

LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter

100 YEARS AGO,
SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1923

THE WEEK IN WALTON

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

ORGANIZING BALL TEAM

**Boy Pounded Torpedo—
Another Fell from Bicycle—
And a Third Escaped
Drowning.**

An examination for chauffeurs will be held in Walton on the 20th of July.

Of the class of thirty-five who graduated this week from the Walton high school only six are boys.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac D. Nutt announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Grace M. Nutt, to Dr. G. P. Schlafer of Delhi.

Andrew Munn and W. T. Smith have purchased the piano business conducted by the late C. M. Munn and will continue the business under the name of Munn & Co.

While Clarence Rowley was swimming at cave bank Sunday afternoon he got beyond his depth and being unable to swim went down twice before rescued by companions.

President A. J. Courtney has been informed that the road oil for the village streets which were not previously treated will be received next week, and will be immediately applied.

Phillp Snyder of Beerston was arrested on the Hamden state road by state troopers Saturday on a charge of firing a shotgun from a car in violation of the law. He was fined three dollars when brought before a justice.

Neill Brandt, Jr., the seven year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Neill Brandt, fell from his bicycle Monday and sustained a compound fracture of the right arm between the elbow and wrist. Dr. W. B. Morrow reduced the fracture.

The Utica Flyer struck and killed a heifer cow owned by Frank Gould on the crossing on the Gould farm, West brook, Friday night. The train had to be stopped to release the animal's body from under the front trucks of the smoking car.

Street Commissioner J. A. Robinson has opened a new channel in the river through the gravel bank formed by East brook and has built a cricket to turn the stream against the northern shore to clear out the stagnant water where a number of sewers empty.

Paul Baker, the 7 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. William Baker of St. John street, was painfully burned about the face Friday by the explosion of a railroad torpedo. He had found the torpedo on the railroad tracks and pounded it to see what would happen. He found out.

Dr. J. F. Bullard is about to discontinue his practice at Walton. He will be succeeded by Dr. L. H. Conlon of South Lansing, N. Y., who is also a Cornell graduate. Dr. Bullard has accepted a position with the veterinary division of the Kansas state agricultural college at Manhattan, Kan.

The annual reunion of the training class alumni was held in the high school auditorium Monday evening. The evening's program included musical selections and a farce, "That Awful Letter," presented by members of this year's class. Miss Hazel Pomeroy was elected president for the ensuing year.

Mrs. Andrew Hall of West street was called to Cornwall Monday by an accident to her brother, Edward Day, of that place on Sunday. Mr. Day was driving his automobile home from a garage when the machine was rammed by a big truck and overturned. Mr. Day was pinned under the machine and critically injured. He was removed to St. Luke's hospital, Newburgh. Word received Tuesday was more favorable and it was then hoped that the injured man would recover. He is a former resident of Hancock.

Captain William Hones, 8th Infantry, U. S. A., Fort Screven, Georgia, in a letter to Captain C. T. O'Neill of Company F, offers two prizes, \$20 and \$10 respectively, for the two men with the highest scores on the rifle range among those in the company who have never qualified with the rifle. Captain Hones also wrote in part: "As a former officer and enlisted man of Company F, I was particularly pleased with the appearance, drill and morale of the company. The entire exhibition was most commendable and clearly shows hard work and interest on the part of both officers and men."

Walton is to again have a summer baseball team. This was assured when sufficient financial support was promised this week and the players are to report next week. A number of familiar faces will again be seen on the local diamond. "Buck" Lynch will swirl and Tom Leddy will be behind the bat. Sanford will cover second, McCullagh third, and Hank Flynn, a local boy, will hold down short. McDonald and Wittenger, formerly with Susquehanna, will be in the field. The first game will be played on the Kayser field on the Fourth of July. Announcement of the opposing team will be made by handbills. A schedule of games is being arranged and the few remaining vacancies on the nine will be filled at once.

THIRTY-FIVE GRADUATE FROM WALTON SCHOOL

**Seniors Receive Diplomas
Wednesday Evening**

A UNIQUE CLASS NIGHT

**Class One of Largest
Graduated From School
and Includes Many
Non-Residents.**

Thirty-five students received their diplomas Wednesday evening at the seventieth commencement of the Walton high school held in Walton hall.

While the class is not as large as some which have graduated from the Walton school in recent years, in numbers it compares favorably with any class in a village the size of Walton in the southern tier. The members of the class are as follows, non-residents being marked with an asterisk (*): *Alton DuMond Bartlett, president; Frances Mary Benedict, vice president; *Dorothy E. Whitaker, secretary; *Kathryn Hoyt, treasurer; Lena Marie Abbott, *Rachel A. Adams, *Florence Elizabeth Aldrich, Jeneva H. Alverson, *Harriet May Ballard, Hilda May Bartlett, Naomi Nathalie Bodiot, *Margaret B. Bramley, Gerald Otho Cairns, William Persons Courtney, Esther Susanna Culver, Theodore Arthur Davis, Florence Lena Elderkin, *Mary Louise Elwood, *Cora Elizabeth France, Elsie Henrietta Franklin, *Nina Eva French, *Claribel Fyffe, Josephine Hutson Harby, Ralph Charles Haynes, *Sara Frances Marks, *Thena Merle Olmsted, *Mildred Mae Peck, *Edith Inez Palmer, *Lillian Mildred Palmer, Bessie Christina Shackleton, Beatrice Lina Smith, Genevieve Spencer, Harold Dewey Wheat,

Janet Wallace Woodburn, Beulah Elizabeth Young.

The anniversary sermon was given in Walton hall Sunday evening by Rev. A. A. Walker, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church. A synopsis of Mr. Walker's address will be found in another column.

Something new in the line of class night exercises was given Tuesday evening. The staging worked out under the direction of Miss M. Janie Launt represented a scene on shipboard at sea, the background effect being designed and painted by Miss Launt, who is instructor of art in the Walton school. As the curtain arose on the scene the student crew in sailor costume marched out upon the stage and after the opening quartette and class chorus the captain's orders were given by the class president, Alton D. Bartlett. Then followed the description of the Class Voyage by Gerald Cairns, the Class Legend by Lillian Mildred Palmer, the Class Picture by Hilda Bartlett, the Class Creed by Naomi Nathalie Bodiot, the Class Horoscope by Florence E. Aldrich, and the Declaration of Independence by Ralph C. Haynes. Musical numbers were rendered in the intermission by the high school orchestra under the skilled direction of Prof. H. Francis Miles. The exercises closed with the singing of "Alma Mater" in which the audience joined.

The class motto is "B sharp, B natural, but never B flat." The sweet pea is the class flower and orchid and silver the class colors. Miss Alice L. Crawford was grand marshal class night and Henry W. Retz on commencement night.

Commencement Night.

The program commencement night opened with prayer by Rev. S. E. Carr.

In welcoming the audience Miss Thena Olmsted, the salutarian, said in part: "The honor of speaking the words that shall bid you welcome has been conferred upon me. As I look upon your faces, so much more clearly marked with the lines of wisdom and wider experience than ours, I cannot but feel that the words of welcome should come from you. It is we who are passing out into your midst, joining you in the larger school of progress outside these doors, entering into your pursuits and pleasures, and becoming one with you. Then, while we do truly thank you for coming and welcome you most sincerely, we ask that you also welcome us." In her essay on "The Ideal of Service" Miss Olmsted stressed the need of more lives of service in America today.

The contacts of the United States and England, both friendly and unfriendly, from the Revolution to the World War, were traced by Miss Esther Culver in her essay, "America and Britain in Strife and Friendship." The speaker showed how America by reason of her inheritance is an Anglo-Saxon nation, but how in spite of this fact conflicting interests often led to boundary and other disputes with Britain. While the governing classes of England have often been hostile to the United States the English people as a rule have been friendly to America.

"Is American Chivalry on the Wane?" This question Miss Esther Palmer answered in the affirmative in her essay. Simple courtesy as a daily obligation has been forgotten by the great mass of the American people, the speaker asserted, citing characteristic incidents to support her thesis. The holding of classes in manners in the schools was suggested as a remedy for the conditions depicted.

Theodore Davis in his oration "Sectionalism and American Politics" showed that from the beginning of the nation sectionalism has played a leading role in American politics. Most of our national legislators today have only their own districts in view and the result is that many of the measures which would

benefit the country as a whole are deflected by sectional feeling. The speaker in closing expressed the hope that with radio and other improved means of communication sectional lines may be wiped out and that sectional feeling may cease to be a factor in American politics.

"Japanese Characteristics" was the subject of Miss Beatrice L. Smith's essay. The characteristics of the Japanese as a people, Miss Smith declared, are courtesy, calmness and ability to conceal emotions, quick-wittedness, originality and artistic sense.

"Advertising is the education of the public as to who you are and what you have to offer in the way of talent, skill or commodity," declared Miss Beulah Young at the opening of her essay on "Advertising as a Business Builder." Miss Young traced the growth of advertising from the establishment of the first agency in 1840 down to the present when countless media are used to bring advertising messages before the public. Miss Young told how until the early eighties many magazines refused to take advertising. Today economic conditions have so changed that this would be impractical and newspapers and magazines must depend on their advertising rather than on their circulation for maintenance. The exercise of the power of advertising makes for democracy by the spread of knowledge and the creation of understanding, said Miss Young in closing.

The tragedy of the Jew through the ages was described by Miss Lena M. Abbott in her essay, "The Jew—A Man With a Record." Miss Abbott showed how through the centuries the Hebrew race has been persecuted in so-called Christian lands. Following another line of thought the speaker then outlined the accomplishments of the Hebrews and made a plea for a better treatment of this people.

The highest scholastic honor, that of being valedictorian, was won this year by Miss Frances Benedict, who chose the subject of "Industrial Art" for her essay. Art, she declared, is the doing of something in a beautiful way. Art education in the schools should aid in the development of thousands of skilled artisans, not a few artists. It is in the everyday life of men and women that an appreciation of the artistic is needed. Industrial art makes beautiful homes. Without decorative design we would have to dispense with rugs, wall paper and figured textiles. Without structural design our furniture would be rustic only; our utensils coarse baskets; clay bowls and chop sticks, our fixtures. In short without the arts and their application to industry we would be reduced to the crudities of the primitive man. In her valedictory Miss Benedict on behalf of her classmates expressed the thanks of the graduates to the faculty and board of education and voiced regret at leaving the Walton high school. The diplomas were presented by Samuel H. Fancher, president of the board of education.

SEEKS DEATH IN RIVER

**Mrs. P. J. Hafele Drowns
Self Friday Morning**

LEFT A NOTE IN HOUSE

**Wrote That Ill Health
Was Cause of Act—Body
Found in Stream by Son.**

Mrs. Pleman J. Hafele of Stockton avenue, Walton, drowned herself in the river near her home Friday morning.

Mrs. Hafele occupied a room on the first floor of the house while her husband and son, Richard, slept in an upstairs room.

The two oldest children, Henry and Ruth, also had separate rooms while the younger

daughter, Nina, spent Friday night at a neighbor's.

When he came home about 11:30 Thursday night Mr. Hafele spoke to his wife before he retired. Just when Mrs. Hafele left the house to go to the river is not known as none of the family heard her leave. At 7:30 Friday morning Mr. Hafele answered a call to the door from a customer who came to the house after him and perhaps half an hour later started for his shop. Although puzzled by the fact that Mrs. Hafele was not in the kitchen her husband did not suspect the tragedy which had come upon the family, but before leaving the house told the two older children that they had better look about for their mother. This they did and a short time later Henry, on going down the path in front of the house to the river bank at what is known as "cave bank," found the shoes and coat which his mother had left there. Plunging into the water he searched about until he came upon the lifeless body some 200 feet below.

Later a note was found under a pin cushion in Mrs. Hafele's room which stated in substance that indigestion and heart trouble were slowly killing her and that she was going to the river to seek relief. Dr. E. Ray Gladstone, the coroner, who was called, stated that the body may have been in the water for some time.

Mrs. Hafele, who was 38 years of age, is survived by her husband and four children, Henry, Ruth, Nina and Richard.

The funeral service was held at the house Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock, conducted by Rev. A. A. Walker, pastor of the M. E. church of which Mrs. Hafele was a member. Burial was made in the Walton cemetery. Mrs. Hafele was secretary of the Women's Relief corps. Before her marriage nineteen years ago she was employed for a time in the Chronicle office, being an expert typesetter.

BUSINESS MEN TAKE STEPS TO SAVE FAIR

**Proposed That Forty
Underwriters Take Control
of Association This Season**

Steps toward retaining the Walton fairgrounds as a community asset were taken at a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce held in Walton hall Monday evening. At this gathering the proposition was approved of having twenty business men and twenty farmers take over the control of the fair this year and later in the season sell stock to place the association on its feet financially.

The committee appointed at a meeting Friday evening reported that they found the total indebtedness of the association as being between \$14,000 and \$15,000. Should no fair be held this fall it would be two years before state aid could again be received. This makes the necessity of prompt action imperative if the fair is to be retained as without state aid there is little hope of making it pay.

The proposal was made and approved that an effort be made to interest a group of forty to take over the fair this season as it is now too late to sell stock to clear up the situation in time to perfect plans for the fair in September.

Already a number of business men and farmers have announced their readiness to go in upon this proposal and it is expected that the required number of supporters will be secured. The fair association, which previously had been on a membership basis, was changed last fall to a stock corporation capitalized at \$15,000. Only a small amount of stock has been sold and it is expected that in the near future a concerted effort will be made to dispose of the balance and pay up all outstanding debts. It is generally believed that with the right management the fair could be made a paying proposition, as is the case in other places.