

**ALEXANDER, ROBERT P. AND
FAMILY**

for China, where they will serve under the
Oriental Missionary Society. They sailed

The Christian Advocate

A National Weekly

PACIFIC EDITION

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scriptions. Advertising rates on application.

Dr. Robert Percival Alexander, missionary of the former Methodist Episcopal Church in service in Japan, died at his home on the Aoyama Gakuin campus, Tokyo, on January 13. He retired from active service in 1933. He first went to Japan in 1893 as a teacher of Bible and of English in the academy department of Aoyama Gakuin, Tokyo, a Methodist college. All his missionary and educational career has been in connection with that institution and city, except for several years spent in Hirosaki city with the Gospel Society and the Hirosaki Boys' School. He was recognized by the government and by other educators as one of the outstanding teachers of English in all Japan, and many of Tokyo's leading citizens have been members of his Bible classes conducted usually in his home on the campus. The alumni of Aoyama Gakuin built and presented to Dr. and Mrs. Alexander a residence on the college campus, in token of their affection. Born in Stanhope, Canada, on November 24, 1862, he was educated at Mt. Allison University, later taking his A.B. and M.A. degrees at Harvard University. In 1893, just prior to his appointment as a missionary, he joined the New England Southern Conference of the Methodist Church and was a member of that body at the time of his death. In 1902 he married Fanny Gray Wilson, then a missionary of The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, in Japan. She survives, as do also five children.

TEACHER		Birth	Appointed	Withdrawn	Death	No
Alexander Robert Percival		British 24 Nov 62	31 st 93			
Present Address	From	Canada		CUTS	W.W.M.	G.A.L. House
Wife or Husband	Degrees					
Fanny G. Wilson 23 10 02 died 19 Jan '99	Mt. Allison University 1888					
Mary Christine Broom	Harvard, '92; A.B.					
	" " M.A.					
	93 Apr 13 - Dec 14					
Conference Relations	Furloughs					
New England Southern, 893	Nov 01 - 31 May 03; Oct 05 - Mar 06;					
FIELD OF LABOR	Feb. 1920 - 24 th Feb 1921					
Japan, '93; Korea '07;						
	BIOGRAPHICAL					
Tokyo, 893 - Aug '97	Joined Methodist Church					
{ Anglo-Jap. College, Jy '93 -	of Canada 22 '80					
+ Academy	Sailed for Japan 2 Jy '93.					
Hirosaki, Jy '97 - Nov '01						
Gospel Society						
" " and						
Kuroishi, Mr '00 -						
Hirosaki,						
Gospel Society, up '01 - 12 '01						
Hirosaki						
Gospel Society, My '03 - '06						
Tokyo - Aoyama Gakuin My '07 - '13	Quiza Church Gospel Socy and					
	Bright School 10 7 - 12					

OBITUARY

George Ditmars Alexander, b. 11 apr., 1894.
Frances Elizabeth Alexander, born 26 Nov., 1904.
Robert Percival Alexander
Mary Alice Alexander, born 26 apr., 1907.
Isabelle Wilson Alexander, born Aug. 19, 1910.

Brother (Nov. 1914).

W. W. Alexander, M.D.
Waltham, Province of Quebec (Nov. 10, 1914.)

WIFE
 Alexander, Fanny Gray Wilson
 Birth Athens Tenn. 10 7 68 Appointed 1896
 From Chattanooga, Tenn. Degrees
 Ohio Wesleyan 1894 B.L.
 W.D.M.S. Withdrawn Death No
 CUTS WWM G A L House
 Photo

Wife of Husband
 Robert P. Alexander, 23 D 02

Conference Relations

Furloughs 2-22-13 - Dec 14;
 Dec 20 - Apr 22;

FIELDS OF LABOR

Hiroso. hi
 Girls School '03 - Apr '05
 Tokyo, May '07 - 23 Apr '13.

BIOGRAPHICAL

Arrived on the field Dec 26/96;
 A.S.V.
 In charge of Trench Dept. 6/11/21.
 94-95
 Preceptress of Coquema Tenn 95-96

AUTHOR OF

OBITUARY

—Rev. R. P. Alexander, formerly of the New England Southern Conference, but more recently a missionary in Japan, has been transferred to the New England Southern Conference, in accordance with the action of the General Conference which provided that the missionaries in the Korea Conference should be transferred to the Conferences in the United States from which they had originally come. Mr. Alexander is retired, and is living in Japan. 2, H, 9, 27-33

REVERENCE is a mighty compound emotion, as MacDougall explains it. Back of it are both awe and gratitude, and back of awe is a blend of admiration and fear. "Few merely human powers are capable of exciting reverence, this blend of wonder, fear, gratitude, and negative self-feeling," he says. "Those human beings who inspire reverence . . . usually owe their reverend character to their being regarded as the ministers and dispensers of divine power."

In order to establish the attitude of as-
surance of God in church worship it is

Please Return

ROBERT PERCIVAL ALEXANDER

The Rev. Robert Percival Alexander, eldest son of George and Isabella Alexander, was born at Stanhope, Prince Edward Island, Canada, November 24, 1862. He left this life at the age of 77 years, after an illness of a year, from St. Luke's Hospital, at one o'clock, January 6, 1940.

Following preparatory education in Prince of Wales College, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, he graduated as a Bachelor of Arts from Mt. Allison College, Sackville, New Brunswick. After teaching in Mt. Allison College he entered Harvard University in 1891 where he was granted the A. B. degree and a scholarship for the following year together with a First Grade Head-Master's Certificate from the Boston Public School Board. In 1893 he was granted the M. A. degree from the Harvard Graduate School. Also in 1893 he was ordained as an Elder in the Methodist Episcopal Church and became a member of the New England Southern Annual Conference.

He married Mary Christine Vroom, June 27, 1893 at Bear River, Nova Scotia, and sailed with her for Japan, July 17, 1893. To this union there was born one son, George Ditmars Alexander.

Mr. Alexander became a teacher in Aoyama Gakuin from 1893; in 1897 he was appointed to the Gospel Society in Hirosaki, and he was also for one year Pastor of the Kuroishi Church. Mrs. Mary Christine Vroom Alexander died in Hirosaki in 1899.

While on furlough in the United States in 1901 he was married to Fanny Grey Wilson, and together they returned to Japan in the Spring of 1902; proceeding to Hirosaki he again had charge of the Gospel Society until 1906. During that year the family moved to Tokyo and Mr. Alexander became connected with Aoyama Gakuin and continued his work here as an educator of youth in the Classroom, and for years in the Ginza Methodist Church Gospel Society Night School in special christian service- thirty-four unbroken years in Tokyo and Aoyama Gakuin.

For more than twenty years the Alexander home was open every Wednesday evening to their old students and friends. In the Middle School of Aoyama Gakuin he was not only a teacher of young boys but an advisor and friend of the large staff of young teachers who were much dependent upon his wide and accurate knowledge.

During his forty-six years of missionary work in Japan he was twice treasurer of the Methodist Mission; he was also active on committees with hospital work, the Christian Literature Society, the American Bible Society, and the Book and Tract Society. He was an active member of the Tokyo English Speaking Society, the Harvard Club, and the Asiatic Society. He was one of the founders of the Minooka Summer Settlement at Gotemba. At the time of his death he was President of the Canadian Association of Japan.

Mr. Alexander is survived by his wife; by two sons; George, living in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, and by Robert Jr. living in Tokyo; by three daughters: Mrs. Raymond Rush of Ganges, B. C., Canada, Mrs. Leon Stapley of Nassau, New York, and Mrs. Paul Gerhard of Tokyo; by two brothers: Dr. William Alexander of Montreal, Canada, and the Rev. Herbert Alexander of Albion, Michigan; by two sisters: Miss V. E. Alexander of Vancouver, Canada, and Mrs. Clara Mellett of Wataskiwin, Alberta, Canada. There are also seven grandchildren.

This is the brief record of a long life of Christian character, Christian service, and loyalty to high Christian ideals. We who knew him best thought of him as a lover of home, family and children; a faithful and efficient teacher, and a loyal friend. Brother and Sister Alexander have been noted, for years, for binding to their hearts in unbroken loyalty many Japanese individuals and families.

Word of the passing of Bro. Alexander reached us in Kobe while we were in the midst of our first United Japan Methodist Mission Council. Immediately the Council stopped for prayer and to express our sympathy and love to Mrs. Alexander and her family.

Bishop Moore especially requested me to bear to the Alexander family at this service the dear and undying friendship of our United Methodist fellowship- a fellowship not bounded by human limitations but linked forever with the living Christ.

And now from out the glory
In living clouds of light,
The old, familiar faces come
Beaming on his sight:
The early lost, the early loved,
The friends of long ago-
Companions of his pilgrimage
And conflicts here below.

In life and death all travel toward God's throne,
His hands reach out to draw us gently home;
He, at our journey's end, gives peaceful rest;
His heart, the only homeland of the blest.



MAR 13 1940

Rev. and Mrs. R.P. Alexander

Dr. Alexander is now one of the veterans of the Methodist Mission in Japan. A Nova Scotian (?) by birth, he represents that infusion of British blood which, from time to time, has invigorated our missionary personnel.

He, too, served for several years in rural Japan before being located in Tokyo for school work. "Alex" teaches in the Academy for boys, and has done so for ~~a number~~ ^{many} of years. Many of his boys are now successful and prominent ^{professional men}. Away back in the early days he started a Sunday evening Bible class for these boys at his home, and that class is still going. One evening I was present and met the Business Manager of the Imperial Hotel, perhaps the most famous and surely the most extraordinary hostelry in the Far East. At the same time, "Alex" has not lost his contact with the present student generation, as a visit to one of his English classes will convince you. To hear those students of first year English conversing with animation on the qualities of a Christian hymn book held in the teacher's hand, is to be assured that here is a padagogue who knows how to open a foreign language to a young seeking mind, and at the same time, how to impart Christian ideals therewith. Such is Dr. Alexander's ability.

Mrs. Alexander is an able helpmeet. For several years, in addition to caring for the home, and in particular since the older children have grown up and gone off to college, Mrs. A. has interested herself in improving the home life and status of Japanese women. The school campus and the American missionary homes there at Aoyama provide ~~such~~ excellent facilities for this service. For years there had been a ~~Home Mothers' Club~~ ^{whose meetings were largely} ~~attended largely~~ by Japanese ladies. Then a few years ago this led to the establishment of a National Mothers' Association, of which Mrs. Alexander and another Methodist missionary, Mrs. Draper, are sponsors. This association publishes literature on all conceivable

subjects related to home life: clothing, teething, nursing, sanitation, cooking, sex, Christian morals, along with specific evangelistic material. Some time ago the Mothers' Association on Mother's Day presented the Empress of Japan with a bouquet of beautiful white carnations and a Bible bound in silver silk. This token of esteem of the "First Mother of the Land" was graciously accepted, and those who ought to know say that both the former, and Her Majesty, the present Empress, have been students of the Bible, though they are not professed Christians.

The National Mothers' Association of Japan is a Christianizing factor of wide significance in Japan, though here, as so often where the "little candle throws its beam" one never can fully gauge the results. When God giveth harvests they are often difficult to measure with our little buckets and baskets.

MISSIONARY SOCIETY
— OF THE —
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Answer

A. B. LEONARD, Cor. Sec.
H. R. CARROLL, First Asst. Cor. Sec.
W. F. OLDHAM, Asst. Sec.
GEORGE B. SMYTH, Asst. Sec.

S. L. BALDWIN, Recording Secretary.
HOMER EATON, Treasurer.
E. R. SMITH, Editor, "Gospel in All Lands"

CABLE ADDRESS: MISSIONS.

150 FIFTH AVENUE,

NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 10, 1901.

DEAR BROTHER:

The Secretaries have constant need of the information asked for in this circular. It was sent to all our foreign missionaries in 1896, and the replies are on file. But new missionaries go to the field, and additional information is needed from those who kindly made response five years ago.

Will you fill out the blanks for yourself and family and return to this office promptly?

Yours sincerely,

THE MISSIONARY SECRETARIES.

(Please answer these questions AS NEARLY AS POSSIBLE with the data at hand.)

1. Place and date of answer (Residence) *81 Oak Hill Ave., Delaware, Ohio* *Jan 8th 1903*
2. Full name of missionary and date of birth *Robert Percival Alexander*
Nov. 24th 1862
3. Nationality *British*
4. Date of appointment to our work *1893*
5. Bishop appointing *Bishop Foster*
6. Date of departure from home to engage in our work *July 2nd 1893*
7. Date of arrival on the mission field *July 31st 1893*
8. Has service under this Society been continuous since your first appointment? If not, when, why, and how long was it interrupted? *It has been continuous*
9. Fields of labor and dates (month and year) *Tokyo July '93 - Aug. '97*
Hirosaki Aug. '97 - Nov. 1901
with the exception of four months in Tokyo in '99
10. Present residence *81 Oak Hill Ave., Delaware (Hirosaki, Japan)*

11. Employment at the present time *On furlough (Evangelical dept.)*
12. Date of marriage *Dec 23rd 1902*
13. Wife's full name *Fanny Gray Wilson*
14. Date of wife's birth *Feb. 10 1868*
15. Children's full names and date of birth respectively (and date of death, if any have died)
George Ditmars Alexander, Apr 11th 1894

RETURN HOME.

16. Names of persons returning, dates, and reasons of return (if more than one return state these particulars in each case)
*R. P. Alexander }
 Bessie Alexander } Nov. 1901. For furlough in ordinary course
 Geo. D. Alexander }*
17. Dates of leaving to return to the field, and names of persons returning
*R. P. Alexander }
 Fanny Wilson Alexander } We expect to leave about April 1st 1903
 Geo. D. Alexander }*
18. Name and address of person who is your representative in the United States in family matters
Dr. W. W. Alexander, Lachute, Quebec, Canada.
19. Code name to indicate said representative in cable messages
~~Downs~~ *"Lachute"*

FINANCIAL.

20. Salary, past and present Just before leaving the foreign field \$1000 = a year
and for child \$400 = a year

21. Received this year for children \$100⁰⁰

22. Special aid asked, dates and amounts In Sept- or Oct- 1909 received \$300⁰⁰

23. Aid granted, dates and amounts Oct- or Nov 1909 \$300⁰⁰

24. Outgoing expenses each time My needs were destroyed by fire. About \$465⁰⁰ in 93

25. Home-coming expenses each time ... \$625⁰⁰ in '01

26. Home salary, for self and family \$950⁰⁰ + child \$100⁰⁰

27. Name and address of person who is your representative in the United States in business matters
Dr. W. W. Alcanen, Lachute, Quebec, Canada.

28. Code name to indicate said representative in cable messages...
"Lachute"

1100 Montgomery Ave, Chattanooga, Tenn
Jan'y 8th 1903

Dear Dr. Linnard:-

The accompanying blank was received this morning, and I fill out as fully as I can and enclose. Questions ~~for four~~ & five I have never been able to answer though asked several times. The fact is I followed your instructions and never saw any document formal or otherwise from any Bishop. Presumably it was made in ~~May~~ April or May 1903 and forwarded to the Bishop presiding in Japan. The Conference session had closed when I reached Japan and no one on the field seemed to know anything about the matter.

Can these two questions not be filled out from records in your office? And if they can I should be very pleased to have them communicated to me. If the matter is one of importance I should like to be in possession of the information. It is assumed I should know it and at times asked for.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely
R. P. Alexander.

MISSIONARY SOCIETY
OF THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A. B. LEONARD, Corresponding Sec'y
H. K. CARROLL, First Asst. Cor. Sec.

S. O. BENTON, Recording Secretary
HOMER EATON, Treasurer

CABLE ADDRESS: MISSIONS, NEW YORK

150 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK, JANUARY 10, 1906

DEAR BROTHER:

The Secretaries have constant need of the information asked for in this circular. It was sent to all our foreign missionaries in 1896 and 1901, and the replies are on file. But new missionaries go to the field, and additional information is needed from those who kindly made response five years ago.

Will you fill out the blank for yourself and family and return to this office promptly?

Yours sincerely,

THE MISSIONARY SECRETARIES.

(Please answer these questions AS CORRECTLY AS POSSIBLE with the data at hand)

1. Place and date of answer . . . *Aoyama, Tokyo, Japan.*
2. Full name of missionary and date of birth.. *Robert Percival Alexander. ||*
Nov. 24th 1862
3. Nationality *British*
4. Date of appointment to our work *July 1893 (?)*
5. Bishop appointing . . . *Bishop Foster (?)*
6. Date of departure from home to engage in our work *May 2nd 1893*
7. Date of arrival on the mission field. *July 31st, 1893*
8. Has service under this Society been continuous since your first appointment? If not, when, why, and how long was it interrupted? *It has been continuous.*
9. Fields of labor and dates (month and year).. *Japan continuously*
July, 1893 to the present, Feb., 1910.
10. Present residence *2 Aoyama Gakuen, Aoyama, Tokyo, Japan.*

11. Employment at the present time. *Teaching in Aoyama Gakuin and in Ginza Gospel Society Night School*
12. Date of marriage *Second Marriage Dec. 23rd 1902*
13. Wife's full name..... *Frances Grey Wilson*
14. Date of wife's birth. *Feb. 10th 1868*
15. Children's full names and date of birth respectively (and date of death, if any have died)
- George Ditmars (by first wife) Apl. 11th 1894*
Frances Elizabeth } Swin Nov. 26th 1904
Robert Percival }
Mary Atlee Apl. 26th, 1907.

RETURN HOME

16. Names of persons returning, dates, and reasons of return (if more than one return state these particulars in each case)

R. P. Alexander, Miss Bessie Alexander (my sister who was keeping house for me) George Alexander, Nov. 1901. Turned up after our 8 years service.

17. Dates of leaving to return to the field, and names of persons returning *Also for medical consultation & treatment of fever Oct. 105 - Mar. 1903. Feb March, 1903.*

R. P. Alexander, Mrs. F. W. Alexander, George Alexander

18. Names and addresses of persons who are your representatives in the United States in family or business matters

(1) Family *Dr. W. W. Alexander, La Chute, Quebec, Canada*
 or
 (2) Business *Prof. P. C. Wilson, Glass House, Chattermoga, Ga.*

19. Code names to indicate said representatives in cable messages (1) Family *Alexander.*
 or
 (2) Business *Wilson.*

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