

# LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter

100 YEARS AGO,  
SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1923

## THE WEEK IN WALTON

What We Are Talking  
About at the County Hub

### Chautauqua Great Success— Rubber Stockholders Lose All—Town Truck Down Bank—Fell on His Face.

The Walton fire department has received a check of \$25 from Peter Chambers of West brook in appreciation of the department's services at the recent fire on Mr. Chambers' farm.

Part of the macadam streets in Walton village were treated to tarvia this week. The sections treated included most of Delaware street, Howell street, and parts of North, Mead and Townsend streets.

Several automobile owners have been requested to appear before Police Justice J. M. Peake during the past week for failure to have their cars properly lighted at night. One dollar has been the current fine to date.

The period for securing the 1923-1924 dog licenses expires on July 31 and after that date owners who have not taken licenses for their dogs are liable to a penalty or the dog may be shot. Licenses are secured at the town clerk's office.

Three hundred and eighty cans of fingerling trout from the state hatchery at Bath, N. Y., were received the first of the week by the Delaware Valley Fish & Game club and were distributed in East, West and Beers brooks. There are about 500 fingerlings in a can.

While the town highway force was at work putting up fenders on the West brook road Monday morning, shortly after 11 o'clock, Leland Jones, driver of the town's Ford truck, complained of illness and started for home in the machine. Near Telford Sanderson's farm the Ford left the road and went over an eight foot bank to the flat, carrying with it several rods of woven wire fencing and posts. Jones was cut and bruised about the face where the wire hit him. The truck was not damaged and was run out on its own power later in the day.

Charles E. Taylor, trustee for the Middletown Rubber company, bankrupt, at a recent hearing before Referee Walter C. Anthony in Newburgh stated that there was in the bank the sum of \$9,500 realized from the assets of the bankrupt company. The Allen Machine company has a claim of \$14,086 against the company and the Westinghouse Electric company a claim of \$13,184, both being for machinery. Other claims filed exceeded \$7,000. Those who purchased stock in the company will apparently suffer a total loss. Considerable stock was sold in Walton and Delaware county.

The Redpath Chautauqua for 1923 closed Wednesday evening with the lecture by Dr. Edward Amherst Ott on "The Measure of a Man." It is nine years since Dr. Ott delivered his lecture, "Sour Grapes," on the opening day of Walton's first Chautauqua, but in the time that has passed he has lost none of the force of presentation and oratorical skill which made that first lecture one still remembered by many. Dr. Ott's lecture came as a fitting climax to a week of entertainment, instruction and inspiration. Some one

hundred more tickets than the 750 guaranteed were sold by the local committee before the Chautauqua opened and no difficulty was experienced in securing a sufficient number of guarantors to insure the return of the Redpath Chautauqua next summer.

Thomas Ballantyne of Delaware street met with a painful accident Monday morning. Mr. Ballantyne has been doing carpenter work for Archie Tweedie on the Mountain and on Monday morning caught a ride on the truck of Robert Burrhus, intending to ride up West brook to the road above the James Chambers farm which leads to the Mountain road. He had been sitting in the bottom of the truck and as the machine approached the place where he was to alight Mr. Ballantyne was turning around so that he could get out quickly. In doing this in some way he fell out of the rear of the truck and struck on his face on the macadam. He was painfully cut about the face and has been unable to work since. Dr. W. R. Gladstone dressed his injuries.

### SUITS FOR \$210,000 FILED AGAINST O. & W.

Want Big Damages  
for Fatal Wreck  
at Sidney Center

### SUE IN FEDERAL COURT

Widow of Dead  
Brakeman, Injured Fireman  
and Mail Clerk Begin  
Actions to Recover.

The wreck of the Utica Flyer at Sidney Center last March, claiming the life of one person and injuring more than forty others, has been followed by three suits for a total of \$210,000.

Damages of \$100,000 are asked in each of two actions filed Saturday in United States court, slated for trial before Judge Frank Cooper at Auburn in the fall. The \$10,000 negligence suit is filed in Madison county supreme court.

Mrs. Eugene Mason of Sidney, widow of George W. Mason, brakeman of the freight train, asks \$100,000 damages against the New York, Ontario and Western railroad, which is named defendant in all three actions.

John H. Brown of Sidney, fireman on the freight, seeks \$100,000 because the accident left him a cripple for life with one leg shorter than the other. He has been a nervous wreck since the collision, the complaint alleges.

The third suit is filed by John E. Fitzpatrick of Hamilton, railway mail clerk on the Flyer. He wants \$10,000 damages for injuries to his back, cuts, bruises and shock. Mrs. Mason, Brown and Fitzpatrick are represented by Miller, Matterson & Quinn.

Mason was killed instantly. The suit by his widow says the dependents are two sons and her mother, Mrs. Ida A. Shaver, who makes her home with the family. Mason earned a substantial salary and left little to provide for the future of his widow and children.

Brown was disfigured permanently in addition to being crippled. His right cheek bone was crushed. Both legs were fractured, and one is now nearly two inches shorter than the other. Brown has been unable to do any sort of work since March and physicians say he probably never will be able to accept a position.

Engineer Obenauer of Norwich, who was in charge of the Flyer the night of the accident, is now running a bus line out of Norwich.

### DRIVER KILLED WHEN THROWN FROM STAGE

Lewis Cooper's Neck  
Broken by Fall Friday

### NO WITNESS TO ACCIDENT

Treadwell Stage Man  
Thrown From Vehicle When  
Horses Run Down Hill.

(From Treadwell corr.)

Lewis W. Cooper was almost instantly killed late Friday afternoon when his team ran away coming down Sherman hill on the return from Franklin Station with the mail. He was alone at the time of the accident and was dead when help reached him so it is not known just how the accident occurred.

While no one saw the accident, nor knows what startled the team, the horses were seen running down Sherman hill which leads down from the station by Paul Boggs, who was working in a field not far from the spot where the accident happened. It was just as the stage hit the sharp curve in the hill that Mr. Cooper was thrown out and his neck broken.

His death was a terrible shock to his family who have the heartfelt sympathy of all. He was born in Sheffield, Mass., April 25, 1870, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cooper. He lived in Delhi most of his life till he moved to a farm near Treadwell. Five years ago he moved into the village and began running the Delhi-Franklin stage route.

He is survived by his mother, who has made her home with him, his wife, five daughters, Mrs. Charles McCulloch, Mrs. Robert Jester, Helen, Virginia and Irma; three sons, Albert of New York, Fred of Schenectady and Robert of Treadwell; also by one sister, Mrs. A. L. Pine, of New York. Mr. Cooper was devoted to his mother and family, a good neighbor and a man whose genial disposition won him many friends who regretted to hear of his untimely death.

The funeral services were held at his late home Monday at one o'clock, conducted by Rev. F. R. Edwards. Interment was made in Ouleout Valley cemetery, Franklin. There was a large attendance at the funeral and many beautiful floral tributes from the Treadwell automobile club and relatives and friends.

### MAY ANNUL MARRIAGE

Boy of Fourteen Has  
Bride of Twenty-three.

The romance of Miss Katherine Knapp, twenty-three, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William G. Knapp of 849 Madison avenue, and Russell V. Scott, fourteen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Scott of 1020 Madison avenue, Albany, which resulted in an elopement and wedding ceremony at East Greenbush Wednesday, is likely to be shattered as soon as the law takes its course. Parents of the youthful bridegroom have retained William E. Woollard to seek to annul the marriage. The bride is with her parents. Young Scott is at the Roxbury summer camp of Samuel H. Hicks, science master of the Albany academy. Both families are silent about the future.

For more than a year friends of the young people have noted their preference for one another. Miss Knapp, an attractive blonde, was a stenographer in the Capitol last winter, while Scott attended the Albany academy. Recently Miss Knapp obtained employment in the liquidation bureau of the state

insurance department.

Early in July Scott, with fifteen Albany boys, went to the Hicks summer home near Roxbury, Delaware county, not far from the summer home of Mrs. Finley J. Shepard. His bride of Wednesday visited him there last Sunday, it was learned, in company with the Scott family. Tuesday Scott motored to Albany, stopping overnight at the Ten Eyck, without notifying his parents of his return to town. On Wednesday afternoon he and his bride-to-be took a taxi to East Greenbush, procured a marriage license from Miss Ida Van Buren, town clerk, telling her he was twenty-one, and went to the Reformed church parsonage, where the Rev. A. B. Smith married them.

The bride returned to Albany and to her duties at the office and the bridegroom left at once for Roxbury. In letters received from him by his parents no mention was made of Wednesday's ceremony. —Albany Knickerbocker Press.

### HORSE TAKES WILD RUN

Boy Thrown From  
Wagon When Harness  
Strap Breaks.

(Franklin Depot corr.)

A horse belonging to Maynard Finch of Sidney Center ran away Friday morning while on the way to the creamery at Franklin Depot. Near George Cole's place the harness broke and the boy who was driving was thrown out. The horse ran down the road and collided with Frank Butts' wagon, demolishing one wheel. The animal soon kicked itself free from the wagon and continued on its way toward the creamery where it was caught by Mrs. Coral Wightman. The boy was not injured and of the cans of milk in the wagon only one was spilled.

### All Due to a Woodchuck.

(North Kortright corr.)

William R. Turnbull had a lucky accident while mowing with his team one day last week for T. E. McCulley, a neighbor. One of the horses stepped too near a woodchuck hole on the side hill meadow. The ground caved in and the horse was instantly thrown, the other horse falling on top of it.

Springing from his machine after first throwing it out of gear Mr. Turnbull loosened other straps releasing bull hurriedly unhitched the traces the upper horse, while ruefully expecting to find the other animal with a broken leg. Happily, however, the animal was unhurt except for slight scratches and the other damage was to the harness, several straps being broken.

### FARMER ATTACKED BY BULL

Merrickville Man's  
Body a Mass of Bruises

Allison E. Thomas of Merrickville was attacked by a bull which he was leading to pasture on Monday and had one lung punctured by a rib broken by the animal.

Mr. Thomas remembers nothing about the attack until he recovered consciousness to find himself lying on the ground with his clothes badly torn and his body a mass of bruises. He was able to make his way to his home and Dr. C. S. Gould of Walton was called.

The physician found several ribs broken where Mr. Thomas had been rolled and bunted by the bull which went on to the pasture before the owner recovered consciousness. The bull had always been considered gentle.

### Hay Crop Has Been Good.

(From Loomis corr.)

This week will probably see the haying season for 1923 come to a close and history will be a long time written when farmers will be able to say they had a chance to harvest the crop in a quicker manner than this year. Everything as regards weather has been in their favor and the much talked of short crop in the early season has been pretty well blasted as the shortage has been so great that stacks are going up on most farms for the want of storage room. It has been a grand crop, far beyond all expectations. Let us hope the balance of crops yet to be harvested will be as good.

### OLD HOME WEEK CELEBRATION

Amusements Will be  
Located on Gardiner Place.

The amusements connected with the Old Home Week celebration held next week, July 30 to Aug. 4, will be located on Gardiner Place, which will be closed to street traffic.

The amusements include merry-go-round, ferris wheel and various swing devices. A popularity contest among the girls is now under way also.

The celebration is held under the auspices of Frank Mead Eells post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and of the women's auxiliary of the post. The net proceeds will be used to start a monument memorial fund.

Friday will be a big day with a clambake. Other days have been designated as follows: Monday, ladies day; Tuesday, boy scouts and children's day; Wednesday, veterans' and lodge day; Thursday, Delhi day; Saturday, Grange day.

### PITY THE POOR CONSUMER

Coal Outlook Gloomy for  
the Man Who Buys.

Postmaster F. F. Dickerman, who was formerly engaged in the coal business, was in Scranton, Pa., the first of the week and while there looked up the coal situation. Mr. Dickerman states that many of the smaller independent mines are closed, apparently to limit production and boost prices. Another coal shortage seems imminent next winter unless the federal government takes some action, as the miners and operators have not yet reached an agreement in their conferences at Atlantic City and the miners threaten to strike on September first unless an agreement is reached before that date. Stove and egg coal now retail at \$15 in Walton.

### Will Entertain Tourists.

(From Bloomville corr.)

Bloomville is already showing signs of new life. In anticipation of the opening of the improved highway between that village and Hobart plans are already being made to entertain the many autoists and summer guests of the nearby towns who will want to enjoy this beautiful new road along the Delaware as well as the fine Margaretville-Delhi-Bloomville auto trail.

### Accidents at Meredith,

(From Meredith corr.)

Bert Fuller had the misfortune to injure his foot by stepping on a rusty nail which penetrated his shoe and foot, requiring a physician to dress the wound. Jack Edger had a fall on Tuesday while handling the hay fork. It is hoped his injuries may not prove serious.