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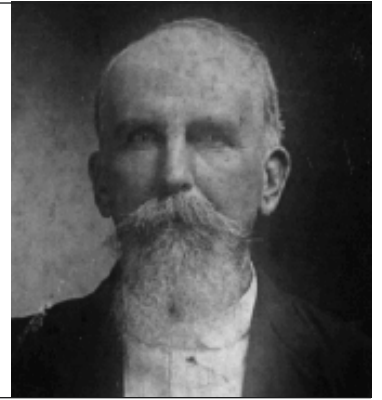
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THE FAMILY OF FRANCIS MARION SHAW AND RACHEL MOORE ALLEN



T H E G R A N D C H I L D R E N

CLAUDE C. CLEMENTS & MAYE BELLE ALLEN *Beyond Objections*

It may seem so trivial in light of the open and free society we live in today, however, when Claude C. Clements and Maye Belle Allen fell in love with one another, and they decided that they wished to be married, their families were dead set against it. It was not due to their social standing. No, it was because they were first cousins—well, half first cousins.



You see, Maye's father, John L. Allen, was the half brother of Claude's mother, Effie Shaw Clements. Both families were so vehemently opposed to the idea, the young couple let their hearts dictate, and on October 9, 1909, they went beyond the objections and eloped. So it is quite appropriate that both of these two grandchildren of Francis Marion and Rachel Moore

where he attended most of his public school. However, some school terms he attended the Pine Grove School in the Lois community, while residing with his grandparents, the David C. Clements. On these occasions, he also became more acquainted with his Allen kin.

Upon his completion of his formal education, he went to Jacksonville, Florida,

Allen Shaw be featured in this one newsletter together.

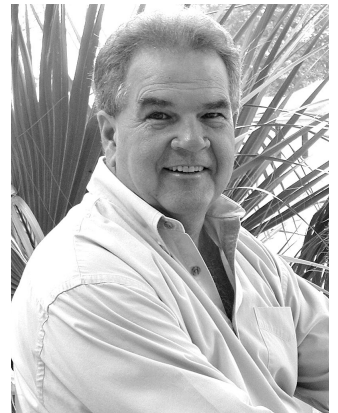
In the first instance, Claude Columbus Clements was born December 16, 1889, in Willacoochee, Georgia. He was the first child born to William D. Clements and Effie C. Shaw. When Claude was just two months old, William D. and Effie moved to Puddleville, later known as Adel,

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The Family of Francis Marion Shaw is a non-profit newsletter published semi-annually, or more frequently, for the benefit of the descendants of Francis Marion Shaw and his wife, Rachel Moore Allen Shaw.

Historical contributions are requested. Your family histories including character traits, religious affiliations, professional pursuits and vital information such as birth dates and places, marriage dates and places, and death dates and places, are all welcome. Photographs help make the newsletter come alive. If you have some special photos of your ancestors which you would like to share with all of the family, please make a copy print of it and send it on to the address below. If original photos are sent, they will be carefully handled and returned, but editor cannot be responsible for loss or damage. Send your manuscripts and photo submissions to:
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Above: A family gathering posed in front of the William D. Clements home, probably about the time that Claude and Maye eloped. Pictured left to right are: Claude Clements, Maye Allen, Minnie Clements, and Lowndes Shaw. Minnie was Claude's sister, Lowndes was their first cousin, son of Arthur Shaw.

Right: Young Claude C. Clements poses on the front porch of the family home in Adel, Georgia. It was about this period of time that he moved to Jacksonville, Florida, working as a street car conductor.

where he acquired employment as a street car conductor, among other pursuits.

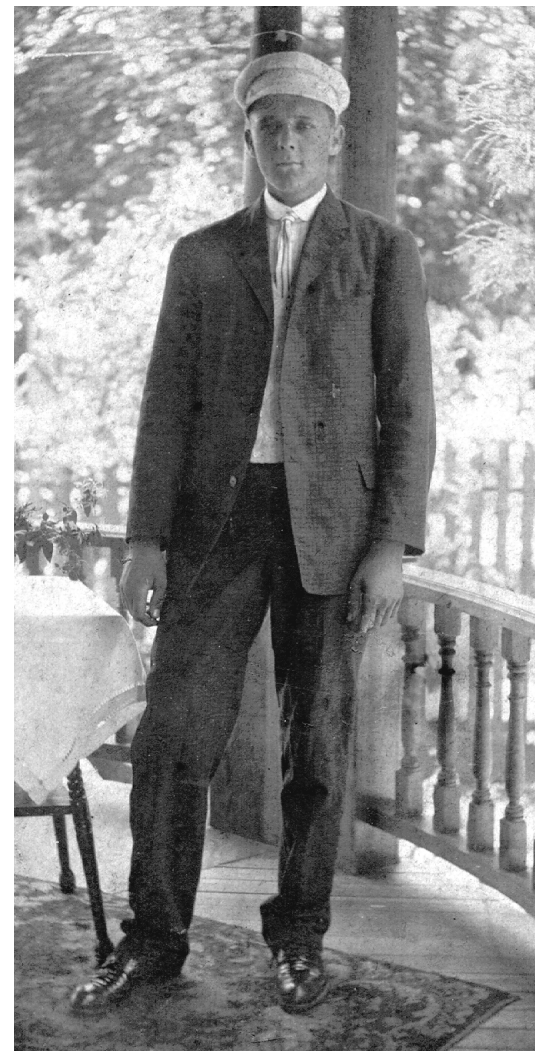
He grew weary of the job, and perhaps a bit homesick, he returned to Adel, where he became more enamoured with his near relative, Maye Belle Allen.

Maye Belle C. Allen was the third born child of John L. Allen and Nancy Minerva Futch. She was their first daughter, born March 14, 1891, in the Lois community near Ray City, Georgia.

She received her formal education in the small two-room Pine Grove School near her home. Her close friendship with Claude intensified when he returned from his employment in Jacksonville, and by October 1909, they sealed their intentions.

Claude and Maye made their home in Adel, Georgia for about 18 months, where he worked for the ice company. On September 23, 1910, their son, Claude Vernon was born.

In 1911, Claude's father purchased a turpentine still just south of Willacoochee, and Claude, Maye and Vernon all moved to the still. Claude worked at the still and also one of the large lumber companies nearby. A short time later, he decided to start farming on a place near the still, working it for a year or so. He then moved to a farm near Ray City, and worked it to raise enough money to buy a share in another farm with his brother-in-law,





Pleamon Sirmans, on land lot 418 between Ray City and Adel on the Nashville-Valdosta Road. He only lived there about one year when he purchased a Ray City drug store under the name of Johnson and Clements Drug Company.

However in correspondence over a three week period with his brother Burie, Claude appears to be quite concerned about the profitability of the store.

On May 27, 1918, Claude wrote:

"I am trying to sell the Ford and store and then I will want a job, so if you see a vacant place for a clerk, let me hear from it, as I have got to do something to make a living."

A week later on June 3, he wrote:

"Well Burie, I sold the Ford by loosing money on it, and I guess I will get out of the drug business the same way when I get out."

Finally on June 10th, he sounded even more resigned to the future of the business:

"If I sell out I don't know what I will do unless I get a job making soda water."

He still owned the business in the 1919 tax year, however, by February, 1920, he had given up the venture and had moved the family to Ft. Meade, Florida.

Claude gained employment with the Palmetto Phosphate Company at Tiger Bay, Florida as a clerk in their commissary. He worked for the company in the store, and as pit foreman until he was transferred to their main plant in Pierce, Florida. He

worked and lived in Pierce for about 18 months, then moved to Mulberry where he worked in a grocery store. This experience prompted him to purchase a general store in Ft. Meade, Florida, which he operated very successfully for several years. He also purchased and rebuilt a home which he resided in until his death.

However his health began to fail him and he experienced severe suffering until finally he had one of his kidneys removed. While recovering from his kidney removal, cancer was discovered in his bladder, which caused additional untold suffering. Fortunately, as a result of prayers and radiation treatments, the cancer went into remission.

Both Claude and Maye were active members of the Presbyterian Church. Claude was a Mason, and Woodman of the World. Maye was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. Sometime between his ownership of the store and his employment with the State of Florida, he ran for the State Legislature, however he was defeated.

About 1936 while Claude was still recovering from his bout with cancer, he secured employment with the Road Department of the State of Florida, First Division. His job required him to travel the southern half of the state. He had been working for the Road Department for about 9 years, when a tragic accident occurred.

He was working between Wauchula and Bowling Green, Florida, near the small town of Tory, Florida. Around 10:00 A.M. on March 20,

Above left: The John L. Allen homeplace, where Maye Belle Allen was born and raised.

Pictured in front of the home is Maye's sister, Mattie. Mattie was living in Ft. Meade at the time of Claude's death.

Above: Young Claude Vernon Clements, son of Claude and Maye. The couple also had a daughter born to them in Ft. Meade but was still born, and is buried in the Hancock Cemetery near Ft. Meade.

When Claude and Maye moved to Ft. Meade, Florida, to start the grocery business, they purchased and remodeled this home in the Wilson Subdivision. Here they raised their son, Vernon, and lived out the rest of their lives.



VOTE FOR
CLAUDE C. CLEMENTS

FOR
REPRESENTATIVE

GROUP 3 - POLK COUNTY

SUBJECT TO DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

Curtailed Governmental Expense. Relief for
Home Owners from Excessive Taxation.

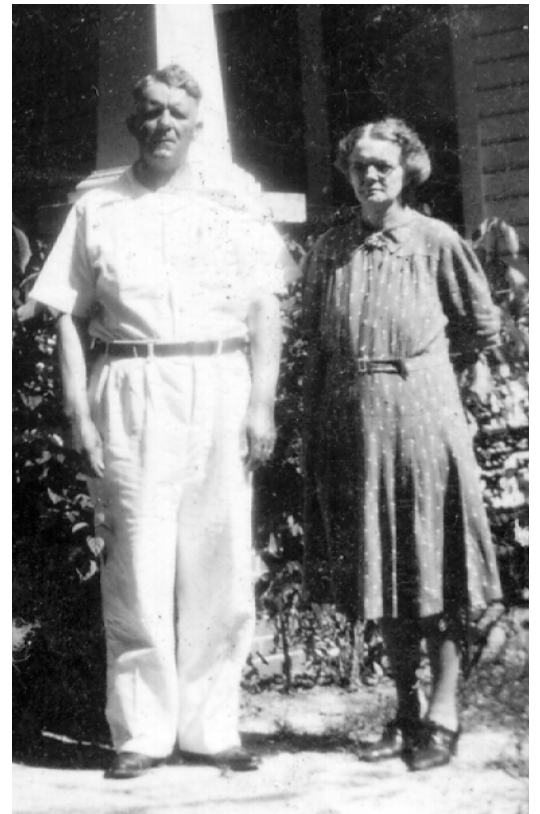
**YOUR VOTE AND SUPPORT WILL
BE APPRECIATED**

Sometime after his bout with bladder cancer, Claude ran an unsuccessful campaign for the Florida House of Representatives. His campaign card is shown above.

1946, the road crew was just finishing up a road project spreading gravel, when Claude attempted to cross the road to measure the spread of gravel. He walked into the path of a gravel dump truck that was backing up to unload more gravel. Claude did not see the truck backing up, and the driver did not see Claude. He was struck by the vehicle and it knocked him to the ground and the wheels of the truck passed over him. Though they tried to rush him to the hospital in Wauchula, he died enroute.

Funeral services were held on March 22, 1946, at the Ft. Meade Presbyterian Church. The services and attendance attested to the high esteem in which he was held. He was laid to rest in the Evergreen Cemetery in Ft. Meade.

Claude and Maye lived together for more than 36 years. Though they had their doubters, they raised a fine, handsome



young man, and successfully struggled to overcome severe illnesses, never failing to live up to their marriage covenant. They lived a fully committed life of service and dedication to the principle of following the desire of their hearts, though others may object. To them, their life was full and complete—well beyond objections.

Maye lived almost 23 years longer, passing away February 17, 1969. She is buried along side her husband at Evergreen Cemetery. —BLS

A special thanks to B. W. Clements, Jr. for sharing most of the details and manuscript for this newsletter. He extracted much of the information from notes of his father, Burie W. Clements, Sr.