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SPECIAL GIFTS
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SECRETARIES

MEMORIAL MINUTE
MISS ALICE MAUDE MONK

The Board noted the death of Miss Alice Maude Monk, Honorably Retired missionary of the Japan Mission, on July 2, 1952, in Washington, D.C.

Alice Maude Monk was born at Onawa, Iowa, on March 14, 1872. Her father was a well-known attorney who later moved to Chicago, where Miss Monk graduated from high school. In 1898 she received her bachelor's degree from Northwestern University. After serving for a brief time as high school teacher and Y.W.C.A. secretary, on December 1, 1903, she was appointed a missionary of the Board and sailed for Japan in the summer of 1904. Miss Monk also received her Master's degree in 1913 from Northwestern University, where she was honored as a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

In Japan, Miss Monk's assignment was to Hokusei Jo Gakko (Northern Star Girls' School) which at the time was less than 20 years old. During 37 years in this school on the northern island, she saw the school grow to more than a thousand students with new buildings on a site on the edge of a thriving city. Miss Monk was successively teacher, acting treasurer, principal, consultant, and director of the school.

Miss Monk became an expert in the use of the Japanese language, and was greatly respected by a host of Japanese friends. Her high standards of education and her skill in administration made her the ideal leader for the school during its period of development and before it was turned over to Japanese Christian leadership.

In September of 1941 all of the Board's missionaries in Hokkaido were advised to leave by their Japanese friends. When war came, Miss Monk was at sea on her way to the U.S., and arrived here on Christmas [D]ay. She retired in 1942, and took up her residence in Washington, D.C. She had not been in good health for some time before she passed away. Funeral services were held at the National Presbyterian Church in Washington, with interment in the family plot at Onawa.

Miss Monk's name will always be associated with the deep Christian influence of Hokusei. Hundreds of others in Japan give thanks to God that Miss Monk has shared her faith with them. One of them, writing as a representative of the Alumnae Association, has said, "We think of Miss Monk as the most able builder of Hokusei on the foundation laid by Miss Sarah Smith. We think highly of Miss Monk and lament over the great loss we have to bear by her passing away. But the great faith which was in her ever lives among us, and we must endeavor to have it grow and prosper forever."

Miss Monk is survived by two sisters, Miss Florence Monk of Washington, D.C., and Mrs. Arthur W. Chapman of Redlands, California. To these and to her host of friends the Board expresses its sympathy and prays God's blessing upon the ever continuing fruitfulness of a consecrated life.

September, 16, 1952