

MADSEN, Bertha (Simpson)

June 25, 1856

Norway

December 5, 1937

Viborg

Viborg Enterprise - December 9, 1937

PIONEER WOMAN PASSES AWAY

Bertha Simpson Madsen was born on the 25th day of June, 1856, in Holland Sogn, close to Ekersund, in Norway. At the early age of 17, in 1873 she immigrated to America.

In this vast new country, she met at Dwight, Ill., the man with whom she was destined to share both happiness and sorrow for nearly 60 years, namely P. C. Madsen. They were married on the 28th of March, 1878, missing, therefore, by only a few months, the rare opportunity of celebrating the Diamond Jubilee.

For nearly eleven years they made their home close to Dwight, Ill.; but in the spring of 1889 they moved to Viborg, S. Dak., at which place they have resided until now.

There have been eleven children born unto the union of Peter Madsen and Bertha Simpson. Five sons and six daughters. One son died in infancy, a second son, Mads, died at the age of between three and four years. Two daughters, Betty and Luella, died at the age of about twenty. The remaining seven children live to mourn the passing of their mother. Their names are:

Eddie Madsen of Viborg, S. Dak.; Mrs. Andrew Goodhope of Viborg; Mrs. Stephen Jorgensen, of Viborg; Mrs. Clyde Keller, of Viborg; Mrs. McSpadden of Houston, Texas; Dr. Mars Madsen of Webster, S. Dak.; and Polle Madsen of Rosholt, S. D. There are also a number of grandchildren and great grandchildren, and a host of friends, who mourn the passing of Mrs. Madsen.

It was a new country into which the Madsen's moved, when they took up life together. There was prairie to be broken and a house to be built. A procedure fraught with hardship, suffering and pain. But nothing was ever gained thru ease and irresponsibility. We are thankful for a woman such as Mrs. Madsen,—that she had the courage to follow her husband, into the making of a part of America. Those of us, who were privileged to know Mrs. Madsen have ample evidence of the fact that she found more in life than hardships and pain. A rare sense of humor opened to her a genuine pleasure in living.

For the past few years Mrs. Madsen has been failing,—a condition which grew considerably worse the last couple of years. On Sunday, Dec. 5, 1937, at the age of 81 years, 5 months and 10 days, she quietly slept away, and returned to her maker and redeemer, in whom she so firmly believed.

May her memory be blessed.

CARD OF THANKS

We sincerely wish to express our heartfelt thanks to our friends, for their kindness and expressions of sympathy at the passing of our dear wife and mother. Thanks to Rev. Jespersen for his words of comfort and for the beautiful floral offerings.

P. C. Madsen,
and family