

# Sixty-Nine Years Of Married Life Celebrated By Mr. And Mrs. Lentz

Christmas has somewhat of a double meaning for the folks living at Mystery Farm Home Number 49. It brings back memories of hopes and ambitions of a fifteen year old girl and her beau as they took a starry-eyed trip to a minister's house in Hawabwa county.

She said they didn't run off to get married, when we asked if they eloped. Sixty-nine years ago last Wednesday, December 22, Miss Bethane Samples became the wife of J. C. Lentz, who was twenty-one at the time. Both of them had been reared in Hawabwa county.

For a number of years they lived there, and in due time he was called to preach. After about a year he was sent to this section of the state to be pastor of a church.

For about twenty years the Rev. Lentz preached at different churches in this section and at Purvis. Then, he retired to Mystery Farm Number 49.

When we visited Mystery Farm Home Number 49, Rev. Lentz was not at home. He had come to town to get some corn ground and tend to some other business.

Mrs. Lentz was busy in the store across the road from the dwelling, so we waited until she had caught up with her rush of business. We tried to get her to tell us about the funniest things that ever happened to her. She said she better not tell us that, but she almost told us. She also said she has never been guilty of trying to get Mr. Lentz to talk in his sleep.

Maybe this characteristic of not telling everything she knew is one reason she and Mr. Lentz have the 69 years of happy married life to their credit. Whatever it was she didn't tell us about we can't repeat, naturally, but we did see the sparkle in her eye and know that Mrs. Lentz likes a good joke.

Mrs. Lentz said Rev. Lentz has always liked to farm but never cared too much about milking. In fact, she said he remarked one day that when he needs a tombstone, he can be inscribed to read that he would never have to milk any more cows.

Several years ago Mr. and Mrs. Lentz started a store across the road from their house. It burned, and they had to start over. Mr. Lentz keeps store most of the time, but occasionally she is the merchant while he is gone.

The Lentz farm is just a few acres more than three forties, she says. Much clearing had to be done when they moved there thirty years ago. Some of it is in timber. The fields are all in good shape as far as soil erosion is concerned.

Seven bales of cotton were produced on the ten acres of cotton this past season.

Mrs. Lentz said some of the folks living on the farm had sold some corn, she thought, but that they would use their part at home.

There are about thirty head of beef cattle on Mystery Farm Number 49. No winter pasture was planned this year, but there is hay and other feed for the cattle that are in the "big pasture" at this time.

There are three stock ponds on this farm. One of them has water and fish in it at this time. The

other two are dry. Mrs. Lentz stated that one little pond used to hold water pretty well, but it hasn't held water too well since it was enlarged.

Speaking of fishing, Mrs. Lentz stated that she used to like to go fishing but wouldn't go now for anything.

She does like to go to the fair. She says she tells them at home that she has one day off a year. She uses this day to go to the fair.

Rough work, as she calls it, has kept her from doing as much fancy work as she would have liked to do, such as embroidering and other types of needle work and sewing.

Working at the store has let Mrs. Lentz exercise some of her sales ability. She says she always wanted to have a hat shop and handle a fancy line. And, we bet she would

have been a big success in a millinery store.

Mrs. Lentz says she likes radio and television. She has her favorite programs, and we gathered that she spends less time at the store since the television set has been in the house.

Mr. and Mrs. Lentz have two children. Opal Lentz married Geneva Thornhill. He is an oil distributor in Columbia. Aubra Lentz married Lena Mulford. They live near Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Lentz.

Mystery Farm Home Number 49 is between Morgantown and Darbin. It is near Mt. Sinai Church of God, where Rev. and Mrs. Lentz are members.

We express our best wishes to Rev. and Mrs. Lentz. May they celebrate many more anniversaries and Christmas seasons.

