

attendance. The address was given by Rev. R. W. Gammon, and a forum on the Pilgrim Fellowship was carried through with four young people making brief addresses. The Conference proper opened with a seminar on Religious Education, conducted by Rev. Erwin L. Shaver, who stressed the great need for consecrated and better trained leadership in our church schools and suggested various methods of securing the services of trained teachers.

Taken from 1936
Alumni Catalogue

1880

*Lucas, Oramel William. A.B., D.B. '83. d. Berkeley, Calif., May 12, 1935.

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1880

Oramel William Lucas, son of David and Louise (Waters) Lucas, was born in Pittsfield, Ohio, December 22, 1849. He entered Oberlin as a student in the preparatory department in 1868, was classed as a College Freshman in 1874, and was graduated in 1880 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. He spent the next three years in enrolment in Oberlin Theological Seminary and was graduated in 1883 with the degree of Bachelor of Divinity. His pastorates were in Congregational churches in Pendleton, Ore., where he went under the auspices of the American Missionary Association to organize a church, 1883-88; Oregon City, Ore., 1888-92; San Bernardino, Calif., 1892-94; Oakland, Calif. (Fourth Congregational), 1894-97; Pacific Grove, Calif. (Mayflower Church), 1897-1905. In 1905 he removed to Berkeley, Calif., where he spent the remainder of his life, holding no regular charge but acting as pulpit supply for a number of years, until his health failed. During his residence in Pacific Grove he served as a member of the Board of Education and for six years was vice-president of the Pacific Grove Museum Association. He was married June 27, 1883, to Harriet Adella Hitchcock, a former Oberlin student, who died in 1928. His death occurred at his home in Berkeley, Calif., May 12, 1935, following a gradual decline in health, death being due to the infirmities of old age. He is survived by his daughter, Ethel Eudora. A son, Arthur Leroy, died in childhood.

Reverend Oramel William Lucas

Mr. Lucas who was one of the last surviving pioneer ministers of the Pacific slope died in Berkeley, California, May 12, 1935 in his eighty-sixth year.

Graduating in 1883 from Oberlin Theological Seminary, he deliberately chose as against an attractive opening nearer, the home mission field for his sphere of service, and with his bride at once set out for Oregon, via San Francisco. Here he surveyed the field under the direction of Dr. Atkinson and fixed upon Pendleton as the best center for Christian activity. He labored in Pendleton for five years, built a church building, symbol of the invisible building of Christian faith and character and the uplift of community life which he effected. From Pendleton he went to Oregon City, where he again built a church, together with two chapels in neighboring communities, remaining at this point until 1892, when, on account of Mrs. Lucas' health, he removed to San Bernardino, California. His next pastorate was that of the Fourth Congregational Church, Oakland, now Calvary Church, which he served until 1897, when he became pastor of the Mayflower Congregational Church of Pacific Grove, California. Here he had a happy pastorate of eight years, building a parsonage and ministering helpfully and devotedly to this seaside community.

In 1905 Mr. and Mrs. Lucas came to Berkeley to make their home. They were engaged for many years in work for the Chinese and Japanese in the Bay cities.

A quiet, and constructive ministry --but who can measure its influence in lives made truer and more Christ-like? Something finely trustworthy, kindly, lovable and pastoral marked his personality, like that also of his life companion, Mrs. Lucas. Much of the Oberlin spirit was his --open-minded toward truth, missionary, world-ministering. He was a nature lover and something of a naturalist from the time when, as a student, he discovered and exhumed in Colorado the remains of a dinosaur now in the Museum of Natural History in New York. His collection of sea mosses attested his love of the sea, and his garden in Berkeley his love of flowers and trees. Those of us who have known him in his later years have been impressed by his unfailing and active interest in all good things, his cheerfulness and his quiet humor, continuing in spite of weakness and suffering to the very last. A life well spent was his, a heart unspoiled, a faith undimmed, as of one whose delight has been in the law of the Lord, whose leaf has not withered, whose influence for good will continue long and who has proved himself worthy to enter into the joy of his Lord.

a copy of the obituary written
by Dr. John Wright Buckham and published
in The Advance of June 20, 1935.