

Susie Riedesel, Wheatland, 1936 *Is Charter Member Of St.* *Paul's Reformed Church*

Wheatland, Aug. 14—(Special)—During the seventy-fifth anniversary celebration being held throughout this year by the St. Paul's Evangelical and Reformed church, special homage is being paid to Miss Susie Riedesel, only charter member of the original church living in this vicinity.

Miss Riedesel was a member of the first confirmation class of the church.

Susie Riedesel was born in Crawford county, Ohio on Feb. 6, 1847. Her parents, Ludwig and Kathrina Riedesel and family migrated to Iowa in March, 1855, when she was eight years old.

They landed at Rock Island, Ill., and as there was no bridge over the Mississippi river they walked across the ice to Davenport.

Her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John G. Schneider, lived on the farm now owned by John Hass, Jr. The family resided with them until a cabin was built on their land, the present August Kramer farm.

No railroad was here then and not a single house on the present site of Wheatland.

The first school Miss Riedesel attended was at Spring Rock at the Parker home. Her teacher was Miss Cylinda Parker, later Mrs. Jerome Dutton.

After a school was built on the Davis place, she attended school there, until this building burned down.

After homes were built in Wheatland she attended school in a private home and later in a storeroom owned by Larry O'Connor.

Many of the settlers here of the Reformed church faith held meetings in private homes. These meetings were led by Ludwig Derr and L. H. Riedesel. When the Rev. Oswald, a German Presbyterian minister, came here regular services



Susie Riedesel

were held in the Samuel Ecker home until a church was built.

Susie Riedesel was a member of the first confirmation class and was confirmed by the Rev. Klar, the first Reformed minister.

Others in that class were August Lohmann, George Schneider, Louisa Penningroth, Anna Elizabeth Schneider and Catherine Homrighausen.

Miss Riedesel left Wheatland in 1865 and made her home with the Rev. Klar and wife until their death. She attended Tiffen college three years and taught school in the vicinity of Massillon, Ohio.

Miss Riedesel moved to Laramie, Wyo. in 1901, where she lived until the past year when she came here to live with her niece, Mrs. Lydia Schneider.

Probably in the Wheatland Gazette