

LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter

100 YEARS AGO,
SATURDAY, JULY 15, 1922

THE WEEK IN WALTON

**What We Are Talking
About at the County Hub**

ENLARGING MILK PLANT

**New Ministers Coming—
More Petty Thieving—
Annual School Meeting—
Village Water Pure.**

Paul Franks, employed on Howard D. Salton's farm, river road, had the end of the thumb of his left hand torn off in a hay rigging Tuesday. Dr. W. R. Gladstone dressed the injury.

Wednesday, July 12, was the warmest day this season. The thermometer of J. Q. Barlow, local weather observer, registered 94 degrees that day and 87 degrees on Tuesday. The heat was especially felt because of the humidity.

The macadam streets in the village are being treated to tarvia and where needed repairs are being made. The work will take several days. The Barrett company will also treat the state road from Delancey to Beerston with tarvia, working out of Walton.

Mrs. William McCabe of Griswold street tripped over some chicken wire in her yard Wednesday and fell, injuring her shoulder. Dr. Holley found no bones broken, but it will be several days before Mrs. McCabe recovers from the shock of the accident.

The New Amsterdam, the ship on which Miss Margaret Schlafer, a teacher in the Walton schools, sailed for Germany Saturday, was compelled to put back into New York harbor when only a few hours out from port on account of fire, which was discovered in the hold. The ship sailed Tuesday.

Rev. Milward W. Riker of Henderson, Kentucky, the new rector of Christ Episcopal church, will arrive in Walton with his family on July 21, it is expected, and will conduct services the following Sunday. Rev. Stanley U. North of Park Ridge, N. J., who recently accepted a call to the pastorate of the Congregational church, is expected about Aug. 1.

The annual school meeting of distract No. 1 will be held in the high school auditorium on Tuesday evening, Aug. 1, at 8 o'clock. The election of trustees takes place on the following afternoon, Wednesday, Aug. 2. The terms of Samuel H. Fancher, Dr. D. W. Nutt and W. E. Henderson expire this year. The report of the treasurer, A. H. Lincoln, shows disbursements of \$66,230.29 for general purposes, including teachers' salaries, and \$2,872.70 for principal of bonds and interest.

Jay Darling and his employee, Jay Utter, were arrested by Corporal J. J. Warner of the state police Friday on a charge of driving trucks with loads exceeding the limit fixed by law, and in the case of Utter of driving for hire without a chauffeur's license. The men were brought before Justice A. S. Nichols and Utter plead guilty to the last charge and paid a fine of \$5. On the charge of overloading the trucks the men claimed they were within the limits specified in the licenses issued for the trucks and the cases were set down for trial on Monday afternoon, July 17.

A. G. Lauder of the firm of Nelson & Lauder, chemists and sanitary engineers of Binghamton, was in Walton last week and made an inspection of the water supply, taking samples for analysis from the various sources, and also taking samples from Courtney's store and the Royal

cafe taps. The report of the analysis showed the water to be free from intestinal and sewage types of bacteria in each case and that all the filtered water was clear and in good sanitary condition. These waters are in a good sanitary condition at this time, even after the prolonged rains.

About 10:30 Friday night Mrs. Percy Spring was awakened by the rattling of milk bottles. Miss Ada King, who lives next door, was also aroused by the noise and thought someone was attempting to rob the Spring refrigerator. Miss King telephoned for the police and A. J. Courtney with a posse of four men surrounded the house in hope of catching the prowler but they arrived too late. It is thought that probably he heard Miss King telephone and took alarm. The door of the refrigerator which had been tightly closed was found to be part way open. The Spring refrigerator was robbed several weeks ago on the night when the Galley barn burned.

Breakstone Brothers have started work on an extensive addition to the former Munn piano back factory at West End, which they have used since purchasing the building in connection with their creamery business in the Walton Farmers Dairy company's plant nearby. The addition will be of the same concrete block construction as the piano factory structure and will be used in connection with a part of the original building for the housing of a milk flour department. With the completion of the work, and the installation of new machinery the Breakstone plant will have a manufacturing capacity of upwards of fifty barrels of milk flour a day. Milk flour is a comparatively new product for which an active market demand exists. The improvements involve the expenditure of about \$9,000.

HERBERT SMITH FACES DEATH CHAIR SOON

**Conviction of Hancock Man
on Murder Charge Upheld**

SET DATE OF EXECUTION

**Court of Appeals
Sustains Verdict of Jury and
Executive Clemency Now
Remains Only Hope.**

The court of appeals has affirmed the conviction for murder in the first degree of Herbert W. Smith of Hancock, arrested in Binghamton for the murder of Lewis Johnson at Nineveh Junction on Jan. 30, 1921.

The court of appeals on Wednesday announced its decision in the case, which was argued some time ago by District Attorney W. N. Truesdell of Chenango county and David F. Lee, counsel for the defense.

Smith, after escaping the death chair after his first trial, because of alleged errors in the conduct of the trial and reception of the evidence, is now to have the extreme penalty imposed by Justice Abraham L. Kellogg of Oneonta, who presided at both trials in Norwich. Just when sentence will be pronounced has not yet been determined.

Smith had broken into the store at Nineveh Junction operated by Johnson's father, George H. Johnson, who was the postmaster of the village. He was found and captured by the father and son, and while the father was telephoning for help, Smith seized a shotgun in his manacled hands and turned it on Lewis Johnson, the latter dying instantly.

Smith escaped from the store and after many days, during which scores participated in the manhunt, he was captured in Binghamton. He was first tried in March, 1921, and the jury brought in a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree. This conviction was appealed by Smith's attorney,

David F. Lee of Norwich, and a new trial was granted by the higher court on the ground of errors on the trial prejudicial to the defendant Smith.

His second trial was just a year later, in March of this year, and the verdict was repeated. His defense was that he picked up the shotgun, which belonged to the victim, as it stood against the counter, to frighten his captor and make his escape, and that it discharged accidentally.

Smith is now in the deathhouse at Sing Sing prison, where he has made quite a name for himself through his drawings in water color and pencil. His only hope of escape from the death penalty now is by executive action on the part of Governor Miller.

EXPENSIVE ORANGE CRUSHES

**Holdup Men Ask for Drinks
and Then Rob Schoonover.**

Early last Friday evening three men in an automobile stopped at John Schoonover's refreshment stand on the Liberty highway between Fishs Eddy and Hancock and asked for glasses of orange crush. Mr. Schoonover bent over to get it and when he raised up three guns were pointed at him. One of the men ordered Schoonover to step back and when he did so the man walked around the counter and took the cigar box used for keeping change. The three then backed out of the store and made a hasty retreat in their Buick car. The license plate of the machine was covered with mud and the number was not secured by Mr. Schoonover. There was about \$5 in change in the cigar box, but Mr. Schoonover had a much larger sum upon his person. The thieves, however, made no effort to search his person.

A COALLESS WINTER MUST SOON BE FACED

**Stock of Walton Dealers Is
Nearly Gone and No More
Orders Will Be Filled**

A shortage of coal is being experienced in Walton as a result of the strike of the miners and unless work is soon resumed at the mines and shipments made at once the situation will become acute.

Stove and egg coal is practically out of the market and even the small sizes are difficult to obtain. It is not believed that the amount of coal put in the bins in the spring for next winter's use is up to normal and this fact will cause an added demand as winter approaches.

President Harding has suggested a commission consisting of three representatives of the miners and three of the operators and five men representing the public who shall be appointed by the president, this commission to have power to determine the wage scale and working conditions of the miners and also to examine into the profits and practices of the operators. The miners would return to work at the old scale until the commission makes its findings. No definite action upon the suggestion has been taken by the two groups.

The demand for fuel, with stocks in the hands of consumers so low and with fall approaching, will be so great that even if the mines should reopen at once it is doubtful if enough coal could be mined to meet the daily demand.

The Camp company has on hand about 80 tons of pea coal and 40 tons of egg. Their stocks of chestnut and stove coal are entirely depleted. Lee Camp says that the coal companies state that they will be unable to fill any more orders until the miners return to work, but that he feels that the situation will be cleared up in 20 or 30 days and that the Camp company will again be able to supply their customers. At present, however, no orders are being taken for chestnut or stove coal.

Edwin R. Howland has about 400 tons of coal on hand but has

been unable to get orders filled for more for some time. He states that he has approximately 100 tons of stove coal, 150 of chestnut, 100 of egg and 50 of pea. After this stock is exhausted he will be unable to fill orders until shipments are resumed from the mines.

Frank W. McCook has a carload of chestnut and pea coal on hand. He states that it is almost impossible to get any size larger than chestnut.

O. J. Wolfe, the other local coal dealer, has a carload of stove coal in transit and a small quantity of pea coal on hand. He finds the market conditions the same as the other dealers.

"PEEPING TOM" NOW RIDES IN AUTOMOBILE

**F. C. Darling Outdistanced
in Speedy Race With Fleeing
Midnight Prowlers**

About 1:30 o'clock Tuesday morning Mrs. F. C. Darling, who lives on the southeast corner of Griswold and Union streets, Walton, was awakened and glancing out of the window saw two men standing on the lawn of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. R. Remington, across the street. Mrs. Darling at once awakened her husband, who looked out and also saw the men.

Mr. Darling dressed as fast as possible but before he could leave the house an automobile came around the corner of Union and Griswold streets and proceeded down Griswold street. Thinking that the men had gotten into the automobile and he might be able to find the car further down the street, Mr. Darling left the house and walked toward Delaware street. He had reached the East Brook bridge on Griswold street when he again heard a car coming around the corner by the Remington home. Thinking that the driver would be some one he knew who would help him to locate the first car Mr. Darling stepped into the road and motioned with his arms for the machine to stop.

Instead the driver of the approaching machine put on power and headed the car directly at Mr. Darling, who was forced to jump aside to avoid being run down. The car then kept on down Griswold street and turned up the river road toward Hamden.

Mr. Darling ran down to the Royal cafe and tried to find a car on Delaware street but several minutes passed before he located a machine which took him home where he got his own car out. Then accompanied by Tom Leddy, Fraser Turnbull and Frank Medrick, Mr. Darling drove his car at top speed to Hamden but without coming upon any other car. The machine which tried to run him down either turned into one of the side roads or the minutes headway gained gave a start which could not be overcome.

The two men seen by Mr. and Mrs. Darling had evidently been trying to enter the Remington home through the cellar door. Mr. Darling believes that when the first automobile drove around the corner the two men did not get into it but were in hiding somewheres and that the same machine picked them up on the second trip around. One of the men on the lawn wore a light suit but it was

too dark to recognize either.

LAY CHURCH CORNER STONE

**Special Services at Lake
Delaware on July 25th.**

(Lake Delaware cor.)

St. James' day, July 25, is the day chosen for the laying of the corner stone of the new church being built by Miss Angelica Gerry. Bishop-elect Oldham is expected and several clergymen from New York city, also all clergymen from near towns and cities. Services begin with a service at the chapel, then the vested clergy, accompanied by the boys' choir from the Lake Delaware boys' camp, go in procession from the chapel to the grounds at the "Hook," where the work is being done. Service will be held there at 11 a. m. Everyone is invited to attend this laying of the corner stone for the church. A rectory, chapel and parish house are also under construction.

MILL HANDS SAVE HOUSE

**Fishs Eddy Home Caught
Fire Around Chimney.**

(From Fishs Eddy cor.)

Tuesday forenoon the home of Leland LaValley at Fishs Eddy was discovered on fire. One of the children ran to the saw mill nearby and gave the alarm. The mill hands quickly responded and the fire, which caught around the chimney, was soon extinguished. The damage was slight.


SPARKS SET BARN AFIRE

**Brewer Building at Sidney
Center Damaged by Flames.**

(Sidney Center cor.)

George Brewer's barn near the railroad track at Sidney Center was badly damaged by fire last Friday morning. It is supposed to have caught fire from a passing train and was discovered at about 11 o'clock. The fire department was called out, but the flames had been considerably subdued by the use of a fire extinguisher by the time the hose cart arrived. The roof of the building was burned and the hay damaged by water.

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GOOD COAL--HERE'S AN
ADDRESS THAT'S YOUR GOAL!**



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