

ATKINSON, ANNA P.



Sunday, June 23:—
ANNA P. ATKINSON
a graduate of Cazenovia
Seminary, retired in 1927,
after forty-five years of
service in Japan, chiefly
in educational work as a
School Principal. She is
now living in Seattle,
Washington, where she
takes an active interest
in local church work, and
missionary education

ANNA PECK ATKINSON

ANNA PECK ATKINSON, METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Father: James Atkinson, Methodist

Mother: Mary Peck, Methodist

Her mother was one of the Peck family which has given so many ministers, including Bishop Jesse T. Peck, to the Methodist Episcopal Church/

Born: February 28, 1860 in Cazenovia, New York

Died: April 18, 1958 at Des Moines, Washington

Appointed August 1882; sailed October 1882

Sent by Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, New York Branch

- 1882-1887 Teacher in Tsukiji School, Tokyo
- 1887-1888 August to August furlough
- 1888-1891 School moved to Aoyama; became Principal of Girls School, Aoyama
- 1891-1900 October 1891 returned to the U.S. ill with Asiatic cholera
Public speaker on behalf of missions - 1896
- 1900-1902 Arrived January 27, 1900, evangelistic work in Nagoya
- 1902-1906 Superintendent of construction of new school building
Principal, Girls' School, Nagoya
- 1906-1907 Left April 3rd, 1906 for furlough
- 1907-1909 Arrived in Yokohama in July; Superintendent of Day Schools
- 1909-1914 Sent to Nagoya to supervise rebuilding and take charge of schools
- 1914-1916 Home on furlough
- 1916-1918 Arrived in Tokyo in June, 1916. Inspected schools; in touch with all phases of educational matters from kindergarten to Bible Training School.
- 1918-1920 Sent to Fukuoka to have charge of the construction of buildings.
Finished June 1919. Evangelist in Kyushu area.
- 1920 Evangelistic work in Tokyo in Christian homes of former pupils.
Returned to Fukuoka to attend to the construction of additional buildings.
- 1921 Treasurer of two missions in Japan.
- 1923 Bishop Welch appointed her to Tokyo where he felt she was greatly needed to assist in general work connected with building and the transfer of the Aoyama School to the new site.
- 1927 Retired.
Taught Sunday School during retirement.
Lived at Wesley Gardens, Des Moines, Washington where she passed away.

ANNA PEGG ATKINSON
(Died Apr. 18, 1958)

141 - 58

This death notice was evidently clipped from a Washington newspaper April 1958.

File

Death Takes Miss Anna P. Atkinson

Miss Anna P. Atkinson, 98, a retired Methodist missionary, died Friday in Wesley Gardens, where she had lived the past four years.

Memorial services will be held at 4 o'clock Sunday in the University Methodist Temple. Cremation was under direction of the Green Lake Funeral Home.

Miss Atkinson was born in Cazenovia, N. Y. She was educated in New York and went to Japan as a young woman. She spent 40 years there as a missionary. In 1924, she returned to this country and lectured for two years until she settled in Seattle.

Miss Atkinson taught Sunday school at the University Methodist Temple many years. In recent years she had been a member of the Queen Anne Methodist Church.

Two nieces and a nephew survive.

ANNA P. ATKINSON

Born - Feb. 28, 1860, Cazenovia, N. Y.
Education -
Appointments - 1882 Tsujiki School, Tokyo, School moved to Aoyama 1888
1900 Nagoya 1907 Yokohama ? Fukuoka
1909 Nagoya 1916 Yokohama 1923 Tokyo
1918 Fukuoka 1920 Tokyo
Furloughs - 1887; 1891-1900 (ill); 1906;
1914-16. RETIRED 1927

Anna P. Atkinson is the eldest of three daughters born to James and Mary Peck Atkinson. She was born in Cazenovia, N. Y., February 28th. Her mother was one of the Peck family which have given so many ministers, including Bishop Jesse T. Peck, to the Methodist Episcopal Church. She was graduated from Cazenovia Seminary.

From a very young girl she wanted to be a missionary and offered herself to the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society through Mrs. William B. Skidmore. She was appointed to Tokyo, Japan, in 1882. Her second term, during which she had Asiatic cholera, was shortened by ill health. During this term she met Miss Josephine Carr, of Warren, Rhode Island, who spent some time visiting our missions in Japan. A warm friendship spring up between the two, and Miss Carr prolonged her visit in order to give much needed help in the Aoyama School. She accompanied Miss Atkinson on her return to America in 1891, traveling by way of China, India and Europe. Miss Atkinson then made her home with Miss Carr in Warren until her return to Japan in 1900, when she was appointed to Nagoya. Here the building burned a few years later and all her personal belongings were lost. She took bravely "the spoiling of her goods," but a sigh escaped her in speaking to a friend when she referred to the loss of some things that had belonged to her mother. She superintended the erection of the new school building in Nagoya, which formed an unusually attractive plant. Part of her third furlough, in 1907, was spent in study in the Bible Teachers' Training School, New York. For a short time following her return to Japan she was in charge of the Day Schools in Yokohama, after which she was sent to Fukuoka to have charge of the construction of our fine new buildings there.

She has had four furloughs, sailing for Japan the last time in June 1916. She is now again in Tokyo where she began work in 1882. The following is quoted from one of her letters: "I had such a happy experience one day when I was invited to meet some of my pupils of long ago. Seventeen were present, all of whom were in school over thirty years ago. It was a company of wonderfully fine women, several of whom are now grandmothers. The husbands of two or three are Christian ministers, and one has husband, son and son-in-law all ministers in active service."

Miss Atkinson has given most of her time in Japan to educational work, serving almost continuously as principal of schools, but is now engaged in evangelistic work. A gifted, consecrated woman, teacher, builder, evangelist, a soul winner, -Syracuse East District, Central New York Conference, has the honor to support her.

(OVER)

MMQ June 1921

In June 1921, when Miss Daniel came to America on a furlough, Miss Atkinson became Treasurer of two missions in Japan, and carried the work until the close of her term.

Miss Atkinson, after a short term of service in Tokyo to which she was appointed in 1920, was sent again to Fukuoka to attend to the construction of additional buildings connected with that plant, and in the summer of 1923 Bishop Welch returned her to Tokyo, where he felt she was greatly needed to assist in general work connected with building and the transfer of the Aoyama school to the new site. She spent the summer at Gotemba, from which place she planned to go to Tokyo on September 1st, the day of the great earthquake.

(THIS WAS WRITTEN WHILE MISS ATKINSON WAS STILL ON THE FIELD)

Miss Atkinson, after a short term of service in Tokyo, to which she was appointed in 1920, was sent again to Fukuoka to attend to the construction of additional buildings connected with that plant, and in the summer of 1923 Bishop Welch returned her to Tokyo, where he felt she was greatly needed to assist in general work connected with building and the transfer of the Aoyama School to the new site. She spent the summer at Gotemba, from which place she planned to go to Tokyo on September 1st, the day of the great earthquake.

August 28, 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

ANNA PECK ATKINSON

Miss Anna Peck Atkinson was born in Gazenovia, New York, February 2, 1880.

She graduated from Gazenovia Seminary in 1901. Later, while on furlough from her missionary work in Japan, she studied at the State Teachers' Training School in New York.

After teaching in a private school for one year from 1901 to 1902, she sailed for Japan, sent out by the Foreign Branch of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society. She arrived in Tokyo in 1902, and taught in the Gakkoji School. During most of her years of service she was a school principal, although she also did evangelistic work.

After her return from Japan, she was employed as a teacher, principal, and evangelist. She had the desire to serve in the field of her work until her death, which occurred in 1955. Her years of service covered a total of 45 years.

SEP 5 1956

Heavenly Father is always ready to give! May He give you strength and needed help for every task, and confidence and peace."

Even though she gave most of her time in Japan to educational work, serving almost continuously as principal of schools, she was also an effective evangelist. She was a gifted, consecrated woman who gave forty-five years' service to Japan. She had been retired since 1927 and for some years had resided at a retirement home, Wesley Gardens, in Des Moines, Washington.

One of the nurses wrote that all of them loved her and called her "Aunt Anna". Her last words when a much loved nurse moistened her lips were, "Thank you."

DEPARTMENT OF WORK IN FOREIGN FIELDS

STAFF MINUTES

April 22, 1958

Present: Misses French, Harris, Best Twinem, Mrs. Webster

Prayer: Marion Webster

FOR THE RECORD:

In Memoriam: Alma P. Atkinson, Japan, retired, April 18, 1958 205
Mary Katharine Russell, Liberia, regular,
April 18, 1958

Departure from field:

Lora Battin R.N., China-India, April 1, 1958 (pre-retirement) 206
Ruth Daniels, China-India, March 1, 1958 (pre-retirement)
Verda Farrar, Brazil, March 1, 1958
Earline Hart, Pakistan, May 1, 1958
Frances Hindley R.N., India, March 1, 1958
Marietta Mansfield, India, April 1, 1958
Margaret Seck, Malaya, February 1, 1958 (pre-retirement)

Departure to the field:

A. M. Marie Nordby R.N., (Norway) April 2, 1958 from Fredrikstad, 207
Norway, to Lisbon, Portugal for one year of language study.
G. Lilly Swords, India, April 17, 1958
Laura V. Williams, India, April 16, 1958

FOR ACTION:

Recommend that Ruth Daniels, China-India, be retired March 1, 1959 at 208
the age of 67 with grateful appreciation of 38 years and 11 months of
service. Retirement allowance to be paid from the funds accumulated by
the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

Recommend that Lora Battin R.N., China-India be retired April 1, 1959 at 209
the age of 67 with grateful appreciation of 33 years and 1 month of ser-
vice. Retirement allowance to be paid from funds accumulated by the
Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

Recommend that Margaret Seck, Malaya, be retired February 1, 1959 at 210
the age of 68 with grateful appreciation of 36 years and 6 months of
service. Retirement allowance to be paid from the funds accumulated
by the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

140-247

**BOARD OF MISSIONS
OF
THE METHODIST CHURCH**

150 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

From The Roll Call - by Louise Manning Hodgkins, W.F.M.S., 1896

MISS ANNA P. ATKINSON was born in Cazenovia, N. Y. in 1860. She is of English and American ancestry. From her mother, who belonged to a large family of Methodist ministers, she was nurtured not only in the faith, but a faith that recognized the highest call that could come to a human soul was to go where Christ was not and take the Gospel. Miss Atkinson is a graduate of Cazenovia Seminary and had a brief experience as a teacher before sailing for Japan, under the auspices of the New York Branch, in 1882. Miss Atkinson did excellent work in Tokyo for several years returning in 1891 with impaired health, which has obliged her to remain in this country where she does efficient service for missions as a public speaker. Her address is Warren, R. I.

~~REC~~ MAY 3 1956

IN MEMORIAM

Anna Peck Atkinson

Miss Anna Peck Atkinson, retired missionary to Japan, passed away April 18, 1958 at Des Moines, Washington at the age of ninety-eight. She was born February 28, 1860 in Cazenovia, New York. Her mother was one of the Peck family which has given to the church a number of ministers, including Bishop Jesse T. Peck. She graduated from the Cazenovia Seminary in 1881, and while on furlough from her missionary work in Japan, studied at the Bible Teachers' Training School in New York. Before sailing to Japan in 1882 under the New York Branch of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society she had taught in a private school for one year.

Miss Atkinson's first appointment was that of teacher in the Tsukiji School in Tokyo. She was principal in the Girls' School in Aoyama from 1883-1891. From 1900-02 she did evangelistic work in Nagoya, and from 1902-06 she was principal of the Girls' School there and in Fukuoka. In 1907 she was appointed principal of Bible Training School and Superintendent of Day Schools. In 1909 she returned to Nagoya as principal of the Girls' School there. During her long years of missionary service she supervised the erection of a number of new buildings.

Miss Atkinson was a wonderful letter writer with a real gift of expression and until the last years of her life kept in touch with many friends in this country and in Japan. All her letters were written in firm, legible long-hand. Those who heard from her generally found some humorous story, witty saying, or a thought that had gleaned from her life of rich and deep religious experiences. Here are two quotations from her pen: "Yesterday I heard of a little boy who failed to move a heavy rock, and exclaimed, 'I tried my best but I couldn't move it.' His father said, 'Son, never say you have done your best until you have asked your father to help you.' What a lesson for us! How many times have I failed because I didn't ask for the help our

JAPAN

Miss Anna P. Atkinson is a native of Cazenovia, N. Y. Her mother was one of the Peck family which has given to the church so many ministers, including Bishop Jesse T. Peck. Her desire to become a missionary was realized when in 1882 she was appointed to Tokyo, Japan. Her term of service was interrupted when she was taken with Asiatic cholera, returning home very ill and being obliged to remain in this country about nine years. In 1900 she returned to Japan being appointed to Nagoya where she supervised the erection of the very attractive new school building. She discharged this responsibility so satisfactorily that she was later sent to Fukuoka to do similar work for our society. She is now again in Tokyo, engaged in evangelistic work, and she finds great joy in her association with a company of wonderfully fine Japanese women, (some of whom are now grandmothers) who were her pupils when she first went to Japan. Syracuse East District, Central New York Conference, has the honor to support her. Birthday, February 28th.

Aug 1921

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 friends 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... *Anna Beck Atkinson*
2. Date and place of Birth... *Cazenovia, N. Y., February 25, 1860.*
3. Name of Father and Mother... *Dr. A. Atkinson and Mrs. P. Atkinson*
4. Nationality and Religious Faith of Same... *Father Irish, Mother American, the wife*
5. Present Residence... *W. Lee - ...*
6. When Did You Become a Christian?... *1871*
7. When Did You Join the Methodist-Episcopal Church?... *1871*
8. What Led You to Become a Missionary?... *...*
9. Your Education—What and Where Secured... *...*
10. Have You a Specialty—If So, What?... *...*
11. Date of Appointment... *August 1, 1881* Date of Sailing... *October 1, 1881*
12. From What Branch?... *...*
13. Positions Held Before Going.—When, What, Where?... *...*
14. Positions Held in Foreign Field—When, What, Where... *Subeiji, Sept. 1882 - 1883*
...
15. Dates and Lengths of Furloughs... *...*
16. Items Concerning Your Work... *...*
17. Send Picnic Item Which "Cut" Can be Made to Me... *...*
18. Is this Extract from the "Roll Call" Correct so Far as it Goes?... *!*

MISS ANNA P. ATKINSON was born in Cazenovia, N. Y., in 1860. She is of English and American ancestry. From her mother, who belonged to a large family of Methodist ministers, she was nurtured not only in the faith, but a faith that recognized the highest call that could come to a human soul was to go where Christ was not and take the Gospel. Miss Atkinson is a graduate of Cazenovia Seminary and had a brief experience as a teacher before sailing for Japan, York Branch, in 1882. Miss Atkinson has since returned to Tokyo for several years return- th, which has obliged her to does efficient service for mis-

*Atkinson & Co. Japan
Jan. 11, 1881*

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Annals

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She was

DR. ANNIE W. HUNT,
217, WASHINGTON STREET,
PROVIDENCE, R. I.

This is to certify that
after careful examination
V. E. Gould Miss. N. P. at the same
in good physical condition
and is a resident she is well
and the holder of her work.

A. W. Hunt M.D.

April 17 - 1907

1920 - *Evangelical mission in Tokyo*
 1918 - *to the ...*
 1915 - *...*
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Photographs from this
file have not been
included but are
available upon request.
For more information
please contact
research@gcah.org