

Kansas Memory



Kansas Woman's Christian Temperance Union memory book

Section 16, Pages 451 - 480

This memorial book contains photographs and biographical sketches of members of the Kansas Woman's Christian Temperance Union. Click "Text Version" below for a searchable index of the names contained in this volume.

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In Loving Memory

MARTHA LORETTA TEDFORD
Minneola, Kansas

Donor: Minneola Union

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MARHTA LORETTA TEDFORD

Martha Loretta Maxwell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Maxwell, was born near Duncanville, Ill. on December 23, 1870.

She came to Stafford, Kans. with her parents in 1886.

In 1893 she was married to Elmer E. Tedford. They moved to Minneola, Kansas in 1905.

Mrs. Tedford was a charter member of the Associate Presbyterian church in Minneola, where her membership remained during her lifetime. She was also a member of the Minneola W.X.T.U. and was active until her health failed her.

She was called home as the dawn broke early in the morning of May 15, 1957. She was laid to rest in the Minneola cemetery

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ELMER ELLSWORTH TEDFORD
Minneola, Kansas

Donor: Son, Frank Tedford, and wife

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SOCIETY

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ELMER ELLSWORTH TEDFORD

Elmer Ellsworth Tedford was the son of Mr. & Mrs. William Tedford. He was born on Dec. 12, 1870, at Columbus Junction, Iowa. He departed this life on July 29, 1958.

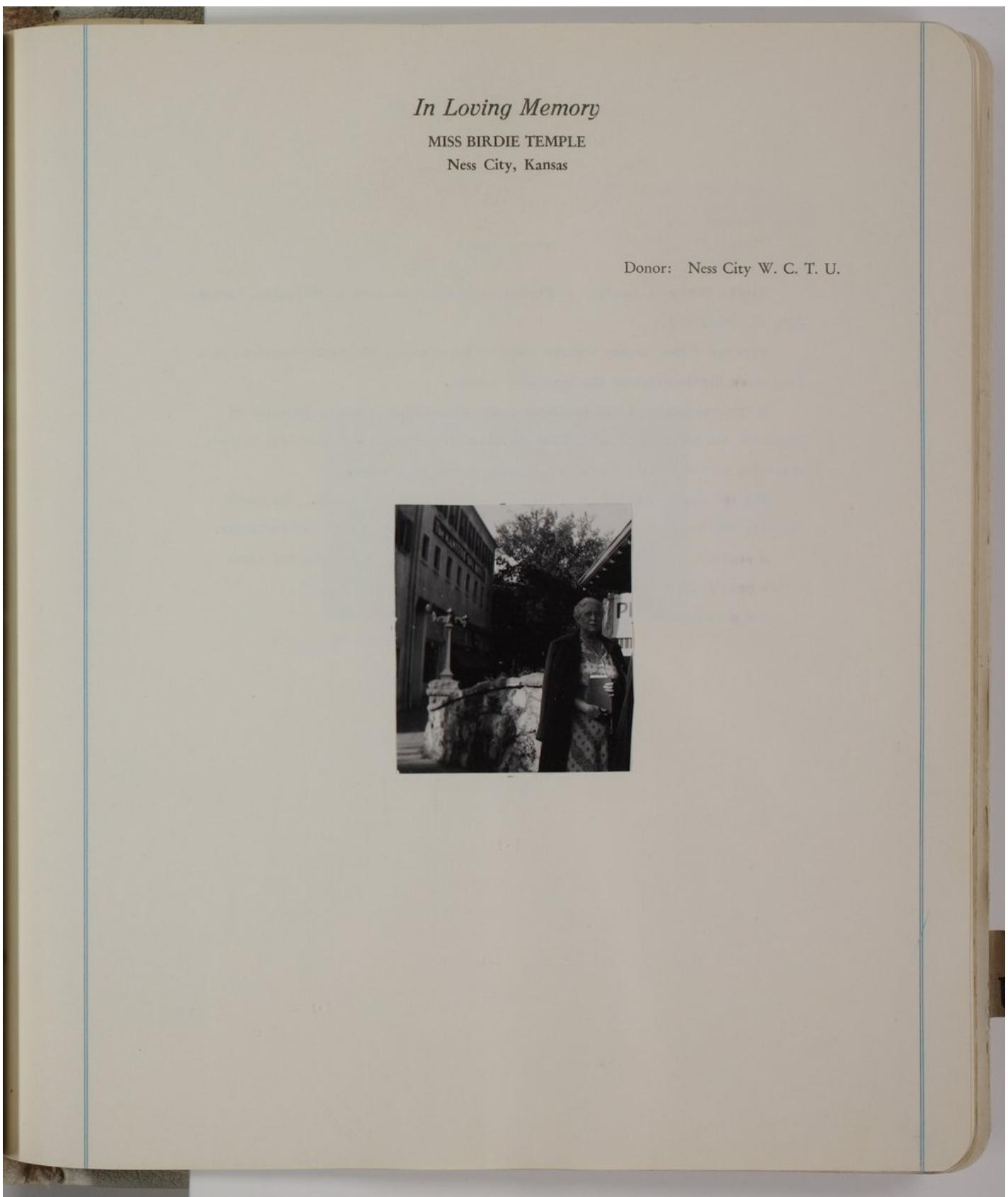
Mr. Tedford received most of his early training and education in Iowa before moving with his parents to Stafford County, Kansas in 1884. He was united in marriage to Martha Loretta Maxwell on August 30, 1893.

In 1905 they moved to a farm near Minneola, Kansas. Mr. Tedford was a charter member of the Associate Presbyterian church in Minneola. He had served on the Cooperative Elevator board and on the Board of Education. He was preceded in death by one son Willie Reed in infancy. He leaves five sons and four daughters, two sisters. He was laid to rest in the Minneola cemetery.

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MISS BIRDIE TEMPLE
Ness City, Kansas

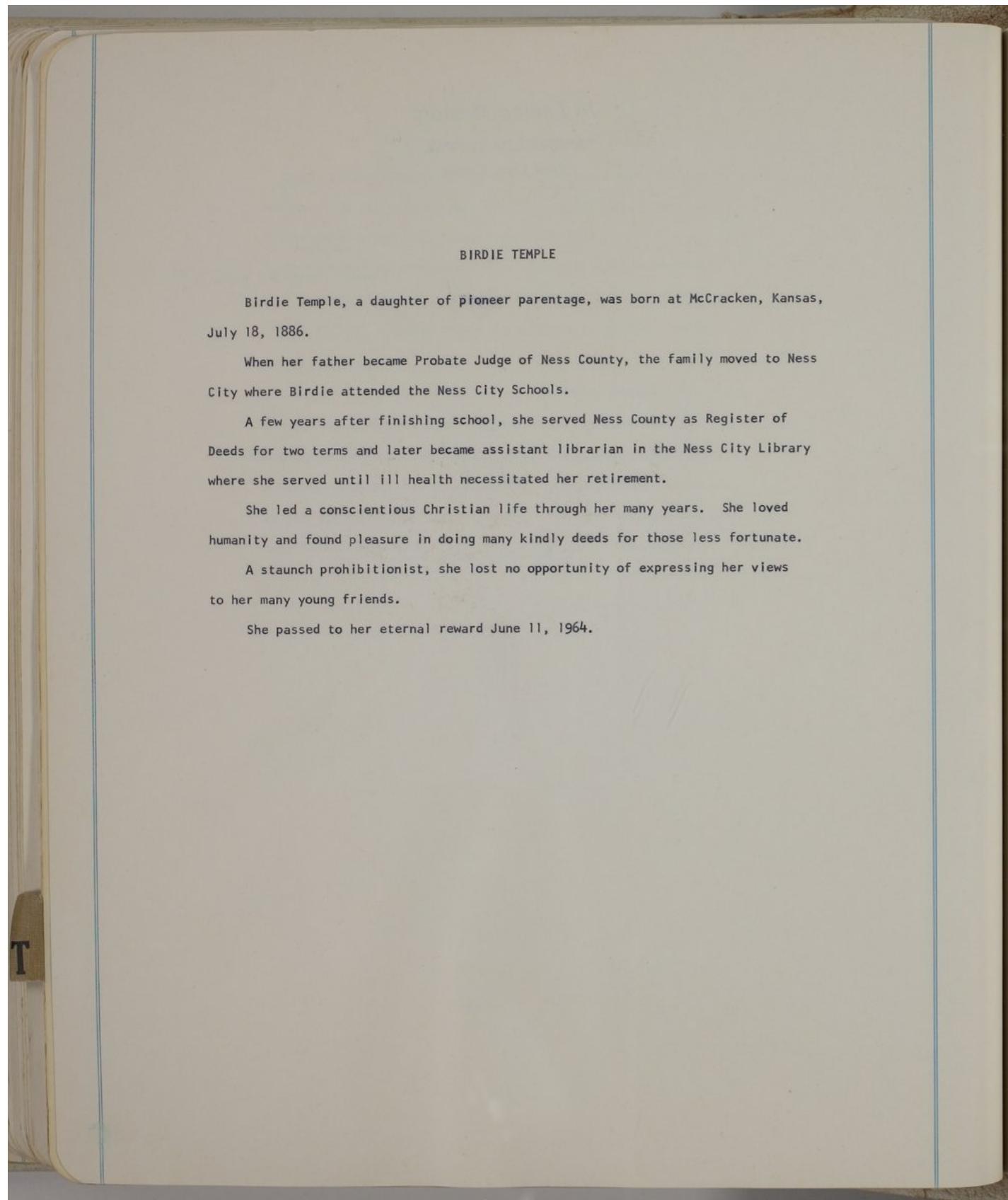
Donor: Ness City W. C. T. U.



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BIRDIE TEMPLE

Birdie Temple, a daughter of pioneer parentage, was born at McCracken, Kansas, July 18, 1886.

When her father became Probate Judge of Ness County, the family moved to Ness City where Birdie attended the Ness City Schools.

A few years after finishing school, she served Ness County as Register of Deeds for two terms and later became assistant librarian in the Ness City Library where she served until ill health necessitated her retirement.

She led a conscientious Christian life through her many years. She loved humanity and found pleasure in doing many kindly deeds for those less fortunate.

A staunch prohibitionist, she lost no opportunity of expressing her views to her many young friends.

She passed to her eternal reward June 11, 1964.

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MRS. A. A. TENNYSON

Donors: Her Daughters,
Mrs. Murl Richmond
Mrs. Kenneth Darnell



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KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

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MARY EDITH TENNYSON

This obituary was written by Mary Tennyson herself shortly after Alvin Tennyson died in 1956.

Mary Edith Underhill was born September 11, 1882, near Abilene, Kansas, the daughter of John B. and Maggie Underhill.

She was converted at the age of 14 years and joined the Methodist Church at what is now the old Talmadge Circuit.

She grew to womanhood at the old home, and on October 7, 1903, she was united in marriage with Rev. O. A. Darnell of Bird City, Kansas. Together they served several charges in the old Northwest Conference until his death November 15, 1919.

To this union were born three sons: Kenneth of Salina, Paul of Plainville and Donald of Prairie Village, Kansas.

On April 6, 1921, she was married to Alvin A. Tennyson of Lamar, Kansas. She went to the farm home and together they made a home for their six children and two nephews, Waldine and Alfred Tennyson. They came to Salina to make their home March 13, 1946, and became members of University Church.

She was again left a widow when her husband passed away November 14, 1946. She leaves to mourn her loss her three children, Kenneth Darnell, Paul Darnell and Donald Darnell, also three step-children, Lysle Tennyson, Twila Richmond and Ralph Tennyson, 23 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews, and other relatives and friends.

Mary Tennyson passed from this life May 15, 1964 and was laid to rest in the Bennington cemetery on May 18.

Pall bearers were six of her grandsons: Robert Darnell, Dale Darnell, Ron Richmond, Victor Tennyson, David Darnell, and Tom Darnell.

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KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Kansas Woman's Christian Temperance Union memory book

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AGNES W. THOMAS

Wichita, Kansas

Donor: Dobbs Union, Wichita, Kansas



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AGNES W. THOMAS

Agnes W. Thomas was born October 29, 1879 and died October 17, 1963. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dow Wemple, she was born on a farm near Oatville, Kansas.

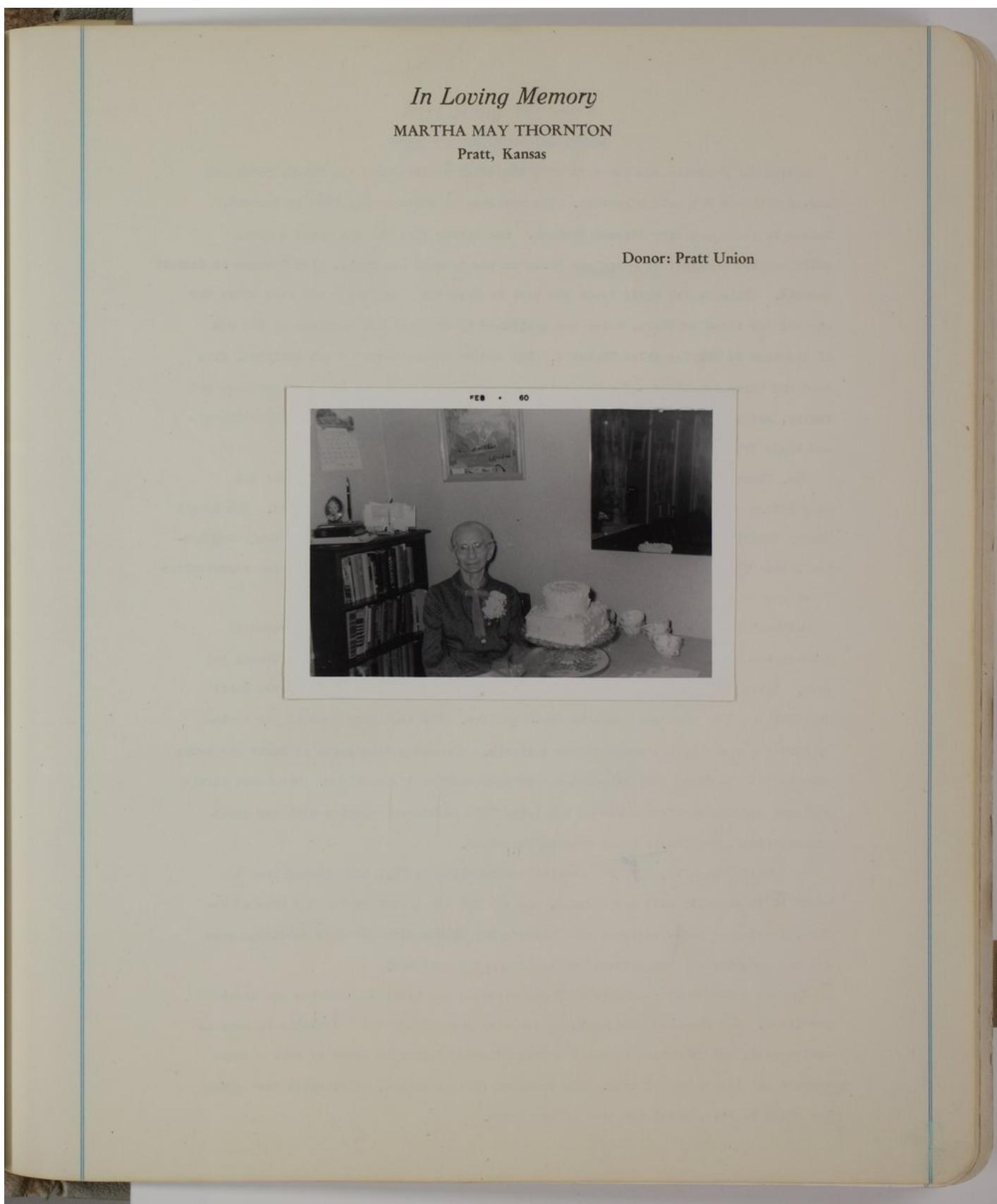
She attended Wichita schools and later Friends University. She taught school for two years. She was married to James Thomas and lived in Wichita all her life. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary several years ago.

She was a member of St. Pauls Methodist Church for many years, later transferring her membership to the Woodland Methodist Church. She was a member of Eunice Sterling Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

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Kansas Memory



Kansas Woman's Christian Temperance Union memory book

MARTHA MAY THORNTON

Martha May Thornton was the wife of a Christian minister and she lived, loved and served with him for half a century. She was born on February 18, 1875 in Garnett, Kansas to James and Mary Johnson Spriggs. Her mother died while she was a young child and for a number of years she lived in the home of her uncle, Alec Johnson in Garnett. While in her early teens she went to live with her father and keep house for him and her three brothers, which she continued to do until her marriage at the age of eighteen to Charles Allen Thornton. She became the mother of eight children, five sons and three daughters. She was extremely interested in the welfare of her home and family, and she made the parsonages in which they lived real homes where the children and their friends always found love and companionship.

Mrs. Thornton was always vitally interested in the work of the church and did many things required of a minister's wife with willingness and cheerfulness. She taught Sunday School classes, lead prayer groups, worked in the Ladies' Aid and Missionary Society, the WCTU, the young peoples' Christian Endeavor and any other Christian organization where she felt needed.

During the fifty years of Rev. Thornton's ministry they served two churches in Kansas, the Christian churches in Isabel and Reece, and churches in South Dakota and Iowa. After his retirement, they moved to Nashville, Kansas where they lived until his death in 1949 when she moved to Pratt to live. The remaining days of her earthly life she spent in the homes of her children. She had a keen sense of humor and being able to see the funny side helped her over many difficult situations. She loved little children and the happiest hours of her later life were spent playing with her great-grandchildren, who dearly loved "Gramma Thornton".

On Saturday May 7th, 19⁶⁰ the evening before Mother's Day, she slipped away to spend it in eternity with her husband, one son and two daughters who had gone on before, leaving an empty chair at the Mother's Day dinner with her four remaining sons and one daughter who had gathered to spend the day with her.

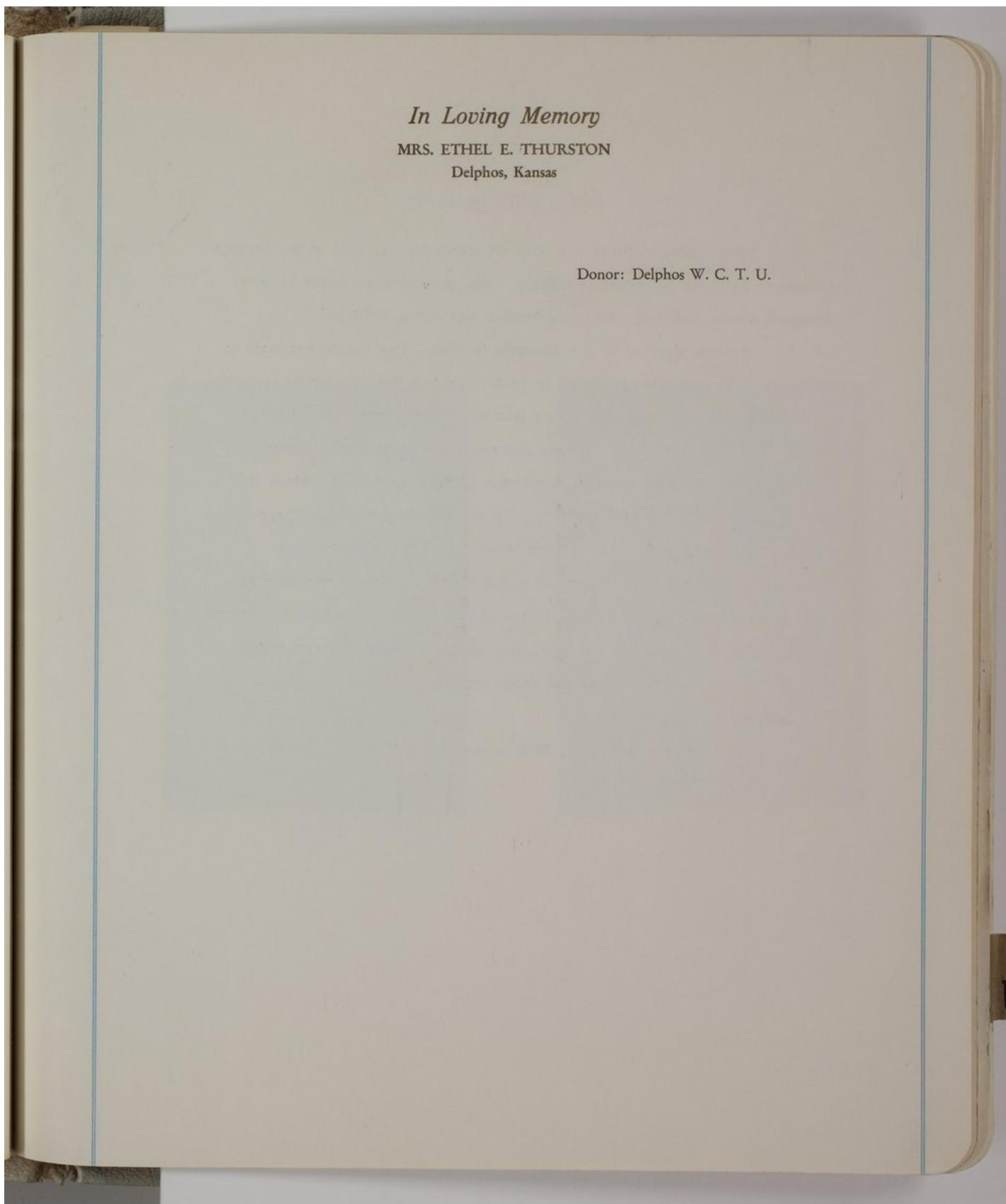
She was a member of the Pratt WCTU and attended the meetings whenever her health permitted. She remained interested in the work even though she was unable to take an active part, and felt that it was the duty of every Christian woman to take a stand against all the forces of evil. She voted in every election, after women were given the right to vote, until the time of her death.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Kansas Woman's Christian Temperance Union memory book



Kansas Memory



Kansas Woman's Christian Temperance Union memory book

MRS. ETHEL THURSTON

Ethel Elnora Rollings was born on September 24, 1881 at the Rollings homestead $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles Northeast of Delphos. Her parents were James M. and Elizabeth Keeler Rollings. Her only brother was Frank Rollings.

She was married to Dan Thurston in 1900. Dan Harold was born in 1901 and another son James Mervin in 1902. She has five grandchildren. One grandson and two great granddaughters live in Conway, Arkansas. Her son Harold lives in Little Rock, Arkansas and son James in Delphos, Kansas.

Ethel Thurston has been a member of the Delphos Union since 1933 and for many years has been President. A service of appreciation was held on April 30, 1965, at the Delphos Rest Home where she made her home. A flower corsage was pinned on her and words of appreciation were spoken by the President, Mrs. B. A. Rundus. Miss Mabel Dunham, Promotion Secretary for Kansas W.C.T.U. of Clay Center, also presented Mrs. Thurston with a vase full of beautiful sweet peas and spoke words of appreciation on behalf of the Kansas W.C.T.U.

She passed away July 26, 1970 at the age of 88 years. She was laid to rest in the Delphos Cemetery.

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In Loving Memory

ELLIS B. TITUS

Garden City, Kansas

Donors: Garden City W. C. T. U.



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ELLIS BARTON TITUS

Ellis Barton Titus was born July 10, 1869, at Fairbury Illinois.

His parents came to Garden City in 1883 and built the Fairbury Hotel and lived there several years. Ellis attended school in Garden City and later worked for different Cattlemen. He married Minnie H. Hoffman on October 17, 1894. Her father ran a grocery store in the early years. Mrs. Titus attended the Garden City schools then was a saleslady in different dry goods and millinery stores.

The Titus' took their motherless neice, Norma Rowe at the age of 12 years and educated her. This neice taught school 5 years before her marriage to H.G. Gunn or after 10 years in the Titus home.

Mr. and Mrs. Titus celebrated their Golden Wedding in 1944. There were no children. Mr. Titus passed away in 1945 at the age of 76 years. Mrs. Titus is now 92 years old and is a faithful member of the W.C.T.U. She has been a member of the Methodist Church since she was 16 years old. Both have always been Methodists.

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In Loving Memory

MRS. ELLIS TITUS

Garden City, Kansas

Donor: Mrs. Edith M. Garnand

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MRS. ELLIS B. TITUS

Minnie H. Titus was born in Sedan, Kansas, March 9, 1876, and passed away April 9, 1969.

Her father, S. D. Huffman, brought his family to Garden City in October 1890. He was a grocer for many years. At the age of 14, Minnie helped as a clerk in the store. She attended school in Garden City starting in a brick school south of the railroad and later attending the old Garfield School on the north side.

She married Ellis B. Titus in October 1894. They had no children but they reared a niece, Norma, from age 10 until she was educated. Norma taught school several years before her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Titus celebrated their Golden Wedding in 1944. After the death of her husband in 1945, Mrs. Titus worked in a millinery shop for several years, later she worked in the J. E. Baker Store. She joined the Garden City Methodist Church at the age of 16. Much of her life was centered around her church being active in the Minerva Sunday School Class, The Woman's Society of Christian Service and other interests of the church. Other interests included the W.C.T.U., Priscilla Club and The Unique Study Club. Her hobbies were reading, crocheting and television. She had a genuine interest in everything and everybody. She celebrated her 93rd birthday March 9, 1969.

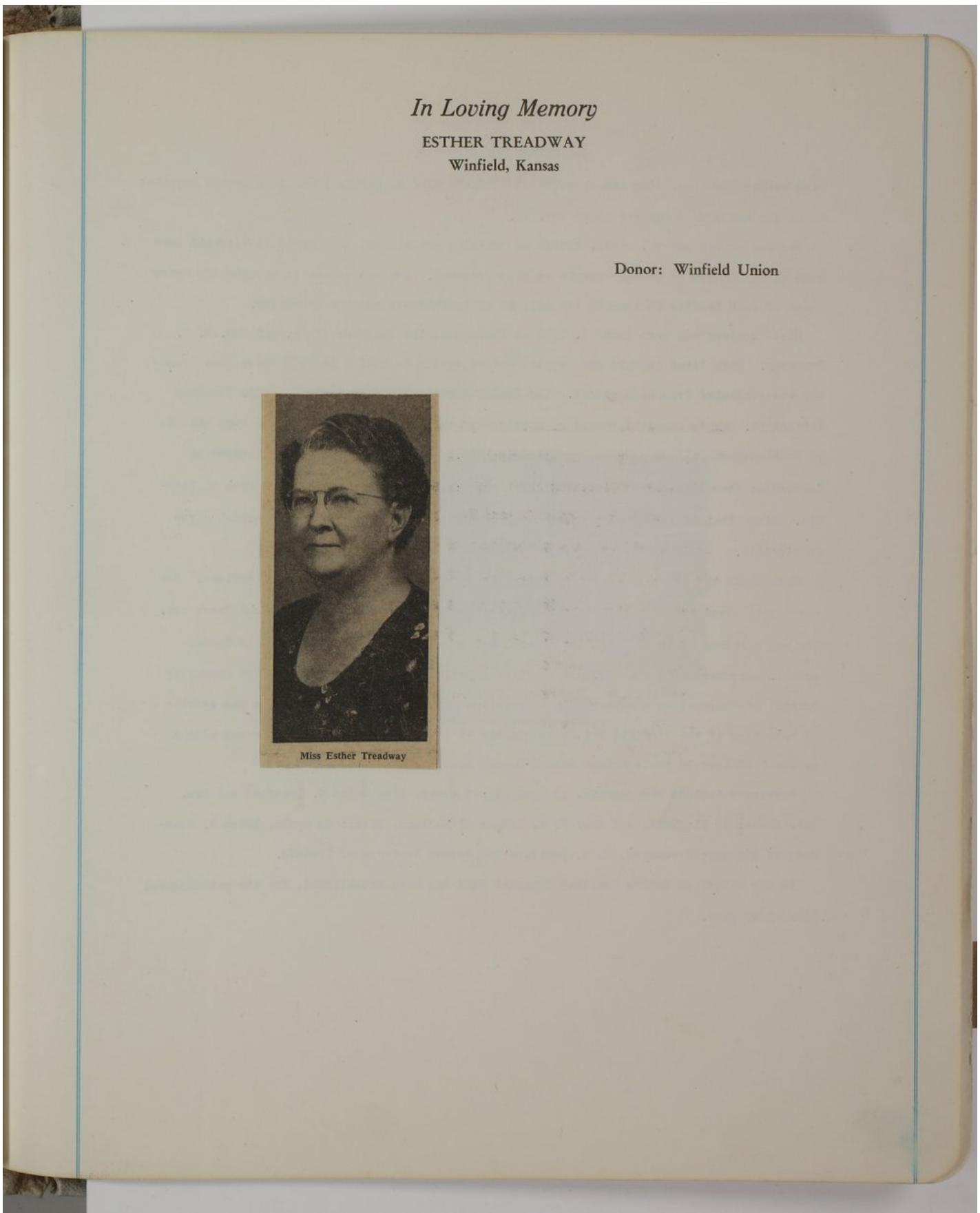
Her niece, Mrs. Norma Gunn, of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, cared for Mrs. Titus in her last illness.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
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Donor: Winfield Union

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ESTHER TREADWAY

Miss Esther Treadway, city school nurse of Winfield died in April, 1960, in a Newton hospital where she had been a patient since Nov. 26.

Because of her school, civic, church and nursing activities, few people in Winfield have been so well known to so many people as Miss Treadway. She was active in practically every phase of work tending to improve the welfare of individuals and the community.

Miss Treadway was born March 7, 1897 at Nickerson, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Treadway. They lived in Enid and Hesston before moving to Oakley in 1915 where Miss Treadway was graduated from high school. The family came to Winfield in 1917. Miss Treadway entered St. Mary's hospital school of nursing and was graduated in 1921. She then attended Southwestern College and was graduated in 1925. In 1925-26 she was school nurse at Concordia; from 1926-46 was Winfield school nurse; 1946-55 was nurse at East high in Wichita. Since that time she had been with the county health department and as school nurse in Winfield.

Throughout the years she had been active in many groups and had held many offices. She was a past president of the HPW club, and was named "Woman of the Year" several years ago. She was a member of Grace Methodist church, had served as superintendent of the Sunday school, secretary to the board, and in other capacities. She was active in the Community Council of Churches as a member of the Christian citizenship commission. She was serving as secretary of the Winfield Red Cross chapter at the time of her death. She was also a national officer in the American School Nurses Assn.

Survivors include her parents, of Winfield; 3 aunts, Miss Helen N. Crawford and Mrs. Lola Combs, of Winfield, and Mrs. R. A. Barnes of Madison, Wisc.; an uncle, Ralph N. Crawford of Anthony; 2 cousins, A. B. Brothers and Vernon Brothers of Tisdale.

In her memory an Esther Treadway memorial fund has been established, for the pathological laboratory fund.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Kansas Woman's Christian Temperance Union memory book

In Loving Memory

MRS. RUTH TONSING
Atchison, Kansas

Donor: Atchison W. C. T. U.



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MRS. RUTH TONSING

Mrs. Ruth Martin Tonsing was born in Atchison, Kansas, on May 31, 1873, and passed away on March 20, 1967. She was the oldest child of Brigidere General John A. Martin and Mrs. Ida Challiss Martin. Mr. Martin was a pioneer publisher of the Atchison Champion and one of the founders of the Republican Party in Kansas and served two terms as Governor of Kansas in 1885-1889. He was an ardent advocate of prohibition and it was during his administration that state-wide prohibition became a law in Kansas. Mrs. Martin, the mother of Ruth Tonsing, was a charter member of the Atchison W. C. T. U., organized in 1887, by Miss Frances Willard herself. The union at one time had over sixty active members along with a long list of honorary members. Then when the Atchison Union later disbanded they gave this property to the Kansas WCTU with the request that these assets and the income from them be held as a reserve fund to be used for scholarships. This request was granted.

Ruth Martin in 1893 was married to Rev. Paul Tonsing, a Lutheran minister, who also operated a printing establishment for 35 years. He published the Atchison Church Visitor and was an honorary member of the Atchison WCTU and a crusader for enforcement of prohibition in Atchison and the state.

Mrs. Tonsing was a life-long church worker and continued as a Sunday School teacher to the age of ninety. She was a loyal and energetic member of the Atchison W. C. T. U. for many years and encouraged other members never to become discouraged.

Mrs. Tonsing became the loving mother of eight children, five of whom still survive.

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MRS. MARY BLANCHE TUTTLE
Great Bend, Kansas

Donors: Her Family

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MRS. MARY BLANCHE TUTTLE

Mrs. Mary Blanche Tuttle, 1023 Van Buren, died at the Central Kansas Medical Center Tuesday, March 14, 1967, where she had been a patient since January 6.

Mrs. Tuttle was born August 1, 1894, at Middlebourne, West Virginia. She married Thomas Tuttle on October 8, 1910, at Middlebourne.

The family moved to Great Bend from Hays in 1948.

Mrs. Tuttle was a member of the Church of Christ, Rebekah Lodge, and WCTU since 1957. She celebrated her Golden Wedding Anniversary October 8, 1960.

She loved the WCTU work and attended when she was able.

She is survived by the widower, one daughter, two granddaughters, six grandchildren, five sisters and three brothers.

Funeral services were conducted at Great Bend Saturday, March 18. Burial was in the Great Bend Cemetery.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Kansas Woman's Christian Temperance Union memory book

In Loving Memory

MRS. E. C. TWINING

Ottawa, Kansas

Donors: Her Son and Daughter,
Mrs. W. H. Odle,
Dr. Paul Twining



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MRS. E. C. (VICTORIA) TWINING

Victoria, daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Mercer) Boyd, was born September 22, 1881, in Butler County, Kansas. She was eldest of four children. After finishing her schooling in Cottonwood Falls, she taught for several terms before marrying Ernest C. Twining in Homestead, on November 28, 1910. In 1915, they moved to a farm east of Ottawa, where they remained until his death. Mrs. Twining sold out and moved to town in 1952.

A member of First Baptist Church, she taught the Beginners Class for 42 years. Sunday after Sunday, she would come to the church, her car loaded with children picked up along the way. She was active in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. In her eight years as Child Welfare director, 151 little ones were dedicated.

While still on the farm, she took a Polish refugee family into her home and kept them until they could join friends in another part of the country. Years later, the daughter, Helen, came back to live with Mrs. Twining, who put her through High School. Another time, a Japanese youth stayed with her for a year and finished High School.

Mrs. Twining, who died February 9, 1967, is survived by a son, Dr. Paul Twining, Akron, Ohio; a daughter, Mrs. W. H. Odle, San Diego, California; five grandchildren, seven great grandchildren; one sister, and several nieces and nephews.

Services were held in First Baptist Church, Rev. James McCrossen, her pastor, and Dr. A. B. Martin, president of Ottawa University officiating. Interment was in Highland Cemetery.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Kansas Woman's Christian Temperance Union memory book

In Loving Memory

MRS. CAROLINE UNDERKOFLER
Burns, Kansas

Donor: Burns W. C. T. U.



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MRS. CAROLINE UNDERKOFLER

Ella Caroline (Lachenmaier) Underkofler was born to John Frederick and Amanda Permilla Lachenmaier September 27, 1880, and departed this life March 27, 1967, in the Axtell Hospital, Newton, Kansas, at the age of 86 years and 6 months.

Mrs. Underkofler has been in failing health for the past 3-1/2 years. She was born in a dugout home in Cloud Co. Kansas on the old Lachenmaier homestead and has lived most of her life in Kansas. She was one of 10 children, eight of whom preceded her in death.

Mrs. Underkofler accepted her Saviour's calling early in life during a revival meeting at Dist. 29 School house and has been a faithful and devoted follower of her Lord until the time of her death.

She was a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Miltonvale, Kansas. Mrs. Underkofler has always been very active in church work until failing health hindered her activity. Her happiest moments were while working in her Master's vineyard.

Caroline Lachenmaier was united in marriage to Charles Underkofler May 6, 1902. To this union three children were born to bless this home: Guy Underkofler, Beloit, Kansas, Wilbur Underkofler, Burns, Kansas, and Faith Gathers, Boulder, Colorado (Who preceded her mother in death May 29, 1964).

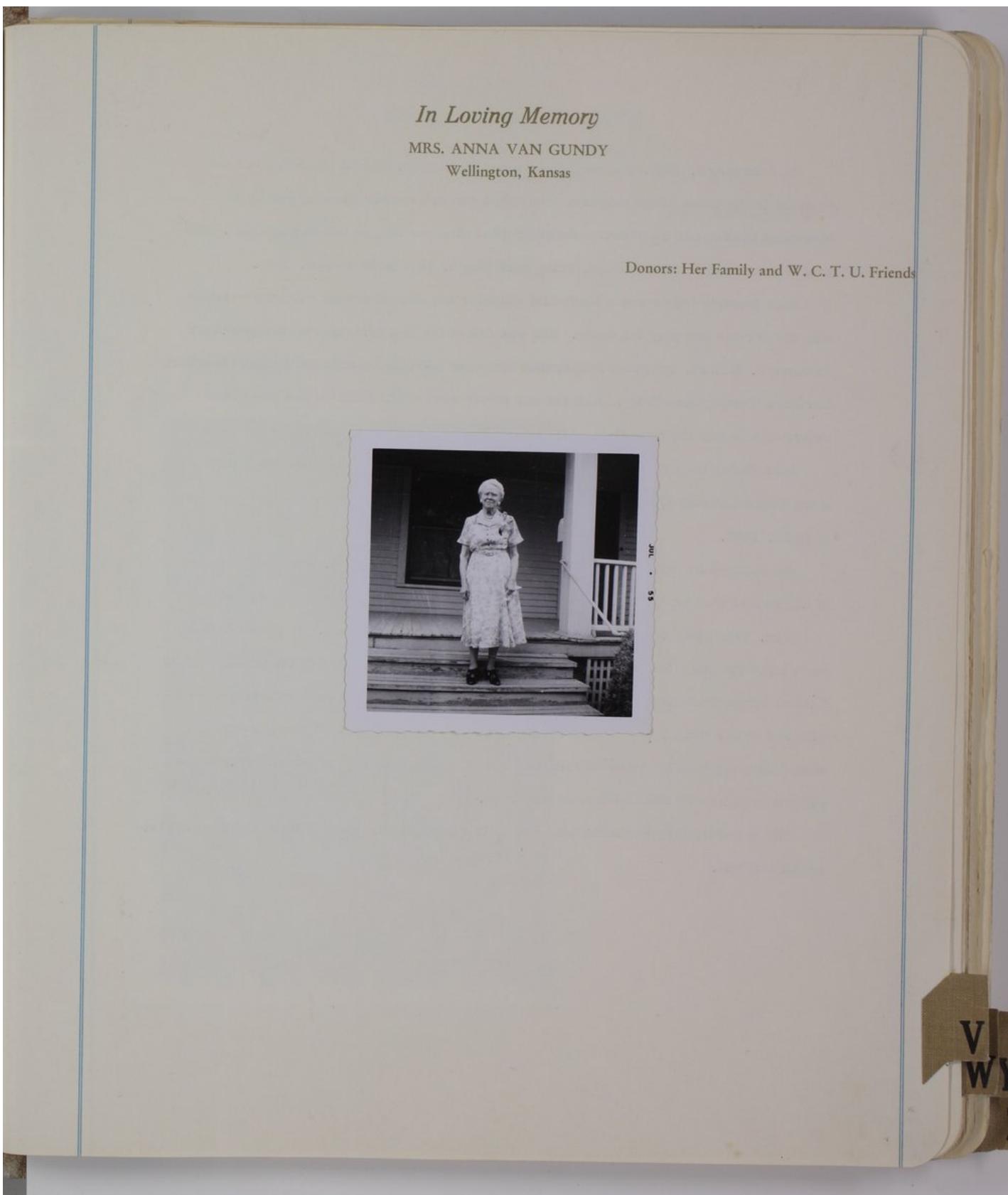
Mrs. Underkofler was blessed with 6 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. She also leaves a loving and devoted sister, Addie Lachenmaier, Miltonvale, Kansas, besides many relatives and friends. She taught several terms of school in rural communities. The past several years she has resided in her little cottage home near Burns, Kansas, but due to failing health the past few months she had been making her home with her children.

Songs requested by Mrs. Underkofler: "The Old Rugged Cross," "Let the Lower Lights be Burning," and "How Great Thou Art."

Kansas Memory



Kansas Woman's Christian Temperance Union memory book



Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Kansas Woman's Christian Temperance Union memory book

ANNA A. DUDEY VAN GUNDY

On February 6, 1967, God called home one of his most faithful followers and co-workers in the cause of temperance. She was a sincere worker and member of the Methodist Church and the Weselyn Sunday School class as long as health permitted. She was 96 years and 9 months of age, being born May 2, 1870 in Davenport, Iowa.

Anna Dudey's father was a Methodist minister and she often went with him to assist with the service and play the organ. She was one of the last persons who saw and heard Frances E. Nillard, the great temperance crusader and organizer of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union. Ann and her father went to St. Louis to see this great reformer who was the first Dean of Women of Northwestern University.

Anna Dudey moved to Wellington from Conway Springs where she lived on a farm for many years and reared a family of three sons and one daughter, Ruth, who preceded her in April, 1966.

She became the wife of a retired Methodist minister, Dr. W. A. Van Gundy of Wellington on October 13, 1933, who died in 1948.

Mrs. Van Gundy loved her church which she served so faithfully. In the late years she played the piano for her Sunday School class at 90. She belonged to the grandmother's Club at Conway Springs, the Quill and Arts Club of Wellington and as an officer was so efficient in her work in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. It was her delight to attend the society of Christian service and the Thursday morning prayer service. Her prayers will long be remembered by the group.

She is survived by her three sons and their wives, seven grand children and seven great-grand children.

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