

MS Rena Parish Dies Monday

4-11-1933
Well Known and Loved Grinnell
Woman Passes Away Early
Yesterday Afternoon

A gentle spirit, attuned to beauty in every form, departed from its frail body when Rena Mary Parish departed this life at 12:15 o'clock Monday afternoon. Handicapped all her life by bodily infirmity, her buoyant spirit had surmounted all obstacles and her accomplishments would have done credit to those more abundantly endowed with physical strength.

Rena loved beauty in every form. Good music, good pictures, good books, the songs of birds, the beauties of nature, all touched a responsive chord in her, but her love of beauty and her life work especially expressed itself in music. As a pupil in the Grinnell School of Music she showed such talent in composition that Professor E. B. Scheve said that he had never seen anyone more imbued with melody than she.

Her natural gift for composition was turned to a good end when she composed the melodies for songs written for the 4-H club by Miss Fannie Buchanan. This collaboration was fruitful. Many of these songs have become popular and three of them have been adopted by the National 4-H organization and appear in the 4-H song books. Miss Parish also provided the orchestration for a number of orchestral and band selections. She found time to take a number of piano pupils and was especially successful in her work with children.

Rena was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Miles C. Parish and was born August 28, 1884, on a farm in Chester township. She came from a wellknown pioneer family. In 1907 she left the farm when the family moved to Grinnell and after the death of Mrs. Parish she kept house for her father. More recently she has been making her home with her brother, Dr. O. F. Parish.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock from the Parish home, conducted by Rev. Robert Inglis. Friends who wish to call will be welcome at the Parish home this evening.

Rena is survived by three brothers and one sister; Dr. O. F. Parish of Grinnell, E. S. Parish of Ewart, Mrs. George P. Koebel of Manicke, Mont., and William A. Parish of Laguna Beach, Calif.