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Beda Caroline Skon Gaspard Prien

Born at Rib Lake Dec. 24th, 1892, in the home now occupied by the Hebert family (1990). Attended the old Ward School, through fifth grade. Then transferred to sixth grade, at junior high. Graduated in 1911--The only Rib Lake class to ever receive a genuine sheepskin diploma. My sister Eleanora graduated at the same time and Mr. Parks has her diploma in his administrative office.

After graduation I attended six weeks of summer school at Medford. Then taught at Spirit Lake School two years. Elsie Wagner Juse was one of my pupils.

Following that I taught at Jump River-- A beautiful primeval area in 1914. I became ill and left before the year was up. Then mother died shortly after at the Eau Claire Luther Hospital.

I stayed home one year and kept boarders. Then attended Gem City Business College at Quincy, Ill. for two years, finishing with a Master of Accounts degree. Also completed stenographic courses. I was sent by that school to Duluth to teach all commercial subjects, at the university. The students had been very unruly, until I wore a friend's pin to school, on a dare. From then on they called me the Little Police girl. It really helped solve the discipline problem. I remained there, with many compliments from my bosses, until the owner passed away and the school was sold. From there I went to teach at Mr. Carey's School of Business. Later on I purchased that school and ran it for twenty-five years.

I was married to Donald Gaspard in 1920. Was married to him twenty-two years and a widow for thirty-one years.

I then married Ed Prien, a highly respected well liked man at Rib Lake in 1977. He had been married for fifty years to Mabel Eddy, also a teacher. She had passed away in 1975.

We have all been Methodists. Ed and I were happily married until he passed away, after eleven years of marriage.

My sister Mabel now lives with me. She also lived at Duluth. We were both formerly Rib Lake girls.

Note--- Beda is well liked in Rib Lake and we are glad to have her back. Mabel, too.

Beda Prien

### Beda Prien celebrates centennial birthday

An "open house" was held September 13 for the celebration of Beda Prien's 100th birthday. The celebration coincided with the centennial celebration of the Rib Lake United Methodist Church.

Friends and relatives attending the church centennial, as well as out-of-town well wishers, were able to greet Beda at her home and wish her a happy birthday. Her birthday is December 24.