

Editorials

Students asked to campaign against passage of 1.5 percent limitation

Because of the new rule imposed by the School Board, political literature, or other activities on any political candidate or issue are not seen too often in the school.

That is, except one issue which naturally the School Board would approve of, as it directly concerns the schools.

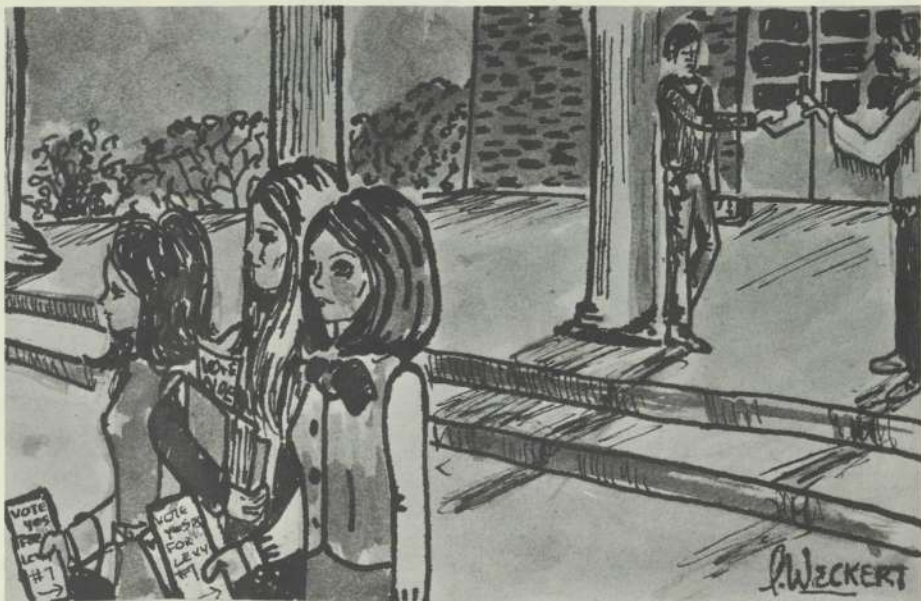
This issue is number seven on the ballot, the 1½ per cent tax limitation measure. Literature concerning this was given to all parents attending Back To School Night last week.

Exactly how does this measure affect the schools? According to a pamphlet provided by the Citizens for Schools Committee, approximately 91,000 students, including those at Portland Community College, attend school in the city. This educational program is financed with a general fund budget of \$61.3 million. \$43.3 million of this amount is derived from property tax levies.

The proposed constitutional amendment would limit property taxes for operating purposes to 1.5 per cent of true cash value of property. The 1968-69 property tax levies for all units of government are equal to \$28.93 per \$1,000 of true cash value, or 2.89 per cent. The proposed property tax limitation would reduce the amount of money available from property taxes to educate by 48 per cent.

If such a reduction were made, the immediate revenue loss to the Portland Public School's general fund would be about \$20,500,000.

Therefore, the Grantonian staff advocates a no vote on this measure, if we have the right to do so.



1968 Republicans offer labor promises

Republican party presents philosophy on labor; beliefs on economic status

According to *Business Week*, of August 19, 1968, the 1964 Republican campaign has been written off and the 1968 Republicans are now working to avoid the "1960 policy trap" in which Richard Nixon had to say "me too" to John Kennedy's proposals for increasing the rate of economic growth—the principal economic issue of the 1960's."

Business Week claims that GOP economists believe their candidate will easily seize the intellectual initiative in the campaign. They say that the candidate of the "out party" will have far more freedom to attack old, and propose new, programs "than was possible eight years ago."

"Almost surely," *Business Week* says, Republicans will seek changes in the United States tax system as the main weapon for fostering economic and social change."

U.S. News and World Report, of August 19, 1968, presents "What Republicans offer on labor."

For the worker, *U.S. News* says that the Republican platform has a plank on labor that "offers a hope that the 40-hour work week—in effect for the last thirty years—may give way to a shorter one under Republican administration."

For the employer, the plank contains a promise to bar Government coerced strike settlements, to reduce Government intervention in labor disputes to a minimum.

For the public, the Republicans offer 'a pledge of intensive effort to devise ways to deal with crippling economic strikes that involve national interest."

According to *U.S. News*, "Republicans bowed deeply to labor unions when making the 1968 platform."

"Organized labor has contributed greatly to the economic strength of our country and well being of its members, the labor plank asserts, adding: The Republican Party vigorously endorses (labor's) key role in our national life."

"But at the same time the authors of the plank warn obliquely that they favor vigorous enforcement of the Taft-Hartley Act, and the Landrum-Griffin Act, because Republicans hold that 'protection of individual liberty is the cornerstone of sound labor policy.'"

In the Republican survey in the field of labor, they make these other promises:

"Support for 'an equitable minimum wage' . . . to provide fair wages without unduly increasing unemployment among those of the lowest rung of the economic ladder.

Improvement of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

A re-examination of the 40-hour work week to determine whether or not a shorter work week without loss of wages, would produce more jobs, increase productivity and stabilize prices.

Reductions of Government intervention in labor-management disputes to a minimum, confining participation by the Government to channels defined by Congress and preventing back-door interven-

tion in the administration of labor laws.

Intensive effort to discover "Permanent long-range solutions to the problems of national emergency disputes, public-employee strikes, and crippling work stoppages."

According to *U.S. News* the Republican platform sets forth their labor philosophy in these words:

"Healthy private enterprise demands

responsibility—by Government, management, and labor—to avoid the imposition of excessive costs or prices and to share with the consumer the benefits of increased production.

"It also demands responsibility in free collective bargaining, not only by labor and management, but also by those in Government concerned with these sensitive relationships."

Officer Bob Harris views community relations

by Debby Liesch

"I am not going to hide my head in the sand and say there has been no police brutality," commented Officer Bob Harris of the Portland Police Bureau. "Sure there has been police brutality; we are dealing with an unfortunate factor called the human being who, when he gets a police uniform on, is expected to act and adjust to almost every situation imaginable."

Officer Harris, in speaking to history students, established the premise that all policemen aren't good policemen just as all students aren't good students. He pointed out that policemen are just as human and just as capable of feelings as anyone else.

"In a sense the policeman becomes the judge and jury on the street. This means that the officer has to respond to the situation as it warrants. Police officers handle most minor problems with good judgment and discretion instead of arrests."

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He called to the attention of the students the many different situations the police are expected to handle. He related one experience he had where he received a call and got to the house, and found out that the woman who called was going to have a baby in the back of the police car, no matter what. And she did. Officer Harris said, "Yet all that we are ever shown as, all that we are ever regarded as, are guys with maces in one hand, night sticks in the other; all we are doing are arresting and bugging people."

"Portlanders are applying this stereotype to their own police officers. We don't fit that image. We are different. Each officer in the bureau is an individual. We should be judged by the job we are doing here in Portland, not by what police officers are doing in other

cities.

"We are confused," stated Harris. "We don't know what kind of a police force Portlanders want — a 'namby-pamby' bunch of cops who never do anything, or a bureau of aggressive officers who keep the streets safe. And all of a sudden the policeman is thrust into a new difficulty; not only does he have to handle a social revolution, handle his own bigotry or his own prejudices, he is also told that he is going to have to change in all ways. So now the policeman's role is undefined."

Mr. Harris went on to say that the local police are the only visible form of national government that has contact with the people on the street. He explained that you do not see the governor very often, and you don't get a chance to talk to him, but the police department, with communications officers like Bob Harris, gives the people a chance to voice their opinions and ideas.



PATROLMAN BOB HARRIS, of Community Relations Unit, Portland Police Bureau, offered views on various subjects, when he spoke to members of Social Studies classes throughout the day of October 15.

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