

LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter - Saturday, January 5, 1924

THE WEEK IN WALTON

What We Are Talking About at the County Hub

TO SELL FAIR GROUNDS

Three Fall and Break Bones—Fined for Drunkenness—Smalley Buys Majestic—Small Blaze.

A short story, "Avis Lindsay," by Amita Fairgrieve appears in the January number of Modern Priscilla. The authoress will be remembered, in Walton as the daughter of Prof. G. W. Fairgrieve.

Mrs. William Hodge of the Mountain stumbled and fell in the milkhouse on the Hodge farm Tuesday-morning and sustained a Colle's fracture of her left wrist. Dr. W. R. Gladstone was called in attendance.

The directors of the First National bank have voted a bonus to the employees of eight per cent of a years salary, which amounts to practically one month's salary. The usual semi annual dividend of five per cent has also been declared.

Charlotte, the 3-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Chamberlain, Benton avenue, fell downstairs while playing with some other children Monday and broke her right arm above the wrist. Dr. W. R. Gladstone reduced the fracture.

Announcements have been received of the marriage of Miss Edna B. Sanford and Frank L. Russell in Binghamton on Saturday, December 22nd. Mr. and Mrs. Russell are now at home at 468 Main street, Johnson City. The bride was formerly principal of the Miller avenue school in Walton.

The Walton fairgrounds will be sold on Saturday of this week, Jan. 5, at 10 o'clock, in the office of Samuel H. Fancher, referee, under foreclosure proceedings brought under the second mortgage on the grounds given to secure the indebtedness of the fair association. Spirited bidding is anticipated.

Just before the noon hour Saturday the fire department was called to the home of Herbert Griffin, Liberty street. Some boxes between the furnace and cold air box in the cellar had caught fire from being too close to the furnace and in turn had ignited the cold air box, filling the house with smoke. The services of the firemen were confined to the use of chemical extinguishers.

Charles Constable fell and broke his left thigh on New Year's day, while walking near the home of Conductor E. R. Johnston at the corner of Shepard and Burton streets. Dr. W. B. Morrow was called in attendance. A few years ago Mr. Constable fell while working at the novelty works and fractured the same thigh, thereby making the last injury the more serious.

At the annual meeting of the Ogdenville free library association held in the library Monday evening Samuel H. Pond and Edmund More were re-elected trustees. It was voted to ask the taxpayers of the village for an appropriation of \$500 at the corporation election in March. The deficit in the general fund used for maintenance expenses was about \$250 at the close of the year and additional revenue must be secured if the library is to maintain its place in the community life. The income from the Tiffany fund amounting to about \$1,000 a year may be used solely for the purchase of books and magazines. The library has received an appropriation of \$650 from the town for several years. About 25,000 books are circulated from the library each year.

William C. Smalley of Cooperstown has purchased the interest of Frank S. Medrick in the Walton theatrical enterprises in which the two have been partners. Mr. Smalley

recently bought from Mr. Medrick a half interest in the Majestic theatre and the two secured a lease of Walton hall from the village. Mr. Smalley now acquires the entire ownership of the Majestic and takes over the lease of Walton hall. The Majestic will remain closed as at present except when road shows or other entertainments are given in the hall. Mr. Smalley intends to make some changes at the Majestic, particularly in the location of the front entrances and ticket office. The Walton theatrical enterprises are now included in the twelve in the Smalley circuit. For the present C. J. Rose, field manager for Mr. Smalley, will have charge of the two Walton theatres. Mr. Medrick will remain in the employ of J. J. Farrell.

Dennis Beardsley was tried before Justice E. S. White and a jury in Walton hall, Wednesday morning, on a warrant issued under Section 43 of the penal code relative to disorderly conduct. The jury was composed of Frank W. Dann, E. F. Thomson, Frank W. Kipp, J. C. Eighmie, R. E. Lockwood and J. T. Cobb. The arrest of Beardsley and Fred Houck grew out of a drunken row at the home of Isaac Beardsley at Beerston on Sunday night, December 23rd. The witnesses were Mrs. Isaac Beardsley and Fred Houck for the prosecution and Dennis Beardsley for the defense. The jury returned a verdict of guilty with a recommendation of clemency. The court-imposed a fine of fifty dollars and a jail sentence of three months, the latter being suspended during good behavior. Houck, who had previously been arrested and plead guilty was fined \$25 and a jail sentence of 30 days was suspended during good behavior.

YEAR'S RECORD SHOWS INCREASE OF DEATHS

Births Twenty Less Than in Previous Year

MANY MORE MARRIAGES

Accidents Cause Loss of Three Lives in 923 - A Twenty Year Comparison

Vital statistics for the year 1923 show that there were 84 deaths, 97 births and 55 marriages in the town of Walton during the year 1923. This is an increase of 15 over 1922 in the number of marriages, a decrease of 20 in the number of births and an increase of 8 in deaths.

Three persons were killed in accidents, Clinton Blackman, killed by a live wire; M. R. Cook, who met death when his car was struck by a train at Beerston, and Thomas Russell, who was killed by a train at Beerston a few days later.

The oldest person to pass away during the year was Mrs. Elizabeth Alexander, who was 92. There were 12 deaths of persons 80 years of age and over and 24 of persons from 70 to 79 years of age inclusive. Of the deaths 57 were in the village and 27 outside of the village.

The number of marriage licenses issued and returned to the town clerk was the largest in three years. Marriage licenses are issued in the towns where the bride resides and the dates given on the list following are those when the marriages were solemnized.

That a comparison may be made with other years, the vital statistics for the past 20 years are given:

| | Births | Marriages | Deaths |
|------|--------|-----------|--------|
| 1923 | 97 | 55 | 84 |
| 1922 | 117 | 40 | 76 |
| 1921 | 128 | 43 | 80 |
| 1920 | 112 | 68 | 88 |
| 1919 | 71 | 66 | 77 |
| 1918 | 102 | 33 | 113 |
| 1917 | 102 | 44 | 73 |
| 1916 | 108 | 45 | 101 |
| 1915 | 111 | 50 | 82 |
| 1914 | 94 | 57 | 80 |
| 1913 | 107 | 49 | 77 |
| 1912 | 92 | 43 | 73 |
| 1911 | 82 | 48 | 79 |
| 1910 | 112 | 40 | 96 |
| 1909 | 79 | 47 | 75 |
| 1908 | 68 | 34 | 80 |
| 1907 | 65 | 47 | 65 |
| 1906 | 49 | 42 | 64 |

1905 60 47 74
1904 61 46 68

The vital statistics for the year 1923 are as follows:

| Date | Name | Age |
|---------|--|---------|
| Jan. 4 | Robert Newkerk | 5 mos. |
| 12 | Robert F. W. Closs | 60 |
| 13 | Mary Jane Skiff | 1 |
| 26 | Mrs. Agnes Monteith | 70 |
| 26 | Mrs. Mary A. Middlemist | 57 |
| 29 | Mrs. Emma G. Finch | 54 |
| 29 | George H. Austin | 66 |
| 29 | Theodore W. Hatch | 77 |
| Feb. 2 | John Henry Nichols | 78 |
| 5 | Mrs. Margaret Gibson | 76 |
| 5 | Mrs. Maggie Hatch | 44 |
| 8 | Erastus J. Griffin | 68 |
| 9 | Eugene Rensma | 60 |
| 18 | William H. Coons | 84 |
| 18 | George W. Thayer | 84 |
| 21 | Mrs. Harriet E. DuMond | 54 |
| 25 | Mrs. Rose M. Arnold | 54 |
| 28 | Mrs. Cornelia Pierson | 77 |
| 28 | William, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Leigh | 3 mos. |
| 31 | Frances E., infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Conklin | 1 mo. |
| Mar. 3 | Mrs. Charity Ann Beebe | 75 |
| 4 | Mrs. Phebe Fairchild | 35 |
| 4 | William Burghardt | 34 |
| 6 | Mrs. Mary Fitch Smith | 48 |
| 8 | Willis Edwin Pulver | 78 |
| 9 | Mrs. Mildred D. Whitaker | 45 |
| 10 | Ernest W. Baxter | 36 |
| 15 | Mrs. Adelia Buckbee | 79 |
| 19 | John S. Bells | 72 |
| 19 | Mrs. Frances Boyer | 70 |
| 26 | Helen M. Eells | 50 |
| Apr. 1 | Charles A. Hubbell | 77 |
| 7 | Mrs. Lydia A. Neal | 71 |
| 21 | Mrs. Diantha Alverson | 56 |
| 24 | William McCook | 66 |
| May 1 | Mrs. Mary H. Grant | 71 |
| 2 | Robert Van Akin | 82 |
| 2 | Mrs. Lucy Sawyer | 68 |
| 12 | John C. Sulger | 71 |
| 15 | Joseph Casper | 53 |
| 27 | Cornelius M. Munn | 63 |
| 27 | Thomas S. Tripp | 70 |
| 27 | Mrs. Eliza M. Burgin | 82 |
| June 12 | Mrs. Mary E. Halstead | 78 |
| 15 | Henry Bates | 71 |
| 18 | Mrs. Bridget Kilmer | 65 |
| 20 | Mrs. Mary A. Ostrander | 82 |
| 20 | Emma Hawver | 67 |
| 22 | Mrs. Helen L. Hafele | 38 |
| July 6 | Clinton Blackman | 29 |
| 8 | Pearl I. Gransbury | 10 |
| 10 | Mrs. Grace L. Fancher | 59 |
| 16 | Edward R. Kelley | 53 |
| 18 | Mrs. Emma Corgan | 58 |
| 24 | Mrs. Ida Sophia Shaw | 66 |
| 24 | Mrs. Emily Smith | 88 |
| 25 | William A. Soper | 64 |
| Aug. 6 | George S. Nichols | 77 |
| 9 | George H. Jaques | 69 |
| 19 | Mrs. Margaret K. Palmer | 86 |
| 20 | Mrs. Jane C. Pflieger | 84 |
| 24 | Infant son of Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Terpenin | 72 |
| 27 | Horace Allen | 72 |
| Sept 5 | Edward J. Quirk | 48 |
| 24 | Mrs. Grace O. Henderson | 49 |
| Oct. 3 | Mrs. Emeline E. Cole | 62 |
| 4 | George B. Gosper | 58 |
| 20 | Mrs. Sarah J. Robinson | 86 |
| 25 | Mrs. Margaret D. Rose | 31 |
| 30 | Frances Jeanette Taylor | 5 |
| Nov. 5 | William H. Bushnell | 80 |
| 7 | Marion R. Cook | 63 |
| 8 | Thomas E. Russell | 36 |
| 15 | William C. Doig | 70 |
| 16 | Newell B. Cable | 60 |
| 22 | Mrs. Maria DuMond | 72 |
| 25 | Adelbert E. Dix | 77 |
| 28 | Alexander Neish | 77 |
| 30 | Hazel I. Jones | 11 mos. |
| Dec. 1 | Rev. George E. Guild | 72 |
| 6 | Mrs. Elizabeth Alexander | 92 |
| 9 | Mrs. Ellen Stevens | 44 |
| 23 | Dr. E. Alex Hand | 61 |
| 29 | Thelma Constable | 16 |

Thirty-five persons who died in other towns were brought to Walton for burial. The date of death, name and age of these persons follows:

| | | |
|---------|---|--------|
| Feb. 1 | Mary Durfee, Wayne | 65 |
| 2 | Charles E. Fuller, Binghamton | 42 |
| 5 | Gertrude L. Williams, Delhi | 5 mos. |
| 5 | Effie Frear, New York | 61 |
| 21 | Lizzie Rock, Oneonta | 52 |
| 21 | Frank M. Furey, Binghamton | 71 |
| Mar. 1 | Lambrese Caswell, Oneida | 69 |
| 11 | Joseph Malley, Binghamton | 41 |
| 15 | Claude Murray, Hamden | 42 |
| 23 | Edgar W. Stimpson, Middletown | 73 |
| 30 | Perry H. Ewing, Providence, R. I. | 78 |
| Apr. 2 | Even Cain, St. Louis, Mo. | 26 |
| 12 | Electa E. Hubbell, Unadilla | 75 |
| 16 | Earl R. Thompson, Oneonta | 28 |
| May 1 | Mary E. Hall, Westford | 2 mos. |
| 19 | Mary E. Benedict, Sidney Center | 89 |
| 22 | Leander S. Wakeman, Middletown | 55 |
| June 1 | Rebecca Sexsmith, Binghamton | 76 |
| 10 | Fred T. Morris, Delancey | 30 |
| 21 | Julius Houck, Franklin | 63 |
| 22 | Mabelle T. Howard, Binghamton | 21 |
| 29 | Herman Webster, Brooklyn | 57 |
| July 10 | Mary L. Boyce, Liberty | 66 |
| 16 | Hattie B. Demercee, Binghamton | 65 |
| 30 | Charles Holmes, Binghamton | 81 |
| Aug. 7 | Myron W. Woodmansee, Tompkins | 63 |
| 8 | Lee J. Wannemacher, Manchester, Conn. | 42 |
| Oct. 3 | Bertha C. Reville, Buffalo | 49 |
| 7 | Clara M. Chase, Binghamton | 72 |
| 17 | Infant of Nathan Lincoln, New Jersey | 75 |
| 25 | Charles A. Wakeman, Binghamton | 75 |
| Dec. 26 | Emmette A. Gorton, Tompkins | 73 |
| 29 | Avis M. Clark, Middletown | 52 |
| 30 | Frances A. Henderson, Kerhonkson, N. Y. | 83 |

Births.

| | |
|--------|------------------------------------|
| Jan. 7 | To Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Parsons, son |
| 9 | George T. Rutherford, son |
| 14 | Henry M. Meloney, son |
| 16 | Ray B. Telford, daughter |
| 19 | William H. Kent, daughter |
| 20 | John Vanderzee, daughter |
| 24 | Edward L. Lathan, son |
| 31 | Earl E. DuRocher, daughter |
| 31 | Percy A. Jackson, daughter |
| 31 | Leon J. Conklin, daughter |
| Feb. 5 | William Steele, son |
| 5 | James Pangaro, daughter |
| 5 | Glenn E. More, son |
| 15 | Andrew Constable, son |
| 19 | Robert W. Holley, son |
| Mar. 1 | Walter Kelsey, son |
| 4 | Victor J. Hawver, son |
| 4 | Joseph McCullagh, son |
| 14 | Fred Haverly, son |
| 18 | Homer A. Gladstone, daughter |
| 19 | Marshall Knickerbocker, daughter |
| 23 | Howard R. Northrup, son |
| 29 | Carl D. Sprague, daughter |
| 29 | Jesse J. Beers, daughter |
| Apr. 2 | William J. Gregory, son |
| 6 | William F. Dods, son |
| 6 | Alexander Casterlin, son |
| 11 | Howard R. St. John, son |
| 12 | George R. Tremain, daughter |
| 24 | Jay Hammond, son |
| 27 | Malcolm D. Barnes, son |
| 28 | Orley E. Jamieson, son |
| 29 | D. Lamont Kinch, daughter |
| May 3 | H. M. Robinson, daughter |
| 8 | William Gray, daughter |
| 8 | Clifford D. Finch, son |
| 13 | Russell W. Baker, son |
| 15 | Earl E. Hall, son |
| 19 | William Hobbie, daughter |
| 20 | Adelbert Barringer, daughter |
| 27 | Hugh M. Benton, son |

| | |
|--------|-----------------------------|
| Oct. 2 | Fred Maritato, daughter |
| 2 | M. W. Riker, daughter |
| 4 | Arthur Kilmer, son |
| 5 | Frank W. Schlafer, daughter |
| 18 | Frank Fiumara, daughter |
| 20 | Leslie M. Marks, son |
| 24 | Simcon Beismer, daughter |
| Nov. 6 | Michael Bozzi, son |
| 7 | George H. Nichols, son |
| 16 | Clifton W. Moore, daughter |
| 18 | Samuel Belmont, son |
| 19 | Carl W. Beardslee, son |
| 20 | Leon E. Houck, daughter |
| 22 | Warren Paine, son |
| Dec. 2 | William J. Ward, daughter |
| 3 | Arthur J. Neer, daughter |
| 6 | Linn L. Olds, daughter |
| 8 | Isaac J. DeMott, daughter |
| 11 | Gusse H. Wolcott, daughter |
| 22 | Charles E. Hoyt, son |
| 25 | Charles P. Stilson, son. |

ONE IN FIVE HAS CAR

Last Minute Rush to Get 1924 License Plates.

(From Delhi correspondent.)

Last Saturday and Monday of this week the streets of the county seat gave evidence there was something doin'. Autos lined the curbs on all sides and in all directions. The rumput proved to be the rush for auto license plates for the new year. County Clerk Turnbull received over \$8,000 in license fees on Saturday and about \$10,000 on Monday. The clerk estimates that fees for license plates for Delaware county this year will reach a total of about \$125,000; last year they were \$115,000. Nearly 10,000 licenses will be issued, which means some sort of a motor vehicle for every four and one-half persons in Delaware county.

WOMAN BURNS TO DEATH

Lifeless Body of Mrs. Pitcher Found in Delhi Home

LAMP IGNITED CLOTHES

Aged Lady Stricken With Illness Probably Dropped Lamp She Was Carrying-

(From Delhi correspondent.)

Mrs. Fanny Pitcher of Delhi, aged 77 years, was burned to death in her home on Kingston street in that village Saturday evening.

Mrs. Pitcher, widow of the late Abram Pitcher, had lived alone since the death of her husband several years ago. Mrs. J. A. Griffin, a niece, had been looking after her of late and she was all right when last seen by Mrs. Griffin an hour or two before the tragedy was discovered.

At about 10 o'clock Saturday evening Miss Laura Robson, a neighbor of Mrs. Pitcher, noticed a light under the side door of the Pitcher home and called the attention of her father who started out to investigate. They were joined by George Briggs, a passerby, and after considerable difficulty the front door of the Pitcher home was broken in and the blaze near the door discovered and extinguished. Mr. Briggs cut a cord in his right arm on some broken glass while forcing an entrance into the house.

Entering further into the house, filled with smoke, the body of Mrs. Pitcher was found in the bedroom on the floor, her body badly burned, and with life extinct.

The general theory is that, suddenly stricken with illness that rendered her unconscious. Mrs. Pitcher dropped the lamp and set fire thus to her clothing.

The funeral of Mrs. Fanny Pitcher, who was fatally burned in her home on Saturday evening, was held from St. John's Episcopal church, of which she was a member, on Wednesday at 10:30 a. m. The church being at present without a rector Rev. O. Edgelow of Lake Delaware conducted the service. Burial was made in Woodland cemetery. Mrs. Pitcher, nee Fanny Face, was the second wife of the late Abram Pitcher. A sister, Mrs. Sarah Clark, of Prattsville, and several nephews and nieces survive.