

# LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter - Saturday, January 10, 1925

## THE WEEK IN WALTON

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

## WHO WILL RUN BUS LINE?

**Village Board Approves All Applications—C. G. DuMond Goes to Cobleskill—Flying Glass Cut Boy's Nose.**

The robin seen on Stockton avenue last week has evidently migrated to the north side of the river. Sunday Thomas Neer and family, who live on Haverly hill, saw a redbreast near their home and put out some feed for the bird. Tuesday the robin was again seen about the place, evidently in search of food.

An indicator, showing the kind of trees that can be planted most profitably in any given kind of soil, has been devised by Clifford R. Pettis, superintendent of state forests, and Forester Hopkins. It is vest pocket size and has a rotating disk, operating against tree and land data. Mr. Pettis is a brother of C. H. Pettis of Walton.

The Adjutant General's trophy won by the Company F rifle team on the Peekskill range last summer has been received at the Walton armory, thus adding another trophy to the long list of laurels awarded the local guardsmen. The rifle team which won the trophy was composed of Lieutenant Frank McCook, Sergeant C. B. Laidlaw and Corporal Alton Hawley and was coached by Sergeant R. N. Wilbur.

Howard E. Barnes, of 369 Chestnut street, Oneonta, a D. & H. engineer, was severely burned about the head and shoulders Friday in an accident near Cherry Valley Junction. When his train pulled apart and the locomotive was stopped Barnes, who was walking alongside the train, was struck by a shovelful of hot coals being thrown cut by the fireman. The coals inflicted painful burns on the back of the engineer's neck from ear to ear. The act of the fireman was purely accidental. Mr. Barnes will be remembered as a former Walton boy.

The village board at its meeting Monday evening approved all three applications filed with it for a franchise to operate a bus line in the corporation limits as part of a route between Walton and Deposit. The three applications were made by Robert Utter of Palmer hill, near Walton, M. E. Atkinson of Deposit and Gielski & James of Hamden. The matter will now go to the Public Service commission to determine which one shall be given the necessary permission to operate. A hearing is set for Jan. 17 in Binghamton. The franchises granted by the Walton village board are non-transferable.

Archibald, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Archibald M. Thomson of Howell street, sustained a bad cut on his face Friday afternoon, when the Fordcar driven by his father collided with a truck on a curve on the Third brook road between the farm homes of Walter Shaver and Leroy Sines. A heavy truck going up the brook had become stuck in the snow and another truck had stopped alongside to help pull it out, the two machines completely blocking the highway. Mr. Thomson was returning from his farm and on rounding the turn had no alternative to hitting one of the trucks. The boy was either thrown against the windshield or a piece of flying glass from the windshield struck and cut him. A jagged cut was made along the left side of the head's nose, which required ten stitches for Dr. E. Ray Gladstone to close. The front mudguard of the Thompson machine was bent and a lamp and the windshield broken.

C. G. DuMond of Walton has been elected secretary of the Sterling Fire Insurance company of Cobleskill, Schoharie county, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of W. D. Colclough last September. Mr. DuMond began his new duties Monday and plans to move his family to Coble-

skill. Mr. DuMond formerly held the Walton agency of the mutual fire insurance companies, but sold this to S. H. Pond some thirteen years ago. He has kept up his interest in the mutual companies and the Cobleskill appointment: came unsolicited. The Sterling company has twelve millions of insurance in force and is rated among the leaders in the mutual group. Mr. DuMond has been a leader in the movement for reforestation and his farm at Northfield is the largest planting of the kind in this section. Walton friends will regret Mr. DuMond's departure from the village while wishing him success in his new undertaking.

The fire department was called out in the midst of a snow squall Sunday afternoon by the burning out of a chimney on the store property at 194 Delaware street, owned by David. More and occupied on the ground floor by the Munn piano store. Mrs. Elizabeth Edwards has the upstairs living rooms. No damage was done. The department has been called out for some half dozen chimney fires in recent weeks. It is sometimes asked why a still alarm for the chemical engine is not given in the case of chimney fires. A few weeks ago a large verdict was returned against the New York Telephone company because it sent in a still alarm and a real fire developed. The property owner sued the telephone company for failure to properly transmit the alarm and in the case The Walton People's Telephone company is following the practice of sounding the alarm in the case of all fires in order to be on the safe side.

## MERGE LIGHT PLANTS IN ONE BIG SYSTEM

**Build Transmission Lines To Connect Units**

## CLOSE WALTON PLANT

**Power Will Soon Be Received Over Wires From Colliers—Associated Gas Co. Controls.**

The Associated Gas and Electric company through its subsidiary, the New York State Gas & Electric corporation, is merging into a unified system the scattered electric light plants throughout this section of which it has acquired control during the past few years.

The Associated Gas and Electric company now owns, controls and operates properties supplying electric lights and power, gas and miscellaneous service to 368 communities in New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee. Large public utility corporations in Maine are among the latest brought into the system.

The Associated Gas company own the entire, common stock of the New York State Gas and Electric company, which in turn owns and operates the electric light plant in Walton as well as similar plants in a large number of communities in New York state. A few years ago the New York State Gas and Electric corporation's activities were confined, largely to the vicinity of Ithaca. Then the company acquired, among other plants, the, Standard Light, Heat & Power company, which supplied electric power to Sidney and Unadilla.

The Southern New York Power company with power plants at Walton, Deposit and Colliers, near Oneonta, passed into the control of the New York State Gas and Electric corporation about three years ago. L. V. Rose has been the resident superintendent in Walton since that time, and under his management local patrons have received courteous treatment.

From the date of the purchase of the Southern New York Power company the State Gas corporation has rapidly enlarged its system and in recent months all of the local lighting systems in Delaware county where power is generated by steam or water have passed into its control with the exception of the Mackey plant at Franklin. The same thing has been true of Sullivan county and along the Hudson and Mohawk

watersheds where a large number of lighting systems have been acquired by the Associated Gas and Electric company and merged into the system of the New York State Gas and Electric corporation.

During recent months the work of connecting these various smaller units where practical has been carried out. A transmission line now connects Beardsley's Falls in the Adirondacks with the Holliers power plant and the New York State Gas corporation has a contract with the Adirondack Light and Power company for the purchase of as much current as it needs from Beardsley's Falls. A similar contract exists with the Central Hudson company to supply Stamford and Shandaken with power. Electric energy is also obtained from the power dam at Mongaup, Sullivan county.

New high tension transmission lines now connect Delhi with the water power plant at Colliers and other lines run from Delhi to Walton, Stamford and Margaretville. Another line is in process of construction from Liberty to Delhi on as near an airline as possible. George Tacy of Walton is now at Liberty securing rights of way for this line. When completed the transmission lines planned will form a network connecting the various local units into one big system.

It is expected that the steam plant in Walton which has generated power for local consumption, will be shut down within a week or two and current received over the new Transmission line. This will be done as soon as the substation at Delhi is completed.

It has been said that the merging of the various local plants into one large: system joined by high tension transmission lines will result in greater efficiency of operation. It remains to be seen whether this theory works out and whether increased efficiency will result in lower rates to consumers.

Considerable of the 7 per cent preferred stock of the Associated Gas and Electric company has been sold to investors throughout this section, the company seeking to gain as many stockholders among its patrons as possible.

Many of the power plants acquired were struggling along barely able to make ends meet financially and were unable to give adequate service which the unification now under way will doubtless provide.

## NO POSTAL PAY RAISE

**Senate Lacks One Vote of Overriding Veto**

## MEANT \$300 INCREASE

**Bill Just Scrapped Benefited All Clerks and Carriers Under Classified Civil Service.**

President Coolidge's veto of the postal pay increase was sustained Tuesday in the United States senate by the margin of a single vote. Twenty-nine senators supported the executive while fifty-five, one less than the necessary two-thirds majority to enact the bill over the veto, opposed him.

With this action by the senate the pay measure, passed at the last session, 73 to 3, died, automatically. In its place will be brought forward the administration's combination pay and postal rate increase bill, but leaders generally are agreed that this measure has small chance of enactment at this session.

Republican ranks split wide open on the issue of sustaining the president. Opposing him were such leaders as Jones of Washington, party whip; Wadsworth of New York; Reed of Pennsylvania; Moses of New Hampshire; McNary of Oregon, and Edge of New Jersey.

Only one of the 34 Democrats voting cast his ballot for the veto. He was Dial of South Carolina, but it was announced that Senators King of Utah and Owen of Oklahoma, who were paired, would have so voted had they been able to cast their ballots.

Of the six senators defeated for reelection, five, Ball, Bursum, Dial,

McCormick and Sterling, voted to sustain the veto. The sixth, Shields, of Tennessee, was absent and not paired. Two of the three new senators, Butler, Massachusetts, and Metcalf of Rhode Island, supported the executive, while Means, Colorado, opposed him.

Twenty-one Republicans voted against the president. They, included Senators Brookhart, Couzens, Dale, Edge, Elkins, Frazier, Gooding, Howell, Johnson of California, Jones of Washington, Ladd, LaFollette, McLean, McNary, Means, Moses, Norris, Reed of Pennsylvania, Shortridge, Stanfield and Wadsworth.

Thirty-three Democratic senators and Senator Shipstead, Farmer-Laborite, also voted against the president to override.

The bill provided for a flat increase of \$300 for assistant postmasters, clerks and carriers under the classified civil service and of 4 cents a mile for each mile covered daily by the rural carriers on their routes. This would mean about \$300 for the rural carriers.

The clerks and city carriers in the postoffices in Walton, Sidney, Delhi, Stamford, Hancock and Deposit would have benefited had the bill been enacted into law over the president's veto. Most of the clerks in the Walton postoffice now receive the maximum scale of \$1,800. The present law provides for an initial salary of \$1,400 with a \$100 increase each year for five years until the maximum is reached. The vetoed bill would have made the minimum salary \$1,700 with the five increases until \$2,100 was reached.

## HAS NO RIGHT OF WAY

**Robinson Brothers Win Suit Against Irving Hutson.**

Judge A. J. McNaught has rendered a decision in favor of the plaintiffs in the action of Dewitt and Vernon Robinson against Irving Hutson, a controversy over a right of way across the Robinson farm at Covert hollow, near Delancey.

The Robinson brothers denied that Hutson had such a right of way and brought action for a permanent injunction restraining Hutson from such use. The case was tried 1921 before Judge McNaught as referee. J. T. Shaw of Delhi was attorney for the defendant and his sickness and death account for the delay in finishing up the case.

The rights of the parties depended on the legal construction of a grant in the deed to the Robinsons and their predecessors which gave Hutson a right of way across their farm on a certain route. The Robinsons contended that the grant in the deed was void. The decision of Judge McNaught gives the plaintiffs a permanent injunction and holds that Hutson had no right to cross the Robinson farm. The road in question leads, from Hutson's back farm to the Covert hollow road.

A. G. Patterson of Walton is attorney for the Robinson Brothers and A. F. Curtis was substituted as attorney for Mr. Hutson after the death of Mr. Shaw.

## MANY MEASLES CASES IN WALTON IN 1924

**Health Officer Reports Total Of 313 Cases of Communicable Disease**

Three hundred thirteen cases of communicable disease were reported to Dr. E. Ray Gladstone, village health officer, during the year 1924.

The health officer in his annual report to the village board classified these, cases of disease as follows: Measles, 231; chicken pox, 43; mumps, 18; scarlet fever, 5; diphtheria, 3; whooping cough, 2; tuberculosis, 5; typhoid fever, 1; pneumonia, 5. Of these 313 cases reported only three died.

During the year the health officer examined 17 dairies and issued milk permits to four dealers, one to sell grade A pasteurized milk, one to sell grade A raw milk and two to sell grade B raw milk.

Sixty-four complaints of violation of health ordinances were reported,

56 of which the health officer disposed of and eight were referred to the board.

The health officer maintained a district laboratory supply station to furnish laboratory supplies to health officers and physicians of the village of Walton and towns of Walton and Tompkins.

## GIRL COASTER HITS AUTO

**Sidney Child Escapes With Bad Scalp Wound.**

Evelyn Kinch, the six-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Kinch of Sidney, was injured while riding down hill New Year's.

Children have been in the habit of riding down the Miller lawn on Division street, Sidney, going across the sidewalk and the macadam. Evelyn shot out into the road and crashed into an automobile driven by a Benettsville man. The driver took her to the office of Dr. R. H. Loomis, which is near. She suffered a scalp wound and her legs were severely bruised. The steel runner of her sled was broken by the impact. No blame is placed upon the driver of the car as it was impossible to see a sled coming, the Miller barn being located directly at the foot, of the hill.

## FALLING TREE BREAKS LEG

**Kortright Man Injured While Working in Woods.**

(North Kortright correspondent.)

Samuel Bright of Kortright had his left leg brokdn between the knee and ankle, breaking both bones, Saturday. Mr. Bright was in the woods felling trees when the one he was felling started in another direction from what he expected, and in some way shot off from the stump, catching him with the above result. Fortunately his son, Clark, was within calling distance and assisted him to his home.

## TRIPPED ON THE CARPET

**North Harpersfield Woman Breaks Leg in Fall.**

(North Harpersfield correspondent.)

Mrs. Fred Pierce of North Harpersfield caught her toe in the carpet last week and fell in such a way as to break her leg above the knee. Mrs. Pierce has been having trouble with her eyes which impairs her sight. Dr. Craig of Davenport was called and adjusted what he pronounced a bad break.

## HAND MANGLED IN SAW

**Trestle Man Has Member Amputated at Wrist.**

(From Trestle correspondent.)

Jay Barber of Trestle, near Guilford, met with quite a serious accident on Wednesday, Dec. 31. Mr. Barber was engaged in buzzing wood. In some way his hand was caught between the flywheel and wood and so badly jammed that he was taken to the Norwich hospital and they amputated it just above the first joint at the wrist. Mr. Barber is quite advanced in years but his many friends wish him a speedy recovery.

## MISSED SLAB, HIT HAND

**Harpersfield Man Cuts Member While Splitting Wood.**

(From Harpersfield correspondent.)

M. J. Reynolds of Harpersfield met with quite a serious accident last week Tuesday while splitting wood at S. J. Tait's. While holding a slab in the left hand in some manner the ax struck his hand between the thumb and index finger cutting a deep gash and the point of the ax going through to the palm of his hand. Being unable to get a doctor either from Stamford or Davenport, William Deering, who was at Mr. Tait's at the time, took Mr. Reynolds to Hobart, where his hand was dressed by Dr. West.