

LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter

100 YEARS AGO,
SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1923

THE WEEK IN WALTON

What We Are Talking About
at the County Hub

NEW BAPTIST MINISTER

**Cow Stanchions Fell Over—
Welcome to Rest Room—
Washington Excursion—
Want Rev. Piper Returned.**

Rev. Frank N. Taft of Holley, N. Y., has accepted a call to the pastorate of the First Baptist church and will begin his labors here the first Sunday in February.

George S. Tacy has bought the Charles McClenon farm between West Brook and Woodford. The sale was made through the agency of T. M. Galley. Mr. McClenon will probably move to the village.

At the fourth quarterly conference of the Methodist Episcopal church last Saturday evening, a motion was passed unanimously requesting the return of Rev. D. H. Piper to Walton for the fifth year by the annual conference which meets April 4th.

H. E. Tobey has sold his vulcanizing business at 22-24 Gardiner Place to LeRoy B. Twadell of Walton. Mr. Twadell will take possession March 1st, 1923, and will keep Thomas Webster in his employ. The sale was made through the agency of George A. Drake, Walton.

Robert N. Utter, owner of the Hill Top stock farm, Franklin, has just purchased of L. C. Growe of Tioga county, Pa., a thoroughbred Holstein 33-pound bull for which he paid \$3,000. Mr. Utter has probably one of the finest Holstein dairies in Delaware, Chenango or Otsego counties.

The Ontario & Western railroad has issued further information relative to the Easter excursion to Washington, D. C. The special train will leave Walton on Saturday, March 31, at 8:21 a.m. and will arrive in Washington at 8 p.m. that evening. Tickets will be good for return passage up to and including April 15th. The round trip fare from Cadosia and points north, including Walton, is \$16.80.

E. J. Galley of Northfield lost one of his cows last Saturday in a peculiar manner. A section of five stanchions was pushed forward and the cows pulled over. One cow had freed herself but the rest were in a distressing tangle when found by Mrs. Galley as she went to the barn to procure some feed. Mr. Galley was not at home at the time and by the time Mrs. Galley could get help one cow was dead and the other three were a little hurt but are expected to live.

At the annual meeting of the First Congregational church officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: Trustee, E. B. Guild; deacons, Edwin L. Guild and Dr. S. C. Gould; clerk, Roscoe Secord; treasurer, Elmer L. Wakeman; treasurer of benevolences, W. E. Henderson. The reports for the year showed benevolences, denominational and other, of \$6,248.46, and \$7,075.24 raised for home expenses. The business meeting followed the annual supper served by the Ladies' aid.

Tuesday evening at an adjourned special meeting of the official board of St. Paul's church in Middletown, at which Rev. Herbert E. Wright, D. D., superintendent of Newburgh district, presided, an unanimous call was extended to the Rev. Benjamin M. Denniston, pastor of the Methodist church at Saugerties, to succeed Rev. Fred W. Stacey as pas-

tor. Mr. Denniston was formerly pastor of the Walton church. It is expected that Rev. Denniston will give his decision concerning the call soon after the meeting of the official board of the Saugerties church, Thursday evening.

The rest room recently opened in rooms over the Fundas candy store in the former DuBois block, now owned by H. W. Retz, is intended for the use both of women living outside the village and those in the corporation. The rooms are reached by the stairway between the Fundas and DuBois stores. There are four rooms in the suite, of which the Home Bureau occupies the office in the rear while the remaining rooms are for public use. The two front rooms have been thrown together, making a place suitable for a large gathering. The rooms have been redecorated and as funds are available more furniture will be added. At this season of the year farmers' wives who are in the village will find that the rest room furnishes a warm and cozy place in which to wait for the men folks while they are transacting business.

The Kiwanis club plans from time to time to secure men prominent in their line of work as speakers at the weekly luncheons. Friday evening the club was fortunate in securing Fred N. Withey, vice president of the National Surety company of New York. The occasion was made ladies' night and upwards of an hundred Kiwanians and their wives and friends were privileged to enjoy Mr. Withey's address on "Gambling in Human Nature." Mr. Withey got his audience in good humor by narrating a number of humorous stories then entered upon an explanation of the surety company, its rules, and the facts of humanity upon which it in large measure conducts its business. This proved highly interesting. In conclusion the speaker declared that most men are inherently honest. Only one per cent of the men bonded in a given period go wrong, and of this number only one out of seventy does so deliberately and intentionally. The Kiwanis club is fortunate in being able to secure men of the type of Mr. Withey as their guests.

TEETH ARE NEEDED IN STATE MOTOR LAWS

**Changes Probably Will
Be Made in Statutes by
Legislature Now in Session**

Because of the constantly increasing number of persons killed each year in New York state by automobiles, legislation to put some "teeth" in the law, and make both motorists and pedestrians more careful is expected to be introduced at the present session of the state legislature.

Recognizing that it is not always the fault of the man at the wheel, persons interested in legislation to check the present situation say one of the first things to be done is to make pedestrians watch the signals of traffic officers, particularly in upstate cities. Hundreds of accidents are caused each year, and many times persons are killed, because they pay no attention to the traffic officer, and walk directly in front of a machine.

Traffic officers now have the right to arrest the driver of any machine who fails to obey traffic signals. There are those who say the traffic officer should be clothed with the same power so he could arrest persons who aimlessly start to cross a street intersection, regardless of which way traffic may be moving at that particular moment. Persons who have made a close study of the subject assert the number of automobile accidents in upstate cities would be greatly reduced if the pedestrian would pay more attention to the traffic officers.

The present situation throughout the state has not escaped the attention of Governor Smith. The governor believes the situation is largely due to the lack of centralized control by the state. He has directed an investigation be made into the subject and has arranged for conferences with officials of the New York State Automobile association and other motor organizations.

The State Automobile association favors not only a state-wide licensing of all motorists, after passing an examination, but the creation of a separate motor vehicle bureau, charged with the enforcement of all motor vehicle and traffic laws. It is contended that because of the present division of authority no one is directly responsible, with the result that little, if any, attention is paid to the motor vehicle laws by the average auto operator.

At present the automobile bureau is under the jurisdiction of the state tax commission, but it would not be surprising if Governor Smith made it into a separate and distinct state bureau or department after he has made careful study of the situation. There is no doubt that such a department, if created, would have greatly increased powers over the present bureau.

Even if the governor does not recommend legislation providing for a separate automobile bureau, it is said he is determined to remove it from the tax commission and place it back in the secretary of state's office where it was before the Miller administration. With the constantly increasing number of automobiles, it is expected in time this bureau will be by far the most important of all state departments.

TWENTY INCHES OF SNOW

**Amount of Snowfall Unusual
for Early Winter Season.**

During the first eighteen days in January twenty inches of snow fell. The snowfall in December was 12 1/2 inches. J. Q. Barlow of Walton, local weather observer, reports about 20 inches of snow on the ground on the level. Such a large amount of snow is unusual before February or March. In spite of the deep snow few trains have been delayed on that account, although delays due to engine trouble have been numerous, particularly on the northern division. Mr. Barlow states that there have been only three clear days this month.

NO RACE SUICIDE ON O. & W.

**Railroad Carried Over 20,000
Baby Carriages in 1922.**

Baby carriages numbering 20,982 were received as baggage by the O. & W. railroad during 1922. A total of 1,526 dogs were also carried. Despite the increase in preambulators a decrease in the number of pieces of baggage was noted, figures for 1922 showing the handling of 352,914 as against 395,054 for the previous year.

DIES IN DRUNKEN ORGY

**Man Thrown Into Watering
Trough by Companions**

LEFT LYING OUTDOORS

**Body Brought into House and
Placed in Bed by Cecil Green,
Now Held For Manslaughter.**

A drunken orgy at Hartwick, Otsego county on Monday night of last week resulted in the death of John Chase and the arrest Friday of last week of Cecil Green on a charge of manslaughter in connection with the death of Chase. Green has been held to await the action of the grand jury and is now a prisoner in the Cooperstown jail.

Last Tuesday morning John

Chase was found dead in bed at the home of Ira Green, in the town of Hartwick and an investigation revealed almost an unbelievable debauch.

It appears Cecil Green, William Dingman, George Hecox and John Chase had congregated at the home of Ira Green Monday and participated in a drunken debauch, during which Cecil Green took Chase from bed and dumped him into a watering trough near the house and left him lying on the ground in the snow exposed to the cold for a time. Later Green carried Chase back into the house and hot water was poured on his breast to revive him. But he did not revive and he was then placed in bed again by Green, where he was found dead the next morning.

It appears that on the Saturday prior to the crime Cecil Green and Frank Grummon went to the home of Anthony Martinus and bought a five gallon keg of "moonshine" and carried it to the Ira Green home. When the five gallons of moonshine arrived there was present in addition to Ira Green, his nephew, Cecil Green, William Dingman, George Hecox and John Chase, all men well along in years, except Cecil Green, who is not over 30 years of age.

All drank freely during the time and indications were that the cattle were neglected. The debauch reached its culmination Monday night. Dingman had gone to an upstairs room, saying that he was not feeling well. Later Chase went into a sleeping room on the first floor. Cecil Green later announced that Chase ought to have another drink and carried his body out into the living room. After Chase had partaken again Cecil Green carried him upstairs and placed him in bed with Dingman. Some time afterward Cecil Green again announced that Chase should drink again and carried him down. When starting to carry him back upstairs again, it was said that Green declared, "Chase, you ought to have a bath." He then carried him out to the water tub with the fatal result as stated above.

The investigation of the case has been thorough and has resulted not only in clearing up the mystery surrounding the death of Chase but also has resulted in the apprehension of Martinus and the taking of his two stills. It is said that Sheriff Williams on the occasion of his visit to the Martinus home dumped about 100 gallons of mash.

BROUGHTON FREED OF LIQUOR CHARGE

**Binghamton Judge
Dismissed Proceedings
Against Walton Man**

The complaint against Floyd Broughton of Walton, charging him with possession and transportation of a small quantity of alleged gin in his Chevrolet car, which was parked in Kenwood avenue, Nov. 25, was dismissed by Judge Rexford W. Titus in city court in Binghamton after a preliminary examination Wednesday afternoon. Broughton, who testified in his own behalf, asserted in a straightforward story that he came from Walton to Binghamton on the night he was arrested and parked his car in Kenwood avenue, while he went to eat. He denied that the alleged liquor which was said to have been found in his car was owned by him and declared that he did not know that it was in the car.

Police Officers Thomas Gorman and Michael Griffin testified for the prosecution, saying that after a raid on a Kenwood avenue place that night, a man was arrested with a suitcase filled with alleged liquor near the parked automobile and that they searched the car on the assumption that the suitcase of liquor might have been taken from the car.

Questions as to whether the officers were legally justified in

searching the car and the weight of the evidence being against the charge that Broughton was transporting the liquor, caused the dismissal of the case.

CIVIC CLUB WOMEN HOLD ANNUAL BANQUET

**Mrs. Comly, Past President
of State Federation Speaks on
Woman's Responsibility**

It is seldom that the women of a town the size of Walton are permitted to enjoy such a splendid affair as the Civic club banquet which was held on Monday evening at the Kayser club rooms, and as it was the first banquet ever given in the town by a woman's club it deserves special mention.

The hour of the banquet was set for seven o'clock but it was a few minutes later when the entire company numbering ninety-two and led by the president, Miss Luella Burroughs, and the guest of the evening, Mrs. Walter S. Comly, of New York, ascended the stairs to the strains of a popular march played by the orchestra. After an invocation by Mrs. D. H. Piper the company seated themselves in order at six tables which were charmingly decorated with baskets of pink begonia tied with chiffon and pink candles. The president's table held an additional decoration of a huge basket of pink carnations. At this table were seated four former presidents, besides Miss Burroughs and Mrs. Comly and in-going and out-going officers of the club to the number of nineteen. While the orchestra discoursed pleasing music the following menu was served by G. T. Gurney and his able assistants: Fruit cocktail, roast beef, mashed potatoes, peas, rolls, jelly, pickles, surprise salad, saltines, ice cream, cake and coffee.

Between courses the company under the direction of Mrs. Carlton Burrhus sang several clever parodies written by Mrs. Burrhus.

At the close of the banquet the club entered into business session. The chairmen of the various committees gave resume of work done during the year such as furnishing 146 signs for the streets, beautifying Basset park and opening it to the public as a general picnic ground, and providing care for forty fresh air children during the hot months.

The chairman of the nominating committee, Mrs. John G. More, then named Miss Luella Burroughs as president, Mrs. S. H. Pond and Mrs. Harry Marvin as first and second vice presidents, Miss Louise Thomas as secretary and Mrs. H. D. Henderson as treasurer. Miss Burroughs in accepting her nomination paid tribute to the club which having grown to a membership of 140 members had given her hearty cooperation during the year of her being in office, and to the village board of trustees which had so ably assisted from time to time as called upon. Mrs. B. G. North, the first president of the club when it became an institution as the Village Improvement society in 1910, then gave the early history of the club. Miss Burroughs then introduced Mrs. W. S. Comly, retiring president of the New York State Federation of Women's clubs and New York state director of the National federation. Mrs. Comly spoke on women's responsibility. After defining woman's place in the present era she declared that the war had stripped women of their foibles and induced them to seek useful service. She emphasized the importance of woman's influence when exerted collectively and suggested that such a mighty organization as the federation could do much toward perpetuating peace. At the close of her address Mrs. Comly was presented with a bunch of violets.

The orchestra which furnished music throughout the evening was composed of Harry France, S. H. Pond and Daniel Yager.