LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter

100 Years Ago,

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1926

THE WEEK IN WALTON

What We Are Talking About at the County Hub

RED CROSS ROLL CALL

Engagement Announced-Polled 2,044 Votes-Truck Line to Binghamton-Autos Crash-Ribs Cracked

President Courtney has received word that an examination for chauffeurs' and operators' licenses will be held in Walton Monday, November 8. These tests have been taken by nearly one thousand persons in Walton this year.

The Southern New York Truck Terminal in Binghamton has started operation of a truck line from Binghamton to Walton. The line is under the direction of E.D. Rickerson with C.C. Rider of Binghamton as truck driver. Headquarters in Walton will be at Parker's service station and round trips will be made daily.

On Monday Austin Covert shot a five-point buck on the Fred St. John farm on Bear Spring mountain. The same day Earl Thomas returned from Big Indian with a buck which he had shot. Reports from the East Branch valley would indicate that deer are fairly plentiful in that region.

William P. Hall cracked two ribs on his right side last Thursday. He works on the town highway force and was unloading some empty cement bags at E.R. Howland's mill preparatory to putting on another load of cement. He overreached in such a way as to strike his side against the flange of the truck so heavily as to injure the ribs. Mr. Hall did not know the extent of the injury and worked that day. Monday, he consulted Dr. W.R. Gladstone who discovered the injury and gave treatment.

A total of 2,044 votes were cast in the town of Walton Tuesday, divided as follows: District 1, 386; No.2, 475; No.3, 328; No. 4,481; No. 5, 280; No.6, 94. These figures include 18 absentee ballots. George A. Peck was the first voter in district one and Mrs. Minnie Lange the last voter. Arthur Hoyt cast the first vote in district 2 and William Ostrander the last. In the third district C.A. Churchill was the first voter and Mrs. C.G. Thomson voted last. In district five C.R. Wakeman's vote was the first polled and that of Mrs. Myron More the last received. In the fifth district James DePuy voted first and Mrs. Grace Golden put in the final ballot.

Automobiles driven by Stewart Fultz and Miss Margaret Woodburn collided early Monday evening at the corner of Delaware and Bridge streets. Mr. and Mrs. Fultz were returning from a visit at Union Grove and had the side curtains in place on their car. They live on Stockton avenue and when the signal light at the street intersection flashed on the green Mr. Fultz swung his car to turn from Delaware street into Bridge street. He failed to see Miss Woodburn's car which was proceeding easterly along Delaware street and crashed broadside into her machine. Both cars were going slowly. The impact smashed the running board on the left side of the Woodburn car and jammed the door on that side. A wheel on the Fultz car was broken and the front of the machine damaged.

Announcement of the engagement of Miss Marjorie Shaw and Robert Nichols was made at a dinner party given Monday evening, November first, in the Sunlight room of the Royal café by the Misses Margurette and Marjorie Shaw. Covers were laid for twenty-six and the engagement was made known through the place cards, which represented two kewpie dolls, whose hands were joined by a betrothal ring; this, however, was cleverly hidden by means of the bit of folded paper, containing the announcement. The color scheme, for the table decoration, was gold and white. A large basket of deep yellow chrysanthemums was placed in the center of the table, while streamers of gold crepe paper were arranged in attractive design from end to end of the long table, which was effectively lighted by gold candles set in black candle-sticks. The favors, also, carried out the gold and white color scheme. The four-course turkey dinner was followed by bridge, the prize for high score going to Miss Margaret Woodburn.

The Red Cross roll call will be held beginning Armistice day under the leadership of Lee Camp. The chapter is asking for funds for the local work as well as the memberships. Half of each membership fee remains in Walton, but the returns are not sufficient to finance the local nursing program. Miss Taylor has made a splendid success of her work in the schools and the community at large. To keep her in Walton will require gifts totaling $1,000. Therefore, when solicited join the National Red Cross and also subscribe to the local health program. Preliminary to the Red Cross roll call, a union Red Cross service will be held in the United Presbyterian church Sunday evening. On Tuesday evening, Nov. 9, a Red Cross subscription supper will be held at the Walton House. Heretofore, the supper has been complimentary. This year for the first time the workers are buying their tickets. The supper will be followed by an address by Dorothy Honeywell Johnston, field representative for the National Red Cross. Mrs. Johnston was an overseas war-time worker with the Red Cross.

TRAIN HITS CAR ON OQUAGA CROSSING

Cannonsville couple Injured When Auto Overturns After Collision

(From Cannonsville correspondent)

Last Thursday afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Gransbury escaped being killed by a narrow margin at the railroad crossing at McClure. Mr. Gransbury had been to Oquaga Lake after Mrs. Gransbury, who had been employed there during the summer, driving his Ford coupe. Enroute for home at the McClure crossing they waited for the up freight to pass, then started to cross the track. Two wheels were on the track when the engine stalled and they were struck by the down freight. The car was overturned and hurled around by the impact. The train was stopped and assistance rendered. Mr. Gransbury had one finger broken and a deep gash cut across his left hand and his left leg bruised. Mrs. Gransbury sustained injuries to the back of her neck and one shoulder and one leg hurt. Dr. Axtell rendered medical assistance. The Ford coupe was completely demolished. A pet dog was in the car which escaped injury.

COUNTY STILL DRY REFERENDUM SHOWS

Delaware One of Few Giving Negative Votes

MIDDLETOWN VOTES WET

Fifty-Eight of Sixty-Six Election Districts Return Negative Majorities on Proposition

The prohibition referendum carried in the election Tuesday by over a million votes. With some districts still missing Thursday the vote was going at the ratio of nearly three to one in the affirmative. In round numbers the total vote in the state will approximate 1,750,000 in the affirmative and 600,000 in the negative.

The question submitted read as follows: "Should the congress of the United States modify the federal act to enforce the eighteenth amendment so that the same shall not prohibit the manufacture, sale, transportation, importation or exportation of beverages which are not in fact intoxicating as determined in accordance with the laws of the respective state?"

A vote of "yes" on the question was therefore an expression of opinion in favor of modification of the Volstead law and a vote of "no" was an expression against such change.

There are sixty-six election districts in Delaware county and eight of these voted in the affirmative. These districts are the Beerston district in Walton, Rock Rift district in Tompkins, Rock Valley and Lordville districts in Hancock, the lower Downsville district in Colchester, the Vega district in Roxbury, the Union Grove district in Andes and the Fleischmanns and Arkville districts in Middletown. The vote in the two Middletown districts was sufficient to give the affirmative a majority in that town.

The total vote in the county was 5,702 in favor and 8,594 against, the majority against being 2,892. There were blanks which is less than the usual number of blanks cast on a referendum in the county.

FLEE IN NIGHTCLOTHES

Brothers Escape From House As Roof Caves in

ALL BUILDINGS BURNED

Fire Starting in Barn on Murtagh Farm at Franklin consumes All Farm Buildings

The farmhouse, and its contents, the large overshot barn filled with hay and farm machinery and the wagon house and other smaller buildings on the farm of Matthew Murtagh, situated three and one-half miles from Franklin were burned to the ground Friday morning about one o'clock. Mr. Murtagh's two sons, Arnold, 28, and Burnham, 19, narrowly escaped with their lives as they fled from the burning house in their nightclothes.

The origin of the fire is unknown but it is thought that it started in the barn. Mr. and Mrs. Murtagh were visiting in Schenectady at the time and had left the farm in charge of the two sons. About one o'clock Friday morning Arnold, the elder son, awoke and the ceiling over his head was in flames. He awakened his brother, Burnham, and the two grabbed clothes hanging nearby and fled into the yard. It was only a few minutes afterwards that the roof of the house fell in. When the two men rushed from the house the large barn was already a ruin, the roof having fallen in.

Among the first to arrive at the scene of the fire was Harry McKown, who came soon after the brothers had come from the burning house, but nothing could be done but stand and watch the progress of the fire.

The farm is situated on the hill between Handsome and East brooks and the barn was one of the finest in that section. It contained about 140 tons of hay and a stack of hay nearby was also burned, as well as the silo filled with the season's crop of hay. In the wagon house, which was near the barn, was stored all the farm machinery, which was practically new. Nothing was saved from the house. The cattle and horses were in the pasture.

Mr. Murtagh carried an insurance of $11,600, which he estimated will not half cover his loss.

GRANDPARENTS HAVE CHILD

Are Given Custody of Ruth Bartholomew for the Present

Justice Kellogg on Wednesday continued the hearing of the proceedings instituted by Lillian Bartholomew, now of New Jersey, for the custody of her four year old daughter, Geraldine Ruth Bartholomew, which had been in the care of the grandparents, Col. and Janie Bartholomew, Andes.

The mother alleged that she had been compelled by the treatment accorded her to leave the home her husband, Carl Bartholomew, proved for her with his parents in Andes, and that when she attempted to take the daughter with her the grandmother prevented it and kept the child.

The case presented many problems but the evidence disclosed that the child was given a good home by the grandparents and that she was contented and happy there while the ability of the mother to provide for the daughter seemed in doubt, her earning power being limited in her present condition.

The court directed the entry of an order leaving the custody of the daughter with the grandparents until such time as the mother could show some court of competent jurisdiction had awarded her sufficient sum payable by her husband to support the child or show the court that she herself was earning sufficient moneys to do so.

Arthur F. Curtis of Delhi appeared for the petitioner and Frank C. Huntington of Oneonta for the respondents.

ORPHAN ASYLUM BURNS

Children Marched Out of Institution In Good Order

Coolness and prompt action on the part of L.W. Steele, principal in charge of the Susan Fenimore Cooper Foundation, an orphan asylum at Cooperstown, was responsible for 80 boys and girls in the school escaping uninjured from the main building, when it was destroyed by fire of unknown origin Monday. Steele detected the odor of smoke just before the morning recess at 10:30 o'clock and after locating the fire on the third floor of the building assembled the children as if nothing had happened and marched them from the building.

SUES AFTER COLLISION

Cannonsville Man Claims Auto Ran Into His Car

(From Cannonsville correspondent)

Erford Seymour of Cannonsville, who is employed in Binghamton, has sued Charles S. Sidman of New York city in supreme court to recover damages in the sum of $3,114. The action is the result of a collision between the automobiles of the above parties on the 31st of last July on the Windsor state road. Mr. Seymour claims that his car was at a standstill when struck by Sidman's automobile. Attorney H.W. Smith of Deposit represents Mr. Seymour and Attorney John E. Gates of Syracuse Mr. Sidman.

JURY LEFT OFF ONE DIGIT

Find Verdict of $1,075 instead of $10,750 asked

A verdict of $1,075 was given John T. Robinson of Hancock in his action against Joseph Palm of Hancock, tried in supreme court in Binghamton this week.

Robinson brought action for $10,750 on account of an automobile accident on the Hancock-Susquehanna highway the afternoon of August 8th. The jury returned a verdict Wednesday for $1,075 instead of the $10,750 asked.

A.C. Thomas, Robinson's brother-in-law, was at the wheel of Robinson's Gardiner sedan. Palm was driving his Chrysler sedan.

Thomas was trailing Palm for some distance and finally decided to pass him. He gave the proper signal but as he started to pass he claims Palm swung his car to the left, forcing the Robinson car, as was testified, over the shoulder of the narrow road and into the ditch. The car overturned and Robinson was hurt. The accident occurred in Pennsylvania but the suit was brought in a New York state court, as both parties reside in the latter state.

Shoot 1,000 Pheasants

(From Andes correspondent)

At the estate of R.L. Gerry, near Andes, where Mr. Gerry and his friends have their annual pheasant shoot consisting of three days, about 1,000 birds were shot, 600 being the largest day's shoot.

HIT IN HEAD WITH AXE

Fishs Eddy Child Has Narrow Escape From Death

(From Fishs Eddy correspondent)

While playing in the dooryard of her home Saturday little Charlotte Johnson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Johnson of Fishs Eddy, had the misfortune to cut her head quite badly with an axe.

Mr. Johnson had been cutting wood and his double bitted axe was lying on the woodpile. The little girl picked up the axe and raised it up above her head. The handle of the ace slipped through her hands and the corner of the axe struck her head cutting a gash about three inches long. She was rushed to Dr. Woolsey's office in Hancock, where it was found that the skull had been cut but not deep enough to penetrate to the brain. Some pieces of bone were removed and the wound closed and the little girl is getting along nicely. She will have to wear a white cap for some time, however. One bit of the axe was very sharp and one other quite dull and luckily it was the dull bit that struck the child, otherwise the story might have had a more tragic ending.

RIBS BROKEN IN AUTO UPSET

Delhi Man's Car Turns Over Twice at Bovina

(From Bovina Center correspondent)

Quite a little excitement was created Monday afternoon in town when a car driven by Riger Van Derbogart of Delhi got beyond his control. Coming down the grade into the village the machine swerved across the road opposite the store of Cecil Russell and turned twice over, throwing the driver clear from the car, who escaped with some bruises. The car was completely wrecked.

Hunters Active at Shavertown

(Shavertown correspondent)

Eno Fletcher of Shavertown was the first man to shoot a deer in that vicinity, having shot one very early Monday morning on Perch Lake hill. Three other men shot bucks near Shavertown, also a large wild cat was shot on Buck hill last Wednesday.

Kills a Bear

(From Belleayre correspondent)

Walter Merritt, Niles Fairbairn and John Gerstl, while hunting Monday, shot and killed a bear near Balsam lake.

A BAD CORNER

Six Accidents in Two Weeks on Stamford Corner

The Ford touring car of Ralph Depew of Unadilla and a Ford roadster driven by Leona Baxter of Masonville were in collision Saturday, Oct. 30, at the corner of Hobart road and Harper street. Both cars were damaged.

About 11 a. m. Monday, Mrs. Elizabeth W. Higbie of South Kortright, while driving a Ford sedan and making the turn from the Hobart road to the road to Oneonta, her car was in collision with an automobile driven by Robert Hume, who was about to turn from Harper street to the Hobart road. No one was injured but the Ford car was badly damaged.

There have been some six accidents at this point within the past two weeks and while no one has been injured, there have been several narrow escapes and the autos were damaged.