

Minutes
— OF THE —
SIXTIETH ANNUAL SESSION
— OF THE —
Cave Spring Association
— OF —
Freewill Baptist Churches
— HELD WITH —
Mt. Zion Church
Route 1, Thayer, Missouri
AUGUST 21, 22, 23, 1947

OFFICERS

Davie N. Combs	Moderator
J. E. Rolen	Assistant Moderator
N. H. Rhoades	Clerk
Walker C. Stogsdill	Assistant Clerk
D. J. Bowers	Treasurer
Leonard Clark	Statistician

The next session will be held with the Smyrna Church, R. 3, Alton, Mo., beginning on Thursday night before the Fourth Sunday in August, 1948. Rev. Joe Sisk and Rev. C. R. Bryan will preach the Introductory sermon.

The Sixtieth Annual Session of The Cave Spring Association of Freewill Baptist churches met with The Mt. Zion Church near Thayer, Mo., on Thursday night, August 21, 1947.

The Congregation was called together by singing, "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms". Scripture lesson, 8th Chapter of Romans; Prayer by Sam Johnson.

Text Romans: 8-8.

Message by Elder J. E. Rolan in which many good Spiritual facts were brought out. One of them, "It is just as necessary for man to be born again to enter The Kingdom of God as it was for him to be born of woman to enter this Life."

Prayer by Congregation.

Benediction by N. H. Rhoades.

FRIDAY MORNING

Congregation assembled by singing "I'll be Satisfied".

Scripture reading by Association Clerk, Psalm 133.

Prayer by Walker C. Stogsdill.

Association Clerk declares that The Cave Spring Association of Freewill Baptist churches are now duly convened for the transaction of such business as may come regularly before it.

Moderator H. H. Beatty takes charge and proceeds to transact the following business.

The Moderator asked the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting be read.

The Minutes were read by Assistant Association Clerk, Davie N. Combs.

The Moderator asked that the By - Laws be read.

The By - Laws were read by the Assistant Association Clerk.

The Moderator asked that the delegates now present to turn in their credentials for examination. The following Church Letters were received and read.

Norman, Delegates present, 3; Mill Creek, Delegates present, 3.

Mill Creek requests that the next annual meeting be with them.

Shiloh, Delegates present, 3; Garfield, 3; Cotton Creek, 2; Piney, 3; Quarterly meeting, Delegates present, 5.

Moved, Seconded and sustained that the Letters be accepted and the delegates named be seated in our Council by a Fellowship handshake.

The Moderator asked if there were any Petitionary Letters and one was received from the Deal's Creek church.

This church having failed to function for some time had been dropped from membership in The Cave Spring Association.

They are now Revived, alive and actively working in "The Vineyard of the Lord", and petition The Cave Spring Association to renew their Membership in The Association and grant them a voice in the Council.

Moved, Seconded and Sustained that The Cave Spring Association grant The Dial's Creek church their request.

The Church Letter from the Dial's Creek church was then read. Delegates present, 3. Moved, seconded and sustained that their Letter be accepted and their delegates seated in our Council.

The Dial's Creek church request that we Ordain Bro. McEarhardt and Bro. Wilbur Jenkins as Deacons for their church.

Moved, Seconded and Sustained that we adjourn for the Eleven o'clock Introductory Sermon.

Adjournment prayer by I. E. Vaughn.

Congregation assembled by singing, "The Rock".

Scripture reading by E. E. Simpson. Eph. 4:1-25.

Prayer by Ernest Harding.

Message by Earnest Harding and E. E. Simpson.

Text Eph. 5-32.

A great deal of Spiritual food was broken for The Church. The Outstanding thought being, "There is Power in the Church, Jesus Christ being the Chief Cornerstone."

Benediction by L. D. Gilliam.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Congregation assembled by sinning "Bearing the Cross to Win a Crown."

Scripture lesson by the Moderator. St. John 17:1-11.

Prayer by Grover Pingleton.

The Moderator asked all delegates now present who had not been seated to bring forward their credentials for examination and Church Letters were received and read and moved, seconded and sustained that the Letters be accepted and the delegates seated in our council from the following churches.

Mt. Zion. Delegates present, 3. The Mt. Zion church request that we ordain Bro. Hubert Cantrell as a Deacon in their church.

Bethany. Delegates present, 3. Bethany church requests that we send them the next annual meeting.

Moved, Seconded and sustained that we now proceed with the Election of our Association officers.

The Moderator asked for Nominations for Association Moderator.

J. E. Rolan and Davie N. Combs were duly nominated.

Moved, seconded and sustained that nominations cease and that we proceed to Elect. The vote was:

J. E. Rolan, 13; Davie N. Combs, 26.

The Moderator then declared J. E. Rolan to be Assistant Association Moderator.

The Moderator asked for nominations for Association Clerk. N. H. Rhoades was duly nominated. Moved, seconded and sustained that nominations cease and that The Moderator cast the unanimous vote of the Association for N. H. Rhoades.

Moved, Seconded and sustained that the Association Clerk be allowed to appoint an Assistant Association Clerk.

Walker C. Stogsdill was appointed Assistant Association Clerk.

The Moderator asked for nominations for Association Treasurer.

D. J. Bowers was duly nominated. Moved, seconded and sustained that nominations cease and that the Modera-

tor cast the unanimous vote of the Association for D. J. Bowers.

The Moderator asked for Nominations for Association Statistician.

Leonard Clark was duly nominated, moved, seconded and sustained that nominations cease and that The Moderator cast the unanimous vote of the Association for Leonard Clark.

The New Officers now take charge and proceed with the following business. Moved, Seconded and sustained that the Moderator appoint the Pulpit Committee.

Hubert Cantrell, Abner S. Rhoades and Jode Crawford were appointed as a Pulpit committee.

The Moderator asked for League reports. The Moderator asked for League reports. Mill Creek, Dial's Creek and Garfield reported their Leagues as sometimes only a few in number but always strong in Spirit and zealous for the Lord.

Moved, Seconded and sustained that the Moderator appoint all Standing Committees.

Business Committee:

F. D. Johnson
E. E. Simpson
Billie Rogers
Sam D. Johnson
Elmer Hodges

Ordaining Committee:

Sam D. Johnson
E. E. Simpson
Billie Rogers

Obituary Committee:

Herman Wetzel
Mrs. E. E. Simpson
Ella Dotson

Printing Committee:

N. H. Rhoades
Walker C. Stogsdill
J. E. Rolan

Albert Holmes

Leonard Clark

Moved, seconded and sustained that the Moderator appoint all the Temporary Committees.

Denomination:

H. H. Beatty

Clifton Wright

A. L. McGhee

Religion:

Earnest Harding

Melvin Cockman

D. L. Blankenship

Literature:

Mrs. Joe Sisk

Neta Belle Wisehart

Lucille Jenkins

Finance:

Elizabeth Holmes

Leta Crass

Jetta Bowers

Temperance:

Joe Sisk

Noah Hollis

J. E. Rolan

Orville Crawford

Jesse H. Dunkin

Sabbath:

Hugh Jenkins

Flo Dunkin

Ora Wisehart

Moved, seconded and sustained that the Moderator appoint a Nominating Committee, to help secure delegates to attend State Association during the week of Sept. 15, 1947.

Committee as appointed

N. H. Rhoades

Grover Pingleton

Emory Coble

The Moderator asked all Ministers, Deacons and Church

Clerks of The Cave Spring Association present to register with the Association Clerk.

MINISTERS

J. E. Rolan
Sam D. Johnson
Jesse H. Dunkin
Earnest Harding
H. H. Beatty
Davie N. Combs
Elmer Hodges
I. E. Vaughn
C. R. Bryan

G. J. Pingleton
Ben H. Woodring
E. E. Simpson
L. D. Gilliam
Joe Sisk
Billie Rogers
F. D. Johnson
L. R. Wheeler

VISITING MINISTERS

George W. Scott, Mountain Grove, Mo.
Ambrose Harriel, Thayer, Mo.
John H. Talley, Thayer, Mo.

DEACONS

Noah Hollis
Hugh Jenkins
Clifton Wright
Emory Coble
R. J. Wisheart
D. J. Bowers
Will Combs
J. W. Jewell
L. A. Martin
Lee Clark
Hubert Cantrell
Robert Worel
Nolan Johnson

A. L. McGhee
Alfred Wilkerson
Orval Crawford
Lawrence Sifford
J. P. Wheeler
N. H. Rhoades
Dan Pitts
Ray Hollis
G. L. Harrison
R. L. Camel
Wilbur Jenkins
Elza Hollis
Fred King

CHURCH CLERKS

Jetta Bowers
Elizabeth Holmes
Abner S. Rhoades
Hallie Cline
Ora Clark
Georgia Crowder
Edna Watson

Martha Crawford
Vesta Sanders
Elsie Worel
Maurine Holman
Della Jenkins
Verbal Hollis
Izzie Pingleton

The Moderator asks the Ordaining Council to retire and proceed to examine the candidates for Deacon.

H. H. Beatty at this time explains to this Conference that he has received and accepted a call to pastor a church in The South East Missouri Association of Freewill Baptist Churches and requests this Conference to give him a letter of recommendation to the South East Missouri Association.

The request was granted by unanimous vote and the following letter given him:

Thayer, Mo.

August 23, 1947

To the Officers and Members of the South East Missouri Association of Freewill Baptist churches:

We, the Cave Spring Association of Freewill Baptist Churches, while convened with The Mt. Zion church, Thayer, Mo., August 22, 23, 1947 passed the following by unanimous vote.

We certify that Elder H. H. Beatty, is a Minister of the Gospel and a member of this body in good standing.

We recommend him to you as a Christian gentleman, Truly called by God to preach the Gospel. He is fervent, zealous, always to be found on the Firing line for The One True and Living God.

He is a Freewill Baptist, strong and True in the Faith and Doctrine of the church.

We pray you to receive him into your Association and may the Blessings of Heaven rest upon you.

Davie N. Combs, Moderator

Couch, Mo., Rt. 1.

N. H. Rhoades, Asso. Clerk

Thayer, Mo., Rt. 2.

Some time was spent discussing our Church Letter form and the State of Religion in our churches. Some valuable thoughts and helps were expressed for the benefit of our Church Officers.

The Pulpit Committee filed the following report.

Friday Night. Jesse H. Dunkin, G. J. Pingleton

Sat. 11:00 a. m., George W. Scott, L. D. Gilliam

Sat. Night, Harry H. Beatty, Davie N. Combs

Sunday, 11:00 a. m., Billie Rogers, F. D. Johnson.

The Ordaining Council report that they have examined. Wilbur Jenkins, McErhardt and Hubert Cantrell and found them worthy in every respect to become Deacons.

The Moderator ordered the Ordaining Council to proceed at once with the Ordination service.

Adjournment prayer by Jesse H. Dunkin.

FRIDAY NIGHT

Congregation assembled by singing The Promised Land Prayer by H. H. Beatty.

Scripture lesson, 1 Cor. 3:1-25. Text 1 Cor. 3-11.

Message by Jesse H. Dunkin, G. J. Pingleton.

All those present were visibly moved by the Spirit filled Message.

SATURDAY MORNING

Congregation called together by singing, I Am Thine O Lord. Scripture Lesson by the Moderator. 2 Peter 1 Chapter. Prayer by F. D. Johnson.

The Minutes of Friday Session was read and approved as read.

The By-Laws were read.

The Moderator asked all delegates present that had not as yet been seated to present their credentials and the following Letters were received.

Bailey Chapel, Delegates present, 2; Pleasant Ridge, 2; Smyrna, 3.

The Smyrna church asks for the next annual meeting.

Pleasant Hill Delegates present, 2.

Pleasant Hill's Letter was recalled for amendment.

Moved, seconded and Sustained that the Letters be received as amended and the delegates seated.

F. D. Johnson, pastor gave a verbal report on the Cave Spring church.

The Moderator called for League reports and the President of the Norman League reports that the work with them has acquired new life and is going strong for the Lord.

Moved, seconded and sustained that the verbal reports be accepted.

The Moderator called for Corresponding Messengers.

George W. Scott of Mountain Grove, Mo., reports that The Union Association is in a poor State of Religion and that much good work is to be done and cordially invites us to send Messengers to meet with them September 3, 4, and 5, 1947.

Moved, seconded and sustained that we adjourn for the Eleven O'clock preaching service.

Adjournment prayer by Bob Camel. Song, "Don't you want to be ready to go."

Scripture Lesson, 1 Kings 18:21-40. Text 1 King 18-30 Come Near and Let us Repair the Altar of the Lord.

Brothers Gilliam and Scott brought a wonderful message on this text.

Benediction by Earnest Harding.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Song, "Submit Yourself Unto the Lord". Scripture lesson, James 1.

The Moderator gave the final call for the delegates to present their credentials and the following Letters were received.

Pleasant Valley, Delegates present, 0; Walnut Grove, 3; Oak Grove, 1; Royal Oak, 3; Cane Hill, 2.

Moved, seconded and sustained that the Letters be accepted and the Delegates be seated.

The Moderator called for verbal reports of all churches not represented by Letter.

The pastor of the Liberty church reported that the Church was alive and working, 12 new Members by Baptism and two by Letter of recommendation.

Wilderness church was not represented.

The Moderator asks, Are there any churches without a pastor? Answer, No.

Have all churches observed the Communion? Answer, Liberty church has not.

Churches without Deacons were discussed at this time and some rather pertinent remarks were made.

The Moderator called for the reports of the various

Committees.

The Business Committee read the report of their special meeting April 24, 1947.

The report was discussed and approved as read.

Item One of their regular meeting on Aug. 23, 1947 was read, discussed, amended and approved as amended.

Item Two was read and approved as read.

Item Three was read, explained, amended and approved as amended.

Item Four was read and approved as read.

Item Five, was read, discussed and approved as read.

The Rev. H. H. Beatty's membership being in the Rose Hill Church which no longer functions requests this body to grant him his yearly certificate.. Request is granted.

Obituary report, read and approved.

Statistical report, read and approved.

Ministers yearly report read and approved.

The following committee reports were read and approved as read.

Evangelist

Finance

Temperance

Literature

State of Denomination

State of Religion

Observance of the Sabbath

Rev. J. E. Rolan was nominated and elected by acclamation as Associational Evangelist.

Bro. J. E. Rolan discussed the Liquar situation urging that we continue to fight for a Revision of our State Liquor laws.

The vote on the place to hold our next meeting in 1948 was as follows: Mill Creek, 10; Bethany, 10; Smyrna, 21.

The Moderator appointed Joe Sisk and C. R. Bryan to bring the Introductory Sermon.

The Moderator appointed the following as delegates to attend The State Association when convened with Macedonia church, near Purdy, Mo., Sept. 15 - 19, 1947, Neta Bell .

Wisehart, Eula Wisehart, Ora Wisehart, Elba Harbison, Francis Harbison, Ella Dotson, Finis Sorrell, Lily Sorrell, Fred King, Dovie N. Combs, Leonard Clark and N. H. Rhoades.

The following were appointed as Corresponding Messengers to attend Union Association Sept. 3, 4, 5, 1947: Grover Pingleton, Jess Rolen, Elza Simpson, Finis Johnson, Tula Johnson, Sam Johnson, Meka Crews.

Moved, seconded and sustained that we consider changing our By Laws as per the following recommendation by The Business Committee.

We recommend that The By Laws of The Cave Springs Association be changed at our next regular session — to-wit: The Clerks of the various churches that compose The Cave Spring Association at Freewill Baptist churches shall henceforth be standing delegates to The Cave Spring Association.

This recommendation made (in compliance with our By Laws) and filed with the Clerk of The Cave Spring Association while in conference at The Mt. Zion church near Thayer, Mo., on August 23, 1947.

Signed:

E. E. Simpson, F. D. Johnson,

Elmer Hodges, S. D. Johnson

Moved, seconded and sustained that The Associational Clerk be paid minimum of \$10.00.

Moved, seconded and sustained that the Associational Treasurer be paid \$5.00.

Our Thanks were extended to the Mt. Zion church and community for their hospitality during this session of our Conference.

Moved, seconded and sustained that we adjourn until the time set and the place for our next annual session in September, 1948.

Adjournment prayer, Joe Sisk.

Benediction, Abner S. Rhoades.

Signed:

Davie N. Combs, Moderator
Couch, Mo., Rt. 1

N. H. Rhoades, Clerk
Thayer, Mo., Rt. 2

The Message for the Saturday night service was brou-

ght by H. H. Beatty and Davie N. Combs. Scripture Lesson, Rev. 3:1-7. Text Rev. 3:4. Subject, "Worthy".

The Message for the Sunday 11:00 o'clock service was brought by F. D. Johnson and Billie Rogers. Subject, 1 Peter 5-7. One Soul was saved at this service.

OBITUARY COMMITTEE

We, the Obituary Committee find we have lost by death seven members:

Sister Clara Nunn Vaughn, of Smyrna church
Sister John Cartee, of Pleasant Ridge Church
Sister Viola Rebecca McDonald, of Liberty Church
Sister Lucinda Bell Wilson, of Diles Creek Church
Brother Elgin Crews, of Royal Oak Church
Brother Com Crews, of the Shiloh church
Sister Dona Combs of the Benthenny Church

Committee

Mrs. E. E. Simpson, H. W. Wetzel, Joe Sisk

EVANGELIST REPORT

I, E. E. Simpson, your Evangelist, beg to submit my Report. I held six Revivals; traveled 2378 miles; Witnessed 40 conversions; days of service, 62; Received into church, 3; Baptised, 7.

Money Received on field	\$69.87
Amount of money paid by Treasurer	147.13
Total money received	\$217.00

E. E. Simpson, Evangelist

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Norman, State \$1.00; Local, \$2.00
Piney: Local, \$2.20
Diles Creek, Local, 75c
Bethany, \$1.00 Local
Cotton Creek, \$3.00 Local
Royal Oak, \$2.00 Local; \$1.00 State
Mt. Zion, \$2.00 Local; 75c State
Shiloh, \$2.25 Local
Garfield, \$2.15 Local; \$1.00 State
Myrtle, \$1.00 State; \$5.00 Local
Smyrna, 75c State; Local \$3.00

Pleasant Ridge, \$1.78 Local
Cave Spring, \$2.50 Local; \$1.00 State
Bailey Chapel, \$2.55 Local; 75c State
Pleasant Hill, \$1.00 Local; \$1.00 State
Pleasant Valley, 65c State; \$1.75 Local
Oak Grove, 75c State; \$1.75 Local
Cane Hill' \$2.00 Local; 66c State
Walnut Grove, \$1.00 State; \$3.00 Local
\$1.25 Local, Send to H. H. Beatty

We, your Finance Committee have received \$42.93 for Local Minutes and \$11.31 for State Minutes.

Elizabeth Holmes, Jettie Bowers, Leta Crass

REPORT OF BUSINESS COMMITTEE (Special Session)

The Business committee met at Bro. Rogers on Thursday night, April 28, 1947 with four members present, for the purpose of appointing a Representative to Jefferson City to meet with Criminal Juries Prudence Committee on the Liquor question. We appointed Bro. J. E. Rolen, and also authorized the Treasurer to pay his expenses.

Members present: Bro. Billie Rogers, Bro. Sam Simpson, Bro. F. D. Johnson.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Report from August 24, 1946

Balance on hand	\$434.97
12 Checks written since last report	
Brother Rolen, for Clerk	\$10.00
Bro. Simpson, for Evangelist	\$147.13
News office for Local Minutes	27.00
State Minutes	6.00
Brother Combs for kettle	13.50
Sister Meka Crews	5.00
Marie Hyatte for Tithes	109.90
Bro. Rolen for trip to St. Louis	25.00
Total amount checked out	343.53
Leaving a Balance of	91.44
Deposits made	8.30
Balance on hand	\$99.74

GBUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT (Regular Session)

We, your Business Committee beg to submit the following report:

Item 1 We recommend that S. W. Bell's Certificate of Ordination issued to him by the Cave Spring Association of Free Will Baptist churches in August 1939, and recorded in the Recorder's office of Oregon county, Missouri in Book 134, page 618 on 10th day of Sept. A. D., 1941 at 3:00 o'clock p. m., be destroyed. .

ITEM 2. We recommend that Fred Dodson be dropped from membership in this body.

ITEM 3. We recommend that Dale Williams Ordination Certificate as a Minister in the Cave Spring Association of Free Will Baptist Churches, be annulled because he has divorced his wife and married another, thereby committing adultery.

ITEM 4. The three Churches left on the hands of this committee, Namely, Rose Hill, Liberty and Wilderness. Liberty and Wilderness have reinstated. Since Rose Hill has not we recommend that the Rose Hill church be dropped from our Association.

ITEM 5. We recommend as an Association that we advise our churches to not use a Back list in Church Discipline but to proceed with church discipline as outlined in Section Six of our Treatise and recorded in Matt. 18:15-17.

Signed:

F. D. Johnson, S. D. Johnson,
E. E. Simpson, Billie Rogers

COMMITTEE TEMPERANCE REPORT

We, your Temperance Committee beg to submit the following report. First, we refer you to God's word to be temperate in all things. As to intoxicating beverages, we have a do not written in God's word against wine and strong drink. Therefore we should be total abstainers as Gods people and to the Glory of God and the good of all mankind. We should do all we can within our power against the evils of strong drink, and teach men so, also our children that they may not be deceived thereby. We also have the question to our responsibility already in hand to make the fight for a local option bill to give us a right to prohibit the sale

and serving the evil stuff in our Towns, Communities, County and State, and we believe that by the help of God and our Cooperation with the Federation of Churches, other Temperance bodies and the people as a whole we shall win the victory.

Signed, your Committee

J. E. Rolen, Joe Sisk,

Jesse H. Duncan, Orval Crawford, Noah Hollis

LITERATURE REPORT

We, the Committee on Literature beg to submit the following report. We believe we should keep and encourage the reading of good clean literature in our homes that the present and rising generation might read and learn more of God's word and gain wisdom and faith that our homes might be cleaned up of the trashy literature such as love and western stories, and the vacancy filled with the Bible and the Free Will Baptist Gen, and other religious literature.

Mrs. Joe Sisk,

Mrs. Wilbur Jenkins, Mrs. Fred Wisehart

STATE OF DENOMINATION

We, the Committee on State of Denomination submit the following report. Judging from Observation and Statistics we are moving forward, growing in strength and progressing good in the Lord. We urge each church and member to stand by the Church Covenant.

Committee

A. L. McGee, Clifton Wright,

Harry H. Beatty

STATE OF RELIGION

We, your committee of State of Religion beg to submit the following report. A number of our churches are going on half time work, the State of Religion in general over the Association is better. We heartily recommend this forward movement.

Committee,

D. L. Blankenship, Ernest Harding,

M. W. Cockman.

OBSERVANCE OF THE SABBATH

We, the Committee on Observance of the Sabbath beg to submit the following report.

We believe and would say upon the authority of the

teaching of the Bible that it is the indispensable duty of every Christian as the Bible puts it to remember the Sabbath day to keep it Holy.

To not only rest from our labor on the Sabbath day, but to worship our Saviour and God who created the earth and the fullness thereof in six days and the seventh day he resetd from all his labors.

We should reverence our Saviour and Lord and be very much in prayer on the Sabbath that the world can see Christ living in us in such a way that they will want to know and serve the Christ that we serve.

Committee:

Flo Dunkin,

Ora Wisehart, Hugh Jenkins.

Obituary

Lucinda Bell Wilson was born October 7, 1874, and departed this life July 5, 1947. She was married to Dan Bell and to this union twelve children were born, five of whom preceeded her in death, 3 infants, one son Gussie, at the age of 21; Lora Case, 23, her husband also preceeded her in death. In later years she married to Tony Wilson, by whom she is survived. She is survived by her husband, Tony Wilson, 6 daughters, Flora James, Nora Tyree, Dora Ehrhardt, Cora James, Ora Boyd, Lola Cantrell, one son, Edd Bell, all of whom were at her bedside in the last hours.

She made peace with her Saviour at an early age and united with the Diles Creek church. The last consoling thought, our loss is Heaven's gain.

Funeral services were conducted July 6th at Myrtle with Rev. H. H. Beatty officiating. Burial at Myrtle, under direction of Carter Funeral home.

Obituary

Dona Combs departed this life Sunday, July 22, 1934 at the age of 63 years, 9 months and 7 days. She was converted at the age of 16 and joined the Freewill Baptist church. She lived a faithful life until the end. She was always willing and ready to help anyone in need. She will not only be missed by her family and relatives, but by all who knew her.

She leaves to mourn her death a husband, J. C. Combs, six children, Lucy Wetzel, Altie Crase, Wellie Combs, Gordon Combs, John Combs, all of Couch, Mo., and Oba Combs of Myrtle, Mo.

Four children preceeded her in death; 13 grand children three sisters and one brother.

Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Billie Rogers July 23 with a large crowd present. The remains were laid to rest in the Cotton Creek cemetery.

Mother dear has gone and left us from this earth to Heaven above; But some day we'll go and join her where all is peace and love.

Obituary

Clara Nunn Vaughn was born in Connecticut July 20, 1884 and departed this life January 29, 1947 at the age of 62 years, 6 months and 9 days. She was united in marriage to Rev. Eddie Vaughn April 28, 1945. She was converted to the faith of our Lord in early life and united with the Free Will Baptist church at Waco, Texas where she remained a faithful member until she came to Missouri after which she moved her membership to the Smyrna church where she remained a faithful member until death. She leaves to mourn her departure her husband, Rev. Eddie Vaughn and three step daughters, Rissie George, Alma Phillips and Dorothy Rancher, all of Texas. Sister Vaughn was a good Christian woman and will be sadly missed by all who knew her. Being a good Christain woman she was a good companion. Funeral services were conducted at the Smyrna church Thursday afternoon by Rev. Elza Simpson with burial in the Smyrna cemetery under direction of the Carter Funeral home.

Whereas, Our Heavenly Father has called from our midst another of our dear loved ones. Sister Clara Vaughn. Although we had known Sister Vaughn but a short time we had learned to love her very dearly. We, the Smyrna church feel we have lost a very worthy member, but we know our Lord always knows best, and we the Smyrna

church wish to extend to Bro. Vaughn our sympathy.

Smyrna Church Obituary Committee

Edna Watson, Barbara James

Obituary

Viola Rebecca McDonald, was born in Oregon county, Mo., November 23, 1875 and departed this life July 1, 1947 at the age of 71 years, 7 months and 8 days.

She was married to Thomas Lee McDonald June 11, 1893, who passed away three years ago last April. To this union ten children were born, four boys and six girls: Delphia Fernimen of West Plains, Mo.; Alpha Patterson, of Gatewood, Mo.; Alma Patterson, of Gatewood; Dorris McDonald of Gatewood; Vida Miller, Gatewood; Violet Miller of Doniphan, Mo.; Euel McDonald of Winona; Maxine Brewer of St. Louis; Dolan McDonald and an infant son preceeded her in death. She also leaves two sisters and two brothers, Mrs. Zue Walker of Jonesboro, Ark.; Mrs. Bellé Adair of Jonesboro; Manuel Hackworth of Hoxie, Ark.; Henry Hackworth, of Pocahontas, Ark.; 23 grand children and 1 great grand child, a host of other relatives and friends.

She was converted at an early age and joined the Free-will Baptist church and lived a devoted christian life. As a last consoling thought, remember, our loss is Heaven's gain.

Funeral services were conducted July 3 at Liberty with Rev. Harry Beatty officiating. Burial there under direction of Black - Edwards Funeral home of Doniphan.

Obituary

Emma Florence Halstin, was born in Sullivan county, Indiana November 1, 1870 and departed this life November 16, 1946 at the Williams Hospital in Doniphan at the age of 76 years, and 15 days.

She was married to John Cartee in July, 1895. She leaves to mourn her passing, her husband and one brother, Jim Halstin, and a host of other relatives and friends.

She professed a hope in Christ at an early age and lived a Christian life to the end. She united with the Freewill

Baptist church at Lula Sept. 10, 1941. She was a loving companion, a kind neighbor and a good friend. Her friends are numbered by those who knew her.

Funeral services were conducted at the home Monday afternoon by Rev. F. D. Johnson and burial was in the Smith cemetery in Alton under the direction of the Carter Funeral home. Pall bearers were Herbert Wiser, Cleo Barton, Clarence Martin, James Pingleton, Elmer Blankenship and Noel Johnson.

Obituary

William Elvin Crews, son of Benjamin and Eliza Crews was born September 22, 1893 near Shiloh in Oregon county, Mo., and passed away August 24, 1946, at the age of 52 years, 11 months.

He was united in marriage to Mary Ferrell in 1921, to them three sons were born, Sherman A., Grover Dale, and Paul. His wife and two sons preceeded him in death, Paul having died in infancy; his wife passed away in 1926; Grover Dale gave his life in the service of his country in Belgium on Jan. 11, 1945; Sherman A., of the home survives.

He was united in marriage to Leona Barton March 16, 1927, to this union two sons were born, Barton Crews, age 12 and Leroy Crews, age 9, all of whom survive.

Also surviving are four brothers and three sisters, John of Alton; Frank of Kansas City; Sam of Kansas City; Glen of Big Sandy, Mont.; Lois Peace, of Alton; Edna Fuller and Bernice Hall of Kansas City, and a host of relatives and friends.

At the time of the death of W. E. Crews, he was survived by a brother, Com Crews, who passed away in a Springfield hospital last Sunday.

He was converted and joined the Free Will Baptist church of Royal Oak in October, 1930. He has remained a true and faithful member to the end, having served as a Deacon for many years. He was a member of the Alton Masonic lodge, No. 255.

He was a veteran of World War 1, having served 22 months in service, most of which was overseas. He was

wounded while in service in France.

Mr. Crews friends were numbered by his acquaintances, he was always ready and willing to lend his support to any betterment or advancement to his community, being active in church and community work.

Funeral services were conducted at Shiloh church west of Alton on Tuesday afternoon of last week by Rev. Harry Beatty and Rev. Davie Combs. Interment was in Shiloh cemetery with Masonic rites.

Obituary

Commodore Houston Crews, son of Benjamin and Eliza Crews was born April 3, 1896 near Alton, in Oregon county, Mo., and departed this life at Baptist hospital in Springfield, Mo., on Sept. 1, at the age of 50 years, 4 months, 28 days.

He was united in marriage to Ursula Childers on Dec. 25, 1923; to them three sons were born, Donald Ray, Ernest Noble and Commodore Max. His wife and two infant sons Donald and Ernest preceeded him in death.

He was united in marriage to Meka Johnson, on July 27, 1940. To this union two daughters were born, Wanda Sue, age 5 and Rose Mary, age 3. His wife, two daughters and son Max, age 11 survive.

He is also survived by four brothers and three sisters as follows: John, of Alton; Frank and Sam of Kansas City and Glen of Fort Benton, Mont.; Lois Peace of Alton; Enda Fuller and Bernice Hall of Kansas City. One brother, Elvin, preceeded him in death two weeks ago. He also leaves many close friends and relatives. .

Everyone who knew Com Crews considered him their friend; he was highly respected and loved by all who knew him.

Mr. Crews was converted and joined the Free Will Baptist church in October 1930. He has remained a true and faithful member, serving as a deacon at the time of his death.

He was a member of Clifton Lodge No. 463; Abou Ben Adhem, of Springfield, Mo., and Knights Templar of West

Plains.

He was a veteran of World War 1, having spent several months in active service overseas.

Funeral services were conducted at Shiloh Sept. 3, by Rev. Harry Beatty and Bro. Geo. Scott, Masonic rites by Clifton Lodge, under direction of Carter Funeral service of Thayer.

IN MEMORY

Of the Ministers of the Cave Spring Association of Free Will Baptist, who have given their lives for His cause, and gone on to receive their reward.

Rev. J. A. Jones
Rev. A. H. Peace
Rev. E. R. Whitman
Rev. C. E. Whitman
Rev. W. W. Pierce
Rev. Thomas Bennett
Rev. Daniel R. Johnson
Rev. G. W. Putman
Rev. S. O. Buckley
Rev. David Johnson
Rev. W. C. Norman
Rev. John Combs
Rev. Milo Stanley
Rev. W. M. Johnson
Rev. J. E. Pentecost
Rev. J. R. W. Harbison
Rev. T. J. Dunkin
Rev. W. P. Stogsdill
Rev. Nathan Combs

SHILOH CHURCH

Organized October 19, 1930, by Rev. W. P. Stogsdill and Rev. Billy Rogers. It was organized with 14 members. C. H. Crews and Lee Clark as deacons. Elizabeth Holmes church clerk.

UNION HILL (Cane Hill)

Organized November 23, 1930, by Rev. N. Combs, Elbie Simpson and Rev. Jesse Rolan, with 23 members.

PINEY CHURCH

Organized in 1885, by Rev. J. A. Jones, members unknown.

LIBERTY CHURCH

Organized September 25, 1921, with 9 members, by Rev. J. R. W. Harbison, Rev. John Combs, Rev. James McCeehe and Rev. G. H. Miller.

BETHANY CHURCH

Organized January 20, 1902, by Rev. H. C. Crase, Rev. T. J. Dunkin and Rev. N. Combs. Organized with 7 members; T. U. Cockman and Will Williams as deacons.

WALNUT GROVE CHURCH

Organized in 1889 by Rev. H. C. Crase and Rev. E. R. Evans, with 7 members.

COTTON CREEK CHURCH

Organized August 6, 1893, by Rev. J. H. Herlson and Rev. N. Combs, with 13 members. T. J. Dunkin and G. W. Robertson were elected as deacons.

ROYAL OAK CHURCH

Organized on the first Sunday in October, 1930, by Rev. H. C. Crase and Elmer Hodges, assisted by Deacon J. P. McCullough, with 23 members.

NORMAN CHURCH

Organized October 3, 1914 by Rev. W. P. Stogsdill and supposedly Rev. W. C. Norman, with 18 members; D. M. Crews and G. W. Moore as deacons.

PLEASANT HILL CHURCH

Organized October 6, 1918, by Rev. E. J. Vaughn and Rev. H. C. Crase, with 17 members.

ROSE HILL CHURCH

Organized July 16, 1916, by Rev. Milo Stanley and Rev. W. C. Norman, with 7 members; H. F. Young and G. W. Denton as deacons, and R. G. Beaatty, church clerk.

PLEASANT RIDGE CHURCH

Organized May 28, 1933, with 13 members.

CAVE SPRING CHURCH

Organized July 12, 1879, with 24 members, by Rev. David Johnson, Rev. J. A. Jones and Rev. S. J. Thornberg.

SMYRNA CHURCH

Organized in November, 1882, by Rev. David Johnson and Rev. J. A. Jones, with 13 members.

OAK GROVE CHURCH

No information available.

MILL CREEK CHURCH

Organized in October, 1903; Levi Taylor and Henry Wisheart were elected deacons.

BAILEY CHAPEL CHURCH

Organized August 28, 1938, by Rev. E. E. Simpson, Rev. C. A. Dodson and Rev. Elmer Hodges, with 55 members and John Nicholas, W. M. Huddleston and Elgin Williams as deacons.

MT. ZION CHURCH

Organized July 30, 1939, by Rev. J. E. Rolen, B. H. Woodring and Rev. J. E. S. Pentecost. Organized with 14 members; Dave Bowers and A. C. Harrison as deacons.

PLEASANT VALLEY CHURCH

Organized in June, 1940, by Rev. B. H. Woodring. Organized with 8 members and Robert Worel and Walter Barnett as deacons.

WILDERNESS CHURCH

Organized August 2, 1940, by Rev. Clarence Dodson, S. W. Bell and Deacon Elgin Williams; organized with 22 members and Mack Simpson, Hosea Simpson and Other Neal as deacons.

GARFIELD CHURCH

Organized August 17, 1942 by Rev. Harry H. Beatty, Billy Rogers and Fred Dodson; organized with 22 members and Edd Rogers and Noah Hollis as deacons.

PETITIONARY LETTER FORM

We, the council of Ordained Ministers,
..... organized church, county
of, State of;
number of members,; by choice of the body

..... were selected as
deacons; church clerk; on the
..... day of 19.....

We therefore petition the Conference to accept our
church into your body as a member of
..... Conference or Association.
Council

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Opening of conference by clerk, scripture reading, singing and prayer.
2. Moderator takes charge of the business; appointment of committee on Divine Service.
3. Reading of constitution and by-laws and minutes of previous meetings.
4. Letters from various churches called for, read and received; verbal reports of pastors of churches.
5. League reports.
6. Home Mission reports.
7. Petitionary letters called for, read and received.
8. Visiting Brethern and Sisters invited to seats as advisory members.
9. Corresponding messengers called to seats as advisory members.
10. Eleven o'clock devotional service.
11. Appointment of all committees.
12. Election of officers.
13. Moderator inquiries: Are all churches represented?
14. General and new business.
15. Enrollment of deacons and ministers present.
16. Are there any churches without a pastor, and can they be supplied?
17. Have all churches observed the Communion?
18. Business suggested by letters or delegates.
19. Reports of committees.
20. Reports of ministers.
21. Setting of place for next conference.
22. Ordaining council proceedings with work.

BY - LAWS

ARTICLE 1—Each session of this conference shall be called to order by the standing clerk when present, and in his absence by the member having seniority in years.

ARTICLE 2—Each session and adjourned session of the conference shall be opened and closed with prayer.

ARTICLE 3—Ten members shall be required to constitute a quorum to transact any business of this conference. But any less number may adjourn from time to time.

ARTICLE 4—After the opening of each session of this conference a chairman shall be appointed and a committee of not less than three persons shall be chosen to examine credentials for membership in this conference. After the report of this committee and enrollment of a moderator and to the transaction of other business.

ARTICLE 5—At each session of this conference standing committees shall be appointed on each subject as the following: "Printing Establishments," "Ministry," "Slavery," "Missions," "Moral Reform," "Popey," "Peace," "Church-Polity," "Petitions and requests," "State of Religion," "Observance of the Sabbath," "Doctrine," and "State of Denomination". All petitions and committees on particular subjects shall be referred to appropriate committees. Special committees may be appointed at the pleasure of the conference.

ARTICLE 6—This conference may hold correspondence by message or otherwise with religious bodies as it may deem advisable.

ARTICLE 7—This conference may sit with open doors except when it may go into committee of the whole.

ARTICLE 8—Any person not a member of this conference may be allowed to take part in its discussions by obtaining permission of the conference.

ARTICLE 9—It shall be the duty of the standing clerk to furnish each session of the conference with a book or records containing the doings of the previous session.

ARTICLE 10—The conference may determine the time when its daily sessions shall commence and close.

ARTICLE 11—It shall be the duty of the members of this conference to be present at the time appointed for each daily session and anyone wishing to retire shall first obtain leave of the moderator.

ARTICLE 12—No member shall absent himself from conference during the sessions without first obtaining permission from the conference.

ARTICLE 13—Every member wishing to speak in conference shall first address the moderator.

ARTICLE 14—No person shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes at any one time nor more than twice on any subject without leave of the conference.

ARTICLE 15—No debates shall be allowed on any motion except the same be submitted in writing and seconded by a member of the conference.

ARTICLE 16—No whispering shall be allowed during conference without leave of the moderator, but all members shall pay strict attention to the business of the conference.

ARTICLE 17—No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of any committee provided the brother nominated be elected.

ARTICLE 18—The yeas and nays may be taken on any question before the conference by request of one-fifth of the members present.

ARTICLE 19—The constitution and by-laws of this conference shall be read at each session near its commencement.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

THE BIBLE—The Scripture of the Old and New Testament were given by the inspiration of God and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

GOD — There is one living and true God revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver and Righteous Governor of the Universe and in Scripture as Father, Son and Holy Ghost, as one God infinitely wise and good whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore, and obey.

CHRIST — Christ is God manifest in the flesh, in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man.

The mediator between God and man, once crucified He is now risen and glorified and is ever present Savior and Lord.

THE HOLY SCRIPTURES—The Scriptures assign the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God. He is the Reprover, Comforter, Guide, and Sanctifier of men.

THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD—God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things also performs special acts of grace, not otherwise provided by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He for, as the highest welfare of man requires.

THE SINFULNESS OF MAN—Man was created innocent but by disobedience, fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherited a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability of sin, and become guilty before God.

THE WORK OF CHRIST—The Son of God, by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection effected for a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.

THE TERMS OF SALVATION—The conditions of salvation are: 1 Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and the hearty renunciation of it. Faith, or the unreserved committal to one's self to Christ as Savior and Lord, with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

ELECTION — God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.

FREEDOM OF WILL — The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit and live, or to resist them and perish.

SALVATION FREE — God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of Life freely.

PERSERVANCE — All believers in Christ, who through grave persevere in holiness to the end of life, have the promise of eternal salvation.

GOSPEL ORDINANCES

BAPTISM, or the immersion of believers in water, and the **LORD'S SUPPER**, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel; **FEET WASHING**, an ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.

THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH—The divine law requires that one day in seven be set aside from secular employments and amusements, for rest worship, holy works, and activities, and for personal communion with God.

WAR—War destroys the lives of the innocent, and is contrary to the New Testament, therefore, we are opposed to war.

RESURRECTION, JUDGMENT, and FINAL RETRIBUTION—The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked shall “go away into eternal punishment, but righteous eternal life.”

FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant. We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things to avoid the appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world; from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to “provide things honest in the sight of all men.”

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love endeavoring to “keep the unity of the Spirit,” in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, as far as we are able, promote the success of the Church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society; constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith, and good words endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observances of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday Schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of souls, and the conversion of the world. And may the God of Peace sanctify us wholly and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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Ministers' Yearly Report

	No. of churches pastored	Sermons at other places	Miles traveled	Received into church	Number baptized	Conversions witnessed	Churches visited	Appointments filled	Marriages Solemnized	Funerals preached	Received for my services
J. H. Dunkin		14	200			15	4	8		1	\$8.00
L. R. Wheeler		31	300			1	2				29.69
Billie Rogers	4	7	3266	20	13	8	3	49	1	5	836.50
J. E. Rolen		50	1061			7	5	50		1	72.27
Joe Sisk	1	26	800	14	2						210.00
G. J. Pingleton		35	418		1	12	14	30			125.55
I. E. Vaughn		75	2500	3		50	11				118.64
J. M. McGhee										1	
Davie N. Combs	3		6000	34	60	98		45	4	4	752.68
Elmer Hodges		25	200			7	5	5		1	25.00
B. H. Woodring		13									2.50
L. D. Gilliam		68	1322			9	6				156.07
E. E. Simpson	1	47	2378	3	7	40	6		2	3	518.98
F. D. Johnson	4	25	2361	23	15	38	5	97		3	478.19
Earnest Harding	2	8	1972	3		2	5				158.18
Harry H. Beatty	3	75	6500	53	50	90	10		4	12	1572.76
C. A. Dodson	3		1000	1			1		2	4	250.60

Statistical Table of Cave Spring Association of Freewill Baptist Churches

CHURCHES	Pastors and Address 1946-47	Pastors and Address 1947-48	Clerks and Address 1947-48	SABBATH OF MEETING									
				TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	DIED	EXCLUDED	DISMISSED BY LETTER	RECEIVED BY LETTER	RECEIVED BY EXPERIENCE	NON-RESIDENT MEMBERS	RESIDENT MEMBERS		
BETHANY	Davie N. Combs, Couch, Mo.	L. D. Gilliam, Warm Spr. Ark.	Martha Crawford, Myrtle, Mo.	30	2	1	1	1	1	30	3		
GARFIELD	Davie N. Combs, Couch, Mo.	Davie N. Combs, Couch, Mo.	Vesta Sanders, Couch, Mo.	52	9	1	1	1	1	59	1	3	
DIALS CREEK	None	L. D. Gilliam, Warm Spr. Ark.	Ina Campbell, Myrtle, Mo.	27	13	6	1	1	1	27			
COTTON CREEK	Billie Rogers, Myrtle, Mo.	Billie Rogers, Myrtle, Mo.	Della Jenkins, Myrtle, Mo.	79	18	17	3	1	1	79			
PINEY	F. D. Johnson, Alton, Mo.	Earnest Harding, Alton, Mo.	Georgia Crowder, Couch, Mo.	40	16	3	1	5	2	56	2		
NORMAN	H. H. Beatty, Thayer, Mo.	Billie Rogers, Myrtle, Mo.	Maurine Holman, Thayer, Mo.	90	26	1	1	1	1	116	1	3	
MILL CREEK	H. H. Beatty, Thayer, Mo.	Mark Lewis, Myrtle, Mo.	Ora Clark, Myrtle, Mo.	108	41	9	1	5	1	149	Full		
PLEASANT RIDGE	Earnest Harding, Alton, Mo.	Earnest Harding, Alton, Mo.	Verble Hollis, Alton, Mo.	61	35	1	4	1	1	196	3		
ROYAL OAK	Davie N. Combs, Couch, Mo.	F. D. Johnson, Alton, Mo.	Pearl Dotson, Alton, Mo.	39	30	1	1	1	1	69	2	4	
MT. ZION	E. E. Simpson, Alton, Mo.	E. E. Simpson, Alton, Mo.	Jettie Bowers, Thayer, Mo.	47	2	1	2	1	1	49	2	4	
OAK GROVE	C. A. Dodson, Alton, Mo.	C. A. Dodson, Alton, Mo.	Abner S. Rhoades, Thayer, Mo.	24	2	1	1	1	1	26	4		
CANE HILL	F. D. Johnson, Alton, Mo.	Joe Sisk, Myrtle, Mo.	Issie Pingleton, Thayer, Mo.	18	17	1	1	1	1	134	3		
WALNUT GROVE	F. D. Johnson, Alton, Mo.	Davie N. Combs, Couch, Mo.	I. A. Hall, Myrtle, Mo.	55	17	9	1	1	1	280	2	4	
SHILOH	F. D. Johnson, Alton, Mo.	F. D. Johnson, Alton, Mo.	Elizabeth Holmes, Alton, Mo.	37	7	6	5	1	1	144	1	3	
BAILEY CHAPEL	C. A. Dodson, Alton, Mo.	C. A. Dodson, Alton, Mo.	Hallie Cline, Alton, Mo.	64	33	1	1	4	1	97	3		
SMYRNA	Billie Rogers, Myrtle, Mo.	C. A. Dodson, Alton, Mo.	Edna Watson, Alton, Mo.	88	18	1	1	1	1	106	1		
PLEASANT VALLEY	Earnest Harding, Alton, Mo.	Earnest Harding, Alton, Mo.	Elsie Worel, Mam. Spg. Ark.	22	8	1	1	1	1	30	1		
PLEASANT HILL	Billie Rogers, Myrtle, Mo.	G. J. Pingleton, Thayer, Mo.	Arlie Hays, Thayer, Mo.	40	2	1	1	1	1	42	4		