LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter

100 Years Ago,

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1926

THE WEEK IN WALTON

What We Are Talking About at the County Hub

FIVE PEOPLE UNDER CAR

Putting Rock Rift Dirt Stretch in Condition- Buys Farm for Timber- Injured by Dynamite

H.E. Wieand, vice principal of the Walton high school, won the tennis championship of Walton this week by defeating S.H. Pond.

While helping take down a glass lined milk tank at the Sheffield creamery Tuesday Walter Gray was painfully injured when the cover of the tank fell on his left foot, crushing the big toe.

A thunder storm in the autumn is looked upon by weather prophets as a sign of warm weather coming. A thunder storm passed over this section Tuesday evening. The new moon is also a warm and wet moon. The signs may denote a lot of pleasant weather before winter.

The son of Frank Ostrander, Rock Rift, was struck by the Buick car of H.V. Alberta of Deposit Wednesday. Alberta in his report to Police Justice J.M. Peake in Walton claimed the boy ran out against the car. Dr. Morrow was called but found the lad had sustained no serious injuries. The windshield of the car was broken.

H.L. Levine plans to close the Economy store in Walton early in the year. Mr. Levine has a new store in Hancock which will require the entire attention of himself and wife and while the Walton store has been well patronized the change is found desirable. Mr. Levine also conducts the moving picture theatre in Oddfellows' hall, Hancock.

The annual prize-speaking contest of Walton high school is scheduled for Tuesday evening, Dec. 7, at Walton hall. Miss M. Janie Launt has charge of the coaching of the girls and D.E. Towne of the boys. An interesting program is being planned. At the present time approximately 12 girls are preparing for the elimination contest on Nov. 23.

Dennis Dougherty of Middletown, foreman of an O. & W. section gang, was painfully injured Saturday morning when a charge of dynamite exploded unexpectedly while the men were at work in the Northfield tunnel. Mr. Dougherty suffered severe bruises on the hands and face. Dr. W.B. Morrow, railroad surgeon, dressed the man's injuries.

Miss Reta Wolfe and Carl Hood, both of Walton, were quietly married Saturday, Nov. 6, at Maplecrest, N.Y., by Rev. J.E. Norris, a former pastor of the Free Methodist church in Walton. They motored to Maplecrest that day, accompanied by the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Silas Wolfe, her sisters, Miss Ruth Wolfe and Mrs. Harry Howland, and Mr. Howland.

John S. Lakin has bought the Marshall Holley farm, river road, and will cut the timber on the place. Maurice Hinkley has bought the house on High street owned by R.Q. Smith of Hamilton, Ohio, former farm bureau manager in Delaware county, who now holds a similar position in Ohio. Both sales were made through the agency of H.M. Robinson.

T.P. Howland, town superintendent of highways, has had a force at work this week improving the section of road between the ends of the state highway at Beerston and Rock Rift. This is the section of road which the grade crossing elimination project will do away with but as this work will not be done until next year it is necessary to do something with the old road if it is to be passable in the winter and spring. Ashes are being hauled by truck from the Miner-Edgar factory at Rock Rift where they are loaded into the machines with the Edgecomb company's steam shovel. The road below the barn on the Robert Woodburn farm, formerly the Barlow place, will doubtless be widened to provide better drainage.

A Chevrolet touring car driven by Mrs. Orion Smith and a Dodge car operated by Jay Cook of Franklin collided Thursday noon at the corner of Townsend and East streets. Mrs. Smith was driving westward along East street. In the machine with her were her husband, Ichabod Sprague, and Paul and George Lurenz, all employees of the novelty works, who were on their way home for dinner. Cook was driving northerly on Townsend street. The machines came together with a resounding crash and the impact overturned the Chevrolet. The machine landed bottom side up in the ditch in front of Loren Wakeman's store with the five occupants beneath it. Mr. Wakeman rushed out and with the help of Russell Cobb, Ralph Haynes and Delos Robinson lifted the car away from the people imprisoned under it. The ditch at this point is very deep and this fact kept the occupants of the car from being crushed as they lay in the depression. The rescuers state that when they reached the scene arms and legs appeared to be sticking out from every part of the car. Mr. Sprague's leg was badly bruised where it was pinned under the body of the car and the others in the machine suffered cuts and bruises. The left front wheel was smashed and the car was a general wreck. The Cook car was not badly damaged and after the collision was brought to a stop about fifty or seventy-five feet from the corner.

Farm Bureau Proves Value In Dollars and Cents

Farmers when considering the farm bureau sometimes ask, "What do I get out of it? Is it of any value to my personal business? Is the work of definite value to the agriculture of New York state?" Questions of this kind are pertinent. It is difficult and unsatisfactory to attempt to measure any educational work strictly in terms of dollars.

There are, however, a number of outstanding things which have been accomplished during 1926 on which a dollar value may be placed if one desires, according to Jay Coryell, county agent leader in New York state.

Dairy farmers have faced the problem of reducing feed costs. A few years ago the farm bureaus over the state started hundreds of demonstrations to show the value of growing mixed grains, peas, oats and barley or oats and barley. As a direct result of this demonstration work 110,494 acres of mixed grains were grown this year in forty-five counties with an average increase of 8.3 bushels per acre. This means 917,100 additional bushels of grain available for feed. At 60 cents per bushel this represents a saving in feed bills of $550,260 or an average saving of $12,226 per county.

The alfalfa work carried out by the bureaus has met with success. Farmers were given sound advice as to land suitable for alfalfa production, use of lime, inoculation, value of hardy seed, cultural methods, etc., with the results that previous failures have been turned into present successes. As a result of farm bureau work in forty-nine counties 20,327 acres of alfalfa are being grown. It is not unreasonable to estimate that two additional tons of hay per acre is being made available for feeding. At $15 per ton this amounts to $609,810 in a single year. The average value per county is $14,490.

Harvest weather forecasts were made available to farmers and records show that 24,501 farmers in forty-five counties used the service. If we may assume that an average of $5 per farm was saved as a result of this service it amounts to $122,505 or an average of $2,722 per county for the forty-one counties.

Poultry culling has been made available to farmers through the county farm bureaus. During 1926 in fifty counties, 419,479 birds were examined and 177,760 removed from the flocks as culls. Any poultryman will agree that the removal of a cull from the flock means a saving of one dollar or more. At this figure $117,760 were saved, an average of $2,355 per county.

An intensive woodchuck control campaign was put on in thirty counties. An average of 4,300 woodchuck burrows per county treated with cyanogas, remained unopened. The killing of at least 129,000 woodchucks in New York state as a result of a few weeks' work is no small accomplishment. If we may assume that each woodchuck would have destroyed $5 worth of crops, this piece of work alone saved New York state farmers $645,000 or $21,500 per county. The above figures were checked with a representative of the company selling the cyanogas and he feels that they are entirely too low as approximately forty tons of cyanogas was sold in New York state almost entirely for woodchuck control work.

Farm bureau programs are made as forward looking as is possible through the best judgment of thinking farmers who are directing the work in the various counties. This is well illustrated by the reforestation work. This year 22,000,000 trees were planted in New York state. Nothing approaching this number has ever been planted in one year in any state before. Our records show that 5,234,730 of these were planted directly as a result of farm bureau service.

If we can accept the figures above as being reasonable accurate, the farm bureau service on the six projects mentioned has been worth $2,297,682 to New York State farmers in 1926. This is an average of $43,352 per county for the fifty-three counties reporting.

COST OF RUNNING TOWN

Expenses for Various Purposes Close to $50,000

TOWN AUDITS ARE $8,710

Half Goes for Highways and a Fifth for Bond Principal and Interest

The general expenses of the town of Walton for the past year as shown by the audits approved by the town board Thursday amount to $8,710.20. In addition there are expenditures of $430.49 in the health fund which is levied on property outside the village of Walton. Of this latter amount $356.76 is for the salary and expenses of the health officer, Dr. C.S. Gould.

In addition to the town audits the town board has approved raising the sum of $25,000 for highway purposes, as follows: General highway fund, $12,000; machinery fund, $3,000; bridge fund, $5,000; miscellaneous fund, $5,500. The machinery fund is $500 more than last year, the bridge fund has been raised $3,000 to care for the moving of the Rock Rift bridge to its new location at the foot of Wakeman brook. The miscellaneous fund is $1,000 more than last year, as the town now has to pay for brush cutting, which was formerly done by property owners. The cost of snow removal is also paid from this fund. The general highway fund is raised by a tax on property outside the village of Walton, while the other funds are a tax on the entire town.

Other town charges are $650 for the Ogden library, $100 for Memorial day expenses, $2,000 principal of bridge bonds, and $3,500 principal of highway bonds; interest on bonds, $4,513.76; interest on temporary loans, $255; certificate of indebtedness for poor relief, $1,500; certificate of indebtedness in highway fund, $1,700. There are also outstanding two certificates of indebtedness amounting to $5,000 issued to pay the town audits. The town board has adopted the policy of borrowing money if necessary to pay the audits instead of making those to whom the village owes money wait until the taxes come in during January and February.

A summary of town expenses is as follows: Town audits, including health fund, $9,113; highway funds, $25,500; retirement of bonds and interest, $10,268; library, $650; Memorial day, $100; poor relief, $1,500; certificate to cover deficiency in highway fund, $1,700; total, $48,831. In other words the ordinary expenses of governing the town of Walton are about $50,000 and in addition the town pays $35,000 to $40,000 of the cost of state and county government.

COMMITTED AS VAGRANT

Laborer Sent From Hancock to County Jail

(From Hancock correspondent)

Chief Austin McGranaghan of Hancock last week took a laborer to Delhi jail on a vagrancy charge. For several days the man had been walking around not working when he could if he would. He was to be examined by the county physician as to his sanity. He had been employed by local firms and was considered a good workman until of late he got in his mind that he was not wanted and was despondent.

AUTOS THRONG NEW ROAD

Sunday's Fine Weather Brings Out Scores of Cars

(From Rock Rift correspondent)

The number of cars which passed over the new road on Sunday was immense. Several report seeing a group of nine cars at once and from the Elderkin house up on the hill fourteen were counted in sight at once. It was a mild wonderful autumn Sunday following several rainy ones and the number enjoying it evidently were choosing the new road as of first interest. Cars from Delhi, Walton, Readburn, Deposit were recognized. As one rides over this Delaware-Catskill highway with its silver ribbon of concrete road and its scenic grandeur, with four rock hewn engineering feats accomplished, on which much of the cost has been expended but which add to the perfection of the road, one also notices the poor condition of the farms, especially of the buildings. There are very few abandoned farms as compared with the upper part of the county, only one noted between Rock Rift and Deposit, on which even the hay had not been cut this year. The condition is sad and certainly some what alarming to the country at large.

A Fine Cactus Plant

(From Cannonsville correspondent)

Mrs. O.A. Seymour of Cannonsville has a Christmas cactus which has nearly 200 buds and blossoms. The plant has been in blossom for several weeks.

BREAKS HIP WHILE ON VISIT

Falls on Porch in Deposit on Return From Ride

(From Deposit correspondent)

Mrs. Mary Wiltsie of Tannersville, who was visiting her sister, Mrs. George Beilby, in Deposit, fell on the porch Saturday on her return from an auto trip and broke her hip. She was taken to the Binghamton hospital.

Campbell Must Support Wife

William Campbell, 38, of Deposit, formerly of Hales Eddy, has failed in his attempt to deny the parentage of his two boys.

This was Campbell's defense to the non-support charge preferred against him by Carrie Campbell, his wife, also of Deposit.

Police Justice A.L. Curtis of Deposit has decreed that Campbell is guilty of non-support and has entered an order compelling him to pay $8 a week to his wife until April 1 and $10 weekly thereafter. The couple are separated.

Worse Than A Horse Thief

In a review of the book of Will Rogers, the humorist, "Letters of a Self-Made Diplomat to President Coolidge," the reviewer of the New York Times expresses the opinion that "Rogers has done more to educate the American public in world affairs than all the professors who have been elucidating the continental chaos since the Treaty of Versailles."

In brief Rogers contends that European disarmament is a farce, and that the League of Nations is a piece of eyewash designed by some of the big powers to manipulate affairs to their own advantage. On the debt question he says;

"I could have prevented this whole debt argument," he says, "and all this hatred would never have come up. I wouldn't have let them had the money in the first place!"

His analysis of Europe's attitude toward America is expressed accurately:

"You know, of course, or perhaps you have had it hinted to you, that we stand in Europe about like a Horse Thief. Now I want to report to you that that is not so. It is what you call at Amherst, 'erroneous'. We don't stand like a Horse Thief abroad. Whoever told you we did is flattering us. We don't stand as good as a Horse Thief.

"We have become so unpopular that we are as bad off as every other nation. If you can find me one nation in Europe that has a real down-to-earth, sincere regard for any other nation, I will jump out of the top of the Washington Monument and see if Jackie Coogan can catch me as I fall."

TREADWELL HIGH SCHOOL

Proposed Consolidation of Districts Approved by Voters

(From Treadwell correspondent)

There was a large attendance at the school meeting in the I.O.O.F. hall, Treadwell, Saturday afternoon. As a result of the meeting the vote stood 99 to 61 in favor of establishing a central rural school in Treadwell. The following school board was elected: Wilber Hall, five years; H.A. Morrison, four years; Mrs. George Ulmer, three years; Edward Sutherland, two years; Fred Reynolds, one year.

The districts included in the proposed consolidation are Nos. 16,21, and 33 of the town of Franklin, Nos. 5 and 6 in the town of Meredith and Nos. 7 and 14 located partly in both the towns named.

A Pretty Severe Sentence

(From Delhi correspondent)

Ward Baker of Walton was taken from Delhi Monday to Albany to serve a term of sixty days in the penitentiary for public intoxication. Justice John Bramley, before whom he was arraigned for a hearing, also imposed a fine of $50. Baker was arrested in Delhi Saturday night by Officer Swanson.

Downsville Man Joins Army

Arthur H. Edwards of Downsville has enlisted in the United States army at the Binghamton recruiting station and will be assigned to the Eighteenth infantry now stationed at Fort Hamilton.

Notice

The village board have on trial at the intersection of Delaware street and Bridge street, and at the intersection of Townsend street and Mead street automatic signal lights for the purpose of regulating traffic at these busy corners.

I have had from many, words, and from some, letters of commendation, which would indicate that this means of preventing accident and possible loss of life has the approval of a great many taxpayers.

While the signals are observed by most drivers, the attention of the police and myself has been called to the fact that a few deliberately pass these places when the red light is against them. Because it is not possible to keep an officer at these places at all times, I ask the cooperation of the public. Any citizen seeing a driver disobey the signals will please report the same to the chief of police or myself.

Arthur J. Courtney,
President Village of Walton