

Susillo Maberry #2

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

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

Vol. XII No. 11

Monett, Missouri, November, 1940

50 cents per year.



The Free Will Baptist Church Bryan, Texas

See Article on Page Fourteen

The list of pastors having served this church during its history is as follows: Rev. A. M. Stewart, Rev. Cumber, Rev. Chapman, Rev. Mrs. Lizzie McAdams, Rev. Searcy, Rev. Morris, Rev. J. J. Tatum, Rev. Wheeler, Rev. C. B. Thompson, Rev. Moore (supply), Rev. M. L. Hollis, Rev. E. C. Morris, Rev. I. J. Blackwelder, Rev. E. S. Phinney, Rev. L. C. Johnson (supply), and Rev. J. R. Davidson.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM
Organ of
The Free Will Baptist Church

Published Monthly at Monett, Mo.

John B. Rollins Editor
Herbert Henderson .. Associate Editor

Entered as Second Class Matter
July 14, 1939, at the Post Office
Monett, Missouri, under the Act of
March 3, 1879.

TERMS

50 cents per year, cash in advance.
Paper will be discontinued when sub-
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We are always glad to receive arti-
cles, letters, reports, etc. from our
readers for publication in the Gem,
along any line that will help the
Cause.

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Live in the Spirit

God Heareth Not Sinners

Now we know that God heareth
not sinners, but if any man be a
worshipper of God, and doeth His
will, him He heareth" John 9:31.

The only prayer the sinner can offer
to God is —

"God be merciful to me a sinner."

— From *The Gospel Messenger*

Someone has said, "No dew falls on
a stormy night." We cannot hope or
pray for the dew of heaven to fall
on our lives if we do not live in His
spirit. For in Ephesians 4:30 He
tells us:

"And grieve not the Holy Spirit of
God where by ye are sealed unto the
day of redemption."

— From *The Gospel Messenger*

The New Editor and Life in the Office



About the most exciting thing that ever happened took place when the New Editor arrived. He got here at 4:15 a. m. Monday, October 28, with the assistance of our valueable friend, Dr. L. H. Ferguson. The weight of his dignity was the full sum of eleven pounds

The *Monett Times* carried this item:

"It's a boy—Mr. and Mrs. John B. Rollins, 214 Third Street, announce the birth of a son this morning. He has been named John Erroll."

Yes sir, that's true to the name. His grandfather Rollins was "John."

His proud daddie is "John" and his grandfather Turner was "J. E." Now, why shouldn't he be "all wool and a yard wide," deep-toned, black-headed, cut and out and all over, John Erroll Rollins!

And he is the New Editor. He has already been trained (we trust) for printers are born, and not made.

We are happy to make this presentation of the New Editor to our great *Gem* family, for God has made marvelous visitations unto those that love and serve Him.

The Mother and Queen is improving nicely.

A BETTER GEM

In our opinion, this is the best *Gem* we ever printed. The printing is good, the material used is rich, and the plan or organization is complete.

The Table of Contents reveals that some well developed plan of organization has been used in arranging the "Departments."

National Free Will Baptist Enterprises hold first place in these columns, and rightfully so. Missouri Enterprises hold an important place because the *Gem* is owned by the Missouri State Association. However, any enterprise sponsored by any organization in any state within our denomination has a welcome in the columns of the *Gem*.

The Department of Gospel Sermons

is open to all. We have good sermons, and had more this time than we could print. They will be as good in subsequent issues.

The letters and reports are varied and interesting. They reveal the real working phases of our denomination.

The Obituaries, and the Poems complete the paper.

We heartily thank everyone for the good manuscript, and are sorry the paper isn't large enough to carry all that was sent in.

1700 copies of the *Gem* were printed this month. A few sample copies will be available.

Subscribe to the *Gem*, read its pages, ask your friends to subscribe. When your subscription expires, renew it! With your co-operation, our religious *Gem* will grow bigger and better.

OUR PUBLICATIONS

The *Gem* Office has enjoyed a real good business. Perhaps half of the month of October was spent in making two eight-hour shifts a day. Here are our winter's publication thus far:

- 1250 copies, August issue of the *Gem*.
- 500 copies, 72-page, Women's Auxiliary Manual.
- 1350 copies, September issue of the *Gem*.
- 300 copies, 20-page Minute, Old Mt. Zion Association.
- 200 copies, 15-page Minute, Hopewell.
- 1550 copies, October issue of the *Gem*.
- 500 copies, 20-page Minute, Tennessee State Association.
- 200 copies, 24-page Minute, Indian Creek Association.
- 300 copies, 24-page Minute, Arkansas Association.
- 525 copies, 24-page Minute, First Mission Association.
- 500 copies, 56-page, Standard Sunday School Manual.
- 1700 copies, November issue of the *Gem*

The prospects for November are good. We have about nine jobs already in the office which will be disposed of in this order as fast as we can produce them:

- Minutes, Central Western Mo. and S. E. Kans. Association.
- Minutes, Harmony Association.
- Minutes, Roberts-McGee Association.
- Minutes, Christian Unity Baptist Ass'n.
- Minutes, Liberty Association.
- Minutes, Eastern Oklahoma Ass'n.
- Minutes, Guyan Valley Quarterly Meeting.
- By-Laws, Guyan Valley Quarterly Meeting.
- 3000 copies, Free Will Baptist Treatise.

The Editor and Office Staff look forward with appreciation to a goodly number of 16-hour days of hard labor between now and Christmas.

We do not have the manuscript for the Treatise yet, but I think the Editorial Committee are about through with it.

Subscribe to the *Gem*!

National Free Will Baptist Enterprises

Our National Organization

Rev. James F. Miller, Moderator of the National Association, Novinger, Mo.

For many years, the Free Will Baptists have longed for a unified program. At the National Association in Paintsville, Kentucky, in July, 1940, there was the longest step made in that direction that most of the Free Will Baptists have ever seen.

The plan for the change in the national set-up grew up in a committee meeting where the program of education was being discussed. We realize that a school is one of the greatest needs of our church today, but to have that school the Free Will Baptist people, everywhere must become interested in such an institution. To interest people in the school or any of the different enterprises of the church, there must be a workable program submitted to them. How to do that is our problem.

The idea of a General Board grew up in a season of prayer. Heretofore, we have had an Executive Board of five members selected by the National Association, which simply meant that no more than five states could have a representative on the Board. Now the General Board is composed of the chairman of each of the standing boards, together with one member from each state having a state organization; to this number is added the officers of the National Association. This Board has the oversight of the work of the National Association of Free Will Baptists between the regular sessions, and are to prepare a program of work to be submitted to the National Body when in the regular session. The General Board is to submit to the Body all business transacted for the approval of the body.

It is hoped that through the efficiency of the General Board, a program can be worked out so that we can be uniform. We are anxious to have Missions, Education, Orphanages, Publication, Superannuation, etc. None of us wish to see a single phase of the work fail or suffer, but we need to have some system by which all can be equally supported. We believe, through

this medium of a General Board, and a national secretary elected by the General Board, such a workable program can, and will be submitted to the



James F. Miller

Free Will Baptists in July, 1941, while in regular session at Drumright, Okla. If this is done and our people will co-operate in the promotion of the program, we will see our dreams come true. We will have every thing that we need to send the Gospel into the world.

The secret of all our sessions depends upon the attitude of our heart toward God. If we keep God in the lead, we succeed. If we get in the lead and expect to tell God what to do, we fail.

Now do not get the wrong impression, the General Board is not to tell the Association what they must do, but they are the servants of the Association, and stand ready to help in any way possible. We shall at all times feel it our sacred duty to safeguard the interests of our beloved denomination. We hope, as a General Board, to serve you so that you will never have cause to regret that we have been your representatives.

Prayerfully Submitted.

National Executive Secretary

*By Rev. Henry Melvin, Chairman of Executive Committee of General Board
1211 E. Main, Durham, North Carolina*



Rev. L. R. Ennis

For several years, there has been a growing consciousness among Free Will Baptists that we needed to unify the work of our denomination. This consciousness was so keenly felt at the last session of the National Association that steps toward a unified denominational program were undertaken.

The first step in this program was the election of a General Board, composed of the standing officers of the National body, chairman of each standing Board, and one member elected from each state active in the Association, to inaugurate and pursue such a unified program. The scope of the work is such that it is an impossibility to promote such a program through standing boards alone.

The Executive Committee of the General Board so readily saw this

that steps were taken to elect and secure the services of a National Executive Secretary. The duties of such an Executive Secretary shall be the prosecution of a unified denominational program as outlined by the standing boards and the General Board of the National Association.

With a unanimous vote, the Executive Committee elected Rev. L. R. Ennis as National Executive Secretary. It is the purpose of the Committee to locate the Executive Secretary at some central point as soon as practicable, but for the present an office is being maintained at 709 Park Avenue, Goldsboro, North Carolina.

Rev. Mr. Ennis is not a stranger to Free Will Baptists. He attended the Free Will Baptist Seminary, Campbell College, Moody Bible Institute, Duke University and did research work

at Northern Bible College. Mr. Ennis for a number of years pastored some of the leading churches in the eastern section of North Carolina. In all his career as a minister, he has been most profoundly an outstanding doctrinal preacher. He possesses a rare gift in dealing with the great fundamental doctrines of the Word as well as being "In possession of rare gifts as an evangelist." Mr. Ennis has also had wide experience in Sunday School Administration and Daily Vacation Bible Schools.

As chairman of the Executive Committee, may I plead for the whole hearted support of our people everywhere as our Executive Secretary seeks to lead us in an aggressive program for the expansion of our denomination as well as to glorify the name of Christ.

boards—each board being charged with the promotion of a particular phase of work. The personnel of these standing boards has been consistently made up of selected individuals who reside in the various states. Even a standing board, whose membership is so widely scattered, has found it difficult to function efficiently, and being unwilling that the common cause should suffer from a continuation of such inefficiency, the constitution of the National Association was revised during the 1940 session in such a way as to provide for the creation of a General Board. Actually, the General Board is the National Association on a small scale. And while it does not dissolve any of the standing boards, nor interfere materially with their promotional service, it does, nevertheless, eliminate conflicting campaigns, unnecessary delays, and wide spread irrelevancy among board members. The General Board has therefore resolved to give definite and consistent oversight to the whole National Program. Obviously enough such a task demands the use of an Executive Secretary.

Having been chosen to fill the place of an Executive Secretary for the National Association of Free Will Baptists, I do now commit myself to God and His cause, without reservation, to the end that every resources within the hands of our Christian denomination may be expended in the edification of the saints and the evangelization of the world.

My field of activities shall embrace four major phases of denominational work; namely: Christian Education, Home Missions, Foreign Missions, and Superannuation. I do most earnestly petition Christian tolerance and co-operation of all our Free Will Baptist host.

A Unified Program

*Rev. L. R. Ennis, Executive Secretary National Association
709 Park Avenue, Goldsboro, N. C.*

The contribution made to the Kingdom of God by Free Will Baptists for the past two generations has been extensive. Thousands for whom Jesus died have been evangelized and developed consistently with the New Testament ideal of life. The grace of God has abounded in the people and the churches of our beloved denomination. And though it be well that Christian zeal and aspirations cause us to look with high hopes toward the future, yet at no time can it be sane or Christian to forget the noble achievements of the past. The extended horizon which bounds our vision is an inheritance from our forebearers. It is from this mountain top of success that we behold the fields that are white unto harvest.

We are informed now of Free Will Baptist churches in about half the states of the Union that are mediating the blessings of the gospel unto the people. The organization of districts and states has been affected in fifteen or more of these United States. The National Association of Free Will Baptists which held its fourth annual session in Paintsville, Kentucky in July of this year (1940) enrolled representatives from 15 states, and revealed a total membership of 132,270 from 1,047 churches. Profitable, however, as the work has been in

restricted communities and sections, for the want of adequate general organization the latent power of the whole denomination has never been combined for the furtherance of the Christian cause. Many of the state organizations have promoted Christian education, home and foreign missions, superannuation, women's auxiliaries, and Free Will Baptist Leagues for several years; but not until the organization four years ago was there an effort made toward unifying the work of the denomination at large. The system, so far employed by the national body, has been that of independent promotional service rendered by standing

Fifteen Thousand Dollar Goal for Education

Rev. L. R. Ennis, Executive Secretary National Association

The word *preparedness* has been arrested and brought into use on a continental scale within recent months. The minds and machinery of North America are now moving with terrific speed in preparation for what is believed to be an impending crisis unmatched in the history of the continent. The wealth of the British Empire and the United States is being assembled to feed the flames of one of

the greatest fires in the history of the world. The hope is that the wealth of these two great nations will outlast that of their opponents, and the economics in the hands of a gaint war machine will be able to save our modern pagan democracy. We would not in anywise impugn the motives of our leaders, because we love the democratic ideal; but we are all concerned for the enjoyment of indi-

vidual freedom after the conflict has ended.

There shall undoubtedly come a period of great evangelistic possibilities after our present world crisis has passed. Protestant denominations throughout the world are now thinking and preparing to meet the challenge. The part which Free Will Baptists may play in the impending great revival demands *preparedness*. A deeper consecration of ministers and Christian workers is fundamentally essential; also specialized institutional training for young men in the ministry. Free Will Baptists have for many years realized the essentiality of these two achievements. Only God, through His gracious operations in a surrendered life, can bring about the required depth of consecration, and an institution of learning which is fraught with evangelistic passion can equip our fine host of young men to make their contribution to this great general revival. The "later rain," as providing maturity for the era, is promised in the word of God as a copious spiritual blessing to be outpoured upon the church before our Lord's return. The dry and famished

condition which prevails throughout Christendom causes sincere hearts to cry unto God for the "Water of Life."

Believing that a Bible school would constitute a tangible expression of Free Will Baptists' consecration, and that the available patronage of such an institution would improve the efficiency in all departments of our general program, the National Board of Education, upon the approval of the National Association, has set a goal for Christian Education of \$15,000.00 for the year 1940-41. We are "on the spot" as a denomination. It is either put up, or shut up. Give us the amount herein stipulated, and we promise the opening of a school as early as September, 1941. Our people are abundantly able to meet this need; the only question being, are they devout enough? May we implore you, first, give yourselves unto the Lord, and then "let a man give according as he purposeth in his own heart."

(All gifts for National Christian Education should be sent through the proper channels of State Secretaries which will be forwarded to Rev. J. R. Davidson, Bryan, Texas.)

taken care of, our local societies must be informed definitely their part in the program. I am, therefore, urging that plans be worked out and placed in the hands of the proper persons as early as possible.

I also call attention to the report blanks in our Manual. These are very convenient and I hope the officers will make use of them in making out their annual reports.

We are glad to find that there is no conflict in the arrangement of our plans and those of the church regarding the dates for campaigns for the various interests we are sponsoring.

I understand that some of our women are interested in making some changes in the present plan of our Year Books. It has been suggested that we arrange a small monthly magazine in which, not only the program, but space for articles by the Vice Presidents on their respective responsibilities in the various departments. Personally, I believe it would be a great asset to our work generally. This is no new idea, it has been in the minds of some of our women since the beginning of our National work, and this may be the opportune time to put it across. However, it will take deliberate and prayerful planning before we can hope to make it a reality.

In the meantime, let us labor and pray, and trust in God that we may be led by the Holy Spirit to do His will at all times.

I shall be glad to hear from you officers regarding your work whenever you care to write.

National Women's Auxiliary

The President's Message

*Mrs. J. C. Griffin, President National Auxiliary Convention
New Bern, North Carolina*

Since our National Auxiliary Convention at Paintsville, Kentucky, I have been very much burdened with the great responsibility resting upon me as president of our women's work. However, I want to assure our National officers, and our women in general, that I have been much in prayer for the spiritual growth and advancement of our Cause.

I am very desirous that our Vice Presidents formulate plans in their respective departments as early as possible, and send to the officers of the states maintaining State Organizations, and to districts where there is no state auxiliary, that these in turn may be able to hand them down to local societies.

It is necessary that the National officers study carefully and prayerfully our Manual, if we are to go forward in our departmental work.

There are at least three great issues facing us that we cannot, and must

not ignore — Christian Education, Home Missions, and Foreign Missions.

In order that these vital objects be

The Aim of Women's Auxiliary

Fannie Polston, National Secretary, 318 Woodland St., Nashville, Tennessee

Free Will Baptist Women are undertaking to make their work the basis of unity and co-operation with our churches in the taking of Christ and the fruits of His Gospel to the lost.

The program insists on the powers of prayer. Money and methods are necessary, but the power of God released in human lives is the one source for reaching the lost.

We so often feel our lack of talent and ability, and sometime much valuable time is lost, by trying to make excuses and waiting for greater opportunities for service.

The thoughtful Christian realizes

that whatever graces have been given him or her are for service, self substance and service are blended together. Have you the gift of song? Use it to sing God's praises. Have you a talent for social leadership? Use it to bring the social life of your church into harmony with God's will. There are such a multitude and variety of tasks that all may find a place of service.

Then we may serve with our substance the material things we accumulate. When I became a member of the church I assumed certain responsibilities. If I fail to do my part, I

make it burdensome for another and hinder the program of work. Since the days of Christ's earthly ministry women have received, and are receiving, increasing privileges, and in like manner responsibilities.

If each in her place does her part, the whole is strengthened. So let us keep at the task until our women are so well organized that we will be a great force in our churches; thinking, praying, working, and giving together that Christ may be honored and

that His kingdom may come.

We are proud to be laborers together in our great denominational program. We are looking beyond the greatness of the task and the limitations of our human resources, to the infinite power of God, and the unconquerable leadership of the Holy Spirit, which is made possible through prevailing prayer.

When Jesus was about to go back to take His place at the right hand of the Father, He gave orders for His disciples to carry the message of Sal-

vation to the whole world. These orders are the same today as they were when He walked by Galilee and said unto them "follow me" and as they were when He appeared to Mary on the morning of the resurrection and said "go tell the disciples."

Our denominational program is before us. Let us lend all assistance possible in our local churches, district, State and National Association, by giving ourselves to service wherever needed.

Missouri Free Will Baptist Enterprises

The Missouri State Association

By John B. Rollins, Monett, Missouri

The twenty-seventh annual session of the Missouri State Association is now history. Having met in Niangua, Missouri, during the week of September 23-27, the people of Missouri experienced the most harmonious, most spiritual and most progressive association in the history of the Missouri State organization.

Delegates were present from all nine of our local or district associations, which compose the Missouri State Association. This is a rare occurrence also in Missouri. In addition to this, one new association joined and was given fellowship, which makes our complete list of activity as follows:

Northeast Missouri Association
Northwest Missouri Association
Southeast Missouri Yearly Meeting
Central Western Missouri and S. E.
Kansas Association
Indian Creek Association (S. W. Mo.)
Liberty Association
Niangua Association
Laclede County Association
Cave Spring Association
Harmony Association

The enrollment of the State Association this year was 44 ministers, 18 ministers' wives, 24 deacons, 54 elected delegates, and 39 registered visitors. This is not counting the hundreds of the local communities, for there were at least 1000 attending each night's service.

One of the outstanding features of the association was the public address system, contributed for our use by the Raney Funeral Home in Marshfield,

Missouri. The loud speaker made it possible for everyone in the large audience to hear distinctly, without overtaking the voice of the speaker. It was also fine for the reading clerk and those wishing to hear the reports and items of business read clearly. The Raney Funeral home was gratefully appreciated for their contribution to the success of the meeting.

The Missouri State Mission Association which transacted their business in the forenoon of September 24, are sponsoring the Missouri Church Extension Program which has come to be one of our major enterprises in Missouri. In one year's time \$209.61 was raised. For the coming year 23 individuals and 7 mission circles, Sunday schools, and leagues pledged \$1.00 each per month which will make an income of \$30.00 a month. An unrecorded number promised special

offerings from their church, class league, or mission circle.

The Business Committee of the State Association offered this item which was heartily adopted:

"Whereas, we realize our people have a right to expect some result from our Church Extension Program: Be it Resolved, That the Executive Board, together with the officials of the Missouri State Association, be instructed to carefully investigate any or all prospects for the establishment of work through our Church Extension Program, and employ, at their discretion, the person or persons best suited to the field of service under consideration."

Miss Ruby Wood, Desloge, Missouri, is the Secretary-Treasurer of the Mission Association and all funds for Church Extension are to be sent to her.

Other items of the Business Committee were to offer the registration fee of \$1.00 per person for everyone being entertained at the State Association. Since our church contribution plan, which we have here-to-fore employed, has been unequal and unfair in that the burden was left to only a few, the registration plan was most overwhelmingly adopted. Those who opposed were selfish in their ideas, having never seen the plan worked and failed to see that \$1.00 a week is mighty cheap board and room. Our National Association uses this plan, and it is highly successful.

The Business Committee also asked that the Missouri State Association be chartered according to the laws of the state of Missouri, and that the Free Will Baptist Gem Office be designated as head-quarters for the State Association. A committee was



John B. Rollins

appointed to carry out this business, namely: B. F. Brown, Cassville, Mo., O. T. Allred and Kenneth Turner, both of Monett, Missouri.

A Missouri State Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention was organized with William Reeves as president. Bro. W. E. Coville, Nashville, Tenn., who is president of the National Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention, was present to help in the organization.

The report of the Foreign Mission Secretary revealed that Missouri contributed \$670.51 last year, having a balance of \$161.52 carried forward, making a total of \$831.83. Winford Davis, Monett, Missouri, was re-elected Foreign Mission Secretary.

Christian education was a prominent enterprise, as Missouri is trying to do its part in the National Enterprise of building a Christian College. Field workers were appointed to carry out the state plan. Those appointed are:

C. B. Dees Desloge, Mo.
John B. Rollins Monett, Mo.
C. M. Dauber Hemple, Mo.
Fred Marler Cedar Gap, Mo.
Ethel Newcomer Greentop, Mo.
Ross R. Thomas Arcadia, Kans.
John Swaffar Norwood, Mo.
Frank Linton Branch, Mo.
Harry Beatty Thayer, Mo.

Money was raised to finish paying the special tax for the new curb and gutter, street pavement, and sidewalk in front of the Gem Office, which has been paid.

The preaching services of the Association formed a real climax, and each sermon harmonized with the one preceding.

John B. Rollins preached the first sermon which was a Home Mission sermon. Scripture John 4: 19-27, "Worship, and its First Product — Evangelism."

Damon C. Dodd of Flat River, preached the league sermon. It was a "Forward March" sermon and was very interesting.

O. T. Allred of Monett, preached the Introductory sermon on Tuesday night. Text: Heb. 6:1, "Let us go on unto perfection."

C. M. Dauber of Hemple, delivered an able message which was greatly enjoyed. Text: Heb. 12:1-2.

Melvin Bingham of Tulsa, Okla., preached a most powerful and stirring message on Wednesday night from the text, Rev. 17:14.

Selph Jones preached one of the

finest sermons on "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity" Psalms 133:1.

Winford Davis of Monett, preached a plain, powerful and interesting message on Thursday night from the text 1 Cor 3:12-13.

Harry Beatty of Thayer, preached a lively sermon from 2 Tim. 3:16.

James F. Miller had charge of the last preaching service and Bro. Jim usually preaches a good sermon.

All in all, our twenty-seventh, Missouri Association was a real success. The next one will be held at Flat River, Mo., if the Lord tarries and is willing.

Kenneth Turner put his motion picture camera into action, and he took a 15 minute reel of the best, clearest, brightest pictures you nearly ever saw. To see these pictures is to attend the State Association over again. Bro. Turner is showing these pictures to the churches of Southwest Missouri.

Annual Financial Report of the Gem Office

By the Editor

INCOME

Balance on Hand, October 1, 1939	\$15.79
Subscriptions .. (Monthly Average, \$57.28) ..	\$ 687.35
Job Work (Monthly Average, 90.65) ..	1,087.77
Total (Monthly Average, 147.92)	\$1,775.12

EXPENSE

Tithe	(Monthly Ave. \$9.52) \$114.28
Office Employ:	
Herbert Henderson .. (Monthly Ave. 35.32)	423.83
Margaret Kitterman	26.30
Leon Fredrick	30.56
Editor's Living	(Monthly Ave. 37.34) 448.18
Postage and Freight (Monthly Ave. 7.06)	84.81
Power, Lights and Water (Monthly Ave. 10.86)	141.22
Coal House	19.99
Fuel	47.60
Stove and Accessories	48.62
Printing Supplies	(Monthly Ave. 24.18) 290.20
Linotype Matrix	34.82
Miscellaneous	Not Figured
Total Expense	\$1,790.91

This report reveals our weakness, however, we have operated within our means and no indebtedness is incurred.

The Editor is trying to convince the people that if we could raise the mailing list from its present standing of 1200 paid subscribers to a point twice that, it would enable us to give you a *Better Gem*, and in addition, turn

some profit to the State Association.

This idea is going over in Missouri, and 134 subscriptions were secured at the State Association, of course, some of these were renewals.

All in all, business has picked up in a remarkable way since the State Association for which we praise the Lord.

Annual Report, State Evangelist

Rev. Sam H. Marcum, Evangelist, 111 South Walnut, Cameron, Missouri

To our beloved State Association of Free Will Baptists, which convenes with the Niangua Free Will Baptist Church, Niangua, Missouri, September 23, 1940.

Greetings in Jesus' dear Name!

We regret, very much that we can

not be with you in person, but we assure you that Sam and Daisy will be praying for you as you meet together, that you may have the best State Meeting that Missouri has ever witnessed.

Since we left Missouri, July 20, we

have preached in Kansas, Nebraska, Wyoming, Idaho, and at this writing, we are in the midst of a revival in the Methodist church here in this wicked railroad town, Huntington, Oregon. There has been nine professions, thus far. My brother, older than I, and my brother-in-law were two of these.

From Oregon, we plan to go south, into California. Perhaps we will visit the new Free Will Baptist church at Porterville, California.

We don't know when we will be coming back to Missouri, so will you please consider someone else for State Evangelist? We have enjoyed the work as an evangelist, and we do give our dear Lord the glory and praise for all that has been accomplished through our efforts.

May God bless you, all, is our prayer.

The following is a report of our past year's work:

Meetings Conducted	7
Extra Services	30
Sermons Preached	238
Professions	51
Baptized	6
Marriages	1
Conducted a number of street services.	
Money Received (revivals) ..	\$319.43
Money Received (extra services	
and street services, etc.	\$97.55
Total Money Received	\$416.98

We were sick some during the past year and could not be in the work all the time. May God bless all of you, as you assemble together, is our prayer. You all pray for us and we will pray for you, for this is the way all Christians ought to do.

—Sam and Daisy Marcum,
Cameron, Missouri

Missouri Treasurer's Annual Report

Rev. Winford Davis, Missouri Treasurer, Monett, Missouri

Foreign Mission Fund

Amount Brought Forward ..	\$161.32
Amount Received, past year ..	671.51
Total	\$832.83
Amount Paid Out	743.00
Balance in Treasury	\$ 89.83

Orphanage Fund

Amount Received, past year ..	\$15.00
Amount Paid Out	15.00

Educational Fund

Amount Received, past year ..	\$598.40
Amount Paid Out	494.94
Balance in Treasury	\$103.46

Superannuation Fund

Amount Received, past year ..	\$ 9.50
Amount Paid Out	9.50

New Press Fund

Amount Received, past year ..	\$1.00
Balance in Treasury	\$1.00

Entertainment Fund

Amount Received, past year ..	\$404.35
Amount Paid Out	404.35

Publishing House Maintenance

Amount Received, past year ..	\$ 51.77
Amount Paid Out	51.77

Budget Fund

Brought Forward, from last yr.	\$ 70.11
Amount Received, past year ..	82.59

Total

Amount Paid out:

State Minutes	\$ 35.11
Receipt Books	3.58
Postage	6.21
National Association Dues ..	10.00
B. F. Brown, office equipment	35.00
Clerk Hire	5.00

Total Paid Out

Balance in Treasury

Missionary Tools Fund

Brought Forward, from last yr.	\$ 15.82
Amount Paid Out	\$ 15.82

Total Amount Brought Forward On All Funds

Total Amount Received During Past Year (all funds) ..

Grand Total

Total Amount Paid Out ..

Balance in Treasury, all funds \$

The Missouri Sunday School Convention

Rev. Kenneth Turner, Publicity Director, Monett, Missouri

I am reporting, at this time, the perfection of our State Sunday School Association of Free Will Baptists. There has been a desire, as a National body, to have a national organization of Sunday Schools for some time. The different states are taking action and falling in line quite well. At our State Association, we of Missouri, completed our organization of Sunday Schools with three (3) district conventions as charter members: two (2) from Southeast Missouri Yearly Meeting, Madison County and St. Francis County; and Indian Creek Association, with hopes of others coming in next year.

At the time our people were discussing Sunday Schools, Bro. W. E. Coville,

President of the National Sunday School Convention was present and gave us quite a lengthy talk on National organized Sunday Schools.

Our State Organization was organized with the following officers elected:

Rev. Wm. Reeves, Fredricktown, Mo., President; Rev. Woodrow Matthews, Mine La Motte, Vice President; Miss Milda Huggins, Fredricktown, Mo., Secretary; Miss Imogene Gates, Monett, Mo., Ass't. Sec'y.; Rev. Albert Tucker, River Mines, Mo., Treasurer; Rev. George La Shum, Monett, Mo., District Organizer; Rev. Damon Dodd, Flat River, Director of Enterprises; Rev. George La Shum, Monett, Director of Reports and Records; Rev. Kenneth

Turner, Monett, Mo., Director of Publicity.

Field Workers were elected as follows:

Cave Springs Association —

Rev. Dale Williams Alton, Mo.

Central Western Mo. and S. E. Kans.—

Rev. Arlie Hoover .. Arcadia, Kans.

Liberty Association —

Rev. Henry Long, Phillipsburg, Mo.

Northwest Association —

Rev. Mary Wellbaum, Santa Rosa, Mo.

Northeast Association —

Rev. James F. Miller .. Stahl, Mo.

We have not been able to secure the appointments for the other two associations yet, but I hope to be able to report their names before long.

Subscribe to the Gem!

Missouri Sunday Schools & National Enterprises

Rev. Damon Dodd, Enterprise Director, Flat River, Missouri

In beginning our work as a State Sunday School organization, we are going to be faced with many problems, among which the problem of keeping interested is going to be one of the greatest. However, as varied as our program is, and as many phases of work as we have represented in the Sunday School program, some of them or all of them should appeal to us. But, as loyal Free Will Baptist Sunday Schools, we owe our support and influence to every part of our great denomination. I am made to believe that we have as much to work for and look forward to as any people anywhere. So, as chairman in charge of denominational enterprises for our Missouri State Sunday School Convention, I am taking this means of introducing to your minds what will be expected of the Sunday Schools.

First of all, we have the National Association program. There is the Foreign Mission work, the Home Mission work, the National Education program, Orphanages, Superannuation and Publication. We owe our whole-hearted support to every one of these departments. There are already a number of Sunday Schools that are supporting our foreign missionary work by regular monthly offerings and we would urge that you continue to do so. But while you are doing this, don't fail to support the other phases of the work also. One of our newest programs is that of *Education*. I would especially *emphasize* the importance of this movement and beg you to line up and support this cause. Get some of the "Christian Education Loyalty Fund" charts from your field worker and begin now to fill one or more of

them. Our Sunday Schools here are beginning in dead earnestness with these charts, and I'm sure that others over the state will go over the top for Christian Education.

In Missouri, we have a state program which merits the support of every Sunday School and that is our Church Extension Program. I would like to know that every school in the state was supporting this program. You may do so by pledging, (as many have already done) \$1.00 or more (or less) per month and sending your money to your chairman of denominational enterprises.

Now, in conclusion, let me urge that every Sunday School in Missouri line up with our program of work in the State Sunday School Convention and put *our church* in front. After all, we are just the child of the church and all children are intensely interested in the welfare of their parent. Watch the *Gem* and *Baptist* for further plans in this particular part of the work and pray much for the success of the same.

Sunday School Encouragement

*Rev. William Reeves, President Missouri Sunday School Convention
510 Allen St., Fredericktown, Missouri*

Well, after years of dreaming and praying I am happy today to write to you in behalf of our Missouri State Sunday School Convention of Free Will Baptists which was organized at our State Association, September 26, 1940, for which we have been working for the past two years. How glad I am for the Spirit of God that was made manifest in the co-operation of our Sunday School workers.

I am sure everyone will be looking for our report of the organization, which we are hoping will be in this issue of our paper. Rev. Kenneth Turner is our reporter, and our chairman of Publicity.

We were unable to lay many plans at the organization, for lack of time, but we will try to have our program out-lined as early as is possible.

We would urge our officers to get their reports started as soon as they can.

We were glad for the interest the people had in our convention, who have no Free Will Baptist Convention in their Association. We are hoping and praying this enthusiasm will be carried

back home and will result in a Free Will Baptist Convention in each Association in our State Association.

We were thankful for our new Association that came in this year, and we hope to be able to contact these Sunday Schools at an early date.

We were truly happy to have with us, our National Sunday School Convention President, Bro. W. E. Coville of Nashville, Tennessee, Who gave us a wonderful talk and outline on our Sunday School work.

I am sure our officers and field workers are anxious to work out our plans and see this work grow. We are urging each one to be a real worker in order that our Sunday Schools will appreciate our efforts.

I remember what a good brother said to me when I was called to the pastorate of my first church. He ask me, "What is your duty?" I said, as no doubt many others would say, "To preach." He said, "Bill, to pastor means more than to preach." So it is to be chosen to be an officer in the work of the Lord. Let's not only be an officer by name, but by reality.

May the blessings of our Christ be on us all for His Cause.

Bigger & Better Sunday Schools

Rev. Geo. La Shum, Director of Organization, Monett, Missouri

To all the Free Will Baptists of Missouri who are interested in Sunday Schools:

At the State Association, which met at the Niangua church, the last week in September, 1940, I was appointed as the director of organization. I humbly accept this work, feeling that there is much to be done in organizing Sunday schools and Sunday school conventions. I would like to see a Sunday

school convention in every Free Will Baptist Association.

Our mission is to see more Free Will Baptist Sunday schools, so should there be any chance of one being organized anywhere, write to me.

Now folks, let's make this year to be long remembered in the furtherance of God's work, by making our Sunday Schools bigger and better.

Missouri Church Extension

The Church Extension Program of the state of Missouri, sponsored by the State Home Mission Association, has come to be one of our most prominent enterprises. The people within the bounds of the Missouri State Association have awakened from slumber and inactivity relative to the Great Commission of the Lord to evangelize "every creature." Missouri people are becoming "mission minded," and God is blessing in both home and foreign missions.

The Church Extension Program was begun last year when 16 persons pledged to contribute \$1.00 per month for one year. The vision of service increased, others caught the Mission Spirit, and at the end of one year, the treasurer's report revealed that \$209.61 had been raised.

The possibility of success in launching a home missionary campaign in Missouri really stirred the people at our last State Association. Pledges were taken to support this important work and 30 individuals and groups promised an income of \$30.00 per



Miss Ruby Wood

month for the next year. Those pledging their support were:

Rev. & Mrs. John Rollins, Monett, Mo.
Rev. & Mrs. C. M. Dauber, Hemple, Mo.
Mr. & Mrs. Ross Thomas, Arcadia, Kans.
Mrs. Grace Lawson Stahl, Mo.

Rev. C. E. Mann .. Queen City, Mo.
Rev. & Mrs. Cecil Horner, Novinger, Mo.
Rev. & Mrs. Damon C. Dodd, Flat River,
Rev. Winford Davis Monett, Mo.
Rev. & Mrs. James F. Miller, Novinger,
Mr. & Mrs. Blaine Matthews, Desloge,
Rev. C. B. Dees Desloge, Mo.
Mrs. Christine Dees .. Desloge, Mo.
Rev. Melba White .. Plattsburg, Mo.
Third Fork Mission, Stewartsville, Mo.
Rev. Joe Deweese Desloge, Mo.
W. L. Sharp
Glen McCarty Chetopa, Kans.
Miss Evelyn Jefferson, Cassville, Mo.
Rev. & Mrs. O. T. Allred, Monett, Mo.
V. E. & Mary Welbaum, Santa Rosa,
Meris Chapel Mission, Cassville, Mo.
Monett Mission Monett, Mo.
Rev. & Mrs. W. K. Weston, Monett, Mo.
Rev. & Mrs. Geo. La Shum, Monett, Mo.
Flat River League .. Flat River, Mo.
Flat River Sunday School, Flat River,
Mrs. Isabelle Henderson (50c), Flat R.,
Aurora Church Aurora, Mo.
Rev. & Mrs. Archie Cooper, Novinger,

In addition to these, many promised special offerings from their organizations. We all feel that soon, some real mission work can be done.

Miss Ruby Wood of Desloge, Mo., is the secretary and treasurer of the Missouri State Mission Association, and all funds are to be sent to her. Sister Ruby will be reporting to the *Gem*.

Mission & League Field Service

Rev. Miss Melba White, Plattsburg, Mo.

Since the State Association, we have been working in the various churches in Southeast Missouri.

We have visited five churches, so far, and organized missions in the following churches: Twin Oak, Copper Mines and Flat River; all being young peoples' Missions.

The Mine La Motte young people and the Fredericktown young people have just been recently organized. We now have enough recently organized. We now have enough organizations to organize a District Mission in Madison County, which we will do in the next few weeks.

The Flat River Elderly Mission have organized according to our national rules while we were with them, and we hope the other Missions over the state will do likewise, so our work will be better organized and we may do more for the Master.

We are trying to encourage our

Leagues to organize their Leagues according to our national program and to get the "League General Manual" which you can obtain at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, North Carolina. I am sure it will help you to improve your League and will help you to make your programs more interesting.

Missouri Statistician's Report

Missouri has 103 churches, with a gain of 6 over last year. The present membership is 6,052. There are 86 Sunday Schools with an enrollment of 4,709. There are 23 Leagues with an enrollment of 734. There are 25 Home Mission Circles with a membership of 450. There are only 44 active prayer meetings in the state, and we should be more concerned, because prayer is the secret to spiritual success.

The value of Missouri churches is \$74,091.00 (this is not including the

Our young people here in Southeast Missouri are falling in line with our national work, and are improving their organizations. The League Convention meets with the Fredericktown church Saturday night of this week and we will attend, if it's the Lord's will.

We have several more churches to visit in the interest of League and Mission organizations. If you wish us to help you organize in your church or association, we will be glad to help you.

\$5,000.00 value of the Gem Office). Pastors were paid \$8,290.00 and evangelists \$1,790.00. A little more than \$2,000.00 was spent in building and repairs.

There are 123 ordained ministers 39 licensed ministers, and 237 deacons.

Rev. Kenneth Turner of Monett was elected statistician for next year.

This report does not include the new association which joined the State body this year. The Harmony Association has 12 churches, 300 members, and \$5,200.00 worth of property.

General Articles

My Year's Work in Michigan

By Rev. Winford Davis, Monett, Mo.

Feeling, so sharply, the keen urge to get back into the evangelistic field, I decided, after much prayer, to resign the pastoral care of the First General Baptist church in Flint, Michigan. I was with them twelve months. A more wonderful year, I have never experienced. I can truthfully say I have not one objection. I never worked with a more thoughtful and spiritual people. I never received a more hearty co-operation. I never worked with a more pleasant group of church officials. I was never treated nicer by the young people of any church. Long will live in my memory the happy experiences of this past year. During the twelve months, we saw 71 souls saved, received 50 into the church, baptized 25, and considerable more than \$5,000.00 went through the church treasury. The church has a membership of something around 200. I am more than glad to give the Lord all the praise for what was accomplished during the year.

The church elected me in June as pastor for another year. After two month's prayer I tendered my resignation the forepart of August, and by the time the year was finished, which was the first Sunday in October, the Lord had showed us another man for the place, the church had unanimously elected him, and he was moved into Flint ready to take charge of the work and carry right on. I am thanking God for showing plainly the one to take our place there. I was much concerned that the right man be found to lead those dear people on. They are certainly worthy of a good pastor. The new pastor is the Rev. Clarence Riley from 97 miles west of Chicago, a General Baptist minister. We wouldn't do an injustice to Sister Riley by failing to make mention of her either; as she is a very splendid helper to Bro. Riley. Bro. and Sister Riley have had considerable experience on the mission fields of Alaska; having been in the ministerial work, altogether, about 16 years.

I feel perfectly satisfied now that

the Lord answered prayer in sending a good leader for the church I had learned to love so much. While the Lord was leading me to resign and get into the revival work, He was also leading Bro. Riley from the church he had charge of at the time. It is great how the Lord will lead, if we will but let Him.

During the days of our preparation for leaving, we were invited to hold a last service with the Hope Well General Baptist church where the Rev. Floyd Miley is pastor. This church is located in the north end of Flint.



Winford Davis

We had a precious service there. This church has just completed a nice new building which would be a credit to any religious movement. We were also invited to hold a last service with the Rural General Baptist church, where the Rev. Richard Moody is pastor. This church is located in the country just west of Flint. We also had a gracious service there. This church, too, is in the midst of a building program. They have a nice basement erected, and at the present are worshipping in the same, with plans to build on up. We were also invited to hold a revival with the Fenton Lawn General Baptist church where the Rev. D. O. Robbins is pastor. This, we felt we would have to decline though I regretted very much to have to do so. But I just had so many

meetings waiting in Missouri that I just didn't have time to stay for the revival there at this time. This church is located in what is known as the Fenton Lawn sub division on the south side of Flint. They, too, have a very nice new church building almost completed which certainly commands the admiration of the public. I so much appreciate the splendid co-operation I have received from the good ministers of the Michigan Association of General Baptists. They have treated me as a brother, and I have tried to be the same in return. I wouldn't take any amount of money for the friends that I feel I have in, and around Flint. I shall certainly ever be a friend to them.

The last service we held with the First Church was Sunday night of the first Sunday in October. We had a splendid audience, and just like those thoughtful people at the close of service, here came a shower of nice gifts, money, etc., etc. The Lord, only, will ever know how we felt and how we appreciated it. I was given a brief case, over night bag, 9 shirts, ties, socks, hankies, bill folds, a nice picture of Christ, tie clasps, suit of sleepers, brush and comb set, \$16.50 in cash offering, stationary, and I am sure other things I can't think of just now. The Lord will have to pay those good people, and I certainly will feel responsible to use the nice gifts to His glory. The service was a mixture of both joy and sadness. Joy for the splendid good times together, and sadness that these good things in this life must come to a close. We were permitted to shake hands with everybody in the house; both saved and unsaved. We didn't leave church that night until nearly eleven o'clock, after working with an unsaved that we had wanted to see saved all during the year. I am still praying for that soul's salvation.

The next day (Monday) at 4:30 p. m., a group gathered out at beautiful Kearsly Lake where I proceeded to baptize Sister Luna Jones. Sister Jones was my land lady throughout the year, as I had a room there all through the time I had charge of the church. I had a wonderful place to stay. Mr. Jones, though an unsaved man, treated me wonderfully. The children are so nice, and Sister Jones is a real Christian woman.

The church just voted, the last conference night I was with them, to buy the dwelling and lot joining the church lot on the east for a parsonage. I pray the Lord's blessings on them in this new undertaking.

Well, I must close, ere I make this too long, though I could write much more. I will close by saying, may God bless all you dear workers up there, and may the Lord be with Bro. and Sister Riley as they take charge to carry on.

Jim Miller's Ministry in Flat River, Mo.

Clipped from *The Lead Belt News*

Rev. James F. Miller, pastor of the Flat River Free Will Baptist Church, who has been called to pastor churches in North Missouri, is closing ten years of the most successful ministry in the history of the church. This is quite an accomplishment as the Free Will Baptist Church was organized in 1892 and has passed through some very prosperous times.

Rev. Miller came to the church as the successor of H. M. McAdams, who resigned in 1930. Previously he had worked with Mr. and Mrs. McAdams' evangelistic party in a union tent at Columbia Park. He took active charge of the pastorate on October 14, 1930. Under the ministry of McAdams a new edifice had been erected and the congregation had just moved into it to begin worship. A total indebtedness of \$3,200 existed and the new pastor began working and planning to pay off this debt and thus free the church of indebtedness.

By the fall of 1931, \$500 had been paid and besides a new heating plant had been installed and the basement of the church completed. The first year also was a triumphant year, speaking spiritually, for under the evangelistic efforts of Rev. E. T. House, 60 conversions were reported and 44 additions to the church were made.

All went well until 1932. The debt was reduced to \$2700 and the people

were showing an eagerness to pay the remaining amount off when the depression struck and the church's income was cut drastically. Fifteen families were lost by the church when the National Lead Company shut down and those remaining were cut to six working days per month by the St. Joseph Lead Company. Things were looking dark, but under the leadership of the good pastor, Rev. Miller, the church held her own and continued to prosper.

The next four years represented a period of the greatest sacrifice any



Mr. and Mrs. James F. Miller

church has ever made. Indelibly impressed upon the minds of the congregation is the faithfulness of a real pastor. Working against great odds and in the face of every discouragement, the church was free of debt. The second Sunday in June was set aside as a day of thanksgiving to God for His wonderful workings in this great undertaking, and has been observed annually by the church since that time.

During this same year the church showed its appreciation in part to Rev. Miller by presenting him with a new Chevrolet car. Thus, through the cooperation of the pastor and congregation a new door of opportunity opened for the church and it saw three of the most prosperous years from 1936-39.

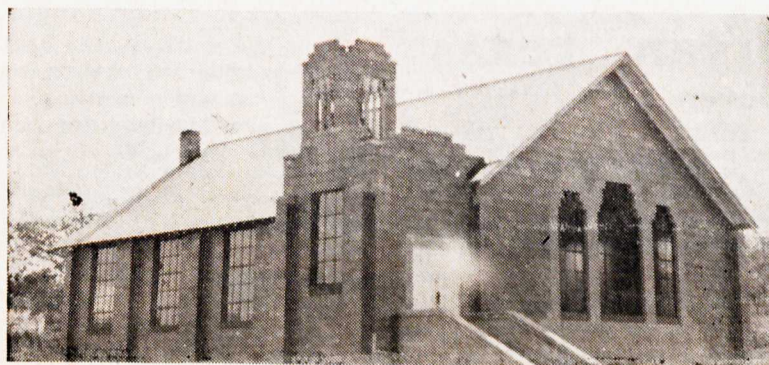
A new heating plant was installed in 1937, the church building was ceiled last year and the grounds improved by the planting of shrubbery, trees, and flowers. These and many other things will always remind the congregation that they had in their midst a true man of God, who was interested in all things that pertained to the church.

During his ministry here the following ministers have served as evangelists: Revs. E. T. House, 1931; H. M. and Lizzie McAdams, 1932; Charles Miller, 1933; S. A. Hand and Noel Turner, 1934; F. C. Zinn, 1935 and 1938; Winford Davis, 1936; Sam Marcum, 1937; H. M. and Lizzie McAdams, 1939. Their combined efforts have resulted in 361 conversions and 171 additions to the church.

Rev. Miller has also served as Moderator of the quarterly meeting of St. Francois County, the Southeast Missouri Yearly Meeting, the Missouri State Association and the Co-operative General Association, which was later the Western Association of Free Will Baptists. In 1936 this body was dissolved and a National Association was organized with Rev. Miller as its Moderator.

He has always been prominent in planning and supporting all denominational enterprises and his church has actively supported the program of Foreign Missions, Education, Publication, etc., under his leadership.

It would hardly be proper to refrain from mentioning Mrs. Miller, the good wife of Rev. Miller. She has also faithfully served the church in many capacities. She has had charge of the Home Mission work and at the present is the State President for



The Free Will Baptist Church, Flat River, Missouri

Home Mission work. She has always stood by her husband and the church in every effort and her loving manner and pleasing disposition have won for her a place in the hearts of all who knew her.

Rev. Miller has been a pastor for 25 years, having been ordained in September, 1915. During that time

he has pastored 11 churches and he states that the 10 years as pastor or the Flat River Free Will Baptist church have been his most successful. With his going the community and church are indeed losing a Godly pastor and a true friend, but his many friends are wishing for him the greatest possible success in his new field.

housing facilities, and a frame structure was erected beside the church building consisting of several more Sunday school rooms.

The congregation caught a further vision of a great need in 1929, and purchased a lot and erected a home for their pastor, which property is clear of indebtedness at this time.

During the year 1939, it was observed that the house of worship was giving way, and upon careful examination it was revealed that the building should be wrecked and rebuilt, or a new one should be erected. A building committee was selected, and investigations were started immediately. At first, the way did not seem so clear for doing the necessary work, however, as we prayed and worked, the way was opened. Mr. W. J. Coulter, of the Methodist church, voluntarily donated some nice lots in a nice location. The church graciously accepted this generous offer, and then came the unbelievable: Our beloved Brother and Sister J. L. Edge offered to build, and donate, a new church building, if the rest of the congregation would erect the necessary educational building. A motion was immediately carried to accept this offer, and to meet its challenge. So, by the first of January 1940, work was actually begun. In the month of March the new educational building, consisting of eleven modern class rooms, an assembly room and a kitchenette, was opened for service. And by the blessings of the Lord, and liberalities of friends, we were able to dedicate this nice house of worship, constructed of light brick style, on the fifth Sunday in June, 1940. We now have these two nice structures for which we praise the Lord. The church, proper, consists of a beautiful auditorium, two rest rooms, one storage room, a pastor's study, a choir assembly room, a nice entrance, and one of the most beautiful baptistries it has been our privilege to see.

Since our entrance into the new church building, we have experienced almost a constant growth in membership of approximately two hundred and twenty five.

During the period of time in which this church has been engaged in its building program it has kept up all current expenses, raised about \$225.00 for Christian Education, about \$100.00 for Foreign Missions, about \$100.00 for Home Missions, and has raised funds for orphanage, superannuation and other benevolences.

Damon Dodd New Pastor at Flat River

From St. Francis County Journal

Rev. Damon Dodd, pastor of the Desloge Free Will Baptist church, was elected pastor of the Flat River Free Will Baptist church at a business meeting of the church.

Rev. J. F. Miller, who has been pastor of the Flat River church ten years, recently made the announcement that he was not considering re-election to this pastorate the coming year, and has accepted a call to a church near Novinger, Missouri, which is near Kirksville. It is expected Rev. Miller will organize a new congregation of Free Will Baptists at Kirksville, while serving the other church.

Rev. and Mrs. Dodd came to the Desloge Free Will Baptist church a year ago from Mine La Motte, where he was pastor of the Free Will Baptist church for a year. Before going to Mine La Motte, Rev. Dodd was pastor of the Wortham Free Will Baptist church for a year. While yet a young man, Mr. Dodd has been preaching for 7 years, beginning when he was 17 years of age.

Each change of pastorate during the past several years, by Rev. Dodd, has been a promotion and his election



Mr. and Mrs. Damon C. Dodd

to the Flat River church is recognition of his ability as a pastor.

Mr. Dodd is a Flat River boy, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Dodd of Elvins, Route 1. He was born in this city, and is a graduate of the Flat River high school, and attended Junior College one year.

Mrs. Dodd is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Wood of Desloge and also is well known in the Lead Belt.

The Church at Bryan, Texas

See Front Cover

The Bryan Free Will Baptist Church was organized in 1894, by Rev. A. M. Stewart from the State of Georgia. The first worshipful services were held in the building in which the Church known as "The Christian Church" was worshipping. In a short time a building was rented in which the congregation worshiped and the pastor operated a church school. This loca-

tion was held for about four years, after which a lot was purchased on West 27th Street and a frame structure was erected. This building was used as a house of worship until 1918, when it was decided to erect a brick building on the same lot. This building consisted of a nice auditorium and several Sunday school rooms. About 1930 the need was felt for more

Gospel Sermon Department

How Shall We Escape?

Rev. Raymond Riggs, 84 Kalama Street, Highland Park, Michigan

"How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation" Heb. 2:3.

AS I Pick up my pen on this 16th day of October, 1940, to write a few comments about the above mentioned Scripture, I have just returned from our local voting booth where I stood in line with some one hundred other men who registered with the U. S. Government, and are subject to call for one year's military training. Of course, many of us will be in the deferred list, but many of our comrades will receive the call and some even to the call of arms.

As America faces this crisis of today, and as this day brings memories of many back to 1914 through 1917 and 1918, it should arouse every red blooded Christian in America to realize the vast responsibility that is resting upon our shoulders. Some one said, why the responsibility upon the Christian religion? Simply, because we are the "light of the world," and not only that, but we are the "salt of the earth."

America may mobilize the greatest and most powerful army in the world. We may build and manipulate the best navy that any flag ever waved over. We may boast of our completeness in our aviation corps. We may cheer our true American boys for their loyalty to their country. We may praise industry for all the modern machinery and implements of war. We may and can praise America, because "America," "Sweet Land of Liberty," has "everything."

But, reader, listen, in view of the above, and more too, our country is not exempt from the wrath of God. Why? Because we have (generally speaking) neglected the great salvation that God has provided for us. Therefore, how shall we escape?

We cannot escape unless we can come back to God and Godly principles.

A nation that spends \$2.70 for crime to every dime spent for the Gospel's sake cannot continue at said rate. And as was reported in the September issue of the *Gem*: For every dime spent in church work, the United States spends 90 cents for recreation, 50 cents for liquor, \$1.80 for gambling, and \$2.70 for crime. These facts are startling, but they are increasing as time rolls on.

Someone has said, "Well, there is nothing much we can do about it." There is something we can do about



Raymond Riggs

it. Listen, if every church member in the United States would get a good dose of old-fashioned, blood bough, Holy Ghost, knee-bent heartfelt, and world and sin hating salvation, instead of a lot of this jealousy, compromising, worldly, modern and "pussy footing" one day religion, then we could keep America out of war.

Neither Roosevelt or Willkie can keep us out of war. If we want to keep America out of war, let's use a little more kinesology instead of so much phraseology, and let God have His way in our heart and life.

The promises in the Bible are both applicable to individuals and nations.

Listen, "Righteousness exalt a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people."

I believe, with all my heart, that it is God's righteous people that is, and has, preserved our country thus far.

If we want to hasten the coming of Christ, and have the teeming millions of the world cut off without a testimony for Christ, then let us cease to do His will and surrender to the satanic forces of the world. Unsaved, if you read this, keep in mind, if you neglect the salvation that God offers you through His Son, that you cannot escape, but your eternal abode will be in the vast domains of an everlasting hell, and there you will hear the terrible moans and cries of the suffering millions who have neglected God's way and have followed in their own way.

I found a very good solution in a poem taken from *The Sunday School Times*.

If Every Home Were An Altar

If every home were an altar

Where holiest vows were paid,
And life's best gift in sacrament
Of purest love were laid:

If every home were an altar

Where harsh or angry thought
Was cast aside for kindly ones,
And true forgiveness sought:

If every home were an altar

Where hearts weighed down with
care,
Could find sustaining strength and
grace

In sweet uplift of prayer:

Then solved would be earth's problems

Banished sin's curse and blight:
For God's own love would radiate
From every altar light.

EARTH'S PROPHETIC WEEK

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God's Time is "Now"

Rev. Walter L. Hooper, Seco, Ky.

Procrastination is the thief of time. Yea, even the thief of souls: waiting for a more convenient time, when God's time is NOW. Behold now is the accepted time; behold now is the day of salvation" (2 Cor. 6:2). "Boast not thyself of tomorrow, for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth" (Prov. 27:1).

Today, you are in the bloom of life, but tomorrow, your opportunities may be gone. The prophet hath said, "In the midst of life, we are in death." Every tick of the clock, every beat of your pulse, every breath that you breathe, is bringing you nearer and nearer eternity. Every day that you live is another mile stone passed toward judgement. "For it is appointed unto man once to die, and after this the judgement" Where would you spend eternity if you should die today? The Lord said, "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh" (Matt. 24:44). "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen" (Rev. 1:7).

Dear Hearts, God's message to you is NOW. Accept Jesus as your personal Saviour now. Therefore, "Be ye also ready" now. "There is therefore now no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus who walk not

after the flesh but after the Spirit" (Rom. 8:1).

There are men and women going into Eternity every day unprepared to meet God, who had opportunity after opportunity. Jesus, the Saviour, had knocked at their heart's door time after time. No doubt many of them said, "I will come to Jesus soon and be saved." But they failed to heed God's message NOW. "Behold, now is the accepted time, behold, now is the day of salvation."

We hear the prophet say; "And so I saw the wicked buried who had come and gone from the place of the Holy, and they were forgotten in the city where they had so done, and this also is vanity" (Eccles. 10:8).

Friends, listen to God's message. Come to Jesus now, while He is pleading, the Gospel calling, the Spirit wooing, and the door of mercy is open. "While it is day for the night cometh when no man can work."

Heed the voice of the poet as he says:

"Come to Jesus, come to Jesus,

Come to Jesus just NOW.

He will save you, He will save you,
He will save you just NOW."

God's time is Now. Behold, now is the accepted time. Loved ones let me plead with you to accept Him now.

May He save and keep you every step of the way. Amen.

the wise men came and worshipped Him in a house.

Just as this is true, Christ's second coming must be considered in two events—once described as a star, and the other as the sun.

John, on the isle of Patmos, hears Christ talking of His coming back to earth as He calls Himself the bright and morning star. Then we are expected to study this star that shines with more beauty and brilliance than any other star. The morning star appears, it is true, but very few people see it. Why? Statistics record that at any time, early in the morning, more people are asleep than at any other hour, because of their keeping late hours the night before, perhaps; and only those who are up and stirring about, early, ever get to see the morning star. Well, if Christ calls Himself the morning star, surely it will be the case with the people who see Him. Only a few—just the real, true, overcoming Christian; those who are up and about the Father's business, wide awake and not asleep on the job—will see Him coming as the morning star. Condemnation rests upon those who are in the Lord, dead or living, who will see Him at this appearance (2 Thess. 4:16).

We are told He is coming as a thief in the night (Rev. 15:16). A thief comes when all is dark and no one can see Him. And he takes the valuable articles. He doesn't come for old worthless things, but rather the treasures and the jewelery that has great value. That is just what Christ is going to do. He will take the treasures of the church, the true Christian.

It is a short while after the morning star appears before the sun appears. And it is the sun that dominates the whole earth so that everyone, everywhere, is affected by its appearance. Malachi speaks of Christ as the Sun of righteousness. Surely this is the time he refers to. Rev. 1:7 says then every eye shall see Him.

So it must be that there are two scenes in His second coming: once to rapture away the church, and the next to reveal Himself as King, with a space of, perhaps, seven years between the two happenings.

The Second Coming of Christ

As a Star and As the Sun

By Kenneth Turner, Monett, Missouri

"I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star" (Rev. 22:16).

"But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and he shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall" (Mal. 4:2).

EVIDENTLY, These two Scriptures are relating Christ's second coming.

We must remember that Christ's

second advent includes a number of events, and not just a snap of the finger and all will be over as some would have you believe. Most of our people are aware of the fact that there are two outstanding phases in this great ordeal of our Lord's return. Just as there was at His first advent, more than just His birth recorded, there are many things spoken of concerning Christ and people coming in contact with Him. The Shepherds came to Him and worshipped Him the night of His birth in the ox stall. Then some time after (perhaps 2 years, Matt. 2),

"Go and Tell This People"

Foreign Mission Sermon

T. H. Willey, the Missionary

Text, "Go and tell this people" Isa. 6:9.

THE DEATH of Uzziah marks, in the life of this great prophet, a four fold vision which had to do with his becoming a major prophet. In the chapter, we find four visions necessary to produce a dynamic Spirit-filled heaven enlightened messenger of God.

"In the year the king died I saw the Lord." The first essential is:

I. A Vision of God

Here the prophet gets a vision of the attributes of God, chiefly the Holiness of God. Surrounding this immortal Being were winged angelic beings, seraphims possessing six beautiful wings, two covering his face, two covering his feet, and two with which he used to fly. These were crying the language of Heaven, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts."

Theologians have designated twelve attributes of God, but of the twelve, to me, the most awe inspiring is HOLINESS. When God created man he was created in His own likeness, this likeness was not physical, but spiritual. The awful catastrophe of humanity, sin struck, marred and defaced the image of God in man, but here comes the language of angels again: "Be renewed in the spirit of your mind; that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness" Eph. 4:23. Language does not begin to convey the vision that this man had; it must come by revelation to the individual. So that which was defaced, the image of God in man is restored through Christ.

II. A Vision of Yourself

No one can ever get a vision of God until he can have a vision of sinful self. No one can ever have a concept of the holiness of God till he sees the hideousness of sin.

Sin has touched ever living thing in the universe, its slimy trail can be traced clearly through the pages of history, it has crushed the human race and continues to lift its bloody feet and they fall again on humanity. Sin has established every institution for criminals and fallen humanity.

Back of sin must be the actor; the twisted prevered minds and hearts of men and women. Sin is the most hateful thing to God in the universe. The essence of sin is SELFISHNESS. Isaiah saw the uncleanness of his lips and the same sin in the people all around him; so hideous was this, that he cried out in desperation, "Woe is me, for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of Hosts." Unclean lips will betray an unclean heart. Mark it, that a man whose lips are smutty is bound to have a smutty heart. Beware of him who can, with ease, place unclean constructions on lives.

III. A Vision of Grace

"Then flew one of the serphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar; and he laid it



Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Willey

upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thy iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged."

The work of the Holy Spirit is to cleanse or purify. Fire is a type of the Holy Spirit. John foretold the ministry of the Master when he said, "I baptize you with water unto repentance, but He shall baptize you with fire." It takes fire to cleanse

and sterilize, water will not sterilize. Years ago I heard this definition of Grace, "Grace is the energy of Divine Holiness issuing in love to the unlovely in an effort to produce in the unlovely ITS own loveliness." Next is:

IV. A Vision of Service

"I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me. And he said, Go, and tell this people." Here the prophet is commissioned to publish the message of the Lord of Hosts. One of the major requisites is the work of the Holy Spirit purifying the heart, then when this is done there is power for service. Ones eyes are opened then to the need all about us first our necessity of obedience to the Lord. There are spiritual faculties corresponding to those of the physical. Isaiah said "I SAW," "I heard," and as a result, "I GO."

Has the Spirit opened your eyes to see the need of lost men all about?

YOU CAN'T FOOL GOD

By Grenville Kleiser

You can fool the general public,
You can be a subtle fraud,
You can hide your little Meanness,
But you can't fool God!

You can advertise your virtues,
You can self-achievement laud,
You can load yourself with riches,
But you can't fool God!

You can criticize the Bible,
You can be a selfish clod,
You can lie, swear, drink, and gamble,
But you can't fool God!

You can magnify your talent,
You can hear the world applaud,
You can boast yourself somebody,
But you can't fool God!

—From "The Royal Neighbor"



The Regions Beyond

Letters of Interest and Field Reports

Sandy City F. W. B. Church Catlettsburg, Kentucky

Rev. L. E. Colliver, Pastor
Gertrude Bowe, Reporter

It is with gladness that we again write to you of the progress of the church here at Sandy City. The Lord has been blessing with some wonderful services, and especially in our regular weekly prayer services each Thursday night. We have been praying for and looking forward to a revival meeting here. God opened up the way, and last night we pitched a battle against sin with Elder L. H. Winchell of Jenkins, Kentucky, as our evangelist. We are looking forward to a great revival, and are expecting to see souls saved.

During the month of August, the bottom fell out of our Sunday School because of an Infantile Paralysis Epidemic in this vicinity. It hardly seemed like Sunday School with no children present, but each one has stepped back into place and our Sunday School is nearing normal again. The last Sunday in September (the 29th) officers and teachers were elected for a new year as follows:

Superintendent Gordon Craig
Assistant John Hicks
Secretary William Ramsdell
Assistant R. P. Colliver
Treasurer John Prince
Girls' Card Class .. Gertrude Bowe
Assistant Sister James Gray
Boys' Card Class Kenneth Russell
Assistant James Maynard
Junior Girls' Class, Sister J. Maynard
Assistant .. Sister Isaac Jordan
Junior Boys' Class Walter Hale
Assistant Bruce Litteral
Young Ladies' Bible Class,

Sister L. E. Colliver
Assistant Gordon Craig
Ladies' Bible Class, Sister Zella Brown
Assistant, Sister Earnest Griffith
Men's Bible Class, Rev. L. E. Colliver
Assistant Earnest Griffith

Interest is good in our Sunday School and we have a very able group of officers and teachers working under the leadership of Bro. Craig. Bro. Craig is a real Christian, and with him, as our leader for another year, we hope to have the best Sunday School we have ever had.

We are also glad to report that Rev. Colliver has accepted the pastof-

ship of this church for another year. God has blessed his efforts here and we are praying that God will continue to bless more and more, and that this church will always stay on the firing line for God. The following is a poem by R. P. Colliver, but it expresses the sentiment of each member of the Sandy City Church.

The Sandy City Church

Of all great cathedrals and churches
you see,
I want to tell of a place that's home
to me;
It isn't any better, but just as good,
If it could be any better I believe it
would.

God made it possible that we could
have this place,
To worship in His Spirit and loving
Grace;
Here souls have been born by His
Great Love,
Some have gone on to rewards above.

Jesus loves all churches, He loves us
too,
So let all Churches to Him be true;
SANDY CITY will help and never stop,
To keep the FREE WILL BAPTISTS
always on top.

That is our aim, to ever do our
best that our denomination shall con-
tinue to grow and to stand for the
right.

Carterville Church Notes Carterville, Missouri

While we have been rather silent for a long time, we are still busy about the Master's business.

Our building program is nearing an end, for which everyone is so very thankful. We have been quite a long time in completing the building, but have tried to pay as we built so when it is finished there will be no big debt.

Several of our members went to our State Association for which we are grateful. Truly, these meetings are so full of spiritual strength, as well as knowledge of our work that we would that every church member could go.

We have a wonderful Sunday School and League work. The last League Rally of the Indian Creek Association met with us September 29.

We plan to start a revival on Monday night after the first Sunday in

October with the pastor, Rev. Cecil Campbell, conducting the services. We earnestly desire the prayers of all God's people for there is so much worldliness around us, and so many who need to be saved.

The Home Mission work has been reorganized and we are looking forward to a very busy year. The aim is not only to do temporal mission work but also to minister to the souls of those who are helped.

— Church Reporter.

First Free Will Baptist Church of California Porterville, California

In the last month, we have had many wonderful experiences in our little church. There has been two conversions in our regular church services, with others at the altar.

Eld. Neal Moore of Moss Landing, held a week's meeting for us, and we praise God for still another soul saved.

During this time, we have had baptismal services with three baptized. There has been two additions to the church. We feel that God is truly blessing our efforts.

All of our members received their *Gems* and were highly pleased. I am proud to send in yet another subscription. In a short time all of our members will be receiving the paper.

We would be glad to hear from other churches or anyone who would care to write us. Our pastor's address is Lindsay, California, Route 2, Box 934.

Please pray for us that we may ever do the Lord's will.

— Fern L. Findley.

BUSKIRK CHURCH Matewan, West Virginia

Dear Bro. Rollins and Gem Family:

I have been a regular subscriber of the *Gem* for a good many years. To get the paper and read it is just like getting a letter from home, and the most of you know what that means.

Inclosed you will find money order for \$3.00 and a list of six new subscribers.

I would like to report the wonderful revival that we had at the Buskirk church on the Kentucky side of Tug River, just opposite Matewan, W. Va.

How wonderful the Lord blessed in that meeting, the way that all the good Christian people worked together in unity was the secret of the good meeting. There were nine conversions, six baptized and the church revived. I was assisted by Eld. C. S. Pennington and Eld. H. C. Combs.

At the close of this two weeks' meeting, I held a twelve day's meeting at Surosa, West Virginia; but not with much success there. I met with much opposition with the people that call themselves "The New Lights," or "Jesus Only."

Remember me when you pray that God may always keep me humble where He can use me to His own glory. May the Lord bless you all and keep our paper flowing.

A Co-worker for Jesus,
Eld. J. T. Weaver,
Sprigg, W. Va.

—(|| |oOo| ||)—

FRANKLIN COUNTY QUARTERLY MEETING Sesser, Illinois

Greetings in the name of Jesus!

I feel it is really a wonderful privilege to be able to greet you in the name of our Christ today, for I am persuaded to believe that not many days hence this privilege will be denied us.

Although I am rejoicing in a Savior's love today, I also have a burden on my heart for the unsaved, and am really in fear for them, for I believe "redemption draweth nigh" and we, as Christians, should continue in prayer daily for their soul's salvation and our steadfastness.

I was appointed to report to the *Gem* the wonderful blessings we received during our Franklin County Free Will Baptist Quarterly Meeting which convened with the Bear Point church, which is my own home church and we are certainly proud of our little country church.

I hardly know where to start, for it just seems that the Lord has continued to bless from one quarterly meeting to another, if anything, they get better every time.

The introductory sermon was preached on Friday night, September 27, by the young Rev. Jack Kitterman. He surely did bring a wonderful message.

The eleven o'clock sermon on Saturday was brought by Rev. Charlie Porter, a member of our church, and one we're glad to have.

Rev. Street of Centrailla, Illinois, brought the message at 7:30 that even-

ing, which we truly did enjoy.

Rev. Austin Curry brought the Sunday morning message.

Then Sister Rev. Elsie Curtis brought the message at the Sunday night service and as Sister Curtis knows we always enjoy having her with us and we always get a blessing from her sermons.

The business meetings were very spiritual. There were a number of very interesting things done, and one or two of which I want to make mention.

A resolution was written by a committee of the quarterly meeting, then sent to the yearly meeting clerk, who was present, and said he would be glad to sign it, and then to forward it to the Secretary of State at Washington, D. C. I can't give the resolution in full, but it stated that we Christians of the Free Will Baptist churches of Southern Illinois do not want our boys and men sent across the waters to fight. If there is any way we can help those poor souls who love God and are fighting for their rights without harming our own nation's defense, we would say lend all the aid that can possibly be given. May God in heaven look down and comfort their bodies and souls in these terrible times, and how we are praying that God will be merciful and protect our own nation and our boys that we might not have to face those awful trials that the Eastern world is facing today. "For if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?"

During the yearly conference a Women's Auxiliary was organized with Rev. Elsie Curtis as President, and with the selecting of five other vice presidents.

There has been two churches organized a local auxiliary already—the Rescue church and the Bear Point church—and I'm sure many others are going to take hold of this wonderful work and help spread forth the mighty works and truths of God's word.

The quarterly meeting granted the women one half hour during this meeting for a program, at which Rev. Lizzie McAdams made a very interesting talk. A short program was given on thithes and was arranged by Sister Juanita Smith. The people enjoyed the program so much that the Quarterly Meeting decided to give one hour to the Women's Auxiliary so I'm sure that this work is going to be a spiritual blessing to every one that comes in contact with it.

Well, I have taken up enough room in the *Gem*, but there are many things I could tell about our little church and its spiritual works. We have a very good Sunday School and our Young Peoples' League is showing good interest since we have chosen sides and are having a contest at the suggestion of Bro. and Sister Curtis, and we thank them, for I'm sure it's going to be a splendid idea.

We still have prayer meeting twice a week; on Tuesday nights at the homes of sinners or in our own homes, and on Thursday nights at the church. We have a "Burden Box" in our church, in which we place the names of those for whom our hearts are burdened, then read the names each Thursday night and have special prayer for the ones whose names are in the box, and we ask all the praying people who read this to pray for us that we might always be found faithful.

Bear Point Church,
W. R. Spurlock, Pastor
Geraldine Lewis, Reporter.

—(|| |oOo| ||)—

Revival Meeting at Sandy City Catlettsburg, Kentucky October 12, 1940

Dear Editor and Readers:

We are glad that we can report a wonderful meeting after a week of services. Elder L. H. Winchell of Jenkins, Kentucky, is our evangelist, and each night this week he has really brought an inspiring message from God's everlasting Word. Last night, before Bro. Winchell began preaching, in the song service God blessed with a great outpouring of the Spirit, with souls shouting and rejoicing over the entire congregation. Friends, I just wish I could muster words to tell you of the services last night but I can't. It is better felt than told, and you who have been in a meeting like it know pretty well what I am trying to say.

One thing we have noticed about these meetings, and that is, the majority of those attending are Christians. Of course, we thank God for that but it takes our mind to the twenty-fourth chapter of Matthew where it says, "As it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the coming of the Son of Man."

But there has been a great settling down this week. The Holy Spirit has been doing His office work, and we are trusting God that souls will break loose and come to Him. Souls are

seeing their need of turning from sin, but old Satan is putting up a fight. Pray for us that we shall see a great soul-saving revival before this meeting closes.

L. E. Colliver, Pastor,
Gertrude Rowe, Reporter.

—(|| | -oOo- || |)—

League Rally of First Mission Association of Oklahoma

It may seem to the readers of the Gem, who have never attended one of the meetings of the Young Peoples' League of the First Mission Association, that each meeting is reported in quite the same manner as the previous ones. If you could know the increased interest and see the greater number participating in the rally, you would know why we like to report each meeting.

The League met with the Liberty church on Sunday, October 6, 1940, at the Free Will Baptist Camp Grounds.

Bro. Evert Brown brought the eleven o'clock message on "Take Up Thy Cross and Follow Me."

Raymond Lee led the song service and Eugene Sangster played the piano accompaniment.

In the afternoon, when we had been called into conference by the president, Bro. Strother Yokum, the first thing done was the reading and approval of the minutes of the previous meeting.

Ruby Hellard, Bluebell, extended a welcome to the congregation and Wanda Lee Rogers, Wewoka, responded for the Leagues.

Dick Yokum, Bluebell, gave a very interesting report on the visit our delegates made to the meeting at Niangua, Missouri. Evidently, they were given a royal welcome and made to feel quite at home for everyone who went was very enthusiastic in telling about the journey and the meetings they attended.

We were glad to receive petitionary letters from the Leagues of the Antioch and Oklahoma City churches, which, of course, were accepted.

At this rally many young people and their sponsors visited from other churches and associations merely to see what we do in the meetings, how they are beneficial to us, and to judge whether they will want to join. Probably the greatest number of visitors came from the Earlsboro and Lawnwood churches. We are always delighted to have visitors and we would

like very much to have additional leagues join these regularly scheduled meetings.

Bro. Oliver Lindel was elected, by popular vote, to bring the message at the next meeting which will be in January at the Antioch church. Bro. Wilson is the pastor of this church, and he extended a hearty invitation to everyone to come.

Programs were given by the following churches: Tuskegee, Tecumseh, Antioch, Tulsa, Bluebell, Wewoka, Drumright, Bristow, Olive, and Vance Chapel. The programs were very good, and each brought forth, very strongly, a thought for consideration.

Bro. Hood, Rev. Kirby, Bro. Ketchum, Sister Weatherman, and Sister Pruitt were judges of the programs and Drumright was awarded the banner.

At the time, attendance was counted to determine who should receive the banner; there were 363 present, however, there were many more who came at different intervals or who left early.

—(|| | -oOo- || |)—

Tulsa Church Babyland Tulsa, Oklahoma

Editor of the Gem:

We want to give you a report from what we term our "Babyland" here at Tulsa. We are very happy to report progress in our nursery work. It has taken much prayer and study to bring into being this important department of our Sunday school, but we feel that it has come to mean as much to us as any other unit of our religious work. Our aim is to relieve the mothers of the care of their babies during the periods of both Sunday school and church services, in order that they may more fully enjoy the time spent in the house of the Lord. God is really blessing our efforts.

The Nursery is a lovely room arranged at the rear of our church, bright colored paper decorating the walls, tiny light shades, several cribs at one end for the tots, while the other end serves as a play room, furnished with toys suitable for any age.

We hope, in the near future, to be able to have a picture of our babies for the Gem in order that our friends may better appreciate our efforts. Pray for the success of our work.

Mrs. Lynn Hamilton,

Mrs. C. L. Watkins.

First General Baptist Church Flint, Michigan

Dear Gem Readers:

A year's work has passed with Rev. Winford Davis as pastor. As we look back over the year at the blessings, disappointments and everything that has crossed our pathway, we are made to rejoice because we can see the great handiwork of God in the accomplishments.

The church has been built up in every way, both spiritually, financially and with greater faith in God.

I don't know the exact number, but somewhere near 100 souls have been saved and about 60 additions to the church, which more than repays us for what little we might have been able to do.

The church debt has been lifted and the Ladies' Aid have refurnished the church with new seats.

We have enjoyed working with Bro. Davis and we hate to see him leave us, but he feels the call into other fields. We are praying that he will win many souls for Christ in his work.

Rev. Clarence Riley was called to pastor our church and has accepted. He is now with us. We are all starting the new-year's work with a determination to make it even better than the last.

Let us all unite our efforts together that the church (all who have their names written in the lambs book of life) may win many souls for Christ.

—Carl B. Ragsdale, Reporter

—(|| | -oOo- || |)—

Fifth Sunday Meeting Picher, Oklahoma

The Fifth Sunday Meeting of the Free Will Baptists met at South Picher church September 29, with a goodly number of Christians and others present. Our good superintendent, Bro. Capron, called the Sunday School to order at ten o'clock with 120 present. After Sunday School the meeting was called to order by our faithful moderator, Rev. T. E. L. Curry, who was also elected moderator for another year.

A very nice introductory sermon was given by one of our younger ministers, Bro. Noman Green.

At the noon hour every one had a good feast, and at 1:30 p. m. the evening service was called to order by Bro. Curry. Several special songs were given by sister Rodgers of Miami. A twenty minute talk was given by the following ministers, Bro. Moore of

Cardin, Bro. Hatfield, and Brother Easterly. A good testimony meeting was led by Sister Elda Crane.

Churches that were represented were: Fairview, Notch Mound, Granby, Shiloh, and North Picher.

The next Fifth Sunday Meeting will be held at Shiloh, Kansas with Bro. Hatfield giving the introductory sermon.

—Grace Loller, Ass't. Clerk.

—(|| | -oOo- || |)—

Cottonwood Church Muldraw, Oklahoma

Rev. Don Bias, Pastor

Miss Evelyn Burris, Reporter

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

This is our first time to report to the *Gem*. We are glad to tell you of our little church near Muldraw, Okla. We have recently reorganized this church and since our revival, of late, have added four new members to our church. Although, we are few in number, our members are energetic and interested in helping our church to grow.

Our church is a part of the newly organized Eastern Oklahoma Association.

In addition to our church services on every second Saturday night and Sunday and every fourth Saturday night and Sunday, we have a wonderful Sunday School that is growing rapidly.

We ask the prayers of all Christian readers in behalf of our little church at Cottonwood, and if at any time you are near Cottonwood, pay us a visit.

—(|| | -oOo- || |)—

Indian Creek Sunday School Convention

The Indian Creek Sunday School Convention was held with the Pleasant Grove church, near Anderson, Mo., the third Sunday in October. There were six churches represented.

Elder Geo. La Shum introduced the booklet on By-Laws and Standards of a Free Will Baptist Sunday school.

Special songs by Jones Chapel, Coy church, Lone Star church, Pleasant Grove church and Monett church were presented. Bro. Hollis and his group from Wyandotte, Oklahoma, sang several songs.

Topic by Eld. Cecil Campbell "The Sunday Schools as the First Auxiliary of the Church" was well given and appreciated by all.

Topic by Eld. C. M. Hatfield, "The Importance of the Teaching and Training Institute" was given in a very good way and enjoyed by all.

Eld. C. M. Hatfield preached the morning message, using for his subject "Love".

The next convention will be held the third Sunday in January with the Mt. Olive church, west of Neosho, on highway 60.

Topics were assigned from the booklet on standards:

First topic: Section 1—Point 1; by Carterville church.

Second topic: Section 1—Point 2; by Monett church.

Third topic: Section 1—Point 3; by Merl's Chapel church.

Fourth topic: Section 1—Point 4; by Blue Eye church.

These topics are assigned to the Sunday schools, and they are to assign them as they see fit. Write to the *Gem* or to Eld. Geo. La Shum for a booklet.

Eld. Chas. Fredrick was elected to preach at the next convention.

Let's make this a 100% roll call convention.

—Reported by Eld. Geo. La Shum.

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HERRIN, ILLINOIS

Dear Bro. Rollins:

With the help of Sister Lizzie McAdams, whom the Lord has graciously sent to Illinois to help us again for a while, I am organizing Ladies' Auxiliaries in our Southern Illinois churches. We have a fine Auxiliary at Rescue church, Whittington, Illinois and one at Bear Point, near Sesser. A report has been sent me that Sister McAdams has organized Auxiliaries at Flaster's Grove and Union Church near Thompsonville, Illinois.

I was elected president of the Southern Illinois Ladies' Auxiliary, and with the co-operation of the churches and pastors, and the help of the Lord, we hope to organize in all of our churches.

The great need of the Christians is a vision. We read in the Bible "Where there is no vision the people perish." Many, through failing to pray and consecrate their lives to God, have lost even the small vision they once had. Many have only the little vision of their own church or individual community, but Christ said to His disciples, "Lift up your eyes and look on the fields for the harvest is ripe and the laborers are few." We are

trusting and praying, through the work of the Ladies Auxiliary, that vision of our Christian women may be enlarged and our consecration will be complete.

We have only lately united with the National Association of Free Will Baptists. We earnestly ask for the prayers of our many brothers and sisters.

I am in a revival campaign at the present time near Salem, Illinois. The church is weak, and has been without a pastor for some time. There are so many young people here who need the Lord. We are believing God for a great outpouring of the Spirit.

—Evangelist Elsie M. Curtis.

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Vance Chapel Church Gilton, Oklahoma

Rev. Hattie Newman, Pastor

Elva Haley, Reporter

Dear Gem Readers:

Just a line again from Vance Chapel church. Truly, God is blessing us and our little church is growing.

Our average Sunday school attendance was about 60 or 70, but our new pastor set a goal of 100 and after a few Sundays we did have that number in attendance. However, sickness has kept several of our members away and the attendance has dropped again, but we aim to keep striving toward that 100 mark.

We have been having wonderful prayer meetings where the spirit of the Lord was felt by one and all.

We have painted our church inside and outside and papered the kitchen, getting ready for our Quarterly Meeting in November.

The third Sunday of each month, we turn the management of the services over to the young people of our church; and they really do a good job of it. You know, they are the church of tomorrow and if they are trained while they are young to take over responsibilities, it will be easier for them when they are older. The third Sunday of this month, they selected Bro. Evertt Keifer, a young minister of the Tulsa church, to preach for them. He brought us two wonderful messages and we are thankful for young men like him.

Rev. John West of Tuskegee visited our church the second Sunday of this month, and we all enjoyed the message he brought.

Pray for us.

Third Free Will Baptist Church
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI
Rev. Mark Lewis, Pastor
Mrs. B. McCauley, Reporter

Obituaies

Dear Gem Readers:

May I be allowed to tell you of our wonderful revival that is being conducted at our church by Bro. and Sister McAdams; two wonder people of God. We are glad that God sent these good people our way. We are looking forward to great things in this revival.

Our Sunday School is doing a wonderful work, and so is our church. Bro. Mark Lewis is our pastor—another wonderful man of God.

I am going to say something for our Ladies' Mission Circle. We have been doing some wonderful work. Sister McAdam was with us Thursday and made a wonderful talk, and we had a nice service for which we thank God.

We are looking forward to buying us a new church building. Please pray for us that we will be faithful in doing our Father's will.

I am sending a new subscriber, Bro. Harvey Hill. I always read Sister Opal Frazier's letters in the *Gem*, and I sure get a lot of good thoughts from them. I hope for her and her little daughter, a speedy recovery.

May the Lord bless each one is my prayer.

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Monett, Missouri

Dear Bro. Rollins and Gem Readers:

At this time, I want to give a report of a two weeks revival Bro. Bee Fredrick and I held with the Okla Union church, near Wheaton, Missouri, in the first part of October. Bro. Delmer Cochran is pastor of the Okla Union church. We had a very good meeting at this place, with one soul professing faith in Christ, and we feel the church was greatly blessed.

Bro. Geo. La Shum and myself are now engaged in a revival at Neosho, Missouri. So far, one soul has already professed faith in God. Pray for us that there may be a great out pouring of the Holy Spirit, and that many souls will be saved.

Your Brother in Christ,

—Eld. Charley Fredrick.

GAINES — Mrs. Elizabeth Franklin Gaines, nee Elliott, was born July 28, 1879. She was married to Frank Gaines December, 28, 1895. At the age of fifteen, she was converted. She has been a member of the Free Will Baptist Church for thirty-two years.

Mother Gaines was blessed to see all of her children, five daughters and two sons, reach the mature age of life.

The writer had the privilege of conducting the third consecutive revival meeting at the church where Mrs. Gaines was a member. To our sorrowful regret she was ill at the time of the meeting. Upon visiting her, she asked so anxiously if I thought that it might hurt her if she were to go to the services a few nights. I told her that I did not think that it would be harmful to her condition. She was especially interested in hearing the messages on "Christ's Second Coming." I shall always remember one of the sermons while she was outside in the car next to the pulpit. The message of the hour was "The Millennium." At that time I did not know that about six weeks later I would be called back to pay my last tribute to Sister Gaines.

The day before she passed away she had told her husband and those of their children who were present that she would have a stroke after which she would come to the end of life's journey. Exactly, so it happened. She expressed her readiness of going home. The Lord called for her spirit the 12th of October, near Comanche, Texas.

She leaves to mourn her death, her husband; seven children as follows: Mrs. O. V. Laudermilk, Downing, Texas; Mrs. J. D. Jaynes, Merkel, Texas; Rev. Marion Gaines, Comanche, Texas; Vernon Gaines, Hasse, Isla and Hazel Springs, and Mrs. Willie Evans, Soda Springs, Texas. She is also survived by 14 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

—Written by Rev. J. K. Warkentin

JONES — Warren Lee Jones, son of Jesse and Mary Jones, was born March 25, 1867, in New London, Ind., and departed this life September 8, 1940 at the age of 73 years, 5 months, and 17 days.

He was married to Viola May Bastesel, November 6, 1904, at Verona, Missouri.

Beside his wife, he is survived by a son, Clifford Lee of Los Angeles, California, and three daughters; Mrs. Melba Bundy and Mrs. Carina Moothart of Carterville, Mo., and Mrs. Mary Gretz of Webb City, Missouri; one infant daughter, Lilly May, preceeded him in death. He is also survived by four grandchildren; Melvin and Marilyn Gretz, Guyla Jean and Erma Lee Moothart; also a number of nephews and nieces.

Bro. Jones was the last of a family of twelve children.

Bro. Jones moved his family to Carterville, Mo., in 1919, where he spent the remainder of his life. He worked as a carpenter and smith.

Bro. Jones professed faith in the Lord in early life and lived a beautiful Christian life unto his death. He was a member of the Carterville Free Will Baptist church.

Words cannot express how he will be missed, both by his family and his wide circle of friends, for the influence of such a life continues to live on and on.

While we are so grieved by his passing, we cannot but be happy for his rest and joy in his heavenly home.

Farewell, Bro. Jones, you have but gone a little before us. We will meet you again where we will never say good bye.

Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Cecil Campbell, assisted by the Boyd-Williams Quartet of Carterville. The Hedge-Nelson Funeral Home of Webb City had charge of the body.

JUST REMEMBER

God knows your every heart beat
 And every pain you bear;
 If friends by chance forget you
 Remember, He does care.

The Upward Trail

By Ralph Cannada, Durham, N. C.

There is a trail that leads on high,
And one that leads below;
Both trails are open now, dear friends,
Which one do you choose to go?

This trail I know that leads on high,
My savior leads the way;
His blood He spilled for dying men
He bids us come, today.

Along the trail 'tis sweet to know
My Savior has gone before;
And all the way I'll follow Him,
That leads to yonder shore.

The other trail I do not know,
God grant I'll never learn;
For many men have gone below,
The Good Book says they'll burn.

I knelt beside a dying man,
Who chose the trail below;
We pled and begged to bring him back,
But all he answered was, No.

You have a right to choose your trail,
They both are open thru;
But there's a trail that leads on high,
That trail I point to you.

The New Printing Press

By J. R. Slabaugh, Stewartsville, Mo.
Dear Editor and readers of the *Gem*,
I have come to say amen;
Thinking of a new printing press
All dressed up in its Sunday's best.

The fact that the old junk needs sellin'
Has already been told by Sister
Helen;
Then to order a new one of the latest
design,
Would only be letting your light so
shine.

Our dear editor, whose form is thick
set,
Will point us the way to Heaven,
you bet;
All glory and honors and praise and
love
To our dear Father in Heaven above.
[We are living in times of endless
spending,
And the gladder lives are those
whose faith is never ending,
And whose love is like the rose.

MOTHER'S BIBLE

I was up in the attic the other day,
Just prowling and looking around;
And there where mother would always
pray,
Her faded old Bible I found.
It didn't look like the Bible in our
church,
Or the one our minister owns,
It was just a faded old Bible she
always kept,
Up in the attic at home.

I took mother's Bible and there I
sat down,
And inside its pages, these things
I found:
First was a rose from my grand-
mothers grave,
And a lock of Baby's hair Mother
wanted to save.

There was a newspaper clipping of
daddy inside,
She had kept all the years since
daddy had died;
There, too, were big spots on the
faded old Book,
Tear-drops of burdens and sorrows
she took.

Probably her children she prayed so
much for,
Who always put Jesus off until
tomorrow;
Well, I'd better be going, I heard
something say,
For mother is coming to the attic
to pray.

This world would be a better world,
if we only had more mothers who
would go to the attic to pray.

— Written by an attender and lover
of the Highland Park Free Will Bap-
tist Church, Highland Park, Michigan.

The Lord's Garden & Christian Enterprises

Eleven years ago, Rev. Dumont Clark, of Asheville, N. C. quietly started the homely, yet practical idea of "The Lord's Acres." He read in Genesis, "The first of the first-fruits of thy land thou shalt bring into the house of the Lord thy God."

This year, harvest took on a new meaning to hundreds of country churches. In Bear Wallow, N. C., it meant a new roof. It bought firewood for the winter's services in East Jewett, N. Y. The Lord's Acres painted worn pews in Missouri, and provided a new rug for a Sunday school room in northern Iowa.

Buddy Pace, 8 years old, made \$23.00 for his church at Dana, N. C. by cultivating a raspberry patch.

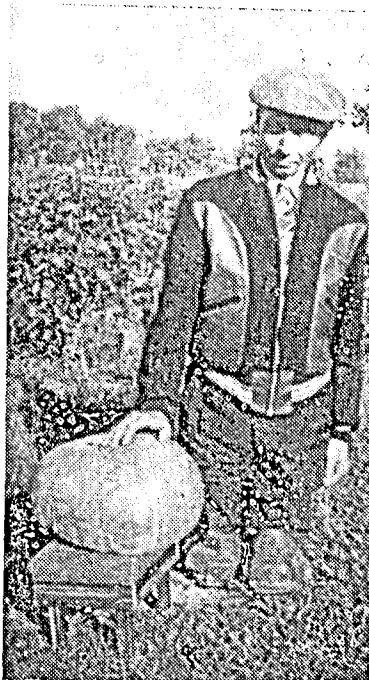
Pastors have found that the Lord's Acre brings folks back to church.

Boys and girls also like to raise chickens, calves, and pigs for their contribution to the church.

The movement is in name only. No organization controls it, and after eleven years, churches in more than 20 states are reaping good harvests.

Rev. Clark, the originator, makes this comment, "Last year, two or three

churches in New York used the plan, this year there were twenty.... In Missouri, the number has increased from one to twenty-five churches."



Justin Gann and the Lord's Pumpkin

Justin Gann, in Aurora, Mo., cultivates a large garden on his knees since he can walk only on his knees. This year, he set aside a portion of his garden as the Lord's Garden, and grew pumpkins thereon. My, what pumpkins he grew!

Faithful and courageous Justin Gann wants others to enjoy the blessings of God by growing a Lord's Garden, so he offers this plan:

He will sell you the seed out of the Lord's pumpkins at one cent each, the proceeds of which he will put in the Missouri Church Extension Program and Free Will Baptist Christian Education. That will make up his offering for Christian Enterprises, and it will give you a start in the right kind of pumpkins.

You may have a Thanksgiving pumpkin pie to eat next year, but you must agree to sell the seed and contribute the proceeds to Christian Enterprises.

Justin is a member of the Free Will Baptist church in Aurora, and a true friend to the editor of the *Gem* who was his pastor for a little more than a year. Missouri people may remember Justin at the Missouri State Association this year. Order seed for your Lord's Garden from Justin Gann, 605 Highland Street, Aurora, Missouri.

Manual of Methods for Women's Auxiliaries

Our supply of "Women's Auxiliary Manual of Methods" are exhausted! Our first printing vanished like snow in June. We could not realize such a tremendous demand would be made for these booklets.

Our second printing cannot be off the press until Christmas.

This book sets forth the plan of the National Women's Auxiliary. It is highly inspirational and we are so glad to see our people adopt it.

A Standard Free Will Baptist Sunday School

A new 56-page book just off the press setting forth the plans of the National Convention of Free Will Baptist Sunday Schools for a unified, progressive Sunday School in every Free Will Baptist Church in America.

W. E. Coville is president of the National Convention of Free Will Baptist Sunday Schools and has set forth the most profound, convincing, clear-sighted reasoning relative to our Sunday school activities and progress. Mr. Coville was inspired, and he, in turn inspires others.

The various states are organizing State Conventions of Free Will Baptist Sunday Schools, among which are Tennessee and Missouri, and perhaps others. These have also adopted this "Standard."

Read these clearly printed, beautifully bound, 56-page booklets, size 6 1/4 x 4 inches, priced at only 15 cents post paid.

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

The Year Book of Programs

In connection with the Women's Auxiliary Manual, The Free Will Baptist Press of Ayden, North Carolina, published a Year Book of Programs.

The Gem Office has 50 of these books, and let me tell you, our western women do not know what they are missing!

We are in favor of re-organizing our Mission Circles into Women's Auxiliaries as some of our western groups have already done. The Auxiliary, with its program of work is far superior to any Ladies' Aid or Mission Circle that we ever saw.

Price 10c each, \$1.00 per dozen

BLANKS

Ministers' Ordination Blanks.... 10c
Ministers' License Blanks..... 10c
Deacons' Ordination Blanks..... 10c

These blanks are 8 1/2 x 11 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.

SONG BOOKS

The Gem Office can now supply the churches with good song books.

Victory Songs

An attractive, practical book for Church, Sunday Schools, and Revival Meetings, with a few new Christmas and Easter Songs for special services.

This book has 185 songs; many of which are outstanding old songs yet very popular—"What Would You Give In Exchange for Your Soul?" "I'm Going Through" and "I'd Rather Be An Old Time Christian."

Just the book for our churches, shape notes, paper bound, published by J. M. Henson Music Co., Atlanta Ga., sent to you postpaid:

25c per copy; \$2.75 per dozen,

\$9.00 for 50; \$17.00 for 100

Help Our Orphanage

The ladies of The Gleaners Class, East Nashville Free Will Baptist Church, Mrs. W. D. Ray, teacher, who began a campaign to raise a substantial cash offering for the Free Will Baptist Orphanage at Greenville, Tennessee, which is still a young institution, but is very worthy in that it is doing a noble service, do earnestly request that the readers of the Gem please be appreciative of God's boundless love toward us to the extent that they may become a "Cheerful Giver" to a deserving Christian Cause.

Please clip the Coupon and mail with your cheerfully given offering.

ORPHANAGE COUPON

Mrs. W. D. Ray

204 South Eleventh Street

Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Sister Ray:

Enclosed please find \$..... for the support of the worthy Free Will Baptist Orphanage at Greenville, Tennessee. Please count me as a "Cheerful Giver" along with your class.

Joyfully Yours,