

Columnist Writes About Setzer, Maggie Postoffice

Setzer, Maggie farmer who owned the postoffice there, was subject of a recent column by Roark in the Memphis Press-Scimitar.

The headline, "Name of Town Was Maggie," Mr. Roark said.

Roark said that he had been talking of towns named for people he visited another one. It was North Carolina—Maggie.

Setzer, 88-year-old farmer, was the story of the town.

When the people decided they would have a post office, Mr. Setzer went to the Post Office Department about it, and they said, OK, but several suggested names—some were short. Among the ones suggested were those of the daughters—Maggie and Mrs. P.O. Department set Maggie.

The department gave us six names to show the need for a post office. Mr. Setzer said, "It was my home, and I paid a dollar of my own pocket to walk around with the outgoing sack of mail every day, and to bring back the sack of incoming mail. It was five miles to Dellwood, so he had to walk 10 miles a day. I paid him 40 cents a day and gave him his board."

"The need for the office was proved, and it has continued to this day. It is no longer in the Setzer home, however, but is in the Brooks store, and Mrs. Susie Elizabeth Brooks is the postmaster.

"The Maggie for whom the town is named is now Mrs. Maggie Pyland. She lives in Waynesville.

"Just think how she has been honored! Every day for 49 years her name has been stamped on letters that have gone all over the world.

Oodles of Apples, Free to All

"Mr. Setzer wasn't at home when we called, Mrs. Setzer said he was up at his tobacco patch. Just up around the bend in the road of my own pocket to walk around with the outgoing sack of mail every day, and to bring back the sack of incoming mail. It was five miles to Dellwood, so he had to walk 10 miles a day. I paid him 40 cents a day and gave him his board."



SANTA CLAUS GOT THE LOWDOWN from this little girl during the annual Christmas party given by Tank Company, 102nd Infantry, North Carolina National Guard, at the armory Tuesday night. In keeping with the surroundings, Santa wears combat boots. (Mountaineer Photo).

Star Of Bethlehem Light That Shines In Darkness

Once again Christendom sees the Star of Bethlehem and, like the Wise Men of old, rejoices with exceeding great joy.

Astronomers have discounted possibilities that the star may have been a natural phenomenon since such phenomena occur too far from the earth to serve as any sort of local guide. Modern opinion is, however, inclined to hold that there was a Star — although the story probably has been touched by Oriental imagery.

St. Matthew suggests that even the Wise Men may have lost sight of the star while they were in Jerusalem; hence, they rejoiced when it reappeared to their vision as they approached the Manger of Bethlehem.

Come to think of it, astronomers have sought an astronomically authentic star—and found it not; historians have sought an historically human Jesus of Nazareth—and are still arguing whether or not they

have found Him; even zealous theologians, striving to harmonize messianic and eschatological theories with the illusive historical and human Jesus, have sometimes lost sight of the Babe in the Manger Who from His lowly stable draws unto Himself all who are weary and heavy-laden.

Pressing close to that sacred Manger, Christendom glimpses the Star of Bethlehem once more and rejoices in the light of righteousness and peace which has conquered every tyranny that evil men could think of, the light that shineth in the darkness and shall not fail.

Isle Royale, the largest island in Lake Superior has an area of 210 square miles.

About 85 per cent of the people of Southeast Asia live in rural areas.

Holly Superstition: It Will Determine Ruler Of House

Husbands and wives! Attention! There is an old superstition about holly that will interest you. It was a belief of the ancients that the first to bring Christmas holly into the house, either husband or wife, would be the one to rule the household during the ensuing year.

But don't put too much stock in the belief. Like other Christmas legends, the truth might be lost in history.

The Druids were great admirers of the holly plant. They believed that its evergreen leaves attested to the fact that it was never deserted by the sun, and was therefore sacred.

Legends have related how the crown of thorns was platted from holly. The leaves of the plant were white until the Crucifixion, after which they turned a deep, blood red.

A holly wreath placed on the door is believed enough to frighten away even the boldest of witches.



OUR SINCERE HOPE THAT THIS CHRISTMAS WILL FIND YOU SURROUNDED BY FAMILY, FRIENDS AND ALL THOSE YOU LOVE . . . ENJOYING THE FULL WARMTH OF THE SPIRIT OF THIS HAPPY HOLIDAY.

- MAY THESE BE THE GIFTS THAT CHRISTMAS WILL BRING TO YOU . . .
- THE JOY OF HAPPY MEMORIES
 - THE PEACE OF REAL CONTENTMENT
 - AND THE HAPPINESS OF A BRIGHT NEW YEAR!

THE SMART SHOP
N. Main Dial GL 6-4210

beside the patch was an old apple orchard.

"We found Mr. Setzer, all right. No wonder he likes to go up there. He was born in that little log cabin—88 years ago. His father built it when he came to this country from Germany and settled there in 1850.

"The trees were loaded with apples, and the ground around them was covered with apples. I asked Mr. Setzer if he weren't going to harvest his crop. He said, oh, no. Never does.

"The apples are there for anybody who wants them. Just help yourself.

"It's always been a free orchard," he said. "All the people 'round here know it."

"And there I was—caught without a barrel!"

Pilgrim Fathers Deplored 'Ye Christmas Day' In 1621

Puritan disapproval of Christmas celebrations disembarked from the Mayflower with the Pilgrims in 1621 and, accordingly, Governor Bradford issued a statement publicly rebuking certain young men who declined to work on December 25, "ye day called Christmas."

This first New England Christmas—or non-observance thereof—should not be credited as the first Christmas on American soil, since Leif Eriksen spent a winter or two on the North American continent around the turn of the 11th century.

Leif was a Christian, and it is likely that members of his crew were Christians, too; although it is quite possible that some had accepted the faith without remodeling their pagan natures, since King Alaf's methods were ruthless and his command "Be baptized, or else!" left them little choice.

Undoubtedly, flagons of crude, raw wine fermented from the grapes of Leif's Vinland were passed around and the celebration may have been rather boisterous, but in all fairness to Leif—who, according to excellent testimony, was a sincere convert—it is reasonable to assume that there was a trace of religious observance.

Perhaps Leif remembered the few words of Latin prayer he learned at the time of his conver-

Ancient Church Bells Still Summon Village

A pair of ancient church bells, brought to Frankenmuth, Mich., from Bavaria shortly after Frankenmuth was founded as an Indian mission, has been calling the congregation of St. Lorez to Christmas eve services for more than a 100 years.

Ninety-five per cent of the residents of the small community are members of the church, earning the village the title of "the most Christian community in the United States."

Frankenmuth has never had a crime of violence, and, as far as residents can remember, no one has been jailed over a period of 25 years. The only visitors to the lockup were transients given a night's lodging.

When buying toys for children remember that those of the constructive types are best—they develop the youngsters' ingenuity.



Season's Greetings

May the chiming of the joyous Christmas bells, the voices of the choir boys, bring to you again all the warmth of spirit and peace of heart of this glorious season. A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year to all!

NOTICE
THE DAIRY BAR WILL BE CLOSED ALL DAY SAT. & SUN., DEC. 25 & 26

BILTMORE DAIRY FARMS
Lake Junaluska



Now is the time for all Good Holiday Wishes... may we wish to all our friends the best of health and joy for Christmas and the New Year.

SHERRILL'S STUDIO
110 DEPOT ST. GL 6-3951

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NOT
IN THE
SENSE OF
CUSTOM, BUT
WITH A GENUINE
APPRECIATION OF OUR
PLEASANT ASSOCIATION
DURING THE PAST YEAR
WE EXTEND TO YOU OUR BEST
WISHES FOR AN OLD-FASHIONED
MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY
NEW YEAR

CURTIS DRUG STORE
MAIN STREET GL 6-3321



Along with our warm Christmas Greetings we send to you and those dear to you every good wish for a joyous season filled with good health, good cheer, and contentment. And may your Holiday happiness extend throughout the New Year.

PARKMAN'S HARDWARE
DIAL GL 6-3371 MAIN STREET