

MINUTES
-of the-
FIFTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION
-of the-
STATE LINE ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL BAPTIST
Held With
HICKORY GROVE CHURCH

Jackson County, Fla., Oct. 10th. 1940



OFFICERS

G. W. NOBLES, Moderator Cottonwood, Ala.
C. B. GREEN, Clerk Bascom, Fla.
J. W. D. STEPHENS, Treasurer Bascom, Fla.

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, Gordon, Ala.

HOME MISSION BOARD

Walter Baxter, Bascom, Fla., Grady Scott, Dothan, Ala., S. G.
Carter, Webb, Ala., Mrs. Mary McAllister, Ashford,
Ala., D. W. Pool, Marianna, Fla.

The next Session meets with Rocky Grove Church on Thurs-
day at 11:00 o'clock before the Second Sunday in October, 1941,
located about 2 miles South of Malone, Fla.

Proceedings

The State Line Freewill Baptist Association met with Hickory Grove Church, Jackson County, Fla., in its Fifty-Fifth Annual Session on Thursday October 10, 1940. The Introduction Sermon was preached by Rev. J. C. Eldridge. Text, a portion of the 2nd Chapter of 2nd Timothy. It was a Spiritual feast to the many listeners that were present.

Recess for lunch and rest.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The body was called to order by Rev. G. W. Nobles. The Moderator read for our lesson the 12th Chapter of St. Luke. Prayer by the Moderator.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats with us.

Called for letters from the different churches. By motion the letters be read.

The moderator appointed Bro. Floyd Cherry and Bro. John M. Rich to read the letters.

Names of Churches and delegates were as follows:

Long Branch—W. T. Aycok.

Union Springs—S. F. Cook, Huie Knight, O. D. White, Jr., O. Z. Henderson, S. E. Anglin.

Rocky Grove—W. N. Murdock, Sister Dicy E. Murdock, Lit Elmore, S. S. Robinson.

Spring Hill—G. W. Jeffcoat, J. S. Conner.

Pleasant Ridge—Elmer Monday, J. T. Hall, Hollis Smith, Lee Grandin.

New Harmony—Wyatt Pynes, J. A. Callaway, A. J. Granger, Sisters Erie Pynes, Donnie Callaway.

Pleasant Home—Malcolm Coleman, Sister Myrtie Coleman, Sister L. C. Mixon.

Springfield—J. F. Nowell, Lendon Hamrick, Sister Mable Carter, Sister Sybil Chandler.

Hickory Grove—James T. Stephens, Joe W. Ditty, Walter Baxter, Joe Johnson, C. B. Green, Gertrude Hatcher, Katie Parmer, Annie Baxter, Neta Johnson, Edna Vaughn, J. W. D. Stephens, R. G. Hatcher.

Howards Grove—L. C. Gillespie, W. J. Sowell, Lloyd Jones, Eula Mae Sellers, Ruby Nobles.

Prospect—T. E. Cherry, W. M. Brown, Grady Scott, Sister Davis Barfield, Sister Rosana Prevatte, Sister Ollie Ree Sauls.

On motion the letters were read and adopted and delegates were seated in the body.

Called for Petitionary letters, None received.

Called for correspondents from Sister Associations. They were as follows:

Martin—Drew Floyd, W. R. Barber, Sister W. R. Barber.

Midway—Rev. W. T. Wiley.

Salem—J. C. Eldridge, J. L. Nichols. Sister J. L. Nichols as a visitor.

Liberty—Floyd Cherry, John W. Rich.

By motion these delegates were seated in the body.

On motion Bro. J. C. Eldridge was excused from the body.

By motion the different committees be appointed by the Moderator. The appointments were as follows:

Finance—Shiloh.

Auxiliaries, S.S., L.A., B.W.L.—Spring Field.

Temperance—Spring Hill.

Suggestions—Howards Grove.

Documents—Union Springs.

Obituaries—Granger.

Education—Hickory Grove.

Nominations—Prospect.

Home Missions—Corinth

Divine Service—By Host Church.

By motion a committee on State of Churches and Character of Ministers be appointed by the Moderator. They were as follows:

R. G. Hatcher, T. E. Cherry, J. S. Conner.

On motion the visitors from the different denominations be seated in the body as honorary members.

By motion we adjourn until 9:00 o'clock Friday morning.

Benediction by Rev. G. W. Nobles.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Reassembled with Rev. G. W. Nobles the Moderator presiding.

Devotional conducted by Rev. John M. Rich. Prayer by Rev. John M. Rich.

Renewed call for Corresponding letters. None received.

Renewed call for Petitionary letters.

By motion omit roll call and read Decorum. The Decorum was read. Renewed call for correspondents from different associations.

Called for Volunteer Correspondents to Sister Associations. They were as follows:

Liberty—L. C. Mixon, Malcolm Coleman.

Midway—G. W. Nobles.

Salem—G. W. Nobles, E. S. Jones.

Martin—J. C. Howell, G. W. Nobles.

Southeastern—Rev. Joseph Whitaker.

General Association—By motion correspond by letter.

Renewed call for Corresponding letters.

Renewed call for correspondents from Sister Association. They reported as follows:

Martin—Bro. Bill Ely as a visitor.

Midway—W. T. Wiley, John Barnes, T. B. Mellette.

By motion these brethren were seated in the body.

By motion Recess until 1:00 o'clock for preaching service. Rev. W. T. Wiley preached the 11:00 o'clock Sermon which was a Spiritual feast to all present.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The body was called to order by Rev. G. W. Nobles the Moderator. Devotional conducted by Rev. Floyd Cherry.

Renewed call for Corresponding letters.

There were received namely:

Corinth—Synthia Jackson, Minnie Jackson, Emmie Johnson, Minnie Brookins, B. A. Jackson.

New Hope—Effie Whittle.

New Pilgrim—by letter.

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

Renewed call for Correspondents from Sister Associations—None reported.

Report on Nominations was read and adopted.

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

By motion Bro. Henry Keels and Bro. Henry Mercers names be erased from our record.

Report on Finance was read and adopted.

Report on Home Missions was read and adopted.

Report on Auxiliaries was read and adopted.

Report on Obituaries was read and adopted, with Amendment

that they be printed in the minutes.

By motion a committee on Education be appointed. They were as follows:

J. C. Howell, Walter Baxter, Donnie Calloway, E. S. Jones.

By motion readopt same report on Suggestions.

By motion readopt same report on Temperance.

Treasurers report was read and adopted.

Report on Documents was read and adopted.

Report on Education was read and adopted.

Report on Divine Service was read and adopted..

At this juncture a public collection of \$17.25 was taken up for the Zion Bible School property in Dothan, Ala.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

By motion we elect our same Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, for 1940-41. Namely G. W. Nobles, Moderator; C. B. Green, Clerk; J. W. D. Stephens, Treasurer.

By motion retain our same Executive Committee. Namely: J. C. Howell, E. S. Jones, A. C. Womack, J. J. Burdeshaw, G. W. Jeffcoat.

By motion retain same Home Mission Board except Bro. A. H. Godfrey, and that Bro. Walter Baxter be put in his place.

On motion we tender a vote of thanks to Hickory Grove church and community for their kindness and hospitality shown us during the sitting of this association.

On motion we pay our Clerk \$10.00 for his services.

The next Union meeting meets with Spring Field Church the Second fifth Sunday in 1941.

On motion the State Line Free Will Baptist Association have 500 Minutes printed.

By motion this Association adjourn.

Benediction by Rev. G. W. Nobles.

G. W. NOBLES, Moderator

C. B. GREEN, Clerk.

REPORT ON DIVINE SERVICE

We your committee on Divine Service nominate Rev. Joseph Whitaker to preach tonight at 7 o'clock. Rev. J. M. Rich to conduct a devotional Friday morning 9:00 to 9:15; and Rev. W. T. Wiley to preach at 11 o'clock.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. D. STEPHENS, Chm.

HOME MISSIONS REPORT

We your committee on Home Missions wish to say we believe in Missions because Jesus Christ said, "Go ye into all the world and preach My Gospel". This was the greatest command given us by our Lord. Are we as Free Will Baptist doing this? We have partially. Now let each one ask ourselves this question, Have I obeyed this command? The field of labor is white unto harvest, but do we as a denomination have laborers willing to sacrifice his, or her time, and means to this work? God is depending upon Christians, and we as a denomination to carry out this command, so if we expect to be a progressive denomination we must obey.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKORY GROVE CHURCH

REPORT ON AUXILIARIES

We your committee submits the following report on the Auxiliaries of our churches: We recommend that all our churches should have all the Auxiliaries that go to-gether that make a better and stronger church, in order to train our younger generation to become Christian workers.

We further recommend that our churches use all Free Will Baptist literature published by the same press. Also read the paper that is published by Rev. Floyd Cherry. We also recommend that every Deacon of the church in good standing with the church be a standing delegate at the association for the upbuilding of our churches.

Respectfully submitted,

PLEASANT RIDGE CHURCH

We your committee on Education beg leave the following report to-wit: We believe we should follow Paul's admonition to Timothy, that we study to show ourselves approved unto God, workmen that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. This includes Laity as well as Pastors.

We beg each church to bring a larger donation for Education, that we may be able to do more for the Cause of Education.

We recommend the Sunday School and League work as a great help in teaching our young. As the Lord has said, in His word—Train a child when he is young and when he is old he will not depart from it.

We find \$10.00 sent for Education at this session and ask it be turned over to Bro. T. B. Merritt for Zion Bible School.

Respectfully submitted,

E. S. JONES

WALTER BAXTER

J. C. HOWELL

DONNIE CALLOWAY

Committee

REPORT ON SUGGESTIONS

We your committee on Suggestions submit the following report: We urge each member of this organization to read and try to understand the Decorum of this Association. We urge each church to support the Sunday Schools that are already organized and also try to organize Sunday Schools in weaker churches. We urge each church to support their pastor more than we have, and make it possible for them to carry the Word of God to a dying world.

Respectfully submitted,

UNION SPRINGS CHURCH

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE

We your committee on Temperance do hereby submit this report with very much regret that we see much signs of the evils of indulging in strong drink and some who have their names on our church registers and we earnestly urge that we turn our back on this great evil and do our best to lay a foundation for a more sober and better world to live in.

Respectfully submitted,

MAGNOLIA F.W.B. CHURCH

REPORT ON STATE OF CHURCHES AND CHARACTERS OF MINISTERS

We your committee on State of Churches and Character of Ministers find that they are in fair condition.

We find that two of our ministers have gone to the Salem Association and recommend that their names be dropped from our list.

J. S. CONNER, Chairman

REPORT ON OBITUARIES

We your committee on Obituaries beg leave to make the following report: We find within the bounds of this Association there have occurred 25 deaths in the last Associational year.

Howards Grove—Bertha Lee Jackson, Elija Monday, J. W. McCoy, Amandy Harrelll, Addis Adams.

Springfield—W. L. Culver, R. D. Hatcher.

Pleasant Home—Mattie Holder, Monrosa Stewart.

Spring Hill—Bertha Dickson.

Union Springs—Emma Cook, Ada Lamb.

Hickory Grove—Esther Yarbrough, Annie Laura Robinson, Estell Long, W. A. Conrad, Willie Hatcher, Sally Hatcher.

Rocky Grove—Wanna Evans, Unity Smith.

Our lives have been made sad during th epast year year because of the deaths of loved ones and friends but in the temporary loss we are made to feel a weakness to God and a greater interest in Heaven for we feel that we have loved ones waiting for us there We pray Gods blessings upon the bereaved.

Respectfully submitted,

LONG BRANCH

HAMPTON BERRY, Chm.

We your committee on Documents submit the following report: We recommend the Auxiliary bodies of our church use the literature published by the Free Will Baptist Press at Ayden, N. C., also read the Gospel Herald recommended by Rev. Floyd Cherry. We further recommend that every deacon from our churches in good standing be a standing delegate.

Respectfully submitted,

PLEASANT HOME CHURCH

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS

We your committee on Nominations nominate Rocky Grove Church, Greenwood, Fla., for the next session to be held Thursday and Friday before the Second Sunday in October 1941.

We also nominate Rev. G. H. Jordan to preach the Introductory Sermon.

Respectfully submitted,

HOWARDS GROVE CHURCH

REPORT ON FINANCE

We your committee on Finance submit the following report:

| Church | For Asso. | Minutes | Missions | Education |
|----------------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|
| New Pilgrim | \$1.00 | \$1.00 | | .25 |
| Corinth | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| New Hope | 1.00 | .75 | | .70 |
| Shiloh | | 1.75 | 1.25 | 1.25 |
| Hickory Grove | 2.00 | 2.00 | | |
| Union Springs | 1.50 | 1.50 | | |
| Spring Hill | 1.00 | 1.00 | | 1.00 |
| Pleasant Home | 1.50 | 1.50 | 2.00 | |
| Springfield | 1.00 | 1.00 | | 1.05 |
| Pleasant Ridge | 1.00 | 1.00 | | |
| Rocky Grove | 1.25 | .75 | | |
| Howards Grove | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 4.00 |
| Long Branch | 1.00 | .65 | | |
| New Harmony | 1.00 | 1.50 | | 2.00 |
| Prospect | 2.00 | 2.00 | 1.00 | |

\$18.25

\$19.40

\$7.25

\$11.25

Total \$56.15

NEW HARMONY CHURCH

TREASURERS REPORT OCT. 10, 1940

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Amount on hand Oct. 5, 1939 for Missions | \$48.03 |
| Amount on hand for Associational purposes | 10.88 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total amount on hand Oct. 5, 1939 | \$58.91 |
| Received at 1939 session— | |
| For Associational purposes | \$20.25 |
| For Minutes | 22.60 |
| For Missions | 10.00 |
| For Education | 11.70 |
| <hr/> | |
| TOTAL RECEIPTS | \$64.55 |
| Total in Treasury | \$123.46 |
| Disbursements— | |
| Paid C. B. Green Clerk salary | \$10.00 |
| Paid C. B. Green for salary | 1.09 |
| Paid Floyd Cherry Educational Funds | 11.70 |
| Paid The Gospel Herald for minutes | 32.50 |
| <hr/> | |
| TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS | \$55.29 |
| Balance in Treasury for Missions | \$58.03 |
| Balance in Treasury for Associational purposes | \$10.14 |
| <hr/> | |
| TOTAL IN TREASURY | \$68.17 |
| Respectfully submitted. | |

J. W. D. STEPHENS, Treasurer

OBITUARIES

YARBOROUGH— In memory of our beloved Sister Esther Yarborough, who has departed this life. Her trials are over, her victory won. She kept the faith. She has gone to be with her loved ones who is resting in the sweet beyond. Peace be to her.

ROBINSON— In memory of our beloved Sister Annie Laura Robinson who has departed this life. She leaves a husband and several childre nand a host of friends to mourn her loss. Peace be to her.

LONG— In memory of our beloved friend and Sister Estelle Long who has departed this life. She has been a member of Hickory Grove church for several years. She leaves a husband, children and a host of friends to mourn her loss. Peace be to her.

CONRAD—In loving memory of our beloved friend and Bro. W. A. Conrad who departed this life in 1940. He left a vacant place in his home. Bro. Conrad leaves his wife and three daughters and a host of friends and relatives to mourn his departure. Peace be to him.

HATCHER— Its with profound sorrow we report the death of our friend and Bro. Willie Hatcher who departed this life in 1940. He leaves a companion, 1 boy, 6 girls and a host of friends to mourn his departure. Peace be to him.

HATCHER—Sister Sally Hatcher departed this life in 1940. She was a member with us at Hickory Grove church. Her trials are over, her victory won. Peace be to her.

W. L. CULVER AND R. D. HATCHER— In memory of our beloved brethren, W. L. Culver and R. D. Hatcher. They have been members at Springfield for several years. They are missed in the church, home and community. Peace be to them. —Written by Sybil Chandler.

COOK— Sister Emma Cook. Departed this life September 3, 1940. She was a member with us at Union Springs about 45 years. Her trials are over, her victory won. She kept the faith. She has gone to meet her companion who is waiting just on the other shore.

May we strive to meet her in that home of the blessed.—Written by O. Z. Henderson.

LAMP—In memory of our beloved Sister Ada Lamp who departed this life in the fall of 1939. She was a member with us at Union Springs for several years. A place is vacant in her church and home, but our loss is her Eternal gain. May we strive to meet her where there is no sad goodbyes.—Written by O. Z. Henderson.

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 together 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.

CONSTITUTION

Art. 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 25 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 baptised, 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 hte 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 the 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 season.

DECORUM

Art. 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 speakers shall address the Moderator and shall not be interrupted while speaking except by the Moderator and then only when he depart from the subject under debate, provided however, any brother may address the Moderator to appoint of order.

Art. 5. The clerk shall record the proceedings of the body when in session and superintend the publication of the same and all other writing pertaining to business of the Association. He shall also preserve a file of the minutes of this 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 rules 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 government that are not in conflict with the Constitution nor 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 the connection.

2. When it become 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 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 who 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-day 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, disciplines 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 or absentees. (5) Acknowledgments. (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 out being subject to be called to order by the Moderator. 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 until 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 good reasons 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 convince 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 with-

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 anyone 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 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 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 Testaments 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 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; 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 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 Saint's 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.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Organize
2. Invite visiting brethren to seats with us.
3. Call for letters from different churches.
4. Call for petitionary letters.
5. Call for correspondence from Sister Associations.
6. Appoint committees.
7. Call the roll and read Decorum.
8. Appoint correspondents to Sister Associations.
9. Call for report of committees.
10. Call for Treasurers report.
11. Call for miscellaneous business.
12. Elect officers.
13. Adjournment.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| W. T. Henderson, Union Springs | Webb, Ala. |
| A. L. Williams, Prospect | Dothan, Ala. |
| G. W. Nobles, New Harmony | Dothan, Ala. |
| A. M. Kirkland, New Hope | Midland City, Ala. |
| R. L. Hunter, New Pilgrim | Columbia, Ala. |
| J. D. Pearce, New Harmony | Cottonwood, Ala. |

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| J. D. Stephens, Hickory Grove | St. Petersburg, Fla. |
| Joseph Whitaker, Howard Grove | Ashford, Ala. |
| L. C. Mixon, Pleasant Home | Geneva, Ala. |
| M. M. Hicks, Shiloh | Blakely, Ga. |
| W. T. Hutto, Corinth | Midland City, Ala. |
| J. J. Burdeshaw, Prospect | Dothan, Ala. |
| A. H. Godfrey, Spring Hill | Gordon, Ala. |

LICENTIATES

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| E. W. Burts | Geneva, Ala. |
| O. O. Adams, Corinth | Midland City, Ala. |
| Otis A. Sellers, New Harmony | Cottonwood, Ala. |
| C. A. Lewis, Prospect | Dothan, Ala. |
| G. H. Jordan, Howard Grove | Red Level, Ala. |
| W. P. Merrette, Union Springs | Pansey, Ala. |

Statistical Table

| CHURCHES | PASTORS | CLERKS AND POST OFFICES | SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS AND POST OFFICES | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | F.W.B.L. PRESIDENTS AND POST OFFICES | LADIES AID PRESIDENTS AND POST OFFICES | | | | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-----------|----------|---------|-----------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| | | | No. in Ladies Aid | No. in F.W.B.T. | No. in Sunday School | Value of Other Property | Value of Church Building | Paid Pastor | Education | Missions | Minutes | Associational Purpos. | Meeting Days | Female Members | Male Members | Decrease by Death | Decrease by Expul. | | | Decrease by Letter | Increase by Restora. | Increase by Letter | Increase by Confession | Increased by Baptism | | |
| Hickory Grove | Floyd Cherry | J. W. D. Stephens, Bascom, Fla. | | | 1 | | | 6 | 118 | 168 | 1 | 2.00 | 2.00 | | | 125.00 | 1200. | 700. | 41 | 28 | | | J. W. D. Stephens, Bascom, Fla. | G. W. Hatcher, Bascom, Fla. | | |
| Prospect | G. W. Nobles | Doris Barfield, Dothan, Ala., Rt. 4 | 6 | | | 1 | | 83 | 138 | 3 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 1.00 | | | 54.75 | 750. | 1000. | 55 | | | | E. A. Sauls, Dothan, Ala. | | | |
| New Harmony | G. W. Nobles | A. J. Granger, Cottonwood, Ala. | 1 | | | | | 78 | 138 | 2 | 1.00 | 1.50 | | 2.00 | | 72.00 | 1000. | 200. | | | | | | | | |
| Long Branch | D. W. Pool | J. F. Thurston, Coffee Springs, Ala. Rt | | | | | | 23 | 33 | 2 | 1.00 | .65 | | | | 53.35 | 375. | 75. | | | | | | | | |
| Howards Grove | Floyd Cherry | J. R. Adams, Cottonwood, Ala. | 4 | 3 | | 4 | | 5 | 141 | 330 | 3 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 4.00 | 145.17 | 1000. | 500. | 66 | 53 | 23 | | E. S. Jones, Ashford, Ala. | G. H. Jordan, Cottonwood, Ala. | Mrs. S. M. Womack, Cottonwood | |
| Rocky Grove | J. L. Nichols | Alice Robinson, Greenwood Fla. | | | | | | 2 | 32 | 52 | 3 | 1.25 | .75 | | | 18.40 | 1000. | 250. | | | | | | | | |
| Pleasant Ridge | J. C. Watson | Sidney Tindell, Marianna, Fla. | 8 | | 1 | | | 43 | 56 | 1 | 1.00 | 1.00 | | | | 25.85 | 500. | 250. | 24 | | 17 | | Thelma Smith, Marianna, Fla. | | Mamie Poole, Campbellton, Fla. | |
| Pleasant Home | L. C. Mixon | Malcom Coleman, Geneva, Ala. | 16 | | 9 | 1 | | 2 | 128 | 180 | 3 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 2.00 | | 25.00 | 1000. | 500. | 85 | | | | Malcom Coleman, Geneva, Ala. | | | |
| Spring Hill | Cooper Fort | Eudelle Tolar, Gordon, Ala. | 8 | | 2 | | | 1 | 95 | 121 | 4 | 1.00 | 1.00 | | 1.0 | 33.73 | 1000. | 150. | | | | | | | | |
| Union Springs | W. H. Ely | O. Z. Henderson, Pansey, Ala. Rt. 1 | 16 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 53 | 149 | 2 | 1.50 | 1.50 | | | 60.00 | 1400. | 300. | 58 | | | | O. Z. Henderson, Pansey, Ala. Rt. 1 | | | |
| Shiloh | J. B. Lovering | Bentley Smith, Columbia, Ala. Rt. 2 | 15 | 5 | 1 | | | 63 | 61 | 3 | | 1.75 | 1.25 | 1.25 | | 77.00 | 500. | 250. | 74 | 46 | 15 | | T. J. Sewell, Columbia, Ala. Rt. 2 | Perta Brackin, Columbia, Ala. Rt. 2 | Rosy Beasley, Columbia, Ala. Rt. 2 | |
| New Hope | A. H. Godfrev | Z. A. Ammons, Midland City, Ala. | 5 | | | | 2 | 1 | 8 | 18 | 2 | 1.00 | .75 | | .70 | 50.34 | 700. | 200. | 39 | | | | G. E. Brantley, Midland City, Ala. | | | |
| New Pilgrim | J. B. Lovering | Mrs. E. L. Hunter, Columbia, Ala. | 1 | 2 | | 1 | | 1 | 12 | 24 | 4 | 1.00 | 1.00 | | .25 | 9.83 | 600. | 25. | 64 | | | | Rufus Brackin, Columbia, Ala. | | | |
| Corinth | D. W. Pool | | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 3 | 60 | 77 | 3 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.0 | 57.53 | 700. | 300. | 3 | 25 | | | A. J. Benefield, Midland City, Ala. | Luther Cheshire, Midland City, Ala | | |
| Springfield | C. H. Chandler | Vera Mae Hamrick, Ashford, Ala. | 3 | | | 2 | | 2 | 42 | 98 | 4 | 1.00 | 1.00 | | 1.05 | 63.25 | 1000. | 350. | 54 | 40 | 26 | | S. G. Carter, Webb, Ala. | Hubert McNeal, Ashford, Ala. | Vera Mae Hamrick, Ashford, Ala. | |
| | | | 85 | 12 | 14 | 7 | 10 | 10 | 25 | 984 | 1635 | | 18.25 | 19.40 | 7.25 | 11.25 | | | | 533 | 192 | 81 | | | | |

HISTORY OF THE ASSOCIATION

**The State Line Free Will Baptist Association Was Organized
At Howard Grove Church, November 20, 1866**

| Year | Moderator | Clerk | Church | Mem. |
|-------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|------|
| 1886— | D. L. Chandler, | Calvin Dykes, | Howard Grove | 449 |
| 1887— | D. L. Chandler, | Calvin Dykes, | Beulah | 577 |
| 1888— | R. M. Gray, | Calvin Dykes, | Macedonia | 403 |
| 1889— | R. M. Gray, | Calvin Dykes, | Friendship | 516 |
| 1890— | R. M. Gray, | Calvin Dykes, | Loveweed | 448 |
| 1891— | R. M. Gray, | Calvin Dykes, | Prospect | 339 |
| 1892— | R. M. Gray, | Calvin Dykes, | Silver Run | 444 |
| 1893— | D. M. Chandler, | J. D. Stephens, | Hickory Grove | 456 |
| 1894— | R. M. Gray, | J. D. Stephens, | Spring Hill | 422 |
| 1895— | D. L. Chandler, | J. D. Stephens, | Pittman Creek | 503 |
| 1896— | Calvin Dykes, | J. D. Stephens, | Howard Grove | 568 |
| 1897— | D. L. Chandler, | J. D. Stephens, | New Hope | 653 |
| 1898— | D. L. Chandler, | J. D. Stephens, | Rocky Grove | 633 |
| 1899— | D. L. Chandler, | J. D. Stephens, | Prospect | 671 |
| 1900— | G. W. Cherry, | J. D. Stephens, | Free Will Rest | 803 |
| 1901— | Calvin Dykes, | J. W. D. Stephens, | Antioch | 916 |
| 1902— | Calvin Dykes, | J. W. D. Stephens, | Union Springs | 947 |
| 1903— | J. D. Stephens, | J. W. D. Stephens, | Hickory Grove | 786 |
| 1904— | J. D. Stephens, | J. W. D. Stephens, | Howard Grove | 786 |
| 1905— | J. D. Stephens, | J. W. D. Stephens, | New Pilgrim | 745 |
| 1906— | J. D. Stephens, | J. W. D. Stephens, | Springfield | 958 |
| 1907— | R. L. Hunter, | J. W. D. Stephens, | Rocky Grove | 1099 |
| 1908— | J. D. Stephens, | J. W. Stephens, | Pleasant Home | 1199 |
| 1909— | J. D. Stephens, | J. W. D. Stephens, | Free Will Rest | 1315 |
| 1910— | D. L. Chandler, | J. W. D. Stephens, | Silver Run | 1365 |
| 1911— | D. L. Chandler, | J. W. D. Stephens, | New Life | 1442 |
| 1912— | D. L. Chandler, | J. W. D. Stephens, | Pittman Creek | 1477 |
| 1913— | J. M. Murdock, | J. W. D. Stephens, | Spring Hill | 1462 |
| 1914— | G. W. Cherry, | J. W. Stephens, | Union Springs | 1553 |
| 1915— | J. D. Stephens, | J. W. D. Stephens, | Hickory Grove | 1721 |
| 1916— | W. S. Cook, | J. W. D. Stephens, | Rocky Grove | 1611 |
| 1917— | W. S. Cook, | J. W. D. Stephens, | Long Branch | 1715 |
| 1918— | W. S. Cook, | J. W. D. Stephens, | Magnolia | 1456 |
| 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 | 2043 |
| 1923— | J. D. Stephens, | J. W. D. Stephens, | New Harmony | 2039 |
| 1924— | J. C. Howell, | J. W. D. Stephens, | Corinth | 2094 |
| 1925— | J. C. Ingram, | J. W. D. Stephens, | Magnolia | 2042 |
| 1926— | G. W. Cherry, | C. B. Green, | Springfield | 2302 |
| 1927— | J. J. Burdeshaw, | J. W. D. Stephens, | Hickory Grove | 2344 |
| 1928— | W. S. Cook, | J. W. D. Stephens, | Prospect | 2229 |
| 1929— | J. W. D. Stephens, | C. B. Green, | Rocky Grove | 2875 |
| 1930— | J. W. D. Stephens, | C. B. Green, | Union Springs | 2450 |
| 1931— | J. W. D. Stephens, | C. B. Green, | Howard Grove | 2323 |
| 1932— | J. W. D. Stephens, | C. B. Green, | Free Will Rest | 2374 |
| 1933— | A. H. Godfrey, | C. B. Green, | Spring Hill | 2360 |
| 1934— | A. H. Godfrey, | C. B. Green, | Shiloh | 2539 |
| 1935— | W. S. Cook, | C. B. Green, | Pleasant Home | 2495 |
| 1936— | A. H. Godfrey, | C. B. Green, | New Harmony | 2479 |
| 1937— | G. W. Nobles, | C. B. Green, | Corinth | 2447 |
| 1938— | G. W. Nobles, | C. B. Green, | Prospect | 2536 |
| 1939— | G. W. Nobles, | C. B. Green, | Pleasant Ridge | 2661 |
| 1940— | G. W. Nobles, | C. B. Green, | Hickory Grove | 2619 |