# MINUTES .

of the

Fifty-Eighth Annual Session of the MIDWAY ASSOCIATION

OF THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA

held with

PATMOS CHURCH, BAKER COUNTY, GEORGIA AND

TRAVELERS' REST CHURCH,

BAKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

October 31—November 1st, 1956

# OFFICERS

Rev. C. R. Houston \_\_\_\_\_\_Moderator
Rev. S. T. Shutes \_\_\_\_\_Clerk

The next session convenes with Live Oak Church, Baker County, Georgia, on Wednesday, October 30, 1957. Rev. C. R. Houston is appointed to bring the message with the Rev. T. B. Mellette as alternate.

# MINUTES

of the

# Fifty-Eighth Annual Session of the MIDWAY ASSOCIATION

OF THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA

held with

PATMOS CHURCH, BAKER COUNTY, GEORGIA AND TRAVELERS' REST CHURCH, BAKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

October 31-November 1st, 1956

# OFFICERS

Rev. C. R. Houston Moderator
Rev. S. T. Shutes Clerk

The next session convenes with Live Oak Church, Baker County, Georgia, on Wednesday, October 30, 1957. -Rev. C. R. Houston is appointed to bring the message with the Rev. T. B. Mellette as alternate.

#### **OFFICERS**

Moderator	Rcv. C. R. Houston, Colquitt, Georgia
Assistant Moderator	Rev. W. F. McDuffie, Blakely, Georgia
Clerk	Rev. S. T. Shutes, Colquitt, Georgia
Assistant Clerk	Mr. Emory Boyd, Colquitt, Georgia
Treasurer	Mr. Martin Still, Blakely, Georgia
Assistant Treasurer	Mrs. Martin Still, Blakely, Georgia

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

S. F. Boyd (Chairman), Colquitt, Georgia; Martin Murkerson, Blakely, Georgia: Alvin Day, Blakely, Georgia: B. Houston, Colquitt, Georgia; C. Rhodes, Newton, Georgia: A. C. Anderson, Iron City, Georgia; J. W. Clower, Arlington, Georgia.

#### ORDAINED MINISTERS

E. C. Williams, T. B. Mellette, C. C. White, J. N. Barnes, S. T. Shutes, J. L. Tedder, C. J. Harvey, C. R. Houston, H. L. Roberts, W. S. Driggers, Burdette Dowdney, Coy Watson, W. F. McDuffie, H. L. Knighton, J. W. Loyless and Ralph Bell.

#### LICENTIATES

Dennis Irvin, S. F. Boyd, Martin Murkerson, B. Houston, C. Rhodes, A. C. Williams, J. W. Clower and Alvin Day.

## **OUARTERLY SESSIONS**

The first quarterly session of the association will convene with Oak Grove Church, Miller County, on January 25, 1957. The Rev. J. N. Barnes is appointed to bring the morning message with the Rev. J. L. Tedder as alternate.

The second quarterly session of the association will convene with Bain-bridge Church, Bainbridge, on April 26, 1957. The Rev. Coy Watson is appointed to bring the morning message with the Rev. C. J. Harvey as alternate.

The third quarterly session of the association will convene with the New Light Church, Calhoun County, on July 26, 1957. The Rev. W. F. McDuffic is appointed to bring the morning message with the Rev. Ralph Bell as alternate.

# ANNUAL ASSOCIATION — ORDER OF BUSINESS

First Day's Session, 10:00 A. M.

Assembly of body for worship by the moderator

Worship period conducted by the moderator, assistant moderator or clerk

Call for corresponding church letters from various churches composing this body

Appointment of reading clerks by the moderator

Reading and adoption of all letters and the seating of all delegates, which is done by a majority vote of the delegated body

Recess for introductory message and refreshments

## Afternoon Session

Devotional services by the moderator or at his discretion

Renewal of call for correspondence

Roll call of ministers

Call for petitionary letters

Invitation to visiting brethren from sister associations, and the hand of fellowship by the moderator

Appointment of committees by the moderator: devotional, nominating, obituaries, disbursement and finance.

Appointment of delegates to sister associations as the body may choose Miscellaneous business and rocess until second day

# Second Day's Session, 9:30 A. M.

Devotional service as per appointment

Call to order by the moderator

Reading, correction and adoption of the first day's minutes

Renewal of call for correspondence and visitors

Call for committee reports

Midday service with worship and praise and prayer

Recess for refreshments

# Afternoon Session

Devotional-worship period

Renewal of call for committee reports

Report of nominating committee whose duty it is to make selection of place for next session of the association and the introductory message Report of the finance committee

Miscellaneous business

Election of officers, including the executive committee, etc.

Report of treasurer

Appointment of new committees

Completion of all unfinished business

Clearing of clerk's desk

Adjournment

# QUARTERLY SESSIONS—COMBINED REPORT

(Since the record of these sessions was destroyed by fire, the clerk, by request, gives this information from memory.)

The first quarterly session of the Midway Association of the Original Free Will Baptists of Georgia convened with the Albany Church, Albany, Georgia on January 20, 1956.

The moderator, Rev. T. B. Mellette, presided.

The moderator conducted the devotions.

Church letters were read, and the delegates seated by voice vote.

The morning message was brought by the Rev. C. B. Dowdney.

The host church served the noon meal.

During the afternoon session Mrs. S. T. Dunning gave an interesting message on the subject, "Soul Winning." The body voted to submit this message to The Free Will Baptist.

T. B. MELLETTE, Moderator S. T. Shutes, Clerk

The second quarterly session of the Midway Association of the Original Free Will Baptists convened with Live Oak Church, Baker County, on April 20, 1956.

The moderator, Rev. T. B. Mellette, presided.

Church letters were read and delegates seated.

The morning worship service was conducted by the Rev. Coy Watson and the Rev. E. C. Williams.

The host church served the noon meal.

During the afternoon session Mrs. Doris Sheffield discussed the subject, "God's Plan for Financing the Church."

T. B. MELLETTE, Moderator

S. T. SHUTES, Clerk

The third quarterly session of the Midway Association of the Original Free Will Baptists of Georgia convened with the Blakely Church, Blakely, on July 20, 1956.

The moderator presided.

Church letters were read and delegates seated.

A special committee was appointed to consider a minority report from Travelers' Rest Church. This committee recommended that the Rev. H. L. Roberts resign the pastorate of the church by October 1, 1956, so that the church might call another pastor.

The morning message was brought by the Rev. Raymond Riggs, national promotional secretary for foreign missions.

The noon meal was served by the host church.

The committee appointed to investigate the reports against the reputa-

tion of the Rev. Scott Driggers recommended that the case be transferred to the committee on the character of ministers, and that said committee be prepared to make a report on this case at the annual session. The recommendation was adopted.

The Donalsonville Church was received into the association by vote of the body.

Lunch was served by the host church.

The Rev. E. C. Morris, who was scheduled to discuss the subject, "Church Doctrine," persuaded the Rev. Floyd B. Cherry of Ayden, North Carolina, to assume the duty. The body was blessed by this fine discussion.

Two men, Mr. Tom Cox and Mr. Henderson, were ordained by a council consisting of the Reverends T. B. Mellette, J. N. Barnes and S. T. Shutes.

T. B. MELLETTE, Moderator S. T. Shutes, Clerk

# Proceedings of Annual Session

#### WEDNESDAY MORNING

The fifty-eighth annual session of the Midway Association of the Original Free Will Baptists of Georgia convened with the Patmos Church, Baker County, on October 31, 1956, and at Travelers' Rest Church, Baker County, on November 1, 1956.

Mr. W. B. Griffin conducted the singing.

The Rev. T. B. Mellette, moderator of the association, opened the session, reading Luke 20 and giving timely comments for devotional thought upon the subject, "Fruit Bearing."

The finance committee was appointed as follows: A. D. Ivey, Martin Still, S. F. Boyd, Clarence Waddell.

A partial report of the digest committee was given by Mrs. Martha Everson, and delegates were seated.

The following answered the roll call of ordained ministers: E. C. Williams, T. B. Mellette, J. N. Barnes, J. L. Tedder, C. J. Harvey, C. R. Houston, Burdette Dowdney, H. L. Roberts, W. S. Driggers, Coy Watson, W. F. McDuffie, H. L. Knighton, J. W. Loyless, Ralph Bell, Leo Curtis and S. T. Shutes. C. C. White was not present.

Licensed ministers present were Dennis Irvin and Benjamin Griffin.

In response to the call for corresponding messengers, the following answered:

 Martin Association; Rev. and Mrs. B. W. Clenny, Mrs. Tenella Cleveland, Mrs. Alma McDonald, Mrs. J. W. Tulley and Mrs. Grimes.

Chattahoochee Association: Mr. and Mrs. G. C. King.

State Line Association of Alabama and Florida: Rev. and Mrs. G. W. Nobles, and Mrs. Edna Cook.

5

4

Salem Association of Florida: Rev. D. F. Pelt.

Union Association: Mrs. Eloise Purvis, Mrs. Mattie Gay and Mrs. Ricc. South Georgia Association: Rev. and Mrs. E. C. Morris.

A motion was passed to seat these corresponding messengers as such, the vice-moderator extending the hand of fellowship.

A motion was passed to recess the business for the worship service.

The Rev. S. T. Shutes brought the message, using as his subject "What Are We Thinking?"

The host church and community served a splendid lunch to this large congregation.

# WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

Devotions were conducted by Mrs. Edna Cook at 1:15.

The moderator called the association back into the business session.

There was no petitionary letters and no visitors recorded.

An offering in the amount of \$78.83 was taken to supplement the budget.

The committee on divine service, Jake Craft, T. L. Edwards and Martin Murkerson, recommended that the Rev. H. L. Knighton bring the morning message at Travelers' Rest Church during the second day's session, November 1, 1956.

The committee on character of ministers and state of churches was appointed as follows; W. B. Griffin, Tom Cox and J. W. Clower.

The committee on nominations was appointed as follows: J. M. Etheredge, Edd Sanders and Rev. C. R. Houston.

Rev. and Mrs. Lonnic Sparks gave important information about our new mission field in Africa.

Mr. G. C. King and Rev. C. J. Harvey discussed Camp Mt. Bethel, and made a plea for the children's home.

A committee was appointed to secure the services of the Rev. William Mishler, promotional secretary for the National Sunday School Board, to conduct Sunday school conferences May 29—June 7, 1957. The locations for the proposed conferences are: Three nights in the Martin Association—Colquitt, Bellview and Mt. Gilead; three nights in Albany; three nights in Blakely.

The report on missions was given let the Rev. H. L. Knighton. (See report.)

Mr. W. B. Griffin gave a discussion of our needs.

Martin Murkerson gave a good report on the last session of the National Association.

A motion was possed to extend a rising vote of thanks to the host church and community for splendid entertainment during the session.

The report of the committee on church auxiliaries was made by the Rev.

J. W. Loyless, pastor of the Bainbridge Church. The report was accepted. (See report.)

A motion was made to adjourn to meet with Travelers' Rest Church on November 1, 1956, at 10:00 a. m.

#### THURSDAY MORNING

The fifty-eighth annual session of the Midway Association of the Original Free Will Baptists of Georgia convened for a second day with Travelers' Rest Church on November 1, 1956, as per adjournment on the first day.

The moderator presided.

The vice-moderator, Rev. J. N. Barnes, led in devotions, reading Psalm 46 and making timely remarks.

A motion was passed to omit the reading of the minutes of the previous day's business.

Mrs. Martha Everson made a supplementary report of the digest committee. The report was accepted.

Special recognition was given Mrs. W. T. Wiley, widow of the late Rev. W. T. Wiley.

Rev. K. V. Shutes was seated as a corresponding messenger from the Chattahoochee Association and also representative of the National Superanmation Board.

Mr. and Mrs. Willie Hilburn were seated as corresponding messengers from the Martin Association.

An offering in the amount of \$62.66 was taken for foreign missions and carmarked for Rev. and Mrs. Lonnie Sparks.

The Rev. K. V. Shutes spoke on national superannuation, urging the churches to pay one half of each annual premium of their pastors' policies.

A motion was passed to recess for the worship service.

The Rev. II. L. Knighton brought the morning message, reading Amos 6:1 for his text.

A trio from the Baker County High School sang, "Lead Me to Calvary."

An offering in the amount of \$33,76 was taken for national superannuation.

The host church served a fine meal at noon,

#### THURSDAY AFTERNOON

The devotional service for the afternoon consisted of the ordination of Mr. A. B. Paul from the Albany Church. In this service the Rev. S. T. Shutes read the Scripture; the Rev. T. B. Mellette gave the charge; the Rev. J. N. Barns offered the prayer of consecration; the congregation extended the hand of fellowship.

The Rev. E. C. Morris, state promotional secretary, spoke in the interest of the state program. He commended the association highly for its loyal

support, and extended grand honors to the Bainbridge Church for its loyal giving to the program.

Mrs. Doris Sheffield gave the report on Christian education. (See report.)

Mr. John Etheredge of Live Oak Church gave the report on temperance. (See report.)

The clerk was authorized to insert the obituary report in the minutes. (See report.)

Delegates were appointed to other bodies as follows:

National Association: Martin Still, A. D. Ivey, Martin Murkerson, Mrs. Ralph Mills, W. J. Starr.

State Line Association: Rev. E. C. Williams and Rev. C. R. Houston.

Martin Association: Rev. E. C. Williams, Rev. W. F. McDuffie and Alvin Day.

Union Association: Rev. C. J. Harvey and Rev. H. L. Knighton.

South Georgia Association: Rev. and Mrs. H. L. Knighton.

Chattahoochee Association: Rev. J. L. Tedder, Rev. H. L. Knighton, Rev. Leo Curtis, Rev. C. R. Houston.

The State Association: Doris Sheffield, Alvin Day, B. Houston, Martin Still and S. F. Boyd.

Salem Association of Florida: Rev. S. T. Shutes.

Mr. W. B. Griffin gave the report of the committee on character of ministers and state of churches. The report was accepted. (See report.)

Mr. Martin Still gave the report of the finance committee. The report was accepted. (See report.)

A motion was passed to give the host church a rising vote of thanks for its splendid entertainment.

The Rev. C. R. Houston gave the report of the committee on nominations. The report was accepted with the privilege stressed that other nominations might be made from the floor. (See report.)

The Rev. C. R. Houston was nominated from the floor for moderator, and he was elected.

The Rev. W. F. McDuffic was nominated from the floor for assistant moderator, and he was elected.

The Rev. S. T. Shutes was re-elected clerk by majority vote.

Mr. Emory Boyd was re-elected assistant clerk.

Mr. Martin Still was re-elected treasurer.

Mrs. Martin Still was re-elected assistant treasurer.

A motion was passed to elect the executive committee as submitted by the nominating committee. (See report.)

The standing committees were appointed by the moderator. (See report.)

A recommendation from the nominating committee that the Rev. C. R. Houston and the Rev. W. F. McDuffie be added to the ordaining council was accepted by the body.

A motion was passed authorizing the Rev. Henry Melvin to fill out an ordination certificate for the Rev. S. T. Shutes and sign the names of the deceased brethren who helped ordain him. This action was taken to replace the certificate of Mr. Shutes which was destroyed by fire.

A motion was passed to have report blanks for the quarterly sessions printed.

A motion was passed to have 500 copies of these minutes printed.

A motion was passed to adjourn the 1956 annual session of the Midway Association of the Original Free Will Baptists of Georgia to meet according to time and place designated in these minutes.

T. B. MELLETTE, Moderator S. T. Shutes, Clerk

## STANDING COMMITTEES

Church Auxiliaries: Jakin Church and Pastor.

Education: Macedonia Church and Pastor.

Temperance: White Pond Church and Pastor.

Missions: Hammock Springs Church and Pastor.

Obituaries: Travelers' Rest Church and Pastor.

Program: Mrs. Doris Sheffield, Rev. H. L. Knight and Rev. Ralph Bell.

#### DELEGATES

Albany: Mrs. O. L. Houston, Mrs. Gene Caterett, Mrs. A. B. Paul, Mrs. Nancy Johnson, Mrs. Richard Posey, Mrs. Irene Hay.

Bainbridge: Mrs. Elise Williams.

Bethlehem: Marlin Brown, Bill Ferguson, Mrs. A. H. Aycock, Mrs. R. R. Rice,

Blakely: Mrs. Hansford Cleveland, Mrs. Leo Curtis, Sol Brunson, A. Day, O. B. Weaver.

Jakin: Mrs. Tommie Pace, Mrs. W. T. Hudson, Mrs. H. H. Reeves, Mrs. S. T. Dunning, Wayne Carr. (A. D. Ivey as special honor by order of association.)

Live Oak: Mr. J. M. Etheridge, Mrs. J. M. Etheridge, Mr. D. M. Phillips, Mrs. D. M. Phillips, Mr. E. A. Sanders, Mrs. E. A. Sanders.

Macedonia: Mr. Howard McCann, Mrs. Howard McCann, Mr. J. M. Craft, Mrs. O. B. Everson.

Mt. Zion: Mr. J. W. Clower, Mrs. J. W. Clower, Mrs. C. E. Fincher, Mrs. C. G. Jordan. New Enterprise: Brother C. E. Waddell, Sister C. E. Waddell, Sister Thelma Bell.

New Light: Elie Kemph, W. H. Turner, Dannie Drinkwater, Ernest Paul, Mrs. Claude Turner.

Oak Grove: Mrs. Ruby Sheffield, Mrs. Lester Smith.

Patmos: J. F. Griffin, Mrs. Sara Duke, M. G. Shivers, S. H. Bush, Mrs. Ella Duke, W. B. Griffin.

Pineview: Mr. J. W. Widner, Mrs. J. W. Widner, Mrs. Jim Williams, Mrs. W. S. Driggers.

Travelers' Rest: T. L. Edwards, Mrs. Kate Edwards, Mrs. Sarah Rhodes, A. B. Edmonds, Mrs. Mattie Lee Musgrove.

White Plains: Martin Murkerson, L. R. Lofton.

White Pond: Lewis Cleveland, Mrs. Clyde Johnson, Mrs. Albert Jones, Mrs. W. E. McDowell.

Zion: Sister Ella Wiley, Sister Edna Mills, Sister Laurie Anderson, Mrs. T. B. Mellette, Brother H. G. Wiley, Brother I. J. Wiley.

## CHURCH OFFICERS

Albany

Pastor: H. L. Knighton, 1205 Whitney Ave., Albany, Ga.

Clerk: E. C. Conger, 1414 Whitney Ave., Albany, Ga.

Sunday School Superintendent: O. L. Houston, 1814 Edgerly Ave., Albany, Ga.

Sunday School Secretary: Earl P. Baker, 207 Edison Ave., Albany, Ga.

League Secretary: Mrs. Tom Sadler, 1607 Avalon Ave., Albany, Ga.

Woman's Auxiliary President: Mrs. A. B. Paul, R. F. D., Newton Rd., Albany, Ga.

Bainbridge

Pastor: J. W. Lovless, P. O. Box 495, West Bainbridge, Ga.

Clerk: C. L. Pickren, 1203 E. Broughton St., Bainbridge, Ga.

Sunday School Superintendent: Willard Tedder, 208 Cason St., Albany, Ga.

Sunday School Secretary: Wayne Lamb, 1518 E. Broughton St., Bain-bridge, Ga.

Woman's Auxiliary President: Mrs. C. L. Pickren, 1203 E. Broughton St., Bainbridge, Ga.

Bethlehem

Pastor: D. F. Pelt, Marianna, Florida

Clerk: Mrs. Evelyn Jones, Rt. 1, Shellman, Ga.

Sunday School Superintendent: W. F. Ferguson, Shellman, Ga. Sunday School Secretary: Mrs. Evelyn Jones, Rt. 1, Shellman, Ga.

Blakely

Pastor: Rev. L. R. Curtis, Perry St., Blakely, Ga.

Clerk: Mrs. Florrie M. Alexander, County St., Blakely, Ga. Sunday School Superintendent: Fred Middleton, Blakely, Ga. Sunday School Secretary: Miss Patricia Weaver, Blakely, Ga. League Secretary: Mr. S. W. Mercer, Blakely, Ga.

Cedar Springs

Pastor: Ralph Bell, Iron City, Ga.

Clerk: Mrs. Robert Pyle, Rt. 4, Box 152, Blakely, Ga.

Sunday School Superintendent: Davis S. Pyle, Rt. 4, Blakely, Ga.

League Secretary: Wayne Brown, Rt. 4, Blakely, Ga.

Woman's Auxiliary President: Mrs. Irene P. Dykes, Gen. Del., Cedar Springs, Ga.

Damascus

Pastor: B. P. Hayes, 2926 Peçan St., Columbus, Ga.

Clerk: L. W. Wiley, Damascus, Ga.

Sunday School Superintendent: L. W. Wiley, Damascus, Ga.

Sunday School Secretary: Mrs. Christene Cheshire, Damascus, Ga.

Donalsonville

Pastor: S. T. Shutes, Colquitt, Ga.

Clerk: Lena Brown, 212 E. Spooner St., Donalsonville, Ga.

Sunday School Superintendent: Tom Cox, Rt. 5, Donalsonville, Ga.

Sunday School Secretary: Ben Henderson, Rt. 2, Donalsonville, Ga.

Enterprise

Pastor: John Golden, Eufaula, Ala.

Clerk: Mrs. R. J. Reynolds, Rt. 1, Blakely, Ga.

Sunday School Superintendent: Ralph Jenkins, Rt. 1, Blakely, Ga.

Sunday School Secretary: Mrs. R. J. Reynolds, Rt. 1, Blakely, Ga.

- League Secretary: Ralph Jenkins, Rt. 1, Blakely, Ga.

Woman's Auxiliary President: Mrs. T. W. Jenkins, Blakely, Ga.

Hammock Springs

Pastor: H. L. Roberts, Colquitt, Ga.

Clerk: Mrs. Hubert Brant, Rt. 2, Donalsonville, Ga.

Sunday School Superintendent: Mrs. R. R. Williams, Donalsonville, Ga.

Sunday School Secretary: Garland Grice, Donalsonville, Ga.

League Secretary: Z. R. Jones, Donalsonville, Ga.

Woman's Auxiliary President: Mrs. R. R. Williams, Donalsonville, Ga.

Jakin

Pastor: James C. Pelt, Troy State Teachers' College, Troy, Ala.

Clerk: Wayne Carr, Rt. 1, Donalsonville, Ga.

Sunday School Superintendent: Wayne Carr, Rt. 1, Donalsonville, Ga.

Sunday School Secretary: Miss Iva Sewell, Jakin, Ga.

11

League Secretary: Steve Dunning, Jakin, Ga. Woman's Auxiliary President: Mrs. Mellie Reese, Rt. 1, Jakin, Ga.

#### Live Oak

Pastor: B. W. Clenny, Colquitt, Ga. Clerk: D. M. Phillips, Elmodel, Ga. Sunday School Superintendent: J. M. Etheredge, Leary, Ga. Sunday School Secretary: Grady Etheredge Jr., Leary, Ga.

League Secretary: Newell Sanders, Leary, Ga. Woman's Auxiliary President: Mrs. Stella Jarvis, Leary, Ga.

#### Macedonia

Pastor: George Henry Jordan, Cottonwood, Ala. Clerk: Mrs. Ida Tabb, Rt. 4, Colquitt, Ga. Sunday School Superintendent: O. B. Everson, Rt. 4, Colquitt, Ga. Sunday School Secretary: J. M. Craft, Rt. 4, Colquitt, Ga. Woman's Auxiliary President: Mrs. S. T. Shutes, Rt. 4, Colquitt, Ga.

#### Mt. Zion

Pastor: T. B. Mellette, Blakely, Ga.
Clerk: Mrs. N. N. Clower, Arlington, Ga.
Sunday School Superintendent: Robert Lisenby, Arlington, Ga.
Sunday School Secretary: Ann Rabon, Arlington, Ga.
League Secretary: Mrs. J. W. Clower, Arlington, Ga.
Woman's Auxiliary President: Mrs. N. N. Clower, Arlington, Ga.

# New Enterprise

Pastor: C. R. Houston, Colquitt, Ga.
Clerk: E. B. Ard, Brinson, Ga.
Sunday School Superintendent: Larry Sirmon, 602 Planters St., Bainbridge, Ga.

Sunday School Secretary: Mrs. Lucille Williams, Iron City, Ga. Woman's Auxiliary President: Mrs. Thelma Bell, Iron City, Ga.

#### New Light

Pastor: D. F. Pelt, Marianna, Fla. Clerk: Charles R. Drinkwater, Morgan, Ga. Sunday School Superintendent: Charles R. Drinkwater, Morgan, Ga. Sunday School Secretary: Iris Paul, Morgan, Ga. League Secretary: Pauline Hawke, Morgan, Ga. Woman's Auxiliary President: Mrs. Leon Eubanks, Morgan, Ga.

#### Oak Grove

Pastor: Leo Curtis, Perry St., Blakely, Ga. Clerk: Emory Boyd, Rt. 4, Colquitt, Ga. Sunday School Superintendent: H. A. Harbin, Colquitt, Ga. Sunday School Secretary: Roy Boyd, Rt. 4, Colquitt, Ga. Woman's Auxiliary President: Mrs. Walter Sheffield, Colquitt, Ga.

#### Patmos -

Pastor: Paul Irvin, Newton, Ga. Clerk: Jack Griffin, Leary, Ga.

Sunday School Superintendent: J. F. Griffin, Leary, Ga.

League Secretary: Syble Holley, Leary, Ga.

Woman's Auxiliary President: Mrs. Roy Lanier, Leary, Ga.

#### Pineview

Pastor: W. S. Driggers, Colquitt, Ga. Clerk: Mrs. J. B. Davis, Donalsonville, Ga.

#### Travelers' Rest

Pastor: C. R. Houston, Colquitt, Ga. Clerk: Ralph Edwards, Newton, Ga.

Sunday School Superintendent: Herman Irvin, 813 Lincoln Ave., Albany, Ga.

Sunday School Secretary: Jim W. Parker, Newton, Ga.

League Secretary: Herman Irvin, 813 Lincoln Ave., Albany, Ga. Woman's Auxiliary President: Mrs. B. B. Edwards, Newton, Ga.

#### White Plains

Pastor: H. L. Roberts, Colquitt, Ga. Clerk: S. A. White, Blakely, Ga. Sunday School Superintendent: Martin Murkerson, Blakely, Ga. Sunday School Secretary: J. O. Houston, Blakely, Ga.

#### White Pond

Pastor: W. F. McDuffie, Blakely, Ga. Clerk: Mrs. Albert Jones, Damascus, Ga. Sunday School Superintendent: Lewis W. Cleveland, Damascus, Ga.

#### Zion

Pastor: T. B. Mellette, Rt. 5, Blakely, Ga.
Clerk: Mrs. Martin Still, Rt. 4, Blakely, Ga.
Sunday School Superintendent: Henry Green Wiley, Rt. 5, Blakely, Ga.
Sunday School Sceretary: Henrietta Wiley, Rt. 5, Blakely, Ga.
League Sceretary: Hallie Jean Murkerson, Rt. 1, Blakely, Ga.
Woman's Auxiliary President: Mrs. T. B. Mellette, Rt. 5, Blakely, Ga.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Nominating Committee: We, the nominating committee, submit the following report:

- 1. We recommend that the following be elected as the executive committee: S. F. Boyd (chairman), Martin Murkerson, Alvin Day, B. Houston, C. Rhodes, A. C. Williams and J. W. Clower. (Adopted.)
- 2. We recommend that all officers succeed themselves except the treasurer and assistant treasurer: we offer the names of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Bush for these offices. (Rejected. See Thursday afternoon procedure.)

- We recommend that this body nominate and elect any officers from the floor that the constituents may desire. (Adopted.)
- 4. We recommend that the first quarterly session of the association in the new year meet with Oak Grove Church on Friday, January 25, 1957; the Rev. J. N. Barnes to bring the morning message; the Rev. J. L. Tedder to serve as alternate. (Adopted.)

5. We recommend that the second quarterly session of the association meet with the Bainbridge Church on Friday, April 26, 1957; The Rev. Coy Watson to bring the morning message; the Rev. C. J. Harvey to serve as alternate. (Adopted.)

6. We recommend that the third quarterly session of the association meet with the New Light Church on July 26, 1957; the Rev. W. F. McDuffie to bring the morning message; the Rev. Ralph Bell to serve as alternate. (Adopted.)

7. We recommend that the first day of the next annual session meet with the Live Oak Church on October 30, 1957; the Rev. C. R. Houston to bring the morning message; the Rev. T. B. Mellette to serve as alternate. (Adopted.)

C. R. HOUSTON EDD SANDERS J. M. ETHERIDGE

Obituary Committee: We mourn the passing of the members of our churches as follows:

Macedonia: Hartow Bailey, Age 27; Mrs. Ludie Craft, Age 81.

New Enterprise: H. E. Rich, Age 82; Mrs. Lela Williams, Age 75.

Mt. Zion: Earl C. Hudgins, Age 59.

Jakin: Mrs. A. D. Ivey, Mr. Marion Mosley, Mrs. Clarence Hill, W. T. Hudson Sr.

Missions Committee: In Acts 1:8 Jesus said, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

We are all in debt to the lost everywhere, but especially to those who have never heard, and we are told that 65% of the population of the world has never heard the gospel.

We are happy that we have missionaries in India, Cuba, Africa and Japan. And we are proud of what has been done in home missions, even in our association with a new church being established at Donalsonville this year. But we need to do more. The fields are white to harvest. We can pray, give and go.

No doubt the pastor is the key man in the church; he must have a passion and a vision for a world-wide missionary program. Then the members will catch the vision. A missionary-minded pastor will keep informed of the needs for missions, and will keep his members informed; his prayers in private and in public will reveal the passion of his soul.

The sooner our pastors begin to back our missionary program and appoint themselves a committee of one to do the necessary work in their churches, the sooner we will have a greater missionary program in our denomination. When we do something for missions, we are obeying the command of Christ. Our church, our association and our denomination will be blessed of God and will grow as we have never grown before.

May we each resolve that we will lift up our eyes/ look and see the need; and then be ready to pray, give and go that souls may be saved.

Respectfully submitted,
First Church of Albany and Pastor

Auxiliary Committee: (Read Exodus 17:9-13.) Just as Moses could not win a fight within his own strength, neither can the pastor of a church win battles against sin without the cooperation of the majority of the church. Moses had men that he could depend on to hold his hands up when he became unable to do so himself; and with this help they won the victory.

The definition of auxiliary is a helper or one who helps; therefore an auxiliary is supposed to help the church in carrying out its mission of soul winning, never becoming a burden for the church to carry.

- (1) The Sunday school is one auxiliary most churches have, and it is an important one. Christ was a Teacher Himself, and He left others behind Him to carry on His work. We should strive to follow as closely in our Master's footsteps as possible. Many a young person can be won to Christ through the efforts of a consecrated Sunday school teacher. Our youth of today will be our teachers of tomorrow, and we are responsible for their training now.
- (2) The prayer meeting is the power supply of the church. We should never neglect this service. The church as a whole should be in such close Christian love and fellowship that they could come together in prayer asking for the things they need, and they should not doubt in the least that these things will be provided. They should also offer up prayers of thanksgiving for the many blessings they receive.
- (3) The league is the auxiliary that trains church members for Christian leadership and service in the church departments and throughout their lives.
- (†) The woman's auxiliary is composed of the women of the church. It should promote missionary interest and work. It's time should be taken up in doing that. It should stay clear of needless business activities and moneyraising projects. The woman's auxiliary should encourage and sponsor the girls' auxiliary, boys' auxiliary and the young people's auxiliary.
- (5) We have had at least one brotherhood reported in our association, and we believe they could promote better Christian relationships between our men if more of our churches had them.

If any of these auxiliaries fail in their duties, it can almost be traced back to the failure of adult leadership. Children should never be left to train themselves. It is the duty and privilege of the adult Christian to take the lead and see that each auxiliary is performing its duties in decency and in order. If each Christian will seek God's leadership first and, after finding the place he can best serve, do his best and nothing less, we can lift up our pastor's arms and give him the support he needs to lead his church on to victory for Christ.

Respectfully submitted,

BAINBRIDGE CHURCH

State of Churches and Character of Ministers Committee: We, the committee on state of-churches and character of ministers, have investigated all charges against ministers and churches. We find them in good standing.

Respectfully submitted,

B. Houston

MARTIN MURKERSON

Devotional Committee: We, the devotional committee, recommend that Brother H. L. Knighton preach at the 11:00 o'clock service at Travelers' Rest Church tomorrow.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. CRAFT MARTIN MURKERSON

H. EDWARDS

Temperance Committee: The word temperance, which strictly means moderation, has acquired a particular meaning in connection with intoxicating liquor, and it is this sense of the word that we are concerned with here.

Ever since man in some distant age first discovered that process of making alcohol and experienced the intoxicating effects of the liquor so produced, there has been, in a sense, a temperance question.

Sinc 1808, through the efforts of those concerned with the temperance problem, an attempt has been made to get man to overcome his intemperance. Today thousands of organizations throughout the world are still concerned with the same question.

Surely we as church people are faced with no greater social problem than the drinking of alcohol. The increase of its use to such an extent that today more is spent for its consumption than for all church purposes or for education makes it even more serious. Among its many evils are the destruction of the home, God's sacred institution, and the degradation of youth, our hope for tomorrow.

Let us as church people here resolve that:

- (1). We will never engage in the use or the sale of intoxicating liquor, for through the church member's use of such he is a stumblingblock to his brother.
- (2) We will teach our children the evils of alcohol, and we will encourage them to join the Youth Temperance Council now being organized in many communities.

(3) We will not park our cars at a place where an alcohol sign is displayed, so that we can avoid all appearances of evil.

(4) We will engage in constant prayer, asking that God deliver us from this curse.

Respectfully submitted,
LIVE OAK CHURCH AND PASTOR

State of Churches and Character of Ministers Committee: We, the committee on the state of churches and character of ministers, report that, as far as we know, our churches are in harmony with themselves and with others. All concerning our ministers is well, except there have been some reports with reference to Brother Roy Robert's attitude toward one of his brethren in the ministry.

We as a committee hope that our preachers can and will be more cooperative in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

T. C. Cox J. W. Clower

Christian Education Committee: Today as never before, Christians who truly believe that Jesus Christ is the hope of the world and the only One who can bring peace on earth-and good will toward men, must come to a fuller realization of the tremendous part Christian education plays in the fulfillment of this hope.

The world today has been made small by modern and amazing inventions. We are told that there is no place in the world which cannot be reached in twenty-four hours by means of jet planes, and that a speaker's voice can go half way around the world in two thirds of a second. These are things we can be justly proud of, but the challenging question each Christian should ask is, "Are we taking advantage of the great opportunities offered through this advanced age in which we are living to teach and train our young people in Christian truth?"

Where should Christian education begin? The answer is found in Proverbs 22:6. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Education is said to be the systematic training of the moral faculties. Then Christian education is the systematic training of the spiritual faculties. It is a day-by-day training with a definite system. It is not done in a haphazard fashion. Does this not bring us to a definite conclusion that Christian education must begin at the family altar in the home, continuing in Sunday school, league, Y. P. A., G. T. A., vacation Bible school, youth camp, woman's auxiliary and Bible school?

When we as Christians and Free Will Baptists realize more fully this truth, we can help to change the headlines of newspapers today that are so filled with accounts of juvenile delinquency and moral depravity, and also help to give new hope to civilization by equiping our young people with weapons to successfully fight the good fight and win.

Respectfully submitted.

# PATMOS CHURCH

Finance Committee: 1	We.	the	finance	committee,	report	as follows:
----------------------	-----	-----	---------	------------	--------	-------------

Balance on Hand First of Year	mittee, re	\$279.98	
Receipts	1	3277.70	
Churches	\$375.00		
Special Collection	78.86		
Total Receipts		453.86	
Total to Account For		\$733.84	
Disbursements			
Missions (10%)	S 45.38		
Bainbridge Church	50.00		
· Donalsonville Church ·	100.00		
* Mt. Bethel	75.00		
Unified Program	100.00		
Compiling Committee	25.00		
Moderator -	15.00		
Secretary	15.00		
Brother S. T. Shutes, Love Offering	50.00		
Rev. E. C. Williams	15.00		
Sister Ella Wiley	15.00		
Rev. J. L. Tedder, Love Offering	10.00		
Rev. C. J. Harvey, Love Offering	10.00		
Bible College	100.00		
State Superannuation	10.00		
(B. 1. 1. 15) 1			
Total Disbursements		635.38	
Balance in Treasury		\$ 98.46	
The following amounts were received	from indi	vidual churches	

The following amounts were	received	from	individual	churches
----------------------------	----------	------	------------	----------

Albany Church	S	15.00
Bainbridge Church		10.00
Bethlehem Church		15.00
Blakely Church		23.00
Cedar Springs Church		20.00
Donalsonville Church		10.00
Damascus Church		10.00
Enterprise Church		15.00
Hammock Springs Church		10.00
Jakin Church	•	25.00

Live Oak Church	20.00
Macedonia Church	20.00
Mt. Zion Church	20.00
New Enterprise Church	12.00
New Light Church	20.00
Oak Grove Church	20.00
Patmos Church	25.00
Pine View Church	10.00
Travelers' Rest Church	25.00
White Plains Church	12.50
White Pond Church	12.50
Zion Church	25.00

Total Received from Churches \$375.00

The following is the financial report of the mission treasury:

Balance Brought Forward	\$113.37
Receipts	45.38
	-

Total in Treasury \$158.75

Respectfully submitted,

A. D. IVEY I. B. Boyd MARTIN STILL MRS. MARTIN STILL

# Woman's Auxiliary Convention

# MORNING SESSION

The Ladies' District Auxiliary Convention of the Midway Association met with Mt. Zion Church, October 5, 1956.

Theme for the day: "We Need Faith in God."

Open by singing "He Leadeth Me" and "Have Faith in God."

Prayer by Brother T. B. Mellette.

The devotional was given by Mrs. Walter Sheffield reading Luke 17: 12-19.

Welcome by Mrs. N. N. Clower.

The president gave on inspirational talk on "Faith."

The minutes were read and adopted.

Roll call of the churches and the delegates were seated. A welcome was extended to the visitors from our sister association: Mrs. B. W. Clenny and Mrs. Alma McDonald from the Martin Association.

The following ministers were welcomed: Revs. T. B. Mellette, S. T. Shutes, J. W. Loyless and J. L. Teddar.

Committees were appointed as follows:

Nominating Committee: Mrs. Pauline Bush, Mrs. H. L. Knighton, Mrs. Sarah Rhodes, Mrs. Ida Tabb and Mrs. Robert Lisenby.

Credential Committee: Mrs. Gordan McDonald, Mrs. William Clower and Mrs. H. H. Reeves.

Finance Committee: Miss Iva Sewell, Mrs. Madie Paul, Mrs. N. N. Clower, Mrs. W. T. Hudson and Mrs. Walter Sheffield.

Resolution Committee: Mrs. O. B. Everson, Mrs. T. B. Mellette and Mrs. C. E. Fincher.

Registration Committee: Mrs. Sarah Irvin, Mrs. Lester B. Smith and Mrs. Dennis Johnson.

Mrs. H. L. Knighton gave and interesting report on the State Workshop at Camp Mt. Bethel, and also a report on the National Convention.

Janice Houston, from the Albany church, gave the declamation speech on "Missions."

Song, "My Faith Looks Up to Thee."

Brother Loyless brought an inspiring message on "Esther and Vashti." The message was closed with a rededication service.

We were dismissed for the lunch hour.

## AFTERNOON SESSION

Reassembled with the singing of "Faith of Our Mothers," followed with the devotional by Mrs, B. W. Clenny from 1 Corinthians 13. Prayer by Rev. T. B. Mellette.

# REPORT OF FIELD WORKER

I attended two district workshops, the state workshop and also the State and National Convention. I took part in two workshops, taught two study courses and wrote several letters.

Mrs. O. B. Everson

# STEWARDSHIP PRAYER CHAIRMAN REPORT

I attended two workshops and took part in one workshop. I sent one publication to three of the Free Will Baptist papers. I also helped conduct two weeks of prayer, and have promoted family altars in the homes.

MRS. B. B. EDWARDS

# REPORT OF YOUTH CHAIRMAN

To the Woman's District Auxiliary Convention:

Helped to organize one G. T. A. in Blakely, assisted in one vacation Bible school, sponsored one Y. P. A., organized one fellowship hour, held one discussion program on "Youth" at workshop, helped with two declamation contests, wrote 24 letters, two of these to national youth chairman, and received no reports from any auxiliary.

Mrs. O. L. Houston

These reports were accepted by the convention.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Nominating Committee:

President, Mrs. Wynelle Clower, Arlington, Ga.

Vice-President, Mrs. William Clower, Morgan, Ga.

Recording Secretary, Mrs. Margie Hudson, Jakin, Ga.

Assistant Recording Secretary, Mrs. Gordon McDonald, Colquitt, Ga.

Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Walter Sheffield, Colquitt, Ga.

Treasurer, Miss Iva Sewell, Jakin, Ga.

Field Secretary, Mrs. Martha Everson, Colquitt, Ga.

Youth Chairman, Mrs. T. B. Mellette, Blakely, Ga., Route 5.

Study Course Chairman, Mrs. Dennis Johnson, Blakely, Ga., Route 5.

Stewardship-Prayer Chairman, Mrs. B. B. Edwards, Newton, Ga.

Personal Service Chairman, Mrs. J. W. Loyless, P. O. Box 495, West Bainbridge, Ga.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mrs. Pauline Bush

Mrs. H. L. Knighton Mrs. Sara Rhodes

Mrs. IDA TABB

Mrs. Robert Lisenby

Motion made and carried that this report be accepted.

Credential Committee: We, the credential committee, submit the following report:

On examination we find the auxiliaries acceptable to this convention. We have 10 auxiliaries represented today: Albany, Bainbridge, Jakin, Macedonia, Mt. Zion, New Light, Oak Grove, Patmos, Travelers' Rest and Zion. Upon examination of the Bainbridge Church report we find it in good standing, and welcome them into the district convention, and also extend a welcome to the New Light Auxiliary.

Respectfully Submitted, Mrs. Gordon McDonald Mrs. William Clower Mrs. H. H. Reeves

Report of Resolution Committee:

 Resolved that all local corersponding secretaries and their addresses be listed in the minutes along with the church officers.

2. Resolved that we adopt a project for our district project each year and that the project for the ensuing year be that we buy miscellaneous items for the dormitories at camp.

3. Resolved that each auxiliary in the district send at least \$1.00 per month to the Dot Harvey Loan Fund.

4. Resolved that each officer of the convention submit a written report next year to the annual convention.

- 5. Resolved that each of us bring a covered dish to the annual convention next year.
- 6. Resolved that each auxiliary support the W. N. A. C. Co-Laborer Fund.
- 7. Resolved that each auxiliary use the W. N. A. C. Standard of Achievement Chart.
- 8. Resolved that hereafter we submit our resolutions to the executive committee when it is in session.

Respectively Submitted, Mrs. O. B. Everson Mrs. T. B. Mellette Mrs. C. E. Fincher

Motion carried that this report be accepted.

Finance Committee: We, your finance committee, submit the following report:

Balance Brought Forward Dues Received Today Special Offering	• \$72.00 15.09
Total Received	87.09
Total to Account For	\$98.88
Dishursements	
State and National Dues Minutes Unified Program Literature for Field Worker Dot Harvey Loan Fund	\$57.60 10.00 10.00 4.00 17.28
Total Disbursements	\$98.88
Balance in Treasury	00.00

Respectfully Submitted,

IVA SEWELL MRS. WALTER SHEFFIELD MRS. W. T. HUDSON MRS. MADIE PAUL MRS. N. N. CLOWER\*

Motion carried that this report be accepted.

The workshops for the ensuing year meet on the first Friday of the following months: December, with Patmos; March, with Jakin; June, with Oak Grove.

The following were appointed as delegates to the State Convention: Mrs. O. L. Houston, Mrs. B. B. Edwards, Mrs. Sarah Rhodes, Mrs. Nancy Johnson, Mrs. S. T. Dunning and Mrs. Wynelle Clower.

The installation services were conducted by Mrs. C. C. Sheffield.

The convention adjourned to meet with Albany Church the first Friday in October, 1957.

Song, "Bless Be the Tie."

We were dismissed by the league benediction.

Mrs. Wynelle Clower, President Mrs. Margie Hudson, Secretary

#### AUXILIARY STATISTICS

	S	UND	AY SCHO	OL		]	LEA	GUE	_ \	VOV	IAN'	S AUX.
Churchos	On Roll	Average Attendance	Offerings	Officers and Teachers	Departments	On Roll	Average Attendance	Offerings	On Roll	Average Attendance	Meetings	Offerings
Albany Bainbridge	170 42 35	30	113.11	17 5	10	91	55	\$281.55	33 11	23	12 22	\$ 169.52 125.00
Bethlehem Blakely Cedar Springs Damascus	136 50 64	20 90 52 52	78.00 435.38 217.98 316.84	5 8 7 6	43655	85 45	70 31	155.84 110.04	16 10	10 6	22	351.40 42.28
Donalsonville Enterprise Hammock Springs Jakin	20	13 20 28 39	36.19 48.84 58,61 853,38	6 4 7 7	Secreta	42 42 67	20 25 22 25	45.88 50.25 114.30	8 9 14	6 6 8	5 12 24 24	8.95 25.99 28.65
Live Oak Macedonia Mt. Zion New Enterprise	80 85 45	20	100,00 139,65 251,24 253,16	1755876647-757-55867	44554	67 65	25	30000	11 12 11 14	685886	24 24 24 24	69.17 60.00 18.36
New Light Oak Grove Patmos	142 40 65	85 30 60		8 6 7	5 4 5	42 '60	25 55		37 14 14	23 8 12	12 12 24	89.93
Travelers' Rest White Plains White Pond	117 30 40	35 18 30	9.30 157.24	6 5 7	6 3 4	85	50		14	12	24	29.00
Zion Totals	1,355	862	144.21 4.587.94	139	95	661	27 425	116.43 963.77	240	156	12 284	$\frac{23.60}{1,041.85}$

Churches	Paid Pastor	Paid Evangelist	Building and Repairs	All Literature	Incidentals	Bettevolence or Charity	Unified Program	Other Causes	Value of Church Property	Total Membership	Received by Baptism	i C	Received by Restoration Lost by Death	Lost by Letter Lost by Expulsion	Am	Meeting Days
Albany Hiskelv Baislandge Betblebem Cedar Springs Danasens Danasens Hammock Springs Live Oak Maccelonia Mt. Zion New Enterprise New Light Oak Grove Lakin Patnos Pine View Travelers Rest White Planis Zion	5 4.325.00 2,181.00 100.92 1,093,75 589,10 323.90 677.35 496.20 497.00 677.35 498.25 450.25 450.20 1,214.52 458.34 1,050.00 925,00 925,00 501.49 576.81 656.03	\$ 200.00 150.00 93.95 139.11 70.00 291.44 137.36 60.00 243.00 75.00 231.83 156.00 215.00 115.00 156.00 107.00 175.00	\$ 2,750.39 933.70 599.82 18.28 530.76 500.00 89.93 100.00 277.00 157.25 11.90 11.504.85	\$ 519.62 139.90 47.63 47.63 66.15 36.63 29.74 45.12 67.31 60.08 89.39 46.27 68.20 19.01 82.28 92.78 68.39 89.86	\$ 78.00 339.58 232.23 100.00 36.55 14.00 61.25 100.55 72.46 51.01 158.18 15.96 10.62 35.37 40.00 379.95 69.96 14.70	50,22 15,81 166,30 5,15 60,00 70,00 8,38 89,18 98,76 145,00 41,97 70,90 111,00 132,50 30,90	\$ 270.37 -107.00 94.05 40.00 73.28 25.78 52.41 76.88 9.65 51.80 144.27 122.28 110.00 180.00 11.50 98.21 94.00	\$ 142.00 70.46 78.54 109.80 27.59 6.00 84.00 243.98 134.75 72.04 255.50 51.50 406.80	\$ 13,598.21 15,000.00 3,000.00 5,000.00 3,000.00 10,000.00 613.95 3,500.00 5,000.00 5,000.00 10,000.00 10,000.00 10,000.00 10,000.00 10,000.00 4,000.00 4,000.00 4,000.00	162 151 30 69 45 53 7 64 37 183 81 66 271 186 57 141 186 57	1 2 1 2		2 2 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1 1 6 2 3 12	4,141,20 1,343,66 1,365,34 1,002,68 870,99 1,022,68 948,61 948,61 981,88 624,46 1,007,04 8,643,00 1,031,22 2,549,26 1,330,82 2,042,04 716,59 967,34	Full Time Full Time Sund & 4th 1st & 3rd 3rd 2und & 4th 2und & 4th 1st & 3rd 2und & 4th