BAK, Signe Elise (Eli)

February 24, 1901
Irene, South Dakota
June 24, 1933
Britton, South Dakota

Viborg Enterprise - July 5, 1933

Mrs. Martin Bak of Brittan, S. D., only daughter of Mrs. Ole Bjerkaas died at Britton last Saturday, June 24th. Services were held at the local Lutheran church there Sunday afternoon and funeral services at the Meldahl Lutheran church 8 miles west from here Tuesday afternoon, June 27th. Rev. Einar Jorgensen, officiated at the service in Britton and Rev. E. O. Urness at the services here. On the day of the funeral a short devotional service was first conducted at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Bjerkaas, where besides scripture and prayer, the pastor sang the hymn, "Does Jesus Care" and the audience the hymn "My Faith Looks up to Thee." A very large audience had gathered at the church where, besides the singing of two hymns, scripture and sermon by thep astor, the choir sang two numbers: "I Need Thee Every Hour" and "In the Sweet By and By." Besides floral tributes money amounting to $33.00 was given to missionary and charitable purposes. A greeting and expression of thanks was also read from the Bethel Mission Band of the English Lutheran church at Britton, of which organization Mrs. Bak was vice president at her death. The following served as pallbearers: Andrew Bak, Floyd Georgeson, Ole Eli, Guy Eli, Arnold Bjerkaas, Albert Eli. The Burial Association's local undertaker had the body in charge after it had been taken to Viborg from Britton.

OBITUARY

Mrs. Martin Bak, whose maiden namhe was Signe Elise Eli, was born on February 24, 1901 at Irene, S. D. When she was 9 years old her father died, and in the trying days of her mother's widowhood she was her mother's strength and stayed in the care of her four younger brothers. In the year 1916 she was confirmed in the Lutheran faith in the Trondhjem Lutheran church, a few miles south west of Irene by Rev. Nervig. She was united in marriage to Martin Bak at the Meldahl Lutheran Church, Sept. 10, 1920. To this union one child, a daughter named Eulalie was born.

The same fall that she was married she moved with her husband to Marshall county, living in the vicinity of Britton. She lived there until her death. For the past 8 years and especially the last 4 months she suffered much from the illness that caused her death, but she endured all of it cheerfully and patiently. She died at Britton, S. D. June 24, 1933, being at the time of death, 32 years and 4 months.

Mrs. Eli leaves to mourn her departure besides her husband and daughter Eulalie and a host of friends the following: her mother, Mrs. Ole Bjerkaas; four borthers: Ole, Albert, Julius and Guy Eli; step father, Ole Bjerkaas, one step-brother, Arnold; three step-sisters, Bertha and Helma Bjerkaas and Mrs. Reinhold Wolff. Mrs. Wolff resides with her family in Nebraska, the others all live northwest of Irene.

Mrs. Bak's cheerful disposition, sunny smile and her willingness to serve at all times, and especially her Christian character endeared her to the many who knew her. Since the time of her affiliation with English Lutheran church at Britton she was always a faithful worker also there, serving in various positions of trust and ability. At the time of her death she was vice president of the Beth Mission Band and Secretary of the Sunday school—the latter position she held for the past four years. She died with a confession of faith in her Saviour Jesus Christ, fully confident that she was going home to live forever with Him in the eternal kingdom of peace and joy. May her memory ever be blessed among us.