

LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter

100 YEARS AGO,
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1922

THE WEEK IN WALTON

What We Are Talking About at the County Hub

JUMPED HIS BOARD BILL

**Stole Sack of Flour—
Kiwanians Elect Officers—
Fell Downstairs—
Thrown From Horse.**

North street and upper Prospect avenue have been set aside for coasting from 2 p. m. on, and automobilists are asked to keep off these highways.

George S. Tacy has sold the James Depuy house, Prospect avenue, which he bought last week, to Edwin Hotchkiss. The sale was made through the agency of T. M. Galley.

Robert Morton, employed as a plumber by F. C. Darling, had his arm painfully burned by steam while working on a radiator Monday. Dr. C. S. Gould dressed the burn.

The Walton Elks will be hosts Monday at a theatre party at the Majestic to which all children under 14 years of age are invited. Each child will be remembered with a small token.

Walton Lodge No. 559, F. & A. M., elected officers last Thursday evening. T. M. Kingsbury was chosen as Master and the other elective officers are as follows: Senior warden, H. D. Henderson; junior warden, J. T. Sherwood; treasurer, W. E. Henderson; secretary, George M. Carpenter.

Mrs. William Cable fell downstairs at her home on Mead street Tuesday and sustained a Colle's fracture of her left wrist and sprained her right wrist. She was coming downstairs when her heel caught and she pitched headlong down the flight of stairs. Dr. W. B. Morrow reduced the fracture.

Thomas M. Galley and Robert Turner will open an Endicott-Johnson shoe store in the Gaul building, Delaware street, under the name of the Parlor Shoe Store. Mr. Galley will have his insurance office at the rear of the building. The stock is expected within a few days and the store will open as soon thereafter as possible.

James Kelley, Jr., had the misfortune to break his ankle last Thursday while riding horseback. The horse had no shoes on and slipped and fell on some ice which was covered by the freshly fallen snow. The horse fell, pinning the rider's leg beneath him. At present the young man is doing as well as can be expected. Dr. W. R. Gladstone reduced the fracture.

"The Fairy and the Waif," a five reel moving picture, will be the treat of the churches of Walton to the children and young people of the village and countryside on Friday afternoon at 4 o'clock. The Geneva Glee club will give two selections preliminary to the picture. Age is the only admission price. Folks of high school age and under will be admitted. Parents bringing young children will be permitted to occupy the balcony. No tickets required.

One evening recently Andrew Hall of West street, Walton, met with an accident while employed on the farm of Arthur Bergman at Bovina Center. Mr. Hall started from the barn for the hog pen with a pail of swill and walked off the wall to the high driveway, falling a distance of about four feet. Several ribs were fractured. Mr. Hall returned to Walton and has been confined to his home. Dr. Smith is the attending physician.

The Kiwanis club at the annual

meeting Friday evening re-elected the officers who were chosen at the time of organization last fall. They are as follows: President, H. E. Lane; vice president, Earl S. St. John; secretary, Rev. M. W. Riker; treasurer, E. B. Guild; district trustee, C. P. Wells; trustees of local club, A. W. Pine, A. J. Holmes, Dr. D. W. Nutt, C. B. Lincoln, J. J. Farrell, S. H. Fancher, and H. W. Retz. It was voted to appropriate \$50 for the Christmas fund to be used in Walton.

Mrs. Henry S. White of Mead street recently ordered a sack of flour from Smith & St. John and as both she and Mr. White were away from the house gave directions that the flour be left on the porch. Two days later when Mr. White called up the feed store to find why the flour had not been delivered as ordered he was told that the sack had been left on the side steps as directed. Someone passing by who had more hunger than conscience had made away with the flour, probably early in the evening.

A young man who registered at the Central House as P. D. Williams of Pittsburgh, Pa., departed on the midnight train Saturday leaving an unpaid board bill of about \$29. An investigation showed that he had been collecting magazine subscriptions in the village and that his real name was W. J. Burkhouse of New York, two letters sent to him by his wife under that name being picked up near the armory. Those who paid him subscription money are wondering whether they will ever see the magazines. A committee of the Chamber of Commerce exists for the purpose of passing upon those who visit Walton to solicit for magazines or charities and if all citizens would insist on solicitors receiving the endorsement of this committee much money would be saved in the course of a year.

MAN HELD FOR ARSON AFTER ROXBURY FIRE

Letter and Newspaper Lead to Italian's Arrest

FUSE FAILED TO WORK

Home Made Infernal Machine Left in Griffin's Shoe Shop, Good Detective Work.

(From Roxbury correspondent.)

Drenanco Salvatore, an Italian, is a prisoner in the county jail in Delhi held on a charge of attempted arson in the third degree as the result of an attempt made Wednesday night of last week to burn the shop of John W. Griffin on Main street, Roxbury.

On Thursday morning, December 14th, when Mr. Griffin, who is town clerk, entered his shoe shop he was greeted by the strong odor of gasoline. Upon investigating he found the floor of the rear room, where the town records are kept, saturated with gasoline while scattered about were a bottle of turpentine, an Italian newspaper and a fuse which had failed to ignite.

Word was sent to the barracks of the state police in Sidney and Sergeant J. J. Cunningham, who was at Hobart, was ordered to investigate and worked on the case with Under Sheriff L. J. Stewart who was at his home in Roxbury at the time.

The fuse or infernal machine which was to ignite the building was a home constructed affair, as a shotgun shell had been unloaded and some of the powder was scattered on the floor. In this was a piece of fuse, with what looked like candle wicking. The fuse had been lighted as it was charred on one end and nearby on the floor lay a small roll of paper which on being opened proved to be a letter addressed to Henry Blythe, a Roxbury merchant. There was also a small piece of an Italian newspaper which had been wrapped about the fuse. Entrance to the shop had been obtained through a back window and the reason for not setting the fire going while in there was that escape before the

fire was discovered would have been difficult.

From Mr. Blythe it was learned that early Wednesday evening he had sold a gallon of gasoline to a strange Italian. The man had no cork for his bottle so Blythe rolled up a letter and some paper and improvised a cork.

Friday morning Sergeant Cunningham and Mr. Blythe went to Margaretville and Stamford but could find no trace of their man. They then proceeded to Hobart where they knew there was an Italian cobbler. Blythe went inside the shop and found his man. Coming out he told Cunningham and the two went back but the Italian had disappeared, evidently alarmed by the identification of Blythe in the store by a customer.

A search located the man at one of the farm houses in Stamford township, in which there is an Italian colony. The arrest was made late at night. The prisoner gave his name as Drenanco Salvatore.

Cunningham took his prisoner before Justice Conro at Grand Gorge, who held him for the March grand jury on a charge of attempted arson in the third degree. He was taken that night to Delhi where he was lodged in the county jail. The Italian would not confess and no satisfactory motive for the crime has been given.

WOMAN LOSES LIFE WHEN HOUSE BURNS

Charred Body of Mrs. Fingado Found in Ruins

HAD BEEN LEFT ALONE

Possible That She May Have Set Fire to House in Irrational Spell.

Mrs. Melvin J. Fingado, aged about 25 years, was burned to death last Thursday afternoon, December 14, when fire destroyed the Fingado farm house on Carcass brook, two and one-half miles from Harvard.

Mrs. Fingado was alone in the house at the time. Her mother, Mrs. May Eberlin, was expected to arrive on the afternoon D. & N. train and Mr. Fingado left the place about one o'clock to drive to Harvard. At his wife's suggestion he took with him the two small children, Glen and Robert.

Carcass brook is a tributary of Baxter brook and the road from Baxter brook leads over the mountain to Rock Rift and there is little traffic over it. The Fingado farm is about half a mile from the Baxter brook road and adjoins the property of William Jaycox, although out of sight from the Jaycox home. The house was set back from the road on the hillside. About four o'clock, Thursday afternoon Ulysses Wood, son of George W. Wood, who lives further up the brook, was walking home up the Carcass brook road when he saw that the Fingado house was burning and the structure was almost in ruins then.

Young Wood ran as fast as possible up the road to where Edgar Rickard, Richard Schloss and Ray Schloss were butchering a hog on the Rickard place just above Jaycox's. The men and William Jaycox hurried back to the Fingado farm, arriving there just as Mr. Fingado returned from Harvard.

By this time the house was in ashes. Search of the ruins by the men resulted in the finding of the charred torso of Mrs. Fingado in the cellar under her bedroom on the first floor.

Mrs. Fingado had acted irrational at times and it is possible that she may have set fire to the building. When her husband left for Harvard she urged him to take the children with him. Mr. Fingado states that when he left home he shut his shepard dog in the house and when he returned the animal was in the barn. He had been detained at Harvard longer than expected due to the lateness of the train. It is proba-

ble that the house burned about three o'clock as at the time young Wood passed the building had fallen in. There had been two stoves in the house in which fires were left by Mr. Fingado.

Dr. A. D. Johnston as coroner and Justice L. S. Mallory of East Branch conducted an investigation of the fire.

A small milk house connected with the house was also burned. Only a small amount of insurance was carried by Mr. Fingado.

The funeral of Mrs. Fingado was held Sunday afternoon conducted by Rev. Foxton of East Branch.

MANY BURNING WOOD

Fuel Shortage Continues in Walton With Little Coal

USE 100 CORDS DAILY

Green Stove Wood Sells at from \$4.50 to \$5 a Cord-Anthracite Supply Fifty Per Cent Short.

Little change has taken place in the fuel situation in Walton. An acute shortage still exists and a majority of the families in Walton are using wood or other substitutes for coal.

Including the coal purchased by the village board and distributed in small quantities to those needing it most there have been receipts of less than 300 tons during December. Dealers state this is less than half the requirements. The little independent coal received by the dealers has retailed at from \$16 to \$18.50 per ton.

Wood is being used largely as a substitute for coal. It is stated that three cords of seasoned wood is about the equivalent of a ton of coal in heat value. Little seasoned wood is available and green wood of stove length is being retailed at \$4.50 to \$5 a cord, with proportional charges for longer lengths.

Lee Camp of the firm of the Camp company went to Scranton Wednesday to see about getting deliveries on independent coal ordered by that firm when it was found that the coal supplied by the association companies would leave hundreds of families without anthracite. Railroad men state that there are many crippled cars loaded with coal sidetracked on the Scranton division.

A carload of soft coal shipped to the Camp company over a railroad on which a freight embargo existed was seized in transit and used to relieve the wants of another community, the camp company have been notified by the dealers from whom the coal was ordered.

It is estimated that nearly 100 cords of wood are being brought into Walton daily.

WOULD INCORPORATE FAIR ASSOCIATION

Sale of Stock Would Pay Off Indebtedness and Provide Working Capital

Only eleven members of the Delaware Valley Fair association, the Walton fair society, exercised their right of franchise at the annual election of officers Saturday afternoon.

The officers whose terms expired were re-elected as follows: President, W. H. Austin; vice president, Frank T. Ives; secretary, J. Ward Palmer; treasurer, Harry McCabe; directors, Granit Begeal, L. D. McClenon and Everett Dicks.

The treasurer's report is as follows:

Receipts.		
Balance from 1921	\$	69.54
Gate receipts	3,375.99	
Grand stand receipts	257.75	
Rent of grounds	201.50	
Privileges	593.87	
Entries for premiums	681.42	
Annual members	229.	
Entries for races	339.	
Notes	13,684.16	
State money	3,452.19	22,814.86
Total receipts		22,881.40

Disbursements.	
Payment of notes	13,684.16
Permanent improvements	134.
Labor	445.67
Material	333.08
Printing and advertising	566.97
Attractions and music	1,239.
Insurance, telegrams, express, hay and grain, etc.	1,002.85
Salaries of officers, supertendents, helpers, police	1,283.
Premiums	3,153.55

Total disbursements	22,733.36
Total receipts	\$22,884.40
Total disbursements	22,733.36

Balance on hand	151.04
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At a recent special meeting of the fair association it was voted to incorporate with a capital stock of \$15,000 in shares of \$50 par value. The total outstanding indebtedness at present is the \$13,684 owed on notes and the \$1,900 first mortgage on the fair grounds, a total of \$15,584. The association will receive back from the state 80 per cent of the premiums paid this year, or \$2,522, leaving a net debt of \$13,062. A summary of the disbursements, exclusive of the amount paid on notes, would indicate that with the elimination of the interest charge an incorporated fair association should earn a small dividend for its stockholders and retain the fairgrounds for the benefit of community.

Subscription papers for the sale of the stock are now in the hands of the officers. Three hundred shares must be sold to insure the continuance of the fair, as \$15,000 will pay off all indebtedness and leave a good working balance for the management to be chosen by the stockholders.

An Excellent Christmas Trade.

The snowfall over the week end which brought excellent sleighing together with the nearness of Christmas has caused stores to be crowded with holiday shoppers this week. Few villages the size of Walton offer the shopping opportunities afforded here and many visitors from other villages have been awake to the bargains offered.

Going Home to Scotland.

W. A. Gilmore, a prosperous farmer on the Cannonsville-Deposit road at Stilesville, sailed last Saturday on the "Columbia" for Glasgow, Scotland, to visit his native country after an absence of fourteen years.

Christmas Mail Heavy.

The Walton post office anticipates a heavier Christmas mail than ever before. Hundreds of cards, letters and parcels are being handled daily. The Utica Flyer Wednesday evening brought forty sacks of mail matter, mostly parcel post. Packages are being delivered by the help of horses and sleighs.

PUT WALTON ON THE MAP

Shewanis Club May Become an International Organization.

The Kiwanis club entertained the Shewanians at supper last Friday night. After the meal, which was interspersed with songs and speeches from both clubs, the ladies bade goodnight to their hosts and proceeded to Miss Pond's music store, where they organized and elected officers for the coming year.

The officers are as follows: Miss S. E. Pond, president; Miss Katherine Wright, vice president; Miss Eugenia Burrhus, treasurer; Mrs. Letha Palmatier, secretary.

This club, which is purely a business woman's organization, has started out with twenty-eight charter members. The ladies lunch together once a week and hope in this way to promote sociability and mutual interest in private and public problems.

Later the ladies hope to adopt the suggestion of Kiwanian Morrow and make the Shewanis an international organization with headquarters in a brownstone building on Delaware street.