

LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter - Saturday, November 24, 1923

THE WEEK IN WALTON

What We Are Talking About at the County Hub

GAS DROPS TO 19 CENTS

Coach Hits Truck—Married 25 Years—Died in Illinois—Three Beardsleys Gathered In.

Gasoline has been reduced one cent a gallon at Walton garages and is now selling at nineteen cents a gallon.

Little Ruth Puffer of Loomis, while playing last Saturday, fell and sustained a greenstick fracture of her right arm between the wrist and elbow. Dr. E. Ray Gladstone reduced the fracture.

The Beardsley family held a celebration- at West End Saturday evening which resulted in Officers Lewis Stidd and Harold Miller gathering in Dennis, Wesley and Joseph Beardsley. The men were arraigned before Police Justice J. M. Peake, who sentenced Dennis and Wesley to spend thirty days in jail while Joe was fined six dollars.

Word has been received in Walton of the recent death of Miss Sarah J. Burton in Centralia, Illinois. Miss Burton, who was 60 years of age, formerly resided in Walton. She is survived by three brothers, James, living in Alberta, Canada, and Thomas and Edward Burton of Walton; and two sisters, Mrs. Theodore Pomeroy of Hamden and Mrs. A. C. Cook of Franklin. The burial was held at Centralia last Friday.

John G. More on Tuesday received his appointment from Federal Judges Frank Cooper and George W. Ray as a United States commissioner. He will act in that capacity for Delaware county. After arrest federal prisoners are brought before the U.S. commissioners for hearings or to give bond for their appearance before the federal grand jury. The commissioners may also issue warrants. It is understood that a commissioner is being appointed in each county in the northern judicial district to facilitate the enforcement of the prohibition law.

Charles Kelsey of Rock Rift had an unfortunate accident last Thursday evening about 6 o'clock. When coming home on the Hancock side of the river he turned out for a passing car and went over the bank. His Dodge truck was injured to quite an extent but can be repaired. Fortunately neither he nor his companion were badly hurt. Mr. Huntington received a cut on his finger and Mr. Kelsey a bruised shoulder. Mr. Kelsey's milk customers have been regularly served since but he finds a horse and wagon rather slow for drawing milk. He is much better of his injury to his shoulder.—Rock Rift correspondent.

The section of the old Walton-Delhi road between the railroad crossing at Frasers and the crossing near the Sherwood place just below Delhi, eliminated by the construction of the new concrete road, has been fenced off. The two farms on the old road are provided with roads to the new state highway. The road leading from the state highway past the Sherwood place has also been closed so that tourists going from Walton to Andes either have to go as far as the creamery just outside of Delhi village and then return and cross Sherwood's bridge, or follow the state road through the village and make the swing back toward Andes.

One hundred sixteen relatives and friends surprised Mr. and Mrs. Olney H. Olmstead of the Oxbow on the occasion of their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary, November 16th. A bountiful dinner was spread at one o'clock, after

which followed a short program. Mrs. William Murphy and Miss Emily Olmstead gave piano solos. Miss Ruth Wakeman, the teacher of the Oxbow district school, sang. Toasts were given by Lawrence McClennon, Albert Holley and Rev. Stanley V. North, pastor of the First Congregational church of Walton. Charles W. Murray, a brother of Mrs. Olmstead, acted as toastmaster in a very pleasing manner. Neighbors, friends and relatives paid tributes to the sterling characters of Mr. and Mrs. Olmstead.

The Essex coach of Dr. E. O. Bush, the Walton dentist, was badly damaged and a Ford truck owned by William H. Smith, who occupies the former Ballantyne farm near Hawleys station, was nearly demolished in a collision on the highway in front of the Smith home- Tuesday morning. Dr. Bush was driving from Delancey to Walton and approached the farm just as Mr. Smith started from the roadway west of the house to drive a truckload of milk to Hamden. Smith got across to the right side of the state highway but Bush evidently attempted to swing his car to the same side of the road with the intention of going around the truck on the lower side. The Essex coach struck the Ford on the left-hand side near the driver's seat, swung the lighter machine completely around and sent it hurtling in the opposite direction. The Ford finally stopped some sixty feet from the point of collision without being overturned. Neither was Mr. Smith thrown off. The Essex was brought to a stop with the rear against the state highway fender on the lower side of the bridge spanning the small stream which flows down the hill at this point. The body of the Ford was practically demolished and the damage to the front of the Essex was extensive.

FARMER LOST LIFE TRYING TO SAVE DOG

Andes Man Sprang After Animal in Path of Car

HAS SKULL FRACTURED

Fatal Accident on Palmer Hill Road Monday—Auto Driver Exonerated.

(From Delhi correspondent.)

Henry V. Wagstaff, a well known and prosperous farmer of Palmer hill, town of Andes, was fatally injured by an automobile about 3 p. m. on Monday.

He had started from his home to bring in the cows and with his dog beside him was walking along the highway when a car driven by Mr. Mayes of Fleischmanns came up behind him, and the dog dodged in front of the machine at close range. Unthinkingly Mr. Wagstaff sprang to rescue the dog and he was knocked down by the car, the front wheels of which ran over him and he sustained a fractured skull and other severe injuries about the head and face. He was taken home unconscious and died about midnight without regaining consciousness. The dog, too, was struck by the car and killed. No blame was attached to the driver of the car for the sad accident.

Mr. Wagstaff was 67 years of age and left a wife and one son, Ernest, the latter residing in California. He had resided on the same farm on Palmer Hill for many years. His funeral was held Thursday afternoon from his late home, with burial at Andes.

FOURTEEN YEARS IN PRISON

Dr. Cook, Native of Callicoon, Convicted of Oil Stock Frauds.

Dr. Frederick A. Cook, oil operator and alleged discoverer of the North Pole, who was found guilty in federal court in Fort Worth, Texas, Wednesday afternoon of fraud

in connection with the operations of the Petroleum Producers' association, of which he was sole trustee, was sentenced to serve 14 years and 9 months in the federal prison and assessed a fine of \$12,000 by Federal Judge John M. Killits. Thirteen other defendants were found guilty and were given sentences in some cases involving seven years imprisonment. Dr. Cook is a native of Callicoon, Sullivan county.

The judge said in sentencing Cook: "Cook, this deal of yours is so damnably rotten that it seems some of your attorneys must have been forced to hold their handkerchiefs to their noses to have represented you. It stinks to high heaven. You should not be allowed to run at large. I know that you have your ill-gotten goods put away, but your wife and daughter should not be allowed to touch them. You have stolen this money from widows and orphans. You should start another company and distribute it back to them."

FAIR FUTURE IN DOUBT

Foreclosure Proceedings Are Started on Mortgage

SALE SET JANUARY 5TH
President Austin States All Bills and Premiums Will Be Paid.

Proceedings to foreclose on the second mortgage upon the Walton fair grounds have been started by the First National bank. An order of foreclosure has been granted by Justice Kellogg and was filed in the county clerk's office in Delhi on Thursday, Nov. 22.

Samuel Ha Fancher has been appointed referee in the matter and the date of sale has been fixed on January 5th, 1924, at 1 o'clock in the morning at Mr. Fancher's law office in Walton.

There are two mortgages on the grounds, the first mortgage being for \$1,900 and the second mortgage for over \$11,000.

W. H. Austin, president of the association, When interviewed Thursday, stated that the society expects to, pay in full all bills and fair premiums. A meeting of the directors will be held this Friday evening, when these matters will be considered. The premiums this year amount to between \$2,000 and \$2,500 and the association will receive from the state eighty per cent of the amount paid in premiums. The receipts this year will cover all expenses incurred with the exception of the small difference between the amount which will be received back from the state in the giving for premiums and the amount due for this purpose. The first day of the fair this year, Wednesday, was a rainy day and had it not been for this a profit would have been shown.

The foreclosure proceedings place the future of the fair in doubt. The grounds may be sold in at the sale by a group of business men and farmers who can be interested in maintaining the fair, or they may pass into the hands of private parties. Should the latter case occur it would doubtless mean the end of the Walton fair.

GAS FUMES IGNITED

Desire to Smoke Cigarette Costs Walton Man Loss of Ford Automobile

Ed. Friedlander of upper Townsend street drove a Ford touring car up to the gasoline pump in front of Bryce's garage on Delaware street, Walton, shortly before 11 o'clock Saturday night and asked Frank Wormsley, an employee, to fill the tank.

As the gasoline was being put into the tank located under the front seat, Friedlander, who stood nearby, struck a match. Almost instantly the gas fumes were ignited and shot upwards. Friedlander was painfully burned about the face before he could get away and the Ford was a mass of flames. John R. Bryce, who was in the garage, used a pyrene hand extinguisher but with little effect.

As Wormsley pulled the nozzle to the hose out of the tank the gasoline in the hose ran out and this, too, caught fire. A tow rope was secured in the garage and fastened to the rear axle of the car which was facing east. The men then pulled the machine into the middle of the street.

Meanwhile an alarm of fire had been sounded and Alert hose company's chemical engine was soon at the scene and in a few minutes the blaze was extinguished.

The top and body of the car were practically ruined, but the chassis was not damaged. The loss will be about \$250. Insurance was carried. Friedlander states that he struck the match to light a cigarette. The Ford was bought about two months ago.

WILLED MUCH TO CHURCHES

Newell Cable Left Bulk of Estate to Walton Churches.

The late Newell B. Cable, who died at Beerston Friday, left an estate valued at from \$30,000 to \$35,0410. The original will was made some ten years ago and numerous codicils have been executed since.

Under the provisions of the will and codicils existing at the time of Mr. Cable's death each of some twelve nephews and nieces or their heirs, if deceased, are given \$1,000. After a few other minor bequests the residuary estate is to be divided among six Walton churches, the United Presbyterian, Methodist, Congregational, Episcopalian, Reformed Presbyterian and Free Methodist. If the will stands this will give each church about \$3,000. Under the will of his brother, the late E. B. Cable, Newell Cable received during his life one-half of the income from E. B. Cable's estate. On Newell Cable's death the entire income from the E. B. Cable estate goes to Mrs. Mary Cable, widow of E. B. Cable.

COULDN'T JOIN HER HUSBAND

Troopers Persuade Father to Let Daughter Go.

(Livingston Manor correspondent.)

State troopers stationed in town the past week have been called on to force the burial of a dead cow, which was found on the sidehill draining into the reservoir from which part of the village receives its water supply, the owner having refused to bury the animal. Trooper Van De Car was called upon at 1 a. m. recently to go to a Youngsville home and persuade an irate parent to allow his daughter, wedded "by ring and book," by one of the Livingston Manor parsons early the preceding evening to join her anxious spouse, a local young man, who had been forcibly expelled from his father-in-law's domicile when he returned with his bride for the paternal blessing.

On Monday a search warrant was issued for a vacuum cleaner supposedly spirited away from its rightful owner by a reputable citizen. The cleaner was found eventually in a house in another quarter of the village from its supposed cache.

HIT OVER HEAD WITH CLUB

Albert Brandt Escapes from Thugs at Unadilla.

Albert Brandt, a former Walton man, who works for Alex Edwards on a farm near Unadilla, was attacked by two men near the upper bridge at Unadilla while walking home from the village on the Franklin road Saturday night about 10 o'clock.

The assault was made by two men, one of whom struck Brandt over the head with a heavy club. He was stunned by the blow but regained his feet and ran across the bridge with the two highwaymen in close pursuit. His calls for help as he approached the garage

located on the Franklin side of the bridge frightened the men away and they gave up the pursuit.

Mr. Brandt had a bad gash cut in his head which required two stitches to close. Robbery was doubtless the object of the assault, as Mr. Brandt is in the habit of carrying a considerable sum of money on his person. He is a brother of D. D. Brandt of Walton.

BUMP ENGINE SAVES HOME

Stamford Firemen Use Apparatus at Fire' on Farm.

The farm house of Floyd Temple on Gunhouse hill near Hobart was badly damaged Monday by a fire which started around a chimney. Mrs. Temple and two young children were alone in the house when the fire was discovered, Mr. Temple and the older children being away from home.

Messages were sent to both Hobart and Stamford and the firemen from both places responded, but the flames were breaking through the roof at the time of their arrival. All the furniture was removed from the ground floor, but the house and the furniture upstairs were badly burned and water soaked. Water for the Stamford pump engine was obtained from a nearby creek. A small insurance was carried. The place was formerly owned by James Champlin of Oneonta.

NEXT LECTURE COURSE NUMBER

Chester M. Sanford Helps Young People to Choose Vocations.

Chester M. Sanford, who will give an address in Walton hall Monday evening, as the next number on the community lecture course, is a noted vocational expert.

His purpose in his lecture work is to guide the young people of the community in choosing their proper vocations—to help eliminate misfits in industry and the professions.

A Sanford lecture vitally concerns every person, old or young, who has the future of America at heart.

Each of us is better fitted for one kind of work than another. The tragedy of many lives is the attempt to succeed in one line of work when abilities and inclinations point in an entirely different direction. Many a man who would succeed in business is a failure as a physician, and vice versa.

Mr. Sanford helps to answer the question of every young man and young woman. "What shall I do in the world?"

He is well equipped for his work in this most difficult field, having studied psychology in Cornell university under Drs. De Garmo, Titchener and Whipple.

With this thorough training he did not go into his study to work out fine sounding theories, but he went directly to the young people to work with them. As principal of a large high school, as head of a military academy, as city superintendent of schools and as professor in a teachers' college he has gained a firsthand knowledge of the needs of young Americans.

AUTO HITS UNADILLA FARMER

Driver Speeds Away Leaving Victim With Broken Leg.

John Dibble, an aged farmer residing at the foot of Cutler hill between Wellsbridge and Unadilla, was struck and knocked down by a large touring car Monday evening about 6 o'clock as he was crossing the road in front of his home, sustaining a compound fracture of the leg, breaking the bone in two places and sustaining painful bruises about the head and body. The driver of the car never stopped to learn what damage he had done but speeded up to make his escape, which he did, his number not being secured.