

LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter

100 YEARS AGO,
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1923

THE WEEK IN WALTON

What We Are Talking About
at the County Hub

LEAGUE MILK PRICE \$3.45

Cut in Insurance Rate—
Nestle Superintendent Going
to Illinois—Change
in Highway Management.

All bills against the town of Walton must be in the hands of Town Clerk Earl S. St. John not later than Thursday, Nov. 8, the annual audit day.

The directors of the Dairymen's League have fixed the November price for class one milk, fluid milk, at \$3.45 per 100 pounds, with the usual differentials.

Mrs. Eva Loomis is improving the Walton House property by tearing out the old wooden porch at the front and putting in concrete on a level with the sidewalk.

Charles Craft, employed in A. J. Holmes' furniture store in Margaretville, left that village while A. Kaveda Holmes was home over Sunday, Oct. 21, taking with him the contents of the cash drawer in the store and sundry pieces of wearing apparel.

Agents of the so-called old line insurance companies have received word that effective Oct. 18 the increase of 20 per cent in insurance rates for mercantile establishments in Walton, which was placed in effect May 13, 1919, would be removed. The change does not affect residences.

S. T. H. Knight fell from his bicycle on Mead street Friday and broke a bone in his nose, besides suffering painful injuries to his face and hands. The accident was caused by a hand saw he was carrying catching in the front wheel of the bicycle. Mr. Knight was taken to the office of Dr. C. S. Gould, who dressed his injuries.

Few people have the pleasure of eating strawberries from their garden in October. Yet Albert Smith of Delaware street has had berries from his everbearing strawberry plants all during the summer and last Thursday picked a full quart of the berries, many of which measured four inches in circumference. All had a delicious flavor.

Harold Jones, who for over two years has been superintendent of the Nestle plant in Walton, has been appointed to a similar position with the company at its large plant at Pecatonica, in northern Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Jones and daughter, Betty, expect to leave Walton for their new home about December first. Pecatonica is located about fourteen miles from Rockford and is the center of a large dairying section. Many friends of the family in Walton will regret their departure.

A Ford car driven by a man named Miller from Hamden collided with Veyrill Laidlaw's Dodge roadster on Gardiner Place near the Ogdan library, Wednesday noon. Laidlaw was going north on the street and the Hamden car was coming from the opposite direction. Laidlaw was on his side of the street and had practically stopped his car when the collision occurred. Miller, who was on the wrong side of the road, gave as an excuse that he was bending over making an adjustment to his own car and did not see the Laidlaw machine. Both automobiles were considerably damaged.

The Meadowbrook Dairy company and R. C. Alsworth have moved their stores to the Harby building, Delaware street,

from further down the street. The first floor of the Harby building has been divided to form two stores and the plate glass windows installed give the two new business places an attractive appearance. The stairway to the second floor has been changed to go up between the stores instead of at the east side as formerly. Mr. Alsworth has successfully conducted a 5, 10 and 25 cent store since coming to Walton from Sidney. The Meadowbrook company, besides handling their dairy products, conduct a soda fountain.

On October 26, 1898, Miss Frances Kelley and James Augustus Kelley were united in marriage. In commemoration of this happy affair, 18 of the nearest relatives gathered together at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kelley in Walton on Friday, Oct. 26, 1923. Although not a surprise to the bride and groom of twenty-five years, a most enjoyable time was had by all present. A most elaborate repast, which all the ladies helped to make palatable, was served at noon. The bride's cake, made by herself, looked very pretty in its festive adornments. Besides silverware and flowers, a purse of \$51 was presented to the happy couple with everyone's best wishes for their future years of wedded life.

The town board of Walton at a meeting Friday voted to dispense after Nov. 1st with the services of George Edgecomb as superintendent of special highway construction. Mr. Edgecomb has had charge of the work on the improved roads in Walton the past two years at a salary of \$300 a month, previously having charge of the street construction in the village. There remained unexpended on Nov. 1st about \$10,000 of the \$100,000 bond issue. It was the opinion of the board that the superintendent of highways, T. P. Howland should assume charge of the construction work. Mr. Howland was re-appointed town superintendent for two years more and his compensation fixed at \$7 per day.

LANTERN STARTS FIRE AT HALLOWE'EN PARTY

Blown by Wind Against
Dry Cornstalks in Vestibule
of Walton Home

The men appointed to have charge of the new American-La-France pump engine purchased by Walton village had a chance Tuesday to demonstrate with what rapidity hose can be laid with the new machine.

That evening Katherine, Francis and Betty, children of Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Brown, who own the former Kerr house on upper Townsend street, entertained some twenty-five of their playmates at a Halloween party. In the front vestibule some corn stalks had been set up to give a halloween appearance and about two feet away from these a Japanese lantern was strung on a wire. The front and back doors of the house were open and it is believed that the draft blew the lantern upon the corn stalks and ignited them.

The smoke was first noticed by the children in the adjoining room. There were a number of Boy Scouts in the group and they showed the result of the training given all Scouts and acted with better judgment than many an older person would have done. Water was brought in pails from the kitchen and thrown upon the blaze and although an alarm was sent in the fire was out in a few minutes. As it happened a number of the men assigned to man the new pumper were in the firemen's quarters at the time the alarm was sent. A record run was made to the Brown home and the hose quickly laid, but the services of the firemen were not

needed. The vestibule will need repapering but aside from this the damage is small.

WATER PRESSURE LOW HYDRANT TESTS SHOW

Underwriters' Engineer
Says Small Mains and High
Consumption Are the Causes

A test of various hydrants about the village of Walton was made by A. E. Woollett, chief of the fire department, and Mr. Kelley, representing the state board of underwriters, during the latter's recent visit to Walton to test the new American-La-France pump engine.

The test showed a flow of from less than 100 gallons a minute, from a Stockton avenue hydrant to 475 gallons from two Delaware street hydrants.

The following excerpt letter from the New York Fire Insurance Rating organization, better known as the board of underwriters, to Chief Woollett, is self-explanatory:

"In general these tests indicate to us weak protection in practically all parts of the village due to small mains and probably to high rate of consumption. There would be many localities in which you could not obtain capacity for your new 750 gallon pumper, but, of course, there is the advantage that whatever water is available can be utilized at high pressure.

"With regard to the test taken on the low pressure system, it appears to us from a consideration of the length and size of supply main that we should obtain more water than we did at the time of test. This may be accounted for by a partly closed valve or other obstruction, by sedimented or tuberculated mains or, perhaps it is entirely due to loss through the filters. We should be interested to know whether at your actual test with the pumper connected to hydrant you were able to obtain the rated capacity of the machine, or 750 gallons per minute."

PORTRAITS OF JUDGES HUNG IN COURT ROOM

Fix Saturday, November
10, as the Date for Special
Exercises in Delhi

The Delaware County Bar association has for some time contemplated holding a luncheon or dinner to be followed by exercises in connection with the rehanging of the portraits of distinguished judges and members of the legal profession belonging to the county and for the purpose of accepting the gifts of portraits of Judge Kellogg of Oneonta, the late Judge Francis R. Gilbert and the late Judge Isaac H. Maynard, of the court of appeals.

The committee of the association have fixed Saturday, Nov. 10th, as the date for holding this luncheon. The association is unable, on account of lack of accommodations, to invite the entire bar of the sixth judicial district. However, all of the supreme court justices in the judicial district, supreme court justices in the third judicial district in counties adjacent to Delaware, the members of the appellate division of the third department, the county judges in the sixth judicial district, the Otsego county bar and a few other guests will be invited to attend.

At the luncheon there will be a few informal talks by members of the judiciary. The luncheon will be followed by exercises in the court room, to which the general public is invited and will be welcome. The county is very fortunate in having a number of portraits of its distinguished jurists and lawyers; probably a greater number than any other county in this judicial department. It is hoped to make the affair a pleasant and successful one.

BOY SHOT AT SKIMMELTON

Shavertown Youth Wounded
in Neck By Bullet.

(From Shavertown corr.)

While Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Mills of Shavertown, newlyweds, were being treated to an old style skimmeltown Wednesday evening, Oct. 24th, Ray, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Bramley, was shot through the side of the neck with a small bullet. Dr. Wakeman dressed the wound, which bled profusely, and the boy is doing well. The doctor said a slight change in the course of the bullet would have been instantly fatal.

FORMER DELHI MAN KILLED BY TRAIN

J. H. Young Thrown From
Pilot as Air Hose Breaks

HEAD BADLY
CRUSHED

Unfortunate Engineer
Dragged Under Wheels
and Probably Almost
Instantly Killed.

James H. Young of Oneonta, a former Delhi man, for the past six-teen years employed as an engineer by the Delaware & Hudson railroad, was killed in an accident at Glens Bridge, near Oneonta, Monday morning.

Mr. Young was engineer of extra freight 853, south bound, which was just pulling out from the Oneonta yard shortly after 7 o'clock. He was riding on the pilot of the engine when an air hose broke in his train, throwing on the brakes with severe force and throwing Mr. Young from his position to the rails. The engine moved a short distance, dragging his body with it and his head was mangled beyond recognition.

James Harper Young was 39 years of age. He was born in Delhi July 25, 1884, and lived there until about twenty years ago, when he moved to Oneonta and entered the employ of the Delaware & Hudson railroad. He is survived by his wife and three sons, Ralph, James and Peter. He leaves also his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Young of Delhi, and one brother, Robert Young, of Milford. He was a member of Oneonta Masonic lodge, of Norwich Commandery, and Kalurah Temple, Mystic Shrine, of Binghampton, and of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

The funeral service was held Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock, with Rev. J. W. Flynn, pastor of the M. E. church, officiating. Burial was made in the Ouleout Valley cemetery, Franklin.

CITY GETS SCHOHARIE WATERS

Temporary Dam at Gilboa to
Divert Water to Tunnel.

(From Stamford corr.)

The Ashokan dam of the New York water supply is very low and New York city in the emergency is having erected, at the intake of the Shandaken tunnel, near Prattsville, a temporary timber dam which will divert the water of the Schoharie to the 18 miles of tunnel connecting with the Ashokan dam. The timber will be used until the reservoir at Gilboa is completed. The intake is located near what was formerly Devasego Falls.

TRACTOR BROKE DOWN BRIDGE

Heavy Load Proved too
Much for Loomis Structure.

(From Loomis corr.)

Sidney Simmons of Rockroyal can congratulate himself on his escape from injury when a bridge gave way under the weight of his tractor.

Simmons was moving a large

boiler from a lumber camp near Rockroyal to another location for James Wilbur. The boiler was loaded on a caterpillar tractor owned by Simmons and the route taken was via Loomis to Northfield. While nearing the Charles Van Akin place the chain holding the boiler broke, and at the same time the tractor started over the bridge. That is as far as it went. Every stringer on the bridge but two broke, letting the load down into the brook. All traffic on the main highway was stopped and vehicles were forced to ford the brook. Strange to relate not one of the planks in the bridge were broken. The next day Simmons with a force of men righted his tractor which had turned on its side when it went down and started the engine. The tractor crawled out on its own power and the boiler was soon reloaded. James Sherman, town superintendent of highways, rebuilt the bridge and the highway is again open to traffic.

WALTON WON CHAMPIONSHIP

High School Defeats
Hancock by 26 to 6 Score.

The Walton high school football team won one of the hardest fought games of the season from Hancock last Saturday, thus claiming the championship of Delaware county. The final score was 26-6. Hancock kicked off at exactly 3:30 and the ball sailed into the hands of Jones, the Walton left guard. Walton then used several off tackle plays and failing to gain was forced to kick. Hancock then took the ball and marched down the field 60 yards for a touchdown. It looked as though Walton was stage-struck for the first five minutes. Then Walton received the ball and Capt. Clark, Lewis, Dutcher and DePuy with the aid of one of the best lines the school has ever produced, smashed the Hancock line for a touchdown. Henry Flynn, playing his first game at tackle, stopped many a Hancock play that looked like a touchdown. The second half started with the score 12-6, then Walton seemed to launch an attack that was impossible to stop and carried the ball over the last chalk line for two more touchdowns. Dr. McNaught of Hamden was referee, Burrhus of Walton and Hall of Hancock were timers and Robinson of Walton was head linesman.

Plans are now started for basketball in the local school and it looks like a big year. Walton won the championship of Delaware county in basketball last year also.

WIDOW OF SLAIN MAN SUES

Brings Action For
\$15,000 Against O. & W.
For Trespass.

Rosa Scorzafava, whose husband was shot and killed by a New York, Ontario and Western railroad company police officer at Childs, Pa., on March 13th last, has brought suit in trespass against the railroad for \$15,000.

Four police officers were indicted for the killing and their case was scheduled for trial at the last term of criminal court. Their attorneys, David J. Reedy and F. Preston Badger, however, succeeded in securing a change of venue because of alleged prejudice in Lackawanna county brought about by the shopmen's strike. They will now be tried in Wayne county.

In the statement filed it is alleged that Scorzafava was killed while on his own property. Scorzafava left a widow and eight children.

Had His Foot Crushed.

(From Fishs Eddy corr.)

While working at the river bridge at Fishs Eddy one day last week George Terry had the misfortune to crush his foot quite badly.