

(Handwritten date: Friday, October 4, 1940)

## CATHERINE METTLER DIES FROM INJURIES INCURRED IN AUTO CRASH SUNDAY

Funeral For Popular Young Woman Teacher, a Former Society Editor of the Berne Witness, Is Saturday

Berne and the whole community mourns the death of Miss Catherine F. Mettler, 22, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ferd Mettler, of West Water street, who died at 4:40 a.m. Thursday in the Rockford, Ill. City hospital, from injuries incurred in an automobile accident at 9 p.m. last Sunday.

Miss Mettler, teacher in the fourth grade of the Marengo, Ill. schools, for the second year, suffered fractures of both legs when the car in which she and three women were riding crashed into a ditch at the end of Rock Grove road three miles northwest of Durand.

### PARENTS AT BEDSIDE

Death resulted from a fatty embolus caused by a fracture of the left hip, attending physicians informed Coroner W. G. Burke.

Miss Mettler's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ferd Mettler, and a sister, Mrs. Neil Wright of Kendallville, were at the bedside when she died. The body was brought here last night in the Yager ambulance.

Following the accident her condition was not believed to be critical but the parents were informed that she took a turn for the worse Monday night. Tuesday afternoon they received another message telling them, "Catherine is not so good" and hospital attaches asked for permission for a special nurse, permission, of course, being granted immediately.

Wednesday morning another call from the hospital stated that "Catherine is low. Come at once." The parents left immediately but she was in a coma and never recognized anyone.

Harry Frick, her boyfriend, and a teacher at Lima, O., arrived at her bedside Monday night before she took a turn for the worse.

Miss Mettler was returning with her landlady, Mrs. Melvina Wright, 63, and two other companions, from a week-end trip to the home of a fellow teacher and a roommate of Catherine, Miss Beatrice Miller, in Broadhead, Wisconsin.

A graduate of the Berne high school with the class of '35 and of the North Manchester College normal course, she was widely and favorably known, being active in social, civic, and religious work and formerly served as society editor of the Berne Witness. She was a member of the Cross Reformed church and formerly headed the Girls Missionary Guild. She was secretary of the primary department and a member of the Campfire girls. Several years ago she headed the Girl Scouts here. (Cut off)

(Handwritten date: Monday, September 23, 1940)

## HERRON FUNERAL RITES HELD TODAY

Funeral services were held at the Berne Evangelical church this afternoon for Mrs. Mary Burke Herron, 68, who died Saturday afternoon at her home in that town. Burial was in the M.R.E. cemetery at Berne.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Bessie Kneuss of Berne and Miss Nora Herron, at home; one brother, John J. Burke, of Blue Creek township; and two sisters, Mrs. Susanna Beitler of Monroe Mrs. Rosa Schwartz of Berne.

**Adams County Historical Museum**

**1940 Scrapbook, image 139**

**Transcribed by Karin King**