

NOW THAT "SPRING HAS SPRUNG" — BEWARE OF THE "CON ARTISTS"

An Editorial

While the proverbial young man's fancy in Spring turns to thoughts of love and baseball, the perennial swindler delights in fanciful schemes and questionable door-to-door practices to catch the consumer unaware, Attorney General Louis Lefkowitz warned.

The Attorney General said this week has brought complaints of schemes and practices designed to separate the consumer from his hard earned money. He said the records of the Bureau of Consumers Frauds and protection of his office show that unscrupulous itinerant pitchmen, who are not to be confused with representatives of reputable sales companies, invade suburbia each spring equipped with every gimmick and dodge in the book.

Their wares range from portable items which can be demonstrated in the home to shrubbery and top soil which may turn out to contain chemicals harmful to plant and animal life.

He noted that a number of suburbanites have complained of being "trimmed" by so-called "tree surgeons" who charge exorbitant prices of up to \$2,000. Investigations have revealed that in some cases, itinerant tree surgeons did not obtain necessary permits required for tree removal, instead had the home owners obtain the permits, thereby placing the entire liability for an accident or property damage on the home owner.

The Current "favorite" on the gyp parade is the "bait" and "switch" game with one of its stated purposes: to get the "consumer's blood" in the sale of home improvements. This is done by using the name of prominent firms and conducting a "bait" advertising campaign designed to "switch" customers from cheap advertised merchandise to more expensive products.

Attorney General Louis J. Lefkowitz said he has drawn up the following rules to aid in protecting consumers from being the victims of unscrupulous sales practices.

1. Ask to see the credentials of any sales representative who calls at your door.
2. Check the sales price of services or merchandise with your local merchant.
3. Ask if the sales price includes installation and delivery. If you want these services included, tell the salesman to print a statement to that effect in the contract, specifying in detail the type of service and the period during which it will be performed.
4. 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 the agreement.
5. Check the reputation of the salesman and his company with your local Chamber of Commerce or Better Business Bureau.
6. Never permit merchandise to be left with you "on approval". The salesman may not return and you will find yourself receiving a bill for an article which you do not want.
7. Remember that the legitimate salesman, who represents the vast majority of resident and door-to-door sales representatives, invites your investigation.
8. If you feel you have been victimized by an unfair or fraudulent sales practice, report the fact to the Bureau of Consumer Frauds and Protection of the Attorney General's Office, 80 Centre Street, New York 13, Cortland 7-9800.

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50 YEARS AGO

March 19, 1920

J. H. Backus, Publisher

There were 45 votes cast in the Village Election this week with B. S. Brundage, President; A. R. Baker, Trustee, 2 years; J. P. Cannon, Treasurer; and Mrs. Velencia Slocum, Collector.

William Irvin, 64, died Sunday March 14th. His wife survives. Interment was in Hillside Cemetery.

Andover relatives received word last Friday of the death of a former Andover resident, Charles Sherwood, of Chester, Mass.

M. J. Hartum has gone to Whitesville to take charge of the cheese factory which will be operated there until the new condenser is ready for business.

Miss Mayme Dean of Tonawanda, was a recent guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Dean and family of South Hill.

Mrs. James Dean and children of South Hill, were guests of Mrs. Garvin of Andover from Thursday until Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Perry have moved to Pingrey Hill as tenants of James P. Dean.

S. W. Clarke has purchased of Mrs. Ida Kenyon, her farm located opposite the church in Independence.

Mrs. Josephine Myers of Rochester is visiting at the home of her father, Jesse Grossman of Independence.

Wilbert Jesse Briggs, 8 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Briggs of Independence, died Sunday, March 14th. Interment was in the Independence Cemetery.

Mrs. O. R. Henderson and son, Kenneth, have returned to their home in Rochester, after a visit at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. S. Baker of Tip Top.

Miss Valeria Adams, 80, a lifelong resident of Andover, died Thursday, March 18th. Interment was in Hillside Cemetery.

Miss Mayme Forhan of Wells, is the guest of her sister, Mrs. Edward Horan.

Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Greene of Burdette, are guests at the home of his sister, Mrs. J. L. Williams.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Gee of Lockport are visiting at the home of Melvin Matison for a few days.

Mrs. James Church of Canisteo is spending a few days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Briggs of Independence.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Wilbur returned to their home in Cleveland, Ohio, Saturday after a week's visit at Tip Top and Andover.

Augustus Lynch of South Hill, is a Buffalo visitor this week.

40 YEARS AGO

March 14, 1930

J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers

Mrs. Emma Chase, a former resident of Andover who died last week was brought to Andover Sunday afternoon and burial was in Valley Brook Cemetery.

Miss Lillian Isetta Bliven of Andover and Kenneth Davis of Oswego, Pa. were united in marriage Saturday, March 8th.

William McAndrew of Georgetown College, Washington, D. C., was a recent guest of his mother, Mrs. W. J. McAndrew at her home north of Andover.

The Andover Heading Co. Plant, which has been in existence for more than 30 years, will close with the end of the present sawing season about May 1st.

Rodney Robinson has accepted the position of acting principal of the Park Avenue High School at Rutherford, New Jersey.

Harry Smith has been appointed by the Town Board of the Town of Andover, as Assessor in place of Lou Snyder, who has resigned.

Frank Densmore of Independence has purchased a home in Whitesville and had a sale of farm tools and cattle Tuesday.

Mrs. Will Dodge of Andover is spending a few days with her daughter, Mrs. Otto Nye of Independence.

L. M. Panning of Youngstown, Ohio, is making an extended visit

ALBANY

open line

by Alex Rankin

SHORT TAKES:

Republican Assemblyman Benjamin A. Gilman of Orange County is one of several sponsors of a new town highway assistance bill that would provide \$250 million over the next 10 years to upgrade rural highways in the state.

His bill would increase the aid ceiling for road construction from \$9,000 to \$18,000 per mile, and have the state share the costs of surfacing up to \$4,500 per mile, and the state's share would not be less than 25 per cent or more than 75 per cent of the total approved expenditures up to \$36,000 by any one town in any one year.

Three bills by Assemblyman Glenn H. Harris of Canada Lake recently passed the Legislature. One does away with the need for an armband as a requirement for use of a deer hunting party permit. Another simplifies the reports required by fishing preserve license holders and the third includes airplanes as a source of pollution in the public health law.

Republican Assemblyman John T. Gallagher of Queens and Democratic Assemblyman Alfred Lama of Brooklyn are co-sponsoring legislation that would allow taxpayers to exclude from taxable income up to \$750 in interest received on accounts in savings banks and savings and loan associations.

Republican Assemblyman Lloyd J. Long of Erie County wonders where all the talk about public apathy is coming from. Not in his area, he said. Long sent out a questionnaire and got back 4,000 replies — and more are still pouring in.

Long says he has 20 volunteer college students tabulating the answers. So far they show Governor Rockefeller is apparently getting his message across — almost 90 per cent of those replying said they want the federal government to share more of its

tax revenues with the states.

Assemblywoman Rosemary Gunning of Queens has introduced legislation — co-sponsored in the Senate by Senator Tarky Lombardi Jr. of Syracuse — that would require the governor to give the Legislature a detailed accounting on all bonds, notes and other indebtedness incurred by the state and its semi-autonomous agencies.

And finally, Republican Senator William T. Smith of Elmira has touched a bomb off under the "Big Six" mayors who are screaming for more state aid.

They are crying wolf, says Smith.

Smith said a long stream of reports from the office of the state comptroller shows the big six cities of the state — Syracuse, Albany, Buffalo, Rochester, Yonkers and New York City — have mismanaged and wasted millions of dollars.

How Can the big six be entrusted with more money? he says. "They have utterly failed in managing all of the most important programs," he said, "they have failed in every effort except spending more money."

Smith said he is galled by big six mayors who say rural and suburban legislators are anti-city. We are not anti-city, we are anti-crime, said Smith. We are not anti-urban, we are anti-mugging, we are not anti-ghetto, we are anti-waste in city hall.

"The big six are trying to usurp from the smaller and medium-sized cities like Elmira, Dunkirk, Binghamton, Lockport, Niagara Falls, North Tonawanda, Troy, Schenectady, Batavia and Watertown, state aid provided all cities," he said.

It is time for the big six cities to stop wasting time crying wolf, said Smith.

"They are in more need of honest self criticism than cash," concluded Smith.

at the home of his sister, Mrs. J. H. Kemp.

Mrs. Mary Sortore of Elm Valley has been a guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Burbank several days this week.

Mrs. Guy Wood and Mrs. Andrew Fuller were in Buffalo last week and drove in a new car for the Corner Garage.

Mrs. E. J. Loughlin is passing the week in Hornell, guest at the home of her daughter, Mrs. E. J. Guttinger and family.

Miss Reita Wiles of Cuba is a guest this week at the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Edw. Teasdale and Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Robinson.

Miss Kathryn Doran of Canastota is passing the week with her sisters, Mrs. Robert Dean and Miss Mary Doran at their home on Chestnut Street.

Mrs. Frank Ingram visited her son, Floyd Scott and wife at Cuba over the week-end.

Otis Vanderhoof of Greenwood, passed the week-end with Mrs. Mary Bunker.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Young spent part of last week with his father, Thomas Young, who is ill.

30 YEARS AGO

March 14, 1940

Jaire C. Backus, Publisher

Dr. and Mrs. Howard Leahy are parents of a son, born Saturday, March 9th.

A party of friends gave Mrs. Ella Casey a surprise visit Thursday. They passed the afternoon playing cards.

Rural Mail Carrier Edward Walsh is ill and Gerald Hyland is taking his place this week.

Alfred Hayes of Savona, has moved his family to the William Mullen farm. Clayton Stephens, who worked the farm last year, has moved to a farm near Cameron Mills.

Mrs. Thomas Mullen and son of

Call Hill, are spending a few days at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Stewart of Burt Hill.

Grocery Specials this week are: Pink Salmon, 2, lb. cans, 29c; Eight O'clock Coffee, 3 lbs. 39c; Butter, lb. 30c; Oysters, pt., 23c; Bacon, squares, lb. 9c; Eggs, 2 doz. 35c; Chuck Roast, lb. 19c; Pork Chops, lb. 19c; Veal Roast, lb. 19c.

Mrs. William Nelson of Hornell spent from Friday night until Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Updyke.

Mr. and Mrs. I. H. Gilfillan passed the week-end guests of her aunt Mr. and Mrs. Mary McCaffrey of Rexville.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hann is passing a few days at the home of Mark Sheppard in Uniontown, Pa.

Miss Elizabeth Snyder spent from Tuesday until Sunday visiting friends in Rochester and Fairport.

Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Trowbridge passed the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Mead in East Valley.

Mrs. Lynn Drake of Crosby Creek spent Monday and Tuesday with her daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Whiting. Lynn Drake and George Drake of Crosby Creek, were supper guests at the Whiting home, Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Norton and son, John, of Ontario, Canada, were recent guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Burdick.

Miss Doris Dean visited friends in Hornell and Ithaca the first of the week.

Miss Rose Doran of Franklinville, passed the week-end guests of Miss Mary Doran and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lever and son, Gordon of Buffalo, were guests over the week-end of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John C. Lever.