

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

WALLACE M. ALEXANDER
(1869-1939)

Wallace McKinney Alexander, a trustee of this University, died in Honolulu on the twenty-second of November, nineteen hundred and thirty-nine. He had just passed his seventieth birthday, for he was born on the island of Maui in the Hawaiian Islands on the tenth of November, eighteen hundred and sixty-nine.

A graduate of Yale University with the class of 1892, he had spent his life in a varied business activity in California and in the Hawaiian Islands. As an outstanding sugar factor of his time, he had interests in both sugar plantations and in the refining of sugar. Long chairman of the board of Alexander and Baldwin, Ltd, he served also as vice-president of the Matson Navigation Company and of the Honolulu Oil Corporation.

In San Francisco his name was synonymous with disinterested public service. The presidency of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce reflected his cooperative spirit in the field of business, the man of action working with his fellows, but it was his long service on the Community Chest, his presidency of the San Francisco Opera Association, and long and devoted activity in the interest of the Boy Scouts of America that revealed an American leader interested in art and music and social service.

Nor were his interests bounded by his native islands or his adopted San Francisco. He served as trustee of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and was one of the founders and active supporters of the Institute of Pacific Relations. Japan, Italy, and France honored him with their decorations of merit: From Japan in May, 1929, "Second Class of the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure"; from Italy on April 16, 1936, "Diploma of Cavaliere of the Order of the Crown of Italy", conferred by his Majesty The King of Italy; from France on July 30, 1937, "Ordre National de la Legion D'Honneur and Diploma from the Grand Chancelier de l'Ordre."

Strength of personality may well sum up his reputation in San Francisco. He was a worthy successor of the philanthropists who marked the generation of leaders that he knew as a boy and young man. Hundreds learned to speak of "Wallace Alexander" in such terms.

Stanford knew him as a trustee. Not an alumnus, yet as public leader he found it natural and proper to identify himself with the university of his choice. Elected trustee in 1924, he was re-elected in 1934. As in all else, his service on behalf of the University was given freely and in the spirit of cooperation. There was always an indefinable sense of distinction in all that he did and said.

Be it resolved, that these resolutions be spread upon the Minutes, and that copies be sent to his widow, Mrs. Mary Alexander of Piedmont, and his daughter, Mrs. Martha Gerbode of San Francisco.

Loren Roscoe Chandler
Charles Vincent Taylor
Edgar Eugene Robinson, Chairman