

# LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter

100 YEARS AGO,  
SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1923

## THE WEEK IN WALTON

What We Are Talking About  
at the County Hub

### FIVE ALARMS FOR FIRES

**Miss Launt Home Bureau  
Head—Three Have Accidents—  
Eight Went to Washington—  
Woollett is Chief.**

Thomas M. Galley has bought from George S. Tacy the McClenon farm near Woodford. Mr. Galley has sold the timber on the place.

The killing of frogs between April first and July first is prohibited by the game laws. Frogs may be used as bait at any time, however.

Miner Edwards, employed by the Miner-Edgar company in the Rock Rift acid factory, fell Friday and broke his left wrist. Dr. Morrow reduced the fracture.

The annual county banquet of the American Legion will be held in the Walton armory on May 8th. State Commander A. S. Callan will be the speaker of the evening.

Cornelius Garrison of Rock Rift, O. & W. section boss, has bought the Andrew Engert property at Beerston. The sale was made through the agency of H. M. Robinson.

Supervisor William G. Moore has received one-half of the public school money, which will be paid out on the order of district trustees. The amount received was \$10,948.39.

At the annual meeting of the Walton fire department Wednesday evening the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Chief, A. E. Woollett; first assistant, J. C. Burrhus; second assistant, Milo VanValkenburg; secretary, George M. Carpenter; treasurer, Joseph Gannon.

Mrs. Edgar Kinch of North street slipped on the sill of the door to her back porch Saturday and in falling sustained painful injuries to her back. She had been cleaning the kitchen and some of the water froze on the door sill causing Mrs. Kinch to slip on the ice when she stepped upon it.

Some six hundred persons took in the Ontario & Western railroad's Easter excursion to Washington, D. C. In Walton eight tickets were sold. Among those from here taking the trip were Mrs. J. C. Burrhus, Misses Jessie and Marie Stewart, Miss Clara Lyon, Frank Sherwood, Calvin Darrin and Charles T. McClenon.

Each officer and enlisted man of the military forces of the state of New York who was on active duty under orders of the governor for more than thirty days between February 2, 1917, and Feb. 2, 1919, is entitled to receive one of the medals for state service. Application forms may be secured at the Walton armory and should be filed in Albany by April 15th.

At the executive committee meeting of the Home Bureau held at Hancock, Saturday, March 31st, Miss Sarah Launt, assistant manager in Jefferson county, was chosen to fill the vacancy in Delaware county caused by the resignation of Mrs. D. H. Bucknam. Miss Launt will take up her new work August 15th. She is the daughter of M. L. Launt of Walton.

John Campbell, employed by the Keery Chemical company on a lumber job near Beerston,

fell one day recently and cracked a rib. Richard Moshier of Beerston, who operates a stone quarry near Colchester for Oscar Rotzler, got his left hand caught in the cog wheels of a derrick Wednesday and the third finger was badly smashed. Moshier was alone at the time and had to back the wheels off his hand. Dr. Smith attended both men.

The Walton fire department had two more calls last week, making five alarms during the week. Last Thursday evening when the chimney of E. M. Ogden's house, Prospect avenue, burned out while Mr. and Mrs. Ogden were at the barn, neighbors saw the flames shooting up into the air and sent in an alarm. Friday afternoon a chimney fire in Frank Cetta's house, St. John street, again brought the firemen out in response to a call. In neither case was any damage done to the houses.

Governor Smith has vetoed the Stapley bill designed to raise to twenty miles an hour the speed limit which second-class cities, towns and villages could set by statute. Under the present provisions of the highway law the speed limit can be set as low as 15 miles an hour. Governor Smith in his message disapproving the bill stated that he did so because opposed to permitting the increase in the rate of travel of motor vehicles until such time as some action is taken toward the regulation of their operation.

The charge of petit larceny brought by Ex-Sheriff W. L. Vandermark of Delhi against Roy Foote of Walton, was withdrawn when the case was returnable before Justice C. T. Telford in Delhi, Friday, March 30th. Foote worked for Vandermark on a lumber job at Cabin Hill and when he quit and returned to Walton the man who moved his household goods made use of some boards to hold in the load. Vandermark later swore out a warrant charging that Foote stole the timber. On Friday the entire matter was dropped.

### TROUT FISHERMEN READY FOR SEASON'S OPENING SATURDAY

"No change in trout season. Opens Saturday, April seventh."

The Reporter received the above telegram Wednesday afternoon from the conservation commission in Albany in reply to a request for information relative to the proposed change in the law. A bill has been before the legislature changing the opening date to Apr. 16 and also making the minimum length seven inches instead of six inches.

Few local sportsmen knew that such a measure was being considered until about a week ago. The Delaware Valley Fish & Game club, through its president, F. A. Gadwood, has filed a request for a hearing on the bill should it pass the legislature but this does not seem probable now. The majority of local anglers believe that if the season is to be shortened it should be by changing the closing date instead of the opening day, which the law now fixes as the first Saturday in April.

The law restricts a day's catch of trout to ten pounds per person. At the opening of the season there is little danger of anyone violating this provision as usually the brooks are too high or the weather too cold for big catches.

The outlook is for a good season as soon as the snow leaves the hills and the brooks are down to normal. For several days the rain and warm weather have caused the streams to be high and roily, but a day or two of cold, clear weather, will clear them and Saturday will doubtless see the streams, whatever their condition or the state of the weather, lined with expectant fishermen. But many expectations may be doomed to disappointment.

### \$2,200 VERDICT STANDS

New Trial Denied in  
Robinson-Munn Case

### CASE MAY BE APPEALED

**McCann Holds That Evidence  
Is Sufficient to Establish  
Verbal Contract in Case.**

A decision denying the motion of defendant for a new trial has been handed down by Justice George McCann in the action brought by Miss Kathryn Robinson of Walton against William C. Munn, as executor of the last will of Daniel Munn, deceased. His memorandum of opinion follows:

"This is a motion by the defendant for a new trial after a verdict of the jury in favor of the plaintiff for the sum of \$2,200. The action is to recover for services rendered as a nurse by the plaintiff to the decedent, Daniel Munn. The plaintiff had been employed as a nurse attending the decedent's wife and after her death, she continued in the service of the decedent for a period of about six years. The case illustrates the usual difficulty of proving services rendered to a decedent. In this particular case, it is claimed that there has been no contract for services established, and that the services proved are not of the nature claimed, to wit, services as a nurse, and furthermore that whatever services were rendered, have been paid for in full. There is little evidence of the making of a specific contract for the nursing and attendance of the decedent. However, I think there is sufficient to sustain the contract, even under the stringent rule required by law in cases of this kind.

"The contract, to my mind, is established by the testimony of the witness, Doig, in relating the statement made by the decedent with reference to the agreement made between the plaintiff and the decedent's wife.

The witness, Morrow, also testified that the decedent stated that he had made arrangements to take care of the plaintiff for all she would lose in giving up her profession, or words to that effect. This is corroborated also by the testimony of Dr. Keen. Several witnesses testified as to the devoted attention of the plaintiff to the decedent. There is no possible question but that she performed her duties, and performed them well. I believe that she made an agreement with the decedent's wife to stay with the decedent and care for him as long as he should live. The decedent has admitted that to several witnesses.

"The defendant claims that she has been paid in full and the acceptance by her of a regular stated sum is sufficient evidence of the payment of whatever sums were due and owing when such payments were made. This is controverted by the testimony of Dr. Morrow and others. Briefly stated, I realize fully the difficulty of producing clear and convincing evidence which the law requires in these cases, but in this case I believe that the evidence has been produced, and the testimony, to my mind, is clear and convincing and I have no doubt of the truth of the statements of the witnesses produced by plaintiff to sustain her claim. Their testimony is entitled to full credence as is shown not only by the matters to which they have testified, but also by their personal appearance on the witness stand.

"As to the equities of the case there is but one side to discuss. The plaintiff devoted several years of her life to the care and attention of a man who was financially able and willing to pay for her services, and who has admitted such facts on several occasions, and he has also admitted that she was giving up lucrative positions as a nurse where she could have earned three times as much money as she received from the decedent. The equities are all

in favor of the plaintiff and inasmuch as I believe the evidence is sufficient, I see no grounds for a new trial. The motion therefore is denied with ten dollars costs."

The defendant may appeal the case to the appellate division of the supreme court.

### HOUCK'S SKULL FRACTURED

**Treadwell Man in Serious  
Condition From Recent  
Accident.**

(From Treadwell correspondent.)

Dr. G. A. Silliman of Delhi was at Treadwell Saturday in consultation with Dr. Winans of Franklin on the case of Manley Houck. It was planned to take Mr. Houck to Oneonta for treatment, but Sunday morning his condition was such he could not be moved.

On Monday afternoon Dr. McMinimin of Oneonta was called and found Mr. Houck to be suffering from fractured skull. His sister came Monday to assist in caring for him.

Mr. Houck was thrown from his sleigh about three weeks ago when the sleigh slewed in making a turn and in falling struck on his head. He formerly lived at Harvard.

### CHANGES ARE MADE IN SCHOOL FACULTY

**Five Teachers Return Their  
Contracts and Will Take  
Positions Elsewhere**

A number of changes will be made in the faculty of the Walton school for the ensuing year. The members of the present faculty were re-elected at a recent meeting of the board of education and were given until Mar. 29 to sign and return their contracts.

Teachers who failed to return their contracts and thus signified their intention of not remaining for another year were Miss Hannah Bray, home economics department; Miss Anne Fern, physical training; Miss Gertrude H. Nichols, English; Miss Carrie Ratcliffe, biology; Miss Merle O. Whitaker, grade teacher.

The faculty for next year so far as chosen is as follows: Principal, C. P. Wells; vice principal, H. B. Townsend; agricultural department, S. E. Brink; training class, Emma Dann; English, Antoinette K. Owens; French and German, Kate G. Eells; history, Laura Eggleston; civics and commercial geography, Claudine Proskine; mathematics, Lucia Nutt; physical training, Irene J. St. John; mathematics and chemistry, Ruth Haulenbeek; domestic science, Dorothy Green of Westville, N. Y., a graduate of Simmons college; drawing, Janie Launt; algebra and business writing, Margaret McDougall; biology, Blanche Whitman of Moravia, N. Y.; music, H. Francis Miles; commercial subjects, Rae L. Braw; medical examiner and director of boys' athletics, Dr. H. F. Mace; principal Stockton avenue school, Margaret Schlafer; principal Miller avenue school, Clara Lyon; grade teachers, Grace Coburn, Julia Brandt, Bertha McCabe, Margaret A. Shaw, Olive Hasbrouck, Margaret Woolerton, Myrtle E. Wright, Jessie Lambrecht, Margaret Woodburn, Mildred Dolan, Ruth E. Eells, Martha Johnston, Nina Hodge, Marian Gladstone. Miss Gladstone and Miss Eells are new teachers, the former being a resident of Delhi, who has been teaching in Binghamton, while Miss Eells has been teaching in Sidney. Her home is in Unadilla.

### BURNED UP HIS CAR

**Andes Machine Caught Fire  
After Running Wild.**

While Clyde Bloodgodd was returning to Andes from William Wight's home on the Cabin hill road Monday noon the steering gear of his Studebaker car

broke and the car left the road, went over the bank and into the field. Mr. Bloodgodd jumped. The machine caught fire and was destroyed, together with an extra tire and three robes.

### DEPOSIT ATTORNEY DIED ON WEDNESDAY

**C. E. Scott Passed Away at  
Home After Illness of Long  
Duration**

Attorney Cornelius E. Scott, aged 57 years, died Wednesday morning, April 4, at his home in Deposit after an illness of some six months' duration. Mr. Scott was one of the best known lawyers in this section and many friends who knew of his long struggle against disease learned with deep regret of his death.

Mr. Scott, born at China between Deposit and Masonville, on December 20, 1865, came to Deposit at the age of seven years and had since resided in that place. After completing his preliminary education in the Deposit academy, he entered the law offices of the late Arthur Moore. He served as apprentice to Mr. Moore for a number of years before entering the Albany law school, from which he was graduated in 1887. Mr. Scott then returned to Deposit and again became associated with Mr. Moore. This partnership lasted for a short time, when Mr. Scott opened up his own law offices.

He was prominent in fraternal circles, being a member of a number of lodges. He was past master of Deposit Lodge, No. 396; Deposit Chapter, No. 187, Royal Arch Masons; Southern Tier Council, No. 35, A. and F. M., and was assistant grand lecturer of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. Mr. Scott was also a member of the Broome and Delaware bar associations and of the Deposit Grange.

Mr. Scott was twice married. Besides his wife, formerly Miss Helen Wilcox of Deposit, he is survived by a daughter, Ruth Scott, and three sons, Henry, Graydon W. and Curzon Scott, all of Deposit.

To a wide circle of friends Mr. Scott was known as "Scotty." His genial personality, loyalty to his friends and devotion to his own family were outstanding characteristics of the man. During the World War he maintained a large correspondence with the many sons of Deposit who entered the country's service and the interest thus shown in the young men of Deposit is but one instance out of many that might be cited to show his civic pride in the community in which his life had been spent.

The funeral service will be held Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the home.

### AWARDED MEDAL FOR BRAVERY

**Lieut. Donald Grant Among  
Those Honored by State.**

Among the forty-five ex-service men who will be awarded the state conspicuous service medals by Gov. Smith at Albany Thursday evening, at 5 p. m., on the eastern steps of the capitol, is attorney Donald H. Grant, a former Hobart boy, but now of Oneonta. Gen. Ryan and five hundred soldiers of the Tenth Infantry are to take part in the ceremony. This medal, the highest military decoration which New York state confers, is awarded to men who received divisional citations for valor in action during the World war. The deed of bravery for which Mr. Grant was cited occurred at Cantigny, the first battle fought by American troops in the World war. Lieut. Grant was a member of the First Division, 26th Infantry. The 26th Infantry was one of our old regular army regiments and the first division was the first to land in France.