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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

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

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Special Home Mission Edition

Rev.

M. L.

Hollis



National

Home

Missions

Bro. M. L. Hollis is the founder, builder, and pastor of nine churches. He serves as spiritual counselor, helper, and friend to 1,543 church members scattered over more than 10,000 square miles of territory. He drives his automobile more than 25,000 miles annually (equal to a greater distance than that around the world). He preaches five times each Sunday, then failing to get around, he has to serve some of his churches on week day hours.

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Organ of

The Free Will Baptist Church

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John B. Rollins Editor

Herbert Henderson .. Associate Editor

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along any line that will help the
Cause.

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A Baptismal Record

of Elmer Garland Tharp, Blue Eye, Mo.

Dear Brother and Sister Rollins and
the Gem Family:

While I was copying a record of
my husband's baptismal record for
Bro. Shahan, I thought how many
more people might be interested to
know that one might trace his bap-
tism back into the past, if correct
records had been kept.

Dear old Bro. J. H. Spurlin prided
himself in being able to trace his
baptism. I have heard him repeat
this record of his baptism many
times from the pulpit. He has passed
on to his reward with all the Elders
mentioned; yet their work lives on.

Truly a good man or a good woman
never dies—they live on in the lives
of others.

When this little Welch Baptist
church was organized, before it sailed
for the new land of America, it knew
the tedious voyage of weeks it must
make before touching the shores of
the new land, but they trusted their
God to carry them safely over the
ocean to a country where they might
worship Him. We are told they held
their regular services abroad ship.
How we should appreciate what our
forefathers have accomplished for us,

and I sometimes fear we fail to
appreciate them as we should.

Yours in His Name,

Mrs E. G. Tharp.
Blue Eye, Missouri

Baptismal Record of Elmer Garland Tharp

Elmer Garland Tharp was baptized
by Eld. J. H. Spurlin, and Eld. Spurlin
was baptized by his father, Eld. J. U.
Spurlin:

and he by Eld. A. W. Meachem,
and he by Eld. Robert Williams,
and he by Eld. Robert F. Anderson,
and he by Eld. William Warder,
and he by Eld. Robert Stockton,
and he by Eld. Samuel Harriss,
and he by Eld. Daniel Marshall,
and he by Eld. Samuel Heaton,
and he by Eld. Nathaniel Jenkins Jr.,
and he by Eld. Nathaniel Jenkins Sr.

Nathaniel Jenkins Sr. crossed the
ocean from Wales as pastor of a church
organized before they left Wales.

The Welch Baptists had their origin
from Claud and Pruden, prince and
princess, who were, according to
Davies History of Welch Baptist,
converted under the preaching of Paul
in the city of Rome.

Treatise for Sale Feb. 15,

25c Each, \$2.50 per doz.

Specials, Extra-Specials, and What is Next?

By the Editor

EXTRAORDINARY

Now this is just like being in heaven—putting up an extra-special *Gem*. First, we printed good *Gems*, then special *Gems*, and now—! Do you like it?

I praise the dear Lord with all my soul, and thanks, many thanks, to our good friends, servants of God, who have co-operated so splendidly in making this super-special of the *Gem* possible. I'm glad I'm a Christian. I'm glad I'm a printer, Christian printer. I know the Lord lives, for He is alive in my soul.

This is that issue on National Home Mission work of Free Will Baptists that we mentioned on this page last month.

This is the promotional work of Bro. L. R. Ennis, our National Executive Secretary. Our National Association is divided into five major departments, namely: Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Christian Education, Superannuation, and Sunday Schools. Each of these departments have its own executive head and proper officials. Bro. L. R. Ennis is the Executive Secretary over these department heads, and his purpose is to sponsor, or promote these department activities so as not to allow conflicting campaigns and to prevent one from monopolizing all the time, interest, and energy. In other words, Bro. Ennis is promoting a Whole Program.

In December and January, Sister Simpson presented the cause of Superannuation. She makes a final plea in his issue which came too late for January. If you have not responded to the call of this cause, we trust you will re-consider and send an offering in support of a Gospel Cause.

February brings on the Home Mission campaign, with Bro. M. L. Hollis as Chairman of the Home Mission Board. We trust you will be so inspired while reading this issue that you will give largely to support this Christian Cause.

The cause of Christian Education and Foreign Missions follow next in order. This issue reveals the need of Christian training for a consecrated

pastoral work following the God-sent Evangelist and builder.

The National Convention of Women's Auxiliaries are a vital unit in assisting in the support of a Whole Program, including orphanage work. Our women are highly commendable.

Be on the lookout for more specials, extra specials, and things of importance in the *Gem*.

OUR LACK

We don't like to talk about it, but the greatest hindrance to our work as a whole, is an insufficient number of homes into which such inspiring issues as this are sent. Out of a list of 150,000 to 200,000 Free Will Baptists in the nation, it is my honest guess that less than 5,000 readers are accessible by the *Free Will Baptist* and *The Gem* combined.

We have printed a good many extra copies which may be secured by our friends for the purpose of inducing many others to subscribe.

The following plan of work is offered: sell the extra copies at 10 cents each, and that 10 cents to be sent in to support Home Missions. If anyone subscribes for the *Gem* at 50c a year, give them this issue. Order your extra copies within a week from the date we mail our regular issue, then make your remittance when proper disposal is made of these special copies.

BRO. ENNIS TO VISIT MO.

Brother Ennis is planning to visit Missouri during the month of March. He has an engagement to fulfill in Texas, and from there he is coming



to Monett to visit southwestern and central western Missouri churches in promotional work. From Monett, he plans to go to Flat River, Mo., to conduct evangelistic services in Bro. Damon Dodd's church. Bro. Ennis plans to visit several churches in Tennessee on his return.

This page in next month's issue will carry the announcement of a complete itinerary for Bro. Ennis.

A SUMMER BIBLE SCHOOL

A group of Free Will Baptist ministers, in and around Monett, Missouri are highly in accord with our denominational zeal in Christian Education. We are advocating the establishment of a Christian college.

According to the realities of life, many of our ministers will not be permitted to go away to attend college. Since we believe in redeeming the time because the days are evil, we are planning a summer Bible school here in Monett to train our ministers for a present ministry.

We are engaging Brother Ennis to conduct this Bible conference for us, and his March visit to Missouri will be utilized as a forerunner to the establishing of this Bible training vacation school.

Plans are all in the making as yet, but we visualize a two-weeks' course in the latter part of July or the first of August. We plan to secure lodging at the lowest possible cost and arrange for ministers from all over Missouri to come. We also invite ministers from Arkansas, Kansas, and Oklahoma to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity.

Churches should be willing to give their ministers this needed vacation, with expenses paid, in order that the ministers may more efficiently serve the churches upon their return.

I am quite sure our western people will love Brother Ennis, for he is really a man of God. To us, he is God-sent, for this is an answer to prayer.

We would appreciate it if our ministers would write soon and express their interest, so we may know how largely to plan while Bro. Ennis is here in March. Let's put this over to the glory of God!

Special Home Missionary Interests

Compiled by Rev. L. R. Ennis, Goldsboro, North Carolina
National Executive Secretary of Free Will Baptists

Jesus and Missions

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST was the incarnation of the truth which He proclaimed. When He said, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly," He was at that instance overflowing with life. The source of His fullness was God, as may be seen from His own words in John 5:26—"As the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself." A life of divine fullness is thus the mutual ideal of the Father and Christ the Son of Man. The mission, therefore, which brought Jesus to earth was the mediation of this divine fullness unto man. This mission is stated by Jesus Himself as follows: "He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me hath everlasting life." One of Jesus' first disciples, the apostle John, being filled with all the fullness of God, has concluded that "he that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life."

But here a problem arises. It is that of man's innate aversion to the life which Jesus would impart. Jesus said, "ye will not come to me, that ye might have life." Hence, Jesus confronts in the outset the necessity of determining a means by which man's irresponsible moral nature may be caused to incline toward God. The answer to this need opens to us the greatest and most sublime truth in all the pages of revelation; namely, man's redemption through the vicarious death of Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "if I be lifted up, I will draw all men unto me." By this annunciation He revealed His impending sacrifice, and the greatest spiritual magnetism that should ever operate on the souls of men. The world, however, has never understood the effect of Calvary. From it there emerges a disturbing force so mighty that all men are either moving toward it for blessing or cursing. None has ever stood still since the grace of God in Christ Jesus broke



L. R. Ennis

the power of sin at Calvary. It is true that millions have ignorantly fought the love and mercy of God all their way down to perdition, being more and more agitated by their own vehement repudiations of His love; but as the sun which hardens the clay while it melts the snow is not arbitrarily committed to administra-

tions of judgment, so is the redeeming love of Christ not commissioned to a ministry of condemnation, but salvation. "For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

Man is, however, so depraved that the grace of God, while disturbing his nature, does not as a rule effect a change of disposition without means. At this point the free moral agency of man and the sovereignty of God are found to be ineffectual taken alone. The gospel of reconciliation, administered by the Holy Spirit through holy and divinely ordained men, completes God's gracious scheme for man's salvation; and lays upon every regenerate soul the sacred obligation of participating in the evangelization of the world. To the saved of earth today, He would speak as of old: "Ye are the salt of the earth"; "Go ye into all the world"; for, "ye shall be witnesses unto me unto the uttermost part of the earth." Jesus, therefore, universalizes His mission by calling into His service those in whom He dwells spiritually, and commanding them, in His name, go and make disciples of all nations.

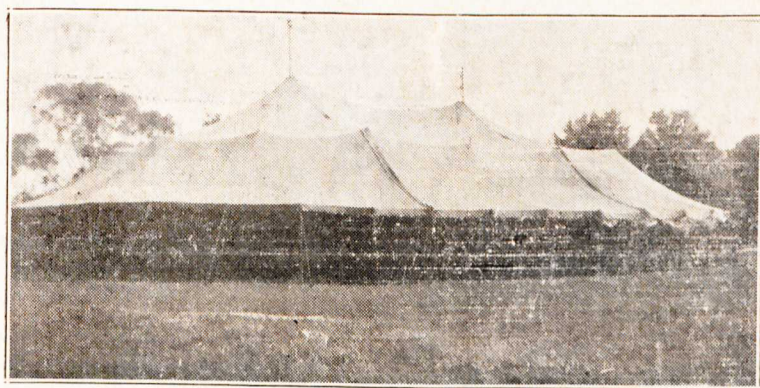
"Give us a watchword for the hour
A thrilling word, a word of power;
A battle-cry, a flaming breath,
That calls to conquest or to death;
A word to rouse the church from rest,
To heed her Master's high behest,
The call is given: Ye hosts arise,
Our watchword is Evangelize!"

Home Missions In Alabama & Mississippi

INDEPENDENT Christian service so often partakes of the limitations of an incompetent servant, and must therefore sooner or later forfeit its permanency. All denominations have the wreckage and debris resultant from such misguided energy. But the story of modern Home Missions in the states of Alabama and Mississippi, as promoted by Rev. M. L.

Hollis, is a thesis with few parallels. The security of this work is certain, because it is not built upon man, but upon God. That keen foresight, wise planning, and sacrificial service have characterized the work of the missionary on this field is undoubtable; and time and eternity shall reveal the reward of these virtues.

It should be stated in the outset



The Gospel Tent

that Rev. M. L. Hollis did not choose a field of labor in which the people were all strangers to him; but instead, a territory surrounding his own native community. I shall always remember the story of his conversion, as he related it to me during my visit with him in the fall of the past year. This man was not educated into the Christian life; he was born into it. And as soon as the grace of God became a flaming reality in his life, his own heart began burning with a passion for his own people. It is true that there were many good people residing in the territory which he later chose as a field of service; but the religious life of the people as a whole was at a low state. When Brother Hollis announced his intention to preach the gospel, many of the people said that he was foolish; but happily, many of them came later to recognize their own folly through the "foolishness" of the gospel preached to them by this God-sent man.

In the early stage however, of our missionary's career, he confronted his own great need of preparation for the task to which God had assigned him. How to meet the expense of an education, and to what school should he go—these were major considerations. But to the glory of God it may be said that He who called the man to preach also assumed the responsibility of providing the way for his education. How a very devout little congregation at Dekalle, Mississippi, learned of this young servant of God and invited him to their church to hold services, only God knows. If

I remember correctly, on the day of his arrival at DeKalle the train was met by a member of the congregation; but seeing no one whom he regarded as a minister of the gospel, he returned immediately to his home and made known the disappointment. This mistake was overcome through a contact by telephone, and all to the embarrassment of both preacher and host. Evidently our missionary did not impress his host on that occasion as everyone will be impressed from observing his likeness on the front page. The incident herein mentioned, however, marked the beginning of a most happy relationship between the missionary and the little church. Bro. Hollis began his service to this church as a boy pastor, while he studied in the local high school until his gradu-

ation. God graciously blessed this relationship, as may be recognized from the fact that Brother Hollis has served this church a total of ten years as pastor. This organization has never specialized in numbers; but in quality of work. At present a total membership of 80, a Sunday School enrollment of 50, an Aid Society membership of 10, and a League membership of 40—these figures reveal a well balanced organization numerically. Did it pay to educate the young preacher? Surrounding this community there is a large territory of 100 miles without another Free Will Baptist church. What an opportunity for some young man!

The method of Rev. M. L. Hollis ministry reveals the wisdom of a master. He did not introduce the use of a gospel tent for the purpose of so called "wholesale evangelism"; neither did he despise the ridicule of those who were averse to this type of evangelism. He recognized, without bias, the possibilities of the tent revival, and sought to employ it as a means of establishing permanent churches. The photograph of the gospel tent pictures the instrument which has been successfully used in the initial stage of most of the churches founded by our missionary in Alabama and Mississippi. It has been said, with a large measure of justification, that the tent revival results in numerous professed conversions, most of whom cannot be found within a few



A Baptismal Scene — 54 Persons

weeks after the evangelist has moved to some other place; But may I ask the reader to please note the picture of the baptismal scene. Here are 54 persons who were converted in a tent revival in East Tupelo, Mississippi, being baptized for charter membership into the church which was established there in 1933. The photograph of the church reveals the permanency of the tent revival. These three steps; namely, a tent revival, a baptism, and the founding of a church have constituted the order of procedure in Brother Hollis' work for the past eleven years. Would that Free Will Baptists throughout the United States were awakened to an appreciation of this method.

It could not be well for every minister to undertake a duplication of the achievements of Brother Hollis. Indeed, only a few are naturally and divinely equipped for such a ministry. But as has been suggested by Rev. M. E. Tyson, Treasurer of our National Home Mission Board, elsewhere in this edition, the people of our entire denomination should be stirred to deep and active resolves that would produce adequate support to a missionary project in a concentrated territory such as this. There is urgent need at this very hour for at least three full time ministers in this territory. How can one man pastor nine churches? How can one man serve as spirit-

ual counselor, helper, and friend to 1,548 church members scattered over more than 10,000 square miles of territory? This man drives his automobile more than 25,000 miles annually. He preaches five times each Sunday, and then failing to get around, he has to serve some of his work on week day hours.

The Home Mission Board has a little money; but not enough to make a creditable beginning in the way of supplying co-laborers to our missionary on this field. Please Churches, Aid Societies, and Sunday Schools be stirred to a realization of duty and privilege. The harvest is ripe; but where is the money and the laborer?

Historic Sketches of Churches

In Alabama and Mississippi

Mount Harmony Church

In the year 1930 Rev. M. L. Hollis achieved an initial and most signal victory. There was not a brick Free Will Baptist church in the state of Alabama. The facts were all taken into account: The old frame building having been swept away by a wind storm, the people had the money, and there was a field of opportunity challenging the congregation. But a brick church! That seemed as far from these people as the promised land. They needed, however, only a Moses to lead them into it, and their pastor was he. The task was great, but an unflinching faith and an unquenchable zeal in their leader resulted in the achievement. Here a standard was lifted up which has

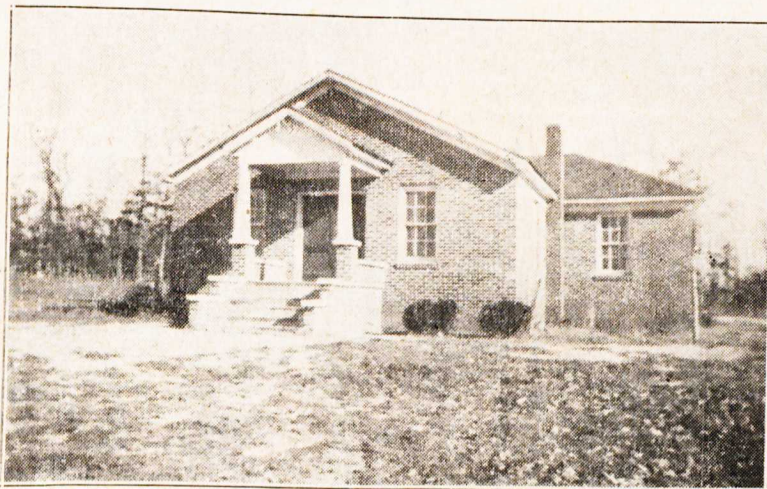
constituted something of an ideal for Free Will Baptists, and those of other denominations, ever since. The present organization consists of 260 church members, a Sunday School enrollment of 100, an Aid Society of 12 members, and a League enrollment of 40. I had the pleasure of preaching to this congregation during my itinerary there in November. There are great possibilities in this community.

East Tupelo Church

We now cross the Alabama line into the state of Mississippi where, in 1932, a truly wonderful work was established. This work began, as previously stated, in a great tent revival which resulted in the conver-

sion and baptism of 54 persons. The church was begun with a total membership of 73, and has grown steadily through the years to 208 at this time. The other organizations in common use among Free Will Baptists have been set up in this church. The Sunday School has an enrollment of 16, and the Free Will Baptist League a membership of 63. Our missionary has served as pastor of this church for eight years. The possibilities of this organization are great. The church is situated in a beautiful town, and is surrounded by a goodly number of its own members and friends. A nice frame bungalow parsonage has been built exactly in front of the church on the opposite side of the same street. This is being used at present as a rental residence. How alluring this location for a fine young pastor of evangelistic passion. There was not a member of a Free Will Baptist church residing in this town when this work was begun eight years ago. Now we have this fine church among whose membership there are those of leadership, ability, initiative, and consecration. These people are also generous in their support of the cause, and could be led in a worship and service program that would, within a few years, result in an outstanding church. I had the pleasure of being entertained in the home of a very fine family whose members belong to this church; and, also, the privilege of meeting several other very fine members.

It will be recalled that the great cyclone which struck this town in 1934 and resulted in the demolition of 812 homes and the death of 330 people makes Tupelo an unforgettable place. The cyclone, however, did not



Mount Harmony Church



East Tupelo Church

result in the conversion of the remaining population of the town. It is true that some were converted as a direct result of this catastrophe; but the gentler means of an impassioned ministry of the gospel is evidently destined to bring about the salvation of these people. There was other church property tremendously damaged by this cyclone; but the Free Will Baptist church was not touched. With the possibilities surrounding Tupelo in other town and communities, and the great unfinished task within the town, the challenge is obvious—Does God have an opportunity to provide a competent Free Will Baptist pastor for this church?

Belk Church

We are now back in Alabama for the observation of a few facts regarding another very fine church. Bro. Hollis became pastor of this church in 1933, and has remained in this position until now. Immediately upon the resumption of his work with this church, he initiated a church building program. That he was successful, may be recognized by observing the photograph of the church. He was not only successful in the accumulation of funds with which to construct this edifice; but he was able, through the Spirit of God, to bring into a common fellowship a host of very fine young people. The church now has a membership of 190, a Sunday School enrollment of 90, an Aid Society membership of 25, and a League membership of 50. The great need of this congregation is more pastoral service.

Beech Springs Church

This church is in Mississippi. It was founded in 1920 with a membership of 25. Its house of worship, a frame building, was immediately constructed. This is a rural work near Soltlo and has splendid possibilities; but definitely in need of added pastoral service. Brother Hollis held a great revival meeting at this church in 1938 which resulted in 23 additions to the membership. This increase lifted the total church roll to 94. The church maintains a Sunday School, and could be led, with a little more persistence and planning, into League and Aid Society work. We regret that we do not have a photograph of this church. Due to unfavorable weather conditions, Brother Hollis was unable to photograph this church at the time of his trip to the community.

Pearce Chapel Church

The history of our missionary's connection with this organization is distinctly different from that of any other church within his field of labor. He has served this work eleven years and has experienced many victories. In one revival meeting he received 78 new members, 76 of whom were by baptism. Among the number whom he baptized were eleven men and their wives, and 13 school teachers. This church is located just outside the town of Smithville, Mississippi. Its present church membership is 350. It also has a Sunday School enrollment of 98, an Aid Society membership of 12, and a League enrollment of 50. Here is a church which is truly capable of rendering a great service. It is blessed with leadership, a large and challenging field of opportunity, and the money with which to maintain the work. A half-time pastor, stationed in Smithville, would be ideal for this work. He could easily extend his service into other communities as a means of consuming the remainder of his time. The harvest truly is ripe; but the laborers are few. We regret that we do not have a photograph of this very fine church. Weather conditions, and illness on the part of our missionary made it impossible to secure one.

Fawn Grove Church

This is another of our Alabama churches. It was organized in 1934 with a membership of 43. The church building was constructed of wood. The singular thing about the beginning of this work is that our missionary conducted a revival meeting under a brush arbor, and as a result more than 40 newly converted people revealed the need of a house of worship. The minister, who was always dream-



Belk Church

ing of building more churches, led the congregation in setting up the present building, which bears an estimated value of \$2,000.00. Brother Hollis has served this church five years as pastor, and during this time the membership has grown to 134. The other organizations of the church include a Sunday School whose enrollment is 48, an Aid Society with a membership of 15, and a Free Will Baptist League with a membership of 40. One of the largest congregations which I addressed on my itinerary in November was at this church. There is a host of young people in this fine rural community who inspire and challenge both pastor and church leadership. The possibilities of Sunday School and League work are great in this church; but the successful development of these possibilities calls for a thorough teaching service. In fact, this need is prevalent in all of these churches. Study courses in Sunday School administration, specific courses on how to teach in Sunday School, the study of women's work and the standardization of Aid Societies, and a thorough mastery of League methods and organization—all of these are essential to the building of a great spiritual edifice within these adequately housed organizations. The National Program, which is now being promoted by Free Will Baptists, has as its objective the bringing to pass of these achievements. Thus it may be seen that evangelization must be followed by a consistent and thorough teaching service.

Columbus Church

We cross the state line again into Mississippi to give a brief historic account of one of the most typical achievements in the ministry of our missionary. In June, 1936, Brother Hollis pitched his gospel tent in a choice place in this little city, and



Fawn Grove Church

began the impassioned preaching of the gospel for which he is noted. To be sure, he had the salvation of the people at heart; he wanted them born into the kingdom of God; but looking beyond their spiritual nativity, he saw a future need of spiritual growth, and to this vision his heart and intelligence responded. He preached the gospel of salvation and spiritual edification at the same time, and as the people gave themselves unto God through faith for their salvation, they gave their money toward the building of a church. I do not need to tell you that the task was a success. Please observe the photograph of this church and its people. Is there any minister of the gospel whose heart would not overflow with praise to God for such a victory? This church has a present membership of 151, a Sunday School whose membership is 106, an Aid Society with a membership of 14, and 67 enrolled in the Free Will Baptist League. Brother Hollis has served this church since its foundation, and the cost of this beautiful church building will have been paid in full by the

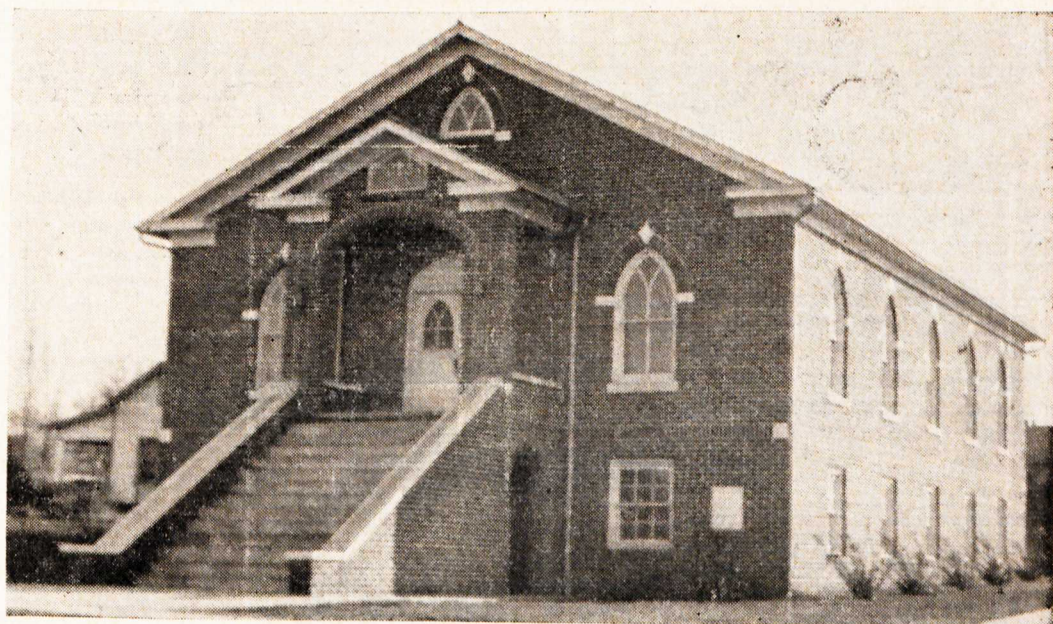
time this special Home Mission Edition comes to the attention of the reader. A beautiful dedication service has already been planned, and the hearts of the entire congregation, together with their friends near and far, will rejoice in this signal success. The paramount need of this organization, and the step which will doubtless be taken, is the placing of a full-time pastor in charge. This church is located just off the campus of the State Women's College of Mississippi, the oldest state maintained women's college in the United States. It is to be deplored that colleges are not, as a rule, very great assets to the churches near which they are situated; but the students, and faculty personnel, do nevertheless, influence the life of all churches within their proximity. Would it not be fine indeed for the National Home Mission Board to send a well prepared young minister to this church, supplement his salary, and counsel his activities while under God a great church and a great preacher grow up together.



First Free Will Baptist Church, Columbus, Mississippi

Red Bay Church

This church is located in Red Bay, Alabama, in a choice section of the town, and though quite similar to the Columbus church, it is perhaps the most expensive structure which our missionary has been able to lead the people in building during the several years which he has labored in this field. The fact with which we may very properly begin the construction of our historic account of this church is a revival meeting which was held in 1928, as a result of which 51 new members were added to the church. From this instance the life of this congregation was found to have undergone an awakening. The building, a wood structure, was then located just outside the town of Red Bay, but as the membership increased and the ambition for a more worthy and comprehensive service seized upon one and all, there began some discussions of building a new church in the nearby town and discarding the old frame building which had been in use for several years. The pastor, Brother Hollis, was of course in the forefront



Red Bay Church

in this movement. In the year, 1936, the task was finished. It is to the credit of these people to say that there is no debt at all which remains incident to the construction of this very commodious building. Our missionary has served as pastor of this church for twelve years, and during this time the membership has increased from 54 to 276. This is one of the largest churches in this entire territory. From an examination, however, of the enrollment in the three major organizations of the church, one would most naturally conclude that the spiritual house is the present challenge. The Sunday School has an enrollment of 60, the Aid Society a membership of 12, and the League a membership of 30. There are great possibilities here. A thorough teaching service which embraces all essential church organizations, the study of stewardship as related to missions, education, and superannuation would in a few years make of this church a great spiritual light and force for righteousness in the community.

Vernon Church

This church has a different history from either of those previously accounted, in that it is the re-organization of a church which had ceased operation. In September, 1940, Bro. Hollis pitched his gospel tent in this town, and began his usual impassioned proclamation of the gospel. Immediately the smoldering fires of devotion began to flame. As the spiritual life of those who had formerly carried

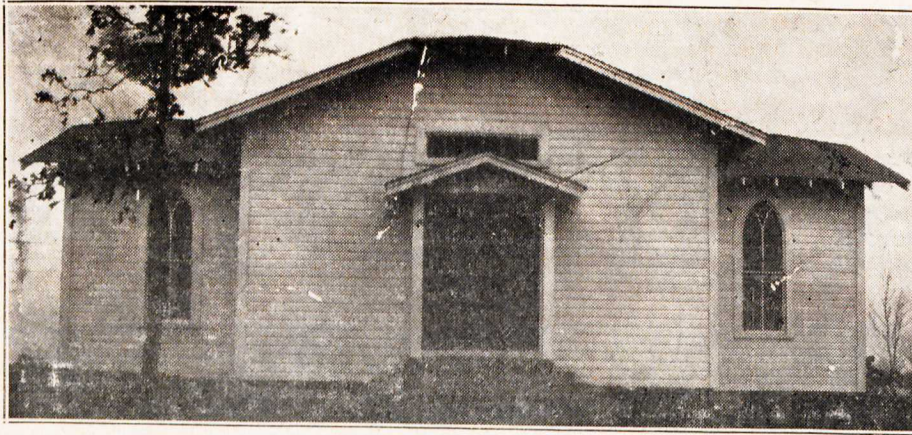
on in the service of the Lord became revitalized, the ambition to re-establish the church was made known. Our missionary used the pulpit and personal contacts to test the depth of interest, and finding it genuine, he proceeded with an appeal for funds. While the revival yet continued more than \$1,200.00 was raised for the building program. The photograph herein was taken during the early stage of the building's construction. When I visited this town in November, the building had been completely roughed-in. The revival closed with a membership for the new organization of 28; and in addition to the fact that Brother Hollis accepted the pastoral charge of this church without salary, he also made a personal donation to the building fund of \$50.00. This is the way churches are built, and such devotion and leadership will always win. The membership of this re-made organization now numbers 35, and I am informed by the pastor that the new church is now ready for use. Its location in the town is ideal, and the building is quite similar to those in Rey Bay and Columbus. Here again is a fine opportunity for a resident pastor. He might very profitably serve this new organization and community half-time, and devote the remainder of his time to other churches in that vicinity.

Brilliant-Boston Church

This church is situated on the summit of a hill in a coal mining village of Alabama. Its surroundings are



Vernon Church

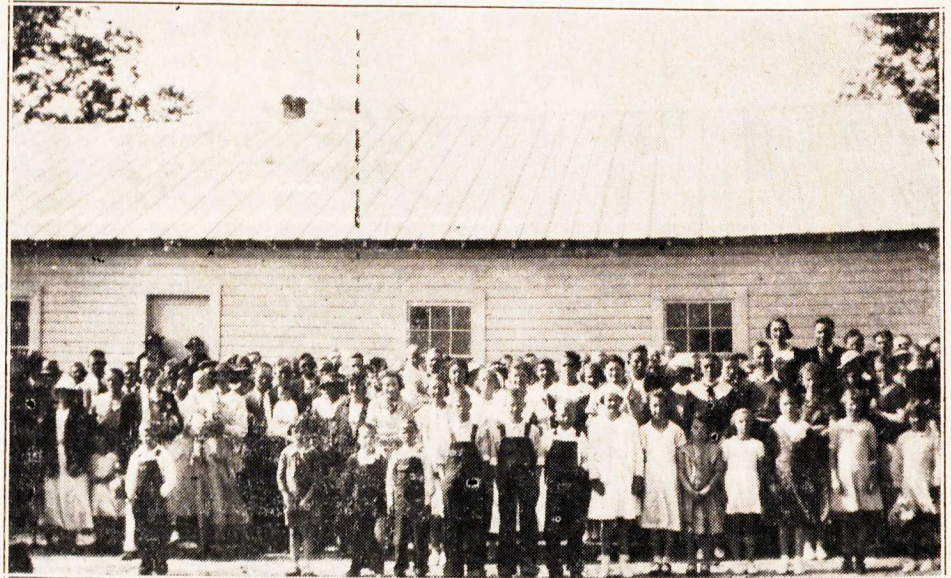


Brilliant-Boston Church

picturesque, and its membership a most hospitable people. The church was founded in 1931 with a membership of 40. During the ten years of its history the membership has increased to 260. The present church building, whose basement is brick and superstructure wood, was built the same year the church was organized. Brother Hollis held a wonderful tent revival in this community, and then served the church as pastor for six years. The present Sunday School enrollment is 100, Aid Society membership 12, and League membership 30. The need of more efficient organization is recognized in this church, as in all others. But with the leadership which this church has, we may expect great achievements as the days pass.

Liberty Church

We are glad to include in this Home Mission Edition a



Liberty Church

photograph of this church which our missionary led the people in building, and regret to say that we do not have historic matter sufficient to describe this work in detail. The church is located near Vernon, Alabama, and being so readily accessible to a pastor who might at some future time reside in this town, it is destined to become a strong and very efficient organization. As before suggested, it would be most ideal for a pastor to locate in Vernon, and from that point extend his efficient service to surrounding communities. The National Home Mission Board would be able to assist vitally in the realization of this ideal, if the people called Free Will Baptists would provide funds with which to initiate this ideal.

Auxiliaries and Home Missions

IT HAS required only a few years to effect an organization of Free Will Baptist women as the greatest material source of aid to our whole National Program. This organization is truly modern in form, and reveals the intelligence with which our women have taken hold of a real task. Their devotion to Christ and zeal for world evangelization have inspired their genius and energized their service. The path before them is clearly seen, and the ends in view shall energize

their every step.

Our missionary, Rev. M. L. Hollis, around whom this Home Mission Edition is written, recognized in the early stage of his work the importance of competent Aid Societies in all local churches. That this wisdom and foresight have been rewarded is evidenced by the photographs of such local organizations as appear in this periodical. These untiring groups of affectionate friends to Christ and his church have served vitally in the

liquidation of church debts, the purchase and building of parsonages, and other worthy activities.

I am very glad to present to the readers of this special edition the President of the National Women's Auxiliary Convention, Mrs. J. C. Griffin, of New Bern, North Carolina, whose article on the subject, "Women's Part in National Home Missions" will doubtless stir the hearts of many. I trust that the women throughout the denomination will not simply and only appreciate the privilege herein accorded their National President; but that they may respond to the counsel and appeal which she has made.

The Part of Women in National Home Missions

By Mrs. J. C. Griffin, President Women's National Auxiliary Convention New Bern, North Carolina

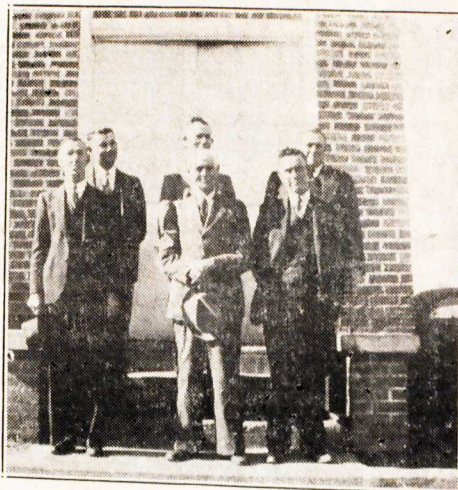
THE MISSIONARY MOVEMENT, among Free Will Baptists during the past few years, has been one of our greatest concerns. Much progress in Missions has been observed, from time to time, in the activities of various church auxiliaries. But when we carefully survey the great expanse of home territory on which we have been too slothful, or too indifferent to evangelize and consider how slow we have been to grasp the opportunities that have been given to us in this field of service, I am ashamed of myself, and deeply regret the fact that we, as a denomination, have so long neglected the challenge to spread the Glad News of the Gospel of Christ, *FIRST*, at home, where the need has been so great, and then in foreign lands.

Since many of our people are becoming more and more concerned about soul winning, and have concentrated largely on the needs in foreign countries, commendable as it may be, we have in a great measure lost sight of our responsibilities in the homeland.

Our interest has been keenly aroused and kept alive in the foreign movement, largely through appeals, lectures, missionary programs, and the activities of our missionaries. I am proud of the fact that however small the part our women have had in the welfare and promotion of the foreign work, we have stood shoulder to shoulder with our Church leaders in time, means, and prayers for the cause. I



Women's Aid Society, Columbus Church



Church Officers, Belk Church



Women's Aid Society, Belk Church

hope we shall ever be found ready and anxious to continue our activities in all branches of our work.

In our zeal to co-operate with the Foreign Mission Program, I sometimes wonder if we have not allowed ourselves to lose sight of the conditions and the needs of our own Home Mission Field. I fear that we are failing to realize that our foreign interests suffer until we have made greater sacrifices to establish Home Mission activities. We must ever bear in mind that the Master is calling us women to rally to the support of our Home Mission Program as never before. Evangelism is the key-note of the Christian religion; spreading the "Good News" is a sacred work. The Master said on one occasion, "Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and have had compassion on thee." This man doubtless was eager to go to far off places to tell the story of Jesus and His wonderful power to heal and to save; but before he could be permitted, or prepared for greater service, he must first "Go home" and tell the glad news.

If we have serious illness in our own homes and a neighbor also is ill, we first attend to the sick at home, and then go to our neighbor. This is what we should do in the field of Missions. The experiences which come to us through our ministry to the



Women's Aid Society, Red Bay Church

sick, the lost and dying, around and near our homes, prepare us for better services, and give us a more sympathetic feeling toward those farther away.

Our women may not be thoroughly familiar with the Home Mission Program of the National Association, but those of us who were present at the last session in July, 1940, in Paintsville, Kentucky, and heard the report of Rev. M. L. Hollis, Chairman of the National Home Mission Board, doubtless were surprised at his having accomplished so much with so little help or co-operation. The new churches established, evangelistic campaigns, and personal service rendered, as he so vividly held up to us, were very inspiring. We should feel it a blessed privilege to have a part in the promotion of this Cause, and do everything we possibly can to arouse the interest of our women to a greater and a more extensive service. I hope we shall combine our efforts in the Mission Cause and, when we think and plan missionary programs to raise funds for our foreign missionaries, we will not forget to think and work for those nearer home. May we show Mr. Hollis, by our wholehearted support, that we are in sympathy with his program, and that our hearts are burdened for the advancement of the work. We should feel justly gratified, if we can have some part in helping him to maintain and promote the Cause of Christ through this channel of service.

Our Auxiliary Song, "Jesus Calls Us," reminds us that we are constantly being called to the "harvest fields," and that we should be prepared to answer at all times, "Here am I, send me."

God will hold us accountable to Him for our failure, our carelessness, and indifference. If, after having known the truth, we persist in our refusal to acknowledge our obligations and privileges, and turn a deaf ear

to the urgent appeals and cries of those who need the Gospel preached to them, be it in the homeland, or in the foreign field, we shall surely suffer loss.

St. Paul, the greatest and most successful missionary of all time, was first a home missionary. John the Baptist, the forerunner of Jesus, was a home missionary. I could mention other great men who devoted their lives to missionary work both at home and abroad; but it is not necessary. We are an enlightened women — women who are acquainted to a great extent, with our National Program — women who earnestly desire to serve the Master through our ministry to mankind. I hope each of us will give ourselves, in a larger way, to the advancement of both home and foreign missions during the coming months than we ever have before.

We need to have the spirit of Paul when he said "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" Phil. 4:13.



Church Officers, Columbus Church

The Pastor's Home

THE PERMANENCY OF THE work of Rev. M. L. Hollis is further seen from the provision which he is making for the happiness of the home life of the pastor. Too long have Free Will Baptists postponed the building of comfortable homes for their ministers. This duty has been compiled with by two of the churches in this home mission field already. The church of Tupelo, Mississippi, and the Red Bay church have comfortable homes for a

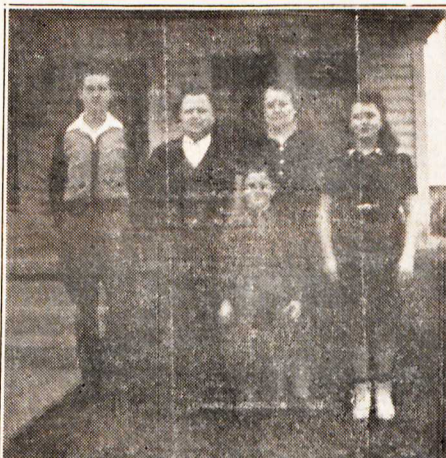
pastor. The people at Vernon, Alabama, have offered to build a beautiful brick parsonage near the new church as an inducement to Brother Hollis' moving there. The Aid Society, which helped in paying the debt off the Red Bay church, purchased the pastor's home, and will soon have it paid for.

The pastor's home is imposed upon by the congregations to which he ministers. His time is required by his church at the sacrifice of his

family, and too often the material needs are withheld. But some will persist in the attitude that this sacrifice is a part of the minister's call to preach the gospel. Surely the minister should be willing to sacrifice many of those pleasurable duties to his family; but the church which collects out of his innocent wife and children for the time and passion expended in the spread of the gospel is committing a sin of base ingratitude. Some ministers' children turn to crime as a result of the deal given their father by the congregations to which they have devoted their service. And, while I do not speak authoritatively, there is no doubt that the inferiority complex which the children of many ministers suffer is traceable to the impositions to which they have been subjected indirectly by professing Christians. If children shall rise in the judgment to condemn their ungodly parents, suppose you they will not witness to the condemnation of the community that has denied them a normal chance at life. I received a letter recently requesting information regarding the Bible School that Free Will Baptists are anticipating opening, probably in September; and in which its author set forth the fact that his father is a minister, and that it would be necessary for him to receive assistance financially while in school. This same story may be told for most ministers' children. Churches desire educated preachers while they refuse to educate the preacher's child. Demand an educated preacher? Yes; but provide for the education of the preacher's child also.

Rev. M. L. Hollis has begun a work which is destined to take care of the needs of the pastor's family. Instead of renting a home, from a salary all too inadequate, the minister who serves in future years in this field may live in a home owned by the church. This is good business for the church and the preacher, and the money that would be required as rental on the pastor's home may become a part of his salary. Here is a phase of service which has been greatly neglected. We shall find it increasingly difficult to maintain required church organization, and the necessary zeal among church people unless we make provision for the pastor to live among his people grow together, not apart.

The Federal Housing Act has provided for the building of thousands of homes among the laboring class of people. Why do Free Will Baptist



Parsonage and the Hollis Family

ministers not lead the people of our denomination in building homes for those who are laboring for the Lord? The laborer lives a more tranquil life, if he owns his home. Capitalists and industrialists have recognized this fact, and are greatly encouraging home ownership as a means of making better employees. The same principle holds good among those who are devoting their lives to the ministry of the gospel. In some of the states within the bounds of the National Association there are churches which have large memberships even in adjoining communities. There are also those which have been built in towns within a few miles apart. For the sake of permanency, build the pastor a home accessible to such churches.

Witnessing for Christ

In the Homeland

By M. E. Tyson, Secretary-Treasurer National Home Mission Board
Pikeville, North Carolina

THE burden and spirit back of the efforts which make this Home Mission Issue possible is that the mind of Christ may be conveyed to every person charged with the responsibility of the ongoing of the Kingdom, as related to our entire denomination. If our church deserves to be indicted, as having failed to wholly function in the capacity of a Christian body, I ask: Who is worthy to bring the indictment? Out of a sense of the stigma of guilt, I suggest that we obediently accept the command of the Apostle to the Gentiles, as set forth in Eph. 5:14, "Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light." As a further exposition, in the light of this passage, Dr. J. N. Darby's translation is quite significant. "Wake up (thou) that sleepest, and arise up from among the dead, and the Christ shall shine upon thee." It is evident that most of our stupidity has come about as a result of our willingness to take up residence with those who are spiritual aliens. May we all so labor as to hasten the hour when the Free Will Baptist Church shall cease to slumber with the spiritually dead, and the light of the Gospel of Christ shall illuminate every step of our denominational pathway.

I. Our Unevangelized Masses

Is it not true that the prevalence

of countless numbers, who are still without the benefits of the Gospel, is conclusive proof of our failure to becomingly identify ourselves with Christ and His mission here in the homeland? I am now inclined to offer an apology on behalf of the Free Will Baptists of my own state. There are literally thousands of people in North Carolina who haven't even a faint knowledge of the position of our church with reference to New Testament doctrines. Are there not those living in other states who must virtually subscribe to this state of mind? The question of our responsibility regarding the evangelizing element in the Gospel of Christ is not to be denied. Too long have many of us been satisfied to play the part of religious parasites, and thereby survive by drawing on the earnest and unselfish labors of Free Will Baptist Pioneers. Figuratively speaking, the resources of our fathers are about exhausted; and it is time for us children to push off from the old homestead and lay our hands to the task of making our contribution to the world. I recognize the fact that most children feel a sense of timidity at the beginning of their initial ventures; however, we do not go alone. The degree of success substantiated by this issue of our paper should be sufficient to erase any possible doubt,

This inspiration which has afforded such buoyancy for others may well serve as characterizing all sincere service rendered to Christ's Glory. It is said that a little English Chapel was one day filled to its capacity, and many stood on the outside waiting for the service to begin. The minister had not been speaking long when a voice was heard from without, "speak louder, we cannot hear; remember those outside." Shall we continue to ignore the appeal of "those outside"?

II. The Proposal Confronting Us

We may fittingly raise the question: What do Free Will Baptists propose to do about it? I think the most far-reaching step that has yet taken place dates back to an hour in Nashville, Tennessee, four years ago. It was there that the smoldering fires of love and devotion were, in part, liberated through the spirit of unification. The harmonious echoes of "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" are still being relayed to the remotest regions of Free Will Baptist territory. Since that hour, each successive session of our National Association has given vent to this spirit of progress. As we look out on our denominational horizon, we discover that the light of dawn is gradually pushing back the shades of the night of spiritual slumber. Shall we not accept, with profound gratitude, the blessed freedom that the day brings? Approaching our steps in order, our next should be:

III. A Thorough Concentration Upon a Given Territory

Do we not all agree that our most serious handicaps in the past have been the numerous independent set-ups? A small work well done is truly more creditable than a number of projects inadequately supported. The work around which this issue is built is proof of the reward of well concentrated efforts upon a given territory. Since we do not compare favorably, numerically and financially, with some of our surrounding denominations, we might as well be satisfied to function on a smaller scale than they. In the light of our limitations, we could not hope to sponsor as comprehensive a program as might be demanded; however, every achievement is an added step in that direction. It is the hope of your Home Mission Board that these and other efforts may find such enthusiastic reception with our people generally, that soon

we may come forth with announcements of further assistance being given to new undertakings. We hereby appeal to every class, throughout the denomination, for their impassioned and unselfish co-operation. Brother ministers, let us preach the gospel of missions in the homeland with renewed fervor.

IV. The Month of February Designated Home Mission Month

As a means of strengthening our National Home Mission Treasury, we are asking that all pastors receive one offering for this cause from each church during the month. As a further means, we ask that all Ladies Aid Societies use as much of this material as may be found practical as a basis for their programs throughout the month. We also ask that each Ladies Aid Society favor the Board

with an appropriation sometime during the month. We challenge you to glorify Christ through the work promoted by your National Home Mission Board.

V. Should We Not Rejoice

I am reliably informed that a certain protestant denomination of the southland is seeking to promote its general program in the face of a five million dollar debt. As we ponder the fact that our National Program is unhampered by debt of any nature, is there not cause for inexpressible joy? I doubt that the opportunities of Free Will Baptists have ever been quite so inviting as they are today. Let us remember that as Israel was nearing the promised land, Caleb gave the slogan of the hour, "Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it" Numbers 13:30.



Old Gospel Tent, and Junior Choir

Lifting up a Standard

By Rev. M. L. Hollis, Chairman National Home Mission Board
Red Bay, Alabama

I am writing this article at the request of my good friend and most highly esteemed brother in Christ, Rev. L. R. Ennis, who visited this section in November, 1940, and preached in several of the churches which have been organized here in the past few years; and, as a result of which, this Home Mission Edition of the *Free Will Baptist Gem* comes to you.

Many of my friends have asked why I resigned the pastoral charge of our great church in Byran, Texas, in 1929, and came here to what might

be called a barren field here in Alabama and Mississippi where there is only a few scattered Free Will Baptist churches. My answer is: I selected this field, not as an easy place, where one might receive a big salary and be greatly honored by the multitudes; but rather, as a place of sacrifice and hard labor. It had been my dream since a boy-preacher to see a great number of nice commodious Free Will Baptist Churches in the towns and cities of this section; and just as truly as God has called me to preach the gospel, I fully believe

that He directed me by His good providence into this particular field of labor. For this reason I have been forced, under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, to turn down calls to some of our finest churches; and even to the wounding of the feelings of some of my closest friends, who will never fully understand just why the invitation to come to their church as pastor was declined. But God knew of the hundreds of souls that were to be won by His gracious gospel to their eternal salvation, and of the churches that were so much needed as a living monument to His name; therefore, I could not rebel against God.

No one but God knows the miles that have been driven and the heavy burdens that have been carried during the founding and erecting of these churches. Still, there have been joys unspeakable that have flooded our souls, as we have seen our prayers answered and our dreams realized. And yet, we are not satisfied with that which has been accomplished. We still look out upon the open fields about us and pray as the Master taught us: "Lord send more laborers into Thy vineyard." There are other towns and cities in this section in which we have wonderful opportunities to organize and build fine churches. I have in mind two beautiful towns in which we held tent meetings last spring with glorious success, baptizing a number of converts and leaving them without a church of their choice in which they could work for their Master. Under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, I am now planning to go back to these places and conduct tent meetings in the early spring, and if it be God's will, organize and start the construction of churches in both of these places. We have over five hundred dollars already offered



Rev. M. L. Hollis at Microphone

in one of these places without having said anything about building a church. With this interest already existing among a large number of people, it will be easy to start a good church there. As Mr. Ennis said many times while visiting these churches, "We have cleared more land than we can cultivate." But there are still other fertile fields that will produce a glorious harvest in eternity that must be cleared.

Surely we have had to face many "can'ts" and discouragements in this pioneering work. I shall never forget, when we undertook the task of building the first brick Free Will Baptist Church in Alabama, the picture

of which appears in this paper. Opposition, yes, plenty of it. The following Scripture was my motto for this work: "Go through, go through the gates; prepare ye the way of the people; cast up, cast up the highway; gather out the stones; lift up a standard for the people"—Isaiah 62:10; and "Ah, Lord God! behold Thou hast made the heaven and the earth by Thy great power and by Thy stretched out arm; there is nothing too hard for Thee"—Jeremiah 32:17. How true, *THERE IS NOTHING TOO HARD FOR THE LORD TO DO*. If all our people could but realize this great truth, as they should, we would go forward in spite of all opposition. This little brick church that stands five miles south of Vernon, Alabama, on a beautiful slope just off the highway, has truly been a standard for the people, and a proof of the truth of God's Word, when He said that there was nothing too hard for Him. This church was built before there was a brick church of any kind in the county seat, and now there are nine brick churches in the country.

We also had the joy of organizing and building the first brick Free Will Baptist church in Mississippi, the one at East Tupelo, which was built during 1932 and 1933, the hardest years of depression that we have ever had. But God proved His power over depression in the midst of His people. The church was built and paid for in less than four years. In the building of all these twelve new churches, God has surely performed miracles that have shown forth His Power. In all these churches we have members that are proving themselves to be the very "salt of the earth," and "the light of the world." My God give us many more new churches throughout the land is my humble prayer.

Articles of General Interest

Brother Willey in Cuba

Greetings from the land of royal Palms:

They are every where about us, royal palms and poverty. On every hand there are beggars, people in rags calling the blessing of God upon you for the gift of two cents. This is

just one side of the picture you will see when visiting Cuba. This will impress you more than the stately buildings or the well dressed people thronging the streets of Havana. The wealthy or better class Cubans are a cultured gracious and courteous peo-

ple. Speaking their language places one in a position to better understand the way they think and live.

Our Heavenly Father has always anticipated our needs and very often uses strange ways of supplying those needs. In a former letter I mentioned meeting a stranger who gave me five dollars because of his interest in what we were endeavoring to do. Arriving in Havana we found heavy

custom duties placed on our baggage which we did not expect. This man again, without knowing our deed, slipped us twenty dollars. This was almost enough to take care of the duties. A few days later he drove down to Jaruco to visit us and gave us another twenty dollars which enabled us to buy a few pieces of furniture for the house. Our hearts are full of gratitude as we see the evidence of His love and care.

Sunday, January 5, was a full day, and long to be remembered. We met with a conference at Hershey Sugar plantation and mill. Hershey sugar used in the manufacture of chocolate is produced here. It was a great joy to hear the testimonies of Cubans who definitely know their Lord. We in turn had opportunity to tell what the Lord meant to us and what He would do for all who believe and accept Him.

The town in which we are living is typical of what one would find in any South American country. There is more evidence of the pure Spanish in the people here than in many of the other republics, but all about us is the evidence of darkened minds and prejudiced hearts which must be met with patience and kindness if we could win them.

We find that after some time off the field, we must apply ourselves diligently to study. Our kiddies are playing in the street with the children of the neighborhood, and we can hear them getting together a vocabulary. They continually run to us asking the meaning of Spanish words. All of this helps us as well. Our children have a large part in the work we are seeking to accomplish as they form contracts that we can follow up and set a standard for the children with whom they are playing. This leads us to thank God for the children.

Next week we shall be teaching in the school, in fact it shall be for us a great opportunity to fit ourselves for a larger ministry in the future. Thus as we seek to share with young native preachers our experiences in the study of the Word, we are multiplying our ministry. These students have so many days in school then go out into the surrounding towns preaching and witnessing.

The Cuban Evangelization Association is interdenominational and manned by Mrs. Arthur Pain, and her two sons, Hugh and Samuel, whom the burden of the work rests upon since the death of their father. I have never met a more sacrificial group

laboring with limited means or a greater challenge than that of training young native evangelists and pastors.

The full support of a student preacher including room, food and laundry is covered by ten dollars per month. Thus he is getting his education and preaching at the same time. Should God lay on your heart an interest in these native preachers be obedient to Him. You might desire to help in the partial support of one of these boys or girls, as both boys and girls are training here.

We cannot begin to tell you what you mean to us and to the work of

the Master in these fields as we go forth. To accomplish aught of worth in service, it must be upon our knees in constant prayer. We are counting on each of you to hold us up in prayer that victory might crown our labors.

Our address is Jaruco, Havana Province, Cuba. To those of our friends and people who desire to help financially, American Post Office money orders are the safest as there is a penalty for sending money loosely in the mails. We want you to write us, for letters mean much and are a great blessing to missionaries.

Fifteen Years in the Pulpit

By the Editor

PERHAPS, one of the most widely known Free Will Baptist minister from Missouri is Rev. Winford Davis, of Monett, Missouri. The foremost reason for his being known so widely is the fact of his constant zealotness and enthusiasm for the advancement of the Cause of Christ has illuminated his going to and fro in the land as a "flaming evangel."

Beginning early in life, he has preached and ministered for fifteen (15) years—January 13, 1926 to January 13, 1941. During this time, he has never been idle, or passed himself as a minister for months, and even years, without ministering, as some of us have done.

The following statement is compiled from the printed records of our district association:

Sermons preached	3,398
Funerals conducted	117
Revivals conducted	79
Professions witnessed	1,631
Baptisms performed	609
Additions to churches	963
Weddings	42
Miles traveled	94,450
Helped ordain	18 ministers
Helped ordain	27 deacons
Helped license	40 ministers
Help organize	9 churches
Pastored ten (10) different churches.	

The churches listed under his pastoral care are all southwest Missouri Free Will Baptist churches, excepting the church in Flint, Michigan, namely:



Rev. Winford Davis,

Macedonia, Jones Chapel, Merits Chapel, Aurora, Blue Eye, Enon (in Arkansas), Pleasant Grove, Hannon, Neola, and the First General Baptist Church in Flint, Michigan.

Brother Winford received only a grade school education, but he has been a student all his life. He has an exceptionally keen mind, and an abundant supply of natural ability which he has voluntarily placed on the altar of deep consecration wherein lies the secret of his success.

We would naturally raise one question about the report of his activities. It is a question that, to us, is entirely unexplained. We notice in the above report that he has married 42 girls and women—yet he remains single. If anyone of our friends find an answer, we would appreciate it if they would send it in, for we are extremely concerned.

Reports Harmonious With Home Missions

Revival Meeting at Branson, Missouri

Dear Gem Readers:

I am sending a report of a wonderful revival. Some few days before Christmas, Bro. Rex Weatherman and wife, my wife and myself, planned a trip to see our folk and spend Christmas there. The General Baptist Church at Branson, Missouri, made arrangements for a meeting to begin there on Monday night before Christmas. My wife and I got to Branson late Monday evening, after going by and eating supper with my mother. Finding Bro. and Sister Weatherman already there, we went to the church finding a house full of people. We brought the message that night, and found a people ready for a revival. The church having planned a Christmas program, we had no services Tuesday night. We began again Wednesday night and continued for twelve nights.

I think I never saw a greater revival for as short a time. Bro. Weatherman and I preached alternately. We saw 53 bow at an altar of prayer and give their hearts to God. Some real old time shouting took place there. They were saved from old men down to children. We gave an opportunity for church membership and there were 20 fellowshipped with the church. We sure did enjoy being in another old fashioned meeting. The only thing that was not pleasant, was the old longing for revival work got hold of us again.

On our return we again came by the old home where I was raised and ate dinner with my mother and father. After visiting with them for awhile we came to Monett. We found a revival in progress there and so we stayed for service. Bro. Winford Davis was conducting the meeting, but the Flu had gotten hold of him and he was not able to be in the service for a few nights. Bro. Allred brought the message and a real message it was.

We stayed over for the next night, as we had some business there, and again attended the service. Bro. Davis was able to be in the service but was not able to bring the message. Bro. Allred again brought the message. After the message an old time hand shake was enjoyed and God poured out his Spirit upon us and old fashion

shouting was heard in the camp. I am sure there is victory for those folk if they will stay where God wants them.

We stayed while we were there with Bro. John and Sister Doris Rollins and their son, John Erroll. After service one night, we enjoyed seeing the pictures Bro. Kenneth Turner made at the Missouri State Meeting.

We made our way home on Thursday, finding everything going fine, and the report that they had good services while we were gone. We are planning for a revival here at our church in Bristow soon. We ask you to pray for us that God's will be done.

Your Brother and Sister in Christ,

—F. C. & Belva Zinn, Bristow, Okla.

Report of Revival at Neola Church Greenfield, Missouri

We have just recently closed a splendid revival at our Mt. Olive (Neola) church near Greenfield, Mo. The meeting continued four weeks and two nights. Seventeen souls were saved, four united with the church, and three were baptized; with another and larger baptizing set for the fourth Sunday in January. Several of the souls that were saved were heads of families and older folks. One was a dear old man almost 80 years old. Bro. Hughes.

Two of our members took up the gospel ministry during this meeting. Bro. Lloyd Jeffries and Mrs. Floy Hartley. Bro. Jeffries is one of our fine young men, and has been a deacon in that church for some time. Sister Hartley has been one of our very active lady members and stands out in our midst for her unusual power with the Lord. Personally, I think both of these are very prospective as able gospel ministers in the future. How we pray that God will use them.

During the revival we had a fine all day service one Sunday with several churches represented and ordination services in the afternoon. One lady minister, Sister Lowell Martin, was ordained and three others were licensed for one year. Those licensed were Sisters Alice Dickey and Marie Thomas of the Hannon Church and Bro. Jeffries, the one mentioned above, of Mt. Olive Church. Sister Hartley

acknowledged her call later and plans are in the making, now, for her to be licensed soon.

We had splendid co-operation from a number of different churches. The Christian church of that community, the Baptist church of Greenfield, the Nazarene church of Lamar, the Independence Free Will Baptist church, near Stockton, Mo., the Hannon Free Will Baptist church 50 miles west of Neola, and a number of other communities came. It was really inspiring one night, when we had a group of special singers with us, to see the large crowd gather and some from so far. Over 40 people came from our church at Hannon in a school bus. It was great to be there.

Rev. and Mrs. Noel Greenway were with us throughout the meeting, and had charge of the singing and music. They certainly were a great help to us, and made themselves many friends while in that community.

We are thankful for the good that was done in the church and community during these meetings.

Our next revival will be with the Free Will Baptist church in Monett, our home town. Please remember us in your prayers.

—Winford Davis.

Revival Meeting Report Porterville, California

Dear Gem Family, Greetings in Jesus' dear name:

We have just been reading the *Gem*, and was glad to see reports from many of our brothers in Christ with whom we have worked. May God's Spirit encourage all of us to go forward in this new year with a greater zeal for the lost than we ever have.

We have found a few Free Will Baptists here at Porterville, California, who have organized a church under the leadership of Rev. C. D. Findley, who is the pastor at this time. I believe they have 29 members now, including four preachers.

On December 15, we began a meeting with them and continued for two weeks. We had some real old time services, one mother professed faith in Christ.

Then on Tuesday night, at prayer meeting, after the meeting closed on Sunday night, a fine middle-aged man

from Oklahoma, who had one time preached some with the Free Will Baptists and had been attending the meeting, united with the church.

There is some of the salt of the earth here. The church is renting a building for a place of worship now, but plan to build a church as soon as possible.

This is a beautiful valley where most every variety of fruit grows, over looked by a range of snow covered mountains about seventy miles away.

Last August, while visiting my mother in Wyoming, one or more of Wyoming's summer pests bit me on the ankle. They call them mosquitoes. I never thought much about it, but it has bothered me some ever since. Two weeks ago I went to a doctor. He said I had inflammation in the veins. Of course, he gave me his remedy and said for me to stay off of it. So here we are in our trailer house, parked in a beautiful grassy spot in sunny California, where it rains most every day.

My wife and I have appreciated the many good letters and beautiful cards we have received in recent months from Missouri and other states we have traveled through; also accompanying some of these were gifts which we greatly appreciated.

May God bless all the *Gem* readers is our prayer.

Yours in Christ,

— Sam H. & Daisy Marcum.
Home address: Cameron, Missouri

Sandy City F. W. B. Church
Catlettsburg, Kentucky
Rev. L. E. Colliver, Pastor
Gertrude Bowe, Reporter

Dear Readers:

Another year has become history, and we are facing a new year full of opportunities and blessings. God has wonderfully blessed us in the past few months, and we are looking forward in 1941 with much hope and greater faith.

Our Sunday School is holding its own considering the cold weather. The Sunday before Christmas, Sister Clemence Maynard's junior girls and some of the girls from the card class gave an interesting program of songs and poems.

On New Year's eve, there was an old fashioned watchmeeting held at this place. In the opening hours of the service, Rev. Steve Adkins of

Huntington, West Virginia brought an inspiring message from God's Word. Beginning at ten thirty, and until almost midnight, each Christian present was given an opportunity to testify once more in 1940. This part of the service was soul-inspiring, with rejoicing and shouting over the entire congregation.

Just before the old year slipped forever into the past two new deacons, Bro. Gordon Craig and Brother Earnest Griffith, were ordained.

As the old year slipped quietly into the past, the church gathered around the altar and we entered the new year on our knees. I always look forward each year to this hour. For the past four years, it has been our happy privilege to end the old year and begin the new on our knees. There is something about this hour, when we look back over the old year at our many failures and blessings — then to a new year in which we hope to do better, that draws us closer to God.

We don't want to forget to report the success of the revivals that Bro. Colliver has been holding. The revival at Seco, Kentucky, which we told you about in our last letter, closed a twenty-one conversions. Then he went to Minford, Ohio, for a three weeks' revival in which twenty-four souls were saved.

The choir from Sandy City went to Minford, Ohio, one night during the revival to sing. A hearty welcome was extended to us from the people there, and we enjoyed being in the services with them.

At the time this is being written, Bro. Colliver is on his way to Paintsville, Kentucky, where he is to open a revival service tonight (Sunday, January 12). Remember this revival in prayer that many will find the Lord.

"The grace of our Loord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen."

GIFT SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Elevian Sunday School Class of the East Nashville Free Will Baptist Church finds pleasure in sending the *Gem* to the Y. W. C. A. for one year, to be placed in the reading room for the benefit of the reading public.

— Mrs. J. E. Simpson, Teacher.

Huntsville, Texas
December 19, 1940

Dear Co-workers:

We are so happy to tell you of another great victory won over sin and the Devil. It was a great privilege to work with Bro. J. C. Ketterman and the Church at Bakerville, Illinois.

They invited us to come for a revival when we were through in St. Louis, Missouri. So feeling led of God, we went, and had souls saved from the start. We had 14 conversions and reclaims, 5 additions to the church and all for baptism. The people in the neighborhood were fine to work with, and we had some glorious services when the power of God was felt in a marvellous way.

The weather was very bad part of the time, but people came right on just the same. We had several visiting preachers from other churches and also friends where we had held revivals.

We made our home with Bro. and Sister Albert Culli, and it was indeed a home. We never had a sweeter experience any where during a meeting than we did with these precious friends.

On Saturday afternoon, before we closed out, we went to Ina, a small town south of Bakerville, Ill., where our Brothers Spurlock and Burtin were in a good meeting. They have built a splendid new church house at Ina, and it made us feel good to go through and look at it, though we couldn't stay for service. Bro. Spurlock is doing a fine work in Ina.

It was our privilege to have lunch with Sister Hayse, a dear saint of God. So we went back to our meeting, and Sunday night closed out and went home with Bro. and Sister Ketterman to spend the night and get an early start home Monday morning. But after reaching our good brother's home, we decided to start that night, and on Monday night we reached Henderson, Texas. We spent the night with Sisters Reed and Franklin, and then Tuesday morning on in home for Christmas.

When this reaches our friends we hope to already be on our missionary tour which you will hear of later.

We are sending four subscriptions to the *Gem*. God bless our many loved ones in the Lord and give them strength to start a new year.

Yours for Jesus,

— H. M. and Lizzie McAdams

General Reports of the Churches

Vance Chapel Church Oilton, Oklahoma

Rev. Hattie Newman, Pastor
Elva Haley, Reporter

Dear Gem Readers:

In Psalms 34:1, David says, "I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth."

I feel that our little church has had a lot for which to praise God this month. We had a watch meeting on New Year's eve that was really a blessing. Several of the preachers of the sister churches came and the evening was spent in singing, praying, testifying and preaching. As the old year went out and the new one came in, we were at the altar praying that God would help us, to make us stronger in the coming year that we might be able to do more for the cause.

Another blessing our church received was a four nights' service held by Rev. A. B. Talbert of Tulsa. His messages were on the doctrine of the Free Will Baptists and they were good for us. Bro. Talbert is a real man of God and the Spirit could be felt by all as he talked to us.

On his last evening, one of our young girls was reclaimed.

Next Sunday is young people's day in our church, and they have selected one of our girl preachers, Elva Walker, to preach for them. Our attendance has been hampered some by so much sickness, but we are still trusting in God and praying that soon everyone will be well again and be able to be back in His services.

Report of Hannon League Hannon, Missouri

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

This is our first time to report to the *Gem*. We are glad to tell you that our League at Hannon is progressing nicely. We have a membership of 20 young folk.

Although we are just beginners, our members are energetic and interested in helping our League to grow. The greater majority of this group are new converts, a result of our recent revival.

Sister Marie Thomas and Bro. Harold Hoover, two of our members, are licensed ministers of the gospel.

At one of our recent meetings we elected officers as follows:

President Esther Cummins
Vice President Harold Hoover
Secretary-Treasurer .. Marjorie Lewis
Pianist Betty Truskett
Chorister Velma Hoover
Ass't. Chorister Harold Smith

We ask the prayers of all Christians readers in behalf of our League at Hannon; that we may grow and glow and be a help to our church.

— Marjorie Lewis, Sec'y.

Merl's Chapel League Report Cassville, Missouri

Dear Friends:

I again count it a privilege to tell you about our League. As we have not reported for sometime, you may think we're not working for our Savior, but we are still in the fight.

Since our last report we have added some new members to our League. Our attendance is increasing and therefore, we have more to take part. We have very interesting services and the Lord's presence is always felt.

I think we studied some wonderful lessons last quarter. One was the "Gospel Pioneer Messenger," which was a wonderful lesson to each of us.

We can picture in our mind, William Carey taking money from his employer and lying about it. Later he becomes very sorry for the things he has done, and realizes he needs a Savior. Then as he opens the door of his heart and lets Jesus in, oh, what joy and happiness is brought to his hungry soul, and how the lights grow in his heart.

As William heard a man from India telling of the ignorance of the people of India and pleading for missionaries to go to that place and proclaim the gospel, God spoke to William to go to India and preach the gospel. How truly did William obey the Lord's command when he answered "Here am I send me." He was willing to leave his friends and loved ones and do just what the Lord wanted him to do.

We should all be like William; just willing to let the Lord have His way, regardless of all other things. Sometimes when we feel impressed to do things, we hesitate because we are afraid someone will laugh. But as the Bible plainly tells that some day laughing will be turned into mourning. Then on the other hand, "He that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not,

to him it is sin." This verse plainly speaks for itself that if we feel the Lord is wanting us to do something, and we don't, we have sinned against God. If God calls us into the ministry, to be a missionary, a personal worker, or whatever the task may be, God has a purpose for it, or he wouldn't have called us. Even in our testimony; we may think it doesn't amount to very much, but that testimony is going to benefit someone (if it comes from the heart) or God would not have us speak those words.

So let's put everything in the background and let the Lord be first in our lives, and say, "Lord, here am I, send me."

Our revival has just closed and we believe there were five souls saved, for which we are thankful; not as many as we would have liked to see, but one soul saved is worth more than this land of gold.

We, Christians, feel greatly revived and hope and pray that the revival spirit will continue to grow.

We will close, asking your prayers that we may continue to uphold the blood stained banner of Christ.

— Dorothy Lovell, Reporter

Blue Eye Mission Report Blue Eye, Missouri

Dear Mission Workers:

After a long time of absence, I will try to give a report of our mission work.

I thank the Lord we still have a few who are interested and faithful in the work, and really love to serve the Master.

Our officers are: President, Lizzie Shipman; Vice Pres., Dee Matlock; Sec'y-Treas., Viola Avery; Chaplain, Alma McMonigle.

Our meeting days are the first and third Saturdays of each month.

In November, we were invited to the home of Sister Alma McMonigle for our meeting. A covered dish luncheon was served in honor of the writer's forty-ninth birthday. We did not forget to read a part of God's word and offer prayer, if it was a surprise to us.

Come on Mission workers, let's launch out in the deep and do more this New Year than we have in the past.

I believe through mission work we are drawn closer together. We might say it's a great cord of love and friendship that reaches from one heart to another; thus making an endless chain of Christ-like love. Each time we meet in our associational gatherings, it seems our hearts are more closely knit together. We couldn't accomplish much if we didn't have love one for another.

In my mind, the cord of love is the strongest of all ties. Nothing can break it but we, ourselves. Let us be careful and may the great cord of love ever bind our hearts together.

Yours for Christ,

—Mrs. Artie Butler

The Free Will Baptist Church Drumright, Oklahoma

Rev. Harry E. Staires, Pastor

Ollie Hopkins, Reporter

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

We are happy to report that by God's helping hand we have finished the exterior of our church. We are ready to start working on the interior of God's house. We have erected a steeple and have a bell hanging in the belfrey. When we toll the bell it is a sign that all of His people are gathered there and extend invitations for the lost to come and hear His blessed Word.

We love Christ more than anything and have much for which to thank and praise Him. We realize times are wicked, but with God's help we are trying to win souls for Him.

Everytime I write you readers, I seem so weak and helpless in God's sight, but I won't give up for I love Him beyond words. Sometimes when we hear Bro. Harry preach the blessed Word of God our whole congregation feels the power of God and we really enjoy God's service.

Many of our members are ill and we wish you to pray for them. We are very grieved to report the death of one of our brothers, Bro. Kirkwood. We know he was prepared to go because we have held some young people's services in his home, and we always felt God's wonderful penetrating love. There aren't words in the entire English vocabulary to really tell of God's precious love. One can only try to tell how wonderful He is by serving Him and letting the world see Christ through our lives.

The young people have had some wonderful lessons in their League this quarter. And we are trying to live our lives to let the world know that

there is a reality in serving God—Life Eternal.

Pray for us and we shall remember you in our prayers. This old world needs to hear more praying. We will enjoy a visit from you during the National Association in July, 1941.

Richwoods F. W. B. Church Richwoods, Missouri

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

Greetings to all in Jesus' name.

Once more I am going to try to write to our paper as it has been a long time since we have written, and I guess every one is wondering about the church at Richwoods.

We are all happy and rejoicing in the blessings of our Lord. We can see God's work growing and prospering at this place. We are just a few in number, but by God's help we are trying to help build up our denomination.

Last May 19, Sister Eunice Edwards came out and held a two and one-half weeks' revival meeting. There were nine souls saved, five baptized and nine added to the church. We are thankful to God for sending Sister Edwards our way. She is truly a woman of God. While Sister Edwards was here, Bro. Edwards helped us organize a league with 17 charter members. It has grown to 48 members now.

On October 26, Sister Melba White was here and helped us organize a Mission Circle. We have 15 members and every one is taking an interest.

We are thankful to God for our good pastor, Bro. Willard Halbrook who has been so faithful. He is a real man of God and has been bringing some good sermons from God's word. We want to thank all the good people in Flat River, Desloge, and Leadington for their help to us and we are praying that God will bless them.

We are praying for a revival meeting now, and we want every Christian to join us and pray because sin is abroad in this community. "But where sin abounded grace did much more abound."

I have a special request for prayer for the young people. I am their Sunday School teacher. I have about 15 men and women and only three or four of them are Christians. Pray that God will save them.

Yours in the Master's service,

—Mrs. Sophia Ackerson.

Third Free Will Baptist Church St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Gem Readers and Friends:

It has been some time since I have written. Our church is coming along fine, having good crowds at services, and good preaching and good singing and the Lord is blessing our work. We are having cottage prayer meetings at different homes once every week, and we have some mighty good times, for the Lord is there.

Sickness has been bad; so many of the church members and Sunday School children, but the Sunday School is holding up fine and attendance has been good. We are looking for some great things this year.

We are going to try to build a church or buy one. We have faith in our Lord that He will help us in some way that we can have a place we can call home, where we can do greater things for our Savior, for He has done so much for us.

League Meetings are fine. We meet at 6:30 p.m. every Sunday before church and have a good time studying the Bible.

—Francis McCauley.

Free Will Baptist Church Carterville, Missouri

Dear Editor and Gem Family:

We are enjoying this fine day after quite a spell of winter.

We want to report that our church is mostly on the sick list at this time. We have real spiritual meetings but not many people are present. So many are afflicted with the flu. But we are all praising the Lord. It seems the Lord is so good to us all when so many times we all neglect to do many things that we really could do.

So many were sick that our Sunday School was not represented at the Sunday School Convention held with the Mount Olive church.

Our Sunday School has average attendance. But we pray God will help those that have been sick and they may be in the service soon.

We have Tuesday evening prayer service in the homes. These are well attended and we enjoy the spiritual feast these meetings provide.

Pray for us that we may always be humble and willing to do something for our Lord.

—Church Reporter

Tulsa Free Will Baptist Church Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Bro. Rollins and Gem Readers:

After an absence of some two months, we will endeavor to inform you of some of the good things that we are experiencing here at our Tulsa church. We are claiming the victory in many ways. One of them is that our Sunday School is now above the 200 mark. We are very sorry to report a great deal of sickness prevailing here at present.

Since our last report, we have had several additions to our church, of which we are very thankful, and shows we are gaining ground. We are very proud to report a wonderful time with our program for Christmas which was put on the Sunday night before Christmas; two good plays being used.

Our church was full to capacity, about all standing room being taken. wonderful lessons were conveyed to the minds of the people with these two plays, proving that it pays in many, many ways to travel on the Christian highway.

We are very glad to report our New Church Fund is still increasing.

It is with regret that we report that a goodly number of our members are sick and some in hospitals. Among them one of our beloved deacons, Bro. L. E. Turley, however, all are doing fine now.

We are still proud of our young people here, due to the interest they are taking in the work. They were awarded the attendance banner at the last young people's rally. We are reporting one new subscriber and several renewals this month for the Gem.

At our regular business meeting this month, election of Sunday School teachers and officers resulted in the same staff being retained that officiated during the latter part of the last year.

Well, brothers and sisters, we will try and see you next month (in the Gem). Pray for us and our members who are ill.

Rev. Melvin Bingham, Pastor
T. J. Cope, Reporter

Fifth Sunday Meeting Report Baxter Springs, Kansas

The Fifth Sunday Meeting, in December, was held at the Shilo church near Baxter Springs, Kansas.

There were seven Free Will Baptist churches represented; namely, Hannon Mo., Granby, Mo., Fairview, Kans.

Northwest Pitcher, South Pitcher, and Shilo.

Services began at eleven o'clock. Called to order by the moderator, Eld. T. E. L. Curry. Scripture reading, Romans 12. Prayer by Bro. Shipley. The stand was filled at eleven o'clock by Eld. C. M. Hatfield. His subject was "Why Am I in the Service of God?" Scripture reading, St. John 14:1-4. Dismissed by Eld. F. E. Crain.

A bountiful dinner was enjoyed by all at the noon hour. Afternoon we came together by singing. Prayer by Bro. Orville Johnston. Special songs were rendered by Bro. and Sister Tommy Goodwin of Picher, Oklahoma.

A short talk was given by Elda Crain, using as her subject, "What I Think of the Fifth Sunday Meeting," and I'll say right now, I think the Fifth Sunday meetings are grand, for the Lord always meets with us.

The pulpit committee appointed brothers Crain, Easterly, Norman Green, Orville Johnson and Ford. Each minister was given ten minutes.

The praise service was led by our worthy moderator, Bro. T. E. L. Curry, followed by an old fashioned handshake. Dismissed by Eld. C. M. Hatfield.

The next Fifth Sunday Meeting will convene with the Northwest Picher (Blue Front) Church. The introductory sermon will be delivered by Eld. F. E. Crain of Miami, Oklahoma. Elda Crain, Clerk Pro Tem.

Flat River Mission Flat River, Missouri

We are now organized under the National Women's Auxiliary plan.

We also have adopted the Jehoida Chest Plan, which is proving successful. The officers are:

Sylvia Dodd President
Josie Johnson .. First Vice President
Eunice Edwards .. Second Vice Pres.
Dorothy Pirtle .. Third Vice Pres.
Marie Sherrill .. Fourth Vice Pres.
Beulah Henson .. Fifth Vice Pres.
Esther Smith .. Secretary-Treasurer
Alma Graf Corresponding Sec'y.

Our society meets each Wednesday in the basement of our church with all day meeting. In the afternoon we study our Mission Manual.

The first Wednesday in each month we have a special program, using the Year Book of Programs; also other inspiring poems and songs. Also, we have a parcel post office into which each member brings a gift of some kind and puts the price on

it. Then when we are ready to draw, we number the packages and each one draws a number, and when it is called you pay the price marked on it. The proceeds are put into our Jehoida Chest.

This is our quarterly report for October, November and December 1940.

Dues Paid	\$6.06
Special offering	10.65
Jehoida Chest	5.00
Garments given	(about) 35.00
9 baskets given to the needy.	
24 trays given to the sick.	

State 10% work	\$5.43
Balance in Treasury	\$11.47

We have 26 members and they all enjoy working for the Lord. We hope this report will inspire other mission workers.

—Mrs. Alma Graf, Reporter

Indian Creek Sunday School Convention

The Indian Creek Sunday School Convention was held with the Mt. Olive church near Neosho, Missouri, the third Sunday in January. The afternoon session was opened by singing, "The Glory Land Way" and "Away Over Yonder."

Prayer by Bro. Bee Fredrick.

Scripture, John 20, by Bro. C. M. Hatfield.

The topics for discussion were the first four in the book of Sunday School Standards:

- Section 1, Point 1, Church Control discussed by Frank Linton.
- Section 1, Point 2, Soul Salvation discussed by John B. Rollins
- Section 1, Point 3, F. W. B. Literature discussed by Winford Davis.
- Section 1, Point 4, Records and Reports discussed by O. T. Allred.

These topics were well given and several points brought out that were of benefit to all. Open discussion was held on all topics and there were several more inspirational parts brought out.

Those giving special numbers were: Tommie Ray LaShum, Claurce Mae and Louise Fredrick, Winford Davis, and Bro. and Sister McKee.

An offering of \$1.14 was given for the convention needs.

The next convention will be held the third Sunday in April at the Granby church.

There were five Sunday Schools represented. Let's make the next convention 100% in having all the Sunday schools represented.

—Geo. La Shum, President.

Obituaries

WHITEHEAD — Rachel Tiliha Turner Whitehead, daughter of John and Mary Turner, was born March 17, 1871, in Cape Girardeau County, Missouri.

She united with the Free Will Baptist church at the age of 15 years, being converted at a revival conducted by Rev. E. C. Whitehead, to whom she was later united in marriage. To this union seven children were born: Edward M. and David Whitehead and Anna Mishler whom survive. Lucille passed away in 1922, Evert in 1937, and a son and daughter passed away in infancy. She is also survived by seven granddaughters and three grandsons.

Most of her life was spent in this vicinity, moving to Cherokee County, Kansas in 1923 near Baxter Springs, Kansas. In recent years she has made her home with her daughter, Anna. She departed this life January 11, 1941, at the age of 69 years, 9 months and 26 days.

She was a devoted wife, loving mother and a good neighbor—a living example of Christian devotion to her many friends.

ARCHER — Amanda Ann Stevenson Archer, who died at her home, near Best, Arkansas, were held Monday afternoon at her home. The services were conducted by Rev. J. W. Allred, Eld. Cecil Garrison, and Eld. Bruce Phillips. Pallbearers were: Sherman Archer, Fred Archer, Paul Archer, Euel Miles, Floyd Miles, Leonard Bowlin and Arvil George, all were her grandsons. Burial was in the Austin cemetery at Best.

Mrs. Archer was born March 31, 1851 and departed this life January 12, 1941, at 6:40 a. m.; age, 89 years, 9 months, and 12 days.

She was united in marriage to William F. Archer February 25, 1869, in Jasper County, Missouri. To this union were born 13 children. Surviving are 7 children: Charley Archer of Ault, Calif., Ralph Archer of Clifty, Ark., Loy Archer of Spring Valley, Ark., Hern Archer of Best, Ark., Mrs. Lura George of Spring Valley, Ark., Carrie Miles of Best, Ark., and Pearl Nolan of Clifty, Ark.; also, 27 grandchildren and 33 great-grandchildren.

She was a devoted Christian worker

and was a member of the Free Will Baptist church at Old Mt. Zion.

She was a kind and loving mother, and to know her was to love her.

EASLEY — Our dear father, Robert Burnett Easley, was born September 1, 1850, in Benton County, Arkansas. He died December 26, 1940, being 90 years, 3 months, and 26 days old.

Brother Robert Burnett Easley was converted in early life and he joined the Free Will Baptist Church. He felt the call for the ministry and he began to preach the Gospel at the age of 21.

Father Easley was united in marriage to Mary Ann McGuire, January 23, 1870. She preceded him in death July 30, 1926.

To this union were born eleven children, nine of whom survive: Mrs. Zora Smith of San Antonio, Texas, J. M. Easley of Abilene, Texas, S. P. Easley of Portales, New Mexico, Mrs. H. A. Easley of Tipton, Oklahoma, R. B. Easley Jr., W. P. Easley, P. J. Easley, L. E. Easley and Mrs. W. A. Irby, all of Comanche County, Texas.

My fellowship with Brother Easley had always been of a pleasant nature. It was there that I had preached my first sermon before a Free Will Baptist first sermon before a Free Will Baptist the pleasure of having conducted three consecutive revivals in the church where Brother Easley worshipped. Not one single time did he show any intention of contending against my ministerial efforts. I was always made to feel welcome in his presence, whether in public worship or at home.

He extended many worthy admonitions to us all. All would remain silent while the old father of the flock would exhort us. In spite of his age his methods were free from childishness. How well I recall his volitional emphasis on the first resurrection. He mentioned it again and again. No wonder. He suffered much in his mortal body before his death. The funeral, truly, was impressive to the young as well as to the old. Recently he was in a Fort Worth hospital. I went to see him every day for one week. Once I found him resting. I watched him for a few minutes, whispered a prayer, and then left him who had requested to be remembered in prayer. The intercessory prayers

that he made for his entire family will no longer be heard.

Besides his children, sons-in-law, and daughters-in-law, he leaves to mourn 50 grandchildren, 65 great grandchildren, other relatives, and a great host of friends. —J. K. Warkentin.

SWAFFAR — Death came to Mrs. Addie Swaffar at 12:28 Thursday morning January 9, 1941, at her home, in the little town of Purdy, Missouri, after an ailment of high blood pressure and paralysis. She leaves an unusually large family of children. She was the mother our our brother, Eld. John Swaffar, whom many of our people know in our denominational ranks. Another one of the boys, Jim, has also preached some. Sister Swaffar loved her children so dearly and was always especially interested in the work of the boys who took up the gospel ministry. She knew her Lord and it was no uncommon thing for her to shout His praises aloud. She especially loved the old song entitled, "They're Singing a Wonderful Song," and it could never be sung in her presence without she would become overjoyed in the spirit of the Lord.

All of the children were present for the funeral.

Addie G. Swaffar, daughter of F. M. and Lizzie Liner, was born April 7, 1872 at Lee Town, Arkansas, and departed this life at her home in Purdy, Mo., January 9, 1941, at the age of 68 years. She was converted early in life and has been affiliated with the Macedonia Free Will Baptist church the greater part of the time. She was preceded in death by her husband, T. J. Swaffar, February 18, 1936. She is survived by 12 children.

Funeral service was conducted at the Macedonia Free Will Baptist church in the presence of a large audience by Rev. Winford Davis, assisted by Rev. O. T. Allred. Singing was rendered by the Macedonia choir, led by G. E. Davis. Interment was made in the Arnhart cemetery Blankenship Undertaking Company in charge.

A number of the different churches were represented at the funeral including several present from the churches where Brother Swaffar is pastoring in Webster County.

May the Lord bless the family of children and help them to live in the faith of mother's Christ.

— Winford Davis

An Appeal to Our Women

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

REALIZING that time is slipping, and that we must begin to think and act seriously about our Auxiliary Program, I am, therefore, urging our co-workers everywhere to rally to the support of our work as outlined in our Manual, and to co-operate with the various vice presidents in their respective departments. This not only applies to our local organizations, but our national, state, and district officers are asked to press the great need of a more united effort in behalf of all of our departmental interests.

At this time, I am appealing to the directors of our Educational Program. Mrs. J. R. Bennett, of Goldsboro, N. C., National Second Vice President, is in charge of Christian Education. She, doubtless, is familiar with the plans of the National Association relative to securing a place and proper equipment for a Free Will Baptist College by the next session of the National Body. I feel reasonably sure that Mrs. Bennett is vitally interested in securing all the help possible so that this great undertaking shall not fail. That our women must fill an important part in this vital element of our work, goes without question. We shall not be able to reach the goal unless we prayerfully place ourselves in the center of God's will, to be used, as He gives us strength and courage to carry on.

We have been requested to raise a certain sum by the next annual meeting. Each state has been apportioned in accordance with its membership and strength. This amount has been subdivided into the districts. The districts therefore have to depend upon the local societies. These also have been allotted a proportionate sum to raise, and at the next district conventions are supposed to come up with their quota. I sincerely hope that each state and district have already raised the required sum, but if not, may I urge you to make no delay in setting to work, for time is precious and the need is great.

We are so very anxious to come up to the next session of our National Convention, which convenes with the Drumright Church, in Oklahoma, in July, with our full quota in hand.

So let me remind you that if we are to be "approved workers" that our Father can say to us "Well done," we must do our very best in service for Him and for the promotion of His work.

In North Carolina, we have been greatly handicapped during the fall and winter months. The state president of our Auxiliary Convention, Mrs. C. B. Thompson, had a very serious operation which necessitated hospitalization for several weeks and others of our foremost workers have also suffered reverses of one kind or another, which have retarded the work. But when misfortunes overtake us those who can be active should strive more diligently to make up for the

delinquency, so we are hoping to be able to overcome all obstacles and to go "over the top" with our allotment.

Our Eastern Convention was apportioned \$275.00. About half of this amount has been raised, but we must get busy at once if we are to have the full amount in hand by the next session, which meets with Northeast Church on Thursday before the fourth Sunday in March. As soon as a society raises its quota, please report same to Mrs. L. H. Wetherington, of Clarks, North Carolina, so that she will be able to give us a full report at that time.

We would be glad to hear from our Educational Directors through our Church papers, *The Baptist and Gem*, and may we all pray and labor and trust that God will direct our every effort in behalf of all of our departments, but especially at this time for the success of the Educational Program.

"We are laborers together with God"

As I Read

*Mrs. J. E. Simpson, Chairman National Board of Superannuation,
1310 Fatherland Street, Nashville, Tennessee*

AS I READ our wonderful church papers, I am interested to note the good work that is being done by our Free Will Baptist people all over old U. S. A. and also in some foreign countries. But I am made to wonder why all the good revivals that we read about, have not stirred the people to their sense of duty to reach out from their local church and join hands with the district, state, and national work of Free Will Baptists. By doing this the good results will bless others.

Come on! Kentucky, California, Michigan, Oklahoma, Alabama, South Carolina, Mississippi, Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, New Mexico, and Arkansas, "JOIN" Tennessee, Texas, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, and Missouri and help carry the National Superannuation Campaign to the heights of success.

Don't be the shirker. Be counted among the faithful states that rally to the needs of our denomination.

The National Superannuation Board will greatly appreciate your co-operation and the opportunity knocks at every church door to respond to a needy cause.

Is your church charitable? Is your church progressive? Is your church ready to join hands with our national program?

When we call the roll of churches that have supported the National Superannuation, what will your answer be? What will it be as a State?

It isn't too late. You just wake up! Pep Up! and join up with the other states that have already responded this year, and you will be happy over your decision.

Who will be next?

We have no time to brood over wasted time and failure. Just roll up your sleeves and with a new determination resolve to put your state on the map next year as a supporter of National Superannuation. The door of opportunity swings open.

Subscribe to the Gem

Learn more of the Good

Work going on

Financial Report of the Tennessee Orphanage

From July 1, 1940 to December 31, 1940

(This report does not include any receipts after December 31.)

I. L. Stanley, Superintendent, Greeneville, Tennessee

Carried Forward ...	\$ 56.42
Receipts (6 months) ..	2,403.01
Total Available	\$2,459.43
Disbursements	\$1,731.11
Cash on Hand, Jan. 1 ..	728.32
Total	\$2,459.43

Receipts Itemized by States

Tennessee

CUMBERLAND ASSOCIATION

New Hope	\$125.16
West Nashville	68.58
Friendship	31.08
Heads	21.96
Columbia (First)	21.50
Bethel	17.60
Mt Pleasant	12.12
Sunday School Convention ..	10.00
Charo'ette	7.40
Oak Grove	5.26
Brandon's Chapel	1.50
East Nashville	93.97
Cofer's Chapel	48.92
Bethlehem	23.53
Olivet	21.91
Ashland City	20.00
Mt. Zion	16.00
Shady Grove	10.25
Pock Springs	9.49
Oak Wood	5.92
Good Springs	3.23
Pewitt's Chapel	1.35

UNION ASSOCIATION

Valley View	\$51.80
Midway	45.69
Martin's Chapel	26.55
Northern Quarterly Meeting ..	30.28
Western Quarterly Meeting ..	27.33
Eastern Quarterly Meeting ..	27.00
Wooddale	24.00
Sinking Creek	18.00
Oak Grove	16.28
Liberty	16.00
Central Quarterly Meeting	15.00
Morning Star	13.41
Mt. Mariah	12.23
Forest Grove	12.00
Grace's Chapel	11.72
Pride's Chapel	7.60
Jackson's Chapel	6.50
Cluda Street Knoxville	6.00
Jackson's Chapel	5.76
Piney Grove	4.13
Van Hill	3.00
River Hill	2.25
Oak Hill	2.00
Harris Memorial	1.00
Holly Springs	50.00
Elizabethton	44.50
Unicol	31.13
New Prospect	29.26
Union Association	27.26
Greeneville	24.55
Phipp's Bend	23.53

Little Doe	17.61
Bethany	16.35
Mt Carmal	15.25
New Liberty	15.00
Keensburg	13.40
Johnson City Central	12.16
Moore's Chapel	12.00
East Fairview	10.60
Watauga Valley	7.00
Christian Bend	6.32
Grey Stone	6.90
Chimney Top	4.30
Lowe's Chapel	4.00
Grassy Creek	2.45
Green Ridge	2.00
Joseph's Chapel	1.58

STONE ASSOCIATION

Dobson Branch	\$12.00
Board Valley	4.00
J. A. McCaleb	2.00
Oak Grove	5.94
Pleasant Ridge	3.10
Ozion	1.50

Virginia

Various Va. Churches: McFall ..	\$123.76
Wise County Quarterly Meeting ..	10.23
Clinch River Quarterly Meeting ..	15.51
Wise County Quarterly Meeting ..	15.51
Woodway	11.35
Pussell County Quarterly Meeting ..	7.06
Big Springs	5.61
Norton	3.15
Wilson's Chapel	3.00
West Norton	2.00
South West Virginia Ass'n. ..	40.98
Mary's Chapel	17.75
Hoover's Chapel	12.00
Pungannon	7.73
Rocklick	6.00
Pound	4.50
Mt. Olive	3.00
Midway Quarterly Meeting	2.24
Cherry Grove	1.52

Kentucky

Burdine	\$22.39
Paintsville	20.00
Dunham	17.62
Webb's Prairie	10.55
Sandy City	21.50
Seco	18.21
Johnson Co. Quarterly Meeting ..	16.32

Illinois

Illinois State Association	\$27.55
Mt. Vernon	13.75
Rescue	16.00

Alabama

Loyal Chapel	\$18.00
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Progressive Association	3.08
Alabama City	3.00
Cordova	14.50
Brilliant	3.00

Georgia

Jakin	\$5.70
Midway Association	5.00
Martin Union	5.00
Williamson, Oklahoma	2.00

Miscellaneous

Farm Products	\$129.27
National Association	33.45
A. H. Browning	7.00
J. C. Moye	5.00
Alma Henry	1.00
Mrs. Morton Bagwell	1.00
A. J. Swattswell	1.30
Endowment & Estates	\$250.00
Mrs. J. E. Frazier	10.90
C. H. Armstrong	5.50
Cleone Christian	1.50
Rev. Hugh Jones	1.60
A Friend	1.00

Commodities Received

Johnson City (food)	\$23.40
Missouri State (books)	22.50
New Prospect (bedding)	18.29
Kilgore Grocery Co. (food)	12.60
New Home (clothing)	10.00
New Hope (food)	6.00
Paul Woolsey (food)	5.00
Ramsey Virginia (linens)	1.50
Virginia Churches (food)	51.00
Seco, Kentucky (clothing)	21.00
Stone Association (bed)	15.00
Fair View (clothing)	11.00
Forest Grove (clothing)	6.55
C. D. Dunbar (shrubs)	6.00
Johnson Chapel (food)	4.80
Martin Chapel (clothing)	34.00
Cofer's Chapel (clothing)	17.00
Mt. Mariah (clothing)	14.00
Wooddale (clothing)	11.00
Midway (clothing)	7.50
Jakin, Georgia (clothing)	5.90
Paintsville, Kentucky	4.90

We wish to thank each one who has played any part in making these offerings possible. May God's choicest blessings be yours to enjoy, is our daily prayer. This institution is now one year and eight months (young). During this short time, God has allowed us to prosper. We have admitted fifteen children, to this date. There are many others who are asking for admittance, and we are asking you to help make it possible for us to reach a hand to them. We sincerely solicit your prayers.