

MINUTES
OF THE
FIFTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
SALEM FREE WILL BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION
HELD WITH
HOLLEY GROVE CHURCH
Sept. 29th and 30th, 1950

OFFICERS

REV. CHESTER PELT, Moderator Marianna, Fla.
C. L. COOK, Secretary-Treasurer Rt. 2, Altha, Fla.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

J. T. SULLIVAN, G. T. OWENS, H. N. HOLLEY,
C. E. DAY And H. A. HICKS

ORDAINING COUNCIL

A. W. COOK, J. E. NICHOLS And J. W. ROBERTS

The next Session will convene with the Free Will Baptist Church of Malone, Fla., Friday and Saturday before the 1st Sunday in October 1951, and Rev. Michael Pelt will preach the Introductory Sermon. The Ladies Auxiliary Convention convenes with Malone Free Will Baptist Church Saturday before the 4th Sunday in September 1951. Ruby Pelt, President; Florence Cook, Sec-Treas.

PROCEEDINGS

The Salem Association in its 55th Session, met with Holley Grove Church, Sept. 29 and 30th, 1950.

The body was called together at 10 o'clock by Moderator after prayer by Rev. F. O. Cook. Devotional led by Moderator, reading 1st Chapter of Phillipians. A call was made for Corresponding letters from different churches. Received sixteen (16) Churches. F. O. Cook and James C. Pelt were appointed by Moderator to read the Association letters.

DELEGATES

HOLLEY GROVE CHURCH—

Brother F. E. Dykes, Sister Cora Linton, Sister J. T. Sullivan

SALEM CHURCH—

Brother J. R. Barnes, Sister Jewel Kent, Sister Lizzie Barnes, Sister Alma Barnes

MARVIN CHAPEL CHURCH—

Mrs. Myrtle Sapp, Mrs. C. E. Day, H. C. Gause, Jimmie Pelt, Audrey Eiland

MIDWAY CHURCH—

Olan Roberts and G. G. Wimberley

CYPRESS CREEK CHURCH—

Sisters Edith Northcutt, Stella Ramsey, Beatrice Kent, Bros. Joe Tharp and F. E. Locke

BLOUNTSTOWN CHURCH—

Bros. Joe Holley, Eddie Crokern, F. M. Knight and Sister Joe Holley

DAMUSCUS CHURCH—

Bros. B. T. Chattwood, L. L. Hill and Ernest Lifford

LOVEWOOD CHURCH—

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Brown, J. F. Fillingim and Walter Pettis

CEDAR GROVE CHURCH—

H. A. Hick, Rosa Mae Hick, Nellia Poston, Joe Lene Brooner, and Louise Hicks

OAK GROVE CHURCH—

Bro. G. B. Scott, Charlie Cox and Clyde Owens

FIRST FREE WILL CHURCH, Malone, Fla.—

J. T. Hall, Carter Evans, Thelma Grodin, and Louise Baxter

ALLEN CHAPEL CHURCH—

T. B. Horn

GAP POND CHURCH—

George Owens, and W. R. Finch

TRAVELEREST CHURCH—

W. M. Shiver, J. W. Parham, Ella Grantham, Lela Smith and Florence Cook

GREEN HEAD CHURCH—

D. C. Finch, Otis Hammock, Linard Russell

CHRISTIAN HOME CHURCH—

Bro. H. N. Holley and Verna Spears

NEW HOPE CHURCH—

Agnes Fowler, Haley Green, and Ernestine Jackson

Dismissed 1 hour for lunch.

At 1 o'clock the body was called to order by Moderator. Bro. H. N. Holley led the prayer. A call was made for Corresponding Delegates from sister associations. Rev. A. B. Cook and Rev. Reliford from Liberty Association. Martin Association of Georgia, W. H. Horn. A move was made to read letters and seat the delegates of South Georgia Association.

Bro. G. W. Cloud called for petitionary letters. Received Pleasant Hill Church of Blountstown, Fla., Delegates Bro. and Sis. J. D. Stone, Bro. Noah Bryant and wife, Oscar Couch and wife and Bro. Ben McDaniel. The Pleasant Hill Church received and Delegates seated.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

George Owens, H. N. Holley, H. A. Hicks.

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

I. O. Cook, C. E. Day, W. M. Shiver, J. D. Barnes and J. T. Sullivan.

LIST OF MINISTERS

REV. A. W. COOK Rt. 2, Altha, Fla.
REV. H. W. KEELS Bascom, Fla.

REV. J. W. ROBERTS	Rt. 1, Altha, Fla.
REV. J. C. WATSON	Marianna, Fla.
REV. D. E. CLARK	Blountstown, Fla.
REV. J. E. NICHOLS	Rt. 2, Altha, Fla.
REV. I. O. COOK	Rt. 2, Altha, Fla.
REV. C. H. PELT	Marianna, Fla.
REV. TRIM FINCH	Wausau, Fla.
REV. M. R. PELT	Marianna, Fla.

Adjourned Business until 9:30 Saturday. The moderator called the body together at 9:30 Saturday morning, reading 16th Chapter of Galations. Prayer by G. W. Cloud.

Renew the call for Corresponding letters. Received Pine Ridge Church by letter. Received Abes Springs Church and Delegates Bro. and Sis. George Weathers

Renewed the call for Visitors from other Associations. Received Bro. and Sis. H. L. Catrett, Mrs. W. R. Barber of Martin Association. West Florida Association, Bro. and Sister R. L. Williams of Pensacola, Fla. State Line Association, Bro. and Sis. Coy Grren.

At this time, Lovewood Church made a very interesting report on mission

Bro. Michael Pelt, was asked by Moderator to make talk on his trip to Cuba. Sister Mildred Pelt made a talk on the need of missions in Cuba and India, which was enjoyed very much.

Bro. Daniel Pelt was present from South Eastern Association.

The stand was filled at 11 o'clock by Rev. H. L. Catrett, reading 4th Chapter of Act 31 to 33rd verse.

At 1 o'clock the body reassembled. Song Service led by Bro. Chester Pelt. Prayer by I. O. Cook.

Report on Ladies Auxiliary District Committee. Also Sister Ruby Pelt, was seated as a Delegate from the Auxiliary Convention. The Moderator appointed Executive Committee to serve a term of two years each.

Names: Bro. J. T. Sullivan, H. N. Holley, and G. T. Owens.

The body appointed Bro. J. E. Nichols and Bro. J. T. Hall on Mission Board.

There was a move and second that the clerk be paid \$25.00. Also the Moderator be paid \$10.00.

The body gave Holley Grove Church a rising vote of thanks

for the kindness shown them while in their midst. The next Session convenes with First Free Will Baptist Church of Malone, Fla.

REV. CHESTER PELT, Moderator
CHESTER L. COOK, Clerk-Treasurer
Rt. 2, Altha, Florida

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

We your Committees on Divine Service report that Bro. J. E. Nichols preach the Introductory Sermon, Friday at 11 o'clock, and Bro. A. B. Cook preach Friday at 7:30 o'clock, and Bro. H. L. Cattrett preach at 11 o'clock Service, Saturday.

Submitted by,

Holley Grove Church Clerk
Mrs. J. L. Sullivan
Marianna, Fla., P. O. Box 141

Committee on Nomination make the following report. We ask that the next Association convene with 1st Free Will Baptist Church of Malone, Fla. And Bro. Mike Pelt preach the Introductory Sermon.

Respectfully submitted,
Midway Church

We your Executive Committee are happy to report no business in the past year.

J. T. Sullivan

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

SALEM—Obituary

TRAVELEREST—Suggestions

CEDAR GROVE—Temperance

HOLLEY GROVE—Missions

MARVIN CHAPEL—Sunday School

CHRISTIAN HOME—League Work

NEW HOPE—Nomination

LOVEWOOD—Education

OAK GROVE—Standing Churches and Ministers

CYPRESS CREEK—Supernation

MALONE CHURCH—Programs

REPORT OF MISSION BOARD

Money on Hand, Sept. 30th, 1950 \$113.54

C. E. Day, Chr.

Damascus on Standing of Churches and Ministers. We find all Churches and Ministers in good order.

Committee

TREASURY REPORT

Balance in Treasury, September 30, 1949	
For Superanutions	\$ 8.00
Miscellaneous	14.28
Received from Finance Committee, Oct. 1, 1949,	
For Association Purposes	83.50
Home Mission	8.00
Superanutions	6.50
Unified Program	2.45
Orphanage	7.95
Education	5.00
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Balance in Treasury, Oct. 1, 1949	\$135.68

DISBURSEMENTS:

Paid Mission Board	\$ 8.00
Paid Clerk	20.00
Paid Moderator	10.00
Spent for Flowers	3.00
State Association	10.00
Paid for Minutes	75.75
Postage	2.95
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Total Paid Out	\$129.70

Balance in Treasury, October 1, 1949	
For Superanution	\$14.50
Unified Program	2.45
Orphanage	7.95
Education	5.00
The last funds have been over-drawn in the amt.	23.92
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Leaving Balance in Treasury	\$ 5.98

CHESTER L. COOK, Secretary-Treasurer

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

We Find in the Treasury	\$ 5.98
Received at this Session—	
For Home Mission	39.50
Foreign Mission	42.50
Education	5.00
Superannuation	9.00
Orphanage	9.50
Association Expenses	92.00
Received from Collection	64.00
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Total in Treasury	\$267.48

Committee on Nomination ask that the next Association convene with Malone Free Will Baptist Church of Malone, Fla, and Bro. Michael Pelt, preach the Introductory Sermon.

Respectfully submitted,
Midway Church

COMMITTEE ON SUGGESTIONS

Marvin Chapel Church in conference adopted and approved the following suggestions to be presented to the Salem Association at its Annual Session, September 29 and 30, 1950 to be held at Holley Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Marianna, Florida.

(1) Suggest that each church of the Salem Association co-operate more fully with the program of the State Association especially in regards to representing with Delegates and with the State budget system.

(2) Suggest that the present money on hand in the Home Mission Board be contributed to the Free Will Baptist Training Camp.

(3) Suggest that each Church represent with (1) one Delegate per twenty-five (25) members or fraction thereof and each Church send, as a minimum, for associational purposes the sum of \$2.00 per Delegates or per twenty-five (25) members or fraction thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

By your Committee, Marvin Chapel
Chester Pelt, Pastor

(1) To abolish the present program of the Pastors and Deacons Conference.

(2) That the future programs should be confined to the business of suggestions and resolutions pertaining to a progressive program of the Salem Association. All suggestions and resolutions to be presented at the Association and subject to the approval of the Association.

(3) The time of meeting of the Pastors and Deacons Conference will be one time each year and this meeting to be held on the fifth (5) Sunday before Association.

Committee

TEMPERANCE

We, your committee on Temperance, recommend Temperance in all things that are permissible and total abstinence of all that is evil. We believe that, if parents were more temperate in their day living, conversation and reading materials, juvenile delinquency could be curbed. We believe the reading of trashy literature and movie going is largely responsible for our juvenile problems. Houses of correction are filled with teen-agers and court dockets are crowded with crimes that have been committed by the juveniles of our country, and the cause has been brought about by our fast living, and the lack of discipline in the home. We are taught to train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it. We recommend that good literature, such as church papers and good Christian books be secured as much as possible for each home, and we church people refrain from all gossip, and that our conversation be clean as becometh Christians, for we shall give an account of every idle word before God. We also recommend the total abstinence from all intoxicating beverages, for no drunkard hath eternal life abiding in him.

Submitted by,

Cypress Creek Church

F. E. LOCKE, Clerk-Chairman

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

We the Committee on Education wish to submit the following: Seeing the need of Spiritual Education we recommend that the parents establish an altar in their homes and read the Bible daily. Also we acquaint ourselves more with our Christian literature instead of reading cheap debased things of worldly amusement, and turn more of our time to the study of the Bible. We also ask

that we educate ourselves more on tithing and the promises that our Bible offers.

Ella Grantham, Chrm.
Travelers Rest Church

RECOMMENDED FOR ORDINATION

In accordance with the RULES OF CHURCH DISCIPLINE in our associational minute under the title of THE MINISTRY page 20, article 2, we recommend brother Michael R. Pelt, who is a member of Marvin Chapel Church in good standing, and who successfully pastored churches for the past twelve (12 months, and is now in his junior year in college in preparation for the Gospel Ministry, to the ordaining council of the Salem Association for ordination at this setting of the association.

Rev. Chester H. Pelt, Pastor
Mrs. Audrey Eiland, Clerk

COMMITTEE ON LEAGUE WORK

We, Cedar Grove Church, your Committee on League Work beg to submit the following: We wind the League to be indeed helpful in many ways to the Church and our Father's business, especially as a training union for the boys and girls. We should all be more anxious about the training of our youth in church work for we know the boys and girls of today shall be the leaders of our churches a few years hence.

We suggest that through the leadership of the Holy Spirit that this association consider the organization of a Northwest Florida League convention.

H. A. Hicks, Church Clerk
Rev. C. A. Huckaby, Pastor

COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS

As Free Will Baptists we should be more mission minded. And we are becoming more so as we grow in the Grace of our Lord. And may everyone of us do more for both Foreign and Home Missions during the next year.

"We must do better!" God cannot and will not bless any people who fail to do their best in sending the "Gospel Light."

To do more work of this kind require money! For the past year as a whole we gave less than 20 cents per capita for missions.

"We can do better and we must!" Support your Missions Board in her plan of work. Send your individual offering and also your offerings from your Church.

"Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost! Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you—and so I am with you always—" Matt. 28:19-20.

Respectfully submitted,

Lovewood Church

Chester A. Huckaby, Pastor

W. M. Broom, Chairman

COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOL

We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, make the following report. We find that eleven churches in the Salem Association have Sunday Schools. We ask that each minister of the Salem Association work as an agent for the purpose of organizing Sunday Schools in their churches.

From the letters to the Salem Association we find:

No. of Members in Association	583
Average Attendance	393
Money Collected	\$543.76

Respectfully submitted,

Salem Free Will Baptist Church

J. R. Barnes, Church Clerk

DISTRICT AUXILIARY CONVENTION

Women have always played an important role in the Christian Religion. It would be impossible to ascertain the contribution made by Jesus' Mother. Mary Magdeline was the first one to witness and tell of the Resurrection of Jesus. Dorcas in Acts 9:36 did many worthwhile things for orphans, widows and unfortunate people around her. When she died these people came to the Apostle Peter showing him the garments that she had made for them. This is the type of work we aim to do in our auxiliaries. We do not wish to assume the role of church leaders or bosses. We only hope to cooperate and serve. We want to be genuine Christian characters. We believe in Jesus, his Gospel and the importance of Christian service. We want to recognize opportunities around us and want to do something about them.

Our District Auxiliary Convention convened with Traveler's Rest Church last Saturday.

We had 6 auxiliaries in the Salem Association and one from Liberty Association represented at the Woman's District Auxiliary Convention held at Traveler's Rest Church on Sept. 23. They were: Marvin Chapel, Malone, Traveler's Rest, Christian Home, Holley Grove, Blountstown, and Piny Grove.

The 6 auxiliaries of this Association reported 61 Active Members; 311 Visits to the Sick; 47 Flowers sent; 32 Trays carried, and 123 Cards sent; 250 Coupons sent to Orphanage; 97 Garments given; 1 Quilt given; \$12.00 sent to College; 7 Subscriptions to Church paper and 1 auxiliary organized.

They sponsored:
2 Vacation Bible Schools; 1 Stewardship Class; 1 Mission Program and 1 Mother's Day Program.

Collected \$96.58 dues. And other than dues they collected \$361.33. The District Convention donated from fees sent in to the Convention \$20 for Young People's Camp.

Ruby C. Pelt, President
District Auxiliary Convention

REPORT OF OBITUARY COMMITTEE

We your Committee, find that death has visited the following churches:

Blountstown Church, Bro. H. C. Smith, age unknown.

Oak Grove Church, Sister Eula L. Cox, Born April 22, 1897. Age 53.

Marvin Chapel Church. Bro. W. B. Woodlef. Age unknown.

Lovewood Church, Sister Callie D. Fillingim, age unknown.

Gap Pond Church, Bro. J. B. Griffin, age 77.

Gap Pond, Bro. Henry Griffin, age 49.

Bro. J. W. Odom, age 72.

Holley Grove Church, Sister Wynell Chafin, age 37.

Your Committee,
Green Head Church

IN MEMORY

MR. J. W. ODOM

On Sept. 22, God said it is enough and took our dear father home to heaven. He was born Feb. 14, 1878, making life on earth 72 years. He leaves a wife and six children mourning our loss. But we know it is heaven's gain. He proved his faith by his deeds and words.

We know that our dear father is gone to heaven above. We pray to Jesus our Saviour to guide us in his mercy and love.

Written by his daughter,

Mrs. Maudie Finds

SISTER EULAH LEE COX

March 6, 1950, God called from our midst Sister Eulah Lee Cox. She was a faithful worker of Oak Grove Church. We feel that our loss is Heaven's gain. She was born April 22, 1897.

It is precious memories we have of her Christian life.

C. W. Cox, Church Clerk

MAYNARD B. WOODLIEF

We, the members of Marvin Chapel Church, wish to express our heartfelt sympathy in the sudden and tragic death of our friend and Brother in Christ, M. B. Woodlief, whom the Lord in all his wisdom saw fit to call from our midst, Feb. 15, 1950.

He left to mourn his loss a wife, four sons, one daughter and a host of friends.

We miss him from our midst but bow in submission to this will who doeth all things well.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Audrey Eiland, Church Clerk

MRS. CALLIE D. FILLINGIM

For Mrs. Callie D. Fillingim. The subject of this sketch was born Dec. 6, 1874 in Alabama and was married to J. F. Fillingim Jan. 10, 1889. She joined the Free Will Baptist Church that same year. We moved to Jackson County, Fla., November 1904 and put our letter in Lovewood Church where she remained a faithful until November the 12, 1949. When she answered the call to leave this world of trouble and sorrow and go where there is no trouble but all is peace and happiness. She was laid to rest in Lovewood

Cemetary, November the 14th. Rev. C. A. Huckaby conducting the service. She left to mourn their loss a heart-broken husband, four sons, one daughter, twenty grand children, sixteen great grand children, three brothers, two sisters and a host of friends.

Gone but not forgotten. Written by a sad husband.

J. F. Fillingim

BRO. CLEVELAND ELDRIDGE

From Lovewood Church Bro. Cleveland Eldridge. Borned March 24, 1898—Died Feb. 8, 1950. He was a faithful member.

BRO. H. C. SMITH

On the 3rd day of Jan., 1950, Bro. H. C. Smith passed on to his reward on high leaving his wife and four sons and one daughter, with a host of friends and relatives to mourn his passing.

He was faithful to his church and the church sympathizes with his loved ones in this bereavement commend them to Him who doth all things well

Sister Joe Holley, Church Clerk

Blountstown Free Will Baptist Church

SISTER WYNELL CHAPIN

On the 27th day of Dec. 1949 God saw fit to call from our midst Sister Wynell Chapin. She was born on May 21st, 1913 making stay on earth 37 years, 7 months. She is survived by her husband, four sons and two daughters and a host of friends and loved ones. Our loss is Heaven's gain. She was a faithful member of Holley Grove Church and its auxiliary.

Written by a friend,

Mrs. J. T. Sullivan, Church Clerk

BRO. J. B. GRIFFIN

Bro. J. B. Griffin, on Sept. 24, 1949 God saw fit to call from our Church Bro. G. B. Griffin, age 77 years. He had been a member of Gap Pond Church for many years.

BRO. HENRY GRIFFIN

Bro. Henry Griffin, called from our midst, age 49 years, and was also of Gap Pond Church. We regret their passing, but we just hope our loss is Heaven's gain.

ITEMS OF CHURCH CONFERENCE

1. Divine Service.
2. Inviting visiting brothers to seats with us.
3. Unfinished business.
4. Miscellaneous business.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

2. Moderator calls the body to order.
3. Call for corresponding letters and enroll delegates.
4. Roll call of ministers.
5. Appointing committees on Divine Services.
6. Call for Petitionary letters.
7. Call for corresponding letters from sister associations.
8. Call for election of new officers.
9. Appointment of committees.
10. Appoint delegates to sister associations.
11. Call for report of committees.
12. Miscellaneous Business.
13. Adjournment.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe that there is but one living, true and eternal God, the Father of whom are all things from everlasting to everlasting, glorious and immutable in all His attributes—1 Cor. 8-6,
2. We believe that there is one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, the only begotten Son of God, born of the Virgin Mary, whom God freely sent into this world, because of the great love wherewith He loved the world; and Christ as freely gave Himself a ransom for all, tasting death for every man; who was buried and rose again the third day, and ascended into heaven, from whence we look for Him the second time in the clouds of heaven at the last day to judge both the quick and the dead—1 Tim. 2:5-6; Heb. 2:9; St. John 3:16; Rev. 1-7; Acts. 24-15; I John 2-2.
3. We believe that there is one Holy Ghost, the precious gift of the Father through His dear Son unto the world, who quickeneth and draweth sinners home to God—St. John 16:7-8; Acts. 2:4; Eph. 2:1; Eph. 4:4-6.
4. We believe that in the beginning God made man upright, and placed him in state of Glory without the least mixture of misery, from which he voluntarily, by transgression, fell and by

that means brough on himself a miserable and mortal state subject to death—Gen. 2:17; 3:19.

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

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

7. We believe the whole scriptures are infalibly true and they are the only rules of faith and practice—II Tim. 3:16-17.

8. We believe in the doctrine of General Provisions made of God in Christ, for the benefit of all mankind who repent and believe the Gospel—Luke 14:16-20; Matt. 28:18-20; Luke 13: 3-5; Luke 24-47; Acts 3-19; Mark 1-15.

9. We believe that sinners are drawn to God, the Father by the Holy Ghost, through Christ His Son, and that the Holy Ghost offers His divine aid to all the human family so as they might be happy, would they give place to His divine teaching; whereas such who do not receive the divine impressions of His Holy Spirit shall at a future day, own their condemnation just, and charge themselves with their own damnation, for wilfully, rejecting the offers of sovereign grace—Matt. 11-27; St. John 6-44, 65; Pr. 1:1; Tit. 2:11, 12; Jer. 22:29.

10. We believe that men, not considered simply as men, but ungodly men, were of old ordained to condemnation; considered such who turn the grace of God into lavishness, denying the only Lord, God, and our Lord Jesus Christ who bought them and therefore shall bring upon themselves swift destruction; but we observe that they, and such the Apostle saith because they receive not the love of the truth, that they might be saved; therefore the indignation and wrath of God is upon every soul of man that doeth evil, living—Jude 1-14; II Peter 2-1; II Thes. 2:11-12; Rom. 2:9-11.

11. We believe that all children dying in infancy, having not actually transgressed against the law of God, in their own persons are only subject to the first death, which was brought on them by the fall of the first Adam and not that any one of them dying in that state, shall suffer punishmen in hell by the guilt of Adam's

sin, for such is the Kingdom of God—I Cor. 15:22; Matt. 18:2-5; Mark 9:36-37; Matt. 19:14.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CHURCH COVENANT

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

We therefore enter into covenant as members of this church and as christians, that we will watch over each other in love sharing togethers each others joys and sorrows; that we will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, nor omit the great duty of prayer for ourselves and others; that by divine assistance we will endeavor to bring up those under our care in the nurture and

admonition of the Lord; that in all things we will strive to exemplify our profession by a corresponding practice to abstain from all sinful conformity to the world, to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements and exemplary in all our deportment; that we will abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage; that we will sustain the worship, ordinances, discipline and doctrine of this church; that we will contribute cheerfully, according to our ability, to the support of the ministry, the expense of the church, the relief of the poor and the general spread of the Gospel.

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

RULES OF CHURCH DISCIPLINE

Revised and Amended

The rules for the government of the church of God are contained in the Holy Scriptures. But as many of them appear to be comprehended in general directions it is necessary for the better regulations of the church that certain fixed rules and principles of practice should be adopted, provided those rules are in accordance with the scripture of truth. For it is manifest that every religious society or community should make such local and temporary regulations as may secure obedience to the perfect law by which they are governed.

The church therefore of Jesus Christ being of the Free Will Baptist order, do covenant and agree that four times a year (every three months) to assemble for the purpose of holding a godly conference, the members being all present with convenience, then and there the business of the church should be done.

PRACTICES

The Organization of a Church

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

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

3. After being thus constituted, they shall be at liberty out of

the number of regularly ordained ministers to choose a pastor who shall preside over them.

OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

The officers of a church are a board of trustees, clerk, treasurer, deacons and deaconesses, finance committee, ruling elders and pastor.

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

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

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

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

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

Finance Committee—These have the general management of the finance of the church, subject to the churches control.

Ruling Elders—The business of the ruling Elders, after their qualifications, shall be to settle controverted points between the brethren, if they are informed of any such business, then they shall issue their order and appoint a time and place to meet the parties

and it shall be legal for them to take such testimonies, both in and out of the church as shall to them seem meet and as shall enable them pass a true and right judgment. They shall be qualified for this office in like manner as the deacons are, and shall serve the church according to their appointment.

2. When the elders have full information of any matter respecting controversy between their brethren, should they find a fraud intended, they shall be at liberty to give the injured party right of the common law, and make report thereof to the next conference, at which time the offending party may be set aside from the Communion until the controversy is settled.

3. If any member shall fly from the judgment of the elders it shall be open excommunication, and it shall be the duty of the pastor to make known such excommunication by a declaration of the same before the church.

4. If unable to settle same it shall be returned to the church for final disposition.

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

GOVERNMENT

Reception of Members

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

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

DISMISSION OF MEMBERS

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

PRINCIPLES OF DISCIPLINE

1. Offences that may require the exercise of discipline are either private or public. Private are such as are from their nature known to very few persons; public offences include all others. In the case of private individual transgression, the offender is admonished privately by the ruling elders, and if satisfaction is given the cases carried no farther, but if satisfaction is not given, the case is reported to the church for final action. In case of private grievance in which two or more members are concerned, the aggrieving and aggrieved parties should be brought together by the ruling elders and the matter settled privately if possible. No one case is allowed to come before the church except as directed in Matthew 18:15-17.

When two or more members are openly at variance or when a member is walking in a disorderly manner by a general report to the church, through a committee or otherwise, calls the offender or offenders to account; and in the presence of such offenders—unless they refuse to be present, then in their absence, the church examines into the nature of the offence or the character of the general reports; if the parties are found guilty and do not give satisfactory evidence of penitence, after a suitable discipline they are excluded from the church.

If a member habitually absents himself from the meetings of the church, refuses to bear his proportionate part of the church expenses or casts his influence against the church, he is admonished by the ruling elders, and if he still persists, his case is brought before the church as one for discipline.

2. If any member by disorderly walk shall be liable to excommunication, yet no church shall be at liberty in the absence of their pastor to declare an unfellowship with any member; yet by the church they may be set aside from the Communion until further satisfaction shall be given.

3. If any member shall be found frequenting the race ground, the ball room, the card table, shooting matches or any place of disorder without lawful business, such member may be censured by the church, and in such case said member shall make the church

satisfaction or be dealt with as the conference may think proper.

4. No testimony shall be taken out of the society against members in the society, only in controverted points.

5. If any member shall absent himself from the church on the days of Conference, or times of Communion, he shall be liable to the censure of the church.

MEETINGS OF THE CHURCH

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

The time of celebrating the Lord's Supper, washing feet, and of business meetings are arranged by each local church to suit its own convenience. Generally these meetings are monthly or quarterly, business meetings preceding the Lord's Supper.

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

Conference or business meetings are opened and closed with suitable devotionable exercises. The pastor acts as moderator of the business meetings of the church. In the absence of the pastor the church may meet when necessary and attend to ordinary church business, but no member is excluded in the absence of the pastor. All business meetings are conducted according to certain rules of order.

THE MINISTRY

1. No member of our connection shall be at liberty to take upon himself the public ministry of the Word unless he feels divinely called, and make report of the same to the church and if the church shall be satisfied with qualifications and call of such person, they may grant his license to preach the Gospel, signed by the pastor and clerk. But if the church should doubt the qualifications of such persons to preach the Gospel then she may grant him liberty to exercise his gifts by exhortation, each for twelve months.

2. After which, if either of those persons (licentiate or the exhorter) is found useful, the church may recommend said person to the ordaining council consisting of either three or five members appointed or elected by each conference, said recommendation shall be signed by the pastor and clerk of the church where the applicant holds membership.

3. It shall be the duty of said council to examine such applicants as may come before them for ordination on the principles and doctrines of the Bible and practices of the original Free Will Baptist church as set forth in this discipline and his ability. If he is found worthy, said council shall furnish him a certificate of ordi-

nation after they have ordained him by fasting, laying on of hands prayer, a charge, the hand of fellowship and a sermon. Among his brethren he bears the title of Elder.

When a minister of another denomination desires to unite with the Original Free Will Baptist he first becomes a member of some Free Will Baptist Church; then in his case the proceedings are the same as those in ordaining a licentiate.

5. The minister or elder, for disorder or transgression, shall be dealt with by the church where his name is enrolled, or by any church over which he presides as pastor. And it shall be the duty of the church to call to its assistance two or more elders, at least one, to be a member of the ordaining council and appoint three of her own members, who, with two of the elders shall form a committee for the purpose of trying the offenders, and if satisfaction is given by the delinquent, the committee may restore him to fellowship and office, but if sufficient satisfaction is not given, the committee shall silence the offender until the next General Conference, and they shall report the case with all the attending circumstances to the General Conference and the Conference shall appoint a committee of five or more, members belonging to their body and a final decision shall be made.

6. The church against a minister or elder, shall not receive an accusation but at the mouth of two or three witnesses—Matthew 18:16.

7. No pastor having the care of any church or churches may withdraw from them, neither the churches withdraw from their pastor without sufficient cause, tried by the church in general.

8. The pastor shall have liberty to commend any member under his care at any time but in the time of Conference, and shall have the right also to cite any member or members to the next Conference, when the offence is committed between Conferences.

9. The pastor of a church or churches shall have power at any time to call a private conference, and the church in Conference may appoint a committee, if the case shall require it, and they shall proceed as in all other cases and conferences.

10. Any regular ordained minister of the original Free Will Baptist shall serve the church in the absence of the pastor. in every gospel order required of him by the church.

11. Elders, ministers and preachers shall be considered members and their names continue with the church where they first became members, until regularly dismissed.

GOVERNMENT AND ORDINANCES

1. We believe that a Gospel church, or 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 the ordinances of the first Christian churches, and to be composed of baptized 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, subversive to the churches and dangerous to the liberties of men.

5. That the Gospel churches are the only ecclesiastical bodies or tribunals authorized by the Scriptures; 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 be surrendered to a superintending jurisdiction, by delegation or otherwise, the assembly then ceases to be a Gospel church.

6. That churches may nevertheless, we suppose, meet by delegates, form an association and declare the terms upon which they will keep up the correspondence, but that the rights and authority of churches being inalienable, are in no wise compromised or hindered by entering into an association, and therefore an association has no authority over churches or individuals, their only powers being to transact business which does not pertain to churches in their ecclesiastical capacity, to promote mutual intercourse and a concentration of voluntary effort, and to give that advice to churches which might with equal authority be given by any individual.

7. That the authority of churches is designed 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 it is fully sufficient for the purposes intended, but that 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 that to prescribe any other requisite of church membership is an assumption of authority on the part of the church and a departure from the Gospel plan.

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 the bishops or pastors of particular churches, 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 cannot perform any acts that belong to the authority of the church, such as the reception of members into the church compact, or the expulsion of offenders; that as a 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 was a private person; yet we think it prudent to call in advisory help, especially if the minister is to be tried upon a charge of heresy.

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

12. That the Lord's Supper and washing the saints' feet are ordinances to be observed in the church until the Lord comes.

13. The elders and deacons must be set apart to thier 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 office.

CONSTITUTION

Article 1. This shall be the Constitution of the Conference of the Original Free Will Baptist church of North Carolina, viz., Cape Fear, Western, Central, and Eastern, or any others that may adopt this discipline.

Art. 2. The object of the Annual Conferences shall be to promote Christ's Kingdom among men by means in strict conformity to the holy Scriptures.

Art. 3. These conferences shall be composed of the ministers who are members of churches belonging to the body and of delegates from these churches, each church being entitled to as many delegates as each conference shall think proper.

Art. 4. The delegates from each church shall bear to the conference a letter certifying their appointment, showing the condition and statistics of the church and giving a statement of all funds raised during the year for denominational or other benevolent purposes.

Art. 5. The officers of the body shall be a moderator, a treasurer, corresponding and recording secretary, who shall be elected for a term of two years and said election to take place one year prior to their entering upon the duties of said office.

Art. 6. This conference may at each regular meeting elec' as many boards or standing committees as may be necessary in car-

rying out its benevolent purposes. These shall keep a record of their proceedings and make a report at each regular meeting of the conference.

Art. 7. Any church desiring to become a member of this body shall present her petition at a regular session of the conference through delegates appointed for that purpose. If she be received the moderator shall extend to her delegates the hand of fellowship.

Art. 8. The conference may extend to visiting brethren all the privileges of the body, save that of voting.

Art. 9. This constitution may be amended at any regular session by a vote of four-fifths of the members present of the conference session.

BY-LAWS

Art. 1. A general conference shall be annually held.

Art. 2. Every elder, minister and preacher in good standing and delegates shall duly attend.

Art. 3. If any member in the judgment of the conference shall show anger in his discussion on any subject, he shall forfeit his seat in that conference.

Art. 4. No member of the general conference shall be at liberty to withdraw without leave of the moderator.

Art. 5. The conference shall always adjourn by vote.

Art. 6. There shall annually be a committee of finance chosen to settle with the treasurer and report to conference

Art. 7. The officers and standing committees shall be entitled to a seat in the annual conference.

Art. 8. No elder, minister, preacher or delegate shall during the sitting of the general conference, be at liberty to fill any place, as to preaching or hearing at the stage, only as liberty shall be granted by the conference.

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

Art. 10. The minutes of the conference shall be signed by the moderator and the clerk.

RULES OF ORDER

Motions

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

All resolutions shall be submitted in writing.

A motion or resolution may be withdrawn at any time before

a decision or amendment by the Conference.

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

No motion to amend shall be in order beyond a motion to amend an amendment.

No amendment relating to a different subject shall be in order.

A motion lost shall not be recorded except so ordered at the time.

Speaking

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

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

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

If the speaker yield the floor to another he cannot claim it again.

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

All conversation by whispering or otherwise, which is calculated to disturb the speaker or hinder the transaction of business and passing between the speaker and the chair, shall be out of order.

Committees

Committees shall be nominated by Conference (no member being allowed to nominate more than one on the same committee) and the nomination then confirmed by vote; or the Committee may be named by the Moderator by the request of the Conference.

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

Any subjects under debate or any matter of business may be referred to a committee with or without instructions.

All reports of Committees shall be made in writing, signed by a majority. When a majority report is followed by a minority report from the same committee the former after being read, shall

lie on the table until the latter is presented after which it may be considered.

A report of a committee may be recommitted when necessary for further investigation, or to present it in some more acceptable form.

All reports when read shall be considered as properly before the body without a motion to accept.

Voting

Voting shall be done by "yea" and "nay", by standing up affirmative and negative, and in special cases by ballot.

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

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

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

Laying On The Table

Immediate action upon any question may be deferred by laying on the table to special time or indefinitely. In the same way questions may be postponed.

Privilege Question

When a motion or resolution is before the body the only motions in order shall be: 1. to adjourn, 2. previous question; 3. to lay on the table; 4. to postpone indefinitely; 5. to postpone to a definite time; 6. to refer; 7. to divide if division is advisable; 8. to amend—to take precedence as heren arranged.

Motions to adjourn, when to adjourn simply take the previous question, and to lay on the table must be decided without debate.

Filling Blanks

Names suggested for filling blanks shall be voted on in order of their nomination; when different numbers and times are proposed, the greatest number and longest time shall be voted on first.

Reconsidering

A motion to reconsider a motion previously passed must be made by one who voted in the affirmative when the motion passed and if a vote to reconsider is lost it cannot be renewed during this session.

ASSOCIATION LETTER

Greetings from _____ Church

To, The Salem Association at _____

We are at peace one with another, we send to represent us in your
honorable body _____

Ministers holding membership _____

STATISTICS

Received by Baptism _____ Otherwise _____

Decrease, Dismissed by Letter or Otherwise _____

Dead _____ Total Membership _____ We have called for the
inssuing year _____

Assoc. Money _____ Home Mission _____ Foreign Mission _____

Education _____ Superanuation _____

Orphanage _____ Have paid Pastor _____

Paid Helpers _____ Other Expenses _____

Have communed and wash feet _____

Moderator _____ Address _____

Clerk _____ Address _____

Church Days _____

CHURCHES	PASTORS AND ADDRESSES	CLERKS AND ADDRESSES	Church Meeting Day	Rec. by Letter	By Baptism	Rec. Other Ways	Expelled	Dismissed by Letter	Total Membership	Amt Paid Pastors
Holley Grove	J. E. Nichols, Rt. 2, Altha, Fla.	Mrs. J. T. Sullivan, Marianna, Fla.	1st & 3rd Sunday	2					64	\$ 219.95
Salem Church	S. T. Shutes	J. R. Barnes, Marianna, Fla.	1st Sunday		1		1		263	160.00
Marvin Chapel	Chester Pelt	Audrey Eiland, Marianna, Fla.	1st Sunday			1			68	456.92
Midway Church	J. E. Nichols, Rt. 2, Altha, Fla.	Mrs. G. G. Wimberly, Cypress, Fla.	2nd Sunday						24	55.00
Cypress Creek	G. W. Nobles, Cottonwood, Ala.	F. E. Locke, Marianna, Fla.	3rd Sunday					6	56	
Blountstown	D. E. Clark, Blountstown, Fla.	Mrs. Joe Holley, Blountstown, Fla.	3rd Sunday	2	1			1	38	206.00
Damascus	Trim Finch, Wausau, Fla.	L. J. Sexton, Marianna, Fla.	2nd Sunday					5	118	141.50
Lovewood Church	Rufus Hyman	W. T. Justic, Rt. 1, Box 14, Cottondale	2nd Sunday	1	4				159	337.56
Cedar Grove	John M. Rich	H. A. Hicks, Greenwood, Fla.	4th Sunday	4	2	14		1	44	404.50
Oak Grove	H. W. Keels, Bascom, Fla.	Charlie Cox, Bascom, Fla.	4th Sunday		2	1	3	1	48	93.86
F. W. B. Malone	H. A. Huckaby	Gertrude Smith, Malone, Fla.	1st Sunday	14	9	1		2	33	350.30
Allen Chapel	H. W. Keels, Bascom, Fla.	T. B. Horne, Bascom, Fla.	1st Sunday					8	26	27.69
Gap Pond Church	Martin Mears	Mrs. W. R. Finch, Wausau, Fla.	3rd Sunday		1			1	119	242.82
New Hope Church	H. W. Keels, Bascom, Fla.	Mildred Mears, Rt. 1, Box 145, Bascom	3rd Sunday	3	3	2			28	179.12
Travelerest Church	D. F. Pelt, Marianna, Fla.	J. W. Parham, Rt. 2, Altha, Fla.	4th Sunday						100	235.46
Green Head Church	Rev. Releford, Rt., Chipley, Fla.	L. H. Fackler, Crystal Lake, Fla.	1st Sunday	1	3				22	42.80
Christian Home	D. F. Pelt, Marianna, Fla.	Mrs. Annie Bell Taylor, Blountstown	1st Sunday			2		2	10	60.00
Pine Grove Church	D. E. Clark, Blountstown, Fla.	Myrtle Adams, Blountstown, Fla.	1st & 3rd Sunday	4	7			4	101	637.77
Abes Springs	D. E. Clark, Blountstown, Fla.	Mrs. Emma Clark, Blountstown, Fla.	2nd & 4th Sunday	2	5	2			54	275.00
Pleasant Hill	I. O. Cook, Rt. 2, Altha, Fla.	J. D. Stone, Blountstown, Fla.	1st Sunday						8	
				33	38	23	4	31	1390	\$4126.25