

BEWARE SPRINGTIME 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 J. Lefkowitz warned.

The Attorney General said this week has brought complaints of schemes and practices designed to separate the consumers 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.

Homeowners are often an easy mark for the gyp artist who offers his "services" and "know-how" from door-to-door, Attorney General Lefkowitz said. "Some make the direct 'hard sell' approach. Others get a foot in the door by presenting themselves as home inspectors and representatives of reputable firms," he said.

He noted that a number of suburbanites have complained of being "trimmed" by co-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 "referral sales" racket. From the number of complaints received by the Attorney General, promoters of the "referral sales" scheme seem reluctant to relinquish the position of this scheme as New York State's number one fraud.

Attorney Gen. 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 of 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 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.
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 his 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 practices, 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.

(The above Editorial was borrowed from The Ellicottville-Post, Ellicottville, N. Y.)



50 YEARS AGO

March 31, 1916

J. H. Backus, Publisher
Park Ruger, 38, died at his home on West Center St., Friday, March 24th. His wife and six brothers survive. Burial was in Hillside Cemetery.

Mrs. Margaret Padden, 76, died Saturday, March 25th. Five sons survive. Interment was in St. John's Cemetery.

L. P. Crandall has purchased the grocery and meat market corner of Main and Center Streets, owned by Geo. H. Beebe. Possession will be given tomorrow, April 1st.

Miss Irene Dougherty is spending a few days with Mrs. Carlotta McAndrew on Ringway Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. John Oakes of Bath were called to Andover Thursday by the death of her mother, Mrs. A. E. Starr.

Mrs. Georgia Swain of Wellsville visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Kemp this week.

Miss Elizabeth Bassett is spending a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Bassett.

Howard Hann returned to Bucknell College Wednesday after a two weeks vacation.

40 YEARS AGO

March 26, 1926

J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers.

Peter Joyce and William Wahl are the Trial Jurors and Walter Downer and Harry Smith the Grand Jurors from Andover drawn to serve at a term of Supreme Court at Belmont beginning April 5th.

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Greene of Andover were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Flay Pease and family.

Harold Church of Port Jervis is passing the Easter holidays at the home of his father, Charles Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Baker and daughter of Roulette, Pa., were weekend guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Rennells.

Mrs. P. J. Dougherty is spending a few days in Hornell the guest of her daughter, Mrs. Harold Griswald.

Frank Baker of Decatur, Mich., is visiting friends and relatives in Andover, Tip Top and vicinity.

Miss Rose Ellen Casey was a Sunday guest of her sister, Mrs. Robert Moran of Wellsville.

Mrs. William J. Snyder left Saturday for her home in Waterbury, Conn., after a three weeks visit with Mrs. Evelyn Armstrong at the home of Ezra Slocum.

30 YEARS AGO

March 27, 1936

J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers.

Mrs. A. L. Jones was a week-end guest at the home of her brother, Abraham Slocum of Voorhees Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Thorne and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Smith attended Grange at Petrolia Tuesday night where that Lodge celebrated their 25th anniversary.

Miss Francis Updyke of Wellsville visited Mr. and Mrs. William Pease several days this week.

Mrs. Hester Green returned home Sunday from Whitesville where she attended the funeral of her sister, Mrs. Mary Crittenden at that place Saturday.

Mrs. Daniel Canty of Belfast is visiting her grandmother, Mrs. Anne McDonough and also her aunt, Mrs. I. H. Gillilan.

Miss Koneta Perkins passed the week-end at her home on Voorhees Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Huffcut of Mt. Morris passed the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Robinson. Mrs. Huffcut remained for the week.

GREENWOOD NEWS

Grace Young, Reporter

Dean Bryan Higgins, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Higgins, was baptized by the Rev. Roger Williams at the Palm Sunday Service in the Methodist Church. Rev. Williams announced a Communion Service at 8 o'clock Good Friday in the Church.

The Rev. C. Lacy VanNorman of Westfield, Pa., spoke Thursday night at the final Lenten Service. He spoke from John that Jesus is I Am. Starla Jackson was soloist. The Church School will have an Easter Service and film strip for the combined Youth and Children's departments. Mrs. Donald Fisher and Mrs. Robert Hoagland are the Easter Committee.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Redmond have attended the Sunday evening Lenten Services in Andover.

Several from the Greenwood Church attended the Sunday night Service at the Hornell Gospel Center where the Rev. Robert Myers was speaker. Rev. Myers, a former Pastor, is speaking there until Friday night.

Rev. and Mrs. C. Lacy VanNorman of Westfield, Pa., were Thursday night guests of Rev. and Mrs. Roger Williams.

The March issue of the Fulcrum G. C. S. newspaper, was dedicated to the fighting men in Viet Nam. Recognition was also given to Harlan Waters, School Bus Mechanic and Bus Driver. He has been in charge of the Garage since 1947. Different grades wrote letters to Rodney Teribury. His children, Harry, Rodena and Michael are in those grades. The family has

in the Methodist Parsonage. George Angello, Business Teacher is the advisor.

The Senior High Festival was held at Haverling High School at Bath, April 1 and 2. Mrs. Eike entered Sandra Greene and Kathy Koehler in the Woodwind Ensemble. Roger York and Connie Murphy were in the Senior High Band. The Chorus was represented by Patsy Hanbach, Jeanne Tolhurst, Mary Sky and Mary Ellen Hanbach. The students are selected in the Solo Contests, this year at Canisteo.

Greenwood Central School will recess Thursday night until Tuesday morning for Easter. The Spring Vacation is the first week in May.

Mrs. Edward Hanbach accompanied Mrs. V. Eike to Bath with the Band and Chorus participants. Several parents also attended the Concert.

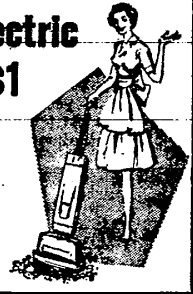
Coach Jeff Hibbard has arranged the G. C. S. Baseball Schedule with the first game April 21 at Whitesville. Other games are April 25 at Jasper; April 26 Hornell Junior High School here; April 28, Troupsburg here; April 29, Whitesville here; May 9, at Woodhull; May 10 at Hornell Junior High; May 13 Jasper here; May 16 at Troupsburg and May 19 Woodhull here.

The Track team has four meets: May 14, the Hornell Invitation; May 18, the Steuben D. Championship at Bath; May 23 the Greenwood, Troupsburg, Jasper, Woodhull Field Day at home; May 26, Steuben B.C.D. Meet at Hornell.

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