

Asa F. Hughes

Minutes

of the

JOHN THOMAS
ASSOCIATION

of

Freewill Baptists

STATE OF VIRGINIA

THIRTY-THIRD SESSION

Held With

Kelsa Church

Kelsa, Va.

SEPTEMBER 9-11, 1955

TREASURER'S REPORT OF JOHN THOMAS
ASSOCIATION—1954-1955

Total in Treas. 1954	\$556.69
King Printing Co. 1700 Minutes	\$250.15
Everett Johnson, Clerk	\$20.00
	\$270.15
Balance in Treas. 9-9-55	\$286.54

Received into Treasury 9-9-55:

Letcher County-(Check)	\$90.00
Tri-State Conference-Cash	\$16.00
Union Light, Donation, Cash	\$5.00
Dickenson County, (Absent)	
New Durm (Absent)	
Added to Treasury 9-9-55	\$111.00
Balance Brought Forward	\$286.54
Total in Treas. 9-9-55	\$397.54

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Officers

Officers of the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptists that were elected for the year 1955-1956:

ALBERT DINGUS, JENKINS, KY.	Moderator
M. P. BALL, LEBANON, VA.	Assistant Moderator
EVERETT JOHNSON, CLINCHCO, VA.	Clerk
LESTER ABLE, JENKINS, KY.	Treasurer

Ordaining Councils

LETCHER COUNTY CONFERENCE

ALBERT DINGUS, <i>Chairman</i>	Jenkins, Ky.
C. W. ISOM	Burdine, Ky.
L. D. MAHAN	Payne Gap, Ky.

NEW DURM CONFERENCE

JAMES HUTCHISON, <i>Chairman</i>	Keen Mt., Va.
HARLEY DYE	Swords Creek, Va.
JAMES HALL	Drill, Va.

DICKENSON COUNTY CONFERENCE

E. C. KISER, <i>Chairman</i>	Stratton, Va.
E. E. REEDY	Millard, Va.
ALVIE DINGUS	McClure, Va.

TRI-STATE CONFERENCE

CLAUDE CONN, <i>Chairman</i>	Paw Paw, Ky.
GEORGE HARDING	Paw Paw, Ky.
HENRY ESTEP	Paw Paw, Ky.

VISITING MINISTERS

REV. C. S. PENNINGTON, Tug River Assoc.	Matewan, W. Va.
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Proceedings

The thirty-third session of the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptists convened with the Kelsa Church, Kelsa, Va. September 9-11, 1955.

Clerk having charge, read lesson from 1st Psalm, for opening of Conference; prayer, Bro. M.P. Ball.

Clerk proceeded by enrolling delegates, ministers, visiting ministers and corresponding messengers.

Dickenson County Delegates:

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Phipps
Mr. and Mrs. Warren Salyers
Munsey Mullins

Tri- State Delegates:

Jesse Scarbrough
Edward May

Letcher County Delegates:

Mr. and Mrs. Luther Dingus	Christene Williams
Cora Able	John Dameron
Sara Potter	Lizzie Dameron
Ollie Sanders	Patsy Goodson
Jack Williams	Clarence Tolliver

New Durm Delegates:

Walter Whited	Mrs. Harley Dye
	Harley Dye

MINISTERS

TRI-STATE CONFERENCE

Claud Conn	Henry Estep
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LETCHER COUNTY CONFERENCE

C.W. Isom	Donald Sexton
Ezra Johnson	Albert Dingus
Lester Able	Everette Potter

DICKENSON COUNTY CONFERENCE

C.E. Reedy	Everette Johnson
E.M. Rose	

NEW DURM CONFERENCE

Martin Ball	Harley Dye
Benton Miller	

Enrollment being finished, clerk proceeded by electing moderator by move and second. Bro. Albert Dingus was elected. Moderator taking charge, proceeded by electing of clerk and treasurer.

The association voted, by move and second to retain Everett Johnson as clerk and Lester Able as treasurer.

The moderator was given power to appoint such committees as needed to carry on the work of the association.

The pulpit committee was appointed as follows to supply the pulpit during the association:

Walter Whited, chairman.

Cora Able

Lillie Dingus

Moderator appointed Bro. M.P. Ball, as asst. moderator.

The association being organized, adjourned until 2:00 p.m. Friday

FRIDAY MORNING PREACHING SERVICE 11:00 a.m.

Bro. Claude Conn being pastor of Kelsa Church, gave the introductory message. Text for the message was "Ye must be born again". Prayer was omitted

FRIDAY EVENING SESSION 2:00 p.m.

Conference opened with singing. Moderator read for lesson 4th chapter of Ephesians. Prayer was by Bro. Able.

Moderator declared the conference open for any such business that might come before it. Letters from the various conferences were received and passed by association. They were as follows:

The Letcher County Conference met with the Allegheny, Aug. 27, 28, 1955. The following were delegates:

Lena McPeaks	Lloyd Parker
Patricia Sweeton	Dwight Puckett
Minnie Jones	Sister Puckett
Lois Johnson	Sister Taylor
Elizabeth Glaze	Lena Couch
Robert Proffit	Cora Able
Anne Proffit	Louise Sweeton
Cora Able	Sister Parker
Bill Anderson	Bertha Reedy
Jack Williams	Virginia Davis
M.T. Damron	Thomas Hayden
Daniel Greene	Alice Anderson
Ernest Blevins	Edith Wright
Sallie York	Edward Williams

Madeline Elkins
 J.E. Hood
 Jerimah Cook
 Glendolyn Moore
 John Dameron
 Elizabeth Hamilton
 Luther Dingus
 Lillie Dingus
 Haskill Sturgill
 Clement Moore
 Maybelle Whitaker
 Sister Bolling
 Robert Lester
 Loretta Looney
 Granville Back

Tiny Belle Williams
 Loretta Eversole
 Ollie Sanders
 Brenda Kelly
 Wanda Elkins
 Lillian Caudill
 Ethel Sturgill
 Robert Caudill
 John D. Caudill
 Claude McHome
 Grace Huff
 Harry Kerns
 Jimmy Tompson
 Donald Weeks

Number of Churches	30
Number of Members	900
Number of Sunday Schools	20
Number on Roll	1200
Average Attendance	900

This has been a good year for all churches.

The Ordaining Council ordained the following:

Ike Young
 James Richter

Linville Proffit

Albert Dingus, C.W. Isom and L.D. Mahan are the ordaining council. Pray that we will do our best for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Albert Dingus; Moderator
 Eugene Adkins; Clerk

Greetings,

To the John Thomas Association of F.W.B. which convenes with the Kelsia's chapel church Sept. 9-10, 1955

We the Dickenson Co. Quarterly Conference met with the Peuther's Chapel Church on Friday before the 4th Sunday in July 22-23, 1955.

We organized our conf. by electing Alvie Dingus mod., Maston Rose asst. mod., Clinton Lambert, Lloyd Hillman as clerks. The following delegates were present and are delegates to the association.

Clinchco—Bro. and Sis. Nelson Phipps, Bro. and Sis. Warren Salyer, Bro. Muncy Mullins.

Counts—Bro. Steve Ramsey, Bro. Walter Puckett, Sis. Thurline Viers.
 Davis—Sis. Manila Davis, Sis. Ida Davis.
 Duncan—Bro. Everette Mullins, Sis. Maggie Mullins, Bro. Dave Mullins, Bro. and Sis. Noah Hamilton.
 Dyers—Bro. and Sis. Daniel Rose, Sis. Luther Rasnick, Sis. Elmer Robinson.
 Flemingtown—Bro. Luke Wright, Sis. Nell Wright, Bro. and Sis. Lee Mullins
 Ferby—Bro. and Sis. Otis Sturgill, Bro. John Meade, Sis. Winnie Meade
 Freemont—Bro. and Sis. Tive Vanover, Bro. and Sis. James Eggers.
 Georgesfork—Bro. and Sis. Lem Perry, Sis. Christene Browning.
 Hillridge—Bro. and Sis. Pal Sweeney, Bro. Lee Hill, Bro. Alva Lee Fleming.
 Honeycamp—Sis. Fallie Rose, Sis. Clara Smith.
 Hubbard Chapel—Bro. and Sis. Barnie Collins, Sis. Oda Hubbard.
 Lickfork—Bro. and Sis. Brack Powers, Bro. Webb Powers, Bro. Charlie Hill.
 Martins—Bro. and Sis. Stuart Amburgy, Sis. Delphia Martin.
 McCoys Chapel—Bro. Slimp McCoy, Bro. Carl Deel, Sis. Carrie McCoy.
 Middle Branch—Sis. Francis Lambert, Bro. Grady Rasnick, Sis. Shirley Lambert, Bro. Jr. Lambert.
 Millcreek—Bro. Wesley Edwards, Sis. Zella Lambert, Bro. and Sis. Elmer Kennedy.
 Mills—Bro. and Sis. Leroy Herndon and Patsy, Bro. John Dotson, Bro. and Sis. Thermon Sproles, Bro. and Sis. Troy Holbrooks.
 Pinecreek—Bro. Elzie Mullins, Bro. Marvin Killen, Bro. Ersel Johnson.
 Pinegrove—Bro. and Sis. Arnold Gouge, Bro. and Sis. Cecil Kiser, Bro. and Sis. Ora Saylor.
 Pippins—Sis. Avia Funk, Sis. Wilma Large, Bro. Donald Saylor.
 Peuther—Bro. Lee Carty, Bro. Allen Yates, Sis. Z. C. Carty, Sis. Ethel Reedy, Sis. Stella Deel.

Pyles Memorial—Sis. Kate Mullins, Sis. Fannie Mullins.
Rachels—Sis. Alta Mullins, Sis. Jean Compton, Sis. Maxie
Keith.

Rugsby—Sis. Lila Sayler, Sis. Victoria Powers, Sis. Nell
Dingus, Sis. Lula Kennedy, Bro. Jesse Ring.

Splashdam—Sis. Una Belcher, Bro. Ersel Ramey.

Tarpon—Bro. and Sis. Walter Burchitt, Bro. and Sis. Joe
Potter, Sis. Lucille McCowan.

Union Light—Sis. Lillian Lester, Bro. and Sis. Lee Dotson,
Bro. Dave Estep, Sis. Lunice Plumbley, Bro. Bert
Raines.

Valley View—Bro. Jerry Moore, Bro. and Sis. Lee Orr,
Sis. Eva Yates, Sis. Bama Bise.

Yates—Bro. and Sis. Merdith Boggs, Bro. Albert Cochran.

Our standing as follows:

Number of Churches	30
Number of Members	1905
Sunday Schools	22
Average Attendance	1110
Number ordained Ministers	44
Licentiates	3

By order of the Dickenson Co. Conference while in regular
session with the Peuther Chapel Church, July 22-23, 1955.

Alvie Dingus, Moderator.
Maston Rose, Asst. Mod.
Clinton Lambert, Clerk.
Lloyd Hillman, Clerk.

To the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptist:

We, the Russell County, New Durm Conference, met with
the Guiding Light Church, and organized by electing Rev.
Harley Dye, Moderator, Rev. Edward Perkins, Asst. Moder-
ator, and Faye Rasnake, Clerk. The following delegates were
from their respective churches:

Guiding Light Church—Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Smith, Mr. and
Mrs. Oscar Keen, Jason Lane, Lucille Arwood.

Drill Chapel Church—Ceaton Helton, Hugh Coleman, Mable
Perkins, Cora Johnson, B. E. Dye, Mr. and Mrs. Noah
Shortage.

Fletchers Ridge Church—Mr. and Mrs. Finias Farmer, Fannie Flitcher, Cora Nuckles.

Ephesus Church—Mr. and Mrs. Cleve Dye, Ellen Dye.

Sourwood Mt. Church—Ora Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Grover Wilson.

Mt. Zion Church—Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Cox.

Mt. View Church—Roxie Cook, Conzada Johnson, Bert Diamond, Gracie Compton, Mr. and Mrs. Aubry Compton.

Fullers Chapel Church—Mr. and Mrs. Walter Whited, Mr. and Mrs. Guss Hess, Dora Dye, Corb Ray, Ralph Rasnake.

Hales Chapel Church—Mr. and Mrs. Alvia Ray, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Presley.

Our standing is as follows:

Number Of Churches	10
Number Of Members	394
Number Of Ministers	14
Number Of Sunday Schools	5

By order of New Durm Conference while in regular session with Guiding Light Church August 12-14, 1955.

Rev. Harley Dye, Moderator
Rev. Edward Perkins, Asst. Moderator
Faye Rasnake, Clerk

Sept. 9-10-11, 1955.

Greetings to the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptists:

When convened with the Kelsa Chapel Church, Kelsa, Va. beginning on Friday before the 2nd. Sunday in Sept., we, the the Tri-State Conference met with the Kelsa Chapel Church on Sat. Aug. 19, 1955, and elected Bro. C. S. Pennington as Moderator and Ernest Stiltner, Clerk.

The following delegates were chosen to attend the association:

Harmon Chapel—Dolphis Stiltner.

Kelsa Chapel—Joe Jackson.

New Zion—Rose Wagner.

Bull Creek Church—Clearence Estep.

Our standing is as follows:

Number of Churches—4

Number of Members—about 160

Ordained Ministers—8

C. S. Pennington—Moderator.

Ernest Stiltner—Clerk.

Tri-State letter was given to clerk on Sat. and he was given power to put it in minutes.

Had oral reports from the messenger that visited other associations:

Reports of Bro. Isom and Bro. Able who visited the Ky. state association. These reports were received by move and second.

Oral reports from Tug River association by Bro. C.S. Pennington. This report was accepted by move and second.

Bro.C.E. Reedy gave a report from Va. State association. This report was also received by association by move and second.

No other business at this time association adjourned until 9:30 a.m. Saturday morning.

FRIDAY EVENING PREACHING SERVICE 3:00 p.m.

Committee appointed Bro. C.E. Reedy for this hour of service.

Bro. Reedy, reading for lesson part of the 8th chapter of Romans, using for text 37th verse of chapter read. "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." Prayer omitted.

FRIDAY NIGHT PREACHING SERVICE 7:30 p.m.

Committee appointed Bros. C.W. Isom and C.S. Pennington for this hour of service. Bro. Pennington read the 1st 17 verses of the 3rd chapter of Colossians. Prayer omitted. Bro. Pennington using for text, 3rd and 4th verses of the chapter read.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION 9:30 a.m.

Conference opened with singing by visiting singers. The Clinchco Trio, Bro. and Sister Rose, and others.

Moderator used for lesson 4th chapter of James. Prayer by Bro. Donald Sexton.

Moderator proceeded with business as follows; Tri-State letter not being in, the clerk was given power to receive the names and place in minutes. This was voted by move and second. Next item was appointing messengers to various associations as follows;

SANDY VALLEY ASSOCIATION

Begins on Friday before the 4th Sunday in August.
Bros. Harley Dye and Wife, Bros. Claude Conn, Henry Estep and Walter Whited.

SOUTH WEST VA. ASSOCIATION

E.M. Rose and Wife Lester Able and Donald Sexton

VA. STATE ASSOCIATION

Ezra Johnson Everett Potter
C. W. Isom

KENTUCKY STATE ASSOCIATION

Lester Able and wife Albert Dingus
C.W. Isom Luther Dingus and wife

Treas. report was read at this time. The executive board reported time and place of next association.
Minutes to be distributed as follows:

Dickenson County.....	700
New Durm.....	300
Letcher County.....	500
Tri-State.....	200
Total.....	1700

This finishing the work of the association same was adjourned until Friday before the second Sunday in September 1956 when it will convene with the Ephesus, or Pole Cabin Church, Swords Creek, Va. at 9:30 a.m.

Ministers conference being organized at this time, same was adjourned until 2:00 p.m. Sat. Albert Dingus retained as moderator and Everette Johnson as Clerk for ministers conference.

SATURDAY MORNING PREACHING SERVICE 11: a.m.

Committee appointed Bros. Albert Dingus and M. P. Ball for this hour of service. Bro. Ball reading for lesson 4 verses of the 2nd chapter of Matt. By request, sister Harley Dye led the prayer.

SATURDAY EVENING SESSION 2:p.m.

Conference opened with singing, moderator read for lesson the 63rd Psalm. Prayer by Bro. Everett Potter.

Ministers Conference already organized, moderator declared is open for any such lawful business that might come before same. Calling for letters, they all reported. Clerk reading same, all were voted on as a whole; by move and second.

Sept. 9-10-11, 1955.

The Tri-State Ministers Conference was called together on the Sat. evening service of our quarterly meeting, held at Kelsa Chapel Church, on Aug. 19, 1955. The ministers present were:

Grundy Va.—Willie Compton, Harman Chapel.
Matewan, W. Va.—George Hardin, Kelsa Chapel.
Kelsa, Va.—Claud Conn, Kelsa Chapel.
Mohawk, W. Va.—Walter Hurley, Bull Creek Church.
Paw Paw, Ky.—Henry Estep, Kelsa Chapel.
Mohawk, W. Va.—Miles Hibbert Hurley, Bulls Creek Church.
Mohawk, W. Va.—Troy Dotson, Bulls Creek Church.

The following ministers were absent:

Eager, W. Va.—Alfred Flanning, Kelsa Chapel.
Big Rock, Va.—Freelin Wagner, New Zion Church.

All the ministers characters were passed on as good, and were received, done by order of the Tri-State Conference, when in session with Kelsa Chapel Church, Kelsa, Va. on Aug. 19-21, 1955.

C. S. Pennington—Moderator.
Ernest Stiltner—Clerk.

We, the New Durm Ministers Conference, met with the Guiding Light Church, Aug. 13, 1955, and organized by electing Rev. Harley Dye, Moderator, Faye Rasnake, Clerk. There were 8 ordained ministers present and 6 absent. Their names were called and each voted on. Their characters passed as good. They are as follows:

J. C. Rasnake
James Hall
W. E. Rasnake
Lee Wilson
Charlie Keen
Henry Ball
Harlie Dye

Elmer Hess
Ganon Kelley
Benton Miller
Edward Perkins
Glen Peck
James Hutchison
M. P. Ball

Done by order of New Durm Conference, while in regular session with Guiding Light Church, Aug. 13, 1955

Rev. Harley Dye,—Moderator
Faye Rasnake,—Clerk

The Letcher County Ministers Conference met with Allegheny Church, Saturday Aug. 27, 1955. Albert Dingus was appointed Moderator, Eugene Adkins was appointed Clerk.

The following ministers were present:

Albert Dingus	Ned Wesley
D. D. Moore	John Akers
C. W. Isom	Bill Smith
L. D. Mahan	Ike Young
Ezra Johnson	James Richer
Everett Potter	Johnny Skeens
Clyde Huff	Lonnie P. Hale
Dallas Kelly	Darwin Mullins
Eugene Adkins	Curtis Maggard
Robert Madden	Harold E. Harvey
Donald Sexton	Glenn Miller
George L. Able	Isac Braham
W. A. Looney	Linville Proffit

The following ministers were absent:

Ersel McPeeks	J. H. Miller
J. P. Banks	Eddy Bryant
Jimmy Seals	C. O. Caudill
Edward H. Hall	Lloyd Pike
John Vanover	Dempsey Akers
Henry Don Vest	Nobel Wright
Dewey Griffith	Bill Harris
Frank Delph	Robert Prater

Hilt Taylor
Johnny Staffer
Ira Harvey
Leo Good
Sallie Miller
Harold Miles
Parkis Brewer

Adam Wright
Percy Elkins
Rolly Collins
Langley Milton
Johnnie McDuffey
Eddie Rose

We have 55 ordained ministers and seven licentiates. The following ministers were dropped from the ministers conference. V. C. Manis, Charlie Graham, Ervin J. Harvey.

The characters of all ministers, both absent and present, was passed as good.

Albert Dingus, Moderator
Eugene Adkins, Clerk

Greetings: to the John Thomas Association, while in regular session with the Kelsa Chapel Church, Sept. 9-10, 1955.

We the Dickenson Co. Ministers Conference, met with the Peuthers Chapel Church on July 22, 1955, and organized our conference by electing Rev. Alvie Dingus, Moderator, Clinton Lambert, Lloyd Hillman, Clerks.

The following ministers were voted on and characters were passed as good:

W. R. Bise
S. P. Davis
Alvie Dingus
C. T. Dutton
Kermit Deel
Erwin Hall
Emory Estep
Bill Harrison
Larence Hicks
Walter Hughs
Asia Hughes
Joe Johnson
Rice Bowman
D. F. Kennedy

Gobel Rose
Maston Rose
Troy Robinson
Cecil Ramey
Fred Taylor
Luther Taylor
Emory Vanover
James Wright
Luke Wright
Marion Belcher
Everett Smith
James Hobbs
Newton McGlothlin
Everett Johnson

B. M. Moore
Hie A. Mullins
Lee Mullins
Ted Mullins
Monroe Mullins
C. E. Reedy
E. M. Rose
Josh Rose

E. C. Kiser
Willard Kiser
Vernon Kiser
Quinton Keith
Kasper Lane
Rit Large
George Mooney

One minister was dropped from conference for question of character, E. R. Flint.

Done by order of Dickenson Co. Ministers Conference while in session, July 22, 1955. Peuthers Chapel Church.

Alvie Dingus, Moderator
Clinton Lambert, Clerk
Lloyd Hillman, Clerk

This finishing the work of the Ministers Conference, same was adjourned until Saturday, before the second Sunday in September 1956, when it will convene with the Ephesus, or Pole Cabin Church, Swords Creek, Va.

This association takes this means of thanking the people in and around Kelsa, Va. for their kindness shown and extended to the people during this association.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Committee appointed Bros. Henry Estep and Ezra Johnson for this hour of service. Lesson read, 25th chapter of Matt. Text, "Behold the bridegroom cometh." Prayer, Bro. Claude Conn.

SUNDAY SERVICE 11:00 a.m.

Bros. Willie Compton and Flem Stepp were chosen for this hour. Bro. Winfred Hess closed service. Lesson read, 17th chapter of St. John. Text, "The goodness of God." Prayer by Bro. Walter Hurley. Dismissed by Bro. Tunis Plummer.

Ministers' Report

ROBERT PRATER

Pikeville, Ky.

Sermons Preached	102
Conversions Witnessed	6
Burials Attended	2
Prayer Services Held	65
Miles Traveled	1754

BILL HANIS

Pikeville, Ky. Box 4

Churches Pastored	1
(assistant)	
Sermons Preached	90
Conversions Witnessed	9
No. Baptized	1
Burials Attended	2
Prayer Services Held	34
Miles Traveled	2266

ROBERT MADDEN

Cincinnati, Ohio

Churches Pastored	1
Sermons Preached	200
Revivals Held	1
Conversions Witnessed	10
No. Baptized	3
Miles Traveled	3000
Amount Received	\$75.00

CURTIS MAGGARD

Pikeville, Ky.

Sermons Preached	83
Conversions Witnessed	6
No. Baptized	2
Burials Attended	1
Prayer Services	72
Miles Traveled	1200

JOHN AKERS

Scuddy, Ky.

Churches Pastored	1
Sermons Preached	66
Conversions Witnessed	2
No. Baptized	11
Burials Attended	7
Prayer Services Held	5
S.S. Organized	1
Couples Married	6
Miles Traveled	540
Amount Received	\$4.00

NED L. WESLEY

Rt. 1—Milan, Ind.

Churches Pastored	1
Sermons Preached	115
Conversions Witnessed	10
No. Baptized	8
Prayer Services	15
Miles Traveled	3000
Amount Received	\$70.50

LESTER ABLE

Jenkins, Ky.

Sermons Preached	40
Conversions Witnessed	31
Burials Attended	2
Prayer Services Held	100
Miles Traveled	500

ADAM WRIGHT

Cromana, Ky.

Sermons Preached	75
No. Baptized	1
Burials Attended	4
Prayer Services	20
Miles Traveled	700

JOHNIE SKEENS

Pikeville, Ky.

Churches Pastored	2
Sermons Preached	212
Revivals Held	4
Conversions Witnessed	30
No. Baptized	21
Burials Attended	11
Memorials Held	2
Prayer Services	60
Couples Married	2
Miles Traveled	2400
Amount Received	\$22.00

LEO GOOD

Stanley, Va.

Churches Pastored	1
(assistant)	
Revivals Held	1
No. Baptized	2
Prayer Services	25
Miles Traveled	200

JIMMIE SEALS

Box 64, Jackhorn, Ky.

Churches Pastored	1
Churches Pastored	1
(assistant)	
Revivals	2
Conversions Witnessed	6
Baptized	6
Sermons Preached	125
Prayer Meetings	75
Miles Traveled	1200

L. P. Hale

Elkton, Virginia.

Churches Pastored	1
Sermons Preached	60
Revivals Held	2
Conversions Witnessed	2
No. Baptized	2
Burials Attended	1
Prayer Services Held	25
Miles Traveled	3000

ARNOLD KELLY

Kent, Ohio

17 persons met, March 17, 1955
and organized a Freewill Baptist
Church in Kent, Ohio.

Right Hand of Fellowship	6
Number took the Church Covenant	30
Reclaimed	2
Average Church Attendance	35
Baptized	3
Revivals	1
Sacrament Services	1
Services Per Week	
S. Services	1
Prayer Services	1
Choir Practice	1
Young People's Meeting	1

S. S. Statistics.

Children Enrolled	20
Adults Enrolled	15

LLOYD PIKE

Sermons Preached	130
Revivals Held	6
Conversions Witnessed	186
Baptized	130
Miles Traveled	5050
Amount Received	\$450.00
Expenses	\$324.50
Funerals	10

L. D. COLEMAN

Paw Paw, Ky.

Churches Pastored	1
Sermons Preached	36
Baptized	4
Prayer Meetings	28
Revivals (Helped in)	3
Miles Traveled	123
Amount Received	\$37.40

CLAUDE CONN

Kelsa, Virginia.

Churches Pastored	2
Sermons Preached	75
Conversions Witnessed	1
No. Baptized	4
Burials Attended	3
Memorials Held	3
Miles Traveled	1000

HAROLD E. HARVEY

3102 Bassett Road.

Cincinnati 5, Ohio

Churches Pastored	1
Sermons Preached	165
Revivals	5
Conversions Witnessed	125
No. Baptized	110
Memorials Held	6
Burials Attended	10
Prayer Services Held	32
Churches Organized	1
S. S. Organized	1
Miles Traveled	1800
Amount Received	\$50.00

TROY DOTSON

Mohawk, W. Va.

Sermons Preached	50
Burials Attended	3
Memorials Held	1
Miles Traveled	1000

WILLIE COMPTON

Grundy, Virginia.

Churches Pastored	2
Sermons Preached	75
Revivals Held	2
Conversions Witnessed	1
No. Baptized	15
Burials Attended	2
Prayer Services Held	50
Miles Traveled	4000

GEORGE HARDING

Matewan, West, Va.

Sermons Preached	80
Revivals Held	3
Conversions Witnessed	16
No. Baptized	8
Burials Attended	4
Memorials Held	1
Miles Traveled	1500
Amount Received	\$39.00

WALTER HURLEY

Mohawk, West, Va.

Churches Pastored	2
Sermons Preached	50
Revivals Held	2
Conversions Witnessed	15
Burials Attended	2
Memorials Held	1
Miles Traveled	300
Amount Received	\$40.00

ALBERT DINGUS

Jenkins, Ky.

Churches Pastored	2
Sermons Preached	50
Conversions Witnessed	73
No. Baptized	30
Funerals Attended	10
Couples Married	5
Miles Traveled	1000
Amount Received	\$150.00

GLEN MILLER

Jackhorn, Ky.

Revivals Held	2
Sermons Preached	125
Conversions Witnessed	6
Helped Baptize	2
Prayer Meetings	50
Miles Traveled	1400
Funerals	1

HENRY ESTEP

Paw Paw, Kentucky.

Churches Pastored	1
Sermons Preached	50
Burials Attended	5
Memorials Held	1
Miles Traveled	1000

OBITUARIES



ROY ROBINSON

Roy Robinson, son of Merdia and Della Booth Robinson, born at Castlewood, Va., March 2, 1904. Departed this life, May 12, 1955; making his stay here on earth 51 years, 2 months, and 10 days. He came to Clintwood and in March, 1929, married Nellie Mullins, daughter of J. Harmon and Emma Mullins. To this union was born five children. One daughter, Mary Ann, and four sons; Jackie Darrell, Bobby Gene, James Carroll, and Johnny Wayne.

Roy accepted Christ as his Savior at Clinchco Church Aug. 4th, 1946. He took up fellowship with the Freewill Baptist Church and lived a devout Christian life. He was faithful to the Church and loyal to his fellow man. He was a loving husband and father and at all times gave his strength to the weak, his substance to those less fortunate than he, his sympathy to the suffering and his heart to God.

He left to mourn his passing, his devoted wife and children, and a host of friends and relatives.

We know that our great loss is Heaven's gain and with anxious hearts we await the morning of the great and final resurrection; where we will be re-united in a land where there's no more parting.

Written by his wife,
Nellie M. Robinson

OBITUARY IN MEMORY OF FREDY WOLFORD

In 1936, he said to me he was a bad afflicted man with dropsy. I was on my way to a quarterly meeting at Glenhayes, West, Va. "I want you to stop as you come back and baptize me. If I live it will make me a better man, and if I die it will make me better," and I baptized him on Sunday, the 21st, or about this time and he lived the life of a Christian and bore the fruit of a Christian man. I believe he will live beyond the grave and that I will meet Fredy in the land of the blessed. He had a wife and large family, and I will say to all of them that is living, "Prepare to meet God in peace and your father."

By L. Dodge Coleman, Freewill Baptist.
Paw Paw, Ky., August 24, 1955.

WILLIAM HENRY ST. CLAIR

In sad but loving memory of William Henry StClair, whose son was Pim StClair and mother Oma Jane Hurley. Henry was born Nov. 30, 1926, departed this life Aug. 10, 1955, making his stay here on earth 28 years, 8 months and 10 days. Henry was a soldier in the Korean war for 3 years.

He leaves to mourn his loss a father, mother, seven sisters, and many friends and relatives. We pray that his soul is with Jesus somewhere in Paradise today.

Written by his sister, Mrs. Henry Estep.

Our home is so lonely Henry,
We miss you each hour of the day
May God help us to understand
Why you were called away.

Just when your life was brightest
Just when your hopes were best
God called you from among us
To a home of eternal rest.

No one knows how we miss you
No one knows the bitter pain
We have suffered since we lost you
Life has never been the same.

Written by his sister, Mrs. Henry Estep.

IN MEMORY OF BRO. GEORGE HURLEY

Bro. George Hurley was married to Barbara Estep, and to this union was born a large family of children to bear the loss of a good Christian father. His soul will awake in joyful days.

He came to me where I was preaching the glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ, and said he was saved and wanted me to baptize him. This was about the 18th of September. He lived a true and faithful Christian life and his seat is vacant in church. He was loved by all his brothers and sisters.

I went to see him about three days previous to his death and he told me there was nothing in his way, and that he was 69 years old and in his right mind, and I think he was. Spiritually guided that way, was a new home, a new body, just awaiting him. He departed this life March 22, 1950. Age about 69 years.

Written by request of his good companion and sister, Barbara Hurley.

By L. Dodge Coleman, age 84 years.

IN MEMORY OF AUNT CLIRINDIA LESTER, AGE 87 YEARS

She was baptized by Abe Charles, Sept. 10, 1910. She confessed a hope in Christ and was baptized by Abe Charles in the Missionary Baptist Church, and lived a true Christian all the days of her life, attending the Freewill Baptist when she could go to church. She was loved by all who knew her, and we the writer, feel in our soul, she is now resting in Paradise. Just fell asleep in Jesus.

By Dodge Coleman, by request.

H. K. DUTY

In memory of our brother H. K. Duty, who was born Jan. 22, 1877. Bro. Duty departed this life July 30, 1955, making his stay here on earth 78 years, 6 months, and 8 days.

He was united in marriage to Nancy Jane Duty July 22, 1896. To this union was born 8 children, 4 boys and 4 girls. He leaves to mourn his loss a wife and six children, many friends and relatives and six grandchildren.

Bro. Duty confessed a hope in Christ and was a member of the Freewill Baptist Church at Kelsa, Va.

A word to his children: If they want to be with daddy any more, repent and live for Jesus and go where daddy is.

A precious one from us is gone
A voice we love is still
A place is vacant in his home
Which never can be filled
Safe in the arms of Jesus
Safe on his gentle breast
There by his love his soul shall rest.

Written by his brother in Christ, Henry Estep.

KATHIE LIN EGLAND

In memory of Kathie Lin Egland, the daughter of Arlen Egland and Jannie Marie Egland was born October 18, 1954, and departed this life August, 29, 1955, making her stay here on earth 10 months and 11 days. She leaves to mourn her loss a father, mother, brother and sister, and many friends and relatives. I want to say to the father and mother, repent and live for the Lord and meet the baby in Heaven, for we know earthly loss is Heaven's gain.

Written by Henry Estep.

JAMES BOBBY RASNAKE

In memory of little James Bobby Rasnake, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Rasnake. He was born December 20, 1953, departed this life January 10, 1954. We know that our loss is Heaven's gain.

He leaves daddy, mother, 2 sisters, and one brother to mourn his loss. How gladly we will meet him with wings to bear us home. He is up there in Heaven awaiting us to come, so lets all be faithful to our God and live a life down here and meet little James Bobby in Heaven where there will be no sorrows there.

Written by his grandmother,
Mrs. James Rasnake, Drill, Va.

OBITUARY OF LAWRENCE CHILDERS

It is with a sad and broken heart that I, Eldon Mullins, will try by the help of our almighty God to write an obituary of my kind, sweet, Daddy-in-Law Lawrence Childers, of Hellier, Ky. He was born at Auxier, Ky., February 24, 1894. He was married to Alva Hawkins on April 25, 1925.

To this union was born nine children. Lawrence joined the Freewill Baptist Church June 1937, and since that time has been a soldier for our Lord. His hard work and troubles and sorrows of this life were hard. He walked in the light and prayed for God to help him and guide him through.

He died on October 3, 1954, leaving his family, relations, and a host of friends to mourn his loss. Oh, children if we want to see sweet dad, we must prepare and make peace with the Lord as I feel daddy did. I feel that he has gained that glorious home Jesus has gone to prepare for us. He is shouting the praise of God around his great throne and singing with the angels in ever lasting peace. God bless him, I expect to shake his hand and tell him how I love him when I exchange this old cross for a crown. Oh, won't that be a happy meeting day when we can see the sweet face of our loving Savior who shed his blood for us on Cavalry Cross that the world may not be lost. Thank God, there will be no dying or sickness, trouble or pain.

He made his confession under the song. "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be," God bless his humble heart he has paid the debt we all have to pay.

God needed him to decorate his great throne. He left our little home so lonesome and us to mourn on as our tears still flow. My eyes are dimmed with tears. I will say I prayed for God to reveal to me words that I could write, and thanks be to God, and God be with us until we meet again.

Written by, Eldon Mullins.

IN MEMORY OF DOLL RAY

Doll Ray, the son of Babe and Angeline Ray, was born September 6, 1892, making his stay here 63 years, 2 months, and 21 days died on November 27, 1954. He was married to Bessie Hess in 1912. To this union was born 10 children, 3 which was deceased at infancy and 7 still living, Clarence, Willie, Maudie, Claude, Carrie, Lottie, Carl, and his loving companion. He has one sister, Maudie Lester, one uncle, Asa Lockhart. He has 21 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren, and a great host of friends and relatives to mourn his loss, but we know Heaven has gained because just a few hours before he had to go he called all his children around his bed and asked them all to go home with him. He said he had a happy home. It was so hard to give him up, but he has gone to where no sickness can ever come and a few years ago he confessed a hope in Jesus and was baptized and has been so faithful and made everything right. He has gone to live with Jesus to die no more.

Written by Clara and Willie.

IN MEMORY OF BESSIE FORD

Bessie Ford was born March 9, 1912, and died July 19, 1955. December 9, 1931, she was married to Clarence Ford. To this union was born 4 children, 2 boys and 2 girls. She left 4 children, a husband, and 1 grandchild to mourn her loss. Also 3 sisters and 2 brothers. We all miss her more than words can tell. She had lived a Christian life 2 years and was baptized by brother Johnnie Skeens 2 years ago. We wish to thank all the people for their kindness during the funeral of my sister.

Sleep on dear sister and take your rest
God called you to be with the blest
May we meet on the other shore
Meet there to part no more

When we lay our burdens down
And go home to wear a crown
There I hope to shake your hand
And live together in Glory Land.

Written by her sister, Ollie Ford.

OBITUARY OF BELL PUCKETT

It is with much sadness and sorrow that I write the obituary of dear loving mother, Bell Puckett. She was the daughter of James and Rhoda Barnham. She was born January 23, 1889, and departed this life September 28, 1954, making her stay on this earth 65 years, 8 months, and 5 days. She was married to Walter Puckett December 23, 1909, and to this union was born 13 children, 8 girls and 5 boys. Four preceded her in death. She leaves a husband, 9 children, 42 grandchildren, 2 sisters and 3 brothers and a host of friends to mourn her loss.

She was a good Christian mother living the last 30 years of her life for Christ. She took up fellowship with the Free-will Baptist Church at Counts Chapel Church 11 years ago, and lived a faithful life until death. I believe with all my heart mother is resting from all her troubles. I pray we all can be together some day. We feel our loss is Heaven's gain.

Written by her daughter, Thurlene Viers.
Sister, Mary Ann Greer.

OBITUARY OF VIOLET FULLER

Violet Fuller, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ranel Withrow, born August 4, 1923, departed this life July 10, 1955, making her stay on earth 31 years, 11 months, 6 days.

She was united in marriage to James Fuller Jr. in 1940. To this union was born two sons, Larry Gale and Tony Cameron. She leaves to mourn her loss her father, mother, two brothers, and two sisters, her two sons and husband, and one brother who preceded her in death and also a host of friends and relatives.

She left a testimony that she was prepared to meet her God in peace, and we all feel that our loss here on earth is Heaven's gain, and that her soul is resting with God and she will never have to suffer another pain.

Written by a brother in Christ and a close friend of the family.

Alva Lee Fleming.

OBITUARY OF RICHARD D. MURPHY

Richard D. Murphy, son of R. D. and Martha Murphy, born August 3, 1911, at Davenport, Virginia, died Feb. 21, 1955, making his stay 43 years, 6 months, and 18 days. He was married to Lucy Casey January 21, 1951. Born to their union was 2 boys and 1 girl.

He leaves a father, R. D. Murphy of Indiana, 3 brothers, 2 sisters, and 1 half sister and a lot of relatives and friends to mourn his loss.

A loving one from us is gone
His voice now is still
A place is vacant in our home
That never can be filled.

Written by his sister's in law, Ethel and Rosa Murphy.

OBITUARY OF MARY MAGDALENE HILLMAN

Mary Magdalene Hillman, daughter of Thomas and Mary Porter, was born July 18, 1890, and departed this life Sept. 15, 1955 at the age of 65 years, 1 month, and 15 days.

She was united in marriage to Walker Hillman in the year 1909. To this union was born 10 children of which 3 died in infancy. Her husband, a minister of the gospel, preceded her in death 6 years ago.

Surviving are 7 children, Oval Hillman, Thelma Leftwich, Hazel Culbertson, Lloyd Hillman, Effie Hellas, Alpha Mullins, Lois Wells and also 20 grandchildren, one brother, Hampton Porter, and one sister, Maude Lewis.

She became a Christian when she was about the age of 14 years, and lived a true Christian life before her children and friends.

She was sick most of the time for the past several years and suffered many pains and heartaches, but she bore it all with patience. We feel that mother is resting now to suffer no more. Before she died, she said she was ready to go.

She leaves many friends and loved ones to mourn her loss. We can't call mother back, but by the grace of God we can go to be with her, and ever be with the Lord.

Written by her son,
Lloyd Hillman

PARTHENIA MOORE SANDERS

Parthenia Moore Sanders was born November 11, 1899, age 54 years, 4 months, departed this life April 26, 1953, at the Jenkins Hospital. She was united in marriage to John Wess Sanders September 18, 1915, to this union was born 8 children, 2 deceased, 6 living. 3 boys, Ralph Sanders, Clintwood, Va., Ray Sanders, San Diego California, Edwin Sanders, stationed in the U. S. Army at Camp Lee, Va. 3 girls, Mable Ratliff, Hylton, Ky., Ann Leigh Boggs, Hylton, Ky., Pauline Boyce, Richmond, Va.

She was converted and baptized in the Freewill Baptist Church at Allgany, Ky. She was a loving wife and mother and devoted most of her time to her husband and family which she admired greatly. She left a host of relatives and friends and will be sadly missed by all who knew her, but by the grace of God, our loss is Heaven's gain.



CHURCH COVENANT

Having been brought, as we believe, by the divine grace to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Preserver, we do now solemnly and joyfully covenant and agree, by God's help, to walk 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 quit the great duty of prayer for ourselves and others; that by divine assistance we will endeavor to bring to 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, ordinance, 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.

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 Freewill 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.

MEETINGS OF THE CHURCH

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 ordinance. Foot washing follows the Lord's Supper.

Conference or business meetings are opened and closed with suitable devotional exercises. 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.

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 into 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,

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS (Continued)

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.

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-fifth 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 doctrine 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 treasury 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 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 regular 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.

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 gifts by exhortation for twelve months.

2. If they prove satisfactory to the church, they shall be recommended to the Quarterly Meeting, if satisfactory to same, may license said applicants 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 Freewill Baptist Church, he must first join this church. Then the proceedings are the same as with licentiates; which is as follows:

When he feels Divinely called he is given a license by Pastor of the Church to which he belongs. Then he is free to exercise his gift by exhortation for a period of twelve months. If proven satisfactory he is recommended to the Quarterly Meeting by said Church. Then from the Quarterly Meeting to the Ordaining Council. If proven satisfactory then he is ordained, otherwise he is granted a new license to exhort for twelve months more.

5. Any minister leaving the Freewill 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 Freewill Baptist faith, the minister may at once be called to question by the church offended. They must be given a fair and impartial trial, by evidence mainly by the Freewill Baptist members; if the charges shall be sustained, they shall be dealt with as follows:

The churches have 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.

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

BY-LAWS OF MINISTERS' 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. All ministers in the John Thomas Yearly Meetings are requested to attach themselves to the Ministers' Conference and must be governed by the rules and regulations of the Ministers' Conference.

4. All ministers belonging to the Conference are required to report themselves to the Conference annually, either in person or by letter or both.

5. Any ministers failing to report for a period of two years, either in person or by letter, or both, shall automatically exclude himself from the Conference.

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

ORGANIZATION OF 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 reason 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 Freewill Baptists, and instructed for membership in one body.

BY-LAWS

1. No conference shall be held with less than three ordained ministers and four delegates belonging to the 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, in 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 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. Any 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 move or 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. When a member is speaking no one shall interrupt him except to call him to order, ask leave to explain or to make explanation. The one allowed to explain shall confine himself strictly to an actual misunderstanding or 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 committees 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 its respective churches to deal with its members when necessary, according to Matthew 18:15, 17.

26. After members accept 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. L. SMITH
ARTHUR CASTEEL
J. C. RASNAKE
W. R. STALLARD

YEARLY MEETING CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

We, the members of the Freewill Baptist Church, in 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 Freewill Baptist Quarterly Meetings, conveniently located, as may embody themselves under the Constitution.

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

Article 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 assistant as may be found necessary.

Article 4. Any well organized and well regulated Freewill Baptist Quarterly Meeting, composed of such churches as conform to the usages and adopt the doctrines of the Freewill Baptist denominations, 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.

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

Article 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 it by its respective Quarterly Meetings, and transact such other business not repugnant to this Constitution, nor the usages of the denomination, as in its judgment may promote the cause of Christ and the interest of the churches and Quarterly Meetings within the limits of the Yearly Meeting.

Article 7. The 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 regulations of its sessions.

Article 8. This Conference shall not recognize any minister or delegate unless they comply with the constitution and by-laws thereof.

Article 9. Each Quarterly Meeting shall send to the Yearly Meeting, with their annual letters, funds equal to ten cents (10c) per member in said Quarterly Meeting; said funds to be used in meeting expenses of the Yearly Meeting.

Article 10. The 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 alterations having been given and recorded at the next previous session.

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 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.—1 Tim 2:5, 6; Heb. 2:9; St. John 3:16; Rev. 1:17; Acts 24:15; 1 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 quickened and draweth sinners home to God.—St. John 16:7, 8; Acts 2:2; 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 means brought on himself a miserable and moral 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 24:27; John 3:15-17; 1 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 the 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; John 5:1, 10.

7. We believe that all people reaching the years of accountability

must be born again. Then by trusting His promise and keeping His commandments until the end of life, we shall be saved.—II Tim. 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 of 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 impressive of His Spirit, shall, at a future day, own their condemnation just and change themselves with their own damnation, for willfully rejecting the offers of sovereign grace.—Matt. 11:17; St. John 6:45, 65; Ps. 1:1; Tit. 2:11, 12; Jer. 12:29.

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 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 1:14; II Peter 2:1; II Thesa. 2:11; Rom. 2:10-21.

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 that none 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 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 of mere choice further that 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 teaching 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 the praise of 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 13:5-7; Jas. 5:14.

17. We believe the Gospel made 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.

