

## SIMONSON, MILDRED

2-July 16, 1914

A very sad accident occurred Thursday afternoon resulting in the death of little Mildred, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S.O. Simonson. The child was three years and five months of age. She, with other children, had been playing around where men were working near the No. 1 irrigation canal. Her absence was finally noticed and a search was instituted which resulted in finding the lifeless body in the canal nearly a mile down the stream. In her journey of death, the child had been carried over two concrete drops. The water was about four feet deep.

The Simonson family came to this place in February last and located upon their newly purchased farm about seven miles southwest of town. Funeral services will be held from the home this afternoon, conducted by Rev. R.F. Paxton. The sympathy of all is extended to the sorrowing family.

## SIMONSON, MILDRED ERICA

February 23, 1911-July 16, 1914

Mildred Erica, born Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1911, in Cherry Co., Nebr., was baptized to the Christian faith Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, 1911, by Rev. L.F. Melom, Evangelical Lutheran Pastor. She came with her parents to their new home six miles southwest of Wheatland, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 1914 and met her death July 16<sup>th</sup> 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.