

The Free Will Baptist Gem

ORGAN OF THE MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS
IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Monett, Missouri, May, 1942

Volume 14, Number 5

Our Educational Interests

A picture of the Free Will Baptist Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma. The next session of the Christian Workers' Institute will be held here June 1 to 11, 1942.

See articles on Christian Education on Pages 3-11.



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Organ of
Missouri State Association

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EDITORS

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Herbert Henderson

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NOTICE

The Free Will Baptist Gem has been receiving orders for Sunday School Quarterlies which we cannot fill because we do not handle Sunday School Quarterlies.

The Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, North Carolina, will be glad to fill your orders. Send your orders for quarterlies directly to The Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, North Carolina.

The National Association

Enterprise Department

Come to Tulsa

The Christian Workers' Institute, June 1

Rev. Melvin Bingham, 833 N. Utica St., Tulsa Oklahoma

We are looking forward, with the greatest anticipation, to the National Bible Institute which is to be held at our church, beginning June 1st. We are planning and making ready for one of the greatest schools that has been held. We hope to see many present from far and near.

The Institute, thus far, has been a wonderful success. Our people can hardly wait the arrival of the school. You should just see the anxiety that prevails among our people. We will be disappointed if we do not see several from the East attending this school. We will take care of you the very best that we can, and too, the thing that makes us feel so good is that we have a brand new church for the school, as you will see on the front page of the *Gem*. We have a very friendly group of people, very humble and full of the Holy Ghost, very eager to be taught and learn more how to do things for God. We believe when the school is over that we will be equipped and will better understand how to meet the modern day demands.

The church, the Sunday school, the ladies auxiliary, the choir, the league, the deacons, the pastor, all in one accord, say *come*.



Rev. Melvin Bingham

All arrangements are left up to the Dean of the Institute, Rev. L. R. Ennis.

Bro. Ennis has asked me to be the registrar. Anyone wishing to send his fee ahead of time may do so. Send all mail to Melvin Bingham, 833 North Utica, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Advantages of the Institute to Ministers

Rev. J. R. Davidson, Chairman, National Board of Education, Bryan, Texas

One of the most complete successes to be observed among the Free Will Baptists of the past few years is the Christian Worker's Institute. Surely the Spirit never spoke more definitely in any affair than when He moved the Board of Education and the National Association to

make provisions for this portable Bible School. We have lamented the fact of our having no medium of training for a number of years, but that should no longer be a lamentation among us. Since the last session of the National Association, above one hundred of our people have re-

ceived training for Christian Service, many of whom had never had such privilege before. One of our most progressive minded ministers said to me recently, "I have had no privilege of attending any type of school preparatory for more efficiency in service until I enrolled for the Institute work." This opportunity is being placed within reach of many of our ministers who otherwise would never be able to so improve themselves as meet for the Master's use, hence every minister should so plan his work, and work his plans as to be able to avail himself of the God-given opportunity.

It is impossible for me to deal with every advantage to the minister afforded in the Christian Worker's Institute. There are many advantages tongue cannot express, but I shall point out three outstanding ones, namely:

from a Spiritual Standpoint

from an Educational Standpoint

from an Efficiency Standpoint

Surely we all realize the fact that the greatest of needs among our people is Spiritual Power, and if there is to be a telling spiritual power among our people, it must begin in the pulpit. The preparatory charge to the first ministry of the Christian church was: "Behold, I send the promise of my father upon you; but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with Power from on high." In every institute held, it has proven to be the equivalent of a Jerusalem-Tarrying, for the power came. My brother minister, if you feel the need of more power for these crucial times, and surely you do, I know of nothing which is destined to serve you as our Christian Worker's Institute. You may say that I can tarry any place for this power, and, surely that is true, but to use that spiritual power it must be conducted through necessary channels for service to Christ and others. Thus the educational advantages of the institute work slips into the order.

Jesus Christ came into the world primarily to shed His blood for the remission of sins, it is very true, but, He is the unique model for all of our life's activities, and in Luke 2:52 the life symmetrically, in Him, is clearly set forth. Of all people who need

a proportionately, well-balanced life the minister of the gospel is the one. The Christian Workers' Institute is so planned as to be of the greatest service in perfecting this balance, yea, it is definitely conducive to the very highest, deepest and broadest thinking. The educational program that produces the above is a guarantee to the student that he is getting the best there is to be offered him. Educationally the minister can get the maximum results within minimum time. Is that not what you have often wished, and prayed might come your way, brother minister? Permit me to assure you that your prayers have been answered.

Having seen in our Institute work the first need of every minister, and other Christian workers as well, that having opened our eyes to that which is afforded as a means of utilizing that power, namely: the "increase in wisdom" one readily sees himself becoming the last which is set in this article. That is, efficiency becomes the natural fruit of spiritual and mental preparedness. "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing (carrying a straight course through) the word of truth," is as much obligatory on the minister as



Rev. J. R. Davidson

the "Ge Ye". Efficiency for meeting our National foe is the criteria throughout our nation but, Brother Minister, a more potent foe is facing the army of righteousness than the combined dictators of this world. May efficiency become our spiritual criteria as commanders of the forces of the Lord Jesus Christ against our common foe, the Devil.

Bible Doctrine, Biblical Survey, Evangelism Public Discourse, Missions, Free Will Baptist Organization, Free Will Baptist League, Woman's Auxiliary and Sunday School Administration are courses of study

offered you in the Institute work. Do these not sound like that for which you have been longing for opportunity to take?

The next Institute opens June first in the First Free Will Baptist Church of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and continues in session for two weeks. The benefits of this session may be obtained at minimum cost. For particulars write to Rev. Melvin Bingham, 833 North Utica, Tulsa, Oklahoma. Brother Bingham will supply you with registration blanks, and all desired information.

Interests in Christian Education

Rev. L. R. Ennis Visits Illinois

Evangelist, Elsie M. Curtis, 1104 S. 12th St., Herrin, Illinois

I am writing to express the heartfelt gratitude of Southern Illinois for the great outpouring of His blessings we have enjoyed during the past eight days. Rev. L. R. Ennis, our Executive Secretary, has been with us for the past week in behalf of the Foundation Fund of the Bible School in Nashville, Tennessee. The results of his visit has been great spiritual blessings for our state, and a magnificent response on the part of the churches in a financial way.

Some of us were privileged to attend the Christian Worker's Institute at Flat River, Missouri, in February. While there, we made arrangements with Rev. Ennis to come to Illinois and be with us during our Franklin County Quarterly Association in March. We promised him that we would give him a one hundred dollar check on the Foundation Fund. Among our number at the Institute was young George Waggoner of Webb's Prairie Church. After returning home Bro. Waggoner began a campaign to raise enough money for one check and upon arriving at Webb's Prairie, his first appointment in Illinois, on March 25th, Rev. Ennis was proudly presented with the first one hundred dollar check.

While in session on Saturday, the Franklin County Quarterly Association voted one hundred dollars out of the treasury for another check and Rescue, the enter-

taining church, gave another. Mt. Vernon church on Sunday evening, following a soul stirring message by Bro. Ennis, laid their gift of one hundred dollars upon the altar. On Tuesday evening, Bear Point Church, near Sesser, gave the fifth check. And the end is not yet. We are expecting to announce in a later report that Illinois has gone "over the top" with at least one thousand dollars for the Foundation Fund.

Rev. L. R. Ennis preached inspiring Biblical messages each evening, not only to overflowing crowds, but to an eager, responsive people who are one hundred percent behind the entire Free Will Baptist program. He will long be remembered in Illinois for the great spiritual vision he has brought to us, and the wonderful time of fellowship in the Lord, enjoyed together during his stay with us. May the blessings of God be upon our beloved denomination and may we never lose the vision of a world perishing in sin and darkness.

— 30 —

Rev. J. R. Davidson has just passed through Missouri, and he scored with equal success — Watch next month's issue of the Gem for the story of Christian worship and devotion with mater'al means.

Items of Interests in Christian Education

Rev. J. R. Davidson, Chairman, National Board of Education, Bryan, Texas

For the past several days the writer has done quite a bit of work in interest of the securing of some Foundation Checks for the retirement of the indebtedness on our Bible school property, and I have been greatly encouraged with the interest and response. After my having preached at the Central Texas Quarterly Meeting a lady came forward and laid a good looking greenback in my hand, and it proved to be the nucleus for a Foundation Check from her church, which check is now in the making.

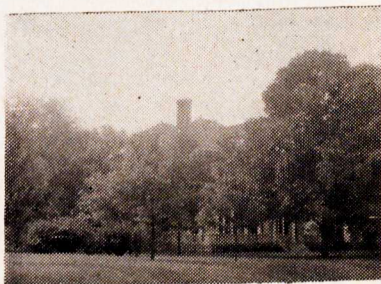
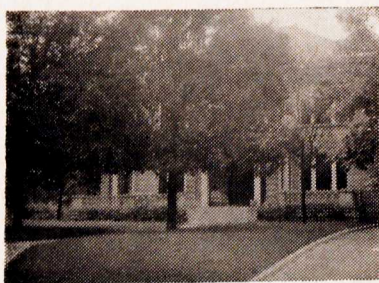
From the Central Texas Quarterly Meeting I went across the country to attend the East Texas Quarterly Meeting on Saturday night and Sunday. Never was anyone received with more far reaching open arms than was I by this noble people, and before my leaving I had accumulated several Foundation Checks, beside some other nice donations. The response of this people makes me to feel that our Lord is leading in this plan.

Now for a few interesting paragraphs which have come to me through the mails. First from Brother F. S. Van Hoose, our National Treasurer. I quote: "Brother Davidson, you asked me to pray about the giving of the one hundred dollar check for the Bible school, but immediately upon my beginning to read your letter, I realized that it would not be necessary for me to ask the Lord to lead me; for He had already led me and here is the check. Learning what others of our brethren are doing for the cause creates an incentive in me to do also." May many be so affected as was

Brother Van Hoose by these noble examples. I would offer him as an ideal example to others.

Here is one from Ancon, Canal Zone. It comes from Brother and Sister R. C. Cloud, who are members of the Bryan church. "Enclosed you will find the Foundation Check which you sent to us. Possibly none of our children will ever be privileged to attend the school, but maybe it will help some other boys and girls to get the training needed." May I add a statement to the affect that the check was filled out and duly indorsed. Does not a pastor have just reasons to praise the Lord for such members? I say, blessings on these dear children of the King.

Last, but not least, comes one from our good old faithful field workers, Rev. H. M. and Lizzie McAdams. I quote: "Dear Bro. Davidson: As the month of June is drawing near and many churches, auxiliaries, leagues, Sunday schools and individuals will be praying and planning for an offering on our Bible school we, too, have been among that number, and after prayer and meditation we feel led to write to you and offer this suggestion. We wish to see how many we can get to give ten dollars. You see if we could get one hundred pastors to say, 'I will give ten dollars', or if the pastor is not financially able to give that much himself he could say, 'I will get my church to give the ten dollars'. Many times one member would give more than the ten dollars. We have close to sixteen hundred churches in our National Association, and if only one thousand would respond you



Two views of our Bible School Property in Nashville, Tennessee

can see what the results would be. I believe if your board would send out a circular letter, and would publish it in each of the papers we would have the property released from indebtedness before the National Association convenes. A day of fasting and prayer would be in order. If God can talk to our hearts He can talk to others also in this awfully distressing time in which we are living. Should we not give to God for the purpose of rapidly spreading the Gospel? Oh! for more men and women with a vision. You will find enclosed \$10.00 to start this June offering."

There is a great challenging opportunity in the above proposition for those pastors and churches who feel that they could not possibly raise one of the One Hundred Dollar Foundation Checks. Let every church, regardless to how limited financially, fall in line. You do not have to wait until the month of June, but your example now will, doubtless, create a desire in others to do as much, or more by June. May we hear from you soon?

Interest is growing continuously in our educational program, for our folks are beginning to realize the fact that it is impossible to carry on a successful plan in spreading the gospel at home, and abroad without this medium of training. It is of great interest to me in hearing the field reports from various mission fields to learn that in every case emphasis is being placed on the use of Bible schools as the most effective way in reaching the heathen. This being true we are faced with the direct responsibility of providing this institution which can serve in preparing talent for carrying on such work on the mission fields. If we are to set up soul-saving stations in the larger centers, we must have trained talent to leave in the care of them—lest we labor in vain. We are commissioned to "teach them all things whatsoever I have commanded you." Let the Holy Spirit say how much you should give now.

Educational Financial Report

Rev. J. R. Davidson, Treasurer, National Board of Education, Bryan, Texas

Feeling assured that the financial statement, which I am now able to make, will serve as a stimulus for our people in this great denominational enterprise, I am committing this to the *Gem* for publication. This statement is as from July 1, 1941, to April 15, 1942.

Miscellaneous offerings \$2,955.54

Foundation Checks itemized:

John Moody Anderson, Texas	100.00
F. J. Boone, Bryan, Texas	100.00
J. F. Payne Carthage, Texas	100.00
Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Cloud, Bryan, Texas, (present address, Ancon, Canal Zone)	100.00
Rev. J. C. Moye, Snow Hill, N. C. ..	100.00
Mrs. E. B. Deans, Wilson, N. C. ...	100.00
Sophia Hardee, Greenville, N. C. ...	100.00
Mrs. Walter Barnes, Wilson, N. C.	100.00
Rev. F. S. Van Hoose, Paintsville, Ky	100.00
Freedom Church, by Elsie M. Curtis, Herrin, Illinois	100.00

Webbs Prairie Church, by George Waggoner, Whittington, Illinois ..	100.00
Bear Point Church, By Frank Farris, Zeigler, Illinois	100.00
First F. W. B. Church, Mt. Vernon, Illinois, by A. H. Spurlock	100.00
Rescue Church, by Henry Britton, Whittington, Illinois	100.00
Franklin Quarterly Meeting, by Hobert Conner, Whittington, Ill. ...	100.00
East Texas Quarterly Meeting, by Mrs. Will H. Hap. Henderson, Texas	100.00
Erwin Institute, Erwin, Tenn.	100.00
Flat River Institute, Flat River, Mo.	100.00
Grand Total donated from July 1, 1941, to April 15, 1942	\$4,755.54

There are quite a few checks in various sections which are post dated and cannot be cashed at the present date, but the above includes only those which have been cashed, or may be cashed at any time. There are many more in the making in different localities, enthusiasm is running high and checks are being signed daily.

The Bible School Foundation Fund

By Rev. L. R. Ennis, Executive Secretary National Association, Goldsboro, N. C.

Two months ago the Treasurer of the National Board of Education, Reverend J. R. Davidson, opened a new account under bond with a bank in Bryan, Texas; this account hereafter to be known as the Foundation Fund of the Free Will Baptist Bible School. At this time Nineteen Hundred Dollars (\$1900.00) has been contributed by organizations, churches, and individuals. It is true that only a few people have come to know of this Fund.

The method by which the Foundation Fund is accumulated is simple. A special check bearing a photograph of the Bible School property has been printed for the specific amount of \$100.00. This check may be filled out by any donor—individual, church, or general organization. One hundred of these checks will settle the unpaid balance of the purchase price of our Bible School property. It is the purpose of the Board of Education to secure a larger leather bound volume and engrave thereon in gold the following: GIFTS, MEMORIALS, and BEQUEATHS. In this volume these one hundred paid checks will be sealed with appropriate paragraphs treating upon their donors.

My duties have been too numerous to admit of extensive solicitation of Foundation checks. Every appeal however has brought delightful results. The first man on whom I called immediately gave the \$100.00 check. Likewise also the first lady whom I solicited gave \$100.00. The first congregation which I solicited gave \$100.00. In the latter case I refer to the Christian Workers' Institute which was held in Erwin, Tennessee, the first of this year. The first church which I called upon gave \$100.00. The first Quarterly Meeting which I attended with the view of seeking a gift to this Fund likewise gave \$100.00. I have forwarded to our National Treasurer twelve One-Hundred Dollar checks. This money will be used exclusively toward the payment of the remaining indebtedness on our Bible School in Nashville, Tennessee.

Recently I made an eight-days' itinerary in Southern Illinois. In addition to attend-

ance upon the Franklin County Quarterly Meeting, I visited several churches and homes. The manner in which I was received was a revelation of how the Free Will Baptist cause is accepted by our people in Illinois. The Quarterly Meeting was a spiritual feast of the highest order. Rev. W. R. Spurlock presided efficiently as moderator with every semblance of official vanity removed. The Holy Spirit had control of the meeting. The ministers were tolerant and respectful of one another. The music of the Peerless Quartet shall remain a cherished memory of mine. In an atmosphere of this kind a brother made a motion that the Franklin County Quarterly Meeting of Illinois gave \$100.00 to the school Foundation Fund. The motion was carried without discussion. Then a brother called upon the local church to give \$100.00 to the same Fund. This was likewise done with manifest devotion and enthusiasm. Other churches followed the example of this local church (Rescue Church). It is to be noted however that the first church which I visited in Illinois, namely, Webb's Prairie, started the flames burning. At the close of my message on "The Apostolic Church In Our Day," Brother George Waggoner, a young minister of the local church, presented me with five twenty-dollar bills for the Foundation Fund. He had solicited his fellow church members for this money. Brother Waggoner is a prospective student for our Bible School. Mt. Vernon Church gave \$100.00. Bear Point Church gave \$100.00. Freedom Church received \$50.00 in the offering on the night of my visit and on the following Sunday raised \$50.00 more, thus making the \$100.00 check. This check reached me immediately upon my return to North Carolina. Union Church made an offering to the Unified Program Fund of \$15.07. This church is planning to participate in a campaign which includes all the churches of the Freedom Quarterly Meeting. It was my privilege to speak in the new church at Ina at the Sunday morning worship, March 29. Those people were very grateful and revealed the

devotion and fervor which is characteristic of Free Will Baptists in Illinois. I shall remain debtor for the kindness shown me while on this itinerary, and for the enthusiastic support of our school which they were so eager to give.

Evangelist Elsie M. Curtis of Herrin, Illinois, is continuing the appeal for educational gifts to this Foundation Fund among the other churches of the state. I have asked the Lord to give us at least \$1,000.00 from Illinois toward this Foundation Fund. The prospects are exceedingly bright for even more than this amount. May I say to Free Will Baptists everywhere, please accept the challenge which comes from Illinois. Come forth with the fruits of your cherished faith.

Reverend J. R. Davidson, Chairman-Treas-

urer of the National Board of Education, is promoting this cause in Missouri at this time. Reverend L. C. Johnson of Glennville, Georgia, is scoring beautifully for the Foundation Fund. Pastors, Auxiliary women, Sunday School workers, and Leaguers here is your chance to help lay the foundation of an institution whose mission it shall be to train those who may be called of the Lord into definite Christian service. "Go" and "give" calls for a fusion of Christians. Those who are called to "go" but refuse are no more disobedient than those who are called to "give" but withhold. Free Will Baptists want a school as a means of training those who are called to "go." Will those who are called to "give" prevent those who are called to "go"? Let our slogan be "give" and "go".

The Christian Workers' Institute, Tulsa, Okla.

June 1 to 11, 1942

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National Association

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OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

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Rev. Henry Melvin, Pastor F. W. B. Church,
Nashville, Tennessee.

Mrs. J. L. Welch,
Nashville, Tennessee.

Session Pending

June 1 to 11, 1942, is the date set for what is hoped to be the greatest session ever of the Christian Workers' Institute. Reverend Melvin Bingham, Pastor of the Free Will Baptist Church of Tulsa, Oklahoma, has his fine new church set in order for the entertainment of the faculty and students of the Institute who will gather there to study the Word of God and those worthy methods and means by which the Free Will Baptist denomination may effectively propagate its sacred truths. Those students who attended the sessions of the Institute which were held at Monett and Flat River will recall that this session covers Certificate Course III. It is urgent that those who expect to receive their Normal Diplomas in July attend this session in Tulsa. No one should gain the impression, however, that the Tulsa Institute is exclusively for former students. The work has been so organized as to provide for the entrance of new students at any time. We therefore urge that the following make their plans now to attend this session of the Institute: Ministers, prospective ministers, evangelists, Sunday school officers and teachers, workers in Woman's Auxiliary and Missionary Circles, and all those who

would improve in the conduct of Free Will Baptist League work—all these will profit immeasurably from the work offered in this training school.

Description of Courses

The courses of study offered in the Christian Workers' Institute have been arranged in four groups. Upon the completion of any single group, however, a certificate will be awarded the student; and, for the completion of the four groups of courses, a normal diploma will be awarded. Each group of courses offered may be finished in a session of two weeks.

BIBLE DOCTRINE—This course will treat on the doctrine of the Trinity, with special emphasis on the person and mission of Christ, the personality, office, and work of the Holy Spirit, together with the doctrines of salvation and the Church. The method of treatment will not be systematic except as applied to the specific teachings of the Word of God. The student will find this course to comprehend much of that volume of Christian thought and faith which is essential to stability in personal life and efficiency in service.

BIBLICAL SURVEY—The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the Bible as a whole. An examination of both the Old and New Testaments with a view to recognizing their interrelationship, literary and historic importance will receive attention. How we came in possession of our Bible, and on what grounds we may be assured of its inspiration and authorship is considered.

EVANGELISM—Soul winning is the privilege of every Christian, and no minister or church worker may be considered efficient, evangelistic or truly faithful who disregards his obligation to the lost. In this course the student will receive vital training in the use of the Bible in personal, pastoral, and professional evangelism. He will be taught how to deal with all classes of unsaved people.

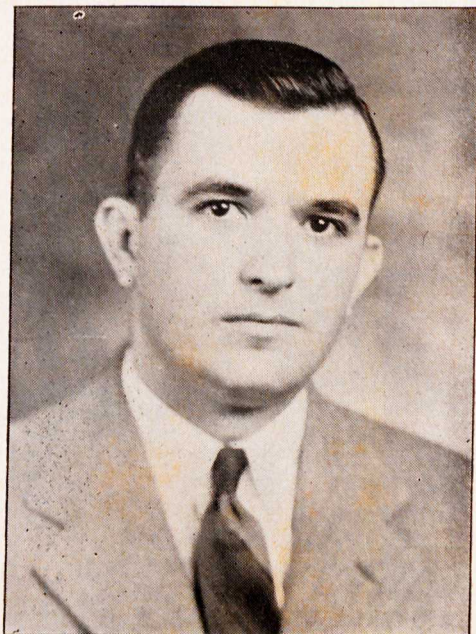
PUBLIC DISCOURSE—This course deals with the preparation and delivery of sermons and gospel addresses. The subject will be presented simply, but with a thoroughness sufficient to meet a universal need among ministers and Christian workers who have not had the advantage of homiletical training.

MISSIONS—The course in missions is considered of major importance. The subject is treated under four separate headings, and will run throughout all four sessions of the Christian Workers' Institute. In the first session the Biblical background of missions will be studied; in the second session brief outlines in world-wide missions will be reviewed; in the third session Free Will Baptists in modern missions will be considered; and in the fourth session the recent awakening and present program of Foreign Mission will receive attention.

Our missionary to India, Miss Laura B. Barnard, is the author of this course.

FREE WILL BAPTIST ORGANIZATION.—The subject matter presented in this course is contained in the minutes of Free Will Baptist organizations, and in the unwritten customs and traditions of our denomination. Special attention will be given to the variations of customs and practices of local churches and general bodies. The purpose of this course is to bring about uniformity in organization, practices, and program.

FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE—The prominence of youth in modern society lays



Rev. L. C. Johnson
Teacher of Biblical Survey

upon Christian bodies grave responsibilities. Practically all vocations demand trained men and women. This course is offered in response to a widely recognized need for trained workers in all departments of the church.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY—Evangelical denominations have been spared the reproachment, if not a collapse, as a result of the devotion and missionary passion of their women. Woman's Auxiliary is comparatively new to our present generation of Free Will Baptist women; but, it is nevertheless the most highly perfected organization in the denomination. There is, however, need of uniformity and simplification. This course is designed to inspire and inform pastors of the possibilities of Auxiliary work, and to give essential instruction to women regarding the conduct of the organization.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION—The Sunday school is fundamentally an evangelizing agency. The latest estimate reveals that seventy-four per cent of those who unite with the churches annually come from the Sunday school. Efficiency in administration will be the theme of this course.

Expenses

It has been the purpose of the National Board of Education and the management of the Christian Workers' Institute to offer Free Will Baptists throughout all the states the advantages of training in this Portable Bible School without any cost whatsoever to the student except the actual expenses of board and incidentals. We have urged upon local churches the importance of this training to Christian workers, and have thereby secured their sponsorship of the Institute on a sacrificial basis. The good people of our church in Tulsa have insisted that they would not make a profit on boarding students in the Institute. Only the actual cost is desired. We are glad therefore to announce that the board rate for the entire session will be only \$8.00. There will be no charges for rooms. The usual registration fee of \$1.00 is required of all students. Thus the total cost to the student for this session of the Christian Workers' Institute will be \$9.00.

Registrar

Reverend Melvin Bingham, 833 North

Utica Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma, will serve as registrar for the Tulsa session of the Christian Workers' Institute. All students desiring to enroll will please forward their applications to Brother Bingham. The enrollment fee of \$1.00 should attend all applications. Those who will expect to accompany friends to Tulsa and would desire to remain with those friends will please so inform our Registrar. For the convenience of the prospective students an enrollment blank is published herewith. It is urgent that applicants fill out their applications and mail them in as early as possible.

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Student's Application

For Enrollment In Tulsa Session

of Christian Workers' Institute

June 1 to 11, 1942

Name
Address
Age Give name of church of which
you are a member
Are you a minister Of what church
or churches are you now pastor?
If not a minister, for what phase of work
do you desire preparation?
Will you pay your expenses for the dura-
tion of the Institute or will your church
assist you?
What amount of your expenses will be paid
by your church? \$.....
What amount in excess of your registration
fee (\$1.00) are you forwarding with this
application? \$.....
Signed

Please mail your application with registra-
tion fee (\$1.00) to Rev. Melvin Bingham,
833 North Utica Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

30

The smallest man is often the biggest
problem.

The man who lends a hand never borrows
trouble.

— From "The Free Will Echo".

Pedro Oliva, Our Cuban Missionary

Rev. T. H. Willey, Missionary to Cuba

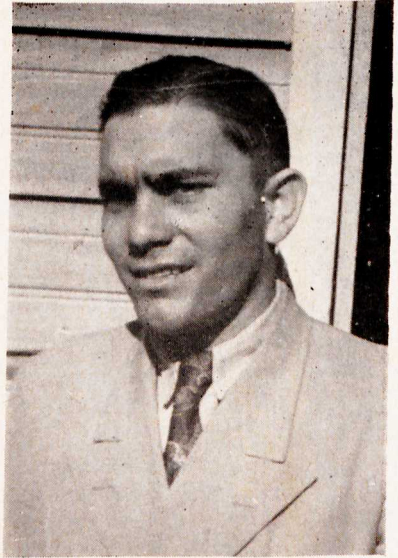
WE wish to introduce you to our new missionary, Pedro Oliva. Pedro comes from a very humble bajareque (cabin) on a wind swept knob along the foothills. If you were to see that home you would think of one of our poorer constructed cow-sheds at home, with its dirt floor and the absence of what we might call comforts. To meet Pedro and become acquainted with him, you would never suspect that this lad with a great amount of culture and polish came from that home.

The Olivas are numerous, and out of this one family there are three in the work of the Lord, Maria and Jose have been students under Mrs. Willey and I here in Jaruco. In the natural the dear old father and mother could not well afford to take their children out of the cane field which represents a meager salary, but they are loyal to God and his claims on them as stewards of the grace of God. Although it represents a sacrifice, they make it gladly sending their children for preparation for service.

Pedro has been well prepared at a mission school called, "The Young Pines," and led his class in being a bright prospect for the ministry. He preaches with great power and conviction and is still keenly awake as a student. He is not an inexperienced and untried preacher, by any means, but has been very active. There is a spark of animation in his presentation of the Word. He pours his heart out in the message in tenderness and love for his people.

It is a real contribution that the Cuban Evangelical Association is making to us as we go into an unevangelized territory, and we are grateful for their very gracious co-operation. While we are going into our own field, yet we purpose to maintain the closest co-operation with these our friends.

Pedro is 28 years of age, very neat in appearance, a cultured, humble Christian gentleman of very serious but cheerful disposition. We are also happy to report that Pedro has a very lovely novia (sweetheart) who in a few months will become his wife and in becoming his wife will make the second native missionary for us. She is



Pedro Oliva

equally well trained, and in the same school from which Pedro graduated. Her summers have been spent in definite missionary work, and according to reports from those who know her she shall be a great help to Pedro.

We want you to know of and pray for this new, open, and unevangelized field into which we shall go in a few weeks for a more thorough survey, studying possible locations for stations and living quarters. Agramonte and Jaguey Grande are the two towns into which we went with the visiting deputation committee in February. Undoubtedly you read of their impressions and shall read more through the papers regarding their trip down to Cuba. In the write-up we were deeply moved at the kindness of our brethren in making an effort to secure a rugged Model A Ford to cover these awful roads over which we shall have to travel. In fact, the car is already on hand for us when we can get over to the States to get it, but getting over is now our great problem. But we are praying and believing to find a way over with the light Willis, which will not stand up over these roads and through the mud.

Our hopes are high for a real work here in Cuba. The support of two native Cuban missionaries is what we hope to be but the beginning of a great forward movement of evangelization. There is no reason why we should not have, within one year, at least six Cuban missionaries in this field. When we think that \$15.00 per month will support a young evangelist, it seems that as a denomination we should rank with any other as a missionary force in the world. We should find any number of individuals and churches which would take the entire support of a native evangelist. Mrs. Willey and I are of the opinion, as a result of observation, study, and personal experience, that a native ministry supervised by American instructors and advice with the object in view to organization of native supported congregations is the ultimate objective of the New Testament program for missions.

There are a number of reasons why we are led to advocate this. First, the native preacher is a native of the country and does not need to wrestle with the problem of the language while we, as Americans, shall always be to the Cubans or any other people, foreigners speaking with a marked accent that some times, I am sure, sounds very comical to our dear friends. Second, the responsibility should by all laws or

reason rest upon the native to lead his own nationality into the light of the Gospel. But any one who has been face to face with the lack of training and prepared leadership combined with extreme poverty is bound to admit that help must come from our more fortunate brethren in the States, so there is need of supplementary help and advice by us. This includes training them for service and in the doctrine. Third, the native minister can live, and that very well, as we would want him to, on a much less expensive scale because he is accustomed to native food and never knew anything different. Thus there is the advantage of a program of a larger expansion for evangelization.

What the results of all this shall be will depend on the Lord, it is true, but a large part shall depend on YOU. You say who do you mean? I mean you, the reader of this article. What shall we say? Shall we move forward or shall we go backward? Be assured there is no standing still. If God cannot honor us with His commission, He will find some one else; but be assured you have lost your opportunity to be a blessing and in turn receive a blessing. May God arouse us as Free Will Baptists to our responsibility as well as our opportunity.

Pedro Oliva's Testimony

Translated by Rev. Thomas Willey

Pedro Oliva very recently associated himself with us. The Cuban Evangelization Association having so graciously consented to this move on his part. Pedro comes from this field, was converted and educated by them.

I was born on a farm in the province of Matanzas, Cuba, of humble country parentage. In this humble home, where I grew from childhood, there was a great amount of sadness: my mother having lost five children in an epidemic during 1914 and 1918. We suffered without comfort so that my home was a valley of tears. Under these sad circumstances and suffering, I passed the first years of my infancy.

In 1931, God in His mercy visited us with the Gospel by means of a missionary under the Cuban Evangelization Association. God used the first message ever preached in our house, the Holy Spirit opening our understanding to the truth. The text of the missionary's discourse was Luke 16: 19-31. "The Rich Man and Lazarus" which impressed each one of us in my house, and we were converted. I will never forget this experience that I had that night when I accepted Jesus as my liberator from sins that were condemning me. The same suffering that all have who have not received Christ as their Saviour.

During the first years of my Christian life, I lived, like Peter, in the mountains, but

later came the tests that constituted the valley of life. I came into an experience where I was far from Christ, but like Peter at the time of Christ's crucifixion, the Lord led me out when I met another missionary, a graduate of the Bible school, "The Young Pines". He helped me greatly in my life. Under his counsel and exhortations I felt the call of Christ to prepare to preach the Gospel.

In the year 1935 I registered in the Seminary and in 1940 received my diploma. During this epic of my student days, I knew many trials but also experiences that were sweet in the Lord. He supplied my needs as the Apostle said in Phil. 4:19.

After my graduation, I was sent by the board of the Cuban Evangelization Association into the country around Central Spain, under the direction of Rev. Samuel Pain,

to preach the Gospel in an unevangelized field. The Lord blessed, giving us hundreds of souls to hear the Gospel, many of whom accepted the Gospel. After a year, I had to leave the field for lack of funds and work with my hands in the naval station at Guantanamo Bay where the Lord helped me to preach to multitudes gathered there as laborers. After this, I was invited by Rev. Thomas Willey as a co-laborer with him in the extension of the Gospel in new fields.

We hope that the Lord will lead us completely. His promises have been given to us in Mark 16:15 making possible that many souls might know Christ as their Saviour.

Pray for us, brethern of America, and by your prayers we shall know you are interested in the salvation of our own lost Cubans.

— Pedro Oliva.

Bessie Yeley's Missionary Letter

Upata, Venezuela, South America
April 1, 1942

Dear Bro. Rollins and Gem Family:

"Though he slay me, yet I trust him"
Job 13:15. "I know whom I have believed"
2 Tim. 1:12.

I came across these words in the daily reading in "The Streams in the Dessert", and found them especially precious at this time, so I thought I would like to pass them on. I praise God for these little messages given so often just when most needed.

I have been wanting to write to you for some time but it seemed as if something always comes up to hinder, but this morning I felt a great desire to chat a bit with you all and so am laying aside the many tasks that need to be done, and shall spend a little while in telling you a little of the progress of the work here in Upata.

There has been much to hinder the work for Satan has been busy as usual, and many times we have been discouraged, but we praise God that in spite of all the efforts to weaken our forces and destroy what has been accomplished for God. We are going steadily forward, not by leaps and bounds, but little by little we are gaining ground.

Sickness has entered our ranks once again. Mrs. Fletcher of Tumeremo was

forced to return home, but Mr. Fletcher is staying on to help Mr. and Mrs. Schwartz who haven't sufficient Spanish to carry on the work alone. Then almost six weeks ago, Mr. and Mrs. Green and little Jackie from El Palmar came to Upata to consult the doctor here, as Mrs. Green had been



Bessie Yeley

suffering from attacks of appendicitis. The doctor said that she needed an operation, so three weeks ago she was operated on. She is better but as yet cannot make the long hard trip back to her station. My companion in the work is in El Palmar until the Greens shall be able to return. There has been extra work and responsibility here for me but I praise God for the added strength He has given me in these days.

One of our brethren of the church died last Saturday after a long illness. He lived about two miles out in the country. We went out to see him twice last week and he seemed to enjoy our visits, but I can't say so much for the others of the family. When the brother died we were not notified and only found it out by accident. We were not asked to have the funeral service nor did we know when it was to be until too late. I don't know if they had the priest or not. I fear the others are drifting back into Romanism, but I praise God for the testimony of our brother that his hope was anchored in the Rock of Ages, and we have the hope of seeing him again in the Resurrection Morning.

Now for a bit of good news. I think that I told you that my co-laborer went to the States a year ago and was taken very sick, and the doctors said it would only be a matter of time until she would go to be with the Lord. I received a letter last week saying that she was well now and that very soon she would be back with us, the Lord willing. We surely give the Lord the praise for we know it is His doing and it is marvelous in our eyes.

Our deacon who has been very sick for some months is some better at this time, and we have hopes that the Lord is going to restore him to health again. We miss him so badly for he is the only deacon that we have at present, for the others are all working in other parts. God is able, and He is able to raise our brother up if it be His will.

I have saved the best news until the last. God is answering prayer and souls are being saved. In the month of March four of the children of my Sunday school class accepted the Lord and also a young man from San Martin, a village about 10 miles from Upata. This is quite a good sized

village and as far as I know there was no more than two witnesses for the Lord in all the village. A young man from there accepted the Lord with Miss Bennett and some time later came back to services bringing his father whom he had won for the Lord. Then he came not long ago bringing this young man to the meeting on Sunday morning and at the close of service he accepted the Lord. Now I hear that the two of them are witnessing and have won several others, and are going to bring them into service that we may come to know them. Praise the Lord for those that are willing to witness for Him, although they have had little teaching but may the Holy Spirit teach them that they may be instrumental in bringing many precious sheaves into the garner.

As we look around about us our daily prayer is "Lord, send labourers into this part of thy vineyard." Pray for the little town of San Felix, where there are a little band of believers without a pastor to guide them; the village of La Argentina where a new convert is trying to point lost ones to the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world; Alta Gracia that wants us to hold regular services, and many others that are without a single witness. These are all near to Upata. There are many others near to each of the other four stations. Truly the harvest is great and the reapers few.

I have only given a little glimpse of the great need, but now I must close. Will you not join with me in earnest prayer for each of these places? Prayer changes things, and it is good to know that we shall have so many prayer-helpers among our big family in the homeland. Somehow it makes me feel much closer and Venezuela does not seem so far away. Pray also for me that I may continue in health. My furlough time is September of this year, but with times as they are and so many having furloughs due at the same time I feel that I would like to stay on a bit longer. The Lord is able and my trust is in Him. May the Lord bless each one of you that are helping me to stay here by your prayers and offerings. is the prayer of your missionary to dark Venezuela.

—Bessie Yeley.

Overcoming
With Christ



Woman's Auxiliary Department

The World
For Christ



The Hour of Prayer

By Mrs. K. V. Shutes, Cordova, Alabama

THE month of May is designated by our Woman's Auxiliary as orphanage month, this year. 'Since we are studying about our orphans and orphanages, I think it would be appropriate to have this as our objectives for which to pray this month.

James said, "Pure religion and undefiled before God, the Father, is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their afflictions, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." James is saying here that this is the practice of religion; this is the fruit that springs forth from pure religion. If pure religion lives in our hearts, then the fruits of pious charity will appear in our lives. To visit the fatherless and widows when performed as an act of duty, in obedience to the command of God, or as an act of piety or mercy, for the supply of their needs by our purses, or for the comforting of their hearts by our council, is as acceptable in the sight of God as worship.

The Children of Israel were commanded to give the tithe of the third year for the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widows, that they might eat within their gates and be filled. God gave them this commandment Himself. If God was concerned about the orphans enough that He commanded His people to set aside of their tithes of the third year for their support,

then surely He is still concerned today and expects as much of us in this day as He did Israel.

If we shut up our bowels of compassion against little fatherless and motherless children, how can the love of God dwell in our hearts? I believe that it is impossible for the love of God to dwell in a heart that does not reach out in love and sympathy for the poor orphans. "Whoso stoppeth his ear to the cry of the poor, shall cry also, but shall not be heard." If we fail to hear the cries of the fatherless, I am afraid God will not hear our cries.

Let us thank God for the orphanages that He has given us, and for those who have been placed at the head of them namely, Brother and Mrs. Stanley, and Brother and Mrs. Evans. Pray that God will guide them as they go about their work in the homes. Pray that God will give us other orphanages. Pray that God will open the eyes of every Free Will Baptist to the need of this great work, that He will also open our purses that we will be willing to give of our means to support this great work. Pray that God will help us to be mothers and fathers to the fatherless and motherless in our communities. Remember a cup of cold water given to one of His little ones will in no wise lose its reward.

A Message from the Fifth Vice President

Elsie M. Curtis, National Fifth Vice President, Herrin, Illinois

Some of the moments of our Lord on earth were spent in telling His disciples that they should be witnesses unto Him in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the uttermost parts of the earth. I think all

of us enjoy a good ringing testimony in our church service, and many of us do not feel in the least embarrassed in speaking for our Lord in public. But I wonder if all of us realize that the most effectual

witnessing we can do is that of loving deeds of kindness to those in need. I think the most gracious *words* human lips ever uttered were those spoken by Jesus as He passed up and down in the land of Judea and by the Sea of Galilee: but words alone could not have relieved the suffering souls and bodies and fed the hungry multitudes. It took *deeds*, action, the stretching forth of the hands of help.

I am taking this opportunity of making an appeal especially to the women in the department of Benevolence, that we continue, as I feel sure we have done in the past months, to never neglect a chance to reach a lost soul through the avenue of Mercy. I am sure that pity and compassion alone would inspire us to help those in need in our immediate communities, but the great Aim of our labor should be, that through these things we might cause some lost one to turn to Christ.

When we come to the National Association this year, I am praying that not one state or district or local Auxiliary shall feel ashamed they have neglected one phase of this department of service. The children in our orphanages must not lack because we have neglected them. The superannuation fund must not fall short because our women have failed to respond to this most important need. There can come no greater joy to a Christian's heart than to see the light of gratitude and love shine from the face of an orphan

child who has been lovingly befriended; or to hear the tremulous voice of an aged servant of the Master calling down the blessing of God upon those who did not forget the labor of love of years gone by.

Do we really want to be witnesses for our Lord? Are we really desirous that the whole world should know our Christ? Then in the words of an old familiar song:

"Brighten the corner where you are,
Someone far from harbor,
You may guide across the bar,
Brighten the corner where you are.
Do not wait until some deed of greatness
you may do;
Do not wait to shed your light afar;
To the many duties ever near you now
be true;

Brighten the corner where you are."

I very much desire that the 5th Vice-Presidents of the different states would report to me the work you have been able to accomplish; so that I shall have a clear idea as we approach the end of the year's labor, how much we have advanced; how much ground we have covered and also be planning for, and praying about, how we may improve our work in the year ahead. May the richest of our Lord's blessings be upon you all, and may we more and more show to the world as we pass and repass suffering, dying humanity, that the compassion of Christ has truly possessed us who bear the name of Christian.



GENERAL ARTICLES



Chicago Free Will Baptists Move Forward

By Dr. Leonard Earl Harris, 4330 South Lake Park Avenue, Chicago, Illinois

On April 7, 1942, the Free Will Baptists of Chicago met in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Lewis, 120 South Sacramento Blvd., Chicago, Illinois.

The meeting was called to order and led in prayer by the chairman, Dr. Leonard Earl Harris, who read two letters addressed to the group. One was from Miss Laura Belle Barnard, Missionary to India, the

other from the Rev. Winford Davis, Monett, Missouri.

Without further comment Dr. Harris proceeded with timely suggestions to be discussed by the group. It seems so very evident that we mean business, that our next important move is to secure regular

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High Lights From Science



Our first records of medicine are on paper. These were written by Homer (900 B. C.) in the early Greek civilization. Our next written record is by Hippocrates (460 B. C.). He was a physician and philosopher. Next was from the famous Arabian physician, Rhazes. His medical Encyclopaedia was published on paper in Latin in 1037 A. D. Today, with written records from earlier practices, we have progressed to a high degree in Medicine.

In reality bread is the staff of life, but oh, what would we do without medical skill? The knowledge of medical science, through the ages, has relieved the sufferings of humanity. The skill of the physicians has depended in a great way upon paper. Paper is the exponent of civilization. Without it, we would not have skilled physicians.

In a religious capacity, Christ is the Bread of Life, but what would we do without paper. We could not have the printed Word.

We could not have the record of the deeds of Him who is the Bread of Life. We could not have the system of communication which makes possible the unified efforts of Christians for the carrying forward of the work of Christ. As a matter of fact, paper, in the religious realm, is a vital factor in the giving out of the Bread of Life. Great deeds are being accomplished today because of the faithful work of religious publications. You cannot well afford to be without your church paper.



EDITORIAL



THE GEM SPEAKS FOR ITSELF

We have received an unusual amount of compliments on the Free Will Baptist Gem. In addition to the compliments, we have received an unusual amount of subscriptions. Of course that is the case of compliments proven in reality. In fact, we think the Gem is getting better, and of course, what we think is all right with us. We have not attempted to keep an account of those sending words of encouragement and compli-

ments, but a few of the outstanding ones are as follows:

"Now a word for the Gem. Truly it has its proper name. The one issue that had the report of the deputation to Cuba was worth five dollars to my soul. I sat in my room and read it and shouted praise to God out of my soul. May God bless the Editor and the office force as they go about preparing this wonderful messenger for His people."

"I am sending in some subscriptions. I

am glad to be able to bear some part in presenting the Lord Jesus to the people. I say this because, to spread the *Gem* among our people is also to spread the message of Christ, because the *Gem* is truly a wonderful paper."

We are gladly viewing the effects of renewed interest in the *Gem*. The articles and sermons come in without solicitation. They set forth a unified program of work to one end and that is the evangelization of the world. There are considerable comments on the pictures in the *Gem*. We are always glad to print pictures.

OUR NEW MAILING SYSTEM

During the past few months every individual has been receiving his paper in an individual wrapper. On this wrapper is the name and address and the Key Number. The Key Number indicates when the subscription will expire. For instance, those whose Key Number is 5-42 will receive expiration notices this month. We would be glad, and it would save time and labor, if those writing in concerning their copy of the *Gem*, or a change of address, would give their Key Number.

THE GEM IS NOW 75¢

May 1, 1942, has arrived. According to our announcement last month the *Gem* is now seventy-five cents per year. Those wishing to send one dollar, may do so and receive 15 months advancement in subscription. Those who forget and only send fifty cents will be advanced accordingly—eight months. The *Gem* is worth more money than what is asked, but of course, life cannot be measured by dollars and cents.

MANUSCRIPT REGULATIONS

The manuscript which make up the Free Will Baptist *Gem* comes to our office without solicitation. We have always had a full *Gem* and sometimes have manuscript left which is the case this month. Some of the manuscript, such as general articles and sermons, may be carried over to another issue. Some of them are periodical and if they fail to appear in the current issue, then it is just too bad. This is a difficult problem to cope with sometimes.

We are asking those who contribute man-

uscripts to co-operate with us in the following capacity:

Write briefly and to the point. Be as intelligible in as few words as possible.

Write plainly. Typewritten copies are preferred especially when they are double-spaced.

Mail your manuscripts so they may reach our office on the 15th day of the month preceeding the date of issue which is the first of the following month.

With our modern equipment and high-gearred facilities, it does not require nearly as much time to publish the *Gem* as in former days. It does not require a half month, but we begin planning the *Gem* and laying the plot on the 15th day. Manuscripts that come in after the 15th generally upset our plans if they are published in the current issue.

We have a board of censors composed of 5 men who are within reach of the *Gem* Office. When a manuscript is questionable this board of censors pronounces the final decision as to whether the manuscript be published. We are glad to say this board is not very active because our manuscripts are of good quality.

SUGAR

I believe almost everyone is willing and glad to sacrifice in every way to win this war. We could drink just plain cold water so as to save sugar, if we were sure that the sugar we are saving was not being used to make beverage alcohol.

If sugar is so scarce why do we not hear something about stopping the manufacture of whiskey and beer? Shall we take sugar out of the diet of growing children so there will be plenty to make drink for those fellows that go roaring along the highways and piling up automobile wrecks and committing crimes in every dark alley?

The government is spending billions for defense against a foreign foe, while the greatest foe of all time is here in our midst, strong drink. I do not think the money is being put to its best use in training an army of men and then letting them drink something that ruins their health and muddles their mind. If they are going to win this war they must be at their highest efficiency.

—From the "Free Will Echo"

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worship facilities. It was suggested that we rent a mission hall in some desirable location of the city suitable for our immediate purpose with available living quarters in the rear of the building. This would enable us to house some Bible student and his wife in the building, assuring us of having the two desirable services on Sunday, a Sunday school and a mid-week prayer service.

After a general discussion which was most enthusiastic and interesting, an investigating committee was appointed to find a mission hall suitable for our needs. They are to report something definite at our next meeting. Those appointed were: Mr. George Morawe, Rev. J. A. Card, Mr. Ornan Swaffar and Mr. Lester Lewis.

A discussion was instigated on planning a budget for the cause and inquisition made concerning a personal pledge system. A general and agreeable discussion proceeded but no definite conclusion was derived. Mrs. George Morawe, however, was appointed treasurer of the organization.

The next important item suggested was that the ladies of the two proposed groups, those of Chicago and Desplaines, Illinois, get together as soon as possible for the purpose of organizing a joint Ladies Aid Society. This met with such astounding response that a committee was immediately appointed to secure literature and to plan a program for the purpose of forming an organization. It was decided that this meeting was to be in the Free Will Baptist church of Desplaines, Illinois, on May 3, 1942, at three o'clock in the afternoon. It was agreeable with the ladies that they alternate these meetings, every other one in Chicago and every other in Desplaines. (This is only a beginning, and most likely there will soon be two societies.) The appointed committee are: Mrs. George Morawe, Mrs. Charles Osborn, Mrs. Lester Lewis, Mrs. J. A. Card.

It was proposed and recommended that literature be obtained from the Free Will Baptist presses regarding every phase of our Free Will Baptist work, especially the Sunday School, Ladies Aid Society, Young Peoples League, and Church Ordinances. Should there be any other available material our

leaders should have in readiness in our progressing work here they are to get that without further instructions.

At the conclusion of this business period, the Rev. J. A. Card read the 16th chapter of St. John and delivered a most encouraging, inspiring, and spiritual message. We were dismissed jointly by Mr. Swaffar and the Rev. Charles Osborn.

We agreed to send a vote of heartfelt thanks to Miss Barnard and to the Glenville Free Will Baptist Church in Georgia for the thirty song books they recently sent us to be used in our work here.

Our next meeting will be in the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Morawe, 5925 South Normal Blvd., Chicago, Illinois. Date, Tuesday, May 5, 1942, at 7:45 p. m. You are cordially invited to attend.

If you who read this article know of any Free Will Baptist anywhere in or near Chicago, please write their names and addresses on a penny postal card and mail them to me.

Following are the two letters received, one from Miss Laura Belle Barnard and the other from Rev. Winford Davis:

Glenville, Georgia
March 26, 1942

Dear Friends:

Doubtless all of you have had a copy of the *Gem* with its report of our meeting of March 3. With keenest interest and expectations this word of greeting goes to those who were present then, and to all whose names have been added to the list since. To be linked with the beginnings of our Chicago Free Will Baptist Church is one of my great joys, because I believe this is a momentous step for our entire work.

As we move along in the happy anticipation of an organized church, let us reflect that "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it" (Psalms 127:1). The only safe foundation for our church is entire consecration to the Lord Jesus Christ in whose name we build. It is as the Lord once said, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." We shall encounter many a difficulty. Time, talent, and money

will be necessary in liberal portions. There will be problems continuously which all our money cannot solve. These must be solved by prayer. Our all-wise Father has so fixed it that the enduring achievements of life are wrought through pain. During the past months in all our deliberations concerning this move, one question has kept searching my heart: "Have we counted the cost?" (Read Luke 14:28-30). I would be unfaithful to you if I did not lay great stress upon the cost of accomplishing our aim. The cost is yielding ourselves, denying ourselves, losing ourselves in the great will of God. And as we thus yield ourselves, He becomes the Builder and we only the material which He uses for the structure. Such a structure of "living stones" (1 Pet. 2:5), placed together by His master-hand, will witness to the world that we are not merely an organization but an organism, pulsating with life because indwelt by the living Christ.

"Speak unto them that they go forward" (Ex. 14:15). This is the message which the Lord has been laying on my heart for Free Will Baptists everywhere. We have reached the stage in the progress of our denominational work where we dare not turn back or even slacken our pace. We have soared so high that to fall back would be fatal. At the same time, we can move on from this point only at a price. But no one would take any but the forward course. It is our God who commands — what matter if it costs? So, as the message comes to our entire denomination, it comes particularly to our Chicago church now in its embryonic stage: "Go Forward!"

Yours in His Glad Service,

— Laura Belle Barnard.

Monett, Missouri
March 31, 1942

Dear Christian Brothers and Sisters and Free Will Baptist Workers in Chicago:

Greetings in Jesus' name!

It is such a joy to know of your recent activities up there in the big city. It is an inspiration to us all to know of what is taking place there in the name of our dear church, and above all for the cause of the Lord. How we do pray the Lord's richest blessings upon your every effort and that

He may guide you carefully in your every move and decision.

There was surely never a brighter day for our denomination than at the present time. Every phase of our work is moving forward in an excellent way, and especially is that true of the foreign mission department of the church. We are so pleased about that. After all, missions or the work of making Christ known to the world is the direct purpose of all our work. All other things do, or should, point in that one direction. May the Lord ever keep the mission spirit burning in our hearts.

As you have your next meeting the 7th of this month we will be praying for you at that time. I trust we may hear a very gratifying report of that gathering.

I am so glad that we have some entering school there in the near future in view of representing us on the foreign field some day, and that they will have the direct connection and fellowship there with you dear people during their stay in Chicago. However, we are not only glad for them but for you all, too, because I know it is wonderful for you to have that fellowship one with another.

May the dear Lord continue to lead in the shaping of things there in the future as He evidently has done in the immediate past.

Your Brother in the Lord Jesus,

— Rev. Winford Davis.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

The Freedom Quarterly Meeting of Southern Illinois will convene with the Free Will Baptist church at White Ash, Illinois, May 29 to 31.

ANNOUNCEMENT

A Homecoming and Mission Rally will be held Sunday, May 31, 1942, at the Hickory Grove Church of the Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association. Rev. Winford Davis is to preach the homecoming sermon. Those interested are welcome.

— Marie Thomas, Pastor.

Free Will Baptists in St. Louis

Rev. Mark Lewis, 2043 Sidney St., St. Louis, Missouri

I would like to give a report of our church and its work for the Master. The Lord has wonderfully blest His Word and our efforts here, in that the church has made some real progress, in growth, in number, in spirituality, and from a small mission to a fully organized Free Will Baptist church. It started under the leadership of Eld. W. C. Hill, who did a real work for the Lord. Many friends here mourn his absence, as God has called him to his final reward.

I came to St. Louis in July of 1937, feeling God had a work for me to do here. In 1938 I was elected to the care of the church. Since then, our number has increased until we have moved into a larger building. Last Sunday (March 29) our Sunday school was the largest in number of any Sunday since the church was organized. The number present was 133. We realize that this is a very small amount compared to the great number of people in St. Louis, which serves to make us even more conscious of the need of a larger Free Will Baptist work here, and helps us to see the field God has opened for us in this part of His vineyard. Truly the church, as a whole, sees these facts, and they have done something about it too.

Ever since my coming to St. Louis, I have worked in a bag factory and cared for the church too. But since our people saw this great field and opportunities, I have been put on a regular salary as a full-time pastor. I resigned my job at the Bemis Bros. Bag Co., Feb. 15th, and really cut all shore lines for the Lord; thus a prayer ten years long was answered for me. What a glorious privilege just to work for the Lord!

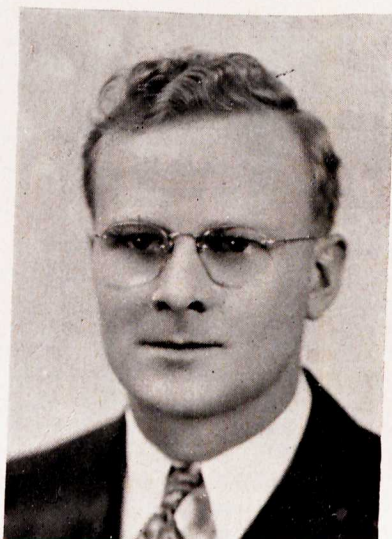
We have a growing building fund, and we are anxiously looking forward to the Free Will Baptists owning their first building in St. Louis. How we do covet your prayers for this cause.

Eld. F. C. Zinn will be here to start a revival meeting to begin April 13th. We are looking forward to a glorious revival of the church and many souls to be saved.

Brethren, pray for the work in St. Louis,

for out of the 891,000 people in this great field and vast area, there is plenty of room for a number of churches, and facilities a plenty for a Free Will Baptist School, Orphan's Home, or Hospital, or for any other enterprise that could be established her.

Remember that we can do all things through Christ. Pray for us.



Rev. Mark Lewis

The worst moment for the atheist is when he is really thankful and has nobody to thank.

Did you know that the word "faith" is not used in the Gospel of John, and the word "love" is not used in the Acts of the Apostles.

You don't have to start a lawsuit to collect the wages of sin.

Many accept the Christ of the Cross, but reject the Cross of the Christ.

— From "The Free Will Echo".

To Missouri League Workers

By Marie Thomas, Missouri State League Field Worker, Arcadia, Kansas.

"I beseech you therefore, brethern, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" Rom. 12:1, 2.

As we meditate upon these two verses of scripture, my mind goes to our league workers. This is to you, as leaguers, in form of a call from our Master. In every phase of the Lord's service we can be at our best only when we are truly consecrated to the cause of Christ. So to be a real leaguer this is the standard to reach.

In the age in which we are living, there are opportunities on every hand for us as young people. Our leagues have a part in our churches. Are we doing the best we can to strive to make our organization grow and glow and be an auxiliary to the church that will be beneficial?

"And that, knowing the time that now it is high time to awake out of sleep for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed" Rom. 13:11. The day is at hand for us as servants of the Lord to work in His vineyard. Let's study, work, and worship the Lord while we have the oppor-

tunity. This is a challenge to you as leaguers. Let's not fail, but fulfill the mission that is before us.

"Free Will Baptist leaguers
Marching as to war;
With the cross of Jesus
Going on before."



Miss Marie Thomas

Remember Pearl Harbor

The slogan "Remember Pearl Harbor" will long ring in our ears for the simple reason that it marks in our memory, and on the calendar, a day of treachery, and on the other hand a day of gallantry on the part of the men of our armed forces who fought so bravely and gave their lives so heroically for the defense of our country. But for Christian men and women to let a deed of hatred wrangle in their hearts would mean that we are not in any way trying to harmonize our spirits with Him who gave Himself that all might know the difference between *eternal life* and *eternal death*. Therefore, for that reason,

we set out in the spirit of Paul to "overcome evil with good."

We will "Remember Pearl Harbor," not only for what was done in the way of military might, but for the opportunity it gives the Church to extend a hand to those in need. The widows and orphans of the men of that hour will need the tender ministry of those whose lives have been made to glow with His love and His compassion, and this love and this compassion must take the form of a home and the necessary things to sustain their lives. This, the Free Will Baptist Church intends to do by the building of a home in Kentucky where a door of mercy

and loving care can be kept open for those in need. We need your support, we need your interest, we need you in this great cause that make our religion to become more than profession, but a life of shining deeds of Christly service.

The door of opportunity is open to every Free Will Baptist in the United States, to have a part in erecting this Free Will Baptist orphans home, in Kentucky, which will keep faith with these brave men, and other brave men and women who are giving their lives for the cause of Christ, by pro-

viding a home, an education, Christian love, and an opportunity in life for every boy and girl left an orphan in our great denomination.

Today is the day! Sit down now and place your offering in an envelope and send it to the Reverend F. S. Vanhooose, Treasurer, Paintsville, Kentucky, and have the joy that comes through an investment in a great work.

Millard Vanhooose,
F. S. Vanhooose,
Walter L. Hooper.



Louisa F. W. B. Church, Louisa, Ky.

The Kentucky State Association

The third annual session of Kentucky State Association will be held with Louisa Free Will Baptist Church, Louisa, Kentucky, beginning Friday, 10:30 a. m., before the third Saturday and Sunday in June, 1942.

The Louisa church was organized September 27, 1940, with 14 charter members. At present we have around ninety members.

Our church has been on fire for Jesus. God has given us four great revivals since the organization of the church as follows: First, 24 conversions; second, 18; third, 12; fourth, 35. We have had about ten or more conversions at our regular services.

Eld. Scott Castle, Moderator,
Wm. W. Moore, Clerk.



GOSPEL SERMONS



Awake and Arise

Evangelist, Elsie M. Curtis, 1104 S. 12th Street, Herrin, Illinois

Ephesians 5:14.

To be asleep means to be unconscious of any events or conditions surrounding us. There might be great possibilities of profit and gain; or there could be immediate danger and destruction near at hand. The gain would slip by, and we be unaware of it, or the dangerous situation might overwhelm us, with no resisting move on our part.

The same is true spiritually. So many who claim to be Christians are asleep and do not see the great blessings God will give, upon the condition that we awaken out of spiritual slumber. While the Christian sleeps, souls pass out into eternity without God and without hope; the prayer meeting goes unattended, and Sunday school attendance drops down lower and lower each Sunday.

Jonah, backslidden, cold and indifferent, slept, and the whole ship's crew was endangered; Samson slept in the lap of Deliah, and lost his strength and power; Peter, James and John slept in the garden, and only a stone's throw away, their Master agonized and sweat drops of blood, alone. The church today dozes comfortably upon a couch of ease and the sin-racked, war-torn world tosses wildly in the whirlpool of destruction. Day by day the pitiful condition of the world grows worse and worse, and it seems so hard for the church to throw off its sleepiness and be about the Master's business.

A message from God's Word should always be a practical message. It should have an awakening effect upon those who hear or read. Let me try by the help of the Lord to make this a practical message for Free Will Baptists..

1. If we are spiritually awake we cannot fail to realize the need of prayer. Abraham prayed, and Lot was saved out of Sodom; Daniel prayed, and the mouths of the lions

were stopped; the Hebrew children prayed, and they passed through the fires untouched by the flames; Paul and Silas prayed, and God's power shook off the stocks and opened the prison doors; the disciples prayed, and God honored the prayers until the building where they were assembled trembled. When we, Free Will Baptists, get under the burden of intercessory prayer as God intends for us to do, nothing can hinder our spreading into the world with the glorious gospel of His wonderful salvation.

2. When, as individuals and churches which make up our great denomination, we are fully awake, we will be back of our entire program with all our united strength. then every phase of our work will be abundantly supported. Our Bible school will be out of debt and operating. God speed the day when we can see the young men and women coming with eager hearts to be



Evangelist Elsie M. Curtis

educated and trained to preach the gospel in all the world, and go out to fulfill the mission with the knowledge that they are equipped to "rightly divide the Word of Truth". Let us, in every state where Free Will Baptists are found, awaken to the great privilege which God has given us of having a part in helping to promote every phase of our denominational work. Jesus said, "Lift up your eyes and look upon the fields; the harvest is already white and the laborers are few."

The awakened Free Will Baptists will see farther than his own church walls, or immediate community, and farther, even than the state in which he lives. The world vision; the missionary spirit is our crying need and every church I know that has that world vision, that missionary spirit is prospering in its local work. "Awake, thou that sleepest". Ours is a great responsibility, an enormous task, and only a wide awake, spirit filled, Christ empowered church can carry the program on to a glorious victory. Let every soul awake and

shake off the spiritual lethargy which is creeping upon the church. Let us fall upon our knees in fullest consecration; lift our eyes and see the great need, and then arise, in the strength and power of Almighty God to carry the banner forward until the work is finished and the battle is won.

Naturally speaking, we do not like to be awakened out of comfortable sleep. When the old alarm goes off in the morning the inclination is strong to turn it off, roll over and go back to sleep. But there is the knowledge that if we do, the day's work will not be done; some place will not be filled that needed a worker; some duty will be unperformed. Let us resist the desire to return to spiritual slumber when the Holy Spirit awakens us, and let us arise and face the great day of opportunity before us. The responsibility may be great; the burdens heavy and the hours long and weary, but in the words of the poet

"The toils of the road will seem nothing
When I get to the end of the way".



Church Letters - Field Reports



Mill Creek Church Myrtle, Missouri

Dear Bro. Rollins and Gem Readers:

I just felt that I wanted to write to our paper again, after reading Sister Ella Dotson's letter. I sure enjoy reading the letters from the Gem family. We are glad to know that God has still got people who love Him and are working for Him. It makes my heart rejoice. In these dark days when there is so much sorrow and disappointment, we should look to the Lord and thank Him for the wonderful promises that He gave us when He said, "Let not your heart be troubled". Oh, that we could look away from this troubled world to where our help is really found—to our God who made the heaven and earth. "Let us therefore come bodily unto the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need" (Heb. 4:16).

God is still blessing our church with good interest in each service. We are thankful

to have Bro. Beatty for our pastor. He brings us such wonderful messages.

Our Sunday school attendance has dropped some. So many have moved away and some of the boys had to go to the army, but we are hoping and praying it will build up again.

We are looking forward to the Missouri State Association to be held here at our church late this summer.

Let us not fail to join our prayers together in faith, believing that God will hear our prayers for the boys and bring peace to our nation.

Yours in His Service,

— Ora Clark.

— 30 —

Ruth Free Will Baptist Church Spring Hill, West Virginia

Dear Gem Readers:

While looking through my copy of the *Gem* and seeing a lot of letters from churches all over the country and of the

good work that is being done, I would like at this time to give a report of our church.

We have done a lot of work on our church building at Ruth in the last eighteen months. We have spent about \$1,000 on the building.

We have a good Sunday school of about 105 members. We are proud of our leader, Bro. Elmer Hill. We have preaching twice a month by R. W. McGee, pastor, and Ray Parson. We have prayer meeting on Thursday night at the church, and we have a band of Christians who go from house to house having prayer meetings and having a good time in the service of the Lord.

We, like everyone, have had a real old time winter, but still people come to church. We have 52 members now. We need a good old time, Holy Ghost, God-sent, revival meeting, for I think all of us could do a lot more. There is so much that needs to be done to save souls from sin.

I would like to say to all the *Gem* readers that Bro. Provence is building an orphanage over in Kentucky. My wife and I were at his place a while back and he is doing a wonderful work, and I can say God is blessing him. When I saw what he was doing and a lot of other good work going on in that community, it made me feel ashamed of my self. God bless Bro. Provence and all the good people at Phillip Cove church.

While churches every where are standing in need of prayer, let us all work together as never before to save lost souls. May God bless all of you is my prayer.

—Joe Childers, Reporter.

— 08 —

Sandy City F. W. B. Church

Catlettsburg, Kentucky

L. E. Collier, Pastor

Gertrude Bowe, Reporter

To Our Readers Everywhere:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow! we do, indeed, feel more like praising God for His manifold blessings this afternoon than ever before. Our hearts have been made to rejoice and we have been greatly strengthened this past week. God's blessings certainly rested upon us during our observation of the "Week of Prayer".

On Monday night Rev. W. W. Hanks, a

former foreign missionary, spoke from 2 Tim. 2:3, "Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ". He used some very vivid illustrations portraying to us a real soldier of the Cross. On Tuesday night Rev. Kelly McCraw talked from Job 33:24, "I have found a ransom", bringing to us one of the greatest messages we have ever heard on that subject. Wednesday night Rev. Bill Sheperd, one of the outstanding Free Will Baptist ministers from the state of Ohio, spoke on "Christ, the Great Teacher". He read from John 7:14-24. Thursday night Rev. Jay Duvall, one of our own preachers, preached about "The Gospel Train", using Isaiah 35:8 as a text. There was shouting and rejoicing all over the congregation, and, believe me, Brother Duvall helped it along. Friday night Rev. Bryant Edmond used as a text, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service" (Rom. 12:1). On Saturday night our pastor spoke to us from 2 Chron. 15:8, "And when Asa heard these words, and the prophecy of Obed the prophet, he took courage, and put away the abominable idols out of all the land of Judah and Benjamin, and out of the cities which he had taken from mount Ephraim, and the altar of the Lord, that was before the porch of the Lord." It was indeed a most profitable week spent in services for the Lord.

On Easter Sunday the following program was sponsored by Sister Isaac Jordan and Sister James K. Maynard: Song, "Jesus Paid It All" by Choir; Prayer; Poem, "The Story of Easter" by Gertrude Bowe; Poem "No Matter How Tiny" by Jackey Robinson; Poem "Why We Are Happy" by Roberta Hicks; Song "Nailed to the Cross" by Hazle and Betty Geyer; Poem "Easter Prayer" by Catherine Beam; "It's Wake-Up Time" by Norma Bowe, Catherine Beam, Blanche Maynard, and Ermalie Gambill; Poem "Our Song of Praise" by Janet Hicks; Song, "The Cross on the Hill" by The Sandy City Five; Poem "Easter" by Eula Hylton; Song "What A Wonderous Love" by Eskew Trio; Poem "Easter Light" by Gladys Geyer; Song "The Old Rugged Cross" by Thelma and Norma Jean Copley, assisted by Helen Hicks with her accordion; Playlet

by Eight Girls "Our Gift", Willa Mae Hale, Helen Hicks, Virginia Hall, Doris Craig, Irene Carroway, Frances Hunt, Margaret Prince, and Lucille Rymer; Song "Christ Arose" by The Sandy City Four; Poem "His Love" and song "I Gave My Life For Thee" by Celores Gambill, Thelma and Norma Jean Copley; Song "In the Shadow of the Cross" by Thelma and Norma Jean Copley.

In the playlet, "Our Gift", each girl was dressed in white and hung on the cross a lily as she recited her poem. Helen Hicks set a basket of lilies at the foot of the Cross as her gifts, and they closed by singing "Jesus Loves Me". The entire program was very impressive, and as Thelma and Norma Jean sang "I Gave My Life for Thee" Sister Ernest Griffith and Sister Zella Brown came forward and knelt at the Cross. As they sang the closing song the congregation was invited around the altar for a reconsecrating prayer. The program was given first during the Sunday school hour, and then because of the many requests, Brother Colliver turned the Sunday evening preaching hour over that it might be presented again.

Our Auxiliary work is doing fine. A special program as outlined in the year book was presented at the last meeting on "Overcoming With Christ in the Homeland". Each speaker seemed to realize the great responsibility of being a "debtor". The congregation sang "Stand Up for Jesus" followed with prayer. Sister Jones read Psalms 89:15, 16 for the scripture lesson. The Sandy City Five sang "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone?" Sister Cotton talked on "Under Obligation" followed by Sister Jordan who talked on "I Am Debtor to Christ for Salvation". "I Am Debtor to Those I Contact Daily" was given by Sister Thelma Copley followed with the Sandy City Four singing "Ready". The closing of the program was "I Am Debtor to the Foreigners in Our Midst" by Sister Gertrude Bowe. After prayer again the business was taken up and the reports of the vice-presidents were encouraging. If we may boast just a little, we would like to say that we are proud of the way the Standard of Achievement is getting marked up.

The revival at the Antioch Free Will Baptist Church, Lyra Station, Ohio, closed after two and a half weeks with seventeen con-

versions. At this writing Brother Colliver is expecting to begin a revival at the Black Fork Free Will Baptist church in Ohio Monday night (April 13).

A goodly number attended the regular monthly jail services on the fourth Sunday afternoon in March. Those men behind the prison bars really showed interest in the services. We count it a wonderful opportunity to be able to hold Jesus up to them through song and prayer. Brother Colliver brought a short message to them from God's Word.

The keepers of the County Home have given the Auxiliary the first Sunday afternoon in each month for services there. On Easter Sunday afternoon a number of the folks went out there and Brother Gordon Craig preached a wonderful message. We thank God for opening up the hearts of these people that we may go into these places and lift up Jesus.

Since this report is a little longer than usual we'll close here. We don't want to bore our readers but we try to make our reports as interesting as possible. Continue to pray for us that we may stay on the firing line for God.

30

New Home Church Tulsa, Oklahoma

C. D. Binton, Pastor
Mrs. Annie Bacon, Reporter

Fear Editor and Gem Family:

I thank God for this another opportunity to report to the little Gem paper. I am always glad to read the pages of the *Gem* and hear the good news of God's believing children.

Our little church is in good condition. We had a wonderful day Easter Sunday. We first had a sunrise prayer meeting. We of two little churches all brought our dinner together. We ate at noon, and in the afternoon we sang and had four different ministers preach. We sure did have a wonderful afternoon in the service of the Lord. Our four ministers were Earnest Wadley, Carl Hood, Willard Day, and Bro. Bages, all of Tulsa.

We had a wonderful service Sunday night. One dear mother found her way back to the Lord. It is so sweet to know our dear

Saviour will restore unto us the joy of our salvation.

Now may God bless every one. Pray for us that we will always stay where God can use us for His glory. We ask you all to pray for us and our pastor. He is conducting a revival at Lawnwood station; has had a wonderful meeting. May God bless and save you all is my prayer.

30

Northeast Missouri Fifth Sunday Meeting

The report of our fifth Sunday meeting which convened with Martin's Town church, March 29.

There were six Free Will Baptist churches represented. Services began at eleven o'clock with Eld. Orval Dobbs acting as moderator; prayer by Bro. Archie Cooper. At this time the stand was filled by Bro. Noal Turner. A very timely and inspiring message was delivered on the subject, "Wherefore the rather, Brethren," text 2 Peter 1:10.

A bountiful dinner was served at the noon hour.

The afternoon session was called together by mission president, Mrs. Mattie Filkins; devotional service by the young people of Martin's Town church. There were only two mission circles reported. These letters were read and accepted. A program was then given. One of the outstanding features of the program was Bro. Stephens and his gospel singers from Queen City, Missouri. This was greatly appreciated by all.

The next fifth Sunday meeting will convene with the Shibley Point church. The introductory sermon is to be delivered by the pastor, Eld. James F. Miller; Elder Archie Cooper, alternate.

President, Mrs. Mattie Filkins,
Secretary, Belva Byers.

30

Report of H. M. and Lizzie McAdams National Field Workers

Dear Co-Workers:

Since our last report to our many Gem friends, we filled our itinerary arranged by Bro. J. R. Davidson of Bryan for the Central Texas Association. The results were splendid, considering weather conditions and sickness. We surely enjoyed go-

ing back over the field of labor where we did some of our first work for the Master.

The pastors received us gladly and we believe, with their co-operation, our unified program in Texas will begin to show up more. Some of our churches, with Bryan in the lead, were doing a great work to promote every phase of our national work.

We left Texas in March for Florida. Our first church to visit was one of Bro. D. F. Pett's near Blountstown, Florida. It was indeed a rainy day, it poured all day Sunday, but a few came right on and we stayed until the rain ceased. We had a splendid service on Wednesday night, which was the women's monthly auxiliary meeting. We had a wonderful service and the pastor was just waiting to present the women with the Jehoiada Chest. When the choice was given the women and church accepted the penny banks. We thank God for the good pastors who have their hearts in the work.

We next visited Marvin Chapel church, another one of Bro. Pelt's churches. The first night we had two conversions. The church accepted both the chest and banks. We visited their auxiliary in the afternoon at their regular meeting. Sister Pelt is president and we found the women doing a good work.

We then went to one of Bro. Watson's churches, a new church out on the highway in a splendid location, Holly Grove. They had just organized an auxiliary and we met with them in a call session and explained the duties of the officers. They were greatly helped.

We also visited two other churches, but were rained out at Cypress Creek and only a few were out at Damascus on account of sickness.

Then we visited the Liberty Association. We didn't finish the Salem Association, but just took the churches as they were near, to save tires and gas. Our first church in this association was Piney Grove, where we visited one night on our way to the National Association. Bro. J. B. Lovering is pastor and he and his good wife are fully surrendered to the service of the Lord. We thank God for their lives among the people. Oh, if we could only get our preachers to see and realize God would take care of them if they would cut loose from business and fully devote their lives to the gospel call,

our work would soon spread beyond our expectations. We visited several other churches in Florida, but we will mention them in our next report as we expect to go back and organize our women. The rain hindered.

It was our privilege to spend two nights in the home of J. C. Eldridge, one of our oldest ministers of Florida. He organized a new church last fall near Bacom, Florida, and the name is Cedar Grove. The people that make up the church went right in the woods and bought government land that sold for taxes. Some built log houses, others small houses, and cleared up the ground. It is a new settlement and a new church with a zeal to do things for God. They have a splendid building and will clear the debt in a few weeks. They plan to have the dedication sermon when Bro. Eldridge comes again. We had one service and the power of God came down and 14 souls prayed through to victory. Three men went away not satisfied. Most of them were children, but they came with only the drawing of the Holy Spirit, no one spoke to them. The next day we went back and organized an auxiliary with the women.

We ask you to pray for this splendid group of new workers that God will lead them on as they have started. God bless the dear old pastor and let him live a few years yet to do good.

We came to Alabama yesterday and will visit churches here and then go to Georgia.

Right here we want to speak for Georgia. We visited an all day service last Sunday at Hebrew where Bro. Mark Robinson is pastor. Sister Barnard was there and gave one of those soul stirring messages on the conditions of India and showed us our opportunity to do more for our Master in heathen lands. It was a wonderful day. We also had an opportunity to tell of our white harvest field at home and it just made you want to get behind the unified program, which is fully equiped to take care of our home and foreign mission work. Oh, may God help us to do our best. The time is short in which we have to work.

Now we close by asking all of our auxiliary presidents to put the chests and Banks in all of their work. You can order stickers and chests from us. The stickers are free and the chest ordered is \$1.25.

We also trust that all will get the wall charts and mark them up, and have a wonderful report at our National Association.

Our honor roll is getting more interesting all the time, and as you read it, let's pray that God will give us more churches each month. Pray for us, we need your prayers daily. Is is not an easy task, but a glorious privilege to work and suffer with the Master. The work will produce fruit here and hereafter.

HONOR ROLL

	<i>Banks</i>	<i>Chests</i>
North Carolina	905	112
Texas	173	17
Missouri	158	16
Kentucky	135	8
Florida	108	12
Ohio	98	7
Oklahoma	88	7
Tennessee	71	9
Virginia	65	6
West Virginia	38	6
South Carolina	34	4
Georgia	20	3
Alabama	13	1
Illinois	11	8

Yours for Jesus,

— H. M. and Lizzie McAdams

— 30 —

Monett, Missouri

Deam Gem Family:

I will once more endeavor to write a few lines and let you know I'm still in existence. I guess you think I've certainly taken quite a "lay-off" from writing to the *Gem*, but guess there are just no apologies for me to make, as it has only been through neglect that I have failed to write. But just the same I've really been reading and enjoying the good letters and other uplifting articles sent in by so many different ones of the Gem family.

I am once more out of the sanatorium. I was discharged as cured and came to the home of my parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Davis near Monett, Mo., on December 20, 1941, where I am still residing. It indeed seems good to be free once more after a 31 months stay in the sanatorium, although of course I have to take some rest yet, and am to go back April 20 for an x-ray and check-up, so please pray for me that everything will still be all right. God has

been so good to me in so many ways and I do give Him the praise for sparing my life and healing by body like He has.

My little daughter, Ruth, is also here with me and attends school every day and is feeling fine.

I have attended services a few times at Macedonia where my brother, Winford Davis, is pastor. I also had the privilege of attending one night's service of the revival held at the Free Will Baptist church in Monett recently by Sister Curtis of Herron, Illinois. She delivered a wonderful message and I did greatly enjoy it. It seems so good to me to once more have the privilege of attending church services now and then, after such a long absence.

Although I don't attend often, I hope to be able to attend more often in the future.

I was privileged to visit in the Gem office some time ago, the first time I'd ever been inside of it and really enjoyed it. Bro. Rollins took time off to show us around over the office, showed us the new machinery and showed us how the new press was operated, which was very interesting.

My brother is now in a revival in Aurora, which started March 23. There has been two saved up to date.

Well, we will now bring this to a close, praying God's blessings upon each and everyone of the Gem readers and the entire denomination. Please remember me in prayer in the future as you have in the past.

In His great, name,

— Mrs. Opal Frazier.

— 30 —

Revival Meeting Report Paintsville, Kentucky

To the Gem Family:

I will report our big revival. We cannot explain with words but we will just say it was one of the biggest meetings we were ever in.

We were called to South Side Mission Church of Paintsville with Bro. Mack Providence of Tomahawk, Kentucky. We began preaching and preached four weeks. There were 79 conversions, about 40 baptized and a number to be baptized later.

We had baptizing service every Sunday, with about 600 to 800 people present. There were a great number praising the Lord all

the time the good work was going on. The people came a long distance to hear the true word of God preached and that they might be saved. We sure had great freedom in preaching. You know there are places where they have church bosses and they have run Christ out. But that is not so at this revival. Everybody was his own boss and God did bless in a great way.

The Paintsville Free Will Baptist Church was blessed by a number of new members and the Rock House Church of Free Will Baptists also received a number of members.

A number said they would like to be a member of the church where I am pastor. So the old Toms Creek Free Will Baptist church may get a number. During this revival I baptized two at the home church at Toms Creek.

The Lord sure did bless in a big way for which we thank Him forever. I believe in foreign missions; but I sure believe in home mission also. I would like to have been with Bro. Rogers and Bro. Bingham on their trip but I believe I had the biggest time of all. I have seen 85 souls pray through to God in the last seven weeks.

Brethren when you pray remember me.

— Eld. Millard Vanhoose.

— 30 —

Free Will Baptist Church
Drumright, Oklahoma
Rev. Harry E. Staires, Pastor
Mrs. Bonnie Rowland, Reporter

To the Editor and Gem Readers:

As we are preparing to present to the Gem this latest report of our church, Sunday school league and auxiliary activities, and as we look back for a review of these activities, we have an humble thankfulness in our hearts for God's richest blessings upon our little church here at Drumright. We do not feel that our efforts have just been duplicated, but know that there has been the earnest aim of all departments toward a greater and a much more extensive service in God's vineyard.

Never can we give a real estimation of God's love and of His innumerable blessings enjoyed by His humblest servants. At this present worldly crisis, we are more than thankful that we are privileged to live in a country where places for the worship of God abound so frequently, and where the

people have a direct interest in their own and other's salvation. We know that all have become thoroughly aroused as to the international crisis, but how we thank God that we realize the vital necessity of more prayer, and how vitally necessary is our need of God's mercy — God's help through this crisis.

Our Woman's Auxiliary having been organized several months ago now has 27 members, an increase of 8 since first organized. We realize the valuation to any church that an Auxiliary may become and we are endeavoring that our work may become as such. Everything that has been accomplished, all the real home mission work that we are undertaking is to God's glory. for we in ourselves are powerless and without value. Truly what a blessing the extent of that work for God's cause has proven to us. The Auxiliary work has been new to most of us but we all are interested and co-operative.

Since our last report in the Gem, our Auxiliary has conducted two very enjoyable study programs. The various topics discussed each month have been an inspiration and much encouragement to those attending. The average attendance to the "Week of Prayer" sponsored by the Auxiliary was approximately 28.

Sunday school attendance is steadily increasing toward a higher average. We are glad to report an increase, one Sunday morning, of 50 members and visitors inclusive. Many have been absent because of illness and we have a few at the present writing who are convalescing from recent illness.

We were ever so happy to have the pleasure and privilege of attending the Easter Sunrise Prayer Service conducted by the First Mission Association of the Free Will Baptists at the "Old Ministers' Home and Camp Ground Site" between Drumright and Sapulpa. Immediately following the sunrise service there was a presentation of an Easter Pageant arranged by Sister Elnora Gilbert of Jennings, Oklahoma, and an all day rally held by the Young People of the Association. Rev. H. E. Staires, our pastor, having been selected by the young people, delivered the morning message.

We earnestly desire your prayers in our

behalf that we may ever do His blessed will, striving to achieve only in His name. May God bless each and every one of you in your labors for Him.

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First Mission Association of Oklahoma Easter Sunrise Service

Dear Readers of the Gem:

We want to tell you of the wonderful Easter Sunrise Prayer Service we had at the Old Ministers' Home and Camp Ground, near Drumright, Oklahoma.

Some of the people began to arrive at 4:00 a. m., Sunday morning and by 6:00 we had a large crowd. The program arranged by Sister Elnora Gilbert consisted of special singing, readings, pantomimes and scripture readings, was presented by the Young Peoples' Rally of the First Mission Association.

The program was an inspiration and blessing to all, and although we couldn't see the sun rise because of the overcast sky, our souls were uplifted by the presence of the precious Holy Spirit which we could feel very near.

Our sunrise service was brought to a close by a very inspiring message brought by Eld. Harry Staires of Drumright.

After the sunrise service some of the ministers and people returned to their church while others remained for the young peoples' rally, which convened at 10:00 o'clock. We have 20 leagues in our rally and really have some good work coming from our leagues.

Brother Wilson of the Shawnee church brought a wonderful message for the young people.

In the afternoon the different leagues that were represented brought programs consisting of songs and readings.

It was voted to have the next rally at the Tulsa church.

We went home praising God for the wonderful day.

— Sarah Belle Crain, Rally Sec'y.

— 30 —

REMEMBER

The Free Will Baptist Gem is now
75 cents per year — 15 months for \$1.00
It is worth more than that!

Quarterly Meeting of the Social Band Association of Arkansas

The Second Quarterly Meeting of the Social Band Association of Arkansas met with Sugar Tree Grove Church, at Poynor, Missouri, March 27, 1942. The meeting opened with a devotional which was the true characteristic of the devotion of the people of Arkansas. The opening sermon was given by Elder R. S. Shelton whose text was Genesis 2:3; theme "Eternal Rest." The meeting continued with the people partaking of abundant foretastes of that which was presented in the message.

The other worship hours consisted of messages by the following messengers: Elder Ira Gates and Elder W. C. Forsyth whose messages were from Mal. 3:8; theme "Tithing." Also Elder Charles Staten and Elder Thurman Johnson whose subjects were "Salvation or Damnation: Condition of the World" and "Baptism." Elder Ira Gates delivered the Sunday morning message.

Good, spirited singing was a pleasant feature of the Quarterly Meeting. Brother Carl High, with Sister Beulah Fay Hopper at the organ, was a mighty efficient song director. Devotional and praise services were conducted throughout the session of the Quarterly Meeting.

Eight churches were present with letters and delegates, as follows: Pocahontas, Sugar Tree Grove, Pirtle, Union, Pruett Chapel, Alice Brooks, Hopewell and New Covenant. Seven ministers were present. Elder Ralph Staten was elected moderator and Eld D. C. Jones, clerk. The several committees were appointed which did their work in good shape.

There are seventeen Sunday schools and six leagues within the bounds of Social Band Association. The young people have an important part in our church activities. During the Quarterly Meeting, Miss Beulah Fay Hopper directed the young people's meeting which consisted of a very good program as follows:

1. "Our Achievements" Beulah Fay Hopper
2. "Our Ideals" Miss Pearl Rasselat
3. Song by the male quartet
4. "Our Liberty" Miss Beulah Fay Hopper
5. Talk by Elder Charles Staten
6. Song by the male quartet

Some of the business matters was granting letters of dismission to Elder C. E. Riggs and Elder Raymond Riggs who have helped to organize an association in Michigan. The resolutions passed to support our church publication, the Free Will Baptist Gem at Monett, Missouri.

— 30 —

MISSOURI TREASURER'S REPORT

Foreign Missions

Merls Chapel Sunday School	\$3.82
Mrs. Ottie Metsger, Arcadia, Kansas ..	3.00
Leadington Sunday School	2.14
Pleasant Grove Sunday School	3.74
Bownement S. S. (West Virginia)	4.00
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Nichols (W. Va.) ..	2.34
Aurora Sunday School	4.62
Opal Frazier, Monett, Mo.50
Blue Eye Church60
Hickory Grove Church	4.00
Mine La Motte Sunday School	1.00
New Harmony Mission Circle	8.40
Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Wade, Liberal Mo.	10.00
Fredericktown Young People's Auxiliary	2.00

Jehoida Chest Fund

Hannon Auxiliary	\$1.00
Mine La Motte Young People's Auxiliary	1.00
Hickory Grove Auxiliary	1.00

New Machinery Fund

St. Louis Third Church	\$2.27
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Educational Fund

Leadington Sunday School	\$2.14
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Allocation Fund

(Penny-A-Day)

St. Louis Third Church	\$5.15
Aurora Church	2.63
Flat River Church	14.45
Merl's Chapel	8.10
Hannon Auxiliary63

— Winford Davis, Treasurer

— 30 —

An English minister said:

"The money we would not give to the Lord's work now is taken from us in taxes.

"The services we refused to give to God, now is conscripted for the country.

"Lives we refused to live under God's control, now is under the nation's control.

"Nights that we would not spend in watching unto prayer now are spent in anxious air-raid precautions."

— from *Free Will Echo*

Highland Park, Mich.

OBITUARIES

LINCOLN—Following an illness extended over a period of two years, Claude B. Lincoln died at his home in Esther, Mo., Thursday, March 12, 1942.

The deceased was born at Mine La Motte, Mo., November 1, 1887, and was 54 years, 4 months and 12 days of age at the time of his demise.

On May 24, 1908 he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Tessrean, to which were born four children who, with the widow, survive: three sons, Theodore and Darrell at home and Olon Lincoln of Flat River, Mo.; one daughter, Mrs. Naomi Pilkenton of St. Louis, Mo.; four grandchildren; four sisters, Mrs. Andrew Baker and Mrs. Otto Eosenbach of Detroit, Michigan, Mrs. Henry Head of Leadington, Mo., and Mrs. Clarence Tucker of Cross Roads, Mo.; three brothers, Jacob of Detroit, Michigan, Roy of Coffman, Mo., and Charles, whose present address is not known, also survive.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon, March 15, from the Free Will Baptist Church at Flat River, Mo., by Rev. James F. Miller of Kirksville, Mo., a former pastor and the evangelist, Rev. Cecil Campbell.

Burial was made at Parkview cemetery under the direction of Caldwell service, of Flat River.

The deceased became a member of the Free Will Baptist church at Mine La Motte, Mo., when a young man, but transferred his membership to the Free Will Baptist church at Flat River 21 years ago.

Peacefully sleeping, resting at last, The world's troubles and trials are past, His suffering with patience he bore, 'Till God called him home to suffer no more.

DAWSON—Lorinda Dawson, born September 17, 1865; Died, March 13, 1942.

Funeral from Baptist church, Pocahontas, Arkansas, Sunday, March 15, 1942.

Services in charge of Rev. Ralph Staten and Rev. H. E. Williams.

Interment at Masonic cemetery.

The person mentioned above was my grandmother, and even though she has gone to be with her Savior, her influence and Christian life here will live on and on.

She has a host of grandchildren and great grandchildren who will look over her life with pride and cherish the fond memories of her beautiful life.

Being a grandson and very closely connected with grandmother, I can truthfully say her life has been an inspiration to me. I hope that her passing will cause many of her grandchildren and associates to stop and count the cost and prepare to meet her over on the other side. I was a pallbearer at her funeral, along with five other grandsons, and I was the only one of the group that was a Christian. I covet the prayers of every one that those boys may be saved ere it is too late.

We extend our thanks and appreciation to everyone that was so kind and sympathetic during her illness and death, and we trust that all who reads this will trust in the Lord Jesus Christ that we may meet again on the other side.

A Grandson,

—Raymond Riggs.

HATFIELD—L. Evermont Hatfield, age 42 years, 7 months and 9 days, departed this life the 17th of February, 1942. He was the son of the late Floyd Hatfield, a sainted man.

He leaves to mourn his loss his wife, Dovie Pennington Hatfield; two sons, Paul, who is married and resides in Logan county, West Virginia, and Jeen, in the U. S. Navy somewhere in the far East; his mother, Mrs. Floyd Hatfield; four brothers, Wayne, Emmett, Lon, and Auldrie Hatfield all of Sprigg, West Virginia; two sisters, Mrs. Ruth Burchett of Williamson, West Virginia and Mrs. Martha Staton of Big Creek, Ky.

He will be sadly missed by his church, his family and friends, but we know heaven is brighter with his being there. He was a faithful member of the Free Will Baptist church since August, 1924. He was always interested in the things of the Cause of Christ and the church.

Funeral services were conducted by Elders Jeff Curry and J. T. Weaver in the Free Will Baptist church at Sprigg, W. Va., interment by his father in the cemetery nearby.

Price List and Order Blank

Free Will Baptist Sunday School Supplies

..... Class Book No. 1 (for Beginners and Primaries) - - - - -	25c each \$.....
..... Class Book No. 2 (Juniors, Intermediates, Young People, Adults) - - - - -	25c each \$.....
..... General Secretary's Book No. 6 - - - - -	75c each \$.....
..... Large Wall Card (Six Point Credits), Form 8 - - - - -	15c each \$.....
..... Information Card (Six Point System), Form 9 - - - - -	20c per 50 \$.....
..... Individual Report Slips, Form 10 - - - - -	\$1.50 per (pad) 1,000 \$.....
..... Class Report Envelopes, Form 11 - - - - -	75c per 100 \$.....
..... Request Slips, Form 12 - - - - -	20c per pad of 100 \$.....
..... Monthly Report Blanks, Form 13 - - - - -	50c per pad of 100 \$.....
..... General Secretary's Report Blanks, Form 14 - - - - -	15c per pad of 25 \$.....
..... Convention Report Blanks, Form 15 - - - - -	75c per pad of 50 \$.....
..... Superintendent's Report Blanks, Form 16 - - - - -	40c per pad of 25 \$.....
..... Visiting Report Card, Form 17 - - - - -	25c per 50 \$.....

IMPORTANT

Please order all supplies by form number. Be sure to state the correct number and amount desired. Enclose a check or money order with each order.

Buy all "official" Free Will Baptist Sunday School supplies from the National Free Will Baptist Convention. Prices are in line with those of other Sunday School supply houses.

Address all orders to the Free Will Baptist Gem, Sunday School Department, Monett, Missouri.

OBITUARIES

PERCIVAL—Onia Percival passed away away at 3:55 p. m., Saturday, March 21, in her home at Nevada, Missouri.

She was the daughter of Mrs. Mary Eskew of Buffalo, Missouri. She was born June 7, 1906 in Dallas County, Missouri. At the time of her death she was 35 years, 9 months and 14 days of age.

She was united in marriage to Gilbert Percival on May 7, 1933. To this union was born two children, John and Eulah, of the home. Also she leaves to mourn her passing, five sisters, Mrs. Vernon Green of Kansas City, Mo., Mrs. Nellie Vance, Elkland, Mo.; Mrs. Cora Miller, Charity, Mo.; Mrs. Alta Miller, Adair, Okla., and Miss Vetus Eskew of Buffalo, Mo.; and one brother, Arthur Eame, Independence, Mo.

She professed a hope in Christ in 1933 and united with the Free Will Baptist church

at Urbana, Mo., where she remained a member until God called her away.

They made their home at Urbana, Mo., until two years ago when they moved to Nevada.

She was laid to rest in the Free Will Baptist cemetery. The funeral service was conducted by Frank Linton under the direction of the Eighinger Funeral Home of Nevada, Missouri.

FEED—Melba Reed, daughter of Norman and Jetta Reed, was born in Elvins, Mo., April 24, 1918 and departed this life April 4, 1942 at her home in Flat River after a lingering illness. She was 23 years, 11 months and 1 day of age at the time of her going.

Those left to mourn her going are her father and mother, and the following brothers and sisters: Irene (Mrs. Fred Since) of Flat River; Gladys, at home; Fay (Mrs.

Continued on Page 36

Marvin Swaringim) of Arcadia, Mo.; Norma (Mrs. Meredith Stevens) of Flat River; Dorothy, Thelma, Bernice, Helen, Alvin, and Billy all at home.

Besides the immediate family she is survived by a number of other relatives and a host of friends.

She professed a hope in Christ and accepted Him as Savior on her sick-bed. Her life was most inspiring and her faith in the Lord remained unshaken through all her many sufferings. Her constant prayer was for her departure to be with the Lord. Never has anyone had a more firm grip on heavenly things, and she with her inspirational life will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

Funeral services were held Monday, April 6 at 12:30 p. m. at the home in Flat River conducted by Rev. Damon C. Dodd. The body was taken to the United Baptist Church at Chloride where another service was held with Rev. Leo Asher assisting. Burial was made in the Big Creek Cemetery with Caldwell Bros. of Flat River in charge.

MIZER— Sarah Louise (Alyea) Mizer died at her home near Purdy, Missouri, February 10, 1942, after a short illness. Funeral services were conducted at the Monett Free Will Baptist Church by Rev. Winford Davis. Internment was in the I. O. O. F. Cemetery. She leaves to mourn her departure her husband, Quentin Mizer, a son, Quentin Dale, her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Alyea, two brothers, Clarence Alyea and Roy Alyea; and two sisters, Mrs. Geo. La Shum and Mrs. Geo. Nickloff, and a host of friends and relatives. She was a true and devout Christian from childhood and held faithful until her death.

OUR CHURCH TREATISE

The Treatise of the Faith and Practices of Free Will Baptists is a beautiful booklet of 80 pages, size 6½ x 4½ inches, setting forth the doctrine (with Scripture references given) and all the practices of Free Will Baptists in the local church, quarterly meetings, yearly meetings and annual associations, state associations, and the National Association of Free Will Baptists of the United States.

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