

Mr. Freidrich Duldig

The death of Mr. Freidrich Duldig, which occurred at Eudunda on June 7th, severs almost the last link in the chain of old pioneer farmers and graziers of Worlds End district, where the name of Duldig was known and honoured for many years.

The deceased gentleman was born on March 22nd, 1851, at Tauer, near Cottbus, Germany. With his parents, Johann and Anna Duldig, he emigrated from that country to S.A. as a five year old lad. They arrived at Port Adelaide on January 28th, 1856. After a few months they came to live on the farm of a friend at Peter's Hill. The latter had left their old home town like themselves, but some years earlier. Here their first dwelling-place was a dug-out. Later the father of the deceased bought a farm of 50 acres and built a proper house. Mr. Duldig, being of then school age, attended the local Evangelical church-school, under the teachers F. Semlin and Strempel. On November 11th, 1866, he was confirmed in the Peters Hill Church by Pastor Reichelmann. Later he went sheep shearing on large stations in the far north. On February 17th, 1876, he married Miss Louise Schuppan, of Emu Downs, Pastor R. Ey, of Carlsruhe performing the ceremony. This union was blessed with fourteen children - seven boys and seven girls. After his marriage the deceased bought a block of land in the hundred of Baldina. This area had previously been a large sheep-run known as Worlds End. Here he lived with his family for 46 years. During the first ten years of this period they belonged to the Emu Downs congregation. Then Mr. Duldig and six other families formed a congregation at Upper Bright, which he served for many years as elder, treasurer, reader, and as care-taker of the cemetery. He helped to build the church at Upper Bright which was dedicated in 1907 (December 28). While he was a member of this congregation he attended every synodical convention as its delegate. He also took an active part in the public life of his district. He was a foundation member of the H. & P. Show Society of Burra and remained a member for 43 years. One of his sons having fallen in the Great War, Mr. Duldig was made a member of the Committee of the Fallen Soldiers' Memorial in Burra. He was the first chairman of the Committee for the Robertstown Railway movement, and he also served in other capacities.

In July 1922, he retired with his wife to Eudunda. After the death of his wife on June 11th, 1923, his son, Mr. L. T. Duldig, and his family came to live with him in order to look after his bodily needs.

In Eudunda he had at once joined up with Emmaus Evangelical Lutheran Church, and proved himself an active member. Despite his age he served the congregation as treasurer for three years, and as elder for fourteen years. Having expressed his wish to retire from this active work, he was in 1936 appointed an honorary elder.

Mr. Duldig enjoyed exceptional health during his long and active life. Until about a year ago he continued to be busy in his work-shop making rubber door mats out of old tyres.

On February of the present year he moved from Eudunda township to the farm of his son-in-law, Mr. H. Schwarz, to be attended to by his daughter, Mrs. Schwarz. There his end came on Sunday, 7th June, in the morning while his family was at church. His age was 91 years, two months, and 15 days. Five sons, four daughters, 41 grand-children, and 15 great-grandchildren survive him. Interment took place on Tuesday, 9th June. Owing to the boisterous weather the address was delivered at the Schwarz home. Pastor F. Hassold officiated.