

TO KEEP GREEN THUMBS GREEN!

An Editorial

It's that time of year again! Time to oil the gardening shears, fuel the power mower and saw, put the sprayers in order and restock the first-aid kit!

In other words, it's time to do something to prevent the annual deluge of sprains, fractures, cuts, stings, burns, poisonings and near-fatal and fatal gardening accidents — nearly every one of them due to human error or thoughtlessness.

If you want to be admired as a green-thumb gardener rather than becoming a bloodied red-thumb casualty, here are some basic rules of the garden path:

— First, make sure that all tools are in good working order.

— Second, read the directions — and follow them — for all tools and pesticides.

— Third, wear clothes suitable for gardening — no loose garments or jewelry to catch on tools or bushes — and always wear gardening gloves.

— Fourth, keep children away from garden areas when you are working in them.

Gardeners are using power tools increasingly to ease the burden of their work. These tools include electrical trimmers, both battery operated and those requiring cords plugged into household current, power saws and power mowers, electrical and gasoline-operated, and mechanical grass cutters.

Other than endangering fingers and toes and a capacity for hurling rocks and other debris dangerously close to eyes, ears, and mouth, battery-operated tools pose few hazards.

But the plug-in variety tell another story. They should never be used without a properly grounded three-wire connection or extension cord. The gardener must keep a sharp eye on the cord to make sure that it does not become snarled on machinery and severed with disastrous results.

Electrical equipment should never be used in the rain or when a gardener is standing in water unless he is wearing safety rubber footwear and rubber gloves. It is wise to wear safety glasses whether working in rain or sun.

Regardless of the source of power — battery or electric outlet — switches should be turned off whenever tools are not in use. If a grass cutter catches on a wire fence, a stone or a twig, shut it off and then dislodge the object; never try to do this with the motor turned on and risk losing a finger — or worse. And never leave a power tool unattended for little hands to toy with.

As for power mowers, they should never be used when anyone else — adult or child — is nearby because they can throw stones that can harm, maim or kill. If it becomes necessary to remove anything from the blades, turn off the motor; never set fingers to any moving parts.

Chain saws require special precautions. Your footing must be firm lest you lose your balance, and the tool itself be light enough to maneuver with ease. The wise woodsman never works alone; he has someone to help him plan his work, watch for falling limbs and help clear undergrowth with an axe before the sawing begins.

A wide variety of saws and mowers operate on gasoline motors. These call for still further precautions. Tanks should be filled only on bare ground, and a rigid no-smoking rule should be observed by those handling fuel or the machines it runs. A fire extinguisher should be kept near the place gasoline-operated equipment is stored.

LAST, BUT NOT LEAST — Children should not be allowed to use any gardening tool or to regard any tools as toys when they are not in use.

In other words, gardening tools may be recreational equipment for adults, but they definitely are not meant for child's play!

News From Albany

by Assemblyman James L. Emery

In recent days there have been stories in the press concerning the "chaotic final days" of the 1974 legislative session. These stories and comments are perpetuated by the media itself and some critics of the Legislature who always manage to find something about which to complain.

A listing of the number of bills passed by the Assembly during each day of the session clearly indicates that when there is talk of "hundreds of bills being passed in the last minute and chaos in the chambers" that this is just a fabrication of somebody's misinformation.

In recent months the press has demanded that public officials and politicians be held accountable for their actions on all levels. Now perhaps it is time for those representatives of the media who report the news and comment on it, to show the same accountability. The public believes what it reads and hears from the press and expects the commentary to reflect truthfulness and information with facts to back up that information.

There was no "chaotic adjournment" of the Legislature in 1974. On the contrary, things were extremely orderly and it is interesting to note that on May 7, the day set for adjournment, there were a total of 38 bills passed by the Assembly. The following day there were 43 bills passed and this compares favorably to days in February and March. On February 11 for instance, 34 bills passed while on March 4th, 52 measures were passed by the Assembly. Now what was chaotic about that? And where was the basis for these erroneous and misleading statements?

The time has come for the Legislature and those legislators who have been in Albany for months, doing the best job they are capable of doing, to defend their actions against irresponsible statements and impressions such as those reported in the media in recent days. In addition to citing the number of bills passed, it is interesting to note that most sessions ran an average of eight hours a day in the Assembly with some rare exceptions. The Assembly passed a rule at the beginning of the year which would allow it to run no longer than eight hours in a 24-hour period and to exceed the limit only when completing debate on a bill when eight hours arrived or with the consent of the legislators.

This is not a political issue. Generally legislators of both parties agree that they are tired of being criticized irresponsibly when regardless of their differences of opinions and political philosophy they are doing their best to get the job done.

It would appear to some observers that this kind of annual "brick batting" of the Legislature is sometimes the product of a rather tired press, some of whose representatives manage to rewrite the same stories and the same words year after year, without bothering to check to see whether or not the information is accurate as it pertained to this particular session.

It is obvious that there were problems in ironing out some of the very difficult matters being decided by the Legislature and the Governor. However, while this was proceeding in very orderly fashion, the Assembly continued to deliberate and there was no indication of chaos or confusion.

We are all prepared to accept criticism of matters which involve this State's well being from the public or the news media. However, it is a little discouraging for the vast majority who do a conscientious job to continue to read about events and a climate in the Legislature which simply did not exist and which gives the public at large a completely erroneous impression.

The average price of a 1-1/2 pound loaf of bread is about 47 cents and the farm value of the wheat in that size loaf is just over 7 cents. Other costs and profits account for 40 of the 47 cents.



Ask



Senator

BUCKLEY

I've heard quite a lot about the new "no-fault" insurance laws. What are they, and what do you think of them? —R. S., Syracuse

"No-fault" refers to a new concept in automobile insurance. It was pioneered in Massachusetts, and recently adopted in New York State. Basically, "no-fault" laws require insurance companies to pay the cost of damages done to both the automobile and individual without first determining who was at fault in the accident. I find it an appealing concept. By circumventing many long and costly legal battles, insurance companies are able to lower the cost of their premiums to the average driver.

My mother-in-law, who is a West German citizen, wants to visit us this summer. Does she need any sort of visa? —L. S., Chappaqua

In order to enter the United States, all foreigners need a visa. In your mother-in-law's case, she needs a visitor's visa. These are available at the 241 United States consular offices throughout the world. The procedures for acquiring a visa have been made quite simple. In fact, she may not even need to appear in person. In order to qualify for a visitor's visa, your mother-in-law will have to demonstrate that she plans to return to West Germany at the end of her visit. Generally, she can do this by showing family, property, or employment ties that would commit her to return home.

In some instances, visa applicants are informed that their applications have been rejected, but are not informed of the reasons. And in a few instances, the applicant has been rejected for such purely technical reasons as failing to sign a supporting document. If your mother-in-law's application is rejected, please write to me. My office will request a State Department investigation. Such an investigation will determine whether the application was rejected for reasons that might easily be corrected.

By cutting through red tape, members of Congress can often lend a hand to those with problems involving the federal government. Through the columns of this newspaper, Senator Buckley answers questions of general interest. He will respond personally to all communications addressed to: Senator James L. Buckley, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510.



50 YEARS AGO

April 18, 1824

J. H. Backus, Publisher

William McAndrew, who was born in Andover, May 15, 1830, died Thursday, April 10th at the Gardensville Home near Buffalo. His wife, the former Mary Keough died about twenty years ago. He was brought to the home of his brother Richard McAndrew of Andover, Friday and funeral services and burial took place Monday at Wellsville.

Miss Edna Bassett of Independence and David W. Smith of Whitesville, were united in marriage Wednesday, April 16th at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Bassett of Independence. They were attended by Miss Emily J. Clarke of Andover and Lawrence Smith of Whitesville.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Howland of Rochambeau Ave., are parents of a daughter Mary Kathleen, born Monday, April 14.

Miss Augusta Will is clerking in the B. C. Williams Cash and Carry Grocery.

William Alderson has purchased the Falsant residence on Rochambeau Ave.

At the Parent-Teachers Association meeting held Tuesday night the following officers were elected: Mrs. Ed Horan, President; Mrs. Alderson, Vice-President; Miss Wright, Secretary and Miss Snyder, Treasurer.

Miss Angela McNeill has returned to her home near Rexville, after a visit at the home of her sister, Mrs. William Joyce of West Green-

wood.

Mrs. E. L. Teribury of West Greenwood, was in Whitesville the last of the week visiting her parents Mr. and Mrs. John Dean.

The Murray Cheese Factory opened Monday with Charles Bloss as cheesemaker.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Perry, Mr. and Mrs. Will Pease, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Pease and Mr. and Mrs. Freeman Rogers attended a birthday party for John Murray of Dryden Hill, Saturday night.

A party of fourteen neighbors and friends enjoyed warm sugar at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Edwards, Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Meade spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Hills of Wellsville.

Wade Theegete and family have returned home from Messalon, Ohio where he has been working in a cutlery.

Miss Helen Rogers of Englewood, N. J., is passing the Easter vacation with Jesse Snyder and daughter, Dorothea.

Miss Amelia Tubbs of Alfred was a weekend guest of Miss Emily J. Clarke.

Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Rogers and Mrs. B. B. Rogers and son, Carl, motored to Buffalo, Saturday.

April 25, 1924

A tree planting bee will be held Saturday, April 26. 1,000 trees are to be set at the Village Springs and the remaining 4,000 in the Village Park (The Grove).

Edmund Rogers died Easter Sunday. Funeral services were held April 22 with burial in Greenwood Cemetery.

John R. Shea, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Shea of South Hill was ordained to the priesthood in Rome, Italy, on Saturday, April 19.

About 3 inches of snow fell Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Clark celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary at their home in Alfred.

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