

## **LOOKING BACK**

### **BY SHIRLEY SCHAPER**

#### **Minnie Merrill, pioneer milliner, passes Tuesday January 29, 1959 State Center Enterprise**

Mrs. Minnie Merrill, 87, pioneer milliner and a longtime State Center business woman, died Tuesday evening at the Bryant Nursing Home where she had been a patient for the past three years. She was the widow of Bert Merrill, a former publisher of the State Center Enterprise. Mr. Merrill passed away in 1956.

Funeral services were held today, Thursday at two o'clock at the Trinity Lutheran church with the Wensel Funeral Home in charge. The Rev. M.J. Haerther officiated and burial was in Hillside cemetery. Pallbearers were Harold Gerke, Louis Nolte, Raymond Frohwein, Harold Nolte, Louis Frohwein and D.F. Richeson.

Mrs. Merrill was born July 5, 1871 in Marshall county, the daughter of Louis and Johanna German Frohwein. She grew up near State Center and was educated in St. John's parochial school.

She was united in marriage to Bert Merrill at State Center on February 25, 1904. The couple spent all their married life in this community.

Mrs. Merrill followed the millinery trade for 63 years beginning at the age of 16 years. She operated her own millinery shop in State Center for 52 years. In December of 1950 she closed her hat shop and in April of the following year, Mrs. Lela Riemenschneider took possession of the business.

She was a member of the Trinity Lutheran church.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, three brothers and four sisters.

She is survived by several nieces and nephews.