LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter

100 Years Ago,
SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 1926

THE WEEK IN WALTON

What We Are Talking About at the County Hub

FAIR GETS STATE MONEY

War Vet to Go to Paris-Camp Co.'s New Building-Joe Solo to Build Dance Hall

Joe Solo has contracted with Fred B. Lyon for the construction of a dance hall near A.H. Hodge's farm house, Delhi state road, about two miles from Walton.

There is a notice in the Beerston post office that if there are no applications for postmaster before May first the post office will be discontinued.-Beerston correspondent.

Postmaster E.S. St. John has received notice to make up a closed pouch of mail for Binghamton and points west to go out on train 5. Mail for this pouch will be received until 8 p.m. daily.

Supervisor George M. Carpenter has received the first installment of the public school money from County Treasurer A.B. Shaw and the money will be paid out on orders from the trustees of the various school districts.

Harland Francisco of East brook had the misfortune to break the large bone of his right leg just above the ankle last Saturday while assisting his father, Verne Francisco, in getting out buzz wood. Dr. E.R. Gladstone reduced the fracture.-Mundale correspondent.

Orville Whitaker, who recently sold his interest in the Meadowbrook Dairy company to Thomas Felter, has purchased the wholesale candy business which has been conducted by M.M. Quinn for the past two years in the former co-operative creamery building, West street. Possession has already been given.

The spring season, the first warm days of which arrived this week, is wakening the farms of Delaware county to activity. It is reported that there is an unusual demand for farm stock. W.H. Austin, the well known Walton stock dealer, who handles an excellent type of Iowa horses, sold forty-four horses last week.

A special meeting of the trustees of the Ogden Free Library was held Wednesday evening. A committee was appointed to draft suitable resolutions of respect for the late librarian, Mrs. Flora Bassett. Mrs. Joseph Beckwith was chosen temporarily as substitute librarian. Seven applications were presented for the permanent position. The trustees decided that applicants be required, in their applications, to agree, if selected, to take a short course in library work, unless already technically equipped therefor. The board adjourned to meet May 11, at which time formal applications will be received and voted upon.

The new building of the Camp company on Howell street is practically completed and provides room for the storage of thirty cars of feed. The structure is of concrete blocks. It is triangular in shape, being built on the site where the old foundry building stood between the Delhi tracks of the O. & W., Howell and Mead streets. The length on the Howell street side is 86 feet, that of the side facing Mead street is 80 feet and on the side toward the railroad it is 110 feet long. The height is 18 feet to the eaves and 28 feet to the beams. The structure gives the Camp company much needed space to accommodate its growing feed business.

At the meeting of Truman C. Tobey post, American Legion, Tuesday night plans were discussed for sending a representative to the national convention in Paris in 1927. A resolution was offered by A.W. North and adopted that to secure the $170 necessary to defray the expenses of a delegate $2.50 be deposited weekly in a special account in the First National bank. The money may be deposited by either members or non-members of the legion and the growth of the fund will be shown on a chart to be displayed in a public place. The delegate or delegates to take the trip will be selected by vote. Each legionnaire having one vote and each depositor of $2.50 in the special account having one vote. It was also decided to accept the invitation of the Delhi post to attend the celebration in Delhi on July fifth.

Henry S. Ogden, treasurer of the Delaware Valley Agricultural society, the Walton Fair association, has received a check of $2,923.41 from the state under the apportionment made by the department of farms and markets of the $250,000 appropriated by the state to reimburse the fair societies for premiums paid. A total of $441,282.81 was paid out by the various fair societies. The maximum which any society receives back from the state is $4,000. The Walton fair paid out $4,334.50 in premiums last fall. Entry fees amounted to $697.74. The net cost to the fair association was thus only $713.35 more than the amount received in entry fees or in the state money. The previous year the Walton fair society received $2,084.09 from the state. Apportionments of state money to other fairs in this section were as follows: Oneonta, $3,001.55; Cooperstown, $4,000; Richfield Springs, $1,556.03; Morris, $2,963.72; Binghamton exposition, $4,000; Norwich, $4,000; Delhi, $2,212.30; Cobleskill, $4,000; Afton, $1,944.21; Monticello, $1,684.14; Ellenville, $266.30.

WALTON MAN ESCAPES DEATH IN SUBMARINE EXPLOSION

Quentin Begeal, son of Mr. and Mrs. Grant Begeal of Walton, escaped death Tuesday for a second time within a year while in the submarine service of the United States Navy.

Three men on the S-49 at New London, Conn., are dead as a result of an explosion Tuesday morning which shattered the battery room of the submarine on which the Walton man is a machinist. A year ago in February the S-48, a sister ship of the S-49, on which Begeal was stationed at that time, went on the rocks near Portsmouth, N.H., during a severe storm. The crew were forced to the deck by the fumes of chlorine gas and were rescued after hours of exposure to the rigors of the storm.

Mrs. Begeal received a telegram from Quentin Tuesday stating that he was uninjured in the explosion on the S-49 that morning. Press dispatches state that twelve men had just finished their breakfast in the battery room when the explosion occurred. They were hurled with tremendous force against the steel overhead deck and bulkheads and showered with pieces of metal. Every man received broken bones. The compartment was filled with hydrogen gas and the rescue workers were forced to don gas masks before they could remove the victims of the blast.

The other 28 men of the crew who were in different parts of the ship when the explosion occurred suffered only slightly from the concussion and the seepage of gas and smoke which reached them. The four commissioned officers of the S-49 were all ashore at the time of the explosion having breakfast. Three of the injured men died later in the New London hospital.

The battery room was located abaft the torpedo room and forward of the control room directly beneath the coning tower and in it were two sets of storage batteries, each of 60 separate cells. The 120 cells were valued at about $180,000, a large portion of which will be a total loss. An investigation of the explosion is under way by navy officials.

Mr. and Mrs. Quentin Begeal visited his parents in Walton last December, soon after their marriage on November 23. His wife is staying in Portsmouth, N.H.

PAY FOR TUBERCULAR CATTLE IS AVAILABLE

Appropriate $3,500,000 for Slaughtered Cattle

REMOVE LAW ON BEARS

Number of Other Measures Signed by Governor Are of Local Interest

Governor Smith has signed a large number of bills during the past week, the total number of new laws this year having passed the 500 mark. Among the measures of interest are the following:

By Assemblyman Hutchinson, appropriating $3,500,000 to pay claims arising from the slaughter of cattle afflicted with bovine tuberculosis.

By Assemblyman Charles L. Fisher, providing all fuel wood shall be sold by the cord, containing 128 cubic feet.

By Senator Thompson, providing that all traps must be stamped with name of owner and visited at least once every twenty-four hours.

By Senator Thompson, requires a special license, costing $1.25, to hunt deer.

By Senator Dunningan, authorizes any woman filling prescribed conditions to practice as a dental hygienist.

By Senator Cole, authorizes establishment of education and extension boards in counties to give instruction in agriculture, home economics and other special subjects approved by the state commissioner of education.

Moore "Wildflower" bill, under which the penal law is amended so as to prohibit the destruction of flowering dogwood, pink lady's slipper or moccasin flower, or mountain laurel growing on any of the park lands of the state or any of its counties, cities, towns or villages. The bill was passed last year to apply only to trailing arbutus, but the amendment was introduced this year.

By Assemblyman Pratt, prohibiting more than fifteen hooks to a line in taking fish by hook and line.

By Senator Bouton, permitting a domestic life insurance company to provide a pension for any present or former salaried officer or employee who may retire because of age or disability.

By reorganization committee: Provides for jurisdiction of superintendent of public works, instead of public service commission, over grade crossing elimination for the remainder of 1926.

By Assemblyman Bentley, amending the conservation law in relation to the open season for bear in Greene, Ulster and Delaware counties. It exempts from the provisions of the old law the counties of Greene, Ulster and Delaware, except that between November 21st and October 15th bear taken in these counties may be possessed only by obtaining the license and causing them to be marked and tagged as provided for the open season for such possession elsewhere in the state and possession of bear without such a license shall be presumptive evidence that the same was unlawfully taken.

Six amendments to the highway law were signed by Governor Smith yesterday in connection with other statutes. Among these were the following: Dealing with suspensions and revocations of automobile licenses and certificates; providing that applications for registration of motor vehicles shall contain evidence of ownership, and amending that portion of the highway law which requires motor vehicle operators to produce registration certificates on demand of any policeman or peace officer.

ADJUST HEADLIGHTS TO MEET STATE LAW

Comparatively Simple Matter For Motorists to Make Test Themselves

With the roads again open for traffic, there will be an increasing number of vehicles on the highways. It is expected that at least 200,000 more vehicles will be operated in the state this year than there were last year. A certain proportion of these will be operated at night with the result that the glare question will become more serious than it has been in the past, unless headlamps are kept in proper adjustment. The prevention of dangerous glare is entirely a matter of adjustment and is largely in the hands of the motorist. If every motorist sees to it that his headlamps are always as they should be, night driving will cease to be an ordeal to be avoided.

With most headlamps it is a comparatively simple matter to keep them adjusted. There are only two things to be kept in mind: First, keep the lamps focused and, second, keep the lamps aimed properly. Any headlamp can be focused by means of turning the screw in the back of the lamp until the beam is as bright and as narrow as possible, and any headlamp can be aimed by tilting the lamp after it is focused, so that the top of the beam remains below the height of the lamp centers when the car is fully loaded.

Three methods are suggested to the motorist for aiming his headlamps, keeping in mind that focusing the lamp by means of the screw in the back should be done previous to aiming:

If the motorist has a level space of twenty-five or thirty feet in front of his garage proper aiming can be done by placing a mark on the back wall of his garage at the proper height for locating the top of the beam, and another mark twenty-five feet from the wall for placing the lamps at the proper distance for testing. These marks will then be available for checking the adjustment every time he drives into the garage. The height of the mark on the wall should be about two inches lower than the height of the center of the lamps if the lamps are to be aimed with the car loaded. If the lamps are aimed while the vehicle is empty an allowance must be made for the uptilt which occurs when a load is placed on the car. This allowance varies with the type of the vehicle. All necessary instructions for this purpose may be obtained at any of the offices of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles or at county clerk's offices.

If the motorist has space in front of his garage which is not level, he can have his headlamps adjusted at an official headlight adjusting station and return to his own garage, stop his car so that the lamps are twenty-five feet from the backwall of his garage and make a mark along the top of the beam pattern. This should be done with the car empty. This mark can be used thereafter for keeping his headlights aimed properly as in the case above.

If the motorist has not enough space in front of his garage but has sufficient space elsewhere in front of a wall or a fence, the wall or fence can be used for aiming the lamps in the same way that the wall of the garage is used in the above cases.

Those who do not desire to do their own adjusting can have it done at any headlight adjusting station, of which there are about 1,500 established throughout the state.

The law is clear on the matter of requiring headlamps to be in proper condition at all times so that they do not interfere with other users of the highways. It should be borne in mind that in most cases one adjustment a year is not sufficient for complying with this requirement. A considerable number of headlamps will require at least one adjustment a month, a few even more than that. It depends entirely on the construction of the lamp, the type of mounting and the amount of use. A headlamp needs adjustment whenever it projects a dazzling light into the eyes of an observer standing about 100 feet in front of the car. If the dazzling light appears to the observer as a bright spot above or below the bulb, the lamp is out of focus, if it comes from the central portion of the lamp and surrounds the bulb, the lamp is aimed too high.

With the information and instructions given by the bureau, there is no good reason why every operator of a motor vehicle should not be able to familiarize himself with headlamp requirements. No motorist should consider the few minutes lost now and then in adjusting his headlamps, or the small expense with having the headlamps adjusted, of more importance than the prevention of accident and the saving of life.

FIND ROOF ON FIRE

Neighbors' Prompt Action Saves Rockroyal Farm Home

(From Cannonsville correspondent)

Timely discovery and prompt assistance saved the house on C.L. Mills' farm above Rockroyal from burning Monday evening.

The fire is supposed to have caught from the chimney. Mr. Mills was telephoned for but when he arrived the neighbors had extinguished the blaze before any damage was done aside from the roof and ceiling near the chimney.

AUTO CRASHES INTO TRAIN

Norwich Young Woman Dies from Injuries Received

Miss Ruth Shoemaker of Norwich, aged 23 years, was fatally injured shortly before midnight Tuesday night when the automobile in which she was riding crashed into an Ontario & Western freight train at a crossing between Smyrna and Sherburne. Miss Shoemaker suffered a compound fracture of the skull which resulted in her death in the Norwich hospital Wednesday night. Miss Shoemaker and two Norwich young men, Donald Stukey and Reeves Pratt were riding, the latter being the driver.

HANCOCK FARM HOUSE BURNS

Bad Luck Continues to Follow Henry Porter

(From Hancock correspondent)

The farm house of Henry W. Porter, near Hancock, was totally destroyed by fire Tuesday afternoon about 3 p.m.

The fire started it is thought around the chimney and got a big start before it was discovered. A still alarm was sounded to S.S. Busfield, chief of the Hancock fire department, who responded with the fire engine but the flames had gotten such a start nothing could be done to save the building. There was no water to be gotten as the building was about a mile from the nearest hydrant. The chemicals were used but of no avail.

Most of the furniture was gotten out on the lower floor. The second story furniture was destroyed with the building. Estimated value was $2,500, a total loss. Mr. Porter carried $1,500 insurance on house and contents it is stated. This is a hard blow to Mr. Porter and family. Last fall Mr. Porter was struck with an auto which nearly cost him his life and has been practically laid up since. Mr. Porter is a man of about 80 years and this fire at this time of advanced age makes it doubly hard for himself and family.

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