

LOOKING BACK

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

THE WEEK IN WALTON

What We Are Talking About at the County Hub

CHAUTAUQUA OPEN NOW

Big Circus Coming—Numerous Small Accidents—St. Swithin's Day Was Dry—Dog Taxes Slow.

Alvin Barringer of Third brook has a number of russet apples picked in Mrs. W. O. Northrup's orchard in the fall of 1922. The apples are still in excellent condition and apparently could be kept another year.

Ernest Cornell fell from one of the swings at the Stockton avenue play grounds Tuesday and fractured his left arm above the wrist. With another boy he was seeing how high he could swing. Dr. W. R. Gladstone reduced the fracture.

The owners of less than 150 of the 489 dogs assessed in the town of Walton have secured the 1924 licenses from Town Clerk Earl S. St. John. Licenses must be secured before August 10, after which date action will be brought against delinquents.

The young son of A. M. Voorhies of Rock Rift while running on the carriage of the saw mill on the Voorhies farm Monday stubbed his toe and in falling struck his head on a nail. A bad gash was cut in the forehead. Dr. Morrow dressed the injury.

The village of Walton has erected new metal sign posts on all the roads entering Walton. The speed limit has been changed to 20 miles per hour to comply with the new law. Electric lights will be placed over each of these signs as the law requires.

Donald Rotzler had the ring finger of his left hand nearly cut off Tuesday in an accident at the stone dock at Colchester station. He was helping load stone in a car when a heavy flag stone fell against the car door causing the door to jam Rotzler's finger.

Albany, Schenectady, and other cities in central New York and along the Hudson valley are experiencing a gasoline war and the price has dropped as low as 16 cents a gallon in some places. The prevailing price for gasoline in Walton is 20 cents a gallon.

Tuesday, July 15, was St. Swithin's day when the tradition runs that if it shall rain there will be rain every day for forty days. The skies were clear and not a drop of rain fell in Walton, and those who believe in signs expect little rain during the next forty days.

Last week was an unfortunate one for some of the children about here. Robert Patterson has had a very sore foot caused by stepping on a nail. Wilma Hoyt had a stone fall on one foot, and Helen Anderson received a badly cut toe while wading in the brook.—Mundale correspondent.

The Sells-Floto circus, said to be second to the Ringling circus in size, will show in Walton Wednesday, July 23. The circus comes from Kingston and goes from here to Binghamton. There were about forty men in the bill posting crew here recently and it is said there are over five hundred employees with the circus.

Friends of Mrs. W. R. Gladstone gave her a variety shower Saturday evening at her home on Townsend street. The party gathered at the library and proceeded to the Gladstone home, taking Mrs. Gladstone by surprise. A picnic supper was served on the lawn. Mrs. Gladstone received many useful and beautiful gifts. About thirty were present.

The Delaware Valley Fish and Game club received two more consignments of trout fingerlings this

week. One shipment contained 174 cans and the other 160 cans. This makes a total of 534 cans of trout fry and fingerlings distributed by the club in vicinity streams this season. Forty-five young pheasants from the state game farm at Sherburne were also liberated in this neighborhood.

Edgar Beebe was quite badly hurt Monday when leading a bull to a neighbor's pasture. After getting out of the barn the animal began to jump and run; this jerked Mr. Beebe off his feet and in falling he struck in such a way as to break his collar bone and he also received severe bruises. Ralph Gregory drove Mr. Beebe's car to Walton where he was attended by Dr. Holley.—Northfield correspondent.

Mrs. Albert Armstrong of Shavertown, who has been spending the week in Walton, fell Friday evening when she caught her foot on a rise in the sidewalk near W. E. Webster's, Gardiner Place. In falling she struck her arm in such a way as to sustain a Colle's fracture of the left wrist. Dr. E. Ray Gladstone reduced the fracture. Mrs. Armstrong was on her way to the home of her brother, A. B. Bruce, Mead street, at the time.

The sale of Chautauqua tickets has been substantially completed. The teams captained by the following have sold out: G. M. Carpenter; Mrs. Flora E. Bassett, F. E. Marvin, Mrs. Letha W. Palmatier, S. T. H. Knight, Miss Sarah Pond and George W. Smith. The groups captained by the following have a few tickets on hand: W. E. Webster, Mrs. Julia A. Bruce and C. G. DuMond. It is expected the number of tickets guaranteed will be sold before the Chautauqua opens this, Friday, afternoon.

JUDGE SEWELL DIES AT HOME IN WALTON

Served Eighteen Years on Supreme Court Bench

FRIENDS PAY TRIBUTE

Attorneys and Associates from All Parts of Judicial District Present at Funeral Tuesday Afternoon.

Hon. Albert H. Sewell, for eighteen years justice of the supreme court, passed away shortly before one o'clock Sunday morning, July 13, at his home on North street in the village of Walton.

Justice Sewell was stricken with a serious heart trouble in February while wintering in St. Petersburg, Florida, although he had not been in good health for the past year or two. His condition at that time was serious but he was able to return home on April 17th. Since his arrival he has been confined to bed most of the time but in the few weeks previous to his death he was able, to sit out on the porch at times and friends hoped that the apparent improvement in his health might be permanent. This was not to be and on Tuesday night last he suffered a severe recurrence of the heart trouble followed by an apoplectic shock Thursday night and his life ebbed away until the end came in the early morning hour Sunday. During his long illness he has received the best of care from Miss Katherine Robinson, the nurse in charge, who was often at his bedside hours at a time without rest or sleep, owing to the critical nature of the heart attacks Justice Sewell suffered.

Albert H. Sewell was born in the town of Hamden on October 30, 1847. His parents were William H. and Celinda S. Sewell. He was graduated from Walton academy in 1867. He entered Union college in Schenectady in the same year, but at the end of his freshman year transferred to Cornell university in Ithaca, which had just been opened. The change was influenced by the fact that at Cornell he was able to secure work on a farm located on what is now part of the university campus.

His education he owed to his desire for knowledge and his willingness to sacrifice to gain that end. In later years he was honored by the Cornell alumni by election as a trustee of the university, a position he held for two terms. He was graduated from Cornell in the class of 1871 and then entered the Albany Law school and was graduated therefrom in 1873. Following his admission to the bar he commenced the practice of his profession at Sidney Center. He represented the county in the state assembly in the year 1878 and following the completion of his service in the legislature removed to Walton, where he formed a partnership with N. C. Marvin and M. W. Marvin, under the firm name of N. C. & M. W. Marvin & Sewell. In 1879 he became associated with the late Samuel H. Fancher under the firm name of Fancher & Sewell.

In 1889 he was elected county judge and surrogate of Delaware county and six years later was re-elected with no opposition. In 1889 before his second term was completed he was appointed a justice of the supreme court to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Justice David L. Follett of Norwich. In the fall of the same year he was elected, to the full term of 14 years and in 1913 was re-elected, serving until January 1, 1918, when he retired because of the age limit. He was succeeded by Justice A. L. Kellogg of Oneonta, who was elected, the previous November. Much of Justice Sewell's service was spent upon the appellate bench by assignment of the governor. For two years he was assigned to the appellate division, second department, in Brooklyn, and for ten years to the appellate division, third department. Since his retirement in 1918 he has been an official referee, continuing as such until ill health resulted in his resignation while in Florida.

On January 13, 1887, Justice Sewell married Miss Mary Wright of Walton, who died February 12th, 1920. There survive him an only daughter, Dorothy, wife of Dr. Herbert J. Metzger; one sister, Mrs. Mary Winans of Sidney Center; and three half-sisters, Misses Lena and Lettie Sewell of Unadilla, and Mrs. J. G. Hoyt of Oneonta. An only brother, Commodore William E. Sewell, died while stationed as governor-general of the Island of Guam in the Pacific. A sister, Mrs. Bell Kent, of Binghamton died a few years ago.

TWO WOMEN MEET DEATH WHEN TRAIN WRECKS AUTO

Two persons were killed in an accident at the Cone railroad crossing, two miles east of Unadilla Friday about noon when a north bound D. & H. milk train struck the automobile of Burton A. Grant of Candor, a former resident of Stamford.

The dead are Mrs. Grant and her daughter, Mrs. Christopher Fisher, of 553 West 183rd street, New York city. Mr. Grant escaped with a small cut over the right eye while the other occupant of the car, Burton Grant Fisher, the two months old son of Mrs. Fisher, which was lying in a bed hammock in the car, was untouched. Mr. and Mrs. Grant visited friends at Stamford about three weeks ago when they were on their way to New York to see their daughter and for the first time see her baby. They were returning to their home in Candor accompanied by the daughter and grandchild when the fatal accident occurred Friday. 'The party had stopped for lunch at the Old Home tea house in Otego and expected to reach their home in Candor, Tioga county, that night.

It is stated that as the Grant car, a Cleveland sedan, which was going toward Unadilla, approached the crossing Mrs. Grant shouted to her husband that a train was coming. Mr. Grant glanced in the opposite direction and not seeing the train drove upon the track. The machine was thrown from the track and against the fence on the side toward Unadilla arid toward the river, Mrs. Grant was tossed from the car, land-

ing some distance away. The bodies of both Mrs. Fisher and Mrs. Grant were badly crushed and death must have been instantaneous.

Dr. F. S. Heimer of Unadilla and Dr. N. W. Getman, the coroner from Oneonta, were called and Coroner Getman directed the removal of the bodies to the Joyce undertaking rooms.

Mr. Grant, as stated, is a native of Stamford. For some years he resided in Kingston, where he conducted a milk route which he sold a short time ago and moved to Candor. Mrs. Grant was from Stockport, N. Y., where her husband was agent of the New York Central railroad for a time and where they were married.

The bodies of Mrs. Grant and Mrs. Fisher were taken to Kingston, where a double funeral service was held Monday.

TOOK NO CHANCES WITH JAIL BREAKER

Sheriff Recaptures Escaped Prisoner Who Returned To Rooming House

(From Delhi correspondent.)

Raymond Weed, held as a prisoner in the county jail in Delhi, escaped from the custody of Under Sheriff Stewart Monday evening but was recaptured the following morning.

Weed, who was recently indicted by the grand jury for sending threatening letters to parties in Delhi village, and who was arraigned before Justice James P. Hill at the last term of supreme court, pleaded guilty but said he did not write the letters. Justice Hill would not accept a plea of guilty made in such a manner and he was remanded to jail and his case went over to be taken up by the county court at some future time.

Weed on Monday evening was taken by Under Sheriff Lynn Stewart to a house where he had formerly roomed to get some clothing and while upstairs after the clothing he had gone into another room of the house and possessed himself of a 32-calibre automatic revolver, the whereabouts of which he knew when rooming at this place. While the lady of the house was getting some paper to do up the clothes which he had brought downstairs the prisoner dodged out of a back door and escaped in the darkness. A search was instituted by the sheriff but Weed was not apprehended. In the morning the sheriff offered a reward for his capture of \$200.

On the following morning the sheriff was informed that Weed was back at the rooming house from which he had escaped the night previous, having come from Walton on the early bus. Sheriff Arbuckle was soon at the premises and going to his room found him packing a suit case. The sheriff gripped him firmly by the neck with his left hand and held his gun to his face with the other. At the time of Weed's capture the sheriff supposed he had in his possession the automatic revolver which he had stolen the night previous. However, it developed later that when he returned to the house in the morning he had placed the revolver back in the drawer from which he had taken it the night he escaped.

Why Weed returned so boldly to his room after his getaway is a mystery unless he felt he had left something behind in his luggage that would further incriminate him.

JUSTICE'S SEWELL'S WILL

Property Left to Daughter After Bequests and Creation of Trust Fund.

The will of Justice Albert H. Sewell, late of Walton, was admitted to probate Wednesday by County Judge A. J. McNaught.

Estimates filed state that the personal property exceeds \$25,000 and the real property \$20,000. Not until the transfer tax is paid the state will the real value of the estate be known.

The will is dated July 8, 1924, and is witnessed by Dr. W. B. Morrow

and Miss Katherine Robinson, the attending nurse. The executors are A. G. Patterson and the daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Sewell Metzger.

Provisions of the will may be summarized as follows: To Mary W. Robinson of Newark, N. J., and Albert Sewell Robinson of Audubon, Pa., \$1,000 each; to Mrs. Fannie Robinson of Newark, N. J., \$500; to Mrs. Marjorie Sewell Cautley of Patterson, N. J., Helen Sewell of Ridgewood, N. J., Mary Belle. Schlager and Albert Sewell Schlager, children of a nephew, Charles Schlager, Orlo Kent, Jr., Stanley Bayless and Barbara Bayless of Austin, Pa., Miss Lena Sewell and Miss Lettie Sewell of Unadilla, each ten shares of Walton Water company stock; to Barbara Sewell of Ridgewood, N. J., 20 shares of Walton Water company stock.

To A. G. Patterson, as trustee, with power of sale and reinvestment, all of his stock in the Walton Water company not herein bequeathed; five shares of stock in the First National bank of Walton; his interest in seven parcels of land, located in town of Tompkins, a parcel of land in town of Westfield, Richmond county (Staten Island), and a parcel of land in Oneonta. The income from such trust fund is to go during her life to the daughter, Dorothy Sewell Metzger; if she dies leaving children surviving the trust is to go to them; if she dies leaving no children then the trust fund is to be divided equally among the three children of a deceased sister, Mrs. Belle Kent, the three children of a deceased brother, Commodore William E. Sewell, and the two half-sisters, the Misses Lena and Lettie Sewell of Unadilla.

All the residue of the property, real and personal, is bequeathed outright to the daughter, Dorothy Sewell Metzger.

MIDNIGHT PROWLER LODGED BEHIND BARS

Man Arrested for Breaking Into Frisbee Home Near Delhi

(From Delhi correspondent.)

Sunday night last about 12 p. m., Mrs. Wyatt Frisbee, who with her husband reside on a farm on the state road about four miles east of Delhi village, heard some one in the house. She awakened her husband, who was immediately out of bed and going to the kitchen, which room fronts the highway, he saw a hole had been cut in the screen of a window and a man was going up the road.

Frisbee then grabbed his rifle and going to the door fired three shots in the air. The result was the party took to his heels. On Frisbee's return to the house he found drawers of a desk and cupboards disarranged. After a little hesitation he took his car and rifle and started up the road towards Bloomville.

After going about a mile he overtook his man and invited him to ride, then going on for a short distance he turned about and brought his passenger back to his house, sent for the sheriff and in less than an hour from the time Frisbee got out of his bed the prisoner who gave his name as John Mayo, was safely lodged in the county jail.

On Monday morning the prisoner was taken before Justice of the Peace Wight and an examination given Mayo. Mr. Frisbee did not see the defendant until he was in the road in front of his house. Mrs. Frisbee testified she was awakened either by a light in the kitchen or some noise. She was not alarmed by this as other people beside herself and husband were in the home, but as a stranger came to the bedroom door she was frightened and aroused her husband. She testified that she had a reasonably good view of the party who stood in her bedroom door and that the prisoner answered the description. Mayo was held to await action of the next grand jury. He was fairly well dressed, about 25 years of age and had in his possession no money or weapons when searched by the sheriff.