

LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter

100 YEARS AGO,
SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1923

THE WEEK IN WALTON

What We Are Talking About
at the County Hub

SUSPENDS PHONE RATES

Fifty-two Years Railroad Surgeon - Cinder Causes Loss of Eye - Child Dies of Burns.

A reception will be given to Rev. Frank Taft and family at the Baptist church Friday evening, Mar. 9.

Moses Edwards of Plymouth Church fell off a load of wood Wednesday and broke one of his ribs. Dr. W. G. Smith attends him.

William H. Vandervort, who was severely burned last week by exploding gasoline in the section shanty north of the Walton yards, is now believed to be out of danger.

Three deer are often seen by the Elderkin and Tuttle families eating apples under the trees nearby. The trees stand in a protected basin under the Readburn road.—Rock Rift correspondent.

William Roger, the three months old son of Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Leigh of Third brook died Wednesday, following an attack of cold and grip. There is one other child, a daughter, in the family.

Mrs. George Pulver fell at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Ida Gallup, Stockton avenue, last week Thursday, breaking her left wrist. Mrs. Pulver is over 80 years of age. Dr. W. R. Gladstone is the attending physician.

Floyd Beers has sold his interest in the Meadowbrook Dairy company to George Wakeman and Orville Whitaker. H. D. Garrison, Harland Holley, George Bailey and C. M. Palmer retain their interest in the business.

Town Superintendent T. P. Howland and a force of men on Saturday opened the river road from the corporation line to Hawleys so that automobiles could travel the highway. The cost of \$21 was defrayed by the Chamber of Commerce.

James, the three year old son of Mr. and Mrs. George M. Stiles of Amesbury, Mass., died recently from burns received when he backed into a tub of scalding water. Mrs. Stiles will be remembered as a granddaughter of the late George Fancher of Walton.

Ray Brazee has sold his house on Griswold street to Henry Johnson of Norwich. Charles Owens of Walton has sold a house at Cannonsville owned by him to N. E. Young, contractor on part two of the Deposit-Rock Rift road. Both sales were made through the agency of H. M. Robinson.

About ten weeks ago Eugene Schoonmaker got a cinder in his left eye while employed at the Neal greenhouse, causing an injury which necessitated the removal of the eyeball by a specialist in Albany last week. Mr. Schoonmaker returned to Walton Sunday and is now stopping at the Riverview hotel for a time.

Friday evening the Delhi train was delayed by the derailment of a coal car near the Brainard farm, between Walton and Colchester. A rod on the coal pocket had not been properly fastened when the car was emptied at Delhi and this dropped down and caught on the ties. The forward pair of wheels and the rear truck were thrown off the rails.

Dr. W. B. Morrow, who has held the position of railroad surgeon in Walton for forty-two years, has received word from the Ontario & Western railroad of his

reappointment together with the compliments of the company. He is the oldest surgeon in point of service in the employ of the company with the exception of Dr. Cavanaugh of Sylvan Beach.

Arthur E. Conner, village attorney, and A. G. Patterson as the representative of the Walton water company, went to South Norwalk, Conn., Wednesday to take the testimony of Strong Comstock, a former principal of the Walton school, in the action brought by the water company to compel the village to pay hydrant rental. The franchise which provides that the company shall furnish the village with water for its hydrants free forever was obtained in 1878, when Mr. Strong was president of the water company, a position he held until 1891.

Complaint has been made to the Public Service Commission by the village authorities and Chamber of Commerce of Walton, over proposed increased rates for telephone service by the Walton People's telephone company, proposed as effective on Mar. 1. It is alleged that the proposed rates are excessive and unjust and unwarranted by the quality of service given. It is claimed the present system of the company "is incapable of affording efficient and up-to-date service to its patrons and that said company does not give good and efficient service." Village President Courtney received word Wednesday that the proposed rates had been ordered suspended by the commission and that a hearing in the matter will be held in Binghamton Monday. The telephone company issues its bills for the month in advance and the statements for the rental at the new rates were in the mails before word of the order suspending the same was received.

COUNTY DEATH RATE HIGH

While 1922 Birth Rate Was
Near State Average.

Provisional reports on the birth, death and infant mortality rates in New York show that the death rate for the entire state was exactly 13 per 1,000, being a little above that of 1921, when it was 12.3. The birth rate showed a slight falling off, being 21.6 as compared with 22.8 the year before. The infant mortality rate was 77 for every 1,000 children born alive. New York city showed a low infant death rate, her figures being 75, as against an average of 81 in the remainder of the state.

In Delaware county there were 936 births and 712 deaths in 1922. This gives a birth rate of 21.8 for the county and death rate of 16.6, which is much above the state rate. This is based on the 1920 census figures, which gave us nearly 42,774 population.

PLENTY OF COAL HERE TO MEET ALL NEEDS

Purchase from Independent
Dealers Solves Problem

BUT PRICES ARE HIGH

Retailers Sell Independent
Coal at \$18.50 While the
Little Association Coal
Received Brings \$12.75.

George W. Goethels, state fuel administrator, has issued an order to all district and county administrators to the effect that no coal in transit over the railroads shall be seized without an order from the state administrator.

The letter of the district administrator to W. T. Black of Delhi, the county fuel official, together with a copy of the order, will be found in another column.

During recent weeks Walton has not suffered from such an acute shortage of coal as was experienced in December. This is doubtless due to the fact that while in many nearby places deal-

ers have depended on supplies from the association companies the Walton dealers entered the independent market. What little coal is received from the association companies is retailed at the old price of \$12.75, while that purchased from the independents brings about \$18.50 per ton, but at least fuel has been obtainable and this has not been true of many communities. The ratio of cars received has been about three from the independents to one from the association dealers, who handle the O. & W. coal.

With the approach of spring weather it is probable that the local dealers will be able to handle the situation without further hardship in the matter of inability to secure coal at any price.

Hundreds of cords of wood have been cut and sold in Walton this winter as a substitute for coal. It is probable that the habit thus formed of piecing out the coal supply with this local fuel will be followed in the years to come more than in the past few years when few householders have used wood in their furnaces.

PAY YOUR INCOME TAX NOW AND AVOID THE FINAL RUSH

The time for the payment of the federal and state income taxes will soon be past. The returns for the federal tax must be filed not later than March 15, and for the state tax on or before April 16th.

John S. Taylor, deputy collector of internal revenue, was at the Walton post office last Thursday and Friday to help taxpayers make out their returns. It is probable that as usual a state tax agent will be in Walton next month for the same purpose.

The federal tax is four per cent on the net income with an exemption of \$1,000 for single persons and \$2,500 for married persons. A married person with a net income of \$2,000 or more must, however, file a return even if no tax payment is required. On incomes of \$5,000 or more the tax rates and exemptions differ from the rate and exemptions on incomes under that amount.

The state tax is one per cent on incomes under \$10,000. With the state tax it should be remembered that the exemption allowed married persons is only \$2,000 plus \$200 for each dependent child under 18 years of age.

The closing days for the payment of both federal and state taxes always bring a rush of payments from those who have left the matter to the last minute. Pay your tax now.

CUT OFF BROTHER'S THUMB

Fishes Eddy Lad Was Holding
Wood to Be Split.

(From Fishes Eddy correspondent.)

Saturday Louis Ostrander, eight year-old son of Frank Ostrander, of Fishes Eddy, was holding a block of wood for his brother to split when the axe came down on his left hand, completely severing the thumb between the first and second joints.

Dr. F. M. Woolsey of Hancock was immediately called and upon examination found the bone so badly shattered that it was necessary to amputate at the second joint. Louis seems to be an unlucky lad. Less than a year ago he fell and broke his arm.

BORN.

Kelsey-In Walton, Mar. 1, to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Kelsey, a son.

Crumb-At Barbourville, Feb. 16, to Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Crumb, a son.

Niles-In Deposit, Feb. 22, to Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Niles, a son.

Barker-In Delhi, Feb. 23, to Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Barker, a daughter.

Lakin-In Delhi, Feb. 15, to Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Lakin, a daughter, Ruth Lucile.

Matthews-In Delhi, Feb. 17, to Mr. and Mrs. Gordon B. Matthews, a son, Gordon Duane.

Bellows-At Bedell, town of Rox-

bury, Feb. 15, to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bellows, a son.

Lowe-At Cabin Hill, Feb. 15, to Mr. and Mrs. Carl Lowe, a son.

Faulkner-At New Kingston, Feb. 24, to Mr. and Mrs. Ray Faulkner, a daughter, Dorothy Ellen.

Howe-At Corbett, Feb. 25, to Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Howe, a daughter.

Saddier-In Delhi, Feb. 23, to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Saddier, a daughter.

Buell-At Bloomville, Feb. 13, to Mr. and Mrs. Lee Buell, a son.

Sanford-In Oneonta, Feb. 23, to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sanford, a son.

Sherman-At East Afton, Feb. 21, to Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Sherman, a son.

Hunter-At Cadosia, Feb. 25, to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hunter, a daughter.

MARRIED.

Keogan-Wilcox - At East Branch, Feb. 22, James Keogan of Kingston and Miss Maude Wilcox of Fremont Center.

Todd-Jacobson - At Andes, Feb. 18, Stratton Todd of Arkville and Miss Mary Jacobson of Pepacton.

Wilkinson-Cartledge - At Bainbridge, Feb. 24, Dr. Raymond J. Wilkinson of Buffalo, formerly of Unadilla and Miss Norma Cartledge of Bainbridge.

Budine-Lambert - In Walton, Feb. 27, by Rev. D. H. Piper, Rubert H. Budine and Alice E. Lambert, both of Walton.

DIED.

Arnold-In Walton, Feb. 25. Mrs. Rose M. Arnold, aged 54 years.

Pierson-In Walton, Feb. 28, Mrs. Charles H. Pierson, aged 77 years.

Brownell-At North Harpersfield, Feb. 24, Mrs. E. S. Brownell, aged about 75 years.

Hughes-At Meridale, Feb. 22. Mrs. James Hughes, aged 74 years.

Russell-At New Kingston, Feb. 22, John Oscar Russell, aged 65 years.

Sickler-At North Franklin, Feb. 23, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Sickler.

Emerson-At Franklin, Feb. 25, Mrs. B. L. Emerson, formerly of Walton, aged 38 years.

Boyd-At Cannonsville, Feb. 21, George Boyd, aged 85 years.

Howland-In Oneonta, Feb. 24, Mrs. W. W. Howland, formerly of Walton, aged 58 years.

Gelatt-In Deposit, Feb. 22, Mrs. Albert Gelatt, aged 32 years.

Freeman-At McClure, near Deposit, Feb. 27, Burton William Freeman, aged 63 years.

Ryan-In Deposit, Feb. 22, Andrew Ryan, aged 61 years.

Murray-In Woodhaven, L. I., Feb. 20, Michael U. Murray of Deposit, aged 37 years.

Dunning-Near Deposit, Feb. 26, Mrs. Frederick J. Dunning, aged 55 years.

Eckert-At Hamden, Feb. 25, Mrs. Harry Eckert, aged 35 years.

Leigh-At Third brook, Walton, Feb. 28, William Roger, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Leigh, aged 3 months.

Scott-In Delhi, Feb. 27, Robert Scott of Fall Clove, aged 35 years.

PESSIMISM OF AN OLD-TIMER.

An old-timer of Walton in conversation with the editor bemoans the extravagance that prevails individually and governmentally. He sees the expenses of local, county, state and national government marking new highs. The individual shares in the spending mania.

He looks back to years ago when \$1,000 was considered a princely salary in Walton, and those who received this much could be counted on the fingers of the two hands, or more probably of one hand. The frugal era when everybody kept a cow, a pig, chickens and each fall saw a quarter of beef put down, with a kit of mackerel always in the cellar. When prunes and dried apples were the breakfast fruit in place of grapefruit, oranges and bananas. When every penny went for necessities and not a cent for luxuries. There were no ice bills. People took their well water and tea without ice.

He beholds this frugal way of living gone to the bow wows. If the "old resident" returned he

would feel like Rip Van Winkle after his long sleep. He would be lonesome. There would be no place to go, for the stove in the village store is no longer a meeting place, but stove and stove-warmers have gone with the other antiques.

The simple life is no more. Automobiles, coal heaters, electric lights, telephones, phonographs and a varied bill of fare are considered necessities.

The old-timer questions if people can stand the pace. He feels that somewhere there is a limit and that the limit is not far in the gloaming. But he offers no remedy because he knows it would not be taken. Not until the proletariat shows signs of severe illness will they look around for medicine, and even then it is doubtful if they would go back to prunes and dried apples.

SPORTSMEN FEED DEER

Hancock Gun Club Places
Hay in Woods For Animals.

(From Hancock correspondent.)

The Hancock Rod and Gun club have been placing baled hay in the woods for the deer which have come out in the open in search of food. People who have seen the animals say they are very poor as the deep snow has cut off much of their usual food supply. The severe winter has also been unusually hard on partridges and pheasants.

BROKE BOTH BONES OF ANKLE.

(East Meredith correspondent.)

Word was received last week by Mr. and Mrs. George Connor of East Meredith that their daughter, Mrs. M. Lines of New York city had had the misfortune to fall and break both bones in her ankle. Mrs. Connor left Wednesday morning to spend some time with Mrs. Lines.

HONOR WASHINGTON AND LINCOLN.

At a most interesting meeting of the D. A. R. on Friday evening, at the home of Mrs. George Fitch with Mrs. Robert Scott assistant hostess, a Washington and Lincoln program was given following the regular business meeting.

The early part of the evening was devoted to thoughts of Lincoln. An outline of the Lincoln Memorial university near Cumberland Gap, Tenn., was given followed by sketches, "The Life of Lincoln," Miss Beers; "Lincoln With the Young People," Mrs. Wells; "Lincoln's Puritan Ancestry," Mrs. Junius Eells; "His Tribute," Mrs. Vincent White; "Readings," Mrs. Nellis.

The Washington part of the program was devoted to Sulgrave Manor and Sulgrave institution, presented by Miss Helen Eells and Miss Catherine Scott with a sketch on the life of Washington by Miss Tobey.

The next meeting will be a musical of patriotic and American music at the home of Mrs. Edwin Guild on March 23rd.

LEAVE FARMS FOR CITY.

Figures compiled by Prof. G. F. Warren of Cornell university show that during the last twelve months 34,000 men and boys left the farms of New York state to go to work in towns and cities, and only one-fourth as many left the cities to go to work on the farms. These estimates are based on reports from nearly 4,000 typical New York state farms obtained in co-operation with J. B. Shepard representing the New York State Department of Farms and Markets of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Between Feb. 1 a year ago and Feb. 1 this year, the estimated number of people on the farms of this state decreased from 794,000 to 762,000 or 4 per cent, a rate of movement which has been exceeded only once in recent years and that was in 1917. There are now about two-thirds as many people living on the farms of this state as there were in 1840.