

LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter

100 YEARS AGO,
SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1922

THE WEEK IN WALTON

What We Are Talking
About at the County Hub

FIVE CASES OF TYPHOID

Clean Up Next Week—
Dann Homestead Sold—
Twelve Taxis Here—
Ford Overturned.

Next week has been designated as clean-up week in Walton. Rubbish placed along the streets will be gathered up by a truck and taken to the village dumping grounds.

M. L. Launt is erecting a barn 34 by 42 feet in dimensions across the highway from his new house on the East brook road between the McGibbon hollow road and the white school house.

Miss Catherine Darrin, who is a student in the Oneonta normal, came home Monday evening to recuperate from an injury received when she fell from a stone wall during a hike and sprained her ankle. Miss Darrin is the daughter of W. J. Darrin.

Herbert Oles of Bear Spring mountain, had the ends of four fingers of his right hand painfully cut on a buzz saw the latter part of the week. Mr. Oles fell about a month ago, injuring his

back, and had only been out again a few days when the second accident occurred.

Walton is well supplied with taxis. There are nine taxi owners who have twelve cars in operation, as follows: George Cable, three cars; William Kent, two machines; James Russell, Herbert Gransbury, Joseph Duncan, Harry Brainard, George Pierson, Charles Pierson and Henry Davis, one each.

A reunion of the 27th Division will be held at the armory of the Seventh Regiment in New York city on Friday, June 2. Captain Charles T. O'Neill has been appointed chairman of the local committee in Walton and will furnish all information as to railroad rates, accommodations and other particulars which veterans planning to attend may desire.

Some sixty-five tickets were sold in Walton Saturday for the excursion to Utica for the dedication of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial hospital on the Masonic Home plot. G. M. Tiel, O. & W. passenger agent, states that the number on board the train at and including Walton was 324. Supreme Court Justice A. S. Tompkins of New York, deputy grand master, was the orator of the day.

Theo Brant of Hamden, who has been ill since March, has partially recovered and on Friday afternoon started

for Walton in his Ford runabout. All went well until on the curve near the Lewis More place above Colchester station Mr. Brant suddenly became faint and lost control of the car which ran into the bank throwing the machine on its side. The wishbone, windshield and other small parts were broken but luckily Mr. Brant escaped without injury to himself.—Hamden correspondent.

C. L. Watkins, who passed the winter at Daytona Beach, Florida, arrived home last Thursday evening making the entire journey by auto. Mr. Watkins says that of the 1,500 miles covered the only really bad road encountered was between Cadonia and Walton. That speaks well for Delaware county. Sturges Bulkley of Beaverville, when here last week, expressed the opinion that Delaware county road makers ought to come into Sullivan county and learn how to make good roads. There is nothing like having a good politician and conversationalist in charge of county roads. That is the cause of the unique position this county occupies in road matters.

The Dann homestead on the Hamden state road just outside Walton village has been sold by Frank W. Dann to Charles J. Proskine and Logan Gould, both of Walton, who take possession May first. The farm is one of the best in the town, consisting of 235 acres of which some 75 acres is river flat. The

sale includes sixty head of registered Guernsey cattle, three horses and farm machinery. Mr. Dann has purchased the house of Mrs. D. W. Stearns on East street next to the West brook bridge and the family will move to the village. Mr. Proskine will remain in charge of the A. & P. store for a time. The sale of the Stearns house was made through the agency of H. S. Ogden.

Many exaggerated reports have been circulated this week as to an outbreak of typhoid fever in Walton. There are five cases in which reports from blood tests submitted to the state health department show the disease. In addition there are some six or eight other suspected cases upon which definite word has not been received. Dr. E. A. Hand, village health officer, has been active in tracing the source of the disease. In one or more cases it has been found that the disease was contracted out of town. Suspicion in the other cases rested upon dairies which were furnishing milk to one of the local dealers. Following an inspection of these premises by Dr. Hand the dealer has ceased buying from three farmers and has secured a new source of supply approved by the health officer. The dealer's own dairy has also been approved. Those ill with the disease are Miss Emma Constable, Miss Carrie Ratcliffe of the high school faculty, Robert Berray, Charles Foote and Laura Schriber, daughter of James Schriber, Beerston road.

INDICT SIDNEY POSTAL CLERK

Federal Grand Jury Returns
Bill against Lynn Baker.

Lynn H. Baker, former clerk in the Sidney postoffice, was indicted by the federal grand jury in Syracuse Monday on a charge of stealing money from the mails. Baker was arrested last week and has been at liberty on bonds. The alleged peculations extended over a period of only a few weeks, it is stated, and the total amount taken is estimated at about \$150.

Four Pair of Twins.

Twin daughters were born to Mr. and Mrs. John Offinnick, Jr., of Kelsey, April 14th. These are the fourth pair of twins born to Mr. and Mrs. Offinnick since living in Kelsey.

TRAMPLED ON BY TEAM

Road Worker Knocked
Down and Stepped on by
Frightened Horses.

Alvero Wiltsie, employed by the town of Stamford, was seriously injured by a runaway team Saturday afternoon on the road between Hobart and South Kortright.

About 5 o'clock a team which was drawing a load of stone became unmanageable and started to run away. Wiltsie, who was working a short distance down the road stepped directly in the path of the fleeing animals in an effort to stop them. Instead of turning to one side or slackening their speed as he expected the horses came directly toward him and before he had time to step to one side he was knocked down and trampled underfoot by the fear crazed animals. The wagon load of stone which the horses were drawing also passed over the man's body. Dr. G. L. Hubbell of Stamford, who was nearby, was called in and found the man suffering from a broken arm and a fracture of two of his spinal vertebrae. Internal injuries were feared so Wiltsie was taken to the Oneonta hospital where he is now resting comfortably.

FLAMES RAZE WILSON HOLLOW FARM HOUSE

Home of George Redmond
Caught Fire When Family
Were at Barn Milking

(From Downsville cor.)

On Thursday evening of last week about 5:30 p. m., George Redmond's residence in Wilson Hollow, near Downsville, burned to the ground.

The farm is known as the Fred Gladstone place and is located about two miles from Downsville. Mr. and Mrs. Redmond and hired man were at the barn milking when the fire broke out and the blaze was first noticed by the hired man who had started for the milk house to empty a pail of milk. He spread an alarm and a bucket brigade was formed but the fire was beyond control. It is reported 100 gallons of syrup was consumed in the fire as well as a large quantity of potatoes.

Very few household goods were saved. Those recovered included a rug, the victrola and a few chairs from the first floor. Mr. Redmond carried \$1,000 insurance. It would take twice that amount or more to build another building, say nothing of the furniture or household goods. The fire apparently started in the kitchen.

On Sunday George Redmond went to examine the ruins in the cellar of his home where a gas light plant had been kept. Mr. Redmond opened one of the doors of the plant and lit a match to examine the interior but in doing so the gas ignited and exploded, throwing the fumes in Mr. Redmond's face. He was painfully burned about the eyes and face.

CHAMBER COMMERCE BANQUET OUTDOES ALL PREVIOUS EVENTS

Some three hundred and fifty persons enjoyed the seventh annual banquet of the Walton Chamber of Commerce in the dining room of the state armory Wednesday evening. This is the largest number ever present at the annual gatherings of the Chamber of Commerce and the seating capacity of the dining room was crowded to its capacity.

Visitors were present from practically all nearby towns and the number in attendance exceeded all expectations. The banquet was served by the ladies of the Frank Mead Eells post auxiliary, Veterans of Foreign Wars.

The guests gathered in the drill hall where each one was presented with a souvenir of sweet peas distributed by young ladies from a Studebaker car as a compliment of the Archibald-Barnhart company. At 7 o'clock the assemblage proceeded to the dining room where the tables were in readiness.

Excellent music was furnished during the banquet by the Walton orchestra and community singing was enjoyed during the meal. A radio apparatus had been installed but was not used as it was found that it could not be heard sufficiently loud.

The speakers of the evening were Hon. James J. Byard of Cooperstown, E. R. Eastman of Utica, and Mayor George R. Lunn of Schenectady. Prof. H. B. Townsend made an excellent toastmaster, presiding with dignity and introducing each speaker with a few pertinent remarks.

James J. Byard, Jr., of Cooperstown, whom the toastmaster introduced as "Plain Jim" Byard, was the first speaker. Mr. Byard recounted some humorous experiences on previous visits to Walton and then spoke along the line of community development. He praised Walton's business places and public institutions and stated that the number of houses in course of construction in Walton was remarkable. On this line he showed how much a building and loan association, such as the one in Walton, can do in helping home builders through co-operation with the banks.

E. R. Eastman, editor of the Dairyman's League News in Utica, and former farm bureau

agent in Delaware county, is always welcomed back to Walton. Mr. Eastman spoke of the pleasure it gave him to return once more and greet old friends. In his address he touched on the movement from the country to the city during the last half century. This is a natural development from economic conditions but has left evils, one of which is the feeling by many city residents that the man back on the farm is of little consequence. The farmer, on the other hand, often regards his city cousin as a non-producer. From this condition has arisen misunderstandings which Chambers of Commerce and similar organizations can do much to correct. Mr. Eastman cited the Walton Chamber of Commerce as a conspicuous example of an organization which seeks to bring the village and rural districts into greater unity. The prosperity of the village depends on the farmer, while the farmer in turn is benefited in equal measure by the village.

Referring to present conditions in the milk industry Mr. Eastman spoke of the pre-war conditions when low prices for milk had reached a point where many dairy farmers had started to go into other kinds of business. The Dairyman's League was an outgrowth of this condition when the dealer dictated the price to the consumer at one end and the producer at the other. The farmers proved by the milk strike in 1916 that after working as individuals they could, if necessary, stick together. Because strikes are uneconomic the Dairyman's League Co-operative association was organized to put the marketing of milk on a business basis. Under the old conditions the dealers on a show-down controlled factories, milk cans, and distributing facilities so that the farmer had little chance for success.

The association starts with the assumption that dairymen must have facilities to care for surplus milk. The association hires the best experts it can get for the expert jobs but the organization is under farmer control. A comparison of prices secured in the association territory with those in sixteen other organized dis-

tricts for the past eleven months shows that the Dairyman's League Co-operative Association price on pooled milk saved the members \$5,840,149 in that period and that taking the unpooled milk, the producers of which had benefited from the association, the amount saved reached \$8,961,026. It has been said that the association fooled the producers into signing an iron bound contract, but it is not reasonable to suppose that 70,000 hard headed farmers could be fooled into signing any kind of a paper. The pooling plan is economically right and has been recognized by many dealers. Out of nearly 1,000 milk stations only 170 did not buy directly of the association during April. Difficulties must still be faced but the present price would not be so far from the cost of production if all farmers were in the organization. The association is the pioneer blazing the trail from which future benefits will be reached.

A. J. Courtney, president of the Chamber of Commerce, was called upon by the toastmaster for a few remarks and thanked those present for their co-operation in making the banquet such a success.

Mayor George R. Lunn of Schenectady, the last speaker, is a born orator. He has a rich and musical voice, which with the force and earnestness of his personality held the attention of the audience every minute he spoke. The humorous incidents given in his address served more forcefully to set off the real message he brought.

In opening his address Mayor Lunn declared that a city or village is exactly what its people make it, and that he was cheered by the spirit of unity and co-operation that exists in Walton. Such a spirit is a living evidence that the village will ever grow and prosper. A Chamber of Commerce is of great value in getting things done. What is necessary is the presence of men in the organization with the will to achieve.

Continuing Mayor Lunn said he would speak on the subject, "The Spirit of Unity and Co-operation in this Nation." We have received America as an

inheritance and sometimes forget what that inheritance cost. Children cannot realize the cost of their heritage and the young generation does thereby more easily dissipate its fortune. We as a nation need to review what it has cost to give us our inheritance and realize the value of what we have received from former generations. The trials of Washington and his men at Valley Forge were vividly portrayed and the speaker showed how the indomitable spirit of Washington had overcome all obstacles and oppositions and outlined the beginnings of the new nation and the adoption of the constitution. The principles of democracy are in the constitution ready to be worked out. Changes can be made as long as they are not advocated by violence. The machinery exists for popular government.

The speaker showed how Lincoln had encountered the same abuse and opposition that Washington had faced. Coming down to present conditions he asserted that the economic foundations of the world had been shaken to their foundations. The basis of prosperity is the farm and where conditions are allowed to come up where the farmer does not get a fair share of production organizations will spring up to correct this abuse. From such conditions arise the farm bloc in congress. He congratulated Walton in trying to foster a spirit of unity between the village and the rural districts and trusted that an even greater spirit of co-operation would permeate the urban and rural districts of the nation and that together they would enjoy a greater and more prosperous future. The need exists that we shall see that the more liberal teachings of the present day shall produce the strength of character of the pioneer. America needs character in its men and women who will strive to build it up, who will right injustice that justice may abound and do good. As a democracy we may blunder and make mistakes but as long as we seek to live up to the principles laid down by the founders of the nation, America will prosper and each citizen may be proud to say, "Thank God, I am an American."