

MINUTES

—of the—

Thirty-first Annual Session

—of the—

Grand River Association

of

FREE WILL BAPTIST

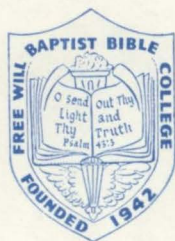
Convened With

Cole Church on Friday Night Before The
Third Sunday in August 1927

OFFICERS

J .N. Musgraves, Modr.,.....Beggs, Okla.
Mrs. G. Green, Clerk.....Mounds, Okla.

The next annual session of this association
will be held with Red Barn Church
5 miles west of Coweta, Okla.
beginning on Friday night
before the third Sunday
in August 1928



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented by

Rev. John H. West

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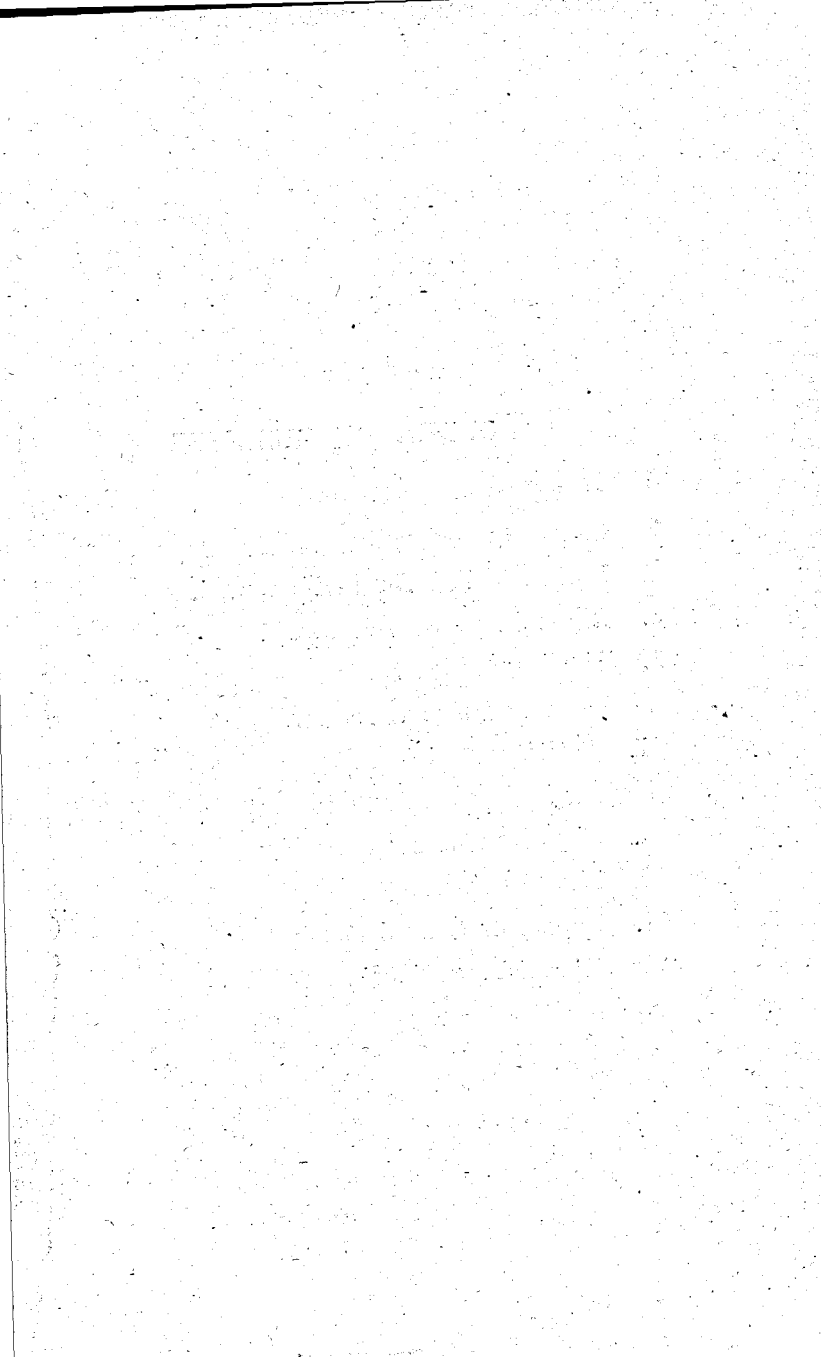
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ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Called to order by Moderator.
3. Letters called for and adopted.
4. Right hand of fellowship.
5. Electing officers.
6. Reading Rules of Order.
7. Petitionary letters.
Invite visiting brethren to seats in council.
8. Appointment of committees.
10. New Business.
11. Report of Committees.
12. Miscellaneous Business.



RULES OF ORDER.

1. At every sitting business shall be opened and concluded by prayer by the moderator or whomsoever he may request.

2. Ministers present, entitled to seats, are allowed to take part in debate on all subjects, and to vote.

3. Those who speak shall rise and address the Moderator. Personal reflections shall be avoided in all debates.

4. No motion shall be discussed without being seconded.

5. When a motion has been made and seconded and a member opposes its discussion, the Moderator shall put the question, "Shall it be discussed?" If negative the question shall be dismissed.

6. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member and a vote taken.

7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.

8. No one shall speak more than twice on any subject without special leave of the moderator.

9. All questions shall be decided by a majority of the members present.

10. No member shall absent himself without special leave of the moderator.

11. Minutes shall be leisurely read and corrected before the close of the association if necessary.

12. In the future meetings of the association, arrangements shall be made to insure two or more sermons each day or the equivalent devotional exercises.

13. The rules of order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after the organization of the association.

14. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular session of the association.

PROCEEDINGS

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES

Congregation called together by singing. Devotional services conducted by Bro. H. C. Coger, prayer by Eld. G. W. Benton, preaching by Eld. O. D. Wickham; text, Luke 2:49. Closed with song and prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Congregation was called to order by singing. Moderator read 1st Peter 5th chapter; prayer by Eld. R. J. Howard.

Rules of order were read by moderator. Motion carried that we enter into conference. Letters from the different churches were read and approved. The clerk's report was read and received. Eld. J. N. Musgraves was elected moderator and Eld. R. J. Howard assistant moderator. Sister Kate Green was elected clerk, and Sister Susie Miller, assistant clerk.

Visiting brethren and sisters were invited to seats in counsel. Eld. O. D. Wickham and Bro. Bart Roberts from the Eureka association, Eld. Carter from Canadian association, Bro. H. C. Croger from the Southern association, Eld. Johnson a General Baptist were given the right hand of fellowship.

Motion carried that the moderator appoint the committees. Motion carried that we adjourn for 11 o'clock services. Prayer by Eld. Johnson.

SATURDAY 11 O'CLOCK SERVICES

Congregation called together by singing. Prayer by Eld. Carter. Preaching by R. M.

Bingham. Read the sixth chapter of Isaiah. Followed by Eld. J. T. McCall. Closed with song and prayer.

SATURDAY AFTER NOON SESSION

Congregation called to gether by singing. Moderator read the eighth chapter of Romans. Prayer by Bro. L. W. Man

Moderator appointed committee to ... Canadian association: Eld. R. J. Howard, Eld. G. W. Benton, Eld. J. M. Roberts. Other committees are as follows:

DEVOTIONAL: Sister May Roberts, Fannie Cafe, Bro. W. J. Burk.

ARRANGMENTS: Bros. J. C. Rice, W. J. Burk, C. W. Thompson, G. W. Benton, D. P. Hawk.

TEMPERANCE: Sisters, Joicie Carner, Georgie Ketchom, Eld. W. H. Carter.

LITERATURE: Sisters, Zelma Northcut, Myrtle Woodrough, and F. M. Benton.

OBITUARY: Sisters Susie Miller, Kate Green and Bro. J. M. Roberts.

CREDENTIALS: Bros W. A. Littlefield, G.R. Carner, H. E. Dixon.

MINISTERS AND DEACONS CHARACTER: Sisters R. E. Young, D. M. Clark C. D. Faster.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sisters Annie Gatewood, Lula Burk and Bro. Ben Northcut.

FINANCE: Bros. J. C. Chambers, O. V. Cooper and Sister Nancy Brock.

Proceedings of the Thirty Fourth annual session of the Grand River association of Free Will Baptist which convened with Cole church

on Friday night before the Third Sunday in August 1927.

.... SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICES

Congregation called to gether by singing. Prayer by Bro. Woodrough, devotional services conducted by Eld. G. W. Benton, preaching by Eld. R. J. Howard followed by Eld. J. N. Musgraves. Closed with song and prayer by Sister Myrtle Woodrough.

Sunday Morning 9 O'Clock Services

Congregation called to gether by singing. Prayer by Eld. O. D. Wickham, devotional services conducted by Eld. R. J. Howard, preaching by Eld. W. M. Bingham. Text Sam: 10:22. Followed by Eld. G. H. McDaniel. Closed with song and prayer.

Sunday 2 O'Clock Services

Congregation called together by singing. Preaching by Eld. C. W. Thompson followed by Eld. G. R. Carner. Closed with song and prayer.

SUNDAY NIGHT SERVICES

Congregation called together by singing. Prayer by Bro. Vass. Devotional services conducted by Eld. G. W. Benton, preaching by Eld. W. H. Carter, Read the 13th chapter of John. We went into the communion and washing of the saints feet in which a large number participated. Prayer by Eld. J. M. Roberts. We took up a collection for Brother Robberts and received \$20.00. Closed with song and prayer.

MONDAY MORNING SESSION

Congregation called together by singing.

Prayer by Bro. O. V. Cooper. — Moderator read Heb. 13th chapter. Motion carried to appoint a committee to investigate the charges against W. C. Williams, J. V. Pate, W. C. Vanderpool and W. M. Wilson. Committee:—J. N. Musgraves, R. J. Howard, G.W. Benton, J.F. McCall. The committee shall report at the next association.

Motion carried to have 800 minutes printed. Motion carried that we adopt the 18th chapter of Matthew. Motion carried to send delegates to the different associations.

Delegates as follows:

Eld. W. M. Bingham, Eld G. W. Benton.

First Oklahoma Association at Drumright:

Eld. R. M. Bingham, Bro. W. J. Burk, Sister Kate Green, Eld. W. M. Bingham.

Eureka Association:

Eld. H. E. Dixon, Eld. J. N. Musgraves, Bro. W. A. Littlefield.

Cherokee Home Association:

Eld. G. W. Benton, Sister F. M. Benton.

The first Fifth Sunday Meeting at Maple Grove.

Second Fifth Sunday Meeting at the First Free Will Baptist church of Tulsa.

Third Fifth Sunday Meeting at Gap Prairie.

Fourth Fifth Sunday Meeting at Falwell.

The next association will be held with the Red Barn church, 5 miles west of Coweta, Okla.

The tabernacle is to be shipped to Leonard Gill and Martin Holco, Coweta, Okla.

Motion carried that Eld. J. N. Musgraves and Eld. R. J. Howard preach the introductory sermon.

Motion carried that we adjourn in our own usual form with song and prayer by Eld. J. N. Musgraves.

Eld. J. N. Musgraves, Mod., Peggs, Okla.
Mrs. G. Green, Clerk, Mounds, Okla

MINISTERS REPORT

I beg leave to report as follows: I have preached 41 sermons, have married 6 couples, preached 6 funerals, have received into the church 7, have baptized 3, have received \$28.50.
T. E. Dearduff.

I beg leave to report as follows: I have traveled 667 miles, preached 35 sermons, preached 1 funeral, conversions 1, received \$14.00.
T. S. Pilant

I beg leave to report as follows: I have preached 50 sermons, 7, funerals, married 4 couples, baptized 19, received \$119.00.
J. N. Musgraves.

I beg leave to report as follows: I have preached 72 sermons, pastored 2 churches, witnessed 11 conversions, baptized 8, received 11 into the church, preached 3 funerals, married, 4 couples, received \$72.50.
H. E. Dixon.

I beg leave to report as follows: I have preached 58 sermons, witnessed 43 conversions, traveled 1160 miles, ordained two deacons and 1 minister, preached 1 funeral, received \$55.99.
R. M. Bingham.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

OBITUARY:—

It is with sadness of heart that we submissively bow to the will of our Heavenly Father—

er, who removed from our midst:—Sister Joicie Graham of Cole church, Bro. Jim Brown of Central High church, Sister Millie Musgraves of Peggs church, who departed this life Dec. 27 1926. She was one of the old and faithful members of the Grand River association. She leaves as a record for her stay while here on earth one of the most patriotic and faithful christian families in Grand River association, one of them being Eld. J. N. Musgraves, whom we feel through her influence has assisted him in being one of the noblest young ministers in our association.
Susie Mimer, Chairman.

CREDENTIALS:—

We your committee on credentials find none
W. A. Littlefield

MINISTERS AND DEACONS CHARACTER:

We your committee on ministers and deacons standin find all in good standing except: W. C. Williams, J. V. Pate, W. C. Vanderpool, W. M. Wilson and D. M. Clark.

TEMPERANCE:—

We, your committe on temperance, beg leave to report as follows:—We believe in being temperate in all things. We believe intoxicating drink to be one of the worst curses of the nation. It not only robs people of worldly goods but also of their souls. It causes so many souls to spend eternity in hell. May we as christians do all we can to be temperate in all things while in this life, that we may spend eternity with the Lord beyond this vale of tears.
Joice Carner, Chairman.

FINANCE:—

We find that each church has paid the amount set opposite its name.

Central High.....	\$1 .00
East Liberty.....	\$1 .50
Gap Prairie.....	\$1 .25
New Cannan.....	\$2 .50
Cole.....	\$5 .00
Buck Horn.....	\$1 .00
Peggs.....	\$5 .00
Leggs.....	\$5 .00
Nowater.....	\$1 .50
Mount Nebo.....	\$1 .50
Good Hope.....	\$4 .00
Maple Grove.....	\$1 .50
Red Barn.....	\$2 .55
New Harmony.....	\$3 .30
First F. W. B. Church Tulsa.....	\$5 .00
New Zion.....	\$1 .00
Archer.....	\$2 .00
Falwell.....	\$2 .00

Total Churches.....	\$46 .60
Collection.....	\$12 .00

Grand Total..... \$58 .60

ARRANGEMENTS:—

We, your committee beg leave to report as follows: Taking into consideration the surrounding circumstances and seeing the necessity of a rule governing the ministry;

Be it resolved that the association forbid the ministers of the several districts of the association speaking disrespectfully of one another, and any one found guilty of such conduct shall be liable to charge and dealt with as it may be deemed necessary.

Be it resolved that we recommend that our ministers do not vary from the regular custom of the Free Will Baptist in regard to receiving and dismissing members. Furthermore we advise that the Moderator of the churches impress the great necessity of observing all the rules of the association.

Be it resolved, that any elder of this association taking the evangelistic work, that it shall be the duty of each church to assist him in his work and this association shall empower the moderator and clerk with the authority to further the evangelist with recommendation if he be found worthy.

Be it resolved that we forbid any of our ministers challenging any denomination to debate.

Resolved, that we prohibit the members of our churches from giving, going to or participating in play parties or dances, and any found guilty of such offense shall be liable and charged and dealt with as may be deemed necessary as it is the cause of our young people forsaking the right way and go off in sin.

Be it further resolved, that we forbid any of our ministers or members of the churches of this association preaching sanctification or holiness as a second work of grace, separate and apart from regeneration or conversion.

We endorse the last years report with the following amendments:—

First, be it resolved, that every member of all respected churches comprising the Grand River association be requested to obey the commandments of God as recorded in 1 Cor. 16:2, 2 Cor. 9:7, to lay by in store as God has prospered them on the first day of the week in their homes or churches so as to be prepared to aid

the ministers in publishing the gospel; to help the widows and the worthy poor and that the compulsory in every respect be disannulled.

Resolved, that every ordained minister should preach at least four sermons each month if not providentially hindered and we require that every ordained minister report each year to the association either by letter or in person.

Be it resolved, that every church that calls a minister to the pastoral care should minister to his support as God has prospered them.

Resolved, that our Articles of Faith stand as they are in the old minutes.

Be it resolved, that this Association recommend that no church shall ordain a minister until he proves himself worthy for a space of twelve months. We believe one great cause of the languishing condition of the Fre Will Baptists is lack of finance.

Be it resolved, that any of our preachers or churches found to tolerate the doctrine of unknown tongues shall be considered guilty of heresy and shall be required to make acknowledgements to this body or stand suspended.

Be it resolved, that the association earnestly pray that the Divine power of God help us adopt a more firm basis of financing.

Be it further resolved, that all of our Ministers be required to hold membership in some church in our jurisdiction to qualify them to pastor churches.

We, your Committee on Arrangements, endorse last year's report with the following amendment:

Be it resolved, that our young ministers be given a license to preach one year before being ordained to the Ministry.

We, your Committee on Arrangements, --

dorse last year's report with the following amendment:

"Be it resolved, that the doors of all church property belonging to the Fre Will Baptist be open to all ministers in good standing with the Association."

Every clause must be enforced.

We further recomend that all of our ministers make a written report of their work to the clerk of the association each year.

J. C. Rice, Chairman.

SABBATH SCHOOL:—

We, your committee on Sabbath Schools, beg leave to report as follows:—We believe that it is the duty of each church to maintain Sabbath School and let it be understood that the Free Will Baptist recomend Union Sabbath School for our children and also we think it is the duty of our fathers and mothers to attend Sabbath School and help our young boys and girls and children to carry on Sabbath School and not stay at home and send our children to Sunday School but go with them and all work together in one christian bond for the cause of Christ, and we ask all ministers to assist in organizing Sabbath Schools and recomend that teachers be Christians if possible. If it is impossible for parents to attend do not keep your children at home but send them to Sabbath School.

Anna Gatewood, Chairman

LITERATURE:—

We, your Committee on Literature, recommend the Bible as the man of our council. We should urge each and every one to read the word of God more prayerfully and insist that we become more closely united and each holding

up the hand of the ministry and the banner of Christ. We further recomend that each and every member read the Free Will Baptist paper the Mission World, printed at Cushing, Okla. and the Free Will Baptist paper printed at Ayden, North Carolina. We, your Committee on Literature, endorse last year's report with the following amendments: We recommend that the ministers and deacons especially read the Free Will Baptist treaty. We further recommend that our ministers shall have a certificate of recommendation if found worthy.

Chairman.

Myrtle Woodrough.

Mr Standridge
Mrs Standridge

CHURCH COVENANT.

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant. We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements, and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men.

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in referene to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family bevotion,, and social worship, and by selfdenial faith and good works endeavor to "Grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Chris." We will not forget the assembling of our selves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the gospel, nor fail to pay, according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all benevolent work. We agree to accept christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" inthe bond of peace, to be careful of one anothers happines and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring and as far as able promote the success of the church and the Gospel. We will everywhere hold christian principles sacred and christian obligations and

enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business of life to extend the influence of Christ in society, constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of education and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sabbath Schools and evangelistical efforts for the salvation of souls and the conversion of the world, and may the God of peace sanctify us wholly and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

FREEWILL BAPTIST ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. **The Bible.** The scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. **God.** There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Pre-verse, and in the Scriptures as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, yet as one God infinitely wise and good whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore and obey,

3. **Christ.** Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified He is now risen and glorified and is our ever present Savior and Lord.

4. **The Holy Spirit.** The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God. He is the reprover, comforter, guide and sanctifier of men.

5. **The Government of God.** God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all be-

ings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of grace not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of man requires.

6. The Sinfulness of Man. Man was created innocent but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity therefore inherit a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability, sin, and become guilty before God.

7. The Work of Christ. The Son of God by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of Salvation by faith.

8. The Terms of Salvation. The conditions of salvation are: 1. repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and a hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith, or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ, our Savior and Lord, with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin and become as a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

9. Election. God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the Christ men become His elect.

10. Freedom of Will. The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.

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

12. Perseverance. All believers in Christ, who, through grace, persevere in holiness to

the end of life have promise of eternal salvation

13. Gospel Ordinances. Baptism, or the immersion of believers in water, and the Lord's Supper, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel. Feet washing, an ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.

14. The Christian Sabbath. The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employment and amusements for rest, worship, holy works, and activities, and for personal communion with God.

15. War. War destroys the lives of the innocent, and is contrary to the teachings of the New Testament, therefore we are opposed to war.

16. Resurrection, Judgment, Final Retribution. The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil to the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "Go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

MINISTEREAL ROLL

J. M. Roberts, Salina, Okla.
J. N. Musgraves, Peggs, Okla.
W. M. Hudson,
J. P. Gren, Checotah, Okla.
C. W. Thompson,
R. J. Howard, Mounds, Okla.
L. W. Mann, Texanna, Okla.
J. A. Lowery, Okmulgee, Okla.
J. S. Pilant, Hulbert, Okla.
M. D. Purdom, Warner, Okla.
J. P. Settle,
C. C. Hoose, Bryartown, Okla.
J. W. Moyer, Peggs, Okla.
W. M. Bingham, Tulsa, Okla., Rt. 1
R. M. Bingham, Tulsa, Okla., Rt.
H. E. Dixon, Webber Falls, Okla.
G. W. Benton, Locust Grove, Okla.
G. W. Conouer,,
W. M. Wilson
F. C. Jones, Brokenarrow, Okla.
G. H. McDaniel, Vivian, Okla.
W. A. Shahan
J. E. Wheeler, Barnsdall, Okla.
Jess Pilant, Hulbert, Okla.
T. E. Dearduff, Peggs, Okla.
A. T. Hicks, Hulbert, Okla.
T. E. Hicks, Hulbert, Okla.
Will Sidwell, Hulbert, Okla.

CHURCH ROLL AND CLERK

CHURCH	CLERK	POST OFFICE
Nowater	Nancy Hatfield.	Forum, Okla.
First F. W. B.	O. H. Staires.	813 N. Dewey, Tulsa Okla.
Mount Nebo	J. M. Vass.	Checotah, Okla.
Central High.	Paralee Browning.	Texanna, Okla.
Red Barn.	Fay Holcome.	Coweta, Okla.
New Cannan	Willie Ramsey.	Choteau, Okla.
Maple Grove	E. L. Marler.	Inola, Okla.
Cole	J. W. Littlefield.	Pryor, Okla.
Falwell.	Sophia Ketchum.	Munds, Okla.
Good Hope.	Cleo Walker.	Hulbert, Okla.
New Harmony.	Bessie Smith.	Locust Grove, Okla.
New Zion.	Etta Allen.	Kenwood, Okla.
Beggs.	Kate Green.	Mounds, Okla.
Buck Horn.	Myrtle Davis.	Webber Falls, Okla.
Gap Prairie	G. A. Smith.	Texanna, Okla.

(Church roii continued)

Archer.....	A. H. Land.....	Pryor, Okla.
Peggs.....	Jessey Musgraves.....	Peggs, Okla.
Shady Grove.....	W. E. Hatley.....	Checotah, Okla.
Younger Bend	Ellen Hose.....	Parom, Okla.
Pleasant View.....	Oscar Henson.....	Weber Falls, Okla.
East Liberty.....	C. H. Tyler.....	Hanna, Okla.
Fields Chapel.....	L. S. Miller.....	Parom, Okla.
Pleasant Valley.....	Lillie Marne.....	Hulbert, Okla.

Statistical Table

Churches	Delegates	Paid Pastor	meeting Days	Members Rec'd	Dismissed	Excluded	Died	Member-Ship
Gap Prairie	C. B. Moore, G. A. Smith	\$8.00	2	4				18
Archer	Bro. and Sister Ramsey	\$5.00	4	5				24
Peggs	Bro. and Sister Land							
Nowater	Nancy Brock, Rebecca Nichols		3	13			1	82
Buck Horn	Represented by letter		3	5				28
Baggs	Represented by letter							
Falwell	J. S. Chambers, Leser Burk, Sister Chambers		2	12				94
New Zion	Susie Miller, Anna Gatewod		1					35
	Francis Marrison, Etta Allen.		1					11
New Harmony	Myrtle woodrough, Earnest Woodrough, Sister Cook	\$35.00	2	1				41

Cole	Ben Northcut, Zelma Northcut, Cora Foster	\$75.30	4	11		1	1	64
church of Tulsa First F.W.B.	Bro. and Sister Parker, Sister Light	\$18.00		40	4	2		130
Maple Grove	Ida Harris, E. L. Morler, Bessie Thompson	\$30.50	3	6				22
Central High	Represented by letter		3				1	35
New Cannan	Will Washam, Laura Washam, Willie Ramsey		4	1				25
Red Barn	Eva Gill, Ora Roland Sister McNat		2					
Mount Nebo	John Hays, John Boyd, H. E. ROSS		4	9				
Good Hope	Sister Clark	\$53.00	1	14	1			40

