Unitarians in Palo Alto, 1891-1934
A Biographical Dictionary

REVISED EDITION
UNCORRECTED PROOF

Dan Harper

Palo Alto, California:
Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto, 2019
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INTRODUCTION

The first section of this biographical dictionary has short biographical entries for the few names that can be definitely associated with the earlier Unity Society of Palo Alto; most of these names are drawn from an article about the Unity Society in the Palo Alto Times of January 30, 1896.

The second, much longer, section has biographical entries for most of the names found in the extant records of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, records now mostly in the possession of its successor congregation, the Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto. (No biographical information was found for a few names in the church records, in which case the entry only lists how the person was involved in the church.)

Basic biographical information was typically drawn from U.S. Census records, and other standard genealogical records. Many of the early residents of the Palo Alto area were affiliated in some way with Stanford University, so frequent reference is made to Stanford Alumni Directories, Annual Registers, and other university records. Instead of using end notes or footnotes, citations appear in small type at the end of each biographical entry.

Entries are generally alphabetical, but families have been grouped together. Extended families, some of which extend across three or four generations, have been grouped together under the most prominent surname. Family groups are generally introduced by the name of the family in italic type (e.g., The Morton - Carruth - Todd Family); the end of each family group is indicated by a typographical ornament flanked by two horizontal lines, like this: —— • ——. In some cases, family groups are also introduced by a simplified family tree.

Married couples are introduced by the married names of the couple in Italic type (e.g., Charlie and Walter Lowenstein), and the couple’s biographical entries are again indicated by a typographical ornament flanked by two horizontal lines. Other family groups are introduced by some descriptive name in italic type.
(e.g., *The Blake Siblings*), again concluded with a typographical ornament flanked by two horizontal lines.

Within the second section (i.e., the section with names from the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, 1905 to 1934), there are subsections for surnames beginning with “A,” “B,” etc.; headers indicate the subsection. Names are alphabetized with family groups, beginning with surname, then first name; because of this, sometimes within a subsection, there will be surnames that begin with a different letter; e.g., William H. Carruth appears in the *Morton - Carruth - Todd* family group, which is in the “M” subsection. If you see a last name that looks like it’s out of alphabetical order, then you know you are in a family group that has more than one surname.

The most interesting biographical entries are marked with a typographical ornament like the one at the beginning of this paragraph. Because many of the biographical entries are terse or even uninteresting, this ornament will point you to those entries that you are most likely to want to read.

In a research project of this type, inevitably there will be errors. I am releasing this uncorrected proof in hopes that people will contact me with corrections, additional information, etc. I expect to publish the completed biographical dictionary, with an essay outlining the history of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, in mid-2020.

—Dan Harper

Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto

www.uucpa.org
TIMELINE, 1891-1934

1891 First Unitarians move to Palo Alto

Unity Society, 1895-1905

March, 1895 Rev. Eliza Tupper Wilkes hired by Pacific
Women’s Unit. Conf. to do “missionary work”
May, 1895 Wilkes preached at Memorial Ch., Stanford
Autumn, 1895 ELIZA TUPPER WILKES preaches in Palo Alto
Jan. 12, 1896 Unity Society of Palo Alto formally organized
Mar., 1897 Palo Alto Unity Society has supply preachers
Little evidence of activity after 1897

1900 Short-lived effort to re-start a Unitarian society
in Palo Alto

Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, 1905-1934

1905-1906 Rev. GEORGE STONE, Field Secretary of the
A.U.A., acting minister
Sept. 10, 1905 Unitarian services begin in Jordan Hall
Nov. 12, 1905 Church formally organized

1906-1909 Rev. SYDNEY BRUCE SNOW, minister
Sept. 13, 1906 Snow ordained and installed as first called
minister of the church
Nov., 1906 At 1st anniversary dinner, Karl Rendtorff
announces 120 members; 80 are present
Mar. 24, 1907 New church building formally dedicated
1907-1908 Sunday school attendance averaged 17
Nov., 1908 60 at annual dinner
1909-1915 Rev. CLARENCE E. REED, minister
1909 Average attendance in Sunday school, 25
1910 Reed on leave for illness; pulpit supply
included Rev. FLORENCE BUCK
INTRODUCTION

Sept. 6, 1914  New Social Hall formally dedicated
Nov., 1914  130 at annual dinner, 60 in Sunday school
July, 1915  90 enrolled in Sunday school, with average attendance of 60; 49 in Women’s Alliance
1915-1916  Rev. WILLIAM E. SHORT, JR., minister
1915-1916  Sunday school enrollment 54, attendance 32
1916  Attendance at service approx. 40: Sunday school enrollment 63, average attendance 40
1918-1919  Rev. BRADLEY GILMAN, minister
1918  Gilman visits soldiers at Camp Fremont
1918-1919  Sunday school enrollment 28, attendance 14
Nov.? 1918  80 at annual dinner
1919-1921  LAY-LED CONGREGATION: speakers included David Starr Jordan, William Carruth, etc.
Nov., 1919  “Voted to re-establish our Sunday school at once” (it had closed due to influenza epidemic)
Jan., 1921  Sunday school enrollment is 24, with average attendance 16
1921-1926  Rev. ELMO ARNOLD ROBINSON, minister
Dec. 4, 1921  70 at dinner to greet Elmo Robinson
1923  Approx. 25 young adults in Y.P.R.U.
1924-1925  69 enrolled in Sunday school
Feb. 7, 1926  Rev. LEILA L. THOMPSON ordained; she becomes minister when Robinson resigns
Dec., 1927  Thompson resigns, prob. over inadequate pay
early 1928  Worship services cease
1928  Student minister CLARENCE VICKLAND reëstablishes worship services
1929-1934  Student minister MERRILL OTIS BATES, funded by the American Unitarian Assoc. (A.U.A.)
1934  A.U.A. sells building
ADAMS, WILLIAM LOUIS—A physician, he was born in Calif. in 1859. His father was William J. Adams, a lumber and real estate magnate in San Francisco, and the family lived in Fair Oaks, a 23 room house on 54 acres in Menlo Park.

William L. refused to follow his father into the family business, choosing instead to pursue a career in medicine. He studied at the Univ. of Calif. in Berkeley; was a medical student at Columbia in 1888-1889; and received his M.D. from Tulane in 1890.

He married Henrietta Bolton, and they had a son William Jacques, born in New York on April 2, 1890, the same day William L. graduated from Tulane. Whatever the religious affiliation of the father might have been in that year, the baby was baptized in a Roman Catholic church, the Church of St. Cecelia in Brooklyn. Henrietta died a little more than two years later, on Oct. 19, 1892.

By 1895, Dr. W. L. Adams had an office over University Bakery in Palo Alto, and continued to advertise his services through at least 1898. There is no evidence that the baby accompanied him to Palo Alto.

He was the Secretary, Committee on Executive and Finance, of the Unity Society.

By 1910, he gave his profession, not as physician, but as “manager” of “father’s estate”; at that time he was living with his mother, Cassandra H. Adams, in Palo Alto. In 1916, he was a Clinical Instructor at Stanford.

He died Feb. 22, 1919.

Notes: 1910 U.S. Census; Mary Street Alinder, Ansel Adams: A Biography, Bloomsbury, 2014, p. 3; Univ. of California Register, 1878; Annual Register of Officers and Students, Columbia Univ., 1888; Official Register and Directory of Physicians and Surgeons in the State of California, 1905; Anne Adams Helms, The Descendants of William James Adams and Cassandra Hill Adams, 1999, p. 35; San Francisco Morning Call, Oct. 22, 1892, p. 8;
AD, Stanford Daily, Dec. 9, 1895; Announcement of Courses, Stanford Univ., 1916; The Chi Phi Fraternity, Centennial Memorial Volume, 1924.

ANDERSON, MELVILLE BEST—He officiated at a worship service of the Unity Society. See entry for Melville Anderson in chapter 2, “The Unitarian Church: A Biographical Dictionary.”

BUTLER, JOHN STRANGE—He was Treasurer, Committee on Executive and Finance, of the Unity Society. See entry for John S. Butler in chapter 2, “The Unitarian Church: A Biographical Dictionary.”

FLETCHER, UNA—She and her twin, Aileen, were born Mar., 1871, in Indiana, the daughter of Dr. William Baldwin and Agnes (O’Brien) Fletcher of Indianapolis. In 1895, she was a student, and living at Castilleja Hall with Miss Lucy H. and Mrs. W. B. Fletcher; Lucy and Eleanor Pearson (q.v.) were co-founders of Castilleja Hall, the girl’s school in Palo Alto. In 1896, she was still a student, now living both with Mrs. W. B. Fletcher and her brother W. B. Fletcher, Jr., who was a student at Stanford.

She served on the Committee on Sunday Services of the Unity Society.

In June, 1898, she married Arthur H. Hall, an Episcopalian; they had three children: Arthur Fletcher, Jr. (b. Dec. 29, 1901); William Fletcher (b. 1905); and Aileen (b. 1913).

She died Feb. 15, 1920.


HOSKINS, LEANDER MILLER—He was President of the Committee on Executive and Finance of the Unity Society. See entry for
Leander Hoskins in chapter 2, “The Unitarian Church: A Biographical Dictionary.”

HOSKINS, MINNIE S.— She served on the Committee on the Sunday School of the Unity Society. See entry for Minnie Hoskins in chapter 7, “The Unitarian Church: A Biographical Dictionary.”

LITTLE, GEORGE BLAKESLEY— Palo Alto’s first dentist, he was born in May, 1869, in Ohio. He received his D.D.S. from the School of Dentistry at the Univ. of Michigan in 1893. In 1896, he had an office in the Ledyard Building in Palo Alto. He married Jessie M. Dunbar in May, 1898, and lived in Palo Alto. They had a daughter, Jean (b. c. 1903).

He served on the Committee on Sunday services of the Unity Society.

Later, he affiliated himself with the Temple of the People, a faith community based on theosophy, which still exists and has had its headquarters in Halcyon, Calif., since 1903. Beginning at least by October, 1906, George wrote poetry and essays for The Temple Artisan, a publication of the Temple of the People. Presumably his new religious affiliation kept him joining the Unitarian Church founded in 1905.

In 1913, George officiated at a wedding, where he represented the Temple of the People:

PALO ALTO, March 27.— Miss Elisabeth Scofield, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Scofield, wealthy residents of this city, and Harold Rae Moss, a mining engineer and a Stanford man, were married tonight in the home of the bride’s parents. But Miss Scofield didn’t promise to ‘obey’ her other half. Miss Scofield Insisted on being married by a theosophist and the marriage ceremony made the wife an equal partner in the household. Dr. George B. Little, a dentist and a student of theosophy, performed the ceremony, which was witnessed for the state by a Justice of the Peace. Doctor Little explained afterward that, as there were but two ordained ministers of the Temple of the People in California, and as neither was able to come to Palo Alto at this time, he was chosen to officiate… (San Francisco Call, March 28, 1913, p. 7).

PEARSON, ELEANOR BROOKS—A teacher, she was born c. 1869 in Massachusetts. She received her A.B. from Univ. of Michigan in 1888, and was the Principal of Castilleja Hall 1891-1898.

She received an A.B. from Radcliffe College. She and Lucy Fletcher came to Palo Alto under the “protecting wing” of David Starr Jordan to establish Castilleja Hall, a girls’ preparatory school; Lucy was the sister of Una Fletcher (q.v.).

She served on the Committee on the Sunday school of the Unity Society.

After the experiment of Castilleja Hall ended, Eleanor taught English at Stanford Univ. 1898-1902. She married Frederic Huntington Bartlett, a Unitarian, on June 10, 1902; they had two children, Phyllis Brooks (b. March 16, 1905) and Frederic Pearson (b. Nov. 15, 1909). Frederic taught English at Stanford the year before he was engaged to be married to Eleanor; at their engagement he was studying medicine at Columbia Univ. in New York.

She died Nov. 15, 1909, the day her second child was born.


PLUNS, WILLIAM [WILHELM] FREDERICK—A carpenter and house builder, he was born May 2, 1853, in Hanover, Germany; he came to the U.S. c. 1869. By 1880 was living in San Francisco, and married to Minnie Ruckert; they moved to Palo Alto Feb. 2, 1892. Minnie and George had five children, all born in California: Frederick C. (b. Feb., 1877); William E. (b. Sept., 1878); Florence Minnie (b. Dec., 1883); Tillie E. (b. Feb., 1885); Emma L. (b. Sept., 1893).

He served on the school board with Anna Zschokke. Among
other extant buildings, he built the Queen Anne style house at 760 Homer Ave., Palo Alto, for John S. and Isabel Butler (q.v.) in 1894.

He served on the Committee on Executive and Finance of the Unity Society.

William died of typhoid on April 10, 1896; Presbyterian minister Rev. W. D. Nichols officiated at the funeral, and those invited to be pall bearers included Prof. C. D. Marx (q.v.) and J. S. Butler (q.v.). By 1900, his widow, Minnie, and his sons, Frederick and William E., were all farmers.


ROSEBROOK, MARY FRANCES—She served on the Committee on Executive and Finance of the Unity Society. See entry for Mary Rosebrook in chapter 2, “The Unitarian Church: A Biographical Dictionary.”

ST. JOHN, GEORGE ELMER—A teacher, he was born Jan., 1863, in Wisconsin.

He was on the Committee on Sunday services of the Unity Society of Palo Alto, while a student at Stanford.

He received his A.B. in education from Stanford Univ. in 1896, and his A.M. from the Univ. of Washington in 1900. He was Superintendent of schools in Yakima, Wash., 1897-1899; in Everett, Wash., 1900-1905; then Dean at Vashon College. He married Elsie Ferrell on Dec. 24, 1899. By 1920, he was an insurance agent, living with Elsie (and no children) in King, Wash; by 1930, they lived in Seattle, and George operated an apartment house.

Notes: 1900, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; Stanford Alumni Directory, 1910

WILKES, ELIZA TUPPER—Active in Palo Alto as a Unitarian missionary, 1895-1896. First woman to preach at Stanford’s chapel.
and the first ordained Unitarian minister to preach in Palo Alto, she provided the impetus for the Unity Society of Palo Alto. In her long career, she helped organize many Universalist and Unitarian churches and societies.

**WOCKER, ISABELLE BUTLER**—See entry for on Isabelle Wocker in chapter 2, “The Unitarian Church: A Biographical Dictionary.”

**ZSCHOKKE, ANNA PROBST**—She served on the Committee on the Sunday School of the Unity Society. See entry for her in chapter 2, “The Unitarian Church: A Biographical Dictionary.”
THE UNITARIAN CHURCH OF PALO ALTO, 1905-1934:
A BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY

— A —

ABBOTT, G.— He gave $10 to the “Church Lot Subscription” fund of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1906.

Notes: He is listed as “Prof. G. Abbott,” but the only Stanford professors with the surname “Abbott” prior to the publication of the 1921 Alumni Directory were James Francis Abbott and Nathan Abbott.

The Alderton Family

Henry Alderton —— MARION STARR DECKER

DOROTHY MARION —— Herbert Kellar
BARBARA ———— Ernest Calley
Henry, Jr.

ALDERTON, MARION STARR DECKER— She was born Aug. 27, 1865, in Buffalo, New York. On March 10, 1885, she married Henry Arnold Alderton, a physician. They lived in Germany in 1890-91 while Henry studied at the University of Berlin. Marion and Henry had four children: Dorothy Marion (q.v.; b. Oct. 6, 1889), Barbara (q.v.; b. June 22, 1892), Roger Decker (b. Dec. 30, 1893, d. Sept. 17, 1895), and Henry Arnold, Jr. (b. June 12, 1896).

The family initially made their home in Brooklyn, but when Dorothy entered Stanford in 1908, Marion moved to Mayfield with Dorothy along with Barbara and Henry Jr. In 1912, Henry, Sr., moved to California and took up painting. In 1919, Henry Jr. graduated from Stanford.

Marion was one of the eleven charter members of the Women’s Alliance on Oct. 21, 1905. She joined the church on
Nov. 19, 1905. She was chair of the Music Committee in 1915-1916. Along with Alice Locke Park (q.v.), Marion withdrew from the church in June, 1920, in protest against “the attitude taken” by the church in the First World War.

In 1921, Marion served as Vice President of the Palo Alto Branch of the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom.

Her daughter Dorothy (q.v.) was diagnosed with schizophrenia somewhere around 1924; Dorothy died in 1942 of cancer while living in a mental institution. Henry, Sr., died Sept. 30, 1930. Marion’s daughter Barbara died in 1931, soon after giving birth.

Marion died Jan. 10, 1960; Rev. Dan Lion, minister of the Palo Alto Unitarian Church, successor to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, officiated at her memorial service on Jan. 13, 1960.


CALLEY, BARBARA ALDERTON— A librarian with a degree in German, she was born in New York on June 22, 1893.

In 1909-1910, when a high school student, she was one of the “assistants” or teachers in the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She joined the church on Dec. 25, 1909. She made regular financial contributions to the church through 1916, after which her account has the notation “subscription discontinued.” She was listed in the 1919 parish directory, and she appears on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

She received an A.B. in German from Stanford University in May, 1916. In 1920, she was living with her parents, and for the U.S. Census stated she was a self-employed photographer; however on a passport application that same year, she gave her occupation as stenographer.
UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934

She was secretary to the librarian of the Mechanics Institute Library in San Francisco. In 1923, she was working as a cataloguer at Stanford University; at this time, Helen Sutliff (q.v.) was the head of the catalog division, and Ruth Steinmetz (q.v.) was also working as a cataloguer.

She married Ernest Reginald Perrier Calley, a native of England, on March 8, 1924; his first wife had died in 1918 after a year of marriage. In 1930 Barbara and Ernest were living in Carmel with a son, Douglas E. (b. Aug. 4, 1928), and Ernest was teaching in the public schools. Their daughter Marcia was born and died Oct. 1, 1931, in San Jose; Barbara died sometime in October, 1931, also in San Jose. By 1940, Douglas was living with Ernest in Carmel.


KELLAR, DOROTHY MARION ALDERTON— She was born in Oct. 6, 1889, in New York, daughter of Henry A. Alderton and Marion Starr Alderton (q.v.), the eldest of four children.

Dorothy joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto with her mother, Marion, on Nov. 19, 1905, at age 16.

She was a student at Stanford University from 1908-1912. On Sept. 17, 1912, when a senior at Stanford, she married Herbert Anthony Kellar of Peoria, Illinois, at her parents’ Palo Alto home, with Rev. Clarence Reed of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto officiating.

The couple moved to Wisconsin, and then to Chicago, where Herbert worked at the McCormick Agricultural Library. They had one son, James, who died c. 1922.

Dorothy was diagnosed with “dementia praecox”—what would be called schizophrenia today—around 1924. She was
listed as a member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church in May, 1926, and was living then at 915 Channing Ave.—her parents’ house—and it seems likely that she came back to live with her parents after her diagnosis. Her name also appears on the 1926 “List of Resident Members”; on the copy of the list that remains in the extant church records, hers is the only name that has a line drawn through it.

She was eventually institutionalized, and by 1930 Herbert was living with the woman he would eventually marry as his second wife. Herbert obtained a divorce in Reno, Nevada, on Nov. 8, 1934, but he continued correspondence with Dorothy’s mother Marion up to 1942, the year Dorothy died of cancer.


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**Della and John Aldrich**

ALDRICH, DELLA W. SMITH— She was born Dec. 25, 1879, in Moscow, Idaho. She married John Merton Aldrich (q.v.) on June 28, 1905, and lived in Palo Alto in the academic year 1905-1906. They went back to Moscow, Idaho, when John finished his Ph.D. at Stanford, and during 1907-1908 Della studied “Dom. Econ.” at the University of Idaho. She and John had no children.

Della joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905. She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

She and John moved to Washington, D.C., c. 1907. She died in 1961 in Washington.
UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934

Notes: 1900; 1910 U.S. Census; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1910, 1921, 1931; University of Idaho General Catalog, 1907.

ALDRICH, JOHN MERTON— A renowned entomologist, he was born Jan. 28, 1866, in Olmsted County, Minnesota, and went to school in Rochester, Minn.; a Unitarian church was founded there in 1866, but it is unknown if his family attended it.

John graduated from South Dakota State University in 1888, and worked at the South Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station from 1893-1895. He received an M.S. from South Dakota State College in 1891. From 1892-93 he studied at the Univ. of Kansas, where he received a second M.S.. In 1893, he went to the Univ. of Idaho where he founded the Department of Zoology. He married Ellen Roe of Brookings, South Dakota, and they lived in Moscow, Idaho. After four years of marriage, his wife and infant son died, and he lost himself in his researches on insects of the order Diptera, or true flies.

On June 28, 1905, he married Della Smith of Moscow, Idaho. He and Della never had any children. Immediately after their marriage, he took a year of sabbatical leave, and he and Della moved to Palo Alto where he studied at Stanford University, and received his Ph.D. in May, 1906.

While in Palo Alto, he was active in the formation of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto; he joined the church on Nov. 19, 1905. He and his wife moved to the Washington, D.C., area, about 1907, then returned to the Univ. of Idaho. The “incompetent administration” of the Univ. of Idaho terminated him in 1913. He was immediately hired by the Bureau of Entomology of the Smithsonian Institute, and stationed at Lafayette, Indiana, studying Diptera and cereal crops. One of the pre-eminent entomologists of his day, in 1918 he became Associate Curator and Custodian of Diptera at the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D.C. Throughout his career, he published widely on Diptera.

He became a member and trustee of All Souls Unitarian Church in Washington. He led classes in religious history and education there.
He died May 7, 1934, just before setting out on his biannual collecting trip to the West Coast.


ALLEN, CLIFFORD GILMORE— A professor of Romanic languages, he received an A.B. from Boston Univ. in 1901, an A.M. from Stanford in 1903, and Docteur de l’Université de Paris in 1906. He began teaching at Stanford in 1901.

He gave $5 to the “Church Lot Subscription” fund of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1906.

Notes: Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921.

Mr. and Mrs. Girard S. Allen

ALLEN, GIRARD S.— He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1923.

Notes: No one by this name was found in the Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, and Stanford University, Palo Alto: Willis L. Hall, 1924; nor in the Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1932.

ALLEN, MRS. GIRARD S.— She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1923.

Notes: See notes under Girard S. Allen.

ALLENDER, MISS— She made a financial contribution to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1923.
UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934

Notes: Both Miss Gertrude Allender, a nurse, and Miss Willa Allender, a teacher at the Castilleja School, may be found listed in Palo Alto directories of this time; it is impossible to know which Miss Allender made contributions to the church.

The Amidon - Hilmer Family

AMIDON, HARRIET B.— She was born c. 1849 in New York. By 1920, she was living with her daughter Netta Hilmer (b. 1874, Ohio; q.v.), who was divorced, and her grandson Herman Oswald Hilmer (b. c. 1909, Calif.); Netta was a teacher in a private school. She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and the 1920 membership list.

In 1930, she was still living with Netta and Oswald (now called Frederick), and Netta was still teaching in a private school. She died in 1933.

Notes: 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; California Death Index.

HILMER, ANETTA “NETTA” W. HOFFMAN— A teacher, she was born c. 1874 in Ohio. In 1880, she was living with her mother, who was widowed, and her mother’s parents and younger brother, in St. Jopeh County, Mich. (her mother eventually remarried Mr. —— Amidon). Netta married Herman Johann Hilmer (b. c. 1875, Germany) on Aug. 11, 1906, in St. Joseph County, Mich. He became instructor of German at Stanford. They had one child, Herman Oswald (b. c. 1909, Calif.).

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Feb. 28, 1911. She made financial contributions through 1918, and was listed in the 1919 parish directory, and in the 1920 membership list. By 1920, she was divorced, and living with her mother Harriet Amidon; she was teaching in a private school.

The Anderson Family

Melville Anderson — Charlena M. Van Vleck

Balfour
Malcolm Playfair
Gertrude
Robert Van Vleck

Anderson, Charlena M. Van Vleck—She was born June 25, 1854, in Fond du Lac, Wis. By 1870, her family was living in Appleton, Wis. She was a member of the First Congregational Church of Appleton, Wis., from 1870 to 1879. She entered the School of Drawing and Painting of Lawrence Univ., Appleton, Wis., c. 1872, and graduated in 1876.

In 1875, Melville Anderson and David Starr Jordan were schoolteachers in Appleton, Wis., who were boarders at the Van Vleck house. Charlena and Melville married on April 27, 1875, in Oshkosh, Wis.

She and Melville had four children: Balfour (b. 1878); Malcolm Playfair (b. 1879 in Ind.; A.B. Stanford '04); Gertrude (b. 1883); Robert Van Vleck (b. April 18, 1884, in Ill.; A.B. Stanford '06). The family moved to Palo Alto in 1891.

She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

She died in Feb., 1924, in Palo Alto. Rev. Elmo A. Robinson of the Unitarian Church officiated at her funeral.

ANDERSON, MELVILLE BEST— A professor of English, he was born March 28, 1851, in Kalamazoo, Michigan, the son of a Baptist preacher.

He graduated from Cornell University in 1872. While at Cornell, he became an intimate friend of David Starr Jordan (q.v.); they met while “companions in misery,” serving as waiters at a dormitory, and remained friends for more than half a century.

After graduating from Cornell, David Starr Jordan and Melville Anderson went to Appleton, Wis., to teach in the public schools there. They boarded in the house of Mrs. Van Vleck, a widow who had moved to Appleton from Fond-du-Lac so her children, Balfour and Charlena, could attend better schools. Melville and Charlena married on April 27, 1875, in Oshkosh, Wis. They had four children: Balfour (b. 1878); Malcolm Playfair (b. 1879 in Ind.; A.B. Stanford '04); Gertrude (b. 1883); Robert Van Vleck (b. April 18, 1884, in Ill.; A.B. Stanford '06; q.v.).

Melville received his A.M. at Butler University in 1877, and taught there from 1877-1880. He was next professor of English literature at Knox College, 1881-1886; professor of literature and history at Purdue Univ., 1886-1887; and professor of English at the Univ. of Iowa, 1887-1891. He began teaching at Stanford University in 1891, and became emeritus professor there in 1910. He received an honorary doctorate from Aberdeen in 1906. He was best known for his translation of Dante’s *Divine Comedy*, a translation which took ten years to complete.

He became friends with Ewald Flügel (q.v.) in 1891, while studying in Leipzig. Flügel joined the faculty of Stanford partly through the good offices of Anderson; and Flügel was another one of the early members of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. Unfortunately their differing viewpoints on the First World War put a damper on their friendship. Flügel was a pacifist. But by 1916, Anderson advocated for the entry of the United States into the...
First World War in a long self-published poem; one stanza will suffice to give a sense of the dreary whole:

Since men first gathered into clans
Was peril never yet so sharp;
Loud would I smite the chorded harp:
Awake! awake! Americans…

While it was not a good poem, the Stanford Daily hailed it as “a denunciation of the apparent apathy of Americans in regard to the issues of the great war,” reporting that Melville wrote the poem during a stay in Florence, Italy, and dedicated it to David Starr Jordan.

Melville was a member of the Unity Society of Palo Alto, and he joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905. He gave $100 towards the purchase of the building lot, one of the top seven donations. He remained active in the church thereafter.

Melville died on June 22, 1933.


ANDERSON, ROBERT VAN VLECK—A geologist, he was born April 18, 1884, in Ill. to Melville Best Anderson (q.v.) and Charlena Van Vleck (q.v.). He received his bachelor’s degree in geology from Stanford in 1906.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 10, 1906. He was listed in the 1919 parish directory.

He worked for the U.S. Geological Survey 1909-1913; did war service in Sweden; and he was based in London 1919-1922, while his legal address was in Menlo Park with his parents. He
married Gracella Rountree on March 16, 1923.


ANGELL, FRANK— A professor of psychology, he received his B.S. from the Univ. of Vermont in 1878, his Ph.D. from Leipzig in 1891, and L.H.D. from Univ. of Vermont in 1892. He began teaching at Stanford in 1892.

He gave $5 to the “Church Lot Subscription” fund of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1906.

Notes: Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921.

ANTHONY, MOLLY C.— She was born c. 1865 in Indiana. She married Arthur M. Anthony c. 1882. Arthur (b. c. 1861, Calif.) was an auditor at a lumber company. They had one child, Charles C. (b. c. 1883, Oregon). In 1915, she lived at 715 Bryant St. with Mrs. Grace Anthony, and her son Charles, who was an electrical contractor.

She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

By 1920, she and Arthur were living in Santa Cruz. By 1940, Mollie was living alone, still in Santa Cruz.

— B —

BARBER, W. R.— He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Notes: He lived at Encina Hall. This is probably William Richmond Barber who graduated from Stanford Univ. in Jan., 1920; see Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921.

Albert and Nettie Barker

BARKER, ALBERT CHARLES— An educator, he was born Oct. 28, 1865, in Maine. He lived in Maine through at least 1880. He married Nettie Eliza Hindry on June 4, 1900, in San Francisco. They had two children, both born in Calif.: Richard Hindry (b. c. 1903), and Horace Albert (b. c. 1908). He attended Stanford as a part of the class of 1895, but did not complete his degree. He went on the become a school teacher, and was principal of the Eureka, Calif., high school in 1900. In 1918, he finally received his A.B. in education from Stanford University. He became Superintendent of the Palo Alto schools in 1920.

In 1921, he was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and for a time served as chair of that board. He was on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” He gave talks to the “Young People’s Group” in 1926-1927.

He died Dec. 26, 1946, in Santa Clara County, Calif.


BARKER, NETTIE ELIZA HINDRY— A teacher of Latin, she was b. Oct. 8, 1877, in Colorado. In 1897, she received her A.B. in Latin from Stanford University, and she completed her A.M. in 1898. She taught Latin at Eureka, Calif., high school from about 1898 to
her marriage in 1900. She married Albert C. Barker on June 4, 1900, and they had two children, both born in Calif.: Richard Hindry (b. c. 1903), and Horace Albert (b. c. 1908). In 1910, they lived in Santa Rosa, Calif., and moved to Palo Alto by 1920.

In 1921, she was chair of the Hospitality and Entertainment Committee of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She was on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

She died Nov. 30, 1961, in Santa Clara County, Calif.


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BARNEST, ANNA COMSTOCK FRANKLIN— See: Anna Comstock Franklin.

The Barney - Stanley Family

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BENJAMIN ALLEN BARNEY</th>
<th>LYDIA HOWLAND SWAIN</th>
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<tr>
<td>William C.</td>
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<td>MARY SWAIN</td>
<td>William H. Stanley</td>
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<td>Benjamin Stanley</td>
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BARNEY, BENJAMIN ALLEN— He was born Jan. 25, 1825.

He married Lydia Howland Swain (q.v.) on June 5, 1847, and Rev. William H. Knapp, minister of Second Congregational Society (Unitarian), Nantucket, officiated; Benjamin was a cooper at this time. They had two children, William C. (b. July 21, 1848, Mass.; d. June 15, 1883), and Mary S. or Minnie (b. June 26, 1855, Calif.).

In 1850, Lydia and Benjamin were living in Sennett, New York, and Benjamin was a farmer. By 1860, they were living in
Watsonville, Calif., and Benjamin was again working as a cooper. But by 1880, they lived in San Francisco, and Benjamin gave his occupation as “Mine Owner”; he was then president of the “Silver Queen” mine, a rich claim located two miles from the famed “Silver King” mine in Arizona; this mine made him a wealthy man.

In 1900, Lydia and Benjamin lived in San Mateo County, and they were both farmers.

Benjamin died Dec. 7, 1908, and Rev. Clarence Reed of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto officiated at his funeral on Dec. 8.


BARNEY, LYDIA HOWLAND SWAIN—She was born Jan., 1827, in Nantucket, Massachusetts; the Barney Genealogical Record gives her birthday as Jan. 8, 1829.

She married Benjamin Allen Barney (b. Jan. 25, 1825) on June 5, 1847. The officiant was Rev. William H. Knapp, minister of Second Congregational Society, the Unitarian church in Nantucket. They had two children, William C. (b. July 21, 1848, Mass.; d. June 15, 1883), and Mary S. or Minnie (b. June 26, 1855, Calif.).

In 1850, Lydia and Benjamin were living in Sennett, New York, and Benjamin was a farmer. By 1860, they had moved to Watsonville, Calif., where Benjamin was again a cooper. By 1880, they lived in San Francisco, and Benjamin gave his occupation as “Mine Owner”; at this point, he was a wealthy man.

By 1900, Lydia and Benjamin were living in San Mateo County, and both Benjamin and Lydia listed their occupations as farmer. Benjamin died 1908. In 1910, Lydia lived on Marsh Road in Menlo Park with her daughter Minnie Stanley (q.v.).
UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934

She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.


STANLEY, MARY SWAIN [MINNIE] BARNEY— She was born June 26, 1855, in California. She married William H. Stanley c. 1878. In 1880, she and William were living with her parents in San Francisco, along with their son Benjamin Stanley (b. Jan. 11, 1878); William listed his occupation as dentist. William died Nov. 20, 1903.

In 1910, she was living near Menlo Park, Calif., with her mother, Lydia H. Barney (q.v.) and her son Benjamin, whose occupation was automobile salesman. They had four servants living in their household.

Minnie was a member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.


BASSETT, LEE EMERSON— A professor of English, he was born Nov. 26, 1871 in Kenosha, Wisconsin. In 1900, he was teaching elocution in Los Angeles. He received his A.B. from Stanford in 1901, and married Florence Jackson, a Stanford student, on June 10, 1903. They had two children, William M. (b. c. 1910) and David L. (b. c. 1914).

He was professor of English and Public Speaking at Stanford
BATES, MERRILL OTIS—A Unitarian minister, he was born in 1909 in Clinton, Mass. He studied voice and deportment at the New England Conservatory in 1928-1929. From 1930 to 1934, he studied at the University of Calif. in Berkeley, and the Pacific Unitarian School of Religion.

He served as a student minister and Sunday school superintendent of the Unitarian Church in Palo Alto for three and a half years, 1931-1934. The congregation had ceased operations c. 1930 and given title to the building to the American Unitarian Association (A.U.A.); presumably the A.U.A. provided funding for Bates’ ministry. While in Palo Alto, he also organized an experimental theatre group.

He later served Unitarian churches in Laconia, New Hampshire, where he was ordained, and in Michigan.

He died in 1987.


BEACH, LUCY CHURCH—See: Church - Beach Family

BEAUFAY, ALLEN FRANCIS—He was a student at Stanford 1907-1909, living at that time in Los Angeles. He served on the Committee of Ushers of the Unitarian Church in 1908.

He did not remain a Unitarian for long. On Feb. 14, 1909, the
Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto voted “after considerable discussion” to allow the newly-formed Theosophical Society of Palo Alto to use the church for three evening lectures. The lecturer, Charles Ludovic Gutman, reported to the American Theosophical Society that this “course of lectures was made possible through the interest and invitation of Miss Marion Hurd and Mr. Allen Beaufait, two energetic young people who joined the Society a short time ago.” Beaufait then went on to found a Theosophical Society in Palo Alto in Nov., 1909.

Notes: *Stanford University Alumni Directory*, 1921; *The Theosophic Messenger*, Chicago: American Theosophical Society, June, 1909, p. 411; ibid., Nov., 1909, p. 117. Census data: An Allen F. Beaufait appears in the 1900 U.S. Census, b. Nov., 1887, Mich., living in Detroit, and this is probably the same person; no Allen Beaufait was found in the 1910 or 1920 U.S. Census.

*The Beckett Family*

BECKETT, LUTIE COLLIER— She was born c. 1885 in California, and married Bergie Barry Beckett, an electrical engineer. By 1920, Lutie and Bergie were living in Palo Alto and had three sons: Richard (b. c. 1913, Wash.; *q.v.*), Page (b. c. 1915, Calif.; *q.v.*), and John (b. c. 1918, Nev.). She made financial contributions to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1922. The family was still living in Palo Alto in 1930.


BECKETT, PAGE— He was born c. 1915 in California, the son of Bergie and Lutie (*q.v.*) Beckett. He attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and appears on an attendance sheet from 1921-1922.

Notes: 1920, 1930 U.S. Census.

BECKETT, RICHARD “DICK”— He was born c. 1913 in Washington
state, the son of Bergie and Lutie (q.v.) Beckett. He attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and appears on an attendance sheet from 1921-1922.

Notes: 1920, 1930 U.S. Census.

BELKNAP, FLORENCE ADELL—A physician, she was born c. 1861 in Illinois, and prior to 1884 was married and widowed.

She entered the University of Michigan medical school c. 1883, graduated in 1886, lived in San Francisco in 1902, and was living in Palo Alto by 1904.

She was a director of the Palo Alto branch of the Needlework Guild of America, which “collected nearly 600 garments” to the Nurses’ Home in San Francisco; other directors include fellow Unitarians Agnes Kitchen (q.v.), Fannie Rosebrook (q.v.), Annie Corbert (q.v.), Luna Hoskins (q.v.), and Laura Wyckoff (q.v.).

Florence joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905. She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

By 1911, she had moved to San Jose, and she continued to live there in 1920.


BELL, MARGARET ELIZA (MAGGIE) HUTCHINS SHEKELS—She was born April 2, 1852 in Quebec, Canada. She immigrated to the U.S. c. 1857. She married Noah C. Shekels on Jan. 30, 1871, in Butte County, Calif. By 1880, she was a school teacher and single woman living with her daughter Minnie in Bidwell, Butte County,
Calif.

She married Benjamin Franklin O. Bell c. 1881, and in 1900 they lived in San Jose with a son John; Benjamin was working as a grain farmer. In 1904, Margaret, and Harry, a student, were living in Palo Alto at 620 Gilman St. By 1910, Benjamin was the proprietor of a livery stable.

She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

By 1920, she was widowed and living with her daughter Minnie and her son-in-law Carleton Gray in Oroville, Calif. She died Oct. 19, 1942, in San Francisco.


BLACK, MARSHALL— He was the president of Marshall Black Investment Co., and the secretary of the Palo Alto Mutual Building and Loan Assoc. He gave $4 to the “Church Lot Subscription” fund of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1906.

Notes: Polk-Husted Co. San Jose City and Santa Clara County Directory, 1909-1910, 1909.

BLACKMAN, FLORENCE H.— A nurse, she was born c. 1854 in Maryland. She married J. D. Blackman, a teacher, before 1872, and they had five children, including Marcus (b. c. 1872, Penna.) and Robert (b. c. 1874, Calif.). In 1880, the family was living in San Francisco. By 1896, she was in San Jose at 193 S. 2nd, working as a nurse.

By 1910 she was widowed and living in Palo Alto with her adopted son, Harry M. Edson, a bookkeeper; Florence was working as a nurse for “private families.” By 1920, she had moved to New York City.

She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

She died after 1940.
The Blackmer Family

BLACKMER, ADELBERT ADAMS—He was born April 30, 1888, in New Bedford, Massachusetts. He married Enid Cunningham c. 1910. In 1910, the two of them were living in Township 2, San Mateo County, Calif., and he was working as a hardware salesman. By 1920, he was living with Enid and his father-in-law George L. Cunningham in the Purissima precinct, Santa Clara County, Calif., along with his daughter Marian (b. c. 1912, Calif.) and son Beverly (b. c. 1915, Calif.); he was then working as a supervisor for the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co. He opened the Palo Alto Flower & Seed Shop in Palo Alto in 1922.

He was noted as a new member of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1922, and was on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

In 1930, he was living in Reno, Nev., with his wife and two children. He died in 1935.


BLACKMER, BEVERLY—He was born c. 1915 in California, son of Adelbert (q.v.) and Enid (q.v.) Blackmer. He attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and his name appears on an attendance sheet from 1921-1922.

BLACKMER, ENID CUNNINGHAM—She was born c. 1890 in California. She married Adelbert Blackmer c. 1910. In 1910, the two of them were living in Township 2, San Mateo County, Calif., and by 1920, they were living with Enid’s father George L. Cunningham, in the Purissima precinct, Santa Clara County, Calif., along with her daughter Marian (b. c. 1912, Calif.) and son Beverly (b.
c. 1915, Calif.).

She was noted as a new member of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1922, and was on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

In 1927, she and Adelbert were still living in Palo Alto, but they moved to Reno, Nev., by 1930.


BLACKMER, MARIAN— She was born c. 1912 in California, daughter of Adelbert (q.v.) and Enid (q.v.) Blackmer. She attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and her name appears on an attendance sheet from 1921-1922.

Notes: 1920 U.S. Census.

The Blackwelder Family

✲ BLACKWELDER, ALICE GERTRUDE BOUGHTON— Alice, later in life known as Gertrude, was born on Dec. 5, 1853, in Sempronius, N. Y. Her father was a Baptist minister who valued education. She left her parents’ home in 1869 to attend the Univ. of Kansas, living with her married sister, and graduated in 1875. She taught at the university for two years after her graduation, and was the first female graduate to be appointed to the university staff. She received her A.M. from the university in 1890, and that year was the first woman to give the commencement speech.

She married Isaac Blackwelder (q.v.) on April 5, 1877, in Lawrence, Kansas. They moved to Chicago, where Isaac had begun working as an insurance adjustor handling claims following the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. They had two children, Paul (b. c. 1878) and Eliot (b. c. 1880; q.v.).

Gertrude as active with the Chicago Woman’s Club, and was
also active in providing educational opportunities for women and disadvantaged groups. She was a supporter of woman suffrage, and in 1913 she was the first woman to vote in a government election in Cook County, Ill. A local newspaper noted at the time:

“As this was the first opportunity given women of Cook County by virtue of the recently enacted Women’s Suffrage law to vote upon questions other than candidates for school boards, nothing could have been more fitting than that Mrs. I. S. Blackwelder, former president of the Chicago Woman’s Club, and consistent worker for the betterment of women and children, as well as mankind as a whole, should cast the first woman’s vote in Morgan Park and Cook County.” (quoted in “In recognition of Gertrude Blackwelder for Women’s History Month”)

After her husband retired, they moved to Palo Alto where Eliot was then living. She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” After her husband died in 1926, she remained in Palo Alto. She died in July, 1938.


BLACKWELDER, ELIOT— He was born June 4, 1880, in Chicago, son of Isaac (q.v.) and Gertrude (q.v.) Blackwelder. He married Jean Otis Bowersock (q.v.) on Sept. 26, 1904, in Lawrence, Kansas, and they had seven children: Margery (b. Nov. 29, 1905, Wis.), Martha Jean (b. Aug. 8, 1907, Wis.), Richard E. (b. Jan. 29, 1909, Wis.), Gertrude (b. Dec. 8, 1911, Wis.), Lois (b. Dec. 18, 1913, Wis.), Ruth (b. Nov. 16, 1916, Wis.), and Justin O. (b. July 18, 1917, Ill.).

He taught at the Univ. of Wisconsin and the Univ. of Illinois, and some short-term positions, until in 1922 he became professor of geology at Stanford Univ. He remained at Stanford for the rest of his career. His parents moved to Palo Alto c. 1925, and they
joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and his wife became active in the Sunday school. In 1930, the family was still in Palo Alto, except Margery and with the addition of Eliot’s mother Gertrude.

He and his wife were on the 1949 mailing list of the Palo Alto Unitarian Society.

He died in 1969 in San Mateo.


BLACKWELDER, JEAN OTIS BOWERSOCK—She was born Jan. 25, 1881, in Lawrence, Kan., daughter of Justin De Witt Bowersock, Sr., and Mary Gower; Justin was a Republican congressman from Kansas 2nd District, 1899-1907, and Congregationalist who at one was president of the Plymouth Congregational Church in Lawrence. In the academic years 1899-1900 and 1902-1903, she was a special student in the School of Fine Arts, which included music, drawing, painting, elocution, at the Univ. of Kansas. In 1900, she gave her home address as Washington, D.C., where she presumably lived for a time while her father was in Congress.

She married Eliot Blackwelder (q.v.) on Sept. 26, 1904, in Lawrence, Kansas, and they had seven children: Margery (b. Nov. 29, 1905, Wis.), Martha Jean (b. Aug. 8, 1907, Wis.), Richard E. (b. Jan. 29, 1909, Wis.), Gertrude (b. Dec. 8, 1911, Wis.), Lois (b. Dec. 18, 1913, Wis.), Ruth (b. Nov. 16, 1916, Wis.), and Justin O. (b. July 18, 1917, Ill.). After a brief stint living in Palo Alto in 1919, while Eliot was a visiting professor at Stanford, they moved permanently there when Eliot become a professor at Stanford in 1922.

In 1927-1928, Jean was the “violinist and general helper” for the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, when Clarence Vickland (q.v.) was the Superintendent. Presumably at least some of her children attended the Sunday school.
In 1930, the family was still living in Palo Alto, except Margaret and with the addition of Eliot’s mother Gertrude. By 1940, their children had all left but they were still living in Palo Alto with a live-in servant.

She and Eliot were on the 1949 mailing list of the Palo Alto Unitarian Society.


BLACKWELDER, ISAAC SIMEON— He was born March 4, 1840, near Litchfield, Ill. Of his early life, his son Eliot wrote in 1947:

His father and mother were pioneer settlers of the county but both of them died before he had outgrown childhood. He therefore found himself head of the family and in charge of the farm before he was 17 years old. He took advantage of the only available opportunities for education—the local country school, with two winter terms at a nearby academy (Hillsboro Academy operated by the Lutheran Church) where some classical studies were afforded. Being an assiduous reader of good literature all his life, he was essentially self-educated.

After working as county clerk, he entered the insurance business in his early twenties, and spent his career working for the Niagara Fire Insurance Co.

He married Gertrude Boughton (*q.v.*) on April 5, 1877, in Lawrence, Kansas. In 1920, he was living in Chicago where he was a manager Niagara Fire Insurance company. After he retired, he moved to Palo Alto where his son Eliot (*q.v.*) was then living.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” He died Aug. 14, 1926, in Palo Alto.

The Blair Family

BLAIR, JAMES— He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

Notes: No James Blair is listed in the Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, Stanford Univ., Ravenswood, and East Palo Alto, Palo Alto: Willis Hall, 1925.

BLAIR, JAMES MCKITRICK— He was christened June 15, 1924, by Rev. Elmo A. Robinson of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Notes: A 2009 obituary for James McKitrick Blair of Exeter, N.H. states that his memorial service was held at First Unitarian Universalist Church of Exeter (N.H.); he died Dec. 18, 2009, and was born Aug. 31, 1922— which means he could have been the baby christened by Elmo Robinson in 1924 (“James McKitrick Blair,” Brewitt Funeral service and Crematory Web site www.brewittfuneralhome.com/obituaries/James-McKitrick-Blair?obId=2403697#/obituaryInfo accessed Dec. 16, 2019). A 2011 obituary for his wife, Lorraine L. Blair states that she married this James McKitrick Blair in 1949 and that they lived in Ill. before moving to N.H., but unfortunately gives no details about her husband’s birthplace (“Lorraine L. Blair” obituary, Seacoastonline.com [Portsmouth, N.H.] www.seacoastonline.com/article/20110802/PUBLICRECORDS04/108020316 accessed Dec. 16, 2019).

BLAIR, MRS. JAMES— She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

The Blake siblings

BLAKE, ELIZABETH HUGHES— She was born Jan. 18, 1876, in Boston, Massachusetts, the daughter of Dr. Clarence Blake, an otologist who taught at Harvard Medical School. She attended
Stanford University from 1901-1903. Her younger brother Thomas entered Stanford Univ., but left at Christmas, 1907, when his health broke down. He spent a year and a half in Boston studying medicine, and Elizabeth was living with him in Boston in 1910. Thomas’s health broke down again, and he returned to Palo Alto, where, beginning in 1911, he raised pigeons. The two of them lived together in Palo Alto through at least 1920.

She was appointed to the newly-formed Hospitality Committee of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Dec., 1906, serving under committee chair John S. Butler (q.v.). She gave $10 to help purchase the building lot for the church. She was listed in the 1919 parish directory.


BLAKE, THOMAS BARNARD—A college dropout, due to broken health, he was born April 24, 1881, in Boston, Massachusetts, the son of Dr. Clarence Blake, an otologist who taught at Harvard Medical School. Thomas prepared for college at Franklin College, Dresden, Germany; and at Washburn’s School in San Jose. He attended Stanford University in 1902-1903, then Harvard College in 1903-1904, then returning to Stanford from 1905-1907. He dropped out of college at the end of the first term of the 1907-1908 academic year due to ill health. He next studied at Harvard Medical School as a special student in public health, 1909-1911, until, as he put it, “My health gave way and, although I have improved in health since I returned to California, I shall never be the man I was.”

Due to his ill health, he was forced to give up his position as a health officer, and for a time raised pigeons. At the time of the 1920 U.S. Census, he was living in Palo Alto with his sister Elizabeth, and he gave his profession as “None.”

He gave $60 to help purchase the building lot of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. He was listed in the 1919 parish directory.

He died June 18, 1926.
UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934


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The Boezinger Family

Sophie Humbert—BRUNO BOEZINGER—LAURE ELISE JACOT

Bruno
Frank
Lydia M.
AMELIE ELIZABETH—Ernest Vigars
AGNES SOPHIE—Freeman David Duncan
Humbert P.
OLIVIA

BOEZINGER, AGNES SOPHIE—Daughter of Bruno (*q.v.*) and Sophie Boezinger, she was born Sept., 1899, in Texas. She attended Stanford Univ. from 1914-1916, studying German.

Rev. Bradley Gilman of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto officiated at her wedding to Freeman David Duncan on Dec. 7, 1917; Freeman attended Stanford 1913-1917.

By 1921, the couple were living in Martinez, Calif., where Freeman worked for Shell Oil Co.


BOEZINGER, AMELIE ELIZABETH—Daughter of Bruno (*q.v.*) and Sophie Boezinger, she was born Sept., 1899, in Texas. She attended Stanford Univ. from 1912-1915, studying graphic design.

Rev. Clarence Reed of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto
officiated at her wedding to Ernest Powell Vigars on Aug. 23, 1915; Ernest attended Stanford 1912-1915.

By 1921, the couple were living in Portland, Ore.

Notes: 1900 U.S. Census; Annual Register, Stanford Univ., 1912; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1921.

BOEZINGER, BRUNO JOSEPH—A professor of German and sometime minister, he was born Oct. 5, 1859, in Olten, a mostly German-speaking city in Switzerland. When he was 17, he left home and joined the French Foreign Legion, serving in northern Africa. Upon returning home, he studied theology in Germany and Switzerland. He married Sophie Humbert (b. Sept., 1858, Switzerland) c. 1885, and they had nine children: Bruno Paul (b. May 19, 1886, Germany), Frank (b. Nov., 1887, La.), Lydia Marie (b. Jan., 1889, La.), Amelie Elizabeth (b. July, 1890, Tex.), Agnes S. (b. Jul., 1894, Tex.), Humbert Arthur (b. Sept. 18, 1896, Tex.), and Olivia (q.v.; b. Sept., 1899, Tex.); two other children died young.

In 1886, he brought his young family to the United States. He was a missionary in “the slums New Orleans” from c. 1886 until c. 1889, and then became minister of a German Methodist Episcopal Church in Denton, Tex., near Fort Worth, where he stayed until 1906. He received his A.B. from Fort Worth University in 1894, and his A.M. in 1895. He taught German at North Texas Normal School, 1895-1898, and at San Antonio High School, 1899-1906. In 1900, his sister Lena was living with Bruno and his family.

In 1906, Bruno and Sophie and their children left Texas to study at Stanford. Bruno received his Ph.D. in 1910, and was a long-time professor of German. Sophie became assistant in Romanic languages at Stanford from 1908-1911. Sophie died in Palo Alto in 1911.

Bruno studied at the University of Berlin and the University of Leipzig in 1912-1913. On March 18, 1913, Bruno married Laure Elise Jacot (q.v.), also a native of Switzerland.

He was active in the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and preached there upon occasion. He was listed in the 1919 Parish
UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934

Directory. He was also listed in the Feb., 1920, membership list, but when that list was revised in Jan., 1921, a line was drawn through his name.

Bruno’s sister Lena lived with his family in Palo Alto; she worked as a tutor, then later worked in the Stanford Library.

Bruno died April 11, 1939, in Palo Alto.


BOEZINGER, OLIVIA—The youngest child of Bruno (q.v.) and Sophie Boezinger, she was born Sept., 1899, in Texas.

She was in the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church, and acted the part of Louise in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916.

She graduated from Stanford in 1923, and worked at Stanford as acting Dean of Women, and later “Scholarship Secretary” (i.e., financial aid officer). She married Raymond Byler c. 1925, and they had two children: Anne (b. c. 1926) and Katherine (b. c. 1932).

Notes: 1900, 1920, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census; Stanford Daily, Mar. 6, 1928; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1931.

BOEZINGER, LAURE ELISE JACOT—She was born c. 1871 in Switzerland to French-speaking parents. She completed eighth grade in school. She married Bruno Boezinger (q.v.) on March 18, 1913, and immigrated to the U.S. in 1913; she remained a legal alien in 1940. The Stanford French Club met at the Boezinger house; perhaps Laure participated.

She was Chair of the Post Office Mission Committee, associated with the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto for a number of years, although the committee actually
“consist[ed] of one woman.”


BOL, CORNELIS—A physicist, he was born March 8, 1885, in Holland. Educated in the United States, he received his B. S. from the Univ. of Montana in 1914, and then did graduate work at Stanford while also serving as a teaching assistant from 1914 to 1916.

He made contributions to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto beginning in 1915. He taught the Boys Class in the Sunday school in 1915-1916. In mid-1916, the note “discontinued thru removal” was added to his account.

He returned to Holland and worked in the physics laboratory of Philips Gloeilampenfabriken from 1916 through 1936; it was there that he began developing the mercury vapor lamp for which he was best known. In 1936, he returned to Stanford, where he became research professor in 1940, and research physicist in 1947. He died in 1965.


*BORING, ORAMANDA (ORA)—A teacher, she was born c. 1855 in Illinois. As a girl, she lived in Macoupin Co., Ill., where her father, John A., was a builder. By 1880, she and father, mother, and seven younger siblings were living in Greenfield Co., Illinois, where she taught high school until about 1881. She moved to California in 1881, and Los Angeles granted her a teaching certificate in Jan., 1882; the State Board of Education granted her a “life diploma” or teaching certificate in 1884.

Ora began taking classes at Stanford in 1891, while teaching in Stockton. Through the 1890s and 1900s, she published a number of articles on education, including “Nature Study,” published
in *School Education*, 1895; and “Theological Life of a California Child,” co-written with professor Earl Barnes of Stanford. She received her A.B. in Zoology from Stanford in 1900; by 1899, she was teaching zoology at Palo Alto High School. She was also a botanist, and Harvard University Herbaria still include her collections of California plants. In 1910, she was living in Palo Alto with her sister Blanche B. Snow (b. c. 1872, Ill.) and brother-in-law William Freeman Snow, and their children; Ora was teaching high school.

In her memoir of life at Stanford Univ., Ellen Coit Elliott recorded her memories of Ora:

Dear Ora Boring appeared about that time. I saw her first at my front door, notebook in hand, asking modestly, like the gentlewoman she was, if she might make a few notes on my children’s reactions to the color element: she was taking one of Professor Barnes’ education courses. Oh, certainly! Louis and Christabel (little guinea pigs) were brought in from the sandpile and stood, big-eyed, in front of the strange lady on the lounge. She showed them strips of colored paper and asked them which they liked best. Christabel preferred bright red. Louis preferred bright red. The reactions were written down. Ora thanked me for the loan of my offspring and returned to her class. Dear Ora! Her lovely life and friendship were with us through the years.

Ora was an active member of the Women’s Alliance up through 1932, and served as secretary for a brief time. She was a Sunday school teacher in 1928.

She died in 1934.


**BRANNER, JOHN CASPER**—Vice-president of Stanford University and professor of Geology, he was born July 4, 1850, in Tennessee. He went to Cornell Univ. in 1869, where he became friends with David Starr Jordan (*q.v.*). In 1874, before completing his studies, he accepted a position as a geologist in Brazil, and remained there through 1883. He finally returned to receive his B.S. from Cornell in 1882.
In 1883, he married Susan D. Kennedy (b. April, 1856, New York). They had three children, Elsie (b. Oct., 1884, New York); John K. (b. Aug., 1886, Ind.); and George C. (b. Nov., 1890, Ark.). He received his Ph.D. from Indiana Univ., and became professor of geology at Stanford in 1891. In 1913, he was named Stanford’s president.

He gave $5 to the “Church Lot Subscription” fund of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1906. He did not appear in the 1919 parish directory of the church.

He died March 1, 1922.


The Brasch Family

FREDERICK BRASCH—WINNIFRED ORPIN

DOROTHY LOIS
Caroline Mildred
Maxwell Frederick

BRASCH, DOROTHY LOIS—Child of Frederick (q.v.) and Winnifred (q.v.) Brasch, she died at age 3 weeks and 2 days on Dec. 15, 1907. Rev. Sydney Snow, minister of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, officiated at the funeral service in the Braschs’s home on Bryant St. in Palo Alto.

Notes: Funeral records left by Sydney Snow; 1910 U.S. Census; California Birth Index; California Death Index.

BRASCH, FREDERICK EDWARD—A librarian, he was born in Mobile, Ala., on Dec. 18, 1875, the son of German immigrants. He studied mathematics at Stanford from 1897-1899. He also studied
at the Univ. of California in Berkeley from 1899-1901. He worked at the Harvard College Observatory from 1903-1904, and at the Lick Observatory on Mt. Hamilton, Calif., 1904-1905.

He married Winnifred E. Orpin of Boston on Aug. 5, 1903. They had three children: Dorothy Lois (b. Nov. 22, 1907, d. Dec. 15, 1907; q.v.); Caroline Mildred (b. c. 1909), and Maxwell Frederick (b. c. 1913).

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 24, 1908. Frank Steinmetz (q.v.) recruited him to serve on the Finance Committee in 1915.

In 1910, he was working as a clerk, and living in Palo Alto with his wife Winnifred and Caroline. In 1912, deciding that “the inside of a book appealed to me more than the outside,” Frederick changed careers, taking a position as librarian at Stanford University. In 1916, he left Stanford to become a librarian at the Univ. of Chicago. In the 1920s, he became Chief of the Smithsonian Division of the Library of Congress.

Brasch continued to call himself a Unitarian long after he left Palo Alto.


The Briggs Family

BRIGGS, ALEXANDER WOODLAND— He was born May 26, 1902, in Cleveland, Ohio, the only child of William (q.v.) and Ethel Briggs. By 1910, his family was living in Palo Alto, where his father was teaching at Stanford Univ. He acted the part of one of the Wise Men in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by
members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916. He attended Stanford Univ. beginning in 1920, but before graduating died Feb. 20, 1924.


BRIGGS, ETHEL TWITCHELL— She was born c. 1878 in California. She married William Briggs (q.v.) in 1901, and they had one child, Alexander (1902-1924; q.v.); Alexander participated in the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.


BRIGGS, WILLIAM DINSMORE— He was born c. 1878 in Ohio. He received his A.B. in English from Stanford Univ. in 1896, and his Ph.D. from Harvard in 1900. He married Ethel Twitchell in 1901, and they had one child, Alexander (1902-1924; q.v.) who participated in the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. William was professor of English at Stanford Univ., and died in 1941.


BRODOWSKI, MARIE L.— She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1923.

Notes: No further information was found.
UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934

The Adelaide and Leonard H. Brown Family

LEONARD HARVEY BROWN — ADELAIDE PEASLEE BROWN

LEONARD HARVEY, JR.
ROBERT GLENN
ALAN TOMPKINS

BROWN, ADELAIDE JAGGER PEASLEE— She was born Dec. 8, 1881, in Clinton, Iowa. By 1900, she was living with her parents and three sisters in Pasadena, Calif.; her father was a rancher.

She received her A.B. in German from Stanford Univ. in 1905. She married Leonard H. Brown (q.v.) on Sept. 13, 1906, and they had three children: Leonard H., Jr. (b. c. 1909; q.v.), Robert Glenn (b. c. 1913; q.v.), and Alan Tompkins (b. c. 1920; q.v.). By 1910, she and Leonard and their oldest child were living in Palo Alto.

She taught the gr. 3-5 class in the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1918-1919. She was listed in the 1919 parish directory, and in the 1920 and 1926 membership lists.

By 1920, the family was living in Menlo Park. In 1940, she was living in San Mateo. She and her husband were on the 1949 mailing list of the Palo Alto Unitarian Society. She died in 1954.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920, 1940 U.S. Census; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1910, 1921.

BROWN, ALAN TOMPKINS— He was born in California c. 1920, son of Leonard Sr. (q.v.) and Adelaide (q.v.) Brown. Unlike his brothers, he was not listed under his parents in the 1926 “List of Resident Members” of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, probably because he was still too young. It seems likely that he participated in the Sunday school of the church.

Notes: 1930 U.S. Census.

BROWN, LEONARD HARVEY, SR.— He was born in Illinois on
Dec. 16, 1877. He received his pre-law degree from Stanford Univ. in 1901. He married Adelaide Jagger Peaslee (q.v.) on Sept. 13, 1906. They had three children, Leonard Harvey, Jr. (b. c. 1909; q.v.), Robert Glenn (b. c. 1913; q.v.), and Alan Tompkins (b. c. 1920; q.v.). By 1910, Leonard, Sr., was living in Palo Alto, and was a manager and partner, Camp Curry, Los Gatos.

He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and in the 1920 and 1926 membership lists.

By 1920, he was living with his family in Menlo Park, and gave his profession as “Merchant, Paints and Oils.” In 1930, he and his wife both children were living in San Mateo County, Calif. He and Adelaide were on the 1949 mailing list of the Palo Alto Unitarian Society. He died in 1967.

Notes: 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1910; California Death Index.

BROWN, LEONARD HARVEY, JR.— He was born in California c. 1909, son of Leonard Sr. (q.v.) and Adelaide (q.v.) Brown. He attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and acted the part of the Page in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by members of the Sunday school on May 13, 1916. He was listed under his parents in the 1926 “List of Resident Members” of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Notes: 1910, 1920 U.S. Census.

BROWN, ROBERT GLENN— He was born in California c. 1913, son of Leonard Sr. (q.v.) and Adelaide (q.v.) Brown. He attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, joined the church in 1924, and was listed under his parents in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

In 1930, he was living with his parents and his brother in San Mateo. He was still living with them in 1940, at which time he was not working. He married Helen Jean Deniston in Pasadena in 1944; a Methodist minister officiated.

Notes: 1920, 1940 U.S. Census; California County Marriages 1850-1952.
The Charles and Lillian Brown Family

CHARLES J. BROWN — LILLIAN MAY HOLLY

GLADYS E.
Charles Holly
MILLICENT

BROWN, CHARLES J.— A carpenter and cabinetmaker, he was born in July, 1872, in Ohio; his mother was born in Bohemia/Austria.

He married Lillian May Holly (q.v.) on Oct. 19, 1898; the officiant was Leslie Burwell, pastor of the German Methodist Episcopal Church in Palo Alto. They had three children, Gladys E. (b. June 9, 1899, Calif.; q.v.), Charles H. (b. c. 1901, Calif.), and Millicent (b. c. 1903, Calif.; q.v.).

He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

By 1930, he and Lillian were living by themselves in Palo Alto; he continued to work as a carpenter. In 1940, Millicent was divorced and had come back to live with her parents, and Charles was now working as a carpenter for the city engineer.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census; California County Marriages, 1850-1952, marriage certificate for Charles J. Brown and Lillian M. Holly.

BROWN, GLADYS EVELYN— Daughter of Charles A. (q.v.) and Lillian Brown (q.v.), she was born June 9, 1899, in Palo Alto. She began studying Spanish at Stanford Univ. in 1917.

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

In 1920, she was living with her parents and both siblings in Palo Alto, and still listed her occupation as student. Sometime
around 1919, she started to call herself Evelyn rather than Gladys. She received her A.B. from Stanford in 1920, and married Claude C. Chappell, a former Stanford student, on Jan 1, 1921. They moved to Delano, Calif. By 1932, she became Mrs. Lloyd S. Thompson.


BROWN, LILLIAN MAY HOLLY— She was born in Jan., 1875, in Iowa. She studied drawing at Stanford in 1892, and 1894-1895.

She married Charles J. Brown (q.v.) on Aug. 19, 1898. They had three children, Gladys E. (b. June 9, 1899, Calif.), Charles Holly (b. c. 1901, Calif.), and Millicent (b. c. 1903, Calif.).

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She was a member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in the 1920s. She was one of the teachers of grades 5 and 6 in the Sunday school in 1925-1926; a “Mrs. Holly Brown” directed the opening worship for the Sunday school in that year, and this was probably she.

Their children continued to live with them through 1920; Gladys and Millicent were students, and Charles H. was in the Navy. By 1930, their children had left home, and she and Charles A. were still living in Palo Alto. They continued to live in Palo Alto in 1940 when Millicent, now divorced, came to live with them.


BROWN, MILLICENT— She was born c. 1903, daughter of Charles A. (q.v.) and Lillian (q.v.) Brown.

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and joined the church in 1924. She taught the second grade class in the Sunday school in 1925-26, with Mrs. K. E. Ramsey, and was on the 1926 “List of Resident Members” of
the church.

In 1925, she was still living with her parents in Palo Alto, and working for Western Union. She was married and divorced before 1940, and in that year was living with her parents in Palo Alto and working as a typist.

She was on the 1948 and 1949 mailing lists for the Palo Alto Unitarian Society.


BROWN, LELAND HERMON— He was born in Gilroy, Calif., on Nov. 26, 1900. He lived with his family in Rhodesia from 1901 to 1913. He entered Stanford University as a student in 1918.

He was recipient of a scholarship from the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1920, as recorded in the minutes of the Board of Trustees for Nov. 4, 1920:

Mrs. Duveneck [q.v.] reported for the Scholarship Committee that it had been decided to bestow the scholarship on Leland Brown who is in their opinion a very worthy recipient of the same, and a very welcome addition to our congregation.

Leland graduated from Stanford in 1922 with a degree in mechanical engineering, and received his master’s degree in electrical engineering from Stanford in 1924. He married Louise Amidon Cannon (b. c. 1902) in 1924, and they had a daughter Louise Charlotte (b. c. 1928). Leland went on to receive his Ph.D. in electrical engineering from Stanford in 1930. He was hired by Stanford to teach electrical engineering in 1931, and continued to teach there for many years.

He was on the 1948 mailing list for the Palo Alto Unitarian Society.

He died in 1986.

Notes: 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; Abstracts of Dissertations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy..., Stanford University, 1929; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1922, 1932; Stanford Daily, April 30, 1924; Stanford
BRUMBAUGH, MARY ELLEN—She was born in Dayton, Ohio, on Sept. 10, 1901, and received her A.B. from Miami University in 1923. She attended Pacific School for the Ministry for two semesters. In 1924-1925, while a student at Pacific Unitarian School, she served as part-time assistant to Rev. Elmo Robinson at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

She married Emil Wickman, Jr., c. 1925. In 1930, they were living in Las Vegas Nevada, where Emil ran a chicken ranch, and they had two children, Phyllis (b. c. 1927) and Betty K. (b. c. 1929). She died in 1984.


Emeline and Nelson Bryant

BRYANT, EMELINE LAURA OAKMAN—She was born Nov 10, 1864, in Marshfield, Mass. She lived in China from 1870 to 1886.

She married Nelson Elliott Bryant on April 3, 1887, in Marshfield, Mass.; the officiant was Rev. W. H. Fish, minister of First Parish of South Scituate, a Unitarian church. They had three children, including Austrice C. (b. c. 1888, China); Flora (b. c. 1890, China); and Beatrice (b. c. 1892, China).

Although their U.S. address was given as Brookline, Mass., she and Nelson lived in Canton, China, from 1887 to 1894; in Shanghai from 1896 to 1915; and Yachow from 1916 to at least 1920. She was widowed by 1930.

A member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, in 1930 she served as Vice President. She joined the church in 1922, and was on the 1926 “List of Resident Members” of the church.

She died Sept. 8, 1941, in California.
BRYANT, NELSON ELLIOT—He was born Aug. 22, 1851, in Plymouth, Mass. In 1870, he was living with his parents, and had “no occupation.”

He married Emeline Laura Oakman on April 3, 1887, in Marshfield, Mass.; at the time of his wedding, he reported his occupation as “China Civil Services.” They had three children, including Austrice C. (b. c. 1888, China); Flora (b. c. 1890, China); and Beatrice (b. c. 1892, China).

Although their U.S. address was given as Brookline, Mass., he and Emeline lived in Canton, China, from 1887 to 1894; in Shanghai from 1896 to 1915; and Yachow from 1916 to at least 1920. He was Commissioner of Customs in Yochow, China. He retired to Palo Alto c. 1923.

He joined the church in 1922, and was elected to the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924. He was on the 1926 “List of Resident Members” of the church.

He died Dec. 16, 1927 in Palo Alto.

BUCK, FLORENCE—A Unitarian minister, she was born in Kalamazoo, Mich., on July 19, 1860. She taught science in the Kalamazoo, Mich., schools before attending Meadville Theological School to prepare for the ministry. She was ordained to the Unitarian ministry in 1893 at All Souls Church, Chicago. She served
Unitarian congregations in Michigan and Wisconsin before moving to California in 1910 with her life partner, Rev. Marion Murdoch.

A notation in the Minutes Book of the Board of Trustees reads as follows:

Early in August 1910 our minister, Rev. Clarence Reed, became seriously sick while spending his vacation in the East and Rev. Florence Buck consented to act as our minister during Mr. Reed’s absence. (She was paid by the church from August to December, 1910.) She also served as Superintendent of the Sunday school during this time. While filling in for Reed, Florence served as an inspiration to teenager Helen Kreps (q.v.), who would later prepare for the Unitarian ministry.

Florence later served the Unitarian church in Alameda, Calif., and then worked for the American Unitarian Association as Assoc. Secretary of the Dept. of Religious Education.

On March 20, 1920, she returned to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto to visit a meeting of the Board of Trustees. The church was lay-led at that time, and she discussed with the Board whether they should consider calling a new minister or not. The Board minutes for the meeting report, in part:

Miss Buck’s main advice was that we pay utmost attention to the work of the Sunday School as the safest and surest way is [sic] to build from the ground up. Even if we do without a regular minister it might be advisable to employ a trained director of religious education.

She died Oct. 12, 1925, in Boston.


BULIN, MRS.— She appeared on an undated (c. 1921) parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Notes: The directory shows her living at 730 Bryant St., Palo Alto. No further information was found.

BURDICK, MARTHA P.— She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo
Alto in 1923.

Notes: In 1923, W. L. and Ruth M. Burdick were living in Palo Alto, and by 1924 and A. H. and Nina Burdick were also living in Palo Alto, but no Martha Burdick. Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, Runnymede, and Sanford Univ., Palo Alto: Willis Hall, 1923; Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, Stanford Univ., Ravenswood, and East Palo Alto, Palo Alto: Willis Hall, 1924.

BURDICK, WILLIAM E.— On Dec. 30, 1923, Rev. Elmo Robinson of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto officiated at his marriage to Helen R. Becker.

The Burrell Sisters

BURRELL, GRACE WINSLOW— A housekeeper and music teacher, she was born Jan. 16, 1874, in Calif. In 1900, she was living with her parents and four younger siblings. In 1910, she was living in Oakland with just her parents. By 1913, she lived in Palo Alto with her sister Florence (q.v.); Florence was teaching physical training and personal hygiene at Stanford Univ., and Grace kept house for the two of them.

Grace was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She is probably the Miss Burrell who taught the girls gr. 4-6 class in the Sunday school in 1916-1917, and the gr. 2-3 class in 1917-1918.

By 1930, she was living with her sister Florence in Berkeley, and she was working as a music teacher.


BURRELL, FLORENCE— A teacher of physical training and personal hygiene, by 1900 she was living with her parents and four siblings. By 1913, she lived in Palo Alto with her sister Grace (q.v.) and teaching at Stanford Univ., and Grace kept house for the two of them.

Florence and her sister Grace made regular contributions (in
both their names) to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto beginning in 1916 through 1917, at which point the contributions stopped.

By 1930, she was living with her sister Florence in Berkeley, and she was working as a music teacher.


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*The Butler Family*

John and Isabel Butler were central figures in both the Unity Society and the early Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, both by providing leadership and making generous financial contributions. Both Isabel Dye Butler and her daughter Isabel Butler Wocker died in 1912, after which both John and Minnie loved away from Palo Alto.

Job Francis Dye — Ecolástica Rodriguez

JOHN STRANGE BUTLER — ISABEL DYE

Thomas
MARIE A. (MINNIE)
Charles E.
ISABEL —— August Wocker

**BUTLER, JOHN STRANGE**— A printer and banker, he was born Nov., 1829, in Indiana. He married Isabel Dye (*q.v.* ) in 1859, in California.

He came from Indiana to Oakland in 1852, and started a printing business. He and Isabel had four children: Thomas (b. c. 1860), Minnie (*q.v.* ; b. Dec., 1861), Charles E. (b. April 14, 1868, Idaho; d. Dec. 20, 1897, Palo Alto), and Isabel (*q.v.* ; b. Jul., 1872).

John and Isabel lived for seven years in Boise, Idaho, where John was a printer and owned a newspaper. At the 1870 U.S. Census, he was living in Oakland and was a printer. In 1877, Isabel came into a fortune; see her biographical entry for details.
By 1895, John S. Butler of Palo Alto was President of the Palo Alto Mutual Building and Loan Association. He received U.S. patent 659368A in 1899 for an improved orchard stepladder. By 1900, when he was living in Palo Alto, he gave his occupation as “capitalist.”

He was Treasurer, Committee on Executive and Finance, of the Unity Society. He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905. In 1905, he was listed as the largest single contributor to the fund to purchase a lot for the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, with a contribution of $200 (about $5200 in 2014 dollars).

After his wife died in 1913, he returned to Oakland. He died there Oct. 30, 1916.


Butler, Isabel Dye—A key figure in the history of Unitarianism in Palo Alto, and a Mexican-American (but not an immigrant), Isabel Dye was born July 9, 1840 (other sources say June, 1840), in an old adobe house in Santa Cruz, California, the child of Job Francis Dye and Ecolástica Rodriguez.

Isabel’s mother, Ecolástica Rodriguez, born in 1822, was a Mexican citizen; this was before Mexico ceded California to the U.S. Ecolástica was reportedly the daughter of the Minister to Mexico from Spain. As a young beauty, she owned a Parisian lace dress, allegedly worth $1,000 when new (roughly $24,000 in 2015 dollars).

Isabel’s father, Job Francis Dye, was born in Kentucky in 1807, and traveled over land to southern California, arriving in Jan., 1832. In 1839, he lived in Monterey, where he met and married Ecolástica. By 1840, he ran a distilling business in Santa Cruz, where Isabel was born. The family returned to Monterey when Isabel was barely a year old; she was carried by her father on a pillow on his saddle.

Not long thereafter, Job received a land grant from the
Mexican government of 26,700 acres along the Sacramento River in what is now Tehama County. The family stayed in Monterey, but Job had 1,000 head of cattle and 200 horses on the Central Valley ranch, called “Antelope Rancho.”

When she was about five years old, Isabel’s mother drove her around in old Monterey, bringing baskets of food and clothing to poor people. She continued doing charitable and benevolent work throughout her life.

In 1848, Job went to fight with General Fremont of the U.S., and Isabel Fremont and his troops march into Monterey. She gave a loud “Hurrah!” when she saw them, only to be slapped on the face by Alvarado, an older relative on her mother’s side. She participated in the raising of the new flag in Monterey.

The Gold Rush prompted Job to move to Antelope Ranch in 1849, to take advantage of economic possibilities there. Isabel, however, went to school at Notre Dame Convent in San Jose, a part of the first class of students in that school. Her chief attainments at school were facility in a number of languages, and skill at the piano.

Within a few years of the move, Job and Ecolástica apparently divorced, for Job married a second wife in 1853. Isabel went to live with her father in Tehama County, and at this time broke with her mother’s Catholic religion.

Isabel married John Strange Butler Jan. 15, 1859, in Tehama County, Calif. John was born Nov., 1829, in Indiana; he came to California in 1852, and after mining for three years started the first newspaper in Red Bluff, Tehama County, Calif.

She and John had four children: Thomas Frank (b. c. 1860), Minnie (b. Dec., 1861), Charles E. (b. April 14, 1868, Idaho; d. Dec. 20, 1897, Palo Alto), and Isabel (b. Jul., 1872). She also took care of 28 Native American orphans over the course of her life. The first orphan she took in was in the early years of her married life; after whites massacred local Native Americans, there were several babies left alive, and Isabel took one in. Recent historians have shown this kind of activity was not altruistic, but rather a part of the “Indian slave trade” in California, where “kidnapping
parties” roamed about “to obtain suitable children and murder their parents”; those enslaved children could then be trained and passed on to other whites, for the economic benefit of all the whites involved.

After starting the newspaper, John then turned to farming until Sept., 1862, when Job Dye asked him to help sell cattle to miners headed to the silver mines in Idaho. John decided to start a newspaper in Idaho with his brother Thomas, and by Sept., 1863, they began publishing the Boise News. The rest of his family joined him in Idaho, and Isabel and John’s third child, Thomas E., was born in Idaho in 1868.

Thomas and John tried to maintain political neutrality in their newspaper, but it was quickly apparent that they were die-hard Republicans, in a state dominated by Democrats who supported the Confederacy. Even though they were financially successful, they felt pressure to sell out to a Democrat. They went on to start two other newspapers elsewhere in Idaho. In 1870, John finally decided to leave Idaho and return to California. The family settled in Oakland, where John established a job and book printing business.

In Feb., 1877, Isabel came into a large amount of money. The San Francisco Call reported the story this way: “In 1877, Isabel came into a large amount of money: Fortune has showered its gifts profusely on Mrs. I. Butler, wife of John S. Butler, a printer, of Oakland. Mrs. Maria Isabel Toomes, of Tehama county, came to San Francisco in ill-health some time ago for medical treatment. Six months heretofore she removed to Oakland and recovered rapidly, but two months ago she was seized with typhus fever and sank under it. She was accompanied to the city by her adopted daughter, an invalid, about 20 years of age, and by a housekeeper. Mrs. Butler, living next door to the sick lady, was Samaritan-like in her attentions, and, on her death-bed, Mrs. Toomes summoned her lawyer, and devised all her property, real and personal, to Mrs. Butler, merely stipulating that her adopted invalid daughter, Nellie Toomes, should be provided for and maintained during her life out of the estate.

The truth was less romantic. Maria Toomes was the wife of Albert G. Toomes, a partner of Isabel’s father, Job Dye, back in the Red Bluff days. Albert and Job had received adjacent land grants from the Mexican government. Maria Toomes had grown up in
Monterey, and probably knew Isabel there. Even though it was a less romantic story, Isabel still inherited $141,000, equivalent to $3.1 million in 2015 dollars. (At the time of the 1870 Census, Nellie Toomes was already living with the Butlers in Oakland.)

The Butlers moved to Palo Alto in the early 1890s. Rev. Eliza Tupper Wilkes, then the associate minister at the Unitarian Church in Oakland, and also working to start up new congregations throughout northern California, came to preach in Palo Alto several times in 1895. On Feb. 12, 1896, thirty people met in the Butler’s living room to form a “Unity Society,” a lay-led Unitarian fellowship; John became the Treasurer of the Committee on Executive and Finance. It is possible that the Butlers had been members of the Unitarian church in Oakland, and perhaps they helped bring Wilkes to preach in Palo Alto, to help start the new congregation; however, their names do not appear on the extant membership lists of the Oakland church. The Unity Society did not last more than a year or two. But a core of Unitarians remained in Palo Alto, and in 1905, with the help of funding from the American Unitarian Association, a new Unitarian church was formed. Once again, the initial meeting was held in the Butler house.

Both Butlers were active in the new church. Isabel joined the church on Nov. 19, 1905. She was one of the charter members of the Women’s Alliance. Isabel and John were the largest single contributor to the fund to purchase a lot for the Unitarian Church building in 1905 ($200, about $5250 in 2015 dollars).

Isabel died June 4, 1913, after which John moved back to Oakland; he died there Oct. 30, 1916.

UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934


WOCKER, ISABELLE BUTLER—She was born July 12, 1872, in Oakland, Calif., to parents J. S. and Isabel Butler. She went to school in Oakland, and graduated from Mills College in 1891. She was a member of the Unity Society.

She studied drawing at Stanford Univ. from 1894-1896. She apparently joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905. She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance.

She married August C. Wocker, a native of Germany; they had two children, Mary I. (b. c. 1903) and Hermine E. (b. c. 1905). They lived in Berlin for the first two years of their marriage, and then returned to Palo Alto. In 1910, Isabel and August shared their house with Isabel’s sister Minnie (q.v.).

She died Feb. 5, 1912; Rev. Clarence Reed of the Unitarian church officiated at her funeral. Her obituary in The Palo Altan asserted that she was a “charter member” of the Unity Society of Palo Alto.

Notes: 1900, 1910 U.S. Census; Obituary, Palo Altan, Feb. 12, 1912; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1911, 1921; Annual Register, 1895;

BUTLER, MARIE ANTOINETTE—Marie Butler, also known as Minnie, was born Dec. 20, 1861, in California. In 1870, she was living with her parents and siblings in Oakland, where her father was a printer. The family came to Palo Alto by 1895, and Minnie was probably active in the Unity Society of Palo Alto with her parents. By 1904, she was working as a music teacher.

Minnie joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905. She was appointed to the first Music Committee of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, Dec., 1906, serving under committee chair Fannie Rosebrook (q.v.). She played piano during the services for the first year in the new church building. While in Palo Alto, she was active in the Women’s Alliance; after moving to San
Francisco, she was active in the Women’s Alliance there.

Her sister Isabel Wocker (q.v.) died in 1912. Minnie moved to San Francisco some time before 1920, perhaps after Isabel’s death, and lived there with her brother-in-law, August Wocker, and his children.

She died Jan. 17, 1940.

Notes: 1870, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, Menlo Park, the Campus, Times Pub., 1904; California Death Index.
The Cady Family

✠ Cady, Bertha Louise Chapman—A writer, biologist, and sexuality educator, she was born July, 5, 1873, in California. There she knew John Muir, and his daughters Wanda and Helen. She received her A.B. in English from Stanford University in 1895, and her A.M. in entomology in 1902. After graduating from Stanford, she taught high school from 1900-1907; was assistant in nature study at the Univ. of Chicago, 1907-1909; taught biology at Calif. State Teachers College in Chico in 1918; was a lecturer at Stanford 1921-1923; then worked for the Girl Scouts as a naturalist from 1924-1936.

She married Vernon Mosher Cady (q.v.) on Dec. 15, 1908, at the Abraham Lincoln Center in Chicago; the two of them had lived in the Center, a Unitarian congregation and community center, in the summer of 1908. They were probably wed by Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones. They had two children: Carol (b. c. 1910; q.v.) and Jean (b. c. 1913; q.v.).

Her career encompassed biology and education. She and her husband co-wrote The Way Life Begins: An Introduction to Sex Education (New York: American Social Hygiene Assoc., 1917). She was a graduate student at Stanford 1920-1922, and received her Ph.D. in entomology (at age 50) in 1923. She later became the Girl Scout National Naturalist.

She taught the 4th and 5th grade Sunday school class at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1921-22. She and Vernon made financial contributions to the church in 1923.

In 1930, she was living in Manhattan, N.Y. City, and was working for the Girl Scouts. By 1940, she was living in Florida and gave her occupation as “Lecturing / adult education.” Bertha died Jan. 26, 1956.

C — BIOGRAPHIES, 1905-1934 — C

_Tribune_, Dec. 9, 1908 (gives the name of the officiating clergy as “Lloyd Paul Jones”); Tiffany K. Wayne, _American Women of Science Since 1900_, vol. 1, Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-CLIO, 2011, p. 275; 1920 U.S. Census; _Stanford University Alumni Directory_, 1931.

CADDY, CAROL C.— She was born c. 1910, in Missouri, daughter of Bertha and Vernon Cady (q.v.). In 1921-22, she was “secretary” of the Sunday school, and a photocopy of one of her handwritten reports remains in the archives. In 1930, she was living with her parents in New York City, and had no occupation.

Notes: 1910, 1930 U.S. Census.

CADDY, JEAN— She was born c. 1913, daughter of Bertha (q.v.) and Vernon Cady (q.v.). She attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and her name appears on an attendance sheet from 1921-1922.

Notes: 1910 U.S. Census.

CADDY, VERNON MOSHER— A Unitarian minister and educator, he was born April 18, 1875, in Ypsilanti, Michigan, to Duane and Louisa Cady; his father was a carriage maker. In 1880, he was living with his parents in Richmond, Ind., where his father was still a carriage maker.

By 1900, he was living on his own in a boarding house in Maricopa, Ariz. Terr., and worked as a telegraph operator.

In 1908, he received both his B.S. from the Univ. of California in philosophy and zoology, and his S.T.B from Pacific Unitarian School for the Ministry. He was ordained as minister of First Unitarian Church, Alton, Ill., and was minister there 1908-1909, and at All Souls Unitarian Church in Kansas City, Mo., 1909-1910. He married Bertha Louise Chapman (q.v.) on Dec. 15, 1908, at the Abraham Lincoln Center in Chicago, in a “beautiful and unique wedding in the Civics Rooms”; Vernon had just been settled as minister of the Unitarian church in Alton, Illinois. Within the year, he had moved to Kansas City, Mo.
They had two children: Carol (b. c. 1910; q.v.) and Jean (b. c. 1913; q.v.).

Vernon worked in the Central Registration Bureau of Charities in New York City, 1912-1917. He received his A.M. from Columbia in 1917. When he registered for the draft in 1917, he was living in Davis, Calif., and was a “student in vocational agriculture.” He received his Ph.D. in education from Stanford in 1925. He was an instructor at Stanford from 1920-1923.

He preached at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1922.

By 1926, he was the Director of the Hamilton Grange School, New York. In 1940, he had a poultry farm in Florida.


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The Calderwood Family

Fred Calderwood ——— ISADORE FRANCES MORSE

EVERETT MORSE CALDERWOOD ——— RUTH MASON

ADA IMOGENE CALDERWOOD

EDGAR MASON CALDERWOOD
MARGARET MORSE CALDERWOOD

CALDERWOOD, ADA IMOGENE—Known as “Imogene,” she was born June 24, 1895, in Conway, N.H., daughter of Isadore (q.v.) and Fred Calderwood. She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1923, and was listed under her mother in the 1926 “List of
Resident Members.”

CALDERWOOD, EDGAR MASON— He was born c. 1917 in California, son of Everett (q.v.) and Ruth (q.v.) Calderwood. He was christened by Rev. Elmo A. Robinson of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Dec. 24, 1922, and undoubtedly attended Sunday school at the church.

Notes: 1920 U.S. Census.

CALDERWOOD, EVERETT MORSE— An electrical engineer, he was born Aug. 17, 1890, in Vinalhaven, Maine. He received his A.B. in electrical engineering from Stanford University in May, 1913. On April 7, 1914, he married Ruth Morse (q.v.). He became a telephone engineer for the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co. in San Francisco, and lived in Palo Alto. In 1916, he and his wife Ruth had a house built for them at 736 Forest Ave. in Palo Alto, which they occupied through 1934. He and Ruth had two children.

He was on the 1926 “List of Resident Members” of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. He was included on a list of Unitarians to contact in 1947 when a new Unitarian congregation was being formed, and indicated an intention to attend meetings; his name appeared in the 1948 and 1949 mailing lists of the Palo Alto Unitarian Society; however, a notation on a 1947 list says that he is “too elderly to take part” in the congregation.

He died Feb. 20, 1977.


CALDERWOOD, ISADORE FRANCES MORSE— She was born April 2, 1868, in Warren, Maine, daughter of Imogene and Benjamin Morse. In 1880, they were still living in Warren, Benjamin was working as a “lumberer,” and Isadore was still at school.

She married Fred Calderwood (b. Mar. 22, 1863, Waldo, Me.)
on Oct. 14, 1889. They had a son Everett Morse (q.v., b. Aug. 17, 1890, Me.; and a daughter Ada Imogene (b. June 24, 1895, Conway, N. H.). Less than two months after Imogene’s birth, Fred died in a rock quarry accident in Conway, on July 4, 1895; he was buried on Vinalhaven, Me.

By 1900, Isadore was living in Palo Alto with Everett and Imogene. She returned to Maine for a visit in 1912, accompanied by her daughter Imogene. In 1920, she was living in Palo Alto by herself.

She was one of the early members of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the church, and the 1920 and the 1926 membership lists.

In 1930, she was living in Brooklyn, N.Y., with her daughter Imogene, who was married to Madison W. Taylor, and who had a son, Everett L. (b. c. 1928). By 1940, she was living in Palo Alto once again.

She died Sept. 4, 1945, in Palo Alto, and was buried in Vinalhaven, Maine.


CALDERWOOD, MARGARET “PEGGY” MORSE— She was born Mar. 27, 1918, in Washington state, daughter of Everett (q.v.) and Ruth (q.v.) Calderwood. She was christened by Rev. Elmo A. Robinson of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Dec. 24, 1922, and in 1925 was noted for having a good attendance record.

Notes: 1920 U.S. Census.

CALDERWOOD, RUTH MASON— A housewife who had been trained as a botanist, she was born Sept. 9, 1889, in Truckee, Calif. She received her A.B. in botany at Stanford University in 1912.
She married Everett Calderwood (q.v.) on April 7, 1914, in Mountain View, Calif.; Rev. Clarence Reed of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto officiated at the wedding.

They lived in Palo Alto, with short stays in Washington state and San Francisco, and had two children, Edgar Mason (b. c. 1917, Calif.) and Margaret Morse (b. Mar. 27, 1918, Wash.).

She was on the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Church, and served in various leadership positions in the Women’s Alliance. She was on the 1926 “List of Resident Members” of the church. She taught the 5 to 8 year old children in the Sunday school in 1927-1928.

She was included on a list of Unitarians to contact in 1947 when a new Unitarian congregation was being formed; her name appeared in the 1948 and 1949 mailing lists of the Palo Alto Unitarian Society; however, a notation on a 1947 list says that he is “too elderly to take part” in the congregation.

She died May 1, 1976, in Palo Alto.

Notes: 1920 U.S. Census; William Haven, Sergt. Richard Haven, 1620-1703...His Descendants, 1927; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1921; “Names from 1947 Project,” typescript in archives of Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto.

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CALLEY, BARBARA ALDERTON— See: Alderton Family.

CALVIN, MILTON— He appeared on an undated (c. 1921) parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Notes: He lived at 559 Cowper St., Palo Alto, c. 1921.

CAMPBELL, ANGELINE— A teacher, she was born in March, 1868, in Massachusetts. She received her degree from Massachusetts Normal Art School, and taught drawing at Miss Harker’s School.

She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.
The Misses Campbell

CAMPBELL, AMY—A teacher who never married, she was born March, 1849, in Rhode Island. In 1850, her family was living in Providence, R. I., where her father was an engraver. By 1860, she was living with her parents, her sisters Anne (q.v.) and Ruth (q.v.), and two brothers in Township 2, Contra Costa County, Calif., and her father was a farmer. She graduated from the State Normal School, Calif., in 1866, and immediately began teaching in the San Francisco schools; she received her state certificate to teach first grade in 1868. In 1870, she was teaching while living with her parents and sisters in San Francisco.

In 1880, she was in San Francisco, working as a school teacher. By 1890, she was the vice-principal of the Broadway Grammar School, San Francisco, and was promoted to principal of that school in 1901. In 1899, she described pedagogical techniques for drawing in “How Drawing Is Taught at One School,” a paper presented to the Calif. Teacher’s Assoc. In 1900, she was living with her mother, her sisters Anne (q.v.) and Ruth (q.v.), a brother, and a live-in servant in San Francisco. In 1910, she lived in San Mateo with Anne and Ruth and two live-in servants. In 1920, she was living in Menlo Park.

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and she appeared on the 1920/1921 membership list.

CAMPBELL, ANNE BRUCE—A teacher who never married, she was born Dec. 23, 1855, in Providence, Rhode Island. By 1860, she was living with her parents, her sisters Amy (q.v.) and Ruth (q.v.), and two brothers, in Township 2, Contra Costa County, Calif., where her father was a farmer. In 1870, she was living with her parents and her siblings in San Francisco, where her father was a “coiner” for the U.S. Mint; Anne gave her occupation as “At Home.” She eventually attended the State Normal School, Calif., and graduated in 1876. She taught for three years in Sonoma County before returning to teach in San Francisco.

In the 1890s, she taught at Washington Grammar School and Broadway Grammar School, San Francisco. In 1900, she lived with her mother, her sisters Amy (q.v.) and Ruth (q.v.), a brother, and a live-in servant in San Francisco. In 1910, she lived in San Mateo with Amy and Ruth and two live-in servants. In 1920, she was living in Menlo Park.

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and she appeared on the 1920/1921 membership list.

In 1930, she was living with her sister Ruth in Berkeley. She died in 1946.

Notes: 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; Historical Sketch of the State Normal School at San José, Calif., Sacramento, 1889; Langley’s San Francisco Directory, San Francisco: Geo. Wilbur, 1890; Crocker Langley San Francisco Directory, 1899. An Anne B. Campbell was a member of the Calif. State Teacher’s Assoc. in 1904 (Western Journal of Education, March, 1904, p. 299); California Death Index.

CAMPBELL, RUTH GRAY—A teacher who never married, she was born Feb. 7, 1851, in Providence, Rhode Island. By 1860, she was living with her parents, her sisters Anne (q.v.) and Amy (q.v.), and two brothers, in Township 2, Contra Costa County, Calif., where her father was a farmer. She received her certificate as a teacher from the State Normal School, Calif., in 1869. She taught for three months in Napa County, then returned to teach in San Francisco. In 1870, the family was living in San Francisco, and her father was a “coiner” for the U.S. Mint.
By 1890, she was a teacher at Broadway Grammar School, San Francisco, and continued teaching there through at least 1899. In 1900, she lived in San Francisco with her mother, her sisters Amy (q.v.) and Anne (q.v.), a brother, and a live-in servant. In 1910, she lived in San Mateo with Amy and Anne and two live-in servants. In 1920, she was living in Menlo Park.

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and she appeared on the 1920/1921 membership list.

In 1930, she was living with her sister Anne in Berkeley.

Notes: 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; Passport application, Ruth G. Campbell, April 6, 1923 (no. 268347); Historical Sketch of the State Normal School at San José, Calif., Sacramento, 1889; The California Teacher, vol. 6, no. 12, June, 1869, p. 64; Langley’s San Francisco Directory, San Francisco: Geo. Wilbur, 1890; Crocker Langley San Francisco Directory, 1899. A Ruth Campbell from First Unitarian Church, San Francisco, was a delegate to the Pacific Unitarian Conference in San Francisco, April, 1894 (Pacific Unitarian, May, 1894, p. 211).

CANNING, DOROTHY HELEN PLUMB—She was born in March 19, 1894, in La Salle, Illinois. She lived in Chicago from at least 1900 through 1910; she received her Ph.B. in English from the Univ. of Chicago in 1916. On Dec. 23, 1915, in Oklahoma City, Okla., she married John Bennet Canning, and they had three children: John Howard (b. c. Oct., 1917); James Gilmore (b. 1920); and Thomas Norman (b. 1921).

John was to begin teaching at Stanford in 1917, prior to completing his doctoral dissertation at Univ. of Chicago. But before he could begin at Stanford, he entered the U.S. Army and served for two years, spending several months in France and rising to the rank of major. He was discharged in Sept., 1919, and then went to Stanford.

Dorothy was a member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and served as president of the Alliance in 1923. She taught Sunday school in 1924-1925, and no doubt
her oldest child attended Sunday school at this time. She was on the 1926 “List of Resident Members” of the church.


CARRUTH, WILLIAM H.—See: Morton - Carruth - Todd family.

CARRUTH, KATHERINE KENT MORTON—See: Morton - Carruth - Todd family.

CARRUTH, KATHERINE “TRINA”—See: Morton - Carruth - Todd family.

CARY, MISS C.—She made financial contributions to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto beginning in 1923.

Notes: No further information was found.

CHAQUETTE, ERNESTINE MARIE PUTNAM—She was born in Mass. on Jan. 14, 1878. In 1880, the family was living in Tammany Hollow, Idaho.

She married Camille A. Chaquette, son of a French father and Canadian mother, c. 1899. In 1900, they were living in a rooming house in Denver, Colo.

She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

By 1930, she was living in San Francisco. She died there May 21, 1962.

Notes: 1880, 1900, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; California Death Index.
The Charles Family

CHARLES, ALLEN E.— He was born c. 1904 in Calif., son of Isabel (q.v.) and Samuel Charles. He acted the part of King Persifer in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916. He taught the grade 4 and 5 class in the Sunday school in 1922-1923.

CHARLES, ISABEL LINTON PECK— She was born Sept. 28, 1878, in Calif. In 1880, she was living in San Francisco with her parents and two brothers.

She received her A. B. in German from Stanford in 1900. In 1900, she was living in Palo Alto with her mother (who was still married) and a live-in servant from Germany.

She married Samuel Watson Charles on Sept. 1, 1900; Samuel had graduated from Stanford in 1898, was a Justice of the Peace in Palo Alto from 1902 to 1909, and subsequently a lawyer there. In 1910, Isabel and Samuel were living in Palo Alto with Isabel’s mother, and two children, Shirley W. (b. c. 1902, Calif.; q.v.) and Allan E. (b. c. 1904, Calif.; q.v.).

In 1916, she was the chair and sole member of the Entertainment Committee of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She was listed in the parish directory in 1919, the 1920 membership list, and in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

Samuel died Dec. 11, 1916. In 1920, Isabel was working as a lawyer and living in Palo Alto with her sons and mother.

Isabel probably died in 1963.

Notes: 1880, 1910 U.S. Census; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1910, 1921.

CHARLES, SHIRLEY— She was born c. 1902 in Calif., daughter of Isabel (q.v.) and Samuel Charles. She acted the part of Hilda in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916.
CHILDs, CLARENCE E.—A banker and land agent, he was born March 19, 1860, in Wisconsin. He married Minniebell Bigler (b. July, 1862, Wis.) around 1864. They had two children, Clarence L. (b. Oct., 1884, S.D.), and Irene B. (b. June, 1888, S.D.). In 1900, they were living in Brookings City, N.D.; by 1904, they were in Palo Alto. When the First National Bank opened for business in Palo Alto on Jan. 12, 1904, Childs was president; he was at that time also president of the Cooperative Land and Trust Co., Palo Alto, and Brookings Land and Trust Co. of South Dakota.

In 1906, he gave $50 to the “Church Lot Subscription” fund in 1906 of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

In 1910 he was living in Palo Alto and working in real estate, but by 1920 he was living in San Diego. He died April 23, 1959, in Alameda, Calif.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920 U.S. Census; A. T. Griffin, Directory of Palo Alto and the Campus, 1904; San Francisco Call, Jan. 11, 1904, p. 7; California Death Index.

The Church - Beach Family

BEACH, LUCY CHURCH—She was born Oct. 3, 1862 in Flint, Michigan, daughter of Sarah (q.v.) and Leyman Church; her father was a tanner. In 1870, she was living with her parents and siblings Edgar and Emma (q.v.). She married George A. Beach (b. c. 1863, Portland, Me.), a lumberman, on April 10, 1889, in East Saginaw, Mich. They had a son, Philip Sydney Beach (b. Jan., 1890, Mich.).

In 1900, Lucy was living with George, Philip, and her sister Emma in Williams Township, Coconino County, Arizona Terr.; George was a “lumber superintendent.” By 1910, Lucy, Philip, Emma, and Sarah (but not George) were living in Prescott, Ariz.

Philip studied at Stanford 1911 to 1912, and 1914 to 1915. Lucy lived with Phillip in Palo Alto; George died in California in 1911, and was buried in Palo Alto.
Lucy joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Oct. 9, 1911. She was listed in 1919 parish directory. She made regular financial contributions to the church until 1922, when the notation “Subscription discontinued on account of removal” was added to her account.

In 1920, she was living in Palo Alto with her mother and Emma; Lucy was widowed by this time, and they all listed their occupations as “none.” In 1930, they were living in Saginaw, Mich. In 1935 and 1940 Lucy and Emma were living in Oakland, Calif. Philip died in Calif. in 1948; Lucy died there in 1951, and both are buried in Palo Alto.

and 1940 Lucy and Emma were living in Oakland, Calif. Philip died in Calif. in 1948; Lucy died there in 1951, and both are buried in Palo Alto.

She died June 29, 1952, in Calif., and was buried in Palo Alto.


CHURCH, SARAH M. DELBRIDGE—She was born in 1843 in Michigan. In 1850 she lived with her father John, who had been born in England, her mother Lucinda, and five siblings; the family had moved to Michigan from New York c. 1839. In 1910, Sarah was living with her daughters Emma and Lucy, and her grandson Philip, in Prescott, Ariz.

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and in the 1920 membership list.

In 1920, she was living in Palo Alto with her daughters Emma and Lucy, and they all listed their occupations as “none.” In 1930, the three of them were living in Saginaw, Mich. Sarah died in Flint, Mich., in 1931.


The Arthur and Hannah Clark Family

CLARK, ARTHUR BRIDGMAN—An architect, artist, and professor of graphics arts, he was born on Aug. 11, 1866, in East Onondaga, New York. He received his A.B. from Syracuse in 1888, his M.Arch. in 1891, and taught there briefly. He was director of the trade school at the State Reformatory at Elmira, New York, 1888-1889. In 1892, he became a professor of graphic arts at Stanford
University.

He married Hannah Grace Birge (q.v.) on Sept. 1, 1891. They had four children, Birge Malcolm (b. April 11, 1893; q.v.), Esther Bridgman (b. Feb. 23, 1900), and Donald Eastman and David Bridgman (twins b. Sept. 27, 1904).

He took leave from Stanford in 1898-1899 to study painting with William Chase in New York, and with John Twachtman and James Whistler in Paris. He was active in the effort to incorporate Mayfield, Calif., and later served on the Palo Alto Planning Commission, which originated the master plan of the city. He used his architectural training to design several houses and a church in Palo Alto, including the house at 623 Mirada built in 1920 for Herbert Hoover, which Arthur designed with his son Birge. After his retirement from Stanford in 1931, he and Hannah toured Europe again. He died May 13, 1948, in Palo Alto.


CLARK, ESTHER— She was born Feb. 23, 1900, the daughter of Arthur B. (q.v.) and Hannah (q.v.) Clark, she was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

CLARK, HANNAH GRACE BIRGE— A schoolteacher, she was born Jan. 22, 1866, in Hector, New York, to Dr. David Birge and Hannah Eastman; her mother died when she was an infant. Grace attended the Cortland Normal School in Hector. By 1888, she was teaching Latin, French, German, and “Higher English” at Onondaga Academy, where she was also Preceptress. She married Arthur Bridgman Clark (q.v.) Sept. 1, 1891; they had four children, Birge Malcolm (b. April 11, 1893), Esther Bridgman (b. Feb. 23, 1900; q.v.), and Donald Eastman and David Bridgman (both b. Sept. 27, 1904). She took classes at Stanford in 1893-1895, in
drawing and English.
She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She died after 1948.


CLARK, GEORGE THOMAS— A librarian, he was born Dec. 7, 1862, in San Francisco, Calif. He received his B.S. from the Univ. of California in 1886. He married Annie Douglas c. 1892, and they had at least one child, Douglas (b. April, 1893, Calif.). In 1900 they were living in San Francisco with her parents and several siblings, including Annie’s much older sister Elizabeth; George was working as a librarian. He was a librarian at Stanford Univ. beginning in 1907.

He made financial contributions to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto beginning in 1923.

By 1930, he was widowed and sharing a house with his sister-in-law, Elizabeth, in Palo Alto, and no longer working. He died in 1940.

Notes: 1900, 1930 U.S. Census; George Thomas Clark, U.S. Passport application, Oct. 23, 1919, no. 131264; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921; California Death Index.

CLARY, LUSANNA MARIA— She was born Nov. 29, 1874, in Hallowell, Me. She received her B. L. from Mount Holyoke College in 1897. She was a teacher in Guilford, Me., from 1898 to 1901; next she taught in her hometown, Hallowell, from 1901-1904. She then did graduate work at the Univ. of Calif.,1904-1905. She taught in the Arcata, Calif., Union High School from 1905 to
1908, then returned to Maine to teach in Gardiner beginning in 1909. In 1910, she was living with her parents in Hallowell. She returned to the Univ. of California at Berkeley to do additional graduate study in 1913-1914, and by 1915 she was teaching in the intermediate school in Palo Alto. In 1920, she shared a room with Susan Looney (q.v.), another teacher.

Lusanna was listed in the 1920 membership list of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and she made a financial contribution to the church in 1923.

She stayed in Palo Alto, studying at Stanford Univ. in 1927, and in 1931 was teaching Latin at Palo Alto High School. She taught high school through 1940, and rented a room from a librarian at Stanford Univ. library. She died in Palo Alto 1941, and was buried in Hallowell.


The Coburn Family

Edward Coburn — Hannah Chapman Bennett

Thomas E.

**ALBERT EUGENE** — **ADELAIDE MARCH**

(unknown)

Caroline B.

**FLORENCE** — **ALBERT CHARLES**

COBURN, ADELAIDE MARCH— A teacher, she was born April 18, 1863, in Windham, Me. She graduated from Gorham (Me.)
Normal School in July, 1882. She married Albert Eugene Coburn at Mechanic Falls, Me., on April 16, 1884. They had one child, Albert Charles (b. June 28, 1885; *q.v.*). They lived at Weston, Mass., where Albert Eugene worked on his father’s farm.

Albert Charles attended Stanford Univ. from 1906-1909. By 1909, she was the manager of the Marchmont Club, and living in Palo Alto with her son. On the 1910 U.S. Census, she is marked as widowed, though Albert Eugene was still living; she made her living running a boarding house for students. Her son died March 8, 1912, and she remained in Palo Alto, though her husband was still alive in Weston, Mass.

She was “interested in the Woman’s Club movement,” and served in various leadership positions in the Waltham, Mass., Woman’s Club, which had at the time 400 members. She later became president of the Mayfield, Calif., Woman’s Club. In other civic involvement, she favored woman suffrage, served on the Mayfield school board, and her political affiliation was Republican.

She taught the gr. 6-8 class of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1918-1919, and the gr. 6-8 boys class in 1919-1920. She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the church, at which time she lived with Florence in Mayfield.

She received her A.B. from the College of the Pacific in 1918, and was a graduate student at Stanford Univ. from 1920. She received her A.M. in English from Stanford in 1923, and died Sept. 27, 1926.


COBURN, ALBERT EUGENE—He was born Jan. 4, 1857, in Weston, Mass. In 1860, he was living in Weston, Mass., with his parents Edward and Hannah, and siblings including his younger sister Florence (b. c. 1869; *q.v.*); his father was a butcher. By 1880, Edward was a farmer in Weston, and Albert and older brother
Thomas were working for him on the farm.

He married Adelaide March at Mechanic Falls, Me., on April 16, 1884. They had one child, Albert Charles (b., June 28, 1885; q.v.). In 1900, he was living in Weston, Mass., with his wife and son, and was a farm manager, living with his father, who gave his occupation as “landlord.” It does not appear that Albert Eugene ever moved to California. He died Aug. 22, 1920, in Weston, Mass.


COBURN, ALBERT CHARLES— He was born June 28, 1885, to Albert E. and Adelaide M. (q.v.) Coburn. He studied history at Stanford Univ. from 1906-1909, and at some point his mother Adelaide came to live with him. He died on March 8, 1910, and Rev. Clarence Reed of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto officiated at his funeral two days later.

Notes: 1900 U.S. Census; Annual Register, Stanford Univ., 1907; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1910, 1921.

COBURN, FLORENCE— She was born July, 1869, in Massachusetts, the daughter of Edward and Hannah Coburn, and the younger sister of Albert Eugene Coburn (q.v.).

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto; at that time, she lived with her sister-in-law, Adelaide March Coburn, at 331 Dartmouth St., Mayfield. She may be the “Miss Coburn” who was a member of the Women’s Alliance in 1929.

Notes: 1900 U.S. Census.

COE, SUSAN “SUE” STREETER— She was born in Aug., 1846, in
Penna. In 1875, she was living in Kansas with Ira E. Coe. She and Ira had three children: Lauretta “Ettie” (b. Feb., 1870, Kan.), Frank (b. June, 1875, Kan.), and Harrison Streeter (b. Nov., 1880, Kan.). Ira died sometime after 1880, and by 1900 Susan was living in Palo Alto with her three children. Harrison began studying at Stanford Univ. around 1899, and received his B. A. there in 1903; Sue studied drawing at Stanford in 1901-1902. In 1910, Sue remained in Palo Alto with Harrison; in 1920, she was still in Palo Alto, but now living with Lauretta and Lauretta’s husband Edward L. Hyde.

Sue was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and was on the 1920 and 1926 membership lists.

By 1930, Sue was still living with Lauretta, now widowed, in Palo Alto.

Notes: 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1920 U.S. Census; 1875 Kansas State Census; Register for 1899-1900, Stanford Univ., April, 1900; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921.

COGGINS, MISS— She was one of the “assistants” or teachers in the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1909-1910.

Notes: She is probably Anna Passmore Coggins, who received her B. A. in German from Stanford Univ. in 1913, and went on to teach English in Claremont School, Oakland, Calif.; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921.

CORBERT, ANNIE UPTON LAWRENCE— A schoolteacher and supporter of women’s suffrage, Ann Upton Lawrence was born in Nantucket, Mass., in Oct., 1840, to Frederic W. Lawrence and Susan Hussey. Since her birth is recorded in the Quaker manner as “10th month” (rather than “October”), it is possible that her family were Quakers; and a Quaker upbringing could help explain her lifelong support of equal rights for women.

In 1850, she was living in Nantucket with her father and mother, and younger siblings Amelia and Everett; her father was working as an accountant. By 1860, she was living with her father
in San Francisco, and working as a school teacher; her father was working as a clerk, and they shared a house with William H. Lawrence, a mariner, and his wife and child. It is possible that the Lawrence family came to San Francisco by sea, rather than over land.

Annie married Edward W. Corbert before 1866. In 1870, she and Edward were living in San Francisco, where Edward worked as “Assessor, Int. Rev.”; they had two children, Louise (b. c. 1866, Calif.), and Sadie (b. c. 1869, Calif.). In 1880, she and Edward were living in Martinez with Louise, Sadie, and Anita Lawrence (b. June, 1874, Calif.). By 1900, Annie was widowed and living with Anita in Palo Alto; Anita was working as a teacher. And in 1910, Annie was still living with Anita, as well as with her son-in-law, John Byxbee; John was the Palo Alto city engineer for whom Byxbee Park is named.

Annie supported women’s suffrage. She was president of the Santa Clara County Equal Suffrage Assoc. in 1900, and said in her presidential address of that year, “We are simply waiting and watching, and working to strengthen our forces and our cause, so that at the golden moment we may be ready to spring into place.” She continued working for equal suffrage through the successful campaign in 1911 which gained California women the right to vote: “Mrs. John F. Byxbee, Mrs. George Rosebrook and Mrs. Annie L. Corbert entertained at a suffrage tea Thursday afternoon at the Byxbee home in Alma Street.”

Her civic activities were not limited to equal suffrage. She also found time to support the schools and the public library, and she belonged to the Palo Alto Woman’s Club, the Civic League, the Peace Society, and the Historical Society.

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905, and was one of the early members of the Women’s Alliance. She helped run the Unitarian “Post Office Mission” in Palo Alto. She sang in the church choir, and her “clear true alto” voice was “always a power in quartette singing, even to the time of her last illness.” She divided her time between San Francisco and Palo Alto, and was also an officer for the San Francisco branch of the
Women’s Alliance.

Her obituary in the *Pacific Unitarian* gave three samples of her religious philosophy, things she said not long before she died:

“As a church we should ask ourselves, continually, What is the church for—are we doing something worthy, or are we marking time.”

“I have found that we must not judge people. Minds are different, and we must not condemn as unworthy that which does not suit our own ideas.”

“The human soul is a lonely thing. It must stand by itself at the last.”


*Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Cornell*

CORNELL, J. W.— He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Notes: In 1919, he lived in Mountain View; no further information found.

CORNELL MRS. J. W.— She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Notes: In 1919, she lived in Mountain View; no further information found.

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COVEL, IANTHA— A school teacher, she was born in Dec., 1861, in Maine. She married Llewellyn Allen Covell, a veterinarian, c. 1890. The couple was living in San Diego in 1900; by 1909, they were living in Mountain View. She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. By 1920, she and Llewellyn were living in Maine, where she continued to teach school.
Catherine and William Cowing

COWING, CATHERINE A.— She was born in Vermont c. 1838. She married Henry Cowing, and they were living in Vermont in 1870. She was living in Palo Alto by 1908.

She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and lived at 633 Lytton Ave. with Annie F. Miller (q.v.). She was listed in the 1919 parish directory. She died in 1923, and Rev. Elmo A. Robinson of the Unitarian Church officiated at her funeral.

Notes: 1870, 1910, 1920 U.S. Census; Directory of Palo Alto and the Campus, Times Publishing, 1908; San Jose City and Santa Clara County Directory, San Jose: Polk-Husted, 1911.

CRANSTON, WILLIAM MACGREGOR— He was born Feb. 28, 1879, in Yountville, Calif. He received his A.B. in Law from Stanford in 1901. He married Carol Dixon on April 3, 1903, and became a real estate broker in Palo Alto, with a home in Los Altos.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Jan. 3, 1909, serving on the Finance Committee in 1909, and on the Board of Trustees, 1909-1910. The family moved to Los Altos Hills in 1914; the minutes of the Board of Trustees show that he and his wife resigned from membership in 1915.

He died in 1953.


CRANSTON, CAROL E. DIXON— She was born May, 1878, in
Calif., the daughter of a Sacramento physician. She married William MacGregor Cranston on April 3, 1903. They had three children: William S. (1907-1907), Ruth E. (b. c. 1909) and Alan MacGregor (b. June 19, 1914); Alan was later elected to the U.S. Senate as a progressive Democrat.

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Jan. 3, 1909. She served on the Charity Committee of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1909. The family moved to Los Altos Hills in 1914, and ended their involvement in the Unitarian Church.


CUBBERLEY, ELLWOOD PATTERSON— A professor of education at Stanford from 1898, he gave $1 to the “Church Lot Subscription” fund of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1906.

Notes: Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921.

CULVER, NINA B.— She was married to Paul D. Culver. She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1923, and was on the 1925 membership list of the Women’s Alliance. She died in 1925, at which time Elmo Robinson called her “a simple, genuine person, whose charm appealed to all who knew her.”

Notes: In 1925, she lived at 426 Homer Ave., Palo Alto.

CURTIS, KENNETH LIVERMORE— Professor of Electrical Engineering at Stanford University, 1903-1907. He gave $10 to the “Church Lot Subscription” fund in 1906, but there is no other record of his participation in the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.
DANTON, JOSEPH PERIAM— He was christened by Rev. Sydney Snow (q.v.) of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, ages “4 mos. 6 days”; he was the son of George Henry Danton, Acting Asst. Prof. of German at Stanford Univ., 1907-1910.

The Darsie Family

DARSIE, JEAN PETTIGREW— She was born c. 1861 in Virginia. In 1870, she was living in California with her parents, William J. and Elizabeth Tindle Pettigrew, seven siblings, and a 15 year old Chinese servant. Her father, an ordained minister, had been born in Ireland; her mother was from Pennsylvania.

The Pettigrew family’s travels can be traced through the birth places of the children: Pennsylvania from c. 1851-1854; Virginia from c. 1854-1869; Mississippi or Missouri in c. 1869 (perhaps they were traveling overland to California?), and finally in California by 1870.

In 1880, Jean and two younger siblings, George and Lillie, were living with their aunt and uncle in Allegheny, Pennsylvania, now part of Pittsburgh. She presumably met William W. Darsie, a native of Scotland, in Pennsylvania, where he was involved in manufacturing coke. They were married before 1890, and had three children: William Pettigrew (b. c. 1891); Elizabeth (b. c. 1893); and Jean (b. c. 1895; q.v.). When William retired in 1905, he moved the family to Palo Alto, and he devoted himself to gardening. They spent every other summer in Europe.

Jean joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in October, 1906. In 1920, the Board thanked her for her “annual gift” towards Christmas decorations, and for “decorating the pulpit” (presumably with flowers) during the year. She remained active with the church for years, and was on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

The tragic circumstances of her death were reported in the
Stanford Daily on May 3, 1929, under the headline “Palo Alto woman is lost on board ship en route to Islands”:

HONOLULU, May 2. (AP)— Mrs. William Darsie of Palo Alto, Calif., disappeared from the steamship Maui at sea the night of April 28, it was learned here today when the vessel arrived from San Francisco. She had been suffering from a nervous breakdown.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 2. (AP)— Mrs. William Darsie, who was reported today to have disappeared from the steamship Maui at sea on the night of April 28, while en route to Honolulu, had been ill for two months and planned to remain in the islands until she regained her health, Melvin Price, a son-in-law of this city, revealed when informed of the tragedy.

It was assumed that Jean had died by suicide.

Notes:

DARSIE, JEAN— She was born c. 1895 in Pennsylvania. In 1910, she was living with her parents, William and Jean P. (q.v.) in Palo Alto. She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She attended Stanford Univ. in 1917, and in June, 1920, married Melvin Price.


Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Daugherty

DAUGHERTY, MR. LYNN— He was noted as a new member of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1922.

Notes: A Lyman Harry Daugherty received his A.B. in botany from Stanford Univ. in 1924, and his A.M. in 1925 (Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1932); lived with wife Helen in Palo Alto in 1924 and 1925 (Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, Stanford University, Ravenswood and East Palo, Palo Alto: Willis Hall, 1924, 1925). By 1926, he was living alone (Polk’s Palo Alto Directory, R. L. Polk & Co., 1926), then married again in 1930. “Lynn” might have been a misspelling for “Lyman.”
DAUGHERTY, MRS. LYNN— She was noted as a new member of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1922.

Notes: See notes under Mr. Lynn Daugherty.

The Davidson Family

George Davidson ——— Eliza Davidson

Cassie Aleda Davidson

Percy Erwin Davidson ——— Elizabeth Therese Chapman

Janet C.

Elizabeth C.

DAVIDSON, CASSIE ALEDA— A teacher, she was born in Nova Scotia, Canada, Oct. 1, 1863. She immigrated to the United States in 1885. In 1900, she was a school teacher in San Diego, living with her brother Percy (q.v.), her mother Eliza, and two other siblings.

She received her A.B. in English from Stanford in 1905. She then taught at Whittier High School, at Berkeley High School beginning in 1910, and by 1921 was teaching at the Edison School in Berkeley. In 1923 she was a teacher at Miss Harker’s School, and living in Palo Alto.

She taught “An Outline of Church History” to “younger high school students” in the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1925-1926. She made financial contributions to the church beginning in 1922 and was noted as a new member that year, and was on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

In 1930, she was still living in Palo Alto. She died in Jan., 1940, in Los Angeles.

Notes: 1871, 1881 Canada Census; 1900, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; 1923
DAVIDSON, PERCY ERWIN— A schoolteacher and professor of education, he was born in Kentville, Nova Scotia Dec. 23, 1874, son of George and Eliza Davidson. In 1881, the family consisted of George and Eliza (b. Aug. 1842), and their children Cassie (b. Oct. 1, 1863; q.v.), Mary (b. c. 1865), Leonard (b. c. 1867), Aubrey (b. c. 1869), and Elsie (b. Dec. 1880); they lived in Kings, Nova Scotia, and were Canadian Presbyterians. Percy immigrated to the United States in 1885.

He went to high school in San Diego, received his A.B. from Stanford in 1898, then taught school in San Diego beginning in 1898. In 1900, he was still a school teacher in San Diego, the head of a household with his mother, his older sister Cassie, and younger siblings Elsie and Charles (b. Feb. 1884).

Percy next taught in normal schools in California, and received his A.M. from Harvard in 1905. He did graduate study at Columbia Univ. from 1905-1907, and became a professor of education at Stanford in 1907.

He married Elizabeth Therese Chapman (q.v.) on Nov. 1, 1909, and they settled in Menlo Park. They had two daughters, Janet C. (b. c. 1913) and Elizabeth C. (b. c. 1917). Over the course of a long career, he was author or co-author of a number of books, including Occupational Trends in the United States, Occupational Mobility in an American Community, etc.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924. He was the “Director of Teaching Methods” in the Sunday school in 1924-1925. His daughters attended the Sunday school. He was on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

He died at his home in Menlo Park on Feb. 20, 1956, after a long illness.

DAVIDSON, ELIZABETH THERESE CHAPMAN— She was born in Feb., 1875, in California. Her family moved to Washington state prior to 1880, where her two younger brothers were born. In 1900, she was living with her mother and brothers in Alameda; she listed her profession as “Clerk (Insurance)”; one brother was a miner, and the other was a second mate. She married Percy Davison (q.v.) on Nov. 1, 1909, and they had two children, Janet C. (b. c. 1913) and Elizabeth C. (b. c. 1917).

She was a member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1925-1926.

Notes: 1880, 1900, 1920 U.S. Census; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1921.

DAVIDSON, ELIZABETH C.— She was born c. 1917, daughter of Percy (q.v.) and Elizabeth (q.v.) Davison. She attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto; in 1923 she was absent for only six Sundays, and in 1925 for only two Sundays.

Notes: 1920 U.S. Census.

DAVIDSON, JANET C.— She was born c. 1913, daughter of Percy (q.v.) and Elizabeth (q.v.) Davison. She attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and Rev. Elmo Robinson noted that she had been absent for only four Sundays in 1923, and only one Sunday in 1925.

Notes: 1920 U.S. Census.

Clarence and Ida Dawson

DAWSON, CLARENCE H.— He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” He was active in the “Young People’s Group” in the mid-
1920s, and gave one of the Sunday evening lectures at the church in 1926. He married Ida Squires (q.v.), another member of the “Young People’s Group,” and by 1932 the couple were living in Palo Alto. In 1940, they had two children and were living in San Diego.


**DAWSON, IDA BELLE SQUIRES**— She was born in California c. 1901. She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1925, and appeared on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” She gave a talk to the “Young People’s Group” of the church on Feb. 20, 1927. She received her A.B. in psychology from Stanford Univ. in 1927. In 1930, she was living in Seattle and working as a child psychologist in the schools. She married Clarence Harold Dawson (q.v.) in June, 1931, and by 1932 the couple were living in Palo Alto. In 1940, they had two children and were living in San Diego.


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**DE HAAS, JACOB ANTON**— An economist who was also trained as a Unitarian minister, Anton was born in Amsterdam, Feb. 3, 1883. He arrived in the U.S. in 1904. He was at Stanford in 1905, and was president of the German Club, which met at the house of Karl Rendtorff (q.v.). While at Stanford, he became one of the early members of the Unitarian Church.

He received his A.B. in German at Stanford University in 1910, and his B.D. from Meadville Theological School in the same year; was received into Unitarian fellowship in May, 1910; and received his A.M. at Harvard Divinity School in 1911. He appears to have been ordained as a Unitarian minister, with a connection to the Norton, Mass., Unitarian church. He married Hazel G. Carus, a Stanford student, on Dec. 25, 1914. He was an instructor at Stanford, earned his Ph.D. in economics there in 1916, after
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which he moved to Texas. In 1922, he married Emily Haver, and they had one child.

He was later professor of business administration at the University of Rotterdam, at Claremont and elsewhere; received an LL.D. from Harvard University in 1948. He died in 1963.


DECIUS, GRACE TOWNE— See: Grace Towne.

The Deirup Family

DEIRUP, MARY ALICE BALSBAUGH [or BALSBACH]— A teacher, she was born April, 1885, in Kansas. By 1900, she and her parents were living in Redlands, Calif. She received her A. B. in Latin from Stanford Univ. in 1908, and her A. M. in 1909. In 1910, she was living in Palo Alto with her parents, and teaching high school.

She married John Andrew Deirup in Iowa on Sept. 29, 1911. They had two children, Edith Maryle (b. 1915, Calif.) and Torben (b. c. 1918, Calif.). John died of pneumonia in Chico, Calif., in 1918, after which Mary went to Palo Alto to live.

She was on the 1920 and 1926 membership lists of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She was on the 1925 membership list of the Women's Alliance. She taught Sunday school in 1924-1925, and gave a talk to the Sunday school with her daughter Maryle on Feb. 28, 1926.

She was still living in Palo Alto in 1940.


DEIRUP, (EDITH) MARYLE— She was born August 17, 1915 in Santa Clara County, California, daughter of John and Mary (q.v.)
Deirup; her father died in 1918 while she was a young child. She was christened by Rev. Elmo Robinson of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on April 25, 1925. She participated in the Sunday school in 1925-1926, giving a talk with her mother on “Reading and Music” on Feb. 28, and assisting with the Sunday school Easter service.

Notes: 1920 U.S. Census; Calif. Birth Index, 1905-1995.

DEIRUP, TORBEN— He was born c. 1918 in California, son of John and Mary (q.v.) Deirup; his father died while he was still an infant. He was christened by Rev. Elmo Robinson of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on April 25, 1925. He probably participated in the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1925-1926 with his mother and his sister Maryle (q.v.).

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The Dibble Family

DIBBLE, DANIEL COLBY— A farmer, he was born March, 1833, in Delaware County, New York. He married Jane M. Wood (b. Oct. 1839, New York) in Jan., 1861; their son William C. was born in New York c. 1864. The family moved to Dakota County, Nebraska, in 1868. Daniel and Jane “located upon the wild prairie land two miles southwest of Dakota City, and began the task of opening up a farm.” They had a daughter, Nellie M. (b. c. 1874, Nebraska; q.v.), and over time they accumulated “considerable wealth” and had a “beautiful farm and home.” In 1885, William was working with his father as a farmer. By 1900, Daniel and Jane lived in Dakota City, with no children and one servant. At one time, Daniel served as a county commissioner. By 1904, Daniel and Jane were living in Palo Alto, at 1116 Bryant St.

In 1910, he lived in Palo Alto with his daughter Nellie; the Rendtorff family (q.v.) lived next door.
He gave $20 to the “Church Lot Subscription” fund in 1906. After his wife Jane died, Rev. Clarence Reed officiated at her funeral, on March 13, 1910.

In 1910, he was living in Palo Alto with Nellie; the Rendtorff family (q.v.) lived next door.

He died in Palo Alto in 1911; Clarence Reed officiated at his funeral on March 26, 1911.


**Dibble, Jane Mary Wood**— She was born Oct., 1839, in New York. She married Daniel C. Dibble (q.v.) in 1861, and they had two children: William C. (b. c. 1864, New York), and Nellie (b. c. 1874, Neb.). Daniel was a farmer and the family lived in Nebraska. By 1885, William was working as a farmer with his father, then on Feb. 7, 1891, William married Gertrude Sharp. By 1904, Daniel and Jane were living in Palo Alto.

When Jane died, Rev. Clarence Reed of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto officiated at her funeral, on March 13, 1910.


**Dibble, Nellie M.**— She was born c. 1874, daughter of Daniel (q.v.) and Jane (q.v.) Dibble. She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, though there is no other record of her participation in the church. In 1910, she was living with her father in Palo Alto, and continued living with him in 1920. She died in 1957 in Santa Clara County, Calif.

Notes: 1910, 1920 U.S. Census; California Death Index.
DIXON, EMILY SOPHIA ELLIOTT PARDEE KARNS—Emily Elliott was born March 3, 1853 in Kane County, Ill., daughter of Wilson and Maria J. Elliot, both born in New Hampshire. Her family left Illinois and moved to a farm in California’s Central Valley when Emily was six; it is possible that the family traveled overland on the Oregon Trail or the California Trail. In 1860 she and her parents were living in Elkhorn Township, San Joaquin County; her father was working as a farmer, and the Elliot family shared their home with another farmer and three farm laborers.

Though not listed as a graduate, she studied at the California State Normal School c. 1870. In 1870, she was living in San Francisco and “attending school”; the State Normal School was then in San Francisco. Emily taught school in Oakland for seven years.

She married Dr. Enoch H. Pardee on July 19, 1879, when she was 26 and he was 52; Enoch’s 22 year old son George was not pleased when his father remarried. Enoch was mayor of Oakland and a co-founder of the Unitarian church in Oakland. Enoch and Emily had one child, a daughter Eleanor (“Nellie”), born in 1880. Enoch died in 1896, and four months Nellie, then age 15, also died. After a legal battle with Enoch’s son, Emily received a third of Enoch’s substantial estate. Enoch’s estate was valued at approx. $275,000, or roughly $8 million in 2016 dollars; so Emily received the equivalent of $2.6 million.

For the next few years, she traveled extensively. She married William A. Karns, a lawyer, in Baltimore on March 21, 1898. The couple moved to San Jose where William practiced law.

Emily settled in Palo Alto in 1903. In August, 1906, William filed suit for divorce on the grounds of desertion. A bitter legal battle ensued, during which Emily revealed that she had indeed left her husband, but had done so on advice of a physician. William was denied a decree of divorce. Then in 1913, Emily filed for divorce on the grounds of desertion and failure to provide. This time, William did not appear at the trial because he was a fugitive from justice, and Emily received a divorce decree under which she retained control of extensive property interests.

Emily supported woman suffrage, and in 1911 was the
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president of the Palo Alto Suffrage League. She was one of the early members of the Woman’s Club of Palo Alto, and served as president. She was active with the Daughters of the American Revolution, and the local chapter was organized at her house in 1924.

In 1916, she married a third time, to James Leroy Dixon, who was some twenty years younger than she (b. c. 1874). Leroy was a Stanford graduate, and in 1916 was principal of the high school in Lakeport, Calif.; by 1919 he was teaching at San Francisco Polytechnic High School. Their marriage lasted only three years.

Emily became a member of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905. She gave $100 towards the purchase of the building lot, one of the top seven donations. She was an early member and later president of the Women’s Alliance, and was active in the national Unitarian Women’s Alliance. In 1908, she hosted the Sunday school picnic on the ten-acre grounds of her Palo Alto house. She later gave the house grounds to the City of Palo Alto as a park to memorialize her daughter Nellie. In 1909, Emily was a delegate to the Pacific Unitarian Conference in Seattle. She continued active with the church for years, and is on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

She died on Feb. 5, 1940, in Palo Alto.


DOANE, EDGAR WILLIS— He was born April 7, 1875, in Kansas. He graduated from Kansas State Agricultural College in 1901, at
which time he lived in Louisville, Pottawatomie County, Kan. He studied civil engineering at Stanford beginning Jan., 1902, receiving his degree in 1905. He then worked as a contractor and civil engineer in Palo Alto.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Aug. 1, 1909. By 1910, he was living in Merced, Calif., and he died in San Diego in 1957.

Notes: Record of Alumni of Kansas State Agricultural College, Manhattan, Kansas, 1914; Directory of Officers and Students, 2nd Semester, 1901-1902, Stanford Univ., 1902; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1910; California Death Index.

DORAN, MADELEINE KATHRYN ISABELLE— A Shakespeare scholar and English professor, she was born Aug. 12, 1905, in Salt Lake City, Utah. She completed two years at San Diego State Univ., then received her A.B. in English from Stanford Univ. in 1927. She received an M.A. from the Univ. of Iowa in 1928, and her Ph.D. from Stanford in 1930. She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1925, and appeared on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” She gave one of the Sunday evening lectures, on Mormonism, at the church in 1926. After a long career teaching at the Univ. of Wisconsin, she died in 1996.


DORN, HELENA— A music teacher, she was b. c. 1870 in Germany. She immigrated to the U.S. in 1889. In 1920, she was living with Luna Hoskins (q.v.) in Palo Alto, and was at that time still a German citizen.

She served on the Music Committee of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1920. She was listed in the 1919 parish directory, and the 1920 membership list.

Notes: 1920 U.S. Census; Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, and Stanford University, Willis Hall, 1916.
DOWNE, HORTENSE— She acted the part of Judith in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916.

DRESBACH, WINIFRED WOOD— A teacher, she was born Sept., 1880, in California, and in 1900 was living in Palo Alto with her aunt, Myrtle Catlin, and a sister and a cousin; she received her A.B. in history form Stanford Univ. in 1904. She married Dr. George Dresbach on April 29, 1906; C. Baldwin, pastor of the Congregational Church of Palo Alto, officiated. By 1910 they were living in Santa Cruz; George died in 1910.

She returned to Palo Alto, and was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. In 1920, she was living in Palo Alto with her daughter Elsa (b. c. 1908, Calif.) and son David (b. c. 1909, Calif.); she was a teacher in the Palo Alto elementary schools. She continued living with her children in Palo Alto through at least 1930.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ, 1910, 1921; California County Marriages, 1850-1952, County of Santa Clara Marriage License; California Death Index.

DU BUY, JEAN— A professor of German and philosophy at Stanford, he studied economics at the Univ. of Berlin from 1884-1887; received his J.D. from the Univ. of Heidelberg in 1889; and returned to study at Berlin, 1889-1890.

Coming to the U.S., he received his Ph.D. from Yale in 1894. He turned to the study of religion, studying at Yale Divinity School 1894-1895. In 1897, a letter of his was excerpted in The Unitarian, a monthly periodical, under the title “Ethical Creed”:

“I take Jesus as my teacher and my example, and will try to impart to others the life he planted on earth.

“I believe that an invisible Father is constantly present with me and every other human being. And I believe that we ought to live as children of this invisible Father, like little children in our relation toward him, and like brothers and sisters in our relations toward our fellow-men [sic]. In order to accomplish this I will constantly fight the selfish tendencies of my human nature, and will trust in the invisible Father for help.

“Such a life, I trust, will give me peace and cheerfulness, will
contribute to establishing on earth the kingship of the invisible Father, and will secure me after death everlasting life.”

He was accepted into fellowship as a Unitarian minister in 1900. He was a special lecturer on comparative religion at Meadville Theological School, a Unitarian theological school, in the spring of 1901. He was a fellow in comparative religion at Cornell Univ., 1901-1902; and a fellow in the psychology of religion at Clark Univ., 1903-1905.

He taught at Stanford for just one year, 1905-1906, in the German department. He became a member of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1906. By 1914 he was living in Oregon.

Notes: Fifteenth Annual Register 1905-1906, Stanford Univ., 1906; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1921; Clark University Register and 14th Official Announcement, 1902, p. 5; The Unitarian, Feb., 1897 (Boston: George Ellis), p. 81; Directory of Living Graduates of Yale, 1914.

DUBEL, ROSA B.—An early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, she lived on Channing Lane.

Notes: No further information was found.

DUDLEY, WILLIAM RUSSEL—A botanist, he was born in Guilford, Conn., on March 1, 1849. He never married.

He received his bachelor’s degree Cornell Univ. in 1874, and his master’s degree in 1876. He taught botany at Cornell from 1873 until 1892. In 1893, he became a professor at Stanford Univ. Two of his students at Stanford were Harry Baker Humphry (q.v.) and Olive Mealey Humphry (q.v.).

While at Stanford, he studied the flora of California. One of his interests was forestry, and in conserving California’s forests:

Professor Dudley's interest in forestry was evinced in a very practical way through his participation in the movement to reserve as a state park the fine body of redwood timber in the Santa Cruz Mountains known as the Big Basin. Largely through his instrumentality this magnificent body of virgin redwood forest was bought by the State as a permanent public park.

In 1905, he gave $50 to the “Church Lot Subscription” fund of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.
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He retired from Stanford in 1910 due to ill health, and died in Los Altos on June 4, 1911.

Notes: 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910 U.S. Census; Dudley Memorial Volume, Stanford Univ., 1913.

The Duveneck Family

FRANCES BOOTT DUVENECK — JOSEPHINE WHITNEY

Elizabeth A.
Francis Boott, Jr.
HOPE
Bernard H.

DUVENECK, FRANCIS BOOTT — An engineer and later a self-proclaimed “rancher” at his Hidden Villa estate, Frank was born in Florence, Italy, in Dec., 1886; his father was born in Kentucky, and his mother in Massachusetts. Frank’s father, also named Frank, was an American artist of some renown. Frank, the son, graduated from Harvard in 1909 with a degree in mechanical engineering, and married Josephine Whitney in Boston, Mass., on June 7, 1913.

He was active on the House Committee of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and is mentioned in the minutes of the Board of Trustees of March 3, 1920: “Mr. Duveneck was a[s]ked to have the furnace in the basement of the Church repaired….” He carved a new sign for the church later that year. He was in the 1920 membership list.

He died in 1985.


DUVENECK, HOPE — She was born c. 1919 in California, daughter of Josephine (q.v.) and Francis Duveneck (q.v.), at about the time her parents became active in the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. It
seems likely that she attended the Sunday school of that church.

After the Unitarian Church dissolved in 1934, her mother became a Quaker. But when Hope married Arne Mattila Feb. 21, 1959, the officiant was Rev. Dan Lion, the minister of Palo Alto Unitarian Church, successor to the old Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Notes: “Palo Alto Unitarian Church: Records of Religious Ceremonies from Sept. 1, 1949.”

✿ DUVENECK, JOSEPHINE WHITNEY — A philanthropist, she was born April 12, 1891, in Brookline, Mass., where she attended the Unitarian church as a girl. She studied at Radcliffe, and went to King’s Chapel, one of the Unitarian churches in Boston. She married Frank Duveneck, a native of Florence, Italy, in 1913, in King’s Chapel. They moved to Palo Alto c. 1919, and she joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto at that time. Together they had four children: Elizabeth A. (b. c. 1916), Francis Boott Jr. (b. c. 1917), Hope (b. c. 1919), and Bernard H. (Barney; b. c. 1923). She and Frank bought the Hidden Villa Ranch in 1924, and turned it into a youth hostel and summer camp.

Beginning in 1919, Josephine was active in the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She served on the Board of Trustees, even though she had three children under the age of five, and served as acting clerk in 1920. She was an active member of the Women’s Alliance, contributing generously of time, money, and ideas, until about 1925. She did music with the Sunday school in 1920-1921, and no doubt her children attended the Sunday school. Her name appears on the 1926 “List of Resident Members,” and she preached at a Sunday service in 1925.

She joined the Palo Alto Friends Meeting (Quaker) in 1937. In 1948, she was one of the teachers when the Friends Meeting cooperated with the new Palo Alto Unitarian Society to offer Sunday school classes.

Josephine died in 1978.

Notes: 1920, 1940 U.S. Census; Josephine Duvenek, Life on Two Levels, Los Altos, Calif.: W. Kaufmann, 1978; “Palo Alto Unitarian Church: Records of
DYER, ABBIE M. CUTLER—Born on Feb. 10, 1871, in Cambridge, Mass. She married Hubert Dyer on April 7, 1893, in Hawaii. In 1900, she was living with Hubert and their son Cutler (b. c. 1898, Calif.), in the household of Abbie’s father A. D. Dyer; at this time, Hubert listed his profession as “Sugar Superintendent.”

Hubert Dyer (b. Dec. 23, 1867, Alvarado, Calif.) graduated from the Univ. of Calif. at Berkeley in 1890, and was a chemist specializing in sugars. He worked as a chemist for the Ewa Plantation Co., Hawaiian Islands, in 1893-1894; then worked for Cutting Fruit Packing Co. in San Francisco, 1894-1899;

In 1910, Abbie was keeping a boarding house in Palo Alto, and living with her son Cutler and her daughter Eleanor (b. c. 1901, Calif.). Though listed as married, she was not living with Hubert.

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Feb. 281, 1912. She was a member of the Women’s Alliance. When she joined the Alliance, she was living at 428 Hamilton Ave., Palo Alto, with Harriet E. Hinds (q.v.), who joined the Alliance at the same time.

By 1920, Abbie was widowed and living in San Francisco with Eleanor. She died in San Francisco in 1955.

The Elmore Family

James C. Elmore—Lucinda Rogers

Jefferson Elmore—Margaret Hilliard Robb

Garrett Henry—Mary Jane Clark

Elmore, Jefferson—A Latin scholar, he was born Oct. 1, 1862, in Ashley, Missouri, with the name Isaac Jefferson Elmore. His parents were James Calvin and Lucinda (q.v.) Elmore. In 1880, at age 18, Jefferson lived with his parents and worked as a dry goods clerk in Troy, Mo. By 1881, he was living in California; he taught high school and was a school principal in San Mateo and in Merced Co. from 1888-1897. On May 29, 1890, he married Margaret Hilliard Robb, and they both became students at Stanford at about the same time; he received his A.B. from Stanford in 1895, and his Ph.D. in 1901. He and Margaret had a son, Garrett Henry, born c. 1904.

He began teaching Latin at Stanford in 1899, taking a year to study in Bonn and Berlin in 1900-1901. He devoted his career to teaching, had a reputation as an excellent teacher, and published only sporadically over his Stanford career. His Latin Composition (1909), a book he wrote to support teaching, was a well-known textbook in its day.

Jefferson joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Sept. 27, 1906. He devoted much time to the church, and because he was clerk more than once, his spiky handwriting appears frequently in the church records. He preached at least once to the congregation. He was listed on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

It was of Jefferson that “there remained with him always something of the Old South.” He was a progressive Democrat in politics. He served as a trustee for the Palo Alto Public Library.
Margaret died in 1928. By 1930, Jefferson was living alone in Palo Alto. He died at home at Stanford on April 21, 1936.


ELMORE, GARRETT HENRY— A lawyer, he was born May 3, 1903, in Palo Alto, son of Jefferson (q.v.) and Margaret (q.v.) Elmore. He acted the part of one of the Wise Men in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916.

He graduated from Stanford in 1923, and from Harvard Law School in 1926. He practiced law for many years, and taught for a time at Stanford Law School. He married Mary Jane Clark, a fellow Stanford graduate, on Feb. 15, 1930; a Catholic priest officiated at the wedding. They lived in Burlingame and San Mateo, and had one child, John (b. c. 1938).

He died in 1998.

Notes: 1910, 1920, 1940 U.S. Census; California, World War II draft registration card, Garrett Henry Elmore; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1921, 1932; California County Marriages 1850-1952; San Mateo Times, Nov. 8, 1955, p. 2.

ELMORE, LUCINDA ROGERS— Born Aug., 1827, in Kentucky, she married James Calvin Elmore (b. Dec. 1818, N. Carolina) c. 1852. Together they had seven children, of whom four survived to adulthood. In 1880, she was living in Troy, Mo., with her husband, who was working as a jailer, and two sons, Jefferson (b. 1862, q.v.) and Frank (b. c. 1866). By 1900, she and her husband were living in Township 1, Madera, Calif., with their son John (b. Nov. 1856, Mo.); James was then working as a postmaster.

She died May 13, 1907, and the following day, Rev. Sydney Snow of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto officiated at her funeral.
service at the home of her son Jefferson.

Notes: 1880, 1900 U.S. Census; Unitarian Church of Palo Alto funeral records.

ELMORE, MARGARET HILLIARD ROBB— Margaret Robb was born Oct. 15, 1862, in Seneca, Wisconsin. Her mother was from England. As a child, she was called “Maggie.” By 1880, when she was 17, her mother had died, and she was keeping house for her father and two younger sisters.

She married Jefferson Elmore on May 29, 1890. Margaret studied physics at Stanford University 1893-1895, and 1897-1898. They had one child, Garrett Henry (b. c. 1904), born when Margaret was about 42 years old.

Margaret joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Sept. 27, 1906. She was one of the early members of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church; she taught in the Sunday school. She was listed on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

She died Aug. 17, 1928, in Palo Alto.

Notes: 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910 U.S. Census; Annual Register, Stanford University, 1894; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1921, 1932.

EMERY, MRS.— She made a financial contribution to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1923.

Notes: This may be Katherine S. Emery (b. c. 1882, Kentucky) who was living in Palo Alto in 1930 with her 20 year old son Charles in 1930 (1930 U.S. Census).
The Engle Family

ALFRED JONES ENGLE — MARY AMELIA KINKEAD

REBECCA JANE
ALFRED JONES, JR.

ENGLE, ALFRED JONES— A realtor and insurance agent, he was born in Aug. 31, 1878, in Glendale, New Jersey. He attended Stanford University from 1903-1905, and 1906-1907. He married Mary Amelia Kinkead in Aug., 1909, and the couple made their home in Palo Alto. They had two children, Rebecca Jane (known as Jane, b. Mar. 10, 1910) and Alfred, Jr. (b. Oct. 22, 1917). Alfred was a licensed real estate broker who also sold insurance, and conducted business in Palo Alto for more than 35 years. In the First World War, he was a county member of the War Work Council, along with A. B. Clark and L. E. Bassett.

Alfred joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on June 17, 1907. He was a member of the Board of Trustees for some years, and served for a time as its chair. He was thanked in the minutes of the Jan. 16, 1916, Board meeting for insuring the church building without charging an agent’s commission. When Rev. Bradley Gilman resigned, he directed the resignation letter to Alfred, who replied rather piteously, “we are losing a good and faithful servant of the church at a time when we sorely need help”; the rest of the letter is faintly reproachful of Gilman (and perhaps rightly so; Gilman only served as minister for about two years), and Engle sounds discouraged about the prospects of the church. He was in the 1920 and the 1926 membership lists.

He continued to live in Palo Alto until his death. However, his name does not appear on the 1954 list of the members and friends of the Palo Alto Unitarian Church, successor to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

He died c. Jan., 1958; Rev. Dan Lion, minister of the Palo Alto Unitarian Church officiated at his memorial service on Jan. 10, 1958.

ENGLE, ALFRED JONES, JR.— He was born in Palo Alto on Oct. 22, 1917. He was christened by Rev. Elmo A. Robinson of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Dec. 24, 1922, and it is probable he went to Sunday school there. He lived with his parents in Palo Alto in 1940, when he gave his occupation as “library worker” (he was a Stanford Univ. student at the time). He received an A.B. degree from Stanford in 1941.

Notes: 1920, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census; Stanford Daily, April 7, 1941, p. 2.

ENGLE, REBECCA JANE—Known as Jane, she was born on March 25, 1910. Her father was clerk of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto for several years during her childhood, and she went to Sunday school at the church. She joined the church in 1925, and was listed under her parents on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” She was active in the “Young People’s Group” of the church in 1926-1927.

She lived with her parents in Palo Alto through 1930. She received her A.B. in psychology from Stanford in 1931. She married Udell C. Walk, a salesman for Westinghouse Co., and the couple lived with her parents in 1940. She died in 2007, and was buried next to her parents.


ENGLE, MARY AMELIA KINKEAD—She was born in Redding, California, Nov. 2, 1878. Her father, Joseph Kinkead, died in Sept., 1878; she had a twin sister who died at birth. Her mother,
Martha Jane, continued to live with Mary after Mary’s marriage. Mary was one of the early members of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church. She formally joined as a member of the church in 1922. She does not appear on the 1925 Alliance membership list.

In 1953 she sent three of her poems, “October,” “The Quarrelsome Jay,” and “The Little Brown Bear,” to David A. Jonah, librarian at Brown University; the poems remain in the archives of the library there.

She died in 1966, and was buried next to her husband.


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Clara and George Evans

EVANS, CLARA DENNISON RIPLEY — She was born Nov. 5, 1888, in Boston, Mass. She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She married George Fullerton Evans (q.v.), and they had three children, Barbara (b. Dec. 22, 1916), Helen (b. Sept. 30, 1918), and Marjorie (b. 1922).

Notes: 1900, 1910 U.S. Census; Massachusetts Births, 1841-1915, Births Registered in the City of Boston, 1888,

EVANS, GEORGE FULLERTON — A professor of English and supporter of the First World War, he was born July 26, 1882, in Youngstown, Ohio. He received his A.B. from Harvard University in 1905, and an S.T.B. and an A.M. from Harvard Divinity School in 1909. He was a graduate student and instructor in the English department at Stanford University from 1916-1919. During the
First World War, he modified his classes at Stanford to include English for military communications.

He married Clara Dennison Ripley (q.v.) on Aug. 4, 1915; they had three children, Barbara (b. Dec. 22, 1916), Helen (b. Sept. 30, 1918), and Marjorie (b. 1922).

He was received into fellowship as a Unitarian minister in March, 1910, with the American Unitarian Assoc., and was ordained. However, he wound up pursuing an academic career rather than serving as a minister. He preached in Palo Alto during Sept., 1917, while the congregation was waiting for Bradley Gilman to arrive. Subsequently, he explored resuming his ministry; to that end, he was a supply preacher at Fresno in Nov., 1917.

At the Board of Trustees meeting of Feb. 24, 1918, George asked the Board to endorse the war effort:

Mr. Evans spoke of the importance, in view of the war, of the Church giving an expression, as a body and individually of its loyalty to the country and asked that such an expression be spread on the minutes. After some discussion the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved: That this parish profess its hearty support for that cause for which our nation is at war;
That we pledge our help as a parish where that help may be needed;
And that in token of our sentiment in this regard we place a flag in our pulpit.

Mr. Evans’ offer to present a flag to the Church was accepted with an expression of thanks.

By 1920, he was a professor at the University of Texas; he then was professor at the University of Toledo from 1930 to his retirement. He died March 21, 1963, in Duxbury, Mass.


EWERT, WILLIAM VAN VELSOR— He was born March 3, 1903, in
Minnesota. By 1920, he was living with his widowed mother in Long Beach, Calif.

He then went to Palo Alto to study at Stanford. In Dec., 1921, he was vice president of the Northern California Federation of the Young People’s Religious Union, the Unitarian organization for young adults of that time. He was noted as a new member of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1922, and was listed in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

He received his A.B. in history from Stanford Univ. in 1926, and married on Oct. 29, 1927. By 1932, he was teaching history at Kern County Junior College in Bakersfield, Calif. He died in 1952.

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*The Fisher - Marble Family*

Albert Fisher — ALWILDA MERRIT

WALTER KENRICK—Anne Benson

ALBERTA M. — RUSSELL PRICE MARBLE

ETHEL MERRIAM — Howard White

Alfred White Charlotte Marble

Donald White

FISHER, ALWILDA (ALLIE) MERRIT— She was born June, 1852, in New York. She married Albert Kenrick Fisher on June 7, 1876, in Manhattan, N. Y. In 1880, she was living in her mother-in-law’s house in New York, and Albert was working as a physician. In 1900, she and Albert and their two daughters were living in Washington, D.C. In 1910, she lived with in Palo Alto with her children Walter (*q.v.*), Alberta (*q.v.*) and Ethel.

She was a witness at the wedding of her daughter Alberta and Russell Marble (*q.v.*), conducted by Rev. Clarence Redd of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, in 1915. She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of church, at which time she was still living with Walter.

By 1920, she was living in Pacific Grove with Walter.


FISHER, ETHEL MERRIAM— She was born July, 1885, in New York, the daughter of Alwilda (*q.v.*) and Albert Fisher. By 1910, she was living in Palo Alto with her mother, her sister Alberta (*q.v.*), and her brother Walter (*q.v.*). She married Howard William White on Sept. 17, 1912, and Rev. Clarence Reed of the Unitarian
Church of Palo Alto officiated. By 1920, Howard and Ethel were living in Palo Alto, and had two children, Alfred (b. c. 1926) and Donald (b. c. 1920).

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920 U.S. Census.

FISHER, WALTER KENRICK—A biologist and ornithologist, he was born on Feb. 1, 1878, at Ossining, N.Y., He received his A.B. in zoology from Stanford Univ. in 1901, his A.M. in 1903, and his Ph. D. in 1906; he then became a professor at Stanford. In 1910, he lived with his mother Alwilda (q.v.), and his younger sisters Alberta (q.v.) and Ethel (q.v.) in Palo Alto.

He was a witness when his sister Ethel married Howard William White; Rev. Clarence Reed of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto officiated. Walter was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the church, at which time he was living with his mother.

By 1920, he was living in Pacific Grove with his mother, but neither of his sisters. He married Anne Benson of Monterrey in 1922. He died in 1953.


MARBLE, ALBERTA M. FISHER—She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Feb. 28, 1911. She was listed in the 1919 parish directory, and the 1920 membership list.

She married Russell Marble (q.v.) on Aug. 10, 1915; Rev. Clarence Reed officiated at the wedding. They had one child, Charlotte, b. c. 1919. By 1920, they were living in Palo Alto with their daughter, and by 1921 Russell was an instructor in bookkeeping and accountancy at the Rowe School in San Francisco, and

Notes: 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1921.

MARBLE, RUSSELL PRICE—An accountant and educator, he was born Jan. 14, 1890 in Michigan. Receiving his A.B. from Stanford in May, 1915, he became a public accountant.
He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Feb. 28, 1911. He was Superintendent of the Sunday school 1913-1914 while a student at Stanford University. He audited the financial records of the church in 1915. He was also active with the “young people’s society.” He was listed in the 1919 parish directory, and the 1920 membership list.

He married Alberta M. Fisher (q.v.) Aug. 10, 1915; Rev. Clarence Reed of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto officiated. They had one child, Charlotte, b. c. 1919, and were living in Palo Alto in 1920. By 1921, he was an instructor in bookkeeping and accountancy at the Rowe School in San Francisco, and by 1930 he and Alberta and Charlotte were living in San Francisco.


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The Flügel family

Ewald Flügel ——— Helene Burckhardt

| Hildegarde (Hilda) |
| Felix |
| Ewald, Jr. |
| Helene |

Flügel, Ewald— A professor of German, Ewald Flügel (sometimes spelled Fluegel) was born in Leipzig, Germany, on Aug. 4, 1863. His father and grandfather were lexicographers.

He received his doctorate at the University of Leipzig in 1885. He married Helene Burckhardt (b. Jan., 1863) in 1888, and together they had five children: Hildegarde (b. Jan., 1890 in Germany), Felix (b. Oct., 1892 in Calif.), Ewald, Jr. (q.v.; b. Jan. 24, 1895), and Helene (q.v.; b. c. 1901), plus one child who died
young.

From 1888 to 1892, he was a privatdocent at the University of Leipzig. He immigrated to the United States in 1892 to become a professor of English philology at Stanford. As a scholar, he is best known for his work on a monumental Chaucer Concordance, and for his foundational work on a dictionary of Middle English.

In 1905, Rev. George Stone visited Palo Alto to christen the children of Ewald and Helene; Stone stayed on to preach at Jordan Hall, and out of this visit, the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto was formed.

He officially joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 10, 1907. He was president of the Board of Trustees for nearly seven years. He remained a member of the church until his death.

He died of heart failure on Nov. 14, 1914; some said his death was hastened by worry about the war in Europe. Rev. Clarence Reed of the Unitarian Church officiated at his funeral on Nov. 17.


FLÜGEL, FELIX— A professor of economics, he was born in Menlo Park, Oct. 20, 1892, in California, son of Ewald Flügel (q.v.) and Helene Burkhardt Flügel (q.v.). He went to Stanford University, was president of the German Club for two years, and received his A.B. in economics in May, 1914. He taught economics at the University of California from 1917 until his untimely death in 1935.

He may have been one of the Flügel children who were christened in 1905 in Palo Alto by Rev. George Stone. He participated in the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, though to what extent is not clear.

He continued to think of himself as a Unitarian after moving to Berkeley, and a number of his poems, aphorisms, and essays were printed in Pacific Unitarian. A sampling of his poems and aphorisms from that periodical:
It is lack of faith that makes many men accept a creed which reason would tell them is purely fantastic! (Feb., 1919, p. 40)

Men’s lives are like songs, echoing sometimes faintly, sometimes loudly into the ages yet to come. (May, 1920, p. 87)

To a Prophet!
Brave heart, lead on!
Your light shines brighter than the brightest star,
No stones your path of glory bar,
And now the trail which you have cleared—
The thorny path which men have feared—
Seems brighter than the trails of old. (Feb., 1921, p. 24)

In 1918, he wrote an essay for the Pacific Unitarian in which he supported the entrance of the U.S. into the First World War.

He died on May 20, 1935.


FLÜGEL, HELENE BURCKHARDT—She was born Jan., 1863, in Saxony, in Germany. In 1888 she married Ewald Flügel, and together they had five children: Hildegarde (b. Jan., 1890 in Germany), Felix (b. Oct., 1892 in Calif.), Ewald, Jr. (b. Jan., 1894), and Helene (b. c. 1901), plus a child who died young. She, Ewald, Sr., and Hilde immigrated to the U.S. in 1892.

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 10, 1906.

After Ewald’s death in 1914, she stayed in Palo Alto. In 1920, she was living in Palo Alto with her four children.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920 U.S. Census; Flügel Memorial Volume, Amer. Philological Assoc., 1916.

FLÜGEL, HILDEGARDE (HILDA or HILDE)—A librarian, she was born Jan. 1890 in Germany, daughter of Ewald Flügel (q.v.) and Helene Burkhardt Flügel (q.v.).

She was one of the Sunday school teachers at the Unitarian Church, 1909-1910, while a student at Stanford University. She joined the church on Dec. 25, 1909. She is probably the Miss Flügel (since her sister Helene was still in high school) who taught
the “infant class” of the Sunday school 1915-1918. She made regular financial contributions through at least 1917, after which her account has the notation “Subscription discontinued.” She was listed in the 1919 parish directory.

She became a librarian, working as a cataloguer at Stanford from c. 1911-1918, and as a librarian for the Standard Oil Co. in San Francisco c. 1919-1921. She married George Millar, Jr., on Sept. 10, 1921, and continued to work as a librarian after her marriage. She and George had one child, a son, Robert George (b. c. 1927). Her husband died before 1940. She returned to library work in 1937, becoming Head of the Bureau of International Relations Library, Univ. of Calif., Berkeley, and she remained in that position for 21 years. She retired in 1958, from Hexcel Products in Berkeley, where she reorganized their library. Her library users remembered her for her “warm and vivid personality.”

She died March 24, 1962.


FLÜGEL, HELENE—A nurse, she was born c. 1901 in California, daughter of Ewald Flügel (q.v.) and Helene Burkhardt Flügel (q.v.).

She attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She acted the part of Maria in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916.

She trained as an R.N. at Stanford, and on March 12, 1927, married Hans Von Geldern, who got his M.D. at Stanford in 1920. They had two children: Donald (b. c. 1929), and Ann (b. c. 1935); and lived in San Francisco.

Notes: 1930, 1940 U.S. Census; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1921.
FOLSOM, LUCY T. JONES—A teacher, she was born in 1843 in Gilman ton, N.H. By 1855, she was living in Lynn, Mass., with her father Benjamin, who worked as a shoe cutter, her brother George (b. c. 1867), and her mother Mahaleth. In 1860, the family continued to live in Lynn, with Benjamin working as a bookkeeper. They were still in Lynn in 1865, with Lucy now working as a teacher.

David Edwin Folsom (b. May, 1839, Epping, N.H.), Lucy’s future husband, was raised a Quaker, attended Quaker schools including Moses Brown School in Providence, R.I., and trained as a civil engineer. When his health broke down, he traveled overland to Montana Terr. in 1862. There he did some placer mining, was a rancher, explored the Yellowstone region, and was a surveyor. He returned to Epping, N.H., in 1873, and married Lucy on Jan. 9, 1877, in Lynn, Mass.

Lucy and David had a son George B., born March 7, 1879, in Epping N. H.; George B. died of cholera infantum on Oct. 17, 1879. At this time, David was working as a box manufacturer.

Lucy and David returned to Montana, and had a son David Morrill (b. Feb. 24, 1881, White Sulphur Springs, Mont.). In 1882, David E. was a civil engineer and sheep rancher.

David E. and Lucy went to Montana around 1880, and lived on a sheep ranch near Smith River. David E. was a state senator for two terms, and ran for governor in 1900 but was defeated.

Their son, David M., entered Stanford in 1898. David M. returned to Stanford in 1910 to be assistant professor of mining; his parents accompanied him and began living in Palo Alto.

Lucy was a member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, joining c. 1910.


FORD, BETTY— She was active in the “Young People’s Group” of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1926-1927.  

Notes: This may be the Betty Ford who graduated from Stanford Univ. at the age of 17 in 1929. If so, she was born in San Francisco on Jan. 20, 1912 to Campbell and Sophie Ford, and entered Stanford in 1926; she was a child genius who at age seven was the subject of a psychological study by Prof. L. M. Terman of Stanford. 1930 U.S. Census; California Death Index; “Wins Degree at Seventeen,” Popular Science, Sept., 1929, p. 41; L. M. Terman and C. Fenton, “Preliminary Report on a Gifted Juvenile Author,” Journal of Applied Psychology, 1921, 5, pp. 121-178.

The Foster Family

FOSTER, ANNA LEE— She was born c. 1875 in Indiana. She married Benjamin Foster (q.v.) on June 3, 1902, and they had two children: Frances (b. c. 1903, Calif.; q.v.) and Georgia (b. c. 1907, Calif.). She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and in the 1920 membership list. She died before 1930.  


FOSTER, BENJAMIN OLIVER— A classicist, he was born Aug. 13, 1872, in Bangor, Me. He received his A.B. in Latin from Stanford Univ. in 1895, and his Ph.D. from Harvard Univ. in 1899. He married Anna Lee (q.v.) June 3, 1902, in Washington, D.C. They had two children: Frances (b. c. 1903, Calif.; q.v.) and Georgia (b. c. 1907, Calif.). He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and in the 1920 membership list. He died in 1938.  

Notes: 1910, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921; California Death Index.

FOSTER, FRANCES— She was born c. 1904 in California, daughter of Anna (q.v.) and Benjamin(q.v.) Foster. She acted the part of the
Jester in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916. She received her M.D. degree from Stanford in 1931, and married Walton Prescott Dec. 24, 1934, in Yuma, Ariz.


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The Franklin family

EDWARD CURTIS FRANKLIN ——— EFFIE JUNE SCOTT

ANNA COMSTOCK ——— George deForest Barnett

CHARLES SCOTT

JOHN CURTIS

♦ FRANKLIN, ANNA COMSTOCK (BARNETT)— A physician and graduate of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto Sunday school, she was born Sept. 12, 1898, in Lawrence, Kansas, daughter of Effie Scott (q.v.) and Edward Curtis Franklin (q.v.). Her family moved to Palo Alto in 1903.

In 1905, Anna was “one of the first pupils of the Sunday-school” of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She was listed in the 1919 parish directory. It is likely that she participated in the life of the church through the intervening years.

Anna received her A.B. from Stanford University in 1920, and her M.D. from Stanford in 1924. On July 12, 1924, she married Dr. George de Forest Barnett; he was a physician and professor of medicine at Stanford. They had two children together, Margaret A. (b. c. 1927) and Edward Franklin (b. c. 1929); the Unitarian church had mostly ceased operating by the time the children were old enough to attend Sunday school.

After the death of her mother in 1931, Anna’s father came to live with her.
Anna joined the faculty of Stanford School of Medicine. Her husband, who had also taught at Stanford School of Medicine, died in 1955. Anna continued to live on campus after her own retirement.

On Oct. 1, 1968, the Stanford Daily reported:

The badly decomposed body of Dr. Anna Barnett, a retired Medical School professor, was discovered in the hills behind Stanford Friday morning. The body was found near Stanford’s antenna farm at 7 a.m. by Eleanore Norris, a resident of Palo Alto, who was strolling in the area near Stanford’s antenna farm. Dr. Barnett, despondent over eye trouble and a scheduled eye operation, disappeared September 13. She left a note indicating she was contemplating suicide. A morphine overdose was determined as the cause of death.

The date of death on the death certificate was Sept. 27, 1968.


FRANKLIN, CHARLES SCOTT—A geologist, he was born c. 1902 in Kansas, son of Effie (q.v.) and Edward (q.v.) Franklin. He acted the part of one of the Wise Men in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916. He received his A.B. from Stanford in geology in 1925. He died in an airplane crash on Feb. 11, 1928.


✝ FRANKLIN, EFFIE JUNE SCOTT—A professor of French and German, she was born Aug. 5, 1871, in on a farm in Carlyle Township, Kansas. Her father, Dr. John W. Scott, came to Kansas in 1857, and was active in the free state fight, serving in the first state legislature; Dr. Scott served in the Civil War as surgeon of the Tenth Kansas, and after that war was president of the company that laid out the town of Iola, Kansas. Effie’s family family moved to the town of Iola, Kansas, in
1874. She graduated from high school in Iola, Kansas, in 1887. She had two older brothers: Angelo C., the eldest; and Charles F. Scott, ten years older than Effie, who represented Kansas for several years as a Republican in the U.S. Congress.

After graduating from high school, Effie taught in the Kansas City, Kansas, schools, and then taught high school in Leavenworth, Kansas. She then began studies at the University of Kansas, receiving her A.B. in 1891. Subsequently she pursued graduate study at Cornell and at the University of Berlin. For two years, until her marriage in 1897, she was assistant professor of French and German at the University of Kansas; this was during the time that William Carruth (q.v.) was professor of German there.

She married Edward Curtis Franklin on July 22, 1897, at Central Presbyterian Church in Denver, Colorado. She and Edward had three children: Anna Comstock (q.v.; b. Sept., 1898), Charles Scott (b. c. 1902, Kan.; q.v.), and John Curtis (b. c. 1905, Calif.; q.v.).

She was active in the Unitarian church in Lawrence, Kansas, and was a delegate from the Lawrence Unitarian church to the National Conference of Unitarians in 1911 (the family lived in Washington, D.C., 1911-1913 while Edward worked for the government Hygienic Laboratory). Politically, Effie was a progressive who supported woman suffrage.

Effie moved to Palo Alto in 1903 when her husband accepted a position as professor at Stanford. She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905, and was active in the Women’s Alliance. In 1915, William Carruth recruited Effie to serve on the Pulpit Committee with him.

When Maria Protsman Scott, Effie’s mother, died in 1907, she was staying with her daughter in Palo Alto.

In 1914, a classmate from the University of Kansas visited the Franklins, as well as former Kansans Jennie and Helen Sutliff (q.v.), and William and Katharine Carruth (q.v.). This classmate wrote:

“At Stanford I spent several days with the Sutliffs and Franklins and had a pleasant visit with Dr. and Mrs. Carruth. … Dr. Franklin was soon to leave for New Zealand where he was going at the request of the British government, in company with fourteen other American scientists of note. Dr. and Mrs. Franklin have a very handsome big daughter Anna, a high school girl,
UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934

and two younger boys, Charles and Jack” (Graduate Magazine of the University of Kansas, Dec., 1914, p. 91).

Effie was an accomplished pianist, and she was elected an honorary member of the Stanford Music Club in 1916.

She died at her home in Palo Alto on March 31, 1931.


❖ FRANKLIN, EDWARD CURTIS— A renowned chemist who grew up in Kansas while it was still part of the frontier, he was born in Geary City, Kansas, on March 1, 1862. He was raised in Doniphan, Kansas, where his father owned a saw mill and grist mill. At the time he was young, that part of Kansas still had the flavor of the frontier, to which some ascribed his later “noticeable impatience with convention.” As a boy, he enjoyed the outdoors, including hunting, fishing, swimming in the Missouri River, and collecting fossils; this love of the outdoors was to remain with him his whole life, and he was active mountain climber who belonged to the Sierra Club, and summitted a number of 14,000 foot peaks. He and his brother William, later a professor at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, made their own batteries, a two-mile long telegraph line, and their own telephone in 1877, only a year after A. G. Bell patented his telephone.

After Edward graduated from high school, he worked for a pharmacy in Severance, Kansas, from 1880-1884; then at age 22 entered the University of Kansas. He received his S.B. from the University of Kansas in 1888, studied at the University of Berlin 1890-1891, and received his Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University in 1894. He was a professor of chemistry at the University of Kansas from 1891 to
1903, and worked for a gold mining company in Costa Rica for a time in 1897.

Vernon Kellogg (*q.v.*) helped convince Edward to move to Stanford. Edward went to Stanford to teach chemistry in 1903, and remained there until his retirement in 1929. As a chemist, he was best known for his work on ammonia and other nitrogen compounds. He was considered an excellent teacher who delivered exceptionally clear lectures.

He married Effie Scott (*q.v.*) on July 22, 1897, in Denver, Colo., and they had three children: Anna Comstock (b. Sept., 1898; *q.v.*), Charles Scott (b. c. 1902; *q.v.*), and John Curtis (b. c. 1905; *q.v.*).

He was affiliated with the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. He hosted a monthly social gathering of the Unitarian Church, entertaining “the company with some experiments with liquid air.” Theologically, Unitarianism was a good fit for Franklin: “Even as a youth…Franklin was inclined to be a ‘free thinker’ and agnostic.”

After his wife died in 1931, he lived with his daughter, Anna Comstock Franklin Barnett, in Palo Alto. In the last three years of his life, he took long automobile tours of the U.S. and Canada, and died just two months after returning from the last such trip, on Feb. 13, 1937.


FRANKLIN, JOHN (JACK) CURTIS—He was born c. 1905 in California, son of Effie (*q.v.*) and Edward (*q.v.*) Franklin. He acted the part of one of the Wise Men in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916. In 1930, he was living in a boarding house in Los Angeles and working as a radio engineer for an air transport company.

Notes: 1910, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census.
**Freeman, Blanche Katherine**— A high school English teacher, she was born March, 1866, in Indiana, and received her A.B. from Indiana Univ. in 1896. She taught English in the Terre Haute, Ind., high school starting in 1897 and stayed through at least 1900. She was teaching English at Palo Alto High School by 1907. She took a leave of absence 1910-1911.

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Sept. 27, 1906. She was a member of the Women’s Alliance, and served on the Hospitality and Entertainment Committee of the Unitarian Church in 1909.

By 1916, Blanche was living in Los Angeles, single, and teaching high school English.

Notes: 1900, 1920 U.S. Census; *Names, Addresses, and Occupations of the Graduates of the Indiana University*, Bloomington, Ind., 1897; *Polk’s San Jose City and Santa Clara County Directory 1907-1908*, 1907; Register of Graduates 1830-1910, Indiana University, 1910; *Heath’s Directory of Calif. Secondary and Normal Schools*, 1911; Register of Graduates 1830-1916, Indiana University, 1917.

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**Alger and Susannah French**

**French, Alger Wayland**— A dentist, he was born in Dover, N.H., May, 1852, into a Quaker family. In 1865, he became a member of First Church of Dover, a Congregational church. He studied dentistry at Harvard Univ., 1870-1871, and received his D.D.S. degree from the Univ. of Minn. in 1886.

He married Lizzieanna Creighton on May 10, 1877; for the first few years of their married life, they lived in Portland, Me. They moved to Minneapolis in hopes of improving her failing health, but she died June 4, 1888.

Alger then married Susannah Pike (b. July, 1861) on Sept. 7, 1892, in Lubec, Maine. He worked as a dentist in Portland, Me., and Minneapolis, Minn. He moved to Saratoga, Calif., in 1903, and then
to Palo Alto in 1911. He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Oct. 9, 1911.

He died May 20, 1913. At the time of his death Ewald Flügel called him “one of our most active and faithful members.”


FRENCH, SUSANNAH— A teacher, she was born b. July, 1861, in Maine, the daughter of Jabez and Dianah Pike. In 1880, she was still a student and living in Lubec, Maine, with her parents and six siblings; her older sister Mary was a school teacher. She married Alger French (q.v.), a widower, on Sept. 7, 1892, in Lubec, Maine, where she was then living.

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Oct. 9, 1911. She continued to make financial contributions to the church through at least 1917. She was listed in the 1919 parish directory, and the 1920 membership list.

Alger died in 1913. In 1920, Susannah was still living in Palo Alto. She died there in 1934.


FRENCH, WILLIAM C., JR.— He was noted as a new member of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1922.

Notes: It is a common name, and no further information was found. In 1924, Walter C. French, a carpenter, lived in Mayfield with his wife Florence (Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, Stanford Univ., Ravenswood, and East Palo Alto, Palo Alto: Willis Hall, 1924).
GAGE, GEORGE MAURICE— He was born March 11, 1900, in Minneapolis, Ottawa County, Kan. By 1918, one of his legs was paralyzed, and he walked with a cane. He received his A.B. from the Univ. of Kansas in 1922, and studied at Stanford 1924-1925. He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, preached at a Sunday service in 1925, and was in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” He married Hazel Louise Carlson on March 8, 1929, and at that time was living in Burlingame. He worked in advertising, and he died in 1942.


GILBERT, CHARLES HENRY— A professor of zoology, he received his B.S. from Butler Univ. in 1879, and from Indiana Univ. received his A.M. in 1882 and his Ph.D. in 1883. He began teaching at Stanford in 1891.

He gave $5 to the “Church Lot Subscription” fund of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1906.

Notes: Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921.

The Gilman Family

GILMAN, BRADLEY— A Unitarian minister and popular author, John Bradley Gilman was born in Boston, Mass., on Jan. 22, 1857; he rarely used his first name, and was known as Bradley. He graduated from Harvard College in 1880, and from Harvard Divinity School in 1884. He married Mary Rebecca Foster (q.v.) on Sept. 14, 1886. They one child, Dorothy Foster (b. Feb., 1891; q.v.).

He served Unitarian congregations in Massachusetts and New
G — BIOGRAPHIES, 1905-1934 — G

Hampshire, including a long tenure at Canton, Mass., before he came to Palo Alto.

He wrote a number of popular books for both adults and young people, including *The Parsonage Porch*, *The Open Secret of Nazareth*, and *Ronald Carnequay, a Commercial Clergyman*.

In 1918-1919, he was the minister of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. He accepted the position in part out of concern for his wife’s health; his daughter, Dorothy, did graduate work at Stanford while he served in Palo Alto.

He was at the Palo Alto church during the First World War, and he made it a point to visit the soldiers at Camp Fremont, a military camp near Stanford University.

On April 29, 1919, Bradley left Palo Alto to travel east to be at the bedside of Warren Gilman, his only brother, who was seriously ill. Bradley expected to return to Palo Alto in late summer. However, his brother’s illness continued, and on Sept. 5, 1919, he wrote to the Board of Trustees to tell them that he would not be able to return to Palo Alto for an indefinite time, and therefore resigned effective Nov. 15, 1919.

In some respects, Bradley appears to have provided excellent leadership for the church, and Alfred Engle (*q.v.*) replied to his resignation in a letter which read in part:

Your [resignation] letter of the 5th was a sad one to me… everyone I have spoken to feels as I do about the matter; we are losing a good and faithful servant of the church at a time when we sorely need help….

But Josephine Duveneck (*q.v.*), a member of the church who was a pacifist, remembered him as a destructive and divisive influence:

In his sermons, Mr. Gilman stressed patriotism and upheld the church’s obligation to participate in the “holy war.” He condemned those who were reluctant to take up arms and those who did not contribute to war bonds. He even went so far as to denounce certain members of his congregation, reporting them to the Federal Bureau of Investigation as dangerous subversives and enemy spies (which they *never* were). Naturally, such ministerial propaganda destroyed the hitherto harmonious fellowship. At least half the members withdrew altogether and the rest carried on half-heartedly….

Bradley never served another congregation. In retirement he continued to write, gave popular lectures, and traveled.

Notes: 1900, 1910 U.S. Census; Albert Nelson Marquis, *Who’s Who in
UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934


**Gilman, Dorothy Foster**—An author and teacher, she was born Feb. 3, 1891, in Concord, N.H., daughter of Rev. Bradley (q.v.) and Mary (q.v.) Gilman. She graduated from Radcliffe in 1912, and received her A.M. in English from Stanford in October, 1919. Prior to attending Stanford, she worked for the *Boston Transcript*, and published a novel, *The Bloom of Youth*, in 1916.

When her father became minister of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, she accompanied her parents, and studied at Stanford University.

By 1920 she listed her profession as teacher; she continued to write for newspapers and publish novels.

Notes: 1920, 1940 U.S. Census; *Stanford University Alumni Directory*, 1920; *The Stanford Daily*, June 2, 1919.

**Gilman, Mary Rebecca Foster**—An author, she was born in May, 1859, in Worcester, Mass. She married Rev. Bradley Gilman (q.v.) in 1887. They one child, Dorothy Foster (b. Feb., 1891; q.v.).

She wrote for magazines and newspapers, and for a time was a critic for the Springfield (Mass.) *Republican*. She wrote books, most notably *The Life of Saint Theresa*; she was also an editor and translator.

Politically, she was a Progressive Republican. As a member of the Massachusetts Colonial Dames, she served as a delegate to a Peace Congress in Munich in 1909. She was active in philanthropic work, and served on the Fiction Committee of the Boston Public Library.

She participated in the life of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto while her husband Bradley served as minister there.

Notes: 1900 U.S. Census; Albert Nelson Marquis, *Who’s Who in America*
GILSON, HENRY C.— He made financial contributions to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1919-1920, after which his account is marked “Subscription discontinued.”

Notes: This is probably Henry Clinton Gilson, born in Portland, Maine, in 1857. He married Mary Hughes in 1909; a Jesuit priest officiated. In 1910, he was farming an orange grove in San Bernardino County, Calif. In 1920, he was living in Menlo Park with his wife and six year old daughter, and gave his occupation as “none”; and by 1930 he had moved to Los Angeles with his family. 1910, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; California, County Marriages, 1850-1952, Marriage License, County of Santa Barbara, Sept. 1, 1909.

GLIDDEN, CORA LOUISE— See: McClinton - Glidden Family.

GOLDER, FRANK ALFRED— A historian, he was born near Odessa, Russia, on Aug. 11, 1877, and emigrated to the United States about 1880. He attended schools in New Jersey and Kentucky, and attended Bucknell Univ., from which he graduated in 1898. He then taught for three years in a government school in Alaska, where he collected Aleut songs and stories which he published in the Journal of American Folklore. He went to Harvard Univ. in 1902, received his A.B. in 1903, then did graduate study relating to Alaska, receiving his Ph.D. from Harvard in 1909. He taught briefly at Boston Univ. and the Univ. of Chicago before joining the faculty of the State College of Washington in Pullman, Wash.

His dissertation was published in 1914 under the title Russian Expansion on the Pacific, 1641-1850. He was studying in Russia in 1914, and on Aug. 2 saw the Tsar address an excited crowd in front of the Winter Palace, telling the nation that they were at war. He returned to the United States by way of Siberia, and resumed teaching in Pullman. But he returned to Russia in 1917, sailing
from Seattle to Petrograd, arriving on March 4, less than two weeks before the Tsar was overthrown. He remained in Russia through August, working in the archives on material relating to Russian expansion on the Pacific Coast of North America, but he also witnessed the July uprising in the capital city of Russia; he also traveled in Russia between Vladivostok and Petrograd, and in European Russia as well. The notes during 1917 he took helped him write *The Russian Revolution and the Jugo-Slav Movement*, published in 1918; his work in the archives led to the book *Bering’s Voyages* (vol. 1, 1922; vol. 2, 1925).

In 1920, he returned to Russia, and did relief work there under the auspices of Herbert Hoover’s American Relief Administration; this work led to the book *On the Trail of the Russian Famine* (coauthor Lincoln Hutchinson, 1927).

In 1923, he went to the Hoover War Library, Stanford Univ., where he became professor of history and one of the directors of the library. He visited Russia again in 1925 and 1927.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was listed in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” He died Jan 7, 1929, in Santa Clara County, Calif.


GONZALES, FRANK L.— Francisco (Frank) Leopoldo Gonzales was a student at Stanford University from 1915 to 1917, then served in the military. He returned to Stanford in 1920. He married Lenna L. Craig on Jan. 9, 1919.

Frank joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1922. He served as Superintendent of the Sunday school, probably beginning in the 1921-1922 school year.

After graduating from Stanford in 1922, he went on to study at the medical school at the Univ. of Calif. of Berkeley.

Notes: *Stanford University Alumni Directory*, 1921.
GOODLOE, NELLIE AUGUSTA STEARNS— An artist, she was born Nov. 21, 1861, in Mokelumne, Calif., and grew up in San Francisco. She studied art at the California School of Design in the 1880s. She married Paul Theodore Goodloe c. 1892, and they had a daughter Clara Scott (b. Dec. 5, 1893, San Francisco). In 1895, she did drawings for a calendar for the Channing Auxiliary Society of First Unitarian Society, San Francisco. In 1902, she provided botanical illustrations for *The Golden Poppy* by Emory Evans Smith, published in Palo Alto in 1902. Her illustrations appear in other publications as well.

She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

By 1910, she and her husband and daughter had left Palo Alto and were living in San Francisco. She continued to work occasionally as an artist through much of her life. She died April 20, 1945, in Berkeley.


GORDON, MARTHA RITCHIE— She was born Aug., 1865, in Canada. In 1900, she was living in Palo Alto with her husband, Cameron G. Gordon, and a son Charlie (b. Dec. 1892). At some point, she divorced her husband. In 1909, she was working in real estate, and living in Palo Alto with Charles Gordon, a student. In 1920, she was still living with her son George in Palo Alto; she had no occupation, and he was working as a bookkeeper at a bank.

She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance.

Notes: 1900, 1920 U.S. Census; *Polk’s San Jose City and Santa Clara County Directory 1909-1910*, 1909.
UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934

The Gorman Siblings

GORMAN, ARLETTE— She was born c. 1911 in California, and in 1920 she was living in the Chapman Precinct of Santa Clara County with her mother, Stasia Chapman, and siblings Randall (b. c. 1909, Me.), Virginia (b. c. 1912, Calif.), Gloria (b. c. 1915, Calif.), and Noel (b. c. 1917; q.v.).

Arlette attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and was noted for good attendance in the year 1925. Perhaps her mother also participated in the church, but there is no record of that.

By 1930, her mother was divorced and working as a private nurse, and she and all the children were living in Palo Alto.

Notes: 1920, 1930 U.S. Census.

GORMAN, NOEL— He was born c. 1917 in California, and in 1920 he was living in the Chapman Precinct of Santa Clara County with his mother, Stasia Chapman, and his older siblings Randall (b. c. 1909, Me.), Arlette (b. c. 1911, Calif.; q.v.), Virginia (b. c. 1912, Calif.), and Gloria (b. c. 1915, Calif.).

He attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and was noted for good attendance in the year 1925.

By 1930, his mother Stasia was divorced and working as a private nurse, and she and all the children were living in Palo Alto. In 1940, Stasia was still in Palo Alto, and Noel and Gloria were living with her; Noel worked as a watchman for the city.

Notes: 1920, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census.

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GRANT, MARJORIE ETHEL MORISON— She was born c. in Calif., daughter of Donald C. C. Grant (b. c. 1858, India) and C. Edith Grant (b. c. 1868, England); she had two younger siblings, Charles M. (b. c. 1905, Calif.) and Dorothy H. C. (b. c. 1908, Calif.). In 1910, she was living with her family in Kern County, Calif.; her
father was an accountant for a stock ranch.

She acted the part of Hester in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916.

She entered Stanford Univ. in 1918, and received her A. B. in economics in 1922. In 1920, she was living with her parents and siblings in Palo Alto, by which time her father was a vice-consul for the British government. In 1932, Marjorie was working as a librarian in the Palo Alto Bookshop. She died in 1991 in Santa Barbara, Calif.

Notes: 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; *Alumni Directory*, Stanford Univ., 1932; California Death Index.

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**The Gray Family**

**HENRY DAVID GRAY —— EMILY HOUGH TARR**

**DOROTHY S.**

**SYDNEY MACLEAN**

GRAY, DOROTHY SEWELL— A librarian, she was born Feb. 16, 1907, in Calif, daughter of Emily (*q.v.*) and Henry David (*q.v.*) Gray. She was christened by Rev. Sydney Snow of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Sept. 27, 1908; as she grew up, it is likely that she attended Sunday school at the church.

She received her A.B. in English from Stanford in 1929. In 1940, she was living with her parents in Palo Alto, and working as a librarian at the university. She married John W. Carlton after 1940. She died in 1965, and is interred next to her parents.


GRAY, EMILY HOUGH TARR— She was born c. 1877, and was from St. Michaels, Maryland. She married Henry David Gray
GRAY, HENRY DAVID— A professor of English, he was born in Plainfield, N.J., Nov. 6, 1873. As a young man, he spent two years in New York working to solve the problems of poverty and crime, while living in poverty himself.

He received his bachelor’s degree from Colgate in 1897, his A.M. from Columbia University in 1898, and his Ph.D. from Columbia in 1904. He received an honorary doctorate from Colgate in 1919. He began teaching at Stanford in 1905, and continued to teach there until his retirement, though he also taught briefly at the Univ. of Texas, Univ. of London, and Univ. of Iowa, among other places. He was best known for his scholarly work on Shakespeare. He was interested in drama throughout his life, and wrote plays himself.

He married Emily Hough Tarr (q.v.) on Oct. 12, 1905, in Baltimore, Maryland, and they had two children: Dorothy (b. Feb. 16, 1907), who graduated from Stanford in 1929; and Sydney Maclean, a son (b. June 28, 1908).

Henry was part of the first group of people who went to hear Rev. George Stone preach in 1905, before the formal organization of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. He became a member on Nov. 19, 1905. He preached there several times, and also served on the Board of Trustees. He directed the children of the Sunday school in a Christmas play, “The Second Shepherd’s Play,” in 1909. His involvement continued for many years, and he appeared on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

In 1917, he published a study on Ralph Waldo Emerson: Emerson: A Statement of New England Transcendentalism as
Expressed in the Philosophy of its Chief Exponent. His own thought appears to have been influenced by Emersonian Transcendentalism, as in this poem he published in the Columbia Literary Monthly in 1901:

THE SEARCH FOR TRUTH

Look not for Truth where hoary Wisdom stands,
Who, though still doubting if his way be right,
Yet ever beckons us with lifted hands
To follow his dim sight.

Search not for him where childish Ignorance looks,
Conning his lesson with a vacant stare;
He is not imprisoned in the lore of books,
Thou wilt not find him there.

Go forth to Nature! Hurl thy vain thought far;
Gaze on the field and stream, mountain, and sea;
Drink of the earth and sky, flower and star;
Behold, Truth throbs in thee!

In 1924, he led a discussion group at Stanford’s Memorial Church titled “A Comparison of Religions” which gives further insight into his religious philosophy:

The purpose of the course is to present an impartial view of various religions such as Mohammedanism, Buddhism, and Christianity. Professor Gray will explain the doctrines of each. The course will not be presented from a dogmatic viewpoint, the students being allowed to draw their own conclusions.

Henry died Feb. 3, 1958; Rev. Dan Lion, minister of the Palo Alto Unitarian Church, successor to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, officiated at his memorial service on Feb. 5, 1958.


GRAY, SYDNEY MACLEAN— He was born June 28, 1908. He was christened David Sydney Gray by Rev. Sydney Snow of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Sept. 19, 1908, and it seems likely
he attended Sunday school at the church as he grew up. He received his A.B. in political science from Stanford Univ. in 1929. He married Lorraine Eleanor ———, and his 1940 draft registration card stated that he was then a contractor working at the Pacific Naval Air Base, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. He died in 1987.

Notes: 1910, 1920, 1940 U.S. Census; *Alumni Directory*, Stanford Univ., 1932; Hawaii, World War II draft registration cards, 1940-1945; California Death Index.

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The Greenlaw Family

**GREENLAW, ARNOLD ZIEGLER** — He was born July 12, 1912, in Chicago, Ill., the son of Charles (q.v.) and Martha (q.v.) Greenlaw. He attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and in 1924 he had the best attendance record in the school, tied with his brother Collin (q.v.).

Notes: 1920 U.S. Census; Illinois, Cook County, Birth Certificates.

**GREENLAW, CHARLES RUTHERFORD** — He was born March 2, 1877, in Boston, Mass.; his father was a teamster. In 1900, he was living with his father and a sister in Boston, and working as a machinist and draftsman. He studied mechanical engineering at Stanford Univ. 1904-1905. He married Martha Clara Elizabeth Ziegler (q.v.) on Aug. 1, 1911, in Chicago, Ill. They had children: Arnold Ziegler (b. July 12, 1912, Chicago, Ill.; q.v.), Collin (b. c. 1915, Maryland; q.v.), Morrison, b. c. 1919, Calif.), Marjorie Ellen (b. Nov. 3, 1920, Chicago). In 1920, he was working as an engineer for the telephone company, and the family was living Detroit, Mich.

He made regular financial contributions to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto beginning in 1923. He and Martha were divorced by 1924.

By 1940, he was divorced, living in Sausalito, Calif., and
GREENLAW, COLLIN TORREY— He was born c. 1915 in Maryland, the son of Charles (q.v.) and Martha (q.v.) Greenlaw. He attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and in 1924 he had the best attendance record in the school, tied with his brother Arnold (q.v.).

Notes: 1920 U.S. Census.

GREENLAW, MARTHA CLARA ELIZABETH ZIEGLER— She was born c. 1895 in Illinois; her father was born in Denmark and her mother in Germany. She married Charles Greenlaw (q.v.) on Aug. 1, 1911, in Chicago, Ill. They had children: Arnold Ziegler (b. July 12, 1912, Chicago, Ill.; q.v.), Collin (b. c. 1915, Maryland; q.v.), Morrison, b. c. 1919, Calif.), Marjorie Ellen (b. Nov. 3, 1920, Chicago). By 1920, the family was living in Detroit, Mich.

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1923. In 1923, she lived at 523 Webster St., Palo Alto, with her husband Charles (q.v.). By 1924, she was living alone at the same address, and working as a stenographer.

She married James Edward Reynolds on Dec. 22, 1924; Rev. Elmo Arnold Robinson officiated at the wedding. She was listed in the 1926 “List of Resident Members” of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto as “Mrs. James E. Reynolds.”

Notes: 1920 U.S. Census; Illinois, Cook County Marriages, 1871-1920; Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, Stanford University, Ravenswood, and East Palo Alto, Palo Alto: Willis Hall, 1924, 1925.
GREGG, EMMA C. — She was born May, 1854, in Illinois. In 1900, she was living in Palo Alto, and though she reported she had been married for 25 years, she was living with no husband, and three children: Ruth Bailey (b. April, 1873, Calif.), Mollie B. (b. May, 1875, Calif.), and Agnes (b. July, 1890, Calif.). In 1904, Ruth was a student at Stanford, Mollie was a stenographer, and Agnes was in school. Ruth married in 1908, and Mollie seems to have left home at about the same time.

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on June 7, 1907. She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

By 1910, Emma was divorced; she was still living with Agnes who was by then a teacher in the public schools. In 1909 and 1911, she listed her occupation as dressmaker. By 1920, she was still in Palo Alto, and listed herself as widowed.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920 U.S. Census; Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, Menlo Park, and the Campus, Palo Alto: Times Pub., 1904; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1921; Polk's San Jose City and Santa Clara County Directory, 1909, 1911.

GWARTNEY, BETTY SAWYER— A teacher, she was born Aug., 1865, in Mississippi, and her family emigrated to Merced County, California when she was three years old. She graduated from the Calif. State Normal School, San José, and taught in Sutter Creek and Mayfield, Calif. She married John G. Gwartney, who had graduated from the State Normal School in 1891, and from Stanford Univ. in 1898. In 1900, they were living in Eureka, Nev., where John taught school. She then taught with her husband in the Philippines for four years, returning to Mountain View in 1907. Her husband died in 1916, aged 56.

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. In 1920, she gave her occupation as fruit grower, and was living with a foster son who had been born in the Philippines.

She died in 1949.

Notes: 1900, 1920 U.S. Census (Betty does not appear in the 1910 Census,
but John and their foster son do, both living in Fremont Township, Santa Clara County); Eugene T. Sawyer, *History of Santa Clara County, California*, 1922, p. 1481; California Death Index.
HAAS, JACOB ANTON— See: de Haas.

HALL, HOWARD JUDSON— A professor of English, he was born Feb. 6, 1869, in Lansingburg, N. Y. He received an A.B. from Stanford Univ. in 1896, a B.S. from Michigan Agricultural College in 1890, and an M.A. from Harvard in 1900.

Howard was one of the first six professors at the University of Arizona in 1891, as well as the first librarian. He also served as acting President there in 1903.

He married Kalene Louise Timian on Nov. 28, 1894, in Tucson, Arizona Terr. They had a daughter, Elizabeth P. (b. c. 1903, Arizona). They moved to Palo Alto in 1904 when Howard began teaching at Stanford.

In 1905, he gave $10 to the “Church Lot Subscription” fund of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

In 1918, he went to Great Britain and France as an instructor in the Army Education Corps. By 1921, he was living in Los Altos, Calif., and in 1930 he and Kalene lived in Fremont, Calif. He retired from Stanford in 1934. By 1935, he and Kalene lived in S. Pasadena, Calif. He died Dec. 14, 1941.

Notes: 1910, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census; Stanford Alumni Directory, 1921; “Papers of Howard Judson Hall,” Univ. of Arizona Special Collections, spec-coll.library.arizona.edu/collections/papers-howard-judson-hall accessed Aug. 19, 2019; 1918 passport application for Howard Judson Hall; Stanford Daily, June 1, 1934; California Death Index.

HARDY, IRENE— She was born c. 1841 in Yellow Springs, Ohio. She began teaching at age 16, and entered Antioch College in 1861. She went to California in 1871 because of failing health, and taught English and entomology at Oakland (Calif.) High School from 1877 to 1892. She finally received her A.B. from Antioch in 1885. She was a student at Stanford from 1892-1895, and taught English there from 1894 to 1901. She became totally blind about 1906.
She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

She died June 4, 1922, at her home at 453 Melville Ave. in Palo Alto.

Notes: *Ninth Annual Register, Stanford Univ.,* 1900; *Stanford Illustrated Review, June, 1922, p. 467.*

HARPER, ZADA BENSON—She was born in South Dakota Sept., 1898, daughter of Ernest H., a barber, and Edith Benson. She married Bertram T. Harper, and they had sons Bertram (b. 1919, Calif.) and Wayland (b. 1925, Calif.). In 1921, Bertram was a rancher in Melo Park.

Zada joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1925, and she (but not her husband) was in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” By 1930, she and Bertram were living in Township 3, San Mateo County, and Bertram was working as a tree surgeon.


HAYNES, WALTER—Walter Haynes began studying at Stanford in 1903. He married Julia Erickson on June 12, 1906.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 18, 1906.

After receiving his degree in electrical engineering from Stanford Univ. in January, 1908, he became an electrical construction foreman in Portland, Oregon.

Notes: *Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1910.*

HEATH, JIMMIE—He attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and his name appears on an attendance sheet from 1921-1922.

Notes: He is probably James P. Heath, the son of Prof. Harold Heath and Elsie Heath. If so, he was born c. 1915 in Calif., and had two much older siblings, Ronald (b. c. 1900) and Phyllis (b. c. 1902). 1920 U.S. Census; *Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, Stanford University, Ravenswood and East Palo Alto*, Palo Alto: Willis Hall, 1924.
The Hempl Family

Henry Hempl — Anna Mary Hamtzsehl

George Hempl — Anna Belle Purmort

Hilda

Elsa

Hempl, Anna Belle Purmort — A teacher, she was born Nov., 1865, in Michigan. She married George Hempl (q.v.) c. 1891. They had two daughters, Hilda (b. Aug. 5, 1891; q.v.), and Elsa (b. Oct. 5, 1892).

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Notes: 1900, 1910 U.S. Census; Passport application, George Hempl, June 30, 1906 (no. 17502).

Hempl, Anna Mary Hamtzsehl — She was born in Germany on May 8, 1829. She married Henry Hempl, and they had a son George (q.v.). She died on March 15, 1909, and Rev. Sydney Snow of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto officiated at the funeral, held at the house of her son, George Hempl.

Notes: 1900, 1910 U.S. Census; Passport application, George Hempl, June 30, 1906 (no. 17502).

Hempl, Elsa — She was born Oct. 5, 1892, in Ann Arbor, Mich., daughter of George (q.v.) and Anna (q.v.) Hempl. She received her A. B. in German from Stanford Univ. in 1915. She married Frank E. Hill, a Stanford graduate, on July 22, 1915. She may have been affiliated with the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Notes: 1900 U.S. Census; Passport application, George Hempl, June 30, 1906 (no. 17502); Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921.
HEMPL, GEORGE— He was born June 6, 1859, in Whitewater, Wis.; both his parents were born in Saxony, Germany. He graduated from the Univ. of Michigan in 1879. He was then the principal of high schools in Saginaw, Mich., and La Porte, Ind. In 1884, he became an instructor in German at Johns Hopkins Univ., leaving there two years later to do graduate study in various European universities, receiving his doctorate from Jena in 1889. He then taught English at the Univ. of Michigan, later becoming professor of English philology and general linguistics there.

He married Anna Belle Purmoot on July 3, 1890, in Saginaw, Mich. He became a professor at Stanford in 1906, and the family moved to Palo Alto.

He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

He died Aug. 14, 1921; Prof. A. T. Murray of Stanford conducted the memorial service.

Notes: 1900, 1910 U.S. Census; Stanford Daily, Aug. 19, 1921, p. 1; Michigan Marriages, 1868-1925, Marriages in the County of Saginaw.

HEMPL, HILDA— She was born Aug. 5, 1891, in Ann Arbor, Mich., daughter of George (q.v.) and Anna (q.v.) Hempl. She received her A. B. in zoology from Stanford Univ. in 1914, her M.A. from Univ. of Michigan in 1915, and her Ph.D. from the Univ. of California in 1918.

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. Rev. Bradley Gilman of the Unitarian Church officiated at her marriage to Edmund Keller on July 17, 1918.

In 1921, she was a research fellow at the Univ. of California.

Notes: 1900 U.S. Census; Passport application, George Hempl, June 30, 1906 (no. 17502); Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921.
Hewitt, T. H.— He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924.

Notes: T. H. Hewitt appears in the 1934 Polk’s Palo Alto (California) City Directory, at box 664; and in the 1929 Polk’s Palo Alto (California) City Directory. No further information was found.

The Hill Family

Hill, Andrew P.— He was born c. 1887 in California. In 1920, he was living with his wife Ruth (q.v.) and his daughter Berdella (b. c. 1912; q.v.) in San Francisco, and was teaching school.

He made financial contributions to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto from 1921-1923, was noted as a new member in 1922, and appeared on an undated (c. 1921) parish directory.

By 1930, he had moved the family to Sacramento, where he worked for the Calif. State Board of Education. In 1940, he was a school principal in Santa Barbara County.

Notes: 1920, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census.

Hill, Ruth McKinney— She was born Aug., 1886, in Illinois. In 1880, she was living with her parents and a brother in Rockford, Ill. She married Andrew Hill (q.v.) c. 1910, and they had one child, Berdella (b. c. 1912; q.v.).

She appeared on an undated (c. 1921) parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and was noted as a new member in 1922.

By 1930, she was living in Sacramento with Andrew, Berdella, and Andrew’s mother Florence. In 1940, she and Andrew were living in Santa Maria, Santa Barbara County, with her father.

Notes: 1920, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census.

Hill, Berdella— She was born c. 1912 in California, daughter of Andrew (q.v.) and Ruth (q.v.) Hill. She attended Sunday school
at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and her name appears on an attendance sheet from 1921-1922. By 1930, her family was living in Sacramento.

Notes: 1920, 1930 U.S. Census.

HILMER, ANETTA “NETTA” W. HOFFMAN—See: Amidon - Hilmer Family.

HINDS, HARRIET E.—An osteopathic doctor and artist, she was born in April, 1861, in Pennsylvania. In 1900, she was living in Pasadena, Calif., and gave her occupation as artist.

In 1910, Dr. Harriet E. Hinds had a practice in Palo Alto, and had just opened an office in San Francisco as well.

She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto; she lived 428 Hamilton Ave. with Mrs. Abbie Cutler Dyer, who joined the Alliance at the same time.

In July, 1910, she had moved to the Alta Vista Apartments in Berkeley, Calif. By 1921, she had opened an office in Pasadena, Calif.


The Hobe Sisters

HOBE, ELSIE AURELIA MOSES—She was born c. 1835 in New York. She married Adolphus Hobe, who was born in Germany, and they had at least eight children. In 1910, she was living with her daughters Martha (q.v.), Sophia (q.v.), and Adelaide in San Francisco, and was a widow. By 1920, she was living with her daughters in Menlo Park.

She died in 1925, and Rev. Elmo A. Robinson of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto officiated at her funeral on April 27.
UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934

Notes: 1880, 1910, 1920 U.S. Census

HOBE, MARTHA (MATTIE)— She was born c. 1873 in California. In 1910, she was living with her mother Elsie (q.v.), and her sisters Sophia (q.v.) and Adelaide Hobe in San Francisco, and working as a bookkeeper at a wholesale store. By 1920, she and Sophia and their mother were living in Menlo Park, and she was now a bookkeeper at a stove company.

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Notes: 1880, 1910, 1920 U.S. Census.

HOBE, SOPHIA A.— She was born c. 1859 in California. By 1880, she was teaching school. In 1910, she was living with Elsie (q.v.), Sophia (q.v.), and Adelaide Hobe in San Francisco, and working as a high school teacher.

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Notes: 1880, 1910, 1920 U.S. Census.

HOOLY, LUCY B.— She was born c. 1846 in Ohio. The widow of George W. Holly, by 1910 she was living in Palo Alto with one of her two children, Theodora H. (b. c. 1880, Iowa); Lucy gave her occupation as “Own income,” and Theodora gave hers as “None.” Theodora received an A.B. in drawing from Stanford in 1904, and on Jan. 1, 1911, she married John D. Willard, a lawyer who attended Stanford Univ. 1906-1908. She was a member of the Palo Alto Woman’s Club.

Lucy was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She made regular financial contributions to the church beginning in 1916, but in 1916 her account contains the notation, “discontinued thru non-payment of
subscription.” She was listed in the 1919 parish directory as living in Redwood City.

In 1920, Lucy lived with Theodora in Redwood City. She died in 1924, and Rev. Elmo A. Robinson of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto officiated at her memorial service.

Notes: 1910 U. S. Census; Polk-Husted San Jose City and Santa Clara County Directory, 1911; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1921.

HOLMAN, FRANCIS G.— A mining engineer, he was born c. 1858 in Calif. He served on the House Committee of the Unitarian Church in Palo Alto in 1920. In 1915, he was retired, and living with Sidney S. Holman, his brother, and Frances Holman, Sidney’s daughter and a student.

He made regular financial contributions to the church beginning in 1915 and extending through 1920, after which his account has the notation, “Subscription discontinued.” He was listed in the 1919 parish directory and in the 1920 membership list.

In 1920, he was still living in Palo Alto with Sidney, who was then proprietor of a creamery, and Frances, now working as a stenographer.


The Holmes Family

HOLMES, EMILY C. FOYE— She was born Jan., 1841, in Augusta, Maine. In 1860, she was living in Los Angeles. She married Ahira Holmes c. 1864.

Emily and Ahira had five children: Frank Henry (b. March 15, 1865, San Francisco, Calif.), Arthur Ellis (b. c. 1868, Calif.), Helen (b. Jan., 1876, Calif.), Emily (b. Dec., 1877, Calif.), and Marion (b. c. 1872, Calif.; q.v.).

Ahira Holmes was born May, 1827, in Plymouth, Mass., and studied at the State Normal School in Bridgewater, Mass. He then taught school in Massachusetts before moving to California in
early 1852. He was school principal in San Francisco 1852-1856, moved to Los Angeles to become school principal there 1861-1862; perhaps Emily met him at this time. Ahira returned to San Francisco in 1862 to become the first principal of the state’s first Normal School. Following that, he was principal of the Mission school in 1865. In 1870, Ahira was living in San Francisco with Emily and their two oldest sons; Ahira was working as a stock broker. By 1880, he and Emily were living in Oakland. After 1880 he became a fruit grower in Sonoma County, then moved in 1889 to San Jose to grow fruit there. Ahira died on December 30, 1902.

By 1904, Emily had moved to Palo Alto and was living with her daughter Marion, who was studying at Stanford. In 1910, she was living in Palo Alto, with her occupation listed as “Own income.”

She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She made regular financial contributions from 1914 through at least 1917, and then formally joined the church in 1922.

Emily apparently left Palo Alto after her daughter died in 1925. Emily died on March 29, 1929, in Ross, Calif.


✶ HOLMES, MARION ESTELLE— A schoolteacher, she was born July, 1870, in California. She received a degree in education from San Jose State Teacher’s College in June 1890. She received her A.B. in mathematics at Stanford in May, 1896. While at Stanford, she published an article in Pedagogical Seminary, “The Fatigue of a School Hour: Studies from the Psychological Laboratory of Leland Stanford, Jr., University.” After graduating from Stanford, she taught at high schools in Healdsburg, Santa Rosa, and Santa Clara; then she took a position as teacher at Miss Murchison’s
School, San Francisco, commuting there from Palo Alto.

By 1904, she was living in Palo Alto with her mother, Emily (q.v.). She studied physiology at Stanford for a year, 1904-1905. In 1910, she called herself a teacher, but by 1920 she listed her profession as “None.”

She became a member of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1923, though she was active in the church prior to that date. When she died in 1925, Rev. Elmo Arnold Robinson mentioned her in his annual report to the congregation, calling her “a woman of unusual mind and soul, whose life had been spent in service for others of her family”; Robinson officiated at her funeral.


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The John L. Horn Family

HORN, IRMENGARD CHARLTON— A teacher, she was born c. 1886 in Kansas. She married John Louis Horn (q.v.) on Feb. 8, 1916; Rev. E. Stanton Hodgin, the minister of the Unitarian church in Los Angeles, officiated at their marriage.

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. By 1921, she was living with John in Oakland.

Notes: 1930 U.S. Census; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921; California, County Marriages, 18510-1952, County of Los Angeles, Marriage License, Feb. 8, 1916.

HORN, JOHN LOUIS— An educator, he was born c. 1882 in New York, and both his parents were born in Austria. He received his A.B. from the Univ. of Pennsylvania in 1906, and his M. A. in education from Stanford Univ. in 1918. He married Irmengard
Unitarians in Palo Alto, 1891-1934

Charlton (q.v.) on Feb. 8, 1916; Rev. E. Stanton Hodgin, the minister of the Unitarian church in Los Angeles, officiated at their marriage.

He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. By 1921, he was professor of education at Mills College, and living in Oakland.

Notes: 1930 U.S. Census; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921; California, County Marriages, 1850-1952, County of Los Angeles, Marriage License, Feb. 8, 1916.

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The Hoskins Family

Hoskins, Leander Miller—An engineer and professor of civil engineering, he was born near Evansville, Wis., on May 10, 1860, son of James H. and Araminta S. Hoskins; James was a justice of the peace. Leander was in the first class to graduate from Evansville High School c. 1878. He built an 18 foot windmill in 1883, for which he received U.S. patent 294,694 the following year.

He studied civil engineering at the University of Wisconsin, receiving his B.C.E. and B.S. in 1883; an M.S. in 1883; and C.E. in 1885. He taught engineering at the University of Wisconsin from 1885 until 1892, when he became professor of applied mathematics at Stanford University.

He married Minnie Sawin Buffington on July 28, 1891, in Iowa. They had no children.

Leander was an active Unitarian in Palo Alto. He was the president of the Unity Society of Palo Alto when it formed in 1896. He was one of the early members of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. In 1914, he served as chair of the building committee which oversaw construction of the parish hall.

He and Minnie lived in Palo Alto until their deaths, moving once in 1921 to another house next to the house his sister Luna lived in. He died in Palo Alto September 9, 1937.
✶ HOSKINS, LUNA G.—A teacher, she was born Nov. 27, 1858, probably in Evansville, Wis. (Her name is listed as “Lucina” in the 1860 and 1870 U.S. Census.) In 1880, she was living with her parents, Araminta and James, and listed her occupation as “teacher”; James listed his occupation as “clerk in foundry.”

Luna and her sister-in-law Minnie Hoskins (q.v.) were recognized as delegates by the Committee on Credentials of the Pacific Unitarian Conference at San Jose on May 1-4, 1895.

In 1900, she was living with her parents in Fremont; James listed his occupation as “fruit grower,” and Luna listed no occupation. By 1910, Araminta was widowed and living with Luna, and they both listed their occupation as “own income.”

Luna joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Feb. 28, 1911. She was a member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and its treasurer for several years. She was a member of the Board of Trustees of the church in 1920. She appeared on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

From before 1920 through 1940, she shared her house with Helena Dorn (q.v.), who is listed in the U.S. Census as “partner”; in the 1900 census “partner” was simply one in a series of census designations, and it cannot be determined if such partners were lovers or not.

She was one of the founders of the Palo Alto Woman’s Club.

She died April 12, 1940. Upon her death, she left $10,000 to Stanford University.

Notes: 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; Pacific Unitarian, June, 1895, pp. 246-247; D. Michael Quinn, Same-Sex Dynamics among Nineteenth Century Americans, Univ. Illinois, 2001, p. 162; Stanford
HOSKINS, MINNIE SAWIN BUFFINGTON— She was born in July, 1863, in Wisconsin. She married Leander Hoskins on July 28, 1891, in Iowa. The couple moved to Palo Alto in 1892 when Leander took a position at Stanford. They never had children.

She was secretary of the Palo Alto branch of the Needlework Guild in 1907. The Stanford French Club met at her house in 1908.

Minnie’s involvement with Unitarianism predates the formation of the Unity Society in Palo Alto in 1895: she and her sister-in-law Luna Hoskins (q.v.) were recognized as delegates by the Committee on Credentials of the Pacific Unitarian Conference at San Jose on May 1-4, 1895. Since Eliza Tupper Wilkes had only just begun her activities in Palo Alto by May 1, it is possible that Minnie had had previous exposure to Unitarianism (there was a Unity Society [Unitarian] in Evansville, Wis., in 1888).

In 1896, she was on the Committee on the Sunday School for the Unity Society of Palo Alto.

She was Superintendent of the Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1919-1920; was a member of the Women’s Alliance; and was a member of the Board of Trustees. In 1921, she gave a portrait of Rev. Mary Safford, a Unitarian minister (1851-1927), to be hung in the parlor of the church. She appeared in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

She died in Nov., 1935.


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HOWARD, BURT ESTES— A Presbyterian minister, then a Unitarian minister, then a professor at Stanford, he was born Feb. 23, 1863, in Clayton, N.Y.
He went to school at Shaw Academy, Cleveland. He graduated from Western Reserve University in 1883, received a masters’ degree from Lane Theological Seminary and was ordained a Presbyterian minister in 1886; served as a Presbyterian minister in Bay City, Mich., 1887-1890; in Cleveland, Ohio, 1890-1892 (assistant minister); then in Los Angeles, 1892-1895.

He married Sarah Gates 1890, and they had three children: Grenville (b. 1891), and twins Graeme and Emily (b. 1896). Sarah received her A.B. from Vassar in 1869, and received her Master’s degree from Stanford in 1902.

In 1895, while in Los Angeles, Burt was convicted of insubordination by the Los Angeles Presbytery, on what some considered to be trumped-up charges; the case was appealed to the judiciary commission of the Presbyterian Synod in San Jose. He served as a lecturer in professional ethics at Los Angeles Law School in 1897. In that year, he left Presbyterianism, and organized Church of the Covenant, a congregation independent of any denomination, continuing as minister there for three years.

He studied at Harvard beginning 1899, receiving his A.M. in 1900. He taught at Stanford from 1900-1902, studied at the University of Heidelberg 1902-1903, receiving his Ph.D. from that institution, and did additional study at the University of Berlin, 1903-1905, and eventually returned to Stanford as a professor of political science in 1908 at the invitation of David Starr Jordan.

He may have become a Unitarian minister c. 1899, during his year of study at Harvard. Before returning to Stanford to teach, he served as the minister of First Unitarian Church in Los Angeles, from 1905-1908. After his death, the American Unitarian Assoc. Christian Register said of him that he was a “ready and eloquent speaker, with a fine voice, [and] when he preached, his hearers thought he should do nothing else; but he was by temperament and interest a student and scholar,” and so left the ministry to become a “teacher and a professor.”

He wrote popular books, and Beacon Press, then the publishing arm of the American Unitarian Assoc., published two of his books, The Shepherd’s Question (1905) and The Test (1914). The
1910 U.S. Census reports him living in Mayfield with his wife and three children.

He appears to have joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 7, 1908 (entry for “[illegible] Estes Howard”). He spoke at a 1908 dinner of the Men’s Club of the Unitarian Church. While teaching at Stanford, he continued to preach in various Unitarian churches “as occasion offered.” In 1909, he preached regularly at the Unitarian church in Alameda, while Clarence Reed was on sabbatical.

He died of “overwork” on July 10, 1913, “at his home in Los Angeles.”


HOWARD, LOWRY SAMUEL—An educator, he was born Feb. 20, 1891, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. In 1910, he was living with his mother, father, and younger sister in Spokane, Wash.; his father taught in the public schools, and his mother kept a boarding house.

He taught the boys gr. 2-5 class in the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1916-1917, while he was a student at Stanford Univ.

He received his A.B. in education from Stanford Univ. in 1917. During the First World War, he served as a sergeant in Camp Lewis, Wis. He married Gretchen Darmer on Dec. 22, 1919.

He made financial contributions to the church from 1921 to 1922, after which his account is marked “Subscription discontinued due to removal.”

In 1921, he was the principal of the William Warren School, a military boarding and day school, in Menlo Park. The William
Warren School became Menlo School and Junior College (still existing today as two separate institutions, Menlo School and Menlo College, both in Atherton), and by 1931 Lowry was president of the school, a role he continued in through at least 1940. He died in 1949.

Notes: 1910, 1920, 1940 U.S. Census; California, World War I Selective Service System draft registration cards, Lowry Samuel Howard, 1917-1918; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921, 1932; California Death Index.

The Hulme Family

Edward Maslin Hulme —— Gertude May Jenkins

Mary Louise
Kenneth Plowden
Gertrude Ellen

Hulme, Edward Maslin— A historian, he was born on Sept. 17, 1868, in London, England. He received his B.A. from Stanford in 1897, and his M.A. from Cornell in 1902. He married Gertrude May Jenkins (q.v.) on June 20, 1906. They had three children: Mary Louise (b. c. 1908; q.v.); Kenneth Plowden (b. c. 1910); and Gertrude Ellen (b. c. 1914), all born in Idaho.

Edward first taught at the Univ. of Idaho in Moscow, Idaho. On Oct. 28, 1917, while living in Idaho, he preached at The First Unitarian Society of Spokane, Wash., on “The Ideals of the World War,” saying in part, “Shall the civilization and the ideals of the English-speaking peoples prevail? Or shall the civilization and ideals of Germany prevail?…When I speak of ‘German,’ I mean Prussianized Germany….” On Dec. 12, 1920, he again “occupied the platform for the Unitarian society at the Clemmer theater, Spokane [Washington],” this time speaking on “France, the French, and Europe.”

He joined the faculty of Stanford in 1921. He continued to speak at Unitarian churches, preaching at First Unitarian Church
of Berkeley in 1926.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1923, and was listed in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

His name appeared on the 1949 mailing list of the newly-formed Palo Alto Unitarian Society.


HULME, GERTRUDE ELLEN— Known as Ellen, she was born c. 1914, daughter of Edward (q.v.) and Gertrude May (q.v.) Hulme, and she was called Ellen. She attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and appears on an attendance sheet from 1921-1922; she was noted for good attendance in 1924.

HULME, GERTRUDE MAY JENKINS— She was born May, 1876, in Iowa; her father was from Wales, and became a state senator in Idaho. She received a B.S. from the Univ. of Idaho in 1903, and a B.A. in 1907. She married Edward Maslin Hulme on June 20, 1906. Edward taught at Univ. of Idaho, until taking a position at Stanford in 1921. They had three children: Mary Louise (b. c. 1908; q.v.); Kenneth Plowden (b. c. 1910); and Gertrude Ellen (b. c. 1914), all born in Idaho.

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was president of the Women’s Alliance in 1924-25. She was one of the teachers of grades 5 and 6 in the Sunday school, 1925-1926.

She was included on the mailing list of the newly-formed Palo Alto Unitarian Church in 1949.

Notes: 1900, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; Portland Oregonian, July 1, 1906; Catalog of the Univ. of Idaho 1906-1907; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1921; Stanford Daily, Dec. 14, 1921.

HULME, KENNETH PLOWDEN— He was born c. 1910 to Edward (q.v.) and Gertrude (q.v.) Hulme. He attended Sunday school at
the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and his name appears on an attendance sheet from 1921-1922.

**Hulme, Mary Louise**— She was born c. 1908 to Edward (q.v.) and Gertrude (q.v.) Hulme. She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was listed under her parents in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

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*Harry and Olive Hymphrey*

**Humphrey, Harry Baker**— A cereal pathologist, he was born in a log cabin, on a homestead farm, Aug. 4, 1873, in East Granite Falls, Minn. In 1880, the family was living in Harrisburg, Ore., then moved back to Minnesota. He received his B.S. in botany from the University of Minnesota in 1899, his Ph.D. from Stanford University in 1907, and married Olive Agatha Mealey on June 10, 1901; she had been in the same class with him at the University of Minnesota. They had six children: Llewelyn Mealey (b. c. 1903); Robert Regester (b. c. 1904); twins Isabel Estella and Helen Wadsworth (b. Aug. 6, 1906); Harry Bartholomew (b. c. 1912); and William David (b. c. 1916).

While a doctoral student at Stanford, he joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, on Nov. 19, 1905.

In 1908, he became a professor of botany at the State College of Washington in Pullman. In 1913, he became a cereal pathologist for the Office of Cereal Investigation in Washington, D.C. After he retired, in 1951, he and Olive moved to Los Altos.

He died on Oct. 13, 1955, and is buried in San Jose.


**Humphrey, Olive Agatha Mealey**— A botanist, she was born
May, 1875, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She graduated from high school in 1895. She received her B.S. in botany from the University of Minnesota in 1899, and expected to teach after graduation. In 1900, she was working as a teacher.

She married Harry Baker Humphrey, June 10, 1901. In 1902, she listed her profession as “Dramatic Reader.” She and Harry had six children: Llewelyn (b. c. 1903); Robert (b. c. 1904); and twins Isabelle “Tedda” and Helen “Heidi” (b. Aug. 6, 1906); Harry (b. c. 1912); and John (b. c. 1916). Robert and the twins were all born while the family was in Palo Alto.

Even with five children, Olive found time for continued study and other activities. She did graduate work at Stanford Univ. in 1903-1904. She read a paper to the Stanford Botanical Society. And in 1907-1908, she worked as Herbarium Assistant at Stanford. She and Harry, along with Karl and Emma Rendtorff (q.v.) and Bruno Boezinger (q.v.), were made “honorary members” of “Der Deutsche Verein Von Stanford.”

Olive joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905. She became one of the ten charter members of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, Oct. 21, 1905.

The family left Palo Alto in 1908 when Harry got a job in Washington state. Harry and Olive retired to Los Altos in 1951. She died in 1962.


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HUTCHINSON, JOSEPH— A lawyer, he was born Jan. 7, 1858, in San Francisco. He graduated from the University of California at Berkeley in 1878, and Hastings Law School in San Francisco in
1882. He married Kate Kellogg Aug. 26, 1886. They had three children: Joseph Kellogg (b. Nov. 25, 1888); Katherine (b. April 11, 1892); and James Sloan (b. July 3, 1893). The couple built a house in Palo Alto in 1891, and Joseph commuted to his law firm in San Francisco via train.

Joseph gave $100 towards the purchase of the building lot of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, one of the top seven donations. Kate, however, was an early member of the First Presbyterian Church in Palo Alto, and it is not clear whether Joseph ever participated in the life of the Unitarian church.

He died Sept. 1, 1910.

JOHNSON, EDITH EUGENIE— A physician, she was born Oct. 4, 1872, in Homer, Nebraska; both her parents were immigrants from Denmark. In 1880, her father listed his occupation as “farmer.”

As a girl, she decided that she wanted to pursue a medical career, but first she completed the course of study at Teacher’s College in Sioux City, Iowa. After high school, she worked a school teacher for a number of years. She was studying at Cornell by 1899, although in the 1900 U.S. Census she listed her occupation as “teacher,” and was living at home with her parents. She earned her M.D. at Cornell between 1903-1907.

By 1905, she was living in Palo Alto with her parents. She was awarded her M.D by Cornell in 1907, and began practicing medicine that year. She was named a teaching assistant at Stanford in 1908, and had a long affiliation with Stanford Hospital.

She was one of the early members of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She joined the church formally as a member in 1922, though her regular financial contributions began several years earlier. She was on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

In 1920, she was living in Palo Alto with her niece, Sara Davis (aged 22), her nephew John Rockwell (aged 26), and a boarder.

She died April 7, 1966.


JONES, MARIE T.— She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1923.

David and Jessie Jordan

★ JORDAN, DAVID STARR—First president of Stanford University, he was born in Gainesville, N.Y., on Jan. 19, 1951, the son of Universalists; he was given his middle name after Thomas Starr King, the Universalist and later Unitarian minister.

He received his M.S. in botany from Cornell in 1872. His first teaching job was at Lombard College, a Universalist college; however, the Universalists of that day were uncomfortable with his teaching about geological ages, and he was forced to leave after a year. He studied under Louis Agassiz 1873-1874, but unlike his mentor came to accept Darwin’s theory of evolution. He became first president of Stanford in 1891.

He married Sarah Bowen (b. 1845) in 1875, and they had three children: Edith (b. 1877), Harold (b. 1882), and Thora (b. 1884). Sarah died in 1885. David next married Jessie Knight (b. 1866; q.v.), and with her had three children: Knight Starr (b. 1888), Barbara (b. 1891), and Eric Knight (b. 1903). In the absence of any evidence that the younger children attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, it is safe to assume that they did not.

He was a pacifist, but when the U.S. entered the First World War, he felt he should not publicly oppose the war. He was uncomfortable with organized religion, and later claimed he only formally joined one congregation, a Congregational church in Indianapolis in 1875, though he soon resigned.

Jordan chaired the Eugenics Committee of the American Breeder’s Association, in 1906 the first organized eugenics group in the United States. Like others in the eugenics movement, he “advocated the exclusion of immigrants, African Americans, women, and the disabled.”

Although he was a supporter of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, he does not appear to have been an active participant until late in his life. He was one of the subscribers to the 1905 drive to purchase a building lot for the church; he contributed $25 (about $650 in 2014 dollars). He made regular financial contributions
beginning in 1905; in the 1915-1917 ledger, his account notes “subscription discontinued” in 1916; this was when William Short was minister. In correspondence to the Board of Trustees, he referred affectionately to what he termed “the little church.” When the congregation had no minister, 1919-1921, he preached at the church once a month. At their March, 1923, meeting, the Women’s Alliance enacted an “old-fashioned school at which Dr. Jordan took the part of the schoolmaster and the alliance members where pupils....” He gave a talk to the “Young People’s Group” of the church on May 30, 1926.

In his annual report for 1295, Rev. Elmo Arnold Robinson noted that David became a member of the church in that year, and he appeared in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

He died Sept. 19, 1931.


JORDAN, JESSIE KNIGHT— She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She does not appear in the 1926 list of members, and it is safe to assume that she did not participate in Unitarian Church.

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JORDAN, WALTER LYLE— A chemist, he was born in Aug., 1885, in San Francisco, California. His father was a German immigrant, and his mother was an Australian immigrant.

He enrolled as a freshman at Pomona College in 1904-1905. He then studied chemical engineering at Stanford in 1905-1906, and in 1907-1908, listing his permanent residence as Los Angeles. He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905.
By 1910, he was living in Yermo, Calif., listing his occupation as “chemist.” He was secretary-treasurer of the Southern Calif. section of the American Chemical Society in 1913. He married Marie G. Lilly, a divorcée, on April 12, 1918, in New York City, and continued to live in New York City through 1940.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920, 1940 U.S. Census; Pomona College Catalog, 1905-1906; Annual Register, Stanford Univ., 1905; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1910; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1932; Walter L. Jordan and Marie G. Lilly, April 12, 1918, marriage record, Manhattan, New York City Municipal Archives; Proceedings of the American Chemical Society, Easton, Penna.: Eschenbach Printing, 1914, p. 36.
KELLOGG, VERNON LYMAN—An entomologist, evolutionary biologist, and professor at Stanford, he was born Dec. 1, 1867, in Emporia, Kansas. William Allen White later wrote in the Emporia Gazette:

His was a happy boyhood. It was busy and purposeful. . . . [He] skated and sawm, trapped and hunted and fished and studied wildlife until the whole panorama of nature with the going and coming of plants and birds and flowers and the passing colors of grass and trees became a part of [his] life. Is it a wonder that such a boy became a scientist? (quoted in McLung)

In 1880, he was living with his parents and two brothers in Lyon, Kansas; his father was an attorney, a Republican, and a Congregationalist.

Vernon received his A.B. in 1889, and his A.M. in 1892, from the Univ. of Kansas. After teaching at the Univ. of Kansas, in 1894 David Starr Jordan (q.v.) brought him to Stanford Univ. One of his students at Stanford was Herbert Hoover, with whom he became friends.

It is possible that Vernon was involved with the Unity Society of Palo Alto in 1895-1897.

In 1908, he married Charlotte M. Hoffman of Berkeley in Florence, Italy, and by 1910 he was living in Mayfield with her. They had a daughter Jean (b. 1910, Berkeley, Calif.).

Vernon and David Starr Jordan wrote several books together, including Animal Life: A First Book of Zoology (textbook, 1900), Evolution and Animal Life (1907), and The Scientific Aspects of Luther Burbank’s Work (1909). Like Jordan, Vernon was a eugeniciest; for example, in Beyond War: A Chapter in the Natural History of Man (New York, Henry Hold & Co., 1912, p. 166), Vernon said:

The condition of altruism and communism, established in Man by selection and heredity and strongly reinforced and elaborated by tradition, means that for the most effective and successful life of the Man-species everything tending to aid and develop this altruism should be encouraged, and
everything standing in its way should be discouraged and weeded out. Man should help men — wisely. Charity should be reasoned. Men should take especial care of all useful individuals, of all clean-blooded, clear-minded, strong-bodied, disease-resistant, long-living individuals. From them should the race find its chief renewal, for through them, and through them alone, can the race actually advance; advance in terms of evolutionary time and evolutionary progress. This is the biological basis of rational eugenics.

Vernon also published many scientific papers, especially in the study of Mallophaga, or bird lice. He also wrote widely to popularize science.

He contributed $10 to the subscription fund for the church lot of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1905. He made regular financial contributions to the church from 1905 through 1911, but ceased contributing sometime before 1915. There is no record of his wife Charlotte participating in church life.

He was active in war relief work both during and after the First World War. In 1918-1920 he worked for the American Relief Administration in Poland. In 1920, he resigned from Stanford to work for the National Research Council in Washington, D.C. In 1930, he and Charlotte and Jean were living in Washington, D.C.

He died Aug. 8, 1937, at Hartford, Conn.


KIMBALL, J. H.— He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924.

Notes: No information found in directories of Palo Alto or Stanford Univ.

* KIMBALL, RUFUS HATCH— A lawyer, he was born July 20, 1883, in New York, to William H. and Cora Bell Hatch Kimball. After the death of his father, his mother moved the family to Palo Alto, and they lived in a house she had built at 1100 Bryant.

He received his A.B. in pre-law at Stanford in 1903, and his LL. B. at Harvard in 1907. He married Dorothy Florence Eaton
(b. July, 1894, in Santa Barbara) on April 10, 1912, and they were living in Berkeley in that year. They had three children: Rufus Hatch Jr. (b. Aug. 1, 1913), Roger Eaton (b. Dec. 15, 1915), and Cora Bell (b. c. 1918; she later changed her name to Dorothy C.). In 1920, the family was living in Palo Alto; in 1921, in Burlingame. His wife died Sept. 9, 1923, in San Francisco.

Rufus joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Dec. 2, 1908. He served on the Finance Committee of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1908-1909. In 1925, he served as president of the Board of Trustees. He was listed in the 1926 “List of Resident Members” of the church. It seems likely that his children attended Sunday school at this time. When the church turned over the building to the American Unitarian Association in 1930, after the cessation of regular services, Rufus was the one who communicated that fact to the Women’s Alliance.


In 1940 Rufus was living in San Francisco. But soon thereafter he married Dorothy Abbott Ames, also a Stanford graduate, and they moved back to 110 Bryant St., Palo Alto.

In the late 1940s, Rufus reportedly encouraged the formation of a new Unitarian congregation in Palo Alto. By 1951, he was Treasurer of the Palo Alto Unitarian Society, and he oversaw gaining exemption from Federal income tax. As an officer of both the old and new churches, he is one of the few people who can be documented as having been a member of both.

He continued to live at 1100 Bryant St. through the 1960s. He died May 2, 1967.

K — BIOGRAPHIES, 1905-1934 — K


KING, MRS.— She assisted Leila Lasley Thompson (q.v.) with the Sunday school in 1927.

Notes: The 1925 Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, Stanford Univ., Ravenswood, and East Palo Alto (Palo Alto: Willis Hall, 1925) lists seven people who could be Mrs. King.

KIRKPATRICK, MISS WINIFRED— She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1925, and was listed in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

Notes: No information found in directories of Palo Alto or Stanford Univ.

Agnes and Edwin Kitchen

KITCHEN, AGNES G. BARROWS— An active community volunteer, she was born Oct., 1866, in New York; her father, Austin Barrows, was a physician. She married Edwin Kitchen in July, 1890, and their marriage was recorded in Dodge County, Neb. They had a son Kendall B. (b. March, 1891, Neb.). In 1900, the family was living in Napa, Calif., and by 1904 they were living in Palo Alto.

Agnes was active in civic organizations in Palo Alto. After the 1906 earthquake, she was prominent in relief work in Palo Alto. She belonged to the Palo Alto Woman’s Club, and was for a time president of the local branch of the Needlework Guild of America.

She became a member of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905. She was the first president of the Women’s Alliance. She also served on the Board of Trustees of the church.

She died Oct. 4, 1907, and her memorial service was held at the church on Oct. 7, with Rev. Sydney Snow officiating.
KITCHEN, EDWIN BRUCE—He was born July 13, 1864, in Canada. In 1881 he was living with his family in Ontario, and they gave their religion as Methodist Episcopal. He immigrated to the United States in 1879, though in the 1881 Canada Census his parents said he was still living with them (by this time, they were Free Will Baptists).

He married Agnes Barrows July 21, 1890, in Fremont, Neb., and their son Kendall Bruce was born in Nebraska a year later (March 3, 1891). From 1900 to 1908, Edwin listed his profession as “feather renovator”; a feather renovator cleans feathers for reuse in pillows.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905. Agnes died in 1907. In 1908 Edwin was living in Los Gatos, and he became a naturalized U.S. citizen. By 1910, he had moved to Los Angeles, and was living with his sister Jeanette, their mother Christine (who had been born in Scotland), and his son Kendall. He married Maud Kuffel on Nov. 12, 1912, in Los Angeles; a judge officiated at the wedding. Edwin had three more children, became a manufacturer of mattresses, and continued to live in Los Angeles.

He died in 1940 in Los Angeles.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; 1871, 1881 U.S. Census; Nebraska Marriages, 1855-1995, Dodge County; Directory of Palo Alto and Campus, A. T. Griffith, 1904; Petition for Naturalization, Edwin B. Kitchen (no. 69), March 21, 1908; California, County Marriages, 1850-152, Los Angeles County Marriage License; California Death Index.
Helga and Joseph Knapp

KNAPP, HELGA— She was noted as a new member of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1922, and was listed in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

Notes: No information found in directories of Palo Alto or Stanford Univ.

KNAPP, JOSEPH G.— He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was listed in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” He took charge of the “Explorer’s Club,” a group for high school students at the church, in January, 1924.

Notes: No information found in directories of Palo Alto or Stanford Univ.

Knudsen, K. B.— He made regular financial contributions to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1922, and was on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

Notes: Major K. B. Knudsen was the commandant of the Palo Alto Military Academy in 1924 (Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, Runnymede, and Stanford Univ., Palo Alto: Willis Hall, 1924), but no further information was found about him.

kreps, Helen Katharine— A theological student who died of influenza in 1919, she was born Oct., 1894, in North Dakota, when her father was based at Fort Totten, then on the Indian frontier.

Since her father was a military officer, the family moved frequently in her first ten years; her younger brother was born in Nebraska, and in 1900 the family was living near San Diego. At the time of the 1906 earthquake, her father was based in Fort McDowell, Calif., though it is not clear if his family was with him. The family must have been in Palo Alto for at least part of 1910, for Helen attended the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto when Rev. Florence Buck was filling in for Rev. Clarence Reed. Helen, then in
high school, was deeply influenced both by Unitarianism, and by Buck, a woman, in the pulpit. Later in 1910, Helen and her family were living at Cape Nome, Alaska.

Helen returned to Palo Alto to enter Stanford in the 1911-12 academic year. She worked as a filing clerk in the Stanford library beginning in 1912; Hilda Flügel (q.v.) of the Unitarian Church also worked in the library during this time. While at Stanford, Helen majored in German, and participated in the summer, 1914, session of the Marine Biological Library. She was elected president of the Stanford English Club.

In 1915, she graduated from Stanford with high honors, and worked in the Stanford library in 1915-1916. She taught the first and second graders in the Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in that same year. She made regular financial contributions to the church in 1916; after which the notation “discontinued thru removal” appears under her account.

In the fall of 1916, Helen entered the Pacific Unitarian School for the Ministry, where she showed impressive intellectual gifts. But Earl Morse Wilbur, the president of the school, also remembered Helen’s exceptional character:

Quiet and modest in bearing though she was, never asserting herself or her views, yet we instinctively felt that in her there was depth and breadth of character, and as she moved about among us she won a respect and exerted an influence that belong to few. I remember saying to myself at the end of her first chapel service, in which the depth and sincerity of her religious nature were revealed, that I should count myself happy if she might sometime be my minister; and those who were present at the devotional service which she conducted at the Conference at Berkeley last spring will not soon forget the impression she then made.

During the summer of 1918, Helen supplied the pulpit of the Unitarian church in Santa Cruz, returning to the Pacific Unitarian School for the Ministry in the fall. She was well on her way to receiving her degree summa cum laude, when the world-wide influenza epidemic struck the Bay Area in October, 1918. In March, 1919, Earl Morse Wilbur reported the following in the Pacific Unitarian:

It happened that Miss Kreps and Miss Budlong [another theological student] had last year both taken a University course in Red Cross nursing; and when
the emergency call came for nurses to care for the hundreds of victims on the campus they both volunteered without a moment's hesitation. It was expected that the trouble would be over and that they would return to work within two weeks. Instead they paid as dearly for their patriotic service as many soldiers have done. Both were soon stricken with the influenza. … Miss Kreps’s case developed a dangerous attack of pneumonia, and for weeks her life hung in the balance; and she is even yet in the military hospital in San Francisco, slowly regaining her strength, and will be unable to return to her studies before next autumn.…

But Helen did not recover, and in the same month, March, 1919, the Pacific Unitarian carried Earl Morse Wilbur’s obituary for Helen, who had died Feb. 23, 1919, at the Letterman General Hospital in the San Francisco Presidio.

The Latimer Family

LATIMER, MARY B. NEYES— She was born c. 1886 in Calif. She married William B. Latimer (q.v.) c. 1916, and they had two daughters, Mary S. (b. Dec. 25, 1917, Calif.; q.v.), and Katherine L. (b. c. 1921, Calif.). Mary S. was christened by Rev. Bradley Gilman of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and William and Mary Noyes were listed in the 1919 parish directory. By 1920, Mary B., William, and Mary S. were living in Santa Cruz, and by 1930 they were living in Paso Robles, now with Katherine L.

Notes: 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; California Birth Index for Mary S. Latimer

LATIMER, MARY S.— She was born Dec. 25, 1917, in Santa Clara County, Calif., daughter of William B. (q.v.) and Mary B. (q.v.) Latimer. She was christened on March 31, 1918, by Rev. Bradley Gilman.

Notes: California Birth Index.

LATIMER, WILLIAM B.— A druggist, he was born Oct. 12, 1883, in Calif. In 1900, he was living with his adoptive parents, Benjamin G. and Helen B. Latimer, in San Luis Obispo, Calif.; both Benjamin and William were working as druggists. In 1910, William was still living with his adoptive parents in San Luis Obispo, and he and his father were still working as druggists. He married Mary B. Neyes (q.v.) c. 1916, and they had two daughters, Mary S. (b. Dec. 25, 1917, Calif.; q.v.), and Katherine L. (b. c. 1921, Calif.).

Mary S. was christened by Rev. Bradley Gilman of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and William and Mary Noyes were listed in the 1919 parish directory.

In 1920, William, Mary B., and Mary S. were living in Santa Cruz, where William worked as a druggist, and by 1930 they were
living in Paso Robles, Calif., and William was still a druggist. He died in 1958.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920 U.S. Census; California Birth Index for Mary S. Latimer; California Death Index.

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LAWTON, MRS. ADELE R.— In 1916, she was teaching at the Castilleja School. She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.


Karl and Rachel Leib

LEIB, KARL ELIAS— He was born in Dec., 1888, in Iowa, and in 1900 was living in Des Moines Township, Iowa, with his parents and older brother. In 1910, he was living with his family in Cedar Township, Mont.

He received an A.B. in pre-law from Stanford Univ. in 1916. He married Rachel Smith (q.v.) on Dec. 28, 1917, in Los Angeles; Rev. E. Stanton Hodgins, minister of the Unitarian church in Los Angeles, officiated.

He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, though by 1919, he and Rachel were living in Montana. In 1920, he and Rachel were living with Karl’s parents in Superior, Mont., and Karl was working as a “land classifier” for a mineral company. By 1921, he was an instructor at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920 U.S. Census; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921; California, County Marriages, 1850-1952, County of Los Angeles, Marriage License. Montana State Historical Society records show that Karl and Rachel had a child born in Montana in July, 1919, that died the same day.
Leib, Rachel Belle Smith—She was born Dec., 1895, in Minnesota. By 1910, she was living with her parents and three brothers in Los Angeles; her father George B. Smith listed no occupation, but had his “own income.”

She attended Stanford Univ. from 1916 to 1918. She married Karl Leib (q.v.) on Dec. 28, 1917, in Los Angeles; Rev. E. Stanton Hodgins, minister of the Unitarian church in Los Angeles, officiated. She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, though by 1919 she and Karl were living in Montana. By 1921, she was living with Karl in Seattle.

Notes: 1900, 1910 U.S. Census; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921. Montana State Historical Society records show that Karl and Rachel had a child born in Montana in July, 1919, that died the same day.

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The Longanecker Family

🌟 Longanecker, Errol George—He was born George Errol Longanecker on March 4, 1889, in Susanville, Calif. By 1900, his family was living in Lassen, Calif. In 1910, he was living with his parents Charles, a carpenter, and Emma in Mayfield; he was attending Heald’s Business College in San Francisco. In 1915, he was still in Palo Alto, now working as a machinist. Subsequently, he worked variously a shipping clerk for the telegraph company, and a clerk for a radio manufacturer. He married Laura R. —— c. 1919, and they had a son Errol (b. c. 1923).

He and his wife made financial contributions to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto beginning in 1922, were noted as new members that year, and were on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

By 1940, he was living with Laura in Palo Alto, and was a custodian in the city parks. He died in 1955; Rev. Dan Lion of the Palo Alto Unitarian Church, successor to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, officiated at his memorial service on April 18, 1955.

Notes: 1920, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census; Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, and
LONGANECKER, ERROL— He was born c. 1923 in California, son of Errol (q.v.) and Laura (q.v.) Longanecker. He was christened by Rev. Elmo A Robinson of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Dec. 23, 1923.

Notes: 1930 U.S. Census.

LONGANECKER, LAURA R.— She was born c. 1890 in Missouri. She married Errol Longanecker (q.v.) c. 191, and they had a son, Errol (b. c. 1923). She and her husband made financial contributions to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto starting in 1922, were noted as new members in that year, and were on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

Notes: 1920, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census.

LOONEY, SUSAN MARIE—A teacher, she was born Oct., 1880 in Minnesota. By 1900, she was living with her mother, stepfather, and siblings in Dresbach Township, Winona County, Minn., and she was working as a schoolteacher. By 1910, she was living in Palo Alto with her father and siblings; her father was the captain of a “river steamer.” She received her A.B. in education from Stanford Univ. in 1911. By 1920, she was sharing a room with Lusanna Clary (q.v.), another teacher.

She was listed in the 1920 membership list of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. In 1921, she was teaching at Palo Alto Union High School. By 1930, she had moved to Los Angeles, where she was a high school teacher. Her name was on the 1949 mailing list of the newly-formed Palo Alto Unitarian Society, with her address as a P.O. Box in Palo Alto. She died in 1960.

Notes: 1920, 1930 U.S Census; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921;

Charlie and Walter Lowensteins

LOWENSTEIN, CHARLIE MAY HOGUE— She was born Aug., 1898, in Arkansas. In 1900, she was living in Prairie Township, Ark, with her parents and a brother and sister. By 1910, the family was living in Memphis, Tenn., and in 1920, just before she got married, she was working as a typist and living with her parents in Memphis. She married Walter Lowenstein (q.v.) on Dec. 28, 1920, in Shelby County, Tenn. She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1923. Walter died in 1923, and it is difficult to trace her after his death, but it appears she had remarried and was divorced by 1935.

Notes: 1900, 1910 U.S. Census; Tennessee, County Marriages, 1790-1950, Shelby County, Marriage License; Arkansas Divorce Index, 1923-1939, Charlie M. Simon, spouse’s name Howard.

LOWENSTEIN, WALTER BERNARD— He was born April 8, 1879, in Tennessee; both his parents were born in Germany. In 1900, he was living in Memphis, Tenn., and working as a salesman. In 1910, he had moved to Nashville, where he was a dairy farmer, living with his brother-in-law, a doctor, and his sister. By 1918, he was working on a ranch in Breed, Colo. He married Charlie Hogue (q.v.) on Dec. 28, 1920, in Shelby County, Tenn.

He was involved with the “single tax” movement, and in 1921 he arranged a debate on the single tax concept that included Prof. J. B. Canning of Stanford Univ. (husband of Dorothy Canning, q.v.); at the time, he had bought a two-acre lot in Palo Alto and was planning to build a house there. He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1923. His death was noted in the annual report of that year.

Notes: 1900, 1910 U.S. Census; Colorado, World War I Selective Service System draft registration cards, Walter Bernard Lowenstein, 1917-1918; Tennessee, County Marriages, 1790-1950, Shelby County, Marriage
License; *Single Tax Review*, vol. 21 no. 4, July-Aug., 1921; *Single Tax Review*, vol. 21 no. 6, Nov.-Dec., 1921; California Death Index.
The Maddux - Walker Family

MADDUX, EDITH MARION WALKER—A schoolteacher and an active volunteer, she was born Aug. 29, 1878, in Somerville, Massachusetts. She attended Radcliffe College 1890-93, and helped start a California Radcliffe Club in 1909.

She married Parker Maddux Sept. 12, 1905, in Somerville, Mass. Together they had two children, Jackson (b. c. 1907) and Meredith (b. 1910). In 1910, the family was living in San Francisco, with two Japanese servants. They moved to Palo Alto by 1915. By 1920, her mother, Nellie M. Walker, lived with them in Palo Alto.

Edith was active in the California League of Women Voters, and was on the board of the National League for Women’s Service. She chaired the committee to establish a Community House in Palo Alto, and wrote:

No argument is needed for the immediate and universal establishment of these community centers in a land whose citizens really believe in life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness as inalienable rights. (“Palo Alto Community House,” Pacific Unitarian, Oct., 1920, p. 239.)

She taught the high school Sunday school class at the Unitarian Church from 1915 through 1920, and she served on the Sunday School Committee in 1916 with Emma Rendtorff (q.v.) and Anna Peck (q.v.). She was in the 1920 membership list.

She expressed some of her religious philosophy in a poem published in the Pacific Unitarian, April, 1919, p. 91; in this poem she criticizes what we would now call “scientism,” and she finds evidence of an Emersonian God in the natural world:

…when the silly little mind of man
Apparelled is with language big and glowing,
Frilled with philosophy and “science,” knowing,
And masquerading like a King with crown,
Whose scepter cuts the blooms and blossoms down,
Decaps the shrubs and whacks at royal trees
Along his pavéd walk—
’Tis only then doubts stalk.
Too often pseudo-learned men will cry “There is no God.”
But common folk still thrill with surging glee
And worship! Ah! The bluish bird, the golden tree!
God’s messengers to simple you and me.

Shortly after the United State entered the First World War, she outlined her views on what Unitarianism had to offer to a world in crisis. She examined the then-popular Unitarian affirmation of faith, used in the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto—that Unitarians believe in the “the fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of Man, the leadership of Jesus, salvation by character, and progress onwards and upwards forever”—to see if it remained relevant during the First World War:

We grope blindly for words of hope; we fall from our high smugness when we can say that we know right from wrong, and we humbly acknowledge that we only know service from slavishness, and sacrifice from selfishness. We try our creeds; they will not stretch to cover all the angles of woe. They are words without works. We say haltingly: We believe in the Fatherhood of God, and we are led up even as Isaac before Abraham. We believe in the Brotherhood of Man, and we are all killing each other. We believe in the Leadership of Jesus, but he lived in an age of peace—dishonored and enslaved peace to be sure—but the battles he fought were moral conditions and the war he waged was spiritual, and the victory he won was death (Well, it is always Death, we say); and we go on with the familiar words—We believe in Salvation by character; and we try to say, We believe in the Progress of mankind onward and upward forever. We choke over the last phrase. And this has been our simple creed—our Unitarianism, seemingly now almost in tatters. (“The Message of Unitarianism in the Present World Crisis,” Pacific Unitarian, Dec., 1917, pp. 342-344)

She concluded the essay by pointing out that human beings are always working on the fabric of civilization, either as “weavers” or as “unravellers”; and those who are the weavers must continue their work as best they can, “no matter what it costs.”

She died in 1932.

MADDOX, PARKER SIMMONS—A banker and lawyer, he was born May 29, 1880, in Dixon, Calif. He received his bachelor’s degree from Univ. Calif., Berkeley, in 1902, and his LL.B. from Harvard in 1905. He married Edith Walker (q.v.) in 1905.

He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Edith died in 1932, and Parker married Grace Butler in 1933. By the end of his life he was Roman Catholic.


WALKER, G. A.—He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. He appeared on the 1920 membership list, but was crossed out in the 1921 revision. Rev. Bradley Gilman of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto officiated at his funeral on June 3, 1918.

Notes: With such a common name, he proved impossible to trace.

WALKER, NELLIE WALKER—She was born c. 1860 in Massachusetts. She married G. A. Walker (q.v.). In 1920, she was living with her daughter, Edith Walker Maddux (q.v.). She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She appeared on the 1920 membership list, but was crossed out in the 1921 revision. In 1930, she was still living with Edith and Parker.

Notes: 1920, 1930 U.S. Census.

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MANCHESTER, FREDERICK ALEXANDER—He was born Dec. 31, 1883, in Wisconsin. He received his A.B. from the Univ. of Wisconsin in 1904, and his A.M. in 1905. He was an instructor in English at Stanford from 1906 to 1908. He gave $5 to the “Church Lot Subscription” fund of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in
1906 (recorded in the ledger, but not on the subscription list). He married Jane Fries of Wisconsin in Palo Alto on March 10, 1908; a Methodist Episcopal minister officiated at the ceremony. By 1910, he and Jane were living in Madison, Wis., and Frederick was an instructor at the Univ. of Wis.

Notes: 1910 U.S. Census; Annual Register, Stanford Univ., 1906; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921; California, County Marriages, 1850-1952, County of Santa Clara, Marriage License.

MARBLE, RUSSELL PRICE—See: Fisher - Marble Family

The Martin Family

ERNEST WHITNEY MARTIN — ABBY FIELD SLADE

STOREY SLADE
FRANCIS WHITNEY
MARION ELIZABETH

MARTIN, ABBY FIELD SLADE—She was born June 30, 1875, in Ohio, the youngest of nine children. Her father, William Hooker Slade, was a lumber merchant in Columbus. Her father was probably the William H. Slade of Columbus who was a Trustee of the Ohio Convention of Universalists, and who served as a Trustee of Buchtel College, a Universalist college; and her older sister [Marion] Belle Slade was a vice-president of the Universalist “Sunday-School Convention.” She married Ernest Whitney, of Medina, Ohio, in Columbus, Ohio, on May 23, 1900. They had three children, all born in Palo Alto: Story Slade Martin (b. Oct. 23, 1906); Francis Whitney Martin (b. Apr. 26, 1908); and Marion E. (b. 1910). Storey suffered from an unspecified mental illness.

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905. The church ledger for 1917 through 1924 shows that she stopped her financial contribution to the church in 1918, but
resumed again in 1924. She was listed in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” She was one of the ten women at the first meeting of the Women’s Alliance, Oct. 21, 1905. She remained active in the Alliance up through 1932, and one of the last meetings was held at her house.

She served the City of Palo Alto on the Advisory Board on Commercial Amusements from 1923 to 1946.

She died in 1960; Rev. Dan Lion of the Palo Alto Unitarian Church, successor to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, officiated at her memorial service on Aug. 31, 1960.


MARTIN, ERNEST WHITNEY—A professor of classics, he was born March 15, 1873, in Chippewa Lake, Medina County, Ohio. In 1880, his father, J. Wilson Whitney, gave his occupation as “sells sewing machines.” Ernest graduated from Medina High School, attended Buchtel College, a Universalist college, and then was teacher and principal of the high school in Clarinda, Iowa.

He joined the 51st Iowa Volunteers in 1898 and served in the Spanish American War and the Philippine Insurgency to 1899.

He received his B.A. from Univ. of Chicago in 1900, and married Abby Field Slade on May 30, 1900. They lived in Rome 1900-1901 while Ernest pursued post-graduate study American School of Classical Studies, affiliated with the American Institute of Archaeology, and then went to the Univ. of Berlin. Subsequently, Ernest went to Stanford as an assistant in Latin, receiving his A.M. from Stanford in 1902, and his Ph.D. in 1910.

He and Abby had three children: Story Slade (b. Oct. 23, 1906); Francis Whitney (b. Apr. 26, 1908); and Marion E. (b. 1910). Storey suffered from an unspecified mental illness.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905. He served as Treasurer in 1908, and was a delegate to the Pacific
MARTIN, FRANCIS WHITNEY— He was born April 26, 1908, son of Abby (q.v.) and Ernest (q.v.) Martin. He was christened on March 31, 1918, by Rev. Bradley Gilman of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. It is likely that Francis attended Sunday school at the church, and he was listed under his parents in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” He received his A.B. from Stanford Univ. in 1929, and went on to do graduate study at Northwestern Medical School. He married Eleanor Goodrich on June 11, 1932. By 1940, he was a physician and surgeon living in Butte Judicial Township, Mount Shasta, Calif. He died in 1993.


MARTIN, MARION E.— She was born Jan. 1, 1910, son of Abby
UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934

(q.v.) and Ernest (q.v.) Martin. She was christened on March 31, 1918, by Rev. Bradley Gilman of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and her name appears on an attendance sheet from 1921-1922. She became a member of the church in 1924, and was listed under her parents in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

In 1940, she was living with her parents and her brother Storey (q.v.) in Palo Alto, and working as saleswoman in a dry goods store. She died in 2012, and is buried with her parents in Palo Alto.


MARTIN, STOREY SLADE— He was born on October 23, 1906, son of Abby (q.v.) and Ernest (q.v.) Martin. He was christened on March 31, 1918, by Rev. Bradley Gilman of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto; Storey probably attended Sunday school at the church. He became a member of the church in 1923, and he was listed under his parents in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” By 1930, he was still living at home with his parents and younger siblings. In 1931, he was listed as playing euphonium in the Stanford band, which his father directed.

On his World War II draft card is the notation, “He is a mental case”; this imprecise description implies some kind of debilitating mental illness. He died in 1991 in Shasta, Calif.


MAYTIN, JOSEPH GREGORY— He was born c. 1897 in Latvia. He studied at the Oriental Institute in Vladivostok, Siberia, in 1918, and traveled in the Far East in 1916, 1917, and 1920. He was part
of the American Railway Commission to Russia in 1918, where he probably knew Frank Golder (q.v.). He received his A.B. from the Univ. of California in 1921, and his A.M. in 1922. He was a lecturer in political science at Mills College in 1922-1923, taught in the Univ. of California’s summer session in Los Angeles in 1923, then became an instructor in citizenship at Stanford Univ. in 1923-1924. He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and addressed the church’s Humanist Club (as their organization for young adults was then called) in Nov., 1923. By 1932, he was living in Washington, D.C., and in 1940 was working as an economist for the Social Security Administration.


The Marx Family

Joseph Eugene Marx — Johanna Eleanora Pulster
C.D. Marx — Harriet Grotecloss

Guido Hugo Marx — Gertrude van Dusen

Roland
Dorothy Sherwood
Stephanie
Alberta Graham

Eleanor
Guido van Dusen
Isabel Townley
Sylvia
Barbara Givan

Sidney Eleanor
Guido Townley

Givan, Barbara Marx— A teacher, she was born March 22, 1907, in Palo Alto, daughter of Guido Hugo (q.v.) and Gertrude van Dusen (q.v.) Marx.

She no doubt attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church.
of Palo Alto. She taught the “Infant Class” in the Sunday school in 1918-1919, when she was 12.

She received her B.A. in 1927, and her M.A. in psychology from Stanford in 1928. She did additional graduate study in child development at Univ. Minnesota. She married Charles Vernon Givan in 1935; he received an M.A. in civil engineering from Stanford in 1933; they had two children, Curtis and Barbara. After living in Davis, they returned to Palo Alto in 1945; Barbara taught nursery school at the Peninsula School in Menlo Park; later she was coordinator for the Foreign Visitor’s Office at Stanford.


MARX, ALBERTA— She was born Jan. 14, 1900, daughter of Charles David (q.v.) and Harriet Groteclos (q.v.) Marx. She was listed in the parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1919, and the 1920 membership list.

Notes: See notes for Charles David Marx.

MARX, CHARLES DAVID— A professor of civil engineering, he was born Oct. 10, 1857, in Toledo, Ohio. Both his parents were born in Germany. His father, a newspaper editor, died in 1872, when Charles David was fifteen; Charles David was sent to live with relatives in Germany while his brother Guido Hugo (q.v.), then 1 year old, stayed in the U.S.

He graduated from a German preparatory school in 1876. Back in the U.S., he received his degree in civil engineering from Cornell in 1878. After graduation, he worked as assistant in Engineering at Karlsruhe Polytechnic School.

Returning to the United States, he worked for the U.S. government for two years on Missouri River improvements. From 1884 to 1890, he returned to Cornell as a professor. He married Harriet Elizabeth Grotecloss (q.v.), Cornell ’84, on July 18, 1888. With Harriet, he had four children: Roland Grotecloss (b. May 15,
Marx left the University of Wisconsin in 1891 to become one of the first ten professors at Stanford, at the request of David Starr Jordan. He served as professor of Civil Engineering, and ended his career in 1923 as vice president of Stanford.

Outside his academic work, he was active in public life. He helped develop and manage publicly-owned utilities in the city of Palo Alto. He was appointed to the California Water Commission in 1911. He served as chair of the State Conservation Commission under Governor Pardee (Pardee, coincidentally, was the stepson of Emily Pardee Karns Dixon [q.v.]).

Charles David began making regular contributions to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1906. He served on the Pulpit Committee of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto beginning in 1920, was in the 1920 membership list, and subsequently preached at the church. In Oct., 1923, he gave a sermon at the church titled “The Contributions of the Engineering Sciences.”

He died Dec. 31, 1939, in Palo Alto.


MARX, ELEANOR— She was born June 8, 1897, daughter of Guido Hugo (q.v.) and Gertrude van Dusen (q.v.) Marx. She was listed in the parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1919. She died in 1925.

Notes: See notes for Gertrude van Dusen Marx.

MARX, GERTRUDE FRANCES VAN DUSEN— A librarian and housewife, she was born in Palmyra, New York, Dec. 3, 1863.

She was a student at Cornell University in 1880-1882. She did
not complete a degree, but became a cataloguer in the Cornell library system.

She married Guido Hugo Marx (q.v.) on June 6, 1895, and they had four children: Eleanor (June 28, 1897–1925); Sylvia (Dec. 18, 1901-1904); Guido Van Dusen (May 27, 1900–1939; q.v.); Barbara (b. March 22, 1907).

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905. She and her husband gave $100 towards the purchase of the church building lot, one of the top seven donations. Guido, Jr., and Eleanor were probably among the first members of the Sunday school. Gertrude was an early member of the Women’s Alliance.

She was an amateur musician, and she was one of the founders of the Peninsula Musical Association. She was active in the Palo Alto Woman’s Club, and for a time chaired that club’s Art and Literature Department.

She died in 1945.


Marx, Guido Hugo—A professor of engineering, he was born on March 29, 1871, in Toledo, Ohio, the son of German immigrants.

He received a degree in mechanical engineering from Cornell University in 1893, then worked in industry for two years. In 1895, he was recruited to be a professor of engineering at Stanford by a former professor at Cornell, Albert W. Smith. “Highly adept at both design and fabrication, Marx…pieced together from almost nonexistent budgets a respectable university machine shop, while carrying a heavy load of teaching….” Guido continued at Stanford until 1936, when he became professor emeritus.

He married Gertrude Frances van Dusen (q.v.) on June 6, 1895; she was a friend of one of his sisters. He and Gertrude had four children: Eleanor (June 28, 1897–1925); Sylvia (Dec. 18,
Guido served on the Palo Alto Planning Commission, and was instrumental in the construction of the first municipal power plant in Palo Alto. He helped organize the local branch of the Progressive Party, and was a delegate to that party’s national convention in 1912. He was also active with the American Civil Liberties Union, with special interest in organized labor rights. Guido was a pacifist who wrote an essay in 1936 on conscientious objectors.

He and his wife gave $100 towards the purchase of the building lot for the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, one of the top seven donations. He began making regular contributions in 1906, and formally joined the church in 1909. He was a supporter of Rev. William Short, minister at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1915-1916, and his support continued after Short left the church to do peace work during the First World War: when Short was arrested on trumped-up draft evasion charges in 1918, Guido was one of those who tried to post bail.

As did Karl Rendtorff and David Starr Jordan, Guido purchased a summer house in Carmel.

He was included on a list of Unitarians to contact in 1947 when a new Unitarian congregation was being formed, and his name appeared in the 1949 mailing list of the Palo Alto Unitarian Society.

He died Sept. 10, 1949, in Palo Alto, having outlived his wife and three of his four children.

MARX, GUIDO TOWNLEY— He was born in 1934. When he married Lada Dziewanna Sobieski on March 23, 1956, the officiant was Unitarian minister Rev. Dan Lion, the minister of Palo Alto Unitarian Church, successor to the old Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. However, Guido Townley appears to have had no other connection with the Palo Alto Unitarian Church.

Notes: 1940 U.S. Census; “Palo Alto Unitarian Church: Records of Religious Ceremonies from Sept. 1, 1949.”

MARX, GUIDO VAN DUSEN— He was born May 27, 1900, and possibly attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto; he was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the church. He married Isabel Townley, and they had two children: Guido Townley (q.v.; b. 1934) and Sidney Eleanor. He died May 14, 1939, at Half Moon Bay.


★ MARX, HARRIET ELIZABETH GROTECLOSS— A botanist and entomologist, and a pioneering woman scholar, she was born June 8, 1861, in New York City.

She attended Normal College (now Hunter College) in N.Y.C. before entering Cornell in 1880. She received her B.S. in entomology and botany from Cornell in 1884; her thesis on “Notes on the Early Stages of Some Trichoptera,” received an honorable mention. She was appointed a fellow in botany and entomology at Cornell, 1884-1885; this was the first time such an institution awarded a fellowship to a woman.

After the fellowship in botany and entomology, she taught school in Indiana and New York from 1885-1886, then was Teacher of Science at the Framingham (Mass.) Normal School (now Framingham State University) from 1886-1888. She did further study at Stanford from 1895-1898, including classes in drawing.

She married Charles David Marx on July 18, 1888. Together,
they had four children: Roland Grotecloss (b. May, 1889); Dorothy Grotecloss (b. Jan. 1891); Stephanie (b. Feb. 1893); and Alberta (b. Jan. 14, 1900).

She was affiliated with the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and from at least 1915 to at least 1917, financial contributions to the church were made in her name, not her husband’s name.

She died on April 9, 1937.

Notes: 1900 U.S. Census; Albert H. Wright, Studies in History, 1953, p. 113; Cornell Sun, June 19, 1884; Marion Talbot, The History of the American Assoc. of University Women, Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1931, p. 146; “Women Who Have Taken Degrees at Cornell University,” Educational Institute Pamphlets, vol. 9, 1922; Stanford University Annual Register, 1896-1897.

Alice and Haven Mason

MASON, ALICE MARILDA WEBBER— She was born Nov 6, 1867, in Placer County, California. She married Haven A. Mason Sept. 25, 1888; “John G. Gasmann, Presbyter,” officiated. They had three children: Ruth (b. Sept., 1889, Calif.), Bernard Darwin (b. Nov. 1890, Calif.), and Helen Adele (b. May, 1900, Calif.). In 1900, they were living in Santa Clara Township, Calif.; by 1910, they were in Fremont Township, and only Bernard was still living at home; and in 1920 they lived in San Francisco.

She was a member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto from at least 1925 to 1929.

She died in 1933, and is buried in Santa Clara, Calif.


MASON, HAVEN ALEXANDER— A lawyer, he was born May,
1858, in Wisconsin. By 1880, he was living in San Jose with his parents and two sisters, and working as a lawyer. He married Alice Webber (q.v.) Sept. 25, 1888; “John G. Gasmann, Presbyter,” officiated. They had three children: Ruth (b. Sept., 1889, Calif.), Bernard (b. Nov. 1890, Calif.), and Helen (b. May, 1900, Calif.). In 1900, they were living in Santa Clara Township, Calif.; by 1910, they were in Fremont Township, and Haven was a lawyer in general practice; and in 1920 they lived in San Francisco, where Haven gave his occupation as lawyer and bond expert.

He was active in the Laymen’s League of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and hosted one of their meetings in 1924. In 1930, he and Alice lived in Palo Alto, next door to Everett (q.v.) and Ruth (q.v.) Calderwood, and Haven was working as a municipal attorney.

Alice died in 1933, and he died in 1950.


MATZKE, JOHN ERNST—He was born Oct. 20, 1860, in Breslau, Germany. He came to the United States at age 15, and went to college at Hope College, Holland, Mich., a school affiliated with the Dutch Reformed Church. He received his Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins in 1888, and after teaching at Bowdoin College, the Univ. of Indiana, and Johns Hopkins. He began teaching Romanic languages at Stanford Univ. in 1893.

He married Edith Virginia Hedges (b. Dec., 1866, Penna.) in Oklahoma Terr. on June 26, 1895, and they had three children: John Ernst, Jr. (b. May, 1897, d. bef. 1910), David Ernst (b. Aug., 1899, Calif.), and Robert Rudolf (b. c. 1902, Calif.).

He made regular financial contributions to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto beginning in 1907.
He died Sept. 18, 1910. Melville Anderson (q.v.), Jefferson Elmore (q.v.), Benjamin Oliver Foster (q.v.), and Ewald Flügel (q.v.) all contributed to a Matzke Memorial Volume published by Stanford in his honor.


Hulda and William Maxwell

MAXWELL, HULDA G. ANDERSEN— She was born c. 1880 in California, and both her parents had been born in Denmark. She married William C. Maxwell (q.v.) on Aug. 2, 1905; they had three children, Helene (b. c. 1908), Ann Deborah (b. c. 1911), and William (b. c. 1913).

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Notes: 1920, 1930 U.S. Census.

MAXWELL, WILLIAM CLARENCE— Variously a reporter, lawyer, and college professor, who at one time prepared for the Unitarian ministry, he was born Sept., 1873, in California.

By 1900, he was working as a newspaper reporter in San Francisco. He married Hulda C. Andersen (q.v.) on Aug. 2, 1905. They had three children, Helene (b. c. 1908), Ann Deborah (b. c. 1911), and William (b. c. 1913). He graduated from Stanford University with a degree in English in 1918, and then entered Pacific Unitarian School for the Ministry.

He taught the boys gr. 6-8 class in the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1917-1918. He became Superintendent of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in Jan. 1918, after Emma Rendtorff resigned from the position. He taught the gr. 6-8 girls in the Sunday school in 1919-1920, and the gr. 9-12 class in 1920-1921. No doubt his children attended
Sunday school during this time. The Board of Trustees engaged him to preach to the congregation on Oct. 19, 1918, following the resignation of Rev. Bradley Gilman, and apparently there was some thought that he might become the minister of the congregation.

He received his B.Th. and was ordained to the Unitarian ministry in May, 1920. However, by 1921, he was working as an attorney and living in San Mateo.

In 1930, the family was living in Santa Barbara; William had received his Ph.D. in English, and was teaching at the Univ. of Calif. of Santa Barbara.

Notes: 1900, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1921; Pacific Unitarian, June-July, 1920; General Catalog, Univ. of Calif. Santa Barbara, 1937.

MAYBERRY, JAMES B.— He was born Feb., 1872, in Kansas, and married Ruth —— c. 1900. They had a daughter, Frances Virginia (b. Oct., 1899, Colo.) In 1900, he was living with Ruth and Frances in Arapahoe, Colo.

Frances began studying at Stanford Univ. in 1918, and by at least 1919 James and Ruth were living in Palo Alto with her.

He was listed in the 1920 membership list of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. However, he only made financial contributions in the year 1919.

By 1920, James was widowed, still living with Frances in Palo Alto, and they had two live-in servants, both born in Japan. Frances received her A.B. in Romance languages from Stanford in 1921.

The McClinton - Glidden Family

GLIDDEN, CORA LOUISE— A teacher, she was born July, 1859, in California. In 1880, she was teaching school and living in San Francisco with her mother, her younger sister Mary (later Mary McClinton, q.v.), and several other siblings. She attended Stanford Univ. 1891-1892. In 1900, she was teaching school and living with Mary and an older brother in San Francisco. In 1910, she teaching in the public schools, and living in Millbrae with Mary, Mary’s husband Myron McClinton (q.v.), and their son Ralph; they lived next door to Frank (q.v.) and Lola (q.v.) Steinmetz. By 1920, she was still teaching, and still living with Mary’s family, but now in Burlingame.

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, but it’s hard to say how active she was in the church.

In 1930, she lived with Mary and her brother-in-law in Burlingame, and was no longer working. She died in 1949.

Notes: 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921; California Death Index.

MCCLINTON, MYRON GILES— He was born c. 1867 in Nevada. In 1880, he was living with his parents in San Francisco; his father’s occupation was in mining. He married Mary Glidden (q.v.), and they had a son, Ralph Edwin (b. c. 1902); Ralph received his A.B. in pre-law from Stanford Univ. in 1925. By 1910, he was living with Mary and her sister Cora (q.v.) in Millbrae, and he was working as a newspaper printer.

Myron was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, but it’s hard to say how active he was in the church.

In 1920, he and Mary and Ralph and Cora were all living in Burlingame together, and he was the partner in a printing business. By 1930, he and Mary and Cora were living in Burlingame, and he now owned a print shop. He died in 1939.
UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934


MCCLINTON, MARY A. GLIDDEN— A teacher, she was born Aug., 1865, in California. In 1900, she was living with her father and sister Cora (*q.v.*) in San Francisco, and working as a school-teacher. She married Myron McClinton (*q.v.*) c. 1901, and they had a son Ralph Edwin (b. c. 1902); Ralph received his A.B. in pre-law from Stanford Univ. in 1925. She was living with Myron, Ralph, and Cora in Millbrae in 1920.

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, but it’s hard to say how active she was in the church.

In 1930, she and Myron and Cora were living in Burlingame. She died in 1954.


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*Andrew and Stuart-Anne McLaughlin*

MCLAUGHLIN, ANDREW CYRUS— A geologist and oil man, he was born in Austin, Texas, on Aug. 5, 1875, son of Dr. J. W. and Tabitha McLaughlin. After attending public schools, he entered the Univ. of Texas in 1893. He graduated from the University of Texas in 1896.

He married Stuart Anne Watson (*q.v.*) July 18, 1900, at Manor, Texas. They had four children: Frances Anne (b. c. 1902, Tex.); Evelyn (b. c. 1903, Tex.); Andrew C. McLaughlin, Jr. (b. 1910, Calif.); Stuart W. (b. c. 1915, Calif.). Theirs was a well-to-do household that included live-in servants.
From 1896-1899, Andrew did post-graduate work in geology at Johns Hopkins Univ. He then worked for the U.S. Geological Survey until 1900, and for the Houston Oil Company from 1900-1906. In 1907, he took a job as geologist with the Southern Pacific Company, and moved to Calif. By 1908, he was superintendent for Kern Trading and Oil Co., and in 1918 he went to Pacific Oil Co. He was granted U.S. Patent 681568 for a refining process.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Sept. 27, 1906, and was clerk of the church in 1908; in that year, he reported that the church took in $1,000 in contributions, and received $1,000 from the American Unitarian Association.

Andrew began serving as treasurer of the Unitarian Church in Palo Alto c. 1908. Rev. Clarence Reed resigned as minister in spring, 1915, complaining as he did so about the financial state of the congregation. Subsequently, Andrew felt compelled to tender his resignation as treasurer. The minutes of the Board of Trustees for May 19, 1915, record his reasons for resigning:

Mr. McLaughlin presented his resignation as treasurer after serving in the position for seven years. In doing so he wished to say that in view of statements made at a recent meeting of the church he felt that a reorganization of the business management was necessary and that accordingly he presented his resignation. He was convinced, however, that the shortage of funds for the current expenses of the church was due to the creation of the special committee entirely outside the ordinary fiscal agencies of the church of the purposes of collecting funds for the hall [the Parish Hall, built in 1912]. This action had resulted in competition between the two committees in which the finance committee suffered. He furthermore pointed out that the annual report of the treasurer at the annual meeting showed a considerable cash deficit and that the statements made at the meeting of the church on May 11 to the effect that this deficit was of recent origin or was unknown to members of the church were misleading.

It is worth noting that upon resigning, Clarence Reed immediately became minister of the Unitarian church in Oakland at almost twice the salary he had received from Palo Alto; in other words, the contentiousness that prompted Andrew’s resignation may have had less to do with Andrew’s performance as treasurer, and more to do with Reed’s desire for a higher salary.

By 1920, he and his family were living in San Francisco. He was a millionaire when he died c. 1952; he left the bulk of his
estate to the Univ. of Texas.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920 U.S. Census; Mining and Oil Bulletin, Feb., 1921, p. 141; University of Texas Record, Austin, Tex., Dec., 1900, p. 398; Mining and Oil Bulletin, Feb., 1921, pp. 141-142; Pacific Unitarian, April, 1908, p. 169; El Paso Herald-Post, Jan. 10, 1952.

MCLAUGHLIN, STUART-ANNE WATSON—A housewife who had trained as a pharmacist, she was born in Aug., 1878, in Texas. She entered the School of Pharmacy at the University of Texas in Oct., 1899, and was living in Manor, Tex., at the time. She married Andrew McLaughlin (q.v.) on July 18, 1900, in Manor, Texas. They had four children: Frances A. (b. c. 1902, Tex.); Evelyn (b. c. 1903, Tex.); Andrew C. McLaughlin, Jr. (b. 1910, Calif.); Stuart W. (b. c. 1915, Calif.).

She was a member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

By 1920, the family was living in San Francisco. She died May 20, 1951.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920 U.S. Census; University of Texas Record, Austin, Tex., Oct., 1899, pp. 296, 395; University of Texas Record, Austin, Tex., Dec., 1900, p. 398.

Mabel and Sarah Mead

MEAD, MABEL—A schoolteacher, she was born Dec. 30, 1870, in Ledger, New York to Louise (q.v.) and Alexander Mead; she graduated from high school in Greeley. She received her B.S. from Cornell in 1898; her younger sister Mildred was at Cornell at the same time she was. By 1900, at the age of 29, she was a schoolteacher, living with her parents in Greeley.

The Cornell Alumni News, vol. 7, Dec. 21, 1904 ran the following notice:

'98 B.S. The marriage of Miss Mabel Mead to R. J. Wright was celebrated at Greeley, Col., this fall. Mrs. Wright is now connected with the social
settlement work in the Italian District of Denver. She has charge of the North Side neighborhood house, the centre of settlement work in the northern part of the city.

No further mention of R. J. Wright was found, and within a year of this marriage announcement, Mabel was again using Mead as her last name.

By autumn, 1905, she was a student at Stanford, living in Palo Alto with her mother Louise. While at Stanford, she studied Romance Languages; although she is listed in that year’s Annual Register, her name does not appear in Stanford University alumni directories. She apparently lived in Palo Alto for less than twelve months.

While in Palo Alto, she joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, on Nov. 19, 1905. She and her mother Louise were two of the early members of the Women’s Alliance of the newly formed Unitarian church.

By fall, 1906, Mabel was teaching German, Spanish, and “physical culture” at a high school in Orange, Calif.

She married Tracy C. Marsh before 1917; they had one son, Alexander Mead Marsh (b. c. 1913). After Tracy died in Nevada, she moved to Sutler, Calif., where she taught school until her retirement sometime before 1935; then she returned to Greeley, where she was “prominent in civic and club work.” In 1940, she lived in Greeley with siblings Edgar and Ella, and her son Alexander. In 1961, at age 90, she left Greeley and moved to Aberdeen, Md., to live with her son.

She died in Annandale, Va., on Feb. 2, 1975.


MEAD, SARAH LOUISE AVERY—Louise was born Mar. 10, 1851, in New York. On Dec. 8, 1869, she married Alexander Mead in
UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934

Ledyard, N.Y.; he was born Dec. 18, 1841, in N.Y., and was a school teacher in Ledyard.

Louise and Alex moved to Greeley, Colo., in 1878, to join her parents, Eliza and Frank Avery, who were members of the Union Colony. In 1880, Alex was an agricultural implements dealer; he was a Trustee for the city of Greeley for the year 1883. By 1900, Alex and Louise were running a rooming house in Greeley, and had seven children: Mabel (q.v.; b. Dec., 1870); Edgar (b. Sept., 1872); Ella (b. Jul., 1874); Mildred (b. Jul., 1875); Worthen (b. Sept., 1880); Alexandra (b. July, 1884); and Wilhemina (b. Sept., 1889); an eighth child, Perry, was born later.

A Unitarian church formed in Greeley, Colorado, in 1880, and it is possible the Meads were members.

When her daughter Mabel was a student at Stanford 1905-1906, Louise accompanied Mabel to Palo Alto. Louise joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905. She and Mabel joined the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1905. A year later, Mabel was living in southern California; Louise presumably moved back to Greeley.

Louise died Apr. 1, 1937, and was buried in Greeley.

Notes: 1880, 1900 U.S. Census; “Alex Mead is Dead,” Greeley Daily Tribune, March 6, 1931; David Boyd, A History: Greeley and the Union Colony of Colorado, Greeley Tribune Press, 1890.

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Ida and William Meredith

MEREDITH, IDA MILTON KIRKPATRICK—A teacher, she was born Aug., 1862, in Jefferson, Iowa. In 1885, she was living with her mother, her stepfather, and five stepbrothers and stepsisters in Henry, Iowa. She married William J. Meredith (q.v.) on Sept. 1, 1886, in Henry, Iowa, and they had three children, Evan Kirkpatrick (born Aug., 1887, Kansas), Gladys Elaine (born March 1890, Wash.), and Rhys Fauboin (born July, 1895, Wash.). In 1900, the
family was living in Seattle. By 1910, they were living in Mayfield. Evan attended Stanford Univ. from 1906 to 1908, so perhaps the family moved to Mayfield to be with him; by 1910, Evan was married and teaching in a private school, and his wife and infant son were living with them; Gladys was a student at a Normal School (presumably the one in San Jose).

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was listed in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

By 1930, Ida and William were living in Redwood City. She died in 1944.

Notes: 1900 U.S. Census; Iowa State Census, 1885; Iowa Marriages, 1809-1992; California Death Index.

Meredith, William John—An educator, he was born Aug., 1862, in Oskaloosa, Kansas. In 1880, he was living on his father’s farm in Oskaloosa, with his father and four younger siblings; he gave his occupation as “farm laborer.” From 1881 to 1896, he was a school teacher and principal in schools in Kansas and Washington state. He married Ida Kirkpatrick (q.v.) on Sept. 1, 1886, in Henry, Iowa, and they had three children, Evan K. (born Aug., 1887, Kansas), Gladys Elaine (born March 1890, Wash.), and Rhys Fauboin (born July, 1895, Wash.).

He was superintendent of schools in King County, Wash., from 1896-1901, and a member of the Wash. State Board of Education, 1900-1901. He received his A.B. from the Univ. of Washington in 1900, and became registrar and associate professor of English at the Univ. of Washington in 1901. In 1903, he accepted a position in Hoitt’s School for Boys, Menlo Park, Calif.

By 1910, he and Ida and their children were living in Mayfield. William was superintendent and teacher in a private school; his son Evan was also teaching, probably in the same school.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was listed in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

By 1930, he and Ida were living in Redwood City. He died in 1942.
George and Sarah Merrill

MERRILL, GEORGE ARTHUR— A pioneer in the field of vocational education, he was born Sept. 9, 1866, in Portland, Maine. By 1870, he was living in Boston, Mass., with his parents and five older siblings. He graduated from Boy’s High School in San Francisco, and received his B.S. from the Univ. of California in 1888, where he studied physics, minerals, and geology.

He taught science at, and became principal of, Cogswell Polytechnic College, San Francisco, 1888 to 1893. He then went to the California School of Mechanical Arts, known as Lick School, in 1894, where he became president; this school provided free technical and vocational education to boys and girls, and George’s stated goal was create the “educated craftsman.” Over time, Lick School became affiliated with Wilmerding School of Industrial Arts, which George became director of in 1894, a school for boys in the building trades; and Lux School of Industrial Training for Girls, founded by and administered by George.

He married Sarah McKie (q.v.) of San Diego on June 11, 1895. They had children Grant (b. Oct. 1899, Calif.), Aurelia Marie (b. c. 1902, Calif.) and Ernest Nathaniel (b. c. 1903, Calif.).

In addition to his work in vocational education, he was the mayor of Redwood City from 1908 to 1918. In 1934, he received U.S. Patent no. 2,007,689 for a type of cement hollow wall construction that would be fire- and earthquake-resistant.

He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, became a member of the church in 1924, and made financial contributions to the church beginning in 1918. He was listed in the 1926 “List of Resident Members” (though listed incorrectly as Mr. George Miller).
M — BIOGRAPHIES, 1905-1934 — M

He died in 1944.

Notes: 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1920 U.S. Census; “Mission & History,” Lick Wilmerding School Web site www.lwhs.org/about/mission--history accessed Dec. 21, 2019; Maine State Library, Maine Writers Correspondence, George Arthur Merrill Correspondence; Register of the Univ. of California, Berkeley, 1894; California Death Index.

MERRILL, SARAH ELIZABETH MCKIE— She was born April 23, 1864, in Illinois. She married George Merrill (q.v.) on June 11, 1895. They had children Grant (b. Oct. 1899, Calif.), Aurelia Marie (b. c. 1902, Calif.) and Ernest Nathaniel (b. c. 1903, Calif.). In 1900, they were living in San Francisco; by 1910, they had moved to Redwood City. She was one of the founders of the Redwood City Woman Club, was president for a number of years. She and George continued to live in Redwood City through at least 1930.

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and became a member in 1924. She was listed in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

She died in 1956.


MEYER, ADELE— See: Rendtorff - Meyer family.

MEYER, EMMA PULTE— See: Rendtorff - Meyer family.

Annie and John A. Miller

MILLER, ANNIE F.— She was born c. 1865 in Vermont and married John A. Miller (q.v.) c. 1907. In 1920, they were still living in Palo Alto.

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Feb. 28,
1912. She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance. She served on the Church and Grounds Committee in 1916, and was in the 1920 membership list.

Notes: 1910, 1920 U.S. Census.

MILLER, JOHN A.— A barber, he was born c. 1864 in Germany, and immigrated to the U.S. c. 1882. He married Annie F. —— (g.v.) c. 1907. By 1911, he and Annie lived in Palo Alto; and in 1920, they were still living in Palo Alto.

He served as chairman of the Buildings and Grounds Committee in 1909, and formally joined the church on Feb. 25, 1912. He was in the 1920 membership list.


Elmer and June Miller

MILLER, ELMER ISAIAH— He was born c. 1862 in Ohio. He received his A.B. from Ohio Normal Univ. in 1890; his A.B. in history from Stanford Univ. in 1896, and his A.M. there in 1897. He was principal at Palo Alto High School for a time. He received his Ph.D. from Columbia in 1907. He went to teach at the State Normal School in Chico, Calif. (now CSU Chico), and was still teaching there in 1921. However, Holmes enrolled at Stanford Univ. in 1919, and by at least 1920, June and both children were living in Palo Alto.

He married June O. Clevenger July 20, 1899. In 1910, they were living in Chico, Calif., and he was a professor at the State Normal school; they had two children, Holmes C. (b. c. 1903, Calif.) and Esther (b c. 1904, New York). He became the acting president of Chico State Normal School 1917-1918. He was a visiting professor at Stanford 1918-1919; his son Holmes entered Stanford
as a student in 1919. In 1920, June and her two children were living in Palo Alto, but Elmer was still living in Chico as of 1921.

June joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924; there is no record of Elmer’s participation in the church. In 1930, Elmer was listed in the U.S. Census as living in Palo Alto, but as late as 1932, he was still teaching at what was then called Chico State Teachers College. Therefore, it seems unlikely that he could have participated much in the life of the church.


**MILLER, JUNE O. CLEVENGER**— She was born c. 1871 in Ohio. She married Elmer Miller c. 1900. In 1910, they were living in Chico, Calif., where Elmer was a professor at the State Normal school; they had two children, Holmes Clevenger (b. c. 1903, Calif.) and Esther (b. c. 1904, New York). Elmer was a visiting professor at Stanford in 1918-1919, and their son Holmes began studying at Stanford in 1919. In 1920, June and her two children were living in Palo Alto, but Elmer remained in Chico.

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was listed in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

By 1930, the U.S. Census has Elmer living in Palo Alto, but he was still teaching in Chico.


**MIRRIELEES, EDITH RONALD**— A writer and teacher of writers, she was born Sept. 10, 1878, in Pittsfield, Ill. When she was a girl, her family moved to Big Timber, Mont. She taught school in Montana from the ages of eighteen to twenty-four. In 1900, she was a
school teacher living with her mother Lucy and her younger sister Lucia in Big Timber.

In Sept., 1903, she entered Stanford University to study history. She graduated in 1907 with a degree in history, and began teaching at Stanford in 1910. While a student at Stanford, she decided to become a writer.

During the First World War, she served with, and was head of, the Stanford Red Cross unit in France.

She published stories in the Atlantic Monthly, the American Magazine, and Sunset magazine; she also joined the faculty at Stanford as a professor of creative writing. One of her writing students at Stanford was John Steinbeck, who said that she was “very kind and she hate[d] to hurt feelings.”

She was active in the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto after the First World War, and appears in the 1919 parish directory and the 1920 membership list. She made financial contributions in 1920 and 1921. She helped organize lay-led worship services following the departure of Rev. Bradley Gilman, and preached upon occasion. In a sermon she delivered at the church in the fall of 1919, titled “A Rational Hope,” she reflected on the “bleak back-wash of feeling” that followed the First World War, and how to make sense of that religiously.

What we want, then, seems to be not an assurance for any future life, but a hope and aspiration which looks toward the betterment of man [sic] as man; a right to believe that, by our assistance, we are traveling a path which shall ultimately make us proud and not ashamed of our human fellowship, and are thus, to the extent of our single effort, helping, in the one way in which we can help, toward the production of an endurable world.

She went on to define the essence of Unitarianism:

Unitarianism does not lie in the things one most often hears spoken of among its adherents—not in its liberality nor yet in its tolerance. Its very reason for being is its understanding of man's ideal as Man indeed, "like unto us," with emphasis upon the likeness more than upon its qualification. In the strength of this understanding, of this splendid insistence upon the possibilities of humanity, we walk surely even through these present days...

In the May, 1920, issue of the Pacific Unitarian, she explained how not having an ordained minister, relying instead on lay preachers, had worked well for her Unitarian church; though she
did not suggest that other congregations “would be wise to follow in our footsteps.” Her last financial contribution to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto was June 8, 1921, and she did not appear on the 1926 membership list.

Edith died June 3, 1962, in Palo Alto.


Helen and John Mitchell

MITCHELL, HELEN WALDO— She was born Feb. 14, 1881, in Boston, Mass. In 1900, she was living with her father, who was widowed, three siblings, and four servants. Her father owned “Linwald,” a summer home in Petersham. She married John Pearce Mitchell (q.v.) on Aug. 9, 1905, in Petersham, Mass., and Helen gave her residence as Petersham. Rev. Alfred William Birks, the minister of First Unitarian Congregational Parish, Petersham, Mass., officiated at the marriage, and it seems likely that Helen was affiliated with that Unitarian church, and probably with a Unitarian church in Boston.

Helen and John had four children: Laura (b. c. 1909, Calif.), John W. (b. c. 1911, Calif.), Sidney R. (b. c. 1913, Calif.), and Mary (b. c. 1916, Calif.). In 1910, they were living in Palo Alto, Calif, where John was professor at Stanford Univ., with Laura and one servant. In 1920, the family had three servants living with them.

Helen made regular financial contributions to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto from 1916 through 1919; she was in the 1919 parish directory and on the 1920 membership list. It seems likely that her older children attended Sunday school. Her connection
with the church seems to have ceased about 1919 or 1920; it is 
ow impossible to know why she left (Alice Locke left at this time 
because of the church’s support of the First World War; other pe-
ople seem to have left when Bradley Gilman left; etc.).

She and John and her children were still living in Palo Alto in 
1930. She died in 1945.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; Massachusetts Births, Births 
Registered in the City of Boston, 1881, p. 200; Summer Social Register, So-
cial Register Assoc., 1913; Historical Journal of Mass., vol. 28, p. 78, 1999; 
Massachusetts Marriages, 1841-1915, Marriages Registered in the Town of 
Catalogue of the Meadville Theological School [Unitarian], 1844-1910, 
Meadville, Penna., 1910, p. 81; California Death Index.

MITCHELL, JOHN PEARCE— A chemist, he was born July 4, 1880, 
in Rhode Island. He received his A.B. from Stanford in 1903, his 
A.M. in 1904, and his Ph.D. in 1909. He taught at Stanford 1903-
1905, and then from 1905 to his retirement.

He married Helen Waldo (q.v.) in 1905 in Petersham, Mass., 
where Helen’s family had their summer home, and the Unitarian 
minister of Petersham officiated.

His wife, Helen, made regular financial contributions from 
1916 through 1919, and was on the 1920 membership list. How-
ever, John seems not to have been involved; it seems likely that 
Helen was the Unitarian in the family.

He died in 1973.

Notes: 1910, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 
1921; “John Pearce Mitchell,” Find-a-grave Web site www.findag-

MONTGOMERY, PHILIP— He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo 
Alto in 1924, and was in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

Notes: A Philip B. Montgomery lived at 401 Pope St., Palo Alto, in 1929 
(Polk’s Palo Alto Directory, 1929); he was a student. A Philip Montgomery 
was listed in the Annual Register, Stanford Univ., 1923. No further
information was found.

Mrs. Moore, Mrs. E. H. Moore, Jean Moore

MOORE, MRS.; MOORE, MRS. E. H.— This may be two or more different women surnamed Moore. “Mrs. Moore” served on the Sunday School Committee when Rev. Clarence Reed was chair of that committee, along with Hannah Clark (q.v.). “Mrs. Moore” taught grade 8 in the Sunday school in 1915-1916. “Mrs. Moore” taught the girls gr. 4-6 class in 1917-1918. It is possible that one of these women was the mother of Jean Moore (q.v.).

Notes: Of the people surnamed Moore living in Palo Alto in 1915, there were: in Palo Alto, Helen A. (a nurse), Mrs. J. M. (wife of J. M., merchant), Mrs. S. E.; or living in Mayfield, Imogene Moore (housekeeper). (Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, and Stanford Univ., Palo Alto: Willis Hall, 1915). Or Mrs. Moore may have lived in another town; in short, it proved impossible to trace her.

MOORE, MRS. E. H.— She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She made financial contributions in 1915-1916, after which her account has the note “discontinued thru removal.”

Notes: In 1915, she was listed at 1027 Emerson St., Palo Alto; Edith R. Mirrlees (q.v.) was listed as living at the same address in that year (Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, and Stanford Univ., Palo Alto: Willis Hall, 1915).

MOORE, JEAN— She acted the part of Queen Margaret in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916. It seems likely that her mother was Mrs. Moore (q.v.) or Mrs. E. H. Moore (q.v.).

Notes: Rev. Bradley Gilman officiated at the funeral of an Ellen Jean Moore on Jan. 8, 1918; perhaps this was Jean Moore? An Ellen J. Moore appears in the California Death Index and born 1901, died 1918, but with no other information.
MOORE, MARGARET P.— She was born c. 1873 in Missouri, and married Lee P. Moore, a carpenter, c. 1885. They had two children, Neil Preston (b. c. 1890, Calif.) and Clyde F. (b. c. 1890, Calif.). In 1910, the family was living in Palo Alto, Lee working as a carpenter and Clyde as a private chauffeur; Neil received his A.B. in chemistry from Stanford in 1914, and presumably began studying there in 1910. Lee died in 1918.

She was a member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

In 1920, Margaret and Neil were still living in Palo Alto; Neil received his A.M. from Stanford in 1914, and his Ph.D. in 1921. Margaret could not be traced after 1920.


Alice and George Morell

MORELL, ALICE GOODRICH— She was born in Massachusetts on April 8, 1854. She married c. 1880, and her husband died about 1900. In 1900, she was living in Queens, New York City, with sons William (b. Nov., 1873, Mass.) and George (b. Sept., 1886, Mass.). By 1904, she had moved to Palo Alto, and her son George was a student at Stanford Univ.

She served on the Charity Committee of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1909.

In 1920, she was living in Mayfield and running a rooming house. She continued to live in Palo Alto through 1940. She died in Santa Clara County, Calif., 1942, and was buried in Massachusetts.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920, 1940 U.S. Census; Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, Menlo Park, and the Campus, Palo Alto: Times Pub., 1904; Alumni
MORELL, GEORGE FOWLER— He was born Sept. 1886, in Mass., son of Alice Morell (q.v.). He attended Stanford Univ. in 1904. He married Athene Bates, a former Stanford student, on Aug. 19, 1911. He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. He continued to live in Palo Alto in 1920, and in 1921, he was the president of Times Publishing Co., Palo Alto.


The Morrison Family

MORRISON, CAROLINE WILLARD BALDWIN— A physicist and later a housewife, she was born June 30, 1869, in California, and went to school in Santa Cruz. She received her B.S. from the Univ. of Calif. in 1892, and her D.Sc. from Cornell in 1898; she was the first woman to earn a Doctorate of Science at a U.S. university. She went on to do advanced work at the University of California in Berkeley; she was the first woman to take a degree from the department of mechanics at that university.

From 1895-1900, she taught physics in the California School of Mechanical Arts in San Francisco. She published one journal article, a study of arc spectra in Physical Review in 1896. With George Arthur Merrill, she was co-author of the Physics Course of the Calif. School of Mechanics, 1898.

She married Charles Theobald Morrison (q.v.) on Oct. 11, 1898. At first they lived in San Francisco with Charles’s parents. They had two children: Frances Elizabeth (b. 1900), and George Willard (b. Jan. 6, 1904). Caroline apparently gave up professional
work after the birth of her first child.

Caroline was a progressive Republican. For recreation, she enjoyed "automobiling and mountain trips."

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto Jan. 3, 1909. She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance. She was Secretary Pro Tem for the meeting of the Associate Alliance of Northern California, Oct. 10, 1918. Caroline joined the Board of Trustees in 1914.

In 1920, Caroline and Charles and their two children were living in San Francisco, and Caroline was working as a public school teacher.

Caroline died Jan. 31, 1928.


MORRISON, CHARLES THEOBALD— Husband of Caroline Morrison (q.v.), in 1910 he was a lumber dealer in Palo Alto. He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. By 1920 he was living with Caroline in San Francisco, and listed his occupation as bookkeeper.

Notes: 1910, 1920 U.S. Census.

MORRISON, FRANCES— Daughter of Caroline Morrison (q.v.), she was born May, 1900, in California.

She acted the part of Crosspatch in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916. She was one of three “graduates” of the Sunday school recognized at a service on May 13, 1917, and was listed in the 1919 parish directory. By 1920, she was living in San Francisco with her parents.
Morrison, Mary E.— The mother-in-law of Caroline Morrison (q.v.), she was born Nov., 1834, in Massachusetts. She married George Hugh Morrison (b. Nov., 1829, Me.) c. 1871. George listed his profession as “lumber dealer” in the 1880 U.S. Census, and as “capitalist” in 1900. George had three children from a previous marriage to Frances Theobald, all born in California: Walter H. (b. c. 1859); Charles Theobald (b. Dec. 5, 1862), and Marian C. (b. c. 1865). Charles married Caroline Baldwin [Morrison] (q.v.).

By 1910, Mary’s husband George had died, and she lived with Charles T. and Caroline in Palo Alto.

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto Jan. 3, 1909. She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance.

Notes: 1880, 1900, 1910 U.S. Census.
The Morton - Carruth - Todd Family

Howard Morton — Jessie Kent Wellington

Mary Elizabeth Morton

Helen Morton Todd — Theodore Todd

Katherine Kent Morton — William Carruth — Frances Schlegel

Howard Hastings Morton

Nathaniel Holbrook Morton

Jessie Kent Morton

Charlotte Augusta Morton

Ruth W. Morton

Lucie Wellington Morton

Katharine “Trina” Carruth — John Emmet Todd

*Carruth, Katherine Kent Morton— A schoolteacher, she was born in April 21, 1876, in Tescott, Kansas, daughter of Howard (q.v.) and Jessie (q.v.) Morton. By 1898, her father was a successful farmer who had an orchard with over 400 apple trees. By 1900, she lived with her aunt and uncle, Thomas and Mary Sears, near Lawrence, Kansas, while attending school; Tom Sears and Howard Morton had homesteaded in Kansas in the spring of 1866, helping to found the town of Tescott.

Katherine hoped to be a concert pianist, and practiced 8 to 10 hours daily. However, she became a school teacher to supplement the family’s income. She was teaching in the public schools of Lawrence, Kansas, in 1909 when she became engaged to be married to William Herbert Carruth (q.v.). She married Carruth on June 12, 1910, in her parents’ home in Tescott. The officiant was Rev. Frederick Marsh Bennett, minister of the Unitarian church in Lawrence. They had a daughter, Katherine W. (b. Dec. 1, 1911), known as “Trina” (q.v.). The family moved to Palo Alto when William became a professor at Stanford Univ.

Katherine was active in the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.
She taught grades K and 1 in 1922-1923, and the “sub-primary” (i.e., kindergarten and younger) grade in the Sunday school, 1925-1926. In 1927-1928, she was the pianist and one of the teachers for the Sunday school.

William died in 1924. At about that time, Katherine began studying pottery seriously, and went to Berkeley to study glazes. She enrolled Trina in University High School, Oakland. By 1930, Katharine and Trina were living in Berkeley, with a German immigrant as a lodger; however, Katherine retained her membership in the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, giving the same residence as her mother’s. By 1935, Katharine was living back in Palo Alto.

Katharine was included on a list of Unitarians to contact in 1947 when a new Unitarian congregation was being formed; next to her name on this list is the notation: “too elderly to take part, is sorry.”

She continued to live in Palo Alto until about 1970, when she moved to a convalescent hospital in Santa Cruz. She died January 11, 1973, in Santa Cruz.


*CARRUTH, KATHERINE “TRINA” WELLINGTON— A printer of fine books, she was born Dec. 1, 1911, in Kansas. She was known as “Trina.” When Trina was not yet two years old, her father became a professor at Stanford and moved the family to Palo Alto.

Trina attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo
Alto, where her mother was one of the Sunday school teachers; her name appears on a Sunday school attendance list, and she was noted for good attendance in 1924. She joined the church in 1925, and was listed in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

Her father died in 1924, four days after her thirteenth birthday. She and her mother stayed in Palo Alto for a while, but her mother began studying pottery in Berkeley. An aunt suggested that Katherine be enrolled in University High School in Oakland, a laboratory school for education students at the Univ. of Calif. at Berkeley (now Merritt College). The aunt may well have been Mary E. Morton [q.v.], who was living in Palo Alto at the time.

In high school, Trina worked on the school newspaper, where she learned how to use a linotype machine. It was while working on the school newspaper that she met her future husband, Sherwood Grover.

After high school, Trina attended college for two and a half years. She married Sherwood in 1933. Sherwood was not able to afford college due to the Great Depression, and he worked as a printer. After Trina left college, she found that although she had trained to be a journalist, she was unable to find work in her chosen profession. Through Sherwood’s connections in the printing world, however, she was able to get a job working for Grabhorn Press, a small press that produced fine books with small print runs. In 1940, the couple was living in San Francisco.

Trina and Sherwood eventually moved to Aptos, where they started their own private press, Grace Hoper Press, at their home.


✠ CARRUTH, WILLIAM HERBERT—A poet and a professor who taught German, writing, and comparative literature, he was born April 5, 1859, on a farm near Osawatomie, Kansas. His father was a clergyman and botanist. As a child, William “distinguished himself in the Presbyterian Sunday school by repeating without mistake an amazingly large number of Bible verses.” But he left
Presbyterianism for Unitarianism early in life.

William graduated from the University of Kansas in 1880. He married Frances Schlegel of Boston in June, 1882, and they had a daughter, Constance.

William received his A.M. from Harvard in 1889, and his Ph.D. in 1893. He also studied at Berlin and Munich. He was professor of German at the University of Kansas from 1880 till he went to Stanford. Frances was professor of modern languages at Univ. of Kansas until her death in 1908.

He was also involved in the eugenics movement. The opening paragraph of an address he gave at the University of Kansas on May 8, 1913, shows that he offered the usual unfortunate rationale for eugenics:

Long before the alarmed cry of Theodore Roosevelt against “race suicide” called public attention in America to this subject, thoughtful students had begun to point out appalling tendencies toward degeneracy in the breeding of civilised [sic] nations. In so far as the warning against “race suicide” was merely an indiscriminate appeal for more children, a revival of the Biblical admonition to “be fruitful and multiply” without forethought and safeguards, it was only a blind summons to more “race suicide.” What the world needs is not indiscriminately more children, but more children from the best stock and fewer from the worst stock.

William was an active Unitarian, both locally and nationally. He was a member of the Unitarian church in Lawrence, Kansas. He served as a director of the American Unitarian Assoc. from 1906 to 1909; subsequently he served as the national president of the Unitarian Laymen’s League. In the early 1920s, he was a trustee of the Pacific Unitarian Conference, and a trustee of the Pacific Unitarian School for Ministry.

After Frances died, William married Katharine Kent Morton (q.v.) on June 12, 1910. They had a daughter, Katharine or “Trina” (b. Dec. 1, 1911; q.v.). William accepted a position at Stanford in 1913, and the family moved to California.

During his lifetime, William was a well-known poet. His best-known poem, widely anthologized in its day, was “Each in His Own Tongue,” first published in 1888 in *The New England
**UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934**

*Magazine.* This was the title poem of his 1908 book *Each in His Own Tongue.* At Stanford, he was professor of comparative literature, and also taught classes in writing poetry. In 1923, John Steinbeck was in his writing class. Edward Strong, who was in the same class, recalled:

> We … competed against each other in our writing of poetry to see who would receive the better grade from Professor Carruth. When we got our grades, John got an A, and I received a B+. I said to John, “Now look, you’ve read my poetry and I’ve read your poetry. Do you think your poetry was any better than mine?” He said no. Then I said, “Well, can you explain, then, why you have received an A from Professor Carruth and I’ve received only a B+?” He said “Because you didn’t dwell in your poetry on the theme that would win an A from Professor Carruth.” I said, “Theme?” He said, “Professor Carruth has been strong on one theme. Some call it evolution, and some call it God [a line from Carruth's best-known poem]. I wrote about God. I got the A.”

William was an active member of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, serving most notably as president of the Board of Trustees. He also preached there upon occasion.

Towards the end of his life, he taught a course on “Religion of the Great Poets” at the Pacific Unitarian School of Religion. One of his students there, Julia Budlong, recalled him as being “tall… and sinewy, and dry-looking, like his humor,— inclined to be absent-minded and inattentive.” Budlong also recalled him driving her in his open automobile on a wild ride from the Unitarian church to his house on Stanford’s campus, with the speedometer at fifty miles an hour the whole way.

He died Dec. 15, 1924.

MORTON, CHARLOTTE AUGUSTA— She was born in Nov., 1885, in Kansas. She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto; however, she lived at 345 San Antonio St. in San José, and may not have been active in the church at that time. It seems likely she is the “Miss Morton” who was appointed to the Entertainment Committee of the church in 1917.

Notes: 1900 U.S. Census.

MORTON, HOWARD— He was born Oct. 24, 1836, in Plymouth, Mass., to Ichabod, a merchant, and Betsey Morton. In 1855, Howard was a student and living with his parents. In 1860, he was still living in Plymouth with his parents and two brothers, now working as a gardener. His father died in May, 1861, and Howard enlisted in the 30th Mass. Infantry on Dec. 10, 1861. He served in the Civil War in Mississippi and Alabama, and was mustered out on Sept. 23, 1865. Not long thereafter he moved to Kansas.

In 1868, Howard Morton participated in the Arickaree, or Beecher Island fight: “The battle of Beecher Island was fought on the 17th of September, 1868, and lasted nine days. Fifty-one scouts from Lincoln and Ottawa counties, Kansas, just over the line in Colorado, stood off [the Indians]” (Kansas State Hist. Soc., 1913). In a typescript passed down in his family, Howard recalled:

Suddenly the valley and hillside were covered with mounted Indians, charging us at full speed. The little sandy island, so near, seemed our only refuge, so we hurried across, tied our horses and mules to the trees, threw ourselves in the sand, and began to fight for our lives….The Indians were all around and making it hot for us….Our horses were staggering and falling, and we were doing our best to keep the Indians on horseback from charging over us. The chiefs tried several times to lead their men onto the island, but when they came near, our fire was too hot for them, and they broke and rode around us. And so it went on through the long day and until after dark, when they drew off for the night….The fight virtually ended the first day, although they appeared early the next morning, and for several days fired at us occasionally from the hills.
At night, two men were sent to get assistance from Fort Wallace, a hundred miles away. The embattled scouts lived for nine days on horse and mule meat, until a company of African American soldiers under the command of Col. Carpenter relieved them. Howard’s military pension record mentioned both his Civil War service, and his service with the U.S. Army Scouts.

In 1870, Howard was a farmer in Trippville, Ottawa County, Kan. (Trippville’s name was changed to Culver in 1879, to commemorate one of the scouts who fought at the Battle of Beecher Island.) Ottawa County was considered “one of the best counties in Central and Western Kansas, having a rich soil, desirable location, being most admirably watered, and possessing a good supply of timber.” He lived next door to, or near, the Wellington family.

Howard married Jessie Kent Wellington (b. June, 1854, New York) on Feb. 14, 1872, in Tescott, Kansas, the next town west of Trippville along the Saline River. They had nine children, all born in Kansas: Mary Elizabeth (b. March, 1873; q.v.); Helen (b. Sept., 1874); Katherine Kent Carruth (b. April, 1876; q.v.); Howard Hastings (b. c. 1878); Nathaniel Holbrook (b. April, 1881); Jessie Kent (b. Dec., 1883); Charlotte Augusta (b. Nov., 1885; q.v.); Ruth W. (b. March, 1889); and Lucie Wellington (b. May, 1884).

In 1898, he wrote: “I have lived in Kansas thirty-two years; I have twenty old apple trees and 400 set two years ago…. My orchard is in a bottom with a north slope…. ” In 1900, he wrote that he did not recommend growing apricots, since his trees “never bore a full crop” and were troubled with frost and curculio.

By 1900, Howard, Jessie, and seven of their children were living in Henry and Morton Townships, Ottawa County, Kansas, where Howard was a farmer. In 1910, they all continued to live there: Howard was still a farmer, Katherine was a teacher in the primary schools, Jessie K. and Charlotte A. were college instructors, Nathaniel was a student at the university, and Jessie W., Mary E., Ruth W., and Lucie W. had no occupation listed.

By 1920, Howard, Jessie, and their daughter Mary were living in Palo Alto. They all reported their occupation as “none.”

He was a member of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. Rev.
Elmo A. Robinson, in the 1925 annual report, reported his death:

Howard Morton, in whose memories were mingled the old time shipping scenes of Puritan Cape Cod and the stirring strifes of pioneer Kansas.

Howard died Feb. 7, 1925.


MORTON, JESSIE KENT WELLINGTON— She was born June 7, 1854, in New York, daughter of Oliver and Charlotte Wellington. By 1860, she was living in Boston with her parents and two siblings. In 1870, the family was living in Trippville, Kansas.

She married Howard Morton (q.v.) on Feb. 14, 1872, in Tec- scott, Kansas. They had nine children, all born in Kansas: Mary Elizabeth (b. March, 1873; q.v.); Helen (b. Sept., 1874); Katherine Kent Carruth (b. April, 1876; q.v.); Howard Hastings (b. c. 1878); Nathaniel Holbrook (b. April, 1881); Jessie Kent (b. Dec., 1883); Charlotte Augusta (b. Nov., 1885); Ruth W. (b. March, 1889); and Lucie Wellington (b. May, 1884).

By 1920, she and Howard were living in Palo Alto with their daughter Mary.

She was a member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in the early 1920s. She is probably the “Mrs. Morton” who taught gr. 5-7 in the Sunday school in 1920-1921.

After Howard’s death in 1925, she applied for a Civil War widow’s pension. In 1930, she lived in Palo Alto with her daugh- ter Mary. She died April 9, 1936, in Palo Alto.

Notes: 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920 U.S. Census; 1855, 1865 Massachusetts Census; United States General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1934.
Her memoir, titled *Adventure Ahead*, was compiled and published in 1995 by her granddaughter, Jessie Morton Alford Kunkle.

**Morton, Mary Elizabeth**— A housekeeper, she was born March 27, 1873, in Kansas, daughter of Howard (*q.v.*) and Jessie (*q.v.*).

In 1900, at age 27, she was living with her parents and siblings in Morton Township, Ottawa County, Kan. Her younger sister Helen was teaching school at this time, but no occupation was listed for Mary; perhaps she helped her mother run the household and take care of the children.

Mary was listed twice in the 1910 U.S. Census. She was the head of a household in Lawrence, Kansas, consisting of her siblings Katherine (*q.v.*), Nathaniel, Ruth, and Lucy. She was also listed living with those same siblings and her parents in Ottawa, Kansas. Nathaniel, Jessie, and Charlotte were college students; Katherine was a public school teacher; and Mary’s occupation was given as “none.” Presumably, Katherine and the college students lived in Lawrence during the school year, then returned to the family farm during the summer.

In 1920, she was living in Palo Alto with both her parents. Her father died in 1925, and in 1930 she was living with her mother in Palo Alto.

Her mother died in 1936, and by 1940 she was living alone, still in Palo Alto; the U.S. Census shows her sister Katherine living nearby.

Mary was included on a list of Unitarians to contact in 1947 when a new Unitarian congregation was being formed; next to her name on this list is the notation: “ask [sic] to be removed.”

She died in 1964.

Notes: 1880, 1900, 1910, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census; “Names from 1947 Project,” typescript in archives of Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto; California Death Index.

**Todd, Helen Morton**— She was born Sept. 25, 1874, in Kansas, daughter of Howard (*q.v.*) and Jessie (*q.v.*) Morton. In 1900,
she was working as a schoolteacher, living with her parents and siblings in Morton Township, Ottawa County, Kan. She married Theodore W. Todd (q.v.) on June 18, 1907. They lived in Topeka, Kan., where Theodore taught at Washburn College, and they had a son John Emmet (b. c. 1913, Kan.; q.v.).

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1923. She was listed in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

In 1930, she lived with Theodore and John, next door to her mother and older sister Mary. She and Theodore and John continued to live in Palo Alto in 1940, all of them giving their occupations as “none.”

She was on the 1948 mailing list of the Palo Alto Unitarian Society.

She died in 1962.


TODD, JOHN EMMET— A teacher, he was born Jan. 10, 1913 in Topeka, Kansas, the son of Helen (q.v.) and Theodore (q.v.) Todd. He attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and his name appears on an attendance sheet from 1921-1922. In 1923, he had the second-best attendance record in the Sunday school, and in 1924 he was tied for first (only two absences in both years).

He continued to live with his parents in 1930 and 1940. In 1942, he was a student at San Jose State Teachers College; he registered for the draft and married Joyce Turney in that same year, then served in the Pacific theatre of World War II until 1946. In 1949, he received an M.A. from Stanford in Spanish, then worked for Hewlett Packard as a test engineer. He died in Palo Alto in 1990.

TODD, THEODORE WALTER— He was born c. 1865 in Illinois. He received an A.B. from Monmouth College in 1888 and an A.M. there in 1891; an LL.B. from the Univ. of Michigan in 1891; and by 1903 was teaching modern history and German at Washburn College in Topeka, Kan. He married Helen Morton (q.v.), daughter of Howard (q.v.) and Jessie (q.v.) Morton, on June 18, 1907. He received his A.M. in English from Stanford in 1922.

Helen was a member of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and their son John attended Sunday school, but Theodore doesn’t appear on any of the extant membership lists. By 1932, Theodore was retired and living in Palo Alto.

He was on the 1948 mailing list of the Palo Alto Unitarian Society.

He died in 1957.


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MORTON, HARRIET MASON BROWN— She was born c. 1850 in Maine. She was living in Washington, D.C., c. 1875, when she married John Miller Morton. They had several children, including Oliver Perry (b. Nov., 1874) and Harriet (b. Jul. 14, 1876, Maine); two children died young. John M. was a Treasury Agent, and U.S. Shipping Commissioner in San Francisco.

In 1900, she was living at Stanford with John M. and their son Oliver; Oliver had graduated from Stanford in 1895. By 1904, she was living in Palo Alto with Oliver, who was then a lawyer. By 1910, she was widowed and living alone in Mayfield.

She was an early member of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and was appointed to the first Hospitality Committee on Dec., 1906, serving under committee chair John S. Butler (q.v.). She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance. She was one
of the delegates to the Pacific Coast Unitarian Conference in 1910, held in San Francisco.


MOSER, MRS.— In 1921, she was chair of the Music Committee of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Notes: She may be Florence Schindewolf Moser, wife of Charles Moser, a professor of civil engineering at Stanford University in 1921. If so, she was born in Ohio c. 1881, and married Charles on Jan. 8, 1908. In 1920, they had two children, Henry (b. c. 1911) and Elizabeth (b. c. 1914). 1920 U.S. Census; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1921.

Agnes and Harry Moule

MOULE, AGNES MAY AXTELL— She was born Aug., 1872, in Ohio. She married Harry John Moule (q.v.) in 1892. They had two children, Manley Axtell (b. Sept. 1894, Ohio) and Richard Harding (b. c. 1904, Ohio). She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and in the 1920 membership list. She served on the Pulpit Committee in 1920, when the church had no settled minister.

Notes: 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920 U.S. Census.

MOULE, HARRY J.— He was born Oct., 1869, in Ohio. He married Agnes May Axtell (q.v.) in 1892. They had two children, A. Manley (b. Sept. 1894, Ohio) and Richard H. (b. c. 1904, Ohio). In 1900, they were living in Rockport, Ohio, and he was a lawyer. In 1910, they were still living in Rockport, and Harry’s occupation was selling bonds and stocks. He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and in the 1920 membership list.

Notes: 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920 U.S. Census.
Cavendish and Mabel Moxon

Moxon, Cavendish—A liberal clergyman in the Church of England, and later a psychoanalyst, he was born in Yorkshire, England, May 9, 1882. He received his B. A. at Oxford Univ. in 1904. He married Mabel Emily —— (q.v.) before 1911, and he was a clergyman in the United Kingdom from 1906 through 1920. He came to the United States in March, 1920, then came to California in 1920, and preached in the Berkeley Unitarian church in December of that year.

His name was written in by hand on a copy of the 1920 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

He married Elizabeth G. —— on Aug. 2, 1928. By 1928 he had married Elizabeth ——, and in 1930 was a psychologist living in San Francisco. He died in 1973.


Moxon, Mabel Emily Whitcombe—She was born March 3, 1887, in Warwickshire, England. She came to the United States with her husband Cavendish Moxon (q.v.) in 1920.

Her name was written in by hand on a copy of the 1920 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

She had a son Beresford Otto (b. April 9, 1925, Calif.) and was divorced from Cavendish before 1928. In 1930 she was working as a psychoanalyst in private practice in New York City, where she lived with Beresford. By 1940 she lived in Morristown, N. J., and working as a cosmetics consultant in a retail store. She died in 1970 in Orange County, Calif.
The Musy Family

*MUSY, GERMAINE COQUART— A hairdresser, she was born in Paris, France c. 1892. She came to the United States in 1902, and married Victor Musy (q.v.) on Sept. 6, 1914, in Medford, Mass.; they had two children, Jeanne (b. c. 1916, Mass.) and Maurice V. (b. c. 1918, Mass.). In 1923, she had a hairdressing shop at 135 University Ave. in Palo Alto.

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was listed in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

She was married Carl K. Greenleaf on Sept. 1, 1928, and in 1930 they were living in Palo Alto with Jeanne and Maurice; Carl was a traveling salesman, and she (now called Germaine Greenleaf) was the proprietor of a beauty shop. She became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1955, and died in 1983 in Monterrey, Calif.


*MUSY, JEAN MARGUERITE— She was born Sept. 24, 1915, in Melrose, Mass. She attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and in 1923 was absent for only four Sundays.

In 1930, she was living with her mother and brother, and her stepfather Karl Greenleaf in Palo Alto. She graduated from Palo Alto High School in 1932, and the Univ. of Calif. at Berkeley in 1937. In 1940, she was still living with them in Palo Alto, and was
working as an elementary school teacher. After teaching in Napa County for several years, she married Wallace Hardin in 1947, and died in 2007.


Musy, Maurice V.— He was born Feb. 21, 1918, in Melrose, Mass., to Germaine (q.v.) and Victor (q.v.) Musy. He attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto; in 1923 he was absent only five Sundays, and in 1925 for just six Sundays.

In 1930, he was living with his mother and sister, and his stepfather Karl Greenleaf. By 1940, he was still living with them, and was working as a salesman for Pacific Gas and Electric Co. He died in San Mateo, Calif., in 2006.

Notes: 1930, 1940 U.S. Census; Massachusetts State Vital Records, 1841-1920, Births 1918 Melrose; United States Social Security Death Index.

Musy, Victor Emile— A chef, he was born Dec. 18, 1891, at Lausanne, Switzerland. He emigrated to the United States in 1906. He married Germaine Coquart (q.v.) on Sept. 6, 1914, in Medford, Mass., and they had two children, Jeanne (b. Sept. 24, 1915, Mass.) and Maurice V. (b. Feb. 21, 1918, Mass.). He was working as a chef in Palo Alto by 1923.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was listed in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

He died in 1926.

NELSON, EDNA L.— She was born c. 1907 in California to two Swedish immigrant parents. In 1910, she was living in Township 4, Placer County, Calif.; her father was a section foreman working for the Southern Pacific Railroad. She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” In 1929 and 1930, she was a stenographer at the Bank of Italy, and in 1930 she was still living with her father and mother and younger brother; her father was still working for the railroad.

Notes: 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; Polk-Husted San Jose City and Santa Clara County Directory, 1929.

NELSON, NELS BERDENICUS— A lawyer, he was born April 25, 1881, in Illinois. Both his parents were born in the country of Norway. He studied law at Stanford Univ. in 1903-1904 and 1905-1906, but did not complete a degree; while at Stanford, he gave his place of residence as Norway, Ill.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on June 17, 1907. In 1910, he was working as a lawyer, and living in Palo Alto with one servant, a cook.

He married Hazel Dolores Flood, a Stanford Univ. graduate, on Sept. 3, 1910. By 1913, Nels and Hazel were living in Coal inga, Calif., where their daughter Ono was born. By 1920, he and Hazel were still living in Los Angeles but now with three children, and Nels was working as a lawyer in general practice.

He died in 1957.

Notes: 1920 U.S. Census; Stanford Univ. Annual Register, 1904; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1921; Birth certificate for Ono Marie Nelson, April 10, 1913, Los Angeles, Calif.

NEWBROUGH, GEORGE FLOYD— He was born in Texas c. 1900. He received his A.B. in English from Stanford in Oct., 1924. He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924. He went on the receive his A.M. from Harvard Univ. in 1928, married La Vera
McNay in 1927, and by 1930 was living in Northfield, Vermont, where he was an instructor at Norwich Univ.


NICHOLS, DOROTHY ESTHER— She was born c. 1903 in Colorado. In 1910, she was living in El Monte, Calif., with her father Walter H. Nichols, her mother Esther C. Nichols, and older siblings Helen Blanche, Alan Hammond (died in WWI in France “from wounds sustained in aerial battle”), and John Ralph.

While the Nichols family attended the Congregational Church, Dorothy acted the part of Henrietta in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916.

Dorothy studied at Stanford Univ. in 1919-1920. In 1920, the family was living in Palo Alto, and Walter was principal at Palo Alto High School; at this time, they lived next to or near Agnes (q.v.) and Harry J. (q.v.) Moule. Dorothy became a writer.


NILES, ALFRED SALEM— A professor of aeronautical engineering, he was born Oct. 11, 1894, in Baltimore, Maryland. He received his A.B. from Johns Hopkins Univ. in 1915, his B. S. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1917, and his B. S. from Harvard Univ. in 1917. In 1920, he was living with his parents and two brothers in Baltimore, and gave his occupation as “none.” He married Florence B. ———, c. 1926. In 1927, he began teaching aeronautic engineering at Stanford Univ.

When he moved to Palo Alto, he became active in the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and later wrote:

In 1927 when the writer came to Palo Alto, the old Unitarian Church at Cowper St. and Channing Avenue was still functioning, but rather feebly. The minister was a woman [Leila Lasley Thompson, q.v.] who later gained considerable notoriety as a fellow-traveler, though her proclivities along that line
were not yet apparent. There was no Sunday School that I know of, and attendance at the morning services was small. In earlier years the church had been much more active, but the minister at the time of World War I had been a pacifist and conscientious objector, and this had caused a split in the church from which it never recovered. Another thing which I think was an important obstacle to recovery was the quality of the pews in the old building. They were the most uncomfortable ones that I have ever encountered. Since mortification of the flesh does not appeal to Unitarians as a technique of salvation, those seats must have discouraged many possible members. Morning attendance got so small that we tried having services in the evening. But that did not help. Our woman minister resigned, and for a while we had a student from the Starr King School preach to us. Finally, about 1929, services were discontinued, and after a few years the church organization was dissolved, the church building returned to the American Unitarian Association, which sold it to a Fundamentalist group for about $230 less than the mortgage, and there was no more organized Unitarianism in Palo Alto for several years.

Alfred attended services at Stanford’s Memorial Church for a while, then stopped going to church altogether:

During the 1930s the Chaplain at Stanford was Dr. D. Elton Trueblood, a Friend [i.e., a Quaker] with quite liberal views and an excellent speaker. Many Unitarians got into the habit of attending services at the Stanford Church as a result. But he resigned and was succeeded by more orthodox men, and most of the Unitarians in town lost the church-going habit. One result of this was that quite a few of us, although well acquainted with each other, did not realize that we were fellow-Unitarians. The writer can testify to his own surprise, in 1947, to find that the head and one of the professors of his department at Stanford were also Unitarians. We just had never discussed religion with each other.

In 1947, Alfred was one of the founders of the Palo Alto Unitarian Society, and he became very active in that congregation. He died in 1975.

O’CONNOR, ELEANOR— A piano teacher, she was born c. 1859 in Mississippi. In 1920, she was widowed and living alone in Palo Alto, and teaching piano.

She made financial contributions to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto beginning in 1922, and was noted as a new member that year. She was in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

In 1930, she was still living in Palo Alto, and still giving private music lessons. By 1940, she had stopped teaching, and was still living in Palo Alto. She died in 1960.

Notes: 1920, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census; California Death Index.

★ OSBORNE, CHARLOTTE—She was born in June, 1826, in Ireland. She married John Walter Osborne in c. 1855.

John was born in Ireland in 1827. In 1852, he married Anne ———, and emigrated to Australia. Charlotte and John probably married in Australia, after the end of John’s first marriage.

In 1859, John developed a commercially feasible process for photolithography, which he patented for the government of Victoria, Australia. When he went to Europe in 1862, he found that someone else had patented the same process. So he and Charlotte emigrated to the United States in 1864, where John sold his process to the American Photolithographic Co.

In 1880, they were living in Washington, D.C., where John gave his occupation as “inventor.” Later, they probably lived in New York, where John was employed by a firm of patent attorneys as an expert.

When John retired, they moved to San José, Calif. Then Charlotte and John built a house at 1052 Bryant St. in Palo Alto, and probably began living there in late 1900. John died on Nov. 20, 1902.

Charlotte contributed to the “Church Lot Subscription” fund for the Unitarian Church in Palo Alto in 1906. She formally joined the church on Feb. 28, 1911.
Russell and Sigurd Varian, founders of Varian Assoc., an early Silicon Valley firm, were great-nephews of John and Charlotte. When Russell and Sigurd’s parents, John Osborne Varian and Agnes Varian, arrived in California c. 1914, they stayed at first with their Aunt Cherrie (as they called her) at 1052 Bryant St., before moving to the Temple of the People compound in Halcyon, Calif.

She died c. 1916.

Clayton and Jessie Palmer

PALMER, CLAYTON FRANKLIN—A teacher and zoologist, Clayton Franklin Palmer was born Aug. 6, 1876 in Stockbridge, Mass. He attended Massachusetts Agricultural College, received a B.S. from Boston Univ. in 1897, and an A.B. from Williams College in 1903. He married Jessie S. Bowen (q.v.) on July 29, 1900; he received his A.M. in zoology from Stanford in 1905. He lived in Palo Alto by 1904, giving his profession as “orchardist.” He was a schoolteacher in several different schools, including Palo Alto High School.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905. He served as chair of the Sunday school committee beginning in 1906. He was on the Board of Trustees in 1906.

He and Jessie had a daughter, Caroline (b. c. 1907), and by 1910 the family was living in South Pasadena, Calif. In 1922, he was Supervisor of Agriculture in the Los Angeles City Schools.

He died March 28, 1960.


PALMER, JESSIE SPENCER BOWEN—A librarian and housewife, she was born Apr., 1877, in Connecticut. In 1898, she began working as librarian of Storrs Agricultural College in Conn. She married Clayton F. Palmer (q.v.) on July 29, 1900; she studied German at Stanford, and received her A.M. in 1905.

She was an early participant in the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. On Oct. 8, 1908, she was appointed to serve on the Sunday school committee.
She and Clayton had a daughter, Caroline (b. c. 1907), and by 1910 the family was living in South Pasadena, Calif. She died Feb. 21, 1964; her memorial service was held at a Congregational church in South Pasadena.


PALMER, WALTER CURTIS—He was born in April 7, 1882, in Stockbridge, Mass., where his parents were farmers. In 1900 he was a student at Williams College. In 1907, he was selling insurance in Palo Alto.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905, and was appointed to the first Hospitality Committee on Dec., 1906, serving under committee chair John S. Butler (q.v.).

In 1910, he was living in San Francisco, and working as a cashier for an insurance company. By 1916, the Walter C. Palmer insurance agency had an office in San Francisco. Walter married Annabel Root, and by 1920 they were living in Oakland with their daughter Madeline (b. c. 1917, Calif.), and Walter was an agent for a life insurance company. He and Annabel lived in Oakland at least through 1940.

When the Palo Alto Unitarian Society was forming in 1947, he contacted the organizers to tell them he was a charter member of the old church; he may have received mailings, but his name is not on any remaining mailing lists.

He died in 1953, in Alameda County, Calif.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census; Massachusetts Births, 1841-1915, Town of Stockbridge, 1882, p. 76; Bulletin, Williams College, 1912; San Jose City and Santa Clara County Directory, 1907; Directory of Palo Alto and the Campus, Times Pub., 1907; Crocker-Langley San Francisco Directory, 1916; Calif. Death Index.
The Park Family

DEAN W. PARK  ALICE ELIZABETH LOCKE

CARL JOSEPH PARK
HARRIET PARK

PARK, ALICE ELIZABETH LOCKE—A writer, feminist, and pacifist, she was born Feb. 2, 1861, in Boston, Mass.; her father John, a lawyer, was from New Hampshire and her mother Harriet was from Nantucket.

She graduated from Rhode Island Normal School in 1879. She taught in the public schools in Cumberland, Smithfield, and North Kingstown, R.I., in 1880-1882.

She married Dean W. Park (q.v.) on Sept. 27, 1884, and they had two children, Carl Joseph (b. Oct. 13, 1885, Colo.; q.v.) and Harriet (b. Feb. 7, 1887, Colo.; q.v.). Dean was a mining engineer and graduate of M.I.T., and the family lived in a number of places, including Montana, Colorado, Mexico, and Texas, following his jobs. Alice moved to Palo Alto in 1906 while their children were attending Stanford Univ.

She, along with her husband and both children, joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on June 7, 1907. She was also an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Her husband, Dean, died in a bicycling accident in Palo Alto on May 5, 1909.

In 1910, Alice gave her occupation as “writer” for “papers, etc.” She was active with the California Equal Suffrage Assoc., and participated in the successful 1911 campaign for women’s suffrage in California. Subsequently, she continued to be active in suffrage work outside of California.

She was branded as a “subversive” by the New York State Legislature, which noted that she belonged to the National Women’s Suffrage Party, and called her a “sympathizer” of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW). In 1912, she wrote a
letter to the editor of *Pacific Unitarian* in support of the IWW.

She later said that she could not remember when she became a pacifist, and called it a family tradition. She opposed the Spanish-American War, and displayed a peace flag on her house during the First World War. She helped form the Palo Alto branch of the Women’s Peace Party (WPP); Jessie Knight Jordan, David Starr Jordan’s wife, was also involved with the WPP. In 1915, she went to Europe on the Ford Peace Mission. With the entrance of the U.S. into the war in 1917, the Palo Alto branch of the WPP disbanded; Park then joined the American Union against Militarism, and began holding meetings of the Palo Alto branch in her house beginning April 16, 1917; and when the Palo Alto branch publicly supported conscientious objectors, she was threatened with arrest.

She went to meetings of the People’s Council in San Francisco (of which Rev. William Short [*q.v.*] was an officer); she was presiding at a meeting in August, 1917, with David Starr Jordan (*q.v.*) on the speaker’s platform, when the meeting was raided by police. She continued her pacifist activities throughout the war, sometimes enduring illegal searches by the police. After the war, in 1919, she planned a meeting at the Palo Alto Community House (which Edith Maddux [*q.v.*] helped organize) to call for the release of all political prisoners.

In 1920, she listed her occupation as “press writer” for the “Humane Ec. Soc.” By 1920, both her children were married and had left Palo Alto.

Alice and Marion Starr Alderton withdrew from the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in June, 1920, in protest against “the attitude taken” by the church in the First World War.

She described her religion thus:

My religion is humanity—humanitarianism—confident that the present time is all that we are sure of and our duty, our progress and our usefulness are all here and now—if we think earnestly of the present and try to do all we can right here and now—we are at least sure of immediate results. My religion is boundless—Nothing human is alien to me. (quoted in Eichelberger; see Notes)

In 1930, she was living alone in Palo Alto, and listed her occupation as a writer for the Humane Society. Later in her life, she
became a Quaker.
She lived to be a hundred years old, and died on Oct. 18, 1961, in Palo Alto.


Park deserves additional research (though such research is outside the scope of this book). Sources for further research include the Alice Park papers at the Huntington Library, San Marino, Calif. (mssPK 1-338), and the Register of the Alice Park Papers 1883-1951 at the Hoover Institution, Stanford Univ.

PARK, CARL (CARLTON) JOSEPH— He was born Oct. 13, 1885, in Colorado, son of Alice L. Park (q.v.) and Dean W. Park (q.v.). Carl received his degree in education from Stanford University in 1913.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Pal Alto on June 7, 1907, and he served on the committee to arrange summer services in 1907. He was appointed to the Sunday school committee in 1910.

He married Emily Zaiser on Aug. 2, 1919, and by 1921 was a teacher of “manual training” in San Diego.

Notes: 1900 U.S. Census; Stanford Univ. Annual Register, 1914; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1921.

PARK, DEAN WILLIAM— He was born William Dean Park in
Roxbury, Mass. (now part of Boston), on Sept. 14, 1862, in Massachusetts, son of Judge John C. and Charlotte C. Park; by at least 1880, he was known as Dean. In 1880, he and his parents and a brother and sister were living in Newton, Mass. He graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1884.

He married Alice Locke (q.v.) on Sept. 27, 1884, and they had two children, Carl J. (b. Oct. 13, 1885, Colo.; q.v.) and Harriet (b. Feb. 7, 1887, Colo.; q.v.). Among other places, he lived in Georgetown and Denver, Colo.; El Paso, Tex.; Corralitos, Mexico; Great Falls, Mont.; and Cerro de Pasco, Peru. By 1900, he was living with his wife and children in Township no. 1, Mariposa County, Calif., and working as an assayer.

Dean and Alice moved to Palo Alto c. 1906 while Dean’s and Alice’s children were attending Stanford Univ.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on June 7, 1907.

He wrote the following for the twenty-fifth anniversary of his college graduation:

I listened to Greeley’s advice and came west, and found Westerners were so intent on securing the so-called “practical” men that one who had ever looked into a book on mining was considered too impractical to push a tram-car. To go into assaying and smelting was then the most natural course, and the one which I followed almost constantly until 1905. Now I make motions behind a [surveyor’s] transit out in the fresh air. Sure I’d do it again, and take more time to do it….

Not long after writing this, he died in a bicycle accident in Palo Alto, on May, 1909. His funeral was held on Sunday morning, May 9, 1909, at Fraternity Hall; Rev. Sydney Snow of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto had to lead the Sunday service at the church, so Rev. Frederick Hosmer, a Unitarian minister from Berkeley, officiated.


PARK, HARRIET— She was born Feb. 7, 1887, in Colorado, daughter of Alice L. Park (q.v.) and Dean W. Park (q.v.). She
UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934

received a A.B. degree in graphic arts from Stanford Univ. in 1911.

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on June 7, 1907. She married Harry P. Cramer, another Stanford graduate, on Aug. 18, 1916, and by 1921 she was living in Portland, Ore.

Notes: 1900 U.S. Census; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1921.

PARKINSON, GEORGE— A banker, he was born in Dec., 1872, in Iowa. He married Emma —— of California c. 1897, and was living in Palo Alto by 1900. He contributed to the “Church Lot Subscription” fund of the Unitarian Church in Palo Alto in 1906. He assisted with the church’s reception for the visiting delegates of the National Conference of Unitarians on August 29, 1915. He died c. 1918.

Notes: 1900 U.S. Census; Directory of Palo Alto and Campus, A. T. Griffin, Dec., 1904.

PARKINSON, JOHN F.— President of the first bank in Palo Alto and mayor of the city for a time, he was born in West Virginia on Dec. 2, 1864. He is probably the “F. J. Parkinson” who contributed to the “Church Lot Subscription” fund of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1906. He was an early booster of the city of Palo Alto, and he may have contributed to the fund out of civic duty; his name does not appear elsewhere in the extant records of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. He died c. 1954.

Notes: Eugene T. Sawyer, History of Santa Clara County, California, Historic Record Co., 1922, p. 427.

PEARCE, MERCEDES— She was born c. 1904 in California; her father was born in California, and her mother was born in South America. In 1920, she was living in Redwood City; her father was working as an electrician. She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”
By 1930, she was living with her parents in Redwood City, and she was teaching in the public schools.

Notes: 1920, 1930 U.S. Census.

.places

PECK, ANNA EARLE DIXON— A physician, she was born March, 1870, in Calif. Her mother was born in Germany, her father in Canada. In 1870, Anna was living in Santa Clara, Calif., with her father and four siblings, her father was a farmer. In 1880, Anna’s family was living in San José, Calif.; by this time her father’s father was living with them, and both her father and grandfather were farmers.

She was school superintendent for Napa County, 1891-1895, leaving that position to study at Stanford in 1895. She married Allan E. Peck on Dec. 22, 1898; he received his A.B. from Stanford in 1898, and he became a surgeon for the U.S. Navy. After receiving her A.B. in history from Stanford in 1899, she studied at Cooper Medical College, receiving her M.D. in 1900 (the same year Allen did). In 1910, they were living in the Philippines, and Allen was in the Navy. They had one child, Allen E., Jr. (b. c. 1911, Calif.).

By 1913, Anna was back in Palo Alto practicing medicine in Palo Alto, and she made the news for scolding a thief. She was on her way from 319 Addison Ave., where she lived with her husband, to pay a visit to friends on Lincoln Ave., when a young man with a revolver sprang out from behind a tree and ordered her to put her hands up. She told him that she had no money because she was a doctor hurrying to a call, and came out with any money; actually, she had $500 worth of jewels in her purse, which she kept hidden. The young man ordered her to get some money; so she borrowed a silver dollar from a nearby house, gave it to the thief, then grabbed his hand that did not hold the gun, and:

...proceeded to give him a sound scolding for choosing to follow a life of crime. He stood quietly on the spot while she told him of the ultimate outcome of his criminal career and when she finished he thanked her for the advice and vanished into the night. (Palo Alto, Aug. 1, 1913)

She served on the Sunday School Committee of the Unitarian
Church of Palo Alto in 1916 with Emma Rendtorff (*q.v.* ) and Edith Maddux (*q.v.* ). She appeared on the 1920 and 1926 membership lists.

By 1921, Allen and Anna were living in Seattle. In 1925, Allen, Sr., died of pneumonia in the U.S. Naval Hospital, Puget Sound Washington. By 1930 Anna was living with her 19 year old son in Washington, D.C.


PETERS, HERMAN R.— A realtor, he was born in Keystone, Iowa, on Dec. 25, 1880. His parents were German immigrants, and he spoke German as a young child. He served in the Spanish American War and later said he was with Roosevelt’s Rough Riders.

He received a B.A. in German at Stanford in 1907. He went on to earn an S.T.B. at Harvard in 1910.

Herman joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905, and was appointed to the first Hospitality Committee on Dec., 1906, serving under committee chair John S. Butler (*q.v.* ). He was on the national board of the Young People’s Religious Union (the Unitarian youth and young adult organization) in 1908, and was secretary and treasurer of the Harvard Unitarian Club in 1909.

He married Margaret —— in Nov., 1913, and settled in Los Altos, where he worked in real estate. It appears he was not involved with the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto after moving to Los Altos in 1913. He sold his Los Altos realty business in 1963, and died in 1966.


PICKARD, THELMA— She was born c. 1905 in Illinois; her father
was born in Germany and her mother was born in France. She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” In 1930, she was a servant living with William J. and Mary Carr. In 1931, her husband, Donald R. Pickard, was a tugboat captain.

Notes: 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; Polk-Husted San Jose City and Santa Clara County Directory, 1931.

PRICE, GEORGE CLINTON— A professor of zoology, he received a B.S. degree from DePauw in 1890, and a Ph.D. from Stanford Univ. in 1897. He began teaching at Stanford in 1892.

He gave $5 to the “Church Lot Subscription” fund of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1906.

Notes: Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921.

PUTNAM, EDWARD KIRBY— A professor of English at Stanford Univ., he was born in Davenport, Iowa, on Nov. 17, 1869. He received his A.B. from Illinois College in 1891; studied at the Univ. of Chicago 1894-1896; and received his A.M. from Harvard Univ. in 1899. In 1900, at age 31, he gave his profession as “student.” He taught English at Stanford from 1901 to 1906, and worked closely with Ewald Flügel (q.v.) in 1903-1904.

He gave $5 to the “Church Lot Subscription” fund of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

In 1906, he left Stanford to become director of the Academy of Sciences in Davenport, Iowa, which was funded by his brother William Clement Putnam. He married Hilda Sandberg c. 1906; they had one child. By 1915, he was a Presbyterian. He died in 1939.

Clarence and Hannah Reed

REED, CLARENCE—A Unitarian minister, he was born Sept. 16, 1872, in Jerseyville, Ill. He received his A.B. from DePauw Univ., and entered the Illinois Conference (Methodist) in 1892. After study in Europe, 1895-1896, he was settled at Sullivan, Ill., 1896-1900, and at Paris, Ill. 1901-1902. While in Paris, he married Hannah M. Eads (q.v.) March 31, 1902. Next, he was settled at California St. Church, San Francisco.

In 1904, he went to study at the Unitarian Harvard Divinity School and was a student at Univ. of Calif. 1905-1906; became minister of the Unitarian Church in Alameda from 1906-1909; and he received a master’s degree from Univ. of Calif., 1908.

In 1909, he was settled as minister of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto; he joined the church on Nov. 2, 1909. In 1912, he gave the introduction for ’Abdu’l Bahá, the Bahá’í prophet, when the latter spoke at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

While at Palo Alto, Clarence acted as Superintendent of the Sunday School, and in that capacity gave the following “commands” to the children and teenagers:

1. Thou shalt not steal.
2. Thou shalt not lie.
3. Thou shalt not hate.
4. Thou shalt not be proud.
5. Thou shalt not be selfish.
6. Be true to thy conscience.
7. Honor thy father and mother.
8. Obey the laws of thy country.
9. Remember all the days of the week to keep them holy.
10. Worship God through the service of man.
11. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.
12. Do the duty which lies nearest to you.

He wrote an article for the Pacific Unitarian titled “The Outdoor Sunday School,” telling how he laid out the grounds enclosed by the church building and the parish hall to be used as outdoor classrooms for the Sunday school students.
He left the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1915. The Board of Trustees called a meeting of the church on May 11, 1915, to inform the congregation that “Mr. Reed … is dissatisfied with the management of the church finances, and perhaps also felt some discouragement over the support he had received in his work.” After leaving Palo Alto, he immediately took a position at the Unitarian church in Oakland; Reed’s annual salary at the Palo Alto church was $1,600 per year, while Oakland paid him $3,000 per year.

He spent the rest of his career serving as minister of the Unitarian church in Oakland. He died in Oakland on Jan. 19, 1945.


REED, HANNAH MUNSELL EADS— A music teacher and minister’s wife, she was born Sept., 1868, in Illinois, one of seven children.

She attended Western College for Women from 1883-1884. She received her B.L. degree from Ohio Wesleyan Univ. in 1886; was a teacher of vocal music in Paris, Ill., 1890-1892; and an instructor at Hesperian College in Woodland, Calif., 1892-1894. She married Rev. Clarence Reed (q.v.) on March 31, 1902, in Paris, Ill.

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 2, 1909. She was active in the Women’s Alliance while Clarence was minister in Palo Alto.

Notes: 1900 U.S. Census; Register of Alumnae and Non-graduates, Western Coll. Women, 1914; E. T. Nelson, ed., Fifty Years of History of the Ohio Wesleyan Univ., 1895; Alumnal Record, DePauw University, 1920.

REESE, MRS. ELLA— She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.
Notes: In 1919, she lived in Mayfield. She is probably the Ella Reece, widow of John Reece, listed in the 1929 Polk’s Palo Alto Directory, as living at 267 College Ave., Palo Alto.

The Reining Family

REINING, CHARLES—An instructor in German at Stanford, he was born April, 1881, in Davenport, Iowa; both his parents, Frederick and Emma (q.v.) were born in Germany. He was a student at Stanford, and received his A.B. in 1908. While there, he was an active member of the German Club. He married Louise Mittelbuscher (q.v.) on Aug. 17, 1908, and began a year of study at the Univ. of Leipzig Oct. 18, 1909, where he studied philology; there he listed his religion as “Protestant.”

He received his master’s degree from Harvard in 1911, then taught at Adelphi College, Brooklyn. He received his Ph.D. from Stanford in 1915, then taught German there from 1915 to 1918. He was called “a distinguished scholar [and] superior teacher” and was well-liked by both students and his fellow teachers.

He was affiliated with the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and was appointed to the Finance Committee in Dec., 1906. He made regular financial contributions to the church through at least 1917. He was listed in the 1919 parish directory.

He died Aug. 11, 1918. Rev. Bradley Gilman of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto officiated at his funeral on Aug. 13.


REINING, EMMA P.—She was born in Solingen, Germany on April 10, 1856, in Germany. She immigrated to the U.S. in 1858,
and married Fred Reining c. 1872. In 1900, they lived in Davenport, Iowa, where Fred had a grocery store; they had a son, Charles (q.v.). The Davenport, Iowa, Unitarian church attracted free-thinking German-Americans in the late nineteenth century, and it is possible Emma was a Unitarian while in Davenport.

By 1904, she was living in Palo Alto with her son Charles while he was a student at Stanford Univ.

She was one of the eleven charter members of the Women’s Alliance on Oct. 21, 1905.


**REINING, LOUISE M. MITTELBUSCHER**— She was born Nov., 1885, in Iowa. She married Charles Reining (q.v.) in 1908. She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. Charles died in 1918, and by 1920, she was living with her parents in Davenport, Iowa. She died in 1928.

UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934

The Rendtorff - Meyer Family

Charles F. Meyer — EMMA PULTE MEYER

Charles A. Meyer
ADELE MEYER — Irving Outcault
EMMA E. MEYER — KARL RENDTORFF

GERTRUDE EMMA RENDTORFF

* Meyer, Adele — A German teacher and school principal, she was born in Pyrmont, Germany, Aug. 16, 1873, presumably while her parents were visiting her father’s relatives in Germany; her siblings Emma E. (q.v.) and Charles A. (b. c. 1855) were born in the United States.

In the 1880 U.S. Census, she was living with her siblings and her mother and father in St. Louis, Missouri; Her father listed his occupation as salesman, and her older brother Charles as manufacturing of pianos. The census records state that Adele immigrated to the U.S. in 1880. She attended Sunday school at the Church of the Unity, a Unitarian church in St. Louis.

Her mother moved the family to Coronado, Calif., around 1892, probably after her father died. Adele began her teaching career “in a country school” in 1893, and then taught elementary school in Coronado.

She studied at Stanford in 1896-1897, and lived with her sister Emma, also a Stanford student. After one year of studies, Adele moved back to Coronado. She also studied at the University of Berlin in 1902.

Adele resumed her studies at Stanford in 1905, and lived with her mother in Palo Alto; in 1907, she received her A.B. in German.

Adele was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo on Nov. 19, 1905. She was Assistant Superintendent of the Sunday school at the Unitarian Church, from when it first began in Dec., 1905 through 1907, while her sister Emma was
Superintendent. Adele became the Superintendent in 1907-1908 while Emma’s husband was on sabbatical; in that year the average attendance was 17.

After graduating from Stanford, she taught German in the Polytechnic High School, Los Angeles. In 1910, she and her mother Emma were living in Los Angeles. She became part of the Unitarian church in Los Angeles, and by 1909 was Superintendent of the Sunday school.

Adele went to study at Columbia around 1912. She married Irving Erastus Outcault on June 25, 1914; he was a Stanford graduate, class of 1896. They settled in San Diego, and she was the first principal of the Francis Parker School in San Diego, from 1914-1920.

She died Aug. 28, 1964.


MEYER, EMMA PULTE—She was born June, 1837, in St. Louis, Missouri; both her parents were German immigrants.

She married Charles F. (Carl Franz) Meyer (b. c. 1827, Bremen, Germany) and they had eight children, of whom three survived to adulthood: Charles A., (b. c. 1856, Missouri), Emma Elizabeth (b. c. 1869, Missouri), and Adele (b. Pyrmont, Germany, Aug. 16, 1873). Emma took her children to Sunday school at the Church of the Unity (Unitarian) in St. Louis.

In 1892, she was living in Coronado, Calif., with her daughters Emma and Adele. She was widowed before 1900.

When Adele went to Europe to study in 1902-1903, Emma went with her. When Adele went to complete her degree at Stanford in 1905, Emma Pulte came up to Palo Alto to live with her.

Emma joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905. She was one of the early members of the Women’s Alliance
of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

After her daughter Adele graduated from Stanford in 1907, they moved to Los Angeles, where Adele had a teaching job. Adele married in 1914. In 1920, Emma was living with Adele and her husband in San Diego; she continued to live with them in 1930.


RENTORFF, EMMA ELIZABETH MEYER— A German teacher and key figure in the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, she was born in St. Louis, Mo., on Oct. 3, 1868; her father, Charles F., was born in Germany, and her mother, Emma Pulte, though a native of Missouri, was the daughter of two German immigrants. Her family belonged to Unity Church, the second Unitarian church in St. Louis, formed in 1868 (in 1938, Church of the Unity merged with Church of the Messiah to form First Unitarian).

She taught in Compton and Hogden Schools in St. Louis, for about two years, until May, 1891, when she applied for a leave of absence. By 1892, Emma was teaching German at Coronado High School, Coronado, Calif., and taught there through 1894.

Emma entered Stanford University in Sept., 1894. She lived with her sister Adele (q.v.) during the academic year 1896-1897, but Adele went back to Coronado after a year. Emma taught German at Stanford while studying for her degree, and received her A.B. in German in 1899; she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa in 1905.

On June 5, 1899, she married Karl G. Rendtorff (q.v.), a professor of German at Stanford, in Coronado, Calif., where her
mother and Adele were living. The *Los Angeles Herald* (June 12, 1899, p. 2) gushed:

The marriage of Miss Emma Meyer, formerly teacher of German at Leland Stanford University, to Dr. Carl [sic] G. Rendtorff, also of Leland Stanford, was a notable event of the past week. Both the bride and the groom are well known throughout the state.

She and Karl had one child, Gertrude Emma (b. Oct. 20, 1902; *q.v.*).

Emma Rendtorff joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905. She was Superintendent of the Sunday School of the church in 1905-1907, 1908-1910, 1915-1917, and 1920-1922; she started the Sunday school from scratch, and from 1905 to 1917 average attendance grew from 9 to 48. She was on the Building Committee when the new Social Hall was built, part of the purpose of which was to provide a well-equipped room for the Sunday School. She was personally dedicated to the Sunday school as an institution; in a talk she gave at a church dinner in 1907, she said her experiences in the Sunday school of Church of the Unity, the second Unitarian church in St. Louis, were formative:

Some of the dearest memories of my life are bound up with my own Sunday-school days, which were spent in St. Louis in the little Church of the Unity…. And I think with profound gratitude of one teacher there who more than any one other person in the world quickened my religious instincts and shaped my moral ideals. He was one of the rare men of this world…. And what that teacher did for me perhaps some one teachers in our school may do for our children. (*Pacific Unitarian*, Jan., 1907, p. 89.)

She was not the only Superintendent of Sunday Schools in her family; her sister Adele became Superintendent of the Sunday School in the Los Angeles Unitarian church. Emma was active in the Pacific Coast Conference as well, and attended the 1918 meeting of the conference in Berkeley. She was on the 1920 and 1926 membership lists of the church. She appeared on the 1929 membership list of the Women’s Alliance, but not on the final 1931 Alliance membership list.

In 1929, Karl retired from Stanford, and the two of them moved to Carmel, where they had had a summer home for many years.

Karl died May 5, 1945, and Emma died in 1946. She and Karl
are buried next to Emma’s sister Adele and her brother-in-law Irving Outcault in Greenwood Memorial Park, San Diego.


* RENDTORFF, GERTRUDE EMMA— An educator, she was born Oct. 20, 1902, in Palo Alto, Calif., almost exactly two months after her parents returned from a year and a half of travel in Europe.

She attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and acted the part of Linda in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916. By 1919-1920 she was teaching gr. 2-3 in the Sunday school, and in 1920-1921 she taught gr. 2-4. She is mentioned in the church records as a “graduate” of the Sunday school.

When she was young, her family began to summer in Carmel; she wound up living there as an adult.

She entered Stanford about 1922. In 1924, she traveled with her mother and father in Germany for six months, visiting her uncle (Karl’s brother), a professor of theology at the University of Leipzig. When she returned, she gave a talk about her trip to the “Humanist Club,” the college student group at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She preached at a Sunday service in 1924, and was on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” She was elected to the board of the National Young People’s Religious Union, the nation-wide Unitarian association for young adults, in 1927-1928.

She received both her A.B. and her A.M. from Stanford, and after leaving Stanford in 1928, she went on to do additional graduate work at Mills College, Oakland. She taught for two years in Bakersfield, before taking a teaching job at Monterey High School.
in 1931. She lived with her parents, who had retired to Carmel in 1929, living in what had been their summer home. Soon she was named “Dean of Girls” at the high school, and remained in that position until her retirement in 1965. She was “known for her kindness, firmness and compassion in dealing with students.”

In May, 1945, she was active in collecting signatures for petitions calling for interned Japanese Americans to be welcomed back in Monterey. She apparently collected signatures among students at Monterey High School.

She was active in many community organizations, including the League of Women Voters, the American Association of University Women, the Monterey County Braille Transcribers, etc.

When the Palo Alto Unitarian Society was forming in 1947, she was contacted and replied that her father had helped found the previous Unitarian Church, and she “likes to be on the mailing list”; however, she probably didn’t participate in the new congregation. There was no Unitarian church in the Carmel area until 1953, and it is unknown whether she joined that congregation.

She died May 16, 1975.


★ RENDTORFF, KARL GUSTAV — A librarian, German scholar, and key figure in the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, he was born June 28, 1864, in Preetz, Germany, the youngest of ten. Following in the footsteps of his father Heinrich, a Lutheran minister, Karl studied for the ministry for two years at Geissen before deciding it was the wrong profession for him. He also studied at Kiel and Berlin.

He then became private secretary to a well-known surgeon, Johannes Friedrich von Esmarch, who later was the first president of the German Peace Society (Friedens-Gesellschaft); under von Esmarch’s influence, Karl became a pacifist himself. As part of
his duties for von Esmarch, he catalogued the surgeon’s library, in
the process learning the basics of library science.

In 1893, he emigrated to New York. He sent a telegram to the
then-new Stanford University, asking if they might need an assis-
tant librarian, and was invited to join the library staff. He arrived
just as Leland Stanford died, upon which the budget for the library
was frozen; but the German department hired him as an assistant.
He received his A.M. in German from Stanford in 1894, and his
Ph.D. in 1896.

On June 5, 1899, Karl married Emma Elizabeth Meyer, who
had just received her A.B. in German from Stanford. They settled
in Palo Alto. For 18 months, from 1901 to Aug., 1902, they were
in Europe, visiting Karl’s parents in Germany, but also traveling
in Switzerland and Italy to study methods of teaching German.
Their only child, Gertrude, was born Oct. 20, 1902, two months
after they returned from that European trip.

Karl was a key leader in the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.
He joined the church on Nov. 19, 1905. He was the first clerk, and
the original version of the Constitution of the church was in his
beautiful and careful handwriting. He continued in various church
leadership roles as long as he was in Palo Alto, often serving on
the Board of Trustees. He served on the Board of Directors of the
Pacific Coast Conference, and was chair of the annual conference
meeting in 1913; he also attended the 1918 Berkeley meeting. He
was on the 1920 and 1926 membership lists.

Like Guido Marx and David Starr Jordan, Karl began to spend
his summers in Carmel in about 1910. He retired from Stanford in
1929, and he and Emma moved to Carmel. By 1931, Gertrude had
a teaching job at Monterey High School, and she came to live with
them. Karl died on May 5, 1945.

Notes: 1910, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; Passport application, Karl Rendtorff,
March 29, 1924 (no. 389738); A. M. Espinosa, A. G. Kenney, and B. Q.
Morgan, “Memorial Resolution: Karl Gustav Rendtorff,” https://stacks.stan-
ford.edu/file/druid:xd209cw7999/SC0193_MemorialResolution_Rendtorff
K.pdf accessed 12 Spet. 2018; Palo Alto Press, Aug. 19, 1902, p. 1; Pacific
Unitarian, June, 1912, p. 245; Pacific Unitarian, June-July, 1918, p. 54;
“Forgotten documents reveal views on return of Japanese internees to Mon-
terey Peninsula,” by Geoffrey Dunn, The Monterey County Herald Online,
REYNOLDS, GRACE—A pharmacist, she was born in Illinois c. 1880. She joined the church on Dec. 25, 1909, at which time she was unmarried. Her financial contributions ended in November, 1915, though she appeared on the 1920 membership list.


REYNOLDS, MRS. JAMES E.—See: Greenlaw, Martha Elizabeth.

RICE, GEORGE DAMON—A Unitarian chaplain in the U.S. Army, he was born Jan. 23, 1861, in Malden, Mass. In 1880, he was living with his parents, George D., Sr., and Abby J., and listed his occupation as “in wool business.” He married Elizabeth Fells, the daughter of German immigrants, Feb. 25, 1883. They never had any children.

He graduated from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He was a special student at the Divinity School at Tufts University 1890-1893. Subsequently he and Elizabeth lived in Boston, and he worked as a journalist, publishing Textile Quarterly, and editing the textile department of the Boston Commercial Bulletin.

He was ordained to the Unitarian ministry on Jan. 1, 1899, at Unity Church (Unitarian), Allston, Mass., shortly after he had been appointed chaplain of the sixth Massachusetts Regiment.

He served in the Philippines, where he received a medal of honor for gallantry in the Battle of Bayan. He also served in Cuba, Mexico, and France, and rose to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. During the First World War, he was at Camp Fremont, and was then sent abroad. He lived in Palo Alto after his retirement in 1921. He received the Distinguished Service Cross in 1925 in a ceremony at Stanford.

The extent of his involvement in the Unitarian Church of Palo
Alto is not clear. He attended a meeting at Rev. Bradley Gilman’s house in 1918 to hear Lewis G. Wilson of the American Unitarian Assoc.

He died Dec. 21, 1936, in Palo Alto.


The Roberts Family

ROBERTS, DAISY WALKER FRIEDRICK— She was born c. 1880 in New York; her father was born in Alsace-Lorraine, France. She married Roger Marr Roberts (b. July 12, 1876, N.Y.) on July 1, 1902, in Brooklyn, New York. They had two children, Edna (b. c. 1913, Calif.; q.v.) and Rober Marr, Jr. (b. c. 1915, Calif.). In 1910, Daisy and Roger were living in Putah Township, Yolo County, Calif., where Roger was an instructor on the University Farm, an extension of the Univ. of Calif., Berkeley (now called Univ. of Calif., Davis); Roger had received his B.S.A. from the College of Agriculture, Cornell Univ. in 1901. By 1920, they had moved to Palo Alto; Roger’s father Isaac was living with them, and Roger was the proprietor of a garage.

She became a member of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” Her daughter Edna attended Sunday school at the church.

In 1930, the family had moved to Township 3, San Mateo County, where Roger was a “Merchant Retail, Automobiles.” In 1940, Daisy was Roger were living by themselves in San Mateo County, and Roger was managing a garage. Daisy died in 1966.

Notes: 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census; Announcement of Course of
ROBERTS, EDNA (NANCY)—She was born Oct. 17, 1911, in California. In 1920 she was living in Palo Alto with her mother Daisy (q.v.), father Roger, younger brother Roger, Jr., and grandfather Isaac Roberts.

She attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and in 1923 was absent for only five Sundays.

By 1930, she was living with her parents and younger brother in San Mateo County, and she had changed her name to Nancy. She married Captain Edwin “Ned” Davis Avary (d. 1977), then subsequently Calvin Gaines Collins (d. 1982). She died in 2000, and is buried in Palo Alto.


ROBINSON, BEVIER—He was born c. 1897 in Beeville, Texas. By 1900, he was living with his parents and a younger brother in Santa Ana, Orange County, Calif., where his father was a day laborer. The family continued to live there in 1910, now with another child in the family. Bevier received his A.B. in political science at Stanford Univ. in 1923.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1922.

He received his M.A. from Columbia in 1927, and married Margaret Nielsen on April 18, 1925; H. E. Kellington, a Unitarian minister, officiated. By 1932, he was teaching “social sciences” at Woodrow Wilson High School, Long Beach, Calif.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1932; California, County Marriages, 1850-1952, County of Orange, Marriage License.
Eugene and Katherine Robinson

ROBINSON, EDGAR EUGENE— A historian, he was born c. 1888 in Oconumowa, Wisconsin. He received bachelor’s degree in history from the Univ. of Wisconsin in 1908. He married Katherine Young (q.v.) c. 1908, then received his master’s degree from the Univ. of Wisconsin in 1910. He worked as assistant professor of history at Carleton College from 1910 to 1911, then became assistant professor of history at Stanford in 1911.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Oct. 9, 1911.


ROBINSON, KATHERINE YOUNG— She was born Nov., 1887, in Manitowoc, Wisconsin. In 1900, she was living in Addison, Wisconsin, with her parents and older sister Clara. She completed four years of high school. She married Edgar Eugene Robinson (q.v.) c. 1908. They apparently never had children. They moved to Palo Alto in 1911 when he became a professor at Stanford.

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Oct. 9, 1911.

She died before 1970.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census; Annual Register, Stanford Univ., 1910-1911.

The Elmo and Olga Robinson Family

ROBINSON, ARNOLD HERRICK— He was born Dec. 11, 1916, in
R — BIOGRAPHIES, 1905-1934 — R

Ind., child of Elmo (q.v.) and Olga (q.v.) Robinson. He attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto; his name appears on an attendance sheet from 1921-1922, and he was noted for good attendance in 1924.


ROBINSON, ELMO ARNOLD — The settled minister of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto from 1921 to 1926, he was born in Portland, Maine, on Jan. 1, 1887. While attending high school in Rochester, N.Y., he joined the Universalist church there. He received his B.S. in biology and public health from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1909. He then attended Crane Theological School of Tufts University, a Universalist school; transferred to Union Theological Seminary; and in 1912 received his B.D. from Crane Theological School at St. Lawrence Univ., the other Universalist school at that time.

From 1912 to his arrival in Palo Alto in 1921, he pursued a somewhat checkered career: minister at Universalist churches in Henderson, N.Y., Anderson, Ind., and Plain City, Ohio; assistant in physiology at Wellesley College; bookkeeper and teller at a bank in Ohio; director of religious education at the Unitarian church in San Diego.

He married Olga Kelsey on Sept. 2, 1914. They had two sons, Arnold Herrick (b. Dec. 11, 1916, Ind.) and Kelsey B. (b. c. 1922, Calif.).

Elmo was called to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1921, following a period of two years when the church had no minister at all. He appeared on the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” His tenure was one of renewed vigor for the church—an increase in Sunday school enrollment and in programs for adults, more outreach to college students, probable growth in membership (though membership records are fragmentary), etc. However, Robinson himself pointed out that attendance at Sunday worship services remained small.

Eventually, Robinson began looking at other career
possibilities for himself. In 1926, he took a leave of absence to study at Harvard, and hired an assistant, Leila Lasley Thompson \( (q.v.) \) to take his place while he was gone. He never returned to the church, and Thompson took his place as minister.

After he left the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, he was director of the American Civil Liberties Union in California for a year, taught high school for a year, then became a professor at San Jose State University, where he taught mathematics, psychology, and philosophy. He and Olga were divorced in 1942. After retiring from academia in 1959, he became the minister of the Unitarian church in Los Alamos.


ROBINSON, KELSEY BARTON—He was born c. 1922 in California, child of Elmo \( (q.v.) \) and Olga \( (q.v.) \) Robinson. He was christened by his father on Dec. 24, 1922, and attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. In 1925, he was absent for only two Sundays.

Notes: 1920, 1930 U.S. Census.

ROBINSON, (MARY) OLGA KELSEY—Licensed as a Universalist minister and married to Rev. Elmo Arnold Robinson, she was active in the Women’s Alliance while Elmo was minister at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She appeared on the 1926 “List of Resident Members” of the church, and was a member of the Women’s Alliance.

She was born March 24, 1884, in Fort Covington, N.Y. She and Elmo were married Sept. 2, 1914. She was licensed as a Universalist minister in 1915, while they were living in Indiana. They had two sons, Arnold Herrick (b. Dec. 11, 1916, Ind.) and Kelsey B. (b. c. 1921, Calif.)
She and Elmo divorced in 1942, and she went to live in Menlo Park, Calif. She died Feb. 21, 1964, in Menlo Park; Rev. Dan Lion of the Palo Alto Unitarian Church, successor to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, officiated at her memorial service on Feb. 23, 1963.


**ROGERS, GENEVIEVE**— She was born March 3, 1904, in New York City. She was in the 1926 “List of Resident Members” of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and she preached at a Sunday service in 1925. She received her A.B. in English from Stanford Univ. in 1926, and her A.M. in 1930. In 1930, she was living with her father, Austin Rogers, a professor of geology at Stanford, her mother and her aunt. By 1932, she then was working for Stanford Univ. Press., and in 1940 was a proofreader at the Press.

Notes: 1930, 1940 U.S. Census; Polk-Husted San Jose City and Santa Clara County Directory, 1928; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1932.

_Fannie and George Rosebrook_

**ROSEBROOK, MARY FRANCES “FANNIE” GREER**— Of a pioneering family that traveled the Oregon Trail, she was born Jan., 1846, in Missouri; her parents, James and Margaret, were both from Ireland, where they were married in 1832. Her father James went to the California gold fields in 1850, and there he heard about Oregon. In 1852, James and Margaret took their family, including Fannie, on the Oregon Trail. A quilt titled “Setting Sun” that Margaret made in 1840 came with them on the trail, and still exists today. The family settled in Kings Valley, Ore., in Sept., 1852, where James worked as a farmer. Fannie probably attended the Methodist Episcopal Sunday school there.
Fannie married George H. Rosebrook on Apr. 12, 1882, in Polk, Oregon. She and George had no children together, although George had one child by a previous marriage. They moved to Palo Alto in 1892.

Fannie was a member of the Palo Alto Woman’s Club. She was active in the women’s suffrage movement, and served as treasurer for the 1907 Annual Convention of the California Equal Suffrage Assoc.

Fannie was one of the charter members of the Unity Society in 1896; she served on the Committee on Executive and Finance. On Oct. 8, 1905, Rev. George Stone appointed her to the Provisional Committee to form a Unitarian church in Palo Alto; she was charged with inquiring prices of building lots. She and her husband gave $100 towards the purchase of the building lot, one of the top seven donations.

She became a member of the church on Nov. 19, 1905, and served as a member of the first the Board of Trustees. She joined the Women’s Alliance in 1905. She was appointed chair of the first Music Committee, in Dec. 1906, serving on that committee with Minnie Butler (q.v.), Effie Scott Franklin (q.v.), Annie Corbet (q.v.), and Lee Bassett (q.v.). She was in the 1926 “List of Resident Members” of the church, and the 1926 Alliance membership list.

She died after 1926.


ROSEBROOK, GEORGE HENRY— A homesteader, lighthouse keeper, and carpenter, he was born Oct. 19, 1846, in Gouldsboro, Maine. He married Margaret A. Graham, Sept. 9, 1874; they had a son, Joseph Wilton (b. May, 1876, in Benton, Ore.); another son, David, apparently died young.

Margaret died in Feb., 1877. By 1880, George was living “in
[a] Lighthouse” in Newport, Oregon, with his son Joseph and his mother Mary; this was the Yaquina Head Lighthouse, where he was the keeper from 1879-1883.

George was issued a grant for 150 acres of land for a homestead near Willamette, Ore., on Apr. 10, 1882. He married Fannie (Mary Frances) Greer (q.v.) on Apr. 12, 1882.

He and Fannie came to Palo Alto in 1892; once in Palo Alto, he became a carpenter who built a number of houses, including the house he built for himself and Mary F. in 1893, at 225 Emerson St.

George joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905. He served on the Board of Trustees.

George’s son, Joseph, also moved to Palo Alto; attended Stanford briefly in 1897; then became a builder like his father. But Joseph married a Presbyterian in 1900, and apparently never got involved with the Unitarian Church.

George died in 1912, and Rev. Clarence Reed of the Unitarian Church officiated at his funeral on June 11.

SAMPSON, MISS RUTH— She is probably the Ruth Adele Sampson who received her A.B. in English from Stanford Univ. in 1912, and was a teaching assistant at Stanford in 1914-1915. She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Notes: *Alumni Directory*, Stanford Univ., 1921. No further information was uncovered.

SEARLES, COLBERT— He acted the part of Prince Vandy in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916.

Notes: Colbert S. Searles was professor of Romanic languages at Stanford from 1901-1914 (*Alumni Directory*, Stanford Univ., 1921), and left there to take a position at the Univ. of Minnesota (*Annual Report of the President, 1913-1914*, Stanford Univ., 1914). He had a son Colbert S., born c. 1903 in Calif. (1910 U.S. Census), who would have been the correct age to act in the 1916 Sunday school play; but presumably the Searles family would have been living in Minnesota by 1916.

SHARP, ROSE E.— She was born Oct., 1875, in Calif. She married James G. Sharp, a dentist, c. 1872. They had two children, Helen (b. March, 1899, Calif.) and James G., Jr. (b. c. 1904, Calif.). They lived in San Francisco through at least 1910, and were living in Palo Alto by 1920. She made a financial contribution to the church in 1923. In 1930, she was living in Palo Alto with James.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census.

SHAULL, ETHEL MAE— She was born Sept., 1897, in Michigan. She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” She preached at a Sunday service in 1923, and gave a couple of the Sunday evening lectures in 1925. By 1930, she was living in San Francisco. She received her M.D. from Stanford Univ. in 1931. She was on the 1949 mailing list of the newly-formed Palo Alto Unitarian Society, at which
time she was living in Mountain View.


SHERMAN, ROGER—He made financial contributions to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto beginning in 1923.

Notes: There was a Roger Sherman who was a bank president in Mountain View in 1930 (1930 U.S. Census), and a Roger Sherman who was a lawyer in Palo Alto in 1930 (1930 U.S. Census); neither of them lived in Calif. in 1920.

SHEETS, MISS MAE—She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

Notes: She was not found in the Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, Stanford University, Ravenswood and East Palo, Palo Alto: Willis Hall, 1925; nor in the Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1932.

SHIPMAN, MARY F.—She was born Sept., 1843, in Massachusetts. She arrived in Palo Alto after 1904, and from 1907-1909 she and John A. Shipman lived at Channing Lane, Palo Alto. John died in 1909, and Rev. Clarence Reed of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto officiated at his funeral on Nov. 7, 1909.

She was a member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and appears on the 1920 membership list. She served on the church’s Hospitality Committee in 1907. She was friends with Rev. Mary A. Safford, one-time minister at Sioux City, Iowa, who visited her in Palo Alto in August, 1922. She was in the 1926 “List of Resident Members” of the church. She appears on the 1925 list of Women’s Alliance members, but not the 1926 or subsequent lists.

She was a member of the Palo Alto Woman’s Club. She made a trip abroad in 1911. She continued to live in Palo Alto through at least 1930, usually with a servant.

SHONE, C. DAISY— She was born c. 1902 in California. In 1910, she lived with her mother and three older siblings in Township 3, San Mateo County, Calif. She acted the part of Jeanette in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916. By 1930, she lived with her mother and two older siblings in San Francisco; her mother was widowed by this time, and the family had three boarders living with them.

Notes: 1920, 1930 U. S. Census.

SHIRAS, RUSSELL NORMAN— He received his A.B. from the College of the Pacific in 1923, and attended Stanford Univ. 1923-1924. He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1923. He received his M.A. from the Mass. Institute of Technology in 1927, and by 1932 was working for Shell Oil Co. in Long Beach, Calif.


Gratia and William Short

SHORT, GRATIA SHIPMAN ERICKSON— A supporter of women’s suffrage and an activist, she was born April 2, 1891, in Lewiston, Montana. She studied at the University of Wisconsin through at least 1917.

As an activist for women’s suffrage, Gratia sometimes endured counter-attacks: “Miss Gratia Erickson of Evanston, for years a suffrage speaker, was one of a number of suffrage orators who were drenched with water thrown from windows at a street meeting in Philadelphia last night.” She was active in the National Woman Suffrage Association, including serving as secretary of the Executive Council in 1914, and she was a life member of the Association.
She married William Short, Jr. \((q.v.)\) on May 12, 1918; after he had left the Palo Alto church, but while he still considered himself a Unitarian minister. She wrote to the American Unitarian Association to ask for their help when William was arrested for draft evasion. Although she and William were living in Palo Alto by the late 1920s, they do not appear on the 1926 list of members.

In 1930, she and William Short were living in Palo Alto. By 1940, she was divorced and living in Tucson, Arizona.


**SHORT, WILLIAM E., JR.—** The settled minister at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto from 1915-1917, he was born Sept. 6, 1888, in Jackson, Miss. He went to high school at the University School, St. Louis, Mo., and received his B.A. from Trinity College in 1912.

As an Episcopalian lay reader, he had charge of a few “missions,” what we now might call church plants or emerging congregations. He received his B.D. from the Episcopal Theological School, Cambridge, Mass., in 1915. Beginning in the fall of 1914, he became interested in Unitarianism, and made contact with the American Unitarian Association (A.U.A.). In the summer of 1915, he served the Unitarian church in Walpole, Mass. He was accepted into Unitarian fellowship in 1915, and called by the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in November, 1915.

Initially, he was quite happy in Palo Alto, and wrote to the A.U.A.: “I am more pleased than ever over the fact that I left the Episcopal Church and became a Unitarian.” At the same time, he resisted going to any meetings with other Unitarian ministers. And although the A.U.A. subsidized the Palo Alto church effectively paying much of his salary, Short consistently neglected to submit the monthly reports required of him.

Short resigned from the Palo Alto church in March, 1915. At
that time, he told the A.U.A. that he felt he had no serious message to give, “and my intention is to try to understand life better before I try to preach again in some other place.”

He left the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto to run the People’s Council, a pacifist group, in San Francisco. He married Gratia Shipman Erickson (q.v.) on May 12, 1918. He was arrested for draft evasion in 1918, under the theory that since he was not serving as a minister in a church, the draft exemption for ministers did not apply to him. Guido Marx (q.v.), one of his former parishioners, was one of the people who tried unsuccessfully to bail him out of prison.

In 1930, he and Gratia were living in Palo Alto; there is no record as to whether he had any further connection with the Unitarian Church, but perhaps he resumed relations with some of his former congregants. By 1940, he was divorced. He died March 29, 1979, in Santa Clara County, Calif.


Smedley, Frank Percival—A Unitarian minister, he trained in “one of the English missionary colleges,” and worked for a time among the urban poor, probably in Liverpool. He apparently developed tuberculosis, and the English Unitarians sent him on a winter vacation to Egypt; he went from thence to California to study at Stanford.

He was a student at Stanford in 1896-1897. While a student, he was a delegate from Palo Alto to the Pacific Unitarian Conference held in Portland, Oregon, May 5-9, 1897. He was ordained a Unitarian minister at that conference.

By the time he came to Palo Alto, there was little activity in the Unity Society; there is no record as to whether he had any contact with other Palo Alto Unitarians.

He served for a year as minister Santa Maria, Santa Barbara County, Calif., but ruined his health. He returned to San Francisco
to recover, tried to serve as minister in Visalia, Calif., but lasted only a few weeks. It was clear that he would die soon, so he booked a passage to England so he could die at home, but the captain of the ship said he was too ill and refused to allow him on board.

He died in late 1898, and his memorial service was at Second Church, San Francisco.

Notes: Charles W. Wendte, “Frank Percival Smedley,” Christian Register, Jan. 12, 1899; Annual Register 1896-1897, Stanford Univ., April, 1897; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1910; Pacific Unitarian, May, 1897, pp. 219-220.

SMITH, JAMES PERRIN—A professor of paleontology, he received his A.B. from Wofford College in 1884, his A.M. from Vanderbilt in 1886, a Ph.D. from Göttingen in 1892, and an L.L.D. from Wofford in 1916. He began teaching at Stanford in 1892.

He gave $5 to the “Church Lot Subscription” fund of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1906.

Notes: Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921.

Jessie and Norwood Smith

SMITH, JESSIE KNEPPER—She was born in Iowa c. 1879. She married Norwood Smith (q.v.) on April 15, 1903; an Episcopalian minister officiated at the service. They had children Norwood, Jr. (b. c. 1905, Calif.) and Dana (b. c. 1906, Calif.). They were living in Palo Alto by 1915.

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory and the 1920 membership list of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.


SMITH, NORWOOD BROWNING—A realtor, he was born in March, 1878, in Calif. He married Jessie Knepper (q.v.) on April 15, 1903;
an Episcopalian minister officiated at the service. They had children Norwood, Jr. (b. c. 1905, Calif.) and Dana (b. c. 1906, Calif.). In 1910, the family was living in Oakland, but by 1915, they were living in Palo Alto.

He made financial contributions to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1913-1915, and was listed in the 1919 parish directory, and the 1920 membership list.

In 1930, he was still living in Palo Alto, still married but not living with Jessie.


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Margrette and Sydney Snow

SNOW, MARGRETTE KENNEDY— She was born Aug., 1875, in Vermont. Her father, Frank A. Kennedy, was a biscuit and cracker manufacturer, and when Margrette was a girl, he kept seven servants, including a butler, a gardener, and a coachman. He sold his Kennedy Biscuit Works, first manufacturer of the Fig Newton, to the National Biscuit Co. in the 1890s, and then became a gentleman farmer in Windsor.

On Dec. 25, 1901, she married Sydney Bruce Snow, a reporter for the Boston Transcript. They moved to Cambridge c. 1904 so Sydney could attend Harvard Divinity School. They had four children: William Lowell (b. Jan. 25, 1903, Boston); Donald Kennedy (b. Nov. 7, 1904, Cambridge); Alice (b. Sept. 4, 1907, Palo Alto); Helen (b. June 8, 1913).

Margrette and Sydney moved to Palo Alto in 1906, when Sydney became the first called minister of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. Margrette became a member of the church in October, 1906, and she was also a member of the Women’s Alliance.

Margrette’s father visited the couple in Palo Alto in Sept.,
1906, returning to Vermont when his wife, Margrette’s mother, died. Margrette and Sydney left Palo Alto in June, 1909, when Sydney took a new position at the Unitarian church in Concord, N. H.


SNOW, SYDNEY BRUCE—A newspaper reporter and later a Unitarian minister, he was born March 19, 1878, in Winchester, Mass., and went to high school there. He graduated Harvard College in 1900, then became a reporter for the *Boston Transcript*; he first became interested in Unitarianism while a reporter.


In 1906, he became the first called minister of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. Since this was his first position as a minister, the congregation ordained him on Oct. 14th, 1906, in Jordan Hall. He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in October, 1906. He resigned in 1909.

After leaving Palo Alto in 1909, he was minister at the Unitarian church in Concord, N. H.; associate minister at King’s Chapel in Boston; minister of the Unitarian church in Montreal; and president of Meadville Lombard Theological School in Chicago.

SQUIRES, IDA BELLE— See: Clarence and Ida Dawson.


STARKS, DOROTHY— She acted the part of Emily in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916.

*Eliza and Horatio Stebbins*

STEBBINS, ELIZA (ELSIE) CORBETT THOMPSON— She was born in England on April 6, 1879, and emigrated to the United States in 1884. She attended the University of California at Berkeley c. 1898-1901, but she does not appear to have graduated. In 1900, she gave her occupation as “Teacher of Music,” and lived in a boarding house in Oakland.


Elsie served on the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto beginning in 1916.

She died May 25, 1968, in San Mateo.


STEBBINS, (PROF.) HORATIO WARD— A mechanical engineer, he was born on Aug. 8, 1878, in California, the son of Rev. Horatio Ward Stebbins, long-time minister of First Unitarian Church of San Francisco. The younger Horatio received his A.B. from the
Univ. of California in 1899, his B.S. from the Mass. Institute of Technology in 1902.

He married Eliza Thompson (q.v.) on February 14, 1906; they had one child, Amelia “Amy” Adams Stebbins (b. June 11, 1912). By 1910, he and Eliza were living in San Francisco, and he was working as a contracting engineer. Horatio began teaching mechanical engineering at Stanford Univ. in 1914.

He made financial contributions to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto until 1918, after which his account has the notation, “Subscription discontinued.” He was listed in the 1919 parish directory, but no subsequent directories.

He continued to live in Palo Alto with Elsie and Amy in 1930. He died in 1933.


The Stedman Family

STEDMAN, ALICE ARMOR—Alice Armor was born Dec., 1851, in Pennsylvania. In 1870, she was living in Gettysburg, Penna., with her father, Robert, a gas fitter, her mother Livinia, and four younger siblings; unfortunately, Alice’s profession is not legible. She married John Stedman in July, 1872.

John Stedman was born at Hartland, Me., Feb. 11, 1836, where he grew up on a farm, then went to an “academy” from age 14 to 19. He emigrated to California, using the Nicaragua route, and arrived in San Francisco in 1855. He worked as a miner, then ran saw mills. He went to British Columbia in 1858, where he ran a saw mill. He left British Columbia and rode horseback to Helena, Mont., in 1867, and built a saw mill, foundry, and machine
shop. The year he was married, he built a “good house” to live in.

In 1880, Alice and John were living in Helena, Montana, with three children: Clara May (b. Aug., 1874, Mont.), Blanche E. (b. Dec., 1877, Mont.), and William Armor (b. Sept. 15, 1879, Mont.; listed as “John” in the census). By 1890, John’s business had some fifty employees, and he formed a stock company, serving as general manager of the company. He was a Republican, was elected to the Territorial Legislature in 1880, served on the Helena City Council, and was on the School Board.

By 1900 Alice was widowed and still living in Helena, Mont., and listed no profession. In 1910, she was living in Palo Alto with her two daughters, Clara, now a trained nurse, and Blanche, now a grammar school teacher. By 1911, Clara was no longer living with them.

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Oct. 9, 1911. She was a member of the Women’s Alliance. She served on the committee to plan the Annual Supper in 1910.

By 1920, Alice and Blanche were living in Bolinas, Calif.


STEDMAN, BLANCHE—A grammar school teacher, she was born Dec., 1877, in Montana, the daughter of Alice Stedman (q.v.). She was teaching at the Palo Alto Grammar School by 1909.

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Oct. 9, 1911. She was appointed to serve on the Music Committee in 1911.

She was still working for the Palo Alto schools in 1913. By 1920, she was living with her mother in Bolinas, Calif., and teaching school there.

Blanche died in 1956 in Santa Cruz, Calif.

Notes: 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920 U.S. Census; Polk-Husted San Jose City and Santa Clara County Directory, 1909; Directory of Palo Alto and the Campus, Times Publishing, Palo Alto, 1911; List of Teachers Exempt from Salary
The Steinmetz Family

STEINMETZ, FRANK J.— A pharmacist, he was born Feb. 10, 1862, in Sutter Creek, Calif.; his father was born in Germany and came to America in 1847. After a public school education, he began working in a pharmacy in Yolo County, Calif., at age 17 (c. 1864). In the spring of 1882, he went to San Francisco, where he worked in a drug store, while studying at the College of Pharmacy. He moved to Carson City, Nev., in 1885, where he became the proprietor of his own drug store.

On February 15, 1896, he married Lola F. Glidden of San Francisco. They had a child, Ruth Lolita (b. 1898; q.v.). Subsequently he moved to Palo Alto and opened University Pharmacy, which he operated it for many years. In 1910, he lived in Millbrae with his wife and daughter Ruth. He became a member of the Cooper Ornithological Society in 1917.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on April 16, 1911. He served on the Board of Trustees, beginning in Clarence Reed’s tenure as minister, and continuing through the early 1920s. According to the minutes of the Board of Trustees for Dec. 2, 1920, he sold books published by the American Unitarian Assoc. in his drugstore. He was in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

He died Sept. 30, 1932, in California.


STEINMETZ, LOLA F. GLIDDEN— She was born c. 1862, and married Frank J. Steinmetz on Feb. 15, 1896. They had one child, Ruth Lolita (q.v.).
She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on April 16, 1911; she appears on the 1926 membership list. She joined the Women’s Alliance, and continued as a member through 1931.

Lola died in 1950; Rev. Dan Lion of the Palo Alto Unitarian Church, successor to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, officiated at her memorial service on Oct. 30, 1950.


**STEINMETZ, RUTH LOLITA**— A librarian, she was born April 14, 1898 in Nevada, the only child of Frank (q.v.) and Lola Steinmetz of Carson City. Sometime before 1910, the family moved to the Palo Alto area. She received her A.B. from Stanford in 1922, in Library Practice (as it was then called), and went on to graduate study at the Univ. of Calif. at Berkeley. After graduating from the Library Training School at Univ. of Calif., she was appointed to the library staff at Stanford. She apparently spent her career in the Stanford library system. She was active in the School Library Assoc. of Calif.

She acted the part of Anabel in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916. On May 13, 1917, she was one of three “graduates” of the Sunday school who were invited to sign the church “register” (i.e., membership book) in a worship service. In 1947, she joined the Palo Alto Unitarian Society (which changed its name from “Society” to “Church” in 1951). Thus, she is one of the few people who can be documented as having been a member of both the old and Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and the new Palo Alto Unitarian Church. She appears on the 1926 membership list of the church.

The March 10, 1918, minutes of the Board of Trustees record their thanks to Ruth for serving as “Assistant Treasurer,” assisting her father in his duties as Treasurer of the church.

She died Dec. 10, 1987, in Santa Clara County, Calif.

Catharine and Ralph Stevens

Stevens, Catharine Black—She was born c. 1878 in Maine; her parents were both Scottish. She married Ralph P. Stevens c. 1902; Ralph came from a Unitarian anti-slavery family. By 1908, Ralph was attending Stanford, and in 1910 they were living in Mayfield, Calif., with Ralph and a son, Joshua M. (b. c. 1906, N.Y.).

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on June 3, 1908. She served on the Board of Trustees during Clarence Reed’s tenure as minister.

In 1915, she gave her profession as a “housekeeper,” while her husband Ralph was an “inventor.” In 1920, they continued to live in Palo Alto with their son Joshua. By 1930, they had moved to Oakland; Ralph was working as a supply sergeant for the U.S. Army, and Joshua was no longer living with them. They were still living in Oakland in 1940.

Notes: 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census; Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, and Stanford University, 1915;

Stevens, Ralph Partridge—He was born to Daniel Stevens and Mary E. Young Stevens on Nov. 19, 1876 in Groton, Mass., though his parents were residents of Fall River at the time (there is also a birth record for him on Nov. 19, 1877, in Fall River, Mass.; presumably the earlier record is correct). His father was a jeweler. His mother was the daughter of Mary E. and Rev. Joshua Young. Ralph’s grandfather Joshua was a Unitarian minister who served congregations in Boston, Burlington, Hingham, Fall River,
UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934

and Groton, Mass., and “was widely known for his strong anti-slavery conviction.” In 1880, Ralph was living in Fall River with his parents and older brother Waldo. He attended Lawrence Academy, a private high school in Groton, Mass., c. 1890. He married Catherine Black c. 1902.

Ralph studied mechanical engineering at Stanford Univ. from 1908-1910. In 1910, Ralph and Catherine were living in Mayfield, Calif., with their son, Joshua M. (b. c. 1906, N.Y.).

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on June 3, 1908.

In 1915 and 1920, Ralph gave his profession as “inventor.” He was awarded several U.S. Patents while living in Palo Alto, for a “clip card punch,” a “printing device,” and a “tank filler.”

In 1920, he and Catherine continued to live in Palo Alto with their son Joshua, but by 1930 they had moved to Oakland, where Ralph was a supply sergeant with the U.S. Army. Ralph and Catherine remained in Oakland through 1940.


STEVENS, EMMA JULIA— A teacher, she was born Julia Emma Stevens on Jan. 14, 1863, in Windsor, Vermont, daughter of Ephraim A. and Julia M. Adams Stevens; her father was a sawyer and farmer. Her mother died July, 1863, in Vermont.

By 1870, she was living with her father, Ephraim, now working as a carpenter, in Westford, Mass. Ephraim had married a second wife, and the family was active in the Unitarian church. Emma had graduated “with honors” from Westford Academy, and then she taught in the Westford schools. However, she stopped teaching so she could care for her stepmother Ellen during Ellen’s final illness. Ellen died in 1888, and when the Stevens’ house burned down a few years later, the family moved to nearby Chelmsford,
Mass., where her father had been born. He bought a house now known as the “Ephraim A. Stevens House,” near Chelmsford Center. The family was active in the Chelmsford Unitarian church.

Emma’s older sister, Nettie Stevens, was a teacher who eventually saved up enough money to study biology at Stanford Univ.; she matriculated at Stanford in 1896. By 1900 Ephraim, Emma, and Nettie were all living together in Fremont Township, which then stretched along the bay from San Mateo County to Alviso to Redwood City; Ephraim gave his occupation as orchardist. Nettie went to Bryn Mawr College, Penna., in 1900, where she became a research fellow, and remained there until she died in 1912.

In 1910, Emma was still living with her father in Fremont Township, and teaching at a private school. Her father died in 1914, and was buried in Westford, Mass. In 1920, Emma was still living in Mountain View, and still a teacher in a private school. By 1930, she was no longer teaching, but was working as a private tutor in Mountain View.

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and she probably joined the Women’s Alliance at about this time. She is probably the “Mrs. Stevens” who taught the infant class of the Sunday school in 1919-1920. She was listed on the 1926 “List of Resident Members” for the church, and appears on the final, 1931, membership list of the Alliance.

She was active in community affairs in Mountain View. In 1915-1916, she was the president of the Mountain View Parents’ and Teachers’ Association. She served in various leadership capacities for the Mountain View Woman’s Club, including serving as president in 1925. By at least 1921, she was a trustee of the public library, and in 1933 was president.

She died in 1945, and was buried in the family plot in Westford. The minister of First Parish Church of Westford (by then the church was affiliated with both the Unitarians and Congregationalists) officiated at her interment. In her will, she left $1000 to the Mountain View library to purchase children’s books.

STIMSON, MRS. S. A.— She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Notes: In 1919, she lived at 549 Cowper St., Palo Alto. She appears in the Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, and the University, Palo Alto: Willis Hall, 1916, as Mrs. David S. Stimson, but she does not appear in the 1919 edition of the same directory. There is no Stimson listed in the Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921, and no further information was found.

STODDARD, BEULAH MIGNONNE PURINTON— She was born May, 1873, in California, and took classes in education at Stanford University from 1896-1897. She married Charles Harvey Stoddard, a Stanford graduate, on Jan. 1, 1899; the officiant was Rev. Samuel Cryor, a Presbyterian minister. In 1908, Beulah and Charles were living in Palo Alto, and Charles was working as a machinist. They were living in Napa by 1910, and by 1920 they lived in Burlingame. They had three children: Harvey C. (b. c. 1901); Rollin P. (b. c. 1903); and Gail (b. c. 1914).

She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

STONE, GEORGE WHITEFIELD— Born Feb. 29, 1840, in Moravia, New York, he studied law and was admitted to the bar. He served in the Union Army during the Civil War. After the war, he was a dealer of manufacturing supplies. He married Catherine (Kate) Cushing Graupner on Feb. 28, 1865. They had at least three children: Seymour Howard (b. June 11, 1867, Vir.), Ralph (b. Nov. 20, 1868, Del.), and Frederick Edward (b. Feb. 9, 1871, Del.).

His work brought him to Wilmington, Del., where in 1866 he became one of the founding members of the Unitarian church there. He remained active in the church until 1895, when he moved to Boston to become the treasurer of the American Unitarian Association.

Becoming interested in missionary work, he was ordained as a Unitarian minister in 1898, serving first in Kansas City, and then on the Pacific Coast. He was “naturally impatient...he wanted things done, and he wanted them done now,” according to an obituary in the Pacific Unitarian. In addition, he had two necessary characteristics for a Unitarian missionary: “He wrote well and he spoke with power.”

While serving as Pacific Coast Field Secretary of the American Unitarian Association, in 1905-1906 he was the first minister of, and helped to organize the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. He contributed $125 to the “Church Lot Subscription” fund of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1906 (recorded in the ledgers, but not on the subscription list).

In 1908, he was settled as the minister of All Souls Unitarian church in Santa Cruz, but with the failure of that church to thrive, he lost his enthusiasm for Unitarianism and turned his energy to political reform. He was mayor of Santa Cruz 1911-1913, and then became editor of the Santa Cruz Sentinel. He married again on Oct. 13, 1920, to Jane E. Stikeman.

He died March 19, 1923.

Notes: 1870, 1880, 1910, 1920 U.S. Census; Susan Mulcahey Chase, Ruth Mette, Peggy Rawheiser, First Unitarian Church, Wilmington, DE: 150 Years of History, 1866-2016; List of Unitarian Ministers and Unitarian Churches, Boston: American Unitarian Assoc., 1908; “In Memoriam:
STOREY, PARNIE OLIVE HAMILTON— She was born Aug. 21, 1874, in Westley, California. She received her A.B. in German from Stanford in 1898, and married Dr. Thomas Andrew Storey, a physician, on June 26, 1899. She and Thomas had three children: Margaret Hamilton (b. c. 1900, Calif.); Parnie Hamilton (b. c. 1907, N. Y.); and Marion Hamilton (b. c. 1915).

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905. She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance.

Thomas, a pioneer in the teaching of hygiene, moved the family a number of times: to New York 1906-18; to Washington, D.C., 1918-1921; back to New York; then back to Stanford Univ., where he became a professor, in 1926.

Parnie was active in various civic causes and clubs, including Cap and Gown at Stanford Univ., Stanford Mothers Club, Stanford Convalescent Home Committee, and the American Assoc. of University Women. Her husband traveled widely doing public health work, and she typically accompanied him, serving as his secretary.

She died June 15, 1945, at Stanford, Calif.

in Kansas. Carl Eben received his B.S. from Bethany College in 1899, and his Ph.D. from Yale Univ. in 1903.

He taught mathematics at Princeton Univ. 1903-1907, then at Univ. of Wyoming 1909, where he was still a professor at his death in 1925. He married Eulalia Swanson on Aug. 12, 1903, and they had three children: Carl Eben, Jr. (b. Dec. 3, 1907, N.J.); Walter Swanson (b. c. 1913, Wyo.), and Ruth Caroline (b. c. 1916, Wyo.). Carl Eben, Jr., was in the Stanford Univ. class of 1929.

Due to ill health, Carl, Sr., was granted a leave of absence from Univ. of Wyoming in 1922, and with his family moved to Palo Alto. He died April 3, 1925.

Although his obituary states that he was a Lutheran, he became a member of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and his death was noted in Rev. Elmo A. Robinson’s 1926 annual report.

Notes: 1920 U.S. Census; Obituary Record of Graduates Deceased During the Year, New Haven, Conn.: Yale Univ., July 1, 1926.

Henry and Teresa Stuart

STUART, HENRY WALGRAVE— A professor of philosophy at Stanford Univ., he was born Dec. 1, 1870, in Oakland, California; his father was Irish, and his mother was Canadian.

He received his Ph.D. from the Univ. of Calif. in 1893, after which he was an instructor at Washington Univ., St. Louis, Mo.; a teacher at Oakland, Calif., High School; and principal of Woodland, Calif. He became a Fellow in Philosophy at the Univ. of Chicago in 1899, and received another Ph.D. there in 1900. He then had brief appointment at Ripon Coll., State Univ of Iowa, and Lake Forest College, Chicago.

He married Teresa Waters (qv.) on Sept. 12, 1905, in Fond-du-lac, Wis. They had two children, Arthur Waters (b. Sept. 27, 1908, Palo Alto, Calif.) and Margaret Moore (b. April 16, 192, Palo Alto, Calif.). He was appointed professor of philosophy at Stanford Univ. in 1907, and the family moved to Palo Alto.
UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934

He was listed in an undated parish directory (c. 1921) of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

By 1935, he and his wife and daughter were living in Carmel, Calif.

Notes: 1910, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census; Passport application, Henry Walgrave Stuart, May 19, 1913 (no. 6483); Annual Register, Univ. of Chicago, 1912-1913, p. 60; Wisconsin County Marriages, 1836-1911;

STUART, TERESA WATERS— She was born c. 1873 in Wisconsin; her parents were born in Ireland. She married Henry Stuart (q.v.) on Sept. 12, 1905, in Fond-du-lac, Wis. They had two children, Arthur Waters (b. Sept. 27, 1908, Palo Alto, Calif.) and Margaret Moore (b. April 16, 192, Palo Alto, Calif.). By 1910, she and Henry were living in Palo Alto with their son, and a servant who had been born in Japan.

She was listed in an undated parish directory (c. 1921) of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

By 1935, she and her husband and daughter were living in Carmel, Calif.

Notes: 1910, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census; Passport application, Henry Walgrave Stuart, May 19, 1913 (no. 6483).

The Sutliff Sisters

SUTLIFF, HELEN BINNINGER— A librarian, she was born in Lawrence, Kansas, Oct. 3, 1867. She received her A.B. from the University of Kansas in 1890; there she took classes under Prof. William H. Carruth (q.v.). She was the head cataloguer at the University of Kansas from 1891-1904, and then she moved to Stanford Univ. to become chief cataloguer.

When she moved to work at Stanford, she continued to share a house with her sister Jennie (q.v.), and Lillien Martin. In the 1910 U.S. Census, Lillien is listed as head of household, Jennie as a
“roomer,” and Helen as a “domestic partner”; by the 1920 census, Lillien was gone and Helen was listed as head of household, with Jennie as her sister. Note that “domestic partner” was a general Census category for two persons sharing a common abode: “It is impossible to know how many of these domestic partners were sexually intimate or regarded themselves as homosexual…” (D. Michael Quinn, *Same-Sex Dynamics among Nineteenth Century Americans*, Univ. of Ill. Press, 2001, p. 162).

Helen began working at Stanford Library in 1904, became head cataloguer in 1907, and was made Associate Librarian in 1932. She wrote a short essay in 1909 titled “The Work of a Cataloguer at Stanford,” in which she says:

In the old days any woman with a winning smile who could spell and hold a pen was counted a fit person to catalogue a library, but nowadays a woman must be well educated and well read to be an acceptable cataloguer. French and German are absolutely necessary for successful work in a university library, and Italian and Spanish are only less important; and some days a cataloguer feels that unless she knows Danish, Dutch, Japanese, and Russian she might as well resign her position at once…. The thought life of a university centers about its library, and the catalogue is certainly the key to it. We of the cataloguing department at Stanford have a good time in the midst of our hard work, and agree with William Frederick Poole that ‘Librarians, predestined, foreordained and successful, are the happiest and most contented people in the world.’ (*The Arrow*, Syracuse, N.Y.: Pi Beta Phi Fraternity, April, 1909, p. 214.)

She enjoyed walking and horseback riding as recreations, and her politics were “progressive.” She was a member of the American Library Assoc., and belonged to the Suffrage League of Stanford.

While in Lawrence, Kan., she had attended a Congregational church with a very liberal minister, and “when she came to California, she found that she had been nourished on Unitarian sermons, and that her happy home was the Palo Alto [Unitarian] church…” (*Pacific Unitarian*, Jan., 1919, p. 15). She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Dec. 25, 1909.

She remained affiliated with the church for many years. She appeared in the 1919 parish directory and in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” She gave a reading at William H. Carruth’s memorial service in 1925.

Helen continued to work for the Stanford University library
system until her retirement in 1933, at which time she was named Associate Librarian Emeritus. By 1940, she was living alone in Palo Alto.

She was included on a list of Unitarians to contact in 1947 when a new Unitarian congregation was being formed; next to her name on this list is the notation: “Cant [sic] attend because of illness”; her name appeared on the 1949 mailing list of the Palo Alto Unitarian Society.

She died Feb. 5, 1956, after a long illness.


SUTLIFF, JENNIE SWEET— A housekeeper, she was born July, 1863, in Kansas. In 1870, when she was 7 years old, she lived in Lawrence, Kan., with her father William E., a clothing merchant, her mother Jennie S., siblings and at least two domestic servants. Her father died in 1874. In 1875, Jennie was living with her mother and three siblings and just one domestic servant in a different ward of Lawrence. By 1895, she and her sister Helen (q.v.) and their mother were living together in Lawrence, Kan.

In 1900, she and her sister Helen were living in Lawrence; Helen was working as a librarian, Jennie gave her occupation as housekeeper, and they had a 19 year old African American woman working for them as a cook. Helen moved to Palo Alto in 1904, and Jennie accompanied her. For the 1910 U.S. Census, she gave her occupation as “none.”

She and Helen made joint financial contributions to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1907. She appeared on the 1920 and 1926 membership lists.

She died April, 1936, and was buried near her parents and her brother Edward in Kansas.

SWEET, MISS CLYTIE— She was born Sept. 19, 1898, in Tennes-
see, daughter of Benjamin and Emma K. Sweet; her mother had
been born in Germany. By 1900, she was living with her mother
and three older brothers in Denver, Colo.; by 1910, Clytie, tow
older brothers, and her mother and father were living in Palo Alto;
her father was working as a mining engineer.

She acted the part of Cicely in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play
put on by members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church
of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916. She was one of three “graduates”
of the Sunday school recognized at a service on May 13, 1917.
She was listed in the 1919 parish directory, and appeared in the
1920 membership list, but was crossed out in the 1921 revision.

Clytie attended Stanford Univ. from 1917 to 1920; in 1920,
she was living with her mother, now widowed, and one older
brother in Palo Alto. In 1930, she was living in San Francisco with
a brother and her mother, and working for an auto insurance com-
pany. By 1940, she was still living in San Francisco, now alone,
still working in an auto insurance company. She died in 1992

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; Alumni Directory, Stanford
Univ., 1921, 1931; California Death Index.

Alice and Ralph Swetman

SWETMAN, ALICE PIERSON— She was born Aug. 4, 1889, in Co-
lumbia City, Florida. In both 1900 and 1910, she was living in
Cromwell Township, Conn., with her mother (born in England),
her father (born in Sweden), and three younger siblings; her father
was working as a florist. She married Ralph W. Swetman (q.v.) in
1916, and they had two children, Robert P. (b. c. 1919, Wash.),
and Elizabeth P. (b. c. 1926, N. Y.).

While Ralph was studying at Stanford, she joined the
Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, in 1923. She gave a sermon at a Sunday morning service in 1924.

By 1924, Ralph had taken a position at Humboldt State Teachers College, and in 1930 the family was living in Humboldt County, Calif.


SWETMAN, RALPH WALDO—An educator, he was born Nov. 10, 1886, on a farm near Camden, New York. He received his Ph.B. from Hamilton College in 1907. He was six feet six inches tall, and played both basketball and football as an undergraduate.

He was then school principal in several places in New York, including Palmyra, where he met Alice Pierson (q.v.), whom he married on April 22, 1916; they had two children, Robert P. (b. c. 1919, Wash.), and Elizabeth P. (b. c. 1926, N. Y.). He received his A.M. from Columbia Univ. in 1917.

Then he went to Washington State Normal School WSNS) in Ellensburg, Wash. (now Central Washington Univ.), where he was Director of Training; he interrupted his work there to serve in the U.S. Army. In 1920, he was teaching at WSNS and living in a rooming house with Alice and Robert P. He went to Stanford to study under Dr. Elwood Cubberley (q.v.).

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1923.

By 1924, he was the president of Humboldt State Teachers College. He received his Ph.D. in education from Stanford Univ. in 1928. He was still living in Humboldt County, Calif., at the time of the 1930 U.S. Census, but that year he went to become president of the State Teachers College at Tempe, Ariz. In 1933, he went to Oswego State Teachers College, N.Y.; he stayed there until he retired on disability in 1947. Titles from some of the speeches he gave while at Oswego reveal his philosophy towards education: “Builders Use Positives”; “Freedom and Responsibility: Siamese Twins”; and “Send Me Teachers To Match My Children.”

Notes: 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1932; Beulah Counts Randolph, “Recollections of Dr. Ralph W. Swetman,”
S — BIOGRAPHIES, 1905-1934 — S

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The Tait Family

TAIT, ANNIE LAURIE—A pacifist and housewife, she was born c. 1874 in Calif. Sometime after 1903, she married Dr. Ernest R. Tait, a dentist; he already had a daughter, Madeline (q.v.; b. c. 1903), by his first marriage.

Annie and Ernest were listed in a San Francisco city directory in 1916; Tait apparently had his office in San Francisco at this time. They were living in Menlo Park by 1920. By 1930, they were living in San Mateo County; Madeline was no longer living with them, and instead they had five wards, ages 8 to 17, in their household.

She joined the Palo Alto branch of the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) in 1922, an organization that was an attempt to revive the Palo Alto branch of the Women’s Peace Party organized by Alice Park (q.v.) before the First World War. She became the secretary of the organization, and in Dec., 1920, wrote to the national body that the Palo Alto chapter was “in a far from prosperous condition.”

Annie was listed in the 1919 and 1926 membership lists of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and she was active in the Women’s Alliance in the 1920s, holding a number of leadership roles. She continued a member of the Alliance right up to 1932, when the Alliance finally disbanded.


TAIT, ERNEST ROBERT—A dentist, he was born Feb. 18, 1861, in Australia.

In 1899, he was awarded U.S. patent 637,303 for creosoted
charcoal points to treat dental abscesses. He was then a resident of Oakland, Calif. In the patent application, he stated that he was then “a subject of Queen Victoria” but had declared his intention to become a U.S. citizen.

His first wife, Cecily A. McLaughlin, was born in Canada; they married in Oakland, August 15, 1900; the officiant was “Rev. M. Neuman” (possibly Rev. Max Neumann, at one time rector of St. Elizabeth Church [Catholic]). Ernest and Cecily had a daughter Madeline (q.v.; b. c. 1903).

His second marriage to Annie Laurie —— (q.v.) took place sometime before 1916; by 1916, they were living together in San Francisco.

He was listed in the 1919 and 1926 membership lists of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and was elected president of the Board of Trustees in 1924.

He died Feb. 13, 1941.


TAIT, MADELINE— She was born c. 1903, daughter of Ernest and Cecily; her stepmother was Annie L. Tait (q.v.).

Madeline taught the 3rd grade Sunday school class at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1925-1926.

Notes: 1910 U.S. Census; “Announcement of the School of Religion Maintained by the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto,” 1925.

The Terry Family

TERRY, HELEN BURRELL— She was born June 17, 1906, in Washington, Iowa, daughter of Anne (q.v.) and Marcus (q.v.) Terry. The
family was living in Palo Alto by 1910. She acted the part of the Herald in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916. Her father left his position at Stanford Univ. in 1917, and by 1920 the family was living in Los Angeles.

Notes: 1910, 1920 U.S. Census; Iowa, Delayed Birth Records, 1850-1939, Affidavit of Birth.

TERRY, ANNE MARGARET BURELL— She married Marcus Claude Terry on Oct. 4, 1899, in Iowa. In 1915, they were living in Palo Alto. She made regular financial contributions to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1916; her account then has the notation “discontinued through removal.” She was listed in the 1919 parish directory.


TERRY, MARCUS CLAUDE— He was born c. 1871 in Iowa, and in 1880 he was living with his parents and two younger siblings in Brighton, Iowa, where his father was a physician and surgeon. He received his M.D. from Rush Medical College in 1899, and married Anne Burrell (q.v.) on Oct. 4, 1899; they had two children, John Brighton (b. c. 1904, Philippine Islands), and Helen B. (b. c. 1907, Iowa; q.v.). In 1910, the family was living in Palo Alto, and Marcus was a physician in a hospital. He was Clinical Instructor in Immunology at Stanford Univ. from 1913 to 1917.

His daughter Helen acted in a Sunday school play at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1916. He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

By 1920, the family was living in Los Angeles.

Notes: Iowa, County Marriages, 1838-1934, Washington County; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921.

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The Alfred and Hannah Thompson Family

ALFRED G. THOMPSON — HANNAH ELLEN KNOX

Frank E.
Mary Evangeline
[other children]

WALTER E. — CAROLINE ELIZA

Robert Asa

ARDAL
ROBERT
ORILLA

THOMPSON, ALFRED GUILE — A carpenter and baker, he was born Oct., 1831, in Connecticut. He may be the A. G. Thompson who lived in Nevada City, Calif., in 1860, and worked as a miner.

He married Hannah Ellen Knox (b. March, 1851, Ill.) c. 1869. In 1870, he and Hannah were living in Perry, Ill., and Alfred was working as a carpenter. He and Hannah had seven children including Frank E. (b. Sept., 1871, Calif.), Mary Evangeline (b. Nov., 1877, Calif.), Walter E. (b. Nov. 20, 1882, Calif.; q.v.), and Robert Asa (b. April 15, 1881, Calif.). Given Frank’s birth place, the family came to California c. 1871. Alfred’s California voter registration records show the family moved several times, and Alfred generally worked as a carpenter: he registered to vote in Hollister in 1876, Los Banos in 1879, Oroville in 1886, and Monterey in 1890.

Alfred came to Palo Alto c. 1894, and in 1897 he opened the Oak Home Bakery at 210 Homer Ave. (the building is still standing today). His business quickly expanded, and by 1907 he began selling his goods from a new building next door. His son Walter took over the business in 1909.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Dec. 25, 1909.

He died in 1916.

Notes: 1860, 1870, 1900 U.S. Census; California, County Birth and Death
THOMPSON, ARDEL CAROLINE— She was born March 15, 1911, daughter of Caroline (q.v.) and Walter (q.v.) Thompson.

She attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. From 1923 to 1925, Rev. Elmo Robinson noted that she had the best attendance record of any child in the Sunday school (only one absence in 1923 and 1925). She helped Percy Davidson (q.v.) give a talk to the Sunday school in 1926.

She attended the University of Calif., Los Angeles, receiving her A.B. in 1932, and her A.M. in history from Stanford in 1933. By 1940, she was living in Modesto and working as a librarian in a public school. She died in 1991, at which time she had the last name Faucette, and was an administrative officer at a U.S. Naval Depot in North Carolina.


THOMPSON, CAROLINE ELIZA HORTOP— A teacher, she was born Dec. 3, 1884, in California. In 1900, she was living with her parents and older sister Grace in San Francisco. By 1910, her father was dead, and she and her mother were living with Grace, who was now married; Caroline was working as a teacher in the public schools.

T — BIOGRAPHIES, 1905-1934 — T

17, 1920, Calif.; q.v.).

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She and Walter directed the Explorer’s Club, the church’s youth group, in 1925.

She died in 1971, and is buried in Winters, Calif.


THOMPSON, ORILLA ELLEN— She was born Feb. 17, 1920, in Santa Clara County, Calif., daughter of Caroline (q.v.) and Walter (q.v.) Thompson.

Her name appears on a Sunday school attendance sheet from 1921-1922, though she would only have been a toddler at the time. In 1925, Rev. Elmo Robinson noted that she had the best attendance record in the Sunday school (tied with her sister Ardel and one other child).

When her father retired and he and Caroline moved to Winters, Calif., she went with them. She married Jake Otis Baker on June 22, 1938.

Notes: 1930 U.S. Census; California Birth Index, 1910-1955; California, County Marriages, 1850-1952, Solano County, Affidavit for Marriage License.

THOMPSON, ROBERT ELLIOT— An accountant, he was born Feb. 16, 1914, son of Caroline (q.v.) and Walter (q.v.) Thompson.

He attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto; his name appears on an attendance sheet from 1921-1922. Rev. Elmo Robinson noted that he missed only three Sundays in 1923, only seven in 1924, and only two in 1925.


THOMPSON, WALTER ELLIOT— A baker, he was born Nov. 20,
1882, in California, the son of Alfred (q.v.) and Caroline (q.v.) Thompson. In 1900, he was in Monterrey, boarding with John B. McCabe, a self-described “capitalist”; Walter gave his occupation as “student, Palo Alto.” He became a proprietor of Thompson’s Oak Bakery by at least 1904.

He married Marian Belle Smith of Ukiah, Calif., on Dec. 27, 1906, but he was widowed by 1910. He next married Caroline Eliza Hortop, and they three children: a daughter Ardel (b. March 15, 1911, Calif.; q.v.); Robert Elliot (b. Feb. 16, 1914, Calif.; q.v.); and a daughter Orilla (b. Feb. 17, 1920, Calif.; q.v.).

In 1909, he took over his father’s bakery, continuing the expansion of the business. His bakery sold its “Palo Alto Bread” from San Jose to Burlingame. In 1921, the Western Baker reported, “Palo Alto buys a great deal of bread from the big San Francisco bakeries….Thompson believes the Palo Alto plants should supply more bakery goods for the community and so has started in to extend his business.”

He was affiliated with the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and he and Caroline directed the Explorer’s Club, the church’s youth group, in 1925.

He continued working as a baker in Palo Alto through 1936, but in 1937 he closed the business and moved to Solano County, Calif. In 1940, he and Caroline were living in Silveyville (near Winters), Calif., and he gave his occupation as farmer. He died in 1944, in Solano County, Calif.


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Flora and J. H. Thompson

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THOMPSON, MRS. FLORA T.— She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Notes: In 1919, she lived in Mayfield. No further information found.

THOMPSON, J. H.— He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Notes: In 1919, he lived in Mayfield. No further information found.

THOMPSON, LEILA VIOLET LASLEY— Assistant minister, then settled minister, of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1926-1927, she was born at Larned, Kansas, Oct. 18, 1888. The family moved to Oregon while she was an infant.

By 1900, her family was living in Portland, Ore. By 1907, she was living in Portland, Ore., and working as a domestic. She received her A.B. from the University of California at Berkeley in 1915; she received a scholarship, and studied natural sciences. After graduation, she taught high school in Toledo, Oregon, returning to Berkeley to take summer classes.

She married Charles Henry Thompson on June 1, 1918; they had met at the university. The Pacific Unitarian reported, in the Aug., 1918, issue (p. 192):

On June 1st, at the Church of Our Father, Portland, Oregon, by Rev. W. G. Eliot, Jr., Sergeant Chas. H. Thompson, Jr., was married to Miss Leila Lasley. Sergeant Thompson is with Company M, 3d Infantry, Camp Lewis, Washington. Before enlisting shortly after the outbreak of war. Sergeant Thompson was one of the most loyal and enthusiastic members of the church in Berkeley and filled many offices in church, school and Channing Club. At the time of his enlistment he was senior usher, a teacher in the church school, a director for the Pacific Coast of the Y. P. R. U., and secretary of the Laymen's League of the Church. He had formerly been president of the Channing Club. Mr. Thompson has been greatly missed by his many friends but they rejoice in his good service to his country and they are now congratulating him upon his marriage to Miss Lasley, who was active in the Channing Club while a student at the University of California.
Charles joined the infantry, and was killed in the Battle of Argonne on Sept. 27, 1918. He was buried in France.

In Sept., 1922, Leila went to England for “religious study”; she received a certificate from Manchester, the Unitarian college at Oxford University, in 1924. After returning to the United States, she was a special student at Pacific School for the Ministry (now Starr King School for the Ministry).

In the 1920s, the American Unitarian Association became increasingly reluctant to place women into ministry positions. Leila was fortunate enough to be hired by the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto to serve as assistant to Elmo Arnold Robinson while he was studying at Harvard.

She was ordained by the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, Feb. 7, 1926. When Robinson decided not to return to the church, Leila was called as their next minister, becoming the first woman to be called as a minister in Palo Alto.

However, the church was not thriving, and after little more than a year Leila resigned. The church never called another minister, relying instead upon ministerial students.

After leaving the Palo Alto church, Leila returned to the University of California at Berkeley and received her A.M. in 1929. She taught high school thereafter, and never served another Unitarian church. In 1930, she was still teaching, and living with Basha in Berkeley.

After retiring as a teacher in 1951, she returned to Oregon, where she died Aug. 6, 1971.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1930 U.S. Census; Passport application, Leila Lasley Thompson, Aug., 1922; obituary, Portland Oregonian, Aug. 10, 1971; Polk’s Portland City Directory, 1907; University of California Register, 1913-1914; Earl Morse Wilbur, Pacific Unitarian School for the Ministry: The History of Its First Twenty-Five Years, Berkeley, Calif.: 1930; California Alumni Assoc., Directory of Graduates of the University of California, 1864-1916, Berkeley, 1916; Lincoln County Leader, Toledo, Oregon, June 2, 1916; California Honor Role certificate for Charles Henry Thompson, Jr., Nov. 5, 1918;

Thanks to Susan Plass for researching Leila Thompson and her husband.
Sylvie Thygeson and her daughter Ruth

THYGESON, SYLVIE GRACE THOMPSON— An advocate for woman suffrage, and an early birth control activist, she was born June 27, 1868, in the small town Forreston, in north central Illinois. Progressive activism had a long history in her family: her name “Sylvie,” a French name, came from a girl that her father had met when he was a boy; his parents were active with the Underground Railroad, and this girl was one of a family of fugitive slaves escaping from Louisiana.

Her family had no religion, and was the only family in town that were atheists; when interviewed at age 104, she stated that she had never had any religion.

She entered high school at age twelve and graduated at sixteen, then taught in a country school for a month until her father died; thereupon she went to live with an uncle who lived in St. Louis, Mo. She worked for her uncle, an appellate judge, as a stenographer. She later recalled that time in St. Louis as a broadening experience, one that made up in part for her family’s inability to send her to college. After two years in St. Louis, she rejoined her mother and younger siblings, who were then living in St. Paul, Minn.

She married Nels Marcus Thygeson, a lawyer, in 1891. They had children including Ruth Adelaide (b. April 9, 1895, Minn.; q.v.), Elling Henry McKee (b. Feb. 26, 1898, Minn.), Phillips Baker (b. March 28, 1903, Minn.), and Mary Ellen Baker (b. May 26, 1906, Minn.).

While living in St. Paul, Sylvie became active both in the suffrage and birth control movements. Her suffrage work in St. Paul was centered in the Women’s Welfare League, of which she was the First Vice President. The Women’s Welfare League also financially supported birth control efforts. Around 1915, working with two other women, Sylvie started a birth control clinic in St. Paul. Margaret Sanger came to speak to them, and they found two (male) physicians to work with them, to actually provide the “birth control instruments.” Birth control was illegal, so while they
arranged public lectures on the topic, actually providing birth control was done in secret, relying on word-of-mouth referrals.

In 1917, Nels died after a long fight with cancer, upon which Sylvie and her four children moved to Palo Alto—after a brief stop in Old Orchard, Maine—so the children could attend Stanford Univ. By 1920, Sylvie was widowed and living with Elling, Phillips, and Mary in Palo Alto; Sylvie gave her occupation as “none”; Nels’ death apparently did not cause her financial hardship. In Palo Alto, Sylvie was active with the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILF)—as were Annie Tait and Marion Alderton, who were both members of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and may have introduced her to church.

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She appeared on the 1920 membership list, but was crossed out in the 1921 revision. Fellow pacifists Marion Alderton and Alice Locke Park resigned from the church in June, 1920, in protest against “the attitude taken” by the church in the First World War; Sylvie left the church at about the same time, perhaps for the same reason.

In 1925, Sylvie was still living in Palo Alto with Elling, Mary, and Phillips; Ruth had married in 1918, and had moved to San Francisco with her husband. Mary was the last to finish her studies at Stanford, receiving her degree in 1928, and she and Sylvie were still in Palo Alto in that year. After that, Sylvie moved to Los Angeles. In 1930, she was living there with her mother, her son Elling, a brother and other relatives. In 1940, she was still in Los Angeles, now living with her mother and two brothers. While in Los Angeles, she continued her social activism, and was a member of the Anti-Nazi League. Her mother died in May, 1946. Sylvie returned to Palo Alto in 1955.

Late in life, she expressed her world view as being based on the theory of evolution. She died in San Mateo County, Calif., in 1975, at age 107. At her request, there was no funeral service.

Notes: 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census; 1895, 1905 Minnesota State Census; Feminist History Research Project, “Sylvie Grace Thompson Thygeson: In the Parlor,” The Suffragists: From Tea Parties to Prison, interviews conducted by Ralda Sullivan, and Sherna Gluck and Mary
THYGESON, RUTH ADELAIDE— She was born April 9, 1895, in Minn., daughter of Nels and Sylvia (q.v.) Thygeson. She received her A.B. from the Univ. of Minnesota in 1916, and began graduate study at Stanford Univ. in 1917. She married Dwight Shepardson on Aug. 30, 1918; they had one child, Barbara Anita (b. 1925). She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. By 1921, she was living in San Francisco; she received her M.D. from Stanford in 1922, and began working as assistant physician for women at the Univ. of California infirmary; according to her mother, Sylvie, she provide birth control information to woman there.

She continued to live in San Francisco with her husband and daughter in 1930 and 1940. She died in 1940.


TODD, HELEN MORTON— See: Morton - Carruth - Todd Family

TODD, JOHN EMMET— See: Morton - Carruth- Todd Family

TODD, THEODORE W.— See: Morton - Carruth - Todd Family

TOLL, MARIAN LOUISE— An economist, she was born c. 1905 in Colorado, and in 1910 and 1920 was living with her widowed mother in San Diego. She received her A.B. in economics from

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Stanford Univ. in 1926. She married Charles Baker, Jr., on June 16, 1929, and received her A.M. from Stanford in 1931.

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” She gave one of the Sunday evening lectures at the church in 1925.


TRONSLIN, MAUDE ELIZABETH SANFORD— A teacher and stenographer, she was born May 4, 1877 in Iowa. She married Ben Tronslin, a Norwegian immigrant, in 1899; he was superintendent of the public schools in Grafton, N. D. They moved to Edinburg, N. D., in 1893, where Ben worked in a bank. They had two sons, Cyril (b. 1905) and Norwood (b. 1908). The family moved to California in 1918. Ben died in Palo Alto in 1921, after which Maude became the personal secretary to David Staff Jordan (q.v.).

She became a member of the church in 1924, and was listed in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

In 1930, she and her son Norwood were living in Palo Alto, and she gave her occupation as secretary to a “private family.” By 1935 she lived in Tuolome, Calif, and continued living there in 1940. Maude died in 1978 in San José.


The Towne Family

TOWNE, EMMA GRACE STARK— She was born in Sept., 1860, in New Hampshire, and married Edward Towne; they had five children together: Edward Bancroft (b. Aug., 1882, Mass.); George L (b. May, 1885); Gardner (b. March, 1887); Grace (b. June, 1891; q.v.); and Helen E. (b. 1896, Calif.; q.v.). Emma and Edward moved to Palo Alto for Edward’s health in 1901, probably with all their children; Edward died in 1905.

Edward was an amateur ornithologist who had a collection of
over 1200 bird skins at his death. In 1913, Emma presented “five perfect specimens of the now nearly extinct California Condor … collected between 1880 and 1895 by her husband….”

In 1910, Emma was living with her cousin Sarah B. Wheeler (q.v.).

Emma joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto Oct. 26, 1908. She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance. She served as Chair of the Hospitality Committee in the early 1910s. She appeared in the 1920 membership list.

She continued to live in Palo Alto through 1920.


TOWNE, GRACE (DECIUS)— She was born June, 1891, in Massachusetts, daughter of Emma (q.v.) and Edward B. Towne.

She married Louis Courtney Decius, a Stanford graduate, on Aug. 24, 1918. They had two children, John C. (b. c. 1920) and Robert T. (b. c. 1923).

Either she or her sister Helen Towne (q.v.) was the Miss Towne who was the sole member of the Music Committee of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1916. After her marriage, she was chair of the Music Committee of the church in 1920; other members of the committee included Josephine Duveneck (q.v.), William Carruth (q.v.), Helena Dorn (q.v.), Luna Hoskins (q.v.), and Hulda Maxwell (q.v.).

The family continued to live in Palo Alto through 1940. Grace died Feb. 27, 1985, in Santa Clara County, Calif.

Notes: 1900 U.S. Census; Stanford University Alumni Directory, 1921, 1931; California Death Index, 1940-1997.

TOWNE, HELEN ESTRELLA— She was born Feb. 17, 1896, in Santa Cruz, California, daughter of Emma (q.v.) and Edward Towne. She may have been the Miss Towne who was the sole
UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934

member of the Music Committee in 1916, though it was more likely her sister Grace (q.v.). She continued to live in Palo Alto at least through 1940. She died Aug. 2, 1981, in Monterrey.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920, 1940 U.S. Census; Calif. Death Index, 1940-1997.

WHEELER, SARAH B.— She was b. c. 1830 in Massachusetts. She was a cousin of Emma Towne (q.v.), with whom she lived.

She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.


It is a common name, but she may be the Sarah B. Wheeler reported in the 1900 U.S. Census as b. Jan., 1830, widowed, and living with cousins John and Carrie Stark in Nashua, N.H. If so, then she is probably the Sarah B. Wheeler in the 1880 U.S. Census living with husband George G. Wheeler, a bookkeeper, in Nashua.

Edna and Latham True

TRUE, EDNA WEBB N.— She was born Aug. 18, 1876, in Portland, Me. In 1900, she was a student living in Portland with her parents, two sisters, and a servant; her father was a Federal judge. She married Latham True (q.v.) on Jan. 6, 1909, in Portland; Rev. Dr. John Carroll Perkins, minister of First Parish Church [Unitarian] in Portland, officiated. She and Latham were living in Portland in 1910 and 1920. They never had any children.

She was a member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto from at least 1925, and appears on the last membership list in 1931.

She and Latham continued to live in Palo Alto through 1940. Latham died in 1945. She attended an organizational meeting for the Palo Alto Unitarian Society in 1947, and signed up for the
TRUE, (CHARLES) LATHAM— A music teacher and composer, he was born June 1, 1874, in Portland, Me. In 1900, he was living with his parents, a younger sister, and a servant in Portland. He married Edna Webb (q.v.) on Jan. 6, 1909, in Portland; Rev. Dr. John Carroll Perkins, minister of First Parish Church (Unitarian) in Portland, officiated. He and Edna had no children. By 1910, he and Edna were living in Portland, and they were still living there in 1920.

In addition teaching music, he was the organist at First Parish Church in Portland. His compositions included a hymn tune, “Donum Dei.” In 1922, he became the Acting Organist of Memorial Church, Stanford Univ.; subsequently, he was the Director of Music at Castilleja School in Palo Alto.

He began making regular financial contributions to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1923. He spoke at one of the Sunday evening lectures in 1923.

He and Edna continued to live in Palo Alto in 1930 and 1940. He died in 1945 in Santa Clara County, Calif.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census; Maine Births and Christenings, 1739-1900; Maine Marriages, 1771-1907, Portland, Record of Intentions and Return of Marriages, p. 237; California Death Index.
VAIL, EDWIN HOLLOWAY—He was born c. 1900 in New Jersey. He studied at Stanford 1917-1918. He then went to Earlham College, a Quaker school; he was listed as a sophomore at Earlham in 1918. He did war service with the Friends (Quaker) Reconstruction Unit in France. He returned to Stanford, where he received his bachelor’s degree in economics, with distinction, in 1922. Subsequently, he did relief work in the Volga Valley, Russia, under the auspices of the Society of Friends (Quakers). He returned to Stanford in 1924, and completed his A.M. in 1926.

He married Hilda Standing (q.v.) on July 20, 1925; a minister in the Friends Church (Quaker) officiated. In 1925, he became assistant secretary of the Y.M.C.A.

He led Sunday school stories and talks at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1925-1927.

Hilda died Dec. 6, 1927. In 1930, he was living with his parents in Pasadena, Calif. He married Victoria Marie Swalestuen, of Glendale, Calif., on Feb. 11, 1932. He died in 1986.


VAIL, HILDA REBECCA STANDING — She was born c. 1903 in Pennsylvania. In 1910, her family lived in Pasadena, Calif., and her father was a farmer. In 1920, she was living with her parents and two siblings on a fruit farm in Beaumont, Calif. She married Edwin Vail (q.v.) on July 20, 1925; a minister in the Friends Church (Quaker) officiated. She and Edwin lived Palo Alto as he completed a master’s degree at Stanford Univ.

She led a Sunday school talk at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1927, and perhaps participated in the church in other ways.
She died Dec. 6, 1927, and was buried in Altadena, Calif.


VAN EWERT, WILLIAM— See: Ewert, William Van Velsor

The Vestnys Family

VESTNYS, AMY— She was born c. 1905 in Calif., daughter of Elsie (q.v.) and Walter (q.v.) Vestnys. She and her sister Emmaretta (q.v.) were noted as a new members of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1922. No records of her were found after 1922.

Notes: 1910 U.S. Census.

VESTNYS, CLARA ELLSWORTH “ELsie” HUNTOON— A music teacher, she was born August 7, 1873, in Calif. In 1880, she was living in San Francisco with her parents; her father was a wholesale grocer. She married Walter Vestnys on June 14, 1899, in King County, Wash. In 1900, they were living in Black Diamond Village, King County, Wash., where Walter was a mine foreman; by 1901, Elsie was a music teacher. Elsie and Walter moved back to California, and had three children: Amy A. (b. c. 1905, Calif.), Wilbert H. (b. c. 1907, Calif.), and Emmaretta (b. c. 1909, Calif.). By 1910, they were living in Palo Alto.

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

In 1920, the U.S. Census has her living with Walter in Eugene, Ore., with Wilbert and Emmaretta, but not Amy. However, a 1920 city directory shows her living in Palo Alto and working as a music teacher.

She died in San Francisco in 1962.

Notes: 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920 U.S. Census; Washington, County Marriages,
VESTNYS, EMMARETTA— She was born Feb. 20, 1909 in Calif., daughter of Elsie (q.v.) and Walter (q.v.) Vestnys. She was living in Mayfield, Calif., with her parents and older siblings in 1910, and in Eugene, Ore., by 1920.

She and her sister were noted as a new members of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1922.

She married Alfred Malcolm MacKinnon on Aug. 20, 1938, in Los Angeles; a Catholic priest officiated. By 1940, she and Alfred were living in Portland, Ore.

Notes: 1910, 1920, 1940 U.S. Census; California Birth Index, “Emmarit A Vestuys”; California, County Marriages, 1850-1952, Los Angeles County, Marriage License, book 1535, p. 121.

VESTNYS, WALTER NORMAN— He was born in June 30, 1863, in Calif.; he father was born in Norway, and his mother was born in Sweden. He married Elsie Huntoon on June 14, 1899, in King County, Wash. They had three children: Amy A. (b. c. 1905, Calif.), Wilbert H. (b. c. 1907, Calif.), and Emmaretta (b. c. 1909, Calif.). In 1900, Walter was a mine foreman in Black Diamond Village, King County, Wash.; in 1910, he was “cement worker” in Mayfield, Calif. He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, though since he was listed under his wife’s name, perhaps he had little to do with the church.

He died in San Francisco in 1965.


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VICKLAND, CLARENCE MARTIN— A student minister at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1928, he was born in Lyon, Kansas, Aug. 23, 1897.

In 1928, in his final year as a theological student at Pacific Unitarian School of Religion, he served part-time as a student minister. Later he served Unitarian churches in Sacramento, Fresno, and Stockton. He died in 1962.

Notes: Earl Morse Wilbur, Pacific Unitarian School for the Ministry: The History of Its First Twenty-Five Years, Berkeley, Calif.: 1930; photocopied records of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.
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WALKER, G. A.— See: Maddux - Walker Family

WALKER, MRS. G. A.— See: Maddux - Walker Family.

Lawrence and Louise Wallis

WALLIS, LAWRENCE BERGMANN— He was born Jan. 13, 1897, in Fitchburg, Mass. He lived with his parents and younger brothers in Fitchburg through 1920, when he was a college student. His father was the treasurer of a street railway company. Lawrence received his A.B. from Dartmouth College in 1918, and his A.M. from Harvard Univ. in 1921. He taught English at Stanford Univ. from 1921 to 1924. He married Louise W—— before 1922, and they had two children, Robert (b. c. 1926, N.Y.) and Richard (b. c. 1928, N.Y.).

He was noted as a new member of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1922.

In 1930, he was living in Manhattan with his wife and sons. Subsequently, he became a professor of English literature at Mount Holyoke College.


WALLIS, LOUISE W.— An actress and director, she was born Jan. 30, 1902 in New York. She studied at the Emerson College of Oratory, and had professional dramatic experience, and studied in Theodora Irvine’s Studio, worked with Jacob ben-Ami. She
married Lawrence Wallis (q.v.) before 1922, and they had two children, Robert (b. c. 1926, N.Y.) and Richard (b. c. 1928, N.Y.).

While living in Palo Alto, she acted with Theatre Workshop, Stanford, Univ., and organized the first group of Community Players in Palo Alto.

She was noted as a new member of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1922.

She became Director of the Laboratory Theatre at Mount Holyoke College. She died in 1983.


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George and Jean Weber

Weber, George A. — An electrician with the public utility, he was born May, 1886 in Chicago, Ill.; his mother had been born in Germany. In 1910, he was an ironworker who worked “on buildings.” He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1925, and was in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” He continued to live in Palo Alto through at least 1940.

Notes: 1900, 1930, 1940 U.S. Census.

Weber, Jean — She was born c. 1886 in Illinois. She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1925, and was in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” She continued to live in Palo Alto through at least 1940.

Notes: 1930, 1940 U.S. Census.

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Anna and David Webster

WEBSTER, ANNA CUTLER WOODMAN— A teacher, she was born c. 1889 in Maine. She married David Locke Webster on June 12, 1912; Rev. Francis Greenwood Peabody, a Unitarian minister, officiated. They had four children, including Nancy and Hellen (b. c. 1914, Mass.), David L. (b. c. 1918, Mass.), and Cutler (b. c. 1920, Mass.).

She was noted as a new member of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1922. She appeared in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” It is possible that her children attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

In 1930, she was living with David and their children in Palo Alto, and she was teaching a “Penn. School,” a private school. In 1940, she gave no occupation.

Notes: 1930, 1940 U.S. Census.

WEBSTER, DAVID LOCKE.— A professor of physics at Stanford, he was born Nov. 6, 1888, in Boston, Mass.; his parents lived at 247 Newbury St. and his father was a leather dealer. By 1900, his family lived in Cohasset, Mass.

He received his A.B. in physics from Harvard Univ. in 1910, and then worked as an instructor in mathematics and applied mechanics there. He married Anna Cutler Woodman on June 12, 1912; Rev. Francis Greenwood Peabody, a Unitarian minister and professor of theology at Harvard, officiated. David became a professor of physic at Stanford Univ. in 1920.

He made financial contributions to the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto beginning in 1922, and was noted as a new member that year. He appeared in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

He was on the 1948 and 1949 mailing lists of the Palo Alto Unitarian Society.

Notes: 1900 U.S. Census; Marriages Registered in the City of Cambridge for the Year 1912, p. 28; Massachusetts Town Clerk, Vital and Town Clerk, Suffolk County, Boston, Births 1888; Records, Quinquennial Catalogue of the Officers and Graduates of Harvard Univ., 1915; C. Stewart Gilmor, Fred
Wells, Mrs. Clinton—She taught the grade 6 to 8 class in the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1922-1923.

Notes: No further information was found. She could be the wife of Clinton Fisk Wells, A.B. and A.B., Stanford Univ., 1920; but the Stanford Alumni Directories for 1921 and 1932 do not list a marriage for Clinton Fisk Wells, and he was living in San Jose in 1921.

West, Marjorie—She attended Sunday school at the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and her name appears on an attendance sheet from 1921-1922.

Notes: Without her parents’ names, it is impossible to trace her—there were three West families listed in the 1925 Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, Stanford Univ., Ravenswood, and East Palo Alto (Willis Hall, 1925).

Wheeler, Sarah B.—See: Towne Family.

Wickham, Grace—She acted the part of Grace and did a solo dance in “King Persifer’s Crown,” a play put on by members of the Sunday school of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on May 13, 1916.

Notes: No further information was found.

Wiley, Maud L.—She was born in Dec., 1867, in Indiana. She married Joseph W. Wiley, also of Indiana, c. 1888, and they had three children: Korah B. (b. April, 1889, Ind.); Jessie I. (b. Oct., 1894, Calif.), and Josephine L. (b. c. 1907, Calif.). Joseph was a lawyer. They lived in Bakersfield, Calif., in 1900, in Palo Alto at least by 1908 and through 1910, and in Kern County in 1920.

She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She served on the church’s Hospitality and Entertainment Committee in 1909.

WILL, MISS BLANCA— She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Notes: In 1919, she lived at 356 Lincoln Ave., Palo Alto.

The Willis Family

WILLIS, BAILEY— A geologist, he was born May 31, 1857, in New York. His childhood home was a station on the Underground Railroad. He received two degrees from Columbia Univ, mechanical engineering in 1878, and civil engineering in 1879. Over the next few decades, his travels as a geologist led him from the Appalachian Mountains, to Montana and Washington, to Argentina, to China, etc. He went to Stanford Univ. in 1915, and retired in 1922. Among other colleagues at Stanford, he worked with Eliot Blackwelder (q.v.), who assisted him in writing up his geological studies of China.

Bailey married Altona Grinnell in 1882, and she died in 1896; they had one child together, Hope (b. Nov., 1885, D.C.). He married Margaret Baker (q.v.) on April 21, 1898, in Washington, D.C., and they had three children: Cornelius (b. Jan., 1899, D.C.; q.v.), Robin (b. c. 1901, D.C.; q.v.), and Margaret (b. c. Aug., 1909, D.C.). In 1920, Bailey, Margaret, and their three children were all living at Stanford.

He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

He died in 1949.

WILLIS, MARGARET DELIGHT BAKER— An amateur artist, she was born June 30, 1874, in Washington, D.C. She married Bailey Willis (q.v.) on April 21, 1898, in Washington, D.C., and they had three children: Cornelius (b. Jan., 1899, D.C.; q.v.), Robin (b. c. 1901, D.C.; q.v.), and Margaret (b. c. Aug., 1909, D.C.). The family moved to Palo Alto in 1915. She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, and she made financial contributions in 1922 (and probably before that; earlier records are missing).

Margaret was an member of the Palo Alto Art Club, and actively exhibited during the 1920s. She died in 1941.


WILLIS, CORNELIUS GRINNELL “NEAL”— He was born Jan. 25, 1899, in Washington, D.C., son of Bailey (q.v.) and Margaret (q.v.) Willis. His family moved to Palo Alto in 1915. In the First World War, he was a second lieutenant in the Student Army Training Corps. He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, while he was a student at Stanford Univ. He received his A.B. in chemistry from Stanford in 1920. He married Mildred Brooke Hoover on Aug 27, 1922. He became a petroleum geologist, lived in southern California, and died in 1983.


WILLIS, ROBIN— He was born c. 1901 in Washington, D.C., son of Bailey (q.v.) and Margaret (q.v.) Willis. His family moved to Palo Alto in 1915. He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. He received his A.B. in geology from Stanford Univ. in 1920; his A.M. from Stanford in 1922;
and his Ph.D. from Princeton Univ.


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✿ WILSON, MAUDE JAY—A photographer, she was born Aug., 1869, in Utah. In 1900 she lived in Helena, Mont., where she was involved in the cattle business. On Sept. 1, 1906, she and Alice Wilson opened “Bungalo Photographic Studio” at 944 Bryant St., Palo Alto.

She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She joined the church on Nov. 19, 1905.

She remained in Palo Alto through at least 1915, living with her mother Sarah. In 1920 she and her mother lived in Thurston, Wash. She later returned to Palo Alto. In *Children and the Theatre* (Stanford University Press, 1940), she is called “the official photographer of the Palo Alto Children’s theatre.”


Wilson, J. A.—She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905. She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance (her name appears on the membership list immediately below Margrette Snow, who joined the Alliance c. Oct., 1906). She lived at 325 Hamilton Ave.

Notes: A Jessica Anna Wilson received her A.B. in German from Stanford in 1902; received a teaching certificate in Arizona in 1904; by 1906 she was living in Santa Monica (Stanford *Alumni Directory*, 1921).
WISHARD, MARY C.— She was born c. 1859 in Ohio. She joined the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto c. 1908, at which time she lived at 712 Bryant St., Palo Alto. In 1910, she was living in Sunnyvale with her brother, Edward Smith Wishard, his wife Florence G., and their two daughters, Alice Mary and Helen Louise, both students at Stanford. Edward died in 1911, and by 1920, Mary, Florence, and Helen were living in Fullerton, Orange County, Calif.; Mary continued to live there alone in 1930. Mary died in 1931, and was buried in Palo Alto.


WOCKER, ISABELLE BUTLER— See: Butler Family

MR. WOLFF— Served on the Committee of Ushers in 1908.

Notes: A likely candidate for “Mr. Wolff” is Franklin Fowler Wolff. The son of a Methodist minister, he was born in Pasadena in 1887, and rejected orthodox Christianity while he was in his teens. He studied mathematics, psychology, and philosophy at Stanford, and received his A.B. in mathematics in 1911. He then did graduate study in philosophy at both Stanford and Harvard, returning to Stanford in 1914 to teach mathematics. But after only a year, he left academia to pursue his own studies, and changed his name to Franklin Merrell-Wolff. He eventually became known as a spiritual teacher, a mystic, and a writer. This identification of “Mr. Wolff” should be considered tentative. Another possible “Mr. Wolff” is Marcus Wolff, who received his A.B. in economics from Stanford in 1906; however, he appears to have been living in San Francisco in 1908. See: Ron Leonard, The Transcendental Philosophy of Franklin Merrell-Wolff (Albany, N.Y.: SUNY Press, 1999).

WOOD, FREDERICK BERTRAM— He was born in Tecumseh, Mich., on June 15, 1888. In 1910, he was living in Mayfield with his mother, his younger sister, and his grandmother. He received his A.B. in pre-law from Stanford Univ. in 1910, and his J.D. in 1912. He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Oct. 9, 1911. He married Alice L. Satterthwaite on Sept. 26, 1914, and by 1918 he was Assistant Chief Legislative Counsel in Sacramento.

Notes: 1910 U.S. Census; California, World War I Selective Service System

*Mr. and Mrs. James P. Wood*

WOOD, JAMES P.— He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Notes: Although the 1919 parish directory shows him living at 334 Lincoln Ave., Palo Alto, the 1919 *Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, and Stanford Univ.*, (Palo Alto: Willis Hall, 1919) does not have his name. A James Vincent Wood in listed in the *Alumni Directory*, Stanford Univ., 1921, graduating in 1916, but no marriage is listed. In short, there is insufficient information to trace such a common name.

WOOD, MRS. JAMES P.— She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

Notes: See notes under Mr. James P. Wood.

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*Emma and Jean Woodruff*

WOODRUFF, EMMA J.— She was born c. 1851 in Pennsylvania. An early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto, she was listed in the 1919 parish directory. She made financial contributions to the church up to Oct., 1920, after which her account has the notation “Gone away for this year.” In 1920, she was living with Jean in Mountain View.

Notes: 1910, 1920 U.S. Census.

WOODRUFF, MARY JEANNETTE “JEAN”— A stenographer and teacher, she was born c. 1884 in New Jersey, the daughter of Emma Woodruff (*q.v.*). In 1910, she was living in Mountain View with her mother. She worked as a stenographer in the Stanford
Univ. library from 1907 to 1915. She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. In 1920, she was still living in Mountain View with her mother, but was now working as a grammar school teacher.


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WOODS, LOIS MAY—A librarian, she was born April 8, 1892, in Maza, N. Dakota, daughter of William J. and Lucy Henderson Woods. In 1910, she was living with her parents in Berkeley. She received her B.L. from the University of Calif. at Berkeley in 1915, and her B.L.S. from the Univ. of Illinois Library School in 1917. worked as a cataloguer in the Lane Medical Library, Stanford Univ. from 1917 to 1920. She was listed in 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. In 1920, she was again living with her parents in Berkeley. She died in 1933.


*Florence and Fred Workman*

WORKMAN, FLORENCE—She was born c. 1892 in Calif. She married Fred Workman (q.v.) before 1920, and they had two children, William (b. c. 1920, Calif.) and Ralph E. (b. c. 1928, Calif.). She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924. She died before 1930.

Notes: 1920 U.S. Census.

WORKMAN, FRED WAGNER—He was born Jan. 19, 1885, in Greencastle, Ind. In 1900, he was living with his brother Ralph in Oklahoma Terr., where his brother was a physician, and he was a
day laborer. He married Florence (q.v.) before 1920, and they had two children, William (b. c. 1920, Calif.) and Ralph E. (b. c. 1928, Calif.).

In 1920, he and Florence were living in San Francisco, where he was a building superintendent. In 1923, he and Florence were living in Runnymede (near Palo Alto), where he was a farmer and the secretary of the Palo Alto Berry Growers Assoc.

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was listed in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”

In 1930 Fred was widowed and living with his sons in Pacific Grove, Calif. He continued to live in Pacific Grove managing the 17 Mile Drive Auto Camp. He died in 1969 in Monterey.

Notes: 1900, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; Directory of Palo Alto, Mayfield, Runnymede, and Stanford Univ., Willis Hall, 1923; California, World War II draft registration card, Fred Wagner Workman; California Death Index.

WRIGHT, ELIZABETH AGNES— She was born in May, 1887, in Connecticut. She received her A.B. in German from Stanford Univ. in 1908. In 1910, she was living with her parents and seven younger siblings in Putnam, Conn., and working as a teacher. In 1920, she was working as a real estate agent and living in Palo Alto in her own home, which she shared with a 55 year old widow.

She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto.

She married Dallas England Wood (who had attended Stanford from 1904 to 1908) on Aug. 24, 1921, in Stockton, Calif.; a Methodist minister officiated. In 1930 she was living in Palo Alto with Dallas, and he was editor of the Palo Alto Times.

Notes: 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census; Alumni Directory, Stanford Univ., 1921; California, County Marriages, 1850-1951, County of San Joaquin, Marriage License; Eugene T. Sawyer, History of Santa Clara County, California, Historic Record Co., 1922, p. 974.

WYCKOFF, LAURA M.— She was born Dec., 1851, in
Massachusetts. She married c. 1870 Dr. Hiram G. Wyckoff, a physician born in Illinois. He served in the Civil War in the 124th Illinois Regiment, and received his M.D. from Rush Medical College, Chicago, in 1868.

By 1880, Laura and Hiram were living in Sioux City, Iowa, with children Rilla M. (b. c. 1873-5, Mass. or Ill.) and John W. (b. c. 1876, Mass.). In 1900, Laura and Hiram were living in Ukiah, Calif., with child Harry (b. c. 1881, Ill.). Hiram died in Palo Alto Jan. 28, 1908.

She was one of the directors of the Woman’s Club of Palo Alto in 1906.

She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She made regular financial contributions to the church in 1914 through at least 1921. She appeared in the 1920 membership list.

In 1910, Laura was living in Oakland with Rilla. By 1912, Harry was married and living in Los Angeles; John was also married and living in Mill Valley. In 1915, Laura was living with R. May (presumably this was Rilla M.) Wyckoff at 342 Homer Ave. In 1923, she was a “housewife,” living alone at 342 Homer Ave.

George and Margaret Yost

YOST, GEORGE HERBERT—A schoolteacher and businessman, he was born Oct., 1870, in Pennsylvania. In 1880, he was living in Corry, Erie County, Penna., with his father G. W. N. Yost, mother Sophia, and a much older brother and sister.

He received his A.B. in English from Stanford University in 1900. On March 9, 1900, he married Margaret Graham Hood (q.v.), whom he had met as a student at Stanford.

In 1900, he taught Latin and English at the Belmont School, then taught at Palo Alto High School in the same year. Beginning in 1901, he was involved in the real estate business in Spokane, Wash.

By 1904, he was the manager of the Crude Oil Stove & Furnace Co. This company was incorporated Oct. 23, 1901, with Frank Graham (Margaret’s sister) as president, and George Yost as secretary; the company manufactured “oil burners for industrial purposes and for domestic use.”

He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905.

By 1910, the family was living in Spokane, Wash. He died Feb. 26, 1920.


YOST, MARGARET GRAHAM HOOD—A teacher and author of a children’s book, she was born Aug., 1865, in California; her father was from Ireland or Scotland, and her mother from Ireland. The family moved from Rhode Island to California c. 1856, and in 1870 they were living in California, and her father was a teamster. In 1880, her family was living Havilah, Kern County, Calif., and
her father and older brothers Frank and James were miners.

She graduated from the State Normal School at San José in December, 1885. After graduation, she taught school in Nevada, San José, and Pacific Grove, Monterey Co., Calif. Her article on teaching fractions to children was published in the *The Pacific Coast Teacher* (Oct., 1891, p. 55).

She married Joseph Hood on June 21, 1887, and they had two daughters, Helen (b. Aug., 1888, Calif.) and Florence (b. Dec., 1889, Calif.). Joseph died after 1889, and probably before 1897.

She went on to study education at Stanford University from 1895 to 1897. She was one of the students representing Stanford in the debate competition for the Carnot Medal, and she was noted for her “clear and decisive speech” and “forcible delivery” (*Stanford Daily*, Feb. 15, 1897, p. 1).

In 1897, she accepted a position in the Territorial Normal School, Tempe, Arizona Territory, and directed the “Practice School.” In 1898, her children’s book *Tales of Discovery on the Pacific Slope* was published in San Francisco by the Whitaker & Ray Co.; the book was designed to teach reading and history.

She married George Herbert Yost on March 9, 1900:

The marriage of Mrs. Margaret Graham Hood, ex-'99, and George Herbert Yost, '00, will take place tomorrow afternoon at the home of Dr. C. E. Hailstone at San Jose. The wedding will be a very quiet affair, witnessed only by a few friends. Mrs. Hood, since leaving college in '97, has been in Arizona, in charge of the manual training department of the State Normal School at Phoenix. She returned last year and has since been working on a series of child stories for Whitaker, Ray & Company. Mr. Yost is now instructor in English at Belmont School.

George graduated from Stanford that same year. Margaret, George, and her daughters initially lived in San Mateo at the school where George was teaching. By 1904, the family was living in Palo Alto. Margaret and George had a daughter Aileen (b. c. 1904, Calif.)

She was an early member of the Women’s Alliance of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. She joined the church on Nov. 19, 1905.

By 1910, the family was living in Spokane, Wash. George
died on Feb. 26, 1920.


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**YOUNG, STEWART WOODFORD**— A professor of physical chemistry at Stanford, he was born c. 1869 in New York. He received his B.S. from Cornell in 1890, and taught there 1890-1891. He taught at Swarthmore College the following year, and went to Stanford University in 1893. He studied chemistry at the University of Leipzig in 1899-1900. He became a professor of chemistry in 1908, and remained in that position until his death.

He married Mable G—— c. 1906. They lived in Mayfield, with her two sons, Otto G. Lachmund (b. c. 1893) and Harry A. Lachmund (b. c. 1896). By 1920, they had divorced, and Stewart had moved to Menlo Park, where he lived on seven acres of land.

He gave $5 to the “Church Lot Subscription” fund. He is most probably the “Mr. Young” who served on the Music Committee in 1909.

He died April 9, 1931. He was remembered by his colleagues at Stanford as “a liberal in all things except for a deep-seated and freely expressed contempt for sham and intolerance.”


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*Ivah and Richard Zeidler*
ZEIDLER, IVAH L. GILBERT—She was born c. 1881 in Wisconsin. She received her B.L. from the Univ. of Wisconsin in 1902. She married Richard Zeidler (*q.v.*), and they had three daughters, Lois (b. Sept. 13, 1906, Wis.), Avis (b. c. 1909, Wis.), and Phyllis (b. c. 1913, Calif.). She was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. The family continued to live in Palo Alto through at least 1928.


ZEIDLER, RICHARD—He was born in Minnesota c. 1876. He received his A.B. from the Univ. of Wisconsin in 1906; his A.M. from the Univ. of California in 1913; and studied at Stanford Univ. from 1913 to 1916. He married Iva L. Gilbert in 1904; they had three daughters, Lois (b. Sept. 13, 1906, Wis.), Avis (b. c. 1909, Wis.), and Phyllis (b. c. 1913, Calif.). He was listed in the 1919 parish directory of the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto. By 1921, he was teaching at San Francisco Girls’ High School, and still living in Palo Alto. They continued to live in Palo Alto through at least 1928.


Anna Zschokke and daughter Irma

❄ ZSCHOKKE, ANNA MARGARET PROBST—Active in community affairs in Palo Alto, she was born Sept. 30, 1840, in Bavaria, and came to the U.S. when she was four years old. She married Oskar Jakob Ludwig Zschokke on Oct. 27, 1872, in Terre Haute, Ind. They had five children: Julie Margaretha (b. Oct. 27, 1873, d.
UNITARIANS IN PALO ALTO, 1891-1934

1874, Iowa); Theodore Christian (b. Oct. 9, 1874, Iowa); Arthur Jacob (b. Dec. 18, 1878, Kern County, Calif.); Leon Rudolf (b. June 13, 1880, d. 1883); and Irma Julie (b. Jan. 8, 1886, Santa Clara County, Calif.).

She moved from Santa Clara to Palo Alto on June 14, 1890, with three children; her husband, a doctor and pharmacist, had recently died. She has been widely credited with being the “mother of Palo Alto Schools” for her work in establishing schools in the new community of Palo Alto. She was an active member of the Palo Alto Woman’s Club.

She studied ethics at Stanford 1896-1898; and all three of her children that survived to adulthood graduated from Stanford.

Anna joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on Nov. 19, 1905. She was a member of the Women’s Alliance from the very first meeting. In the early years of the church, she served on the Hospitality Committee, and was one of the Alliance members who kept up the building’s appearance. She made financial contributions to the church off and on through at least 1923, and was listed in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” She remained a dues-paying member of the Alliance up until her death; she is recorded on the membership roll dated May 13, 1930, with the annotation “Died on May 30 1929.”


ZSCHOKKE, IRMA JULIE— She was born Jan. 8, 1886, in Santa Clara County, Calif., to Ann Probst (q.v.) and Oskar Jakob Ludwig Zschokke. Her father died in 1889, and her mother moved the family to Mayfield, near the just-founded Stanford University.

She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto on June 21, 1907, while still a student at Stanford. She made regular monthly contributions to the church in 1905-1906.

Irma received her bachelor’s degree in history from Stanford
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in 1908. She married Perry Orson Crawford, a Stanford graduate, on Feb. 18, 1914. The family lived in Oregon circa 1918, when their son Perry was born. By 1920, Irma, Perry, two children, and Anna were living in Burlingame, Calif. By 1930, Irma and Perry and three children were living in Illinois.


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Clara and David Zyve

ZYVE, CLARA EDITH TURNER — She was from Greeley, Colo, and received her degree from Stanford Univ. in 1924. She married David L. Zyve on Sept. 24, 1924. She joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.”


ZYVE, DAVID L.— He joined the Unitarian Church of Palo Alto in 1924, and was in the 1926 “List of Resident Members.” He received his Ph.D. in education from Stanford Univ. in 1926.


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