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MINUTES

:: of the ::

John Thomas Free Will Baptist Association

12th ANNUAL SESSION

Held at . . .

Clinchco Free Will Baptist Church

Clinchco, Dickenson County, Virginia

September 6th to 9th, 1934

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REV. W. R. STALLARD, *Moderator*

ARTHUR CASTEEL, *Clerk*

PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the John Thomas Free Will Baptist Association, 12th, Annual Session, held at Clinchco Free Will Baptist Church, Clinchco, Dickenson County, Virginia.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1934, 11 A. M.

Introductory sermon by Rev. E. A. Reedy, Pastor of Clinchco Church.
Subject: St. John 1:17.

The Association met in its 12th annual session with Clinchco Free Will Baptist Church, Clinchco, Dickenson County, Virginia, on Thursday, September 6, 1934.

The Association was called to order by Arthur Casteel.

Song: "Where the Soul Never Dies"

Lesson: 51st, Psalm

Prayer, by Mrs. Jackie Culbertson.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION—2:30 P. M.

ENROLLMENT OF DELEGATES:

Nancy Deel
Victory Mullins
Charles S. Stanley
S. O. Mead
T. B. Dotson
H. R. Garter
J. J. Gilley
E. D. Pate
Willie Kern
U. S. G. Mead
J. A. Collins
Emily D. Mead
Bennie Kennedy
Lula Kennedy
Audra Shoemaker
J. M. Collier
Dora Collier
H. C. Kise
Mrs. H. C. Kise
J. R. Clark
Lesley Green
Andrew Cantwell
Lillie Cantwell
Dan Sturgell
Sam Blankenbecler

Ida Hall
Lanna Greear
C. W. Willis
Cyrepta Willis
Charlie Bowman
Theodore Bise
Alex Reedy
W. L. Counts
W. C. Lambert
Flossie McCoy
Margerett Long
Floyd Bawldwin
Mollie Hill
C. W. Nails
A. C. Johnson
Callie Sturgell
Flossie Keith
Lula Vanover
Bessie Rose
Jackie Culbertson
A. M. Culbertson
Mattie Rose
Eva Smith
Mattie Richmond
Pearl Bise

Susie Casteel

ENROLLMENT OF MINISTERS

Rev. C. H. Stallard
Rev. W. R. Stallard
Rev. W. R. Johnson
Rev. Leonard Fields
Rev. Albert Dingus
Rev. B. R. Power
Rev. R. M. Evans
Rev. Dock Kilgore
Rev. Enoch Rose
Rev. E. A. Reedy
Rev. S. M. McFalls

Rev. Ida Carter
Rev. George Densmore
Rev. Monroe Hubbard
Rev. W. R. Bise
Rev. H. M. Smith
Rev. J. F. Elliott
Rev. J. W. Addington
Rev. W. T. Large
Rev. J. M. Wright
Rev. G. T. Mooney
Rev. T. H. Dixon

Ministers from Clinch Valley Association:

Rev. R. A. Dingus
Rev. A. M. Stapleton

Rev. James A. Boatright
Rev. G. H. Rhymes

Ministers from Union Association, Greeneville, Tennessee, as Fraternal Messengers:

Rev. W. S. Barton

Rev. Paul Woolsey

Minister from Rural Baptist Association:

Rev. James Hawkins

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Arthur Casteel, clerk, having charge of same declared the Conference now ready for nomination of a Moderator. Rev. Monroe Hubbard placed the name of W. R. Stallard as a candidate for same.

Rev. E. A. Reedy seconded the motion. Vote was taken in the usual way. All is favor of W. R. Stallard as a candidate, let it be known by our usual way of voting, "I". Opposed, "No". The "I's" carried. W. R. Stallard nominated.

Nominations closed by request.

W. R. Stallard elected by acclamation.

Arthur Casteel, Clerk.

Emmett Kilgore, Treasurer.

The Conference adjourned until 9:00 A. M. Friday.

Preaching at 7:30 P. M. Thursday, by Rev. S. M. McFalls.

Song: "Precious Memory".

Special Prayer for Emmett Kilgore who is ill, led by E. A. Reedy.

Lesson: St. Luke 10.

Subject: St. Luke 10:14.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

9:00 A. M.

Devotional Service by Rev. W. R. Bise.

Lesson: 57th, Psalm.

The Moderator invited all visiting Bretheren and Sisters to a seat in the body as advisory and members of council, in all business transactions.

The Moderator appointed the following committees:

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Monroe Hubbard

E. A. Reedy

E. M. Rose

PULPIT SUPPLY

A. C. Johnson

J. E. Perry

May Vanover

COMMITTEE ON NEXT SESSION

Monroe Hubbard

C. A. Stanley

Ida Carter

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

THE QUARTERLY MEETING REPORTS

REPORT OF WISE COUNTY QUARTERLY MEETING

To the 12th Annual Session of the John Thomas Association; Greetings.
Our statistics are as follows:

We have 19 churches with a membership of 1,067; 30 ordained ministers, two under watch care of the church; value of Church property \$9,800.00. We have 14 Sunday Schools with an enrollment of 1,140 students. Average attendance 722.

We have chosen, to represent us, the following delegates from each Church namely:

Union: Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Wolfe, and J. T. Blevins.

Cherry Grove: O. C. Lowe, Mrs. Walker Hall, Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Pate, Mrs. Silas Holbrook.

Mary's Chapel: Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Culbertson, E. J. Kilgore, E. O. Stallard.

Steven's: Sam Blankenbecler, Dan Sturgill, R. L. Hyden.

Hopkins: No delegate.

Willsons: Anderson Wells, Wayne Wells, Oakley Minnix.

Hoovers: Judge Collier, Irvin Shuler, Dave Doyle.

Carders: Preston Robinette, Rosalie Ramsey.

Big Spring: J. J. Gilley.

Dungannon: Mr. and Mrs. Mark Castle, C. O. Bowman, Floyd Bawldwin.

Ramsey: Alice Ramey, Pearl Ashworth, Willie Kern.

Happy Bottom: Golda Kiser, W. T. Large, Clyde Kiser.

West Norton: Mrs. Teasly, Mrs. Stanford, Jim Woods, Henry Thompson.

Duncan Gap: J. R. Clark, Willie Elkins, Leslie Green.

Flat Gap: W. R. McCoy, Addie Fannon, Audra Shoemaker.

Dorchester: No delegate.

Rock Lick: No delegate.

Flat Rock: B. R. Powers, Mary Gillam, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Falin, Tom Justice, Andrew Cantrell, Lillie Cantrell.

Sigma: M. S. Duff, Beulah Duff, Eliza Duff.

Our next Quarterly Meeting will convene with the Willson's Chapel church, one mile above Dorchester, Va., on Friday before the second Sunday in October, 1934.

J. W. ADDINGTON, Moderator.

C. A. ROBINETTE, Clerk.

DICKENSON COUNTY QUARTERLY MEETING REPORT

Dickenson County Quarterly Meeting, held with Ferbie Church, on Friday, before the fourth Sunday in July, 1934.

Elected the following delegates to represent us in the John Thomas Association:

Alex Reedy

Ted Bise

Pearl Bise

J. A. Collins

Nancy Deel

Lucinda Cantrell

Arthur Marlin

J. C. Rose

Bessie Rose

Sol Mead

Lon Dotson

Alie Robinson

Orpha Baker

Charles S. Stanley

Dock Kilgore

Flora Keith

Zue Beverly

U. S. G. Mead

Benny Kennedy

Lula Kennedy

Molly Hill

Emma Mead

Joshua Lane

Grate Robinson

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Counts

Mr. and Mrs. Edward C. Long

Josh Rose

Howard Bolling

Flossie McCoy

Nora Anderson

Leonard Wright

Joe Killing

Cicero Noles

Rosa Noles

Ethel Cooper

Victory Mullins

Lula Vanover

Our statistics are as follows: Eighteen churches, with a membership of 651. Twenty-six ordained ministers. Value of church property \$8,000.00. We held several Sunday Schools and Prayer Meetings with good interest.

Committee's Report: No new resolutions, or new business, was approved.

The Conference's work completed and on a motion, the Conference was closed, until Friday before the 4th Sunday in October, 1934, to reconvene in Burdine Church, Burdine, Kentucky.

E. A. REEDY, Moderator.

N. H. STANLEY, Clerk.

DICKENSON COUNTY QUARTERLY MEETING

MINISTER'S CONFERENCE

Held in Ferbie Church on Saturday before the 4th of Sunday in July, 1934. Report of their work being satisfactory, the character of the following passed as good:

E. A. Reedy
W. R. Bise
W. R. Johnson
S. P. Davis
K. M. Smith
D. L. Smith
Enoch Rose
Troy Robinson
C. W. Isom
Albert Dingus
Alvie Dingus
Ben Powers
Wade Powers

Asa Hughes
Emory Vanover
James Wright
J. M. Wright
L. P. Mahan
W. M. Large
George Mooney
Dock Kilgore
Luther Strouth
Casper Lane
J. R. Belcher
Mac Gardner
Floyd Cantrell

Rev. W. J. Keith requested his name to be removed from our ledger as a minister.

Rev. Riley Stanley having annexed himself to the United Baptists, the Conference by vote had his name taken from our roll of ministers. This leaves on our minister's ledger a total of twenty-six ordained ministers.

Floyd Cantrell, by request of Lebanon Church, of which he was a member, was ordained.

Rev. W. R. Johnson was elected as an Evangelist of our Quarterly Meeting. We have appropriated the amount for 600 Minutes.

Adjourned in regular form.

W. R. BISE, Moderator.

N. H. STANLEY, Clerk.

Preaching at 11 A. M. by Rev. Paul Woolsey, and Rev. C. H. Stallard.
Lesson: Deuteronomy 5.

Prayer: Rev. Paul H. Woolsey.

Song: "He Prayed".

Subject: "My doctrine is not mine but His that sent me".

Benediction.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

2:30 P. M.

Devotional Service by C. W. Nails.

Lesson: Corinthians 4.

Prayer: Jackie Culbertson.

FIRST ITEM OF BUSINESS

Appointment of Fraternal Messenger to Union Association at New Prospect Church, Knoxville, Tennessee, beginning at 9:00 A. M., Thursday, before the 2nd, Sunday in August, 1935.

Names of the messengers:

E. A. Reedy

Mattie Rose

E. M. Rose

W. R. Stallard

FRATERNAL MESSENGERS TO CLINCH VALLEY ASSOCIATION

Rev. W. R. Bise

Chas. F. Stanley

Sister Ida Carter

W. R. Stallard

N. H. Stanley

Ted Bise

Rev. J. W. Addington

Pearl Bise

Arthur Casteel

A. M. Culbertson

W. E. McCoy

Jackie Culbertson

FRATERNAL MESSENGERS TO SANDY VALLEY ASSOCIATION

To be held with Outlook Church, Thursday, before the 4th, Sunday in August, 1935.

W. R. Bise

Corbet Deel

Monroe Hubbard

C. W. Nails

E. A. Reedy

Rev. J. W. Addington

FRATERNAL MESSENGERS TO TOE RIVER ASSOCIATION

J. W. Addington

Monroe Hubbard

Arthur Casteel

Viola Hubbard

W. L. Counts

FRATERNAL MESSENGERS TO RURAL MISSIONARY BAPTIST

To convene with Banner Church.

A. M. Culbertson

W. L. Counts

Jackie Culbertson

W. E. McCoy

Motion by H. M. Smith seconded by A. M. Culbertson that Conference be adjourned until 9:00 A. M. Saturday.

Preaching Service, at 7:30 P. M., Friday, by Rev. Monroe Hubbard.
Lesson: Revelations 2.
Prayer: Sister Hill.
Song: "In That Home of The Soul".
Subject: Songs of Solomon, 6:9.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

9:00 A. M.

Conference met at 9:00 A. M., Saturday, called together by song.
Song: "That is Where I Want to Go".
Lesson: W. R. Stallard, Moderator, Acts 15.
Prayer: Arthur Casteel.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Clerk authorized to prepare credentials for the following corresponding messengers to the General Conference:

E. A. Reedy
Monroe Hubbard

Arthur Casteel
W. R. Stallard

Rev. J. W. Addington was elected by acclamation as the Evangelist for the next year.

Finances left with the Business Committee until the P. M. Session.

By motion and vote this Conference adjourned until 2:00 P. M.
Preaching at 11:00 A. M., by Ida Carter.
Song: "I Am Moving Up Home Some Day".
Lesson: Phillippians, 3.
Prayer: J. M. Collier.
Subject: Mark 13:37.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

2:00 P. M.

Conference met at 2:00 P. M., Saturday.
Song: "Let me Live On, I Pray".
Devotional Service: Rev. R. A. Dingus.
Lesson: Psalms 19.
Prayer: W. S. Barton.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Committee on Next Session have agreed for same to convene with Stephens Chapel Church, beginning on Thursday, before the 2nd, Sunday in September, 1935.

MONROE HUBBARD, Chairman.
IDA CARTER.
CHARLES A. STANLEY.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your Business Committee submit the following report: That the two Quarterly Meetings ask each church to send along with it's report an Evangelist's Contribution, as liberal as their means permit.

MONROE HUBBARD, Chairman.
E. A. REEDY.
E. M. ROSE.

Be it resolved, that on account of saving time, that this Conference omit admonitions on Temperance and Sunday School talks, and have Rev. Ben R. Powers preach.

MONROE HUBBARD, Chairman.

With the singing of that good old song, "God Be With You 'Till We Meet Again", the association adjourned.

W. R. STALLARD, Moderator.
ARTHUR CASTEEL, Clerk.

MINISTER'S CONFERENCE

Met at 3:30 P. M., Saturday.

Election of Officers.

Motion made by E. A. Reedy and seconded by Monroe Hubbard, that the same officers serve in the Minister's Conference as did in the Association.

Vote taken by J. W. Addington, and carried by acclamation.

W. R. STALLARD, Moderator.
ARTHUR CASTEEL, Clerk.
EMMETT KILGORE, Treasurer.

FIRST ITEM OF BUSINESS

Reports and characters of Ministers were considered, the same being satisfactory. Reports were accepted and character-passed as good, on the following:

E. A. Reedy
W. R. Bise
W. R. Johnson
S. P. Davis
H. M. Smith
Enoch Rose
Troy Robertson
C. W. Isom
Albert Dingus
Alvie Dingus
B. R. Powers
Wade Powers
Asa Hughes
Emory Vanover
James Wright
J. M. Wright
L. P. Mahan
W. T. Large
D. L. Smith
George Mooney

Dock Kilgore
Luther Strouth
Casper Lane
J. R. Belcher
Mac Gardner
Floyd Cantrell
C. H. Stallard
W. R. Stallard
Monroe Hubbard
R. M. Evans
C. A. Robinett
absent, sent report
Leonard Fields
J. F. Elliott
Ida Carter
George Densmore
T. H. Dixon
J. B. Carter
S. M. McFall
J. W. Addington

MINISTERS ABSENT WITHOUT REPORT (TABLED)

J. F. Welch
J. A. Hood
R. A. Powers
C. H. Johnson
Della Salyers

H. V. Johnston
L. Scott
Sylvan Wilson
W. B. Galloway
G. W. Blevins

MINISTER'S REPORTS

C. H. Stallard, St. Paul Va.—Preached 50 sermons, witnessed several conversions, baptized and helped baptize 10, celebrated 6 marriages. I have traveled 200 miles and received \$12.00.

W. R. Stallard, Coeburn, Va.—Pastored one church, preached 106 sermons, witnessed 50 conversions, celebrated 3 marriages, took part in 3 memorials, received 7 members into the church, helped ordain 4 preachers, attended 24 Prayer Meetings. Traveled 300 miles and received as gifts and donation \$68.64. Read Galatians 6:9, Matthew 5:16.

W. R. Johnson, Clinchco, Va.—Preached 120 sermons, attended 25 prayer meetings, labored in 35 revivals, witnessed 56 conversions, organized 2 churches, helped ordain 3 preachers, preached 3 funerals, conducted 4 burials, assisted in 6 memorials, baptized 2, traveled 814 miles, received \$87.85. Expenses \$9.75.

Leonard Fields, Norton, Va.—Preached 104 sermons, pastored 2 churches, labored in 4 revivals, witnessed 30 conversions, helped to ordain 3 preachers, conducted 2 funerals, and received \$28.50.

Albert Dingus, Jenkins, Kentucky—Pastored 4 churches, baptized 6, witnessed 61 conversions, received 14 into the church, conducted 12 burial services, conducted 11 memorial services, preached 102 sermons. Helped ordain 2 ministers and 2 deacons. Read Revelations 3:11.

B. R. Powers, Wise Va.—Preached 350 sermons, conducted 15 revivals, witnessed 340 conversions, attended 75 prayer services, baptized 306, received into church 140, conducted 5 memorial services, organized 1 church, married 24 couples, conducted 35 burial services. Traveled (estimated) 4,000 miles received from church \$50.00, other donations received \$350.00

R. M. Evans, Coeburn, Va.—Preached 25 sermons, exhortations 20, witnessed 3 conversions, attended 50 prayer meetings, traveled 100 miles.

Dock Kilgore, Hellier, Ky.—Preached 110 sermons, baptized 4, witnessed 7 conversions, received into church 4, conducted 10 burial services, 2 funerals, ordained one deacon. Assistant pastor of one church.

E. A. Reedy, Fremont, Va.—Pastored 3 churches, labored in 5 revivals, witnessed 58 conversions, baptized 56, and received 55 into the church. Preached 150 sermons, attended 19 burials, helped in several memorials, and organized one church. Traveled about 2,000 miles and received from Mary's Chapel and Clinchco Church, by donation \$135.00.

S. M. McFall, Tacoma, Va.—Pastored 2 churches, preached 60 sermons, baptized 18, received 32 into the church, conducted and assisted in 35 funeral services, assisted in 2 memorial services. Received \$165.00.

Mrs. Ida Carter, Calvin, Va.—Preached 34 sermons, conducted 8 prayer meetings, conducted one funeral and took part in one. Organized and Superintended one Sunday School, organized two prayer meetings, conducted one memorial service and assisted in one. Assisted in several revivals, witnessed 26 conversions and prepared one Christmas for the Sunday School. Assistant pastor of one church, received 7 into the church. Donated \$14.00 for cause of Christ, traveled over 700 miles, on my husband's expense, and received \$1.60. Pray for us.

W. H. Powers, Wise, Va.—Preached 125 sermons, conducted 5 revivals, witnessed 30 conversions, attended 15 prayer meetings, visited 25 homes, baptized 39, received into church 30, conducted 4 memorial services, pastored 2 churches, conducted 10 burial services. Traveled 1,000 miles.

Monroe Hubbard, Jenkins, Kentucky—Preached 75 sermons, conducted 3 funeral services, conducted one revival meeting, pastored one church, witnessed 20 conversions, baptized 8, received into the church 11.

Brethren, pray for me.

D. L. Smith, Coeburn, Va.—Preached 50 sermons, pastored one church, conducted four funeral services, conducted 48 prayer services, married 5 couples. Received \$50.00.

J. F. Elliott—Coeburn, Va.—Delivered several addresses, labored in 2 revivals, conducted several prayer meetings, witnessed 32 conversions. Traveled 800 miles, received \$140.60. Brethren pray for me and pray that the Lord may heal my lungs. May God's richest blessings rest upon our Association.

J. W. Addington, Clinchco, Va.—Preached 217 sermons, witnessed 125 conversions, conducted 11 funerals and 9 memorial services. Special church visits 32, special addresses 8, helped 2 churches obtain pastors, preached for 5 special meetings. Visited 7 Quarterly Meeting Conferences, 65 mid-week services, married 11 couples. Traveled 7,500 miles, received \$295.00, donated \$75.00. Clinchco, Cherry Grove, Stephen's Chapel, and Hoover's Chapel churches were the strongest contributors to my work, in the order named.

W. T. Large, Tom's Creek, Va.—Delivered 62 Gospel messages, conducted 2 funeral services and assisted in 3 others, conducted 50 prayer services, witnessed 75 conversions, organized 2 Sunday Schools, superintendent of one Sunday School, organized one Willing Workers Club, assistant pastor of one church, baptized 24.

C. W. Isom, Shelby Gap, Kentucky—Preached 102 sermons, witnessed 32 conversions, received 10 into the church, baptized 4, conducted 2 funerals, conducted 5 burial services, married 6 couples, assisted in 3 revivals, conducted 3 prayer meetings, pastored 3 churches, and traveled 1,510 miles.

J. M. Wright, Jenkins, Kentucky—Preached 100 sermons, witnessed 25 conversions, baptized 5, admitted 6 to church, conducted 6 funerals and 6 burial services. Traveled about 800 miles, received no money. Expenses \$50.00.

J. B. Carter, Esserville, Va.—Preached about 100 sermons, attended 12 funerals, 6 memorials. Conducted 20 prayer meetings, pastored one church, assistant pastor of one church. Received \$5.00.

C. C. Wright, Dorchester, Va.—Preached 36 sermons, worked in prayer meetings, witnessed 7 conversions, baptized one. Traveled 69 miles.

A. L. Hughes, Clintwood, Va.—Preached 62 sermons, helped to organize one church, baptized and helped baptize 7, conducted 11 funerals. Assistant pastor one church. Married 10 couples.

James Wright, Jenkins, Kentucky—Preached 50 sermons, conducted 8 prayer meetings, baptized 6, married 2 couples, helped in 3 revivals, witnessed 10 conversions, traveled about 1,000 miles, received nothing. Paid own expenses. Brethren pray that I will go more and do greater works for my Master.

N. H. Stanley, Fremont, Va.—Pastored 2 churches, assistant pastor one church, preached 103 sermons, baptized 3, witnessed 11 conversions, 2 memorial services, 4 burial services.

George Mooney, Clintwood, Va.—Preached 76 sermons, 4 memorial services, attended 2 burials, baptized one, admitted 3 into the fellowship of the church.

T. H. Dixon, Norton, Va.—Preached 25 sermons, conducted one revival, assisted in Sunday School work, helped in the ordinance of baptism. Donated \$4.00. Received as a gift \$7.00. Traveled about 95 miles.

J. T. Davis, St. Charles, Va.—Pastored one church, baptized 3, conducted one revival, witnessed 14 conversions, preached about 75 sermons, conducted one burial service. Gave several lectures to Sunday Schools and Lodges.

L. D. Mahan, Jenkins, Kentucky—Preached 45 sermons, labored in 2 revivals, witnessed 16 conversions, conducted 2 burial services, Superintendent of one Sunday School, assistant pastor one church. Donated \$10.00, traveled 1,000 miles, expenses \$15.50, received nothing from the church.

C. A. Robinette, Nicklesville, Va.—Preached 104 sermons, pastored 2 churches, conducted several funerals, served as clerk of Quarterly Meeting, conducted several prayer meetings, held two revivals, witnessed 22 conversions. Received from church about \$60.00. Traveled about 1,500 miles.

Arthur Casteel, Kingsport, Tenn.—Given 25 Sunday School addresses, labored in 2 revivals, served as clerk of our Association, given to the church \$122.00. Traveled more than 2,000 miles.

SECOND ITEM OF BUSINESS

The election of Ordaining Council for each Quarterly Meeting.

Wise County Quarterly Meeting:

S. M. McFall

J. W. Addington

Leonard Fields

Dickenson County Quarterly Meeting:

E. A. Reedy

Asa Hughes

Albert Dingus

This completing the business, the Conference adjourned until Saturday before the 2nd Sunday in September, 1935, unless called together, by Moderator to attend some special business, that might come before this body.

W. R. STALLARD, Moderator.

ARTHUR CASTELL, Clerk.

Preaching at 4 P. M., Saturday by Rev. B. R. Powers.

Prayer: C. H. Stallard.

Song: "The Heart That Was Broken For Me".

Subject: Matthew 18:38.

Preaching 7:30 P. M., Saturday: Rev. R. A. Dings.

Song: "Jesus, Lover of My Soul".

Prayer: Sister Hill.

Lesson: Psalms 69.

Subject: "As the Mother, so is the Daughter".

Preaching: 11:00 A. M. Sunday: Rev. E. A. Reedy.

Song: "Moving up Home Some Day".

Lesson:

Prayer: Jackie Culbertson.

Subject:

OBITUARIES

JOHN GEORGE KENNEDY

Born July 22, 1852. Died March 18, 1933; making his stay on earth 80 years, 7 months, and 26 days. Married to Sallie Virginia Horne, January 8, 1880. To this union were born twelve children, 4 boys and eight girls, of which two girls and two boys have preceded him to his Eternal Home. He was converted to the Christian Faith at the age of 18 years. He began immediately his ministerial labors and continued faithfully until death. He will ever be known as the father and builder of all the first Free Will Baptist Churches throughout South West Virginia, East Tennessee, Southern Kentucky and Ohio. He was a charter member of the first Free Will Baptist Church in this country. The church is known as Pine Grove. He preached the Gospel for sixty-two and one-half years.

According to the good book, he will shine as the stars of Heaven. He has turned many to righteousness.

October 10, 1932, he wrote a program to be read at his funeral. The ones he wanted to talk over him were, Stuart McFall, Peter Davies, Henry Smith and Dan Smith. The songs are: "He Made Me Free", "Old Account", "We Shall Meet to Part, No, Never", "God Be With You 'Till We Meet Again". Prayer by Henry Smith and Eva Smith.

He said, "Take one look at my face and promise to meet me in the border land. For I know, if this earthly house of this tabernacle was dissolved, I have an house not made with hands, eternal and in the Heaven. He said for God knows I love everybody.

"I will meet you all again at the cold Jordan waters". He said that his brother, Forrest, came to him on the evening before he died. He saw bands of angels. He asked mother if she could hear that sweet music, she said, "No, John, I wish I could".

He asked for his youngest son who was unsaved to "Get down on his

knees and let me pray for you for this is the last thing I can ever do for you". All of his children are Christians except one, and I pray God that he will come into the fold before it is too late.

I hope every one that reads this will meet him in Heaven as he requested.

—Eva Smith.

MRS. SARAH HOLMES

With sadness and tenderness I attempt to write this obituary of Mrs. Sarah Holmes, wife of Silas Holmes, and a kind, loving mother and sister of our community. Born May 14, 1861 and died August 30, 1934, she was 73 years, 3 months and 18 days old. At the age of 14 years she became a servant of Christ and for 59 years was a shining example of faithful service. She left behind her a husband, seven children, and a great host of grand-children, great-grand-children and friends. She had always a friendly smile and a warm handshake for me and was greatly loved by all who knew her. She had suffered much for the past eight years and often in her last days told us she was ready and waiting to go Home. She was not afraid of death. God was with her. God's love. There is no fear in love. She and her children have always been so kind to me and my children that I cannot refrain from these few words of praise.

I can only say, "Sleep on, Sister Holmes, and take your rest in God's eternal love. You have gone away—your place is empty. Your folded clothes—your empty chair—fill your children's eyes with tears. Your place here is empty—your place in Heaven is filled".

—Ida Carter.

TOM ROBERTS

Born, April 18, 1884, died July 8, 1934, making his stay on earth 50 years and 3 months. He professed faith in Christ a short while before his death. Leaving a wife and ten children, a mother, two brothers and a sister, also a host of friends who will miss Brother Roberts, as they travel on through life's pilgrimage. He was well spoken of by all who knew him. He is missed at home and church. To wife and children, if you are to be with him again, be born again and live a devoted life for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May the sweet spirit lead and guide Brother Robert's family in the way that's right.

—Dock Kilgore.

BEN BOULDERS

He departed this life a few months ago. He professed hope in Christ sometime before he died. He said that when he had to go that Jesus was with him. Wife and children, just think what a great pleasure it is to realize that Jesus will be present at the death of his servants. Children, if you expect to see father again, you must repent of your sins and be born again. Then Father accompanied by the Savior, will also meet you at Death's River to carry your spirit away from trouble.

—Dock Kilgore.

ROBIN KILGORE

Born 1867, died September 29, 1932, making his stay on earth 65 years. Leaving a wife and eight children, three brothers and two sisters, on this side of Eternity. Two children preceeded him to death. He professed a hope in Christ sometime before his death, and made known his willingness to go. To mother and family, let's live a life so when death comes we can be with father and say, "Welcome death".

—Dock Kilgore.

THE ORGANIZATION OF A CHURCH

1. When any number of believers desire to be organized into a Free Will Baptist church, they are examined by one or more regular Free Will Baptist ministers in reference to their Christian character, doctrine, and ability to sustain a church. If the examination is satisfactory the applicants are organized into the church as follows: The Bible is presented as the only rule of faith and practice. The Church Covenant shall be adopted. A prayer of consecration offered. The hand of fellowship is given. Then officers are elected.

2. There shall be male members enough to fill the public offices in the church, in order that a regular discipline may be kept up.

3. After being thus constituted, they shall be at liberty out of the number of regularly ordained ministers, to choose a pastor who shall preside over them.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having been brought, as we believe, by the divine grace to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior and Preserver, we do now solemnly and joyfully covenant and agree, by God's help, to walk together in brotherly love.

We, therefore, enter into covenant as members of this church and as Christians, that we will watch over each other in love, sharing together each other's joys and sorrows; that we will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, nor omit the great duty of prayer for ourselves and others; that by divine assistance we will endeavor to bring up those under our care in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; that in all things we will strive to exemplify our profession by a corresponding practice, to abstain from all sinful conformity to the world, to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in all our deportment; that we will abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage; that we will sustain the worship, ordinances, discipline and doctrine of the church; that we will contribute cheerfully, according to our ability, to the support of the ministry, the expense of the church, the relief of the poor and the general spread of the Gospel.

In keeping this solemn Covenant may we ever enjoy the blessings and presence of the Great Head of the Church.

MEETINGS OF THE CHURCH

Each church meets as often as practicable for the public worship of God.

The times of celebrating the Lord's Supper, washing feet, and of business meetings are arranged by each local church to suit its own convenience.

Each church is required to observe the ordinances. Feet washing follows the Lord's Supper.

Conference or business meetings are opened and closed with suitable devotional exercise. The pastor acts as moderator of the business meetings of the church. In the absence of the pastor the church may meet when necessary and attend to ordinary business; but no member is excluded in the absence of the pastor.

OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

The officers of a church are a Board of Trustees, Clerk, Treasurer, Deacons and Deaconesses, Finance Committee and Pastor.

Board of Trustees.—The duty of the trustees shall be to hold title to all property, either in fee or gift, and to maintain all rights to same to convey said property in the discretion of a four-fifths majority of those present at a regular quarterly meeting, being announced at said church three months prior to said meeting.

Clerk.—It is the duty of the clerk to keep a church book and in it record the Church Covenant, the names of the members, and all the proceedings of the church, in the exercise of its discipline and management of its temporal affairs. He also signs all the letters and other communications made by authority of the church.

Treasurer.—The treasurer shall be entrusted with the funds of the church, and it shall be his duty to keep a regular account of all the money received, and from whom, and make a report of the same annually to the church, or oftener if necessary, which funds shall be drawn on the treasurer only by the order of the church.

Deacons.—The deacons are elected for life or during good behavior. They should be men distinguished among their brethren for piety and benevolence. Before entering upon the duties of their office they are ordained by the pastor or other regular minister. Ordination consisting of charge, laying on of hands and prayer. It is their duty to serve at the Lord's table, to distribute of the bounty of the church among its needy members, to visit the sick, to assist the pastor in promoting order in attendance upon the church, and to conduct religious meetings in the absence of the pastor.

Deaconesses.—They assist the deacons and the finance committee, in visiting the sick, in collecting funds and distributing among the needy members, and enforcing proper discipline among the female members.

Finance Committee.—These have the general management of the finances of the church, subject to the church's control.

Pastor.—Each church elects its own pastor out of the regularly ordained

ministers, upon such terms as may be agreed upon between the parties themselves. It is the pastor's duty faithfully to preach the Word, to have the general superintendence of the church, to be himself an example to the flock, to visit the members, especially the sick as he has the opportunity, and to do all within his power to promote the religious interest of the church which he serves, and to advance the cause of Christ among men.

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS

Any person who gives evidence of a change of heart, professes faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and has been immersed by a proper administrator, church covenant read, explained and accepted is received to membership by a vote of the church.

From other churches immersed persons are received by letter. No one, against whom any valid objection is made is received to membership. When any member objects to the reception of an applicant, the matter is deferred until the church can ascertain the nature of the objection. If, in the opinion of the church, the objection is not a valid one, the applicant may be received. Excluded members are received again only when they confess their errors and give evidence of repentance. Persons excluded from other churches are not received, unless it be made evident that they were excluded upon unjustifiable grounds. The hand of fellowship is extended to all who are received into the membership of the church.

DISMISSION OF MEMBERS

Only members in good standing are dismissed from the church, and these for no other reason than to unite with some other church. Such members receive letters of honorable dismission and commendation, but are under the watch care of the same church until they are received into some other. A withdrawal without such letter of commendation is equivalent to excommunication, and treated as such by the church.

ORGANIZATION OF A QUARTERLY MEETING

Two or more churches wishing to organize a Quarterly Meeting, shall appoint three delegates for that purpose and request of an adjoining Quarterly Meeting, a council of not less than five members and one ordained minister, which will meet with the delegates and proceed:

1. To examine the delegates respecting the Christian character and doctrines of their respective churches, and the reasons for such an organization as desired.
2. The right hand of fellowship and consecrating prayer.
3. The election of a moderator, clerk and treasurer, and then proceed with such business as may come before it.
4. Delegates are elected to some Yearly Meeting or Association of the Free Will Baptist, and instructed for membership in such body.

YEARLY MEETING CONSTITUTION

We, the members of the Free Will Baptist church, or order to form a more perfect union and promote Christ's Kingdom, do ordain and establish this Constitution, for the John Thomas Yearly Meeting.

Article 1. This Yearly Meeting shall be called the John Thomas Yearly Meeting, and shall be composed of such regularly organized and well disciplined Free Will Baptist Quarterly Meetings, conveniently located, as may embody themselves under this Constitution.

Art. 2. The Conference of this Yearly Meeting shall be composed of the ministers and delegates, who are members of the Quarterly Meetings; each Quarterly Meeting being entitled to three delegates from each church.

Art. 3. The officers of this Yearly Meeting shall be a Clerk, Treasurer, and Moderator, and shall be chosen at every session of the Yearly Meeting, with such assistants as may be found necessary.

Art. 4. Any well-organized and well regulated Free Will Baptist Quarterly Meeting, composed of such churches as conform to the usages, and adopt the doctrines of the Free Will Baptist denomination, as published in the minutes of the John Thomas Yearly Meeting, and are in favor of the benevolent enterprises of the denomination, may at any time on application, by vote of this Yearly Meeting, become a member thereof.

Art. 5. This Yearly Meeting shall have power to discipline the Quarterly Meetings of which it is composed, and to exclude them for disorderly walk, if their labor proves unsuccessful.

Art. 6. The session of this Yearly Meeting shall convene on Thursday before the second Sunday in September, at which time it shall be the duty of the Quarterly Meetings, of which the Yearly Meeting is composed, to represent themselves by delegates, and report their standing, prospects and statistics by letter; at which time the Yearly Meeting shall act on such questions and topics, as may be referred to them by their respective Quarterly Meetings, and transact such other business not repugnant to this Constitution, nor the usages of the denomination, as their judgment may promote the cause of Christ, and the interest of the churches and Quarterly Meetings, within the limits of the Yearly Meeting.

Art. 7. This Yearly Meeting shall have power to adopt any regulation or by-laws, not inconsistent with the Constitution, which may be deemed essential to the further regulation of its session.

Art. 8. This Conference shall not recognize any minister or delegate, unless they comply with the Constitution and By-Laws thereof.

Art. 9. Each Quarterly Meeting shall send into the Yearly Meeting Treasurer, their pro rata part of funds, that is necessary to take care of the expenses of the Yearly Meeting.

Art. 10. This Constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of four-fifths of the ministers and delegates present at any session, notice of such intended alteration having been given, and recorded at the next previous session.

BY-LAWS, MOTIONS, ETC., OF JOHN THOMAS YEARLY MEETING

1. No conference shall be held with less than three ordained ministers, and four delegates belonging to this Yearly Meeting.

2. At the opening of each conference, the clerk's books shall be presented, and the proceedings of last conference read.

3. This conference may at each regular meeting, elect as many boards or standing committees as may be necessary in carrying out its benevolent purposes. These shall keep a record of their proceedings and make a report at each quarterly meeting of the conference.

4. The conference may extend to visiting brethren all the privileges of the body, save that of voting.

5. If any member of the judgment of the conference, shall show anger in his discussion on any subject, he shall forfeit his seat in that conference.

6. No member of the general conference shall be at liberty to withdraw without leave of the moderator.

7. The conference shall always adjourn by vote.

8. There shall annually be a committee of finance chosen to settle with the treasurer and report to conference.

9. Conference shall always open and adjourn by prayer and praise of God.

10. A motion must be made by one member, seconded by another, and afterwards stated by the moderator, before it is debated. A motion shall be reduced to writing by the mover at the demand of any one member.

11. All resolutions shall be submitted in writing.

12. A motion or resolution may be withdrawn at any time before a decision or amendment by the conference.

13. Any motion or resolution containing more than one distinct proposition shall be divided, provided the call for a division be sustained by the majority.

14. When a member speaks or offers a motion he should rise and respectfully address the moderator, confine himself to the question under consideration, avoid all personalities or unkind or disrespectful language.

15. When two or more members rise to speak at the same time the moderator shall decide who is entitled to the floor.

16. While a member is speaking no one shall interrupt him except to call him to order, ask leave to explain or make explanation. The one allowed to explain, shall confine himself strictly to an actual misunderstanding of language which may need explanation.

17. No member shall speak more than twice, or longer than five minutes at each time, on any question without leave of the moderator, which leave shall be granted without debate.

18. All committees may be named by the moderator, by request of the conference.

19. The member first named on a committee shall be its chairman to call the committee together, but after it is convened the committee may elect its own chairman and secretary.

20. Voting shall be done by standing up when a vote is close, or when it becomes necessary to count the affirmative and negative, and in special cases by ballot.

21. The moderator, in case of a tie, may cast the deciding vote.

22. All members should vote on one side or the other, unless excused by the moderator.

23. No motion, discussion, or other business shall be admitted while the vote is being taken.

24. The minutes of the conference shall be signed by the moderator and the clerk.

25. Each Quarterly Meeting shall ask of their respective churches, to deal with their members when necessary, according to Matthew 18:15, 16, 17.

26. After a member accepts the Bible as their rule of faith and practice, then the right hand of fellowship shall be given, which is the door into the church.

27. If the minority of a Quarterly Meeting be grieved over the ruling of the majority, they have the right to appeal to the Yearly Meeting, and its decision shall be final.

28. No minister shall have a vote in the conference unless he is a member in good standing with his church and conference.

E. A. Reedy, S. M. McFall, D. E. Smith, Arthur Casteel,
J. C. Rasnake, and W. R. Stallard, Committee.

BY-LAWS OF MINISTER'S CONFERENCE

1. There shall be a Ministers' Conference held annually in connection with the Yearly Meeting.

2. The object of the Ministerial Conference is to discuss points of doctrine, and examine the Christian character of the ministers.

3. Every minister in the John Thomas Yearly Meeting is required to attach themselves to the Ministers' Conference and must be governed by the rules and regulations of the Ministers' Conference.

4. Every minister belonging to the Conference is required to report themselves to the Conference annually, either in person or by letter or both.

5. Any minister failing to report for two years in succession without a reasonable excuse shall be reprimanded and if they still disregard this requirement they may be dismissed from the Conference.

6. Any minister moving to another Yearly Meeting shall take a letter of dismission and commendation so that they may properly unite themselves to the Yearly Meeting where they move.

THE MINISTRY

1. No member of our connection shall be at liberty to take upon himself the public ministry of the Word, unless he feels divinely called, and make report of the same to the church, to which he belongs, and if the church shall be satisfied with his qualifications, and call of such person, then she may grant said person the liberty to exercise his or her gifts by exhortation, for twelve months.

2. If they prove satisfactory to the church, they shall be recommended to the Quarterly Meeting, upon examination by the Quarterly Meeting, if satisfactory to same, may license said applicant or recommend them to the Ordaining Council, and shall be ordained if proven satisfactory to the Council.

3. The Ordaining Council must be appointed by the Yearly Meeting. Three ordained ministers from each Quarterly Meeting shall serve for a period of twelve months. Any three may transact the business of examining the applicants for ordination.

4. When a minister of another denomination, wishes to unite with the Free Will Baptist, he or she must first join the church. Then the proceedings are the same as with licentiates.

5. Any ministers leaving the Free Will Baptist Church and desiring to be reinstated, shall be dealt with as though they had never belonged to the church.

6. If a minister becomes disorderly, or preaches a doctrine contrary to the Free Will Baptist faith, the minister may at once be called to question by the church offended. They must be given and fair and impartial trial, by evidence mainly by the Free Will Baptist members, if the charges shall be sustained, they shall be dealt with as follows:

The church having the exclusive right to deal with the ministers under their care.

If the charges are against a licentiate, it must be reported to the Quarterly Meeting, and their decision shall be final.

If the charges are against an ordained minister, then the Quarterly Meeting shall report to, or call the ordaining council together, and they shall try the case, and their decision shall be final.

7. Any ordained minister of the Free Will Baptist may serve the church in the absence of the pastor, in every Gospel order required of him by the church.

J. G. Kennedy, F. J. Kennedy, W. R. Stallard, Committee.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe that there is but one living, true and eternal God, the Father of whom are all things from everlasting to everlasting, glorious and immutable in all His attributes.—1. Cor. 8:6; Isa. 40:28.

2. We believe that there is one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things the only begotten Son of God, born of the virgin Mary, whom God freely sent into this world, because of the great love wherewith He loved the world; and Christ as freely gave Himself a ransom for all, tasting death for every man; who was buried and rose again the third day, and ascended into heaven, from whence we look for Him the second time in the clouds of heaven at the last day to judge both the quick and dead.—I. Tim. 2:5, 6; Heb. 2:9; St. John 3:16; Rev. 1:7; Acts 24:15; I. John 2:2.

3. We believe that there is one Holy Ghost, the precious gift of the Father through His dear Son, unto the world, who quickeneth and draweth sinners home to God.—St. John 16:7, 8; Acts 2:4; Eph. 2:1; Eph. 4:4-6.

4. We believe in the beginning God made man upright, and placed him in a state of glory without the least mixture of misery, from which he voluntarily by transgression, fell, and by that means brought on himself a miserable and mortal state subject to death.—Gen. 2:17; 3:19.

5. We believe that God is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance and the knowledge of truth, that they might be saved; for which end Christ hath commanded the Gospel to be preached among all nations and to every creature.—Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47; John 3:15-17; I. Tim. 2:4.

6. We believe that no man shall suffer in hell for want of a Christ who died for him, but as the Scripture has said, for denying the Lord that brought them; because they believed not in the name of the only begotten Son of God. Unbelief, therefore, being the cause why the just and righteous God of heaven will condemn the children of men; it follows against all argument that all men at one time or other, are found in such capacity as that through the grace of God they may be eternally saved.—Acts 17:30; Mark 6:6; Heb. 3:10; I. John 5:1, 10.

7. We believe that all people, reaching the years of accountability must be born again. Then by trusting His promises and keeping His commandments until the end of life, we shall be saved. II. Timothy 4:7.

8. We believe the whole Scriptures are infallibly true, and that they are the only rules of faith and practice.—II. Tim. 3:16, 17.

9. We believe in the doctrine of General Provision made of God in Christ, for the benefit of all mankind, who repent and believe the Gospel.—

Luke 14:16-20; Matt. 28:19, 20; Luke 13:3-5; Acts 3:19; Mark 1:15.

10. We believe that sinners are drawn to God, the Father, by the Holy Ghost, through Christ His Son, and that the Holy Ghost offers His divine aid to all the human family; so as they all might be happy, would they give place to His divine teachings; whereas, such who do not receive the divine impressions of His Holy Spirit, shall, at a future day, own their condemnation just, and charge themselves with their own damnation, for wilfully rejecting the offers of sovereign grace.—Matt. 11:27; St. John 6:45, 65; Ps. 1:1; Tit. 2:11, 12; Jer. 22:29.

11. We believe that men, not considered simply as men, but ungodly men, were of old ordained to condemnation, considered such who turn the grace of God into lasciviousness, denying the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ who bought them, and therefore, shall bring upon themselves swift destruction; but we observe that they, and such the Apostle saith because they receive not the love of the truth, that they might be saved therefore the indignation and wrath of God is upon every soul of man that doeth evil, living and dying therein; for there is no respect of persons with God.—Jude 1:4; II. Peter 2:1; II. Thess. 2:11, 12; Rom. 2:9-11.

12. We believe that all children dying in infancy, having not actually transgressed against the law of God, in their own persons, are only subject to the first death, which was brought on them by the fall of the first Adam, and not that any of them dying in that state, shall suffer punishment in hell by the guilt of Adam's sin, for "*of such is the kingdom of God.*"—I. Cor. 15:22; Matt. 18:2-5; Mark 9:36, 37; Matt. 19:14.

13. We believe that good works are the fruits of a saving faith, and that in the use of the means of grace, and not out of the use of those means, eternal life is promised to men.—Rev. 22:14, 15; Isa. 1:19, 20; Matt. 7:8; Jer. 6:16; Luke 13:34, 35.

14. We believe that no man has any warrant in the Holy Scriptures for justification before God through his own works, power or ability, which he has in and of himself, only as he by grace is made able to come to God through Jesus Christ; believing the righteousness of Jesus Christ to be imputed to all believers for their eternal acceptance with God.—Rom. 4:24; Acts 8:20, 21.

15. We believe that all things are foreseen in the wisdom of God, so that God knoweth whatsoever can or cannot come to pass upon all supposed conditions; yet not as having decreed any person to everlasting life, out of respect or mere choice farther than He hath appointed the godly unto life, and the ungodly, who die in sin, unto death.—Heb. 4:13; Prov. 8:22-31; Matt. 25:31-46.

16. We believe, as touching Gospel ordinances, in believers' baptism,

laying on of hands, receiving of the sacrament in bread and wine, washing the saints' feet, anointing the sick with oil in the name of the Lord, fasting, prayer, singing praise to God, and the public ministry of the Word, with every institution of the Lord we shall find in the New Testament.—Mark 16:15-16; Acts 8:17; Acts 19:6; Luke 22:19, 20; John 13:5-17; Jas. 5:14.

17. We believe the Gospel mode of baptism is by immersion, and that believers are the only subjects for baptism.—Matt. 3:16; Mark 1:9, 10; Acts 2:38, 39; Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12.

18. We believe in a general resurrection of the dead and a final judgment at the last day.—John 5:28, 29; II. Cor. 5:10.

19. We believe the happiness of the righteous is eternal and the torments of the wicked are endless.—Matt. 25:46.





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