

Lucille Maberry Pt 2

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

ORGAN OF THE MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST
FOR FREE WILL BAPTIST EVERYWHERE

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Monett, Missouri, Sept., 1940

50 cents per year.



Niangua Free Will Baptist Church

This is the picture of the small town church in Niangua, Missouri. The Niangua church is entertaining the Missouri State Association during the week of September 23-27.(See page 4).

Bro. Henry P. Long has been the pastor of this church for the past three years. During that time, there has been 73 conversions and more than 30 united with the church. God does not honor massive structures of brick, stone, and mortar, unless He can save souls in that place.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Organ of

The Free Will Baptist Church

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John B. Rollins Editor
Herbert Henderson .. Associate Editor

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We are always glad to receive arti-
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readers for publication in the Gem,
along any line that will help the
Cause.

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Deacon Jones, of our church in Monett, was in Jefferson
City, Missouri (our state capitol); he was in the penitentiary,
and while he was there he received the following data:

How the United States spends her dollar:

24c	Cost of Living
21c	Luxuries
12c	Waste
11c	Miscellaneous
10c	Investments
10c	Governments
9c	Crime
2c	Education
1c	Church

Liquor alone costs us annually \$ 2,660,955,184.20
Gambling alone costs us annually 10,000,000,000.00
Crime alone costs us annually 15,000,000,000.00

For every DIME spent in Church Work —

The United States spends:

\$.90 for Recreation
.50 for Liquor
1.80 for Gambling
2.70 for Crime



Editorial Browsing

FRONT PAGE PICTURES

When we were at the National Association, we learned of many beautiful things belonging to the Free Will Baptist denomination. We could have a Front Page display every month in the year.

For the month of October, we already have a full-page picture of the Highland Park Free Will Baptist Church in Detroit, Michigan, with all the people standing on the front steps. We shall secure the best in engraving skill in order that you may see and recognize their faces.

Our church at Bristow, Oklahoma has promised us a front-page display. We received several promises from churches in Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Illinois, etc. We urge that these promises materialize, and we shall have a display of interest on every *Gem* in the year. We have deeply appreciated having a picture for every month since last fall, and we want to continue in a greater way.

We secure two grades of engravings. We could secure very expensive ones, engraved in copper, so fine that the scene would be invisible. Our better grade of zinc half-tones (85 to 100 screen) cost about \$3.50 each. We can secure zinc half-tones (75 screen) for as low as \$1.50 for front-page sizes.

We will have to ask our patrons to pay this cost. That, after all, will be inexpensive advertising and it will do us all good. With each picture, we would like to have a brief history and words concerning the present standing merits.

NO TREATISE YET!

The Editorial Committee of the National Association have not released the manuscript of the Treatise for publication, so we will have to wait.



A NEW BOOK

The Gem Office has just published a new book "The Manual of Women's Auxiliary Methods" by Agnes Brinkley Frazier, of Nashville, Tennessee.

This book contains 72 pages, is 6¼ by 4¼ inches, well printed, beautiful embossed leather finished covers. The price is only 15c — do not send stamps.

The Free Will Baptist Press, of Ayden, North Carolina, printed a companion book, "The Year Book of Programs for Women's Auxiliaries. See the adds on page 24.

Sister Frazier was really inspired! It will do you good to read "The Manual." We received such joy in printing it, that I told Sister Frazier it almost made me wish I were a Auxiliary organized in every church. woman. I would like to see a Women's

ON THE WESTERN FRONT

In the letters of interest, in this *Gem*, read how the people of California are going forward in organizing Free Will Baptist churches. They are getting the right start too, believe me, they are all subscribing to the *Gem*.

We take great pleasure in extending our fellowship to these our newest brethren. May God richly bless them.

POSTAGE STAMPS AGAIN

Our patrons have taken the easy way, and have innocently worked a hardship upon us by sending postage stamps for payment on orders. We sincerely appreciate and enjoy a good co-operative business, but we are literally flooded with postage stamps.

Because we have too much money invested in postage stamps, and because it is against the laws of Uncle Sam to cash them in at the post office, we advise of necessity, that postage stamps WILL NOT be accepted by us as legal tender for payment on orders and subscriptions.

IN THE GEM OFFICE

The Gem Office is really doing business! There is a continual hum. Our heavy winter's business is upon us — that is just what we like. We already have three minute jobs, and our policy will be to print all minute work in the order of its coming to us.

We have enlarged our staff in order to give quicker, more efficient service. So we solicit the Associations to send in their work — we can take care of it.

We have definite plans for improvements in and around the office. We can only make these needed improvements like we do. If our people will support us in co-operative business, we can make these improvements that will enable us to serve our people better.

We do wish the subscription list could be increased at least 500, then we could afford to give you a better *Gem*.

The Missouri State Association and the Gem Readers may prepare to receive some recommendations from the Editor in a short time. I believe we can go over the top to success.

The Missouri State Association

The Twenty-seventh annual session of the Missouri State Association will convene with the Niangua Free Will Baptist church, Niangua, Missouri, September 23 to 27, 1940.

The Missouri State Association is known for the peace and harmony which predominates every session. This is one gathering which causes the people to actually realize "how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together." Because of such prevailing peace, the cause of God is advanced in the transaction of business which is carried out in a remarkable way.

Some of the major enterprises to be considered this year are:

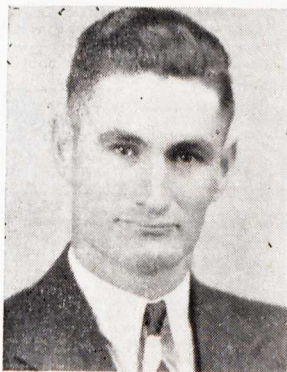
Missouri Church Extension, or Home Mission Work. This movement was started last year, and 16 persons pledged \$1.00 per month for the support of a home missionary. It is hoped that definite action can be taken toward the accomplishment of this needed work.

Foreign Missions is one of our main enterprises. Missouri led every state in the Union last year in Foreign Mission contributions. Bro. Willey will not be with us this year, but if Miss Barnard, our missionary to India, secures her furlough in time, we invite (yes, we urge) her to come to Missouri on a "get acquainted" visit.

Our National Secretary is also invited.

Missouri is among the "top-notches" on Christian Education. We invite the National Board of Education to be present. Missouri will do her part in contributing the \$15,000.00 asked for by the Board of Education.

The Missouri Sunday School Convention is anticipated to be organized. Bro. Bill Reeves, our State Supervisor, has just returned from the organization of the National Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention, and he will have important items of Sunday School work for our consideration. The president of the National Convention would be a blessing to us if it were possible for him to accept our invitation to "come over to Missouri and help us."



Henry P. Long, Pastor



James F. Miller, Moderator



John B. Rollins, Editor



Winford Davis, Sec.-Treas.

Items of business concerning Publication (the *Gem* belongs to the Missouri State Association), Evangelism, League Work, General Organization, etc., will hold important consideration.

The Home Mission sermon will be preached on Monday night by John B. Rollins of Monett, Missouri.

The League sermon will be preached Tuesday at 11:00 a. m. by Damon C. Dodd of Desloge, Missouri.

The Introductory sermon will be preached Tuesday night by O. T. Allred of Monett, Missouri.

The preachers will be selected to have charge of the preaching services at 11:00 a. m. and at 7:30 p. m. each day while the Association is in session.

We always have good preaching too, and good singing, real enjoyment, with deep gratitude and praise.

Everybody is welcome to all services and sessions, and when the large tabernacle cannot accommodate the crowds, we still welcome people to whatever standing room they may be able to find.

L. M. Davis, of Monett, is the Chief Cook again, and he feeds everybody three squares a day right there on the premises. Say, the grub he can cook will make any man love his mother-in-law.

Bro. Henry P. Long, of Phillipsburg, Missouri, is the entertaining pastor, and he will be plenty busy. You have heard that there was no rest for the wicked. Bro. Henry will not get any rest, day nor night, until the Association is over.

Here are some simple directions to lead you to Niangua, Missouri:

Those coming by way of Springfield, Mo., travel U. S. Highway 66 east about 30 miles to Niangua junction, then turn right (east) one mile.

Those coming by way of Lebanon, Mo., travel U. S. Highway 66 west about 25 miles to Niangua junction, then turn left (east) one mile.

All roads lead to Niangua for the week of September 23-27.

Gospel Sermon Section

Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord

Rev. C. E. Mann, Queen City, Mo.

A number of articles have been published in the *Gem* the past year concerning our building and maintaining a college sufficient to arouse the interest of all and to open eyes to the great truth confronting us. Yet how slow we are to act.

Notwithstanding all doubts and criticisms, there are those who have believed, and who with faith press forward.

The Lord, by Isaiah, intrusted the people to "Prepare ye the way of the Lord." The Lord calls to action. It is our privilege to labor, then leave the results with the Lord.

Stress has been made regarding finance—Sure, we can't go far without it, but it's only a part in "preparing the way"; a part in which the aged and young alike can engage in. There is one part that falls wholly unto the young men and women, and that is caring for *THE WAY* after preparations have been made and the college established.

It is indeed a pleasure to note the number of young people understanding this need, who are putting forth an effort to meet it when the time comes. In building a college of recognition, it is necessary to have a degreed faculty, those who are able

to carry the courses on unto a finished work.

Already our boys and girls are attending various colleges in order to be ready when the call goes forth. Some have already finished, and others are nearly through. The question is—Are we going to be ready to offer them a position? Or are we going to let our finished product drift to someone else?

In establishing the college at Tecumseh, Oklahoma, a few years ago, our great problem was, "Where will we secure a leader?" The Lord proved Himself to be "a present help in time of need" and gave unto us Dr. John H. Wolfe and wife, who obeyed the call and gave up home in order to help in the *great need* of carrying on for the Lord. No one will ever know the good accomplished through their labors or the sacrifice they made.

All over the field there are those from our own associations who are preparing for the larger work, and when the glad news goes forth announcing the erection of a college, there will return unto those who have labored so earnestly, encouragement from our young men and women who have seen the need and prepared to meet it who will say, "We are standing in line and ready to move forward."

out of his calculations the most important thing of all. How many of us are wiser than this prosperous farmer? How many of us, either in prosperity or adversity, are putting first the things that endure?

Jesus bade a rich young man, who came to Him seeking eternal life, to sell all that he had and give to the poor, offering him exchange, treasure in heaven. We may not be called upon to make such a sacrifice, but our lives are not worth much until the treasure of heaven is weighed over against everything else. We never attain to the best and the highest until that treasure in heaven has become worth more to us than anything else.

It is this same truth that Jesus enforces by other illustrations. If there be any doubt or perplexity in this, it is in the latter part where Jesus enforces the lesson of faith in God's providence. There has been, throughout the ages, a great deal of controversy over the meaning of this. Did Jesus teach that we should be utterly unmindful of tomorrow, making no provision for it, and living only in a sort of hand-to-mouth existence from day to day? One can hardly believe that. Even his reference to the birds which are fed by the heavenly Father would not justify that interpretation, for if anyone has watched birds, he must realize that they are most active and persistent in the pursuit of food and of finding a living.

But Jesus saw men filled with anxious thought, concerned more about tomorrow than today. He saw them weakening their efforts because of this anxiety, and it was in this spirit that he bade them to seek first the kingdom of God and to have no anxious thought for tomorrow.

It is good teaching for those who seek first the kingdom of God, whose hearts and lives are given over with complete consecration. But it would be very poor teaching for those who had not made this crucial surrender of their lives to all that is noblest and best. Here is the insistent truth of this lesson, that we should put God's kingdom first and not be careless slackers in the business of living.

The Kingdom of God First

By Noel Greenway, Monett, Missouri

THE POWER of the words of Jesus lies, not only in their truth, but also in the great directness and clarity with which He expressed the truth. He brought it home to ordinary men in their daily lives. Jesus began with the simple fact that where a man's treasure is, there will his heart be also. That is a self-evident truth. A man's treasure is not what he calls his treasure, but that to which he has given his life, and upon which he would stake his life. It is important

therefore, that a man should seek the true treasure.

Jesus saw men laboring, and sacrificing, and enduring to build up for themselves a treasure of things that had no permanent or real value. When He saw a farmer, whose farm had prospered, pulling down his barns and building larger ones that he might find a place to store all his goods, Jesus pointed out that he had overlooked the most important thing of all—his life.

The point is that he had left

Is the Bible Literally True?

By O. T. Allred, Monett, Missouri

Will God's Word be fulfilled, as Christ said, "Not one jot or tittle should pass away till all be fulfilled?"

Was Christ born of a virgin? Did Christ rise from the grave in a resurrected body? Will He come back to earth with His saints with Him, destroy the anti-christ and then set in His throne as mentioned (Matt. 25:31; Rev. 5:13)?

If we, as Christians, believe the answers to the first question to be literally true, why try to spiritualize the last? Some will say Christ's coming means our acceptance of Him at conversion, and His reign is His Spiritual reign over the church now.

Shall we study a few of the many Scriptures dealing with this great subject? Shall we consider first, Luke 1:31, "And behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS." No one can be Christ-like and deny that this Scripture was literally fulfilled. If that be true, what about those who deny the literal meaning of verses 32 and 33 where God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David, and that He should reign over the house of Jacob forever? The Jews refused to believe verse 32 and 33.

And again, Acts 1:9 tells us that while His disciples beheld, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of sight. I believe this Scripture to mean literally what it says, but what about verses 10 and 11; the words of the angels concerning His coming again? Yes they are sure to be fulfilled literally. Paul tells in First Thess. 4:16-17 that Christ, Himself, shall descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of the arch-angel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

Then again read Joel 3:9, "Proclaim ye this among the Gentile; prepare war," etc. And verse 10, "Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruning hooks into spears." Is that being literally fulfilled today? Does the shipment of train loads, daily, of old worn out, refused farming tools, parts of cars, both the steel and the

tin, much of which is being made into weapons of warfare, suggest the literal fulfillment of this Scripture?

Surely no one could deny this Scripture as meaning literally what it says here. Well, if it does then, why try to deny the literal meaning of Isaiah 2:4 and Isaiah 11:6-9?

We accept Isa. 7:14—Christ born of a virgin; Mic. 5:2—at Bethlehem; Isa. 11:2—annointed with the Spirit; Zech. 13:7—forsaken by His disciples; Psalms 22—hands and feet pierced, garments parted, lots cast; and Isa. 5:3—poverty, suffering, patience, and death. All these are literal.



O. T. Allred

Yes, and thank God for them, but why reject First Thess. 4:16-17—the changed believer caught up to meet Him; Zech. 14:4—that He shall come to the mount of Olives from which He ascended—

That the Saints will come with Him, Deut. 33:2; I Thess 3:13; Jude 14—

That His throne shall be in Jerusalem, Jer. 3:17; Isaiah 33:20-21—

That the wilderness shall be a fruitful field, Isaiah 32:15—

That the desert shall blossom as a rose, Isa. 35:1-2—

And That His rest shall be glorious, Isa. 11:10.

Some modernists have spiritualized the Word of God until they have made the assertion that if the bones of Christ were to be found in some tomb, in Palestine, it would not change their faith. Well, I would say such men have not obtained like precious faith mentioned in 2 Peter 1:1. Yet their statements are as much in accord with the teaching of God's word as many others who deny the literal meaning of the Scripture—concerning their denial.

Why not take the word as it is? I believe it says what it means and means what it says, do you? In the language of the poet:

"Don't change it, just leave it alone,

Each word and each line

Tells of goodness divine,

Don't change it, just leave it alone."

Qualifications of a Minister

By W. L. Hooper, Seco, Kentucky

"But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry." 2 Tim. 4:5.

The question that our people seem divided on, more than any other, is the qualifications of a minister of the Gospel. First of all, he should have a definite call from God to proclaim the Gospel news of salvation. He should have a burning bush experience; his call to preach should be so compelling that he might say with Paul, "Woe is me if I preach not the Gospel.

We all must agree that a preacher must fulfill all the qualifications laid down in the Word of God, but some of our good brethren seem to think if a man can preach hard and loud for about an hour, he is a qualified

minister. But in addition to being the preacher and spiritual advisor, to the church and community where he lives, he is the servant of the people, and must lay aside his likes and dislikes, desires and comforts to serve his people. He must be the shepherd of the flock. He must go before, and be the example, and lead his people into the green pastures of Christian experience and living. He must keep faith with his people and have a good report from within and without.

In addition to a definite call, a preacher should have a love for the souls of men. Unless this love for souls be present in his heart, he will not be able to devote himself earnestly and whole-heartedly to his holy task of winning souls for the master. There is no limit to the power of love, there-

fore, one driven on by the power of love knows no limit to his honest efforts in accomplishing the great work the Master has called him to do.

Then, too, a preacher should be one who has endeavored, to the best of his ability, to make use of all the God-given opportunities to prepare himself for the worthy duties of the ministry. "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" 2 Tim. 2:15. An education, with the ability to think clearly on any issue, is of great benefit to any preacher. God has never placed a premium on ignorance. He wants his servants to be men of vision and of knowledge. Of course it must always be kept in mind that education is only a means toward an end. With all the education attainable, the preacher should rely solely upon the inspiration of the Spirit of God. He can understand the scriptures only as they are made known unto him by the inspiration of the Spirit. "If any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God, who giveth to all men liberally, and

upbraideth not." Unless the preacher can apply his teaching and preaching to the need of his people about him, his preaching will fall far short of what God intended. While men of all walks of life, and, of many different mental attainments have been used as workers in the Lord's vineyard, those men who have been best prepared, have been of greatest service.

Every preacher should strive to do more for the Lord, each day, by bringing his people in closer fellowship one with another, in love, and in the spirit of meekness, that when Jesus, our great Saviour, shall return with ten thousands of His saints to execute judgement upon them that dwell upon the earth, and all nations shall be gathered before that great white throne in judgement, and the books are opened, and the other book is opened, which is the book of life? May the name of every preacher in our great denomination be recorded in the book of life at that great day.

Brethren let there be no division among you. May the Lord bless and keep you every step of the way.

lion is known as the king of beasts, and our Lord is the potentate King of kings (1 Tim. 6:15). The lion is fair in his attracting. When he approaches he roars and we are warned of his nearness. God is a just God and always sends the Spirit to warn us of danger or to lead us in any undertaking for Him.

Let's notice another of the beasts. The one that had a face like a man pictures to us the creation of God's masterpiece. Our mind goes back to the sixth day of God's work where he said, "Let us make man" (Gen. 1:26). There is so much difference in creation of man and the other things that God made. Man is the only thing that was fashioned after God's likeness and to receive a soul. To man, He gave intelligence, power and dominion over all other of His handiwork. No doubt, when Ezekiel and John saw in their visions, they were reminded that God was a creator and man was his creation.

Where Ezekiel speaks of the ox, John sees a calf. No difference will be discovered in the meaning. All through the Bible times, this animal was used for food to sacrifice, as it had been pronounced clean (Deut. 14:4). So cleanliness is suggested here. And how true it is, God expects a clean life of all who would live for him. There will be no sin in the Glory world.

The Four Beasts

By Kenneth Turner, Monett, Missouri

"As for the likeness of their faces, they four had the face of a man, and the face of a lion on their right side; and they four had the face of an ox on the left side; they four also had the face of an eagle."

AS EZEKIEL Was in the Spirit of Prophecy, the Lord showed to him in a vision the peculiar looking creatures, named in the above verse. The first verse of the chapter says, "the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God." It seems that these creatures were seen in heaven. John on the isle of Patmos, was permitted to see something of the same order, and as he was in the Spirit, he could see around the throne in heaven, four peculiar beasts. Rev. 4:7 says, "And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast like a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle."

Ezekiel and John's pictures are identical.

We know there are no literal beasts or creatures like these in the Heaven where God is. (Some may think the creatures were seen in the heaven that



Kenneth Turner

God formed on His second day's work, for mankind to occupy here on earth, or in other words, the second heaven Gen. 1:8). However, they were seen in a heaven some where. If it is the heaven where God is, we must understand these Scriptures to be symbols of things pertaining to God. We will get much more from it if we will study each beast separately.

John mentions the lion first. Naturally we begin to wonder what is there in heaven like a lion. Well, Christ, Himself, is called the "Lion of the tribe of Juda" (Rev. 5:5). In the lion we see strength, which is a wonderful type of the power of God. The

The last creature had the face of an eagle — John says, flying eagle. And of all, this has the most wonderful picture. As the eagle is gifted with permission to soar on wings at a high altitude, so is the Christian permitted to sail on wings of faith above the deep valley of sin. So we observe in the lesson of the eagle, "a life in Christ," or "the privileges of a Christian." There is a great lesson in the eagle as she teaches the little ones to learn to use their wings, and by their trying, soon they can sail higher and higher. And in time of storms the harder the wind blows the higher they can go, while down below, the valley is black and raging with hail, wind, and thundering and lightening, where many are scared, suffering, and dying from awful storm.

Can not you see the lesson in these visions: The lion denoting the power and strength of God; the man picturing the creation of God; the ox (or calf) repeating the cleanliness of God; and the eagle showing us a real life in God.

STARS

By Mr. and Mrs. Chas. H. Curtis, 11 04 S. Twelveth Street, Herrin, Illinois

Text; Matt. 2:2

When Jesus came the first time to this world for the purpose of spilling His blood for the redemption of mankind, a new star appeared in the heavens, and was seen by the three wise men who came seeking the promised king. "We have seen His star in the east and are come to worship Him."

This Star told to the God fearing, Scripture searching wise men of the Orient that the promised Messiah of the Jews was born. They journeyed toward the place of His birth without a doubt or question. The "thus saith the Lord" of the Scriptures lighted their path to the place where the young child lay. Their hearts rejoiced and were fully satisfied as they looked in His face and worshipped Him.

There are "stars" shining in the sky of world events today, which plainly reveal to the searcher of the Scriptures that Jesus is coming the second time to this earth, and that undoubtedly, His return is near at hand. Paul, in Heb. 9:28, says, "Unto them that look for Him, shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation."

I. National "Star" Matt. 24:6-7

Jesus said there should be "wars and rumors of war," that "nation shall rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom," giving us to understand that in the end-time, this situation would be world wide. Never has there been such wholesale slaughter, such disregard for life! Nations have been conquered in a few days' time. Kings and rulers have fled for their lives. There is nothing but fear, chaos, uncertainty, and overwhelming anxiety for what the next few hours may bring forth. In our own beloved country, millions are being spent to build a large army, navy, and air force.

A state of feverish activity is used to build up our national defense until it exceeds the war equipment of any other nation. Jesus told us, in Luke 21:25-26, that in the last days "upon the earth there shall be distress of nations, with perplexity—men's hearts failing them for fear of looking after those things that are coming on the earth."

II. Religious "Star"

Speaking of the second coming of

the Lord in II. Thess. 2:3, Paul said there shall be a "falling away" from the faith.

From many colleges and universities (not all), are going out to fill our pulpits men who do not believe the Bible is inspired (God-breathed). They do not believe that Christ is divine—the only begotten Son of God. They explain away, or utterly disregard, the miracles recorded in Holy writing. We have in place of the old time, Holy Ghost revivals such things as decision days, card signing, and hand shaking professions. II. Tim. 3:5, "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof." They sing hymns, pray prayers, read sermons, and at the same time, deny

the very Christ they profess to worship.

In many places, the prayer meeting is disbanded, the church services unattended, the preacher's salary unpaid, while places of amusement, parks, bathing beaches, road houses, taverns and theatres are crowded with church members who profess to serve the Christ who tells us in His word, "Shun the very appearance of evil."

Paul said, "Tim. 4:3 "The time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine." They will not repent, and turn away from sin; live holy lives and keep the garments unspotted from the world. May God help and revive the church as a whole until we will again see God's power demonstrated in city and country. Yes, and even nation-wide revivals. Let us continually keep our eyes "Looking unto Jesus who is the author and finisher of our faith," for unto them who look for Him, He shall surely appear.

THROUGH TEXAS

Reporting Bro. Willey's Ministry in Texas, by T. H. Willey

The testimony of Paul regarding the believers of Corinth can be aptly applied to our people in Texas. "I must tell you, brothers, how the favor of God has been shown in the churches of Macedonia, for in spite of a severe ordeal of trouble, their extraordinary gladness, has overflowed in a wealth of generosity. For they have given to the utmost of their ability, as I can bear witness, and beyond it Godspeed."

Leaving Huntsville, Texas the night of June 16, driving over to Edge where Mrs. Willey and the children were resting and getting ready for the trip Eastward, we had just time enough to pack and be on our way stopping over in Bryan just long enough to say "howdy" and "good-bye."

We were truly grateful for the rest

our dear friends, the Davidsons, made possible for the family at Edge. Our visit with them was one long to be remembered. Bro. Bob Wiggs is pastor of the Edge church. The morning of the 17th. we were on our way to Ft. Worth, Texas. We spent the night with Bro. and Sister Warkentin, who had made every arrangement for our comfort and entertainment. That evening we met with a fine group of young people. The next morning we sped onward to be with Bro. Tiff Covington at Buffalo Springs, Texas.

Bro. Tiff has one of the finest rural churches I have ever visited. This consecrated pastor and his family has a wonderful reputation throughout that part of the country. Bro. Tiff would fit about anywhere he might be placed and 'stay put' until something happened. We had two great services in an immense gymnasium; one could not have asked for a larger crowd in a big city. The school yard was packed with cars. We were a little concerned about the time of starting as it was about nine o'clock, and the people were still coming. But they all seemed to be unconcerned about that; they took our message and said it was all too short.

Leaving with a hearty blessing from the pastor and people and a fine offer-



T. H. Willey

ing we drove across to Wheatherford, the great peach and watermelon center of Texas, to be with Brother Brooks. We were there just one night. This church is one of the oldest Free Will Baptist churches in that part of the state. We had a short but very pleasant visit with Bro. Brooks and his people; then after the service drove back to Ft. Worth. The country surrounding Ft. Worth is just about as beautiful as one would desire to see; stretching for miles around are the wide open spaces and rolling hills dotted with white-face cattle.

Sunday morning we were with Bro. and Sister Sutton and their dear people at Trinity Free Will Baptist Church. Bro. Sutton has a fine growing church and we were happy to see so many improvements, almost a new church remodeled out of the original tabernacle. A great crowd of people was present. On Sunday night we preached at the First Free Will Baptist church to a fine crowd. So we shuttled back and forth between the two churches and had fine crowds at both churches. Monday night we were back at Trinity. Bro. Sutton got his printing apron and ran off some attractive dodgers and we had a great crowd; folk standing around the sides of the building. Bro. Sutton is a very excellent pulpiteer and a fine organizer.

I feel I should mention Bro. Weir and his fine photo developing business. He has a mail order photo developing plant with films sent from the far places of the world as well as all over the states. If you want a reasonable price on developing and printing films or enlargements send them to Westex Photo Laboratory, Ft. Worth, Texas.

Our next stand was with Brother Newscome, pastor of Silver Creek church. Brother Hodges, one of our old land-marks, and Bro. Warkentin, Mrs. Willey and I drove out to the church and were surprised again with a lovely group of people and a fine offering. It was a real joy to be with Bro. Tom Newscome again. Brother Newscome is so youthful and rugged it does not seem strange to call him Brother Tom. His hair is silvery white but his form is straight and rugged. Brother Tom is a student. I was impressed when I met this old school master and preacher with two volumes of Webster's unabridged dictionaries under his arms. There are two books that will make a great preacher—combined of course with the elements of good sense and diligent study—the Bible and Webster's

Dictionary. These two books are the tools with which the preacher must work. We visited in Bro. Newscome's home and met his fine family, and wished that we might have a cottage within hollering distance when we might call over, "Let's go fishing, Brother Tom."

I cannot do lustice to these fine men in and around Ft. Worth. The Warkentins, especially denied themselves, gave up their good beds, and slept on make shift pallets, cooked, fussed over us, and made us feel, truly, that what is ours belongs also to you.

I am aware that it means much for a traveling preacher to come in on a housewife and a family and especially a preacher with his whole family. We go to many places, reluctantly, because of this. We shall long remember the hospitality of these, our dear friends of Foreign Missions.

The First Church of Ft. Worth has a rather unique method of raising

missionary funds; Three per cent of all money coming into the church is set aside for missions. Bro. Warkentin is one of the hardest working men I have ever met, and under his ministry has led the church completely out of debt.

As I visit our people and churches over a period of a few years it is easy to see marks of improvement both in the growth of congregations and improvements to property, the result of the faithful labors of pastors and people.

Everywhere we have gone there has been new churches to surprise us. Henderson, Texas, our next stop, was an example of this. We were amazed to find a lovely new building. Bro. and Sister McAdams went in and led the folk out into a building program after a successful meeting. Then Sisters Tommie Franklin and Reed came along and sacrificed, labored, prayed and led the folk out of debt. It is



always a great joy to be with these two consecrated, wise women. I always feel as I meet them at work, I am going into some foreign mission station; they are so like foreign missionaries in their self-denial and willingness to cheerfully endure hardness for Jesus' sake. In spite of heavy rain, the one night we had there, we had a fine crowd and a very good offering.

I had always wanted to meet Bro. Jamierison, who is about the best known preacher in that great oil country and beloved of the whole country. I had this opportunity to fellowship with him a brief time—just wish we could have become better acquainted. The sad part of our ministry is we meet folk and then just as we get acquainted we must move on, and we do not have time or opportunity to cultivate friendships.

Leaving Henderson we drove over to Shreveport to spend the Fourth of July with a very dear uncle of Mrs. Willey, and for a few days we were in the family circle again. Uncle Jay is an elder in the Christian church and very active. So we were put to work telling of our missionary program to a sympathetic group of folk.

We were enabled to make many new friends.

Our next stop was at Hot Springs, Arkansas just for the night; then on to Little Rock and to spend the night in Memphis, Tennessee. We have dear friends in Memphis that we have known for many years; the pastor of the Christian and Missionary Alliance church, so we called up, with the result that we were called on to speak both morning and evening. Brother Grady Mangum is a wonderful pastor and evangelist, and has a great church and people. Bro. Mangum and our own brother, Bob Self, of Asheville, North Carolina were very close friends and had worked together in many meetings. So again we were with folk deeply interested in the program of our church.

Monday morning we were on our way toward Nashville, Tennessee in a blinding rain storm, and all day we drove, finally getting out of it just as we arrived in the vicinity of Nashville. Finding Bro. Blackwelder, we learned something of our line-up for the week in and around this great city of Nashville. Yesterday, we took some moving pictures of possible school sites

which will be shown at the National Association in Paintsville, Kentucky.

I am, at the present time, in the home of a remarkable character, a man who is in his late seventies but has the step and actions of a young man, Bro. Hudgins. It was from this home I made my first missionary tour in the Free Will Baptist churches, just after the union some few years ago. Everything seems very restful in this lovely little mountain village. We had a fine crowd last night; a full house, and as always a very interested crowd of our folk and the town people. Bro. Hudgins, like Bro. Newsome, is an old school teacher and one of the allies of everything that spells success.

Below is an itemized statement of the funds received for foreign missions in the state of Texas, beginning with Ft. Worth and the surrounding church:

Church	Pastor	Amount
Buffalo Springs	Tiff Covington	\$10.72
Wheatherford	Bro. Brooks	2.66
Trinity	Bro. Sutton	21.21
First F. W. B.	J. K. Warkentin	18.46
Silver Creek	T. H. Newsome	10.00
Henderson	Tommie Franklyn	13.57

When Was the Missionary Baptist Church Organized?

By Rev. A. B. Talbert
2422 West 41st Street, Tulsa, Okla.

I WILL BEGIN This article by saying that Missionary Baptist do not claim that there has been all along since the Apostles, a denomination called Missionary Baptists.

I quote from *The Baptist*, by W. R. Jones, page 2, "Well informed Baptist people have never claimed that there has been, beyond controversy, a succession of true churches, called by the name Baptist."

I give also a quotation from "The Church That Jesus Built," by Roy Mason, page 15: "Baptists do not claim perpetuity (or succession) on the basis of the name Baptist. They do not make the claim that churches called by the name Baptist have existed through all ages."

So if they have not existed all along, it is evident then, that there was a time when they were organized.

Owing to the peculiar circumstances that caused the organization, not many encyclopedias give the date when they began to function as a separate body.

I suppose, one hundred years from now, there will not be many that could tell when the Land Mark Baptist or the Board Baptist, were organized, yet they are

both Missionary Baptist. A similar thing happened in the old Particular (Hard Shell) Baptist church in the early part of the nineteenth century: They taught, that Christ died for only a part of Adam's race and that all He died for would be saved.

But Fuller, Marsham, Carry, and others began to encourage the lost to accept Christ and suggested a Mission Program. To show how sincere Fuller must have been and what a sacrifice he must have made, I quote from a book written by A. G. Fuller: This book is a memorial of Fuller, written by his son. On page 27 he says, "It seems as if the Church and I should break each others heart tonight. I have been but truly charged with having an irregular mind. How heartily could I embrace death if it pleased God to send it." Page 34, "At several ministers' meetings," adds Mr. Fuller, "between the years 1787 and 1790, this (The Mission Question) was the topic of his conversation. Some of our most aged and respectable ministers thought, I believe, at that time was only a wild and impracticable scheme that he had in his mind and therefore gave him no encouragement, yet he would not give it up."

They finally succeeded in getting quite a following, and on October 2, 1792, in the home of Mrs. B. B. Wallace in Kettering, England, a number met and organized a Missionary Society.

This Missionary movement spread until within a short time many of the Particular (Hard Shell) Baptist churches had endorsed it.

In 1832, at the Black Rock Meeting House in Maryland, the Particular Baptist voted to withdraw from the churches that had endorsed the Mission Program.

I have before me a copy of the proceedings of that

conference. I will state their objections although I do not have room to quote them in full here.

No. 1 We commence with the TRACT SOCIETIES —

No. 2 SUNDAY SCHOOLS — come next under consideration.

No. 3 We pass to the consideration of the BIBLE SOCIETY —

No. 4 We will now call your attention to the subject of MISSIONS —

No. 5 COLLEGES and THEOLOGICAL SCHOOLS next claim our attention —

No. 6 We now pass to the last item which we think it necessary particularly to notice, viz: FOUR DAYS or PROTRACTED MEETINGS —

In 1832 the churches that had indorsed the Missionary program began to function as a separate body. They were at first called by some as Fullerites, Carryites, etc., but they finally adopted the name MISSIONARY BAPTIST.

My uncle, an old Baptist minister that lived to be nearly one hundred years old told me they consulted him

about the name they should adopt. He told them that since they believed so much in the Mission Program, he thought the name Missionary Baptist would be a very appropriate name.

To the original Calvinistic church, this was a very bad departure from the faith: for it is evident that the old Particular Baptist did not believe in a General Atonement. It is said that Fuller himself preached for eight years a special atonement for a special people.

But to us, who do believe in a general atonement, the Missionary program was a very forward and progressive movement.

I have not written this article to cast a reflection on the Missionary Baptist for I do not know of another denomination that has, in the short time they have been organized, done more to send the Gospel to the lost world than they have.

May the blessings of Heaven rest upon those that preach the truth and may the Lord help His people to defeat error, is the prayer of the author.

By Rev. A. B. Talbert, 242 West 41st. St., Tulsa, Oklahoma

The Pastor's Duty

Clyde C. Flannery, Dunham, Kentucky

SINCE ATTENDING The National Association, I have learned that all Free Will Baptists are not heartless. Many of you will probably ask what I mean by "heartless." Well, that is the purpose of this article.

Out here in the East, especially in southeastern Kentucky and western Virginia, the Free Will Baptist have a peculiar idea about their pastor. Since I have been reared with, and around them and have heard them express their opinion of the pastor and his duty, I feel quite capable of informing you as to the duty of our pastors, as considered by many Free Will Baptists in this part of the country.

First, and probably the most destructive of all, they consider it the pastor's duty to attend his church only once a month. In other words, during the pastor's year of service to his church, he is present with them only twelve times. I ask you, the readers of this paper, if you believe a pastor can fulfill his obligation to a church by attending it once a month? In most cases, the pastor lives ten or fifteen miles from the church and sometimes thirty-five or forty miles. The short period he is with his church, he doesn't have time to visit his members, personally. In fact, he is hardly acquainted with them. He is never present at prayer meetings or Sunday

School, and doesn't know what it means to organize or attend a Free Will Baptist League or a Women's Auxiliary. How would you like to have a pastor who felt it his duty to attend your church in this way?

Second, they believe their pastor should labor in the field, mines, shop, or factory for five or six days a week and then preach a good sermon on his "regular meeting time." They consider it his duty to work at some job and then preach, as though he had been preparing and resting for a month. I have had pastors to tell me that they were so tired when the day's work was over that they often fell asleep at night, after reading the Bible for only ten or fifteen minutes. And, by the way, they usually have an opportunity to read in this way only once or twice a week. Can that pastor do justice to his congregation when he stands before them to deliver a gospel message? I have never seen a man or woman work at two different jobs and do them both justice. The same is true of a pastor, who works in the mines, field, etc., and then tries to pastor a church or two.

Third, the most of the people feel that it is the unpardonable sin to "pay a preacher." As I have mentioned above, they think he should work at manual labor for his living, and then walk several miles to his church (and many of them do this) and preach to

the people without them helping him financially, at all. How many of you can show me where the Apostle Paul worked at manual labor for his living, after he began his work for the Master. But, brother, you can find many Scriptures to prove that Paul was given the necessities of life by the church. A lot of people think preaching and pastoring a church is "play work." I wish a lot of you radicals would just try it for six months. I think by that time you will be converted. This idea of treating your mule or horse better than you treat your pastor, will not work in the day of judgement.

I am sure you understand now what I meant by "heartless." How can a group of people have a good Christian heart when they will allow the man that feeds their souls treated the way I have mentioned above? Of course, the preachers are to blame for a big majority of this neglect. Many of them will get in the pulpit and preach against giving the preacher anything at all. Nevertheless, there are a few God-called preachers who would like to give all of their time to pastoral work, but their members think they should live on the air, and wouldn't dare give them a nickel to buy a box of salt.

I stand as one of the young Free Will Baptist ministers of this country and am sure I express the desire and wish of every one when I say that we need pastors, who will put their entire life, time, and heart into their work. Let's wake-up, Free Will Baptists, and not be sleeping when the Lord comes.

The Value of Freedom

By Gertrude Bowe, Catlettsburg, Ky.

Aren't you glad that you are living in a free country, where we can serve God according to the dictation of our own conscience, and where no one dares to molest us or make us afraid? Sure you are. If you aren't, I'm afraid for you.

My heart goes out to the youth of other nations. How they must long for the freedom that is our. I'm afraid that we fail, as the youth of this "Whosoever" nation, to appreciate this liberty and to do our best to keep it this way. I'm afraid there are times when we are too unconcerned. Now is the time to do our best to keep it that way, and the way to do it is to turn to God. "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them" Eccl. 12:1.

But, readers, we have young men and young women in our own country who are bound. They are bound by sin, servants to old Satan; and a servant obeys his master. "Know ye not that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?" (Rom. 6:16). Our young people are bound with the shackles of sin and are doing everything the devil would have them to; unconcerned about the future. So many of them consider this old-time salvation, this blood-bought way, as a past time for the old people. They consider it as a fairy tale—a song sung and a tale told. It seemingly, as the saying is, goes into one ear and out the other. But some day these very same ones, who are treating it so lightly now, will be ready to listen, and I am afraid it will be forever too late.

Many excuse themselves by saying that the older people are not setting the example, and someday these older people will answer for that very thing.

But, young man or young woman, you have had the invitation extended to you many times, and when you come before God in the judgment that excuse will not stand. Your parents, your next door neighbor, or whoever you might name may not have set the example; but if you have had the invitation extended to you and fail to heed, you will have no plausible excuse in the judgment.

Someone may say, "When have I had the invitation extended to me? I don't go to church." Do you remember the many times you have heard that church bell tolling in the evening twilight? Do you remember the many times you have passed by the old church and heard the choir singing? Do you remember the time you heard a Godly man talking of the goodness of God on a street corner? Do you remember that old gentleman's life that you have watched for years? Maybe he has never spoken to you about your soul but he has set the right example. These are all invitations for you to come to God and yet the devil says you have plenty of time. You are touched but shake the feeling off and go your way, hardening your heart.

Oh, why won't you heed the warning? Why won't you listen? But Matthew 24:37 says, "But as the days of Noe, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."

In the days of Noe they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, unconcerned. So it is today. When it is too late you will be ready to listen, and it is then that your listening will do no good. Sinner, you may say, "I can't give up the things I am enjoying," but you don't know what it means to enjoy life until Jesus has entered into your life. Real joy and happiness begins only at the time Jesus comes in. Did you ever stop to think about what Jesus gave up that you might have a way of redemption? "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him, should not perish but have everlasting life" John 3:16. Willingly, Jesus gave up his home in Heaven to make a way of redemption for you. At any time dur-

ing His ministry upon earth Christ had the angels at His command, but He suffered and died that you might have life and have it more abundantly. He loved you, is why He did it, yet you show your appreciation by serving Satan. He won't compel you to serve Him because He has made you your own free moral agent. But if you won't listen, someday you will give an account to God. The invitation is extended to you now. Will you accept it or reject it? It is up to you.

THE CROSS

I see a Cross, a rugged Cross,
Standing high upon a hill,
Here Jesus died for one and all,
He died for "Whosoever Will."

He bore that Cross for you and me,
Willingly, He bore the Cross.
Still yet to you He makes this plea,
Kneel and with me count the cost.

'Twill cost the world for you to kneel,
And repent this very night.
To kneel and say, "Dear Lord, I will
Leave this world of sin for right."

It may seem a great sacrifice,
But Christ made a greater one.
When on the Cross He paid the price
Of redemption for mankind.

What sacrifice that we shall make
Can never repay our Lord;
Come now, the ways of sin forsake,
Accept His blessed Word.

Someway or other, my heart is
burdened for the young people. How they need to come to God. You who are Christians, be true. It won't be long until Jesus will call us home. Whatever we may suffer down here will amount to nothing when we enter those Pearly Gates. We won't be there a half an hour until we shall wish that we had suffered more. The devil may fight you hard, but "If God be for us, who can be against us?" (Rom. 8:31).

Be true to Jesus, whatever the cost. Someday we shall receive our reward. "He that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved" Matt. 24:13.

Ye Ministers of His!

Mrs. Margaret Turner, Stark City, Mo.

Oftentimes, this thought has impressed me: Why do the Free Will Baptist ministers omit the Saturday evening service? I have even asked the question and the answer is "Oh well, there are none who go any more; they all go some where else." I beg leave to deny that assestion. I for one,

and I know of many others, who go nowhere else and would gladly go to a good old fashioned Saturday night preaching service if one was available.

Some blame the unsaved young people for attending the movies, (and it isn't at all according to my belief), but they are going to go some place

and we censure them for going there. But if there is no preaching, or religious service, how can we expect them to go to something that doesn't exist? Who then is to blame? Ask yourself the question, brother ministers.

Jesus said, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me" St. John 12:32.

"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life" St. John 3:14-15.

"How can they believe on him of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without a preacher?"

Some people criticize the styles and fashions of dress of the present time. How much more should the ministry be criticized for their neglect of duty in holding up Christ for the unsaved

to behold. And when are they going to hold Him up, just one little short hour of Sunday morning and one little short hour of Sunday evenings, and then let Him down the remainder of the week?

I know it is becoming a popular idea to omit the Saturday evening service, but how can we persuade the unsaved or worldly minded to think of church, or how will we induce them or influence them to a higher life, if we, as Christians, fail to stand by our standard and principles of Christian leadership? Should we expect them to do better than the example we set before them?

"Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" Mark 16:15. It seems as though some have forgotten that commission, and are gone into all the world (or part of the world at least) to keep from preaching the gospel. "Brethren these

things ought not so to be." Is there not a passage somewhere in the Bible which reads like this? "He that putteth his hand to the plow and turneth back is not fit for the kingdom." "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you" 2 Cor. 6:17.

I have no apologies to make for writing this. It has been burned into my heart and I can not get away from it. So if there is anything in this article that you don't like or that pinches just do your duty, as I feel that I have only followed the leading of the Spirit of God in pointing out a few things as I see and understand it, and cannot feel that I had done my duty unless I took this means of doing so.

May God bless and prosper the Free Will Baptist Gem and all who read it.

Lovest Thou Me?

By Howard DeWeese, Easton, Mo.

The earnest desire of my heart is to know the will of my Lord. Next, is that I might do or be what He would have me be. I think this is the desire of all Christians.

God gave us two eyes to see and two ears to hear. Now, we want to put these in service for Him.

First, we need to have our hearts softened by God's undying love. If this has not been accomplished, our efforts are in vain and we fail.

Jesus is no respecter of persons. He challenges us with the same question as He did Peter, "Lovest thou me more than these?" (St. John 21:15) We say, "Yes, Lord." Jesus here asks this question the third time before He leaves the question or thought. "Yes" is the answer He receives from us.

Jesus tells us repeatedly, "Feed my sheep." If our hearts are sharing Christ's burden of love, we will act and strive to feed the hungry lambs and sheep. Love is life — not idle words, but service for our blessed Lord. Is the task or the talent that is ours to small for us to do?

Many times the writer has been guilty of setting his sights too high, overlooking the smaller and more needful things of life which so dis-

tinctly manifest the Christ-like Spirit. I often need to pray, asking God to forgive me of this injustice to Him. Yes, we like to be exalted, and oftentimes above measure. Such is not the spirit of our blessed Lord. Humility

is the lesson so many of us need to learn.

What we do and what we give might seem small and oftentimes we are justified in thinking so. You put your offering with my small offering and my service with yours, and we will see a National school if it needs to be erected to the honor and glory of God.

The question — "Lovest thou me more than these?"

Missouri Sunday School Work

By William Reeves, Missouri Sunday School Supervisor, Fredericktown, Mo.

Our State Association is nearing again, and we are looking forward for a great time in the Lord. We have so many things to look forward to.

One of them, that I am most interested in, is our Sunday School Program. We now have something to offer our people.

At our National Association at Paintsville, Ky., in July, we organized a National Sunday School Convention, making it a permanent organization, with a program of a "Standard of Sunday Schools" and also our Constitution and By-Laws.

We would like to see each Association in our Missouri State Association represented; both by statistical reports and by delegates. We are urging each of our field workers to rush their reports to us so we can get our report ready for the State Association. Time

is going by fast. By the time you read this, it will be less than a month off. Please send them as soon as possible.

I am praying that God will bless all for His cause.

STATISTICAL REPORTS

Our Missouri State Association is near at hand, creeping upon us, and at this writing (August 13) I have only received one statistical report.

We are urging each associational statistician to send in your report as soon as possible, for I have a number of reports to get out for the State Meeting.

I hope to hear from you at an early date.

Rev. William Reeves,
510 Allen Street
Fredericktown, Missouri

National Sunday School Convention Proceedings

W. E. Coville, President, Elm Hill Road, Route 1, Nashville, Tennessee

Immediately after the Convention officers were elected by the National Association, the business of the Convention was undertaken. The officers elected were:

W. E. Coville President
L. E. Duncan Vice President
Miss Mary Elizabeth Griffith, Secretary
Miss Nellie Huggins .. Ass't. Secretary
W. L. Williams Treasurer
Rev. William Reeves,

Director of Organization

Rev. L. C. Johnson,

Director of Denominational Enterprises

Rev. L. H. Wetherington,

Director of Records and Reports

Rev. K. V. Shutes, Director of Publicity

Motion sustained that the President and Secretary prepare and distribute two leaflets, one leaflet setting forth the organization of the National Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention, the Constitution and By-laws as adopted by the convention, and the scheme and scope of the program of work to be undertaken.

The second leaflet is to include a concise and orderly statement of the Standard of Efficiency for Free Will Baptist Sunday Schools.

Motion sustained that the National Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention authorize a request be made for a contribution of \$40.00 from the National Association. This amount is to be used for promotional service by the convention. (This request was granted by the National Association, and the check for \$40.00 was given to the Convention.)

Motion sustained to adopt the Constitution and By-laws of the Convention as follows:

Constitution and By-Laws of the National Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention

CONSTITUTION

Preamble

In order to encourage and inspire the Sunday school of the Free Will Baptist denomination to engage in a definite plan of work, to labor together in unity, and to co-ordinate their efforts for a more successful plan of teaching God's Word, we, a representative body

of Sunday school workers, do hereby organize the National Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention.

Article I. Name

This organization shall be known as the National Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention.

Article II. Object

Section 1. The object of this organization is the encouragement and promotion of Sunday school betterments throughout the churches of the Free Will Baptist denomination.

Section 2. Sunday school betterments shall include: A more definite objective, uniformity of system, a fraternal interchange of ideas, and the bringing together of Christian workers to transact business to the glory of God.

Article III. Membership

The members of this convention shall be the General Officers of the convention, Free Will Baptist ministers in good standing, and delegates duly appointed or elected by the organizations which they represent. It shall be business of organizations sending delegates to see that said delegates bear proper credentials as required in Section 2 of Article II. of the By-laws.

Article IV. Representation

State Conventions shall be entitled to three (3) delegates. District Conventions shall be entitled to two (2) delegates, and each Sunday school shall be entitled to one (1) delegate. All delegates are to be elected or appointed from the laity.

Article V. Officers

Section 1. The officers of this convention shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, an Assistant Secretary, a Treasurer, a Director of Organization, a Director of Denominational Enterprises, a Director of Literature, a Director of Records and Reports, and a Director of Publicity.

Section 2. All officers shall be elected at the beginning of each regular session of the convention.

Article VI. Boards

The Executive Board shall be composed of the General Officers, five of which shall constitute a quorum.

Article VII. Meetings

This convention shall meet annually

at a time and place selected by the convention while in regular session.

Article VIII. Amendments

The constitution of this convention may be amended by a two-thirds vote at any regular meeting.

BY-LAWS

Article I. Duties of General Officers

Section 1. President—The President shall preside over all meetings of the convention or Executive Board, appoint temporary committees, call the members of the Executive Board together when necessary, and perform the other duties usually devolving upon such an officer.

Section 2. Vice President—The Vice President shall preside over meetings in the absence or at the request of the President, and assist the President in the general supervision of the work.

Section 3. Secretary—The Secretary shall record the proceedings of all meetings of the convention or Executive Board, edit the minutes, notify officers of their election, and act as assistant to the several National Directors.

Section 4. Assistant Secretary—The Assistant Secretary shall assist the Secretary at all meetings of the convention and Executive Board and shall act as assistant to the several National Directors.

Section 5. Treasurer—The Treasurer shall have charge of all convention funds. Expenditures shall be made only upon authorization by the convention when in session or by direction of the Executive Board. All orders on the treasury for disbursements must bear the signature of the President. The Treasurer shall make an itemized written report to the convention annually. All treasury records are the property of the convention and shall be audited by the Executive Board at its discretion. The Treasurer shall be bonded in an amount sufficient to cover funds in his charge at all times.

Article II. Dues

Section 1. Each Sunday school, either directly or indirectly affiliated with the National Convention, shall send to the National Treasurer the sum of one dollar (\$1.00) per month.

Section 2. Regular payment of dues, together with a letter of authorization and a report of the condition of the work, shall constitute the necessary credentials of the representatives.

Article III. Expenses

Expenses of the General Officers to all officially called meetings shall be paid from the National Treasury. All other expenditures shall be paid from the National Treasury. All other expenditures shall be made in accordance with Article 1, Section 5 of the By-laws.

Article IV. Reports

The Secretary shall prepare and submit a written report of all meetings of the convention or Executive Board

to the National Association at each regular session.

Article V. Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote at any regular meeting.

Motion sustained that the President and Secretary of the Convention secure the publication of such Sunday school supplies as they may deem adequate to an introduction of the approved Standard of Efficiency for Free Will Baptist Sunday Schools and that they have complete charge of all sales and orders. The expenses of publication incurred in this service shall be determined by the selection of the best

competitive bid from at least three (3) reliable printers.

Motion sustained that the National Convention accept the loan offer in the amount of \$200.00 from Mr. W. L. Williams of Bryan, Texas. This money is to be used as capital in the publication, sale, and promotion of Sunday school supplies. It is understood that this loan is to be non-interest bearing and of indefinite duration, but that it shall be paid in full or in part at any time that funds may be available and such application of said funds may be authorized by the officers of the National Convention.

Adjournment.

Report of the National Sunday School Board

W. E. Corville, President, Elm Hill Road, Route 1, Nashville, Tennessee

We, the members of the National Sunday School Board, respectfully submit the following report and recommendations:

During the past year the members of the Board have made an extensive study of the condition of our Sunday school work. A number of articles, in the interest of Sunday schools and their work, have been prepared and published in our church papers. Through this medium, the Board has introduced to hundreds of ministers and lay workers plans for the unification of systems and the co-ordination of efforts of our Sunday schools and Sunday school workers everywhere.

We recommend the adoption of the following Standard of Efficiency for Free Will Baptist Sunday schools:

The Standard of Efficiency for Free Will Baptist Sunday Schools

SECTION 1.

1. Church Control

The Sunday school is the teaching department of the church. The church shall elect all officers and teachers; the school shall make written monthly reports to the church. All regular and special offerings shall go into the general church treasury.

2. Soul Salvation

The pastor, superintendent, and every teacher shall be deeply burdened for the unsaved. Teachers shall feel and realize that their chief objective is to lead their pupils to Christ. The pastor and superintendent shall give

frequent opportunities for pupils to confess Christ publicly.

3. Free Will Baptist Literature

The Sunday school shall use Free Will Baptist literature throughout. All Scripture references used in the literature shall be taken from the King James version of the Bible. If the school finds that the Free Will Baptist literature does not meet every need, the matter should be referred to the Director of Literature of the National Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention.

4. Records and Reports

The standard school shall use the Six Point Record System. Reports shall be made on report blanks provided by the Director of Records and Reports of the National Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention.

5. Enrollment and Grading

The enrollment of the school shall equal at least (80) per cent of the resident membership, exclusive of the Cradle Roll and Extension departments.

The school shall be graded as follows: Cradle Roll, birth to 3 years; Beginners, 4-5 years; Primaries, 6-8 years; Juniors, 9-12 years; Intermediates, 13-16 years; Young People, 17-24 years; Adults, 25 years and over.

The first Sunday in October of each year shall be observed as promotion day, when all Sunday schools affiliated with the National Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention shall promote all pupils eligible for promotion.

6. Housing

Beginners, Primaries, and Juniors shall have separate quarters. This may be done by use of walls, portable screens, or curtains. At least fifty (50) per cent of the remaining classes or departments shall have classrooms provided in the same manner as for the Beginners, Primaries, and Juniors.

7. Use of Bibles

Eighty (80) per cent of pupils, teachers, and officers in attendance, above the Primary class or department, shall use their Bibles in the school.

The King James Version is recognized as the Standard Bible for use in all Sunday schools of the National Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention.

8. Preaching Attendance

Eighty (80) per cent of the pupils, teachers, and officers in attendance, above the Primaries, shall attend the preaching service.

9. Officers and Teachers

All officers and teachers shall be Christians whose membership is in the church in which they hold office or teach.

The school shall maintain a monthly officers' and teachers' meeting attended by at least seventy-five (75) per cent of the officers and teachers. Seventy-five (75) per cent of the officers and teachers shall hold Sunday School Training Institute diplomas for having completed the course of at least one Teachers' and Officers' Training Institute during the year.

The school shall conduct or attend at least one Teachers' and Officers' Training Institute each year.

10. Denominational Enterprises

The Standard Sunday school shall actively promote and support the following Free Will Baptist denominational works: Missions, Home and Foreign; Education; and benevolent projects. The school shall carry on this work in keeping with the program as arranged by the Director of Denominational Enterprises of the National Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention and shall, as a school, contribute each year to these worthy causes.

SECTION II.

Associational Requirments

The school shall be a member in good standing in its District Sunday School Convention.

The school, through its District Convention, shall be a composite part of the State Sunday School Convention. If there is no District or State Convention in which the Standard school may place its membership, it should cooperate with the Director of Organization in an effort to organize a District and a State Convention.

The school, through its District and State Convention, shall be actively engaged in the work of the National Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention.

The school shall support the program of work as outlined by the National Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention.

We recommend that a National Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention be organized during this session of the National Association.

We recommend that the National Sunday School Board serve as a Nominating Committee in the election of officers for the National Sunday School Convention. The officers to be elected are as follows: President, Vice President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Director of Organization, Director of Denominational Enterprises, Director of Literature, Director of Records and Reports, and Director of Publicity.

We recommend that the National Sunday School Convention meet annually on Monday of the week of the National Association.

We recommend that the officers of the National Sunday School Convention be empowered to outline and present the plan of work of the Convention for the ensuing year.

The National Sunday School Board, which has served heretofore, was dissolved at the National Association, and the National Sunday School Convention was organized.

— Signed, National Board

W. E. Coville, Chairman

L. E. Duncan

Rev. L. H. Wetherington (Proxy for Rev. R. P. Harris)

Rev. William Reeves (Proxy for Rev. Paul Purcell)

Clyde Goen (Proxy for Rev. Aston Pegues).

Free Will Baptist Sunday School LITERATURE

THE FREE Will Baptist Gem does not carry Free Will Baptist Sunday School literature in stock.

For a number of years, our Sister Publishing House, The Free Will Baptist Press, of Ayden, North Carolina, has supplied our denomination with Sunday School literature. They carry a complete line of literature, and supplies, such as registers, report books, superintendent's bell, and everything a first class Sunday School will need.

We advise that you send them your orders for Free Will Baptist literature and supplies.

For more complete information, ask for their catalogue.

— Editor of the Gem



... Inspired Poems ...

I Will Not Fear

By R. L. Cannady, Durham, N. C.

I will not fear what man may say
Or harm he'll bring to me;
'Tis He who dwells within my heart
Not I they wound, but Thee.

I dare not trust my strength alone
In cares of will and woe;
But to His blessed bosom flee
From stormy winds that blow.

I do not crave the lustful crown
Or climb the steps to gold;
For now I know that I am safe
And hid within the fold.

I do not seek for worldly praise
Not I that lives, but Thee;
But give me grace, dear Lord, to love
Mankind 'till evil flee.

I'll trust Thy blood to set me free
And guard my lifeless grave,
'Till Thou shall call to all who sleep,
Come forth, arise, 'tis day.

I know that thou keepest me
My needs I find in Thee,
And love and joy and peace is free,
How? Was blind but now I see.

I will not care what man may say
By grace I'll trust in Thee:
When death shall come and call me
home,
'Tis thou that lives, not me.

I'll brave life's griefs with faith aglow
In death I cling to Thee;
When dawn shall come I'll wake to see,
My Lord, my God to be.

PRAYER

Contributed By Mrs. Opal Frazier

I cannot ask in prayer to thee,
A lighter task be given me;
I cannot seek an easy way,
I am not weak or old or gay.

My only thought to trust thee still,
Since, what I ought is thy good will.
I cannot plead before Thy throne
Each selfish need I call my own.
But this the way and this the test:
If I can pray, what is, is best.

—(||-oOo-||)—

BE A BOOSTER

Contributed by Sam H. Marcum

If you think your church is the best,
Tell 'em so!
If you would have it lead the rest,
Help it grow!

When there is anything to do,
Let them always count on you;
You'll feel better when it's through,
And that's so!

When a brother from afar
Comes along,
Tell him who and what YOU are;
Make it strong!

Never flatter, never bluff,
Tell the truth, for that's enough!
Be a booster, that's the stuff,
Don't just belong!

PRAYER

Contributed By Mrs. Opal Frazier

Oh, God who prompts the tiniest bud
To waken in the spring,
Who teaches every small brown wren
His melody to sing.

Prompt one in every thought of mine
That I may think like thee,
And sing my song in perfect tune
With Heaven's harmony.

—(||-oOo-||)—

Can Any Doubt?

Contributed By Mrs. Opal Frazier

If God can touch the earth in spring,
And bring the flowers to blossoming;
If God can paint on western screens,
At eve, such marvellous sunset
scenes;

If God can drape the earth at night,
With silver veils of white moonlight,
Can any ever doubt that He
Holds in His hand eternity?

DO YOU KNOW?

How to open the windows of heaven
for the needed Blessing?

"Bring ye all the tithes into the
Storehouse —" Malachi 3:10.

DO YOU KNOW?

The Storehouse is where you are
fed — and not where you sleep.

Letters of Interest and Field Reports

Activities of a Busy Man in National Home Missionary Work

Dear Editor:

I am sending just a brief report of my work since coming from the National Association. The third Sunday in July, I went to Pearces Chapel, near Smithville, Mississippi, where we found the farmers very badly behind with their work, owing to so much rain, but the Lord blessed us with fine crowds day and night. Surely the presence of the Lord was felt mightily in these services, and eleven came out from the world, confessing Christ as their Savior and taking their place in the church to live for the glory of God.

Closing the services at the church

on Friday night, we went back to Red Bay, and from there to our church at Fawn Grove, Saturday night, where we found a large crowd assembled for the services.

Sunday morning at nine o'clock, we went to Beech Spring and enjoyed our regular early morning service with these good people, and then to our East Tupelo church for the eleven o'clock service, then back to Fawn Grove church for a two o'clock service, from there to Pearces Chapel for the Baptistal service at four o'clock, then back to East Tupelo for the last service of the day at eight p. m.

After preaching there, we drove 75 miles to Vernon, Alabama, where my family was, and left there early Monday morning for southern Alabama.

I drove 442 miles Monday, and started a meeting in one of Brother Daniel Pelt's churches, near Abbeville, Ala. that night. How the Lord did pour out His Spirit upon us there at Old Union Church during those few days that we were there together. We were only there from Monday night through Friday night. Twenty-six (26) confessed Christ and came into the church to live for God. We shall never forget those few days with this good pastor and his fine people.

Saturday morning, I left for Dukes, Florida. I drove 310 miles, where I am at this writing, in another meeting. This is the fifth year with these good people, doing the preaching for their revivals, and the Lord has wonderfully blessed us during the past four years, and we are hoping and praying that

this will be the greatest revival yet. Rev. Joe Fort is the pastor of this church, and he is a fine young man, well qualified and Spirit filled. His people dearly love him, and are helping him to accomplish much in the Master's service in this part of His moral vineyard.

Brother and Sister Willey are with us here at this time. Sister Willey spoke last night to a large crowd of interested listeners, and Bro. Willey is to speak today, and show the pictures tonight. They are leaving for Panama, and are making preparations to sail. I was happy to meet them again and have the privilege of hearing them speak. I pray God's very richest blessings upon them.

From here, I go to Belk, Alabama for a few day's meeting, and from there to Glennwood, Arkansas for another campaign against the powers of darkness. This will be my third consecutive year, with this fine people for their meeting, and oh, how the Lord has blessed our labors together for the past few years in the saving of the lost. Pray that this may be the greatest meeting of all the past. Surely, they have some of the very salt of the earth in this church.

After this meeting, I am to go to Huntsville, Texas for a meeting under the direction of the National Home Mission Board. Pray for the Lord's will to be done in all that we do.

Those making pledges at the National Association to the Home Mission Board, please send in your offerings as early as possible, so as to help us get a man on the field at the earliest possible moment.

Yours in the interest of the lost,
— Rev. M. L. Hollis

— (|||-oOo-|||) —

"The Fast Plan"

By Lizzie McAdams, Home Missionary

The "Fast Plan" had its birth in prayer, as all plans do for the Master. It was through deep meditation and prayer that the Fast Plan came to us.

The missionary program has been on our hearts for many years, and it has always been a problem to finance the work. While in prayer, the thought came. Let's see how many people we can get to fast (do without) one meal a week at ten cents, and at the end of the year, we would have money enough to put workers on the field.

This plan came a few days before the National Association, and as many

of you know, it was put before the house, and we received a number of names of those who wanted to join "The Fast Plan."

Before we left Paintsville, some were so taken with the splendid idea, of only 10c a week, that they paid a year in full. One lady from Ohio gave me \$1.00, but I failed to record her name properly. If she will drop me a card, I will get things straightened out. We intend to make a list of all names in both papers as fast as money accompanies the names.

You women could have a little jar in your kitchen cabinet, and each week drop in a dime until you get \$1.00, then send it in, or if you want to send in a year's donation at once, all the better. All funds will be sent directly to me on "The Fast Plan." I will turn it in at the next Association.

Huntsville, Texas, is my home address, but we will be here in Fredericktown, Missouri, for our next meeting, so you can send it here if you like, for the present.

Now we have a number of names and will send them in as soon as notified with the money. This is not for our women only. We would be glad to receive names from our men too. Next year we could put out at least two missionaries, home and foreign, and give a large sum to Christian education also. The following names are the ones that have paid in full for the year:

Mrs. Fannie Polston	\$5.20
Mrs. Christian	5.20
Mrs. Lizzie McAdams	5.20
Lady from Ohio	1.00

You can see by this, if every loyal Free Will Baptist would sacrifice one meal a week at ten cents, what could be done. If the person was of a nature that they couldn't fast, they could just join with a dime any way. This plan will bring in a large sum of money, if carried out. So please pray with us that the blessed Holy Spirit will touch hearts to respond to this God given plan.

— (|||-oOo-|||) —

Free Will Baptist Church HIGHLAND PARK, MICHIGAN

Dear Gem Readers:

July 7, 1940 was a glorious day for the people of the Highland Park Free Will Baptist Church, because they moved into their new church building at 242 Victor. We had an all day service with dinner on the ground.

There were around five hundred people at the opening. Everyone seemed to have enjoyed being present.

Since going into the new building everyone has been working hard for the Lord. We have had a two weeks revival held by our pastor, Rev. C. R. Riggs. There were many souls saved. We were honored by the presence of Mother Fowler at the revival.

Rev. C. R. Riggs and wife are taking a vacation in the south. All of the time they are gone, they will be in the Lord's service. Rev. A. W. Fowler of Flint will have charge of the services while Rev. Riggs is away.

The ladies' and men's prayer bands are progressing nicely. The young people's League has been started, after being dismissed for the summer. Everything is going along fine, and we pray that it will continue that way.

We ask to be remembered in prayer by each and everyone of you.

— (|||-oOo-|||) —

New Home Church Report TULSA, OKLAHOMA

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

I am happy today to be able to write a few lines to our paper. The Lord is the only one that knows how glad I am to get my *Gem* each month. I dearly love to read the good news that everyone writes. It is so sweet to know that God's children are all over the world. I love the scripture that says, "The earth shall be full of his knowledge and glory."

Some will say, "I can't live a Christian because my husband is not." I do know that if you stay true to God and never give up, the prize is at the end of the race that is run with patience. Read the book of Job. It should give us all courage, faith, and patience.

I am glad to report we are starting a revival in the near future. I earnestly ask you all to pray that God will bless in a mighty way.

We are having good Sunday School services, and we have a nice group of young people. They are learning the Bible. One boy memorized 100 verses of Scripture one week. Bro. Day is their teacher. He is really proud of his class.

May God bless you all, far and near, and please remember the New Home church when you pray that it will always be a soul saving station for Jesus.

Your Sister In Christ,

— Mrs. John Bacon.

Clifty, Arkansas August 14, 1940

Dear Bro. Rollins and Gem Readers:

As I haven't written to the Gem for some time, I will send in my report of the evangelistic work for the past year.

The good Lord has wonderfully blessed the feeble efforts that I have made in trying to win souls for Him. So, I am glad to report, by His help, the following:

Revivals Held	12
Sermons Preached	181
Professions Witnessed	105
Additions to the Church	64
Baptized	52
Ministers Ordained	4
Deacons Ordained	1
Funerals Conducted	6
Sick Calls	Several
Married	2 Couples
Miles Traveled	1,686
Money Received from Free Will Offerings	\$186.00
Money Received from Ten Cent Offerings	73.00
Total Amount Received	\$259.00
Expense	61.42
Balance	\$197.58

I am also glad to report that the Old Mt. Zion Association, of Free Will Baptists, met August 9, 1940, with the Cottage Hill church. The good Lord was with us, and wonderfully blessed throughout the session. They re-elected me as District Evangelist of the Association. As I feel my weakness to do this work, I humbly ask you all who read this to pray for me that God will bless and save souls again this year.

Some of the visitors were Eld. O. T. Allred and Eld. John B. Rollins from the Indian Creek Association, and Bro. Clyde Clift and Sister Hester Sugg and other brothers and sisters from the Old Union Association of United Baptists.

We sure did have a wonderful Communion service. There were 60 that took part in the feet washing service, and there was some old time shouting during the service. Thank God for people who love the Lord, and that are willing to work for Him.

Bro. Bill Oxford and I are in a revival at Lone Star. Please pray for us, and may God bless you all.

— Eld. Cecil O. Garrison

Hazel Park, Michigan

To the Gem Family:

As I read, with interest, the many news items, subjects and articles of general interest, I take pleasure to attempt to tell of some of our experiences for the past few months. After having several weeks of very pleasant engagements in the Ohio Valley, vicinity of Ashland, Kentucky, we returned to our own pastorate, (First Free Will Baptist, Hazel Park) to spend only a few weeks looking after the interest of our oncoming revival which started the first Sunday in May, with Eld. L. E. Colliver, of Ashland, Kentucky, as Evangelist. This meeting, though of comparative short duration (two weeks), proved to be a very successful campaign.

After selecting Eld. C. E. Riggs, of Arkansas, as supply pastor, we returned with Eld. Colliver, to Ashland, Kentucky, to resume our teaching activities (gospel in song).

After a very pleasant engagement with the Christian Baptist, Westwood Station, of Ashland, we engaged with the Rev. Curry, pastor of the Twenty-first Street Tabernacle. A very pleasant two weeks was spent with these people, I would like to make special mention of many deserving a place but time and lack of space forbids.

Then we attended the State Association of Free Will Baptists that convened with Sandy City church (Eld. L. E. Colliver, pastor), Ashland, Kentucky, on Friday before the third Sunday in June. A wonderful time was had by all attending this Association, at the close of which we engaged in another two week's singing school; this being our second engagement at this place having been with them some ten weeks previous.

Our next engagement, which marked the close of our activities (this section) for the time being, was held with the Christian Baptist, at Summit, where the Rev. C. E. Caldwell is pastor. This proved a very pleasant session, and to say the least, it was indeed a pleasure to work with the pastors and their congregations of all these churches, being also privileged to preach for them along as time afforded.

At the close of the recent engagement, I returned home to make preparation, in company with the family, Mrs. Gates and two sons, Graydon DeArmond and Lowell W., to attend the National Association when con-

vened at Paintsville, Kentucky. To say this was a very pleasant week of enjoyment is only speaking mildly. The many items of interest and wonderful sermons were really a "Soul-feast" from Heaven above.

Leaving the Association on Friday, we set out motoring across the mountains and viewing some of the historic scenes of old Kentucky, finding a cabin home at Hopkinsville Friday night, continuing our trip the next day on to our old home in northeast Arkansas. We preached at one of our home churches the following day. Then on the evening of the same day, filled the pulpit at the Hopewell church (Missionary Baptist) near Datto, Arkansas, where we engaged in a two week's school. This was indeed a very pleasant engagement for more than one reason, that of having the pleasure of teaching former pupils again, having had several like engagements some years ago. It reminds me of the Apostle Paul going back and reviewing his work of former years.

On the fourth Sunday (July) we had the pleasure of visiting our old church of many years ago (Pirtle church), Peach Orchard, Arkansas, where we had taught several schools, served as Sunday School superintendent, and director of the choir for a number of years, dating back over a period of some quarter of a century. You know it was indeed a real treat to get to visit, sing with, and preach to this good audience of people anxious to hear "The Old Fashion Gospel" yet new being presented by a son of former years, and to be greeted by the friendship and Christian fellowship of old friends, is like a taste of Heaven here on earth.

Next was the "Homecoming" service (first Sunday in August) at the Old Peyno church near Biggers, Arkansas, the place of our first engagement on our arrival. Many items of interest were enjoyed on this occasion.

At the present writing, August 6, we are engaged in a school at Pocahontas, at the close of which we will return to Ashland, Kentucky, to resume our teaching activities there. Our next engagement will be with the Sandy City M. E. church, beginning August 19.

Still singing, teaching, and preaching 'til Jesus comes.

Yours In His Name,

— N. P. Gates

Sunday School Convention CULLODEN, WEST VIRGINIA

Our Sunday School Convention convened with the Susanah Free Will Baptist Church at Culloden, West Va., on August 2, 3, and 4, 1940.

The president, Eld. J. C. Wilcox of Huntington, W. Va., took charge of the convention. The address of welcome was given by Eld. A. A. Collins of Milton, W. Va.; response by Eld. J. M. Henson. The clerk being absent, John M. Henson was elected clerk, pro tem.

A sermon was delivered by Eld. C. F. Ferguson of Wayne, W. Va.; Subject: "Love." Eld. John M. Henson preached the convention sermon, subject: "Spare Lines" Luke 15:17. An altar call was made; several raised their hands for prayer.

At the Saturday morning session, the minutes were read and approved, and all committees were appointed. Reports from the Sunday Schools were read and approved; eight Sunday Schools reported.

At eleven o'clock a sermon was delivered by Eld. John Dale of St. Alfans, W. Va., subject: "Christ Proving Himself by the Prophets" Luke 24:27; a powerful message and a great demonstration of the Spirit.

Dismissed for lunch and re-assembled at 2:00 o'clock for service. Called to order by Scripture reading and prayer. Committees reported and business disposed of in order.

The Thomas memorial Free Will Baptist Sunday School won the banner for the year.

The following officers were elected: Deacon E. B. Legge of Huntington, W. Va., president; Deacon W. C. Bowman of Gorden, W. Va., vice-president; Eld. John M. Henson of Hurricane, W. Va., clerk.

Sermon preached by Eld. A. A. Collins; Text: Psalms 23. The message was concluded by Eld. Jack Farlin of Milton, W. Va., followed by several testimonies.

At the night service a short talk was made by John Henson about foreign missions. A free will offering was taken for missions amounting to \$1.55. Motion carried that we take \$5.00 from the treasury for foreign missions.

Motion carried that Bro. E. B. Legge be elected as our delegate to the Yearly Meeting; Sister Lula Legge, alternate.

Motion carried that we adjourn until Friday before the first Sunday in August 1941 to meet with the Elizabeth Sunday School at Garden, W. Virginia, Sunday School was opened Sunday

morning by Supt. Cecil Chapman. Preaching service was conducted by Eld. A. O. Berry; concluded by John Henson. One soul came for prayer and prayed to victory—a great rejoicing time.

Dismissed by Eld. A. A. Collins.

— Mrs. Mary Henson.

— (||-oOo-||) —

Greenfield, Missouri

Dear Gem Readers:

What impresses me this morning, is to be steadfast, and is just what it means—to be steadfast.

I think of the many different kinds of people we come in contact with. I think of how firm and steadfast and unmoveable we should be so that our lives will stand out as a testimony for Christ and how it effects the lives of sinners. I want to say right here that a Christian can't bring in herbs of the world and be a soul winner for Jesus; 2 Kings 4:39.

I might say when we go into a revival we go out to win the lost to Christ, and all along the way sinners have been watching our lives. If we haven't been steadfast they know it. They have no confidence in us and begin to cry out, "There is death in the pot" 2 Kings 4:40. May the Lord help us all, in this great time of need, to stand firm and steadfast, no matter what or who comes our way. I know it some times seems hard for us, to just stand out seemingly alone and say "I'm a Christian." But that is just what Jesus wants us to do. Jesus said, "I will never leave nor forsake thee." Praise His dear name! I know I am just a sinner saved by grace. I am so thankful for the urge and pushing out my blessed Master has given me. I want to be a more worthy servant for Him.

I ask an interest in all your prayers that I will hold on to God's unchanging hand and be a soul winner for Him.

— Carrie Glenn.

— (||-oOo-||) —

First Free Will Baptist Church of California PORTERVILLE, CALIFORNIA

Eld. C. D. Findley, Pastor

Mrs. Alvin Long, Church Clerk

Fern L. Findley, Reporter

You will note from the above heading, that we claim the distinction of being the first Free Will Baptist church on the west coast.

Our church was organized June 4, 1940 with eleven charter members. At the present time that number has increased to twenty-six.

We are, as you see, small in numerical strength; but our spiritual strength seems almost unlimited." All of our members are willing and eager workers, and God is indeed blessing our efforts.

At our last business conference, it was decided that we should, as a Free Will Baptist church, support our church paper. To that end, we are endeavoring to place a *Gem* in every family of the church. All of us, who have read the paper, are enthusiastic in our approval. Anyone who reads it can't help but be strengthened by its spiritual messages.

On a recent trip to the southern part of the state, I was privileged to visit another group soon to be organized into a Free Will Baptist church. Already they have a growing Sunday School, and their zeal and enthusiasm is a pleasure to witness.

We are looking forward to the strengthening and continual development of our denomination, and through God's grace we know we shall progress. We very earnestly ask your prayers for our church.

— (||-oOo-||) —

LINGLE, WYOMING

August 10, 1940

To the Gem Readers Everywhere:

Greetings in Jesus' name!

We will give a brief report of our work. For the past two months, we have been on the go. We preached at several places in Missouri after closing our last meeting, which was at the Hickory Grove church near Harrisonville, Missouri. In these services we witnessed two conversions at our Third Fork church, near St. Joseph, Missouri.

On July 20, we started on our trip west. Our first stop was at the Hickory Grove church near Haddam, Kansas, where Bro. Roy Lee Hancock is full-time pastor. Here we had five services; Sunday morning until Wednesday night. Two young women were at the altar Sunday morning and a mother at the night service. All of these professed faith in Christ. We had a good visit with Bro. and Sister Hancock, and met many new people.

We enjoyed a good visit and dinner with Bro. and Sister Bonesteel at Washington, Kansas. We also visited the Rev. Latimer, his wife and daughter. Rev. Latimer was once

pastor in Northeast and also Northwest Missouri.

From Haddam we came on to the Black Wood school house near Edison, Nebraska. Here we found a few faithful Free Will Baptists; also some Free Methodist. This little flock has been without a pastor for many years. Sister Maggie White, Bro. and Sister Frank Cross, and Bro. and Sister Pickett are charter members and perhaps others that I can not call. We were here for ten services. One young married man prayed through to victory. Here, we were like the Apostle Paul. We were in a strait between two, a desire to stay longer and, at the same time, that pull to go on westward to see my dear mother that is past 80 years old and almost blind. I had promised some time ago, in a letter, that if the Lord wills, I would see her by August 15. We aim to make this promise good.

We stopped over at Mitchell, Nebr., where we lived many years ago. Here we saw several old friends, and also had a street service at night.

At this writing we are at my sister's. We will start on to Riverton, Wyoming Monday to see my mother and brother. we are billed to hold a meeting there. We ask you all to pray for us.

Yours In Christ,

— Sam H. Marcum and Wife, Daisy
Home Address: Cameron, Mo.

— (|||-oOo-|||) —

Arkansas State Meeting of Young People's League

The young people's League of Free Will Baptists of Arkansas meets at the Walnut Grove church in Pope County, Arkansas, October 2, 1940.

On Wednesday night the officers of the League are to be introduced by W. A. Hearron, Moderator of the State Association. A program is to be presented by the local League, followed by a sermon by Rev. Chas. Staten, State League president.

The Thursday morning session will be opened by singing; devotional by Beatrice Smith of New Hope; and prayer by Eld. J. D. Doyle.

Topic — "The Meaning of Stewardship," discussed by Gene Davis of Reyno.

Topic — "Approved Stewardship," discussed by Gladys Smith.

Quartette number; followed by a reading by Ruthir Mar Taylor.

Topic — "Stewardship of Life," by Cecil Garrison.

Topic — "Stewardship of Service," by Elsie Lawless.

Topic — "Stewardship of Possessions" by Clara Hearron.

Topic — "Three Results of Stewardship," by Mrs. C. E. Wilson.

Topic — "Tithing" by Mrs. Edith Brooks Collins.

Topic — "Defence of the Truth," by Eld. Ralph Staten.

During the afternoon session, officers will be elected and business taken care of.

— Mrs. W. A. Hearron.

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Merl's Chapel League Report CASSVILLE, MISSOURI

Dear Gem Readers:

As I have never written to you through the Gem, I am happy to have the opportunity of telling you about our League at Merl's Chapel.

We have an enrollment of thirty-eight members. Almost fifty-eight percent of the members are young people, who are very active in the Lord's service. We, as young Christians, are thankful for the older soldiers of the cross who help us in our League service, and are setting a good example for us to follow in order that we may be in the greater fields of the Lord's service.

We don't very often dismiss League service unless there is a revival or some religious service near-by where most of us can attend. Some of us haven't been League members very long, but it has been a great help to us.

We have as our president, Marion Black, who is a fine Christian worker, and who seems to always say the right things just at the right time.

Our officers for the year are:

President Marion Black
Vice President Dorothy Bush
Group Captain Marjorie Black
Ass't. Group Captain .. Carolyn Bush
Quiz Leader Bobby Lee Black
Secretary Dorothy Lovell

We elected Marjorie Black and Dorothy Bush as League delegates to go to the Association at Blue Eye, Mo.

Truly, God answered prayers in our behalf when He let us keep Brother Weston for our pastor for the ensuing year. We feel that Bro. Weston has brought some inspiring messages, and how we thank God for him.

Our aim is to win souls to Christ and do more for the advancement of His cause in this world than ever before. — Dorothy Lovell, Secretary

Fredericktown, Missouri

August 5, 1940

Dear Co-workers:

It has been some time since we sent in a report. Our meeting at Leadington, Mo., was a hard battle, and long too. The devil fought hard for the victory, but with the splendid co-operation of the dear pastor and his people, the victory was won. Brother and Sister Dewesse are fine people to work with. They are young in the work yet, but promising for the future. We have some splendid young preachers in the "Lead Belt."

Bro. Miller and Bro. Dodd, and their churches, were a wonderful help in the meeting too, for which we are very thankful. God bless them. It took faithful personal work from the start, and yet many homes were still unsaved at the close of the meeting.

Cottage prayer meetings were conducted in homes, in the latter part of the revival, which proved a blessing. At the close of the meeting, we had 79 conversions and reclaims; 24 baptized and a number united with the church.

We felt the great power of God from the start, and many were blessed from different churches. We closed on Monday night and came on to Fredericktown, where Bro. S. A. Hand is pastor, and began a meeting Saturday night. The crowds have been large up to date, and the interest is good. Pray for us, that God will give us an old fashioned soul stirring revival, that will be felt for miles. God bless our kindred in the Lord everywhere.

Yours for Jesus,

— H. M. and Lizzie McAdams.

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REVIVAL AT Brilliant, Alabama

Dear Gem Readers:

May I be allowed to tell you of the wonderful meeting we have just experienced in our little church at Brilliant-Boston, Alabama.

Rev. J. R. Bennett of North Carolina had charge of the preaching services during our meeting, which began Tuesday night, July 30, and continued through Sunday night, August 11.

Our pastor, Bro. A. J. Lambert, was with us during part of the meeting but had to leave to begin another meeting before our meeting was over. So every thing was left in the capable hands of Bro. Bennett to carry on the services.

We thank God for sending a man like Bro. Bennett our way, and trust that he may again be with us some day. We feel that he is a man of God, and is fighting sin and the Devil uncompromisingly. We feel that he has been a great influence, for good, in our church, and helped us to grow stronger and more steady in the Master's work.

Although Bro. Bennett is a big man in size, we feel that, at heart, he is just an humble servant of the Lord, trying to get others to see and know Jesus.

How I wish many of you could have witnessed our Sunday morning service the last day of the meeting.

Bro. Bennett, with tears in his eyes, said, "I think I have about fought my limit. I feel it is now time to stand still and see the Glory of the Lord."

After a very touching message he made an altar call, to which many responded, and happy shouts rang through the building at the returning of friends and loved ones long absent from the fold.

Thirty-five (35) were added to the church during the meeting. Twenty-one (21) were baptized Sunday afternoon, as many people stood at the water's edge to witness the beautiful scene.

The last service was Sunday night, at which wonderful advice was given to the church at large, after which we entered into the Communion services.

The house was packed to capacity, and many people partook of the Lord's supper; fifty-six took part in the humble but beautiful service of feet washing.

If you think we aren't on the firing line for God, just visit our church at Brilliant-Boston, Alabama. We bid you welcome.

Praying friends, we ask an interest in your prayers.

Yours in the Master's Service,

—Mrs. James Pugh.

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First Free Will Baptist Church TULSA, OKLAHOMA

Rev. Melvin Bingham, Pastor

T. J. Cope, Reporter

Well, neighbors, here we are again; not much to report this month. We thought our pastor might have something for us to report regarding the National Association; but it seems as

though he was always serving on one committee or another while there. However, Sister Bingham, our good pastor's wife, reports a wonderful time and from what we gathered from the several persons we talked to that were there, it was indeed a wonderful Association.

At our church conference Tuesday night, August 6, three delegates and three alternates were elected to attend the First Mission Association which follows the ten day camp meeting that is now in progress at the Free Will Baptist Camp Ground, about 35 miles from Tulsa, near Drumright.

We are having some wonderful services there now. Bro. Harry Stairs and Bro. West are bringing wonderful messages. The power of God is being demonstrated and the congregations are seeing and feeling the need of salvation. A goodly number have already been saved; some at nearly every service.

On last Wednesday night, the Tulsa church was represented by the League. The League had the honor of conducting the song service.

A social entertainment was given at Bro. and Sister Parker's home in Tulsa August 13, by the Men's and Ladies' Bible Class. Bro. Parker has been our Bible teacher and chorus leader for several years—a faithful servant of the Lord who never says "no" when called to duty.

There were around 40 present at the social. Five gallons of ice cream and a bountiful supply of cake was served. Bro. Bingham's talk was enjoyed by all. Never have we seen the spirit of good fellowship prevail as we did that evening.

Our Sunday School and church service have dropped some since our last report, but when the weather cools down and vacation season is ended, we will be right up to par again.

Last night, August 16, the League gave a mellow feast at the Mohawk Park. A wonderful time was enjoyed and some 70 were in attendance; about 60 of which were youngsters.

We are looking forward to October 22, when the State Association comes to Tulsa. We are expecting a vast number and making preparations accordingly. Remember, everybody, the Association voted for those who register to bring one dollar (\$1.00). So, here is the answer: You help—we help. Everybody has a good time. Thank you, we knew you would.

I am sorry I do not have any new subscriptions this month, but I have several promises next month.

Well, goodbye neighbors, for thirty days. May the Lord bless you. Pray for us.

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Holly Grove Sunday School MARIANNA, FLORIDA

Our Sunday School is composed of Methodists, Free Will Baptists and Missionary Baptists—all working here in our little community together. We had no church, Sunday school or prayer meeting, so we begin to have prayer meeting at the home of Bro. John R. Potter.

Now, since the first of July, we have a brush harbor and have been having Sunday school every Sunday afternoon, also prayer meeting every Wednesday night.

We are having good crowds, and our work is going on fine. I want all of you to pray for our Sunday school and prayer meeting, that we will grow and prosper, and do great work here in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

—Mrs. Floyd Padgett.

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LINDSAY, CALIFORNIA

Dear Gem Readers:

We have just subscribed to your paper, and I wish to tell you our good news.

The Lord is blessing Bro. Chas. Findley at Porterville in the newly organized Free Will Baptist church. My soul is filled with joy as I listen to his sermons; preaching with power of the Holy Spirit, the unsearchable things of God, His power to save sinners and His power to keep His people saved.

It has been thirty years since the Lord saved me and praise God, I am still saved by His grace. I am more determined than ever to live for my Lord, to honor and glorify Him, and tell the good news wherever I go.

May each one of us let our light shine for Jesus wherever we go. My husband and I heard Bro. Findley's father preach at the Ashley church in Missouri many years ago.

Yours in Christ,

—Susie Whitaker.

MADISON COUNTY QUARTERLY MEETING

The Madison County Quarterly Meeting met with the Golden Gate (better known as the Copper Mines) church on July 31, at 7:30, which was well attended by both local and visitors.

Rev. Woodrow Matthews, one of our young licensed ministers, brought the message of the evening. Subject: "Faith." An encouraging message was delivered; followed by Rev. Sister Lizzie McAdams. The service was enjoyed by everyone.

Thursday morning, August 1, a good delegation was present from each church, except one. The Lord was present from the very first; giving perfect spiritual harmony and fellowship. Rev. J. L. Yancey, our good moderator, was re-elected; Brother Nicholas Womack, assistant; and Rev. Wm. Reeves was re-elected clerk-treas. Rev. Woodrow Matthews was elected board member.

The ten o'clock service was opened by a real spiritual song service, followed by a testimony meeting. The message was delivered by Rev. Wm. Reeves.

Our business session in the afternoon was wonderful. All of the "I's" were either left at home or were driven so far back that the "I want's," "I think's" and "I won't's" were converted into "I will's." God wonderfully blessed our business session by the licensing of a young minister. Bro. Nicholas Womack was elected as keeper of records. He is to compile all old records and papers belonging to the Quarterly Meeting. The election of a reporter and many other regular routines of business were transacted.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held with the Golden Oak (Mill Creek) church at Mill Creek, Missouri, Oct. 30-31. The Wednesday evening message will be delivered by our young preacher, Rev. Homer Huffman; Rev. Wm. Reeves, alternate.

Our work is progressing fine. God is blessing the work in a number of our churches, laying His hand upon a number of our young people and calling them to preach His word.

— Mildred Howes, Reporter
Fredericktown, Missouri

Missouri State Treasurer Reports

FOREIGN MISSION FUND

Mt. Olive (Neola) Mission Circle	\$1.00
True Blue Class, Mt. Olive S. S.	1.00
James Vincent, Greenfield, Mo.	2.00
Catherine Justice, Monett, Mo.	.50
Shibleys Point Church	1.00
Oak Grove Church (of Mo. State Association)	2.00
Amity Church	2.00
Hazel Creek Union Church	5.29
Mine La Motte Sunday School	1.00
Macedonia Church	1.60
New Harmony Mission Circle	5.00
Carterville League	1.32

EDUCATIONAL FUND

Mrs. John L. Wilson, Anderson, Mo.	.50
J. L. Wilson, Anderson, Mo.	.30
Southeast Missouri Yearly Meeting by C. B. Dees, Field Worker	11.00
Mrs. Lou Carter, Aurora, Mo.	1.00
Macedonia Church, Purdy, Mo.	2.50

PUBLISHING HOUSE FUND

Leading on Sunday School	2.47
A. D. Elsea, Stahl, Missouri	.50

BUDGET FUND

Collection, National Association	\$10.50
Summit Church	1.25
Verdella Church	1.75

— Winford Davis, Sec.-Treas.

WORSE THAN LEPROSY

Alcoholism is worse than leprosy, for there is now a cure for the latter. It is worse than typhoid, for with proper care the typhoid patient will recover, and regain normal health. It is worse than smallpox, for vaccination has robbed this disease of most of its horrors. Even scarlet fever, with its possible after-effects, is more to be desired than alcoholism, for the patient may die, or be maimed in an honorable way, with prospect of recovery; but alcoholism is a disease from which few recover, and it often brings a disgraceful death. One doctor said he would rather his child would have a case of tuberculosis than to develop alcoholism. "Both lead to certain death," he said, "but tuberculosis brings at least an honorable death."

— From *The Gospel Messenger*.

A TITHER'S SIX SURPRISES

First: At the deepening of his spiritual life in paying the tithe.

Second: At the ease in meeting his own obligations with the ninth-tenths.

Third: At the amount of money that he has for the Lord's work.

Fourth: At the ease in going from one-tenth to larger giving.

Fifth: At the preparation that tithing gives to be a faithful and wise steward over the nine-tenths that remain.

Sixth: At himself, in that he had not adopted the plan sooner.

— From "The Gospel Messenger"

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Questions to Ponder Over

Do you speak of the faults of others unnecessarily?

Do you love to hear others praised when God has worked through them?

Can you rejoice to see another succeed when you have failed?

In every heart there is a supreme place a sort of throne. Who sits in yours, an idol, self, or God?

Can you pretend to love Christ without exerting yourself for the spiritual welfare of those for whom He died?

Do you give hard judgment on sins to which you have never been tempted, while full of excuses for your own sins?

Do you really seek to see all the good in others, overlooking the things that may be bad?

Do you get real pleasure from your prayers, reading and meditation on Holy things; or do you go through them to satisfy the demands of conscience, or are you secretly glad when they are over?

"Search me, oh God"—Psa. 139:23.

— From "The Gospel Messenger"

DO YOU KNOW?

If there were any other requirement than "believe" for saving faith for salvation, he could not have said "who-soever will." The sick and dying can do nothing, but they can believe. The blind can believe, the lame can believe, the poor can believe—It is not an assent in the head, but faith in the heart that brings results. Acts 8:37.

DO YOU KNOW?

Why the gospel of John was written? It was written "That ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing ye might have life through his name." Jno. 20:13

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OKLAHOMA STATE ASSOCIATION

An announcement has been made that this Association will be held with the First Free Will Baptist church of Tulsa, Oklahoma instead of the Dibble church; the change had to be made on account of some building improvements being made. The Association begins October 22, 1940.

WEST VIRGINIA STATE ASS'N.

This Association will convene with the Mill Creek Free Will Baptist church at Pecks Mill, Logan County, West Virginia, beginning on Friday before the fourth Sunday in September.

All Free Will Baptist Ministers of West Virginia are urged to attend as important business concerning our state work will be taken up at this meeting.

Eld. John M. Henson, Moderator
D. V. Shaffer, Clerk.

A CORRECTION

Our attention has been called to the fact that in listing the Foreign Missionary Budget for the ensuing year, we omitted West Virginia which was \$50.00.

Here is the complete budget:

North Carolina	\$1200.00
Missouri	700.00
Tennessee	600.00
Ohio	400.00
Texas	300.00
Oklahoma	250.00
South Carolina	150.00
Georgia	150.00
Alabama	100.00
Virginia	100.00
West Virginia	50.00
Mississippi	50.00
Kentucky	50.00
Florida	50.00
Illinois	50.00

BLANKS

Ministers' Ordination Blanks..... 10c
Ministers' License Blanks..... 10c
Deacons' Ordination Blanks..... 10c
These blanks are 8½x11 inches, and are suitable for framing.

We also furnish letter forms for a letter from a church to a Quarterly Meeting, Association or Yearly Meeting, also from an Association or Yearly Meeting to the State Association. Prices 5c each, or 6 for 25c.

A BIBLICAL ANALYSIS ON HELL—A Hand Book

By John B. Rollins

A treatise on the subject in a three-fold way: As a Commentary, a Lexicon, and a Concordance; embracing the cardinal doctrine of an Intermediate State between Death and the Resurrection; and Eternal Torment, with distinctions between Hell and the Grave. Just the book every preacher and Christian worker needs. Price, postpaid 15c each

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