

Important People in UB Missions

This is a fascinating photo, considering the people who are in it.
The photo was taken in 1931 during a missions meeting in Hillsdale, Mich.

Jacob Howe, from Canada, was executive secretary of Missions longer than anyone else either before or since. He served in that role 1905-1936. All of the missionaries pictured here entered mission work on his watch and served under his capable leadership.

John and Lulu Woodard were missionaries in Sierra Leone for 15 years, 1908-1923.

Effie Hodgeboom served five years in Sierra Leone, 1923-1928. When this photo was taken, she was in her first year as executive secretary of the Women's Missionary Association. She would continue for another 25 years, finally stepping down in 1956.

Abbie Swales served in Sierra Leone 1916-1941. She served on the field with all of the other missionaries pictured here.

This year, 1931, **Mary Melissa Titus** completed 40 years as president of the Women's Missionary Association. She now turned it over to Clara Rose Harwood for the next 30 years.



Front row (l-r): John and Lulu Woodard, Effie Hodgeboom, Mary Melissa Titus, Audrey Kopp, George Fleming.

Second row: Eula Eby, Abbie Swales, Cora Loew, Daisy Fleming, Ruth Kopp. **Third row:** Jacob Howe, Vernon Kopp, Lloyd Eby.

Cora Loew, in 1930, concluded 24 years as executive secretary of the Women's Missionary Association. She was the wife of Huntington College professor Fred Loew, for whom the Loew Alumni Library and, later, the Loew Center were named.

Lloyd and Eula Eby were both from Canada. Lloyd's first wife died in 1918 while in childbirth, and he and Eula were married two years later. They served three terms in Sierra Leone – one in the 1920s, one in the 1940s, and one in the 1950s. After coming back from Africa in 1925, they began 16 years in the Detroit area, where they started six churches. They returned in 1944, arriving just as the D-Day invasion was occurring in Europe. Lloyd was elected bishop 1949-1957. After leaving the bishopric, they went to Sierra Leone for one more term.

When an appeal went out for someone willing to receive some medical training, **Vernon and Audrey Kopp**, from Kansas, volunteered. In 1913, they began 14 months in England, where Vernon took a course in tropical medicine. Daughter **Ruth** was born there. Audrey and Ruth left Sierra Leone in 1916 because of illness, but Vernon stayed until 1917, then came back by himself 1919-1920.

George and Daisy Fleming were missionaries in Sierra Leone for 20 years, 1912-1932. George then followed Jacob Howe as executive secretary of missions 1936-1961. Under his leadership we opened fields in Jamaica, Honduras, and Hong Kong. Fleming was often referred to as "Mr. Missions."