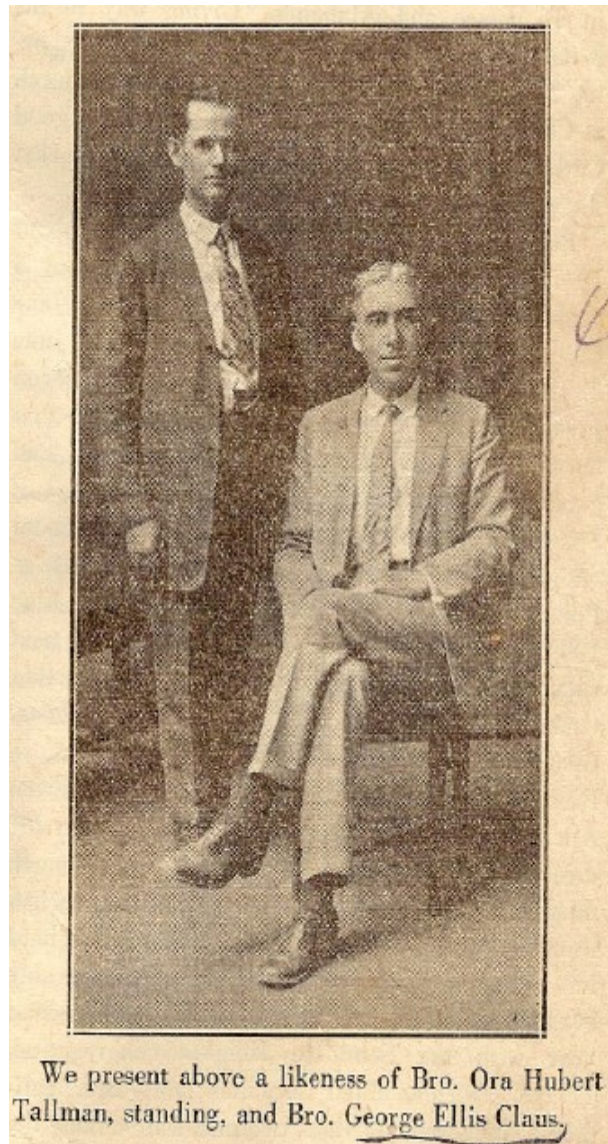


Geo. E. Claus



George Ellis Claus, son of Peter Claus and Jane Dickey, was born 3 Sep 1879 and died 22 Jul 1935

Married 23 May 1904 Laura Presley

She was born 18 Sep 1881 and died Dec 1973

Attended the Nashville Bible School, 1898-99, 1899-1900. Listed as from St. Catharines, Ontario

Canada Notes

Among the late arrivals at the Nashville Bible School from Meaford, Canada, are Mr. and Mrs. John Deegan, Mr. and Mrs. James Trout, Miss Maud York, Miss Emily Falls,

W. F. Cox, and John Jay. W. E. Trout, who is in charge of the Commercial Department of the Bible School, came with his wife and child the last of September. From the city of St. Catharines we have Brother Ellis Claus, and from Carman, Manitoba, we have Brothers Stanley York and Norman Mallory. With Brother Whitfield, who has been here two terms, and Brother Mackie, we make up a fair representation from that part of the continent.

Gospel Advocate, Nov. 10, 1898, p. 723.

SUN. JAN. 1, 1899

We had some snow this morning thawed a little in middle of day Bro Lipscomb spoke this morning on 53 Isaiah The Vicarious suffering of Jesus. He was grand I wrote letters to Mrs Hamley and Mrs Whitelaw. Had the boys down for a treat of candy nuts & raisins They were Bro Claus, Cox, York, Jackson and Sam Whitfield and Wilson Mallory were here had a sing

Mary Williams Trout Diary, 1899

ANNUAL JUNE MEETING, O. E. Tallman

The Annual June Meeting of the Disciples of Christ in the Niagara District, opened at Fenwick on Saturday afternoon, June 4, and closed on Monday afternoon, with the best of weather.

L. E. Huntsman officiated in the afternoon, and short talks were given by Bros. Geo. Gamble and J. Dean, of Fenwick; Wm. Forester, T. T. Reilly and Jas. Stewart, of Toronto; John Yake, of Stouffville; O. E. Tallman, of Smithville; Ellis Claus, Valdosta, Ga; Chas. Claus, St. Catharines; Chas. W. Petch, Selkirk; S. M. Jones, Beamsville; and W. F. Neal, Meaford.

... In the evening, Bro. Ellis Claus, of the Bible School at Valdosta, Ga., spoke from Matt. ix.12., "They that are whole need not a physician, but they that are sick," treating of sin as a disease, its symptoms and cure.

The Bible Student, July 1904, p. 3

To All Students of J. A. Harding

The suggestion that Brother Harding's students and others of his devoted friends create a memorial fund to help toward the erection of the new administration building of Harper College, Harper Kansas, and that because of this gift from his students and friends the building have written in its walls, "James A. Harding Memorial Building" has met with universal and enthusiastic approval. . . .

Faternally,

F. B. Shepherd, Amarillo, Tex.; . . . G. E. Claus, Valdosta, Ga.; . . .

Word and Work, Jan. 1923, p. 24

Bro. Claus was born near Smithville, also, about 10 miles from Bro. Tallman's birthplace, but 3 years later, Sept. 3, 1879, the son of Peter and Jane Claus. He was "born again" at Jordan, Ont., June 3, 1897; baptized by Bro. Samuel Keffer. Began preaching in June 1899, at Jordan. Held his first meeting at Priceville, Ont., in 1900. He, too, had good school privileges; attending High School at Smithville; three years at Nashville Bible School (now David Lipscomb College); two years at Potter Bible College, graduating there in June 1903, the first graduate of that school. He next spent 4 years teaching in our schools at Bowling Green, Ky., Bridgeport, Alabama, and Valdosta, Georgia. On May 23, 1904, he married Miss Laura Presley of Valdosta, Ga. They have 2 sons. From Apr. 1, 1907 to

Nov. 1, 1925 he worked under the direction of the Church at Valdosta, doing much mission work during the last 6 years. I preached some at Valdosta while he was there and he is held in high esteem. He has done considerable evangelistic work, and is now entering his second year with the Seminole Heights congregation, Tampa, Florida, about 30 miles from Bro. Tallman. The parents of these two men were among the early disciples of the Niagara peninsula.

If I am worth anything at all to the church, I owe considerable to Bro. Tallman for suggesting and urging that I embark on my present career. I also spent about four years with him at West Gore.

These two men are good preachers, but are like the prodigal son in one respect; spending their energies away from home. I wish we could have them back in Canada, but till then we wish them good success.-

E. G. C.

Christian Monthly Review, June 1927, p. 4

A Brief History of Central Avenue Church of Christ by Gordon L. Teffeteller

Present-day members recall some of the outstanding teachers of the early period, including the senior M. L. Strong, Mr. And Mrs. Richard Allen, Mrs. Elsie Smith, Mrs. Pearl Strong, Mrs. Laura Claus, Dr. Jim Smith, Ben Gill, Richard Scruggs, and of course, many others. Gill also was an accomplished song leader.

...

About 1910, G. E. Claus, a Canadian, became a member, and he regularly utilized his considerable talents as a preacher. "He was not," said Hugh McIntyre, "a full-time preacher." Instead, he was a teacher, but when Strong began preaching also, these men set a standard of excellent itinerant preaching that served the church well until the mid twenties.

The 1920's

The congregation reached a milestone late in 1925 by the employment of an outstanding minister and leader, A. B. Lipscomb. A man of some means, he was formerly president of David Lipscomb College in Nashville, Tennessee and editor of the Gospel Advocate magazine. None of the present older generation of members can recall how such an outstanding man was hired; yet a more suitable candidate for the first full-time evangelist could not have been found, since in addition to his preaching skills, he was also a civic leader. When Lipscomb arrived, George Claus, who had preached at Central Avenue for many years, was serving as an elder together with Jim O. Wisenbaker, M. L. Strong, and R. E. Dasher. . . . Shortly afterward, Claus offered his resignation as an elder, although it was not immediately accepted, and took a preaching position in Tampa, Florida.

...

The 1930's

A striking evangelistic success occurred when the congregation sponsored Marshall Keeble, an ingenious black evangelist, in meetings in the African-American community of Valdosta. Apparently, George Claus initiated the concept, and the results in 1930 were astonishing.

<http://www.cacoc.com/history.html>

CLAUS.—Following a lingering illness of several months duration, G. E. Claus died at his home in Valdosta, Ga., on the morning of July 22. His death removed from us one of the most useful preachers in the kingdom. Brother Claus was a Canadian by birth, and received his early education in that Dominion, but he spent the most active years of his ministry in this section, having served the Valdosta congregation for a period of more than twenty years. He was a graduate of the old Nashville Bible School, and later taught in the Potter Bible School at

Bowling Green, Ky. As a preacher he was a close student of the Bible, a man of plain speech and simple manners. He was instrumental in establishing the cause at several points. He was active in several lines of business, but his chief delight was in teaching and preaching the word of God. He and I were closely associated for many years, and in his passing I sustain a distinct personal loss. The funeral services were conducted by the writer from our local house of worship and were largely attended. Brother Claus leaves a faithful Christian widow, two children, two sisters, and other relatives to mourn his loss.—A. B. Lipscomb.

Gospel Advocate, 1935, p. 935