

Long-time former resident

Mrs. Alexis E. Frye dies

Mrs. Richard M. Sherman (Jean Frye) of Redlands received word yesterday of the death of her grandmother, Mrs. Alexis E. Frye, 95, who lived in Redlands for 50 years before moving to Santa Cruz in 1962 to the with her two daughters.

Mrs. Frye was the widow of Alexis Frye who had been sent by President McKinley to Cuba to organize the public school system, which he did, writing the new school laws and becoming the first superintendent.

Mr. Frye arranged for a group of Cuban teachers to attend a summer session at Harvard University to whom the people of Boston opened their homes and a teacher exchange began. Mrs. Frye, at that time Teresa Arruebarrena, was on that Cuban teacher expedition in 1900 and it was then she met Mr. Frye.

She was born in Cardenas, Cuba, and was educated in private schools there. After the Spanish-American war, she volunteered to teach in the new



MRS. ALEXIS FRYE
public school system which the man she was to marry had organized.

The young Cuban girl and the U.S. educator were married January 1, 1901, in a suburb of Havana and General Leonard Wood, then governor, gave the

bride in marriage.

They first lived in Cambridge, Mass., and in 1905 moved to Highland, California where Mr. Frye had already established orange groves and continued to write his geographies. In 1911 they moved to Redlands to their home, "Villa Cuba", on West Crescent avenue.

Mrs. Frye's interests were her family, gardening and the arts and she was a life member of the Contemporary Club.

Of the Frye's five children, three survived to adulthood. They were Frank, now deceased, Carmen and Pearl.

Mrs. Frye leaves her two daughters, Carmen Fitchen and Pearl Rau, both of Santa Cruz; eight grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and cousins Mrs. Berta de la Vega and Dr. and Mrs. Aurelio de la Vega of Northridge.

Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. Monday in Hillside Memorial Park with Rev. John de Boer Cummings, rector emeritus of Trinity Episcopal church, officiating.