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MINUTES

Of The

FIFTIETH ANNUAL SESSION

Of The

Sate Line Association
OF FREE WILL BAPTIST

Held With

PLEASANT HOME CHURCH

Geneva County, Ala., Oct. 10, 1935

OFFICERS

W. S. Cook, Moderator _____ Crosby, Ala.
C. B. Green, Clerk _____ Bascom, Fla.
A. J. Granger, Treasurer _____ Cottonwood, Ala.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

J. C. Howell, Dothan, Ala., E. S. Jones, Ashford, Ala., A. C. Womack, Cottonwood, Ala., J. J. Burdeshaw, Dothan, Ala., G. W. Jeffcoat, Gordan, Ala.

HOME MISSION BOARD

A. H. Godfery, Crosby, Ala., E. S. Jones, Ashford, Ala., W. T. Hutto, Midland City City, Ala., R. L. Hunter, Columbia, Ala., L. C. Mixon, Geneva, Ala.

The next Session meets with New Harmony Church on Thursday at 11:00 o'clock before the Second Sunday in Oct. 1936 located 4 miles east of Cottonwood, Ala.

AYDEN, N. C. FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS 1985

PROCEEDINGS

The State Line Free Will Baptist Association met with Pleasant Home Church, Geneva Co., Ala., in its 50th Annual Session on Thursday, October 10th, 1935.

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. Floyd Cherry, He was followed by Rev. M. M. Hicks.

Dismissed until 1:15 o'clock for dinner.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The body was called to order by Rev. A. H. Godfrey. The moderator read for our lesson a portion of the 2nd chapter of Corinthians.

Prayer by Rev. J. C. Eldridge.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats with us.

Called for letters from the different churches.

The moderator appointed Bro. J. W. D. Stephens and Bro. S. T. Shutes to read the letters.

NAMES OF CHURCHES AND DELEGATES

Spring Field-Lendon Hamrick, S. G. Carter.

Granger-Arthur West, Jessie Granger.

Pleasant Home—J. M. Braddock, H. C. Forshee, Mack Coleman, Sisters Myrtice Coleman, Daisy Williams.

Corinth—C. G. Baxley, A. J. Benefield, Fred Baxley, Mrs. Minnie Jackson, Miss Maude Jackson, West Baxley.

New Pilgrim—R. L. Hunter.

Shiloh—J. N. Edmondson, Leland Hayes.

New Harmony—Preston Granger, J. A. Calloway, Donie Calloway, J. F. Capps, A. J. Granger.

Hickory Grove-J. W. D. Stephens, Miranda Ditty, R. G. Hatcher, J. J. Hatcher, Jno. W. Ditty, Walter Baxter.

Union Springs-S. E. Anglin, Joe Anglin, Sister Joe Anglin, R. L. Cherry, Thurman Drinkwater, Sisters R. L. Cherry, Eunice White.

Howards Grove—E. S. Jones, L. C. Gilispie, J. R. Adams, R. O. Johnson, Cola Forehand, Monroe Jordan, Roy Jones, Sisters Cora Johnson, Amanda Jones.

Prospect—Curtis Hayes, Arch Cherry, Carson McClendon, Sister Arch Cherry, Ella Cobb, Foy Lee Godfrey.

Long Branch—A. O. Thurston, G. L. Thurston, E. B. Bryant, J. A. Thurston, Mrs. J. D. Thurston.

Happy Home—H. H. Clark.

Pleasant Ridge—W. M. Ross, Robert Tindel, Tom Hall, Sidney Tindel. Magnolia—Jno. Paramore, L. E. Hicks, W. T. Weed.

Spring Hill—H. E. Peterson, J. S. Conner, Sisters Beulah Godfrey, Lizzie Brunson.

By motion the letters were read and adopted, also the delegates were seated in the body.

On motion that we elect Moderator by nomination and acclamation. Bro. W. L. Cook was elected.

By motion Bro. J. W. D. Stephens was elected Assistant Moderator. By motion C. B. Green was re-elected Clerk.

Called for petitionary letters, none were received.

Called for correspondents for Sister Associations.

Midway—T. B. Mellette, James Cheshire, delegates, Rev. S. T. Shutes, Mrs. S. T. Shutes, Mrs. T. B. Mellette, visitors.

South Eastern-D. L. Pelt.

Salem—Rev. J. C. Eldridge.

Liberty-A. B. Nelson.

Union Hill-J. W. Barefoot as a vistor.

By motion these brethren were seated in the body and were also given the right hand of fellowship.

By motion we retain Bro. A. J. Granger as Treasurer.

The following committees were appointed:

Divine Service-D. R. Hicks, J. M. Braddock, J. C. Howell.

Documents-Geo. Nobles, J. W. D. Stephens, A. H. Godfrey.

Education—T. B. Mellette, J. C. Eldridge, D. F. Pelt.

Home Missions-Lacy Mae Ward, J. J. Burdeshaw, R. G. Hatcher, Miranda Ditty.

Nominations-S. E. Anglin, Walter Baxter, G. L. Thurston.

Suggestions-R. L. Hunter, D. W. Pool, James Calloway.

Sunday Schools—Floyd Cherry, James Cheshire, Foy Lee Godfrey, W. T. Weed.

Temperance—S. T. Shutes, Arch B. Nelson, Mrs. A. H. Godfrey, Mrs. Bailey Williams, Mrs. T. B. Mellette.

Finance—J. S. Conner, Jno. Paramore, E. S. Jones.

Obituaries-J. W. Ditty, Leland Hayes, Preston Granger.

State of Churches and Character of Ministers—R. G. Hatcher, H. E. Peterson, L. E. Hicks.

By motion Miss Lacy Mae Ward was seated in the body as a visitor from the Pee Dee Association of North Carolina.

Report on Divine Service Committee was read and adopted.

By motion we re-establish the report on State of Churches and Character of Ministers.

By motion the moderator appoint a committee on State of Churches and Character of Ministers at this session.

By motion we adjourn until 9:00 o'clock Friday morning. At this juncture the delegates from the different associations were given the right hand of fellowship.

Benediction by Rev. R. L. Hunter.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Reassembled with W. S. Cook, the moderator, presiding. He read a portion of the 4th, chapter of James and a portion of the 15th, chapter of Corinthians.

Prayer by Rev. D. F. Pelt.

Called for corresponding letters, one received from Rocky Grove—W. N. Murdock, G. W. Elmore, M. E. Elmore.

Renewed call for petitionary letters, none received.

Called the Roll. Read the decorum.

Called for volunteers to Sister Associations. The following responded:

Midway—Meets at Patmos near Milford, Ga., on Wednesday and Thursday after the 4th. Sunday in October. Delegates—M. M. Hicks, R. L. Hunter.

Liberty—Meets at Popular Head Church on Thursday and Friday after the 2nd. Sunday in October. Delegates—Floyd Cherry, M. M. Hicks, D. W. Pool.

Salem-Meets at Damascus Church near Marianna, Fla., on Thursday and Friday before the 1st. Sunday in October 1936. Delegates—A. H. Godfrey, G. W. Nobles, H. W. Keel.

Union Hill—Meets at Union Hill Church, 3 miles South West of Slocomb Alabama, on Friday and Saturday before the 1st. Sunday in October 1936. Delegates—D. W. Pool, Floyd Cherry.

South Eastern—Meets at Evergreen Church, Ariton, Ala., on Friday and Saturday before the 3rd. Sunday in October. Delegates—R. L. Hunter, A. H. Godfrey, H. E. Peterson.

Martin-Meets at High Way Church, two and one half miles east of Brinson on Friday and Saturday before the 4th. Sunday in October. Delegates H. W. Keel, W. S. Cook.

General Conference-Meets at Glennville, Ga., on Wednesday after 2nd., Sunday in June 1936. Delegates—M. M. Hicks and Floyd Cherry.

By motion Bro. M. M. Hicks and Bro. Floyd Cherry were elected to attend the General Conference.

At this juncture a public collection of \$6.40 was taken to defray the expenses of the delegates to the General Conference.

Report on Temperance was read and adopted.

Report on Documents was read and adopted.

Report on Sunday Schools was read and adopted.

By motion a recess of ten minutes was given before preaching service. Rev. D. F. Pelt preached the 11 o'clock sermon, followed by Rev. T. B. Mellette.

Dismissed for dinner,

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

And of Sach 7. D.M.

The body was called to order by Bro. W. S. Cook. The moderator read a portion of the 64th, Psalm for the evening lesson.

Prayer by Bro. J. N. Edmonson.

Report on Finance was read and adopted.

Report on Home Missions was read and adopted.

Report on Nominations was read and adopted.

Report on Obituaries was read and adopted

Report on Education was read and adopted.

Report on Suggestions was read and adopted.

Treasurer's report was read and adopted.

Report on State of Churches and Character of Ministers was read and adopted.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

By motion S. E. Anglin and C. L. Hyes were excused from the body. By motion we give Educational funds now on hand \$7.50 to the Zion Bible School, and in addition a public collection of \$500 for same purpose.

On motion we pay our clerk \$10.00 for his service.

By motion we retain our same Executive Committee except Bro. T. A. Payne. By motion Bro. E. S. Jones was elected in his place.

By motion we retain our same Home Mission Board.

On motion all Home Mission funds now on hand be divided between Bro. S. M. Murdock and Bro. J. C. Ingram.

By motion the time and place of the Union Meeting be printed in the minutes, also the amount paid into the Union Meeting.

By motion we pay \$3.60 out of treasury, balance on entrance fee to the General Conference.

On motion the Treasurer pay Bro. M. M. Hicks and Bro. Floyd Cherry the remainder of associational funds, after the expenses are paid at this session.

On motion we adjourn. Benediction by Bro. Floyd Cherry.

W. S. COOK, Moderator C. B. GREEN, Clerk

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Divine Service—We your committee on Divine Service suggest Rev. J. C. Eldridge preach tonight at 7:00 o'clock, and Rev. D. F. Pelt to preach at 1 o'clock tomorrow and Rev. T. B. Mellette to close.

Respectfully submitted, D. R. HICKS, Chm.

Report of Committee on Documents—We your committee on Documents make the following report: We feel that every member of the Free Will Baptist Church should keep himself informed as to the activities of the Free Will Baptist Denomonation. The Free Will Baptist is the organ of our church and we recommend that each member read our church paper regularly so that he may keep in touch with the church activities and denominational programs. We recommend that each pastor of our denomination stress the importance and value of reading the Free Will Baptist to the members of his churches.

We believe that every Sunday School in our denomination should use the Sunday School literature published by our Publishing House at Ayden, N. C. We should be loyal to every agency of our church. This literature is prepared by people well qualified to present the lesson to our children and our grown ups. We recommend its use by all Sunday Schools in our denomination. Also each church should have a Free Will Baptist League, and use our League literature published at Ayden, N. C.

Respectfully submitted, G. W. NOBLES, Chm.

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Report on Education-In the Bible that was so ably defended by our esteemed Bro. Eldridge last evening, we find these words; "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Tim. 2:15. He who wishes to abide in God's will must live up to this requirement as well as others. We are more convinced every day that God would have men study. But what would He have them study? Things that point to Him are what He would have us study. Zion Bible School stands for and teaches the things that point to a closer walk with God. Then we recommend that this Association stand behind this Institution.

> Respectfully submitted, T. B. MELLETTE, Chm.

Home Missions—We, your committee on Home Missions, wish to submit the following report: Each Church should subscribe to a budget for the maintenance of Home Missions, and this subject should be stressed in the pulpits. We also believe that each Association should have a Home Missionary to organize Free Will Baptist Sunday Schools, Leagues and Ladies Aid Societies, and assist them in any way possible in reaching the lost, and bringing the world to a real experimental knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Respectfully submitted, LACY MAE WARD J. J. BURDESHAW R. G. HATCHER MIRANDA DITTY

Nominations—We, your committee on Nominations, make the following report, to wit: We nominate New Harmony for the next session of the Association. We nominate Rev. D. F. Pelt to preach the Introductory sermon, and Rev. L. C. Mixon to close.

Respectfully submitted, S. E. ANGLIN, Chm. Company of the second sec

Suggestions-We, your committee on Suggestions, make report as follows: We suggest that the report of last year be readopted. Also we suggest that each Sunday School put on a special drive on the last Sunday in December for funds to be used for our Orphanage at Middlesex, N. C., said funds to be forwarded to Bro. M. E. Tyson, Supt. of the Orphanaget

Respectfully submitted; Respectfully submitted; Respectfully submitted; R. L. HUNTER

D. W. POOL JAMES CALLOWAY WOM - YEOGREAR WOM

Helms.

Sunday Schools—We submit the following for your consideration: Realizing the need for more and better Sunday Schools we urge the following: 1—That each pastor see to the organization of a Sunday School in his churches. 2—That the church be careful to elect as officers and teachers Christian men and women who have the quality of leadership. 3—That our own F. W. B. Literature be used. 4—That the adult membership of our churches show a better spirit of cooperation.

Respectfully submitted, FLOYD CHERRY, Chm.

Temperance—We, your committee on Temperance, beg leave to make the following report: We commend you people of Alabama for retaining Alabama's dry laws. We are now called upon to assist in the enforcement of these laws by abstaining from the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, "for cursed is he that puts the bottle to his neighbor's lips." Brethren, read the Church covenant and see what you have ascribed to, and then be temperate in all things. Seeing the evils of intemperance, drunkenness, immorality, poverty and insanity, we should talk for prohibition, work for it, pray for it, vote for it and fight for it, in spite of the cries of the wets and weak-kneed, that it costs too much to enforce the prohibition laws.

Respectfully submitted, S. T. SHUTES, Chm.

State of Churches and Character of Ministers: We your committee beg leave to report as follows: We find a goodly number of our ordained ministers and licentiates who are not in an active work in their line of duty. We suggest that this body use every means at their command to bring about an awakening to those that seem dormant and careless in their duty and service to God. We find, so far as we can ascertain, that the state of churches and character of ministers are good with the exception of some which have gone over to other faiths and are not living as becometh Christians.

Respectfully submitted, R. G. HATCHER, Chm.

Report on Obituaries—We your committee on obituaries find the following deaths reported:

Pleasant Home—Bro. Lige Morris.

Spring Hill—Sister Ruby Chummey.

Magnolia—Mrs. Lillie Weed.

Happy Home-Sister Lize Harrison, Bro. Tullis Ducker.

Prospect—Sister M. E. Cobb, Sister Maude Wingate, Sister Ola Lewis, Bro. W. W. Clark.

Union Springs-W. H. Jenkins.

Hickory Grove—Sister Molly Rodgers, Sister Emma Hare, Sister Etta Helms.

New Harmony-Merle Calloway.

Shiloh—Mrs. Anna Hicks, Sister Martha McGriff, Bro. Jackson Douglas. We miss their presence here, but God doeth all things well and we must ever look up to Him to heal broken hearts and fill their vacant places.

Respectfully submitted,
F. W. DITTY
LELAND HAYES
PRESTON GRANGER

Finance—The following amounts were received.

| | Churches | issions | ssociation | Minutes | ducation | ged Ministers |
|------------------|-------------|----------|------------|---------|----------|---------------|
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| New Pilgram | | \$I | \$.50 | - : | • | ф - |
| Grangeburg | | .50 | | .50 | .50 | |
| Shiloh | | .75 | .75 | 1.50 | | |
| Pleasant Home | | 1 00 | 1.50 | 1.25 | 1.00 | |
| Spring Hill | | 1.20 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 1.00 | |
| Magnolia | | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | |
| Pleasant Ridge _ | | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | |
| — — - | | | 1.00 | : | | |
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| | |] : | | | | |
| · | • | 1 | , | | | |
| Hickory Grove | | 1.00 | 2.00 | | | |
| New Harmony | | 1.00 | 2.00 | | ! | |
| Springs Field | | 1.67 | 1 . | | | |
| Rocky Grove | | | 1.00 | | | |
| Corinth | | | 1.00 | | | |
| | | | | 21.75 | , · | |

Respectfully submitted,
J. S. CONNER
JNO. PARAMORE
E. S. JONES

Treasurer's Report

| Balance on hand last session | | \$ 4.03 |
|--|-------------|----------|
| Collections all told | | 78.16 |
| Collections all told General collections | | _\$21.51 |
| Associational purposes | | _ 20.25 |
| Minutes | | _ 23.80 |
| Educational purposes | | - |

| Missions 4.75 Aged Ministers 1.00 Orphans Home 3.60 |
|---|
| Total 82.19 |
| Disbursements |
| P. O. Money and postage to Orphans Home\$ 3.60 Paid J. C. Howell 10.00 |
| J. C. Howell expense to Gen. Conference 1151 Paid Floyd Cherry 3.25 |
| Paid Clerk, C. B. Green for postage61 |
| Paid C. B. Green for services 10.00 Paid Postage03 |
| Paid by check to F. W. B. Press 35.00 |
| Paid Postage03 Halance on hand\$ 8.16 |
| Respectfully submitted, |

A. J. GRANGER, Treas.

Long Branch League Report—To the State Line Association. We are glad to report that we have a prosperous League consisting of 39 members. We have entered into our second year of League work. It is our wish that each Leaguer will go forward and be a worker that will not be ashamed. Our League prays that the blessings of God may rest on every effort of the Association for the cause of Christ.

Respectfully submitted,

NELLIE SPEARS, Pres. Coffee Springs, Ala.

Report of Springfield Ladies Aid Society—The Aid Society sends greetings to our honorable body. We have a prosperous Ladies Aid. We have 20 members on roll. Paid our pastor \$8.40 and we have in treasury \$6.00 for church purposes. Our society prays that the blessings of God may rest on every effort of the Association for the cause of Christ.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. W. TOLER

MRS. R. E. ROBON

MRS. D. B. BELL

MRS. S. G. CARTER

Obituaries

MORRIS. In memory of Bro. Lige Morris, who departed from this life November 20th., 1934. He was a member of Pleasant Home Church for two years. It is sad to be called upon by the Grim Reaper, and to part with those that we love and have known so long. He leaves relatives and friends to mourn his departure.

Written by,
CALVIN BRADDOCK

DOUGLAS. In memory of our Brother, Jackson Douglas, who departed from this life May 22nd., 1935. He leaves a wife and five children, beside many relatives and friends to mourn his going. He is gone but not forgotten. He is sleeping, but not dead, for his memory and presence are living with us. Sleep on, sleep on in your silence and slumbering, there we shall meet you in the judgment day of our Lord. Bro. Douglas was loyal to his family, to his church and to his friends. He was a member of Shiloh Church, Columbia, Ala. May his family be reunited with him in heaven.

Written by his pastor

McGRIFF. In loving memory of Sister Martha McGriff, wife of Bro. Richard McGriff, who departed from this life May 5th., 1935, age 71 years. She was a member at Shiloh Church, Columbia, Ala. She was a faithful member for 50 years. She was good and kind in her home and had many friends. She leaves her husband and 4 living children, and also many relatives to mourn her going. She is not dead but sleeping in Christ and shall awake on the last day. We all hope to meet in heaven, on the great day of our Lord.

Written by her pastor, REV. M. M. HICKS

HICKS. In loving memory of our beloved wife and mother, Mrs. Anna Hicks, wife of Rev. M. M. Hicks, who departed from this life Feb. 12th., 1934. She left a vacant place that cannot be filled. She is gone but not forgotten. She leaves a husband, 4 sons, 3 daughters and many friends to mourn her going, but the Lord knows best and does all things well. She is not dead but sleeping. We believe that she is sleeping in Christ our Lord and shall awake in the morning of the resurrection and there dwell forever in joy, that everlasting peace of God, where there will be no death and sad partings. She was a member of Shiloh Church, Columbia, Ala., and was faithful until the end. May we strive to meet her in heaven. You are resting in the land of eternity, your presence hovers around us, still peace be to thy silent slumber. May we all meet you in that land above where there will be peace and happiness forever.

Written by Husband and Children

CALLOWAY. Little Merle Calloway was called from this earth to enter the golden gates of heaven on June 6th., 1935. She left a vacant place in her home and her church, and a broken-hearted father and mother. Mr. and Mrs. James Calloway, that can't be filled by anyone else. She leaves relatives and a host of friends to mourn her departure. She became a member of New Harmony Church about a year ago. She was only 13 years of age, but no braver or more faithful church worker was ever born. She is not gone, but sleeping that blessed sleep and will arise to meet us on that great judgment day. Although, Merle, you rest in the land of eternity your presence hovers around us still. "Peace be to thy

silent slumbers." May we meet you in that blessed land above, where there will be peace and happiness forever.

Written by, MRS. ULAS GRANGER

JENKINS. Brother W. H. Jenkins was born in 1864 and departed this life in 1934. Between these dates he built a life worth while, the highest, the best that may be said of him. He was a good man. He was not a man who desired to shine in the public's eye, but belonged to that class we call old fashioned. There was inbred in warp and filling of his being those fundamental virtues that have been tested out in the laboratory of life. His life was upon a solid foundation. There was nothing vain about him. He was active in the service of his church, responding always most willingly to its calls. There is a vacancy in his home, in his church and in his community that cannot be filled. But may we not spend our time mourning, but preparing to meet him when we shall sail into the port of the blessed.

By his pastor, REV. FLOYD CHERRY

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CONSTITUTION

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and the rest considerations because

- Article 1. This Association shall be composed of delegates sent annually from the churches upon which it is based.
- Art. 2. Each church shall be entitled to two delegates for every twenty-five members and one delegate for the fractional part of twenty-five. Providing any church having less than twenty-five members, it shall be entitled to two delegates.
- Art. 3. The delegates from each church shall bear a letter certifying their election, to which shall be subjoined a table stating the number baptized, received by confession of faith, by letter, by restoration, dismissed by letter, excluded or died within last associational year, amount of all contributions, the time of the monthly meeting, the membership, ordained and licentiated ministers with their postoffice, and signed by the pastor and clerk of the church with their postoffice.
- Art. 4. Newly constituted, or other churches, desiring admission into this union shall petition by delegation and letter and, if upon examination, found to be orthodox and orderly, they be received into this Association and such reception shall be manifested by giving the right hand of fellowship.
- Art. 5. It is expected that the churches composing this body will send delegates and contributions every session and that no church withdraw from the Association without assigning reason.
- Art. 6. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, Executive Committee, and Home Mission Board. The Executive Committee and Home Mission Board shall be composed of five members each.
- Art. 7. The Association shall meet annually, according to adjournment, and shall have power to transact all business pertaining to the general good of the body.
- Art. 8. The constitution may be altered or amended by a majority of the delegates present during any session.

DECORUM

- Article 1. The Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, Executive Committee and Home Mission Board shall be elected by ballot annually.
- Art. 2. Moderator shall preside over the deliberations of the Association when in session, preserve order and submit motions and other matters. He shall have the same right to vote as any other member, and, provided the chair is occupied, the right to speech.
- Art. 3. Every motion receiving a second shall be submitted to the body unless withdrawn.
- Art. 4. Only one person shall be allowed to speak at a time and such speaker shall address the Moderator and shall not be interrupted while speaking except by the Moderator and then only when he departs from the subject under debate, provided, however, any brother many address the Moderator to a point of order.

- Art. 5. The clerk shall record the proceedings of the body when in session and superintend the publication of the same and do all other writing pertaining to business of the Association. He shall also preserve a file of the minutes of the Association, which he shall deliver to his successor in office.
- Art. 6. The Treasurer shall keep a correct account of all funds received and disbursed by him, showing the balance, if any on hand. He shall only pay out money on the order of the Association or the Executive Committee.
- Art. 7. The Executive Committee shall have power to execute the laws and regulations of the Association when the Association is not in session, and to make ru'es for the government, provided such rules are not repugnant to the Constitution or Decorum of the Association.
- Art. 8. It shall be the duty of the Home Mission Board to work for church extension and church preservation, for which purpose they shall draw on the Executive Committee and various others for the necessary funds when the Association is not in session. The Board makes rules and regulations for their own government that are not in conflict with the Constitution or Decorum of this Association.
 - Art. 9. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.
- Art. 10. This Decorum may be altered or amended by a majority of the delegates present during any session.

CHURCH DECORUM

- 1. The church may choose a pastor annually at the last regular conference in Associational year; or if they prefer it may choose a pastor for an indefinite length of time, to continue from year to year, so long as they may deem it proper to keep up connection.
- 2. When it becomes necessary, a pastor may be chosen at any other time, but if the choice be made at a special conference, the time must be appointed at a monthly meeting of the church.
- 3. The pastor shall be the moderator of the church, but when he is absent or does not sit as moderator being present, a suitable brother shall be appointed to sit in his place.
- 4. The pastor of each church shall have the power to form a presbytery and ordain deacons for the church; also examine ordained ministers who make application to our order, shall be set apart in rank, but not re-ordained
- 5. There shall be two or more deacons in the church whose duty it shall be to superintend the collection and disbursement of the contributions made by the church for the pastor, etc., and to distribute the bread and wine in the administration of the Lord's Supper.
- 6. The deacons shall take notice of such members as refuse or neglect to partake of the Lord's Supper and endeavor to ascertain the cause, the same may be laid before the church in conference if necessary.
 - 7. Some suitable member shall be appointed Clerk, and it shall be his

duty to do all the recording and other writing pertaining to the business of the church, and to preserve a file of the minutes of the Association.

- 8. When a new Clerk is appointed, all books, etc., belonging to the Clerk shall be immediately delivered to him by his predecessor.
- 9. When a church deems it necessary a committee of not less than three male members well acquainted with business, shall be appointed whose duty it shall be to give advice to brethren who apply to them relative to case of dealing, etc., with the church.
- 10. The church shall hold a two-days meeting monthly embracing Saturday and the Lord's Day following, the first of which shall be the regular time of Conference.
- 11. It shall be the duty of every member, male and female to attend each conference meeting if they can, for on that day the pastor is expected to instruct the church in a spiritual manner by giving plain and pointed lessons on doctrine, discipline and the rule of holy living.
- 12. Any church member who shall fail to attend three successive conferences and any member whatsoever who may be generally remiss in attending the meetings of the church according to the covenant (Art. 10) shall be cited to appear in conference and answer for neglect, but the church may exempt members from this rule if necessary.
- 13. Conference after prayer and divine service shall be opened as follows, and conducted: (1) Inviting brethren to seats. (2) Opening door of church for reception of members. (3) Calling for the reading of the minutes of last conference. (4) Calling for absentees. (5) Acknowledgements. (6) For reference or deferred business. (7) For new matters of dealing which are to come before the body. (8) For miscellaneous business.
- 14. Visiting brethren as helps called from sister churches shall be allowed to speak and make motions but not to vote.
- 15. Any orderly member of the Baptist church may be received into the church without a letter, when it is made apparent that his Christian character is unimpeachable and that he has applied for a letter and could not obtain it because he desired to join this or some other sister church. All other members must join by letter or baptism.
- 16. No member shall be received without the unanimous consent of the members present, but unreasonable objection shall not be valid and unless withdrawn by the member who makes them be liable to be taken under dealing by the church.
- 17. When the moderator calls for the absentees, the clerk shall inform the church what members have been absent for three successive conferences, and moderator shall appoint some brother or brethren to cite each of them to the next conference.
- 18. No member shall be expelled unless he has been cited verbally or in writing to attend his trial provided his residence be known to the church.

- 19. When a witness not a member of the church is introduced he shall not be examined till the question has been put to the church: "Will you hear the testimony of this witness?
- 20. The evidence in every case of dealing and acknowledgment shall be minuted in the church book.
- 21. Members dismissed from the church by letter who become disorderly or continue to hold their letters without a good reason shall be cited to the conference to answer for their conduct.
- 22. Expelled members may be restored to fellowship on their petition if their walks since expulsion has convinced the church that they have sincerely repented of their former evil conduct.
- 23. A vote shall not be taken upon any question without a move and a second, and in all important questions the vote shall be taken by rising to the feet.
- 24. No motion shall be made while a move and second is before the conference.
- 25. It shall be considered disorderly for any member to absent himself from conference when an important question is to be decided but a member upon his request may be exempted from voting on either side in peculiar cases.
- 26. No member shall leave the house during conference without sufficient cause, nor engage in conversation or whispering without being subject to be called to order by the Moderator.
- 27. All discussions in conference must be conducted with calmness and good feeling. Those who wish to speak must rise to their feet and address the Moderator and keep to the point in the debate.
- 28. No one shall speak more than three times on the same motion without permission from the Moderator, nor shall the remarks of any one be unreasonably long.
- 29. When the Moderator speaks in debate he must nominate some brother in his stead.
- 30 No one shall be interrupted while speaking unless it is necessary to call him to order.
- 31. It shall be the duty of each church to attend to the administration of the Lord's Supper and feet washing, at least once a year.
- 32. Members not in good standing shall not commune, but the administration shall not be deferred on account of any ordinary matter of dealing.
- 33. Public fasting, humiliation and prayer shall be observed on proper occasions.
- 34. The Decorum may be amended or altered by the vote of two thirds of the members present at any two successive monthly conferences.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

- 1. OF GOD.—We believe that there is one and only one living and true God, infinite in all His attributes, the Creator, Preserver and Governor of the universe, revealed to us in the Scripture as the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.—Tim. 1:7; Isaiah 45:22; St. John 17:2.
- 2. THE HOLY SCRIPTURES.—We believe the scriptures of the old and new Testament were given by inspiration of God and binding on all as our infallible rule of faith and practice.—II Tim. 3:16; Rom. 16:4 and 4:23, 24; Peter 1:18-21.
- 3. OF CHRIST.—We believe He is God manifest in the flesh being in His divine nature the true God, in human nature the true man, united in person the Messiah and the mediator for the redemption of the world.—Luke 2:4-12 inclusive; Matt. 1:18-21.
- 4. OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.—We believe that He is the third person in the Holy Trinity and possesses all personal divine attributes being the Reprover, Comforter and Sanctifier.—St. John 14:25, 15:26 and 16:7-15 inclusive.
- 5. OF SALVATION.—That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel, that it is the immediate duty of all to receive it by cordial and obedient faith, and that nothing prevents the salvation of any so long as the spirit continues to strive with them; but their own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ.—Rom. 1:16; Phil. 2:12; Heb. 2:3.
- 6. THE FALL OF MAN.—We believe that man was created sinless, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. All his posterity inherited this fallen nature and all who come to years of accountability will sin and come short of the glory of God except that they receive Salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ—Gen. 3:6; 1:26; 5:1 and 9:6; Rom. 3:23; Mark 16:16; Acts 10:43.
- 7. ATONEMENT.—We believe that Christ in His great compassion offered Himself as a sacrifice in our stead; Therefore God desires the salvation of all and the gospel invites all, and whomsoever will may come and partake of the waters of life.—I Cor. 1:7; Eph. 5:2; Heb. 2:9; Rom. 5:5; Rev. 22:17.
- 8. OF ELECTION.—We believe that God has not fixed the future state of men by any unconditional decree delivered from the beginning, except to save all who comply with the terms of salvation.—John 8:31; Luke 11:28; Acts 10:35; Duet. 11:26-28.
- 9. OF PERSEVERANCE.—We believe that none will be finally saved but those who through grace, persevere in holiness to the end.—John 8: 31; Tim. 1:19; Peter 2:21, 22.
- 10. GOSPEL ORDINANCES—We believe that baptism or the burial of believers in water and the Lord's Supper and Washing of the Saints' feet are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel of universal salvation and to be observed by all true believers. Reference for Baptism:

John 3:5 and Rom. 6:4. Reference for the Lord's Supper: Matt. 26:26-28. Reference for washing the Saints' feet: John 13:5-17 inclusive.

11. THE: LORD'S SUPPER.—We believe that the Lord's Supper was instituted by our Saviour as a commemorative ordinance; that the bread and wine represent His Body and Blood; that it was instituted for Christians and that all Christians should unite in performing the sacred service, regardless of name, denomination or distinction.—Gal. 6:4; Matt. 7:10; Rom. 4:3, 4.

12. THE RESURRECTION.—We believe when the resurrection, takes place the soul and body will re-unite and form an immortal being; that the righteous will be received into everlasting happiness and that the wicked will be driven into everlasting darkness where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.—John 5:29; Acts 14:16; Isa. 17; Heb. 9:27.

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- 3. Call for letters from different churches.
 - 4. Call for petitionary letters.
- 5. Elect Officers. 6. Call for correspondence from Sister Associations.
- 7. Appoint committees.
 - 8. Call the roll and read Decorum.
 - 9. Appoint Correspondents to Sister Associations.
 - 10. Call for report of committees.
 - 11. Call for Treasurer's Report.
 - 12. Call for miscellaneous business.
 - 13. Adjournment.

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| W. T. Henderson, Union Springs | Webb, Ala. |
| W. S. Cook, Union Springs | Pansey, Ala. |
| A. L. Williams, Prospect | |
| G. W. Nobles, New Harmony | |
| A. M. Kirkland, New Hope | |
| R. L. Hunter, New Pilgrim | |
| J. C. Ingram, Pleasant Home | |
| J. M. Murdock, Howard Grove | No. 1 |
| J. D. Pearce, New Harmony | Cottonwood, Ala. |
| J. D. Stephens, Hickory Grove | St. Petersburg, Fla. |
| Joseph Whitaker, Howard Grove | |
| J. D. Calloway, Pleasant Ridge | Marianna, Fla. |
| JC. Mixon, Pleasant Home, | Geneva, Ala. |
| W. W. Termontana, East Pittman | |
| M. M. Hicks, Shiloh | Blakely, Ga. |
| W. T. Hutto, Corinth | Midland City, Ala. |
| J. J. Burdeshaw, Prospect | Dothan, Ala. |
| A.H. Godfrey, Spring Hill | Gordan, Ala. |
| J. L. Nichols, | Crosby, Ala. |
| W. H. Keel, Free Will Rest | Grand Ridge, Fla. |
| H. J. Mercer, Free Will Rest | Sneads, Fla. |
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| D. W. Poole | |
| E. W. Burts | Geneva, Ala. |
| O. O. Adams, Corinth | |
| Otis A. Sellers, New Harmony | |
| C. A. Lewis, Prospect | |
| G. H. Jordan, Howard Grove | |
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| 1891-R. M. Gray, Calvin Dykes, Prospect | |
| 1892-R. M. Gray, Calvin Dykes, Silver Run | |
| 1893-D. M. Chandler, J. D. Stephens, Hickory Grove | • |
| 1894—R. M. Gray, J. D. Stephens, Spring Hill | |
| 1895—D. L. Chandler, J. D. Stephens, Pittman Creek | |
| 1896—Calvin Dykes, J. D. Stephens, Howard Grove | |
| 1897—D. L. Chandler, J. D. Stephens, New Hope | • |
| 1898—D. L. Chandler, J. D. Stephens, Rocky Grove | |
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| 1900-G. W. Cherry, J. D. Stephens, Free Will Rest | • |
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| 1902—Calvin Dykes, J. W.D. Stephens, Union Springs | |
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| 1909—J. D. Stephens, J. W. D. Stephens, Free Will Rest | |
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| 1912—D. L. Chandler, J. W. D. Stephens, New Life | |
| 1913—J. M. Murdock, J. W. D. Stephens, Truman Creek | • |
| 1914—G. W. Cherry, J. W. D. Stephens, Union Springs | |
| 1915—J. D. Stephens, J. W. D. Stephens, Hickory Grove | |
| 1916—W. S. Cook, J. W. D. Stephens, Rocky Grove | |
| 1917-W. S. Cook, J. W. D. Stephens, Long Branch | |
| 1918-W. S. Cook, J. W. D. Stephens, Magnolia | |
| 1919-W. S. Cook, J. W. D. Stephens, New Hope | 1646 |
| 1920-G. W. Cherry, J. W. D. Stephens, Prospect | 1804 |
| 1921—G. W. Cherry, J. W. D. Stephens, Howard Grove | 2004 |
| 1922—G. W. Cherry, J. W. D. Stephens, Pleasant Home | |
| 1923-J. D. Stephens, J. W. D. Stephens, New Harmony | |
| 1924—J. C. Howell, J. W. D. Stephens, Corinth | |
| 1925—J. C. Ingram, J. W. D. Stephens, Magnolia | |
| 1926—G. W. Cherry, C. B. Green, Springfield | |
| 1927—J. J. Burdeshaw, J. W. D. Stephens, Hickory Grove1928—W. S. Cook, J. W. D. Stephens, Prospect | |
| 1929—J. W. D. Stephens, C. B. Green, Rocky Grove | |
| 1930-J. W. D. Stephens, C. B. Green, Union Springs | |
| 1931—J. W. D. Stephens, C. B. Green, Howard Grove | |
| 1932—J. W. D. Stephens, C. B. Green, Free Will Rest | |
| 1933—A. H. Godfrey, C. B. Green, Spring Hill | |
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