

MAR. 7, 1963

MS **Bessie Smith Was
Born In Montezuma,
Funeral March 5**

Bessie May, daughter of Anthony W. and Melissa Smith, was born in Montezuma May 17, 1881, and died in St. Francis hospital, Grinnell, Mar. 3, at the age of 81 years.

When a child she moved with her family to a farm east of Deep River. Following her mother's death while she was quite young, she lived in several homes while attending rural school. She then lived for a time with each of her sisters, Mrs. Robert Byers and Mrs. Sam Stewart, and for more than 30 years she resided in the home of her brother, Homer Smith. Since 1951 she has lived in a Montezuma nursing home. She was a member of the Presbyterian church at Deep River.

She is survived by several nieces and nephews, other relatives and many friends.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Mar. 5 at the Steffy Funeral Home conducted by the Rev. G. R. Dieken. Interment was in the Golden Rod cemetery at Deep River. Casket bearers were Paul Light, Quentin Rose, Robert McWilliams, Max Icenbice, Vaughn Icenbice and Claudis Axtell.