

ALEXANDER, V. ELIZABETH

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ALEXANDER, V. ELIZABETH

*JAPAN

Brought up in a home where God revered and His day kept sacred. Taught also if you earn 50¢ to spend a little less. Attended primary, then High School and Normal. Then taught school in Prince Edward Island, earning money for Univer. course, went to Mt. Allison U. taking the B.A. course. Later received my M.A. majoring in English Lit. and Math.

Taught one year in school for Indian children -- this school received support from government as well as the mission. After a year's teaching in Manitoba, received their 1st class teacher's certificate.

Spent two years with my brother in Hirosaki, Japan caring for his motherless boy and helping him in his work, and Miss Hewett in girls school, left short of workers by sudden return to America of Miss Otto.

Returned to America via ports, visiting Egypt, Italy, Germany, Holland & England, and along with sight-seeing absorbing history.

Returned to Japan in May 1903 as W.S.M.B. worker spending about half of my life as a missionary in girls school in Hirosaki, and the other half in Sappo in country evangelistic work. Left Japan for retirement in summer of 1936, was in China and Korea for three months - countries I had longed to visit. My only regret was I could not have gone earlier, for I learned much from my visit.

After leaving Hong Kong our boat called at usual ports. Left steamer at Suez, & spent a month in Palestine. From there joined an excursion going up the Nile as far as Karnak. Our boat from Suez was scheduled to stop at Barcelona, but war broke out & we went directly by boat from Genoa to England.

As I look back I thank God for the opportunity of working with our Japanese women, and for the good health vouchsafed to me, so I could keep on "keeping on" with hospital expenses so low I could finance them.

Ten years this summer since I retired, busy and happy doing what I could. The limitations of age are not always pleasant, but His Grace is sufficient, and I can keep looking forward to seeing "Him face to face", and meeting loved ones - so many of whom have gone on before.

Mother's maiden name was Isabella Percival

Presented to the ...

Feb. 2, 1955

MEMORIAL TO MISS VIRGINIA ELIZABETH ALEXANDER
Retired Japan Missionary

Miss Virginia Elizabeth Alexander was born in Stanhope, Prince Edward Island, Canada on May 7, 1870, and died January 8, 1955 at Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

She was a life-long member of the Methodist Church, having joined as a child before the United Church of Canada came into existence.

Miss Alexander attended primary, high school and normal school in Prince Edward Island, taught school for a while, thus earning money for her university course at Mt. Allison University where she took the B.A. course, and later took a master's degree in English Literature and Mathematics. After teaching a year in a school for Indian children in Manitoba, she received her first class teacher's certificate.

Miss Alexander was first appointed to missionary work in Sapporo, Japan under the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society in October of 1902. For two years she served in evangelistic work there and then went to Hirosaki on the main Island of Japan, where she taught in the girls' school which later became Hirosaki Jo Gakuin.

After a furlough during which she returned to America via Egypt, Italy, Germany, Holland and England, Miss Alexander was appointed again to evangelistic work in Hokkaido, with residence in the capital city, Sapporo. Her magnificent Christian devotion, her excellent training and her indefatigable energy made her a pioneer in the establishment of Christian kindergartens, mothers' clubs, and churches throughout that Island.

Leaving Japan for retirement in the summer of 1936, Miss Alexander spent several months in China and Korea. She then returned to her home in Canada where she lives in semi-retirement, but busy and happy until she was taken into the presence of her Maker. In hundreds of Christian homes in Japan, Miss Bessie Alexander is remembered as one who served her Lord Christ and brought the radiance of His love to all with whom she came in contact.

Dear Missionaries, or Friends of Missionaries of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist-Episcopal Church:

The task of revising and bringing up to date the "Roll Call" of our Missionaries has been assigned to me. This necessitates your prompt assistance. To all missionaries living, whose addresses we can secure this will be sent—otherwise to friends. Please remember that delay on your part means delay here, so give this little blank proper consideration. This is only a skeleton. If you will write fully concerning yourself or your friend, as to why you went, your preparation, the work you have done, giving some interesting incidents of redeemed lives, you will make it possible for me to present a living picture, not a catalogue. Please do not confuse this with the blank sent out from headquarters in New York and think you have already complied. Anticipating your very hearty and prompt response, I am

Yours in the service,

Miss Kate E. Moss,

3024 Park Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING:

1. Name in Full..... Virginia E. G. Bell
2. Date and place of Birth..... May 7th 1890 St. Joseph, Kansas
3. Name of Father and Mother..... George & Elizabeth Bell
4. Nationality and Religious Faith of Same..... American Methodist
5. Present Residence..... St. Joseph, Kansas
6. When Did You Become a Christian?..... 1882
7. When Did You Join the Methodist-Episcopal Church?.....
8. What Led You to Become a Missionary?.....
9. Your Education—What and Where Secured.....
10. Have You a Specialty—If So, What?..... English Literature
11. Date of Appointment..... July 17th 1903 Date of Sailing..... July 17th 1903
12. From What Branch?.....
13. Positions Held Before Going.—When, What, Where?.....
14. Positions Held in Foreign Field—When, What, Where?.....
15. Dates and Lengths of Furloughs.....
16. Items Concerning Your Work.....
17. Send Picture from Which "Cut" Can be Made to Me.....
18. Is this Extract from the "Roll Call" Correct so far as it Goes?.....

SEP 11 1903

Apparently this was written in 1946

See attached

Brought up in a home where
God was revered and His day
kept sacred. I ought also
if you earn 50 cts to spend
a little less.

Attended primary, then
Night School and Normal
then taught school in Prince
Edward Island, earning money
for University course, went
to Mt Allison Univ, taking
the B. A. course. Later
received my M. A. majoring
in Eng. Lit. and Math.

Got job one year in school
for teacher - school
this school received support
from government as well
as mission - After a year
teaching in the States received
this job as teacher here
in the state

2

Spent two years with my
brother in Hiroshima, Japan
caring for his mother. His boy
and helping him in his
work, and his mother in
her school, and his mother
in her school - and
the school of Miss Otto.
Returned to America via
ports, visiting Egypt, Italy,
Germany, Holland & England,
and along with sight seeing
absorbing history.
Returned to Japan in May
1903 as W. G. B. S. worker -
spending about half of my
missionary life in his
school in Hiroshima, and the
other half in Japan -
conducting evangelistic work.
Left Japan for retirement

in summer of 1936, was in
China and Korea for three
months - countries I had
longed to visit. My only regret
was I could not be a govt
earlier for I learned a great deal
from my visit.

After leaving for France
I had called at ...
I had ...
I had ...
I had ...
I had ...

... scheduled to
stop at Barcelona but was
broke out & we went direct by
boat from Genoa to England.

As I look back I thank
God for the opportunity of
working with one Japanese
woman, and for the good

Health vouchsafed to me, so
 I could keep on "keeping on"
 with hospital expenses so
 low I could finance the -

Five years this
 summer since I set up,
 busy and happy doing what
 I could. The P. situation
 of age are not always
 pleasant but this year is
 a little bit, and I can handle
 looking for a good time to
 make a change in my life.

-x-x-x-

I still - ...
 ...

DEPARTMENT OF WORK IN FOREIGN FIELDS

Staff Minutes

January 18, 1955

Present: Misses Colony, Berry, Billingsley, Derby, French, Lawrence, Twinem,
Mrs. Daif, Dr. Perrill

Miss Derby led in prayer.

For the record:

In memoriam: V. Elizabeth Alexander, Japan, (retired) January 8, 1955 25.
Arrivals: Helen Emmert, Southern Rhodesia, January 17, 1955 26.
Grace Wood, Korea, January 8, 1955
Departures: Constance Blackstock, Pakistan, January 8, 1955 27.
(from England)
Martha Coy, India, January 20, 1955

For action:

RECOMMENDED that the following medical bills be approved: 28.
Thelma Maw, Korea \$175.96
Myrtle Pider, Japan 197.85
Ruth Wolfe, Pakistan 291.22

RECOMMENDED that Dorothy Edwards Crisolgo be placed on furlough salary 29.
for the period of time she will be itinerating for the Student
Volunteer Movement; her salary to be paid from Philippines salaries.

RECOMMENDED that Anita Harris be loaned with salary to the Student 30.
Volunteer Movement pending her acceptance of their request to itinerate.

Miss Josefina Cabanilla has been with the Mobile Clinic in the 31.
Philippines since it began. She is now in the United States, and it is
RECOMMENDED that Miss Josefina Cabanilla be granted up to \$1,000
from Educational Grants, Foreign Students, to study at Scarritt College
and have a period of observation at Pittman Center, Sevierville, Tenn.

RECOMMENDED that approval be given for Mary Pearson to serve as 32.
director of Centro Cristiano, Chihuahua, Mexico, while Irene Nixon
is on furlough.

A new building for workers is being built at Ghaziabad, Delhi Conference, 33.
India, for which \$7,500 has been allocated. By exchange this yields
Rs. 35,000. The amount needed to complete the building is Rs. 42,000.
From work budget balances, Rs. 5,000 can be spared. It is
RECOMMENDED that Rs. 5,000 in the Ghaziabad Evangelistic Work Budget
be transferred to the building fund, Ghaziabad.

Miss Lucile Colony, Chairman
Miss Beverley Berry, Secretary

Photographs from this
file have not been
included but are
available upon request.
For more information
please contact
research@gcah.org