

MINUTES

of the

Fifty-Sixth Annual Session

of the

**STATE LINE ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL BAPTIST**

Held With

Rockey Grove Church

Jackson County, Fla., Oct. 9th, 1941

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.,
C. B. Green, Bascom, Fla., 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., P. A. Brackin, Blakely,
Ga., Mrs. Rubie Nobles, Cottonwood, Ala.

The next Session meets with Pleasant Home Church on Thurs-
day at 11:00 o'clock before the Second Sunday in October, 1942,
located seven miles South East of Geneva, Ala., on Geneva and
Bonifay road.



1941

FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS
AYDEN, N. C.

PROCEEDINGS

The State Line Free Will Baptist Association met with Rockey Grove Church, Jackson Co., Fla., in its Fifty-Sixth Annual Session on Thursday, Oct. 9th, 1941. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Rev. Bill Ely, Text, 14th verse of the 7 Chapter of 2nd Chronicles. His message was a real inspiration 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.

Song by Choir.

The Moderator read for our lesson a portion of the 1st Chapter of Corinthians. Song by Choir.

Prayer by Rev. G. W. Nobles.

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. J. C. Howell and Bro. L. W. Hamrick to read the letters.

Names of Churches and delegates were as follows:

Spring Field—Lendon Hamrick, Vera Hamrick, and Georgie Carter.

Long Branch—By letter.

Pleasant Ridge—Elmer Monday, Tom Hall, Loner West, Agnes Monday, and Estelle Tindell.

Pleasant Home—Jeff H. Hawthorn and Jim Williams.

Shiloh—Gordon Odom and Sister Gordon Odom.

Spring Hill—G. W. Jeffcoat.

Prospect—Edd Battle, Luther Howell, C. G. Scott, W. D. Allen, Georgia Trawick, Beatrice Howell, and Irell Ingran.

New Harmony—J. C. Howell, A. J. Granger, and J. A. Callaway.

Howards Grove—W. J. Sowell, Calvin Jordon, Rubie Nobles, Sister E. S. Jones and L. C. Gilesbie.

Union Springs—O. Z. Henderson, W. T. Henderson and Sister Neva Henderson.

Hickory Grove—C. B. Green, Joe Johnson, Maranda Ditty, Katie Parmer, Annie Baxter, John W. Ditty and J. A. Wiley.

Rocky Grove—Oliver Robinson, Seab Robinson, and Carter Evans.

Pitman Creek—G. H. Crutchfield, T. V. Crutchfield, J. D. Sowell and Sister Renner Paul.

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

Called for Petitionary letters, one received, namely:

Cedar Grove—A. S. Weston and W. F. Ditty.

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

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

Salem—J. C. Eldridge, J. L. Nichols and J. W. Robirds.

Midway—C. C. White and T. B. Mellette.

Martin—W. H. Ely.

On motion these Brethren were given the right hand of fellowship and seated in the body.

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

Finance—Howards Grove.

Auxiliaries—Hickory Grove.

Temperance—Spring Field.

Suggestions—New Harmony.

Documents—Prospect.

Obituaries—Union Springs.

Education—Spring Hill.

Nominations—Shiloh.

Home Mission—Pleasant Home.

Divine Service—By Host Church.

Moved and carried a committee on State of Churches and character of ministers be appointed by the Moderator. They were as follows:

G. W. Jeffcoat, E. S. Jones and Grady Scott.

By motion, omit calling roll and reading decorum at this time.

Called for volunteer correspondents to Sister Associations. They were as follows:

Salem—J. C. Howell, E. S. Jones, G. W. Nobles, H. C. Evans, G. W. Long and Oliver Robinson

Midway—G. W. Nobles, Grady Scott and P. A. Brackin.

Martin—P. A. Brackin and G. W. Nobles.

Report on Divine Services:

We, your committee, appoint Rev. J. L. Nichols to preach tonight at 7:30 o'clock and that Rev. G. W. Nobles preach tomorrow at 11 o'clock.

At this time a public collection of \$10.35 was taken for Cedar Grove Church.

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

Song by the Choir.

Benediction by the Moderator, Rev. G. W. Nobles.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

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

Song by Choir, Prayer by Rev. T. B. Mellette.

Renewed call for corresponding letters, one received, namely:

Magnolia—John Paramore, L. E. Hicks, Sister L. E. Hicks, Sister Vivian Paramore and Bruneze Blakey.

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

Renewed call for petitionary letters, none received.

Roll called and Decorum was read.

Renewed call for correspondence from different Associations, none reported.

Report on Education was read and adopted.

At this time a collection of \$12.10 was taken for Bro. P. A. Brackin to help him in his schooling at the Zion Bible School.

Report on Finance was read and adopted.

Report on Suggestions was read and adopted.

Report on Home Missions was read and adopted.

Report on Nominations was read and adopted.

Report on Temperance was read and adopted.

By motion that we enter into election of officers, Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer for 1941-1942, it was moved and carried to suspend regular order of business and elect by nomination and acclamation.

Rev. G. W. Nobles was re-elected Moderator.

C. B. Green was re-elected Clerk.

J. W. D. Stephens was re-elected Treasurer.

J. C. Howell was elected Assistant Moderator.

It was moved and carried to retain our same Executive Committee except Bro. A. C. Womack and C. B. Green was elected to fill his place.

It was moved and carried to retain our same Home Mission Board except Sister Mary McAllister and Bro. D. W. Pool; Bro. P. A. Brackin and Sister Rubie Nobles were elected to fill their places.

Rev. G. W. Nobles preached the 11:00 o'clock sermon. His message was a Spiritual feast to all that were present.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The body was called to order by Rev. G. W. Nobles, Moderator.

Song by Choir. Fifteen minute devotional service conducted by Bro. P. A. Brackin.

Renewed call for corresponding letters, two received, namely:

Corinth—Minnie Brookins, S. Jackson, Minnie Jackson, Emmie Johnson and Essie Baxley.

New Pilgrim—J. J. Cook and Rufus Brackin.

Moved and carried these letters to be read and adopted and delegates were seated in the body.

Report on State of Churches and character of ministers was read and adopted.

Treasurer's report was read and adopted.

Moved and carried that Sister Maranda Ditty act as Treasurer, Pro Tem.

Report on Documents was read and adopted.

By motion, the Clerk is to insert the names of deceased members in the minutes.

By motion, report on Finance was received and committee released.

Moved and carried Rev. G. W. Nobles, the moderator, was excused from the body.

Bro. J. C. Howell, Assistant Moderator, acted in his absence.

Report on Divine Service was read and adopted.

Report on Auxiliaries was read and adopted.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

On motion, turn over all Educational funds now on hand to the Zion Bible School.

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

On motion, we tender a vote of thanks to Rockey Grove Church and community for their kindness and hospitality shown us during the sitting of this Association.

Received from the Chairman of old Home Mission Board, Rev. J. D. Stephens, \$4.00 of mission money.

On motion, have 500 minutes printed.

On motion, this Association adjourn.

Benediction by Rev. T. B. Mellette.

G. W. Nobles, *Moderator*,

C. B. Green, *Clerk*

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS

We, your Committee on Documents, submit the following report:

We urge the churches with their auxiliaries to press forward to a higher standard and not to drag as we have been doing.

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 the devil working through strong drinks and some who have their name on our church rolls. We have faith in God that through him we can teach our children to turn their backs on this evil and we shall do our best to lay a foundation for a more sober and Christian world to live in.

Respectfully Submitted,

Spring Hill Church

REPORT ON SUGGESTIONS

We, your Committee on Suggestions, submit the following report:

We recognize that the youth of our land is our greatest asset. And that the hope of the church of the future is in these young people. Many of our churches are neglecting to provide for the spiritual training of our youth. We, therefore, suggest that all our pastors encourage the organization of a Sunday School and Free Will Baptist League in all Churches where these agencies of youth training are not now organized.

We realize that due to the above condition, many of our people are not qualified as teachers and leaders in Sunday School and League work.

To meet this recognized need we suggest that the State Line Free Will Baptist Association take such action as is necessary to organize and maintain a training school for two weeks each summer that we may have more trained leadership in our churches.

In as much as there is no Home Mission work being done, we therefore, suggest that the money now on hand for Home Mission be used to maintain such course.

We further suggest that each church consider having conference quarterly and have communion service following conference. We suggest that the deacons take note of all members who fail to take part in communion service. This last suggestion is made with article six of our decorum in mind.

Respectfully Submitted,

Howards Grove Church

REPORT ON STATE OF CHURCHES AND CHARACTERS OF MINISTERS

We, your Committee on State of Churches and character of Ministers,

submit the followin report: In so far as we can learn the churches are in fair condition and the character of our ministers is excellent.

Respectfully Submitted,
G. W. Jeffcoats,
C. G. Scott

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS

We, your Committee on Home Missions, submit the following report:

After careful consideration, and realizing the deplorable condition existing in the field of Home Missions, wish to suggest that the Association impress upon the ministers, and that the ministers in turn upon the churches, the importance and need of work in the Home Mission field which has too long been so sadly neglected. We have only to look around us to see the need for many workers in this cause.

We believe it to be the duty of every Christian to put forth every effort possible to aid in the advancement of the Home Mission cause and we hope and pray that each one soon awakens to a realization of this fact and endeavors to find his or her place in this broad field of endeavor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Corinth Church

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS

We, your Committee on Nominations, submit the following report:

We nominate Pleasant Home Church for the next Session of the Association and nominate Rev. Pert Brackin to preach the Introductory sermon.

Respectfully Submitted,
Prospect Church

REPORT ON EDUCATION

We, your committee on Education, submit the following report:

We need an educated ministry and an educated membership in our denomination. Therefore, we insist that our people take advantage of the opportunities that our literary schools afford for educating their children in the fundamental works of education. Thereby laying a foundation upon which we may build a useful career in our life's work.

We ask our churches to be active in the educating of themselves and children in the word of God through the medium of the auxiliaries of the church. Thereby build and establish a Bible reading membership.

We ask that our churches contribute liberally to the educational fund. We have seen some of the benefits that some of our young men have received by the Bible study course they took at Zion Bible School and seeing the great need of leadership in our denomination we ask that this Association help to support the school.

Respectfully Submitted,
Hickory Grove Church

REPORT ON AUXILIARIES

We, your Committee on Auxiliaries, submit the following report:

Of the number of churches in our Association, 10 reported that they have had Sunday School regularly during the past year, 6 Sunday Schools and League and 4 reported no Sunday School nor League.

We recommend that auxiliaries of our churches may be supported by all Church members and use Free Will Baptist Literature published by the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, N. C.

Respectfully Submitted,

Springfield Church

REPORT ON OBITUARIES

Your Committee on Obituaries beg leave to make the following report:

Within the bounds of this Association there have occurred 16 deaths in the last Associational year.

New Harmony—J. D. Pearce.

Prospect—I. R. Fennell, C. L. Hayes, H. C. Cherry, and Lillian Barnes.

Pleasant Home—George W. Hilmons and Manuel Morris.

Spring Field—Emma Nobles.

Corinth—Jennie Hutto.

Howards Grove—Edith Brookins, Lee Smith, R. L. Frith, C. W. Walls, and Gipsie Monday.

Hickory Grove—J. W. Rodgers and Simmie Johnson.

Our lives have been made sad during the past year because of the deaths of loved ones and friends but in the temporary loss we have been made to feel a greater interest in heaven for we feel that we have loved ones waiting for us there.

We pray God's blessings upon the bereaved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Clerk of the Association

REPORT ON FINANCE

We your Committee on Finance submit the following report

Church	For Assn.	Minutes	Missions	Education
Long Branch -----	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ -----	\$ -----
Pleasant Ridge -----	1.00	.50	-----	-----
Spring Hill -----	1.50	1.50	-----	-----
Howards Grove -----	2.50	3.75	2.50	3.75
Hickory Grove -----	2.00	2.00	5.10	6.00
Corinth -----	1.50	1.00	1.00	1.00
Spring Field -----	1.00	1.00	-----	2.35
Magnolia -----	1.00	1.00	.50	.50
Pleasant Home -----	1.50	1.50	2.00	-----
Shiloh -----	1.00	1.00	2.25	2.25
Union Springs -----	1.50	1.50	-----	-----
Prospect -----	1.50	1.50	2.00	1.00
New Harmony -----	1.00	1.50	-----	2.00
Rocky Grove -----	1.00	.75	.25	-----
New Pilgrim -----	.75	1.00	-----	1.00

Cedar Grove -----	1.10	1.00	-----	-----
Pittman Creek -----	1.50	1.50	-----	-----
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	\$22.35	\$23.00	\$15.60	\$19.85
Total -----				\$80.80

Shiloh Church

TREASURER'S REPORT OCT. 9, 1941

Amount on hand Oct. 10, 1940 for Missions -----	\$58.03
Amount on hand for Associational purposes -----	10.14
Total amount on hand Oct. 10, 1940 -----	\$68.17

Received for 1940 Session

For Associational purposes -----	\$18.25
For minutes -----	19.40
For missions -----	7.25
For education -----	11.25

Total Receipts -----	56.15

Total in Treasury -----	\$124.32
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Disbursements

Paid C. B. Green Clerk salary -----	\$10.00
Paid to Rev. T. B. Mellete for Zion Bible School -----	10.00
Paid C. B. Green for postage -----	2.02
Paid the Gospel Herald for minutes -----	30.00

Total Disbursements -----	\$ 52.02

Balance in Treasury for missions -----	\$65.28
Balance in Treasury for Associational purposes -----	5.77
Balance in Treasury for education -----	1.25

Total in Treasury -----	\$ 72.30

Respectfully Submitted,

J. W. D. Stephens, *Treasurer*

OBITUARIES

RODGERS: In memory of our beloved Bro. J. W. Rodgers, who has departed this life. His trials are over. His victory won. He kept the faith. He has gone to be with his loved ones who are resting in the sweet beyond. Peace be to him.

JOHNSON—In memory of our beloved Sister Simmie Johnson, who has departed this life. She leaves a husband and several children and a host of friends to mourn her loss. Peace be to her.

HAYES—On April 2nd, 1941, Brother Curtis Hayes, age 76 years, was called from this world. He had been in feeble health for several years but was very patient with his afflictions and always trusting God. Forty-nine years ago he became a member of Prospect Church. He was faithful

to his church, always filling his seat and doing whatever he could for God's Kingdom. Brother Hayes was married Forty-nine years ago to Sister Nelia Brackin who proved to be a faithful companion. There is a vacancy in his home, his church and community that can not be filled. But may we not spend our time mourning but preparing to meet him in Port of the Blessed.—Written by C. G. Scott, Church Clerk.

FENNELL—In loving memory of our beloved friend and Brother I. R. Fennell. He was a faithful member of Prospect Free Will Baptist Church for thirty years. On October 10, 1940, God saw fit to call him up higher. It is sad to be called upon by the grim reaper to part with those we love and have known so long, and to have to give up their sweet and smiling faces. Kind words of love mean so much to us toward helping us along this earthly life. Though he was in declining health for many years, he bore his afflictions with patience and smiles. He leaves to mourn their loss his wife, one son, six daughters and a host of relatives and friends. Now relatives and friends let us all strive to meet him in the sweet home beyond, where parting is no more.—Written by C. G. Scott, Clerk.

BARNES—This is in loving memory of Sister Lillian Barnes, who in the task of making peace between her loved ones met death on Sunday evening October 6th, 1940. In God's word we find these words, "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God." Lillian was sixteen years old and about three years ago she gave God her heart and became a member of Prospect Free Will Baptist Church. She was faithful until her death. A rose once climbed up the side of a wall, found its way through a crevice and bloomed on the other side. That is just what is happening today. Part of the bush is here and part there, but blooming on both sides. And in like manner as the fragrance of the rose remains in the petal long after it is fallen, so will Lillian's life; the words she spoke, the things she did remain with us a blessed heritage of friendship and affection. Time can teach us submission but not to forget. Life and its demands fill our hearts but does not still the pain caused by her going from us. Her last words were, "Mother, meet me in Heaven." She leaves her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Barnes, one brother and one sister and a host of relatives and friends to mourn their loss.

A Happy Home was once enjoyed,
How sweet that memory still,
But death has left a vacant chair,
That no one else can fill.

Remember, friends, as you pass by
As you are now, once was I.
As I am now, you soon shall be,
Prepare for death and follow me.

Let us all strive to meet Lillian in heaven where sorrows will be no more.—Written by a friend, Clifton G. Scott.

CHERRY—Clifford Cherry departed this life February 1, 1941. He was a member of Prospect Church, connecting himself with the church in his early days. He left a wife, son, mother, several brothers, two sisters, and many relatives. He was afflicted for many years but the Lord saw

fit to call him. He is not dead but sleeping in Christ and will awake on the last day. We all hope to meet in heaven where there will be no sickness, death nor sorrow but will be joy and happiness. Peace be unto him. —Written by his cousin, Rosana Prevatt.

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 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 blessing 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 post office.

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 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 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 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 as 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 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-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 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.

2. 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 permission.

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 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. —Genesis 3: 6; 1: 26; 5: 1 and 9: 6; Mark 16: 16; Acts 10: 43.

7. ATTONEMENT—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 FLECTION—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; Deut. 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 ser-

vice, 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.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

J. B. Lovering, New Pilgrim	Colquitt Ga.
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.

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.

LICENTIATES

E. W. Burch	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.
P. A. Brackin, Shiloh	Blakely, Ga.
A. C. Tolar, Union Springs	Center Hill, Fla.

STATISTICAL TABLE NO. 1

Churches	Pastors	Clerks and Post Offices	Increased by Baptism	Increased by Confession	Increased by Letter	Increased by Restoration	Decreased by Letter	Decreased by Expulsion	Decreased by Death	Male Members	Female Members	Meeting Days	Asso'al. Purposes	F. W. B. L. Presidents and Post Offices
Long Branch	G. W. Nobles	J. F. Thurston, Coffee Springs, Ala.	---	---	---	---	2	1	---	23	33	4	\$ 1.00	-----
Pleasant Ridge	J. C. Watson	-----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	47	55	1	1.00	-----
Spring Hill	W. H. Eley	Mrs. Hugh Jeffcoat, Gordon, Ala.	4	1	1	---	2	---	---	94	121	4	1.50	-----
Howards Grove	Floyd Cherry	J. R. Adams, Cottonwood, Ala.	6	1	---	---	1	---	5	139	333	3	2.50	G. H. Jordon, Cottonwood, Ala.
Hickory Grove	J. C. Eldridge	J. W. D. Stephens, Bascom, Fla.	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	117	157	1	2.00	G. W. Hatcher, Bascom, Fla.
Corinth	D. W. Poole	S. Jackson, Midland City, Ala.	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	55	68	3	1.50	-----
Springfield	Floyd Cherry	Vera Mae Hamrick, Ashford, Ala. Rt. 2	2	1	---	---	---	1	---	45	100	4	1.00	Ralph Ingram, Ashford, Ala.
Magnolia	J. L. Tetter	W. T. Weed, Midland City, Ala.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	48	60	2	1.00	-----
Pleasant Home	L. C. Mixon	Malcom Coleman, Geneva, Ala.	1	---	3	---	1	---	2	144	180	3	1.50	-----
Shiloh	J. B. Lovering	Bentley Smith, Columbia, Ala.	7	2	1	2	1	---	---	67	71	1&3	1.00	Gordon Odom, Columbia, Ala.
Union Springs	W. H. Eley	O. Z. Henderson, Pansey, Ala.	13	---	3	4	2	---	---	59	156	2	1.50	-----
Prospect	G. W. Nobles	C. G. Scott, Dothan, Ala., Rt. 3	3	1	---	---	7	3	4	76	133	3	1.50	E. T. Ingram, Dothan, Ala.
New Harmony	G. W. Nobles	A. J. Granger, Cottonwood, Ala.	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	78	137	2	1.00	-----
Rocky Grove	J. L. Nichols	Alice Robinson, Greenwood, Fla.	---	1	2	---	---	1	---	31	48	3	1.00	-----
New Pilgrim	J. B. Lovering	Foy Cook, Columbia, Ala.	1	3	2	---	---	---	---	29	34	1&4	.75	-----
Pittman Creek	L. C. Mixon	Rena Paul, Black, Ala., Rt. 1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	35	60	1	1.50	-----
Cedar Grove	J. C. Eldridge	W. F. Ditty, Greenwood, Fla.	6	9	4	---	---	---	---	10	9	3	1.10	-----
			43	19	16	6	16	5	16	1,098	1,755	---	\$22.35	

STATISTICAL TABLE NO. 2

Churches	Minutes	Missions	Education	Paid Pastor	Value of Church Building	Value of Other Property	No. in Sunday School	No. in F. W. B. L.	No. in Ladies Aid	Sunday School Superintendants and Post Offices	Ladies Aid Presidents and Post Offices
Long Branch	\$ 1.00	\$	\$	\$ 57.50	\$ 375	\$ 75					
Pleasant Ridge	.50			35.00	500	250					
Spring Hill	1.50			37.06	1,000	500	46			Bunion Etheridge, Gordon, Ala.	
Howards Grove	3.75	2.50	3.75	162.20	1,000	500	65	48	20	E. S. Jones, Ashford, Ala.	Sis. S. M. Womack, Cottonwood, Ala.
Hickory Grove	2.00	5.10	6.00	127.28	1,200	700	60	20		J. W. D. Stephens, Bascom, Fla.	
Corinth	1.00	1.00	1.00	52.50	700	200	37			A. J. Benefield, Midland City, Ala.	
Springfield	1.00		2.35	77.45	1,000	350	36	28	20	Hubert McNeal, Ashford, Ala.	Mrs. Lendon Hamrick, Ashford, Ala.
Magnolia	1.00	.50	.50	35.00	500	150	38			John Paramore, Midland City, Ala.	
Pleasant Home	1.50	2.00		35.00	1,000	250	84			Malcom Coleman, Geneva, Ala.	
Shiloh	1.00	2.25	2.25	133.97	750	200	56	45	12	Gordon Odom, Columbia, Ala.	L. V. Odom, Columbia, Ala.
Union Springs	1.50			76.00	1,500	300	63			W. P. Merritte, Pansey, Ala., Rt. 1	
Prospect	1.50	2.00	1.00	77.61	750	100	35	25		E. T. Ingram, Dothan, Ala.	
New Harmony	1.00		2.00	91.00	1,000	200					
Rocky Grove	.75	.25		8.70	1,000	500					
New Pilgrim	1.00		1.00	32.00	350	55					
Pittman Creek	1.50			25.00							
Cedar Grove	1.00						42				
	\$22.50	\$15.60	\$19.85				562	166	52		

STATISTICS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The State Line Free Will Baptist Association was Organized
At Howard Grove Church, Nov. 20, 1886

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. D. 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. D. 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. 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
1941—	G. W. Nobles,	C. B. Green,	Rocky Grove	2853