LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter

100 Years Ago,
**SATURDAY,
JUNE 19, 1926**

THE WEEK IN WALTON

What We Are Talking About at the County Hub

MOTORING LICENSES DUE

Horses Cut on Barb Wire-Robbed the Restaurant-Bridge Closed Monday Night-Circus Coming

Gentry Brothers' circus will show in Walton on Tuesday, July 13. They come from Norwich and go from Walton to Liberty.

Sheldon Jones of Walton and Florence Edith Borden of Rose City, Mich., were married in Walton, May 29th by Rev. S.U. North.

Theo Brant has exchanged his house in Hamden with George Currie of Walton for his farm in Basin Clove, at one time occupied by J.L. Howard.-Hamden correspondent.

The river bridge on Bridge street will be closed Monday night while new rollers are being placed under the ends of the bridge. In case of rain Monday, the work will be done Tuesday night.

The First National bank has received a few of the fifty cent pieces and $2.50 gold pieces issued in connection with the sesqui-centennial in Philadelphia and they will be issued on request as long as the supply lasts. The fifty cent pieces cost one dollar, the additional fifty cents going to a fund to help defray the expenses of the sesqui-centennial.

A thief of thieves broke into the Walton restaurant in the Central House block some time between one and five o'clock Wednesday morning. A pane of glass in a rear door was broken and the door unfastened. The restaurant is in the front of the building. The thief evidently knew where the money taken in the previous night was kept, and after securing the sum, amounting to about $20, made his exit without disturbing anything else. An investigation is being made.

With the summer timetable on the Ontario & Western railroad effective Sunday, June 27, an important change will be made with regards to trains 3 and 4. These trains will run between Weehawken and Mayfield, Pa., it is stated, instead of Weehawken and Sidney. The traffic north of Cadosia will be accommodated, however, by a new gas-electric coach which will leave Sidney in the morning in time to make the connection at Cadosia and will return in the evening. Conductor William Kirby will have this run. It is also reported that the new electric coach to replace the Utica Flyer will be put in operation next week.

A runaway Friday on the farm of Walter D. Shaver turned out to be a lucky day for him but not so to his team. Mr. Shaver had taken a load of manure up the hill on his place and was returning with the empty wagon when one of the team bolted. With Shaver striving with all his might to hold them they pulled from the wagon and dashed off, running into a stone wall along which ran a fence of three strands of barbed wire. The horses were stopped in their mad rush and one of them had its hind leg so badly lacerated and part of it laid open that it may be weeks before the animal can be used. The off horse had its breast badly cut.

The local committee on the county home bureau pageant at a meeting this week approved the plans for holding the pageant on August 27 and 28 in Walton; approved of the selection of Hon. John D. Clarke as chairman, Mrs. L.H. Wheeler of Hancock as secretary and of the First National bank of Walton as treasurer. J.W. St. John will act as business manager. The committee favored printing at once of a large number of tickets to be distributed among the home bureau units of the county for sale, as well as of the early printing of the fist edition of the pageant, which is written by Mrs. A.W. North. The pageant will require three or four hundred persons in depicting the various episodes of Delaware county history from the opening scene showing the fixing of the boundaries between the Indians and colonists down through the Civil war period and the industrial development of the county.

Unless motorists-operators, chauffeurs and junior operators-are relicensed before July 1 they will be unable to drive legally after the expiration of the license year on June 30. Ample time and notice have been given for the renewal of licenses to drive, but many have failed to take advantage of the additional time and have neglected to equip themselves for the new license year. Issuing offices have provided additional clerks to speed the work of renewing licenses, and unless drivers attend to the matter within the next few days the congestion will be so great that many will be unable to secure licenses in the last minute rush. Commissioner Charles A. Harnett has arranged with the police officials of the state to honor the new licenses immediately, even though they are issued for the license year beginning July 1. He has urged that applications for renewals be made at once to avoid the confusion that has attended the work in bureau offices on the last days in previous years. Every facility has been provided for the renewal of licenses and excuses for failure to meet the requirements of the law will not be accepted after June 30.

FIFTY MAY GRADUATE FROM WALTON SCHOOL

Class of Forty-Four Assured With Seven More Possible

COMMENCEMENT EVENTS

Anniversary Sermon Sunday, Class Night Tuesday and Graduation Wednesday

The graduating class of the high school for 1926 numbers forty-four, with seven more possibilities depending upon results in the regents' examinations of this week.

Shirley Wood of Sidney Center is the valedictorian while Arthur Benedict of Walton is salutatorian. Edward Craig of Hamden had an average for the four years of less than one per cent under Benedict. The class with its officers follows, those marked with an asterisk being non-residents of the school district: *George Wilbert Benedict, president; *Mary Ruth Henderson, vice president; Barbara Frances Smith, secretary; *Crawford Beers DuMond, treasurer; *Blanche Ruthella Armstrong, William Luverne Barringer, * Dorothy Irene Beardslee, *Arthur Howard Benedict, *Cathyren Florence Carlson, *Alta Mae Constable, * Max Kingsley Constable, *Edward McMaster Craig, Margaret Julia Dann, *Edythe Belle Durfee, Graydon Ransom Dutcher, Roy Benson Dutcher, Harry Osborne Fagan, *Helen Marjorie Goodrich, Margaret Lucile Griffin, Alton Johnson Hawley, *Eugenia Alice Holley, Elma Elizabeth Howland, *Donald Alston Hulbert, *Florence Woodland Hulbert, Irene Marion Keene, Hilda Delia Keery, Robert Hilton Laidlaw, George Blakely Lyon, James Philip McCabe, *Dorothy Isabella McClenon, *Herman Coulter Neale, *Dorothy Hanford Peck, *Harold Benedict Pierce, Roblay Rice, *Arlyn Joseph Rickard, *Christina Rinsma, *Marguerite Rinsma, Donald Arthur Rosa, Augustus Fitch Smith, *Edwin George Smith, *Louise Eileen Smith, Sheridan Ellis Stidd, *Glennie Mable Townsend, *Jennie Estella Townsend, *Letha Tweedie, * Hilda Ione Wheat, Richard Hampton White, *Mary Frances Wolcott, Reta Marie Wolfe, *Shirley Neff Wood.

The graduating exercises for the week will commence on Sunday evening, June 20 at 8 o'clock, when Reverend Everett W. Chapman will deliver the anniversary sermon to one of the largest classes of the high school. On Tuesday evening the annual class day program will be given at the same hour, and on Wednesday evening the senior class will receive their diplomas at the seventy-third commencement.

Programs of interest to parents and patrons of the school have been prepared for each evening. The subject of Mr. Chapman's address to the class for Sunday evening is, "Consider Your Need."

Monday evening the training class will hold its annual reunion and exercises in the high school auditorium. There have been twenty-five members enrolled in the class during the year. The annual alumni banquet of the Walton high school will be held Thursday evening at the Royal restaurant.

COUNTY'S CHAMPION SPELLER

Franklin Girl Wins Trip to the State Fair

Miss Eloise Bechtel of Franklin is the champion speller of Delaware county. In the county contest in Delhi Saturday each of the six supervisory districts was represented by three contestants. Miss Bechtel missed one word out of the 100 used in the test. The contestants from Walton were Mary Charles, Anna Friedlander and Adah Reville. Miss Charles missed two words out of the hundred, Miss Bechtel wins a trip to the spelling contest at the state fair in Syracuse with all expenses paid.

TRIED TO SWAT BEE AND WRECKS AUTO

Machine Goes Over Bank When Insect Alights on Driver's Hand

(From Andes correspondent)

A bee which lighted on the hand of an automobile driver caused him to lose control of the car with disastrous consequences. The accident occurred on Sunday, the 13th, near Andes.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles McLean and two children of Dingle hill, accompanied by Miss Mary Davis of this place, were returning home from attending church and while on the road by the Andes cemetery a bee settled on Mr. McLean's hand. In the act of getting the insect off the car dashed through the fence and landed on its side at the foot of a steep bank that is covered with trees and brush. Help was summoned and passing cars with people gave their assistance. They were brought to the home of Otis McCumber, where Dr. Pace boards and has his office, and medical aid given. Mrs. McLean, although conscious, was very badly injured, an examination showing that she had a broken collar bone, breast bone, two ribs and a wrist, besides a scalp wound and other bruises. Mr. McLean and children suffered slighter bruises.

Miss Davis was taken to her home later but Mrs. McLean will remain at the McCumber home for some time, until her condition is such that she can be moved to her own home on Dingle hill.

To think that the entire party were not killed is impossible, as where the car landed and the way it was broken up looks like that no one could go through without being seriously injured.

The other accidents were of less serious nature. The car of Mrs. LeRoy Miller and a car containing a party from near Walton, named Corgan, collided opposite the Feder property, just below Margaretville. The Miller car was a new Willys-Knight. The Walton car is said to have been on the wrong side of the road when the accident occurred. Both cars were badly damaged but the occupants were not injured.

The car owned by and driven by Amos Doway, a sawyer in the mill of Austin and Vandemark of Delhi, collided with a culvert a short ways out of Andes at about 7:30. The car was badly damaged but the driver escaped unhurt.

MAN KILLED IN RUNAWAY

Team Frightened When Auto Hits Wagon

DELHI HAS FATALITY

Aged Ice man Thrown on Pavement as Horses Collide With Car After Wild Run

(From Delhi correspondent)

John Scharmann of Delhi was killed Saturday in a runaway accident caused when his ice wagon was struck by an automobile driven by Menzo Griffin of Loomis, near Walton.

Mr. Scharmann, who lives in what is known as the ice house place on the Franklin road, had come down Clinton street, turned into Main street and stopped by the curb on the proper side of the street, when an Overland car driven by Mr. Griffin of Loomis, near Walton, collided with the wagon, striking it in the rear with sufficient force to throw some ice from the wagon and to knock William Wood, a boy 15 years old, who was holding the lines, from the wagon. The car stopped straddling his body with the boy's head and shoulders under the front axle. Young Wood was a grandson of Mr. Scharmann.

The horse took fright and ran up Main street with Mr. Scharmann in the seat but without lines as they had gone out with the boy. Near the Delaware National bank the wagon collided with a large Cadillac touring car from New Jersey, throwing Scharmann out over the horses on the concrete road, resulting in a broken skull, from which injury he died in about half an hour. The boy was quite badly bruised, but strange to say not severely injured.

Mr. Griffin, the driver of the car which collided with the ice wagon, was a man 68 years old and was accompanied by his brother, Oscar, and the victim of the accident was 73 years of age. A coroner's inquest was held at Delhi yesterday by Dr. E. Ray Gladstone of Walton, at the request of the village authorities of Delhi. The evidence produced only substantiated the former story of the accident and went to show that brakes of the car were not in condition and that village authorities would not let Mr. Griffin leave town until repairs were made to the brakes. That no cars were coming or going near where the accident happened and at this point the concrete of the street is about 40 feet wide.

H.J. Hewitt, village attorney, took charge of the coroner's hearing and it is supposed the evidence secured will be submitted by the coroner to the district attorney of the county and his advice to further consideration of the case taken. It is understood that a charge of reckless driving has been made against Mr. Griffin, the matter being returnable today, Friday. It is probable that no further criminal charge will be lodged.

Mr. Scharmann leaves surviving one daughter, Mrs. Wood of Delhi, and two grandsons, members of his family, one son and two daughters living in New York City.

The car which was injured to quite an extent by the collision with the ice wagon near the bank on Main street and occupied by strangers, after waiting a few moments after the accident to their car passed on, evidently not wishing to be held up as witnesses and so making no claim for damages. The body of Mr. Scharmann had left town before the inquest as the burial was in New York city.

Witnesses at the inquest included Mr. and Mrs. George Scott, Mrs. Russell Archibald, Mrs. L.A. Pitcher, Mrs. J.D. Birdsall, Miss Alice Green, Officer S.P. Swanson, Burton G. Broughton and James Ward, mechanic in the Archibald garage. Ward and Swanson testified that the brakes of the Griffin car did not hold.

CHILDREN'S CUSTODY INVOLVED IN MIXUP

Fail to Agree in Assault Case Arising Out of Attempted Kidnapping

Atrial growing out of an alleged attempt at kidnapping was aired last Thursday in Deposit.

The case was that of the People against Willis Darling, which was tried before Justice L.A. Curtis last Thursday with a jury. H.W. Smith represented the prosecution and Judge L.F. Raymond appeared for the defendant.

The case was given to the jury about 3 p.m. and at 7 o'clock they reported failure to agree and were discharged and the case was set down for June 25th for a retrial.

It appears that on Tuesday afternoon, May 25, Willis Darling, Walter Darling, Grace Van Nakin and Viola Darling, who live in the neighborhood of Trout Creek, came to Deposit to obtain possession of the two daughters of Mahlon and Grace Van Nakin. It is alleged that in the attempt to kidnap the children an assault was committed on Clarence Van Nakin, brother of the two girls, who was trying to prevent his sister from being taken away. Willis Darling is the father of Mrs. Van Nakin and Walter and Viola Darling are brother and sister-in-law.

It would seem that this is an aftermath of the recent proceedings for non-support brought by Grace Van Nakin against Mahlon Van Nakin in the children's court in Binghamton, by which proceedings it was attempted to obtain the custody of the children in question and which proceeding was dismissed on motion of Mahlon Van Nakin's attorney.

Mahlon Van Nakin has brought action against his wife for divorce. What her next step will be time will show.

MINIMUM AGE FOR MARRIAGE

After Sept. 1 Boys Under 16 and Girls Under 14 Cannot Marry

Marriages of boys under 16 and girls under 14 years old, are prohibited by an amendment of the domestic relations law.

In the past, consent of the parents of all boys under 21 and girls under 18, was all that was needed to permit the issuance of a marriage license.

The amendment to the law says: "Marriage under 16 years for men and 14 for women is hereby prohibited, and any clerk knowingly issuing such license shall be fined $100 for each and every offense".

The law becomes effective Sept. 1, and as no marriage may be performed in this state without a license, it will be impossible for youths under the prescribed ages to be married.

DAY OF THE GRIST MILL PAST

(From Roxbury correspondent)

Robert Nichol has removed the grindstones from his feed mill at Roxbury and hereafter no grinding will be done. Mr. Nichol is about to install an elevator in the mill. Grist mills were once numerous in Delaware county but the raising of grain for home consumption is now almost a thing of the past.

U. & D. PUTS ON TRAINS

Railroad Plans to Accommodate Expected City Guests

(From Stamford correspondent)

The summer time-table will go into effect on the Ulster & Delaware railroad Sunday, June 27th. The railroad will give additional express service this season for the benefit of New Yorkers who want to visit the Catskills at the weekend. A fast express with few stops will leave Weehawken via the West Shore railroad Fridays at 3 p.m., reaching the mountain stations in early evening and a fast express will return Monday mornings, arriving at New York about 12:30. The company plans to give better and quicker train service this year.