

Evans, Elizabeth Margaret
Hon. Ret. Bd. Min. 11-20-51

Born: November 20, 1886

Education: Macalester College Academy, St. Paul, Minn., 1904. Huron College, Huron, S. D., 1911.

Experience: Teacher at Good Will Mission for Indians, South Dakota, 3 years

Home Address: Minneapolis, Minn.

Church Connection: Calvary Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis, Minn.

Appointment: April 3, 1911 and assigned to the Japan Mission on June 5, 1911

Service:

Elizabeth Evans' childhood and youth furnished much valuable training for her long years of service among the Japanese. The child of a Presbyterian minister in Minneapolis, she spent the first twelve years of her life in that city. This was followed by several years in South Dakota at a home mission station where she enjoyed an active outdoor life with the Indian children among whom her parents worked. She spent three years as a teacher there, going on to Huron College where she graduated in 1911.

Having decided in childhood that she wished to become a foreign missionary, Miss Evans applied to the Presbyterian Board toward the end of her senior year at College, and on June 5, 1911 was assigned to the Japan Mission. She sailed for Japan on Oct. 17, 1911.

At the Northern Star Girls' School at Sapporo, Hokkaido, Miss Evans' enthusiasm and friendliness, and her keen interest and participation in outdoor sports made her a great asset in work among the students, many of whom were brought to Christ. As a teacher of English and Bible and in many other phases of school work, Miss Evans' time could have been fully occupied, but in addition, she also cared for several Sunday Schools and kept in touch with alumnae of the school.

Miss Evans came on furlough in 1941. When it became impossible for her to return to the field because of war conditions, she worked among Japanese in various Relocation Centers in this country until 1947, when she was allowed to resume her work at Sapporo. After an absence of six years she reported being "nearly killed with kindness" by her old friends and students. She was the first missionary to return to that part of Hokkaido, and was alone in the station for several months.

Since 1947 many changes have taken place in the school. A Junior College course and an English Teachers Training Course have been added and the Junior and Senior High School departments reorganized. There is new emphasis upon recreation. Because of problems created by the proximity of Camp Crawford,¹ talks on foreign etiquette have become a part of the curriculum. In all the changing post-war conditions Miss Evans' enthusiasm, experience and consecration have led to ever-increasing spheres of usefulness.

November 1950

¹Camp Crawford was the United States military installation in Makomanai, several kilometers from the Hokusei campus.

