

LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter

100 YEARS AGO,
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1923

THE WEEK IN WALTON

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

SEEK MISSING BOARDER

**Fire Wardens Appointed—
New Rural Mail Carrier—
Death Caused by Accident.**

Dr. Henri F. Mace has opened an office at 152 Delaware street in rooms over the store formerly occupied by Mrs. Boyd's tea room.

E. F. Goodrich, Albert Holley, John McGibbon and Frank Howard have been appointed fire wardens of the town of Walton by the town board.

Mrs. Hannah Torrey in coming out of Christ church Sunday morning caught her heel on a step in the vestibule and fell and has since been confined to her home with a sprained ankle.

George VanLoan of Rock Rift, while dumping a coal car at the factory there, was struck on the jaw by a lever. A bad gash was cut in the chin and the jawbone cracked. Dr. Morrow was called in attendance.

Donald McGibbon has been appointer carrier on rural route number three, which takes in Pines brook, Loomis, and Northfield, and will begin his work February 19th. Oscar M. Schriber has acted as temporary carrier.

F. C. Darling has sold the business block on Delaware street formerly known as the Rothensies block, to E. J. Vail. The Walton Auto Sales company, which has the Ford agency, will occupy the store. Mr. Darling will move his plumbing business to another location.

The Walton high school basketball team won the fifth consecutive victory Friday evening by defeating the Stamford school five in the high school auditorium. The final score was 50 to 6. The Walton girls defeated the Gilbertsville girls by a score as one-sided.

Edgar Johnson of Readburn, while at work getting out wood for the Miner-Edgar company of Rock Rift was thrown against a wood rigging and fractured a rib. Dr. Gould was called in attendance Monday, several days after the accident happened, and found the injury mentioned.

Clayton L. Wheeler of Hancock, as executor of a relative's estate, has sold to George E. Edgecomb and Francis J. Mulvaney of Binghamton 20 13-100 acres of land in Johnson City. The consideration is given as \$10,500. Mr. Edgecomb is the superintendent of construction in the Walton highway improvement.

D. W. Coulter of Andes has leased of Russell Archibald of Delhi the building on Delaware street adjoining the Archibald garage which was formerly occupied by Leslie Hector as a paint shop. Mr. Coulter has the Studebaker agency and plans to conduct a sales and service station. He will move his family to Walton.

The Ontario & Western railroad is erecting the hangers for the sidewalk which the village will build on the north side of "dry bridge" over the railroad tracks on Burton street. The company has made a survey of the bridge and its approaches with a view to building a steel structure to replace the present antiquated wooden bridge. It is stated that this work may be undertaken in the near future.

Samuel Nichols, son of Martin K. Nichols of Walton, died Tues-

day in Fox hospital, Oneonta, from injuries received on Sunday night, Jan. 28, when he was struck in the side by a brake stick while at his work in the D. & H. yards in Oneonta. The blow caused a rupture of the spleen which resulted in death, as stated. Mr. Nichols, who was 35 years of age, is survived by his wife. He leaves also his father, M. K. Nichols, of Walton, and a brother, Austin Nichols, of Norwich.

Ash Wednesday falls this year on February 14, and marks the beginning of the Lenten season. Religiously considered, Ash Wednesday takes its name from the ceremonial use of ashes as a symbol of penitence, which is traced back to the penance of sackcloth and ashes spoken of by the Old Testament prophets. Palm Sunday with its distribution of palms, and special masses and services comes on March 25; the next Friday is Good Friday, or day of the crucifixion, and then follows the joyous season that starts with Easter Sunday.

Last fall a young man came to the Riverview hotel and engaged board there. He gave his name as Clarence Fowler and was employed about town on various odd jobs until a day or two after Christmas when he secured work in the Nestle plant. On the morning he was to begin his new employment he left the hotel dressed in his overalls and work clothes and carrying his dinner pail. He did not return that night and has not appeared since, nor did he report for work at the creamery. J. M. Knapp, proprietor of the hotel, states that Fowler left behind an overcoat and a quantity of clothing, all nearly new, and for this reason believes that an effort should be made to locate the young man or to ascertain if he has met with foul play. Fowler owed a two weeks board bill when he left but the value of the articles he left behind was so much greater than this that Mr. Knapp believes that this is not the cause of his disappearance.

TAKE WALTON SCHOOL FOR SPECIAL SURVEY

**Do Academic Students Use
Better English Than Ones in
Special Courses?**

A request has come from Dr. Sherman Williams of the state department of education asking Miss Laura Eggleston, history teacher of the high school, to assist in revising the list of history readings and biography. Dr. Williams in his letter stated that the request is sent "to a few of the most successful history teachers in the high schools of our state." This is a compliment, indeed, to Miss Eggleston and a credit to Walton high school.

Word has also been received from the specialist in drawing that since Miss Launt is a teacher certified for advanced certificate courses in drawing, there will be no further necessity for regents examinations in drawing in Walton high school so long as Miss Launt is instructor. The state department accepts her work upon certification of the principal.

Walton high school has been designated as one of the ten high schools in the state requested to make a survey of English ability as between students in vocational agriculture and students of like grade taking regular academic work. The survey is being made by Purdue university, Lafayette, Indiana, and the test consists of a mental survey from the department of psychology of Indiana university and the Purdue English test.

Walton high school has accepted an invitation to take part in an interscholastic oratorical contest with the schools of Stamford, Hobart and Delhi, to be held at Delhi on March 22nd. One boy and one girl will represent each of the high schools. First and

second prizes for boys and for girls will be given by merchants of Delhi.

BURIED UNDER LOOSE COAL

**Delhi Man Covered Up to
Neck With Anthracite.**

(From Delhi cor.)

Stanley Bishop, an employee of the Dean & Bramley company of Delhi, was helping unload coal at the plant Monday afternoon about two o'clock, and was in the act of loosening up the coal in a bin in the elevator when the frozen coal above loosened and came down in a mass, burying Mr. Bishop up to his neck. It took two and a half hours to release him as great care had to be taken not to loosen more coal above and thus bury him deeper among the black diamonds. He was thoroughly chilled and was badly bruised, but no bones were broken. By advice of his physician he has been in bed since the accident, being very stiff and sore and lame.

FORMER COUNTY CLERK DIES AT DELHI HOME

**James K. Penfield Died on
Thursday Morning**

LONG IN BUSINESS LIFE

**For Many Years Conducted
Milling Company Established
by His Father at County Seat.**

(From Delhi correspondent.)

James K. Penfield, practically a life-long resident of Delhi and one of the village's octogenarians, passed away at his home on Delaware avenue at 10 o'clock Thursday morning, Feb. 8.

He was born at Oberlin, Ohio, Jan. 31, 1840, and had just passed his 83rd birthday. He was the son of Deacon Orrin S. Penfield, one of the pioneers of Delaware county, who first settled at Harpersfield Center and was engaged there in the manufacture of axes. His mother was Margaret Kedzie, a member of a well known Delaware county family. On coming to Delhi Deacon Orrin Penfield during his lifetime conducted the well known Delhi grist mills and woolen mills. James K. Penfield succeeded his father in the same line of business and while the manufacture of woolen cloth at the Delhi woolen mills was abandoned many years ago, the mill and feed business was continued and is still conducted by the concern known as the Penfield Milling company.

The subject of this sketch always took a lively interest in the affairs of the village. He was a Republican in politics but never an office seeker except that he was appointed county clerk by Governor Hughes to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the late Charles Herring. At the expiration of this term he was nominated by the Republicans for the same office but was defeated, not for a lack of personal popularity but owing to warring factions which existed in the Republican party of Delaware county at that time.

The Penfield family have always been loyal workers in and supporters of the Second Presbyterian church. In fact James K. Penfield was one of its staunchest pillars during his entire active life.

Mr. Penfield went out as a lieutenant of Company C of the 144th Regiment. He was always an active member of English post G. A. R. of Delhi and seldom failed to attend any of its meetings. As a man he was genial, kind, and lovable, ever loving his neighbor as himself.

Mr. Penfield was twice married. His first wife was Mary Slade of Port Jervis, but preceptress of Delaware academy at the time of her marriage. Four children were born of this union, all of whom survive: Mary, wife of James L. Jacobs of New York; Isabel, who

has remained at home with her father, but who unfortunately is ill with pneumonia in New York at this time; Charles, living at Paxton, California; and Samuel F. Penfield of Delhi. He also leaves six grandchildren. His second wife was Jennie Rose, daughter of Edmund Rose of Elk Creek, who died in 1912.

The funeral will not be held until Tuesday at the late home, but at an hour not yet decided upon.

MAPLE PRODUCERS' PLANS

**New Manager Secured
to Handle Pooled Syrup
Products.**

J. A. Robinson attended the annual meeting of the Maple Producers' Co-operative association held in Syracuse Tuesday. Mr. Robinson is a director of the association.

A statement recently sent to members of the association shows that 974 maple producers are members of the co-operative and that the association handled for them 146,480 gallons of syrup in 1922. The average sale price on the syrup marketed was \$1.57 per gallon. The statement recognizes that returns to members have been unsatisfactory during the past year and points out as the chief reason for this condition the large expense of organizing and setting up facilities to handle and sell the members' product. The association has recently been reorganized and F. E. Robertson, who has handled the New York state wool pool for the past two years has been employed as manager of the Maple Producers' Co-operative association, Inc. Mr. Robertson will continue as manager of the New York State Wool Growers' association.

GIRL'S FINGERS BLOWN OFF

**Dynamite Cartridge Exploded
While Being Examined.**

(Bovina Center correspondent.)

Irene Chaney of upper Bovina is recovering in the Delhi hospital from an accident of Friday, Feb. 2. A dynamite cartridge, found in the attic of the residence on the Maynard farm, where she lives, was being examined when it exploded, inflicting severe wounds on both hands and a slight flesh wound in the abdomen. She will probably lose the second and third fingers of the right hand at the first joint. The thumb of that hand was also injured and one finger of the left hand.

MAKE BRIDGES STATE CHARGE

**Proposed Law Would Greatly
Aid Up-State Counties.**

One of the bills now before the legislature of much importance locally is that amending the highway law in relation to bridges on state and county highways. Under the present law the construction and repair of such bridges is a town charge. Under the proposed change the expenses of construction, reconstruction and repairs of bridges would be borne as follows: Upon a state highway, by the state; upon a county highway, one-half by the state and one-half by the county. The towns of Delaware county have been frequently called upon in recent years to make repairs to bridges on state and county highways damaged by overloaded trucks. Should the bill become law damage such as that caused last summer by storms which washed out two concrete bridges on the state road in the town of Colchester would be borne by the state.

APPLY FOR TROUT NOW

**Conservation Commission
Booking Requests for Spring
Distribution.**

Applications for the different species of trout distributed from

the state hatcheries by the conservation commission are now being filed with the commission. The earlier these applications are received the more certain they are of attention during the coming season. Applications for muskalong, pike perch, black bass and yellow perch must be made before Mar. 1. When it is considered that the commission handles over 6,000 applications for fish for various public waters of the state, the importance of filing requests within the specified time is realized. So that all may have an opportunity of filing requests in time to be sure of attention during the current season, the date for the reception of trout applications by the commission has been extended from Feb. 1 to Feb. 15. It is expected that some applications for trout will be received after that date; but the applicants whose papers are on file previous to that time will receive first consideration, and in the event of a shortage of fish at the hatcheries, late applicants are compelled to wait for the distribution of another year.

GASOLINE CAUSED FIRE

**Blazing Liquid Causes Call
for Delhi Firemen.**

(From Delhi correspondent.)

As E. B. Gerowe was at work painting a car in Telford's garage in Delhi shortly before four o'clock Friday afternoon a pail of gasoline he was using became ignited from some cause, and in trying to carry it out doors he tipped over the pail, causing the blaze to spread and badly burning his hands. Unable to control the fire he ran for the village hall, shouting the alarm as he went and ringing the fire bell at the hall. Firemen and citizens swarmed out and the fighting apparatus was of hand in quick time, but meanwhile prompt work with the fire extinguisher on the part of the employees in the garage had done the work and the fire was out by the time the fire fighters reached the scene.

WAS KILLED BY TRAIN ON THE WRONG TRACK

**D. & H. Employee Struck by
North Bound Train on South
Bound Track**

Clarence Place, a former Margaretville man, met instant death at Wellsbridge Sunday morning when struck by the passenger train from Binghamton. His skull was fractured and his right hip broken.

Place was employed as 2 track walker by the D. & H. railroad. As is the habit of track walkers Place, who was proceeding north toward Wellsbridge, was walking on the south bound main so that all trains on his track would be approaching him. The passenger train, due in Oneonta at 9:35 from Binghamton and in charge of Conductor J. Quigley and Engineer J. Coyne, had been forced to take the south bound main because of congestion on the other track. Place must have heard its whistle but probably thought that the train, being north bound, was on the other track. He made no endeavor to get off the track and the train, which the engineer was unable to stop in time, struck him squarely, tossing him to the side of the track. The accident occurred at Youman's crossing near Wellsbridge.

The train was stopped and the body taken aboard and conveyed to Wellsbridge, where Dr. B. W. Stearns of Unadilla was called. He pronounced life extinct.

Place had lived with his family in Wellsbridge for about three years, going there from Margaretville. He was twice married. Surviving him are four sons and six daughters. Three of the children lived at home. Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon at 2 p. m. from the Wellsbridge Methodist Episcopal church, Rev. H. L. Snyder officiating.