

LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter

100 YEARS AGO,
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1922

THE WEEK IN WALTON

What We Are Talking About
at the County Hub

LEG BROKEN UNDER CAR

**School Has Coal Supply—
Million and Half Deposits—
Buys Dry Cleaning Business.**

Ulysses Wood, employed on the West brook road construction, had his toe badly crushed by a sledge one day this week.

The deposits of the First National bank of Walton, as shown by the report printed in another column, total a million and one-half dollars.

O. & W. Engineer Fred D. McMullen, a former Walton man, will be a candidate for mayor on the Independent Citizens' ticket in Norwich at the fall election. Mr. McMullen has previously served the city as mayor.

The Economy store of Delhi has opened a store in the Kinch building, Delaware street. Mrs. Anson Kinch recently remodeled the building, the former Kinch blacksmith shop, so as to provide an excellent store room.

The annual inspection of the Walton fire department will be held next Wednesday evening, Sept. 27, at 7:30 o'clock at Walton Hall. No parade will be held but a social evening with refreshments will be enjoyed following the inspection.

Walton friends have received invitations to the marriage of Miss Anna Lee Cook to Arthur E. Conner at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Erwin Cox, Ferris, Texas, on Saturday, Sept. 30, at 8 o'clock in the evening.

The truck driven by M. S. Townsend struck the side of Austin Trask's milk truck at the corner of Delaware and Bridge streets Monday morning. The damage was slight. The Trask machine was coming out of Bridge street and had the right of way.

At the recent encampment of the Tenth regiment at Peekskill it was found that there were sixteen Spanish American war veterans still serving in the guard. Two of these men, Sergeants A. E. Oothoudt and J. J. Connelly were members of Company F of Walton.

In many cities and villages the public schools face the winter months with an inadequate supply of fuel. The Walton high school is an exception as sufficient coal and wood is now on hand to last practically through the winter. Local dealers state that coal is now coming in much faster than anticipated by them.

Veyrill Laidlaw, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Laidlaw of Delancey, has bought the dry cleaning establishment of Leslie Perry located in the rear of Dr. J. A. Holley's residence, adjoining Walton Hall. Mr. Laidlaw was for a time in the employ of Mr. Perry and is a competent workman. Mr. Perry has not decided on his plans.

One morning recently six Walton men were gathered on the porch of the Riverview hotel for a visit when someone started figuring on the average age of the members of the group. It was found that this was nearly 84 years. The six men and their ages are as follows: Jared Chace, 84 years; Henry Perkins, 82 years; Charles H. Weaver, 82 years; Frank Fish, 82 years; J. I. Webb, 85 years; Judd Robinson, 86 years. The total including the

days above the age stated, brings the total to 504 years.

The Delhi Masonic lodge has arranged for a free moving picture entertainment in the opera house at the county seat next Thursday evening when the pictures of the dedication of the Soldiers' and Sailors' home in Utica will be shown on the screen. The reels also include views of the various Masonic activities in Utica. All Masons and their families are urged to attend. Thursday is the regular meeting night of the Walton lodge but no degree work will be carried out in order to give those who desire an opportunity to visit Delhi.

Miss Belle Rosa, daughter of W. R. Rosa of West brook, had her left leg fractured late Sunday afternoon when the light Ford car in which she was riding with Chester Elmore, went over a bank on the West brook road between the farm houses of James Chambers and James Baker. Miss Elmore, who has been working for Dr. and Mrs. D. W. Nutt, had driven home with her parents after church and was on her way back to the village. The Ford was the machine at one time owned by William Mastro, the barber, and consists of little more than the chassis. Theodore Rosa, brother of Miss Rosa, had started down the highway on his bicycle and the car was following close behind him when the accident occurred. The driver states he was driving near the edge of the road when the front wheel ran over a pile of crushed stone left there, when the road was finished. This threw the machine toward the ditch and he gave a quick turn, causing the machine to shoot across the road, over the fence, and down the bank, ending over twice. Both occupants were thrown out and Miss Rosa's leg was broken just below the hip. The fracture was reduced by Dr. C. S. Gould. The Ford ended over the wire fence without knocking the fence down.

DRUNKEN MOTORISTS MAY LOSE LICENSES TO DRIVE MACHINES

New steps were taken this week by the state tax commission in its campaign for stricter enforcement of the motor vehicle law and safety and protection for the careful users of the state highways. They took the form of two important bulletins, one discussing offenses against the motor vehicle law and penalties and proceedings for their punishment, and the other containing the commission's rules and regulations relating to lights on motor vehicles, drawn up under the new "anti-glare headlight law."

The first bulletin makes a careful analysis of the courts and officers having jurisdiction over violations of the motor vehicle law in cities, towns and villages. It calls special attention to the provisions of the law relating to the suspension and revocation of licenses. The commission no longer has the power to suspend or revoke licenses, but this power has been turned over to magistrates in cities and county judges in all counties except those in Greater New York.

The commission points out that conviction for speeding for the third time makes a revocation of the speeder's license mandatory. The judicial officer has no discretion in the matter and must revoke the license. Furthermore, no new license may be issued to such a person for at least six months.

The tax commission alone has the power to restore or re-issue licenses after suspension or revocation. In this connection the commission states that it has adopted the definite rule that licenses revoked for operating a car while in a state of intoxication will not be reissued for the period of one year. The

commission urges magistrates and county judges to make use of the power of suspension and revocation in punishing chronic violators of the motor vehicle law. Complaints involving the revocation of a license will come before County Judge A. J. McNaught of Stamford in Delaware county.

The bulletin calls attention to the fact that peace officers and private persons as well may arrest, without a warrant, persons committing or attempting to commit a misdemeanor in their presence.

The other bulletin issued at the same time contains the law, rules and regulations relating to lights on motor vehicles. No headlight lens or device may hereafter be used unless it conforms with the specifications of the Illuminating Engineering society. All headlight bulbs must be of 21 candlepower, no more or no less. Both headlight lenses must be the same. All reflectors must be bright and free from rust and dents.

While there are something like 100 different headlight lenses and devices that have been approved for use in the state at various times, action has been taken by the tax commission looking to the revocation of more than sixty of these certificates of approval. The manufacturers have been notified that there will be a hearing on the subject in the capitol, Sept. 26th.

WOMAN MEETS DEATH AS CAR HITS FENCE

**Mrs. Cameron Killed When
Hurled Into Brook Bed**

LIGHTS OUT ON CURVE

**Alex Cameron's Car Ran Into
the Fence Catapulting Wife
Into Creek.**

(From Delhi correspondent.)

Mrs. Alex Cameron, who with her husband owned and occupied a farm on Federal Hill, Delhi, was fatally injured Sunday evening as she and her husband were driving home in their Chevrolet car from Delhi where they had attended service at the Second Presbyterian church. They had driven down to hear Rev. A. M. Forrester, a former pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, to whom they were greatly attached. Returning home they left the Little Delaware road at the turn near George Hughes' residence and were driving up the narrow and steep Federal Hill road at a point near a stone bridge half a mile from the turn when their lights went out. They narrowly missed going off the bridge and a few rods further on they ran into the barbed wire fence and the car lurched, throwing Mrs. Cameron out and she fell headlong into the bed of the creek below.

Being a large, heavy woman the fall of six or seven feet was fatal, her skull being crushed and a gash three inches long cut on her forehead. The car righted itself and Mr. Cameron, who was not thrown out, sustained no injury. He hurried to his wife's assistance but found her body wedged in between the bank and the stream bed so it was impossible to move her. He secured assistance and she was with considerable difficulty taken out, placed in the car and taken to her home, but was dead before reaching there. Dr. Goodrich of Delhi was promptly called to the scene of the accident and accompanied them to the house but could do nothing for the unfortunate woman.

Mrs. Cameron's maiden name was Fannie Shaver. She had been twice married, her former husband being Walter Oliver, and after his death she married Mr. Cameron. She had no children.

The funeral was held Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock from her late home, conducted by Rev. W. S. Robinson, her pastor.

TWO PERSONS KILLED WHEN CAR OVERTURNS

**Beulah Telford of Walton
Meets Death Near Stamford**

MACHINE HIT CULVERT

**Occupants Pinned Under
Roadster and Walton Girl
Died in Few Minutes After
Being Released.**

Miss Beulah Telford, the 18 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William R. Telford of the Oxbow, town of Walton, was almost instantly killed, and William McKillip of Stamford, 22 years of age, was fatally injured when a Buick roadster driven by McKillip skidded and overturned about 3 o'clock Monday afternoon on the Stamford-Oneonta state road about three miles out of Stamford village.

Miss Telford and Miss Evelyn Pomeroy, another Walton girl, have been employed during the summer at the New Grant house in Stamford. Miss Pomeroy returned home the previous week to be present at the opening of the Walton high school. The New Grant closed Saturday and Miss Telford remained in Stamford for a few days longer, expecting to return home Tuesday or Wednesday. She was junior in the Walton high school last year, having taken the business course, and in a letter home had expressed a desire to attend the Albany Business college this year.

William McKillip, employed in The Oasis, a Stamford refreshment place conducted by Grandison Warren, had been attentive to Miss Telford during her stay in Stamford, and on Monday afternoon obtained Mr. Warren's permission to give Miss Telford an hour's ride in the Buick six roadster owned by Mr. Warren.

No cars were near when the accident occurred and just what happened is a matter of conjecture. Marks for some thirty feet along the highway where the accident occurred would indicate that the brakes had been suddenly applied. The machine had hit a culvert near a curve and changed ends, turning over and pinning the occupants beneath the overturned machine. Miss Telford breathed a few times after Mrs. W. C. Hunt, who lives nearby, reached the overturned car. Mr. McKillip was removed to his home in Stamford and regained consciousness for a time, but died about 6 o'clock in the evening, three hours after the accident. When conscious he did not give any explanation of how the accident occurred and no effort was made to secure a statement from him.

The top of the Buick was down and the machine itself was not badly damaged. The rim of the steering wheel was smashed, the windshield broken, the fenders bent and the body somewhat jammed.

While motorists and others arriving on the scene were of the opinion that the car was moving rapidly and that speed was responsible for the accident, McKillip's employer, Mr. Warren, states that the young man was an excellent driver and expressed the belief that he had turned out in meeting a passing motorist or perhaps that the other driver was too near the center of the highway, forcing him out against the culvert.

Miss Telford was injured about the head and also sustained internal injuries, dying almost instantly. The young man's chest was crushed in, one lung being penetrated. From the first it was seen that his injuries were mortal. McKillip was a son of Mrs. Anna McKillip and besides his mother leaves two brothers, Melvin and Bennie. He had been employed as a chauffeur by Fred Cook & Son previous to his summer engagement with Mr. Warren and had done trucking for that firm between Stamford and Oneonta.

Beulah Telford was the oldest child of Mr. and Mrs. William R. Telford who moved about ten years ago from Cabin Hill to the

Isaac Neale farm at the Oxbow, town of Walton, which Mr. Telford then purchased. Beulah was a general favorite with her schoolmates and had taken great interest in her work in the business course. She would have graduated next June had she continued her course instead of entering the Albany Business college, as she had expressed a hope of doing. Mrs. Telford has been ill much of the summer and the shock of her daughter's death has proved serious. Besides the parents there are two children in the family, Clarence and Gladys, both younger than Beulah.

The funeral service was held at noon Thursday at the farm home, conducted by Rev. F. C. Davidson, pastor of the United Presbyterian church. The body was taken to Andes for burial.

SPENT WOMAN'S MONEY

**Mrs. Elmer Strong of Franklin
Found Incompetent.**

BELL HOP IS INVOLVED

**Testimony at Hearing
Disclosed Strange Influence
of Youth Over Aged Franklin
Woman.**

Mrs. Emer A. Strong, widow of the late Asa G. Strong, and long a resident of Oneonta but more recently residing in Franklin, was Friday adjudged incompetent to care for her property and a committee has been appointed. The verdict was rendered by a sheriff's jury with John G. More of Walton as commissioner. The complaint was lodged by relatives who found it the only possible step under the circumstances. Former County Judge L. F. Raymond of Franklin represented the petitioners.

The evidence presented to the jury disclosed that she has dissipated about two-thirds of her property, which a few months ago was estimated at fully \$10,000.

Mrs. Strong was a guest at the Oneonta hotel in the late spring and while there Lester Valentine, employed as a bell hop there, ingratiated himself in her esteem and when she left for Franklin to open her home there about May 1, he accompanied her. About that time, according to the evidence presented at Franklin Friday she gave him the money with which to purchase a Ford car. While the car was not fully paid for, he managed to secure it and drove it about the country much, Mrs. Strong accompanying at times. On other trips it is said that he was accompanied by others.

After a few weeks protests having reached Mrs. Strong as to the manner in which she was handing out money to Valentine, they left Franklin and it was understood that they went to Oquaga lake, near Deposit.

Recently Colonel Elmer Lindsay of the United States army reached Franklin and being a relative commenced an investigation. It resulted in finding Mrs. Strong and Valentine in a luxuriously furnished apartment in Binghamton, costing, it is said, \$80 monthly. Mrs. Strong was found alone and she was invited to take a ride which she did and she was brought back to her own home in Franklin.

Further investigations disclosed that Valentine had at various times obtained quite large sums of money from Mrs. Strong. Disclosures were such that it seemed essential that legal steps be taken to prevent further reduction of her finances and the petition for a commission resulted. The jury found Mrs. Strong had been incompetent since last May.

E. A. Stewart of Franklin has been named as the commission to care for Mrs. Strong's property. The witnesses at the hearing included Mrs. Martha Warren of Walton, a sister-in-law; Col. Lindsay, Edwin Mitchell, Dr. Winans, Dr. Warren, Judge Raymond, E. C. Stewart and others.