LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter

100 Years Ago,
SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1926

THE WEEK IN WALTON

What We Are Talking About at the County Hub

E.S. ST. JOHN POSTMASTER

Started Fire While Thawing Pipes-New Maple Sugar in Market-Fiddling Contest

Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Pierce announced the engagement of their daughter, Margaret Jeannette, to Austin Howe of Weedsport, N.Y.

Walton relatives have received announcements of the marriage of Robert Howland and Miss Florence Styles in Erie, Pa., on Saturday, Mar. 20. Mr. Howland is the son of Mrs. Mabel Howland of Walton.

New maple sugar and syrup came on the Walton market Wednesday. Andrew Constable brought in some sugar that day to Lincoln's store and Elvin Miller of Hamden brought eleven gallons of new syrup and some sugar to Courtney's. The best quality of new maple sugar is selling at from 50 to 60 cents a pound.

The hearing in the cases of Charles Salzberg, Harry Salzberg and Mrs. Anna Salzberg of Delhi on charge of violations of the Volstead act, which was set down for Mar. 24 before John G. More of Walton, United States commissioner, was adjourned to Apr. 7 at the request of the federal authorities to enable the agents who made the raid to be present.

The meeting of Pomona grange, which was postponed from March 11 on account of sickness, will be held in Walton on Saturday, April 3rd. S.L. Strivings of Castile, state master, will speak at the afternoon session. This meeting will be open to the public. In the evening there will be a program of music and tableaus and the fifth degree will be conferred.

Earl S. St. John will be the new postmaster in Walton, it is expected. He has received the endorsement of the members of the Republican committee and his name has been sent to Congressman Tolley for recommendation to the president. Mr. St. John has already been designated acting postmaster and it is probable that the permanent appointment will be made at once. He will probably begin the work April first.

While A.J. Smith, who lives in J.H. Townsend's tenant house on West street, was thawing out frozen water pipes at the rear of the kitchen Friday morning a blow torch he was using set fire to the woodwork. The flames ran up a partition and it was thought best to call the fire department. Employees of the Walton foundry, where Mr. Smith works, put the fire out before the firemen arrived. The damage will amount to about thirty dollars.

Lovers of the old time fiddle music will be more than pleased with the contest arranged by the management of Smalley's Walton theatre for this Saturday, Mar. 27. In previous elimination matches throughout the county at the Smalley theatres in Stamford, Sidney, Delhi and Walton representative fiddlers have been chosen, and these will "saw it off" at the Walton theatre for the county championship silver cup, now on display in the jewelry store of Myron DuBois. Among those who will compete are Fred DeMott of Cannonsville, George Shaver of Sidney and Peter Fraser of Delhi, also the winner of the Stamford contest.

Referee J.J. Burns had a busy session in Walton hall Thursday hearing compensation cases. Many of the matters were adjourned for action later. Awards included the following: John Dunn of Hancock, employed by Hawk Mt. Sand Co., $150; Leroy Entrott of Walton, employed by Breakstone Bros., $15.70; G.W. Reynolds of Granton, employed by George Edgecomb & Co., $54; C.A. Griffin, Merrickville, employed by O. & W. Railway company, $18; Harvey Craft, Downsville, employed by J.S. Lakin Co., $61.56; Jacob Knapp of Long Eddy, employed by G.I. Treyz, $18.66; Fred Thompson of Long Eddy, employed by Charles Milk, $72.92.

An exhibition of passwork and basket throwing such as is seldom seen except in the larger cities was witnessed by the large crowd which thronged the armory Wednesday evening to watch the game between Company F and the Renaissance colored team from New York. From the time when the ball was put in motion until the final whistle sounded there was not the slightest doubt as to how the game would end, the only question being as to how few baskets the colored players would be satisfied with. The Renaissance five are wizards at basketball and their passwork was marvelous. One would snap the ball over his head and always there was some one at the proper spot to receive it. When they went after a basket they got it and their team work was a revelation. The visitors gave an exhibition of playing which well repaid those who witnessed the game. There were 768 paid admissions, by far the largest crowd of the season. This game will probably end the basketball season for Company F. Saturday evening the guardsmen easily defeated the Catholic club of Stamford. Friday the Walton high school five won from Johnson City high school on the auditorium court by a score of 21 to 20, and the Walton girls defeated the Delhi girls. This was the high school's last game on the home court and they will close the season at Margaretville this Friday evening.

Backward Spring Season Forecast by Major Webb

Major J. I. Webb of Walton, who has established a reputation as a weather prophet, looks for a late spring and a cool summer this year.

Major Webb bases his forecasts upon observations of the conditions prevailing at the time of the sun crossing the line on its journey northward. Sunday, the first day of spring by the calendar, was bright and clear and warm in the open. But there was a cool wind from the northwest and in the shade water dripping from the eaves would freeze.

Often the "line storm" at the equinoctial period lasts for several days. Friday was fair but that night thunder was heard and it rained gently off and on during the night and following morning. Sunday and Monday were fair, then came rain Tuesday and the disagreeable weather of Wednesday.

Considerable sunshine is looked for by Major Webb, as indicated by the fair weather following the line storm, but he believes the spring will be backward and rather dry, with a summer cool in comparison with the average for a period of years. He looks for copious rains in the late summer.

Last fall Major Webb predicted a cold February and March. There are none to say his forecast was wrong. He states that weather conditions have been uncommon the past year and owing to the sudden changes in conditions it is difficult to make an accurate forecast.

TROUT FISHING SEASON

Season Opens This Year on Saturday, April Third

BROOKS WELL STOCKED

But Weather Conditions Are Apt to Be Against the Early Angler Next Week

The first warm weather of spring brings the fishing fever to the sportsman which no number of dark and dismal days can drive away. For the trout season is soon to open and no matter whether Saturday, April 3rd, is bright and clear or cold and rainy there will be those who after a seven months' wait are anxious to try their luck regardless of weather conditions.

The state law fixes the opening day of the trout season on the first Saturday in April, which this year falls on the third. Often at this time of year the hills are bare of snow and the brooks are in excellent condition for fishing, provided the day is pleasant. This year in spite of the thaws and rains of the past week there remains much snow on the mountains. Warm weather is apt to melt the snow so rapidly that the brooks are roily with snow water before the noon hour and only fit for fishing in the morning.

The excellent work of the Delaware Valley Fish and Game club in keeping vicinity streams stocked with trout fry and fingerlings is shown each year by the many excellent catches. For several years the club has placed between four and five hundred cans of trout fry and fingerlings in the brooks in this section.

Fishermen should not forget that this year for the first time it will be necessary to have a joint hunting and fishing license. The fee is $1.25, the same as for the hunting license before the new law went into effect Jan. 1st. Boys under sixteen years of age and women are not required to have a license.

BARN AND TWO HOUSES DESTROYED BY FLAMES

Series of Disastrous Fires in County During Week

CATTLE BURN TO DEATH

Horse and Twenty-Five Cows Lose Lives in Bloomville Fire Caused By Milking Machine

(From Reporter correspondents)

A series of fires in Delaware county during the past week destroyed a farm house in Gregory hollow, near Downsville, a house at East Masonville and a barn at Bloomville. In the latter fire a horse and twenty-five head of cattle were burned to death.

Mark Miller has been occupying the Alvin Miller farm in Telford hollow. During breakfast Saturday morning, at about 7:30 o'clock, fire was noticed in the ceiling overhead, where the pipe from the kitchen stove went through. Neighbors were at once called, but the flames spread rapidly and all efforts to check them failed. All of the beds and bedding and about everything in the upstairs rooms were burned, as well as many things on the ground floor. A few articles of furniture were saved. Mr. Miller, who had planned to vacate the farm April first, is staying with Joseph Chapman at present. There were recently two deaths from pneumonia in the family. The house and contents ere insured in the Hamden Town Insurance company.

The house owned by W.A. Gifford on the old "Teed Place", at East Masonville, burned Monday morning about one o'clock. The house, which was probably one hundred years old, had recently been repaired by Mr. Gifford. Stanton Gifford, who occupied the house, was awakened by the smoke and he and Cecil Aldrich, the hired man, who were alone in the house, escaped with very little clothing, and were unable to save any furniture. Mrs. Gifford was away on a visit at the time.

One horse and about 25 head of cattle were burned to death in a fire which destroyed the large barn upon the farm of William Rose, just across the Delaware river from Bloomville, shortly before six o'clock Sunday night. A considerable quantity of hay and many farm implements ere destroyed, as was some grain. Mr. Rose was in the barn milking the cows at the time the fire started, which is said to have caught from the milking machine. Mr. Rose liberated about half of his herd before smoke and flames forced him to cease his efforts. Mr. Rose's loss is fully covered by insurance.

DEER THRIVES UPON PANCAKES AND SYRUP

Horton Man Finds Animal Weak From Long Struggle In Deep Snow

(From Horton correspondent)

George O. Baxter of Horton is the custodian of a buck deer which he found exhausted in the snow.

As Mr. Baxter was coming through the woods near his home he saw a movement in the snow and on closer inspection found a deer wallowing in a hollow filled with snow but unable to get out. The game warden was notified and when he arrived on the scene was tempted to kill the deer as he thought one of its front legs was broken. This was not the case, however, and it was decided to remove the animal to Mr. Baxter's barn, where it will be kept until strong enough to roam the woods once more. At present the deer is gaining strength and it is not to be wondered at as its favorite dish on the bill of fare is buckwheat cakes and maple syrup.

While driving home from Hancock Saturday Harry Hubbell and Delmont Appley of Fishs Eddy saw seven deer contentedly feeding in the field at Houck's farm. Monday Guy Lewis of East Branch saw three more in the same place.

REGISTER DOCTORS TO DRIVE OUT QUACKS

Favorable Action in Legislature Expected on Bill of Assemblyman Loomis

One of the bills before the legislature is the measure introduced in the assembly by Dr. R.H. Loomis of Sidney, Delaware county's assemblyman, to amend the public health law in relation to the practice of medicine. The companion bill in the senate is fathered by Senator Webb.

The Loomis-Webb bill provides in substance for the annual registration of all licensed physicians and is designed to drive out of the state the 2,500 quack doctors who are said to be practicing medicine illegally.

The Loomis bill has been reported favorably by the assembly committee on public health.

"If the people of New York should want to find out who is, and who is not, legally authorized and qualified to practice medicine, they would have a hard job, because there has not been a complete registration of the profession in New York since 1880." Homer Folks, secretary of the State Charities Aid association, said in support of the Webb-Loomis bill.

Mr. Folks also announced that to date thirty-four health and social welfare organizations in the state have gone on record in favor of this measure designed to regulate and control the practice of medicine.

The Esmond bill to license chiropractors and give them legal standing has also been reported by the assembly committee on public health. This bill has been up before but in the past has bee defeated.

WOULD PUT TEETH IN REVOLVER LAW

Proposed Measure Would Practically Eliminate Sale of Revolvers in State

A bill introduced into the legislature as one of the efforts to combat the increasing crime wave within the state makes more stringent the regulations governing the sale and ownership of revolvers.

The measure is in the line with proposals recently suggested to the lawmakers Police Commissioner George V. McLaughlin of New York city. Chief among the provisions of the proposed new law governing revolvers and concealed weapons are these:

Provides a definition of a pistol that will cover sawed-off shotguns and other fantastic weapons of the criminal world.

Makes manufacture and sale of brass knuckles, blackjacks and sandbags a felony.

Makes finding of a dangerous weapon in an automobile prima facie evidence that the weapon is possessed by all occupants of the car.

Requires a court to impose an additional five-year sentence for possession of a revolver or other weapon by one convicted for a felony, irrespective of whether weapon was used. There can be no reduction in this sentence for having a dangerous weapon.

Sets up a new system of method of issuing pistol licenses which includes provision requiring affixing of finger prints of applicant both to application and license.

Issuing of permits is limited to the city or county in which applicants reside.

Absolutely prohibits the future sale of pistols and cartridges in this state and contemplates that applicants for permits should buy their weapons through the licensing authority.

Pawning of pistols or other weapons is prohibited.

Provides police may obtain search warrant when they believe pistols are unlawfully possessed.

Advertisement of pistols is prohibited.

BAKERY WAGON UPSETS

Vernon E. Andrewsm diver of Nye's bakery wagon, had his truck turn over Wednesday morning when about three miles east of Davenport, Mr. Andrews tried to get out of the rut and the truck turned around and went completely over. Very slight damage was done to truck or driver. Mr. Andrews continued on his trip.

THEIR GOLDEN WEDDING

Rockland Couple Celebrate Fifty Years of Married Life

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hornung of Rockland celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary at the home of their daughter, Mrs. E.B. Ferdon, at the Hillside Riverview House.

Thirty-one relatives formed in line headed by Mr. and Mrs. Hornung, and marched in at noon into the dining rooms, where a chicken dinner was served. The color scheme, gold, was carried out whenever possible even to the viands. The decorations consisted of yellow roses and pink and white carnations.

The eight children born to this couple are all living and all but two, Mrs. John Renvall of Killingly, Conn., and Mrs. Edward Brotsman of Binghamton, were present for the party.

A large box labeled, "Seek and ye shall find," was presented to Mr. and Mrs. Hornung, which proved to contain many gold pieces, each carefully wrapped in cotton or in individual boxes prepared by one of their granddaughters, Miss Mildred Ferdon. The couple were married March 22rd, 1876 at Fremont by Mrs. Hornung's uncle, Charles Fuchs, a justice of the peace. Mrs. Hornung was Miss Eva Fuches, the daughter of Justice and Mrs. Fuchs.

The relatives from out of town included Mrs. and Mrs. V.D. Hornung of Cooks Falls, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Hornung of Livingston Manor, Mrs. Mary Ackerman of Bloomfield, N.J., Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hornung, Jr., and family of Lakewood; Mrs. and Mrs. Arthur Hornung of Buckbrook, Mr. and Mrs. George Brey and family of Kenoza Lake; Mr. and Mrs. John Kline of Passaic, N.J., and Paul Williams, also of Passaic.