

## **LOOKING BACK**

### **By SHIRLEY SCHAPER**

**Merle Hilleman succumbs to fatal illness on Friday**

**Infant sick less than week**

**Funeral services Wednesday**

**July 6, 1939 State Center Enterprise**

Merle Wilbert Hilleman, 2 ½ year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hilleman, who lives four miles north of State Center, died at the home of his parents at 8 o'clock Sunday morning, July 2, after an illness of a little more than a week caused by agranulocytosis with anemia, a blood affection which Dr. A.D. Woods, the family physician, said he had not before encountered in his 31 years of practice.

The child was taken sick Saturday, June 24, and the following Tuesday was taken to the children's ward at the Iowa state hospital, Iowa City, where after an examination by specialists his condition was pronounced incurable and he was brought home to wait developments. Following a blood transfusion given by his mother, Merle seemed to rally for a day or so, but not sufficiently to withstand the ravages of a disease that apparently has the whole medical profession baffled.

Merle was born near State Center January 20, 1937. Besides his parents he is survived by two brothers, and one sister, Howard, Dale and Jane (sic—should be Joan). Another brother died about four years ago from spinal meningitis. He is also survived by his grand parents, Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Hilleman and Mrs. Emma Pfantz and greatgrandmother, Mrs. Mary Hilleman, besides numerous other relatives.

Funeral services were held at St. Paul's Lutheran church at 2 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, with the pastor, Rev. H. P. Kumpf, in charge. The pallbearers, four cousins, were Donald Wilkening, Donald Edler, Richard Pfantz and Kenneth Pfantz, and the flower girls, also cousins, were Helen Pfantz, Marjorie Pfantz, Dorothy Edler, Dorine Meier, Dorine Pfantz, Eloise Pfantz, Evelyn Pfantz and Deloris Edler.

Relatives here for the funeral were, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Grimshal, Mr. and Mrs. Gottlieb Hanzelman and Mrs. Elda Wegner and daughter Irene of Luverne, and John Hamman with Ira, Dorothy and Margaret and Mrs. Leland Hamman, all of Nauvoo, Ill.

Burial was in Hillside cemetery.