

LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter

100 YEARS AGO,
SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1923

THE WEEK IN WALTON

**What We Are Talking
About at the County Hub**

HAY CROP IS RETARDED

**Broke Arm in Fall From
Horse—Building New Rifle
Range—Black Bass Season
Opens June 16.**

On account of the cold weather in April and May and the small amount of rain the farmers in this section are looking for a poor hay crop.

Thomas Galley has sold his farm on the West Brook road, known as the Charles McClenon farm, to Edgar DeNio of East Branch.

Dr. and Mrs. W. J. Cranston of Kingston, formerly of Walton, have purchased a house and three lots on the corner of Broadway and Hoffman street, Kingston.

Mrs. Bruce Williams slipped while carrying a pail of hot water Monday morning and fell, badly scalding her left arm and side. Dr. C. Sumner Gould dressed the burns.

Invitations have been received in Walton to the wedding of Clinton R. Tobey of Detroit, son of H. E. Tobey, and Miss Frances Whitaker of Detroit on Saturday, June 30.

William, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Smith of Marvin hollow, sustained a green stick fracture of the right arm Monday night while cranking his car. Dr. W. B. Morrow reduced the fracture.

The fishing season for black bass opens Saturday, June 16, and lasts until Nov. 30. No bass may be taken less than ten inches in length. Only fifteen bass may be caught by a person in a day.

Joseph Solo has rented of the Archibald company the building recently vacated by the Willard battery station. The building will be repaired and renovated before Mr. Solo moves in.

Harland, son of Mr. and Mrs. Burt Beers, of Beerston, slid from the back of a horse, which he was riding, and broke his left arm near the wrist last Thursday. Dr. William R. Gladstone reduced the fracture.

John Lambrecht, who has been assistant superintendent at the Nestle plant here, has been promoted to the superintendency of the Nestle company plant at Oneonta. Mr. Lambrecht will probably move his family to Oneonta.

John A. Davis, D. D., evangelist, and Fred A. Mills, soloist, with a group of students from Bible school park, Binghamton, held a service in Walton hall Thursday evening. There were twenty-one nationalities represented in the group.

The members of the Civic Club living on the south side of the river have planted geraniums and other flowers along the east side of the sidewalk leading from the armory to the bridge and have made a neat garden out of what was once an unsightly spot.

A party of surveyors from the United States topographical bureau have been surveying in Walton village this week, preparing a map and chart of altitude. They state that a topographical map of Delaware

county will probably be ready for distribution by next summer.

Hawley J. DeNio sustained a dislocation of the left shoulder Monday while repairing a porch on his house on Townsend street. Mr. DeNio stepped backward off a scaffold and fell to the ground, a distance of about eight feet. Dr. C. Sumner Gould was called in attendance.

The Good Will class of the First Congregational church school gave Miss Gertrude Salton a variety shower at the home of Mrs. Robert W. Scott, South street, Thursday evening, June 7. A yellow and purple color scheme prevailed, those being the class colors. A small cart decorated in yellow and purple and containing a variety of gifts for the bride to be was drawn in by little Bessie Rutherford.

The automobiles of George T. Johnston and Earl Gregory of Third brook collided on the corner of Gardiner Place and North street Sunday evening about 9 o'clock. Mr. Johnston was turning from Gardiner Place into North street and Gregory, who was coming up North street stopped to let him turn into North street. Before the Johnston car had made the turn, however, Gregory started his car and crashed into the right rear mudguard of Mr. Johnston's automobile. No damage was done except the mudguard on the Johnston car was crumpled up.

A surveyor from the state armory commission is in town this week laying out a new rifle range on Mark Townsend's flat. The range will be 600 yards long and begins a little to the left of the rear of the Townsend barn and extends to the right side of the stone quarry. The butts will be of reinforced concrete construction and contain four targets. A concrete range house will also be built. The estimated cost of construction is about \$7,000 and will be paid for from a fund of \$21,000 established by the United States government to build rifle ranges in Walton, Utica and Binghamton. It is thought that the range will be completed this fall.

SHORTAGE OF LABOR FELT ON HIGHWAYS

**Contractors Unable to Get
Enough Workers**

NO COMPETITIVE BIDDING

**Many More Men Needed
to Work on Roads Under
Construction in Delaware
County.**

Commissioner Frederick S. Greene in announcing that no new highway contracts would be awarded until later in the season stated that the labor shortage was primarily the cause of this action.

It is stated that on the highways now under construction in Delaware county forces more than double those now employed could be handled efficiently, and it is practically impossible to secure more men without one contractor bidding against another for labor. It is Commissioner Greene's purpose to get the contracts now let well toward completion before entering upon new work.

In this connection it is of interest to learn that in 1921, the first year under Commissioner Sisson, Colonel Greene's predecessor, only one contract was let in Delaware county. This was part one of the Deposit-Rock Rift road, 4.98 miles, which has not yet been completed. In the spring of 1922 the contract

for the Delhi-Delancey crossing elimination project was let and in the summer the contracts for part 2 of the Deposit-Rock Rift road and for the Hobart-Bloomville road were awarded. But little work was done on these highways last fall and probably neither will be finished this year.

The change in the labor market within the past year is shown by the fact that on the Delhi-Delancey road let in March, 1922, there were eleven bids and on the Hobart-Bloomville road in July, 1922, there were eight bids. In highway lettings this spring before new contracts were suspended there were a number of instances where no bids were received on certain highways. A vicinity case was for the reconstruction of part 3 of the Ulster-Delaware highway from Pine Hill to Phoenicia, for which no bid was received.

MAY BE A FIRE BUG

**Ranger Thinks Forest Fire
Was Not Caused by Train.**

(From Hancock correspondent.)

Forest Ranger George Realy of Hancock has offered \$10 reward for information which will lead to the party who is responsible for the forest fire on the L. T. Robinson property last week. The fire did several hundred dollars damage to the timber on Mr. Robinson's farm. It is evident that it did not catch from the railroad as where it started it was some distance from the tracks.

WANT TOWNSPEOPLE TO OWN FAIR GROUNDS

**Favor Purchasing Grounds
and Using Them for Local
Activities**

For some time many of the citizens of Walton and the surrounding country have realized more and more the importance of a community gathering place and many suggestions have been made relative to the acquisition of the fair grounds by the citizens both inside and outside of the village as a community project.

The time has now come when it is believed the fair grounds can be taken over by the citizens and the fair maintained for the benefit of the farmers and the community generally and still have a place as a center for all community activities such as the school, churches, farmers, grange and for the innumerable uses to which a community could put such grounds.

A number of citizens have taken this matter seriously in hand with the idea of acquiring the property, issuing stock, placing the management in the hands of directors elected by stockholders, the control of which would be in the hands of the whole community and not in a few, and make the place an asset to the community in general. The Chamber of Commerce, Grange and other organizations have taken the matter in hand and a meeting will be held in the Municipal hall on Friday, June 22, at eight o'clock in the evening for the purpose of making further arrangements and plans in regard to the matter.

Each and every person, especially the farmers and business men, and all others are urgently requested to make an effort to be present at this meeting and strive to carry the proposition through.

DRUGGISTS TO VISIT STAMFORD

**To Hold Annual Convention
at Catskill Resort.**

(From Stamford correspondent.)

The New York State Pharmaceutical association will hold its 45th annual convention at Stamford during the week of June 18 to 22. The convention

will be held at Churchill Hall. It is the second time they have visited Stamford, they having held a convention there two years ago. Last year they were at Richfield Springs. A delegation of over 600 is expected. Mr. Mase, manager of Churchill Hall, is arranging to care for and entertain the convention. A dance of welcome will be held the first evening. A Schenectady orchestra has been engaged to furnish music. Wednesday evening some of the members of the organization will present a play at the opera house. Morning sessions will be devoted to business and reception of delegates from other organizations, pharmaceutical societies from all sections of the country being represented. Business sessions will also be held in the afternoons. Churchill Hall will be the official headquarters and the Rexmere will be opened to care for the overflow of guests who cannot be accommodated at the Hall.

Pool Wool is Sold.

Wool consigned to the early wool pool of the New York State Sheep Growers Co-operative association has been sold at prices ranging from 53 cents a pound for one-half blood combing to 40 cents a pound for low and common, according to an announcement by F. E. Robertson, manager. Approximately 45,000 pounds were consigned to the pool.

A Large Canine Population.

(From Cannonsville correspondent.)

In Delaware county since July 1st, 1922, 4,626 dogs have been licensed. The assessors in making their rounds can materially aid in increasing this number if they will be sure to furnish the town clerk with an accurate list of dogs in their towns. It seems as if a large per cent of the 4,626 Delaware county dogs could be found in this immediate vicinity.

CHILD BURNED BY GREASE

**Boy Pulls Spider Containing
Grease From Hot Stove.**

(From Shavertown correspondent.)

Vincent, the little son of Mr. and Mrs. Hill Dutcher, was severely scalded last Thursday when he pulled a spider of greasy water from the stove on which the evening meal was being cooked. Miss Mary Bouton of Lake Delaware was called in as nurse.

Bryan to Speak in Hancock.

(From Hancock correspondent.)

William Jennings Bryan will speak in the Hancock opera house Friday night, June 22.

Eloped With Young Girl.

Patsy Rose, who started in to run the Lyric theatre at Deposit last week was arrested at Arctic Saturday by state troopers and taken to the Delhi jail on a charge of eloping with a young Deposit girl.

Didn't Pay for His Board.

Ralph Peterson of Bloomville was placed under arrest Monday accused of jumping his board bill by Mrs. Jerry Rosencrans also of Bloomville. Peterson pleaded guilty and was sentenced by Judge Henderson to 50 days at the county jail.

Too Much Arm Motion.

(From Fishs Eddy correspondent.)

While jumping across a small stream near Keery's sand bank near Hawk mountain tunnel Tuesday Eugene Wormuth, who

is employed by Mr. Keery, threw his arm up to catch himself and dislocated his left shoulder. He was taken to Hancock and his shoulder set and he is now resting comfortably.

THROWN UNDER ACID WOOD

**Wagon Tips Over and Driver
18 Pinned Under Load.**

(From Arena correspondent.)

Charles Reynolds, who is employed by Corbett and Stuart at Arena had a narrow escape Monday afternoon. When coming down the mountain the load upset throwing Mr. Reynolds under the wagon and load of wood. Dr. Faulkner was called and found him badly bruised and suffering with three broken bones.

Concrete Bridge for Deposit.

The town of Deposit will build a concrete bridge over Butler brook on Wheeler street. The village is co-operating in the work so as to make it wide enough to accommodate sidewalks.

FLAMES THREATEN WALTON FARM HOUSE

**Two Buildings on Farm
of Peter Chambers
Destroyed by Fire**

Fire, starting from an unknown source, destroyed the woodshed and a small barn used as a hen house on the farm of Peter Chambers, Kerrs creek, near Walton, early Thursday morning. The house was only saved with difficulty.

Mr. and Mrs. Chambers were awakened by the snapping of burning wood and the bright light of the fire a little after half-past one Thursday morning. On looking out they saw the large woodshed which is about 20 feet west of the house was in flames. Mr. Chambers put on a few clothes and by the time he was outside the intense heat of the fire had ignited the shingles on the roof. Mrs. Chambers telephoned to Walton for the fire department but on account of some misunderstanding the fire bell was not rung until Mrs. Chambers sent in a second call for help some time afterward.

Upon coming outdoors Mr. Chambers secured a ladder and climbed to the roof of the house and kept the fire there under control by means of pails of water until the arrival of the chemical engine from Walton when the flames on the house were quickly extinguished. The heat was so intense while Mr. Chambers was on the roof that his face was burned.

Mr. Chambers had been so busy saving the house that he had no time to keep the fire from spreading to a small two-story barn with lean - to attached which was used as a hen house. This barn was burned completely to the ground and although the door was open about half of the 170 hens in the barn were burned. There was practically no breeze stirring or else it probably would have been impossible to save the house.

In the woodhouse was stored a new Maytag power gasoline washing machine, a 40-gallon tank of kerosene, a garden plow and a large number of small tools used about the farm. An insurance of \$100 was carried on the woodshed with no insurance on the barn. Mr. Chambers estimates his loss at between \$600 and \$700.

It is not known how the fire started. The woodshed is used as a summer kitchen but there had been no fire in the stove since the preceding Monday.