

Ragweed Control Urged to Relieve Hay Fever Victims

Denver, Colo., (Science Service)—Waging an organized weed control program every year can help a community rid itself of ragweed pollen, which is responsible for the nation's 18,000,000 to 12,000,000 hay fever sufferers.

A few years of weed control would be all that would be necessary to reduce the growth of ragweed to a minimum, Charles N. Howison, executive secretary of the Air Pollution Control League of Greater Cincinnati, told the Weed Society of America meeting here.

Preventable Disease
Hay fever caused by ragweed pollen pollution of the air, he said, is a preventable man-made disease of nationwide importance. Together with asthma it is the third most common chronic disease in the country, preceded only by the heart disease and cancer, and is the one disease that can be traced to an air pollutant.

Ragweed is an annual and grows in every state. One plant can pollinate the air with from five to eight billion pollen granules. One acre of ragweed fills the air with 50 to 60 pounds of pollen a season. One square mile liberates 16 tons of pollen.

Ragweed will not seed if destroyed before it flowers, Howison reported. Every plant destroyed before it blossoms reduces the volume of pollen pollution of the air.

Control Methods Known
Fortunately, he said, methods for the control of the plant are well known. Herbicides such as 2,4-D and others are available, effective, safe, easy and economical to apply.

Tests have shown that the toxicity of the pollen, as well as its volume, is greatly reduced the farther away it gets from the plant. Thus the closer the sufferer to the plant, the more irritating its pollen.

Cutting or destroying ragweed with chemicals during the growing season limits the source of fresh pollen and reduces the amount of fresh pollen that can reach the sufferer and cause irritation.

Every community, Howison said, can be made safer, healthier and more beautiful by waging an effective weed control program annually. Hay fever victims as well as everybody else will benefit by the eradication of this air pollutant, he said.

Scotsmen Asked to Give Away Money

Edinburgh, Scotland—(UPI)—A brave group here is asking Scotsmen to give away money.

An appeal has gone out to Scotsmen all over the world to unfasten grips on a few pennies to help make sure every bonny twist of the thickest burr in England is preserved for future generations.

The Scottish Dictionaries Joint Council, representing four Scottish universities and several other groups, has appealed for funds to complete two monumental dictionaries of the Scots tongue, past and present.

One, the Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue, is a 42-volume work providing an exhaustive record of the national and literary language of Scotland up to the year 1700.

The other, the Scottish National Dictionary, records current Scots dialects and the literary language of writers since 1700 in 40 volumes.

Eighteen volumes of each have appeared so far, but with each volume costing \$21,000, the officials are beginning to experience a pinch. They feel it is only proper for other Scotsmen to relax the purse strings enough to help.

Civil Service Jobs Available Listed

The U.S. civil service is urging qualified persons to apply for a number of positions in various federal agencies.

Jobs available under open examination announcements include aircraft mechanic leader, engineering draftsman, radio-radar equipment installer, radio operator, special agent and stenographer and typist.

Additional information is available at the post office.

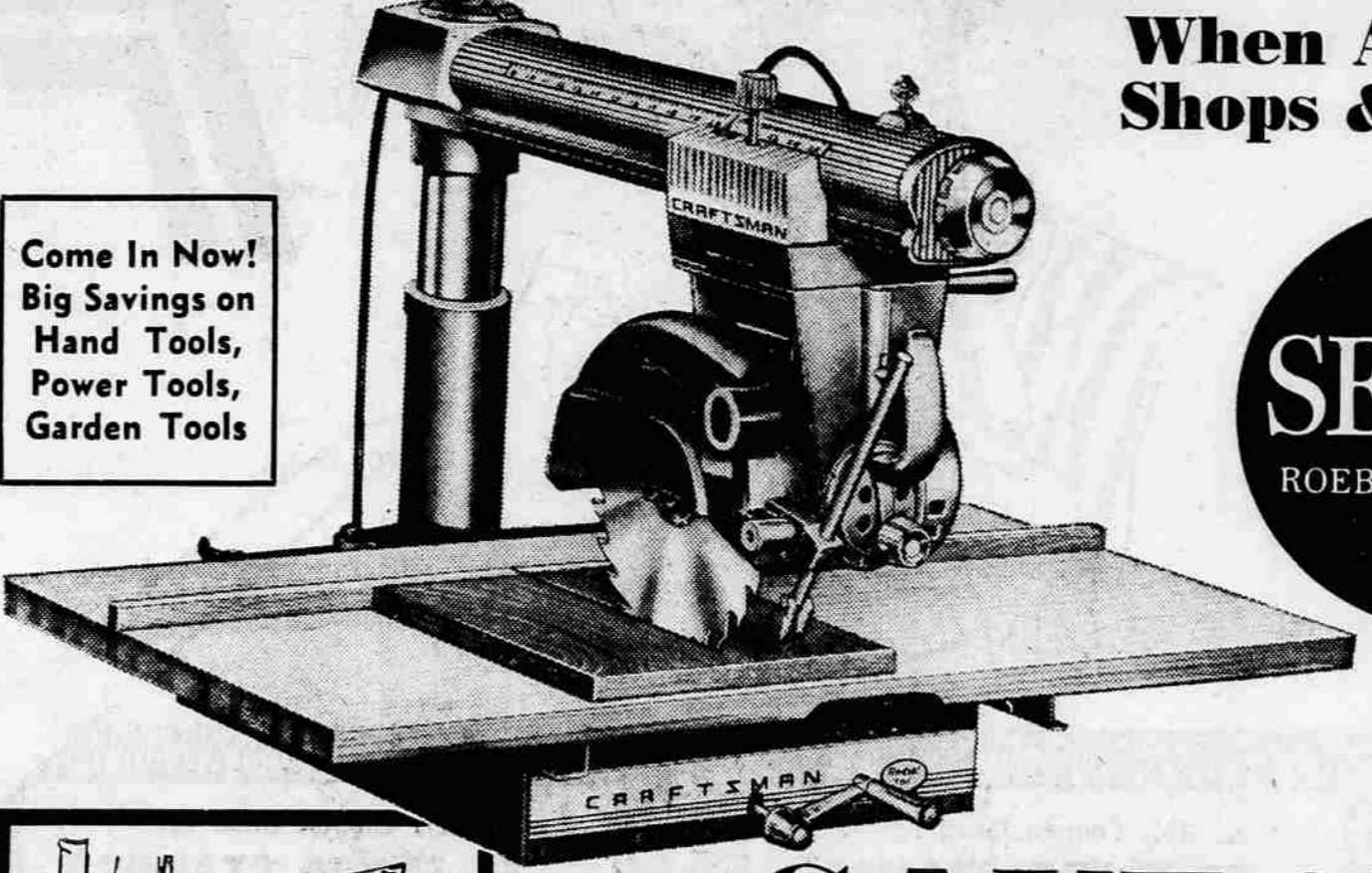
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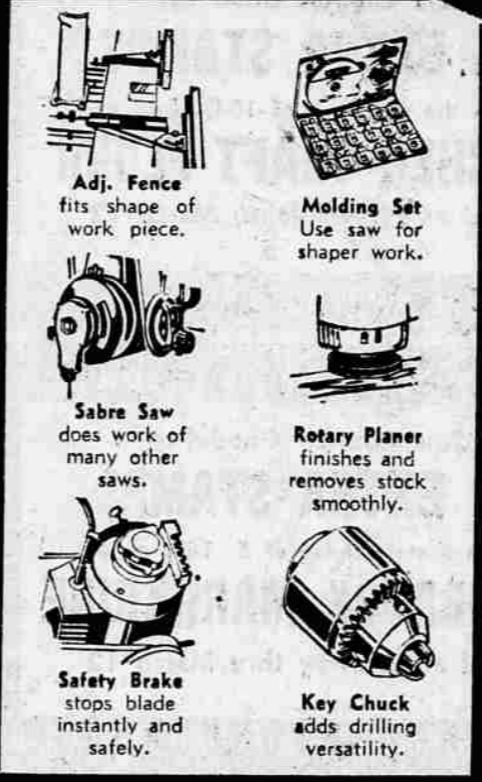
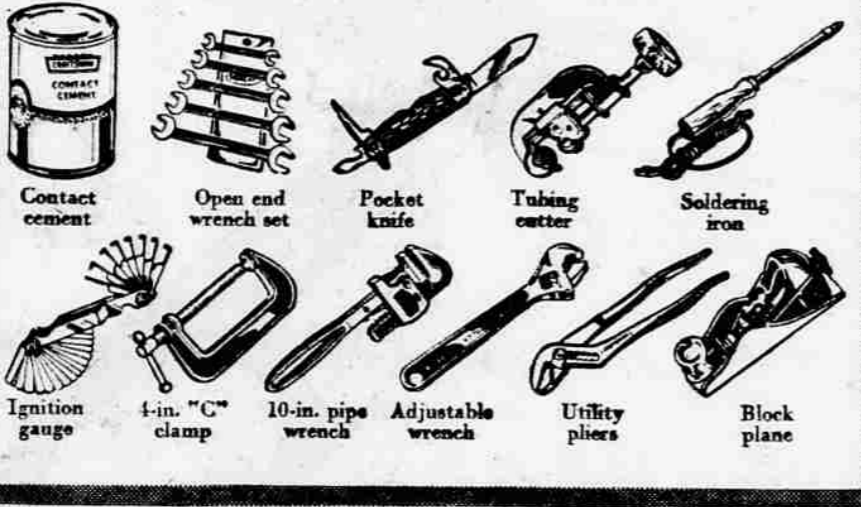
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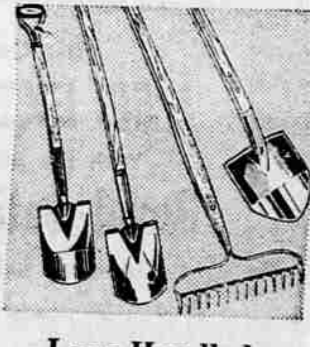
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