

SIMONSON, MILDRED ERICA
February 23, 1911-July 16, 1914

Mildred Erica, born Feb. 23rd, 1911, in Cherry Co., Nebr., was baptized to the Christian faith Dec. 9th, 1911, by Rev. L.F. Melom, Evangelical Lutheran Pastor. She came with her parents to their new home six miles southwest of Wheatland, March 12th, 1914 and met her death July 16th by falling into the irrigation ditch No. 1, which runs but a short distance from the house. The children had been playing on the bank about ten feet from where the men were building a barn and had used water from this ditch for general work. A neighbor family had drove in and they all came to the house, but Mildred must have gone back to the fatal spot again and was not missed for some time. All searched the place, first little think that the (unreadable) water carried the precious life which was recovered from its grasp, but the Messenger of Peace had come.

Mildred was a very bright child for her years, always filled with the joyous life that seemed to penetrate her very being, a bright sunbeam to shine so a short time. Although but a babe, she loved her Master and often pondered over "why the bad people killed her Jesus". The evening before her death, she asked her mamma "When Jesus comes to get us, we must go right away, must we? Yes, well, when He comes to get me, I'll go right away, but I'll come right back to get you, Mamma." She loved the Sabbath and her S.S. class.

Her body was laid to rest Friday afternoon at the close of the day in the Wheatland cemetery, Rev. R.F. Paxton preached a beautiful sermon at the grave where a host of kind friends and neighbors paid their last respects.