

Cecilia Gavin, Second Place Winner from the Seventh Grade in the Science Fair held at Andover Central School Thursday night, April 16th

Heavy Snow On Lawns May Help Cause Turf Disease This Spring

The prolonged siege of snow this past winter may lead to unsightly, greyish patches on home lawns this spring. In severe cases, these spots can disfigure large areas of a lawn.

The trouble may be a fungal disease called "snowmold" that frequently attack home lawns during cold and damp periods, especially when lingering snow provides moisture for the fungus to become active, according to a Cornell University turf specialist.

"The disease sometimes breaks out without snow but it may be more severe this year because of heavy snowfalls throughout the past winter," warns Prof. John E. Cornman in the department of floriculture and ornamental horticulture at the N.Y. State College of Agriculture.

He explains that snowmold is caused by two kinds of fungi known to scientists as Typhula and Fusarium. The fungus remain in the turf through winter and become active in early spring when there is ample moisture and temperature rise a little above the freezing point.

"The snow merely furnishes the moisture necessary for the fungus to become active," Cornman says.

When under attack, the lawn commonly develops circular patches of matted silver-grey turf. Often, these spots become so numerous that an entire area may be disfigured.

The disease is most likely to be seen on the shaded side of a building and in the shade of trees and shrubs or similar areas where moisture remains for a long period of time in late winter.

"Although snowmold can damage all lawn grasses, bentgrass is especially susceptible," the Cornell scientist notes.

In spring, where snowmold has become a problem, the discolored matted spots should be loosened with a lawn broom (without digging into the soil) and the entire lawn must be fertilized.

Snowmold fungus often kills only the tops of grass, and good weather usually enable the matted patches to recover, the Cornell specialist points out. However, in more severe cases, the fungus can destroy the grass, roots and all.

If damage is beyond any hope of recovery, replanting is necessary to patch up the "holes", Cornman warns.

Gowanda State To Hold Open House

Mental Health Week, sponsored annually by the National Association for Mental Health and its affiliates, will be held from May 1 to May 7, 1970. Locally, the Gowanda State Hospital, Helmuth, N.Y., will join in the observance by setting aside time for Open House visits by members of the community. Dr. J. Anthony Haight, Director, wishes to assure all residents of the Gowanda State Hospital district in Cattaraugus, Chautauque, Allegany, and Erie Counties of a cordial welcome to the hospital's open house on Sunday, May 3, 1970, from 1-4 p.m.

During the past year, the counties in our geographic admission area have been unitized and a Geriatric Unit has been formed in the hospital.

There will be tours in the following areas:

E.V. Gray Building — Lounge and areas in that building.

Chautauque County Unit — Wards 24 and 25, Pre-Industrial Occupational Therapy and Ceramic Shops.

Building C — Wards 17 and 19, the Chapel, and the Housekeeping Unit.

Erie County Unit — Wards 53 and 54, the Barber and Beauty Shops, the Occupational Therapy Room on the second floor, and Building A.

Cattaraugus-Allegany Counties Unit — First floor of the Male and Female Buildings, the Sheltered Workshop and Occupational Therapy Cabin.

Building G — Wards 29 and 31, Reality Room on Ward 37 and Senior Citizens Lounge on Ward 39. Musical entertainment will be provided in the Senior Citizens Lounge from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Building F — Wards 28 and 30 and the Reality Room on Ward 32. Geriatric Unit — Wards 44, 50 and 60.

A patient's hobby project, one of the largest model train exhibits in Western New York, located in the basement of Larmouth Hall, will be open.

Hospital staff members will be available in all departments to answer questions and discuss mental health career opportunities.

Refreshments will be served.

Don't Drive After Drinking!

Assemblyman Frank Walkley Reports

Assemblyman Frank Walkley (R-Castile) this week voted for the Assembly bill to increase state aid to schools by more than \$388 million for the 1970 - 71 school year without raising taxes.

The bill, whose principal sponsor in the Assembly was Constance E. Cook, Chairman of the Assembly Education Committee, substitutes new school aid formulas for the existing law.

Assemblyman Walkley stated, "We've been striving for a balanced budget and a sound financial plan for the state, based on a system of selective adjustments which would enable increases for education, and yet contain current and future spending within the capabilities of our economy."

"I think the new school aid bill does just that," declared Mr. Walkley. "If we went along with the \$535 million additional aid the Educational Conference Board has asked for, we'd have no choice except to increase taxes this year."

For state aid purposes in the 1970 - 71 school year, two alternative formulas would be provided under the Dominick-Cook bill, and a school district would receive aid on the basis of whichever formula produced the greater amount.

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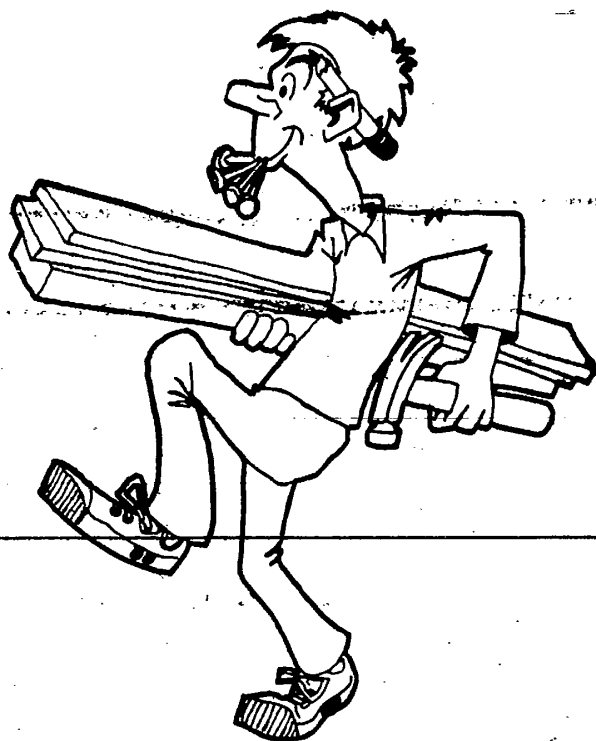
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