LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter

100 Years Ago,

SATURDAY, MAY 22, 1926

THE WEEK IN WALTON

What We Are Talking About at the County Hub

APRIL MILK PRICE $2.11½

John Dann Gets Award-Horse Tangled in Wire-Seniors Had High Standings

Supervisor G.M. Carpenter has received the balance of the public school money, which will be paid out on orders of the trustees.

A special meeting of the Delaware Valley Fish and Game club will be held in the court room of Walton hall Tuesday evening, May 25, at 8 o'clock. Business of importance is to be taken up and acted upon.

Mrs. George Winsor, past noble grand of the Gardiner Rebekah lodge, attended the grand assembly in Glens Falls this week. Mrs. Floyd Spencer of Walton has been recommended as the new district deputy for this Rebekah district.

The chemical engine was called Tuesday morning to the tenant house of Frank Gould on the West brook road where a fire had broken out on the roof of the building. The available water was nearly exhausted when the firemen arrived and the flames were spreading among the dry shingles, but the chemicals quickly put out the blaze.

Shirley Wood is valedictorian and Arthur Benedict salutatorian of the graduating class in June, 1926. The position for salutatorian was closely contested by Edward Craig, whose standing for the four years' work is less than one-third of one per cent under that of Benedict. No member of the class has an average under 70 per cent for the entire four years' work.

One day last week Charles Cain turned a valuable horse into a vacant lot on Liberty street. Ralph Kent is building near and was enclosing his lot with a heavy wire fence. In the night Dobbin thought he would investigate. His explorations caused him to become badly entangled in the wire. In fact, it was nearly two days after, with much difficulty, that he was put on his feet. Apparently he is not seriously injured and will be ready for the harness in a few days.

The net pool price for April milk of members as announced by the Dairymen's League this week is $2.115. With the exception of April a year ago, which was two cents higher, this is the highest April price in the history of the pooling association. The total sales for the month of March, which is also included in the regular monthly report to members, amount to $5,823,322.63. Nearly half of the total sales, namely, $2,460,557.46 was handled through the League's own operations. Of this business done through the League plants the sales of fluid milk amounted to $1,898,748.56.

The Rev. Herman C. Beers of 350 Floral avenue, Johnson City, evangelist and pastoral worker throughout this section, has accepted a unanimous and unsolicited call, recently received, to become pastor of the Pine City Baptist church at St. Petersburg, Fla. Mr. and Mrs. Beers are preparing to leave for Florida about June 1, making the trip by motor, enabling him to begin his new duties about the middle of next month. Mr. Beers is a native and a former resident of Walton, while Mrs. Beers also was born in Delaware county. He has resided in Binghamton or Johnson city for the last 10 years. Both are graduates of the Binghamton Practical Bible Training school, and were members of the class of 1923. Both have been successful in pastoral and evangelistic affairs. -- Binghamton Press.

Grant W. Laidlaw, well known in Delaware county, and until recently connected with the Borden Milk company, is a vice president of the Florida Dairies, Inc., a distributor of pasteurized milk in Miami, Florida. The Florida Dairies, Inc., was formed to take over the business of the People's Milk and Cream Co., Inc., a Miami concern, and to furnish the necessary additional plant and equipment for its rapidly expanding business. The company is encouraging the production of milk in Florida, which at present is not producing enough milk to supply its inhabitants, so that milk is shipped in from the northern states. Mr. Laidlaw will have charge of construction and operation. The officers and directors are the bankers, attorneys and business men prominent in the development of Miami.

The industrial commission has made an award to John M. Dann of Walton for disabilities received about three years ago while employed in construction work on one of Dr. J.A. Holley's houses. The claim was for dilation of the heart, caused by strain in carrying shingles to the roof. Mr. Dann has been unable to work since that time. This case has been contested very strongly by the insurance carrier. The first award was reversed by the appellate division upon the ground of failure to give written notice of the injury. At the rehearing evidence was offered showing that the employer had verbal notice of the accident within one hour after it happened. The award is for $19.30 a week during disability, and will carry about 150 weeks of back compensation, as the accident occurred in June 1923. A.E. Conner has represented Mr. Dann in the proceedings.

FIND $3,000 VERDICT FOR GREGORY'S DEATH

Harvard Man Was Killed by Train on Crossing

GRAND JURY SOON OVER

Prisoners Indicted Will be Arraigned in Court Monday Morning-Naturalization Cases

(From Delhi correspondent)

A verdict of $3,000 was returned against the Ontario & Western railroad in supreme court in Delhi Thursday afternoon in the case of Mrs. May S. Gregory, as executor of Seymour Gregory, against the railroad company.

Seymour Gregory and Albert Litts were killed on June 5, 1925, when the milk truck on which they were riding was struck by O. & W. train No. 32, southbound, at the Hall crossing at East Branch. Henry Houck, the driver of the truck, escaped death in the crash.

Mr. Gregory was a farmer at Harvard and on the day in question had caught a ride on the milk truck to go to Hancock to buy a hay rake. The truck arrived in East Branch shortly before seven o'clock in the morning and instead of turning directly into the Hancock road Houck, the driver, started to drive his car across the tracks to get milk from Charles Miller. The view of the tracks is obscured from the east by Hall's store. As the forward wheels of the truck had crossed the southbound track the crash came. The heavy truck was thrown several feet, turned completely around and landed against a mail crane near the crossing. Gregory and Litts were thrown out and killed.

The following witnesses were called by plaintiff at the trial in Delhi Wednesday: Howard E. Cook, May S. Gregory, Harry Houck, George Ward and with these the plaintiff rested. Defendant's witnesses were Albert W. Anthony, Madeline Brown, Clara Ward, E.A. Rampe, D.J. Sperbeck, John B. Williams, Sidney Valentine, Ernest Hall, J.D. Wood. Most of the witnesses are from East Branch village. The members of the train crew testified Thursday morning. It would seem from the questions asked by the attorneys as if the main point in the case was if the train had given the proper signals. On the answers to these questions there was more or less confliction.

A.L. O'Connor, acting for E.E. Conlon, attorney of record in the matter, tried the case for the plaintiff, and Samuel H. Fancher for the railroad.

The May term of supreme court was convened at Delhi Monday forenoon, Justice Kellogg presiding. While folks are complaining about the backward spring yet roses were in bloom as court opened. According to official count eighty-four rare roses graced the judge's desk as he mounted the rostrum, tokens from Delaware county's admirers of the judge.

The following persons were made citizens: Angelo Fasano, Italian, Oneonta; John Thomas Haden Weale, English, Hale Eddy; Pietro Ciaravino, Italian, Prattsville; Biase Vitale, Italian, Cadosia; Hans Jacobson, Norwegian, Meredith; Ernest Held, German, Bloomville; Mary Arnold, Swiss, Bloomville; George Christ Bickos, Greek, Sidney; Mello Jurjens, Dutch, Meredith; Michael Caraecciolo, Italian, Wellsbridge; Samuel Bass, Bulgarian, Fleischmanns; Benjamin Schwartz, Hungarian, Fleischmanns; Carrie Madsen, Denmark, Bloomville; Salvatore Conticello, Italian, Bloomville; Gustaw Wiidik, Estobonian, Shavertown; Florian Zaczek, Polish, Cannonsville; Louis Frederick Bohlman, Polish, Walton; Karoline Mary Jensen, Denmark, East Meredith.

It can be noted that there are ten different nationalities represented by the eighteen persons admitted as citizens at this term of court. When these new comers or their descendants intermarry and a little blood is infused into the mixture handed down from the Scotch, Irish and Yankee pioneers of Delaware county, the citizenship hereabouts can be properly called potpourri.

TRACTOR TOO HEAVY FOR COVERED BRIDGE

Driver Injured When Heavy Machine Breaks Through Timbers of Floor

(From Corbett correspondent)

Joseph Rutherford of Downsville narrowly escaped instant death last Wednesday, May 12th, while driving the seven-ton tractor loaded with sand belonging to the town of Colchester. While crossing at Colchester one mile from Corbett the machine broke through the covered bridge.

Mr. Rutherford was badly bruised and shaken up. Latest reports are to the effect that he is injured worse than was at first thought.

The Colchester bridge above mentioned is an old landmark, being the oldest and longest covered bridge in New York state. The heavy iron bands that are used to hold it together were drawn from Hancock over Hawks mountain before the building of the New York, Ontario and Western railroad. Hancock being the nearest freight station at that time. Colchester at the time the bridge was erected, was a flourishing town of the early days, having a sawmill and grist mill. Some of the stones for grinding the grain in this mill may be seen at Colchester yet. There were also a blacksmith shop, a carding mill for carding wool, a general store and a hotel. At that time the community was the business part of the town of Colchester. The writer is in possession of a picture of the Radeker house, taken by Jay Gould in 1856, which shows the pride and workmanship of earlier days. The house is now owned by Corbett & Stuart of Corbett and is still in good condition.

FOREST FIRE AT APEX DESTROYS CORD WOOD

Blaze Believed Started by O. & W. Engine Burns Over Large Area on Hill

Over 600 cords of four-foot wood and some saw timber were destroyed in a forest fire which burned over about sixty acres of land on the hillside near Apex Tuesday afternoon.

The fire is believed to have been caused by sparks from an extra train running ahead of No. 10. There had been no rain in nearly two weeks and everything was dry as tinder. The blaze started at what is known as the rock cut a short distance north of the Apex station and after reaching the slashing on Howard Pierson's land, where the four-foot wood was piled, the fire spread with amazing rapidity, the flames shooting high in the air and were accompanied by a loud roaring and the crackling of burning timber and the popping of stones from the heat.

A force of more than fifty men was gathered to fight the fire, including the section men from Walton, and by ten o'clock the flames were under control, but a force was kept on duty all night to keep watch while the wood and dead trees burned themselves out.

The damage is difficult to estimate but will run from $3,000 to $5,000, it is said. The fire burned to the top of the hill and was checked near the stone quarry there. The devastated area is on the Pierson land known as the Buckbee tract, and the fire did not reach the Cadosia lake property near by.

Another forest fire earlier in the week burned over the hill near the Cadosia station, destroying a large amount of growing timber.

Sparks from an O. & W. engine are believed to have caused a fire which swept over many acres of the Shawangunk range near High View last Wednesday, threatening Shawanga Lodge and the nearby Seguin school.

The fire started on the western slope of the mountain near Mamakating station and spread rapidly. A force of nearly 200 men was called out to fight the flames which were not under control until the next morning.

Another forest fire the latter part of the week burned over a considerable tract of land along the Mongaup river about seven miles west of Port Jervis.

TWO KILLED IN WRECK

Auto Leaves Road and Hits Tree Near Masonville

CASE OF TOO MUCH SPEED

Car Rebounds Fifteen Feet After Terrific Impact Against Large Maple Beside Road

(From Masonville correspondent)

Two men were killed in an automobile accident Sunday morning on the state road between Masonville and Sidney. The dead are Charles Wakefield of Masonville, a former Walton man, and John Conrow of Sidney.

The accident occurred just over the top of the Sidney hill on the Masonville side and about midway between the two villages. Conrow was driving his car, a Ford, and the party consisting of the two men, two women and two children, were on their way from Sidney where they had gotten some strawberry plants to set out on Wakefield's farm on Pine Hill, near Masonville. Besides Conrow and Wakefield those in the party were Mrs. Madge Mott, housekeeper for Conrow, and her two children, Ida Stickle and George Stickle, aged 10 and 13 years, respectively, and Mrs. Helen Lee, who kept house for Wakefield.

The survivors of the accident can give no coherent account of just what happened. One story is that the driver was confused by a car approaching from Masonville and lost control of his own machine. The silent evidence of the wreckage indicates that it was largely a case of too much speed, causing the driver to lose control of the Ford which left the road and struck a large maple tree near the left-hand side, and on the rebound was hurled back 15 or 20 feet, landing with the front facing Sidney.

The two men were thrown violently from the car by the impact and both were instantly killed. The women and children in the rear seat were bruised and shaken up and suffered severely from the shock but received no injuries of a serious nature.

Dr. Loomis of Sidney was called and was deputized by Coroner E. Ray Gladstone of Walton to act as coroner and issue the death certificates.

John Conrow was 54 years of age and was a brother of Clinton H., William and Emory Conrow of Deposit, and Leonard Conrow of Port Jervis. He also had two sisters, Mrs. Flossie Knapp of Vestal and Mrs. Jennie Anderson of Elizabethtown, N.Y. His funeral was held Thursday afternoon at two o'clock at Hambletville and interment made in the Hambletville cemetery.

Charles Wakefield was the son of the late William Wakefield of Walton and his early life was spent at North Hamden and in Walton. He was 63 years of age. He lived for some years at Bainbridge, moving a few years ago to the Masonville farm which he rented. His funeral was held at Masonville Wednesday with burial at Walton.

DIES FROM SCARLET FEVER

Deposit Man Leaves Wife and Six Small Children

(From Deposit correspondent)

Floyd Russell died at his home on Front street, Deposit, Tuesday with scarlet fever. He leaves a wife and six small children. The wife and three children are ill with scarlet fever. Mr. Russell was 39 years of age.

Collision on Delhi Corner

(From Delhi correspondent)

What might have been a serious accident occurred on the corner of Main and Division streets, Delhi, Wednesday night, when a Marmon car driven by the well known oculist, Dr. Pratt, coming down Division street collided with a Ford coupe driven by Charles Conklin, coming down Main street. The Ford car was quite badly wrecked, the Marmon very slightly, and the occupants of neither car were injured.

Found Dead in Bed

Carmi Hinman, aged 34 years, was found dead in bed at his home at Cadosia last Thursday morning. Death was caused by paralysis. He is survived by his wife and five small children; by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hinman, and one brother, Floyd. The funeral was held Saturday.

Girl Has Sleeping Sickness

(From Hamden correspondent)

Gladys, the three-year-old child of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Chapman, who live in Telford hollow near Hamden, is critically ill with sleeping sickness with little hope for recovery.

Arrest Woman as Forger

During recent months checks have been received at the Hancock bank bearing the forged signature of J.E. Clark, a farmer and feed dealer at Poyntelle, Pa. A woman giving her name as Mrs. Clyde Whipple of Thompson, Pa., was arrested Saturday in connection with the case and was held by a Wayne county justice on $600 bail on a charge of forgery.

Margaretville's Private Hospital

(From Margaretville correspondent)

Dr. G.B. Maurer has bought of Mrs. Gilford Scott the Austin property on Orchard street, Margaretville. This will be used by Surgeon Maurer for a private hospital. Margaretville people have long felt the need of a hospital. Dr. Maurer has a large practice in this section of the country.