

Santa's White Beard, Red Suit Come From Cartoonist

Who gave Santa his red suit, broad girth, white beard, ruddy cheeks and nose, fur-trimmed hat and coat? Surprisingly enough, the donor was a political cartoonist.

The artist's name was Thomas Nast, cartoonist for Harper's Illustrated Weekly, who also created the now-famous symbols of the

Republican elephant and the Democratic donkey.

The figure of Santa that Nast drew in 1863, and perhaps earlier, has proved to be the definitive one, and even today the figure as drawn by Nast appears occasionally on Christmas greetings.

"Nast's image of Santa was extraordinary," says Mrs. Jeannette Loe, director of design at Hallmark.

"He gave Santa many of the qualities that have endeared him to children ever since, and we wouldn't dream of tampering very much with them today."

Nast first credited Santa with keeping books on good and bad children, having a Christmas toy workshop and reading letters sent to him by children.

Perhaps it was the now-famous poem, "A Visit from St. Nicholas," by Dr. Clement Clarke Moore, that inspired Nast's illustration of Santa. In this children's classic of 1823, the right jolly old elf, who looked like a peddler with a pack on his back, was first described in print.

Nast followed Dr. Moore's description of Santa in several particulars, but many of his concepts were original.

At the time of Nast's Santa Claus drawings the nation was at Civil War, and families were separated. In a note to cheer both soldiers and their waiting families Nast drew "Santa Claus in Camp," for Harper's Weekly.

This earliest Santa was different from any

artist's creation up till then. He was shown wearing stars and stripes of the Union and distributing gifts to soldiers. Actually, this Santa might have been meant as a representation of Uncle Sam also.

A later, equally moving Nast illustration featured a soldier's Christmas home - coming.

Born in 1840 in the tiny hamlet of Landau, Bavaria, Nast probably pictured Santa as the Long - imagined Saint Nicholas of his childhood.

Albert Bigelow Paine, a friend and admirer of Nast, said the artist often revealed to him his love of the Santa revelations. He later wrote in his biography of the cartoonist.

"His own childhood in far - off Bavaria has been measured by the yearly visits of ... St. Nicholas ... and the girlhood of the woman who was to become his wife (Sarah Edwards) of New York was intimately associated with brilliant and joyous celebrations.

"Nast's children later recalled there was always a multitude of paper dolls - marvellously big and elaborate, a race long since become extinct.

"And these the artistic father - more than half a child himself at the Christmas season - arranged in processions and cavalcades, gay pageants that marched in and about those larger presents that could not be crowded into the row of stockings that hung by the family fireplace.

"It was a time of splendor and rejoicing -

the festive blossoming of the winter season and it was a beautiful and sturdy family that made Merry Christmas riot in the spacious New York home."

In Nast's day, the idea of some sort of Santa was not new to this country. He was introduced to North America by the early Dutch settlers and his name was St. Nicholas. The annual visit of this kind man, who was thought to have been a fourth-century bishop, was his feast day, December 6th.

By 1809, Washington Irving was describing Santa as a small Dutch citizen who looked much like Father Knickerbocker. Irving wondered how the poor old man could get to all the homes in a growing America on his horse, so he invented the famous reindeer - drawn sleigh.

-Napanee Beaver.

SEE YOU AT CHURCH

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Rev. Peter Brouwer
Telephone: 587-2924

10 a.m. Worship Service
2:30 Worship Service
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PRESBYTERIAN
Rev. G. Taylor-Munro
587-2565
Chalmers' Stone Church
Fri. Dec. 21, 8 p.m.
variety Christmas program
SUNDAY, DEC. 23
Chalmers' 10:00 a.m. School
11:00 a.m. School
Knox, Jarvis 10:00 a.m. School
11:00 a.m. School
7:30 p.m. Nativity pantomime
carols
heavenly music
joint choirs & readers
Wesley and Knox
SUNDAY, DEC. 30
11:00 a.m. Men's choir
year end singing

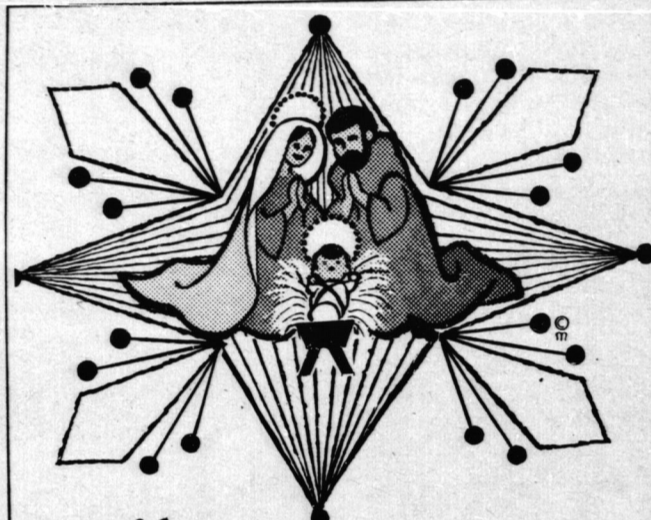
ANGELICAN CHURCH
4th Sunday in Advent
St. Paul's Church
Jarvis
11:30 a.m. Mattins
5:00 p.m. Nativity Pageant
followed by Pot luck supper
Christ Church
Nanticoke
10:00 a.m. Lessons and Carols

CHRISTMAS EVE
St. Paul's Church
Jarvis
11:15 p.m. Midnight Sung Eucharist
CHRISTMAS DAY
Christ Church
Nanticoke
10:00 a.m. Christmas Eucharist
The Rev. R. Douglas Perry
L. Th., Rector

THE JARVIS-GARNET PASTORAL CHARGE
The United Church of Canada
Rev. W. Mark Reeves
Minister
CHRISTMAS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23rd
Special services will be held at Garnet at 9:45 a.m. and at Wesley, Jarvis at 11:15 a.m. The Minister's topic will be, "Rescuing Christmas." At Wesley, both the Senior and Junior Choirs will sing and appropriate music will be provided at Garnet. The Church Schools will meet at their usual hours.

At 7:30 p.m. the two congregations will unite with Knox Presbyterian for a special service at the latter Church. There will be a union choir and the two ministers will take part.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30th
Final services of the year will take place at Garnet at 9:45 a.m. and at Wesley, Jarvis at 11:15 a.m. The Minister will speak on the suitable subject, "Appointments That Must Be Kept." The two Church Schools will meet as usual.



Many blessings abound during this holy Christmas season. To you, and yours, we wish them all.

Hendrik's Nursing Home
HAGERSVILLE



Christmas Joy

The most precious gifts of the Holy Season are those of the heart. To friends and neighbors ... our gratitude for your loyal support.

RAM FERTILIZER
COURTLAND, ONT.

DECKING HALLS HAS HISTORY

"Christ was born on Christmas day. Wreath the holly, twine the bay."

From England of long ago come the words of this carol, showing the early role of the bay tree and its greens in decorating for Christmas.

Its use harks back to ancient Greece, when both the bay and the laurel bedecked homes and public places in symbol of triumph. As traditional Christmas greens, they reflect the same joyful spirit, say the editors of the Universal Encyclopedia.

Holly, of course, is still popular as Yuletide greenery.



Greetings

It's the season to be grateful for blessings ... and we appreciate your continued patronage and goodwill.

UCO CO-OP
CAYUGA - DUNNVILLE - HAGERSVILLE



We are filling the holidays up with high test "thanks" to everyone.

NORM, KEN and ROBERT GRAHAM
SHELL SERVICE STATION
JARVIS

What Are The Facts About Christmas?

Everybody thinks that space travel is something very new, but an elderly gentleman in a rather unique "space-suit" set the pace years ago. His name: Santa Claus.

Now is the season when he's taking off again, for it's Christmas.

How much do you know about Christmas and Santa Claus? Here are some questions, developed with the help of the editors of the

Encyclopedia International, to test your knowledge. The answers are at the bottom.

1. The first known Christmas card was designed in 1843 by an Englishman named:
(A) Charles Dickens
(B) Sir Henry Cole
(C) John Calcott Horsley.

2. The first Christmas Nativity feast, celebrating the birth of Christ occurred in the fourth century on:

(A) January 6
(B) July 1
(C) December 25.

3. Christmas did not become a legal holiday in the U.S. until:
(A) The Puritans arrived in New England
(B) 1856
(C) Santa's Helpers Union went on strike.

4. The original name of the gentleman we know today as Santa Claus was:

(A) Kris Kringle
(B) Clement C. Moore
(C) St. Nicholas.

1. (C) is correct. Artist Horsley designed the first known Christmas greeting card for his friend, Sir Henry Cole, a wealthy London gentleman. Charles Dickens had his share in Christmas 1843, too. His book, "A Christmas Carol," was published that year.

2. (A) is correct. At first, January 6, the Epiphany, was observed as the feast of Jesus' baptism, with a second emphasis on His birth. It was not until the 5th century A. D. that Christmas was generally celebrated on December 25.

3. (B) is correct. New England states outlawed the celebration of Christmas until the middle of the 19th century.

4. (C) is correct. Kris Kringle is the German name for Santa, while Clement C. Moore contributed to the image of Santa Claus with his poem, "A Visit from St. Nicholas," in 1823. St. Nicholas was a real person, a fourth century bishop, and the first Santa Claus. -Napanee Beaver.

1752 Calendar Sets Dec. 25 Date

We know that our calendar today is a relatively modern institution. But do we realize that in earliest times, Christmas was celebrated on January 18? It is still so celebrated by the Armenian church. Later on, the date became January 6 - and it was only in 1752, with the final change to the Gregorian calendar, that the rearrangement of dates placed Christmas Day on December 25.

Some church people in England were very indignant when this change took place - feeling that some how they had been robbed of 11 days and the corresponding wages. Some of them tried to find out if the new date were correct by noting whether or not the tree called the Glastonbury Thorn (supposedly planted by Joseph of Arimathea) would flower on the new date

or the old. Sometimes the tree bloomed on one day and sometimes on the other, however, depending on the weather - so that supporters of both dates managed to keep up the quarrel for some time.

Feast Of Lights

Over 1400 years ago, the Council of Tours decreed that the celebration of Christmas should continue on for twelve days through Epiphany, which falls on January 6th. This day, also known as "The Feast of Lights," is still observed by many churches.

It became customary, through the centuries, for the reigning King of

England to open Twelfth Night revels by throwing dice. In the 17th century, Charles II played for high stakes, winning 150 pounds one year and losing 100 pounds the next, both tremendous sums for that period.

Festivities included choosing a King and Queen of the feast. Slices of plum cake containing a bean and a pea were served and the man who got the bean and the woman who got the pea were crowned King and Queen. With toasts to the royal pair, the party got into full swing. Revels wound up with final kisses under the mistletoe. Before sunrise, all the Christmas greens had to be taken down because of the prevailing superstition that a goblin would appear for each leaf that was not removed in time.

GREENS HAVE MEANING

Greens that adorn home, streets and stores at holiday time entered into the lore of Christmas from pagan rites of old.

The ancients believed that each green had its own significance, and an ability to do certain good - or evil - things. Ivy, they thought, was festive. Its convivial nature came from Bacchus.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

You are cordially invited to attend the Inaugural Meeting of the Regional Council to be held at Hagersville Secondary School auditorium on

Friday, January 4th

1974 at 8 p.m.

John F. McCombs,
Chairman,
The Municipality of
Haldimand Norfolk



Hope the holiday season lifts your spirit with happiness, laughter.

Thanks to all the folks we have had the pleasure of serving.

FRED HELKA'S
SUNOCO SERVICE STATION
Dunnsville - Halfway Between
Nelles Corners and Cayuga on No. 3 Highway



GREETINGS

This Christmas, let the bright rays of love, peace and understanding enter our hearts and shine there always. We extend grateful thanks to our loyal customers.

Howard, Joyce, Scott and Christine
W.J. Elliott & Son Ltd.
JARVIS, ONTARIO

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best wishes this Christmas

Wishing you the joy of a real old-fashioned family holiday. With grateful thanks for your good will.

Winger's Jewellery Store
HAGERSVILLE



Christmas Greetings

Eat, drink, be merry ... and accept our sincere thanks for your loyalty, confidence and goodwill.

ENZO'S STEAK HOUSE AND TAVERN
HAGERSVILLE