

CARRIED AWAY BY "SPRING FEVER" YET?

An Editorial

Don't get carried away by "Spring Fever" so that you become oblivious to the fast talking door-to-door salesmen and their shady sales practices, Attorney General Louis J. Lefkowitz warned today.

The Attorney General tells us that this past week had brought many complaints of questionable door-to-door sales practices. "These complaints indicate that the annual invasion of the unscrupulous door-to-door salesmen has begun", he said.

Records of the Bureau of Consumer Frauds and Protection of his office show that these itinerant pitchmen, who are not to be confused with representatives of reputable sales companies, invade smaller Villages and Suburbs each spring equipped with every gimmick and dodge in the book. Their wares range from fertilizer to vacuum cleaners.

Homeowners can be an easy mark or "Sucker" for the gyp artist who offers his "services" and "know-how" from door-to-door if they listen to his glib, oratorical efforts.

"Some make the direct "hard sell" approach. Others get a foot in the door by presenting themselves as television rating checkers, plumbing and electrical inspectors, furnace inspectors, firemen and representatives of reputable companies", he said.

You may even be approached by telephone with a free offer or gift if you will only agree to let their representative call on you and then find out that you are faced with a double talking magazine salesman who is very adept at using "high pressure tactics".

The Attorney General said that one vicious fraud perpetrated by these operators is the "referral sales" racket. In this scheme, low income families and those with language difficulties are hit the hardest. The housewife is told that she will receive a vacuum cleaner or other appliance much below cost if she "refers" the salesman to a number of new customers who purchase the merchandise. The housewife, who makes the "referrals" then signs a "friendship agreement" which, in fact, is an installment plan contract for the full price of the appliance, sometimes hundreds of dollars.

The victim is "then dunned" by a collection agency for the full amount of the contract. The following guide may be used if you wish to avoid being victimized:

Ask to see the credentials of any sales representative who calls at your door.

Check the sales price of services or merchandise with your local merchant — before buying.

Never sign a contract with blank spaces of which you don't understand, regardless of what the salesman may tell you.

Where you do not understand the terms of a sales contract, consult someone who does, your lawyer or banker if necessary.

Ask if the sales price includes installation and delivery. If you want these services included, tell the salesman to write a statement to that effect in the contract, specifying in detail the type of service and the period during which it will be performed.

In the case of home improvements, never sign a statement that the work is complete until it actually is. If you sign such a statement before the work is finished, as a general rule you will have to make full payment whether or not the contractor fulfills his agreement.

Check the reputation of the salesman and his company with your local Bank, Chamber of Commerce or Better Business Bureau.

Never permit merchandise to be left with you on an "on approval" certificate. The salesman may not return and you will find yourself receiving a bill for an article which you do not want.

Remember that the legitimate salesman, who represents the vast majority of door-to-door sales representatives, invites your investigation.



50 YEARS AGO

April 16, 1915
J. H. Backus, Publisher
A Special Village Election will be held April 27th to vote on the proposition of paving East Greenwood Street.

Charles Mosher received a bad cut on his head Friday. While trimming a tree his axe caught on a clothes line, cut through a heavy hat and made a deep cut in his head.

Mrs. E. R. Crandall and children were in Alfred the past week, guests of Mrs. George Burdick. Mrs. Ray Livermore and daughter of Whitesville are guests of Mrs. S. G. Crandall this week — Independence Cor.

Mrs. William Lanphier of Hornell is the guest of her mother, Mrs. Rosana Joyce.

Thomas Riley is visiting in Hornell and Addison this week.

Mrs. P. C. Lynch returned home Monday after spending a week at the home of her daughter, Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Gallagher of Salamanca.

W. H. Diffin went to Roulette, Pa., Wednesday to visit his sister Mrs. W. A. Corwin who is seriously ill.

Colin McCarn returned Saturday from the Wellsville Hospital where he has been for several weeks. He is much improved in health.

Mrs. T. J. Kelley and family have returned to their home in Salamanca, after spending the week with her mother, Mrs. Ellen Regan.

40 YEARS AGO

April 17, 1925
J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers
T. J. Lynch has purchased the new building in Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Allegany, and Erie Counties of a cordial welcome to the hospital's Open House on Sunday May 2, 1965, from 1 - 4 p. m.

Mrs. Hayden Rogers is reported as gaining satisfactorily from her recent operation at the Bethesda Hospital in Hornell.

Potatoes are selling at 30 cents per bushel at the car.

Mrs. Patrick Hyland and Mrs. John Lynch were called to Elmira last week on account of the serious illness of their brother, John Padden.

Miss Meta Harris was home from Buffalo Normal from Thursday until Tuesday.

Mrs. Lee Trowbridge went to Pulaski Monday for a visit at the home of her son, Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Trowbridge.

Mrs. R. Howland left Saturday for a visit with her daughter and family, Prof. and Mrs. Leon Cook of Raleigh, North Carolina.

R. A. Pease, Mr. and Mrs. Allie Mead, Ames Rogers and Mr. and Mrs. Kirk Ruger attended the funeral of Frank Young at Greenwood Monday.

Mrs. John Williams has gone to Binghamton where her husband is working in the Depot Post Office.

Mr. and Mrs. Grant Sherwood, Mr. and Mrs. David Slocum, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Burgett and children, Mr and Mrs. Glenn Ruger and Mrs. A. L. Jones were in Whitesville Tuesday attending the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Deming.

30 YEARS AGO

April 19, 1935
J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers
Miss Susan O'Donnell, 17, youngest daughter of Dr. and Mrs. C. W. O'Donnell, died suddenly, Sunday, April 14th. She had been in poor health with a heart condition for the past two years. Her father and a sister survive.

Yale Jacobs of Angelica has leased the McGill Service Station.

Mr. and Mrs. Terry Houghtaling are the parents of a daughter born, April 10th.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ordiway are the parents of a son, born April 10th.

A good Maple Syrup season closed in this area this week — Independence Cor.

Doctor Quiddity
MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
A Public Service Health Message
THE HAIR FOLLICLES HAVE LITTLE MUSCLES CONNECTED TO THEM. WHEN THESE CONTRACT, THE HAIR IS PULLED FROM A SLANTED TO A MORE UPRIGHT POSITION, MAKING THE HAIR "STAND ON END", AND CAUSING "GOOSE PIMPLES."
Illustration showing skin, hair follicle, relaxed muscle, and contracted muscle leading to a goose pimple.
GOOSE FLESH OFTEN OCCURS WHEN THE SKIN SURFACE IS CHILLED AND IS ACCOMPANIED BY THE AUTOMATIC REACTION OF SHIVERING.
THE AUTOMATIC CONTRACTIONS OF THE MUSCULAR FRAMEWORK INVOLVES EXTRA WORK AND THIS CREATES HEAT. SUCH EXTRA HEAT HELPS RE-WARM THE SURFACE OF THE BODY TOWARD NORMAL.
KARL BERGER, M.D.

Mental Health Week

Mental Health Week, sponsored annually by the National Association for Mental Health and its affiliates, will be held from May 1 - 7, 1965. Locally, the Gowanda State Hospital, Helmut, N. Y., will join in the observance by setting aside time for "Open House" visits by members of the community. Dr. I. Murray Rossman, Director, wishes to assure all residents of the Gowanda State Hospital, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Allegany, and Erie Counties of a cordial welcome to the hospital's Open House on Sunday May 2, 1965, from 1 - 4 p. m.

The program will include a tour of the E. V. Gray Memorial Building, the newly-opened Chronic Intensive Treatment Unit, and other areas which may be of interest to the visitor. The School of Nursing will be open and guided tours available to any prospective candidates. Hospital staff members will be available in all departments to answer questions and discuss mental health career opportunities. A patient's hobby project, one of the largest model train exhibits in Western New York, will be open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

Lefkowitz Defrosts Food Freezer Scheme

A new York firm which sold food freezers valued at \$300 for prices ranging from \$800 to \$1,200 plus additional credit charges of more than \$250 was ordered to discontinue selling practices in violation of New York State laws in an order obtained this week by Attorney General Louis J. Lefkowitz. The order directs the firm, Serve Best Food Plan, to cease offering the freezers under the guise of offering a complete food plan and restrains it from collecting money on contracts already signed by consumers.

Boost Your Home Town!

Miss Annette Clifford left Wednesday to pass the Easter Vacation at her home at Greenwich, Conn.

Mrs. Sarah Cannon, Miss Elizabeth Cannon, Edward Cannon and Mrs. Hazel Atwood visited relatives in New York City from Saturday until Thursday.

Gordon Steadman was in Buffalo on business the first of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Kirk Ruger left Friday for Buchanan, Mich., where they will visit his brother, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ruger.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Parker, Mrs. John Boyd and daughter, Florence passed the week-end in Rochester guests of Mr. and Mrs. George Hunt and family.

Allegany County Fire Control Report

The following is a report from the Allegany County Fire Control at Andover, N. Y., for the month of March, 1965.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Value. Rows include FIRES: Industrial (1), Mercantile (0), Dwellings (8), Farm Buildings (1), Motor Vehicle (4), Oil Field (0), Pennsylvania Calls (3), Grass & Brush (8), Miscellaneous Fires (0).

ACCIDENTS — 0

Table with 2 columns: Category and Value. Rows include MUTUAL AID: In County (8), Out of County (2).

Total Calls 10

Table with 2 columns: Category and Value. Rows include AMBULANCE: Alfred (2), Bolivar (6), Fillmore (5), Richburg (2).

Total Calls 15

Table with 2 columns: Category and Value. Rows include Siren Tests (135), Radio Checks (103), Vehicle Practice (5), Vehicle Maintenance (25), Rescue (1), Miscellaneous Calls (248), Total Calls for the Month (574).

New Lilac Time Brochure Available

A new four-color brochure about Rochester's famed Lilac Time Festival which Nature usually stages annually in late May, is now available.

The eight-page folder contains photographs and maps of the magnificent 22-acre collection in scenic Highland Park. Recognized officially by park directors as the "world's largest display", the collection numbers 535 varieties of lilacs and over 1,600 shrubs. The brochure also contains a history of the collection which had its start in 1890, advice on the care of lilacs, and a map of the best highway routes to Rochester, "The Flower City." Copies of the brochure may be obtained without charge by writing to the Lilac Time Committee, Little White House, Rochester, N. Y., 14607. Committee members for the 1965 event are: Monroe County Parks Director Wilbur E. Wright, Alvan R. Grant, Samuel A. Cooper, William H. Gannett, Vincent Spezzano, Herbert G. Lettau and Arleigh L. Hilton.

"Any government that is big enough to give you everything you want is big enough to take everything you've got." — Gen. Features Corp.

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