

LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter - Saturday, January 26, 1924

THE WEEK IN WALTON

What We Are Talking About at the County Hub

FIREMEN WILL PARADE

Little Girl Breaks Arm—Fire Alarm Sounds Thrice—Eleven Cars of Good Coal in Wreck.

Dr. E. O. Bush, of Walton and his brother, Ammon Bush, will purchase the homestead farm above Delancey owned by their grandfather, the late Ammon Bostwick. Ammon Bush will have the management of the property.

Lucy, the three year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Houck, St. John street, fell while at play one day the latter part of the week and sustained a greenstick fracture of both bones of her right forearm. Dr. W. R. Gladstone was called in attendance.

Helen, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Tuttle of Beerston, was painfully burned Monday when her clothes caught fire from a stove. The child was burned about the shoulders before the mother could put out the flames. Dr. W. G. Smith was called in attendance.

Lynn Chambers, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Chambers of West brook, is ill with diphtheria and Leon Holley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Holley, river road, has scarlet fever. There is one case of diphtheria in the village, but these are the only cases of the two diseases which have been reported.

Real winter weather has arrived and since Sunday the thermometer has daily hovered near the zero mark. J. Q. Barlow, local weather observer, reports a minimum temperature of 3 below zero on Tuesday, Jan. 22, and of 2 below on the 21st and 23rd. Ice harvesting will soon start if the cold continues.

The Delaware Valley Fish and Game club of Walton has made application to the state and federal governments for trout fingerling and fry to stock vicinity streams. Fifty applications have been made to the state conservation commission and an equal number to the federal bureau of fisheries.

The home of W. H. Vanderwort, O. & W. trainman, on Burton street, was entered Wednesday evening some time between 7:30 and 10 o'clock while the family were attending revival meetings at the Free Methodist church. Drawers were ransacked but apparently nothing of value was taken. Entrance was obtained through the cellar.

J. J. Farrell of Walton is in receipt of a letter from R. J. Howard, director of the motor vehicle bureau of the state tax department, stating that at Mr. Farrell's request Walton has been placed on the regular schedule of chauffeur's examinations and that such tests will be held in the village once a month. The holding of the examinations here monthly will prove a great convenience to residents of this section.

Eleven cars of coal on O. & W. train 32, southbound were piled up in a wreck at Stony Ford shortly before one o'clock Monday afternoon. The southbound roadbed was torn up for nearly 200 feet and traffic on both tracks blocked. A broken brake beam is believed to have caused the wreck. Train No. 3, the Mountain Express, north bound, was delayed three hours in reaching Walton, arriving here about 9:45 p. m.

The Walton fire department will hold a parade at 7 o'clock Tuesday evening, Jan. 29, the day before the benefit moving picture performance at Walton hall. All firemen are asked to meet at the hall in uniform at that hour Tuesday.

The firemen's display in Reynolds & Stebbins' window has attracted much interest. The exhibit includes photographs of some officers of the department and of the running teams which made the Walton firemen famous in years gone by.

Francis E. Hanna, a private in Company H, Tenth Infantry, of Binghamton, was wounded by a .45 calibre pistol bullet which entered his left leg and thigh while he was taking part in the company drill Monday evening. The bullet had been fired from a revolver in the hands of some member of a local unit of the 104th Field Artillery who were practicing on the range in the basement of the armory. The bullet passed through a four-inch stringer and the two-inch oak floor of the drill hall before entering Hanna's leg. Major; C. T. O'Neill of Walton, battalion commander, was called to Binghamton Tuesday to assist in the investigation of the shooting.

Walton firemen were called out three times in two days this week in answer to alarms caused by the burning out of chimneys. Monday morning the chimney on Logan Gould's farm house on the river road, the former Frank Dann place, burned out and fearing that the house would catch fire a call for help was sent to Walton. That evening between 5 and 6 o'clock the firemen turned out in answer to a call to the home of William Cunningham, Mead street. Tuesday the department again responded to the sounding of the siren, this time to Mrs. Sarah Northrup's tenant house on Haverly hill. The disturbance in each case was caused by the burning out of a chimney and no damage was done.

KNOCKED INTO RIVER D. & H. FIREMAN DIES

Maurice Gallup Succumbs to Injuries and Exposure in Icy Waters

Knocked from a Delaware & Hudson locomotive into the Susquehanna river at the bridge west of Sidney village Maurice D. Gallup, a railroad fireman, on Thursday morning of last week received injuries which coupled with exposure from lying in the icy water resulted in his death on Friday morning, Jan. 18, in Fox hospital, Oneonta, to which he was removed.

Gallup was fireman on extra fast freight No. 853. As the train passed through Sidney a hot box developed on one of the cars. The train was stopped to fix this and Gallup helped with the work. When in the middle of the bridge over the Susquehanna the fireman put out his head to take a look to see whether the journal box was still smoking, and leaning out too far was hit by some part of the bridge and knocked from the train. In the fall he went through the bridge near the center pier, landing between the period some piles nearby in the shallow water.

It was not discovered that he was missing until the train got to Bainbridge and at Afton word was sent back to look for the missing fireman. Signal maintainers F. H. Secrest and Frank Smith of Sidney at once started in search of the man and when near the bridge discovered his hat and a further search found the man lying in the water with his mouth and a part of his head just reaching out of the river water. From all appearances the fireman was dead, but after closer examination it was seen that occasionally a bubble appeared around his mouth, and immediately means were arranged for his removal from his precarious position. Ropes were improvised and in a short time he was pulled up onto the bridge and taken to the Sidney station and Dr. L.M. Day was called. A hasty examination showed a compound fracture of the right leg, severe bruises and lacerations about the head and a possible fracture of the skull. He was also suffering from the shock of lying in the waters of the Susquehanna for nearly an hour.

FEED STORE SAFE BLOWN

Burglars Received Less Than \$100 for Their Trouble

GARAGE ALSO ENTERED

Two Tires Stolen and Then Left Outside of Building—No Clues Available.

The safe of the Camp company, Walton feed dealers, was blown open by burglars some time Sunday night and the money in the cash box was taken. The same night someone broke into the garage of the Delaware Motor company, lower North street, but as far as can be learned nothing was stolen although two tires were taken out of the building and then abandoned.

The Camp company robbery was evidently the work of professionals. A hole three-eighths of an inch in diameter was bored into the door into which the nitro-glycerine was poured. The sound of the explosion was deadened by soaping all of the cracks in the safe and then piling seven bags of feed and about 125 empty feed sacks about the safe. One of the outer doors of the safe was torn completely off and the combination ruined by the force of the explosion. Lee Camp and Louis Camp state that the amount taken was less than \$100, while the cost of a new safe will be several hundred dollars.

The Camp feed and coal, store, formerly the W. R. Kilpatrick Co. elevator property, is located on Howell street just across the Delhi branch railroad tracks from the O. & W. depot in Walton. The nearest house is that of Engineer James Gadwood, corner of Mead and Howell streets.

The robbery was discovered by Ed Van Valkenburg and Laverne Lennox when they came to work about 6:45 o'clock Monday morning. Entrance to the office had been effected by jimmying open a window opening upon the platform on the south side of the building, where the view from the street is obscured.

The yeggmen went at the job in a businesslike way and after the safe had been blown open the door

Hot packs were applied to the man's body by Dr. Day to ward off pneumonia and after the physician had fixed the leg as well as possible Gallup was removed to the Oneonta hospital in a box car attached to a way freight engine. Although everything possible to save the man's life was done at the hospital the end came at 10:10 o'clock Friday morning. The accident occurred about 8:15 o'clock the previous day.

Gallup, who was 29 years of age, resided with his wife at 1 Jefferson avenue in Oneonta. He leaves also his father, one sister and five brothers. He was a World war veteran and it is stated that at one time he was captured by the Germans and made his escape through a clever ruse.

PLACE 150 LIMITS UPON STATE BONUS

Distribution of Money to Veterans Will Probably be Made in May

The "official" bonus bill for New York state veterans of the World war was introduced in the 1924 legislature Monday.

Instead of carrying a possible high limit of \$250 for each veteran, the measure limits the bonus to \$150. The same rate of \$10 a month for each month of service prevails in the new bill as has been the case in every other measure. The bill will be supported by the American legion.

Approximately 518,000 veterans of the World war in New York state would be beneficiaries under the proposed measure. The original estimate of the number of veterans who rate a bonus was 440,000. It is due to this increase that it has been decided to limit the bounty to \$150.

The measure provides that any person who served at least one month in the military forces of the

was laid to one side and the contents of the safe carefully sorted. The night was light and the men would have little difficulty in going through the papers without the aid of a light.

Monday morning the record books were found piled up in a jumble but all checks in the cash box had been sorted out and left behind, and the ledger tray with its numerous accounts had been laid to one side.

The burglars left the building by a door on the north side facing the railroad track but concealed by a car standing on the siding. James Russell, night watchman in the Walton foundry located across the street states that he saw no car near the place. Mr. Russell remembers hearing a strange noise while fixing the fire in the foundry early in the morning but thought it was only a train. Francis Gadwood, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Gadwood, declares that he heard the sound of an explosion and felt the house rock about 11:30 o'clock.

At the garage of the Delaware Motor company a side window in the office facing the Lyon furniture store was forced open to obtain entrance.

Two tires, one a 32x4½ and the other, a 32x4, both slightly used, were found Monday morning leaning against the side of the building where they had been abandoned. It was impossible to tell whether anything else had been stolen, but it is thought not. An effort had apparently been made to open the cash register but without result.

This burglary may have been the work of the same men who robbed the Camp store, but it had more the appearance of a job by amateurs who were looking for a large size tire to fit their car. There were no marks on the window of the Camp office but the lock had been broken when the window was forced up. The window in the garage was nailed and the sash was splintered where the tools had been used to force it up.

State troopers from Sidney were called on the case but there was little evidence available from which to work.

United States and whose term of service started between April 6, 1916, and November 11, 1918, is entitled to a bonus of \$10 a month. By this provision any person who enlisted November 10, 1918, and served one month after the armistice was signed is entitled to a bonus.

The commission that will administer the bonus will be composed of the adjutant general, the attorney general, the comptroller and the state treasurer. The bill provides for an immediate bond issue of \$45,000,000. The bonds would bear interest and would be sold at not less than par and accrued interest.

COUNTY DEATH RATE WAS HIGHER IN 1923

Mortality Rate Seventeen Per Thousand Against State Average of Thirteen

There were 847 births and 726 deaths in 1923 in the towns and villages of Delaware county, exclusive of Andes. Marriages numbered 323. These statistics are gathered from the town and village registrars of vital statistics and from the town clerks by whom marriage licenses are issued. A report from the town of Andes has not been received.

Based on a population of 42,000 this would give a birth rate of 20.19 per thousand and a death rate of 17.29 per thousand. The birth rate per 1,000 population for the state is about 22 and the death rate about 13 per thousand. It will thus be seen that Delaware county this year has an unusually high mortality rate while the birth rate is lower than that of most counties.

In some villages the deaths exceed the births- in number. This is no doubt due to the fact that many

people living on farms retire to the villages in middle-age and thus eventually increase the death rate there. Deaths in the town of Delhi exceed births by 15, but of the 39 deaths 17 were at the county farm and 6 at the tuberculosis sanitarium.

The following tables show the births, marriages and deaths recorded in eighteen townships and the births and deaths in the twelve villages. Villages have their own registrars of births and deaths but all marriage licenses are issued by the town clerks.

Towns.

	Births	Marriage	Deaths
Bovina	19	3	9
Colchester	54	19	34
Davenport	23	12	21
Delhi	24	20	39
Deposit	17	14	7
Franklin	29	11	30
Hamden	17	7	23
Hancock	69	32	40
Harpersfield	16	9	15
Kortright	18	10	30
Masonville	19	5	17
Meredith	29	6	23
Middletown	56	28	37
Roxbury	74	25	30
Sidney	15	44	24
Stamford	21	14	12
Tompkins	38	9	22
Walton	38	55	27

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Villages.

	Births	Deaths
Andes	7	9
Downsville	13	10
Delhi	38	38
Deposit	45	43
Franklin	5	8
Hancock	21	28
Fleischmanns	6	5
Margaretville	18	5
Sidney	31	41
Stamford	17	29
Hobart	9	11
Walton	59	57

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RIBS WERE TORN LOOSE

Downsville Man Has Bad Fall Down Stairs.

(From Downsville correspondent.)

Roy Spencer, who lives in the Jessie Signor house at Downsville, had a painful accident while carrying wood upstairs. He turned his ankle over causing him to fall. Several ribs were torn, from the spine. He lay there for some time unconscious and was chilled through before neighbors found him. Mrs. Spencer was visiting relatives out of town-at the time.

ORDERED CASKETS GALORE

Imposter Also Purchased Hearses For Middletown Undertaker.

Posing as William H. Merritt, an undertaker of Middletown, and a prospective buyer of a fleet of motor hearses, Howard S. Plum was lavishly entertained for several days by automobile salesman here, according to the police, who arrested Plum. After a hearing he was remanded to jail pending an investigation. Ten thousand dollars worth of caskets were ordered shipped to Merritt by an imposter. Motor hearses began to arrive in Middletown last week and it developed that some eight of them had been ordered by Merritt's double.

TRAMPLED UNDER COW

Hamden Man's Leg Broken While Separating Fighting Cows.

(From Hamden correspondent.)
Vernon Robinson of Covert hollow, Hamden, while trying to separate some cows which were fighting was trampled on and one leg was broken twice, besides crushing it badly. He has been resting more comfortably now for a few days.