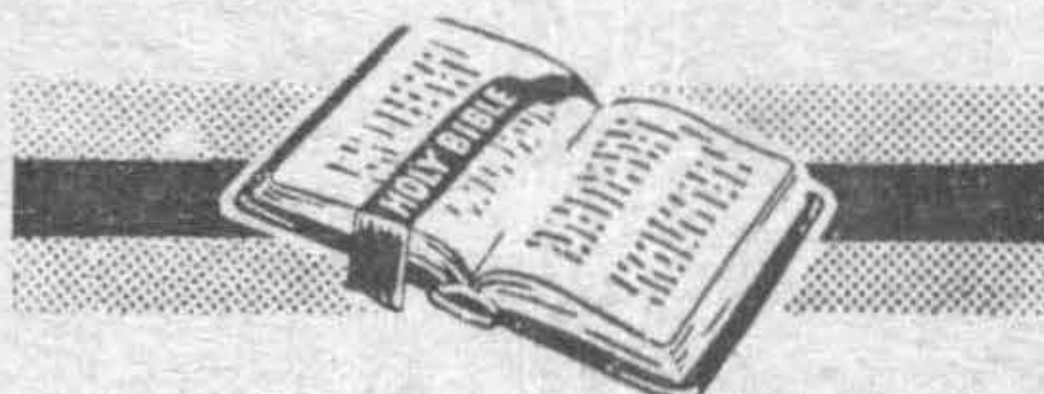


MINUTES

OF THE
71st ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
MARTIN FREEWILL BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION



WHICH CONVENED WITH
HIGHWAY CHURCH, Brinson, Ga.
AND
CORINTH CHURCH, Iron City, Ga.
ON
October 24th and 25th, 1958

OFFICERS

F. A. Drake, Moderator Iron City, Ga.
Willis L. Heard, Secty. & Treas. Bainbridge, Ga.

Executive Committee

Willis L. Heard (Chairman) Bainbridge, Ga.
W. E. Lane (4 years) Iron City, Ga.
John Bailey (3 years) Colquitt, Ga.
Phillip Hines (2 years) Colquitt, Ga.
Robert Boyd (1 year) Brinson, Ga.

Next Session to Convene at Bellview Church on Friday,
October 23, 1959 and at Pilgrim Home Church on
Saturday, October 24, 1959.

STANDING BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Ordaining Council

Rev. H. L. Catrett, Chairman (1 year) _____ Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. W. H. Horn (2 years) _____ Donalsonville, Ga.
Rev. L. D. Scott (3 years) _____ Brinson, Ga.
Rev. A. B. Ard (Emeritus) _____ Bainbridge, Ga.

Mission Board

Bro. O. F. Everson, Chairman _____ (2 years)
Sister C. A. Lane, Secty. & Treas. _____ (1 year)
Bro. J. T. Hilburn _____ (3 years)

Promotional Board

Sister Mary Brown _____ (2 years)
Bro. Joe B. Adams _____ (1 year)
Bro. W. R. Barber _____ (3 year)

Superannuation Board

Sister J. J. Scott, Secty. & Treas. (2 years) _____ Brinson, Ga.
Bro. Edgar Smith, Chairman (1 year) _____ Colquitt, Ga.
Bro. C. T. Turner (3 years) _____ Brinson, Ga.

Investigating Committee

Bro. I. M. Ard (2 years) _____ Iron City, Ga.
Bro. A. R. Smith (1 year) _____ Bainbridge, Ga.
Bro. Z. T. Calhoun (3 years) _____ Colquitt, Ga.

State Promotional Secretary & Treasurer

Rev. E. C. Morris, P. O. Box 553 _____ Tifton, Ga.

PROCEEDINGS

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

The 72nd Annual Session of The Martin Freewill Baptist Association convened with Highway Church, Brinson, Ga., at ten o'clock on Friday morning, Oct. 24th, 1958.

The Session was opened with a song service led by Rev. B. W. Clenney and Prayer by Rev. J. J. Scott.

Bro. Richard McNease gave the Devotional, reading from the 119th Psalm, followed by Prayer.

Sister J. J. Scott gave the Welcome address, and Sister Eva Middleton gave the response.

At 10:30 A.M. the Moderator gave his message taken from the 5th chapter of Ephesians 21st verse. The Moderator closed his message with Prayer.

Next the Credential Committee was appointed which con-

sisted of Bro. W. C. Atkinson, Bro. W. R. Barber and Sister P. I. Kirkland.

At 10:45 A.M. Rev. H. L. Catrett led the Congregation in a song service, followed by Prayer by Bro. O. F. Everson.

At 10:55 A.M. Rev. C. J. Harvey gave a talk on Camp Mt. Bethel. He stated that the State Association would convene at the Camp, and that the Camp needs help to support this Convention. An offering was taken and \$27.45 was donated to help with this expense.

Rev. W. H. Horn preached the 11:00 o'clock sermon. He read the first nineteen verses of First Corinthians using the 14th verse as his text.

Rev. E. C. Morris dismissed the Body for the noon hour.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The Friday afternoon Session opened at 1:30 P.M. with a song service led by Rev. H. L. Catrett and Prayer by Rev. I. O. Cook.

Bro. Louie Grimes gave the Devotional and talked from the 2nd Chapter of James.

The Credential Committee made a partial report and reported 16 Churches represented with a total of \$297.00. A move and second was made and carried to accept this partial report as read. Sister Mary Brown and Sister Jack Burke were appointed to read the Church letters. Delegates which were read are as follows:

Highway Church:

Sister Will Brogdon and Bro. and Sister Roy Barber

Corinth Church:

Bro. and Sister Jack Burke, Bro. and Sister Fred Swanner, Sister Helen Ard and Sister Jessie Cordell.

Mt. Gilead Church:

Bro. Henry M. Bellflower, Bro. Herbert Boyd and Sister Minnie Boyd.

Colquitt Church:

Sister Gary Phillips, Bro. Cliff Carpenter and Bro. Carey Williams.

Riverturn Church:

Sister Murtle Howard, Sister P. I. Kirkland and Sister Charlotte Parker.

Proctor Chapel Church:

Bro. Willie Sellars, Bro. L. A. Howell, and Bro. Shinholster

Hebrew Church:

Bro. and Sister Walter Atkinson

New Salem Church:

Sister B. D. Wells, Sister E. L. Houston, Bro. W. R. Barber,
Sister B. A. Middleton, Bro. and Sister I. J. Goocher.

Polar Branch Church:

Bro. George Morris

Thompson Church:

Bro. G. R. Grimes, Bro. Louie Grimes, Bro. Edgar Smith,
and Bro. John Richardson.

New Home No. 1 Church:

Bro. R. T. Middleton, Bro. W. E. Roberts and wife, Sister
Genette Cox and Sister Howard Roberts.

Cool Springs Church:

Sister Laura Hyatt and Bro. Albert Blount.

Mothers Home Church:

Bro. and Sister John Bailey, Bro. Collie Addison, Bro. and
Sister Dock Gibson and Sister J. R. McNease.

Bellview Church:

Bro. and Sister T. D. Carter, Bro. and Sister Oscar Brun-
son. Sister Eva Clenny, Sister Effie Kimbrel and Sister
Mary Brown.

New Home No. 2 Church:

Bro. and Sister Ed. Avery, Bro. and Sister Clarence Sad-
dler, Bro. and Sister Richard Barfield, Bro. Claud New-
some and Bro. Bobby Hutto.

Springfield Church:

Sister Jannie Knight and Sister C. B. Reese.

Pilgram Home Church:

Bro. and Sister W. J. Hilburn

New Evergreen Church:

Sister R. V. Ivey, Sister Bethel Curley and Sister Lois
Barnett.

Mt. Glory Church:

Sister Elier Newberry and Sister Ethel Newberry.

A move and second was made and carried that these dele-
gates be seated with the Body.

The call was made for petitionary letters. None was re-
ceived.

Letter from Fathers Home Church asking to be dismissed
from The Martin Association was read. A move and second was
made and carried to dismiss Fathers Home Church as request-
ed.

An offering was taken for the Cool Spring Church, to help
with their building expense and \$44.67 was donated.

The following committees were appointed:

Disbursement Committee:

Rev. Drew Floyd, Rev. H. L. Catrett and Sister W. R. Barber.

Nominating Committee:

Rev. W. H. Horn, Bro. Henry M. Bellflower and Sister Lucille Stewart.

Program Committee:

Rev. Edward Sheffield, Sister B. W. Clenney and Sister J. J. Scott.

Correspondance from other Associations was called for and given as follows:

Salem Association: Rev. I. O. Cook, Aev. W. C. Windham

Union Association: Rev. C. J. Harvey

Midway Association: Rev. E. C. Williams, Bro. Alvin Day,
Bro. L. R. Curtis, Rev. Roy Roberts, Rev. J. C. Watson

Little River Association: Rev. and Sister E. C. Morris

Salem of Florida Association: Bro. Rufus Neal.

A Move and second was made and carried that the Moderator extend the right hand of Christian fellowship to these visitors. This the Moderator did.

Reports of the State and National Associations was called for. Sister Alma Houston gave a report of the State Association. No report was received from the National Association.

A call was made for a report of the Ladies Auxiliary. Sister B. W. Clenney gave the report. A move and second was made and carried to receive Sister Clenney's report.

A move and second was made and carried that the Moderator welcome Rev. J. B. Lovering into the Association by Extending him the right hand of Christian fellowship. This the Moderator did.

Roll Call of Ministers As Given Below:

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. Drew Floyd	Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. Tom Henry	Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. H. L. Catrett	Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. Lewis Batchelor	Rt. 2, Camilla, Ga.
Rev. W. H. Horn	Rt. 2, Donalsonville, Ga.
Rev. L. D. Scott	Brinson, Ga.
Rev. A. B. Ard	Bainbridge, Ga.
Rev. C. A. Gilbert	Colquitt, Ga.

Rev. B. W. Clenney Rt. 3, Colquitt, Ga.
 Rev. F. W. Sellers Rt. 3, Bainbridge, Gr.
 Rev. R. W. Holes 2601 4th Ave., Columbus, Ga.
 Rev. Edward Sheffield P. O. Box 302, Donalsonville, Ga.
 Rev. Willie Sellers Rt. 1, Camilla, Ga.
 Rev. J. J. Scott Brinson, Ga.
 Rev. J. B. Lovering Colquitt, Ga.

LICENSED MINISTERS

Rev. Isaac Musgrove Rt. 2, Colquitt, Ga.
 Rev. G. W. West Rt. 1, Cairo, Ga.
 Sister Della McAlpin Sneads, Fla.

Delegates to the various Associations are as follows:

Midway Association:.....

Rev. and Sister B. W. Clenney

Union Association:

Rev. and Sister Drew Floyd

Chattahoochee Association:

Rev. H. L. Catrett and Rev. Edward Sheffield

Georgia Union Association:

Rev. J. B. Lovering and wife

Little River Association:

Rev. and Sister B. W. Clenney

Salem Association:

Rev. Edward Sheffield and Rev. H. L. Catrett

State Line Association:

Rev. C. A. Gilbert and Rev. J. B. Lovering

State Association:

Sister Alma Houston, Sister B. W. Clenney and Sister
Eva Middleton

National Association:

Rev. and Sister Edward Sheffield

A move was second and made and carried that the Association help pay the expenses of the delegates to the National Association with the Disbursement Committee making the arrangements.

Call was made for the report of Churches on various committees. See reports.

A move and second was made and carried that we abolish the first, second and fourth phase of the resolutions presented by New Salem Church. The third phase was adopted with out any change. See report of Resolution Committee.

A move and second was made and carried to abolish a previous resolution which forbids the Clerk and Moderator to serve more than two years, and let them serve as long as the Body so desires.

A move and second was made and carried to omitt the Friday night service because of death in the Highway Community.

A move and second was made and carried that we extend Highway Church and Community a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality during the first day of this Session.

A move and second was made and carried to adjourn for the day to meet with Corinth Church on Saturday Morning October 25, 1958. With the Congregation standing in a moment of silent Prayer for the bereaved family of Highway community. Rev. B. C. Williams led the closing prayer.

Bro. T. A. Drake, Moderator

Bro. Willis L. Heard, Clerk

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The Saturday morning Session of the Martin Freewill Baptist Association met at Corinth Church on October 25, 1958.

The session opened with a song service led by Rev. H. L. Catrett, and Prayer by Bro. W. J. Hilburn.

The Devotional was given by Sister B. D. Wells, reading from the 12th Chapter of Romans beginning at the 9th verse.

Welcome address was given by Bro. Jack Burke and Sister Edward Sheffield gave the response.

Churches appointed on various committees are as follows:

River Turn	Sunday School
Hebrew	Sabbath Observance
Bellview	Resolutions
New Home No. 1	Temperance
Cool Spring	Suggestions
Corinth	Obituaries

A move and second was made and carried to keep the same Executive Committee and that they serve one year, two year, three year and four year terms, so that it will only be necessary to elect one member each year. The Clerk to set the term for the present members.

The Executive Committee is as follows:

Willis L. Heard (Chairman) Rt. 3, Bainbridge, Ga.

W. E. Lane (4 years) Iron City, Ga.

John Bailey (3 years) _____ Colquitt, Ga.
Phillip Hines (2 years) _____ Colquitt, Ga.
Robert Boyd (1 year) _____ Rt. 1, Brinson, Ga.

Correspondence from others Associations was called for and given as follows:

Midway Association: Rev. T. B. Mellette
Salem Association: Rev. W. S. Driggers

The Moderator extended these visitors the right hand of Christian fellowship.

Renewed call for Church letters. One was received with \$9.25. See Churches and Delegates

Renewed call for report of all Boards and Committes. See reports.

Called for the reading of the first days Minutes. Same was read by Clerk and adopted.

Bro. Z. T. Calhoun gave a talk on the F. W. B. Orphanage Home in Eldridge, Ala. An offering was taken for the Home and \$30.85 was donated.

The Credential Committee reported two more Churches representing with \$15.25. See Churches and Delegates.

A move and second was made and carried to seat the Delegates, from the Churches that reported Saturday morning, with the Body.

Rev. Tom Henry made a wonderful talk even tho it was short.

Rev. E. C. Morris gave a report on the Unified Program.

Rev. H. L. Catrett led the Congregation in singing "Onward Christian Soldiers", after which Sister Shirley Olenney sang a special song, solo.

Rev. E. C. Morris preached the 11.00 o'clock Sermon useing Judges 16:19 for his text.

Rev. Roy Roberts dismissed the Body for the noon hour.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The Saturday afternoon session opened at 1:30 p. m. with a song service led by Rev. H. L. Catrett, and Prayer by Rev. I. O. Cook.

Rev J. B. Lovering gave the Devotional reading from the 15th Chapter of John.

Renewed call for reports of all Boards and Committees. See reports.

Move and second was made and carried that the Creden-

tial Committee report be received and Credential Committee be relieved.

Special singing by Rev. H. L. Catrett, Bro. Ike Ard and Sister Shirley Clenney and Sister Ruby Sheffield.

Reports of the Disbursement Committee, Program Committee, and Nominating Committee were read and adopted by the Body. See reports.

Rev. J. B. Lovering was nominated for Moderator, from the floor, but Rev. Lovering declined the nomination and Bro. T. A. Drake was re-elected as Moderator. He was nominated by the Nominating Committee.

A move and second was made and carried that we extend to Corinth Church and Community,, Delegates, Ministers, Visitors and Officers a rising vote of thanks for making this Session a success.

A move and second was made and carried to adjourn and meet with Bellview Church on Friday, October 23, 1959, and Pilgrim Home Church on Saturday, October 24, 1959.

While singing the closing song everyone participated in a hand shaking service.

Rev. Edward Sheffield led the closing Prayer.

Bro. T. A. Drake, Moderator

Bro. Willis L. Heard, Clerk

DISBURSEMENT COMMITTEE

We your Committee on Disbursements recommend the following:

Clerk	\$25.00
Moderator	15.00
State Association	20.00
National Association	5.00
Delegates expense to Nat. Association	20.00
Retain in Treasure	50.00

Minutes to be paid for and remainder to be allocated as follows:

State Secretary	20%
Local Superannuation Board	35%
Local Promotional Board	22.5%
Mission Board	22.5%

Respectfully Submitted

Rev. Drew Floyd (Chairman)

Rev. H. L. Catrett

Sister W. R. Barber

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

We your Committee on Sunday Schools submit the following: We recommend a Sunday School in every Church; 1st because it is the teaching dept. of the Church, and our people, old and young, need to be taught. 2nd, Because it is the basis for Revival and Evangelism, about 90 percent of the Church increase today come from the Sunday School. 3rd, We recommend all literature be ordered from the Freewill Baptist Press, Ayden, N. C. 4th, We recommend a Vacation Bible School in every Church at least once a year.

Prayerfully Submitted

Mt. Gilead Church and Pastor

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE .

We the Committee on Resolutions resolve to make the following recommendations:

Phase No. 1, No. 2, and No. 4 abolished. Phase No. 3, We recommend that the Clerk make arrangements to get the Minutes printed and in circulation at an earlier date than heretofore.

Respectfully Submitted

New Salem Church and Pastor

SUGGESTION COMMITTEE

We your Committee on Suggestions would like to suggest that the Clerk and Moderator be allowed to serve as long as the Body of the Association so desires.

Respectfully Submitted

Hebrew Church and Pastor

OBITUARIES COMMITTEE

We regret very much to learn that twelve of our members have been called away, and we trust they are at rest with the Lord. They are as follows:

Bellview Church:

Sister Alice Grubbs, Sister Annie Grubbs

Spring Field Church:

Bro. C. B. Reese

Corinth Church:

Sister F. A. Norris, Sister Alice Dawson, Bro. John A. Goodwin

Highway Church:

Sister Mae Mills

Colquitt Church:

Bro. H. J. Reynolds

New Salem Church:

Sister John Webster Daniels, Sr., Bro. Geo. N. Chambers,
Sister Eadie Mae Dorris, Sister Joe Gilbert

Respectfully submitted,
Highway Church and Pastor

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

Beverage Alcohol — Scourge of the Ages

Through the ages beverage alcohol has been a scourge, a curse, an enemy of mankind. The ravages of drink are greater than those of war, pestilence, and famine combined. The scourge of Modern Civilization are venereal disease, cancer, tuberculosis and alcoholism.

Thomas Jefferson called Napoleon the greatest of the destroyers of the human race. He was wrong. Napoleon's career as a destroyer was fairly brief in the long span of history. The destructiveness of alcohol continues unabated.

That Beverage alcohol is often unrecognized as a scourge is due to social custom which popularizes drinking, to drinking propaganda which is attractively designed, highly financed, and cleverly deceptive, and to widespread ignorance concerning the true nature of alcohol beverages.

That alcohol when consumed as a beverage is today more than ever a scourge is borne out by many incontrovertible facts.

(1) The liquor traffic wastes untold human and material resources. Solomon once said, "The drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty." All drinking leads to deterioration of human and material resources.

(2) Liquor-bred accidents leave our highways strewn with blood. The lives of all our citizens are endangered as long as the unholy alliance between drinking and driving continues.

(3) Liquor Masquerades under false colors. Liquor advertisements are notable for their untruthfulness. Fabulous sums are spent to delude, to deceive, and to degrade. Liquor advertisements must be unmasked, their hypocrisy recognized and the true nature of alcohol as a scourge of mankind revealed.

(4) Alcoholism is a public health problem.

(5) Liquor is an accomplice of crime.

(6) Liquor is handmaid of prostitution.

(7) Liquor is a destroyer of Government and unity.

(8) Liquor is an enemy of the home. Liquor acts as a disturber, an intruder, a robber, and a demoralizer. It often demands a priority on the home finances. The whole family may be denied of necessary things if there is an alcoholic in the house.

(9) Liquor blights men spiritually. People who rise up early in the morning to drink and continue drinking until night "regard not the mock of the Lord, neither consider the operation of his hands" (Isa. 5:12). Liquors dull the edge of the souls perception. It removes the image of God in man.

Liquor is our country's enemy number one, the devil's best friend and God's worst enemy. Beverage alcohol is the greatest single enemy of mankind and same means of limiting it's devastation. Mankind must discover or suffer a progressive deterioration which will land us once again in the gulf of barbarism.

Respectively submitted,
Thompson Church and Pastor, Rev. Drew Floyd

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT

We have ordained one minister, Rev. W. C. Windham of Polar Branch Church.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. H. L. Catrett, Chairman
Rev. W. H. Horn
Rev. L. D. Scott

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee hasn't had any business during the past year. We want each Church to feel free to call on the Executive Committee any time we can be of any service at all. Regardless of how small the matter may seem we are always willing to help.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Executive Committee

INVESTIGATING COMMITTEES

We your Investigating Committee find that most of our Churches, as far as we know are in very good standing. As far as we know our Ministers are in good standing, but we still find that some of our Deacons are not discharging their duty as they should.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bro. I. M. Ard, Bro. A. R. Smith
and Bro. Z. T. Calhoun

PROMOTIONAL BOARD REPORT

Cash on hand	\$238.90
Received During 1958:	
Association	6.13
Union Meetings:	
December	9.15
March	10.50
June	8.25
August	5.70
Total Received	\$39.73
Total Paid Out	90.00
Balance in Treasury	\$188.63

Respectfully Submitted,
 Sister Mary Brown, Secty. & Treas.
 Bro. Joe B. Adams
 Bro. W. R. Barber, Chairman

MISSION BOARD TREASURY REPORT (1957-1958)

Assets:

Cash on Hand	\$142.59
Union Meeting funds Nov. 30, 1957	9.15
Union Meeting funds March 29, 1958	10.50
Union Meeting funds June 28, 1958	8.25
Union Meeting funds August 30, 1958	5.70
M.F.W.B. Association funds	6.14
Total Received	\$182.33

Disbursements:

Rev. Louis Moulton	\$ 15.00
Coul Springs Building Fund	24.60
Total Paid Out	\$ 39.60

Balance in Treasury	\$142.73
---------------------	----------

Respectfully Submitted
 Bro. O. F. Everson, Chairman
 Bro. J. T. Hilburn
 Sister C. A. Lane, Secty. & Treas.

SUPERANNUATION BOARD REPORT

Money Received:

Balance from 1957	\$ 23.24
Returned Check	8.00
January 17th Bro. Richard McNease	21.35
May 3rd Bro. Richard McNease	24.50

August 9th Bro. Richard McNease	19.25
September 7th Bro. Richard McNease	13.30
October 23rd Bro. W. L. Heard	12.27
Total Received	\$121.93

Money Paid Out:

Rev. A. B. Ard	\$ 27.41
Rev. Tom Henry	27.41
Sister Dave Braswell	27.41
State Superannuation	27.41
Total Paid Out	\$109.64

Balance in Treasury	\$ 12.27
---------------------------	----------

Respectfully Submitted
 Sister John Bailey
 Bro. C. T. Turner
 Bro. Edgar Smith

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

We your committee on nominations beg to submit the following:

For Moderator	Bro. T. A. Drake
For Assistant Moderator	Rev. H. L. Catrett
For Clerk	Bro. Willis L. Heard
For Assistant Clerk	Bro. Frank Newberry

For Ordaining Council

Rev. H. L. Catrett, Chairman (1 year)	Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. W. H. Horn (2 years)	Donalsonville, Ga.
Rev. L. D. Scott (3 years)	Brinson, Ga.
Rev. A. B. Ard (Emeritus)	Bainbridge, Ga.

For Mission Board:

Bro. O. F. Everson, Chairman,	2 years
Sister C. A. Lane, Secretary and Treasurer	1 year
Bro. J. T. Hilburn	3 years

For Superannuation Board:

Sister J. J. Scott, Secty. and Treas. 2 years	Brinson, Ga.
Bro. Edgar Smith, Chairman (1 year)	Colquitt, Ga.
Bro. C. T. Turner (3 years)	Brinson, Ga.

For Promotional Board:

Sister Mary Brown	2 years
Bro. Joe B. Adams	1 year
Bro. W. R. Barber	3 years.

For Investigating Committee:

Bro. I. M. Ard, (2 years)	Iron City, Ga.
Bro. A. R. Smith (1 year)	Bainbridge, Ga.

Bro. Z. T. Calhoun (3 years) _____ Colquitt, Ga.

We also recommend that the Association convene with Bellview Church on Friday, October 23, 1959, and with Pilgrim Home Church on Saturday, October 24, 1959.

We further recommend that Rev. Edward Sheffield bring the Introductory Message at Bellview Church on Friday, October 23, 1959.

Respectfully submitted,

Sister Lucille Steward

Rev. W. H. Horn ____

Bro. Henry M. Bellflower

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

The program plans given below are proposed for the 73rd annual Session of the Martin Freewill Baptist Association, to be held with Bellview Church on Friday, October 23, 1959, and Pilgrim Home Church on Saturday, October 24, 1959.

FRIDAY SESSION— OCTOBER 23, 1959

Friday Morning, 10:00 A. M.—

Song Services conducted by Rev. B. W. Clenney and
Sister Shirley Clenney

Assembly of Body for Worship by Moderator

Devotional —Rev. Tom Henry

Welcome Address —Bro. Charles Brown

Response —Rev. Drew Floyd

10:30 A. M.—

Moderators Message

Appointment of Credential Committee and Reading Clerks

Call for corresponding Church letters composing this Body

Reading and adoption of all letters and seating Delegates

Recess for Introductory Message and refreshments

11:00 A. M. —

Message—Rev. Edward Sheffield

Noon hour

Friday Afternoon, 1:30 P. M.

Devotional —Rev. J. J. Scott

Renewal of call for correspondence

Roll call for Ministers

Call for Petitionary Letters

Call for Correspondents from Sister Associations and the
right hand of Christian fellowship by Moderator

Appointment of sessional committee—Program, Disbursement, Finance and Nominating—
Appointment of Delegates to Sister Associations
Miscellaneous business and recess until Saturday
Service Friday night led by our young people
Devotional —Bro. Larry Powell
Message —Rev. J. B. Lovering

SATURDAY SESSION

Saturday Morning, 9:30 A. M.—

Song service conducted by Rev. H. L. Catrett
Devotional —Rev. Isaac Musgrove
Welcome Address—Rev. Willie Hilburn
Response— Rev. Lewis Batchelor
Call to order by Moderator
Reading, correction and adoption of first days Minutes
Renewal of call for correspondence and visitors
Call for committee reports

11:00 A. M.—

Message—To be supplied
Noon hour

1:30 P. M.—

Devotional—Rev. C. A. Gilbert
Renewal of call for Committee reports
Report of Nominating Committee whose duty it is to make selection of place of next Session of the Association and the Introductory Messenger.
Report of Finance Committee
Report of Program Committee
Miscellaneous business
Election of Officers
Report of Treasure
Appointment of New Committees
Completion of all unfinished business
Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Edward Sheffield
Sister B. W. Clenney
Sister J. J. Scott

MINUTES OF THE MARTIN F. W. B. UNION MEETING

Rev. W. C. Windham was ordained at the Session of January 1958, at Highway Church.

UNION MEETING TREASURE REPORT

Money Received:

Union Meeting at Highway Church	\$ 71.00
Union Meeting at Pilgrims Home Church	80.00
Union Meeting at New Salem Church	65.00
Union Meeting at Mother Home Church	68.00
Total Received	\$284.00

Disbursements:

December 28, 1957:	
Rev. E. C. Morris	\$21.35
Sister John Bailey	21.35
Sister Carol Brown	9.15
Sister C. A. Lane	9.15
Moderator & Clerk fee	10.00
Total Paid December 28, 1957	\$71.00

March 29, 1958:	
Rev. E. C. Morris	\$24.50
Sister John Bailey	24.50
Sister Carol Brown	10.50
Sister C. A. Lane	10.50
Moderator & Clerk	10.00
Total Paid March 29, 1958	\$80.00

June 28, 1958:	
Rev. E. C. Morris	\$19.25
Sister John Bailey	19.25
Sister Carol Brown	8.25
Sister C. A. Lane	8.25
Moderator & Clerk	10.00
Total Paid Out June 28, 1958	\$65.00

August 30, 1958:	
Rev. E. C. Morris	\$13.30
Sister John Bailey	13.30
Sister C. A. Lane	5.70
State Association	10.00
Printing of Minutes	10.00
Moderator & Clerk	10.00
Total Paid Out August 30, 1958	\$68.00

Grand Total Paid Out	\$284.00
Balance Brought Forward	\$ 00.00

On August 30, 1958 the Union Meeting sent an offering to the Childrens Home of \$26.67.

Rev. Drew Floyd, Moderator
Bro. J. R. McNease, Clerk

UNION MEETING NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

We the Nominating Committee recommend Rev. Edward Sheffield for Moderator and Bro. Richard McNease for Clerk.

We further recommend that the Union Meeting convene with the following Churches:

First Session New Home No. 2 Church
Second Session Thompson Church
Third Session Ever Green Church
Fourth Session Mt. Glory Church

Respectfully Submitted

Bro. Emmett Houston, Rev. J. J.
Scott and Sister C. A. Gilbert

UNION MEETING PROGRAM FOR 1954

First Session: New Home No. 2 Church:

Devotional Sister Edward Sheffield
Welcome Address Bro. Oneal Cumby
Response Bro. T. D. Carter
Business
11 O'clock Message Rev. C. A. Gilbert
Lunch
Afternoon Devotional Sister Joe Powell
Talk Sister J. H. Freeman
Adjourn

Second Session: Thompson Church

Devotional Bro. Collie Addison
Welcome Address Sister Edgar Smith
Response Sister Andrew Smith
Business
11 O'clock Message Rev. J. B. Lovering
Lunch
Afternoon Devotional Sister J. J. Scott
Talk Rev. Isaac Musgrove
Adjourn

Third Session: Evergreen Church

Devotional Bro. Leroy Kirkland
Welcome Address Sister Sadie Mae Holt
Response Sister Chester Gilbert
Business
11 O'clock Message Rev. Roy Roberts
Lunch
Afternoon Devotional Bro. Edgar Smith
Talk Sister Drew Floyd
Adjourn

Fourth Session: Mt. Glory Church

Devotional Bro. Emmett Houston
Welcome Address Sister Ethel Newberry
Response Sister Willie Lane
Business
11 O'clock Message Rev. Edward Sheffield
Lunch
Afternoon Devotional Sister Lee Roy Johnson
Talk Bro. Dock Kelly
Adjourn

Respectfully Submitted
The Program Committee
Sister Emmett Houston, Sister J. R.
McNease, Bro. J. R. McNease

MINISTERS CONFERENCE

Session 1

The Ministers Conference will be held on Friday night before the fifth Sunday in November at New Home No. 2 Church.

Devotional Bro. Dock Kelly
Welcome Address Bro. Neal Cumbie
Response Bro. Robert Boyd
Business
Message Rev. Isaac Musgrove
Refreshments Rev. C. A. Gilbert, Rev. Drew Floyd

Session 2

The Ministers Conference will be held on Friday night before the fifth Sunday in March at Thompson Church.

Devotional Bro. Buck Grimes
Welcome Address Bro. John Richardson
Response Bro. Willie Lane
Business
Message Rev. Edward Sheffield
Refreshments Rev. C. A. Gilbert, Rev. Drew Floyd

Session 3

The Ministers Conference will be held on Friday night before the fifth Sunday in May at Evergreen Church.

Devotional Bro. Joe Bob Barnett
Welcome Address Bro. J. B. Holt
Response Sister Abbie Calhoun
Business
Message Rev. B. W. Clenney
Refreshments Rev. C. A. Gilbert, Rev. Drew Floyd

Session 4

The Ministers Conference will be held on Friday night before the fifth Sunday in August at Mt. Glory Church.

Devotional Bro. Bill Wade
Welcome Address Bro. Dave Newberry
Response Bro. J. W. Nix
Business
Message Rev. J. B. Lovering
Refreshments Rev. C. A. Gilbert, Rev. Drew Floyd
Moderator Rev. L. D. Scott, Brinson, Ga.
Clerk Bro. Edgar Smith, Colquitt, Ga.
Program Committee Rev. J. J. Scott, Bro. Emmett Houston

CONSTITUTION OF MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

Seeing the need of greater love, fellowship and understanding among our Ministers, also the unifying of our visions and working for greater cooperation, we do hereby ordain and establish this constitution.

1. Name: This shall be known as the "Ministerial Conference of Martin Association of Original Free Will Baptist."

2. We adopt the Treatise of faith and practice of the National Association of Free Will Baptist as our standard to look to and pray for the day when we may be more united.

3. The officers of the Minister's Conference shall consist of a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Assistant Clerk and other officers as may be deemed necessary.

4. The officers shall be elected on nomination by acclamation at each annual session.

5. This Conference shall be composed of all ordained and licensed Ministers and Deacons in good standing of the Martin Association.

6. The Clerk shall be paid \$5.00 per annum for preserving and editing the minutes of the Conference.

7. The Ministers Conference is not a court to try nor to air out the faults of the Ministers and Deacons. If they are in good standing with the Martin Association, they are in good standing with the Ministers Conference. This is to be a meeting of fellowship, inspiration and brotherly love.

8. Any other ministers and deacons who are in good standing with the Free Will Baptist Church will be accepted as honorary members when visiting with the Conference.

9. This Constitution may be amended or altered at any meeting by two-thirds majority voting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

ASSETS:

Balance on Hand	\$ 50.00
Received from Association	321.50
Received from Union Meeting	10.00
Received from Ministers Conference	10.00
Total	\$391.50

DISBURSEMENTS:

Moderator	\$ 15.00
Clerk	25.00
State Association	20.00
National Association	5.00
Delegates Expense to National Association	20.00
Minutes	155.00
State Secretary	20.30
Local Superannuation Board	35.52
Local Promotion Board	22.84
Mission Board	22.84
Retain in Treasury	50.00

DOCTRINAL VIEWS

1. We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is a treasure of Heavenly instruction that has a God for its author, salvation for its end and truth without mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us, and therefore, it shall remain with us to the end of time, the true center of Christian union and the supreme standard to which all human conduct and opinion should conform.

2. That there is but one true God, whose name is Jehovah the maker and ruler of Heaven and earth, inexpressively glorious in holiness, worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love, revealed in the personal distinction of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

3. That man was created in a state of holiness under the laws of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state, in consequence of which men are sinners, not by constraint, but by choice, being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, of Satan and their sinful passions and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defense or excuse.

4. That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace through the meditation of the Son of God, who took upon him our nature; yet without sin honored the law by His personal obedience, and made atonement for sin by His death; being risen from the dead, He is

now enthroned in Heaven and uniting in His Wonderful person the tender sympathies with divine perfection, in every way qualified to be a suitable compassionate and all sufficient Savior.

5. That the great gospel blessings which Christ of His fullness bestows on such as believe on Him is justification; that justification consists in the pardon of sin and promise of eternal life upon principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of anything which we have done, but solely through His own righteousness and atonement, and that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God.

6. That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that it is immediate duty of all to receive them by a cordial and obedient faith, and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth but his own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ which results will subject Him to aggravated condemnation.

7. That in order to be saved we must be regenerated or born again. That regeneration consists of giving a holy disposition to the mind, and is effected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit producing a voluntary obedience to the Gospel; and that its proper evidence is found in the holy fruits which we bring forth to God.

8. That election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners. That being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all means with the end, that it is a most glorious display of God's goodness, being infinitely wise, holy, unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting and promotes humility, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of His free mercy; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it is the foundation of Christian assurance, and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves, demands and deserves our utmost diligence.

9. That the preserving attachment of true believers to Christ the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special providence watches over their welfare and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

10. That the law of God is the eternal, unchangeable rule of His government; that it is holy, just and good, that the inability which the Scripture ascribe to fallen man to fulfill the precepts arise entirely from their love of sin to deliver them from which and to restore them through a mediator to unfeigned obedience to the Holy law is one design of the Gospel and the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.

11. That the first day of the week is the Lord's day of Christian Sabbath; that it should be kept sacred to religious purposes by abstaining from all secular labor and recreation by the direct observ-

ance of all means of grace, both public and private, and prepare for the rest which remains for the people of God.

12. That civil government is of divine appointment for the interest of order of human society; that the magistrates are to be prayed for conscientiously; honored and obeyed in all things not contrary to the will of our lord Jesus Christ, who is the Lord of conscience and Prince of the kings of the earth.

13. That there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and wicked, and that such only are justified by faith in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and is sanctified by the spirit of God as are truly righteous in His esteem while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are, in His sight, wicked and under the curse and this distinction holds good among men, both in and after death.

14. That the end of this world is approaching when Christ will descend from the Heaven and raise the dead from their graves to final retribution, that solemn separation will then take place, the righteous being adjudged to everlasting happiness and the wicked to endless punishment and his judgement will forever fix the final state of men in Heaven or Hell on principles of righteousness.—John 5:25; Matt. 25:31; 41:46.

ASSOCIATIONAL DECORUM

1. The Association shall be called to order by the moderator elected last session.

2. This Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

3. The moderator and clerk shall officiate until their successors are elected.

4. It shall be the duty of the moderator to call the meeting to order, to see that order is preserved, receive and submit all questions to the body. He shall have the privilege of speaking but must call upon some other brother to preside in his place while speaking. He shall not have the right to vote unless body is equally divided, when he may cast the deciding vote.

5. The members present shall be enrolled and their names called as often as necessary.

6. The majority of the members present shall rule in cases, except upon admission of new churches, which shall require a unanimous vote.

7. No member shall absent himself from the house without leave from the moderator, and no member shall leave the association without the consent of the body.

8. All business shall be brought before the body by a move and second and shall be disposed of according to good usage.

9. No person shall be allowed to speak more than three times on the same subject nor more than fifteen minutes each time without permission from the body.

10. No person shall be disturbed while speaking unless he departs from the subject and it will be necessary to call him to order.

11. Only one person shall be allowed to speak at a time and he must rise to his feet and address the moderator and must not use abusive language or personal reflection on any one without being subject to a call to order by the moderator.

12. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a minute of the proceedings and read the same when called upon, to be corrected at the discretion of the body, and shall prepare the minutes for publication, unless the association shall appoint someone for that purpose. He shall keep all books and papers belonging to the association and read the same when ordered to do so, and shall have such compensation for his services as the association may prescribe.

13. It shall be the duty of the corresponding secretary to carry on correspondence by writing to persons belonging to other associations of like faith in any way that would be likely to create interest in this association for its promotion and well being.

14. It shall be the duty of the treasure to keep all money committed to him by the association, and to keep an account of receipts and expenditures, make a report at every association if called upon, pay out money when ordered to do so by the association, and shall receive such compensation as the association may prescribe.

15. No Church shall liberate any member to preach the Gospel unless he has held membership in the Church for at least twelve months; and no minister who comes from another denomination be liberated until he has been examined by the Ordaining Council and received Credentials bearing their approval.

16. These rules of decorum may be amended at the discretion of the association.

CHURCH DECORUM

1. The church may choose a pastor annually at the last regular conference in association year; or if they prefer it may choose a pastor for an indefinite length of time to continue from year to year as long as they deem it proper to keep up the connection.

2. When it becomes necessary, a pastor may be chosen at another time; but if the choice be made at a special conference, the time must be appointed at a monthly meeting of the church.

3. The pastor shall be the moderator of the church, but when he is absent or does not sit as moderator, being present, some suitable brother shall be appointed to sit in his place.

4. There shall be two or more deacons in the church whose duty it shall be to superintend the collection and disbursement of the contributions made by the church for the pastor, etc., and to distribute the bread and wine in the administration of the Lord's supper.

5. The deacons shall take notice of such members as refuse or neglect to partake of the Lord's supper and endeavor to ascertain the cause, that the same may be laid before the church in conference if

necessary.

6. Some suitable member shall be appointed clerk and it shall be his duty to do all the recording and other writing pertaining to the business of the church and to preserve a file of the minutes of the association.

7. When a new clerk is appointed all the books, etc. belonging to the clerk shall be immediately delivered to him by his predecessor.

8. When a church deems it necessary, a committee of not less than three male members well acquainted with business, shall be appointed, whose duty it shall be to give advice to brethren who apply to them relative to cases of dealings and etc.

9. The church shall hold two days meetings monthly, embracing Saturday and the Lord's day following the first of which shall be the regular time of conference.

10. It shall be the duty of every member, male or female, to attend each conference meeting if they can, for on that day the pastor is expected to instruct the church in special manner by giving plain and pointed lessons on doctrine, discipline and the rule of holy living.

11. Any male member, who shall fail to attend three successive conferences, and any member whatever who may be generally remiss in attending the meetings of the church according to the covenant (Article 10), shall be cited to appear in conference and answer for his neglect, but the church may exempt members from this rule if necessary.

12. Conference, after prayer or divine service shall be opened as follows: (1) Inviting visiting brethren to seat. (2) Opening the door of the church for the reception of members. (3) Calling for the reading of the minutes of the last conference. (4) Calling for absentees. (5) For acknowledgements. (6) For references or deferred business. (7) For new matters of dealings, which are to come before the body. (8) For miscellaneous business.

13. Visiting brethren, as help called in from sister churches, shall be allowed to speak and make motions and seconds, but not allowed to vote.

14. Any orderly member of the Baptist Church may be received into the church without letter, when it is made apparent that his Christian character is unimpeachable, and that he has applied for a letter and could not obtain it because he desired to join this or some sister church. All other members must join by letter or baptism.

15. No member shall be received without the unanimous consent of the members present, but unreasonable objections shall not be valid and unless withdrawn the member who makes them shall be liable to be taken under dealings by the church.

16. When the moderator calls for absentees, the clerk shall inform the church what members have been absent from three successive conferences, and the moderator shall appoint some brother or brethren to cite each of them to the next conference.

17. No member shall be expelled unless he has been cited verbally or in writing to attend his trial; provided his residence be known to the church. If a minister be guilty of unchristian conduct, he may be dealt with just as any other member, by his church, and must be reported to the Ordaining Council and they may silence him for a period of time or indefinitely, as they see fit.

18. When a witness, not a member of the church, is introduced, he shall not be examined till the question has been put to the church: "Will you hear the testimony of this witness?"

19. The evidence in every case of dealing and acknowledgement shall be minuted in the church book.

20. Members dismissed from the church by letter who become disorderly or continue to hold their letters without a good reason, shall be cited to the conference to answer for their conduct.

21. Expelled members may be restored to fellowship on their petition if their walk since expulsion has convinced the church that they have sincerely repented of their former evil conduct.

22. A vote shall not be taken upon any question without a move and a second, and in all important questions the vote shall be taken by rising to the feet.

23. No motion shall be made while a move and second is before the conference.

24. It shall be considered disorderly for any member to absent himself from conference when an important question is to be decided; but a member, upon his request, may be exempted from voting on either side in peculiar cases.

25. No member shall leave the house during conference without a sufficient cause, nor engage in conversation or whispering without being subject to be called to order by the moderator.

26. All discussions in conference must be conducted with calmness and good feeling; those who speak must rise to their feet and address the moderator, and keep to the point in debate.

27. No one shall speak more than three times on the same motion without permission from the moderator, nor shall the remarks of any one be unreasonably long.

28. When the moderator speaks in debate he must nominate some brethren moderator in his stead.

29. No one shall be interrupted while speaking unless it is necessary to call him to order.

30. It shall be the rule of the church to attend to the administration of the Lord's supper and foot washing at least four times a year, and the expenses are to be paid by the church.

31. Members not in good standing shall not commune, but the administration shall not be deferred on account of any ordinary matter of dealing.

32. Public fasting, humiliation and prayer shall be observed on

proper occasions.

33. It shall be the duty of the pastor to take up collections quarterly for the support of the home mission work.

34. It shall be the duty of each church to appoint a committee to revise the church book once a year.

35. This decorum may be altered or amended by the vote of two-thirds of the members present at any two successive monthly conferences.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. **THE SCRIPTURE.** The Scripture of the Old and New Testaments were given by the inspiration of God, and are binding on all as our only rule of faith and practice. There is only one living and true God, infinite in all of His attributes; the Creator, Preserver and Governor of the Universe, revealed to us in the Scriptures as Father, Son and Spirit.

2. **CHRIST.** He is God manifest in the flesh, being in His divine nature true, God, in His human nature true man, united in the person of Messiah as the mediator for the redemption of the world.

3. **THE HOLY SPIRIT.** He possesses all personal divine attributes belonging to the Reformer, Comforter and Sanctifier of men.

4. **DIVINE PURPOSE AND PROVIDENCE.** The purposes of God are eternal and immutable, and His Wise and Holy Providence is over all things to secure His only glory and the highest welfare of all creatures.

5. **ORIGINAL STATE AND FALL OF MAN.** Man was created upright, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. All his posterity inherits his fallen nature, which is cherished by indulgence so all who come to years of moral accountability, sin and come short of the glory of God.

6. **THE ATONEMENT.** Christ in His great compassion offered Himself as a sacrifice in our stead, and those by His life, suffering and death, made an atonement which is full and free to all, and opens the only way to salvation.

7. **GRACE.** No one can by his own work merit, obtain salvation which is wholly of the grace of God, and through which all spiritual blessings are bestowed upon us.

8. **CONDITION OF SALVATION.** These are repentances implying Godly sorrow for open concessions and other renunciations of sin, faith or the unreserved committal of the mind and heart to receive, obey and trust in Christ, regeneration by the Holy Spirit, whereby the soul is freed from the dominion of sin and brought into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

9. **ELECTION.** God has not fixed the future state of man by any unconditional decree, but determined from the beginning to save all who could comply with the conditions of salvation.

10. **PRESERVANCE.** None will be finally saved but those who, through grace, preserve in holiness.

11. **SALVATION FREE.** God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will, may come and take of the water of life freely.

12. **THE FREEDOM OF THE WILL.** The human will is not controlled by any fatal necessity or external force, but is free and self-determined, having power to yield to gracious influences or resist them and perish.

13. **GOSPEL ORDINANCES.** Baptism or the immersion of believers in water, and the Lord's supper are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel or universal obligation and to be administered to all true believers.

14. **THE SABBATH.** The Christian Sabbath is a divine institution binding on all, and should be observed by abstaining from all secular business, amusements and consecrated to the worship of God and to spiritual improvement.

15. **THE RESURRECTION.** Final judgment and final retribution—Christ will make His second appearance at the end of the world, when the dead will be raised, the judgment will set, the righteous will be received to eternal blessedness, and the wicked banished to endless suffering.

GOVERNMENT AND ORDINANCES

1. We believe that the Gospel church, or a church of Christ is a congregation of Christians constituted and governed according to the rules laid down in the New Testament.

2. That these rules require churches to preserve the form of government and ordinances of the first Christian churches, and to be composed of baptised believers in Christ.

3. That the visible church is the aggregate or whole number of Gospel churches, and that the invisible church is composed of the redeemed now in Heaven; and of such Christians now on earth as are not attached to the visible; according to the Gospel rules.

4. That the establishment of a central or Catholic government over the visible church or any part thereof is a device of earthly ambition repugnant to the word of God and subsversive to the churches and dangerous to the liberties of men.

5. That the Gospel churches are the ecclesiastical bodies or tribunals authorized by the Scripture; that each church has the unrestricted right to administer its own government without supervision or interference, being under Christ essentially independent and absolute and that if this right is surrendered to a superintending jurisdiction by delegation or otherwise the assembly ceases to be a gospel church.

6. That churches may nevertheless, meet by delegates, from an association and declare the terms upon which they will keep up a

friendly correspondence but that the rights and authority of the churches being inalienable are in no wise compromised by or hindered by entering into an association, therefore associations have no shadow of authority over churches or individuals, their only powers being to transact business which does not pertain to churches in their ecclesiastical capacity, or to promote mutual intercourse and concentration of voluntary effort, and to give that advice to churches which might with equal authority be given by an individual.

7. That the authority of churches are designated for the perpetuation of the true religion of the Gospel and for the preservation of a pure and orderly body of Christians on earth, that is fully sufficient for the purpose intended, but it does not extend to the person's property or consciences of men in any case whatever.

8. That the only requisites to church membership are faith in Christ and obedience to the Gospel, that faith in Christ necessarily exists in connection with the belief in the fundamental truths of Christianity, and to prescribe any other requisites of church membership is an assumption on the part of the church and a departure from the plan of the Gospel.

9. That the officers of the church are elders and deacons; that elders are also called bishops or pastors; that all elders are equal in rank; though they may perform different functions since some may be bishops or pastors of a particular church, while others may be simply elders, having no pastoral charge.

10. That the authority of a minister of the Gospel extends to teaching, exhortation and rebuke, but no further, that he can not perform any act which belongs to the authority of the church, such as the reception of members into the church compact, of the expulsion of offenders, that as member of the church he is no more than any other member, and if he is guilty of transgression he is to be brought to trial before his brethren and convicted or acquitted in the same manner as if he were a private person; yet we think it prudent and proper to call in advisory help, especially if the minister is to be tried upon a charge of heresay.

11. That Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

12. That the Lord's supper is an ordinance to be observed in the church till the Lord comes.

13. The elders and deacons must be set apart to their office by ordination, by the imposition of the hands of the presbytery and prayer, without which they are not authorized to administer the ordinances pertaining to their respective offices.

ASSOCIATIONAL CONSTITUTION

1. A church proper in its lowest sense is a body of Christians united and congregated together for the purpose of worshiping God

and promoting His cause, and in which the Gospel is regularly preached; the ordinances duly administered and the principles of holiness encouraged and practiced. Each church or body thus formed is a separate part thereof and independent in itself; possessing the right to direct its own affairs in its own way, subject only in certain difficult cases to arbitrate by sister churches. Such churches may, however, unite in associational capacity for purposes of more thorough organization, efficient work and for general and mutual good of all without surrendering any of their individual rights. Therefore, the churches hereinafter mentioned resolve themselves into a body ecclesiastic to be known as the Martin Association of Free Will Baptist which shall meet annually at such time and place as may be agreed upon by the body at its annual meeting.

2. The association, when assembled, shall be composed of all ministers of the association, both ordained and licentiates, and the delegates or messengers chosen by the several churches from time to time for that purpose.

3. The number of delegates to be determined by the membership of the respective churches. To simplify this we will state that any church is entitled to two delegates, it matters not how few members it may have. That after it has attained fifty members it shall then be entitled to one more delegate to every twenty-five members or fractional part thereof, until it has reached one hundred; then for every fifty, or fractional part thereof and go on increasing in its ratio to any number.

4. The officers of the Association shall consist of a moderator, clerk and treasurer to be chosen annually for the next year and to be elected by ballot or anyway the Association deems proper.

5. It shall be the duty of the moderator to preside over the body during the session for which he is elected, call the session to order, enforce the rules of the decorum, decide all questions of discipline, and in case of a tie, to cast the deciding vote.

6. It shall be the duty of the clerk to keep an accurate record of the business transactions of the association, superintend the printing of the minutes and draw on the treasurer for the funds to discharge the expense of the same: He shall hold office until his successor is elected and installed, and shall receive such compensation for his services as the association may deem proper to allow.

7. There shall be an executive committee of discreet brethren appointed annually by the moderator, or elected by the body who shall properly be the association in recess, and whose duty may be more fully defined from time to time by the association. The treasurer shall be one of the number.

8. When the association is assembled a majority of all the members enrolled shall be required to form a quorum for the transaction of business.

9. All debates shall be conducted in a Christian like and broth-

erly spirit. All shall be allowed the privilege of speaking on any question which is submitted to the consideration of the body.

10. Every speaker shall rise to his feet, address the moderator, and keep to the question in debate, and shall avoid all unpleasant reflections and personalities.

11. No brother shall be allowed to consume more than fifteen minutes in one speech, or speak more than twice on the same subject except by permission of the moderator or body.

12. All questions shall be submitted by move and second the first motion taking precedence in point of order. Every motion seconded must be acted upon, unless withdrawn by the mover.

13. The business shall be taken up in order according to the subjoined plan, unless it becomes necessary to suspend the regular rules for a time for purposes which appear proper.

14. The moderator shall, at each session, invite corresponding delegates from other bodies of our own order, and also ministers from other denominations to seats, when thus seated shall be entitled to the friendship of honorary members.

ASSOCIATIONAL COVENANT

Having been, we trust, brought together to organize an association; by divine grace to embrace our Lord Jesus Christ, to give ourselves up wholly to Him, with all humility and brotherly love; to watch over each other for good, and stir up each other to love and good work, and not forsaking the frequent assembling of ourselves together with our neighbors to worship God according to His revealed will, as occasion may require; to warm, rebuke and admonish each other according to the rules of the Gospel, that the knowledge may be thereby promoted to the end. We will uphold the public worship of God and the ordinances of His house, and hold constant communion with each other therein; and we will cheerfully contribute of our property for the maintenance of a faithful minister of the Gospel among us and for the extension of the blessed Redeemer's kingdom among us universally. We will not omit family and close religion at home nor allow ourselves in the too common neglect of the great and important duty of religiously training our children for the service of God and the enjoyment of heaven. We will also sympathize with each other in seasons of temptation and affliction and be ready to distribute to the necessities of the saints. We will especially pray for and with each other for the churches universally for the promised effusion of the Holy Spirit, for the prosperity of Zion, and the ingathering of the elect and may the God of Peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the Sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make us perfect in every good work to do His will, that we may not only enjoy a name and place in the church on earth but finally with His glorious church of the first born of Heaven in ascribing blessings honors, might, majesty to Him who sitteth on the throne and the Lamb forever.

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS	ADDRESS	Meeting Days	Baptised	Rec'd By Letter	Dis. By Letter	Restored	Ex. Com	Died	Total No. Mem.	Ass'n Fee	Unified Program	Gave Pastor	Value of Church Property	Sunday School	F. W. B. L.	Ladies Aux.	Prayer Meeting
Mt. Glory	F. W. Sellers	S. E. Newberry	Rt. 2, Quincy, Fla.	2, 4	1	0	0	0	0	0	36	\$10.00	0	\$300.00	\$5,000.00	No	No	No	No
Pilgrim Home	H. L. Roberts	Mrs. Virginia Mathews	Newton, Ga	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	38	9.25	0	869.00	8,000.00	Yes	No	No	No
Springfield	J. L. Batchelor	Jessie Regan	Donalsonville, Ga.	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	9	5.00	0	96.73	1,250.00	No	No	No	No
New Home No. 1	J. J. Scott	W. E. Lane	Iron City, Ga.	2, 4	0	1	1	0	0	0	122	30.50	12.00	524.10	5,200.00	Yes	No	No	Yes
Cooisprings	L. D. Scott	Laura Hyatt	Rt. 1, Bainbridge, Ga.	1, 3	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	2.25	0	0	2,000.00	No	No	No	No
New Evergreen	F. W. Sellers	Lois Barnett	Elmodel, Ga.	1, 3	0	0	1	0	0	0	21	5.25	0	188.41	5,000.00	No	No	No	No
River Turn	J. L. Batchelor	Mrs. Nel'ie Lynn	Rt. 3, Donalsonville, Ga.	1, 3	3	3	0	0	0	0	25	10.00	0	213.93	3,000.00	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Hebrew	J. J. Scott	W. C. Atkinson	Rt. 3, Donalsonville, Ga.	1, 3	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	10.00	0	147.50		Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Mothers Home	L. D. Scott	J. R. McNease	Colquitt, Ga.	2, 4	5	4	2	0	0	0	118	29.50	73.45	305.35	4,000.00	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
New Home No. 2	C. A. Gilbert	Dock Kelley	Climax, Ga.	1, 3	4	0	7	1	0	0	83	20.75	0	253.46	3,000.00	Yes	No	No	Yes
Highway	C. A. Gilbert	Mrs. L. D. Scott	Brinson, Ga.	2, 4	0	0	3	0	0	1	42	10.50	27.33	147.31	4,000.00	Yes	No	No	Yes
Proctor Chapel	S. W. Balwin	Frank Cain	Pelham, Ga.	full	1	0	0	0	0	0	36	9.00	0	282.04	5,000.00	No	No	No	Yes
Colquitt	Edward Sheffield	Miss Vertie Weaver	Colquitt, Ga.	full	2	6	0	0	0	1	63	15.75	137.50	1184.15	6,000.00	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
New Salem	J. B. Lovering	I. J. Goocher	Colquitt, Ga.	1, 3	5	4	2	0	0	3	189	46.25	42.00	556.91	6,000.00	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Polar Branch	W. C. Windham	E. E. McAlpin	Greensboro, Fla.	1, 3	0	2	2	0	0	0	22	6.00	0	128.58	1,000.00	Yes	No	No	No
Bellview	J. B. Lovering	Mrs. Curtis Chapman	Colquitt, Ga.	2, 4	0	0	4	0	0	2	171	42.75	60.00	675.00	9,000.00	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Mt. Gilead	H. L. Catrett	Herbert Boyd	West Bainbridge, Ga.	full	0	0	3	2	0	0	43	10.75	28.21	123.00	7,000.00	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Corinth	Coy Watson	Mrs. C. A. Lane	Iron City, Ga.	2	3	0	2	0	0	3	89	22.25	69.80	483.45	5,000.00	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Thompson	Drew Floyd	G. R. Grimes	Colquitt, Ga.	1, 3	17	3	2	0	0	0	99	24.75	55.01	627.00	6,000.00	Yes	Yes	No	No