

# LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter

100 YEARS AGO,  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1922

## THE WEEK IN WALTON

**What We Are Talking  
About at the County Hub**

## FOUND LIQUOR IN AUTO

**Turkeys Are Scarce — Icy  
Roads Cause Accidents —  
Farewell Given Rev. B. L.  
Bixby.**

The Young People's club of the Congregational church cleared about \$123 on the chicken pie supper given Friday evening. The money will be used for the mission work of the church.

The town of Hancock has settled for \$500 the claim for damages filed against it by Dr. E. O. Bush of Walton, whose Studebaker coupe recently went off a bridge on the Apex-Cadosia road near the Keery acid factory and landed in the brook.

Dr. C. S. Gould, town health officer, has completed his inspection of the pupils in the rural schools. Over three hundred children were given the medical examination. Reports sent to parents indicate that bad teeth and defective vision are the principal physical defects found.

Damage estimated at \$300 was done in the home of Bert Edgecomb at 98 West End avenue, Binghamton, early one morning this week. The fire was confined to the attic. Bert Edgecomb is a brother of George Edgecomb, superintendent in charge of construction on the improved roads in Walton.

One can ride miles through the country about Walton today and not see a flock of turkeys. Only a few years ago flocks of turkeys were a common sight in this section and at the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons it was not unusual to have carload shipments of the birds made from Walton to New York and other cities. The raising of turkeys has been found unprofitable by many farmers who formerly made this a side line. The high price received for a few birds at the holiday season has not been sufficient to offset the heavy losses from death in a wet season and from other causes.

An informal reception in honor of Rev. and Mrs. B. L. Bixby was held in the Baptist church Friday evening. Besides the members of the church many from other churches were in attendance. A social evening was enjoyed and refreshments were served. During the evening Mr. Bixby was presented with a purse of money by John G. Howland on behalf of the congregation. Rev. F. C. Davidson, for the ministerial association, of which Mr. Bixby has been president, also left a gift with the retiring pastor from his associates. Mr. Bixby preached his farewell sermon Sunday evening at a union service in the Baptist church. With Mrs. Bixby he has gone to Port Byron, N. Y., where he recently accepted a call at a substantial increase in salary.

The icy condition of the village streets since Saturday has been responsible for a number of automobile accidents. On Saturday afternoon the cars driven by John T. Middlemist of West Brook and Mrs. Har-

ry Fraser of Frasers collided at the corner of Delaware street and Gardiner Place. The Middlemist car came off second best. In the evening Calvin Darrin was driving the Ritz-Lincoln delivery truck east along Delaware street when George Cable drove his machine from the second floor of the Bryce garage and crossed the highway in front of the truck. Darrin applied his brakes too quickly and the truck skidded against the rear of Cable's machine, jamming it up and tearing a new tire. During the noon hour Wednesday the Ford driven by Kenneth Graby and the Dodge operated by Elmer Boice collided at the corner of Mead and Townsend streets. The front of the Graby car was smashed in, the radiator and front spring being broken. While Mr. and Mrs. Russell Condon were driving to Delhi Tuesday evening another car skidded into them near Frasers. About \$150 damage was done to the Condon Buick.

The Binghamton police raided several resorts in Binghamton Saturday night and made a number of arrests in connection with enforcement of the prohibition law. Shortly after 11 o'clock that night a police squad visited the premises at 26 Kenwood avenue and placed the 14 men and two women found there under arrest on charges of public intoxication. While those arrested were being placed in the patrol wagon to go to the police station two of the officers noticed a man walking along the street carrying a heavily loaded suitcase. The officers investigated and found two 3 gallon cans of liquor inside the suitcase. The man who later gave his name as Milo Dianglis of 16 Kenwood avenue, was arrested charged with having liquor in his possession. When the officers arrested Dianglis he was apparently making his way to a Chevrolet automobile parked near another saloon at 17 Kenwood avenue. The officers searched this car and found a quart bottle half full of alleged gin. Just as they found the bottle of liquor a group of men came out of the establishment at 17 Kenwood avenue. The policemen asked who owned the car and Floyd T. Broughton of Walton stepped forward and said he did. He was arrested, charged with having liquor in his possession despite the fact that he protested that he knew nothing of the bottle of alleged gin in his automobile. He also pleaded not guilty through his attorney, Lewis Clark, and was released on \$1,000 bail for his appearance in court Dec. 11 at 9:30 o'clock.

## DAM DELAWARE RIVER FOR ELECTRIC POWER

**Syndicate Buys Land  
Between Rock Rift and  
Granton**

## PUSH WORK IN SPRING

**Change in Highway  
Location Made Necessary  
by Damming Stream at the  
Stoodley Farm.**

There is to be a dam built in the Delaware river near Granton for the generation of electricity on a large scale. The location is to be near the Howard Stoodley farm. It is expected that work on the project will be commenced as soon as weather conditions will permit in the spring.

A syndicate consisting of several local people and some from outside who are inter-

ested in the development of water power have acquired most of the real estate affected by the dam and are behind the project. The names of the parties are withheld for the present although some of them are well known, and A. G. Patterson is their representative and is looking after their interests locally.

The location is considered ideal for dam construction and they have assurance of ready sale for all the electricity that can be generated at that point.

Several years ago this project was first considered in connection with furnishing Walton, Deposit and Hancock with electricity for lighting and power purposes, but at that time the promoters were all local people who were engaged in other lines of business, and simply in this as a side line, and there being several difficulties to overcome at that time the scheme was not pushed to completion, and the Walton and Deposit electric plants were allowed to get into other hands.

Recently by very helpful legislation and the creation of special departments for that purpose both the state and federal governments are encouraging water power development.

Within the last two or three years laws have been passed which give such public service corporations the right to take any property necessary to effect such development upon paying the owner the amount fixed by the court as its fair value.

The high price and ultimate scarcity of coal is one of the incentives which causes the federal and state governments to look upon water power development as one of the best and most practical means of conservation.

Then again water power is the cheapest power, and as the public service commission fixes all rates for lighting and the sale of electricity by public service corporations, and such price is based on the cost of production, the benefits of water power development are immediately passed on to the consumer, so that everyone who uses electric lights or articles manufactured from the power is directly affected by the lower cost.

There are upwards of 350 square miles in the water shed relied on at the point of this dam, and based on the estimate of federal government engineers for a similar point on the same stream upwards of 10,000,000 horse power per year can be developed at this point by the proposed dam.

The proposed dam will flood the present highway along the river between Rock Rift and Granton at one or two points, particularly at the low point on what was the Clark Frasier farm, which is next toward Walton from the Howard Stoodley farm. This road is to be improved as a federal aid road and the engineers have been working this week developing plans for the necessary changes, which it is expected will not cause any delay in the highway construction, nor add to the cost. In fact by placing the road on slightly higher ground for the short distance necessary to avoid the backwater from this dam, the grade of the road will be improved, and the road placed on a more firm bed, because instead of its being located on the low wet river bottom land, where the present road is frequently flooded or blocked with ice, it will be on higher ground, having a good gravel foundation.

The development of this

water power is an improvement that has been greatly needed in this section and everyone who purchases electric lights or power will rejoice in the progress of their project which now seems assured.

## NEED 8,000 PLATES FOR DELAWARE AUTOS

**Value of Cars Greater Than  
That of Farm Cattle at  
Outbreak of Civil War**

(From Delhi correspondent.) Eight thousand license plates are to be needed for the motor cars in Delaware county this year. The money value of these cars when purchased was more than the value of all the cows, calves, oxen, horses, swine, sheep and poultry in Delaware county at the outbreak of the Civil War.

In 1860 Delaware county was one of the great butter counties of this state and of the United States and the population was but a little less than at present. The money received for the entire product of the dairies of the county in 1860 would not pay for the gas and upkeep of these 8,000 cars for the present year.

The purchase money of these cars would stock all the farms in Delaware county reasonably well with cows, horses and other necessary livestock at present prices. S. B. Champion, founder and editor of the Bloomville Mirror, now the Stamford Recorder, had a favorite phrase he often used in conversation and many times he used it for a headline in his paper. It was, "Think of these things." Perhaps it might be well for us all to think of these things and wonder, "Where we go from here."

## FIRE STARTS IN SILO

**Large Roxbury Barn  
Destroyed by Flames.**

(From Roxbury correspondent.)

The large barn on Elmer Travis' farm in Meeker hollow, Roxbury, was completely destroyed by fire Monday night. The blaze started from spontaneous combustion in the silo. All the hay was lost but the stock and implements were saved.

## TWO MISHAPS IN DAY MR. WOOD'S RECORD

**Car First in Collision and  
Later Goes Down Bank on  
Third Brook**

One seldom has two automobile accidents in one day but that was what happened to Seeley Wood of Third brook, Walton, on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Wood had attended the morning service at the United Presbyterian church and on their way home had driven down North street and turned west on Mead. The car of Charles Miller of Downsville was coming north on Townsend street when the Wood car approached the corner of Mead and Townsend streets. Under the rules of the road Mr. Wood had the right of way but the drivers of the cars were unable to stop in time to avoid a collision and the Wood machine struck the rear fender of the Downsville car. The impact knocked Miller's auto against the telephone pole on the corner of Roderick Fitch's lot. The fender of the Downsville car was smashed and the top damaged.

The steering gear on the Walton car was damaged but Mr. Wood felt that he could drive it home although his wife who was with him went on in Leroy

Sines' machine. In going down a steep pitch at the Shaver farm near the Third brook reservoir he was unable to control the machine with the damaged steering apparatus and the car crashed through the guard rail and went its length down the bank, being brought to a stop by a fence and a tree. The car was hauled back into the road Monday when it was found that the damage was slight. Mr. Wood was not injured.

## KNOCKED DOWN BY TEAM

**Corbett Man Injured While  
Hitching Up.**

(From Corbett correspondent.)

Frank J. Merrill of Campbell Mt., while hitching his horses to a wagon was seriously hurt. The horses jumped knocking Mr. Merrill down. A bad gash was cut in his head and he was badly bruised.

## DIVIDE DOG LICENSE MONEY

**Toms Receive \$8,782 as  
Their Share of Receipts.**

The nineteen towns in Delaware county will receive \$8,782.99 from the distribution of receipts from the county's share of the dog license money received from March 1, 1920, to July 1, 1922. The total to be distributed was \$11,710, of which the county received one-fourth, and the balance was divided among the towns as follows: Andes, \$420.29; Bovina, \$224.92; Colchester, \$514.89; Davenport, \$216.27; Delhi, \$467.51; Deposit, \$226; Franklin, \$255.71; Hamden, \$325.53; Hancock, \$417.30; Harpersfield, \$189.13; Kortright, \$320.18; Masonville, \$204.32; Meredith, \$273.87; Middletown, \$463.03; Roxbury, \$420.74; Sidney, \$345.03; Stamford, \$286.87; Tompkins, \$358.07; Walton, \$548.59.

## May Light Halcottsville.

There was no opposition Monday at the hearing before the public service commission in Albany to the application of Kelley Brothers for permission to construct and operate an electric lighting plant at Halcottsville in the town of Middletown, Delaware county, and for the approval of the exercise of a franchise granted by the town under which they will supply electricity for light, heat and power.

## Hobart Woman Suffers Fall.

Mrs. J. C. McMurdy of Hobart slipped while going down cellar on Saturday and fell from the third step from the top to the bottom. Although no bones were broken, she is badly bruised and shaken up and the ligaments of one leg badly sprained.

## Has Operation While on a Visit.

(From Hamden correspondent.)

Mrs. Elvin Miller of Hamden was taken ill at Oneonta on Friday and was taken to the Fox hospital where Dr. Cutler performed an operation for the relief of appendicitis the following morning. Mrs. Miller is doing fine.

## O. & W. Will Fight Bus Line.

The O. & W. railroad will file objections if an effort is made to carry out the proposal to run a bus line with a fleet of cars between New York city and Sullivan county points.