

## MISS EDNA LAWTON DIES AT SAVANNAH

### Popular Young Beaufort Woman Succumbed Last Week

The whole community was shocked and saddened, when the news reached Beaufort on the morning of June 20th that death had claimed Miss Edna Earl Lawton.

Miss Lawton had gone to Savannah for medical treatment at Telfair hospital and encouraging news had reached the family of her improvement, when suddenly she took a turn for the worst, and within a few hours had passed away.

Practically spending her whole life in Beaufort where she had many to love and admire her strength of character and lovely personality, and where she leaves a profound impression of a life well spent, doing for others, the pride of her family, and the loyal friend to many whom she loved.

Edna Earl Lawton was born December 27th, 1883, at Rose Mount, Screven County, Georgia.

The family moved to Beaufort early in her life and immediately became a vital part of the life of the old town, which was the birth place and home of her mother Adelaide E. Reynolds.

Finishing at Beaufort High School Miss Lawton later took a course in Savannah at the Richmond Business College, accepting from there a position with Reppard Schnedker & Co.

When she was offered work in Beaufort with R. A. Long's Telephone Exchange, she accepted, and making her home with her sister Mrs. J. H. Haynsworth, she became the first girl who had a public position in the history of the town, a unique and difficult job, which she filled with the dignity and courtesy of her gentle breeding, making of what might have been a tiresome position, one of interest and satisfaction to all concerned, many remembering still, with keen appreciation her many kindly acts of accommodation, and kindness. Much regret was therefore expressed when after many years of such useful service she entered the office of Mr. W. J. Thomas, where she soon became identified with the town's best interest.

Miss Lawton's business ability was marked and through her own efforts she was enabled to invest her savings in property which was to become a home for her parents and sisters.

It was a matter of deep concern to all who appreciated the indomitable courage and spirit of this young business woman when the news was heard that she would leave Beaufort to enter business elsewhere namely: at the Cotton News of St. Matthews, S. C. While there she was offered a better position with Mr. W. B. West, Business Manager, at Coker College, and lastly she became connected with Messrs. Spears & Want, Attorneys, at Darlington, S. C. It was while with this firm her health failed. All that medical aid could accomplish was done to help her, and it was hoped that she would be restored to health and allowed to live to be still a useful member of God's earthly family. but He in his infinite wisdom and love has willed otherwise and her labors of love on earth are over, and she is now with those she has "Loved and Lost" in her Father's House on High—What more could be said of her than that she was a true Christian, a loyal lovely friend and daughter whom "whatever her hands found to do, was done with all her might."

The sympathy of the whole of Beaufort goes out to her bereaved and sorrowing family. The first break in the group of sisters, who were so near and dear to each other and to her sweet and gentle mother.

Those surviving in her immediate family are: her mother Mrs. Judson L. Reynolds, of Beaufort, S. C., and five sisters, namely: Mrs. J. H. Haynsworth, Savannah, Ga., Miss Minna Lawton, Savannah, Ga., Miss Florence Lawton, of Bennettsville, S. C., Mrs. R. H. Gibson, of Hampton, S. C., and Miss Estelle Lawton, of Beaufort, S. C., and two brothers-in-law, Capt. J. H. Haynsworth, and Mr. R. H. Gibson.

The remains were brought to Beaufort Saturday afternoon. The services were preached at the Street Baptist Church, the pastor being in charge of the interment was in the Charles Street Baptist

The survivors were; William Kinghorn, J. H. Hansen, Joseph Walpole, R. V. B. , William Roberts and Rivers Van.