

LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter - Saturday, April 19, 1924

THE WEEK IN WALTON

What We Are Talking About at the County Hub

WATER CO. AGAIN BEATEN

Walton House to Open—Moves to Hudson—Farmers' Dairy Co. Declares Dividend.

Miss Grace M. Neff, who has been teaching in the public schools of Corning, N. Y., has been elected by the board of education to succeed Miss Mildred M. Dolan, eighth grade, Stockton avenue, for the school year beginning September, 1924. Miss Neff, who comes highly recommended, resides at Corbett.

Wells Bolles of Peak's brook, father of Mrs. Clifford Dennis of Walton, was struck on the forehead by a flying slab of wood while helping Robert Currie, a neighbor, buzz wood last Thursday. He was unconscious for a time from the blow. Had it not been for his cap, which deadened the blow, his skull would have been fractured.

The Walton fire department was called out twice this week. Friday just before noon an alarm was sent in for a chimney fire at Sears Brown's house, New street. No damage was done. Wednesday afternoon about 1:20 the department was again summoned, this time by a brush fire on the bank between the Delhi branch tracks, and the state road near the home of Irving Baker on Haverly hill.

The directors of the Walton Farmers' Dairy company organized Monday by electing Edson Dann as president. George Budine was chosen as vice president, Seely Wood as treasurer, and L. D. McClenon, secretary. It was voted to declare a dividend of \$3 a share on the stock. There are 614 shares outstanding with a par value of \$25. After the payment there will remain a balance of about \$1,100 in the treasury.

The Walton People's Telephone company has bought the Rock Rift, Cannonville and Granton telephone line and has already taken over the property. The Walton company plans to rebuild the line as soon as the state road from Cannonville to Rock Rift is completed. Eventually it is expected that connection will be made with the Deposit telephone company for a toll line between Walton and Deposit. Messages between the two places are now routed by way of Binghamton.

Arthur E. Conner, village attorney, on Thursday received word that the court of appeals in a decision handed down Wednesday denied with costs the motion of the Walton Water company for a reargument of the case against the village of Walton involving hydrant rentals. This is the end of the action which resulted in an unanimous decision of the state's highest court holding that the water company could not charge the village hydrant rental. About \$2,500 annually was involved.

George T Johnston has purchased the mutual fire insurance agency of Lloyd A. Downing in Hudson, N. Y., and will move to that place. Mrs. Johnston will remain in Walton for a time and Mr. Johnston will come home for the week ends. The Johnstons expect to sell their home on Gardiner Place, the former Orson Ellis property. Under their ownership the property has become one of the show places of Walton and with its lovely shrubbery and flower gardens has added much to the appearance of the Ogden library and Walton hall, between which it is located. Mr. and Mrs. Johnston have always been active in church and civic activities and their departure will be a real loss to the community.

The annual prize speaking contest of Walton high school was held Wednesday evening in Walton hall before an audience of five hundred people. There were four girls and four boys contesting. The first prize for the girls was won by Catherine Howland. The title of her piece, which was humorous, was, "Two Pair of Shoes." "The Son of Abdallah," given by Ruth Henderson, won second place. "The Little Man in the Smoker," given by Harry O. Fagan, took first prize for the boys, and to Claude H. Slaney was awarded second position, the title of his selection being, "Lafayette, We Have Come." Miss Janie Launt had charge of the training of the girls and H. B. Townsend of the boys. The prizes, for both boys and girls, were ten dollars in gold, first place; five dollars in gold, second place. The musical part of the program was furnished by the Walton high school orchestra of twenty pieces—under the direction of H. Francis Miles. Principal John B. Chilson of Sidney, Principal Basil W. Conrad of Unadilla, and Principal Francis J. Casey of Bainbridge acted as judges.

GIRLS SENT TO HOME AFTER RUNNING AWAY

Judge McNaught Disposes of Several Criminal Matters County Court

(From Delhi correspondent.)

The April term of county court for Delaware county was convened at 2 o'clock on Monday afternoon. The roll call of the jury found them all on hand with one or two exceptions.

No case being just ready for trial, the jurymen were excused until 9:30 Tuesday morning when the case of Yaple vs. William Hyzer and Harry D. Archer proceeded. This case was taken from the jury by Judge McNaught Tuesday afternoon. The action was for conversion involving a levy made by Hyzer for Archer, an Andes feed dealer, upon some hay.

During the day, Monday, Isaac Rivenbark of Harpersfield, who has been an inmate of the jail since the session of the grand jury at the recent term of supreme court, when he was indicted for rape, second degree, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to Elmira under the rules of the institution. Execution of sentence was suspended and defendant placed on probation. Irving McWhorter of Franklin also pleaded guilty to rape in second degree and received a like sentence.

The conditions of the probation of these boys are very similar—McWorter's follows: Shall avoid all places and persons of disreputable character; shall indulge in no unlawful, disorderly or vicious habits. Shall not own or drive an automobile for three years, unless accompanied by his father or mother—shall remain and work on his father's farm for two years without wages or until the court modifies order. When he earns money one-half is to be deposited in bank. Shall report to probation officer every two weeks for a period of five years. Shall attend church regularly and furnish certificate of minister that he did attend. Shall not be away from father's farm in the evening unless accompanied by some member of his family for two years.

The presiding judge, Andrew J. McNaught, certainly did his part in pointing out the "straight and narrow path" for these boys to follow. Second degree rape cases are becoming a very common affair before the grand juries of Delaware county and when you take into consideration the class of girls involved, their general appearance and performances, it would seem to be a good plan and only fair play that they, too, should be placed on probation, at the wash tub or in the dough, under the supervision of parents, if such persons are suitable, and if not under the care of some welfare officer.

Bertha Mace O'Neal of Delhi and Elizabeth Miller Snyder of Corbett, two wayward girls, were committed to a training school at Hudson. The Miller girl, lying about her age, was granted a marriage license and was married at Delhi last fall. Both

FORMER WALTON MAN LEAVES TRAIL OF WORTHLESS CHECKS

William H. Mulford, former Walton man, made a mistake when he touched up Bert Heimer of the Wylie B. Jones advertising-agency, Binghamton, for a loan of twenty dollars. Heimer, son of Mrs. Harriet Heimer of Walton, caused Mulford's arrest in that city Saturday afternoon on a charge of violating section 930 of the penal code relative to obtaining money under false pretenses. Mulford settled the matter with Heimer in city court Monday by paying back the money, but soon after his release was placed under arrest on similar charges involving forgery. He has been held for the Broome county grand jury.

Mulford's operations cover a considerable period of time, and apparently the number of those he victimized by his hard luck stories is almost without end. His method was to approach some business or professional man in a distant city,

tell a story of how he was broke, give a fictitious name, and by his familiarity with names in Walton and Delhi establish his identity to the satisfaction of the person approached. Twenty dollars was the favorite amount of loan asked. Mulford would give his benefactor a check, some of which were signed with the surname Williams drawn on Delaware county banks and with varying initials. They were invariably returned as forgeries.

Six men appeared against Mulford after he was rearrested in Binghamton. Each of the six told similar stories of Mulford's methods. At one office he represented himself as an attorney from Walton, mentioned several prominent residents of Walton and asked that a check for \$20 be cashed. At another office he said he wrecked his Ford car near Sidney while intoxicated and was stranded

girls are under 16. These are the girls who obtained some notoriety by running away on March 23 with some young men, strangers in Delhi, and being found by state troopers working in Middletown. A man giving his name as Simon Wilson was placed under arrest at Sussex, N. J., and held in \$200 bail in connection with the O'Neil girl's case.

They are under the age where they can be committed to jail and so the girls at present are under the care of Miss Roberts, the welfare agent of the county. They seem very happy as they go about town under her care and are writing their acquaintances, while awaiting an officer from the institution, that they are going to a boarding school and are discussing what course of study they will pursue.

It was thought that this term of county court would extend into the second week. However, with the arson cases from Kortright continued over to the June term, of supreme court by order of Justice Rhodes, and with the Cable will contest put over to June 30th, and with Judge McNaught taking the case of Yaple vs. Hyzer out of the hands of the jury when the plaintiff had rested, about 3 p. m. on Tuesday, the term collapsed and the jury were discharged. It seemed to develop that the case on trial was a question of law as it involved the right of an officer to levy on a quantity of hay in controversy—the attorneys were ordered to file briefs in the case.

A unique incident and one that establishes a precedent in the courts of Delaware county was the appearance of a woman lawyer at the Delaware bar in the trial of a case. Mrs. Mabel Fenton, a member of the Delaware county bar, appeared with her husband, A. G. Fenton of Margaretville, in the trial of the Yaple case, as attorneys for plaintiff. From her poise and manner at her first appearance in a court of record, we predict success for her in her chosen profession.

CARRY NO PASSENGERS

O. & W. Discontinues Service On Delhi Branch

BUS HANDLES BUSINESS

Railroad Tickets Good on Green's Line—Important Changes on Main Branch.

All passenger service on the Delhi branch will be discontinued when the spring timetable on the Ontario & Western railroad goes into effect on Sunday, April 27.

It is understood that arrangements have been made with Glen Green of Delhi, owner of the Delhi-Walton bus line, by which railroad passenger tickets sold at O. & W. stations will be accepted on the bus. It is also understood that Mr. Green will put another bus into operation. What service the railroad will render in the winter when the bus is apt to be tied up by snow is a problem for the future. The bus will handle all baggage matter for the railroad and the

to Massachusetts, but the matter was settled by his father.

AUTO LANDS IN RIVER AFTER HANCOCK SMASH

Louis Smith Now a Prisoner In Delhi Jail

WILL FACE TWO CHARGES

Alleged He Was Drunk and Ran Away From Scene of Accident—Two Women Hurt.

(From Hancock correspondent.)

Louis Smith of Hancock is a prisoner in the Delhi jail in default of bail as a result of an automobile accident just outside of the village of Hancock, Saturday afternoon, in which Smith's car struck the Dodge machine driven by Charles Albee of Deposit and caused the Albee automobile to go through the guard rail and into the Delaware river. Mrs. Albee and Mrs. Augustus Reed of Roscoe were seriously injured in the accident.

The smashup occurred about 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon while Smith was driving toward Cadosia and met the Albee machine going in the opposite direction. The automobile driven by Smith was a second-hand Ford runabout of the 1917 model which he had purchased the same day at Franklin's Read Street garage. The machine had formerly been owned by George Realy, forest ranger. Smith had owned two old cars before his last purchase and therefore had experience as a driver, but on Saturday afternoon it is alleged that he was intoxicated and not in a condition properly to operate a car.

It is stated that as the two machines approached each other that Smith turned toward the center of the road to get by a man walking toward Cadosia. The front wheel of the Ford locked with a wheel of the Albee Dodge in such a way that the Deposit car swung across the highway, crashed through the guardrail, ended over the 15-foot retaining wall and landed bottom side up in the river. The accident occurred in the old dugway.

The two front wheels of the Smith car were smashed, and Smith after being at the scene of the collision a very short time took to his heels and disappeared. His companion, William Kinch, went to the help of the Albee party. All three occupants of the Albee car were pinned under the car in about four feet of swiftly running water. Mr. Albee managed to free himself almost at once and with the help of Kinch and a Mr. Sickles, a passing motorist, rescued the two women and they were carried up the bank on mattresses and taken to a nearby house.

First aid treatment was given by Dr. D. R. Davidson and later the party was taken to Deposit by Chief of Police Austin McGranaghan and Dr. Davidson. Mrs. Reed had four ribs cracked or broken, a fractured wrist and leg, and a bad laceration over her eye from broken glass. Her nose was also broken. Mrs. Albee's shoulder was fractured and she suffered painful bruises.

Smith was not located until nearly midnight Saturday when he was found at his home just outside of Hancock. He was placed under arrest on a warrant charging the leaving of the scene of a motor accident without reporting to the police and also with driving a car while intoxicated. He was arraigned Monday before Justice George Rees and held for the action of the grand jury which meets in May; in default of bail he was taken to Delhi.

Smith is about 35 years of age. While working for the O. & W. railroad before coming of age he received an injury to his hand and the company paid about \$2,000 in settlement of the claim. The money was used by his guardian to buy a small place just west of Riverview cemetery. This property Smith sold about two weeks ago to Virgil Whitaker, Strout farm agent at Hancock, and it is understood that Smith bought the Ford car with money received in this sale.

ESCAPED FROM SHERIFF

Otsego County Car Thief Outwits His Guards.

Ivan S. Tillinghast, wanted in Otsego to face an indictment charging second degree larceny, and who had been brought to New York by Sheriff Robert R. Converse of Cooperstown from Florida, escaped early Tuesday morning from the sheriff when they were in the Grand Central terminal. Tillinghast stole a car in Otsego county and went to Florida. He was arrested there and extradition to New York was granted.

Tillinghast and sheriff arrived at the Pennsylvania station in New York early Tuesday and taxied to the Grand Central, where Tillinghast had breakfast while still handcuffed to the sheriff. Then the sheriff cuffed together both hands of the young man and placed him in the custody of a station policeman while he ate his own meal. Suddenly Tillinghast made a dash for liberty and was soon lost in the crowd, handcuffs and all.

The sheriff said Tillinghast had 30 cents in his pockets. Tillinghast was arrested once before for stealing a car in Unadilla and taking it