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Buds & Blooms

is liquidating all outside stock at 998
Bridge St. in preparation for moving our
Florist and Gift Shop to 859 Bridge Street.

**Everything Must Go from
998 Bridge Street by March 31st!!**

Vacation offer too good to be true, probably a scam

Several travel companies have lured consumers into purchasing what they thought were "dream vacations." Sometimes consumers paid exorbitant prices for standard vacations that included lengthy, high-pressure time-share presentations. Other times they were told they had "won" the opportunity to go on the vacations, and only found out later that they would have to pay \$1,000 for the honor.

The Attorney General's Office urges consumers to take the following precautions when purchasing travel services:

- Use established and reliable travel agents.
- Do not be pressured into rash decisions. Legitimate businesses give consumers time to make up their minds.
- Ask for names of all hotels,

airlines, car rental agencies and restaurants that will be used on the trip and confirm all reservations in advance of departing on the trip.

- Demand to know exactly when airline tickets will be delivered.

- Do not provide credit card numbers or bank account information to telemarketers offering travel packages. When in doubt, tell the caller to take your name off the company's mailing list, indicate that you do not want to be contacted in the future, and hang up.

- When purchasing travel packages, use a credit card so that "chargebacks" can be pursued if the services are not received or delivered as originally represented.

- Keep an eye out for hidden charges for airfare, hotel, car rental, airport or port trans-

fers, meals, gratuities, taxes, parking and "upgrades."

- Ask for everything in writing so all the details of the travel package are apparent.

- Inquire about refund policies should either the consumer or the travel provider cancel the trip.

- Check for special provisions to cover illness or family emergencies.

- Ask about the availability of cancellation insurance. If it is available, obtain a complete description of the scope of insurance coverage before purchasing it.

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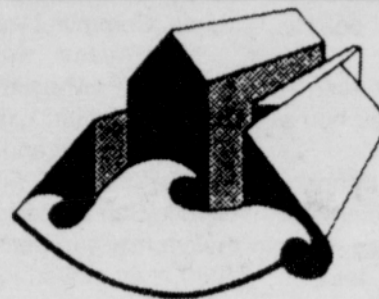


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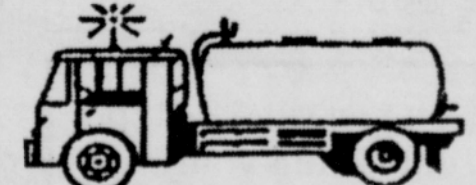
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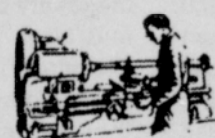
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