

**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.



**50 YEARS AGO**

March 18, 1921

J. H. Backus, Publisher

Mrs. G. H. Hunt (Charlotte), died Monday, March 14. Her husband, two sisters and a brother survive. Funeral services were held Wednesday with Rev. Sutton officiating. Burial was in Hornell.

Mrs. Electa Hunt, 75, died Sunday, March 13th. Funeral services were held Tuesday at the Elm Valley Chapel with Rev. W. H. Smith officiating. Burial was in the Hunt Cemetery.

Orson Bobson of Salamanca, has purchased the Scott Meat Market.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Dugan are parents of a son, William Leo, born March 11th.

Floyd Mattson has purchased the residence on South Main Street, recently occupied by Alonzo Slocum, from A. C. Frisbey and has moved his family from the Atwood apartment thereto.

Miss Doris Maxson of Alfred, spent the week-end guest at the O. A. Potter home in Independence.

Mrs. S. G. Crandall of Independence went to New York City Monday to visit Miss Mary Thorpe.

Milton Clarke of Independence has gone to North Bingham to make Maple Sugar.

Mr. and Mrs. Benj. Kenyon of New York City are visiting his brother, George Kenyon and family of Independence.

Miss Reta Stearns of Andover, was the guest of Miss Ruth Baker of Tip Top Thursday and Friday of last week.

The interior of the S. D. Baptist Church is being decorated and repaired from the damage done it by the cyclone last year.

Miss Nora McAndrew, fifth grade teacher in Andover School has been ill this week. Mrs. A. R. Baker has been caring for her school duties during her absence.

Mrs. Earl Bassett of Buffalo is the guest of Andover relatives this week.

Miss Gertrude Hazzard of Galeton, Pa., is passing the week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stebbins.

Mrs. F. L. Hann was in Corning Tuesday evening in attendance at a meeting of the Corning Rebekah Lodge.

Mrs. Edward Freeland of Elmira is in Andover, called here by the illness of her mother, Mrs. Augusta Hinchey.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Williams and niece Miss Meta Harris, are passing a few days with relatives at Watkins and Burdett.

**40 YEARS AGO**

March 13, 1931

J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers

The heavy snowfall in this vicinity Sunday and Monday, is hailed as a blessing to us all, despite the inconvenience it caused. Drought extending from June last was broken with a twelve inch fall of snow. The storm is classed as one of the worst March storms in fifteen years.

Mrs. Bridget Lynch, widow of the late P. C. Lynch, died at the family home on Center Street, Wednesday, March 11th. Two daughters and a son survive. Interment was in Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

Mrs. Edith A. Washburn, 49, a former Andover resident, died at her home in Wellsville, Tuesday, March 10. Her husband, a daughter, a son and her mother survive. Burial was in Friendship.

John Quigg has sold the Quigg Brothers Farm on the Quigg Hollow Road to Earl Hyland.

A sleigh ride and jolly time was enjoyed by about thirty people at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Kaple on Pingrey Hill, Monday evening.

Mrs. Hattie Crandall of Alfred is spending a few days with Mrs. Floyd Clarke of Independence.

Carl and Margaret Mather of Independence, visited their sister, Mr. and Mrs. William A. Lang of Andover from Friday until Sunday.

The neighbors of Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Clarke of Independence, gave them a surprise visit Saturday



by Alex Rankin

New York City school administrators have provided us with a perfect, concrete example of what happens when the Albany money tree is chopped down.

The city school board came up \$45 million short this year.

But they did not cut spending by that amount. Thinking, apparently, that the same old game was being played, they went ahead and spent the money as if they already had it, thinking that when the time was right, they would come to Albany as they have always done in the past, and get bailed out with more money.

The scene is the Red Room in the state Capitol and Governor Rockefeller is talking to reporters:

Reporter: Governor, getting back to the thing you mentioned first, New York City is \$45 million short in the school. Have they overspent down there; is that the reason they are short?

Rockefeller: Yes — They asked for \$45 million more than they got, and even though they didn't get it, they have been spending the money.

Reporter: Governor, would you say that is fiscal irresponsibility on their part?

Rockefeller: Well, I don't like to characterize anyone's actions. I think they have felt that, by overspending, they could put political pressures — because of the children — on various levels of government, and that the money would be forth coming. This is a technique which has been used currently.

evening.

F. W. Emery received word Thursday of the death of his father, William W. Emery, 87, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Lester Erskins of Hornell. Burial was in Hillside Cemetery, Andover.

Sheridan Witter of Buffalo, was a week-end guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Witter.

Delancy Porter and daughter, Mrs. Earl Richardson of Buffalo, were visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Richardson this week.

Miss Margaret Folsing is home from Elmira, where she has completed a course in the Elmira Business College. After a short vacation at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Folsing, she will return to Elmira, where she has accepted a bookkeeping position.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Trowbridge and family of Syracuse and Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Trowbridge and family of Hornell, were week-end guests of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Trowbridge.

Miss Elizabeth Cannon of Rochester, and Edward Cannon of Cornell University, were home for the week-end with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. James P. Cannon.

Mrs. Ella Millsbaugh returned to her home in Whitesville, Thursday after spending several days at the home of her son and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Millsbaugh.

**30 YEARS AGO**

March 16, 1941

Claire C. Backus, Publisher

Mr. and Mrs. Luke DeWalt are parents of a daughter, Ruth Marie, born Tuesday, March 12th.

William Young, 71, a prominent resident of Greenwood, died suddenly Wednesday evening.

A death was being reported, whereby the late Mrs. Elizabeth Waterhouse, 82, of this town, and family were being taken to the Davis Farm on Wednesday.

A party of about twenty friends gave Mrs. Waterhouse a surprise visit Friday in honor of her birthday, which was Sunday.

H. W. Jackson of Elm Valley, in company with Everett Clark of Andover, left Monday to attend a milk meeting in Utica.

Keith Fitch was called to Elmira the first of the week by the illness of his mother.

Reporter: Will you say flatly, governor, that you cannot help them as far as this \$45 million is concerned?

Rockefeller: — There is no more money for this year — there is no chance of getting more —

Reporter: Suppose it actually gets to the point where service in some of the schools is seriously curtailed. Anything at that point in a real emergency situation the state can or would try to do?

Rockefeller: Convene the congressional delegation from New York with the mayor and the leaders from New York City and point out the situation and say, "Look, gentlemen, you are the only place whose money is available — I think that what I am really trying to say is, we are living slightly in a world which no longer exists —"

This week State Education Commissioner Oswald Nyquist ordered an investigation into the \$45 million affair.

It got little if any play in daily newspapers across the state, but recently the governor said he intends to fight any attempts by the state Legislature to perform what he called "meat-axe" surgery on his record \$3.4 billion state budget with its \$1.1 billion in tax hikes.

That is just the kind of approach thousands of taxpayers have been asking their Legislators to take to the governor's budget.

In fact it is the only kind of approach that can be taken if taxpayers are going to avoid any tax hikes this year.

Guy Drake has rented the William Mullen farm and will move his family there soon from the Archie Stephens farm.

Mr. and Mrs. John Lewis Sr., of Independence, entertained a group of relatives at dinner Saturday in honor of the birthday of Jarve Wallace.

Jack Regan and Norbert Lynch spent Sunday with friends in Olean and Allegany.

Miss Mary Gallagher of Hornell spent last week with her grandmother, Mrs. E. Gallagher.

Miss Ruth Matteson passed the week-end at the home of her brother, Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Matteson in Friendship.

Mr. and Mrs. William H. Seely, of Scarsdale, N. Y., are visiting at the home of his daughter, Rev. and Mrs. L. H. Kerns.

Mr. and Mrs. George Munro of Buffalo are guests this week at the home of their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Caple.

Mrs. Henry Baker left Saturday for Chicago, called there by the illness of her niece, Mrs. James Hatay.

Mrs. Cowles Whiting spent Saturday with her sister, Mrs. Grace Rowlett on the Almond Road.

Miss Margaret Hart passed the week-end with her sister, Miss Anne Hart in Almond.

Robert Cornell of Hornell spent the week-end at the home of his aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Howe.

Firemen were called to the H. S. Livermore home on Baber Street Thursday morning, occupied by Mena Burdick, where a chimney fire had spread thru the attic, causing considerable damage.

Shoplifting accounts for annual losses of more than \$300 million in New York State alone. To deal with the problem, the Bureau of Business Services of the State Commerce Department has developed a new State-wide program whereby for retail and service establishments. Information on the program may be obtained from the Bureau, 177 State Street, Albany, 12202, or from any of the Department's regional offices located in principal cities of the State.

Most letters, like conversations, see either much too short or much too long.

Use the Classified Ad Section

**THE ANDOVER NEWS**

Published Weekly by: The News Printing House, Andover, N. Y.  
 Jeanne Backus Allen and Ralph A. Allen, Owners, Andover, N. Y.  
 Entered as Second Class Mail Matter at the Post Office at Andover, N. Y., under the Act of Congress, March 3, 1879.

Subscription Price \$3.50 a year

