

LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter

100 YEARS AGO,
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1923

THE WEEK IN WALTON

What We Are Talking About
at the County Hub

"THE CLIMAX" TONIGHT

**Annual Meeting of Red
Cross—Auto Hit Wagon—
Another Hit Telephone Pole—
Co. F Going to Albany.**

Company F of Walton, together with the other companies of the Tenth Regiment, will parade in Albany on Armistice day, Nov. 11. Funds to entertain the guardsmen have been provided by the people of Albany.

The work of fendering the West brook improved highway has been completed by T. P. Howland, superintendent of highways. The men have now commenced the work of fendering the East brook road. About two miles of fendering is required on the latter road.

The officials of the New Haven and Ontario & Western railroads made an inspection trip over the Ontario & Western lines Monday and Tuesday, traveling in a special train of five coaches. Representatives of the public service commission will make an inspection trip over the O. & W. next week.

F. C. Darling, the Walton plumber, has been awarded the contract for installing a new heating plant in the state armory at Medina, N. Y. Six bidders submitted estimates to the state board and Mr. Darling's was found to be the lowest. He has just finished his contract for plastering the armory at White Plains.

The Chevrolet runabout of William S. Walsh, the plumber, collided with a telephone pole near the former Goodrich store, Delaware street, Sunday. Mr. Walsh had his side injured and has been confined to bed since. His wife, who accompanied him, was not seriously hurt. The front of the runabout was badly jammed. It is thought that Mr. Walsh stepped on the gas accelerator by mistake and lost control of the machine.

While Veyrill Laidlaw was driving to Delancey late Tuesday afternoon his car collided with the lumber wagon of Robert Holley near the home of Albert Holley, Oxbow hollow. The Ford of John Terry was parked on the south side of the road and the wagon loaded with logs was on the other side of the highway. Laidlaw attempted to pass between the Ford and the wagon and in doing so his machine struck both vehicles. The front wheel of Laidlaw's car was smashed in the mix-up.

The annual meeting of the Walton chapter of the Red Cross for the election of officers will take place Wednesday evening, October 17th, at 8:30 p. m., at the Red Cross rooms, Delaware street. Chairman Roderick Fitch will occupy the chair and urges every member of the society to be present. All who answered to the 1922 roll call and paid their membership fee of one dollar are expected and urged to attend this meeting. Besides the election of executive officers for the coming year plans for the future of the society will be discussed.

On Wednesday there was a hearing in Albany before the public service commission on the application of the New York State Gas and Electric corporation for leave to construct electric plants in each of the following municipalities, respectively: Town of Deposit, town of Tompkins, town of Walton, Delaware county: town of Sanford, Broome county; villages of Deposit, Wal-

ton and Hancock. The hearing in the case of the village and Chamber of Commerce of Walton vs. the Walton People's Telephone company, scheduled for Thursday, October 11, has been again adjourned by stipulation.

The New York play, "The Climax," will be given at Walton Hall Friday night at 8:30. It is a play of life. It is a play that living people will want to see. Wide awake people are all on the trail of climaxes. They are seeking to bring to a head the stream of life. But many things prevent. This play is a portrayal of—who knows, maybe—your life. In it love and ambition struggle. In what life haven't these two forces struggled? You can see a play as good as this in New York city: rarely will a play of so high class come to Walton. And to music lovers, let it be said, that a musical theme runs throughout. More's drug store reports an unusually large sale of tickets with the promise of a completely sold out house.

The members of the home department of the United Presbyterian church, those who have reached the age of 65 years or over, enjoyed their annual dinner in the church parlors Wednesday, October 10th. About forty were present. Following the dinner C. W. Murray acted as toastmaster and called upon Robert Cairns, James Garrick, Jay Elwood and Rev. F. C. Davidson, each of whom responded in a fitting manner. Mrs. Maggie Arbuckle and Mrs. Jane Howland have been members of the church since its organization on October 18, 1865, and Mrs. Arbuckle was among those present Wednesday. John Kilpatrick, Mrs. Euphemia Kilpatrick, William Jamieson, Mr. and Mrs. James Patterson, Mrs. Anna Leal, Miss Lizzie Shepard and Mrs. Maggie Tweedie have been members of the church fifty years or more. Mr. and Mrs. James Patterson have enjoyed the longest wedded life of any of the church members. They were married on March 14, 1866, fifty-seven years ago.

THREE PAIRS OF PANTS CAUSE OF MAN'S DEATH

Inmate of County Farm Fatally Burned When Clothing Caught Fire

William Bowers, for about three years an inmate of the Otsego county farm at Phoenix Mills, died at that institution last Wednesday evening, Oct. 3, following an accident in which he received fatal injuries at about 11 o'clock that morning.

Bowers was burning leaves on the dump at the farm without the knowledge of any of the attendants of the institution and in some peculiar fashion his clothes caught fire, causing severe and painful burns.

Bowers was, at the time of the accident, wearing three pairs of trousers with three separate belts, this unbeknown to the superintendent of the farm, and it was much harder to extinguish the flames for this reason.

Bowers' mind was considerably enfeebled and he seemed to have a mania for burning whatever he could collect. Several times in past seasons, as well as previously this year, he had gathered brush, leaves, or any sort of waste and built fires whenever the attention of the attendants was relaxed for even a short time. He was noticed with his clothes burning at about 11 o'clock Wednesday morning and after the fire had been put out he was put under the best of care and Dr. Evans of Cooperstown called. However, his burns were so severe that at his age there was little hope for his recovery.

Bowers was formerly a resident of the town of Oneonta, being employed on a farm at the Hemlocks.

TRUCK HITS FORD IN CRASH AT TREADWELL

Meridale Man Injured When Thrown Against Steering Wheel of Car

(From Treadwell correspondent.)

An auto accident occurred at Treadwell, on upper Main street, when the truck owned by John Dean and loaded with scrap iron collided with the Ford touring car driven by George Grant of Meridale.

Mr. Grant was leaving town when he saw Mr. Dean coming down the hill, according to report, on the wrong side of the street. Thinking Mr. Dean would turn to the opposite side of the street Mr. Grant kept to his own side as long as he dared then to avoid being struck swung his car to the left. At the same time Mr. Dean drove to that side and the two machines met. The Ford car was forced from the road into Frank Burdick's yard, and Mr. Grant was thrown with great force against the steering wheel. When taken from the car he was unconscious and it was feared he was seriously injured internally. Dr. Winans of Franklin was called to attend him and he remained at the home of Mr. R. Durdick until Monday when he was taken to his home in Meridale.

The front of Mr. Dean's truck was badly damaged and the Ford was also laid up for repairs.

HOBART LAWYER WINS IN DAMAGE ACTION

Jury Finds For C. R. O'Connor in Damage Suit

SECOND TRIAL OF ACTION

Plaintiff Secured \$9,000 Verdict on First Trial But Higher Court Reversed.

A verdict of no cause of action was secured by Charles R. O'Connor of New York and Hobart in supreme court in Ulster county Thursday in the trial of the action brought against him by William C. Scholing, as administrator of his wife's estate, to recover \$50,000 for the death of Mrs. Scholing in an automobile accident.

Mrs. Scholing's death followed injuries sustained in an automobile accident on the state highway between Phoenicia and Pine Hill on August 12, 1921. At the time of the accident, which took place during the early evening, Mrs. Scholing, a summer boarder at the Blakeslee cottage, with her four year old son and four other persons was walking along the state road near the Blakeslee cottage. The automobile of Mr. O'Connor was proceeding from Kingston to Hobart in charge of a chauffeur.

The Packard car of Mr. O'Connor was proceeding at a fair rate of speed, according to both plaintiff and defendant at the time of the accident. The party of six people were walking along the right side of the road when the car which approached them from the rear struck the party. Three of the women were seriously injured and were brought to the Benedictine hospital in Kingston for treatment. Mrs. Scholing died some two weeks after the accident. Only the small son of Mrs. Scholing escaped injury.

Mr. O'Connor claims that just prior to the accident a car coming south with very brilliant headlights blinded his party and no one saw the party on foot until the car ran into the people. The car was immediately stopped and aid given the injured. The accident happened just at dusk and Mr. O'Connor claims that his headlights were lighted.

At the October term of supreme court last year the case was tried and a verdict in the sum of \$9,000 was returned by

the jury in favor of plaintiff. An appeal was taken and the appellate division reversed the former verdict and sent the case back for another trial.

In another case arising out of the accident, trial of which was held in New York county, a verdict of \$35,000 was recovered by a woman injured in the accident. An appeal from this verdict is now before the appellate division.

Lewis Schuldenfrei and Frank W. Brooks appeared for plaintiff and O'Connor & Donnellan and Judge William D. Cunningham appeared for defendant.

GIRL DIES FROM LOCKJAW

Dread Disease Developed from Injury Suffered in Fall.

(Bovina Center correspondent.)

Miss Wilhelmina Archibald died of lockjaw Monday, Oct. 8, at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Archibald, in the 19th year of her age.

Miss Archibald met with an accident ten days previous when the horse on which she was riding slipped and fell on the state road and she sustained a bad cut on her leg with other minor bruises. She was apparently well on the way to recovery when on Saturday lockjaw developed and she passed away on Monday at 1 o'clock. Her funeral, which was largely attended, was held on Wednesday at 1:30 from the Archibald home, conducted by Rev. F. N. Crawford, with burial in the Bovina Center cemetery.

She leaves her parents above mentioned, two sisters, Jane and Emily, and a large number of relatives and friends to mourn her sudden death.

Case of Infantile Paralysis.

Grace, the 12 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Frisbee, Townsend street, has been ill with infantile paralysis. The family has been quarantined. This is the only case in town.

FIRE DESTROYS FARM HOUSE

Harrison Tompkin's Home Near Franklin Burns Sunday.

The farm house of Harrison Tompkins about a mile and a half from Franklin on the road to Merrickville was totally destroyed by fire at about 6 o'clock Sunday morning.

The fire is believed to have started from a defective chimney while the family was at the barn milking. A fire had been started in the kitchen stove but a short time before.

Neighbors summoned by phone were able to save most of the furniture on the first floor but were unable to salvage anything from the upper floor or to save the building.

Mr. Tompkins carried only \$1,200 insurance which will only partially cover his loss.

HE WON'T DO IT AGAIN

Walton Man Poured Kerosene on Furnace Fire.

C. A. Churchill was struck a violent blow on the head by the door of his furnace Friday when some kerosene he had poured on the fire to start it up exploded, blowing the door open. Mr. Churchill thought the fire was nearly out and had laid some wood and paper on the ashes and then poured some kerosene on them. He was bending over shaking the furnace when the oil was ignited by live coals and the explosion threw the furnace door open. He was bending over in such a position that the door struck him on the forehead and sent him spinning.

Mr. Churchill has had two black eyes since and for several days was unable to see, but his sight has not been injured.

VIOLATED GAME LAW

Protectors Make Several Arrests During Week.

Monday last Game Protector F. O. Bowen of Hancock arrested Oscar Wenthrop and Svend Ungerman, Danes, on a double charge, viz.: Aliens, carrying firearms, and killing two partridge during the closed season. Arraigned before Justice Wright of Cadosia they were fined \$100 and \$10 costs.

The men, who have been in this country but six months, it is said, were told that the season opened Oct. 1st, and were ignorant of the fact a hunting license was required. The fine was paid by Hans Bakgaard, by whom they are employed, at his Sands Creek sawmill.

Protector A. B. Allison of Delhi made a number of arrests at Bovina Center recently for game law violations.

SIDNEY VIADUCT OPENED

Miller Crossing Eliminated by New Highway.

The new viaduct at Miller's crossing on the state road just northwest of Sidney, spanning the Ontario & Western railroad tracks, was thrown open to traffic this week. The concrete work was completed about two weeks ago but traffic over the road was not permitted until the concrete had hardened.

The new piece of concrete highway with its steel bridge over the railroad tracks eliminates the dangerous grade crossing which has been the scene of several wrecks. The completion of the new piece of road brings up the necessity of building a new bridge over the Unadilla river just beyond the western end of the new construction. The present bridge accommodates one way traffic only and has proved a frequent source of annoyance to motorists when traffic is heavy.

Wagon Went Over Leg.

(From Delancey correspondent.)

Henry Arbuckle of upper Bagley brook met with quite a serious accident the first of the week. While drawing millet the team became unmanageable and ran away, throwing Mr. Arbuckle off the load in such a way that the wagon passed over his leg.

Scaffolding Gave Way.

Robert Hume, a Delhi contractor and builder, fell from the roof of the horse barn which he is building for Robert Gerry at Lake Delaware Wednesday morning, when some of the scaffolding gave way. He was badly bruised about the head and body and was carried home in a semi-conscious condition.

Boy Fell from Silo.

(From Roxbury correspondent.)

Arley Hadden, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Hadden of Roxbury, had a narrow escape from death recently. He was playing with his brothers climbing up the silo when he lost his hold and fell over backwards. In falling he struck against a ladder and landed on the concrete bottom, a distance of about 25 feet, striking on his head and fracturing his skull.

The lad was unconscious about two hours but is now on the road to recovery.

Fell From Pear Tree.

(From French Woods correspondent.)

Frank Gardner of French Woods met with a serious accident last Thursday. While picking pears a limb broke causing him to fall backwards to the ground and fracture his chest bone. With the best of care it will be several weeks before he can be around again.