Joseph E. Cournoyer, GOP Council candidate, and Peter E. Lemoi, GOP senatorial candidate.

Mr. Charbonneau, young attorney who has given the GOP a shot in the arm this year, declared his party looks at the administration like a doctor and sees symptoms indicating things that need correction.

He cited a record high budget, high taxes, an operating deficit of \$5,000; shelving of a \$25,000 revaluation, closed meetings, one-man rule, intimidation of taxpayers, need for charter re-

vision, need for a police and fire pension and broken promises.

Mr. Newton defended the Democratic record, citing for one thing institution of a garbage and rubbish collection program second to none. He asserted the only GOP regime in years, that in 1946-48, was a "do nothing" regime.

Mr. Lemoi declared the GOP did a commendable job in 1946-48 and that the budget increase from about \$600,000 to more than \$1,000,000 since that time was a high price for garbage collections.

He maintained it is not good for a community to have the

same group in power too long, adding they eventually "are looking only for their own good."

Dr. Duffy cited overcrowding at Crompton School, resulting in having to transfer pupils to junior high school space. He said that the school board thus decided to ask for a bond issue to build a new Crompton school and consolidate elementary pupils there and at Harris Avenue school, selling other elementary schools. It will save taxpayers money, he said.

He denied that the school board holds closed meetings, saying that, out of 48 monthly meetings, the press and public were invited to 44.

Admin. Oct. 24, 1958

Administration on Defense As Foes Attack Policies

WEST WARWICK POLITICAL FORUM

A political forum was held in West Warwick last night with representatives of the two major parties and about 60 interested persons participating and it accomplished just about what most forums of its type does: the incumbent administration was put on the defense for what it has done and the party seeking office was put on the offense with what it proposes to do.

Francis J. Fazzano, president of the town council, captained his team of fellow Democrats including Dr. Richard P. Duffy of the school committee and Mortimer W. Newton, former town council head and presently chairman of the canvass authority. Leo B. Charbonneau, chairman of the Republican Town Committee headed his forces including Peter E. Lemoi, candidate for state senator and Joseph E. Cournoyer, candidate for the number one position on the town council. The Junior Chamber of Commerce sponsored the forum and Francis Mullen, high school principal was moderator.

It was Mr. Charbonneau who put both the two forum motions of defense and offense into motion.

Highest Budget

Hitting at the Democratic party, the GOP chairman said it has given the town the following: highest budget in its history; highest taxes in its history and yet last year it had a \$5,000 deficit; tax increases up to 98 per cent since the Republicans were last in power in 1948; a gross indebtedness of \$1,629,000; a \$65,000 annual sewer payment from the general revenue; a wasted revaluation which cost \$25,000; closed meetings; one-man rule; intimidation of taxpayers; a rosy picture with a tax increase.

Asked what his own party had in mind in the way of a platform, Mr. Charbonneau said that although the party's platform would not be released until next week,

basically the party was in favor of the following: non-partisan, off-year elections of the school committee; dental program in the schools; appointment of a charter commission; appointment of a commission to study a police and firemen retirement fund with the party pledged to follow the findings of the commission; appointment of a committee to study a long-range school program, something which he said the town doesn't have today; a committee to study community development and capital improvements; an active recreation program; open meetings; a close alliance with business and industry.

On the defense, the Democratic spokesmen made the following observations: Mr. Fazzano said his party has not held secret meetings; is without one-man rule; is not made of persons out for self gain; and was operating on a budget with 80 per cent going for salaries and other fixed costs and the other for supplies and maintenance items. The town council president said he has not stated the Republicans would fire employees to cut expenditures. But, he added, I don't think there is a community in the country which today is giving the services for the tax that West Warwick is.

Clearing Up Confusion

One thing he wanted cleared up, Dr. Duffy said was the confusion that existed last year when the administration asked for approval of the \$1,200,000 bond issue for a new elementary school in Crompton and improvements to others. The basis for the demand for a new elementary school, he said was simply due to the fact that at Cowesett Avenue school the four previous years there was a double enrollment in the first grade and it continued with children having to be transported to the junior high school at Riverpoint for classes.

Dr. Duffy said that through the new school and with a consolidation program affecting the others the taxpayers will "be better off in 10 years than they are now." He said the committee's record on no closed meetings was pretty good.

Mr. Newton said that the Republicans on the national level under President Eisenhower have done nothing the past four years and that the local Republicans when they were in power for two

(Continued on page 10, col. 5)

Admin. Oct. 24, 1958

Administration On Defense As Foes Attack Policies

(Continued from page 1)

years, 1946-'48 had a record of "do nothingness".

In exploiting the accomplishments of the Republican party when it was in power, Mr. Cournoyer pointed out the party "started the ball rolling" on providing employees a living wage. He said that the budget had doubled since 1948 and yet "what have the Democrats to show for it."

"Been In Too Long"

Mr. Lemoi said that the country has progressed under the two-party system but here in West Warwick the Democratic party has been in too long and consequently its leaders get too powerful.

During the question and answer period Dr. Duffy in answer to Ernest Frenette, Republican candidate to the town council said the school board was not bound by any specific date to purchase a new school but "in view of the past" it feels "we should be cautious" to not "alienate anyone's affections" in buying the new one. This statement drew laughter from the gathering. Presently Dr. Duffy said the school board is hiring one bus for transportation. In answer to John Petrella, GOP committee man, Dr. Duffy said the school board was not obligated to ask for bids to buy a school bus and if it wants to it could "buy one tomorrow from a used car lot."

Mr. Fazzano told Louis Brown, Jaycee forum chairman, that although he thought the proposed city charter had merit he did not think this was the time to have a referendum vote on the charter. However he did speak in favor of an administration bearing the responsibility of the budget rather than have it approved which however he said "might be the best thing" on the floor of a town meeting.

The town council president said to Louis Gallucci, GOP candidate for the town council that the new school will bring economies and that maturing bonds will help to keep the cost of a bond issue down. But he added anyone would be "crazy" to say the town will never have a tax increase.

Tax Revaluation

Speaking about the tax revaluation which was done by an out-of-town firm for a cost of \$25,000 and which critics have claimed has been shelved, Mr. Fazzano said the revaluation of properties should be continued to correct inequities. He said the revaluation was too great a burden on the home owner.

When asked about the post war capital improvement fund which today totals over \$100,000, Mr. Fazzano said he personally would like to see it used for repairs to the school buildings.

Robert J. Harrop, town treasurer, pressed Mr. Charbonneau to make a statement the Republicans would insert in its platform a pledge of a direct promise to either reduce taxes or assessments. The GOP chairman said his party despite the fact it was "taking over a lot of things" would have a balanced budget. He said the \$65,000 which has to be taken from the general fund to pay the sewer in-

stallations could have given the town the new school or the police and firemen's pension fund, or police and fire station, or town hall. "That" Mr. Charbonneau said "is what we are inheriting. We want to stop this kind of financing. We can't do it overnight but we will let the people in on everything we do."

The appointment of a sewer department superintendent to the \$108 a week job lies in the hands of the town committee, but Mr. Fazzano added, in answer to Mr. Gallucci he didn't doubt that the appointment would not go to the acting superintendent. He is Pierre J. Harpin.

Water Authority

Both parties were requested to answer former Rep. Horace L. Petrarca who wanted opinions on whether the town council or the electorate should name representatives to the Kent County Water Authority. Mr. Newton who is a member of the authority through appointment by the other four members of the authority said he believed the town or city councils have been making good appointments. Mr. Charbonneau said he favored appointment by the people but not of a man who has previously attacked the water board.

Mr. Newton in making a summary said the Republicans were campaigning under the title "I can do anything better than you". He said their platform was just worthy promises and any of their campaign issues could be discussed. The present administration he said should be re-elected because of its services.

Mr. Charbonneau in his summary questioned what the town's budget would be if it had to also care for the 54 per cent of the school children who are attending the parochial schools. In defense of his party's record while in power, Mr. Charbonneau said it provided a new ambulance, a central fire department, snow removal equipment, two-way radios for the police cars and lowered the tax rate as well as abolished the fire district taxes. The only issue the Democrats have he said is the garbage collection. (R.A.)

DeCiantis, Cournoyer Fire Big Salvos in West Warwick Tilt

P.J. Oct. 25, 1956
The West Warwick political campaign got into high gear last night, as Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis entered the lists to defend the Democrats' stewardship of the town and Joseph E. Cournoyer, Councilman No. 1 candidate, attacked the Democratic record.

Anthony Paliotta, a Democratic school committee candidate, announced he objects to a proposal by Leo Charbonneau, GOP chairman, for off-year, non-partisan school committee elections.

Politics in schools can be kept to a minimum, and it doesn't seem worthwhile to spend about \$700 opening seven polling places to elect one school board member one time and two the next on the staggered term basis, Mr. Paliotta said.

Announcing that the Democrats will complete construction of the new Crompton School, buy the Hebert land on Payan Street and in other places around town for playgrounds and develop one of the best recreational and park areas in the state on the Crompton School land, Mr. DeCiantis said, "this will be done."

Besides those things, the Democratic administration will continue to give the services that have satisfied residents and that will constitute the party program, he said.

That will constitute the Democratic platform "instead of promising the world and doing nothing—that means nothing," he declared.

He stressed several times that all that will be accomplished without a tax increase. "There shall not be any tax increase in this town," he declared.

Mr. Cournoyer attacked Francis J. Fazzano, Democratic Council president, for telling police and firemen at a recent meeting with the Council on a possible pension that it would hurt their chances if they agreed to an open meeting. "If this isn't pressure politics, what is?" he asked.

"This present administration is the same political machine which has had a strangle hold on town employes, taxpayers, business and industry," Mr. Cournoyer declared. "Freedom of speech in West Warwick is unheard of, Mr. Fazzano's statement of 'pressure groups' and 'characters' certainly does not abide by his remarks and I quote 'because, in effect, my answers constitute the thinking of the Democratic Party in this town and the reasoning behind our actions.'"

The fact that borrowing in anticipation of taxes has become necessary with interest paid as a fixed cost "was brought on by poor management," Mr. Cournoyer said. He said school surveys have been disregarded, a traffic survey costing several thousand dollars was scrapped, two school sites have been bought and a third purchase is in prospect, the \$25,000 revaluation was scrapped and the sewer extension has required \$65,000 from general funds a year.

Defends Town's Fiscal Policy

**W. Warwick Official
Says Payroll Hikes
Causes Increase**

P.J. Oct. 26, 1956
West Warwick Democrats, at a rally attended by about 150 last night in Holy Ghost Hall, Lippitt, defended their fiscal program and declared the town Republican party is torn by internal fighting.

Town Treasurer Robert J. Harrop, declared that the town's payroll has gone up more than 100 per cent since the 1948 GOP regime, because of salary raises and shorter hours that necessitate additional help.

He said the town's bonded debt, exclusive of self liquidating bonds, amounts to only \$3 a person. He said he classified sewer bonds as self liquidating, even though some money to pay them comes from the general fund, as the R.I. Public Expenditures Council has said all the money will eventually come back from additional building on sewer lines.

By 1958—to, Mr. Harrop said, the town will have paid off bonded debt and interest and the sewers' annual retirement cost will have come down by about \$10,000. That will give the town up toward \$30,000 it can use for other things, he said.

Calling the Republican opposition "a broken down machine," Michael De Ciantis, town solicitor, likened the GOP campaign speakers "to medicine men who sell you snake liniment with slick talk. Then you find its just a lot of hokum."

He declared that the GOP has had five different chairmen in the past few years, but the Democrats have had only one.

Rep. Gerard Di Fiore, taking issue with Mr. Charbonneau's remarks at a political forum to the effect something is not right when a Kent County Water Authority critic one year is appointed to it the next, challenged Mr. Charbonneau to a debate on his actions regarding the authority any time and at a place Mr. Charbonneau could name.

Afflick Urges Support Of W. Warwick GOP

P.J. Oct. 29, 1956
State Republican candidates, headed by Christopher Del Sesto, candidate for governor, and Thomas H. Needham, second district congressional candidate spent several hours in West Warwick during a busy day of campaigning yesterday that included a GOP rally in the K. of C. hall, Natick.

West Warwick Republicans also heard Robert R. Afflick, Republican town committeeman who publicly supports the local Republican slate.

Mr. Del Sesto and Mr. Needham attended Mass yesterday in Sacred

Heart Catholic Church, Natick, with a local Republican group headed by Town Chairman Leo B. Charbonneau.

They were guests of honor later at a noon time gathering at the home of John Petrella, of 90 Alden Drive, Natick, a Republican committeeman. About 150 attended the affair including Mr. Afflick.

Arthur A. Forcier, candidate for secretary of state, attended Mass in St. John's Catholic Church, Arctic, and visited West Warwick friends and neighbors of his at a gathering in the Club Frontenac, Arctic.

Mr. Afflick said he was supporting the entire Republican ticket, and "that includes my good friend Pete Lemoi."

Michael DeCiantis, Democratic town solicitor, had said that Mr. Afflick had wanted the GOP senatorial nomination himself, and that Mr. Afflick's understanding was that Peter E. Lemoi's name was filed by the town committee as a straw candidate to be withdrawn later and replaced by Mr. Afflick's name. When the withdrawal failed to take place, the town solicitor said, Mr. Afflick became miffed with the town committee.

Mr. Del Sesto also found occasion to mention Mr. DeCiantis' bid for the Governor's chair in his remarks at the Natick rally.

"When he was fighting with Frank Rao (State Democratic chairman) and Governor Roberts, trying to get into the primary, he said that the Democratic party needs new blood and new leadership," Mr. Del Sesto said.

Mr. Del Sesto replied to this that the Republican party is a young party with new ideas.

Mr. Lemoi said last night that Senator Francis J. LaChapelle, his opponent in the town's state senate contest, "is not getting the support of his own party."

Secondo Siniscalchi, candidate for first district representative, spoke to the crowd in Italian.

Also speaking was Louis Gallucci, Town Council candidate and Miss Susan Gallucci, a sophomore at the University of Rhode Island urged voter approval at the rally of the \$3 million bond issue referendum for university improvements.

W. Warwick GOP Backs Vets' Plan For Town Hall

Bulletin Oct. 29, 1956
A recommendation made by the West Warwick Veterans' Council for a combination municipal building today was added by Republicans of that town as a plank to their party platform. The building would house the police and fire departments as well as the town clerk, tax assessor, tax collector, sewer department and school department offices.

Deputy Sheriff Alfred Richard, chairman of the Democratic Town Committee, said this morning that his party's position in the matter will be announced within a few days by Rep. Thaddeus Kraus, committee secretary.

The Veterans' Council sent a letter to both political parties requesting that their positions on the Town Hall issue be made known.

Del Sesto, Needham Spend Day in Valley

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nomination himself, and that Mr. Afflick's understanding was that Peter E. Lemoi's name was filed by the town committee as a straw candidate to be withdrawn later and replaced by Mr. Afflick's name. When the withdrawal failed to take place, the town solicitor said, Mr. Afflick became miffed with the town committee.

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LOWER RATES FOR WATER, PURCHASE OF AMBULANCE GOALS SET BY DE CIANTIS

SEVERAL RECREATIONAL AREAS IN WEST WARWICK ALSO AIM

Michael DeCiantis, town solicitor of West Warwick, put a second and third "plank" in the party campaign yesterday when he promised he and the administration will also strive to make it possible for Kent County Water Authority to reduce the water rates.

Speaking at the West Warwick Democratic Women's Club annual banquet and rally at Club 400, Natick, the town solicitor said that in addition to his previous pledge of providing more playgrounds he wants to help KCWA build up its income so that the rates can be reduced in the near future. Today the water authority charges \$20 per 50,000 gallons of water, a minimum rate. Mr. DeCiantis said he would strive to bring down the charge to at least \$18 per 50,000 gallons of water.

New Avenues in Borrowing
The water authority, at its meeting last Wednesday, announced new avenues had been opened to them to explore to borrow money. The authority states with money above its present income, it can make extensions and consequently increase its revenues to keep on expanding and making other capital improvements.

Mr. DeCiantis said he had conferred with a vice president of a bank and that he and the administration was ready to help the water authority get additional money. He said that some day he hopes the minimum charge can be reduced to \$15 per 50,000 gallons of water.

New Ambulance
In addition to the playground and water rates issues, the town solicitor said that at the next financial town meeting the administration will request taxpayers to provide for the purchase of a new ambulance. "We know now that the present one is pretty well dilapidated."

Combination Station
Referring to a proposed new combination police and fire station in Arctic, Mr. DeCiantis said it was OK to build new buildings but the people who have to pay for them are to be considered. He said the town was in need of a new fire station in Arctic and that someday the administration may be able to work out something for a combination police and fire station.

The only reason the new 20-room elementary school building in Crompton has not been started, the town solicitor said, was because the architect has not as yet submitted the specifications. When the specifications are received, he said, bids will be requested, the lowest bidder will get the job, and then the town will be ready to sell the bonds.

Mr. DeCiantis said the administration has done everything possible for schools. It's alright to talk about buildings, he continued, but the most important thing to the parents is the education their children receive. He said the town took its time about building a new school due to its income.

The architect, Mr. DeCiantis said, has informed the school building committee that with a very reasonable amount of money the school site in Crompton can be developed into a fine recreation area and park.

Playground Sites
The Democratic administration, Mr. DeCiantis said, intends to buy a lot off Payan Street, Arctic, an area in Brookfield Hills, Natick, and a tract of the Webster Knight farm off Factory Street, Arctic Hill, for playgrounds. He said they were presently trying to locate a playground site in Phenix.

Mr. DeCiantis said the administration wants and will have people in charge of the playgrounds and that they will also be developed in part for parks for the older people.

Hitting at the opposition, the town solicitor said they did an unsatisfactory job while in power, 1946-48, and the people voted them out of office.

Under the Democratic administration he said the taxpayers have the lowest property valuations and others are moving into the town because of the low taxes. He said that some of the citizens who moved to other communities because of their palace-like schools are now wanting to come back and get away from taxes that are "vicious."

During the past eight years, he said, the Democratic administration has taken first things first, doing everything possible for the happiness and enjoyment of all of the people.

Democrats Promise To Seek Lower Rates for Water

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick said yesterday the town administration plans, if reelected, to work with the Kent County water authority and bring about a reduction in rates, perhaps from the present \$20 to \$18 for the flat rate 50,000 gallons a year allowed homeowners.

He said he has high hopes the reduction can be worked out within two years and that "someday it will go back to the old rate of \$15 for 50,000 gallons."

The Democratic party promises to complete a consolidated elementary school in Crompton, which will be put out to bids and built by the low bidder when the architect finishes the specifications, he said. It also plans to use part of the current \$1,200,000 school and recreation bond issue to build recreation park areas at the Crompton school site, he said.

The administration, he said, also plans to buy land in Brookfield Hills for a play area and to see about the possibility of his selling some Arctic Hill land on Factory Street for a play area. Also planned are the purchase of the Hebert land, Payan Street, Arctic, for a play area and purchase of a suitable piece of land in Phenix if it can be found, for the same purpose.

At the next financial town meeting, he said, the Democrats plan to recommend purchase of a new ambulance because the present one is "pretty dilapidated."

He stressed that, in such locations as the Hebert land and the Crompton site, there will be enough suitable area to establish park areas for older persons.

He addressed about 200 persons at a West Warwick Democratic women's club dinner in Club 400, Natick.

He said under Republicans in the police department there was resignation after resignation. "There was almost entirely new personnel in November, 1948, from what there was in November, 1946," he said.

Mr. DeCiantis said West Warwick has done everything it possibly could with its schools. "We want a good education—not children running around on marble floors," he said. "We took our time and are now in the process of building Crompton school. We'll eliminate the old schools, which will be sold to the parishes..."

Other speakers introduced by Mrs. Yvonne Guiot, club president, and toastmaster included U.S. Senator John O. Pastore, who praised West Warwick as a Democratic stronghold; Congressman John E. Fogarty, who thanked West Warwick and especially the Women's Club for its support in the past 16 years; Secretary of State Armand H. Cote, candidate for Lt. Gov.; Attorney Gen. William H. Powers; Town Clerk Susan V. Lamb and Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle. Other town officers were introduced.

Pastore Lites Record Made by Democrats

Speaks at West Warwick Banquet Held by Party Women

U.S. Senator John O. Pastore made an unannounced appearance in West Warwick yesterday afternoon before the West Warwick Democratic Women's Club at its annual banquet at Club 400, Natick. The gathering was not as large in number as the one last week at which he was scheduled to appear, but because of other engagements didn't show until it was over.

Sen. Pastore called on the local Democratic organization to keep up its plurality to "help pull up the slack in other towns." Like the other candidates, Sen. Pastore did not mention President Eisenhower's name. The only reference to that office was when, in calling for a large vote, he said "on national level we have good candidates and issues." Here in Rhode Island, he continued, we have had "a remarkably good record" under Governor Roberts and here in West Warwick, "you know the seats given under Francis Fazzano town council president."

Sen. Pastore said that because he was unable to get to the rally in Natick in time last week, he felt he owed it to Mr. Fazzano and to the people to come to West Warwick.

Other state speakers introduced by Mrs. Yvonne Guiot, club president, were Rep. John E. Fogarty, candidate for re-election from the second congressional district; Secretary of State Armand H. Cote, candidate for lieutenant governor, and Atty. Gen. William E. Powers, seeking re-election.

Speakers on the local level in addition to Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis, were Mr. Fazzano, Sen. Francis LaChapelle, School Committeeman Lorenzo Bergeron who spoke in the French language, and Anthony Paliotta, candidate for the school board.

The town council president said that the opposition in the town throughout the campaign has "stooped" to personalities and are "trying to make you believe there is something wrong with the candidates." He said he challenges any Republican to point out anything that is wrong about any of the Democratic candidates.

Mr. Pastore said the only interest of the Democratic administration was to make the town better for the people. "In my opinion, the Republican party does not want to give you that type of government," he concluded.

Sen. LaChapelle praised the women's club for what it has done for the Democratic party. "You are not only the right arm but you are both arms of the party," he said.

DeCiantis Says Water Rate Cut To Be Sought

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick said yesterday the town administration plans, if reelected, to work with the Kent County water authority and bring about a reduction in rates, perhaps from the present \$20 to \$18 for the flat rate 50,000 gallons a year allowed homeowners.

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He addressed about 200 persons at a West Warwick Democratic women's club dinner in Club 400, Natick.

He said under Republicans in the police department there was resignation after resignation. "There was almost entirely new personnel in November, 1948, from what there was in November, 1946," he said.

Mr. DeCiantis said West Warwick has done everything it possibly could with its schools. "We want a good education—not children running around on marble floors," he said. "We took our time and are now in the process of building Crompton school. We'll eliminate the old schools, which will be sold to the parishes . . ."

Other speakers introduced by Mrs. Yvonne Guiot, club president, and toastmaster included U.S. Senator John O. Pastore, who praised West Warwick as a Democratic stronghold; Congressman John E. Fogarty, who thanked West Warwick and especially the Women's Club for its support in the past 16 years; Secretary of State Armand H. Cote, candidate for Lt. Gov.; Attorney Gen. William H. Powers; Town Clerk Susan V. Lamb and Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle. Other town officers were introduced.

Harrop States Republicans Lack Program

Town Treasurer Robert J. Harrop of West Warwick last night declared that, as a result of the long-range planning in financial matters of the town's Democratic Party, the town will have paid every penny of town debt, except self-liquidating sewer debt, by early 1959.

Then the town will be in a position, without strain on the taxpayers, to pay for the new bonds to be issued for the proposed Crompton Consolidated Elementary School, he said in a radio speech.

After reciting Democratic fiscal accomplishments, Mr. Harrop said he has yet to hear in this campaign a single long range financial plan from the Republican Party.

Despite the fact part of the sewer bond retirement money now comes from the general fund, because sewer assessments are insufficient, the R.I. Public Expenditure Council has indicated the deficit in sewer income will be made up by the growing increase in the number of sewer users, he said. Also aiding will be a decrease in yearly repayment costs of interest and principal, he added.

General bonded indebtedness at the start of this fiscal year was only \$42,000, or \$2.50 per person, he said. That is "a figure perhaps lower than that of any other community of our size and standing in this country," he declared.

During their term of office, Democrats have reduced outstanding school bonds from \$150,000 to \$24,000 and funding bonds from \$81,000 to \$18,000, he said.

GOP statements in this campaign show the same type of economic thinking that marked the Independent Party in the last election, Mr. Harrop maintained. He recalled a GOP spokesman advocated a 25 per cent reduction in the budget at the last town meeting. Taxpayers know they cannot cut the cost of living by 25 per cent, he said.

Lemoui Attacks 'Bossism' In State, Town Govts.

Peter E. Lemoi, West Warwick Republican candidate for state senator, last night declared that his opponent, Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle, would find it tough sledding in the State House "without the support of the local organization who wants no part of him."

Mr. Lemoi declared that the senator, who ran unendorsed and won in a Democratic primary, is a "question mark" candidate because "there will be no certainty about his ability to produce anything in the interest of West Warwick. The De Ciantis administration will not have it so."

Attacking "bossism" in the state and town governments, Mr. Lemoi said, "There is a rebellion brewing" in the Democratic Party.

"The Democratic Party is facing a rising tide of desertion by former supporters who are sick and tired of one-man rule," he declared.

"Here in the town of West Warwick we are witnessing and have witnessed for many years, the same kind of bossism and decadency in political ethics that should result in the throwing out of office of those would-be bosses who no longer respond to the will of the people," he said.

He declared that the "De Ciantis organization in West Warwick is crumbling under an onslaught of divided opinion." Judge Eugene J. Laferriere, who was the endorsed Democratic candidate for the senatorial nomination, "gave the barest of support for Mr. LaChapelle" in a campaign radio speech, he said.

He also declared that the party's younger element is "being held down with difficulty as they find the way closed to them to become serious contenders for positions

of leadership in the town," he said. Mr. Lemoi said the GOP candidates are the "little people we hear so much about from the opposition. We are not politicians. We do not promote primary pressures to place ourselves in position for appointments to juicy jobs in the near future. We do not know of the technique that uses park benches as meeting places for the high and mighty to make deals."

He called for revision of the town charter and said it will take legislative leadership to bring it about, which he would provide.

"Under a program of progressive planning, designed to bring order out of chaos in the advancement of our school system, and the economic structure of our town that will be an inducement to new industries to come here and our old ones to stay, there will be a need for united action . . ." he said.

He continued, "We are not beholden to any boss. We are campaigning in a spirit of independence . . . there will be no question mark hanging over our heads because of disgruntled leadership that smarts under primary-slapped knuckles. Our families are important to us, and what we do for you will be just as effective for good for us and our loved ones."

"None of us own ranch houses set in large estates and all of us have a few years to go before we can travel to Europe and Florida. We are the so-called little men who will have your interests at heart. On Tuesday, Nov. 6, go to the polls and vote for your liberation from the shackles of party bossism. It is not only your duty to yourselves, but your responsibility to your family."

GOP Leader Cites Record

Leo B. Charbonneau, West Warwick Republican town chairman, declared last night after a radio campaign speech by Dr. Richard P. Duffy, Democratic school committeeman, that his party has won local elections more than just the time times Dr. Duffy said it has.

Dr. Duffy said in his speech that "the people of West Warwick have seen fit to elect the Republican party to office twice in the last 40 years."

Mr. Charbonneau said, however, that he had just gone back through the results of local elections during the towns' 43-year history and discovered that Republicans dominated the Town Council 10 out of the past 43 years.

He said he had found that Republicans were elected many times under the old annual elec-

tion system in the several years following incorporation of the town in 1913.

Mr. Charbonneau also said that the "Republicans are well aware that the Democrats have the facilities for a dental clinic," referring to Dr. Duffy's explanation last night of the school committee's position on a school dental clinic, called for in the Republican platform.

"However," Mr. Charbonneau said, "we question why it hasn't been put into effect."

Dr. Duffy said in his speech that original plans called for establishing the clinic in the junior high school, but that it was decided to set it up in the new Crompton elementary school when it is built after the school building committee included plans for a health room for the new building.

Dr. Duffy Praises W. Warwick's School Program

Dr. Richard P. Duffy, Democratic West Warwick school committeeman running for reelection, last night defended the present school administration, which, he said, has operated town schools "efficiently, economically and adequately."

Dr. Duffy told a radio audience that the school committee started to plan about three and one-half years ago for a school improvement plan to meet a school population growth in Crompton.

"It took a little bit of courage," he said, " . . . to recommend the adoption of a plan that would discontinue the use of five old buildings and consolidate them into two."

"We have also the courage," he declared, "to see that this program is carried out to the letter in the next years to come."

Dr. Duffy was referring to a planned new elementary school in Crompton and other school and recreational improvements, for which taxpayers authorized a \$1,200,000 bond issue last spring. "When this project has been completed," Dr. Duffy promised, "you people of West Warwick will have one of the most efficient, modern and economical elementary school systems in the State of Rhode Island."

Charter Commission Pledged in West Warwick GOP's Platform

Election of a charter commission, non-partisan school committee elections, police and fire department retirement benefits and "dignity and unity of purpose" in local government head a 10-point platform released today by the West Warwick Republican Town Committee.

The Republicans said they were announcing the platform "in the firm belief that a change in administration is an urgent necessity."

The committee said it was pledging election of a charter commission "to give the people a clear picture of the advantages and disadvantages of home rule; to modernize our present charter or to recommend a new charter; to point out the flaws in our present system and to state the remedies required."

In 1950, West Warwick taxpayers rejected a proposed city charter that had been passed by the General Assembly, and another proposed city charter passed by the General Assembly in 1955 has never been brought to a vote locally.

The 1955 charter was a re-

vised version of the one drawn up by town solicitor and Democratic leader Michael DeCiantis, turned down in 1950.

Dr. Richard P. Duffy, Democratic school committeeman, charged in a reelection campaign speech last night that the reason Republicans want off-year, non-partisan school committee elections is that "they can't get elected by the accepted democratic process" and "have devised a means whereby they might be able to sneak in the back door at least to a school committee seat."

Both Dr. Duffy and Dr. Maisie E. Quinn, superintendent of schools, have said they think political parties would still back their own candidates for the school committee even with nominally non-partisan elections.

Democratic school committee candidate Anthony Paliotta said recently that he thought off-year school committee elections would be a waste of money.

Republican chairman Leo B. Charbonneau, however, said that "we want to take politics out of the school committee, once and for all."

"We would like to hear one reason why the Democrats are fighting establishment of a non-political school committee," Mr. Charbonneau declared.

"To make this most important committee non-political in a true sense and to attract more qualified and interested individuals from both parties to offer their services to the community," is the language the committee used in framing the school committee plank of its platform, the first one on the list.

The platform recommends establishment of a committee to study police and fire department retirement programs "with a pledge to follow the committee recommendations."

Setting up the pension plan committee is urged "to give our police and firemen the type of program that more progressive communities have had for years, and to make these departments attractive to our young men and insure that long and faithful service will be adequately rewarded."

Town officials and fire and police department committees now are studying pension plans, both town-administered and insurance-company-administered. Taxpayers authorized enabling legislation for a pension plan at the spring financial town meeting.

"We pledge to the people of West Warwick that we will restore dignity and unity of purpose to the elective offices of

the town," declares the last plank in the platform. It also states that "we shall work as a team to the best interest of all the people," and that "we will make West Warwick a town that will take its proper place among the more progressive and prosperous communities in the state of Rhode Island."

Other planks pledge a long-range school planning program, including "immediate action" in getting federal school lunch aid and establishing a dental clinic; erection of a combination fire station, police station and town hall as a veterans' memorial and building roads to relieve bad traffic conditions; a long-range active recreational program, including increasing of town aid to the Little and Babe Ruth leagues, expanding the swimming program and making school facilities available for a year-round recreational program.

Also, full disclosure of expenses and revenues "to re-establish the faith of the people in our town government and its officers"; a "close alliance" between business and the town industry, partly to induce new businesses to West Warwick, and partly to help local businessmen with parking, roads and allied problems," sponsored by general assembly delegates of legislation for benefit "of all the people" and dedication of their terms of office to "the betterment of our town and state."

Dr. Duffy Lauds School Program in W. Warwick

Dr. Richard P. Duffy, Democratic West Warwick school committeeman running for reelection, last night defended the present school administration, which, he said, has operated town schools "efficiently, economically and adequately."

Dr. Duffy told a radio audience that the school committee started to plan about three and one-half years ago for a school improvement plan to meet a school population growth in Crompton.

"It took a little bit of courage," he said, "... to recommend the adoption of a plan that would discontinue the use of five old buildings and consolidate them into two."

"We have also the courage," he declared, "to see that this program is carried out to the letter in the next years to come."

Dr. Duffy was referring to a planned new elementary school in Crompton and other school and recreational improvements, for which taxpayers authorized a \$1,200,000 bond issue last spring.

"When this project has been completed," Dr. Duffy promised, "you people of West Warwick will have one of the most efficient, modern and economical elementary school systems in the State of Rhode Island."

He said plans are underway for "recreational facilities, including baseball, tennis, track, picnic areas and possibly skating and swimming" at the Crompton School site.

He termed Republican criticism of failure to provide for an ample right of way in the Crompton site purchase "another attempt to manufacture an issue." He said that Wyman

Street, a town-maintained street, runs into the property, but "whether or not this entrance will be used for the new school site... is a matter for our architect to decide."

Dr. Duffy charged that Republicans are trying to "sneak in the back door" to the school committee by recommending in their platform non-partisan school committee elections.

"The people of West Warwick have seen fit to elect the Republican party to office twice in the last 40 years," Dr. Duffy declared. "No wonder they want some other kind of election."

"They can't get elected by the accepted democratic process," he said, "so now they've devised a means whereby they might be able to sneak in the back door at least to a school committee seat."

Referring to a GOP platform recommendation of establishment of a dental clinic in the town's school system, Dr. Duffy replied that the school committee last year acquired a school dental unit through the state, and that this year's school budget includes a \$2,000 appropriation to set up a school dental clinic.

However, Dr. Duffy said, the school building committee last later decided to include a health room in the plans for the new Crompton school, and it was decided to put the dental clinic there rather than in the junior high school as was first planned.

Dr. Duffy praised Anthony Paliotta, West Warwick Democrat running with Dr. Duffy for the school committee seat of Vincent Lukowitz, who is retiring.

Says Town, Survey Tax Figures Agree

The valuation the New England Survey Service placed on the so-called Clyde Print Works is about the same as West Warwick tax assessors placed on the property for the current tax year, chairman Hermenegilde J. Nadeau of the assessors said last night.

Peter E. Lemoi, Republican senatorial candidate, yesterday had said the tax on the mill, which was \$10,655.91 last year, was cut in this year's tax list to \$4,940, a reduction of \$5,715.91.

He said the property, which is assessed to Lawrence Sugarman et als, is involved in one of 12

tax suits brought against the town earlier this year.

When the suits were announced by Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis on Feb. 1, this year, Mr. DeCiantis promised to give the corporations "the toughest fight they ever had" because "if these suits are won by the corporations, it will be just that amount of additional tax that will have to be paid by the home owner," Mr. Lemoi recalled.

"Is this considered the toughest fight in protecting the little fellow?" Mr. Lemoi asked.

Mr. DeCiantis, who is trying to settle the tax suits, said, "if the assessors made an assessment of this amount, I would have to attempt to settle the case near to the figure at which they have assessed the property."

He further said last night that, whereas Mr. Lemoi said the Clyde Print Works valuation had been reduced from about \$420,000 to \$160,040, the valuation now is actually \$197,600. Mr. Lemoi last night admitted he "not being an attorney and the way the tax book is printed, possibly did make a mistake."

However, Mr. Lemoi declared that the amount of tax cut is the important thing, and he had the figure correct there.

He asked whether the valuations of the others suing the town have been cut. A random check indicated they remain about the same or exactly the same.

He declared it would seem to him the town might wait until the case is decided by the courts before the tax was changed. "It takes a lot of homes to make that up," he said. "That would buy a new ambulance."

HINTS ENTIRE STREET IN WEST WARWICK HAS NO SEWER ASSESSMENT

A Republican candidate charged today that the \$1,200,000 sewer extension in West Warwick raises questions in addition to "shock" the administration received when they found it was necessary to establish a 60 per cent assessment of valuation to pay for the extensions.

Directing his question to Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis, Peter E. Lemoi, GOP candidate to the State Senate said "I would like to know if Mr. DeCiantis is aware that an entire street in this town has not been assessed any sewer tax at all although they have sewers?"

And, pointing to the 60 per cent assessment, Mr. Lemoi asked

"Were not they aware what the assessment would be when the project was started?"

The Republican candidate also lashed out at the difficulty he said taxpayers are having in collecting sewer tax rebates rightfully due them. He said that while some attorneys have been hired by taxpayers in acquiring sewer tax rebates he has heard very little protest by the town council. "Weren't they aware of what they were doing in the first place? If citizens of this town have rebates coming to them on their sewer assessments because of the way the sewer levy was made it should not be necessary for them to pay attorneys to get them."

SAYS G.O.P. PLATFORM HERE TO HELP TOWN TO GET FAIR SHARE OF U. S. PROSPERITY

Times Oct 31, 1956
CHARBONNEAU, CHAIRMAN OF PARTY, POINTS TO PROMISE OF "ECONOMY"

The West Warwick Republican Party today made public its 10-point platform on which it bases its appeal to the electorate for a victory at the polls next Tuesday.

Leo B. Charbonneau, GOP town chairman, said the platform is one that will enable West Warwick to get its fair share of the nation's prosperity and "we have the candidates with the ability to carry out the platform pledges for the benefit of all of the people through the soundest economy and administration."

The platform follows:

"1. Off year, non-partisan, elections of a school committee.

"To make this most important committee non-political in a true sense and to attract more qual-

fied and interested individuals from both parties to offer their services to the community.

Long Range Planning

"2. Long range planning program for our schools.

To take immediate action in acquiring federal aid in our school lunch program and in establishing a dental clinic. To inform the people of what our needs will be in the near future. To plan now on a practical basis for necessary school expansion.

"3. Community development.

"To erect a combination fire station, police station and town hall as a memorial to our veterans. To build roads that will alleviate traffic conditions in the town.

"4. A long range active recreational program.

"To acquire proper equipment and playgrounds. To have personnel qualified and interested in the welfare of our children. To set up an active schedule whereby children of all ages can participate in organized sports. To increase town aid to the Little and Babe Ruth Leagues. To expand the swimming program so that participation is not limited. To open our school facilities so that the recreational program is year round.

Retirement Program

"5. A committee to study police and fire retirement program with a pledge to follow the committee recommendations.

"To give our police and firemen the type of program that more progressive communities have had for years. To make these departments attractive to our young men and to insure that long and faithful service will be adequately rewarded.

"6. Election of a Charter Commission.

"To give the people a clear picture of the advantages and disadvantages of home rule. To modernize our present charter or to recommend a new charter. To point out the flaws in our present system and to state the remedies required.

"7. Full disclosures of expenses and revenues.

"To re-establish the faith of the people in our town government and its officers. To explain clearly the financial problems involved and to keep all records open for inspection by all the people.

"8. A close alliance between business and the town administration.

"To induce new and desirable businesses to the Town of West Warwick. To help business in

parking, roads and other allied problems in order that the industry and business of the town will prosper.

"9. Our senator and representatives will sponsor legislation for the benefit of all the people.

Eisenhower Principles

"To continue the principles in office of the Eisenhower administration. They will not bring pressure to acquire jobs for any political boss or themselves. They will dedicate their term in office to the betterment of our town and our state.

"10. We pledge to the people of West Warwick that we will restore dignity and unity of purpose to the elective offices of the town. That we shall work as a team to the best interest of all of the people. That we will make West Warwick a town that will take its proper place among the more progressive and prosperous communities in the State of Rhode Island.

"The soundest remedy for today's major community problems, schools, congestion, deterioration and public finance, lies within the community itself. For the best 'natural resource' of any community is its citizens. By organizing civic, business and local government leaders to come to grips with these problems — and develop plans for their solution — citizens can create the kind of towns and cities in which everybody wants to live and do business. We, of the Republican Party, in the firm belief that a change in administration is an urgent necessity in the Town of West Warwick, offer the following platform to the voters of West Warwick. We ask for its approval and support. This platform is our pledge to the people of West Warwick and the Republican candidates when elected to office will put it into effect."

West Warwick Democrats, GOP Make Final Plea for Support

Both political parties in West Warwick last night made their final big play for votes in tomorrow's election.

The Democrats staged a wind-up rally in Turcotte Hall, Arctic, which featured appearances by Atty. Gen. William E. Powers and Sen. John G. McWeeney as well as local candidates.

The Republicans climaxed a

100-car horn-toting motorcade through the town with what town chairman Leo B. Charbonneau termed the "first drive-in rally in Rhode Island history." Also, their sound truck, manned by state senatorial candidate Peter E. Lemoi, was busy in various sections of the town all afternoon.

Democratic speakers at the Turcotte Hall rally, attended

by about 100 persons, concentrated their fire not only on the Republican opposition but also on the Providence Journal-Bulletin.

"They ought to have the decency to say they are a Republican paper," declared Council President Francis J. Fazzano. He said that these newspapers had covered Republican statements on the town level in full, but left out Democratic answers.

On the Republican side, Mr. Lemoi said he was in favor of "a living wage for every town and state employe, including employes at the state institutions, who have been given the run-around by Gov. Roberts."

Joseph E. Cournoyer, Republican councilman No. 1 candidate opposing Mr. Fazzano, spoke on the issues.

Atty. Gen. Powers had words of praise for Mr. Fazzano, one of his assistant attorneys-general.

Walter Lemek, GOP Town Council candidate, declared that a Republican administration would "give a clearcut year-round program for all of our children, supervised by qualified, interested personnel and not by politicians."

Leo Charbonneau told his Republican audience that "we have the Democrats running scared."

Roland Demers, Republican candidate for tax assessor, said "the spending spree is over. We will hold the line on taxes and complete our platform."

Robert Harrop, Democratic town treasurer, repeated an earlier charge that when the Democrats took over again after the 1946-48 town Republican administration, the GOP had spent in six months over 70 per cent of the year's appropriation.

P.J. Nov. 6, 1956

LaChapelle Urges Passage Of Korea Vets Bonus Bill

Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle, Democrat, last night came out for passage of the \$10,000,000 Korean war veterans' bonus bill "whether the Journal likes it or not," and declared that he has the public support of his party leaders despite remarks to the contrary by the Republican candidate, Peter E. Lemoi.

Arthur J. Hebert, Republican candidate for representative in district 2, said he personally respects incumbent Democratic Rep. Ulysses LaRoche as a man and brother businessman "but in all fairness to the people of West Warwick and the hundreds of independent and Republican voters, I must firmly charge that the incumbent representative has failed miserably to represent you, the people of the second district, who pay the bigger portion of taxes in the business area."

Senator La Chapelle recited his record, which he said included getting the Factory Street Bridge rebuilt by the state for \$247,000; reconstruction of Fairview Avenue at a

cost of \$800,000, of which the Phenix Bridge will cost \$350,000 alone; resurfacing and correction of a drainage problem at Veterans' Square; attendance at all but two Assembly sessions; making 42 speeches on the Senate floor; praise by even GOP senators for "my fighting qualities. . ." Both speeches were given over the radio.

Rival State Nominees

Draw Big Audiences

N.P. 5/19/56 P.J. Nov 5 1951
**Del Sesto Insists
Rao Was Personal
Choice of Governor**

Gov. Roberts has "repudiated" Frank Rao, Democratic state chairman, by saying that he was not responsible for the party leader's appointment, Christopher Del Sesto, GOP gubernatorial candidate, said last night.

The GOP candidate chose the Fourth Ward of Providence as the place to bring his campaign to a climax. He asked a cheering and stamping audience of more than 200 persons in Mercurio Hall to "liberate the North End" and "to break the chain of all Frank Rao has meant."

Mr. Del Sesto also used a half-hour television show and heavily attended Republican rallies in Johnston, Warwick and the Seventh Ward of Providence to blast the reples Gov. Roberts made Saturday night to 15 questions asked him by the GOP candidate.

"The governor is absolutely right to call my assertions about Mr. Rao 'fantastic,'" Mr. Del Sesto said. "It is fantastic. In no other state would the people allow such a condition to exist. It could only happen where there

Del Sesto

P.J. Nov 5 1956
Continued From Page One

is no effective two-party system."

Mr. Del Sesto repeated the question he broached earlier in the campaign: "Is it right for a man to be state chairman and affiliated with the wholesale liquor business?"

Of the governor's statement that Mr. Rao was elected state chairman by the Democratic State Committee, the GOP candidate said, "The governor repudiated Mr. Rao. If I were Frank Rao I would be rather sore. Who's he trying to kid? Rao was, and still is, his personal choice."

He said that an Italian language flyer being circulated "brags" about Italian-Americans appointed to state and city office by Democratic administrations. The Honorable Frank Rao heads the list," Mr. Del Sesto said.

"Misses The Point"

Gov. Roberts' reply to the court appointments question "misses the point" in citing the precedent of three judges appointed from the House of Representatives, Mr. Del Sesto said.

"The difference is that three of the new judges were in the Senate, the body which confirms appointments to the bench. The appointments were made to fill vacancies created and forced by the very men who were made judges," he said.

He said that the senators Gov. Roberts appointed to the bench served on a subcommittee in 1955 to draft the constitutional amendment providing life tenure for judges, which the voters rejected at a special election in June 1955.

"This was all part of a plan to create vacancies and they are the beneficiaries," Mr. Del Sesto told more than 500 persons attending a Warwick rally at The Farm, Pawtucket.

Defending his position on financing a music shell in Newport, Mr. Del Sesto said in Johnston he felt that it would be "self-liquidating" and would bolster the state's recreational industry by perhaps making Newport "another Tanglewood."

He said, "The governor is tired. He has no new ideas to offer. Maybe my idea isn't good, but isn't it worth a study?"

Mr. Del Sesto told his rally audiences, "You can be sure of our sincerity. If we get blamed, I'll take the responsibility. I won't blame the General Assembly or somebody else."

At the Seventh Ward rally, Coleman B. Zimmerman, GOP candidate for attorney general, took issue with Gov. Roberts for the governor's criticism of Mr. Del Sesto for not appearing with him at a Journal-Bulletin editorial conference.

Mr. Zimmerman said it is the job of a gubernatorial candidate to "talk to the people, not to the editorial board of a newspaper."

Forcier Speaks

Arthur A. Forcier, candidate for secretary of state, said at the Johnston rally that if the recent vote scandal in Pawtucket had been a Democratic one instead of a Republican primary, "we wouldn't have been amazed because that sort of thing is a usual happening at Democratic elections."

John P. Kane, GOP candidate for general treasurer, in speeches in the Seventh Ward and in Johnston, assailed the "haphazard administration, deficit spending and broken promises" of the Democrats.

State Rep. William T. Broomhead, candidate for lieutenant governor; Bayard Ewing, GOP national committeeman, and Herbert B. Carlin, GOP state chairman, also made appearances at the rallies around the state.

Denies Tax Line Held

Mr. Del Sesto told a Seventh Ward audience of about 75 persons that Gov. Roberts' statement that his administration has held the tax line since 1951 is "an outright lie."

He quoted Gov. Roberts' budget message to the General Assembly in 1951 in which the governor said a deficiency of \$9,500,000 existed between the recommended budget and revenues anticipated "from our present tax structure."

The governor's message recommended as "temporary" levies the raising of the sales tax from one to two per cent, raising the corporate income tax from four to five per cent, increasing pari-mutuel betting tax and raising import fees on spirituous liquor 50 cents per gallon.

In saying his administration has held the tax line, "the governor is insulting the intelligence of the people," Mr. Del Sesto said.

"Shirks Responsibility"

He said the governor "is shirking his responsibility" in his reply that he did not call a special session of the General Assembly to enact legislation to give the people of East Providence the right to choose their own election procedures because the East Providence Town Council requested him not to.

Replying on his television show to several Democratic speakers who have called him a "turncoat Democrat," Mr. Del Sesto said he left "Democ-

cratic Party because "a man would be a hypocrite to stay in a party in which he no longer believes."

He said the Republican Party under President Eisenhower is "vigorous and liberal," while the Democratic Party has become "reactionary."

Mr. Del Sesto asked why the governor blamed the General Assembly for not passing the Warwick school bond act, and charged that the governor "lacks moral courage." He added, "When he was called upon to act, he was afraid to act."

"Dangerous Precedent"

The governor's action to take money from the state's highway maintenance fund to build bridges in West Warwick and Lincoln "established a dangerous precedent" and was only a device "to buy votes," Mr. Del Sesto charged.

He asked the governor why the recommendation of the Hogan Committee to tighten up the law regarding supervised voting was not passed by the General Assembly.

"As long as Frank Rao is around you will never get supervised voting changed. City workers vote under supervision so the bosses will know they are voting right," he told the Seventh Ward rally.

Mr. Del Sesto told the Fourth Ward rally that he has seen "lawyers and professional people voting under supervision at the Branch Avenue School."

"They gave up their rights for a little job and a little favor," he said. "We've got to beat down those who for personal gain and ambition, would take away our rights as citizens."

Visitor Editorial

At nearly all rallies attended by the governor, a member of his executive office staff handed out reprints of an editorial in the November 1 issue of the Providence Visitor. The editorial took issue with Journal-Bulletin editorials of Oct. 27 and 30 which endorsed the candidacy of Mr. Del Sesto and urged the reelection of President Eisenhower.

At the 12th ward rally at Lithuanian Hall, Democratic Council member Russell J. Boyle said Gov. Roberts brought the pamphlets with him and that 15,000 of them were being distributed in the state.

In his speeches, Democratic State Chairman Frank Rao, who has been under attack in the campaign, predicted the Democratic state ticket would win by "double its plurality of 1952. Four years ago Gov. Roberts won by 20,000 votes."

Mr. Rao said, "There is no question of the outcome and I can be wrong."

He said the Democrats have held 1,000 teas in private homes in the state in 40 days, "and they have a first class candidate" and ATTY. Gen. William E. Powers asked for election of a straight Democratic slate.

Michael DeCiantis, West Warwick Democratic town chairman who earlier in the campaign threatened to oppose the governor in a party primary, praised Gov. Roberts in a radio speech. He called him "a Democrat who believes in the principles of democracy and has set these principles into practice and action for the benefit of all of the people of the State of Rhode Island."

Mr. DeCiantis described Mr. Del Sesto as "a political opportunist" and said that as a citizen of Italian extraction he regarded "the attempts that have been made by

*REPUBLICAN PARTY TO HAVE ITS
ONE CAMPAIGN ISSUE NATIONAL
AS "AN INSULT TO ALL OF US."*

Reviews Record

In his talks, Gov. Roberts spoke only briefly and reviewed the record of his administrations. He said the party "deserves to be returned to office because of its experience, its devotion to duty and its integrity."

He again accused Mr. Del Sesto of wanting to raise taxes if he is elected.

"Even our severest critic, the Providence Journal-Bulletin," he said, "has admitted in its editorials the soundness, economy and thoroughness" of the Democratic state administration in meeting the state's basic needs.

Secretary of State Armand H. Cote, candidate for lieutenant governor, said the Republican candidates and "the press" have been using the argument that "the only thing wrong with the Democratic administration is we haven't increased taxes."

At the Narragansett Hotel, Mr. Cote hinted the United States would be involved in the Middle East war soon after election, and he charged the Eisenhower administration with "deceit" in saying there is no involvement on our part. The United States is "almost sleeping in the same bed with Soviet Russia," Mr. Cote told the women.

Refers to Nixon

Referring to the possibility that Vice President Nixon could be president, Mr. Cote said, "Pardon my French, but we're going to be in a hell of a fix."

He said, "People are too intelligent to be misled by the Republican press" and charged newspapers with being partisan to the GOP. He said the newspapers are "screening" political news and suggested some newspapermen are "even writing Republican speeches."

General Treasurer Raymond H. Hawksley was asked at Lithuanian Hall whether the Democratic Party favors the \$10,000,000 bond issue proposed for payment of a \$200 bonus to Korean War veterans.

He replied affirmatively, and said proof of the Democratic stand was that the party is asking the voters to approve a question that would make it possible for the state to pay a higher interest rate on the proposed Korean bonus bonds than is stipulated in the

Roberts Discounts

Foe's Proposal

To Move R.I. Prison

"Completely unrealistic" was the description applied yesterday by Democratic Gov. Roberts to the proposals of his GOP opponent, Christopher Del Sesto, that the state move the State Prison out of Cranston and construct a shell for Newport jazz festivals.

"As of today," the governor said at rallies through the afternoon and evening, "the Republican candidate has presented no program whatsoever. He has conducted a campaign of criticism not well founded, but well publicized."

As the campaign neared its end, the governor spoke at a rally in Johnston which attracted 600 women; at a woman's tea at the Narragansett Hotel where the crowd was estimated to be from 800 to 1,000 and to about 750 women at the Sheraton-Biltmore Hotel. The Johnston affair was sponsored by the Democratic Town Committee; the Narragansett party by the women of the Democratic state committee and the Biltmore affair was a reception for John L. Rego, state director of agriculture and

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Campaign Ends With Speeches In W. Warwick

In a final round of campaign activities West Warwick candidates and party spokesmen concentrated on last-minute radio broadcasts and gatherings of party workers.

At the Club 400 in Natick, between 75 and 100 Democratic mainstays, heard Town Solicitor Michael De Ciantis and other party leaders speak. Town Council president Francis J. Fazzano was a speaker also.

Three-tenths of a mile away, at Patsy's Cafe, also in Natick, the Republican town committee feted about 100 of its party members at a dinner.

Later, the GOP committeemen met at Patsy's to round out plans for today, notably arranging transportation to the polls. Republican Town Chairman Leo B. Charbonneau, delivered a radio address.

Democratic speakers at the Club 400 affair spurred workers to get out a big vote.

Joseph E. Cournoyer, Republican candidate for town councilman No. 1, was a final day speaker also.

Also making a radio speech last night was Sen. Francis J. La Chapelle, Democratic candidate for reelection.

The Republican General Assembly candidates made radio appearances at a round table discussion with gubernatorial candidate Christopher Del Sesto.

Roberts

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conservation, given by women of Portuguese extraction.

Last night, the governor spoke at a fourth ward rally in Providence and at Lithuanian Hall here. The fourth ward rally was attended by 300 in the hall and 100 outside. About 300 were at the Lithuanian Hall.

legislation authorizing the referendum.

Notte, Powers Speak

John A. Notte, candidate for secretary of state, said the Republicans "have not given the vote

LACHAPELLE CARRIES W. W.

Times Nov. 2, 1956

Smith Defeats Kraus for House; Di Fiore and La Roche Triumphant

By RONALD ANDERSON

West Warwick Democrats were retained in office yesterday, but the electorate which turned out in near total force clipped them down in plurality by up to 800 votes and knocked out one of their offices on the state level. Luke J. Smith, Republican, defeated Rep. Thaddeus Kraus in the third district. The GOP also won district offices in the third representative district.

Votes were split up and down the ticket. President Eisenhower who lost in West Warwick in the 1952 election by 627 to Gov. Stevenson gained a plurality of 1237 in yesterday's vote. Governor Roberts defeated Christopher DelSesto by a total of 409, but that is 828 less than President Eisenhower received.

Lachapelle by 784

Next to the President, the largest plurality was piled up by Sen. Francis LaChapelle who gained a 784 win over his GOP opponent, Peter E. Lemoi. Sen. LaChapelle who won out over the administration in the Sept. 26 primary, led the town ticket by a wide margin.

While the average margin of victory for the Democratic town ticket was 464, Town Council President Francis J. Fazzano gained only a 150 majority over Joseph E. Cournoyer, Republican.

Mr. Smith defeated Rep. Kraus by 55 votes. There are 163 votes outstanding, including 97 war ballots, 43 shut-ins and 23 absentee



SEN. FRANCIS LACHAPELLE

ballots. But the contest is confined to just the third representative district between Mr. Smith and Rep. Kraus. Officials of the canvass board last night were doubtful that Rep. Kraus could overcome the 55 votes from those outstanding.

11,013 Eligible

The total eligible vote was 11,013 and the turnout numbered 10,146. Only 367 voters did not show. The weather was ideal throughout the day and evening. The voting (Continued on page 5, col. 4.)

Summary of Voting

	Rep. Dist. 1	Rep. Dist. 2	Rep. Dist. 3	Total
TOWN CLERK—				
Susan Lamb (D)	698 759	752 421	1117 673	4859
Yvonne Sprague (R)	703 489	532 426	1175 601	4354
TOWN COUNCIL—				
Francis Fazzano (D)	682 735	722 401	1064 640	4668
Joseph Cournoyer (R)	714 515	561 440	1221 629	4518
Herve Niquette (D)	691 733	739 439	1082 658	4790
Walter Lemek (R)	709 497	534 404	1190 595	4345
Thomas Mello (D)	703 715	753 436	1097 661	4807
Louis Gallucci (R)	693 521	526 402	1170 589	4321
Antonio Paul (D)	696 726	711 421	1087 651	4719
Gilbert Dubuc (R)	697 499	535 419	1184 611	4333
Chester Kulasewski (D)	691 722	737 413	1135 657	4794
Ernest Frenette (R)	698 502	534 426	1162 602	4350
TOWN TREASURER—				
Robert Harrop (D)	708 742	763 440	1114 676	4481
Nellie Gebler (R)	686 491	519 404	1164 584	4264
TOWN SERGEANT—				
Frank Boisvert (D)	701 734	760 449	1117 674	4518
Alphonse Girard (R)	687 496	520 392	1166 590	4262
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AID—				
Joseph Laurence (D)	694 729	742 444	1118 678	4558
Gaetano Lombardi (R)	705 509	532 397	1165 584	4300
TAX ASSESSORS—				
H. Nadeau (D)	686 730	747 438	1112 665	4528
R. Russi (R)	704 500	522 388	1167 595	4298
H. Hughes (D)	701 735	743 419	1117 652	4368
R. Demers (R)	697 495	530 423	1171 609	4348
SCHOOL COMMITTEE—				
Richard Duffy (D)	696 732	752 424	1090 659	4788
Helen Coult (R)	699 504	534 420	1194 605	4380
Antonio Pallotta (D)	688 739	735 424	1083 683	4791
Harold Hayes (R)	705 500	537 411	1168 580	4341
MODERATORS—				
Rep. 1, Vol. 1.—Edward Gonsalves (D)	702			
Vol. 1.—Rene Gosselin (R)	693			
Vol. 2.—Domenic Petrangolo (D)	742			
Vol. 2.—Richard Jarbeau (R)	502			
Rep. 2, Vol. 1.—David Barlow (D)	740			
Vol. 1.—John Shepard (R)	526			
Vol. 2.—Henry Theroux (D)	443			
Vol. 2.—Walter Snell (R)	399			
Rep. 3, Vol. 1.—William Lambert (D)	1106			
Vol. 1.—Gustaf Anderson (R)	1172			
Vol. 2.—John Zaborski (D)	654			
Vol. 2.—Oscar Millette (R)	607			
Vol. 3.—Andre Godin (D)	427			
Vol. 3.—Gilbert Dubuc (R)	430			
CLERKS—				
Rep. 1, Vol. 1.—Albert Bettez (D)	712			
Vol. 1.—Rachel Lombardi (R)	687			
Vol. 2.—Joseph Clafrei (R)	719			
Vol. 2.—Louis Gallucci (R)	516			
Rep. 2, Vol. 1.—Antonio Andrade (D)	754			
Vol. 1.—Hannah Hayes (R)	520			
Vol. 2.—Elsie Theroux (D)	422			
Vol. 2.—Alpberie Antaya (R)	417			
Rep. 3, Vol. 1.—Henry Hattoy (D)	1104			
Vol. 1.—Stephen Andruchow (R)	1173			
Vol. 2.—Andrew Flannagan (D)	615			
Vol. 2.—Leo Raboin (R)	605			
Vol. 3.—Gerard Nolette (D)	438			
Vol. 3.—Guy Archambault (R)	428			

LACHAPELLE CARRIES WEST WARWICK

(Continued from page 1)

started out heavy and continued the pace in about all of the seven districts throughout the day. The last vote cast was in the biggest district, Rep. Dist. 3, Vol. Dist. 1, which in general in the Crompton-Centreville area and where the eligible vote is 2784. At 8 p.m., poll closing time, the line was outside of the building at Murray's square a distance of about 100 yards. William Lambert, the moderator, stationed a police detail at end of the line at that time. The last ballot was cast at 8:50 p.m. The vote cast there totaled 2507.

In addition to Mr. Smith, three other Republicans won. They were all on the district level and included the moderator and clerk of Rep. Dist. 3, Vol. Dist. 1, Gustaf Anderson and Stephen Andruchow, respectively, and the moderator of Rep. Dist. 3, Vol. Dist. 3, Gilbert Dubuc.

Mortimer W. Newton, chairman of the canvass authority, said that the voting was orderly. He said the canvass board issued about 50 statements to people who had removed within the town boundaries. The absentee ballots are returnable Nov. 19 and the war bal-

lots are opened on Dec. 4.

On State Level

Democrats winning on the state level were: Congressman Fogarty, 748 over Thomas Needham; Armand Cote, 681 over William Broomhead for lieutenant governor; John A. Notte Jr., 401 over Arthur Forcier for secretary of state; William E. Powers, 544, over Coleman Zimmerman for attorney general; Raymond Hawksley, 471 over John P. Kane for general treasurer.

Rep. Ger. DiFiore defeated his Republican opponent Secondo Sinalchi by 177 votes. He lost by 11 votes in Vol. Dist. 1, but won 758 to 570, in his own Vol. Dist. 2 which is in general, the Natick area.

Rep. Ulysses LaRoche defeated Arthur Hebert, Republican, by a margin of 191 in the second district. He won in Vol. Dist. 1 by 773 to 574, but dropped the second voting district, 435 to 443.

Democrats retained their grip on Vol. Dist. 2 of the first representative district, Natick. About half of their majority was built up there. President Eisenhower carried every district in the town.

DelSesto won both in voting districts No. 1 of the first representative district and of the third representative district. Sen. LaChapelle carried all but Vol. 1 of Rep. 1 where he lost to Lemoi by 11 votes.

Republicans showed their strength on the local level in the Phenix-Lippitt area which is Vol. Dist. 1 of Rep. Dist. 1 and in Representative District No. 3 particularly in Vol. Dist. 1, which is the Crompton-Centreville area.

Town Treasurer Robert J. Harrop led the town ticket by a plurality of 627. Mr. Cournoyer who lost the number one position on the town council to the incumbent, Mr. Fazzano, carried four voting districts. They are Vol. 1 of Rep. 1; Vol. 2 of Rep. 2 and Vol. 1 and 3 of Rep. 3.

The West Warwick Democratic administration in regaining the confidence of the people, promised in the election campaign to get on with the building of the new elementary school in Crompton and with the development of playgrounds. The party's smaller plurality and the split voting should serve as notice there will be many watching over them in the next two years, before the next election.

Valley Democrats Study Damage

West Warwick and Coventry Democratic administrations yesterday were still taking stock of the damage after weathering a terrific battering by political hurricanes Ike and Chris, not without serious damage.

Hurricane casualties included Sen. James F. Murphy and Rep. John C. Colomb of Coventry, Rep. Thaddeus M. Kraus of West Warwick's third district and several voting district officers in both towns.

The onslaught had slackened by yesterday, but the too-close-for-comfort memory lingered on.

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis, West Warwick Democratic leader, and Senator Murphy, both felt the states offices their parties lost to the Republicans went because their side was "Eisenhowerized."

Senator Murphy also believes that Christopher Del Sesto, GOP gubernatorial standard bearer, may have cut down on the split votes the senator had hoped to get from Coventry's Eisenhower Italo-Americans.

Mr. Del Sesto, as expected, made big inroads in predominantly Italo-American Natick, although Governor Roberts carried West Warwick as a whole. He lost Natick to Governor Roberts by only 101, whereas two years ago Dean J. Lewis lost it to the governor by 417 and, four years ago, Raoul Archambault Jr. lost it to the governor by 321 votes.

Representative Kraus, in a

marginal district, where he had been successful four times, called his successful opponent, former Rep. Luke J. Smith, last night and congratulated him. Mr. Kraus said he does not believe the war, absentee and shut-in ballots yet to come from his district will be enough to overcome Mr. Smith's slim plurality of 55 votes.

While Mr. DeCiantis laid the slicing of his Democratic stronghold's pluralities from 1,200 of two years ago down to as low as 150 for Francis J. Fazzano, Town Council president, to President Eisenhower's sweep, there was the feat of Demo-

cratic Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle in running second to Mr. Eisenhower, beating Peter E. Lemoi by 784.

The President this year carried West Warwick by 1,337. In 1952, Adlai Stevenson took it by 627.

Leaders said that Mr. Fazzano most likely will win reelection with his current 150 plurality, despite the fact there are a possible 178 West Warwick war, absentee and shut-in ballots to come. They do no envision his GOP opponent, Joseph E. Cournoyer Jr., taking enough of the 178 to upset him.

William C. Fecteau Jr., Demo-

cratic Town Council president in Coventry, led his successful town ticket with a 401 plurality. But the Eisenhower-Del Sesto town sweep, which found the President upping his town plurality from 1,193 four years ago to 1,812, was too much for Senator Murphy and Representative Golomb.

As a result of the town Democratic ticket win, Coventry will have its first all-Democratic school committee in years and, some said, possibly the first one ever. Mrs. Evelyn J. Pike defeated incumbent Republican George D. Hall, by 329, while George J. Shehab, Democrat, defeated Francis J. Biros by 194.

Del Sesto Revives GOP Hopes for R.I.

While the final decision of Rhode Island's electorate on its choice of governor may not be made until military ballots are counted in early December, the pattern established by voters the day before yesterday will be recorded as one of the most extraordinary events in the state's colorful political history.

President Eisenhower's remarkable performance is the heart of the election day record. After four years in office, the President took by about 63,000 votes a traditionally Democratic state where his 1952 victory by about 7,700 votes was considered a profound upset. Rhode Island liked Ike about eight times better in 1956 than it did in 1952.

Under the impact of such a sweep, the Democrats were badly shaken. Only a handful of votes separate Governor Roberts and his Republican opponent, Christopher Del Sesto.



Del Sesto

The returns from more than 11,000 absentee ballots will decide the gubernatorial contest and a number of other state and local elections.

The question already has arisen why GOP candidates did not fare better than they did in the light of the President's wide margin of victory. Some GOP state leaders talk darkly of "something very wrong all along the line." The simple truth of the matter is that the President's coattails just couldn't carry the load placed on them.

Mr. Del Sesto did as well as he did, in part, of course, because the Eisenhower flood helped carry him along. But Mr. Del Sesto also profited from the strong and vigorous campaign he waged against Governor Roberts from one end of the state to the other. He profited also by the action of many Democrats

who cut Mr. Roberts out of their ballot.

If Mr. Del Sesto had had at his command a party organization as large and disciplined as the Democrats did, the GOP candidate for governor might well have run far ahead of Mr. Roberts. If he had had the help of a strong candidate for mayor of Providence, he might well have picked up hundreds of extra votes in the city.

Look at the record. The Democrats have managed to maintain solidly their citadel of control in Providence. Both Congressmen, Democrats of recognized power, continue in office even if by reduced margins. The Democrats still control the House. The lieutenant governor is a Democrat beyond reach of returns from absentee ballots.

In short, the core of Democratic strength held remarkably well in a flood tide of pro-Eisenhower voting that would have swept away a weaker organization. For the immediate future, the big issue will be the fight for control of the organization, a prize that will be invaluable in the off-year elections in 1958.

Against this organization, the GOP had little to offer. Mr. Del Sesto carried the fight against Governor Roberts almost single-handed. In this respect, it's interesting that Congressman Fogarty also should have suffered serious reduction in his margin of victory because his opponent, Thomas H. Needham, matched Mr. Del Sesto's vigor of campaigning.

In Providence, particularly, Mr. Del Sesto can lay claim to the lion's share of GOP strength of voting. He almost doubled the accepted GOP minority strength of 25,000 votes. He broke heavily into the big Italo-American districts where the Democrats long have held a wide majority. He took Democratic votes away from the governor.

The GOP candidate for mayor,

James T. Lyman, was given a vote of about 34,000. He ran better than the GOP candidate against Mayor Reynolds in 1954. He cut the mayor's reelection plurality this year by several thousand votes. But he did all this, we believe, not because he was a strong candidate but because he profited from strong candidates.

Mr. Lyman was named GOP candidate for lack of a better known or stronger GOP leader. He campaigned weakly on such side issues as a Providence Port Authority which failed even Mr. Del Sesto as an issue when he ran against Mr.



Roberts

Reynolds for mayor in 1952. He tried to make capital with an unwarranted statement that Mr. Reynolds wants a payroll tax.

If the GOP mayoral candidate had matched the capacities and the vigor of Mr. Del Sesto, we believe the chapter of history written on Tuesday would be more remarkable than it is. A strong mayoral-gubernatorial GOP ticket would have cut deeply into what remains today a very strong city organization and administration.

Whether Mr. Del Sesto finally is declared the winner, the important fact no figures can change is that a GOP candidate for governor has a fighting chance in this state if he's willing to undertake the fight and bring substantial issues, such as the court "packing" issue, to the people forcefully and challengingly.

In brief, the election returns must give Rhode Island Democrats pause. The days of political dynasties are ending here as they've ended in many other states. For Republicans, the returns are a lesson in hope for the rebirth of a strong two-party system in the state and proof that the job is not impossible.

P.S. Nov. 14, 1956

W. Warwick Council to Name Harpin Sewer Dept. Chief

Pierre Harpin, assistant superintendent of the West Warwick sewer department, will be appointed superintendent by the West Warwick Town Council next Tuesday, Deputy Sheriff Alfred Richard, Democratic town committee chairman, said yesterday.

Mr. Harpin's appointment to succeed Lawrence D. Mailloux, who recently resigned and went to Florida to live, had been expected earlier. However, several other applications reportedly held up planned action until after the election.

Likely to become assistant superintendent, it was reported,

is Amedee Chevalier, who has been foreman.

Mr. Harpin was recommended for the \$108-a-week department head post by Mr. Mailloux. He is the only remaining member of the staff that opened the town's sewage disposal plant in Natick 16 years ago.

Other appointments, such as town solicitor, probate judge, tax collector and numerous minor officers, are expected to be made at Tuesday's meeting, first since the town's Democratic administration was returned to office by much closer pluralities than usual in last Tuesday's election.

No changes are expected in the other appointive offices, as far as could be learned.

Council President Francis J. Fazzano said yesterday that some action would probably be taken Tuesday in regard to the streets on which Republicans charged during the election campaign property owners had not been assessed sewer taxes, even though sewers had been installed there.

"They will be assessed," Mr. Fazzano said, "if we can find out which streets they are."

Republican office-seekers did not name the four streets during the campaign, but Leo B. Charbonneau, GOP chairman, said Thursday that he had submitted the names of the streets that day to Mrs. Amy Chinat, town tax collector, and that it was up to the administration whether or not it wanted to make them public.

One of the streets has been identified meanwhile as Rathbun Street.

Mr. Fazzano said yesterday that he had not yet inquired at the Town Hall as to the street names.

"They (the Republicans) were rendering a disservice by not naming . . ." the streets during the campaign, Mr. Fazzano said.

He said failure to assess abutting property holders on those streets, if the assertion is true, was a matter of oversight.

Mr. Fazzano was not certain last night of what action the Council would take. Usually, assessments are made as of Dec. 31, he said, and it would make no difference in the amount of taxes to be paid by property owners if a special assessment were made at this time. He did not rule out the possibility of special assessments, however.

He said the Council would probably, if it knew which streets were involved, order that abutting property owners on those streets be assessed at the time assessments are normally made.

Two Liquor Changes OK'd at W. Warwick

P.S. Nov. 14, 1956
The West Warwick Town Council last night renewed liquor licenses with only two changes in the set-up that existed last year.

Walter V. Popinski, who has operated Pop's Cafe under a class B victualing license at 1647 Main St., Crompton, was granted permission to conduct a class B victualing establishment at a new building on Quaker Lane, Route 2.

Gesang Verein Lyra Club, popularly known as the German Club, 25 Ball Ave., Natick, was granted a full class D license in place of

the class D limited permit it has held. The limited permit allowed only beer and wine sales, whereas the full class D license also allows whiskey sales.

Mr. Popinski had also reapplied for his Crompton license, but his attorney, Harry F. McKanna Jr., explained that he did so only to cover himself on getting the Quaker Lane place permit. Through his attorney, Mr. Popinski withdrew his application for the Crompton spot after being granted the Quaker Lane license.

As he informed the Council when a zoning exception was granted for the Quaker Lane building last spring, Mr. McKanna said, the new place was established primarily as a restaurant to seat 60 to 65 persons. The license is supplementary to that, he said.

Attorney Eugene J. Laferriere, representing Jesse Dawley Sr. and Jesse Dawley Jr., owners of a 1,600-foot frontage opposite the new establishment, but on the Warwick side, said his clients would object to an ordinary bar. He said it was their understanding last April that a restaurant was proposed. Francis J. Fazzano, Council president, pointed out that Warwick residents technically had no standing before the West Warwick council in the case.

Mr. Fazzano warned Mr. Popinski that many youngsters attended the nearby Warwick Musical Theater and that a single instance of knowingly serving a minor could result in his losing his license. He said there had been no indication of anything like that in the past at Mr. Popinski's establishment.

The Council froze the number of licenses as follows: Class A package stores, 7; Class B limited, 1; Class B tavern, 3; Class B victualing, 34; Class D club, 18; Class D club limited, 4, and Class E, 3.

After a complaint from Mrs. Eva Ewanyk of Coweset Avenue that an unsightly condition continues on property adjoining hers and owned by Frank Skurka, Mr. Fazzano ordered building inspector William Regnaire to see that it is cleaned up by the owner or else face court action.

John Collins, who has, along with James H. Lamb, sought improvement of conditions at a vacant house on Maple Avenue, again protested to the Council. He declared that although Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis has brought the matter to court, the case has been called twice and not answered.

Mr. DeCiantis said the case is on the miscellaneous court calendar and had not been reached yet.

W. Warwick School Board Faces Delay

P.S. Nov. 14, 1956
The West Warwick School Committee last night deferred reorganization to Dec. 11 because of a legal technicality.

Just before the committee convened, Michael DeCiantis, town solicitor, said certificates of election could not be issued to two of the members of the committee until after the expiration of the 12-day waiting period for filing appeals after elections. These two members are Dr. Richard P. Duffy, Democrat, who was reelected Nov. 6 and Anthony Pallotta, Democrat, who succeeds Vincent J. Lukowicz, who declined renomination. Lorenzo Bergeron, the senior member, does not come up for reelection until 1958.

W. Warwick Post Is Given To P. J. Harpin

PJ-Nov-21, 1956
The all-Democratic West Warwick Town Council, reelected with drastically-cut pluralities Nov. 6, held a sparsely-attended swearing-in ceremony last night and appointed town officers, changing only the superintendent of sewers and town hall custodian.

Pierre J. Harpin, only man left from the original sewer department staff of the early 1940's, was named to the \$108-a-week post of sanitation engineer popularly called sewer superintendent. He replaces Lawrence D. Mailloux, who resigned recently and moved to Florida.

In a surprise move, former State Rep. Henry J. Theroux was named town hall custodian, succeeding Adelard Boucher, who declined reappointment. Mr. Theroux was a Democratic state representative from 1940-46 and is a former town sergeant and councilman. He now runs an Arctic store.

Town Solicitor Michael De Ciantis, Town Clerk Susan V. Lamb and Francis J. Fazzano, renamed Town Council president, praised the loyal service and gentlemanly qualities of Mr. Boucher in his eight years' as custodian.

Although Mr. Fazzano is leading Joseph E. Cournoyer Jr., Republican, by 150 votes as a result of the Nov. 6 election, with 165 absentee, shut-in and war ballots yet to come, Mr. De Ciantis said he was issued a certificate of election because it is improbable Mr. Cournoyer could get practically all the 165 outstanding votes.

Other councilmen sworn in again, their pluralities all large enough so as to be beyond question are Chester Kulasewski, Thomas F. Mello, Antonio Paul and Hervey Niquette.

Mr. Fazzano announced that the Council had met with Mrs. Amy S. Chinat, tax collector, about information supplied after the election by Republicans on several streets sewered but not taxed for it. He said there will be an additional assessment made when she has the data ready. He said he did not know which streets were referred by the GOP, but that "a few houses were left off because of mistakes, oversight and various reasons." Mrs. Chinat said she would rather have the information come from the council.

There is not too much valuation involved in the expected additional assessment, Mr. Fazzano said.

One of the streets reportedly sewered but not assessed is Rathoun Street, it was learned recently.



Pierre F. Harpin

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Di Ciantis Says He Will Fight Rate Increases

Bulletin, Dec. 5, 1956
Michael DiCiantis of West Warwick this morning promised strong opposition to rate increases by the Narragansett Electric Co. and the New England Telephone & Telegraph Co.

"There's not going to be any rate increases as far as I'm concerned," Mr. DeCiantis said. "I will represent the people of West Warwick against it."

His remarks were made in answer to a query concerning his future plans. There have been persistent rumors that Mr. DiCiantis, a leader, spokesman and controversial figure in Democratic politics for years, was going to resign from his post as town solicitor.

Neither he nor Alfred Richard, West Warwick town chairman, would comment on the reports yesterday.

Town Committee Backs Officers

PJ-Nov-20, 1956
The West Warwick Democratic town committee last night endorsed all incumbent appointive town officers for reappointment by the Town Council tonight.

Rep. Thaddeus M. Kraus, committee secretary, said the only change will come about because of the recent resignation of Lawrence D. Mailloux as sewer superintendent. Pierre Harpin, veteran foreman at the sewer plant, was given the nod to succeed him.

Representative Kraus declined to say whether the name of Felix Appolonia, Natick attorney, had been brought up for possible endorsement as probate judge. He would say only that incumbent Judge Eugene J. Laferriere was reendorsed.

Mr. Appolonia reportedly has felt that he had support for the post at the time it appeared that Judge Laferriere would be running for State senator and that it should still go to him, even though Judge Laferriere lost to reendorsed Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle in the party primary.

West Warwick Republicans to Open Drive for Adoption of New Charter

Bulletin Dec 4, 1958

West Warwick Republicans plan to start a drive after the holidays leading to adoption of a modern municipal charter or reform of the existing one, Leo B. Charbonneau, GOP town chairman, said today.

In keeping with the procedure outlined in the state constitutional amendment granting home rule to cities and towns, the party will have a petition drawn up and seek signatures of the necessary 15 per cent of eligible town meeting voters.

"We're going after it in January," Mr. Charbonneau said. "We stated it in our platform, and we feel the people are for it. Plenty of Democrats are also for it."

"There would be a charter commission of non-partisan people elected to give us a clear-cut picture of the situation as far as charter revision, or a new charter, goes, whatever they recommended. But we know there's need for a change."

In addition, he said, Luke Smith, a Republican who apparently has been elected representative from the town's third representative district, plans to introduce legislation at the coming General Assembly session to establish off-year, non-partisan school committee elections.

Such legislation to take the school committee out of politics was promised in the recent Republican platform. Sen. Francis J. La Chapelle (D-West Warwick) has told him he would also introduce the non-partisan school committee bill in the Senate, Mr. Charbonneau said.

Ralph Lewis, chairman of the Warwick Republican Town Committee, in whose city a charter commission is now at work, has offered to help West Warwick charter reform workers, Mr. Charbonneau said.

He said Mr. Lewis has promised "to send me a copy of all they've done, as well as the petition from."

"We feel it's for the betterment of the community," Mr. Charbonneau said. "We're limited in what we can do because we haven't won the town. But, whatever we can do, as pledged, we're going to follow through."

Because of the high percentage of the budget spent by the school committee, it should be chosen on a non-partisan, off-year basis "for the simple reason that a school committee running in an on-year election is lost in the hullabaloo of the partisan candidates," he said.

"With the off-year, non-partisan election of a school committee, any citizen in town can step forward and be a candidate for it, whether he be Republican, Democrat or Independent," he said. "It's not a partisan thing, as far as we're concerned. We're looking for the good of the community."

"That's progress in the right direction," he said of the proposed petition for election of a commission to frame a charter and bill to take the school committee out of politics. "Win or lose, we're going to try to put our program through. If Democrats come up with any progressive legislation, we won't be against it because they're Democratic. We're for progress, regardless where it originates."

The home rule amendment to the constitution provides that, once the petition has been filed and the town canvassing authority determines it has sufficient names, the Town Council shall within 60 days, submit to town meeting voters the question, "Shall a commis-

sion be appointed to frame a charter?"

The council would, by ordinance or resolution, provide a method for nomination and election of a charter commission to frame a charter. It would consist of nine qualified town meeting voters elected at large without party or political designation. They would be listed alphabetically on the ballot for such an election.

The ordinance, or resolution, provided by the council must provide for the submission of the question and the election of the charter commission at the same time. Upon approval of the question, the nine candidates receiving the largest number of votes would become the charter commission.

Within a year from their election, the charter commission would submit to the Town Council the charter framed by them. The council would then provide for publication of the charter and for its submission to the electors.

Move to Have Charter Commission Elected in Town Started by "GOP"

West Warwick Republicans Plan Legislation for Non-Partisan School Committee. To Enlarge Own Group.

The West Warwick Republican Town Committee announced last night that next month it will launch a move to have a charter commission elected in the town.

Leo B. Charbonneau, GOP chairman, said that a petition will be circulated in January to have 15 per cent of the electorate sign it to put the charter commission into being.

The party chairman said the details have not yet been worked out by his committee, but they want it to be a "non-partisan commission, elected by the people,

which can come up with concrete recommendations not made by a partisan group for a political party."

The election of a charter commission was one of the planks in the Republican platform. The commission would be elected, the platform pledge stated, "to give the people a clear picture of the advantages and disadvantages of home rule. To modernize our present charter or to recommend a new charter. To point out the flaws in our present system and to state the remedies required."

To Be Introduced

Also planned by the Republican Town Committee last night was legislation calling for a non-partisan school committee election. A third plan was enlargement of the town committee itself.

Mr. Charbonneau said the non-partisan school bill will be introduced into the next session of the General Assembly. This was also a platform pledge of the party and it was made "to make this most important committee non-political in a true sense and to attract more qualified and interested individuals from both parties to offer their services to the community."

Concerning the expansion plans for the town committee, Mr. Charbonneau said that interested voters would be invited to serve as advisory members. There are presently 27 regular town committee members, the party chairman said.



Dr. Richard P. Duffy
P.J. Dec. 19, 1956
**W. Warwick
Board Elects
Dr. R. P. Duffy**

Dr. Richard P. Duffy was elected chairman of the West Warwick School Committee last night to succeed Vincent J. Lukowicz, long-time chairman who did not seek reelection this year.

Taking his seat formally on the committee for the first time was Anthony Pallotta, elected to the body in November.

In other action, the committee appointed six school census enumerators and authorized Dr. Maisie E. Quinn, suppl. of schools, to fill vacancies for two more enumerators.

The committee also approved \$4,880.57 in monthly bills, the largest single amount of which was for fuel for the eight town schools. A total monthly bill of \$1,783.16 was approved for the school cafeteria program.

Moving into the role of West Warwick recreation committee, the three Democratic committeemen accepted a letter from school committeeman Lorenzo Bergeron thanking the group for electing him chairman of the recreation committee and stating that he is "willing to expend . . . a great deal of time and energy . . . on the need for a new athletic plant, a swimming program and a program of winter sports."

The recreation committee approved payment of a total bill of \$503.69 for school parties last Halloween. Dr. Quinn told the committeemen that the parties were the most successful and effective yet held.

Tie Points to Run-Off Vote

W. Warwick GOP Scores Gain

West Warwick Republicans gained another district moderator office and registered a tie for a district clerk's post, after a final tally of war and shut-in ballots yesterday by town canvassing officials.

The board yesterday received 87 war ballots from the State Board of Elections. It had also received 37 shut-in ballots and 20 absentee ballots. That made 144 such special ballots, compared with more than 160 which had been taken out.

It was explained that some of those who took out ballots didn't return them and others were voided during the count at the State Board of Elections.

Gilbert R. Dubec (R) defeated Andre Godin (D) by 439 to 435 for moderator of Representative District 3, Voting District 3. However, the clerk there remained Democratic, Gerard Nolette winning over Guy A. Archambault (R) by 449 to 436.

Thus, the GOP, which made big inroads into town Democratic pluralities this year, has taken two

district moderators' posts. Gustaf Anderson (R) won that office in Representative District 3, Voting District 1 election night, defeating William E. Lambert, a GOP clerk. Stephen Andruchow, also was elected there.

The GOP showing in Representative District 3 carried to the state level, Luke J. Smith (R) unseating incumbent Democratic Rep. Thaddeus M. Kraus.

The final count yesterday resulted in a 426-426 tie vote for clerk of Representative District 2, Voting District 2, at Arctic School, between Mrs. Elsie M. Theroux (D) and Alpherie R. Antaya (R).

Mortimer W. Newton, canvassing authority chairman, said the incumbent district clerk, who is Mrs. Annette Mello, must serve until a successor is elected and qualified.

He said the only way to settle the tie would be by a special runoff election in the district, which he estimated might cost about \$150 to \$200. He said he would have to talk the possible special election

over with the Council. He said it would be up to the Town Council to call such an election. "We are only the machinery to conduct elections," he said.

When regular elections are held at Arctic School, it is necessary to remove pupils' furniture in one room, he said, indicating that it probably would be necessary to hire a place to hold a special election.

If Democrats should be successful in current attempts on the state level to have absentee and shut-in ballots declared unconstitutional by the state supreme court, it would give the election to the Democrat, Mrs. Theroux. The count, without the absentee and shut-in ballots, Democrats are not questioning, would be 426 to 421 in favor of Mrs. Theroux.

Francis J. Fazzano, Democratic Town Council president, who had a lead of 150 votes over Joseph Cournoyer (R) election night, would up with a 142-vote plurality in yesterday's final count.

DeCIANTIS SAYS HE WILL PROTEST RATE INCREASES

Sought by Narragansett Electric Company and the New England Telephone and Telegraph Co. Here in R. I.

A fight was promised today to the two major public utilities of Rhode Island who have filed requests for rate hikes.

Michael DeCiantis, town solicitor of West Warwick, said he will protest the rate increase petitions when they come up for hearings before the state Public Utility Administration.

Narragansett Electric Company on Nov. 23 asked the state for permission to increase charges to its

electric and gas customers averaging 9.5 per cent. The New England Telephone & Telegraph Co. on Nov. 26 asked for an approximate 12 per cent hike.

The West Warwick solicitor is a familiar figure to the public utilities administration, lastly in his battle over the rates charged by the Kent County Water Authority.

Mr. DeCiantis also hit at the West Warwick Republican Town Committee which announced yesterday that next month it would circulate a petition to have a charter commission appointed.

"Throw In Spite," said, "have finally the sponge. They chances of winning are completely nil. The party in this town proud. Even after the landslide the people turn the Democratic to power."

The town solicitor the GOP committee ment it would seek leading to election of a school committee.

"There is no such non-partisan school Mr. DeCiantis said. T partisan. And, he con only difference is the Warwick we let the side whom they want tion between both parties.

W. Warwick GOP Gains District Moderator Seat

Bulletin Dec. 19, 1956

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Francis J. Fazzano, Democratic Town Council president, who had a lead of 150 votes over Joseph Cournoyer (R) election night, would up with a 142-vote plurality in yesterday's final count.

Town Treasurer Robert J. Harrop (D) continued as the top Democratic vote-getter, with a final 637 plurality over Mrs. Nellie Gebler for treasurer.

In several other contests that had been close, Edward Gonçalves (D) defeated Rene Gosselin (R) by three votes, 707 to 704, for moderator of Rep. Dist. 1, Vol. Dist. 1; Andrew Flanagan (D) defeated Leo Raboin (R) by eight votes, 626 to 618, for clerk of Rep. Dist. 3, Vol. Dist. 2.

Other results after the final tabulation, barring the court's giving a decision that might void the absentee and shut-in votes (even that would change only the Mrs. Theroux-Mr. Antaya clerk fight) are: Mrs. Susan V. Lamb (D), victor for town clerk over Mrs. Yvonne A. Sirozue (R) by 499 votes, 4,922 to 4,423; Mr. Fazzano victor of Mr. Cournoyer (R) by 4,735 to 4,593; Herve Niquette (D) winner over Walter P. Lemek (R) for councilman No. 2 by 451 plurality, 4,863 to 4,412; Thomas F. Mello (D) winner over Louis Gallucci (R) by 491 plurality, 4,681 to 4,190.

Also, Antonio Paul (D) winner over Gilbert R. Dubec (R) for councilman No. 4 by 340 votes, 4,789 to 4,449; Ches for Kulasevski (D) winner over Ernest J. Frenette (R) for councilman No. 1 by 441 votes, 4,863 to 4,422; Mr. Harrop winner over Mrs. Gebler (R) by 4,967 to 4,330; Frank D. Boisvert (D) winner over Alphonse A. Girard (R) for town sergeant by 4,965 to 4,329; Joseph O. Laurence (D) winner over Gaetano Lombardi (R) for public welfare director by 569 votes, 4,935 to 4,366.

Also, Hermoneilde J. Nadeau (D) winner over Rosalind J. Russ (R) for tax assessor by 527 votes, 4,896 to 4,369; Richard S. Hughes (D) winner over Roland J. Demery (R) by 4,874 to 4,419; Dr. Richard P. Duffy (D) winner over Mrs. Hilda P. Coutu (R) by 404 votes, 4,874 to 4,470; Anthony Pallotta (D) winner over Harold H. Hayes (R) by 44 votes, 4,858 to 4,417.

Also, Albert Bettel (D) winner over Rachel Lombardi (R) for clerk of Rep. dist. 1, vol. dist. 1 by 19 votes, 711 to 692; Domenic Patrangelo (D) winner over Richard W. Jarbeau (R) for moderator of rep. dist. 1, vol. dist. 2, by 243 votes, 754 to 511; Joseph E. Clafrei (D) winner over Louis Gallucci (R) for clerk of rep. dist. 1, vol. dist. 2 by 205 votes, 731 to 526; David W. Barlow (D) winner over John J. Shepard (R) by 214 votes, 752 to 538; Antonio M. Andread (D) winner over Mrs. Hannah N. Hayes (R) by 234 votes, 766 to 532.

Also, Henry J. Theroux (D) winner over Walter N. Snell (R) by 39 votes, 447 to 408 for moderator of rep. dist. 2, vol. dist. 2; Mr. Anderson winner over Mr. Lambert (R) by 68 votes, 1,184 to 1,116 for moderator in rep. dist. 3, vol. dist. 1; Mr. Andruchow (R) winner over Henry A. Hattov (D) by 69 votes, 1,184 to 1,115; John G. Zaborski (D) winner over Oscar M. Lette (R) by 47 votes, 667 to 620 for moderator of Rep. dist. 3, vol. dist. 2.

Mr. Flanagan (D) winner over Mr. Raboin (R) by 626 to 618 for clerk of rep. dist. 3, vol. dist. 2; Gerard Nolette (D) winner over Guy Archambault (R) 449 to 436 for clerk of rep. dist. 3, vol. dist. 3.

Kent County Water Board to Ask

Bulletin Dec. 19, 1956

U.S. for Improvements Aid

31

Unable to borrow money from banks for needed capital improvements, the Kent County Water Authority this morning authorized its chairman, Gerard DiFiore, to go to Washington and ask a loan from the Community Facilities Administration, a federal agency.

The authority is seeking up to \$1,250,000 to complete a master plan of improvements already blueprinted by engineers.

The federal agency provides loans for long periods of 30 to 40 years for public water facilities and sewage disposal, Mr. DiFiore said.

Two representatives of Johns-Manville Corp., makers of transite pipe, also met with the board this morning about the possibility of the company letting the authority have about 11,200 feet of 16-inch pipe and amortizing the payments over a three-year period. The board would expect to pay interest.

The firm's representatives praised Arthur LaValley, authority superintendent, as the first in the country to popularize use of their transite pipe in 1934, under the former private water companies that the author took over in 1950. They said much of their system of laying such pipe was worked out by the firm with Mr. LaValley's co-operation and pioneering.

One of the men said the firm has many such requests in the present tight money market, but that he will seriously investigate

the possibility of working out the transaction. He said the authority is an old and valued customer that annually gives the firm about \$250,000 worth of business.

The firm went along with the authority for about a year when its funds were held in escrow during rate litigation a few years ago, he said.

The 16-inch pipe would be put in to replace the smaller line from Fiskeville to Phenix, carrying the supply from Scituate reservoir to the Pawtuxet Valley. Mr. LaValley said that, so long as the firm would like the idea, he could take delivery of the pipe before next spring and store it. The project would start in the spring.

A Providence bank had its attorneys check the possibility of a loan to the authority, but go an opinion the authority is "unbankable" because of its strict bond indenture, Mr. DiFiore said.

He said the authority has been using for capital improvements such as the new \$75,000 tank in Arctic some of the funds it is supposed to put in a sinking fund to protect bondholders. While that constitutes technical default under the indenture, no bondholders have brought suit. That is apparently because the authority has been well able to pay its principal and interest when due, he said.

Casting about for improvement money—the authority now

has about \$100,000 a year over and above operating expenses—Mr. DiFiore said two private citizens of means have said they would lend money. He said about 60 citizens of that type might do the job.

However, he first plans to go to Washington, perhaps accompanied by board member Mortimer W. Newton, an attorney, soon after Christmas.

Thomas Freeman, East Greenwich member, was authorized to permit use of an authority-owned house in East Greenwich by an authority employe of his choosing. The house is tied in with the authority's office there, but the supervisor entitled to use it has a new home, it was said.

The board voted to release its water rights in East Greenwich area of the Sun Valley water works to that company in order that the developer may borrow money from FHA for a project development. Under the agreement, subject to approval of the public utilities administrator, the area would revert to the authority when it is in a position to expand there.

Mr. DiFiore was vehement in his remarks about the authority's need of capital improvements money. He said fringe areas of East Greenwich and Coventry are ripe for housing developments and contractors are crying for the water extensions. A big contractor also would like an extension in Oaklawn for about 500 possible

homes, but it is on too high an elevation now, it was reported, and would take a tank and pumping station.

Further improvement of lines from Division Road, East Greenwich, to the Love Lane standpipe is needed, it was brought out. A developer there is planning about 500 homes, it was said.

It was voted to pay \$100 to retiring Police Chief John H. (Smoker) Potter for special services at Carr's Pond Reservoir, West Greenwich. Regarding a problem of bathers in that water supply, the board received word from Walter J. Shea, chief of the state division of sanitary engineering, that the director of health can bring complaints in court against bathers if they are apprehended by town or state police. Also, the authority, if it owns the land (which it does) could bring a complaint of trespassing in such cases, he said.

A. E. Viens Electric Co., described as low bidder in an informal solicitation of bids, was authorized to do electrical work involved in heating at pumping stations for \$325.

Mr. LaValley reported that Phillip Holton of the Providence water supply board had been gracious about it when the authority recently moved to shut the valve at Oaklawn, metering a supply for that area bought from Providence. Mr. Holton, who had authorized the tie-in during drought season, said it might continue year-round, Mr. LaValley said.

Kent County-South County

W. Warwick OKs 10-Yr. Exemption For New Company

P.J. Dec. 12, 1956

Former Dessart Plant to Hire 100 at Start

The West Warwick Town Council last night granted a 10-year tax exemption on personal property to Dessart, Inc., which plans to establish in Arctic the largest factory in the country making rubber, buckram and plaster masks.

Judah C. Semenov, attorney, and Sidney Fox, represented the applicants, comprising Montpelier, Ohio and Brooklyn, N. Y., plants recently taken over by new owners.

The new owners are Justin I. and Milton S. Kingson, who also have several other interests in the Pawtuxet Valley. They include Geo. E. Mousley Co., novelty manufacturers, located in the same former Warwick Mills weave shed where the mask firm is being set up; Milburn Mills and Bryant Finishing Co., both in Coventry.

About 100 persons will be employed at the start, Mr. Semenov said, building up to 150 quickly.

Justin I. Kingson, who will be president of the mask firm, said its assets and name have been purchased from Frank Dessart of Long Island. Mr. Dessart is retiring, but will advise the new owners for about a year. The Dessart firm started about 87 years ago as an import house, turning to manufacturing about 70 years ago.

Augustus Simas, business agent of the South County Joint Board, TWUA, CIO, also recommended the firm be given the exemption, saying labor relations at its other plants have been good. He said the firm plans to sign a contract with the same benefits as others in force at its plants.

Mrs. Dorothy Joice, who has been with Dessart Bros. in Ohio, will be with the firm in West Warwick. Except for possibly one other person, all local help will be hired, Mr. Kingson said.

The Kingson brothers hope to have their newest acquisition in production in about a month, it was said.

Files \$50,000 Claim

Edward P. Gallogly, attorney for Salvatore Forleo of Arctic Hill, last night filed a \$50,000 claim for damages with the West Warwick Council. The claim, outgrowth of an accident in which Mr. Forleo was seriously injured by a town sewage truck as he was walking on Second Street last August, was referred to Town Solicitor Michael De Ciantis.

Constable Stipulations

West Warwick Town Council President Francis J. Fazzano put a stipulation on granting of several constable permits. The applicants, approved by Police Chief Arthur Groleau, must list the reason they want the licenses. One had listed as his reason the fact he carried much cash. Mr. Fazzano said that was a good reason for carrying a gun. Mr. Fazzano admonished recipients of pool table licenses that they are to be used only for pool games "and, if they decide to have any extracurricular activities, they will see Judge Leighton."

Lions Suggest

The West Warwick Lions Club's civic improvement committee submitted suggestions for improvement of the hazard in the high-crowned, metal deck at the Ray Andrews Bridge: lighting at Curson Street parking lot by installation of a new street light near it, making it safer when special lights are not on; and immediate purchase of a new town ambulance to replace the old one. The bridge and light proposals were referred to highway and lighting officials, and Mr. Fazzano said the administration plans to recommend money for a new ambulance at the annual town meeting.

Criticizes Story on Booming of Notte

Cal. Dec. 16, 1961

Sen. Natale L. Urso, D-Westerly, told the Senate yesterday that a story in yesterday's Providence Journal failed to give the "true picture" of a Tuesday night meeting in Westerly at which Governor Notte was booed.

He called the jeers, directed at the governor at an income tax "fact-finding" session of the Westerly-Pawcatuck Chamber of Commerce, "a very minor incident that was headlined in the Providence Journal."

He said the boos came from

"a few scattered people," and declared that the "vast majority" of the audience of about 300 gave the governor a "standing ovation" when he reached the speaking platform to explain his income tax proposal.

Two Journal-Bulletin reporters present at the meeting said the booring lasted from the time the governor entered the auditorium of the Westerly Senior High School until he reached the plat-

form. They said the booring was not scattered, and said many were booing while they stood.

They described the applause offered the governor as polite.

Yesterday, Rep. David A. Lowry, R-Westerly, called at the governor's office to offer apology for the conduct of his town-folk. And the Chamber of Commerce announced it was sending an apology for the "inexcusable" incident.

Needs and Cost of State Aid Increase

When the General Assembly in 1955 created a new relationship between the state and its 39 communities in the financing of public schools, the move was generally acknowledged to be only the first step toward a long-term broadening and strengthening of the program of support for public education. The State Board of Education now proposes a second step toward realization of that goal.

Its recommendation for new state spending of about \$2,400,000 was offered to Governor Roberts in a report signed by the Rev. Cornelius B. Collins, board chairman. The governor in turn has made the report public for discussion. Copies are being circulated widely for study and review by school and local government officials. Enacting legislation is expected to go to the General Assembly.



Father Collins

The board's program outlines action in three areas. It urges an increase of state aid for operational costs through flat grants to all communities, plus special help to communities with thin tax resources. It opens a brand-new field of state aid for school construction. It suggests a detailed scheme for the creation and operation of regional school districts.

Of these three elements, the increase of \$1,640,000 in spending on flat grants and special help is the least questionable in terms of education. Where the money is to be found and whether the legislature and state administration will be willing to provide the cash are fiscal and policy questions. But the proposal simply carries out the basic concept of the 1955 legislation.

At that time, the goal was fixed of providing over the years for a pro-

gram of spending \$300-a-year on each public school youngster. So far as spending is a measure of educational progress, the proposed "foundation program" was set as the best minimum for the kind of schooling Rhode Island ought to undertake and could pay for. This policy was supported by an initial grant of \$1,900,000.

The cash was split unevenly. The bulk of the money—\$1,700,000—went into flat-grant aid at the rate of \$17 for every public school youngster. In the first year of operation, 1955-56, local communities were asked to provide matching funds at the rate of \$8.50 a child. In 1956-57, local matching funds rose to \$17 a child. The state also set up a fund of \$200,000 for special help.

Now, in recognition of the strain being placed on smaller communities with scanty tax resources, the board wants to add \$600,000 to the special-help fund. This aid should be neither cut nor delayed. Most of the state's towns are trying hard and persistently to meet the educational standards in the 1955 bill. To deny special help is to jeopardize the effectiveness of the program in those communities.

When the \$200,000 fund was set up, it was termed a "token" by competent school officials. Last year, the Rhode Island Association of School Committees urged the state board to ask for a \$750,000 increase in the fund on the ground that certain communities "because of low taxing ability" simply could not support public school systems "at a reasonable level."

The board, then, in its request this year, is doing no less than is needed to help out towns which are heading into trouble in their efforts to keep up with the Joneses. If the state is to insist that all communities tax themselves substantially to support public schools, it can't do less than

give extra help to those trying desperately to help themselves.

The proposed increase of \$1,040,000 in flat-grant aid is not tied to a corresponding increase in local matching funds. In effect, the scheme simply suggests a hike in the state's contribution to the \$300 foundation program at the rate of another \$10 for each of the estimated 104,000 public school children. The rate is \$5 less than the \$15 increase suggested in a staff study two years ago.

The General Assembly and administration may question why the \$10 rate was fixed instead of \$7.50 or \$5. It may ask how effectively the bill has operated since 1955 to pull cities and towns up to or above the \$300 "foundation program." It may even question whether the state is moving quickly enough to help the local communities to reach the best minimum in spending.

Unfortunately, figures for school spending for 1956-57 will not be available until July. But there's every indication that the bill has been working successfully to improve the status and pay of teachers and to improve educational services and facilities. If the legislature desires, it certainly can get informed estimates of the net effect of the 1955 bill at committee hearings.

When the state adopted the new state-local program for sharing educational costs, it went into business with its eyes wide open to the future. Now more money is needed if that program is to function as it was envisioned. The administration and legislature are duty bound to give the board's recommendation the most serious attention and find whatever cash is needed to keep its bargain with 39 cities and towns.

This is the first of three editorials on phases of the 1957 legislative program of the State Board of Education.

Aid to School Construction Has a Specific Purpose

In the light of critical need for new school buildings in some communities of Rhode Island, it's as important to understand what the state aid - to - construction plan *doesn't* pretend to do as it is to understand what it proposes to accomplish.

The state aid proposal is one of three major recommendations made to Governor Roberts by the State Board of Education for the strengthening and broadening of the new state-local program for the support of public education.

The construction scheme would earmark \$750,000 during 1957-58 for retirement of local debt on school buildings. In terms of service charges, the fund would underwrite the floating of about \$11,000,000 in new school debt—about one-sixth of needed spending.

The proposal is *not* billed as a "crash" program for cash spending on fast construction in the immediate future. It is geared to mesh with any "crash" program which may evolve in the coming weeks from legislation before Congress.

The program *does* attempt to relate the responsibilities for state and local action to get schools built. It offers a flat-grant program based on a percentage of spending for operations, but it affords greater help to communities heavily burdened with debt.

While the program would not produce a nickel in cash for Warwick, which faces a \$19,000,000 school construction program, it would help pay off debt on that program once the increased services in the new buildings were reflected by increased operational costs.

A Warwick taxpayer, over whose

head the property tax rate hangs like a sword, may question whether such help is what that city now needs. Bushels of greenbacks on Warwick City Hall steps certainly would be more attractive than a debt retirement scheme.

But this state obviously cannot undertake to write a blank check for Warwick to countersign over to contractors. Rhode Island hasn't got the kind of money that would have to be found to pay the bills in Warwick and other growing communities.

A program of debt retirement, on the other hand, helps over the long pull. By assuming a share of debt charges for schools, the state in effect is freeing local revenue to meet charges on other, necessary capital spending such as for sewers and roads.

Further, a debt program leaves to the local community the first responsibility for undertaking to build what it needs. It leaves upon that community the responsibility for building as economically as possible. Build—and then we'll help—is the theme of the state bill.

Two questions are raised by terms of the bill. The first relates to the provision which makes the plan applicable to all school construction of past years. The second relates to the piling up of credits in years when a cash allocation isn't made.

The program exists primarily because of the postwar boom in babies. No doubt, the problem would have been less onerous if all communities had kept up with the times in school construction and renovation in the depression and prewar years.

But since the impact of the postwar years has led to the need for such legislation as this state bill, wouldn't it be proper if the plan were restricted in its retroactive phase to cover construction since, say, 1945?

Any amount credited but not paid to a community can be accumulated "from year to year" in the clear expectation that while a need may not exist at the moment or in the foreseeable future, the community will be putting money in the bank against long-term need.

Such a credit scheme makes good sense, of course. But wouldn't it be worth while to require automatic elimination of credit after perhaps a five-year period unless a community can demonstrate the necessity for continuing the credit?

Apart from terms of the scheme itself, we believe the board erred in wrapping the school construction plan into a bill which offers a brand-new concept for federation of com-

munities and parts of communities into regional school districts.

The regionalization scheme is going to have rough going in the General Assembly. The plan is so novel to Rhode Islanders that defeat may be inevitable in this first try at passage. It would be unfortunate if regionalization took down with it a good construction aid plan.

(This is the second of three editorials on phases of the 1957 legislative program of the State Board of Education.)



The Race Goes On and On
—Shanks, Buffalo Evening News

The New Regional School Proposal Is Full of Pitfalls

P.S. Jan. 25, 1952
The State Board of Education's goal of fostering the development of regional school districts in Rhode Island can be achieved more easily and effectively by amendment of a 1955 law than by attempting, very probably in vain, to get General Assembly approval of its new regionalization scheme.

The board's proposal is a major element in the program of recommended legislation submitted earlier this week to Governor Roberts. It is bound to generate controversy because it proposes to create a brand new level of government with powers not held now by any local school committee in its district.

No one will quarrel with the board's desire to get regional school districts into operation. For several years, many in this state, including these newspapers, have supported efforts to create regional school districts. Such districts can afford to build educational facilities which no member of the district could afford alone.

However, the board is breaking ground in some pretty rough country when it recommends legislation which would set up a kind of government new to Rhode Island and beyond the control of local city and town councils. School district financial meetings, for instance, could in effect order a tax levy on member communities.

In its fiscal aspects, the proposal is a frank attempt to cut the knotty ties which in this state now bind school committees to central local governments. It would give district committees a measure of fiscal independence no local committees can enjoy, even in those communities which operate under the home rule amendment.

The cutting of fiscal ties to central government is a touchy issue. Nothing in the bill is more certain to set the alarm bells ringing in town halls, city halls and the legislature. If the bill is defeated on any one point, that point will be the pioneering attempt to divorce

school financing from general government financing.

The bill contains other features that raise serious questions. Under its terms, the commissioner of education would be a sort of one-man board of elections to determine the validity of petitions asking for district organization. Further, the bill would exempt districts from observance of three major election laws. Are these elements constitutional?

In larger districts, the bill proposes the election of 50 representatives to serve as delegates to school financial town meetings. The operation of such a representative system is uncommon in this state and certainly untried in modern days. Can it work effectively, or is it open to political abuse by eager-beaver minorities?

But apart from issues that pertain to the concept of fiscal independence or the terms of the bill, the basic objection to the board's proposal rests upon the fact that it would reverse the whole trend of thinking in this state by trading off home-rule control of charter writing for a pre-tailored, uniform district law.

It's taken years for the cities and towns of this state to get a home-rule amendment into the constitution and to hammer out procedures for writing charters for local government. If citizens of one community are competent to write a local charter, aren't citizens of several communities competent to write a district charter?

In 1955, the General Assembly approved a bill authorizing regional school district planning boards and detailing the areas in which those boards were to work. The act was modeled on a Massachusetts statute, but it specified, as the Massachusetts law does not, that district charters must be approved by the legislature as well as by the voters of the district.

These newspapers urged the amendment of the measure to elimi-

nate the return trip to the General Assembly. We argued that voter approval ought to be enough sanction for setting up a district. The bill was not amended, but in spite of its red-tape, several towns in the state are studying regionalization under its terms.

We believe the State Board of Education would get farther faster in fostering regional school districts if it sought administration help to get the 1955 law amended by eliminating the requirement for General Assembly approval of what planning boards and voters had already approved. The only reason for a trip to the legislature would be to validate any election provisions not in line with existing laws.

The board can best help Rhode Island communities by working to simplify regionalization procedures and by affording the local planning boards every conceivable help in setting up district programs as the boards and the local voters want them.

(This is the last of three editorials on phases of the 1957 legislative program of the State Board of Education.)

Right of Way Agreement Seen Near

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick yesterday disclosed that school officials have advised him they are in final stages of working out an agreement under which the town would obtain an adequate right of way into the proposed Crompton consolidated school site.

Principal part of the right of way, he said, would involve a trade by the town of the Nyberg House and some adjoining land off Wyman Street for the house and land of Alfred L. Caswell at 1579 Main St.

To increase the right of way to an area more than 50 feet wide, he said, the school committee also hopes to obtain a strip of the adjoining Thistlewaite land for up to \$2,000.

The transaction with Mr. Caswell would be an even trade, with the town having the present Caswell home moved out to make the needed entrance-exit for the hemmed-in area. Mr. DeCiantis said he understands Mr. Caswell likes the former Nyberg house very much. The town obtained it when it bought the Nyberg property and adjoining Thistlewaite property for the school site.

Only entrance to the school site at present is a narrow, one-lane one off Wyman Street.

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Testimony on Memory Loss Leads to Driver's Acquittal

P.S. Jan. 18, 1952
A West Warwick man yesterday won acquittal on a charge of leaving the scene of an accident after he claimed that a blow on his head had caused a temporary loss of memory and he didn't know what he was doing.

The defense by James J. Foley, 30, of 44 Revere St., West Warwick, was supported by the testimony of a Connecticut psychiatrist and neurologist, who said the defendant had suffered "traumatic amnesia" and was not in full control of his faculties at the time of the alleged offense.

Judge James W. Leighton, a veteran of 20 years on the bench, said after the verdict, "I have not heard any other such defense in all my years as a judge. After hearing the medical testimony, the judge ruled that Mr. Foley did not 'knowingly' leave the scene of the accident as charged in the warrant. The case was heard in district court, East Greenwich.

The prosecutor, Alfred E. Motta of the attorney general's office, argued that the defense was "a convenient excuse" and "too easy a device" for escaping responsibility.

Mr. Foley was arrested after an accident on Noosneck Hill Road near the Coventry Lace Works on Jan. 7, when his car spun on the icy highway into the rear of a large truck. Police said the defendant was thrown

clear from his damaged auto, but he got back into it and started to drive off after wandering around for a while. He was stopped half a mile from the accident scene.

Dr. Sidney Drobnos of Norwich, Conn., who gave the medical testimony, said that after examining Mr. Foley he concluded that the defendant had suffered a brain concussion, and that memory lapse is characteristic of such an injury.

DeCiantis to Urge Definite Plan to Pay Off Tax Notes

P.S. Jan. 25, 1952
Failure of West Warwick to cut down a backlog of \$150,000 in tax anticipation notes incurred originally as a result of an unbalanced budget a few years ago, is bothering him as he goes over budget requests, Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis said yesterday.

He said he will recommend to the Town Council that a definite sum, \$5,000 or \$10,000, be provided in the budget annually to pay off the notes.

For that reason, he said, he does not look upon \$17,000 in bond payments that won't have to be figured in the upcoming budget as money that can be used for other things. Because those bonds are now paid up and won't have to be met in the 1957-58 budget does not mean that sum is "gravy," he said.

The town has not grown in population appreciably in the past year, Mr. DeCiantis said, so he will make every effort in conferring with department heads on their budget requests to pare them down to the same as last year.

While the auditors' report is not ready yet, it appears there will be a deficit of thousands of dollars in the highway department be-

cause of snow storms last spring and this winter, Mr. DeCiantis said.

The solicitor's attitude on budget requests, which he said are about \$75,000 to \$80,000 more than last year, appeared to bode ill for police requests for two more men and an additional cruiser car, a fire chief's request for another man and a highway department request for more men.

Everything possible will be done to avoid a tax increase, Mr. DeCiantis said, as promised by Francis J. Fazzano, Town Council president, last week and by Mr. DeCiantis last year. At that time, Mr. DeCiantis said there should be no further tax increase for at least 10 years.

In addition, he said, it will be necessary to provide in the budget for the March 19 annual town meeting for payment of interest on money to be borrowed for construction of the new consolidated elementary school in Crompton. As in Coventry, bonds probably will not be issued until later, when the bond interest rate may be lower, he said. Until then, construction costs would have to be met by money borrowed on short-term notes.

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At St. James Holy Name Society installation dinner last night are seated the Rev. Thomas J. Greeley and Mortimer

Newton, president. Standing are Michael DeCiantis, toastmaster, and the Rev. Edward McDevitt, principal speaker.

—State Staff Photo

Times Jan. 28, 1957
**Holy Name
Unit Holds
Induction**

Mortimer Newton is President of Saint James' Society

Officers of the Holy Name Society of St. James Church, Arctic were installed at a dinner last night at the church with representatives of other Holy Name Societies in the Pawtuxet Valley in attendance.

The St. James officers headed by Mortimer Newton, president, include Leonard Hennessey, first vice president; Robert Gelineau, second vice president; Stanley Kowalik, secretary; Eugene McMahon, treasurer.

The Rev. Edwin McDevitt, principal speaker, told of his work in Japan.

Michael DeCiantis, toastmaster also called on Sen. Francis LaChapelle, Leonard L. Kernan, district deputy of the Knights of Columbus, James McCarthy, state vice president of the Catholic Retreat League, Rev. Thomas J. Greeley, pastor of St. James and the Rev. Joseph T. Hughes, society moderator, who conducted the installation.



Mortimer W. Newton, president-elect of the Holy Name Society of St. James' Church, Arctic, addresses gathering of more than 200 at annual dinner meeting last night in church hall. At left is the Rev. Edwin McDevitt, principal speaker, and Michael DeCiantis, toastmaster, is at center. —Times Photo

W. Warwick Administration Favors Insurance Company Plan for Pensions

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Town Solicitor Michael De Ciantis of West Warwick, who has been wrestling with a proposed town budget by direction of the Town Council in recent weeks, said today he will have it completed as far as he can by early next week.

He then will turn the figures over to the Town Council for additions and possible revamping in the light of their thinking, he said.

In preparing a budget for a public hearing early in March and presentation at the March 19 annual town meeting, the council this year faces a possible major controversy over its recommendations for a police and firemen's pension plan.

Mr. De Ciantis said he is leaving that item for the council to include in the budget. The Democratic administration reportedly leans toward an insurance company plan, under which men would retire at 65, but the men prefer a town-operated plan with retirement at 55.

Annual Cost \$25,000

The employees plan reportedly would require, besides their own 3 per cent payroll deduction, a \$25,000-a-year town appropriation. While the council doesn't have full information yet, officials have indicated the insurance company plan would cost the town less than half that amount.

The insurance firm plan would figure retirement at half pay, including federal social security money. The men would like a plan under which their half-pay pension would be exclusive of any social security payment they might get.

Francis J. Fazzano, council president, has said the police and firemen will be called in soon to talk the situation over with councilmen. Mr. De Ciantis said he will be there.

Asked whether, if the council recommends the insurance firm plan and the police and firemen succeed in getting a larger appropriation from taxpayers, the council then would adopt the plan the men desire, Mr. De Ciantis said he believes the council would be bound to do so.

Delayed Vote

Any resolution that might be introduced at the March 19 town meeting to increase the budget recommended by the council would have to go over for an all-day vote seven days later.

Mr. De Ciantis said he is confident he can shape, by paring requests, a budget that will not call for a tax increase. He said it will not be an easy job, however. The town stands to gain about \$15,000 in additional taxes from new construction, but normal operational increases and new requests this year are running high, he said.

One important increase, he said, is in the School Department, where about \$14,000 more, instead of the expected \$10,000, is required. He said he plans to talk with Dr. Richard P. Duffy, School Committee chairman, this week about another knotty problem—the possibility the town will have to hire more teachers if it wants to avoid losing substantial state aid money.

State Aid Requirement

Local communities are supposed to hire enough teachers by the school year starting next September to meet a certain prescribed pupil-teacher ratio at various grade levels, Mr. De Ciantis pointed out.

If they fail to do so, their state aid stands to be cut the year after by the amount of additional expenditure that would have been required to achieve full compliance.

West Warwick school officials are planning a new consolidated elementary school in Crompton, with construction to start this spring. When it is finished, they propose the town sell four old wooden elementary buildings—Cowesett Avenue School to St. Mary's Roman Catholic parish; Highland St. School to SS. Peter and Paul's parish; Providence St. School to Sacred Heart parish, Natick and New London Ave. School to Christ the King parish, Centreville.

Dr. Maisie E. Quinn, superintendent, has said she could not in logic recommend hiring additional elementary level teachers for 1957-58 to meet the state requirement, when they won't be needed once the parishes take over the old schools and absorb several hundred pupils from public schools.

Mr. De Ciantis hopes that state

education officials will see the wisdom of that and not penalize the town.

New Teachers Needed

But, on the junior and senior high level, the town apparently would have to hire an additional six or seven teachers to comply with the state requirement, Mr. De Ciantis said. Their salaries would have to be provided for in the coming budget for the six-month period from September to next Feb. 28.

He said he has been unable to confer with Highway Commissioner Henry Petrarca about the need of another truck, as requested by Mr. Petrarca, and the council will have to take it up with him.

He disclosed that Mr. Petrarca also has recommended an \$8,000 appropriation to repair the Pulaski Street bridge.

Mr. De Ciantis said he would think the town should receive \$40,000 to \$50,000 from the four parishes for the old schools, but that money would not be available this fiscal year. He said he does not believe church leaders would want to accept the schools as a complete gift, although that has been suggested.

In connection with the building of a new school, possibly \$20,000 will have to be provided in the upcoming budget to pay interest on short term notes, he said. The money will have to be borrowed to pay the contractor each month.

pending a bond issue when and if the money market eases, he said.

New Ambulance Sought

Another special item in the budget is \$10,000 to \$12,000 for a new ambulance, he pointed out.

Admittedly, he said, the junior high school bonds are paid up and that normal \$15,000-a-year payment, plus another \$2,000 on bonds which have matured, makes \$17,000 to the good this year. But the town has \$150,000 in tax notes outstanding, as was the case a year ago, and a definite appropriation must be made to pay that debt off gradually each year, he declared.

Once the budget is set up, any variance upward would necessarily mean a raise for all real estate and personal property taxpayers, he stressed. Valuations would have to be increased, as the rate is at the \$25 per \$1,000 maximum, he said.

"The trouble with West Warwick," he said, "is that we have tried to operate our town so economically that we are in good financial condition and the town, with the exception of the \$150,000 tax anticipation note, owes nothing. We have the sewer debt, but that is self liquidating."

"We are in a position where we cannot get any aid as only those who are in bad financial condition get aid. In other words, we are penalized for running an economical town."

"Look at our sister city, Warwick. The interest on bonds there increased from \$1000,000 to \$290,000. It's a good example for us. We should be darn sure of what we're doing and try to be as economical as we can. West Warwick cannot stand such expenses, as we're limited in area and properties."

"We can't go hog wild in everything. We have to take our time. Take it easy and stay in good financial condition. That's my motto."

By THE STAFF

Sen. LaChapelle, DeCiantis Clash

Argue License Shift, Mill Trench Danger



"I'm still senator from this town," Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle tells Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis and the West Warwick town council last night. —State Staff Photo by Fred Jordan

Failure of a mill water rights owner to appear to talk over a mill trench danger to children and the hold-up by the West Warwick Town Council of a liquor license transfer last night triggered a plain-spoken clash between Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle and town officials.

The senator, who defeated the town's Democratic organization in an unendorsed bid for renomination in last fall's primary, at one point declared some people in the administration might not like it, but he is still state senator.

His ire was aroused first when Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis recommended not granting transfer of a Class "B" liquor license from White Front Cafe, 1304 Main St., Arctic, to O'Dee's Cafe, Gawek Building, 1647 Main St., Crompton. Operators in both the present and proposed cafes would be Thomas J. O'Donnell and his wife, Mrs. Eleanor A. O'Donnell.

Mr. DeCiantis said he felt allowing the cafe to move to the former Pop's Cafe Premises in Crompton would not be right because the new consolidated school is going to be built in Crompton.

After Mr. O'Donnell and Stefan Gawek, owner of the Crompton building, had declared there were no other objectors present and that it appeared Mr. DeCiantis was the sole objector, the fur began to fly. With Senator LaChapelle declaring the solicitor lives on Greene Street, Riverpoint, and is not within 200 feet of the proposed cafe, and Mr. DeCiantis remaining adamant against the transfer, Francis J. Fazzano, Council president, finally moved to talk it over with the school committee and dispose of the application later.

Senator LaChapelle later took the solicitor to task for not helping draft a bill he has introduced in the Senate which he hopes will prevent a recurrence of tragedies such as the December drowning of a five-year-old Windsor Park boy in Crompton mill trench.

He brought out that point when residents of the area were disappointed over Jack Westerman, owner of water rights there, not appearing at last night's meeting to talk over the possibility of draining or fencing the trench. Mr. Westerman had been invited by the Town Council, after residents sought action last month.

Both Mr. DeCiantis and Mr. Fazzano said they and the Council are as eager as anyone to avoid such tragedies as the accidental drowning. Ultimately Senator LaChapelle said he would try to obtain a Senate committee hearing on the bill about March 16. Mr. DeCiantis, who expects to have returned from a Florida vacation by then, said he will be there to help the legislation along, or at least would hope to get action to correct the West Warwick problem.

Both Mr. DeCiantis and Mr. Fazzano have previously cited a 1908 state Supreme Court decision that a child who drowns accidentally on such mill prop-

erty is actually a trespasser and that the mill is not liable. Senator LaChapelle also took the Council to task about the old Natick Mill wall ruins, saying the 30 to 40 foot high walls are a hazard to children who might play there. He said he thought the General Assembly should do something to make it possible for local areas to eliminate such hazards by law.

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Compromise in West Warwick

Police-Fire Pension Plan Is Worked Out

P.J. Feb. 15, 1953
West Warwick police and firemen emerged all smiles last night from a pension plan discussion with the Town Council that resulted in a compromise on a pension system dispute.

Town Solicitor Michael De Ciantis smoothed out a potentially hectic town meeting situation by advocating a compromise under which men would be able to retire at 60.

The men had been seeking a retirement at age 55 after 25

years service, and the town administration had considered retirement at 65.

Mr. De Ciantis recommended that the Council scrap the age 65 insurance company plan being considered at a \$14,000 cost to the town yearly, and ask for a \$25,000 appropriation by taxpayers as the town's annual pension share, at the March 19 annual town meeting.

The pension issue appeared headed for settlement when former Rep. Thaddeus M. Kraus, an agent of the John Hancock Co., figures the benefits that can be gotten for the \$25,000 town appropriation. At least one policeman who had been doing a slow burn about pension matters appeared exceptionally pleased at the development.

He walked up to the solicitor and wished him a happy vacation. Mr. De Ciantis plans to motor today to Florida. He will spend a month there, returning just before the town meeting.

The administration should be able to squeeze the additional pension plan money into the budget with no tax rise, Mr. De Ciantis said. He has played a major role in drawing up the proposed budget. He indicated an item of \$4,610.83, which he had intended to be used to start paying off piled-up tax anticipation notes, could be diverted this year to the pension. That would leave \$6,390 to be found elsewhere to make up the \$25,000.

Mr. De Ciantis said he does not care whether the pension insurance goes to Mr. Kraus' company, so long as it is handled by an insurance firm that will guarantee pension benefits.

He stipulated he was recommending the \$25,000, tantamount to approval later by the Council, providing the men drop the idea that the \$25,000 be used to establish a town-operated pension plan. He said he believes an insurance firm should guarantee the best.

Michael Del Gigante, a representative of the Travelers Insurance Co., also was present and took notes on the meeting.

Meanwhile, Mr. De Ciantis said that a bill introduced in the Senate yesterday by Sen. Francis J. La Chapelle (D-West Warwick) to enable the town meeting to pension police Sgt. Edward J. Jalbert at \$2,000 a year was unnecessary.

Senator La Chapelle said he put the bill in to make certain that the town could pension the veteran sergeant, who will be 65 in April. But Mr. De Ciantis said there already is an enabling act on the law books under which the town can set up pensions. Deputy Sheriff Alfred Richard, Democratic town chairman, also said he thought the senator's bill not needed.

Democrats

To Have Say

P.J. Feb. 25, 1953
Water Authority

To Weigh Judgment In Filing Position

The Democratic administration of West Warwick will have a say in selection of a fifth member of the Kent County Water Authority, chairman Gerard Di Fiore said last night.

Representative Di Fiore (D-West Warwick) said the authority will weigh the judgment of the Democratic "town fathers" in choosing the person to fill the fifth-member vacancy caused by the intended resignation of Mortimer W. Newton, newly appointed state director of business regulation.

The \$2,000-a-year position which Mr. Newton vacates must be filled by the other four members of the authority themselves unlike the other four positions which are filled by the Town Councils of participating towns. The law provides for election of the at-large of fifth member by the authority from the town which uses the largest amount of authority water, currently West Warwick.

Mr. Di Fiore said the desires of ruling West Warwick Democrats will be given weight in selecting the new member because the authority "wants to play ball with everyone that is playing ball with it so there will be no antagonism which might injure its cause." He said, however, the authority is not bound by the dictates of the town administration in their selection.

Mr. Di Fiore said the authority has never been confronted with so many apparent applicants for a vacancy. He said Vincent J. Lukowicz, former school committee chairman, has told him he would like the job.

He said he presumed Sen. Frank J. LaChapelle (D-West Warwick), who applied for the job at the last vacancy, would seek it again. Others, including former Rep. Thaddeus M. Kraus of Crompton, have said they would accept the position.

Mr. Di Fiore said more applications for the seat possibly have been mailed to him. Because of his recent illness he has not had opportunity to see these applications.

He said the authority would not act to fill the vacancy until Mr. Newton's resignation has been received. He said the authority does not feel there is sufficient urgency about the vacancy to call a special meeting to fill it.

W. Warwick Town Employees' Group Asks Sick Benefits

About 40 West Warwick sewer, highway and rubbish and garbage collection workers met last night with an attorney, former town solicitor Charles J. Bourgault, in the police station recreation room.

Mr. Bourgault, reached after the meeting, confirmed that the employees have retained him to help them get better working conditions.

However, he said he did not feel that he could give any details until he has communicated with the Town Council.

Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle (D-West Warwick), who was also at the meeting, said he was there because the workers had first approached him for his support. He said he had suggested they hire an attorney, just as police and firemen have retained former Lt. Gov. James O. McManus in their successful drive for better working conditions and current one for a pension.

"I have met with the employees of the highway, sewer and

garbage and rubbish collection staff," Mr. Bourgault said. "I do want to tell the Council what we're after rather than announce it through the press."

Highway, garbage and rubbish workers appeared at the Town Council meeting Feb. 12 and asked that the Council establish some form of workmen's compensation or sick benefits.

Eugene Harpin, spokesman, and other workers said men have been out of work for as long as seven months, owing to sickness, and have gotten nothing.

Even if a man should be injured in the line of duty, he receives no pay or benefits while he is out of work because of such injury, the men said.

It is believed the men hope something can be worked for inclusion in the budget to be presented by the Council at the annual March 19 town meeting.

It was learned that the workers are not pressing for a pension plan at the coming town meeting.

West Warwick Sick Benefits Plan Supported

P.J. Feb. 25, 1953
Thomas F. Mello, acting West Warwick Town Council president, last night asserted his belief the entire Council is in favor of giving sick benefits and unemployment compensation to highway, garbage and rubbish collection and sewer workers.

He made the assertion when asked for comment on a meeting Monday night, at which the workers retained former Town Solicitor Charles J. Bourgault to represent them in their drive to obtain better working conditions.

"The problem is that the budget is bulging now," Mr. Mello said. "Whether we can work it into this budget is going to be the thing. If we really can do something for them, I think all the councilmen are in favor of it, as we talked about it at the last Council meeting."

The workers petitioned the Council in person for sickness and unemployment benefits at the Feb. 12 meeting. Town Solicitor Michael De Ciantis, now in Florida and not expected back until just before the March 19 annual town meeting, told them the possibility of doing something for them would be investigated. He indicated it probably would not be in time for inclusion of a covering appropriation in the March town meeting budget. Councilman Mello said the Council would be glad to meet with the approximately 50 workers involved.

\$422,230 West Warwick School Request Up \$9,180

Feb. 28, 1957 P.T.
Dr. Maisie E. Quinn, West Warwick school superintendent, yesterday released for the school committee a proposed 1957-58 budget calling for a \$422,230.83 appropriation at the March 19 annual town meeting, or \$9,180.83 more than last year.

The town appropriation need is about \$5,000 less than was indicated by Town Solicitor Michael De Ciantis when he released a proposed overall town budget Feb. 15. He had listed school needs at \$427,358 in a total budget of \$1,227,900.

The sum needed from the town is only \$9,180.83 more than a year ago, in spite of the fact a teachers' salary item is up \$28,350, or from \$406,850 to \$435,200, and some other items are increased.

That is mainly because most items remain about the same, state aid is up \$11,823, and \$8,000 for a new bus last year is not in the budget this year.

West Warwick School Department anticipated receipts and expenditures in the proposed 1957-58 budget compared with last year's as follows:

RECEIPTS AND REVENUES		1956-57	1957-58
Balance		\$5,327.17	\$5,237.17
Town Appropriation		413,050.00	522,230.83
From the State		95,384.00	107,317.00
Dog Licenses		1,250.00	1,150.00
Cafeteria Receipts		18,000.00	16,000.00
Tuition Receipts		4,500.00	3,950.00
Athletic Receipts		2,000.00	2,000.00
Miscellaneous Receipts		3,000.00	5,000.00
		\$542,721.17	\$561,075.00
*Constitutes receipts and revenue of \$18,353.83			
EXPENDITURES		1956-57	1957-58
General Control		\$275.00	\$375.00
School Committee Expense		2,860.00	2,280.00
Officers in Charge of Supplies		7,100.00	7,100.00
Superintendent's Salary		1,740.00	1,740.00
Supervision of Attendance		150.00	150.00
Superintendent's Office Expense		400.00	400.00
Other Expense of General Control			
		\$12,465.00	\$11,945.00
Instructions:		\$406,850.00	\$435,200.00
Teachers' Salaries		6,500.00	9,000.00
Textbooks		7,000.00	7,000.00
Supplies		1,000.00	1,000.00
Other Expense of Instruction			
		\$421,350.00	\$462,200.00
Operation of School Plant:		\$34,000.00	\$34,000.00
Wages of Janitors		12,000.00	12,000.00
Fuel		1,500.00	1,500.00
Water		4,000.00	4,000.00
Lights and Power		850.00	850.00
Telephones		3,500.00	3,500.00
Janitorial Supplies		1,000.00	1,230.00
Federal Old-Age Benefits			
		\$36,850.00	\$37,080.00
Maintenance of School Plant:		\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Upkeep of Grounds		3,675.00	4,000.00
Repairs of Buildings		8,000.00	
Repairs—Replacement of Equipment			
Other Expense of Maintenance			
		\$13,675.00	\$6,000.00
Auxiliary Agencies:		\$3,500.00	\$3,900.00
School Nurse		750.00	1,750.00
Promotion of Health		2,000.00	2,000.00
Dental Clinic		3,500.00	4,500.00
Transportation		16,000.00	16,000.00
Provision of Lunches		4,500.00	4,500.00
Recreation		1,500.00	1,500.00
Other Auxiliary Agencies			
		\$31,750.00	\$32,550.00
Evening Schools:		\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00
Adult Education			
		\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00
Totals		\$559,334.00	\$561,075.00

Plan Jolts Fire, Police Personnel

West Warwick police and firemen were taken aback yesterday by an announcement by Francis J. Fazzano, Town Council president, that the Council had decided to place the proposed police and fire pension insurance with John Hancock Co.

Fire Capt. Michael Pimental, co-chairman of the joint police and fire pension committee, said last night the men plan to listen to the explanation of the plan, as promised by Mr. Fazzano, at tonight's budget hearing in the town hall.

A meeting of the 51 police and firemen will probably be held sometime later this week to determine whether it is acceptable to them, Captain Pimental said.

He said he did not want to make an individual statement on the Council's action, disclosed by Mr. Fazzano yesterday to have been taken at an unannounced meeting Monday night.

Privately, however, many police and firemen felt that the Council was not keeping to the promise of Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis that the Council and men would jointly work out a plan agreeable to the men.

No Tax Increase Seen Necessary In W. Warwick

Heated exchanges between West Warwick Democratic administration officials and Leo B. Charbonneau, Republican town chairman, on the manner in which the Council arrived at a police-fire pension plan last night highlighted the annual town budget hearing.

About 50 persons overflowed the Council chamber in the Town Hall at a hearing at which a revised budget totaling \$1,243,900 was disclosed.

If taxpayers approve it at the March 19 annual financial town meeting, there will be no tax raise, it was announced.

Mr. Charbonneau maintained that other insurance companies besides John Hancock Co. should have an opportunity to present their plans.

Clarence J. Coutu proposed that there be a public hearing on possible pension plans.

However, Francis J. Fazzano, Town Council president, said other insurance companies have been calling him lately, but made no effort to contact the Council while the Hancock Co., represented by former Rep. Thaddeus M. Kraus, had been working on a plan for some time.

He declared how it would not be fair for a firm to come in and try to push out the company that had done so much work setting up a special plan for the town, particularly since they all charge about the same.

When Mr. Charbonneau asserted that one of the Hancock Company's men, Mr. Kraus, was allowed to sit in on a closed Council meeting with police and firemen at a meeting at which Mr. Charbonneau and the press were asked to leave, Mr. Fazzano and Town Clerk Susan V. Lamb flared up.

Mr. Fazzano asserted that it was the decision of the men to have a closed meeting. However, Mr. Charbonneau said Mr. Fazzano brought about the closed meeting by telling the men an open meeting might work to their detriment. When Mrs. Lamb said the men asked a closed meeting in their letter requesting a meeting, Mr. Charbonneau disagreed with her.

Michael Pimental, chairman of the firemen's pension committee, said he believes the majority of the firemen now approve the plan proposed by the Hancock Co. Mr. Kraus explained it would retire men at age 60 on half pay, exclusive of Social Security.

The town would pay \$25,000 into the plan the first year. The men would have three per cent of their pay deducted and contributed to the plan. While changes in personnel might make the amount payable by the town slightly variable from year to year after a certain period, it would not be much, Mr. Kraus said.

Police Capt. Henry F. Miller Jr. said he didn't like the idea that a policeman on the force only 10 years when he reaches 60 would receive the same half pay as a veteran of 30 or more years.

Mr. Fazzano said the Council later hopes to establish requirements for appointment to the force as to age, physical and moral fitness.

Highway commissioner Henry Petrarca, during discussion of actual expenditures, said his department will be about \$12,000 in the red because of the big snow storm last March. When Mr. Charbonneau asked whether the administration is being realistic in not increasing the highway budget, Mr. Fazzano said he does not think it wise to allocate the money and then have it spent without a surprise snow storm.

The originally announced \$427,358 as the sum needed by the schools from a town appropriation is changed to \$422,230.83 in the revised budget. The difference of slightly more than \$5,000 came about because the school department had forgotten about a balance remaining in its account, Mr. Fazzano said.

The sum was kept in the budget, however, \$2,000 of it being added to the police personnel item and \$3,327.17 being added to \$4,610.83 for payments on outstanding tax notes.

The tax notes outstanding amounted to \$150,000 last year, but will be higher this year owing to unexpected expenses, it was said.

Governor Signs West Warwick School Site Bill

Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle (D-West Warwick) steered a West Warwick bill which would allow the town to convey a parcel of land near Main and Wyman Streets to quick concurrent passage in the Senate yesterday.

Shortly afterward, Governor Roberts signed the bill into law.

In asking for unanimous consent to take up the bill when it was received from the House, Senator LaChapelle said the matter had to be included in the warrant for the financial town meeting, which is close at hand. There was no opposition when he moved passage.

The land and house involved were acquired by the town in the \$32,000 purchase of the former Nyberg-Thistlewaite tracts last year. Since the land is practically surrounded by houses on accessible sides, the school building committee has special plans to develop it for a consolidated school site.

The committee plans to swap the property for the house and land of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Caswell, 1579 Main St. Then it will remove their house and make an adequate entrance, with the help of another strip of land 10 feet wide adjoining it. The strip would be bought for \$2,000-\$2,500 from Mr. and Mrs. Harold Thistlewaite.

Both transactions are to come up for approval at the March 19 annual town meeting.

Council to Air Liquor License Transfer Bid

West Warwick Town Council will have before it March 12 the application for transfer of a liquor license that triggered a clash between Town Solicitor Michael De Ciantis and Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle three weeks ago.

Thomas F. Mello, acting Council president, said the application of Thomas J. O'Donnell to move a Class B liquor license from the White Front Cafe in Arctic to O'Dee's Cafe in Cromption will be settled at the meeting.

Mr. De Ciantis opposed the transfer at a Feb. 12 meeting, saying the cafe is in the neighborhood of the proposed new consolidated grammar school and Council President Francis J. Fazzano, who, like Mr. De Ciantis, is vacationing in Florida, put off action until the school committee had been consulted.

The Council's March 6 meeting will be given over to a public hearing of the proposed budget and all pending business has been put over to the March 12 meeting, Mr. Mello said. The Council will also consider at that time an application by Reginaldo Petrocelli and Luigi Fresolone for permission to sell home-made cheese products at 32 Willow St.

W. Warwick Pension Plan OK'd At Secret Session

The West Warwick Town Council at a special unannounced meeting last night, voted to accept a John Hancock Insurance Company plan for a police and fire pension system, providing taxpayers approve a \$27,000 appropriation March 19, Francis J. Fazzano, Council president, said early today.

He said \$25,000 would cover the Hancock Co. plan, as far as town contributions go, and would permit retirement of men at age 60 on half pay over and above Social Security. The other \$2,000 would be used to give Police Sgt. Edward Jalbert a separate, fully-town-paid half-pay pension.

The Council also voted to recommend a \$5,000 appropriation to provide workmen's compensation for highway, garbage collection, sewer department and some other town employes. A proposed ambulance appropriation was cut from \$11,000 to \$8,000.

West Warwick Land Bill Passes Senate

The House yesterday passed and sent to the Senate a bill to allow West Warwick, by vote of the March 19 annual financial town meeting, to convey land near Main and Wyman Streets.

The property to be conveyed was purchased by the town last year as part of the Thistlewaite-Nyberg tract, which will be the site of the new consolidated elementary school.

W. Warwick PTA Urges Dr. Guertin Withdraw Nonpartisan Measure

P.J. March 11, 1957

The West Warwick PTA Council last night called on Dr. I. M. Guertin to withdraw his draft of proposed alternate legislation to a nonpartisan school committee election bill now before the General Assembly.

"... In order to avoid the confusion which would result from his bill being introduced, we respectfully suggest to Dr. Guertin that he withdraw his proposal in favor of the one offering true nonpartisan-

ship," a statement released by Carter Handy, steering committee chairman, read.

The Council is strongly backing a bill now before the legislature seeking a five-man school committee to be elected in off years without party tags. Introduced by Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle (D-West Warwick) and Rep. Luke J. Smith (R-West Warwick), the bill seeks to have a member elected from each of the three representative voting districts and two at large.

The bill is sponsored by the Republican town committee and finds no support in the Democratic town administration. Dr. Guertin, a former Democratic school committee chairman, proposes on-year elections of five members at large.

Meanwhile, the Guertin proposal, offered, the author said, as a concession to the 745 persons who signed a PTA Council petition backing the Smith-LaChapelle bill, brought forth little support from local Democrats.

Rep. Gerard Di Fiore (D-West Warwick) who said he will introduce the bill by request in the House for Dr. Guertin, said he would only consider active support of the bill in the House if the Democratic town administration endorses it.

Town Council President Francis J. Fazzano said that, although he is less opposed to Dr. Guertin's draft than to the bill in the Assembly he doesn't see the need for the change and I see nothing wrong with political parties backing school committee candidates.

Calling Dr. Guertin's proposal "a weak relation" to the original, the statement says school committee elections at the same time as general elections would automatically tend to defeat the nonpartisan aspect of the bill.

"It is a proven fact that true non-partisan elections must be held in off years in order to avoid party tags being applied to school committee candidates," the statement reads.

The PTA Council took issue with Dr. Guertin's statement in publicizing his draft that off-year elections would cost the town too much money.

"The small cost of off-year elections would, in all likelihood, be offset many fold by a conscientious school board owing allegiance to no political party and dedicated to the sole responsibility of proper and efficient operation of the school system," it said.

The statement said the 745 who signed petitions later forwarded to the governor and leading legislators of both parties are not the extent of the bill's backing in West Warwick.

"Actually, those contacted who would not sign — for various reasons — probably constituted about 10 per cent of the total number contacted," the statement read, adding that 745 were all the signatures the partial canvass had time to line up before submission of the bill to the legislature.

The Council also criticized Dr. Guertin's proposal for not requiring that all school department purchases over \$500 be thrown open to public bid, a requirement of the Smith-La Chapelle bill and for absence of an "attempt to explain why Dr. Guertin would require vacancies caused by death or resignation to be filled by the Town Council rather than by the electorate or the school committee as provided by the original bill."

Fazzano Opposes West Warwick School Vote Bill

P.J. March 12, 1957

Francis J. Fazzano, West Warwick Town Council president, last night declared that, in defeating town Republicans in the last election, the voters in essence voted against a nonpartisan, off-year school committee election bill.

Explaining his opposition to the PTA-backed bill, he called it "Republican-inspired," and said he does not believe the Council will grant a PTA council request that it send a letter to the General Assembly endorsing it.

"I wouldn't approve of it under any conditions," he said. "I don't see any purpose."

The Republicans had it in their platform last election, he declared,

adding that the election results show voters in effect decided against it.

The bill has been introduced jointly in the legislature by Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle (D-West Warwick) and Rep. Luke J. Smith (R-West Warwick.)

"I have yet to hear them give a good sensible reason why there should be any change," Mr. Fazzano said. "It isn't a question of the rights of the public. They have created the impression there is something wrong with the present system of electing a school committee. . . ."

He expressed a hope that the present controversy "doesn't degenerate into another situation of the PTA group claiming that the administration is fighting any advancement. This is strictly a difference of opinion.

"I don't see any point in their proposal and am not in favor of it. I am just as convinced as ever that our present school committee has been doing and is doing a competent job."

Concerning a provision that in the bill that any purchase over \$500 must be put out to bids except in a "real emergency," he said, "who is to decide what is a real emergency?"

Similarly, on the point that the bill would require open meetings of the committee except when something would be detrimental to any pupil or teacher involved, and the same for examination of records, Mr. Fazzano asked who would decide when a teacher or student might be hurt.

"Those are not things for legislation, but are matters of policy," he said.

LACHAPELLE ARGUES ISSUE WITH COUNCIL

Senator Has Verbal Tilt with DeCiantis

Times Feb. 13, 1957

There were more fireworks at the meeting of West Warwick Town Council last night between leading West Warwick Democratic officials than there were in the primary battle last fall.

Sen. Francis J. Lachapelle, who defeated the party forces in the primary and then went on to lead the ticket to victory in the general election, hit at Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis and the town council on two occasions during the council session.

The senator took issue with the town solicitor who raised the single objection to the transfer of the Class B liquor license held by Thomas J. and Eleanore O'Donnell at the White Front Cafe, 1304 Main Street, Arctic, to the Gawek Building at Main and Pulaski streets, Crompton.

The entire council as well as the town solicitor was scored by Sen. Lachapelle for "passing the buck" on not being prompt in taking action to some regulations similar to arractive nuisance laws in other states to prevent further drownings, like the one in a Crompton mill trench last December.

In the face of the senator's plea for "fair play" the council continued the liquor license transfer to the next meeting at which time the school committee will be asked to appear. Mr. DeCiantis had stated that his objection to moving the license to Crompton was due to the fact the town plans to build a new school in that community and "there ought to be few barrooms around."

With both the town solicitor and council in agreement, Sen. Lachapelle said he will arrange a hearing before other members of the state legislature at the State House, Providence, to effect legislation to hold property owners liable for dangerous conditions that attract children to tragedy.

In Favor of Transfer

Speaking in favor of the transfer of the liquor license from Crompton to Arctic were Mr. and Mrs. Thomas O'Donnell and Stephen Gawek, owner of the building at Main and Pulaski streets.

Mr. DeCiantis who was the only remonstrant said that he wasn't objecting personally but he doesn't want to see more bars in Crompton with a new school planned there.

Mrs. O'Donnell charged that it doesn't seem to bother the town solicitor that about 200 children pass the White Front Cafe at its present location in Arctic, every day on their way to either St. James, St. John's or Main Street School, Arctic.

Sen. Lachapelle pointed out that the new school in Crompton will

be more than 200 feet away from the new school, the legal distance. Mr. DeCiantis said the 200 feet had nothing to do with his objection and that the town council has the discretion to consider environment as well as distance.

When the senator stated there was a liquor license previously in use at the Crompton site, the town solicitor replied, "Yes, but no new school there before." Mr. Gawek raised the question why hadn't the town solicitor raised objections to other bars locating in Crompton after a license was in operation in his building. He pointed out that one of them was the veterans organization which has a Little League field in its back yard.

In Apartment Above

Mr. O'Donnell said that he intended to move his family, including three children to the apartment above his business and he added his application for a transfer had been advertised and if other parents had objections they would be at the council meeting. He said that Mr. Gawek had spent from \$2000 to \$3000 remodeling the property and that the zoning there was for business.

Town Council President Francis J. Fazzano said the council had no motive in referring the transfer petition to the school committee. Sen. Lachapelle told Mr. Fazzano the school board wasn't the one to grant licenses and that if the council president had the case as an attorney he wouldn't have a "leg to stand on" with the school committee.

Sen. Lachapelle said that he agreed with Mr. Fazzano that there were too many bars in West Warwick but "if you want to clean them up let's start, but not on a place with a good record." He said the present liquor license location was near a church which plans to build a new church. "Here tonight you have no remonstrants. This objection is just nonsense," he added.

Sen. Lachapelle continued his protests at the meeting when the town council for the second month in a row listened to parents from the Windsor Park plat in Crompton pressing for relief from the hazard of the mill trench which borders many dwelling units only yards away.

Bill Is Introduced

The senator said that he introduced a bill in the Senate two weeks ago to give the state an attractive nuisance law. "I had to go to the state and have the bill drafted" and he continued, "If the town solicitor had been on the ball he could have assisted me."

Mr. Fazzano said that Jack Westerman, who owns the water rights in the mill trench and who had been invited to the council meeting last night perhaps was advised by his attorney that he need not be in attendance.

In answer to several parents who questioned why other town officials were not helping the senator, Mr. Fazzano displayed agenda of the meeting at which the owner of the water rights had been invited. He said that he hadn't seen Sen. Lachapelle's bill but if the town council can help him, it will. Mr. DeCiantis called for the public hearing and assistance from other communities.

Both the town council president and the town solicitor displayed displeasure at the absence of the owner of the water rights in the mill trench from the meeting. "When they want tax exemptions

Lachapelle Takes Issue With Town Council

(Continued from page 1)

they come here fast," Mr. DeCiantis added.

Other Business

In other business the council: Referred to Highway Commissioner Henry Petrarca the plan of Reginald Centracchio, West Warwick building contractor, to develop a housing plat of about 50 lots off Burlingame Road.

Appointed police constables including Alfred H. Michaud, 40 Harris Street, and Joseph Pimental, 79 Providence Street, and James V. Gazzero of 9 Sheldon Street, an honorary constable.

Placed on file a letter from the town of Barrington announcing a meeting of the Municipal Government Association of Rhode Island is slated Feb. 19 to discuss activation of Chapter 2784 of the 1951 session of the General Assembly pertaining to a retirement and benefit system for municipal employees.

Virtualizing House

Granted a virtualizing house license to May Rullo for 656 Providence Street, Natick.

Received a letter of appreciation from John F. Coffin of Wilbur Smith and Associates for assistance by the staff of the town clerk's office in the recent highway and parking survey by the firm.

Granted James F. Martin permission to install 65 feet of sidewalk at Kent Street.

Allowed tax abatements on the 1955 assessment to the following: George E. Howarth, 20 Lexington Avenue, \$4.13, moved and paid tax in Barrington; Hope V. Palazzo, 11 Legion Way, \$8.75, paid tax in Coventry; Valley Machine Co., 109 Main Street, \$24.75, duplicate assessment.

Granted filling station licenses

to Larry G. Gallant at 23 Weaver Street, and Armand J. Boucher at 200 Washington Street.

Appointed Gilbert R. Whittaker, 5 Buckley Avenue, a weigher of trucks at request of Mr. Whittaker's employer.

Benefit Dance Approved

Gave permission for a benefit dance for the Pare family, burned out of their home on Whitman Street, Coventry, to be held at the junior high school, Riverpoint.

Granted the Notre Dame Veterans permission to hold a "Frontiers Festival" Mar. 3 and 5, in the parish hall.

Sitting as a sewer commission, the council granted two tax abatements on undersized lots as follows: Gallup Lumber Co., three lots on West Warwick Avenue with building, \$13.25; J. Edgar Raboin, 21 Greene Street, two lots with dwelling, \$25.

W. Warwick PTA Urges Dr. Guertin Withdraw Nonpartisan Measure

P.J. March 10, 1957
The West Warwick PTA Council last night called on Dr. I. M. Guertin to withdraw his draft of proposed alternate legislation to a nonpartisan school committee election bill now before the General Assembly.

"... In order to avoid the confusion which would result from his bill being introduced, we respectfully suggest to Dr. Guertin that he withdraw his proposal in favor of the one offering true nonpartisan-ship," a statement released by Carter Handy, steering committee chairman, read.

The Council is strongly backing a bill now before the legislature seeking a five-man school committee to be elected in off years without party tags. Introduced by Sen. Francis J. Lachapelle (D-West Warwick) and Rep. Luke J. Smith (R-West Warwick), the bill seeks to have a member elected from each of the three representative voting districts and two at large.

The bill is sponsored by the Republican town committee and finds no support in the Democratic town administration. Dr. Guertin, a former Democratic school committee chairman, proposes on-year elections of five members at large.

Meanwhile, the Guertin proposal, offered, the author said, as a concession to the 745 persons who signed a PTA Council petition backing the Smith-LaChapelle bill, brought forth little support from local Democrats.

Rep. Gerard Di Fiore (D-West Warwick) who said he will introduce the bill by request in the House for Dr. Guertin, said he would only consider active support of the bill in the House if the Democratic town administration endorses it.

Town Council President Francis J. Fazzino said that, although he is less opposed to Dr. Guertin's draft than to the bill in the Assembly he doesn't see the need for the change and I see nothing wrong with political parties backing school committee candidates.

Calling Dr. Guertin's proposal "a weak relation to the original," the statement says school committee elections at the same time as general elections would automatically tend to defeat the nonpartisan aspect of the bill.

"It is a proven fact that true non-partisan elections must be held in off years in order to avoid party tags being applied to school committee candidates," the statement reads.

The PTA Council took issue with Dr. Guertin's statement in publicizing his draft that off-year elections would cost the town too much money.

"The small cost of off-year elections would, in all likelihood, be offset many fold by a conscientious school board owing allegiance to no political party and dedicated to the sole responsibility of proper and efficient operation of the school system," it said.

The statement said the 745 who signed petitions later forwarded to the governor and leading legislators of both parties are not the extent of the bill's backing in West Warwick.

"Actually, those contacted who would not sign — for various reasons — probably constituted about 10 per cent of the total number contacted," the statement read, adding that 745 were all the signatures the partial canvass had time to line up before submission of the bill to the legislature.

The Council also criticized Dr. Guertin's proposal for not requiring that all school department purchases over \$500 be thrown open to public bid, a requirement of the Smith-La Chapelle bill and for absence of an "attempt to explain why Dr. Guertin would require vacancies caused by death or resignation to be filled by the Town Council rather than by the electorate or the school committee as provided by the original bill."

Guertin to Offer 2nd W. Warwick School Measure

P.J. March 10, 1957
A draft of a proposed alternate bill to the nonpartisan West Warwick school committee legislation now before the General Assembly was made public yesterday by Dr. M. I. Guertin, former Democratic school committee chairman and optometrist.

The bill, which calls for at-large election of a five-member committee during general elections without party labels, will be introduced in the House of Representatives by Rep. Gerard Di Fiore (D-West Warwick), Dr. Guertin said.

He said he was submitting the bill for introduction as a taxpayer of West Warwick who opposes the Republican-sponsored bill introduced by Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle (D-West Warwick) and Rep. Luke J. Smith (R-West Warwick) because "it is not to the interest of all taxpayers and voters of this town."

Opposing the off-year elections and special referendum for voter approval in the first legislation, Dr. Guertin said such arrangements would "... cost the town a lot of money and deprive the great majority of voters of a vote on that question."

"It is a fact that 90 per cent of voters register their vote at a regular general election," he said, "where only 20 per cent are interested in voting at any special election."

Meanwhile the West Warwick PTA Council, strong backers of the Smith-La Chapelle Bill, who canvassed the town for 800 signatures on petitions urging passage of it, issued a declaration on the nonpartisan aspect of their bill.

"A school committee elected under the two-party system is subject to party discipline and subject to the fury and difficulty of partisan politics," the declaration, released by Carter Handy, chairman of the Council's steering committee, said.

"The school committee is an autonomous body responsible to the people in the community and state Board of Education, not to the party in power. The election of a school committee under a nonpartisan system avoids the nomination of lame duck candidates by either party.

"Responsible people with whom the problem is being discussed strongly establish the fact that the best school systems operate under the supervision of a nonpartisan school committee," the declaration continued.

Mr. Handy said both Governor Roberts and Sen. James Donnelly, Senate GOP majority for support of the bill, have replied promising serious consideration of it.

Mr. Guertin's bill calls for increasing the school committee to five members, as does the Smith-La Chapelle Bill, but would have all five members elected at large rather than one from each of the three representative districts and two at large, as provided in the first bill.

"Why a change?" Dr. Guertin asked in issuing his statement. "We always elected three at large, which was very satisfactory. Why not five?"

Dr. Guertin said he does not personally favor any change in the present three-man committee which is elected during the general election on party lines.

"Nevertheless, 800 taxpayers (those signing the petition) are in favor of a change and they should be given an opportunity to vote on the subject."

He said he believes his bill best for the town. If passed by the General Assembly he would put it to a referendum of the people for approval or disapproval but not a special referendum as is called for in the Smith-La Chapelle bill, but at the 1958 general election.

The proposed Guertin draft calls for committee meetings open to the public and all records and proceedings accessible to the public "except such matter whose disclosure would be detrimental to any pupil or teacher involved."

There was no requirement made for submission of all purchases of school department over \$500 being thrown to public bid, as there is in the earlier bill. Qualifications under the Guertin draft would be more difficult than in the first bill, requiring 100 signatures of voters in the last preceding general election on nomination papers rather than the 50 qualified signatures of qualified electors asked in the other bill.

Described as an amendment of the 1913 law which set up the present school committee, Dr. Guertin's draft would become operative with the general election of 1960 if passed in the proposed 1958 general election referendum. In the general election of 1962, and every four years thereafter, three members would be elected for four-year terms.

As in the prior submitted proposal, the incumbents would serve out their terms.

La Chapelle Clashes With Town Officials at Lively Council Meeting

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Feb. 13, 1957 Bulletin

Failure of a mill water rights owner to appear to talk over a mill trench danger to children and the hold-up by the West Warwick Town Council of a liquor license transfer last night triggered a plain-spoken clash between Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle and town officials.

The senator, who defeated the town's Democratic organization in an unendorsed bid for renomination in last fall's primary, at one point declared some people in the administration might not like it, but he is still state senator.

His ire was aroused first when Town Solicitor Michael De Ciantis recommended not granting transfer of a Class "B" liquor license from White Front Cafe, 1304 Main St., Arctic, to O'Dee's Cafe, Gawek Building, 1647 Main St., Crompton. Operators in both the present and proposed cafes would be Thomas J. O'Donnell and his wife, Mrs. Eleanor A. O'Donnell.

Mr. DeCiantis said he felt allowing the cafe to move to the former Pop's Cafe Premises in Crompton would not be right because the new consolidated school is going to be built in Crompton.

After Mr. O'Donnell and

Stefan Gawek, owner of the Crompton building, had declared there were no other objectors present and that it appeared Mr. DeCiantis was the sole objector, the fur began to fly. With Senator LaChapelle declaring the solicitor lives on Greene Street, Riverpoint, and is not within 200 feet of the proposed cafe, and Mr. DeCiantis remaining adamant against the transfer, Francis J. Fazzano, Council president, finally moved to talk it over with the school committee and dispose of the application later.

Senator LaChapelle later took the solicitor to task for not helping draft a bill he has introduced in the Senate which he hopes will prevent a recurrence of tragedies such as the December drowning of a five-year-old Windsor Park boy in Crompton mill trench.

He brought out that point when residents of the area were disappointed over Jack Westerman, owner of water rights there, not appearing at last night's meeting to talk over the possibility of draining or fencing the trench. Mr. Westerman had been invited by the Town Council, after residents sought action last month.

Senator LaChapelle also took

the the Council to task about the old Natick Mill wall ruins, saying the 30 to 40 foot high walls are a hazard to children who might play there. He said he thought the General Assembly should do something to make it possible for local areas to eliminate such hazards by law.

Calls Walls Hazard

Mr. Fazzano said the council had spoken to the owner of the Natick ruins many times, but its power is limited as regards private property. (The owner has blasted down some of the walls.)

Senator La Chapelle said he had received many calls from worried property owners after his bill was introduced. They asked whether they would be liable, under his bill, if a boy should enter their yard, climb their apple tree and fall out of it, injuring himself. He said that is not the intent.

His bill says, "Every person who shall be the owner or possessor of land shall be liable in an action of the case for injuries to children of tender years where such injuries are the result of the failure of the owner or person in charge to take proper precaution to prevent injuries to such children by instrumentalities or conditions which he should, in the exercise of ordinary judgment or prudence, know would naturally attract them into unsuspected danger."

"It shall not be a defense to such action that the injured person is a trespasser and that said injured person was contributorily negligent."

Mr. Fazzano said he believes such a bill will run into heavy opposition from mill owners and large property owners at the General Assembly.

A delegation of highway workers appeared to plead for council establishment of some form of unemployment compensation or sick benefits. Eugene Harpin and other workers said some employes have been out of work for as much as seven months owing to sickness and have gotten nothing.

Will Study Plan

Town Solicitor Michael De Ciantis said the administration will look into a proposal that such municipal workers be enrolled in an unemployment compensation program.

But the plan can't be worked out by the coming March 19 town meeting, Mr. De Ciantis said.

The council set the annual town meeting for March 19 at the Junior High School assembly hall and instructed Town Clerk Susan V. Lamb to prepare the warrant for the meeting.

The annual budget hearing, setting the stage for the town meeting, will be held March 6 at 8 p.m. in the town council chamber, it was voted, Mr. Fazzano said he is asking all department heads to be there to answer any questions by taxpayers.

The proposed town budget will be released later this week, Mr. Fazzano said, after a projected meeting with police and firemen on a controversial pension plan either tonight or tomorrow night.

With Probate Judge Eugene J. Laferriere representing the applicant, the Class "B" liquor license held by Michael Notarianni at the M & M Cafe, 49 Providence St., was transferred to Edward J. Gaus and Lester Roach, who will do business as G & R Cafe at the same address.

At the request of Charles F. Reynolds, state Liquor Control Administrator, that uniform closing hours be set by local governments to cover Class "A" package stores, the council set an 11 p.m. deadline.

During the White Front Cafe hearing, Mr. O'Donnell said Mr. Gawek had spent \$2,000-\$3,000 remodeling the proposed quarters. He said he planned to move with his family of three children to a home above the cafe, although he now lives in Coventry.

Mr. Gawek and Senator La Chapelle said there had been a cafe at the Crompton location for many years until the license held there by Walter Popinski was transferred recently to Quaker Lane. Mr. Gawek, noting no objectors, other than Mr. De Ciantis, asked whether his objection was for personal reasons.

Mr. De Ciantis denied any personal reason. Mr. Gawek said there would be fewer pupils walking past the cafe once the new

school is built. He said Crompton veterans have a liquor license and a Little League field next to their club. "Is that any different?" he asked. "More power to you, Mr. De Ciantis."

Senator La Chapelle said, "I'm here in the interest of fair play, and I don't think it's being demonstrated here tonight."

When Mr. Fazzano's idea of talking it over with the school board came up, the senator said the school board doesn't grant liquor licenses. He said Mr. O'Donnell could appeal a denial, to which Mr. De Ciantis countered, "Let him take an appeal and see how far he'll get."

"School Kid Stuff"

Senator La Chapelle agreed with Mr. Fazzano there are probably too many bars in town "but, if you're going to clean them up, let's do something about it and not pick the case of a business being operated well. That appeal stuff is school kid stuff, whether it comes from the town solicitor or not."

"I think the school committee will have objections as long as Mr. De Ciantis has," said Mr. O'Donnell.

Mr. Fazzano said the school board, or its chairman, would be asked to attend the next council meeting on the case.

During the mill trench hazard discussion with the Windsor Park parents, Senator La Chapelle said, "I had to go to the State House to get the bill drafted and, if the town solicitor had been on the ball, he would have sat down with me and done it."

Mr. Fazzano asked whether the senator had approached the solicitor. He replied that he had not, but that the parents had approached the council and the council could have told the solicitor to draft legislation.

"I can't tell my three-year-old that she's trespassing," declared a mother, Mrs. Rita Amick, 42 Sheffield Ave. Another mother added, "We don't know how many more we're going to lose. They all play down there. It's terrible. We're gambling with our children's lives."

The council also:

Held up for a month and referred to Councilman Herve Niquette for investigation an application from Eugene Roberts, applicant, and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph N. Richard, owners, for a zoning exception to operate a gift shop at 17 North Pleasant St.

Granted a committee headed by Edouard Jacques a permit to hold a benefit dance March 2 in the Junior High School for the Pare family, whose home on Whitman Street, Coventry, was recently heavily damaged by fire.

Granted Notre Dame Veterans Association a permit for a frontier festival March 3 and 5 in Notre Dame Hall.

Appointed James N. Gazzaro of 3 Sheldon St. an honorary police constable and named Alfred H. Richard of 40 Morris St. and Joseph Pimental of 79 Providence St. police constables.

Granted filling station licenses to Raymond J. Bourcier, 100 Washington St., and Michael De Ciantis, owner, and Larry Gallant, operator, at 23 Weaver St.

Named Gilbert Whitaker of 3 Bussey Ave. a weigher of gas trucks for the Texas Co.

Granted Gallup Lumber Co. West Warwick Ave. permission to combine three small lots for sewer tax purposes and authorized a \$15.25 rebate, and, on reconsideration, granted similar requests involving two lots owned by J. Edgar Raboin and approved a \$25 rebate for him. Both were represented by Colette J. Bourgeault.

Referred to highway commissioner Henry J. Petrarca an application from James F. Martin of 15 Kent St. for town aid in constructing 65 feet of sidewalk.

Referred to Mr. Petrarca a proposed plat of about 50 house lots submitted by Reginald Centracchio for an area between Buehler Drive and Burlingame Road.

Granted a victualing house license to Mae Rullo, 656 Providence St.

Filed a letter thanking the town clerk's staff for assistance in the recent traffic survey by Wilbur Smith & Associates.

Referred to Mr. Petrarca a petition signed by about 32 area residents, asking that Endfield Drive, between Crossland Road and Woodland Drive, be closed off and not sanded when it snows so children may use it for sliding. Mr. Fazzano asked that Mr. Petrarca see whether one or two residents who object will change their minds.

Filed building inspector Willie Regalere's January report, showing permits issued for two new homes valued at \$17,000; three alterations, \$2,300; and one garage, \$800.

Filed a letter from Howard E. Munroe, chairman of the Municipal Government Association of R.I., inviting town officials to a luncheon meeting Feb. 19 at R.I. Country Club, Barrington, to discuss proposed entrance of at least five towns into the retirement and benefit system for municipal employes. At least five towns plan to enter the plan by July 1, this year, it was said.

Application to enter the plan must come from a town meeting in the case of towns, Mr. Munroe said.

Granted St. John's Sodality permission to shoot blanks during a play, providing the gun is loaded by the police department. Mr. Fazzano said he wanted to make sure no accident occurred.

Filed a report from Mr. Fazzano that he and Councilman Antonio Paul had recently attended a dinner and inspected the premises at Kent County Memorial Hospital and were impressed with the upkeep of the hospital. He said the hospital plans to conduct a drive to double its capacity later on and he hopes taxpayers will support it to their full capability.

Granted three tax abatements, all for small amounts.

Filed a letter from Mr. Brown, the State Federation of Labor secretary, urging town officials' support to improve the pay, working conditions and benefits of town employes and commending the results where communities have worked with the State Federation of State, County and Municipal Employes.

Separate Police Station Vote Seen Not Possible

Taxpayers at next Tuesday's annual West Warwick town meeting will have a choice of voting for a combined police and fire station, or just a fire station, but not for a separate police station, acting Town Solicitor Harry F. McKanna Jr. confirmed last night.

He explained that the warrant as drawn and posted this week will not legally permit a vote on building a separate police station out of \$225,000 available in a post war capital improvement fund.

Meanwhile, although many men in both departments are said to prefer separate police and fire stations, the Veterans' Council is continuing to press for a combination municipal building that would include a police station, fire station and town hall as a memorial.

Under Mr. McKanna's interpretation of the wording of the warrant, no action could be taken on any building that would include a town hall.

Backers of a separate police station reportedly have been considering trying to invoke an adjourned

town meeting law to bring about a vote on the project. The 1956 town meeting law provides any motion to increase an administration budget, or to appropriate any money not proposed in the budget presented by the town administration shall be referred to an adjourned meeting, with all-day voting, seven days later.

However, Mr. McKanna said last night he does not believe that could be done, primarily because of the wording of the statute that authorized creation of the capital improvement fund. It says in effect that any expenditure of money must be authorized by a town meeting and that the warrant must have in it the questions to be considered at the town meeting concerning the expenditure of that money, he said.

March 14, 1957

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"Tax Well Has Run Dry," Says Town GOP Chairman

"Proposed Budget is Un-Realistic and is a Deficit Budget," Leo Charbonneau Says. Points to Overexpenditures.

The report of the fiscal operations in West Warwick last year in face of the proposed budget for the next fiscal year, 1957-58, drew fire today from Leo B. Charbonneau, chairman of the Republican Town Committee. Mr. Charbonneau said that the accounts of Town Treasurer Robert J. Harrop shows that the "tax well has run dry" and the proposed budget is unrealistic and is a deficit budget. The GOP chairman said that it is evident from Mr. Harrop's statements that the 40 per cent tax increase of a couple of years

ago has been entirely absorbed, "the well has run dry." Pointing to the overexpenditures made last year by about every department to the amount of \$35,384.75 and to the lack of increases to meet those extra costs in the proposed budget, Mr. Charbonneau labelled the proposed budget "unrealistic" and a "deficit budget." Mr. Charbonneau said that the fiscal statements released by the town treasurer are not consistent with those of last year. Last year, the GOP chairman said, Mr. Harrop stated the cumulative deficit as of Mar. 1, 1956 was \$160,000. This year, he continued, we look at the report and we find it is \$131,000. "What happened to the \$29,000?" he asked. "Surely a balance dated Mar. 1, 1956 in last year's report should be the same as a balance dated Mar. 1, 1956 in this year's report," Mr. Charbonneau said. "We have just begun to study the sewer fund and we will make a public report prior to the town meeting," Mr. Charbonneau said.

W. Warwick Deficit \$22,830 for 1956-57

Bulletin March 15, 1957
The Town of West Warwick had an operating deficit of \$22,830 in the fiscal year which ended Feb. 28, according to the annual report of Town Treasurer Robert J. Harrop, released today. He set the cumulative deficit at \$152,020.89, compared with \$141,565.99 a year ago. The past year's operating deficit was offset by deductions of \$10,037.50 previously listed as due the sewer fund and \$2,337.63 in federal hurricane reimbursement. Once again the town was in the position of a man who has substantial funds set aside he can't touch and, week by week, is unable to pay the grocer except by borrowing money to meet his bills. The funds that can't be touched in the town's case are in a post-war capital improvement fund

which will be worth about \$225,000 when government bonds are cashed. Yet outstanding tax-anticipation notes at the end of the fiscal year totaled \$175,000, or about \$25,000 more than a year ago. The treasurer reported a cash balance of \$20,040.21, but said he would need that to meet commitments until the town meeting. The \$25,000 increase in tax-anticipation notes outstanding came about because the town borrowed \$850,000 on tax-anticipation loans during the year, but was able to pay back only \$825,000. Also, there is a tight market on such short term borrowing today, Mrs. Harrop said, and the interest rate had gone up from 1.35 to 2.6 per cent. Other expenditures by departments ran to about \$30,000, Mr.

Harrop said, but income was a little greater than estimated and so offset overspending somewhat. There was an unbudgeted expenditure of \$10,000 which the town put toward obtaining a new Factory Street Bridge, now under construction by the state at a total cost of about 25 times that amount. A sore point was a \$1,085.94 cash loss through burglary of the town hall. Revenue receipts from property taxes totaled \$984,860.35, after deduction of \$360.64 in refunds. Net interest received on property taxes was set at \$4,124.10. Total revenue receipts, including \$3,076 from parking meter violations at \$1 per violation, were set at \$1,428,867.03. Total revenue disbursements were listed at \$1,454,952.89, making \$26,085.86 more outgo than income in this category.

OVEREXPENDITURES TOTALING \$35,384.75 IN W. WARWICK

March 15, 1957 Times
Annual Report Made by Town Treasurer Harrop

Overexpenditures totaling \$35,384.75 were built up by practically every department in the government of West Warwick last year according to the report of the operation and appropriation accounts of the general fund released today by Robert J. Harrop, town treasurer. The town treasurer also released copies of his complete report today, which will be handed to taxpayers at the financial town meeting Tuesday. The statements of the cumulative deficit, town debt and the controversial miscellaneous accounts can be found in full on page two. Taxpayers at budget hearings and town meetings have consistently asked for a breakdown of the miscellaneous account and this year it is included in the treasurer's report. Parking meter receipts were again last year transferred to the sewer assessment fund. Of the \$23,831.00 in the parking meter receipts fund last year, \$21,799.89 was transferred to the sewer assessment fund, \$1751.11 went to other funds and \$280 was repaid to the sewer assessment fund. Parking meter receipts from Phenix amounted to \$1751.11 last year and this amount, coupled with fund balance of \$116.87, Mar. 1, 1956, was divided. The sum of \$990 went to the sewer assessment fund and \$875.57 went to the payment of the meters. There is a balance of \$2,411.11. Post-war Capital The post-war capital improvement fund amounts to \$208,034.77.

The town gained \$1,225 in interest on this account last year. It is made up of \$59,069.77 cash in banks and \$148,965.00 in negotiable securities. The statement of trust and special and capital funds also shows that the \$3076 received by the town as parking meter violation receipts was transferred to the general fund. Total revenue receipts in West Warwick last year amounted to \$1,428,867.03. The total non-revenue receipts amounted to \$998,481.71. The total cash receipts amounted to \$2,417,348.74. Revenue Disbursements Total revenue disbursements amounted to \$1,454,952.89. The total non-revenue disbursements amounted to \$2,416,552.55. The cash balance Feb. 28, 1957 was \$20,040.21. The cash balance Mar. 1, 1956 was \$19,244.02. In addition to the appropriations made by taxpayers at the last financial town meeting, extra receipts to the budget items are listed in the statement of operation and appropriation accounts as follows: telephones, \$12.11; miscellaneous, \$4922.99, district meetings and elections, \$52; taxbook, \$236.50; fire department supplies, \$75; sanitation department supplies, \$32.96; highway supplies, \$4,500; education, state aid, \$143,039.07; libraries, \$500; public welfare, \$36,792.37; state aid; mosquito control, \$1050; Dutch elm disease, \$647; total receipts and other credits amounted to \$101,861.00. (Continued on page 3, col. 3)

Non-revenue receipts totalled \$988,481.71, for a total of \$2,417,348.74 in cash receipts of all kinds, plus a \$19,244.02 cash balance from the previous year. Non-revenue disbursements totalled \$961,599.66, making total cash disbursements of all kinds \$2,416,552.55, leaving the \$20,040.21 cash balance. Composition of a balance of \$208,034.77 in the post war capital improvement fund is \$39,069.77 cash in bank and \$148,965 in securities at cost. Town officials look upon it as worth \$225,000, because, while state auditors list the securities (government bonds) at cost, they now are worth more should they be cashed in. Parking meter collections totaled \$23,092.50 outside of Phenix, where \$1,751.11 was taken in. But \$857.57 of the Phenix meter money had to be paid to the M. H. Rhodes Co., sellers of the meters, whereas the money on the others represented town pure income, as they are paid for.

Overexpenditures by departments and accounts were as follows: Supplies and expense of general government, \$1,211.78; telephones, general government, \$974.17; town hall maintenance, \$145.53; insurance and bonding, \$2,079.75; memorial services, \$525.92; miscellaneous, \$1,503.41; board of canvassers personnel, \$311.96; board of canvassers, district meetings and elections, \$6,785.41 (caused by the necessity of taking the voter census twice). Also, police department personnel, 7,185.95; police supplies, \$306.89; police equipment, \$450; fire department supplies, \$900.21; street lighting, \$544.23; sewer department supplies, \$2,046.97; garbage and rubbish removal supplies, \$1,234.06.

Also, highway personnel, \$4,385.67; highway supplies, \$7,764.20; construction and improvements, \$121.07 (the highway department deficit is blamed on snow storms, including those last March at town meeting time); libraries, \$26.32; teachers' pensions, \$247; interest on tax-anticipation notes, \$4,482.50; mosquito control, \$125.22; Dutch elm disease, \$1,280; replacement of highway truck, \$30.

The report set the town's gross debt at \$1,552,000, a reduction of \$77,000 from a year ago. Long-term debt actually was cut by \$102,000, but short term debt increased by \$25,000, resulting in the \$77,000 gross debt reduction.

The final payment on junior high school bonds that cost \$15,000 a year, plus interest, was made during the year. Bonds costing \$9,000 a year will be completely paid up when the final payment is made next July.

Another issue of school bonds, floated originally to finance the high school addition, costs \$3,000 a year plus interest and will be paid completely in 1958, after two more payments.

The sewer assessment fund during the year received \$55,522.80 from sewer assessment collections, plus about \$23,000 from parking meter money, which is being allocated to it to help pay off sewer debt. If parking meter money were not so used, the sewer tax would be almost confiscatory, officials have said.

Mr. Harrop's report this year carries a special page explaining the miscellaneous account, a favorite for questioning by taxpayers. It lists an appropriation of \$3,500, additional receipts of \$4,922.99 and disbursements of \$9,926.40, for a total overdraw of \$1,503.41.

Expenditures from miscellaneous include \$2,862.44 for parking meter upkeep; \$1,773.24 for conducting polio clinics; and a \$717.25 item titled miscellaneous under miscellaneous, which includes \$350 paid in a settlement of a personal injury court case brought against the town.

W. Warwick Votes Record \$1,237,162 Budget

Bulletin March 20, 1957
 West Warwick taxpayers, in a five hour and 10-minute annual town meeting that ended at 12:10 a.m. today adopted a record \$1,237,162 budget, including \$18,000 in non-recurring items, but voted down alternate proposals to use a post-war fund of \$225,000.

Peter Diachun, veterans' council representative, was the spark plug on a successful drive to turn down proposals that the post-war capital improvement money be used to build either a combination police and fire station, or just a fire station.

He argued that the veterans 10 years ago voted in a poll in favor of a combination town hall, police and fire station as a memorial and that the administration's warrant last night did not allow a vote on it.

He received support from Charles J. Bourgault, who successfully moved that Judge James W. Leighton, moderator, name a committee to make a study and report back to a special town meeting to be held no later than May 15 on costs of several possibilities.

Mr. Diachun suggested the committee report back on what would be needed to build the combination building the veterans want, plus a combination police and fire station, or a fire station alone. In addition, he said, voters should have a chance to decide whether they prefer to leave the fund intact, as they did two years ago.

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis said after the meeting he fears the action may knock out any possible improvement. If the combination town hall, police and fire station proposed for the site of the present police station is to be approved, it would probably cost up toward \$1,000,000 and require a bond issue, he said.

Such a bond issue would mean a tax raise, not required with last night's budget, and the bond issue would also require General Assembly legislation to authorize it, he said.

Special Committee
 Named to the special committee by Judge Leighton were Mr. Diachun, Dr. M. Irene Guertin, former Democratic Rep. Horace L. Petrarca, Clarence J. Coutu, Leo B. Charbonneau, Republican town chairman; William F. Moorehead and former Republican Lt. Gov. James O. McManus.

An appropriation of \$27,000 as the town's share to establish a police and firemen's pension and give veteran Sgt. Edward J. Jalbert a special, separate \$2,000 pension yearly went through after an unexpected turn of events.

Thomas H. Quinn, son of the late Col. Patrick H. Quinn, long-time town Democratic leader, unsuccessfully tried to amend the appropriation upward by \$30,000 to give a pension to all town employees. He made much of the fact that the pension study committee headed by Hector Gilman had recommended the town try to join four other communities and join the state pension system for all workers.

However, it was explained that the police and firemen did not like that plan's system of retirement at 58 with social security figured in arriving at the equivalent of half pay. The plan which the Town Council proposes to adopt with \$25,000 of the money appropriated last night was explained by former Rep. Thaddeus M. Kraus, who said it would retire men at age 60, or after at least 10 years' service on half pay exclusive of social security.

Mr. McManus, attorney for police and firemen, explained that an enabling act passed by the General Assembly authorizes the Council to set up a plan only for the police and firemen, as the only permanent town employees. He said the men wanted their own version of a plan, town-operated, but now are agreeable to a private insurance plan such as Mr. Kraus' company, John Hancock Co., proposes.

Mr. Charbonneau supported the pension appropriation. However, he said he could give Francis J. Fazzano, council president, names of at least five other insurance firms interested in bidding.

Judge Leighton recommended that the special \$2,000-a-year pension voted for Sergeant Jalbert be passed also by a general assembly enabling act. It would give more assurance of its being voted by town meeting each year, he said. Mr. DeCiantis praised the sergeant's nearly 38 years of service to the town. He said the pension would amount to slightly more than half pay.

Mr. Coutu startled the administration when he moved to increase the fire supplies item by \$35,000 to purchase a long-sought aerial ladder truck.

That was one of several proposed changes in the administration-recommended budget that would have necessitated an adjourned town meeting vote seven days later, had their proponents persisted in them and the administration opposed.

Mr. Coutu dropped the aerial ladder amendment when the fire station proposal was defeated later. Mr. DeCiantis said Fire Chief Lionel P. Gareau had said he wanted the station first in order to have place to house the truck.

Charles J. Bourgault proposed a \$3,000 increase in the highway budget, one of several budget items he termed unrealistic on the basis of expenditures last year. However,

he dropped the move after Mr. DeCiantis convinced him that Highway Commissioner Henry J. Petrarca thought the budget large enough.

To avoid putting the comparatively small item over to an adjourned town meeting, the administration went along with Mr. Bourgault and increased the street lighting item by \$1,000, only such increase voted all night. Mr. Bourgault pointed out it would be more in keeping with what was spent last year and the fact that new plats require more lights.

Lionel Coutu tried to amend the town officers' salary account upward by \$1,400 to give Building Inspector Willie J. Regnaire an increase. Mr. Fazzano called on him to get Mr. Regnaire to agree that the idea be withdrawn and he did so. Mr. Fazzano said the only raises this year were for a few clerks receiving under \$40 a week.

Non-recurring items approved include: \$8,000 repairs to Pulaski Street bridge; \$9,000 for a new ambulance and \$1,000 for a boiler at the town hall.

Several police officers voted against the combination police and fire station and the separate fire station. Many in both departments have expressed a preference for separate stations.

Former Representative Petrarca amended the resolution creating the capital improvement study committee to provide that it look into the feasibility and cost of buying the Hector Gilman land on Main Street.

The meeting opened on a more harmonious note than last year, when there was an hour-long battle for moderator, with Judge Leighton winning over Norman E. Gillespie. Last night, Judge Leighton was elected without opposition. Mr. Gillespie and Mr. Charbonneau seconded his nomination by Mr. DeCiantis, and Mr. Charbonneau praised him as impartial and an outstanding citizen.

A half-hour delay came when Mr. Charbonneau and others protested they could not hear speakers. The meeting recessed a half-hour while Mr. Charbonneau and other Republicans went out and borrowed a public address system.

The meeting approved transfer of town-owned land and a house off Wyman Street to Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Caswell, in a trade for their house and land on Main Street. It also approved, despite a tabling attempt by Mr. Gillespie, a proposal that the school committee buy for about \$2,000 a 10-foot strip of land 323 feet long from Mr. and Mrs. Harold Thistlewaite.

Mr. Gillespie said he thought the price of the Thistlewaite land was too high. However, Mr. DeCiantis said the Caswell and Thistlewaite land will permit a 50-foot wide entrance into the practically isolated new school site. Harry F. McKanna Jr. expalined the property transaction.

Money for the Thistlewaite land is to come out of a \$1,200,000 school and playground bond issue.

The meeting approved a tax resolution calling for a levy of not less than \$1,020,000 and not more than \$1,106,000.

The 473 taxpayers checked in at the meeting thinned to a small number by midnight, when the administration presented numerous standard resolutions. One of them again gives the town council power to grant 10-year tax exemptions on manufacturing property of new firms at its discretion.

The meeting voted to accept provisions of the state Workmen's Compensation Act and appropriated \$5,000 to pay highway, garbage collection, sewer and certain other workers when they are out of work because of injuries on the job. Mr. Bourgault spoke for the workers, who passed out leaflets at the door urging taxpayer approval of the measure.

Mr. Charbonneau asked about enrolling the men under the Cash Sickness Act, something also asked by Mr. Bourgault. Mr. Fazzano said it does not require town meeting approval and the town council is working on it.

Mr. Charbonneau asked Mrs. Amy S. Chinat, tax collector, whether residents on four streets given sewers but not assessed for them are being assessed now. Mrs. Chinat said an assessment would be made in the fall.

He asked whether it is possible there are others, including houses, not assessed but enjoying sewer service. Mrs. Chinat said it was and said she would look into it.

When Miss Agnes Coogan presented the insurance report, Mr. Bourgault said information on town insurance should be publicly available at the town hall. Town Treasurer Robert J. Harrop said the policies are all in the safe at his office.

Norman E. Gillespie questioned why the administration had Vincent Murray, court stenographer, take a verbatim report of the meeting. Mr. DeCiantis said it was easier on Town Clerk Susan V. Lamb and her deputy, Mrs. Margaret E. Conlon.

Mr. Diachun questioned a \$300 service memorial item. Mr. Harrop said \$200 of it went to Camp McGregor for what he thought was a tribute to Spanish American War veterans. Dr. Harry F. McKanna explained it was for a tribute to Civil War veterans, who's graves are decorated by Camp McGregor, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Mortimer W. Newton, canvassers chairman, assured Mr. Charbonneau the appropriation for district meetings will be enough to finance a special referendum on a non-partisan, off-year school committee election bill, should it be signed into law.

Clarence Coutu said the town owed \$25,000 more in tax notes than a year ago and would have

Budget Adopted By W. Warwick Town Meeting

The budget adopted for the 1957-58 fiscal year in West Warwick follows:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:	
Town Officers	\$ 29,500.00
Clerical, Town Hall	22,520.00
Supplies & Expense	4,500.00
Service Memorial	300.00
Telephones	2,300.00
Town Hall Maintenance	1,500.00
Insurance & Bonding	12,500.00
Memorial Services	2,000.00
Miscellaneous	3,500.00
Board of Canvassers:	
Personnel	3,940.00
Supplies	75.00
District Meetings & Elections	2,000.00
Tax Book	1,750.00
PROTECTION:	
Police—Personnel	106,439.20
Supplies	14,286.00
Equipment	2,500.00
Ambulance	100.00
Fire—Personnel	101,864.00
Supplies	13,800.00
Hydrants	20,000.00
Street Lighting	32,000.00
SANITATION:	
Sewer—Personnel	32,220.00
Supplies	21,110.37
Garbage & Rubbish—Personnel	24,234.80
Supplies	5,876.00
HIGHWAY:	
Maintenance—Personnel	\$9,779.20
Supplies	26,000.00
Construction & Improvements	10,000.00
Sidewalk Construction	2,500.00
PENSIONS:	
Police & Fire	27,000.00
EDUCATION:	
Schools	422,236.83
Libraries	3,800.00
Teachers' Pensions	13,056.00
PUBLIC WELFARE:	15,000.00
DEBT SERVICE:	
Bond & Note Retirement—Sewer & School	87,000.00
Int. on Bonds & Notes—Sewer & School	36,440.00
Int. on Tax Notes	8,000.00
Bond Anticipation Note Interest	9,750.00
HEALTH ACTIVITIES:	
Mosquito Control	3,300.00
P. V. Visiting Nurses	2,500.00
Kent County Memorial Hospital	5,000.00
OTHER:	
Southern R.I. Farm Bureau	300.00
Playgrounds & Recreation	8,000.00
Social Security	9,800.00
Dutch Elm	1,000.00
Workmen's Compensation	5,000.00

TOTAL BUDGET	\$1,237,162.00
APPROPRIATIONS	\$1,218,962.00
NON-RECURRING APPROPRIATIONS	
Pulaski Street Bridge	8,000.00
Purchase of Ambulance	9,000.00
Boiler—Town Hall	1,000.00
Total non-recurring appropriations	18,000.00
Total operating Budget	\$1,237,162.00

had a tax boost if the administration met the amount needed in taxes. Mr. DeCiantis said it would happen only if the town went "hog wild," and that budget raises under discussion would mean a tax raise. The extra \$25,000 tax notes was caused by overexpenditures, he maintained.

Mr. Charbonneau questioned Mr. Harrop on the sewer assessment fund, which Mr. Harrop's report showed has no balance now. Mr. Harrop said that, besides the approximately \$22,000 from parking meter income, another \$27,000 will have to come from the general fund to pay sewer bond principal and interest this year.

Although Mr. Harrop maintained the fund will become self-liquidating once enough improvements are built along sewer lines and are taxed taxes are assessed, Mr. Charbonneau said it would take about \$8,000,000 in new improvements to make it self-liquidating.

Asked by Mr. Charbonneau when the administration planned to set up new playgrounds, Mr. DeCiantis said sites will be investigated and purchased once the new school cost is known. The money will come out of the \$1,200,000 school bond issue. Mr. Quinn tried to put the vote on the \$25,000 police and fire pension proposal over to an adjourned town meeting, but failed to get the necessary 25 per cent to stand for a ballot vote. His resolution later was defeated on a voice vote.

Judge Leighton ruled Mr. Quinn out of order on his motion to increase the pension fund appropriation by \$30,000 to cover all employees. There is no legislative enabling act covering other than police and firemen, he said.

Mr. Diachun said he thought the town should permit taxpayers to vote on the combination town hall, police and fire station the veterans advocated in the poll 10 years ago.

The town has done nothing for a memorial, he said. He questioned whether the old town hall building, the onetime Pike mansion, might not have to be replaced in a few years at greater cost than if combined now with police and fire stations.

Mr. Bourgault said the town hall was supposed to be a temporary one when it was bought from the Pike family in 1913. He cited inadequacies. Mr. Petrarca said the Gilman property would permit room for a combination building. He also agreed no action should be taken on the new buildings last night. The resolutions on the combined stations and separate fire station went down to defeat in a loud chorus favoring Mr. Diachun's tabling motions.



Judge Leighton, moderator of West Warwick meeting.



Recess huddle is held by (l-r) Francis J. Fazzano, Town Council president; John J. Flynn of Democratic town committee, and Town Solicitor Michael De Giantis.



Republican town chairman Leo D. Charbonneau.

—State Staff Photos by Fred Jordan

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At West Warwick town meeting at which taxpayers voted \$1,237,162 budget—a huddle and an objection to a budget expenditure. At left are (l-r) former Republican town chairman Norman E. Gillespie, John J. Flynn and Council president Francis J. Fazzano. Mrs. A. F. Marsella is the objector.

—State Staff Photo

West Warwick Taxpayers Vote Record \$1,237,162

P.J. March 20, 1957

Police-Fire Station Proposals Rejected; Special Report Asked

West Warwick taxpayers, in a five hour and 10-minute annual town meeting that ended at 12:10 a.m. today adopted a record \$1,237,162 budget, including \$18,000 in non-recurring items, but voted down alternate proposals to use a post-war fund of \$225,000.

Peter Diachun, veterans' council representative, was the spark plug on a successful drive to turn down proposals that the post-war capital improvement money be used to build either a combination police and fire station, or just a fire station.

He argued that the veterans 10 years ago voted in a poll in favor of a combination town hall, police and fire station as a memorial and that the administration's warrant last night did not allow a vote on it.

He received support from Charles J. Bourgault, who successfully moved that Judge James W. Leighton, moderator, name a committee to make a study and report back to a special town meeting to be held no later than May 15 on costs of several possibilities.

Chance to Decide

Mr. Diachun suggested the committee report back on what would be needed to build the combination building the veterans want, plus a combination police and fire station, or a fire station alone. In addition, he said, voters should have a chance to decide whether they prefer to leave the fund intact, as they did two years ago.

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis said after the meeting he fears the action may knock out any possible improvement. If the combination town hall, police and fire station proposed for the site of the present police station is to be approved, it would probably cost up toward \$1,000,000 and require a bond issue, he said.

Such a bond issue would mean a tax raise, not required with last night's budget, and the bond issue would also require General Assembly legislation to authorize it, he said.

Special Committee

Named to the special committee by Judge Leighton were Mr. Diachun, Dr. M. Irene Guertin, former Democratic Rep. Horace L. Petrarca, Clarence J. Coutu, Leo B. Charbonneau, Republican town chairman; William F. Moorehead and former Republican Lt. Gov. James O. McManus. An appropriation of \$27,000 as the town's share to establish a police and firemen's pension and give veteran Sgt. Edward J. Jalbert a special, separate \$2,000

pension yearly went through after encountering an unexpected turn of events.

Thomas H. Quinn, son of the late Col. Patrick H. Quinn, longtime town Democratic leader, unsuccessfully tried to amend the appropriation upward by \$30,000 to give a pension to all town employes. He made much of the fact that the pension study committee headed by Hector Gilman had recommended the town try to join four other communities and join the state pension system for all workers.

However, it was explained that the police and firemen did not like that plan's system of retirement at 58 with social security figured in arriving at the equivalent of half pay. The plan which the Town Council proposes to adopt with \$25,000 of the money appropriated last night was explained by former Rep. Thaddeus M. Kraus, who said it would retire men at age 60, or after at least 10 years' service on half pay exclusive of social security.

Mr. McManus, attorney for police and firemen, explained that an enabling act passed by the General Assembly authorizes the Council to set up a plan only for the police and firemen, as the only permanent town employes. He said the men wanted their own version of a plan, town-operated, but now are agreeable to a private insurance plan such as Mr. Kraus' company, John Hancock Co., proposes.

Budget Adopted In W. Warwick

The budget adopted for the 1957-58 fiscal year in West Warwick follows:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:	
Town Officers	23,900.00
Clerical, Town Hall ..	22,820.00
Supplies & Expense	4,500.00
Service Memorial	300.00
Telephones	3,300.00
Town Hall Maintenance ..	1,500.00
Memorial Services	2,000.00
Miscellaneous	3,500.00
Board of Canvassers:	
Personnel	3,040.00
Supplies	75.00
District Meetings & Elections	2,000.00
Tax Book	1,750.00
PROTECTION:	
Police—Personnel	106,439.20
Supplies	14,285.00
Equipment	2,500.00
Ambulance	100.00
Fire—Personnel	101,684.00
Supplies	13,800.00
Hydrants	20,000.00
Street Lighting	32,000.00
SANITATION:	
Sewer—Personnel	32,220.00
Supplies	21,110.37
Garbage & Rubbish—Personnel	26,234.80
Supplies	8,876.00
HIGHWAYS:	
Maintenance—Personnel ..	59,779.20
Supplies	26,000.00
Construction & Improvement	10,000.00
Statewide Construction ..	2,500.00
PENSIONS:	
Police & Fire	27,000.00
EDUCATION:	
Schools	422,820.83
Libraries	3,800.00
Teachers' Pensions	13,684.00
PUBLIC WELFARE:	
Bond & Note Retirement, Sewer & School	87,000.00
Int. on Bonds & Notes, Sewer & School	36,440.00
Int. on Tax Notes	8,000.00
Bond Anticipation Note Interest	9,750.00
HEALTH ACTIVITIES:	
Mosquito Control	3,500.00
P. V. Visiting Nurses	2,500.00
Kent County Memorial Hospital	5,000.00
OTHER:	
Southern R.I. Farm Bureau	300.00
Playgrounds & Recreation	8,000.00
Social Security	9,800.00
Dutch Elm	1,000.00
Workmen's Compensation ..	5,000.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$1,219,862.00
NON-RECURRING APPROPRIATIONS:	
Pulaski Street Bridge	8,000.00
Purchase of Ambulance	9,000.00
Boiler—Town Hall	1,000.00
Total non-recurring appropriations	18,000.00
Total operating Budget ..	\$1,237,162.00

Accuser Accused

Report on Untaxed House Boomerangs

P.J. March 21, 1957

One of several untaxed properties discovered by West Warwick Republicans and reported to the town's Democratic administration for action appeared last night to have boomeranged on the GOP.

Chairman Hermenegilde J. Nadeau of the board of tax assessors, a Democrat, said a house mentioned by Leo B. Charbonneau, GOP chairman, at the annual town meeting Tuesday was actually built in 1947 during the last town Republican administration.

In the last campaign the Republicans uncovered four streets that reportedly received sewers but were not assessed a sewer tax. The administration is considering them and will probably add them in a new assessment in the fall. Mrs. Amy S. Chinat, tax collector, told the town meeting.

Concerning the additional house not taxed, Mr. Nadeau looked it up yesterday from Mr. Charbonneau's information and said he found a building permit issued the latter part of 1946 and that the house was built in 1947. Democrats were out of office then.

No House Tax

"We didn't put it in until the bank called this year," Mr. Nadeau said. "The owner was paying a tax on the land but not on the house, and the bank wondered why the tax was so small."

He said assessors couldn't charge the owner for the back taxes the town missed, but that the owner will now be assessed for both real estate and sewer taxes on the house.

It's not the first time something like that has happened, Mr. Nadeau said.

He said he had found one house in Phenix in 1949 that had been built 50 years before and had never been taxed. Another woman had two houses and was taxed only for one, he said. Again, in 1950, he said he discovered a house built in 1947 that had not been taxed and added it to the rolls.

Normally, assessors pick up leads on new buildings when the building inspector gives them a duplicate of his building permits.

Wonders Why

Apprised of Mr. Nadeau's finding on the house, Mr. Charbonneau said it had been sold within the last three years and he wondered why Mr. Nadeau had not picked it up when a deed with tax stamps passed through his office.

"Am I to understand at that time he was unable to tell from reading the deed that there was a building on that property?" Mr. Charbonneau asked.

He said he also believes the assessors had a full report on all property at the time of the \$25,000 property revaluation two years ago. "Am I to understand that these fellows did not see a house when they made the survey?" he asked.

"Am I also to understand that, if we had not discovered the four streets with sewers and no sewer assessment, the Democratic administration would not have discovered them for years?" he continued. "Speaking of these assessments, I will be interested and will personally check (the manner in which they are assessed).

"I can understand that an error can be made, but I was looking for an admission and not an excuse for passing the buck. I have no quarrel with Mr. Nadeau or his staff."

LaChapelle Files 3 Bills, Seeks Pension for Officer

Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle (D-West Warwick) yesterday introduced three bills and announced his intention of getting a bill authorizing a \$2,000 annual town pension for Police Sgt. Edward J. Jalbert out of committee as soon as possible.

One bill would add New London Turnpike, from Greenbush Road to the Coventry town line, to the state highway system.

Another asks the director of state public works to rebuild Legris Avenue from Veterans' Square to New London Avenue during the next fiscal year.

The third bill would appropriate \$200 to pay a World War II bonus to Lt. Col. James J. Desonie of 41 Greene St., West Warwick.

All three measures were referred to the Senate finance committee.

Senator LaChapelle said he is pleased to see that Judge James W. Leighton, while serving as moderator of the annual town meeting Tuesday night, had asserted the bill on Sergeant Jalbert's pension is needed to assure its being appropriated annually.

When he first introduced it, the senator recalled, Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis and Deputy Sheriff Alfred Richard, democratic town chairman, had looked upon it as unnecessary.

At one time it was thought the sergeant's pension would come out of a regular pension plan in which all police and firemen are to be enrolled. However, it was decided that the sergeant, being eligible for immediate retirement, should be taken care of separately by an annual \$2,000 appropriation to pay him \$166.66 a month. The town meeting voted the money Tuesday.



Bids for new West Warwick elementary school are opened at school building committee meeting. Around table starting with man back to camera are: Lorenzo

Bergeron, Miss C. Loretta Nolan, Mrs. Augustus F. Marsella, Vincent J. Lukowicz, chairman, Anthony Paliotta and Frank Traficante, architect.

1-Day Rule Delays Valley Bonds Bill

A bill that would authorize West Warwick to issue \$500,000 in capital improvement bonds that was supposed to have been introduced in both Houses of the General Assembly yesterday was held up by the one-day notice rule that unanimous consent for introduction is to be sought.

Leo B. Charbonneau, West Warwick Republican chairman, who drafted the bill with support of Clarence J. Coutu, said it is slated for introduction today, if unanimous consent can be obtained. The \$500,000 would cover money needed above the \$225,000 available already in a town improvement fund, in the event taxpayers vote for a combination town hall, police and fire station next May. The measure carries a referendum rider.

\$589,389 Lowest Bid Submitted On New School in W. Warwick

F. W. Johnson Construction Co. of East Providence was low bidder with a base figure of \$589,389 last night, when the West Warwick School Building Committee opened 14 bids on its proposed 20-room consolidated elementary school to be erected in Crompton.

Frank Traficante of East Providence, architect, said he will study the bid and probably three other low bids to determine financial stability of the firms, accuracy of estimates and bonding credentials and make a recommendation sometime next week.

The bids pleased the building committee and architect, inasmuch as it had been estimated at one time the school might cost as much as \$750,000. The one-story school will have a combination cafeteria and auditorium, generally called an all-purpose room, and several offices, including a health suite.

Second low bidder was Dona-

telli Building Co., North Providence, with a base bid of \$599,876. There was less than \$300 difference between the third and fourth low bidders, Nils Johnson, Inc., Warwick, at \$602,564, and E. Turgeon Construction Co., Inc., of Providence at \$602,816.

Other bids were: Nanni Buildings Co., North Providence, \$603,200; Argentieri Construction Co., Providence, \$606,085; O. Ahlberg & Sons, Inc., of Cranston, \$617,900; Hope Building Co., Inc., Providence, \$627,000; H. V. Collins Co., Providence, \$626,690; F. N. Gustafson & Sons, Inc., Providence, \$628,996; Di Meo Construction Co., Providence, \$632,000; H. M. Soule Co., Pawtucket, \$636,363; M. G. Allen & Associates, Inc., Warwick, \$652,852; and Coleman Construction Co., Providence, \$654,000.

All of the bidders also bid on several alternates in the type of construction in various phases of

the building, but it was indicated that the F. W. Johnson & Son Co. would still come out low if they are considered.

It is hoped that ground will be broken for the new school next month. It is expected to be finished about the middle of next year and be ready for occupancy in September, 1958.

Dr. Richard P. Duffy, school committee chairman, told fellow building committee members that the town administration plans to borrow on bond anticipation notes and issue the bonds themselves when the interest rate is lower. Leonard F. Hennessey, a committee member and banker, said interest is high now.

As chairman of the building committee, Vincent J. Lukowicz opened the bids before a packed Council chamber. Most of those present were contractors' representatives.

Howard Johnson of the low-bidding firm said it is now working on the Riverside Elementary School, designed by Mr. Traficante. The firm has also built Kent Heights School, East Providence, and St. Margaret's School and Convent, Rumford.

It appeared that total cost of the school will run over \$700,000, however. Besides the general contract price, there are to be added such expenses as furnishings, said to average about 10 per cent on top of the basic cost; the architect's fee and other expenses.

In addition a strip of land costing about \$2,000 is to be bought to help provide an adequate school entrance from Main Street.

Mr. Traficante believes money can be saved in schools by lowering the ceilings and thus cutting down the cube. He said he has 828 square feet in the proposed classrooms, however.

Among the alternates in last night's bids was one to install rubbercrete terrazzo floors throughout the building, in place of asphalt tile. Mr. Traficante said he would recommend the change and that it requires less maintenance. The low bidder would add \$11,500 to his base bid to make the change.

If the building committee wants to save on paneling, an alternate in plywood, instead of the specified oak, would reduce the low bid by \$4,200 and others, such as E. Turgeon Company's bid by as much as \$6,275.

PTA Council Told How To Start Charter Study

Bulletin March 22, 1957

West Warwick PTA Council last night heard an explanation from Republican leaders of the manner in which 15 per cent of town meeting voters may petition the Town Council for election of a charter commission under the home rule amendment to the state constitution. Leo B. Charbonneau, GOP chairman, accompanied by Gilbert R. Dubuc and Arthur Herbert of the special GOP committee to explain the plan to some 30 civic organizations, outlined the necessary moves.

Mr. Charbonneau stressed that the GOP wants the charter petition drive to be nonpartisan and that he and his committee members would not serve on any board of officers that representatives of 30 civic units might name to push the charter petition drive.

He also stressed that the petition would be for an election to name a nine-member charter commission only. Then the commission would hold open meetings, study the town government and other forms of government, and make recommendations that would go before the voters for approval or rejection by a year later, he said.

Anyone may seek election to the charter commission, Mr. Charbonneau said, adding that membership on it would not be just for members of political organizations.

The PTA Council also backed up its steering committee by voting to send letters similar to those the committee has already sent to state officials, asking support for the non-partisan, off-year school committee election bill. The legislation now is reposing in the corporations committees of both houses, after joint introduction by Sen. Francis J. LaChapelle (D-West Warwick) and Rep. Luke J. Smith (R-West Warwick).

In addition, the council will send a plea to the town council to back up the school bill, Francis J. Fazzano, council president, has expressed opposition to it.

Named to a nominating committee were Mrs. Leo Smith, Mrs. Robert Tucker, and Mrs. Peter Krawczuk. It was announced a PTA car wash will be held tomorrow at Altrui's Texaco station, Westcott. Miss Ellen Perkins submitted new by-laws to be voted on in May.

It was decided that member units will not hold a joint installation this year. Lionel Cardin, membership chairman, reported that all units have 100 per cent teacher membership except the junior high school.

Plans were made to attend the state convention April 24 and 25 in Warwick Veterans Memorial High School, and a dinner April 25 at Rhodes.

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'Pop' Jalbert Calls It a Career After 38 Years

P-J. March 23, 1957

STORY AND PICTURE BY JOHN B. LAKE JR.

Sgt. Edward J. (Pop) Jalbert of West Warwick police hung up the nightstick yesterday.

The senior member of the Pawtucket Valley town's force became the first West Warwick employe ever to go on pension.

On hand to regale him and each other with stories of his exploits from November, 1916, on through the big Valley textile strike of 1922, the hectic hijacking days of prohibition and routine police work that was sometimes tough when he was a one-man police force were town officials and fellow officers.

Pop didn't know what was coming until near quitting time at 4 p.m. when Capt. Henry F. Miller Jr. ushered him upstairs to the police recreation room. Who had slipped up the backstairs and waited to greet him there but the whole force, Town Solicitor Michael De Ciantis and Francis J. Fazzano, town council president.

A staff of chefs and waiters drove up from the Club 400 with a spaghetti and meatball dinner with all that went with that filling repast. Pop's face spread wide in a big smile.

His boys weren't just going to let him walk out unnoticed.

There was Patrolman Manuel Simas, Police Beneficial Association president, with a handsome angler's outfit — rod, reel, box of special flies and all—from the men. Patrolman Charles Chagnon, the president of West Warwick Lodge, Fraternal Order of Po-

lice, added a gift certificate from the F. O. P.

So the affair wouldn't get too darned serious — because there was a trace of a tear in the old sergeant's eye at leaving after 38½ years' service — they began to tell some stories on him.

Past Recalled

Captain Miller recalled the time one of the six police chiefs under whom he has served sent him to Canada to bring back a prisoner. It seems Pop got stranded and was broke at that, in Boston. Undaunted, he just pulled the nearest police call box.

But, and here the captain chuckled, when the paddy wagon drove up, they tossed Pop and his prisoner in. Fortunately, an officer at headquarters remembered Pop from a Knights of Columbus meeting in Arctic a few years before. He loaned him some money, and Pop was able to get back to West Warwick with his man.

Then Patrolman Carroll Wilcox told one the boys knew was a big fib. He said when Pop was the whole police force a tough reveller threatened to lick Pop if he took off his badge. "So Pop says you will, will you, and takes off his badge, and the fellow licks him."

There were guffaws all around at that one, because, while Pop is a courteous, well-liked officer, he was forced to knock a few lawbreaking heads over the years. It's part of the job when you're outnumbered.

However, he admitted he



More than 38 years on the West Warwick police force behind him, Sgt. Edward J. Jalbert cuts his cake at impromptu dinner held for him in the station by fellow officers and town officials as he closed his last day. Seated are Michael De Ciantis, town solicitor, and Capt. Henry F. Miller Jr.

—State Staff Photo

was stoned by strikers at one of the Valley mills during the big 1922 strike. Later, the strikers apologized and thereafter he was their favorite and could keep order with just a word.

He was out-gunned once when he surprised three hijackers making off with \$10,000 worth of bootleg liquor on Brookside Avenue during prohibition, though. Masked thieves got the jump on him and slugged him—even took his gun away while holding two guns on him. They gave it back to him—unloaded.

When young patrolmen today complain about their duties, Pop can't understand it—nice, warm cruiser cars, short beats and everything much

better than when he trudged the town all alone, ringing in from his call boxes regularly.

Pop has been on the force continuously since 1916, except during the Republican regime of 1946-48, when he ran a grocery store. In 1920 a Republican-dominated police commission wanted to oust him, but the businessmen liked him and got them to keep him on.

Aided Newcomers

The senior policeman of West Warwick has been a great help over the years when members of the large Franco-American population in the town want to talk to a French-speaking officer. He has been a Godsend to many a troubled resident not long down from Canada.

Technically, Pop will be using up two weeks of vacation in the next two weeks.

Then he goes on pension, voted by taxpayers last week. He might miss the old stamper later, but for now he's going to be busy getting his fishing room summer home he built himself on Johnson's Pond, Coventry, in shape for the summer's fishing and lazing in the sun.

As he headed that way yesterday afternoon, there were good words ringing in his ears, including those of Mr. De Ciantis, who said, "I think I express the sentiment of every man and woman in our town. You've been a good man — a good officer."

\$589,389 Is Low Bid Of 14 on 20-Room School in Crompton

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recommendation sometime next week.

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that the town administration plans to borrow on bond anticipation notes and issue the bonds themselves when the interest rate is lower, Leonard F. Hennessey, a committee member and banker, said interest is high now.

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P.S. March 23, 1957

Assembly Gets Bond Bills

Okay Would Pave Way for Building Police-Fire Station

Bills authorizing West Warwick to issue \$500,000 in bonds for construction were introduced in the General Assembly yesterday to pave the financial way should taxpayers vote to build a combination police-fire station and town hall at a May 22 referendum.

The two identical bills were introduced in the Senate by Sen. Francis J. La Chapelle (D-West Warwick) and in the House by Rep. Luke J. Smith (R-West Warwick) and were referred to the corporations committees of each branch.

Expenditure of \$225,000 available from the town's post war capital improvements fund for a combination police and fire station or a fire station alone was disapproved at Tuesday's financial town meeting to await the report of a committee appointed to investigate costs of the combined unit at a special town meeting before May 15.

The committee meets tomorrow at 8 p.m. at the home of committeeman Clarence J. Coutu, who pushed the legislation to give the town a total of \$750,000 to work with should voters choose the combined unit.

P.S. March 23, 1957

Pension Bill Okayed For Police Sergeant

The Senate yesterday passed and sent to the House a bill validating action in Tuesday's West Warwick financial town meeting which provided a lifetime pension for veteran police Sgt. Edward J. (Pop) Jalbert.

The bill was reported by the corporations committee as a substitute for one originally introduced by Sen. Francis J. La Chapelle (D-West Warwick) and was taken up at once under unanimous consent and passed on his motion.

Sgt. Jalbert, after 38 years service on the force, is scheduled to retire in April.

P.S. March 24, 1957

Is West Warwick on Fiscal Whirl? DeCiantis Doesn't Think So

By JOHN B. LAKE Jr.

Is West Warwick on a fiscal merry-go-round with town administration leaders unwilling to pay the fare so it can get off?

That's what some students of town finances are wondering. But Town Solicitor Michael De Ciantis, Democratic administration leader, says it's not so — that it's just a question of policy.

The policy appears to have been to let the cumulative deficit build up, rather than risk taxpayers' displeasure by raising taxes to get on a pay-as-you-go basis.

However, Mr. De Ciantis said yesterday that he and Francis J. Fazzano, Town Council president, have really laid the law down to department heads this year about going into the red.

By next year there should be some money left from town income after expenses are met to begin whittling down the deficit, they hope.

That has been the hope the past two years, but it hasn't come true. Each year the administration started out budgeting money to be used to start paying off tax notes, but each year what came in was insufficient.

The cumulative deficit, which was \$152,000 last Feb. 23, up from \$141,565.99 the year before, is represented largely in tax anticipation notes. Meanwhile, the annual interest on such notes — they totalled \$175,000 outstanding as of last Feb. 23 — has gone up so that an interest item of \$1,000 in the 1953 budget now stands at \$8,000 in the budget approved by last week's annual town meeting.

If the town is still unable to husband enough from its income to begin reducing the cumulative deficit, he still would be against trying to pay the \$152,000 or more off by an appropriation of that amount next year, Mr. De Ciantis said.

Such an action would require a tax increase, he said. Who can tell whether departments might not run deficits again the next year, starting the indebtedness merry-go-round all over again, he said.

He admitted, as the man who has done most of the budget work for the Council, that the administration is concerned over the mounting deficit and, "it can't go any farther. It has to be paid off."

Because he wants to avoid a tax increase, it may become necessary to go into a short term funding bond issue to pay off the deficit, Mr. De Ciantis said.

However, he said department heads, who often cannot help their overspending, just as a housewife sometimes cannot avoid it, are out to live within their budgets this year if at all possible.

Also, he said, the new budget is based on estimated collection of \$752,000 in 1957 taxes, or about 73 per cent of the levy, within the 1957-58 fiscal year. It is possible 75 per cent might come in, and the difference would be applied on the note indebtedness, he said.

The entire assessment is never received within any fiscal year, because only the first two quarterly payments come in before the fiscal year ends Feb. 28.

The administration's troubles stem to a great extent from the \$1,200,000 sewer extension of 1952-53. To have assessed a sewer tax sufficient to pay off sewer bond principal and interest would have been almost confiscatory, so much of the required money is now coming from general funds. Town Treasurer Robert J. Harrop estimates that, aside from about \$22,000 from parking meter income allocated to sewer bond payments, about \$27,000 from general revenue will be needed this year.

Troubles began in 1952 when police received 20 per cent salary raises and the administration began using funds from what was then a \$315,000 surplus in the town treasury. That year \$29,000 was taken from surplus to pay for school repairs, sewer bond interest and a traffic survey.

In 1953, the police and firemen's work week was cut. An unbalanced budget used up \$146,308 of surplus the town had going into the annual town meeting.

That year, Mr. De Ciantis said that he hoped, by using surplus funds and borrowing in anticipa-



Michael De Ciantis

tion of taxes, a tax raise could be put off. Borrowing in anticipation of taxes was something new then, as the town had always used its own surplus funds until tax money came in about fall each year.

In the 1953 budget \$15,000 of the surplus was used for school improvements, \$7,000 for a new garbage truck, and \$10,000 was appropriated from it for new bleacher seats and other facilities at the town athletic field.

It was that year that state auditors criticized town departments for overspending their budgets and said budgeting is "ineffective unless various departments confine-

their expenditures within limits set by their respective appropriations."

The 1953 fiscal operations resulted in a raise in the tax rate from \$22.50 a thousand dollars valuation to \$25 a thousand.

Came 1954 and there was a budget with a deficit of \$141,000. Fiscal students such as Charles J. Bourgault and John J. Flynn said they knew it would be unpopular but it appeared taxes would have to be raised to get on a current basis. The town was spending above its income, they warned.

Mr. De Ciantis said he thought the town would be aided when certain outstanding school bonds were paid up within a few years and the money used to pay on them annually would be available for other things.

Meanwhile a \$25,000 revaluation was accomplished but shelved in 1955, after town officials had indicated they were waiting for it to equalize all valuations before raising taxes for anything. The assessors made their own tax adjustments, involving minimum 10 per cent raises, increasing values of older homes up to \$1,500 and more plus the overall 10 per cent, and putting a big increase on commercial inventory valuations. Homes built since 1950 were given a flat 10 per cent boost.

Some deficits are unavoidable, Mr. De Ciantis said. He cited the \$12,000 in the highway department this year, caused by unexpected snow removal costs. Normally the highway deficit is small, he said. The police department had to hire men when others were out sick, increasing the payroll and the deficit to \$7,000, he said.

If it is still impossible to save enough this year, with departments tightening their belts as much as they can, it might be possible to make an outright appropriation next year to reduce note indebtedness by one-half or one-quarter "so taxpayers won't be hurt," Mr. De Ciantis feels.

"There is no question but that the financial condition of this town is wonderful. Nobody can question that," he said of the overall picture. "The one thing that has to be a sixth grade post at Cowesett Avenue School, and Mrs. Catherine Hand was appointed to teach it. But we had to have the sewers. Even though it was costly."

"I liken the budget to a budget of a housewife," he said. "She leaves, informed the board he had decided to remain in the Armed Forces, the report said. Then, during the week, she finds she hasn't got enough. Something happens and she finds she needs something for which she doesn't have the money. But I have faith our town will ever be in any financial difficulty," he concluded.

W. Warwick School Report Lists Activities in '56-'57

The annual West Warwick School Committee report lists several improvements made during the past year.

They include purchase of a new bus; installation of a new stainless steel sink at the junior high cafeteria; sealing and refinishing of floors in the junior high gym; repair of floors at Providence Street School.

Also, installation of additional sewer pipes at the junior high school and installation of new grates in furnaces of Main Street and New London Avenue schools.

Under the heading of personnel, the report notes Miss Louise

Archambault was granted a year's leave to teach in Japan and that Mrs. Elizabeth Lague replaced her.

Mrs. Jean Tattrie was appointed to a sixth grade post at Cowesett Avenue School, and Mrs. Catherine Hand was appointed to teach an additional fifth grade there.

Arthur De Tonnancourt, former teacher who had been granted a leave, informed the board he had decided to remain in the Armed Forces, the report said.

Mrs. Barbara Champagne, junior high art teacher, resigned and was replaced by Mrs. Cecile Gallogly, a R.I. School of Design graduate and former art supervisor, it was said.

The report listed receipts of \$542,721.17 and expenditures of \$537,394, for a balance of \$5,327.17.

Serving as a recreation committee disbursing an \$8,000 recreation and playground appropriation, the board spent \$7,624.25, leaving a \$375.75 balance, it said. Expenditures were playground payrolls, \$3,223; food for roast at end of playground season, \$134.16; rental fee for swimming place, \$200; playground supplies and expense, \$430.59; Babe Ruth and Little League, \$1,999.36; and Halloween party, \$1,637.14.

P.S. March 24, 1957



W. Warwick Awaits Next Move in Drive For Town Building

5.3 - March 24, 1959

Under terms of proposed legislation now before the General Assembly West Warwick taxpayers would be asked to speak their minds May 22 on whether to build a single municipal building to house police and fire headquarters and a town hall.

Whether anyone will have his mind made up on the question by that date, if the joint bills pass, will probably depend on which of the several schools of thought on municipal construction is most persuasive in the interim.

In that interim a committee appointed at last Tuesday's financial town meeting will be considering a number of plans to find houses for the town's agencies, the costs of various propos-

als and a possible site, or sites, on which to build them.

The committee will report at a special town meeting before May 15 on its decision. The proposed law, introduced Friday by Sen. Francis J. La Chapelle (D-West Warwick) and Rep. Luke J. Smith (R-West Warwick) would allow the town to issue \$500,000 in bonds for construction of municipal buildings to be approved at the May 22 elections.

Judging from action of taxpayers at the town meeting (they voted down two administration proposals to spend up to \$225,000 available from the post war capital improvement fund for either a combination police-fire station or a fire station alone, thus keeping the fund intact) the three-in-one structure dedicated as a World War II veterans memorial, now has the lead.

The idea behind the proposed legislation, according to Clarence J. Coutu, a committee member who pushed the bills, is to give the town "something to work with"—a total \$725,000 in case the taxpayers vote for the combined structure which would in the estimation of both proponents and opponents, cost much more than the money available from the post war fund.

Chief among the arguments for the combination civic dwelling are:

1. Sentiment backed by veterans council representatives that the town is under a ten-year-old mandate to use the capital improvement fund as indicated by veterans who in a poll a decade ago voted the combination building as a memorial to the men who fought in the Second World War.

2. The contention that all three of the buildings, two of them (town hall and fire station) remnants of the 19th century, are inadequate to house municipal agencies and, according to some of the speakers at the town meeting, downright dangerous.

To offset the rumbings heard from police and firemen about their cramped and antiquated quarters is the opinion of Town



—State Staff Photos

Clerk Susan V. Lamb that the town hall, formerly the Victorian residence of the patriarch David Pike, is suitable for the functions of her office.

Officials of an administration that is hold-the-tax-line conscious back this up by saying that, though a new town hall would be a fine thing, at present it could only be classed as a luxury.

A third possible deterrent to the combination plan is the known lack of enthusiasm of both police and firemen for being housed under the same roof.

Besides the multi-purpose civic home, the committee is charged with determining the costs of alternate construction proposals: a combination police and fire building or a fire station alone. A fourth alternative—to recommend none of the three and keep the fund intact—is also in the purview of the committee.

Whichever of the proposals emerges from the committee deliberations, the voter will have a head full of conflicting opinions and statistics from which to make up his mind come time to cast the municipal die.

West Warwick Highway Dept. Lists Year's Work

The annual report of Highway Commissioner Henry J. Petrarca of West Warwick lists 16 new streets rebuilt, penetrated and sealed.

The streets are Country Drive, Fair Green Drive, Meadow Drive, Alden Drive, Louise Drive, Riverside Circle, Bégos Plat, Mello Street, Janet Drive, Crestwood Drive, Brookside Drive, Atlantic Avenue, Miller Drive, Brookdale Drive, Shortway Drive and Regaier Court.

Parking lots built by the highway department included St. Anthony's, the junior high school, St. Mary's Cemetery, Notre Dame Cemetery and Howard Memorial parking lot, Mr. Petrarca said.

The report lists numerous streets honed and sealed, as well as work such as cleaning of brooks, manholes, gutters and cutting of brush.

The highway maintenance appropriation of \$81,355 was augmented by a \$4,500 allowance from the state, for a total available of \$85,855.60. However, expenditures, boosted by last March's severe snow storms were \$98,005.47, for a deficit of \$12,149.87.

Out of a sidewalk construction appropriation of \$2,500, 1,587 square yards of walk were built at \$1.50 a square yard as the town's share. Cost was \$2,381, for a balance of \$119.

A highway construction and improvements item of \$10,000 was overspent by \$121.07, Mr. Petrarca said.

A town appropriation of \$3,500 for mosquito control was augmented by \$1,050 from the state. However, payroll costs were \$4,675.22, leaving a \$125.22 deficit, Mr. Petrarca said.

The garbage and rubbish removal appropriation of \$30,854.80 fell short of meeting needs by \$925.25, he said.

S.J. March 24, 1957

May Yet Assess Taxes On Unassessed House

That West Warwick house that escaped being taxed for 10 years and set politicians to arguing who was to blame may yet be assessed—for at least some of the back taxes.

Town Solicitor Michael De Ciantis confirmed yesterday that Section 7 of Chapter 1800 of the public laws provides that property liable to taxation, but omitted in an assessment any year, shall be assessed anytime within six years.

For This Year

When Chairman Leo B. Charbonneau of the town's Republican Party brought the matter up in town meeting last Tuesday, Herimengilde J. Nadeau, Democratic chairman of West Warwick tax assessors, said the house has been added to the tax roll for this year. But Mr. Nadeau, who said the house was built in 1947 when the town, said he didn't believe he could assess taxes on it for any prior years.

"Since the question has come up, the law is that it is assessable," Mr. De Ciantis said, after reading the law. "It must be assessed. But, since the property changed hands within the past three years, I think the matter will have to be investigated further, certainly, if any taxes are due on it, they will have to be assessed."

"Same Amount"

He said the law provides that "if any real estate which is liable taxation has been omitted in the assessment of any year, the assessment in the annual assessment of taxes after such an omission shall assess the tax on such real estate to the same amount it should have been assessed in such year—that such assessment shall be in addition to any assessment against the owner of the current year and shall be placed on a special tax roll and annexed to the general tax roll for the current year, and the assessment shall be made within six years of the date of assessment from which such real estate was omitted."

"That Is the Answer"

He said the law was construed by the state Supreme Court in the case of McCanna vs. Assessors of Narragansett, adding, "if the assessors ask me for an opinion, I would have to give them that as the law. That is the answer to it."

On the complication of the property changing hands within the past three years, Mr. DeCiantis said, "It certainly raises a very, very troublesome question."

"I certainly feel the poor man who bought the property shouldn't be the one that ought to be soaked," he declared. "As to what can be done to a man who hasn't title to it, I don't know. It becomes a pretty ticklish question as to how you're going to assess the property against a man who does not now own it."

W. Warwick Bldg. Group Elect Chief

P.J. March 25, 1957

Peter Diachun was elected chairman of a bi-partisan committee named at the recent West Warwick financial town meeting to investigate possible construction of municipal buildings at the group's first meeting last night.

Serving with Mr. Diachun, who acted as moderator, were: J. Coutru, secretary, and Clarence J. Coutru, secretary. The meeting was held in Mr. Coutru's home.

The committee drafted a statement of principles which put it on record as "favoring no political affiliations" in conducting the investigation of the feasibility and cost of three construction proposals:

1. The three-in one combination.
2. A combination police and fire station.
3. A fire station alone.

The committee is also empowered to recommend that none of the above be undertaken and that the \$225,000 available to the town for a post-war capital improvement fund remain intact.

The group also voted by unanimous consent that the press be asked to attend all meetings, to be held each Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. in the Club Frontenac. The committee has until May 15 to prepare its report and recommendations for submission at a special town meeting.

Others named by town meeting moderator Judge James W. Leighton to the committee and present at the meeting are former Democratic Rep. Horace L. Petrarca, Leo B. Charbonneau, Republican town chairman, William F. Moorehead and former Republican Lt. Gov. James O. MacManus.

The committee announced its backing of permissive legislation for issuance of \$500,000 in bonds for construction of municipal buildings introduced in the General Assembly Friday and urged the West Warwick Town Council and the town's legislative representatives to work for passage of the bill.

Hector Gilman will be invited to the committee's Tuesday meeting, Mr. Diachun said, to discuss with the group terms of sale of land he owns on Main Street. The committee is bound to investigate the property as a potential location for municipal building construction by Mr. Petrarca's amendment to the town meeting resolution creating the committee.

Mr. Diachun said Fire Chief Lionel P. Gareau and Police Chief Arthur Groleau will be asked to attend the April 2 meeting to present the building requirements of their departments.

East Providence architect Frank Trafficante has donated his services as consultant to the committee on architectural matters, Mr. Diachun said. Mr. Trafficante designed the Crompton Elementary School, construction of which is to begin soon.

Bulletin March 26, 1957

Bourgault Cheers DeCiantis' Opposition to Deficit Spending

Charles J. Bourgault, former Democratic town solicitor, today hailed Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis' declaration that West Warwick's deficit spending will have to stop.

"I have repeatedly suggested a funding of the deficit for the purpose of eliminating it," Mr. Bourgault said. "Until recently, there has been no suggestion of a desire to do that."

Mr. DeCiantis, Democratic administration leader, said Saturday, when asked what the administration plans to do about a mounting cumulative deficit of \$152,000, that it may become necessary to issue short term funding bonds.

He also expressed hope town tax income might be greater than expected this year and departments will heed stern warnings to avoid deficits. Such a combination might also result in an operating surplus that would help whittle down the cumulative deficit, represented by outstanding tax anticipation notes.

The effects of deficit budgets in recent years have been so great that tax raises in 1953 and 1955 failed to produce enough revenue to overcome them.

Mr. Bourgault, who tried unsuccessfully at the 1954 town meeting to get taxpayers to increase the tax resolution by \$200,000 to pay expenses on a current basis, said today he believes the first mistake was the adoption of a deficit budget in 1953.

The deficit budget of 1953 ultimately had a net effect of reducing the surplus then on hand from \$141,000 to \$20,000 as of the end of the fiscal year Feb. 28, 1954, he added.

In 1954, the town meeting, with the same expenditures, went out to raise about the same budget, he recalled. It was then, he said, that he took a position the town was going into "a tremendous deficit" and that he tried without success to amend the tax resolution upward by \$200,000.

"I made a prediction that, by the summer of 1955, we would be in debt by \$800,000 on tax notes," he said. "It turned out to be about \$900,000."

To pay off the current cumulative

deficit in any way other than funding, i.e. issuing bonds and paying them off gradually, would require a tax increase of 20 per cent, Mr. Bourgault said.

"I consider Mr. DeCiantis is generally right politically, but fiscally I think it would be more prudent to get onto a current basis," he asserted.

"This is a case similar to that of the family whose accumulated milk bills and grocery bills require mortgaging the house," he declared.

He said he foresees an increase in the cumulative deficit, unless more tax money is raised "or the government of Rhode Island begins pumping money into West Warwick."

Mr. DeCiantis had likened the town's trouble to that of a housewife who has unexpected expenditures and can't make her income fit them at times.

Mr. Bourgault's version is this: "If a housewife prepares a budget and, at the end of a month, says there was a sunny day and she had to buy sun tan lotion, and there was a rainy day and she had to buy junior a pair of rubbers, and so is short \$300—well, something's

wrong with the budgeting and not with the weather."

Last year, the anticipated income was less than was actually collected, and there was still a deficit, Mr. Bourgault said. That would indicate anticipated expenditures were underestimated, he said.

Mr. Bourgault this year tried to increase certain operating budgets, but won administration approval only for increasing the street lighting budget by \$1,000 to bring it more in keeping with actual costs. He called failure to appropriate what had been shown to be operating costs "financial nonsense."

The tax collector, Mrs. Amy S. Chinat, has an "impeccable record" of tax collections, so that no part of the deficit can be attributed to poor tax collections, Mr. Bourgault said.

Going into debt breeds additional expenditures for interest and, eventually, results in higher taxes, Mr. Bourgault asserted.

"It comes eventually, it comes in larger doses and comes in doses which cannot be explained in terms of recent actions of the taxpayers," he said.

"If taxes are raised next year, people will probably tend to believe that such increase is attributable to the new school construction that will be going on then," he said.

"It boils down to this: we have a deficit because our income has been insufficient," he added.

He agreed with Mr. DeCiantis that the town is in a good position as far as bonded indebtedness is concerned. However, he said that the town's continuing to house its government in old buildings is similar to "the miser who refuses to give a good home to his family in spite of his wealth."

"I continue to have no patience with those who talk of marble palaces. If my wife needs a new coat to replace a ragged one, it is beside the point to her I can't afford a mink, but it might be time to start thinking whether or not I can afford a good cloth coat."

The late Col. Patrick H. Quinn, longtime Democratic leader, was instrumental in building up a surplus, which in April, 1949, totaled \$271,639.32, but that was used gradually, many times for things that were not really capital improvements, Mr. Bourgault said.

Police, Firemen Are Enrolled In W. Warwick Pension Plan

P.J. March 26, 1957

The West Warwick Town Council with the plan adopted, he last night, in effect, voted to enroll

roll police and firemen under a pension plan proposed by the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Co. of Boston, providing basically for retirement at half pay at age 60.

Francis J. Fazzano, Council president, said that the action was taken at a special meeting. He said he would have had no objection to the meeting being open and thought the press probably had been notified.

More than a score of police and firemen were at the meeting, at which former Rep. Thaddeus M. Kraus of the John Hancock Co. answered questions about the plan, Mr. Fazzano said.

While the men originally wanted a town-run plan with age 55 retirement, all expressed satisfac-

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W. Warwick Unit Defers Move to Buy Property

March 27, 1957 Bulletin

The West Warwick municipal building study committee last night disagreed on a motion by Horace L. Petrarca that it go on record endorsing a proposal the town buy the Hector Gilman property for \$55,000.

As a result, Mr. Petrarca withdrew his motion, and Chairman Peter Diachun said it could be presented again next Tuesday, when the board meets with Police Chief Arthur Groleau and Fire Chief Lionel P. Gareau.

Mr. Petrarca took some committee members aback by the motion that the unit vote to recommend the Gilman land and building purchase at its second meeting. Leo B. Charbonneau, town Republican chairman, suggested waiting until it is decided whether the site would fit building recommendations that might ultimately be decided upon.

Mr. Gilman attended the meeting in Club Frontenac and said his house and land, with 238 feet frontage on Main Street, Riverpoint, and 400 feet deep, are available for \$55,000.

Dr. M. Irene Guertin said the land is very desirable. Mr. Gilman said the price means 55 cents a foot "or less than half what some people paid for similar land."

Mr. Petrarca said, before withdrawing his motion until later, that he would like to see the town obtain the property, regardless whether it builds a combination town hall, police and fire station, or a combination police and fire station, or just a fire station, there. He said the town should buy it even if it builds none of them there.

James O. McManus seconded Mr. Petrarca's motion that the committee go on record favoring the purchase, provided that he agreed it be for a municipal building. In the past, Mr. Petrarca has suggested a site in the area for a three way building.

Clarence Coutu successfully moved that Michael Traficante, architect of the new town school, be asked to help the board obtain sketches of possible buildings that might be erected on the Gilman site, the present police station site, or present town hall site.

Mr. Coutu said that Mr. Traficante had told him the Gilman site is the only one of the three large enough for the triple combination building. Mr. Coutu said he intended to move, if Mr. Petrarca's motion were approved, that the Gilman land be used for the triple combination unit.

Lawrence Lamb, former president of the Town Development Council which reported recommendations for a combination police and fire station to be built with the post war fund, plus a new town hall on the present town hall site, to be built by a \$350,000 bond issue, outlined those plans. The plans came to naught a few years ago, when voters decided to leave the postwar fund intact.

Mr. Gilman said he would not

consider selling his property minus the house.

Mr. Diachun told Mr. Lamb, former development council head, he was not referring to that group when he criticized three committees named by town meetings to act on a veterans memorial municipal building.

The development unit recommended school improvements, recreational improvements, a new police and fire station estimated to cost about \$200,000 on the site of the police station, a new town hall to be built on the site of the present one and financed by \$310,000 in bonds; a new town dump, expenditure of \$5,000 a year on road improvements and surfacing of the Arctic School yard for parking.

Mr. Lamb said his group did not include a town hall in a combination building at the police station site because it would increase traffic and parking problems. Fire Chief Gareau also said fire sirens would annoy town hall office staffs in a combined building he added.

The development council thought it plan could have been put into operation by 1957 without a rise in taxes, he said. He said it was believed two buildings would cost more to maintain than one.

He suggested the committee advise taxpayers, then it reports to a special town meeting by May 15, which municipal building plan it finds best after investigation.

Mr. Petrarca said the warrant would have to provide for a vote on a combination town hall, police and fire station; a combination police and fire station, a fire station alone, or leaving the approximately \$225,000 in the capital improvement fund intact.

The warrant also should provide for possible purchase of the Gilman property and for appropriation of sufficient funds to carry out any proposal voted, it was brought out.

When Mr. Coutu moved that the Town Council be asked to endorse the \$500,000 capital improvements bond bill he and Mr. Charbonneau have caused to be introduced in the General Assembly, there was objection.

Mr. Petrarca said it would be a year and a half before the town needed any money for a building, and that the Assembly could act on it next January if necessary.

It was learned that the town administration does not plan to back Mr. Coutu's bill.

West Warwick Council Enrolls Police, Firemen in Pension Plan

Bulletin March 27, 1957

The West Warwick Town Council last night, in effect, voted to enroll police and firemen under a pension plan proposed by the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Co. of Boston, providing basically for retirement at half pay at age 60.

Francis J. Fazzano, Council president, said that the action was taken at a special meeting. He said he would have had no objection to the meeting being open and thought the press probably had been notified.

More than a score of police and firemen were at the meeting, at which former Rep. Thaddeus M. Kraus of the John Hancock Co. answered questions about the plan. Mr. Fazzano said.

While the men originally wanted a town-run plan with age 55 retirement, all expressed satisfaction with the plan adopted, he said.

Asked about the statement by Leo B. Charbonneau, Republican chairman, at last week's town meeting to the effect several other insurance firms were interested in bidding on the pension plan, Mr. Fazzano said some had called him personally once, but that he never heard from them again.

One fireman said at least six insurance firms had been to the fire department and obtained data on ages of the men, Mr. Fazzano said. Of the six, only three, including John Hancock Co., had submitted plans and, according to the fireman, the Hancock plan was the best liked, he said.

Technically, the Council last night instructed Town Treasurer Robert J. Harrop to send \$560 to the company, \$500 of which is an advance premium on the group annuity or pension, and \$60 is on

a \$1,000 life insurance policy which is part of the plan.

Mr. Kraus explained later that the action really is an application advising the firm the Council intends to enter the men in the plan effective April 1. He said the Council retains the right to withdraw the application and receive a refund if it does not approve the contract in final form.

Taxpayers last week appropriated \$27,000, of which \$25,000 was the town's share of a pension plan for the forces in general and \$2,000 was the first annual town-paid pension for Police Sgt. Edward J. Jalbert, who is retiring almost immediately. The pension plan does not carry a disability provision.

Under the plan, the men may retire 10 years prior to the age 60 normal retirement date at a pro-rated, reduced pension. The men on the force today are receiving credit for their prior service, under a system in which the town pays back years' premiums on an installment basis.

The widow of an officer or fireman would receive a \$1,000 life insurance benefit, if he should die before retirement, plus all his pension contributions and two per cent interest, Mr. Kraus said.

If a man desires, he may elect to take only part of the half-pay pension to which he is entitled, under a system in which that reduced amount would continue to be paid to his widow or other named beneficiary after his death, Mr. Kraus said.

The plan can be suspended for a period not greater than a year, in written request of the town, providing it has been in

effect at least a year, Mr. Kraus said.

If the plan were ever discontinued, the fund, when it dropped to the point where employee contributions plus 6 per cent remained, would be allocated among employees then participating and used to purchase deferred annuities for the men.

Normal retirement date would be the first of the month after reaching age 60. Earlier optional retirement could take place within 10 years prior to the normal retirement date, but with a smaller benefit.

The plan provides that an employee may remain in the town's service after 60, but he would no longer contribute his 3 per cent or build up any more benefits. He could then take his retirement whenever he wanted.

If a man dies before retirement, he would get his money back with 2 per cent interest compounded annually. If he died after retirement, after having collected, say only \$1,600 of \$2,500 he had paid in, his survivor would receive the other \$900.

A man who terminated employment prior to retirement would get his money back with 2 per cent interest, if he requested it, or he could leave it with the company and receive an annuity at 60. It would then be based on the length of time he had put in and the amount he had contributed.

The plan is a participating one, under which the town would receive dividends beginning about two years hence "when and if earned and apportioned," Mr. Kraus said.

West Warwick should pay its way

March 27, 1957 Bulletin

Less than seven years ago, West Warwick had \$261,000 in the bank. Each year since then, the town has been spending more than its income. Now, it owes the bank \$152,000 for having spent too much.

The town raised its tax rate in 1953 from \$22.50 to \$25 on each \$1,000 of taxable real estate. It raised property assessments in 1955 the equivalent of about 40 per cent. Yet in seven years, the town ran through \$410,000 more than its regular income.

In the last two years, West Warwick has made hardly any progress in paying off operating debt owed the bank, although it keeps paying the interest on it. On Feb. 28, 1955, the debt amounted to \$155,600. At the close of its fiscal year last month, debt was still \$152,000.

Towns, like people, occasionally are required to spend more than their income. But when they keep it up, they get into trouble.

Town Solicitor Michael De Ciantis, who inherited the mantle of control over the town's Democratic regime from the late Col. Patrick H. Quinn, says that the administration's intentions are not to change debt policy—at least not now.

He said orders have gone out to every department head to keep the lid on spending in the hope that enough money will be saved by the end of the year to begin payment on the debt. That was the hope last year, and the year before last year. But the debt remains approximately the same.

Failing a savings in this year's operations, Mr. De Ciantis says that to avoid further tax increases, the town may fund its debt. That means that instead of carrying the debt in notes renewable yearly, it will float a limited bond issue that will be paid off in annual installments, plus interest charges.

Issuing bonds to pay off an operating deficit is bad economics for any town. It only puts off the day of reckoning. If expected operating savings don't materialize—if, in fact, operating costs keep inching up instead of down as is apt to happen in this inflationary period—what then?

Mr. De Ciantis would follow a more courageous course by raising taxes another notch so that the town can pay off its debt and make a fresh beginning at trying to live within its new income.

March 29, 1957 Times

No Block in the Way of Progress for New School

Says Town Solicitor.—Act Broad Enough to Cover Cost of Purchasing Land for Recreation Areas in Town.

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick said today there is no block in the way of progress of the new elementary school in Crompton as far as money is concerned.

When informed this morning that the school building committee last night had agreed on the awarding of the contract for the building of the school, Mr. DeCiantis said that the sale of school bonds authorized to be sold up to the amount of \$1,200,000 can be arranged at a meeting of the town treasurer and the bank. He said that he has an agreement with a bank that it will advance money to the town on notes if requested before a bond issue is sold.

When questioned about using bond money for purchase of land areas for recreation sites, the town solicitor said "It looks to me now that we may proceed to look into the feasibility of purchasing the recreation areas which were suggested during the campaign. These were mainly the Hebert property on Payan Street, Arctic; a section of the Knight land off Factory Street, Arctic Hill; and an area in the Brookfield Hills Plat, Natick.

Is Broad Enough

When asked if the school bond act was broad enough to cover cost of purchasing land for recreation sites, Mr. DeCiantis said that he is of the opinion that since the recreation program is under the supervision of the school committee the use of the wording in the bond act "including the acquisition of land," was broad enough to include the purchase of recreation areas for children.

A part of Section No. 2 of the

school bond act reads as follows: "The proceeds, of the sale of said bonds shall be delivered to the town treasurer, and such proceeds, except as herein before provided with respect to any premiums, shall be expended to meet appropriations made by the town council before or after such sale for the purpose of constructing, remodeling, repairing, equipping and furnishing school buildings or additions thereto, including the acquisition of land."

Mr. DeCiantis said he will request the town council to contact the owners of the above mentioned properties for the purpose of acquiring the sites.

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March 29, 1957 Times

Fazzano Rejects PTA Plea on Election Bill

Francis J. Fazzano, West Warwick Town Council president, said yesterday that, despite a plea from the PTA Council, he is still opposed to the off-year, nonpartisan school committee election bill now in the General Assembly.

Mr. Fazzano received a letter which was similar to others sent by the PTA Council to the governor and General Assembly leaders of both parties. It refers to petitions favoring the bill, saying nearly 800 signatures were obtained.

Coming as a follow-up to a similar letter sent to the same officials by the PTA Council's steering committee, the letter said the people should have

"their rightful opportunity to vote on the issue." The bill calls for a referendum May 7.

Mr. Fazzano, who said two other councilmen agree with him, asserted the Republican Party in town made the same issue a major one in their last campaign, but was defeated. Therefore, he concluded the majority don't want the change.

"I have no question but what many of the people favor this type of election," he said. "As a practical matter, I just can't agree with them. And I think the whole history of elections in the country, state and town shows that the two-party system has worked well, is working well, and will continue to work well.

"Furthermore, I think the word 'nonpartisan' is absolutely misleading. I have never yet seen an honestly nonpartisan election. Every person who runs is, in effect, a Republican or Democrat and will be supported as such.

"I don't think I'm opposing the will of the majority. And I further think, in all honesty, that the school committee, in this town, both the present one and those in the past, have done a good job. From what I have seen of the products of our schools, the young men and women who come out of them don't have to take their hats off to anybody in the state."

March 29, 1957 Times

Contract OK'd For School in W. Warwick

R.J. March 29, 1957

The West Warwick School Building Committee last night voted to award a contract for construction of a new 20-room elementary school in Crompton to F. W. Johnson & Son Construction Co., East Providence.

On recommendation of Michael Trificante of East Providence, architect, the board authorized its chairman, Vincent J. Lukowicz, to sign a contract with the firm for \$600,889.

The figure represents the \$589,389 low bid submitted by the firm when 14 bids were opened last Thursday, plus \$11,500 extra to take advantage of installation of rubbercrete terrazzo floors throughout in place of asphalt tile floor covering. The rubbercrete, which was an alternate, will be better and easier to maintain, it was said.

Mr. Trificante said that, as soon as the contract is signed the groundbreaking will take place next month and construction can start. Leonard W. Hennessey moved that the Town Council be notified the committee now needs money the Council plans to borrow through bond anticipation notes.

The Johnson firm guaranteed to him it would finish the school by July or August, 1958, Mr. Trificante said.

Dr. Richard P. Duffy, school committee chairman, said that as for the Caswell House, obtained by the town in a property swap to provide a means of entrance to the school site, the family is expected to be out soon. The school committee, which will handle that phase, may advertise for bids on moving the property or enter into an agreement to have the Johnson Co. do it, he said.

Once the Caswell House on Main Street is moved or demolished, Mr. Trificante said, a gravel surface could be put in temporarily. The road surface could be hardtopped later, he said.

March 29, 1957 Times

Will Award Contract to Low Bidder FOR NEW SCHOOL

The W. Warwick School Building Committee at an unannounced meeting last night at the town hall reported it would award the contract for the building of the 20-room elementary school in Crompton to the lowest "responsible" bidder, F. W. Johnson & Son of East Providence.

When bids were opened by the building committee last Thursday evening, the F.W. Johnson & Son bid, the lowest of the 14 opened, was \$589,389.

The committee last night it was reported approved the bid plus No. 5 alternate which would provide rubbercrete terrazzo floors throughout the building at a cost of \$11,500 extra.

The alternate puts the contract price at \$600,889.

Frank Trificante, the architect reportedly told the committee that the bid with alternate includes cost of the entire building including landscaping. The furnishings are expected to run about 10 per cent of the total bid.

Mr. Trificante had previously informed the committee construction would start next month and it was hoped the building would be completed the middle of next year, 1958, in time for the opening of school in September, 1958.

It was also announced that the committee authorized its chairman, Vincent J. Lukowicz, to sign the contract with the company awarded the contract.

J. W. Johnson & Son recently built the Riverside Elementary School which was designed by Mr. Trificante, the St. Margaret School and Convent in Rumford and Kent High School in East Providence.

March 29, 1957 Times

\$600,889 Contract Awarded for New School at Crompton

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March 20, 1955

TOWN HAS FIRST CHOICE TO PURCHASE GILMAN PROPERTY AT COST OF \$55,000

The West Warwick municipal building committee last night received assurance the town has first choice to purchase the Hector A. Gilman property at 1021 Main Street, Riverpoint. The committee followed through and requested an architect to offer advice on erecting a combination police and fire station and town hall on the site.

Mr. Gilman, who appeared at the meeting at Club Frontenac, Arctic, told the committee his property, both house and land, is for sale for \$55,000. He said that he had offered it to the West Warwick Lodge of Elks, but, he added, that he had told Horace L. Petrarca of the building committee the town could buy it if it wanted it.

The property measures about 268 feet on Main Street and runs westward about 400 feet. The large size dwelling is located about 200 feet from Main Street. Mr. Gilman said he would not sell the house separate from the land. He agreed to contact Mrs. Gilman and William Deitch to see if an adjoining lot running to Woodside Avenue could provide another entrance.

An effort by Mr. Petrarca to have the committee vote last night to recommend to the taxpayers that they purchase the Gilman property for a price not exceeding \$55,000 for the purpose of erecting a municipal building was put off until at least the next meeting, next Tuesday evening. At that time the com-

mittee will interview the chiefs of the police and fire departments.

To Present Their Plan

The building committee was set up and was authorized by taxpayers at the Mar. 19 financial town meeting to prepare a report for a possible building program for the town at a special town meeting no later than May 15. The committee will present to the taxpayers at the special meeting their plans for expenditure of the post-war capital improvement fund for any of the following: combination police, fire station or town hall at the Hecbination police and fire station; fire station; town hall at the Hector Gilman property. With negative votes, the post-war fund at \$225,000 would remain intact.

The committee also announced last night it plans to have included in the warrant of the special town meeting the request of taxpayers to approve legislation enabling the town to issue up to \$500,000 in bonds for construction of or additions to municipal buildings. Legislation to this effect was introduced in the General Assembly last Friday and it carries a provision for a referendum May 22.

After Committeeman Clarence J. Coutu pointed out there is little time left to prepare a warrant for a special town meeting no later than May 15, he and the committee chairman, Peter M. Diachun were named to confer with town authorities on the call of the meeting. In speaking in favor of this action, Mr. Diachun said this will be to clarify the committee position with the warrant of the town meeting and "to make sure there is no trap for us to fall in."

Toured The Town

When Committeeman James O. McManus raised the question, "Is the Gilman property worth the price?" the committee deliberated on the suitability of the sites in the town for the proposed building.

Mr. Coutu said that yesterday afternoon he toured the town with two architects from the office of Frank Traficante. Mr. Traficante has been engaged by the school building committee to supervise construction of the elementary school in Crompton and he has agreed to work with the municipal building committee in an advisory capacity.

In his report to the committee, Mr. Coutu said that the architects advised him the Gilman property, rather than the site of the present police station in Arctic, or the town hall in Riverpoint, was the best for a triple combination building. He said that he was advised the police station area which, in the past has been the most commonly mentioned as site for a proposed triple combination building, was unsuitable for this type of building because of the contour of the land which, on the northerly side, slopes away and narrows.

Consequently, Mr. Traficante's office will be requested to advise the committee on building a 3-way building on the Gilman property; a combination police and fire station on the police station site and a town hall at Pike Street, site of the present town hall building.

Guests at Meeting

Mr. McManus said that he had at request of the committee invited the fire chief to the next meeting, Apr. 2, and that although he was unable to contact the po-

lice chief yesterday, he felt certain he would also agree to attend.

Guests at the meeting last night in addition to Mr. Gilman, were Lawrence Lamb and Gordon Falows of the Junior Chamber of Commerce. They reviewed to the building committee the recommendations of the Development Council which was authorized by taxpayers for the year 1954 and on which they served. They said their first recommendation was schools, the second was for a new combination police and fire station where the present police station is, and the third was for a town hall, also at its present site.

Mr. Lamb, who left the plans prepared by the Development Council, said: "We don't say these are the best or would not back up any others. It was an honest effort by our committee."

P.S. March 28, 1955

DiFiore Roadblocks West Warwick Act

Rep. Gerard Di Fiore (D-West Warwick) yesterday threw a block in the House against a fellow legislator from West Warwick, Rep. Luke J. Smith, Republican.

Representative Smith attempted to obtain unanimous consent to introduce a bill that would repeal the 1956 law under which hikes in appropriations proposed at town meetings have to be put over for seven days to an adjourned all-day town meeting.

But Representative Di Fiore objected, and Mr. Smith had his bill returned to him.

Representative Di Fiore, senior legislator from West Warwick in the House, said he objected because the Smith bill proposes to repeal a law he had put on the books last year.

Somewhat hurt, Representative Smith, only Republican to win a major office in West Warwick last election, said that Judge James W. Leighton, moderator at last week's annual town meeting, had felt the law is wrong. "We felt we should repeal that act," Mr. Smith declared.

Several motions were made and seconded at the town meeting to raise the administration's budget. Judge Leighton was critical of the law, which says such motions shall automatically be put over to the adjourned meeting, regardless of the amount. Makers of the motions were prevailed upon to withdraw them finally, although the administration gave its blessing to one to raise a street light appropriation, which was passed.

Representative Smith said Judge Leighton as much as said "The law was no good and shouldn't be in there." If his repeal bill could have been introduced and passes, things would revert to the system under which anyone could increase a budget if he got support of taxpayers in town meeting, he said.

He said Representative Di Fiore "was really burned up about my bill and said he couldn't imagine" any screwball coming into a town meeting and making such a proposition "that would upset the whole budget."

Representative Smith said he remembers when he was in the House back in 1947 he tried to introduce a measure and he (Mr. Smith) objected that time. He said Mr. Di Fiore then objected to everything proposed,

whether by a Democrat or Republican, until leaders persuaded him to drop that line of action.

Representative Smith said he doesn't plan to object willy-nilly to bills Mr. Di Fiore might introduce the rest of the session.

"If he has anything to present and he can prove to me his suggestion is good, the same as I tried to prove my bill is good, I wouldn't object to it," he said. "He knew what my bill contained and still objected to it. I'd have to know what was in any bill he might introduce."

Ground Breaking Exercise Listed At W. Warwick

P.S. April 4, 1955

The West Warwick school building committee last night made plans for ground-breaking exercises for the town's new 20-room elementary school Saturday at 10 a.m. at the grounds off Wyman Street, Crompton.

Mrs. Augustus F. Marsella, committee secretary, said Dr. Maisie E. Quinn, superintendent of schools, will lift the first shovelful of earth with a gold shovel.

The public is invited, Mrs. Marsella said. Guests will include Francis J. Fazzano, Town Council president, and other council members; Mrs. Ida Cayouette, president of West Warwick PTA Council; and Miss Dorothy Danielson, president of the West Warwick Teachers' Alliance.

The architect, Michael Traficante of East Providence, and his staff will be on hand, along with contractors' representatives.

As authorized at a recent meeting of the building committee, Chairman Vincent J. Lukowicz has signed a contract with the low bidder of the school, F. W. Johnson & Son Construction Co. of East Providence, for \$600,889, Mrs. Marsella said.

Mr. De Ciantis proves our point

April 2, 1957 Bulletin
Town Solicitor Michael De Ciantis has denied that West Warwick "ran through" \$410,000 more than its regular income during the past seven years, as stated editorially in last Wednesday's Evening Bulletin.

His denial listed certain expenditures which, because normal annual income wasn't big enough, were paid out of surplus or out of borrowed funds.



De Ciantis

These expenditures included \$233,000 for wage increases and to pay additional town workers; \$55,700 for school repairs and improvements; \$25,000 for the town's post-war improvement fund; \$16,200 for a sewer debt payment, and \$53,000

for itemized but miscellaneous items—all totalling \$383,000.

Mr. De Ciantis mentioned other deficit spending, but did not itemize it.

According to Mr. De Ciantis' own town treasurer's report, West Warwick had a \$261,000 accumulated surplus on May 1, 1950. At the close of the fiscal year last February—again according to the town treasurer's report—the surplus had been wiped out and the town owed the bank \$152,000.

That all adds up to the fact that West Warwick in seven years spent, or earmarked for spending, \$410,000 more than its normal income during the period.

Mr. De Ciantis may be taking a fling in semantics in denying the town "ran through" the \$410,000. But does he also deny the accuracy of his own town treasurer's figures?

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Fazzano Replies To GOP Head

W. Warwick Official Says He'll Explain Any Abatement

Francis J. Fazzano, West Warwick Town Council president, last night scored Leo B. Charbonneau, Republican town chairman, for the method in which he earlier criticized the town administration's handling of sewer construction finance.

Mr. Fazzano said he thinks Mr. Charbonneau, who in a statement published Saturday questioned a sewer tax abatement made in 1955 on lot 264, assessor's plat 42, is "attempting to lead the people to think there is something improper in that abatement."

Mr. Fazzano said the Republican leader should name the person to whom the abatement was given by the council in criticizing the action and said he would "at any time publicly be willing to explain publicly any abatement we've made because every single one has been made openly."

"I can't help but feel it is an unfair attack on myself and my associates," Mr. Fazzano said. "I think Mr. Charbonneau knows very well it is unfair."

Expanding on his remarks in the statement, Mr. Charbonneau said the council should automatically give abatements to sewer tax payers who qualify for them instead of "making the taxpayer come to the Council with a petition."

"I am not actually accusing them (the Council, sitting as sewer commission) of favoring any particular individual. But policy decisions about lots, and land location should be explained in full in the press so anyone having abatements coming to them can be so informed," Mr. Charbonneau said.

"Otherwise it would seem to me to be definitely favoring a certain portion of the people who can afford legal advice or have information not available to others" concerning abatements, Mr. Charbonneau continued.

Drawing on Mr. Charbonneau's criticism at the recent financial town meeting of the town's failure to tax a house and land in existence since 1946, Mr. Fazzano said it illustrated his concept of political criticism.

He said when he learned that the house had been built during a Republican town administration and that the tax assessor of that administration had failed to record it on the rolls, his reaction was not to castigate the Republicans but to "realize that it was a mistake which could and did happen and which was repeated by a Democratic tax assessor later."

"The Republican Party has not been too successful for many years in this town," Mr. Fazzano said. "Perhaps it is because of their lack of constructive ideas and constant personal attacks on Democratic office holders."

"I don't see any sense, in a small town like this, of fellow citizens calling names when actually it is a matter of issues that ought to be discussed," Mr. Fazzano said.

Kent County Water Auth. Fails to Fill Vacant Post

The large number of applicants reportedly interested in winning appointment to the Kent County Water Authority seat left vacant by the resignation of Mortimer W. Newton of West Warwick last month is presenting a problem to the board, it became apparent yesterday.

Albert V. Wood, authority office manager, said a meeting of the board in its West Warwick headquarters yesterday morning failed to take any action on appointment of a successor to Mr. Newton, who left when he was named state director of business regulation.

Several important West Warwick Democrats are known to be interested in the \$2,000-a-year part-time post.

Chairman Gerard DiFiore has indicated that, in his personal

opinion, the endorsement of the West Warwick Democratic Town Committee should carry a lot of weight.

The appointment of the so-called fifth member of the Authority is up to the four other members of the board to make. The fifth member is the one who is appointed by them from the community having the largest number of water customers.

Mr. Wood said the board yesterday furthered plans to have its engineers, Charles A. Maguire & Associates, send out for bids on the first phase of a new and larger 16-inch main installation from Fiskeville Four Corners to Hill Street, Coventry.

It is hoped to get started by the first of May, Mr. Wood said. The first phase involves installation of about 5,000 feet of pipe.

Fazzano Defends Council's Sewer Assessment Policy

Review Journal 4-7-57

"The people of this community voted in referendum for a needed sewer system," James J. Fazzano, Democratic president of the West Warwick Town Council said last night. "Principal and interest on the bonds cost \$70-80,000 a year and must be paid."

Whether it is paid wholly out of a special assessment for sewers or out of the general fund is not as important as the fact that it must be paid, he continued.

"If the money were to be raised by a special sewer assessment individual assessments would have to be as high as 60 per cent of property value. This would be fantastic," he said.

Consequently the Town Council decided on an assessment of 12½ per cent of the value of the property for purposes of sewer assessment and the rest of the money comes out of general fund. Mr. Fazzano said he felt the Council was morally right in using this system since many other communities solve the problem in a similar way.

This way, he felt that all taxpayers pay for it and those who get the new sewers pay extra. "We struck a happy medium," he said, "between what people who got a new sewer paid and what all taxpayers pay."

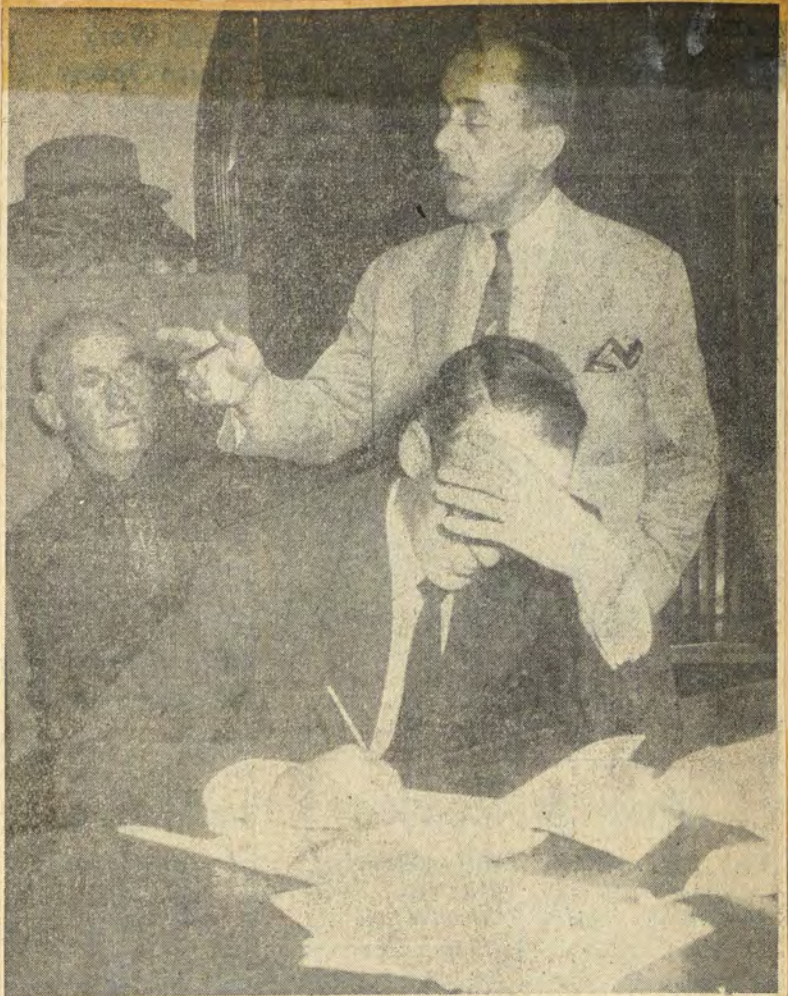
Self liquidation of the new sewers was never expected immediately. However, Mr. Fazzano said, engineers estimated that with expected town growth the sewers might well become self liquidating in the near future. Unfortunately, he added,

business hasn't run at the high level anticipated and West Warwick hasn't grown as fast as expected and tax revenues have lagged.

In reply to an assertion by Leo B. Charbonneau, GOP town chairman, that favoritism has been shown in abatements, Mr. Fazzano said they definitely have not been. He challenged Mr. Charbonneau to produce names and places so they can examine the record.

"It is hard to set a fast rule to apply in every tax case," said Mr. Fazzano. "The minimum assessment is supposed to be \$25 per lot. But suppose a man owns several adjacent 20 foot lots do you still assess the owner \$25 each with a disproportionately high total, or do you try and lump them together so that he pays an equitable share? Do you assess an owner who cannot possibly connect his property with the sewer?"

"The answer is," Mr. Fazzano said, "that we try and find an equitable solution to each problem. Furthermore, every decision is made in the council room at regular meetings and above board. And anyone can attend."



Still stumping for a triple combination town hall, police and fire station for West Warwick, Peter Diachun (standing), chairman of town's building study

committee, asks Council at special meeting last night if it is prepared for the possibility that taxpayers may vote for such a structure. —State Staff Photo

Council Ignores Democratic Brass In Picking W. Warwick Patrolman

PJ - April 10, 1957

Overriding the West Warwick Democratic town committee, the all-Democratic Town Council last night named Alphonse Amaral of Phenix a police patrolman to fill a vacancy caused by the retirement of Sgt. Edward J. Jalbert.

The town committee last Friday had endorsed Vincent Muschiano, brother of Albert Muschiano, Natick committeeman. Last night's action was rare in West Warwick political annals, inasmuch as town committee endorsement is usually tantamount to appointment by the Council.

No promotions were made. Chief Arthur Groleau has said he won't have his recommendations until later.

Albert Muschiano sat in the Council chamber during the meeting and said nothing when the police appointment was made. It had been anticipated there might be some fireworks, as word got around yesterday that "anything could happen" on the police appointment.

Mr. Amaral, a special patrolman for four years, lives at 65 Summit Ave., and is a World War II Navy veteran. He attended West Warwick High School.

After lengthy wrangling with Chairman Peter Diachun and other representatives of the Municipal Building Study Committee, the manner in which the call for a coming special town meeting will be drawn to permit the desired vote on possible new municipal buildings, or single buildings, was put off for discussion later.

On motion of Francis J. Fazzano, Town Council President, the special town meeting on use of the \$225,000 capital post war capital improvement fund, or more money through bonds, if the ultimate warrant permits, was set for May 15 at 7:30 p.m. in the Junior High School.

The Council, with Mr. Fazzano giving his hearty support, endorsed the lace weavers' drive to get Pawtuxet Valley residents to

buy American-made goods and not foreign imports. The lace weavers of Branch 7, Amalgamated Lace Operatives of America, wrote that they believe such action will help local industry and employment, now slack.

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis reported that he had talked to former U.S. Sen. Felix

Hebert about the town buying his Payan Street land for recreational purposes for \$20,000. That is in the works, and Anthony Pallotta, school committeeman, is to check into possible purchase of recreation areas from John Lauson, Brookfield Hills plat, and Webster Knight 2nd, Arctic Hill.



PJ - April 10, 1957

Dr. Maisie E. Quinn, superintendent of West Warwick public schools, turns first bit of land at ceremonies.

—State Staff Photos

'Resignation' Fight Is Aired

Petrarca Asks Charbonneau to Quit Town Study Group

Horace Petrarca of the West Warwick Municipal Building Study Committee yesterday called for the resignation of fellow committee member, Leo B. Charbonneau, because "he has destroyed his usefulness."

Mr. Petrarca asked for the resignation because of a statement attributed to Mr. Charbonneau that the Republican town committee of which he is chairman will make its own recommendations on the municipal building program and upcoming special town meeting.

Mr. Charbonneau said he will not resign.

Mrs. Petrarca said in a prepared statement:

"In my opinion Leo Charbonneau has destroyed his usefulness, as a member of the taxpayers committee on municipal building by the public announcement in the press that the Republican party of which he is chairman will make its own recommendations on the municipal building program. In view of this he can no longer be neutral in any committee deliberation and apparently plays the part of party chairman first.

"This is unfair to the committee as well as the taxpayers. Therefore he should abstain from further deliberation with this committee and resign as a member thereof.

"I have no quarrel with Mr. Charbonneau, but this committee has been working real hard at trying to find a fair solution for our needs of municipal buildings, and hopes to come up with some recommendations in the interests of all taxpayers at the special meeting to be held May 15."

Mr. Petrarca and Mr. Charbonneau are two members of the six-man committee appointed at the recent financial town meeting by moderator Judge James W. Leighton, to study possible schemes for the building a town hall, police station and fire station or combinations thereof.

Mr. Petrarca's call for Mr. Charbonneau's resignation prompted a series of comments from other committee members which point to cracks in the solidarity of the committee itself.

First was Mr. Charbonneau's reply to the criticism that Mr. Petrarca "is not neutral in his deliberations because of his statement in committee that no matter what the committee did he would favor purchase of the Gilman property. (The property

of Hector Gilman, Main St., is one of the sites the committee has considered.)

"I did not ask to be placed on this committee, Mr. Charbonneau said, but as a member thereof I have worked fully as hard as any member on it and I intend to continue to do so. I will not resign."

"It is my opinion that the politics being played by Mr. Petrarca in attacking another member of the committee, the only one who voted against his motion to purchase the Gilman property, is significant," he said.

Second in the chain of comments was former Lt. Gov. James O. McManus' comment on the dispute between his fellow committee members. He rapped the knuckles of Mr. Charbonneau, a fellow Republican, with an assertion that politics is "regrettably creeping into" the deliberation of the committee.

"I feel that the committee was appointed for the taxpayer, and there should be no politics in it for one will have nothing to do with politics in it," Mr. McManus said, adding that the committee is working hard in hopes it can come up with some "progressive recommendations" on May 15.

Committee chairman, Peter Diachun, could not be contacted for comment, and Dr. M. Irene Guertin, when asked for his comment said, "It is not my policy to criticize anyone."

But the remaining committee member, Secretary Clarence J. Coutu, declaring, "I am now, and have always been, connected with the Democratic party," he said, "It is not for me to say who should represent the Republican party on this committee. If Mr. Petrarca has no confidence in Mr. Charbonneau perhaps he should take up the question with Judge Leighton."

Mr. Coutu took the occasion to toss another barb at Town Council president Francis J. Fazzano, and the Democratic town administration: "In so far as Mr. Charbonneau's announcement that his party will submit a program is concerned, I notice that that suggestion was applauded by the Honorable Frank J. Fazzano, who is reported in today's Journal as having said that he approves of such action."

Mr. Fazzano said in a Journal story he agreed in one respect with Mr. Charbonneau and added, "correspondingly I feel the administration ought to have a plan to submit to the public."

Mr. Coutu added, "Mr. Petrarca was named to the committee to represent the Democratic party; apparently the Democratic representative on our committee and the Town Council president don't agree on policy."

To what extent the effect of the intra-committee disputes have weakened the group may become apparent Tuesday when it meets ostensibly to hear administration representatives on their views about proposed municipal buildings. That meeting however, seems threatened by the reluctance of Mr. Fazzano and other members of the Town Council to attend because they have taken umbrage at remarks recently contributed to Mr. Coutu.

When asked what he thought of Mr. Coutu's reported statement, that taxpayers at the special town meeting will have a chance to vote only on "what the bosses say is O.K.," apparently referring to the Democratic town administration, Mr. Petrarca said, "That's a lot of poppycock."

"I gave Charbonneau and Coutu hell in committee for jumping the gun on the bond issue," Mr. Petrarca said, referring to permissive legislation for a \$300,000 bond issue which Mr. Coutu and Mr. Charbonneau pushed into the legislative hopper in preparation for the committee's decision on what types of municipal buildings to build.

"I favor a bond issue now or in January," Mr. Petrarca said, "but I told them they should

work through committee and I think they shouldn't have jumped so soon or so fast. They should have consulted with the committee and administration."

Echoed in the statement of Mr. Petrarca, Mr. McManus and Dr. Guertin, was the hope that the committee, though shaken by the internal rumbling would as a whole or in part bring forth recommendations for taxpayers considerations.

W. Warwick Breaks Ground for School

S.J. April 3, 1959

Plunging a golden shovel into a broad meadow off Main Street in Crompton yesterday just as clouds moved across a feeble sun, Dr. Maisie E. Quinn broke the first ground for construction of West Warwick's new consolidated elementary school.

The superintendent of West Warwick schools opened brief ceremonies beginning work on the \$600,889 school designed by East Providence architect Michael Trafficante and to be built by F. W. Johnson and Son Construction Company of East Providence, shortly after 10 a.m. with about 30 town officials, interested citizens and a scattering of grammar school children looking on.

Chairman Vincent J. Lukowicz of the school building committee called on Town Council President Francis J. Fazzano and Town Solicitor Michael De Ciantis for their remarks. Both praised Mr. Trafficante for his design and Mr. Johnson for his "reputation as a fine builder of schools."

Mr. De Ciantis said he will confer today with a representative of the Industrial Trust Company to prepare papers for a \$200,000 loan

for construction of the 20-room school—the first public building constructed in West Warwick in several years—to be signed at tomorrow night's Town Council meeting.

The town solicitor turned to Dr. Quinn during his talk and said the ground breaking had special significance to "... Dr. Quinn who has given much to West Warwick. At last during her reign she is going to have a school."

Mr. Fazzano praised the West Warwick PTA units in his remarks, saying that, though he and they had had differences over school matters, they were to be commended for their help in realization of the school.

Others asked by Mr. Lukowicz to turn a spade of earth were Miss C. Loretta Nolan, principal of New London Avenue School, Miss Dorothy A. Danielson, president of the West Warwick Teacher's Alliance, Mr. Fazzano and Mr. De Ciantis. Speaking briefly were Mr. Trafficante and Mr. Johnson.

Among those present were members of the school committee, building committee and the West Warwick PTA Council.



At ground breaking ceremonies for new consolidated elementary school in Crompton yesterday, Town Council president Francis J. Fazzano takes turn at spade.

Combination Plan For W. Warwick Bldg. To Be on Warrant

P.J. April 13, 1957
A proposal to list a plan for construction of a combined town hall, police station and fire headquarters on the warrant for a special town meeting May 15 was voted last night by the West Warwick municipal buildings study committee.

The plan would locate the three-way building on the present site of the police station at Columbus Square. The plan would be the first place on the warrant for the meeting at which taxpayers will vote on committee proposals for erection of municipal buildings.

The committee agreed that any other proposals it will make at the meeting will be decided on in final form next Tuesday.

Town Clerk Mrs. Susan V. Lamb, invited to the meeting to give the committee estimates on how much room town hall offices would require in the design of any proposed structure including the town hall space, reminded the group that if they hope to have ready for taxpayer action at the meeting any recommendations, they must have the warrant in its final form in her office by April 29 to allow for posting according to law seven days before the meeting.

In a stormy meeting marked by numerous eruptions of feeling between committee members, the proposal for the combined structure on Columbus Square, contained in a motion by Secretary Clarence J. Coutu, passed 3-2 with James O. McManus abstaining because he felt he had not received enough information on the proposal to vote properly.

Leo B. Charbonneau, Mr. Coutu and William Moorehead voted for the proposal. Dr. Irene M. Guertin and Horace Petrarca voted against it.

The meeting began with Chairman Peter Diachun attempting to reconcile intra-committee differences caused by Mr. Petrarca's demand that Mr. Charbonneau resign from the committee. He asserted that the Republican town leader had destroyed his usefulness to the committee when his party announced it would present its own recommendations at the meeting.

However, Mr. Petrarca reiterated his assertion and Mr. Charbonneau again said he will not resign. The subject did not come up again.

Deficit Blamed On Police Trip, Bridge Collapse

P.J. April 18, 1957

West Warwick town Treasurer Robert J. Harrop said yesterday that the town was on a "pay-as-you-go" financial basis in the last fiscal year and will continue to be under the present year's budget.

Commenting on recommendations made in the State audit report made public yesterday, Mr. Harrop said only two unforeseeable events kept the town from operating without a deficit last year, the collapse of the Factory Street bridge and expense involved in returning a police prisoner from Louisiana.

Mr. Harrop said the actual operating deficit of fiscal year 1956-57 of \$9,824.36 listed in the report would not have occurred if the town had not had to contribute \$10,000 toward reconstruction of the bridge and \$1,000 in police expenses involved in bringing a man wanted for a murder charge back from Louisiana.

The town should be on a sound financial basis under provision of the current budget even though it is larger than last year's, Mr. Harrop said, because anticipated income will provide for both running the town and paying off some indebtedness.

"This, of course, is presuming that department heads can operate within their budgets and not come up with a deficit at the end of the year," he added.

The compulsory audit recommended that departmental appropriations be increased in cases where budgets are regularly overspent each year.

Mr. Harrop took exception to a published statement in the Evening Bulletin yesterday that the town has spent \$410,000 more than it appropriated since 1950.

"That statement is definitely not true," he said. "If you mean that we spent \$410,000 more than our income you are perhaps correct. But remember, for two consecutive years we went in deliberately to spend an accumulated surplus which was appropriated."

Mr. Harrop said, in reply to the audit recommendation that \$91,136 in uncollected back taxes be made the object of an intensified collection drive, that the figure represents taxes back to 1936.

"A good part of it is personal property of people no longer living here," he said.

Mr. Harrop said the town was unable to follow the audit suggestion that it take advantage of discounts by paying bills early

in some cases because the Town Council meets only once a month. Only the council is authorized to pay bills.

He said that the great majority of such discounts for prompt payment are taken by the town and that the yearly figure not saved on those discounts missed by later payment is "very small, \$15-20 a month."

He said it is usually only the bills offering discounts for payment within a ten-day period that the town can't take advantage of because of the monthly council meetings.

DeCiantis Says West Warwick Has Good Credit

Bulletin April 23, 1957

West Warwick's municipal credit rating is "very high" and the town could borrow the full \$1,200,000 authorized for a new school bond issue now, if it desired, Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis said last night.

He said a banker had told him the town would have no trouble borrowing. The town had \$1,552,000 gross debt at the end of the fiscal year last Feb. 28, most of it in sewer debt, although \$175,000 was in tax anticipation notes.

However, the town adminis-

tration plans to borrow on short term notes for this year and only in the amounts required from time to time to meet monthly costs of school construction and any purchase of recreation areas, he said.

During the current fiscal year, the administration should have all the figures on cost of the improvements, he said. He is hoping they will add up to less than \$1,000,000. Then, only that amount of bonds would be issued out of the authorized \$1,200,000.

"My idea is that the bonds should be issued as soon as possible," Mr. DeCiantis declared. "While we have gone ahead and are getting the money (as needed on short term notes, the first of which for \$200,000 was authorized by the Town Council this month), we're just paying the interest on that, so our principal doesn't reduce at all."

"The bonds should be issued soon after the March, 1958, annual town meeting, when a sufficient appropriation should be made to begin paying off the principal, as well as interest, on the debt," he said.

Only definite figure on the school improvements so far is \$600,089, the amount of the contract awarded to F. W. John & Son Co. for construction of a 20-room consolidated elementary school in Crompton. Mr. DeCiantis said indications that entire cost of the school, including the architect's fee, additional site work and other costs, may run up to \$750,000.

The school committee is working on estimates of cost of adding on to Harris Avenue School, and completely remodeling it, Mr. DeCiantis said. Under consideration is purchase of land behind the school, owned by Honorable Maynard.

Mr. DeCiantis has said the town can buy the land of former U.S. Sen. Felix Hebert off Payan Street, Arctic, for \$20,000 for a recreation center.

Two other proposed playfields are in Brookfield Hills, Natick, where the committee is negotiating with John Lawson, owner, and on Arctic Hill, where it is sounding out Webster Knight 2nd, owner of Greyholme Farm, about a purchase possibility.

If the school board is right that sale of four old wooden elementary schools to parishes would result in a savings of about \$75,000 a year to the town, that would pay for the principal and interest on the school bonds, Mr. DeCiantis said. School officials have estimated that, if the four old schools become parochial schools, they would attract several hundred present public school pupils.

Municipal Bldg. Site Is Rejected In W. Warwick

P.J. April 24, 1952

With Chairman Peter Diachun breaking a 3-3 deadlock, the West Warwick Municipal Building Study Committee last night voted 4 to 3 to rescind its previous vote tentatively to recommend purchase of the Gilman property, Riverpoint, for a municipal building site.

The committee thus has only one majority-approved recommendation to present taxpayers at a special town meeting May 15—construction of a combination town hall, police and fire station on the site of the pres-

ent police station on Columbus Square, Arctic.

William Moorehead, who had voted for the tentative Gilman property purchase recommendation April 2, moved to rescind the vote, saying many persons had asked him why the committee would want to recommend buying it with no building plans for it.

Voting with Mr. Moorehead to rescind were Clarence J. Coutu and Leo B. Charbonneau. Against rescinding were former Lt. Gov. James O. McManus, Horace L. Petrarca and Dr. M. Irene Guertin.

In breaking the tie, Mr. Diachun said, "So many have asked me what in God's name do we want to buy it for, with plans on which we can build on the present police station site. I feel I've got to go along and favor rescinding the vote on buying the Gilman property."

The meeting was marked by sharp clashes between Dr. Guertin and Raffaele Lamborghini, East Greenwich architect, who submitted sketches of a possible triple combination building at the behest of Mr. Coutu. Dr. Guertin appeared to favor possible use of the Gilman land for a town hall and some other arrangement, such as a combination police and fire station or separate stations for the protective forces.

Also clashing sharply were Mr. Petrarca and Mr. Charbonneau, after Mr. Petrarca took offense at what he termed "some nasty remarks" made by Mr. Charbonneau. By the end of the meeting, however, each said he had no hard feelings.

Mr. Lamborghini, who was paid personally by Mr. Coutu, inasmuch as the committee has no appropriation and had invited anyone willing to present sketches of possible buildings, estimated his three-story building would cost \$480,000 to \$485,000. An architect's fee, possibly 6 per cent of cost, plus any equipment such as furnishings would be on top of that.

Mr. Charbonneau last week had presented plans obtained by his Republican town committee for another triple combination building that would cost \$450,000 to \$550,000.

Dr. Guertin made it plain insurance firms were interested in bidding on the pension plan, Mr. Fazzano said some had called him personally once, but that he never heard from them again.

One fireman said at least six insurance firms had been to the fire department and obtained data on ages of the men, Mr. Fazzano said. Of the six, only three, including John Hancock Co., had submitted plans and, according to the fireman, the Hancock plan was the best liked, he said.

Technically, the Council last night instructed Town Treasurer Robert J. Harrop to send \$560 to the company, \$500 of which is an

Fazzano Disagrees

Municipal Building Proposal Criticized

P.J. April 25, 1952

Francis J. Fazzano, West Warwick Town Council president, last night declared he cannot agree with the majority decision of the town's municipal building study committee to recommend construction of a combination town hall, police and fire station.

Saying it is his personal stand, he advocated that taxpayers, at a special town meeting coming up May 15, approve use of the \$225,000 available from the postwar capital improvement fund to build only separate police and fire stations on their present sites.

He said it is his understanding

a new fire station can be built for about \$150,000. If necessary, adjoining land at the present fire station, could be bought from St. James Church and some private owners, he said. Dr. M. Irene Guertin of the study unit has said two houses could be bought for \$15,000 and church land shouldn't be over \$5,000.

"I am in favor of either remodeling or replacing the present police station at its location," he said, "providing the total cost of the fire and police stations could be met by the postwar building fund." He said he had talked to public safety officials throughout the state and many agreed it is not practical to have police and firemen in one building. However, he added, "I suppose anyone can give many arguments pro and con."

"I like the present site of the fire station, as it has worked so well to date," he said. "I can see the advantage of having a police station right in the center of the business district."

If the two projects can be completed within the \$225,000 figure, no increase in taxes would be needed, he declared. "And I say this, not from the standpoint of politics, but strictly from the standpoint of what I believe to be an administration obligation to taxpayers in such times as these."

Bridge last night.

Police said the accident happened at 5:46 p.m. when Mr. Arvezon's car collided with another being operated by Vincent J. Salzillo, 34, of 35 Myra St., Providence. There were no injuries.

Mr. Arvezon was examined by Dr. Arthur M. Dell, police surgeon, and pronounced unfit to drive. He was locked up overnight for arraignment this

Building Study Unit Expected To Finish Work

The West Warwick Municipal Building Study Committee is expected to complete most of its work tonight at 8:30 in the Club Frontenac, Arctic.

Committee recommendations are to go before taxpayers for a vote at a special town meeting May 15 in the high school.

The board last week split, 3-2, when it voted to seek listing of a plan for construction of a combined town hall, police and fire station on the site of the present police station in proposals for the town meeting warrant to be drawn by Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis.

While a \$500,000 capital improvements bond issue bill is apparently dead in committee in the General Assembly, because of Town Council failure to approve it, Francis J. Fazzano, council president, has said such legislation could be sought next January, if needed.

The town has a postwar capital improvement fund said to be worth \$225,000, if securities are cashed. If taxpayers want to spend more than that on any municipal building or buildings, the bond issue legislation would be necessary.

The current bond bill, which calls for a referendum, was introduced in both Houses at the behest of Clarence J. Coutu, study committee secretary, and Leo B. Charbonneau, committee member and Republican town chairman.

Dissension on the committee has apparently stemmed from the same trouble the town has had with respect to municipal building plans in the past. As an observer put it, "It's hard to get people to agree on what's best for the town. Every man has his own idea."

"The bonds should be issued soon after the March, 1958, annual town meeting, when a sufficient appropriation should be made to begin paying off the principal, as well as interest, on the debt," he said.

Only definite figure on the school improvements so far is \$600,089, the amount of the contract awarded to F. W. John & Son Co. for construction of a 20-room consolidated elementary school in Crompton. Mr. DeCiantis said indications that entire cost of the school, including the architect's fee, additional site work and other costs, may run up to \$750,000.

The school committee is working on estimates of cost of adding on to Harris Avenue School, and completely remodeling it, Mr. DeCiantis said. Under consideration is purchase of land behind the school, owned by Honorable Maynard.



Sitting one out: Councilmen and police at West Warwick Policemen's Ball last night in Club 400, Natick. Huddled together on question of proposed municipal building. Discussing pros and cons are (l-r) Councilman Antonio Paul, Council President Francis J. Fazzano, Lt. Joseph Pontarelli, Captain Henry F. Miller Jr., Cpl. William Gallucci, Chief Arthur Gareau and Town Treasurer Robert Harrop.—Times Photo

DOOR OPEN TO OTHER PROPOSALS BUT THEY "MUST BE SPECIFIC"

Times April 26, 1953

Says Town Solicitor DeCiantis in Regards to Town Meeting Warrant.—Dr. Guertin Says, "We Will Have Something Tangible to Present."

Not flinching from any effects of the bombshell he exploded yesterday, that to date the May 15 town meeting warrant should include only the three-way building proposition, Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick, today declared that the door is still open to other proposals but they must be specific.

In his announcement yesterday the town solicitor said that from what he could see from the reports of the municipal building committee the only recommendation from it would be a three-way building and that is all that should be in the call of the town meeting.

At the wind-up meeting of the building committee last Tuesday the majority voted that the town meeting call include the committee recommendation, a three-way building for police and fire stations and town hall offices be built at site of the present police station in Arctic for about \$480,000 unfurnished.

When asked to elaborate on his announcement yesterday, Mr. DeCiantis said, "Where there is an expenditure of money involving a special proposition to be considered by the taxpayers for the purchasing of property, the question in the warrant must be definite and specific, otherwise, consideration of it in the town meeting will be of no consequence."

"Means Nothing"

"For example, to place a proposition in the warrant by merely saying, 'Shall a building be erected for a fire station' and then stop there and not include the approximate cost and the location means nothing."

When asked if the purchase of the Gilman property would be included in the warrant, Mr. DeCiantis said: "As to the purchase of land that evidently has been defeated in the committee. Whether or not the minority will request the town council for any proposition in the warrant is something we don't know and until we do, it stands now the only definite and specific proposal is the three-way building."

When advised of this stand by the town's top legal officer, Dr. M. Irene Guertin, who identified himself as a minority member of the building committee, said: "We will have something tangible to present to the town council to have included in the town meeting warrant."

Dr. Guertin would not elaborate, but from his participation in past committee meetings, it is expected the minority requests will include the building of separate police and fire stations on the sites on which they are now located in Arctic, with the cost to be met by the \$225,000 post-war fund.

Legal and Binding

Mr. DeCiantis said that up to this time the town council has no report or any legal proposition to be submitted on the warrant.

"I want to make certain," he continued, "that the proposition that will be submitted to the taxpayers will be legal and binding when adopted and it is my duty to do so." On this point the town solicitor stressed that if an expenditure above the post-war fund were to be made and which would

require a bond issue, bond attorneys would require town meeting action legal and binding.

Referring to the majority report of a three-way building, Mr. DeCiantis said that proposal is definite and specific in that it proposes the location, the cost and the type of building to be constructed.

"There can't be any question as to that property but as to any other, we have nothing and until we receive the request there is nothing we can do about it," he said.

De Ciantis bucks economic facts

Once bitten, twice shy is an old adage that apparently goes unheeded in West Warwick town government.

The state auditor recently scolded the town for repeatedly spending more than its annual income.

Now Michael De Ciantis, town solicitor and Democratic town chairman, is proposing a fiscal exploit that not only will aggravate overspending this year, but probably will needlessly cost taxpayers many dollars for many years to come.

The town has authority to issue \$1,200,000 in bonds for new school construction. But instead of issuing bonds in amounts as needed, the town administration plans to borrow cash under bank notes. Then, next year, it will sell the bonds, using revenue to pay off the notes.

If this procedure ever was smart fiscal management, it isn't now in view of today's trends in the money market.

First, the town's overall spending this year will be increased to pay interest on the notes. So the town again risks doing what the state auditor said it shouldn't do; namely, spend more than it takes in from taxes.

Second, by borrowing on notes, the town for one whole year will make no payment on the principal of

its new school debt. It needlessly will deprive itself of a year's head-start in paying off this debt.

Of course, the administration would have to raise more revenue this year to start paying off school debt if bonds were issued right away. But the debt must be paid off, beginning next year, anyway.

Third, and most important of all, the bond market for a year has been progressively becoming more unfavorable from the point of view of a town wanting to sell bonds. Interest rates have gone up by about one-half per cent during the past few months.

Since municipal school bonds must compete with all other municipal and state bonds for the investment dollar, you can bet Aunt Minnie's umbrella the interest rate on bonds next year will be up another percentage point or more from today's market unless the nation's economy shifts sharply.

So when West Warwick gets around to selling its school bonds next year, it runs the almost certain risk of having to pay an interest rate considerably higher than what it would pay today.

Mr. De Ciantis' fling in high finance doesn't make economic sense, even if it does postpone a tax raise until next year.



Once a politician, always a politician, even at the West Warwick Police Relief Association ball last night at Club 400, Natick, where these town administration leaders

and police preferred talking to dancing. At least they chose an appropriate subject: a new police station. About 700 other people danced.

—State Staff Photo by John B. Lake Jr.

P.T. April 26, 1953

P.S. April 23, 1952

DeCiantis Says Town's Credit Rating 'High'

West Warwick's municipal credit rating is "very high" and the town could borrow the full \$1,200,000 authorized for a new school bond issue now, if it desired, Town Solicitor Michael De Ciantis said last night.

He said a banker had told him the town would have no trouble borrowing. The town had \$1,552,000 gross debt at the end of the fiscal year last Feb. 28, most of it in sewer debt, although \$175,000 was in tax anticipation notes.

However, the town administration plans to borrow on short term notes for this year and only in the amounts required from time to time to meet monthly costs of school construction and any purchase of recreation areas, he said.

During the current fiscal year, the administration should have all the figures on cost of the improvements, he said. He is hoping they will add up to less than \$1,000,000. Then, only that amount of bonds would be issued out of the authorized \$1,200,000.

"My idea is that the bonds should be issued as soon as possible," Mr. De Ciantis declared. "While we have gone ahead and are getting the money (as needed on short term notes, the first of which for \$200,000 was authorized by the Town Council this month), we're just paying the interest on that, so our principal doesn't reduce at all."

Lone Proposal May Face Vote

P.S. April 26, 1952

But West Warwick's Council Could Alter Municipal Bldg. Item

Unless the Town Council decides to incorporate provisions in the warrant for a May 15 special West Warwick town meeting for a vote on separate police and fire station, the taxpayers apparently are set to vote only on a combined town hall, police and fire station.

This was evident last night when Clarence J. Coutu, secretary of the special municipal building study committee, said he is preparing a formal recommendation to the Council calling for just the combined building vote.

Francis J. Fazzano, Town Council president, asked last night whether the Council would, in effect, override the majority of the study committee, said he will have to wait until the recommendations are received formally.

He has openly advocated that the taxpayers be given an opportunity to vote for a separate police station to be built on the present station site and a separate fire station, if both can be built within the \$225,000 available from the postwar capital improvement fund.

Mr. Coutu, who told Raffaele Lamborghini, East Greenwich architect, out of his own pocket for preliminary rough sketches of a possible three-way building, said the building is estimated to cost \$480,000, plus another \$30,000 for the architect's fee and other costs. That \$510,000 total would be the figure to use, unless new equipment for the building is desired, he said.

If new equipment is wanted, the town would have to figure another 10 per cent on top of that, or \$561,000, he said. But town officials have said they would not need new equipment, he added. He said it would no doubt be desirable.

"The three-way building will be the only thing to be voted on, as far as we are concerned," he said, speaking for the majority of the committee. The board voted 4-3, after Chairman Peter Diachun had broken a tie vote, to rescind a previous motion to tentatively consider recommending purchase of the Hector Gilman property on Main Street for a municipal building site.

The proposed three-way building would be located on the present police station site.

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1953 April 23, 1957

Building Chief Calls Town Hall Condition 'Poor'

West Warwick Building Inspector Willie Regnaiere yesterday said the condition of the town hall is "poor" and listed a number of structural defects which, he concluded, make it unsatisfactory as a town office.

Asked if he would condemn the building, Mr. Regnaiere said he "can't condemn it altogether, but I wouldn't permit a building like it to be built anywhere else."

Criticizing the capacity of the building to support heavy equipment and "people at meetings," Mr. Regnaiere, who has been building inspector since 1948, said "the town hall was built long ago . . . for a home. It was not built as strongly as a building which is to serve as a hall."

"As building inspector, I consider the condition of the building as poor. As a taxpayer, I believe something should be done about it," the inspector said.

"I wouldn't go for buying another building that has been used as a house," Mr. Regnaiere said when asked if he thought the town could relocate its administrative offices in another former residence,

like the Gilman house off Main Street urged for purchase by the town by some members of the municipal buildings study committee.

"That would be going backward. You have to have a building that will support the business of a Town Hall," he said.

He said a building housing the town hall, police and fire station would be cheaper by a third both to construct and maintain.

Among other points which Mr. Regnaiere listed as unsound in the present Town Hall on Pike Street were:

Floors: "The floor shows signs of deflection. By that I mean it is uneven."

Stairways: "The stairway is narrow and is a turning stairway. For a public building I consider it a hazardous stairway."

Fire safety: "There are no fire stops in the building. There is no flue in the chimney. The heating system is an antique; it does not distribute heat equally."

Space: "The quarters are cramped. The office space of most departments is too small. And the space is poorly distributed."



West Warwick Town Hall, photographed many years ago.

Legalities May Block Fire Station

Former Lt. Gov. James O. MacManus, a member of the West Warwick municipal building committee, yesterday said legalities might block construction of a new expanded fire station at the site of the present station.

Terms in the will of the late Rev. James P. Gibson, who owned the land adjacent to the present fire station which would be necessary to build a larger station there and which is now owned by St. James Parish, might preclude use of the St. James parcel for anything other than religious or educational purposes.

Mr. MacManus said another stipulation of the priest's will might throw legal cold water on using the present fire station site for off-street parking if the fire and police stations are jointly housed with the town hall in a three-way building on the present site of the police station.

In a prepared statement, Mr. MacManus said, "Father Gibson owned land, in his own individual right, now owned by St. James Parish. I am informed it might be possible to purchase the required additional land fronting on Main Street from the St. James Church Corporation. . .

"In his will, Father Gibson devised as follows: 'I give and bequeath to St. Mary's corporation of Crompton, R.I., . . . my lot of land with the buildings thereon, situated in Arctic Centre (commonly called the Grove Hall Estate) provided it be used for religious or educational purposes, for the benefit of the English speaking members of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Parish,'" Mr. MacManus said.

The lot of land was later acquired from St. Mary's Parish by St. James' Parish. "Title examiners with whom I have discussed this matter have told me that, in their

opinion, the words 'religious or educational purposes' are words of limitation running with the lands devised for a fire station, and further, that they would not clear the title for the purpose," Mr. MacManus said.

He called for a decision from Town Solicitor Michael De Ciantis as to how good a title the town could get from St. James Parish before the town spent money for building a fire station there.

As to using the present police site for off-street parking space, Mr. MacManus said, "in the deed from the Rev. James P. Gibson to Warwick and Coventry fire district under which Father Gibson conveyed the site of the fire station to the fire district for \$650 it is clearly stated that the premises conveyed shall be for no other public purpose whatsoever. "This certainly precludes off-street parking."

Building Plans Many, Varied

West Warwick taxpayers' heads were swimming last week, as history repeated itself and everyone got into the act advocating his version of the kind of new municipal building the town needs and can afford.

"One day the building study committee comes out for a combined town hall, police and fire station," said one bewildered citizen. "The next day someone else calls for separate police and fire stations and no town hall, or the purchase of land."

"Then," he continued, "someone else says the Gilman mansion could serve as a town hall, or the town will some day build a new high school and the old one can be turned into a town hall. Boy, I don't mind saying I'm confused."

Another oldtimer said the pattern was developing as it always has — too many different ideas with the result everything just stays as it is.

But the situation had not crystallized at week's end and apparently won't until the warrant for the upcoming special town meeting on May 15 is drawn and publicized by the Town Council and Town Solicitor Michael De Ciantis.

Committee Splits

By a 4-3 vote, the municipal building study committee named by Moderator James W. Leighton at last month's annual town meeting voted to recommend the triple combination only. That would apparently, narrow down the voting field. A figure of \$480,000, plus perhaps \$30,000 for architects' fees and other costs was mentioned.

The four-man majority favoring the triple combination town hall, police and fire station to be built on the present police station location consists of Chairman Peter Diachun, who broke a tie after the board became hung 3-3; Clarence J. Couty, William Moorehead and Leo B. Charbonneau.

Dr. M. Irene Guertin, a longtime civic planner and father of the theaterium at the high school, appeared to be sparking the minority

group. Its other members, former Lt. Gov. James O. MacManus and former Rep. Horace L. Petracca, reportedly met with him Thursday to prepare a minority report.

Town administration leaders were seen as welcoming a minority report with open arms, especially if, as it seems it might tend to recommend separate police and fire stations. The administration would rather have that and finance them with the \$225,000 available from the post-war capital improvement fund than go into a more expensive combination structure that would require further borrow-

ing now, spokesmen such as Francis J. Fazzano, Council president, and Town Solicitor Michael De Ciantis, have said.

Mr. Petracca also has maintained that he would present a resolution asking taxpayers to buy the Hector Gilman property, a mansion and land on Main Street, Riverpoint. Mr. Gilman has asked \$55,000 for the property, but Mr. Petracca thinks it could be bought for \$50,000 or even less.

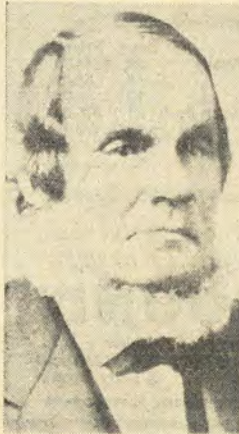
The building study committee last week by a 4-3 vote rescinded a previously successful motion by Mr. Petracca, that it would recommend tentatively the purchase of the Gilman property for a municipal building site. Dr. Guertin has said that the Gilman mansion, formerly the S. H. Greene estate, could be converted into a town hall to replace the present location, the former Pike mansion, bought in 1913 when the town was separated from Warwick.

The majority faction, it was reported, will ask that its proposal for the triple combination building be voted on first at the May 15 meeting. This would mean that any minority recommendations that might be placed in the town meeting warrant by the town administration would lose out if a majority vote passed the triple combination plan before others could be considered. The majority believes that, such, it is entitled to a first vote.

Mr. MacManus has said, and Mr. DeCiantis has agreed, that the call, or warrant, for a special town meeting must be specific as to what exactly is to be voted upon by the taxpayers.

Exactly what is to go into the warrant for the meeting will have to be decided in time to permit printing of the warrant and its posting throughout the town by several days before the meeting.

The possibility exists that the taxpayers may not know until seven days before the meeting just what they will be asked to vote upon, if anything, besides the three-way building.



David Pike

Daniel Pike Built Present Town Hall

Daniel Pike, an early Pawtuxet Valley businessman whose fortune, local historians say, built the Pike mansion on Pike St., which is now the West Warwick town hall.

The exact date of construction of the Pike mansion has not been definitely determined, students of Valley history report, but engineers and building experts who have inspected the building say it is approximately 100 years old. The building was purchased for temporary use as a town hall in 1913.

Gareau Opposes Combination

Firm opposition to any plan to house the police and fire departments of West Warwick was voiced by Fire Chief Lionel P. Gareau in a prepared statement.

Saying that a proposed combination fire-police station and town hall would reduce his department's efficiency in getting to fire and cramp the training of his men, Chief Gareau called for a new fire station on the present station site.

"Unless the committee (the

municipal buildings study committee) can show me a better location, where we can have all the proper facilities for training and we can better our efficiency in responding to fire alarms, I will not agree to any other plan or location," he said.

The chief said that "as a taxpayer" he felt separate police and fire stations can be built for the \$225,000 available from the post war capital improvements fund without need of a bond issue.

he is preparing a formal recommendation to the Council call-

that, or \$561,000, he said. But these officials have said, they

MAJORITY, MINORITY REPORTS FILED WITH TOWN CLERK HERE THIS MORNING

Times April 29, 1957

Former Favors Triple-Combination Bldg.—Later for Separate Construction.—DeCiantis Says St. James Will Not Sell Land for Building.

Separate reports were filed today by two factions of the West Warwick municipal building committee with the town clerk containing recommendations to be included in the call of the special financial town meeting, May 15. One represented a majority report by Dr. M. Irene Guertin of the seven-man committee.

The majority would construct a triple combination building at site of the present police station in Arctic and the minority would put up separate buildings for the town hall, police and fire stations, the latter two at their present sites and the former on the Gilman land.

At the same time, Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis took a big chunk out of the minority report. When asked if the town could legally acquire the St. James' Church property for a new building, the town solicitor said "this is no problem because it is my understanding that the property is not for sale under any circumstance."

Included in Report

Two recommendations were included in the report of the majority of the committee members filed shortly before 10 a.m. today with Town Clerk Mrs. Susan V. Lamb.

They were: 1—"Shall the town of West Warwick erect a municipal building for the purpose of housing the police and fire departments and town offices on the town-owned property known as the police station site, at a cost not to exceed \$550,000; and shall the entire post-war capital improvement fund consisting of approximately \$225,000 be expended for that said purpose.

2—"Shall a committee be appointed for the purpose of erecting a combination police station, fire station and town hall; shall said committee be authorized to expend the post-war capital improvement fund or so much thereof as may be needed in discharge of its said function."

Representing the majority of the committee which approved the above recommendation at the final committee meeting last Tuesday are Peter Diachun, chairman, Clarence J. Coutu, William Moorehead and Leo B. Charbonneau. Mr. Coutu, Mr. Moorehead and Mr. Charbonneau were at the town hall this morning.

Filed by Dr. Guertin

The recommendations of the minority filed with the town clerk by Dr. Guertin follow:

"To buy the Gilman property on Main Street for a sum not to exceed \$50,000 for municipal buildings purposes.

"To build a fire station at its present location at a price not to exceed \$150,000; to buy the James Pryor property in the rear

adjoining the fire station building at a sum not to exceed \$10,000; to buy a small parcel of land from St. James' parish for a sum not to exceed \$5000 measuring as follows: from fire station building corner along Main Street 30 feet, along the driveway of St. James' parish 94 feet, coming back to the fire station corner along Mr. deTonnancourt's property 50 feet, Mr. Pryor's property, St. James' parcel of land and fire building not to exceed the amount of \$165,000 to be paid out of the post-war fund.

"To build a police station at its present location for a sum not to exceed \$80,000 to be paid out of the post-war fund.

"To build police and fire stations at the present police station location for a sum not to exceed \$225,000 to be paid out of the post-war fund."

Figures Are Listed

In addition to its recommendations the majority report listed figures on the other buildings which it had discussed during its weekly meetings since Apr. 2. They were: single police station, \$60,000; single fire station, \$150,000. "Both of these prices do not include needed garages and in the case of the fire station, land acquisition," the report stated.

Also, single town hall, \$325,000; purchase of Gilman property at a price of \$55,000 or less.

The majority report stated in part: "It was the unanimous opinion of the committee and of all people interviewed that the town is in dire need of new buildings to house the police department, fire department and the town hall.

"The committee worked long and diligently with honest differences of opinion expressed in completely open meetings. Our purpose was to acquaint the general public with the problems involved and to publicize the various solutions presented. That the problems are many and complex, is true. Our duty, however, was to come up with the best and most economical solutions and we sincerely believe that we have done so."

Statement by Guertin

Dr. Guertin released the following statement:

"Taxpayers of West Warwick at the last financial town meeting a committee of seven was appointed to try to find a solution of the municipal building problem in the town, and report at a special meeting on May 15.

"I regret to say that four of the committee had their minds set from the beginning of our deliberations with no room for compromises. Now I feel, under these circumstances, I am forced to offer a minority report.

"If I only had the majority re-

Samson Says Gilman Site is Ideal for a Town Hall

Local Architect of Opinion That the Present Police Station Area Not Big Enough for 3-Way Building.

A member of a West Warwick architectural firm said today that when he went to visit the Gilman property, Main Street, Riverpoint, at request of a member of the municipal building committee he was "impressed" and "amazed" towards its feasibility as a town hall.

Louis R. Samson, architect, said that upon invitation of Dr. M. Irene Guertin of the building committee, he made an inspection of the Gilman dwelling and that he was "impressed by the layout of the building, the materials used in its original construction and its location."

Mr. Samson said that subsequently Dr. Guertin hired him to draw plans of the buildings in operation as a town hall and "the plan worked out so easy for town hall requirements that he was amazed at its facility including large, spacious rooms."

He estimated it would cost not above \$75,000 to convert the building into a town hall. This coupled with the mentioned purchase price of \$55,000 would put the total cost at \$125,000 for a new town hall, he said.

Mr. Samson said that "there is definitely not enough space for construction of a combination police and fire station and town hall on the site of the present police station in Arctic. He further stated that the noise of a fire station would disturb employees in town hall departments to such an extent that the work load would probably necessitate the addition of more help.

"The Gilman property is considered by this architect's office as an ideal location for a town hall, due to its property subdivision and parking facilities. It is possible to park a maximum of 75 cars within the property itself.

This parking condition would not prevail were the town hall located in the Arctic district.

Modernize Building

"Another advantage in choosing the Gilman property is the fact that the remodelings would modernize the building and give it a suburban look that you could never achieve if the town hall were in Arctic, due to the fact that it would be cramped in so small a space that the beauty of the building would not be enhanced by any of its surroundings."

Mr. Samson said the proposed conversion of the Gilman property for town hall purposes would contain record vaults, boiler room and storage rooms in the basement. The first floor would contain the tax assessor's office, town clerk's general office, record vault, council room, mailing and addressing room, lobby, ladies and men's rooms. The second floor would contain offices for the tax collector, school department, building inspector, town treasurer, storage rooms and ladies' and men's rooms.

"As a taxpayer in West Warwick and as the only registered architectural office in the town I am interested in its development, but I am also interested in various factors that may tend to increase my taxes. I am not interested in building a monument to some building committee or to some organization. My only thought at this time is to secure the three proposed buildings at a minimum cost," Mr. Samson said.

With the cost of a new combination police and fire station at \$225,000 the entire cost of the municipal buildings should not exceed \$350,000, he said.



The recommendation of the majority members of the West Warwick municipal building committee which calls for construction of a three-way building in Arctic for police and fire stations and town hall offices was handed this morning to Town Clerk Susan V. Lamb. Committee members, left to right, are Clarence J. Coutu, William Moorehead and Leo B. Charbonneau. —Times Photo

Taxpayers to Have Choice of Municipal

The third of the six possibilities the minority members of the West Warwick Municipal Building Advisory Committee has asked to be included in the warrant for the May 15 special financial town meeting cannot be inserted in the call. Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis ruled shortly before noon today.

He issued a press release to this effect simultaneously with giving official notice to Frances J. Fazzano, Town Council president. The proposal that the Council last night ordered included, among others in the warrant which cannot now be legally made a part of the call under the DeCiantis ruling, pertains to purchase of property from St. James parish for enlargement of the site of a new fire station.

Mr. DeCiantis said that his ruling is in accordance with notice given him by the Rev. Thomas H. Greeley, pastor of St. James, that no part of any land owned by the church is for sale, "under any circumstances," and that he does not want the name of the church used in any way in connection with the proposal of the Municipal Building Advisory Committee.

West Warwick taxpayers will have an opportunity to vote on recommendations of both the majority and minority factions of the special municipal building study committee, the Town Council decided last night.

Several attorneys in the town administration took part in the

meeting, helping to iron out confusion after majority and minority reports were filed yesterday in the Town Hall.

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis reported that a cursory investigation indicates that a restriction in the deed of the St. James Church property would apparently prevent the town's getting a clear title, granted that the parish corporation wishes to sell part of its land for new fire station purposes. The restriction, that the land be used for religious or educational purposes only, could be enforced by any member of the church corporation, he said.

But the consensus seemed to be that the matter will be placed before taxpayers, to whom the possible problem will be explained.

Francis J. Fazzano, Council president, instructed Mr. DeCiantis to include these six possibilities to be voted on by taxpayers at a special town meeting May 15 in the junior high school.

1—Construction of a combined town hall, police and fire station on the present police station site, not to exceed \$550,000 and to be financed partly with \$225,000 from the postwar fund. This was the only recommendation of the committee majority.

2—Purchase of the Hector Gilman property, Main Street, Riverpoint, for a sum not to exceed \$50,000 for municipal building purposes.

3—Construction of a fire station for \$150,000 on the present site, plus purchase of the James Pryor land and building in the rear of the present station property for \$10,000 and adjoining St. James Church land not to exceed \$5,000.

4—Erection of a separate police

station on the present police station site for \$60,000.

5—Erection of a combination police and fire station at the present police station site, using the \$225,000.

6—A vote, considered as a single item, for the erection of separate police and fire stations on their present sites, not to exceed \$225,000.

Harry F. McKenna Jr., for Council president and attorney pointed out that a request of committee majority, made by Clarence J. Coutu, secretary, for inclusion of appointment of a building committee, could not legally be advertised. Under the law, Mr. McKenna said, the Town Council must erect a municipal building, other than a school.

Other attorneys taking part in the discussion were Probate Judge Eugene J. Laferriere, Town Treasurer Robert J. Harrop, and Felix Appolonia.

Mr. Fazzano suggested that ballots with the six possibilities be given to taxpayers with instructions to vote for only one. The consensus was that it is unlikely one of the six would get the necessary majority of votes. It was suggested that the one receiving the most votes could be put up for a "yes" or "no" majority vote on it.

The majority report apparently intended to make provision for architectural fees, but there was no indication that the minority report did so. The discussion also brought out that equipment for the triple combination building would probably cost an additional \$100,000.

Mr. DeCiantis estimated that the \$350,000 proposal alone would cost about \$25,000-\$30,000 a year in bond principal and interest payments

and would mean a three to 3.5 per cent tax increase. He said the \$100,000 for equipment really would be needed as well, making \$425,000 that would have to be borrowed besides using the \$225,000 available.

Mr. DeCiantis explained that, in 1891, there was a deed by which the late Rev. James P. Gibson con-

veyed to the town the present Arctic fire station stands to the former Warwick and Coventry Fire District, stipulating it was to be used only for fire purposes "and to be let for no other purposes."

When in 1947, the property was conveyed to the town for establishment of a permanent fire depart-

Building Proposals

ment purposes for the English-speaking members of St. Mary's Church, Crompton.

On Sept. 29, 1890, Father Gibson had executed a will leaving to St. Mary's Corporation the Grove Hall Estate, the land where St. James Church, Arctic, is now located. He made two codicils to the will. In the last in October, 1891, he stipulated that, having in the meantime, conveyed the Grove Hall land to St. Mary's Corporation, the will was not applicable as far as it was concerned.

The will made bequests to a Boston home and hospital and to other charities, but "there is no question the will has no effect on this land, as the deed came after the will was made," Mr. DeCiantis said, "Father Gibson died Jan. 3, 1892."

In 1916, St. Mary's Corporation conveyed the present St. James Church property to the St. James Corporation "with no conditions at all," he said.

"It was Father Gibson's intent here that the land be used for religious and educational purposes, but he didn't go far enough," he said. "He didn't say that, if that restriction was violated, it would revert to anyone."

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ever abandoned it for fire purposes, it could be used for a library," Mr. DeCiantis said. "But the St. James Church Corporation trustees wrote a letter saying that, if the town abandoned the fire station and land, it would revert to St. James Church Corporation."

Mr. DeCiantis said title guaranty specialists declined to tell him off-hand whether they would clear the title on the church land, if the church were willing to sell it. Former Lt. Gov. James O. McManus of the building study committee has said a title man told him he could not give a clear title to the property but that the stipulation "for religious or educational" purposes would have to stand.

"It's not a reversion. It's a restriction," said Judge Laferriere. "Any member of the church corporation can enforce the restriction."

"I agree," said Mr. DeCiantis. "It carries a restriction (that it be used for religious or educational purposes) that can be enforced by any member of the church corporation. If they do, they can prevent St. James Church from selling it."

"You could bring a bill in equity (in court) to clear the title," said Judge Laferriere.

Mr. Fazzano, before the decision on the six possibilities for the town meeting warrant, declared that, last month, Mr. Coutu and Chairman Peter Diachun of the study committee asked the council to include about eight items in the warrant.

"Now the majority wants this and the minority that," said Mr. DeCiantis. "There's been more confusion than anything I've ever seen in regard to this thing. Shouldn't the council, in fairness, include the specific items of both the majority and minority in the warrant and tell the taxpayers of the title defect in the possible St. James land purchase."

"You're never going to build and equip a triple combination building for \$550,000," declared Mr. Fazzano. "Over four years ago, Judge Quinn (Judge Robert E. Quinn, planning commission chairman) said it would cost more than \$1,000,000 to build one."

During the discussion, Mr. Fazzano asserted, "the Gilman land might be a pretty good investment if we bought the property right."

Mr. Appolonia predicted the taxpayers either will vote for separate police and fire station, or the fund will remain intact for lack of a majority vote.

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Objections to Council On Decision to Name Another Building Committee

Within hours after West Warwick Town Council had announced it would drop the recommendation of the municipal building committee to have another building committee named at the special May 15 town meeting, objections began to be voiced.

Francis J. Fazzano, town council president, said the town meeting does not have to appoint a building committee unless new schools are to be built. In stronger language, the council head said the town council feels it has no right to submit that request of the building committee in the call of the town meeting in that new buildings with exception of schools are the job of the administration.

Clarence J. Coutu, a member of the building committee, in taking issue with Mr. Fazzano, pointed to the town of Coventry which, at a town meeting, appointed a building committee to erect a new town hall and today the committee is honored by a plaque placed in the town hall building in Washington.

ST. JAMES WILL NOT SELL LAND

In a statement just before noon today, Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis confirmed what he related to the TIMES yesterday, St. James Church, Arctic will not sell its land to the town for a site for a new fire station.

Mr. DeCiantis said "I have been authorized to state by Rev. Thomas J. Greeley, pastor of St. James Church, Arctic, that the church will not sell the land under any circumstances and there is objection to the use of the name of the church in this confusion and controversy."

The town solicitor said that in view of this notice from Father Greeley he doesn't see how he can include in the call of the May 15 town meeting the proposal of the Town Council to build separate police and fire stations at their present sites. He said he would relate this to the council members as soon as possible.

W. Warwick Puts Idle Money to Work Drawing Interest

The West Warwick Town Council last night moved to put some idle money to work bringing in more money from the federal government than the town is paying for its use.

Councilmen instructed Town Treasurer Robert J. Harrop to invest \$175,000 of the \$200,000 recently borrowed through bond anticipation notes for erection of a new elementary school.

Mr. Harrop said he can put the money to work drawing interest until it is needed to pay the school contractor.

He will invest it in U.S. Treasury short term notes paying three per cent, whereas the town is paying the Industrial National slightly less than that in interest on the bond anticipation loan, he said.

The contractor's bills will be coming in monthly soon, as groundbreaking was held recently at the job site.

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