

MINUTES

of the

Sixtieth Annual Session

of the

STATE LINE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

held with

Union Springs Church

HOUSTON COUNTY, ALABAMA, OCTOBER 11, 1945

Officers

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

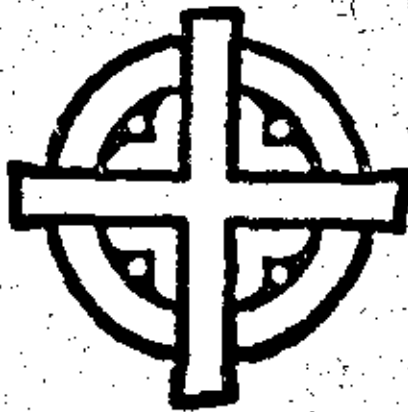
Executive Committee

J. C. HOWELL, Dothan, Ala.; E. S. JONES, Ashford, Ala.; C. B. GREEN, Bascom, Fla.; ULAS GRANGER, Cottonwood, Ala.; G. W. JEFFCOAT, Gordon, Ala.

Home Mission Board

MRS. GEORGIA TRAWICK, Dothan, Ala.; E. T. INGRAM, Dothan, Ala.; D. N. GUY, Greenwood, Fla.; ONEIL KIRKLAND, Columbia, Ala.; H. A. HICKS, Greenwood, Fla.

The next session meets with Cedar Grove Church on Thursday at 11:00 o'clock before the Second Sunday in October, 1946, located about 4 miles South East of Bascom, Fla.



1945

**FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS
AYDEN, N. C.**

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 Treasurer's report.
11. Call for miscellaneous business.
12. Elect officers.
13. Adjournment.

PROCEEDINGS

The State Line Free Will Baptist Association met with Union Springs Church, Houston County, Alabama, in its 60th Annual Session on Thursday, October 11, 1945. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. G. W. Nobles. Text: The latter clause of the 15th verse of 14th Chapter of Exodus. Bro. Nobles brought a very timely and pointedly message which was enjoyed by all present.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

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

A fifteen minute devotional by Prospect Church.

Prayer by Rev. Carl Schroeder.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats with us. Called for letters from the different churches. On motion the letters be read.

The Moderator appointed Sister E. T. Ingram and Sister J. A. Calloway to read the letters.

NAMES OF CHURCHES AND DELEGATES

Pittman Creek—M. F. Smith, A. M. Clark, J. D. Sowell, Sisters Lonnie French, Rena Paul, Lavern Sowell, Ola Clark.

New Harmony—A. J. Granger, James A. Calloway, Donnie Calloway, Ulas Granger, Leona Granger.

Cedar Grove—H. A. Hicks, Beatrice Hicks, Malvie Ditty.

Rocky Grove—David Daniels, Sara Adkins, Carrie Mae Fears, Gertie Robinson, Alice Robinson, Oliver Robinson.

Shiloh—J. M. Edmondson.

Prospect—J. C. McLendon, E. T. Ingram, Virgil Cherry, Edd Battles, Sisters Roxie Battles, Mary McLendon, Nellie Hayes, Irell Ingram, Georgia Trawick.

Hickory Grove—Maranda Ditty, R. B. Robinson, J. W. D. Stephens, Clyde Holloway, Neta Johnson, Audrey Green, Annie Baxter.

Magnolia—John Parramore.

Spring Hill—J. S. Conner, Whitman Lynn, C. E. Kirksey, G. T. Hughes.

Pleasant Ridge—Sidney Tindell, J. T. Hall, Sister Bessie Tindell.

Spring Field—Sister Dock Hamrick.

Pleasant Home—Lex Blalock, D. R. Hicks, Sister D. R. Hicks.

Howard Grove—W. J. Sowell, T. C. Jordan, Sisters Ruby Nobles, Nina Jones, Rhoda Jordan.

Corinth—By letter. This letter from Corinth was received after session closed.

Moved and carried the letters were received and delegates were seated in the body.

Called for Petitionary letters. One received. Namely: Hickory Hill—Bro. L. L. Gatlin, Sister L. L. Gatlin.

By motion this letter was received and delegates seated in the body.

Called for Correspondents from the different Associations. They were as follows:

Salem—Rev. Rufus Hyman, Rev. Carl Schroeder.

Martin—Bros. Drew Floyd, W. H. Horn, B. W. Cherry, H. L. Catrett.

Midway—Rev. J. N. Barnes, Rev. J. L. Tedder.

By motion these brethren and visitors were seated in the body.

By motion we elect officers.

Moved and carried. Suspend regular order of business and elect officers by nomination and acclamation. Rev. G. H. Jordan was elected Moderator.

Bro. C. B. Green was re-elected Clerk.

By motion Rev. Dan Guy was elected Assistant Moderator.

At this point the delegation from Hickory Hill Church was given right hand of fellowship.

By motion we adjourn until 9:30 o'clock Friday morning.

Song by choir.

Benediction by Rev. H. L. Catrett.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Devotional service conducted by Hickory Grove Church.

Re-assembled with Rev. G. H. Jordan, the Moderator, presiding.

Renewed the call for corresponding letters. Two received, namely:

Union Springs—J. J. Anglin, Huie Knight, E. R. Cook, S. F. Cook, Sisters Georgie McNeil, Ester Knight.

New Pilgrim—E. L. Hunter, Neal Kirkland, Rev. Mac Kirkland.

By motion these letters were read and adopted.

Renewed call for correspondents from sister associations. They were as follows:

Salem—T. O. Cook, C. L. Cook.

By motion the delegation from the different Associations together with visitors were seated in the body.

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

Union Hill—Rev. Mac Kirkland, Oneil Kirkland.

Salem—Rev. G. W. Nobles, E. S. Jones.

Midway—E. S. Jones, J. C. Howell.

Liberty—D. N. Guy.

South Eastern—Rev. G. W. Nobles, E. S. Jones, G. H. Jordan.

Martin—E. S. Jones, Rev. G. W. Nobles, G. H. Jordan.

By motion that we correspond with the State Association by delegation. They were as follows: D. R. Hicks, Mrs. D. R. Hicks, E. S. Jones, G. H. Jordan, J. C. Howell.

At this juncture a public collection of \$18.00 was taken. By motion that \$15.00 of this collection be used for fees to the State Association, and the question about the remaining \$3.00 be tabled at this time.

By motion we adjourn until 1:15 o'clock for preaching service. Rev. Carl Schroeder preached the 11:00 o'clock sermon. Text: 1st John 4-18. Bro. Schroeder's message was a spiritual feast to all present, it was very inspiring.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The body was called to order by Rev. G. H. Jordan, the Moderator.

Short devotional service conducted by Cedar Grove Church.

The roll was called and Decorum read.

By motion Moderator appoint an Ordination Committee.

Report on Education was read and adopted.

Report on Suggestions was read and adopted.

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

Report on Finance was read and adopted.

Report on Documents was read and adopted.

Report on Nominations was read and adopted.

Report on Obituaries was read and adopted.

Report of Ordination Committee was heard and adopted.

It was moved and carried that Bro. D. N. Guy be given his Ordination.

By motion this Association give Rev. Carl Schroeder a cordial invitation to become a member of our Association.

Treasurer's report was read and adopted.

Bro. J. W. D. Stephens gave 65 cents to replace Home Mission funds which was over drawn.

By motion to use the \$3.00 that was tabled to pay for printed programs.

Moved and carried we elect a new Home Mission Board. They were as follows: Mrs. Georgia Trawick, E. T. Ingram, D. N. Guy, Oneil Kirkland, H. A. Hicks.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

By motion appoint a committee to draft a new associational letter. They were as follows: D. W. Pool, Maranda Ditty, J. C. Howell.

By motion retain our same Executive Committee. Bro. Ulas Granger was nominated and elected to fill our deceased Bro. J. J. Burdeshaw's place here-to-fore.

By motion to pay our Clerk \$15.00 for his services.

By motion to pay Moderator \$10.00 for his services.

The Moderator, Rev. G. H. Jordan then made a move and it was carried that his \$10.00 go to the Educational funds.

By motion pay our Treasurer \$10.00 for his services.

The Treasurer, Bro. J. W. D. Stephens, then made a move and it was carried that his \$10.00 remain in the Treasury.

By motion rescind previous motion to ordain Bro. D. N. Guy at this time and that his ordination take place at New Harmony Church tomorrow night.

By motion Moderator appoint Bro. J. C. Howell to represent the State Line Association at the National Association.

Moved and carried we tender a vote of thanks to Union Springs Church and community for their kindness and hospitality shown us during the sitting of this Association.

By motion this Association adjourn.

Song by choir.
Benediction by Rev. D. W. Pool.

Rev. G. H. Jordan, Moderator.
C. B. Green, Clerk.

P. S.—This is to certify that the ordination of Bro. D. N. Guy from Cedar Grove Church, mentioned in the Proceedings at this session of the Association, was carried out the following night at New Harmony Church. Also Bro. Carl F. Schroeder of Altha, Fla., Calhoun County, was ordained the same night.

REPORT OF DISBURSEMENTS OF PROSPECT CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Paid out for Missions	\$50.00
Paid out for Orphanage	\$40.00
Paid out for Education	\$20.00
Paid out for Building Fund	\$20.00

STATISTICS

Prospect Church sent direct to various Boards the following contributions:

Foreign Mission	\$ 40.11
Home Missions	\$ 21.25
Education	\$ 10.96
Paid Evangelist for Revival	\$144.50

STATISTICS

Hickory Grove Church sent direct to various Boards the following contributions:

Paid to Foreign Missions	\$44.42
Paid to F. W. B. Bible School	\$94.43

Spring Hill Church sent in for Foreign Missions, \$10.13.

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

We, your Committee on Nominations, respectfully submit the following report: We nominate Cedar Grove Church as host to the 1946 Association, with the Rev. D. W. Poole to preach the introductory sermon.

Ulas Granger,
Lex Blalock,
Sister Irell Ingram.

TREASURER'S REPORT—October 11, 1945

Amount on hand October 5, 1944, for Missions	\$85.38
Amount on hand October 5, 1944, for Education	32.10

Total amount on hand	\$117.48
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Received for 1944 Session:

For Minutes (\$26.25 and \$5.00 unaccounted for)	\$31.25
For Missions (\$15.50 and \$18.65 refunded)	34.15

For Education -----	34.60
For Associational purposes (\$33.00 and \$7.33 from collection) -----	40.33
Total Receipts -----	\$140.33
Total in Treasury -----	\$257.81

Disbursements:

Paid C. B. Green, Clerk, salary -----	\$15.00
Paid J. W. D. Stephens, Treasurer -----	10.00
Paid Rev. G. W. Nobles, Moderator -----	10.00
Paid C. B. Green, postage, etc. -----	2.23
Paid F. W. B. Bible School, Nashville, Tenn. -----	66.70
Paid F. W. B. Press, for Minutes -----	35.00
Total Disbursements -----	\$138.93
Balance in Treasury for Missions -----	\$118.88

In the above report 65 cents was used of the Mission funds.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. D. Stephens, Treasurer.

OBITUARIES

We, your Committee on Obituaries, report the deaths of 20 members within the bounds of the State Line Association, namely: Bro. Ralph Ingram, Bro. Willie J. Temples, Bro. Jim Glass, Sis. Odell Fields, Bro. Lee Groundin, Bro. John Eubanks, Sis. Fannie L. Dixon, Bro. James T. Stephens, Bro. T. J. Miller, Sis. Callie French, Sis. Annie Fears, Bro. A. P. Howell, Rev. J. J. Burdesaw, Bro. William Amon Cherry, Sis. Lula Arnold, Sis. Fannie Adams, Bro. Tiff Trawick, Sis. America Hayes, Bro. R. O. Johnson, Bro. Eudon Durden.

Respectfully submitted,

J. S. Conner,

Whitman Lynn.

COMMITTEES FOR 1946 APPOINTED BY THE MODERATOR

Suggestions—Cedar Grove Church.

Education—Hickory Grove Church.

Finance—Spring Hill Church.

Auxiliaries—Prospect Church.

Obituaries—Pleasant Home Church.

State of Churches and Character of Ministers—Howard Grove.

Divine Service—Program Committee.

Home Missions—Union Springs Church.

Program Committee—Bro. J. W. D. Stephens, Sis. Malvie Ditty, Rev. G. H. Jordan.

Ordination Committee—Rev. G. W. Nobles, Rev. Rufus Hyman, Bro. E. T. Ingram.

FINANCE REPORT

For Associational purposes, \$36.55; For Minutes, \$31.75; For Education, \$39.00; For Missions, \$24.75.

E. S. Jones, Chairman.

REPORT ON STATE OF CHURCHES AND CHARACTER OF MINISTERS

We, your Committee on State of Churches and Character of Ministers, submit the following report: In so far as we can learn the churches are in good condition and the character of ministers are excellent.

Respectfully submitted,

J. J. Anglin,

Mrs. Esther Knight,

Mrs. Georgia Mc Niel,

S. F. Cook.

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS

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

We feel that every member of the Free Will Baptist Church should be loyal to every agency of our denomination. The Free Will Baptist Press at Ayden, N. C., and the Press at Monett, Mo., have all kinds of religious literature for all the family to read, also tracts to pass on to your neighbor to read. We urge each church to get a church library started. Your children are going to read something so why not start them on the right road by placing clean religious books before them. Also one or both of the Free Will Baptist papers should go to every home in our Association.

We suggest too, that we keep the plan that was voted in last year's session to elect a reporter from this associational body to report matters of interest to be printed in our church papers.

Every Sunday School, League and Ladies Aid should use literature printed for our own denomination.

Respectfully,

Prospect Church.

REPORT ON SUGGESTIONS

We, your Committee on Suggestions offer the following:

We suggest that each church in this Association go on a budget system for raising funds for carrying on the gospel work.

We suggest that this Association send a delegation to the Sectional Association that has been organized for South Alabama, and West Florida.

We suggest that this Association support the training camp that we hope will be organized and established soon somewhere in the bounds of the Sectional Association.

Hickory Grove Church.

REPORT ON EDUCATION

We, your Committee on Education, recommend that each church in our Association make a contribution to our Free Will Baptist School, the

amount to be determined by each individual church and sent either directly to the school or through the Association as the church wishes.

Respectfully submitted,
New Harmony Church.

OBITUARIES

FIELDS—This is in memory of Sister Ideller Fields. She was born May 23, 1868 and departed this life April 16, 1945, making her stay on earth nearly 76 years. She joined the F. W. B. Church more than 40 years ago, and she was faithful to her church as long as she was able to go. She was also faithful to her duties from a child through life, was a faithful wife, a faithful mother, and especially a faithful grandmother. She was a noble servant to wait on the sick. Sister, it is sad for us to part, but the Lord knew best. So that is why he called you to rest. So sleep on in Jesus arms for ever bless. Gone but not forgotten. She leaves to mourn her loss six daughters, a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Written by her sister-in-law and her brother—Berry Robinson.

FRENCH—In memory of our beloved Sister Callie French, who departed from us in 1944. She was a member with us at Pittman Creek Church for many years. She was a faithful member to the church. A seat is vacant a voice is silent. But our loss is heaven's gain. Let us strive to meet her where there is no sad parting. Written by a member of Pittman Creek Church.

BURDESHAW—In memory of our beloved brother, Rev. J. J. Burdeshaw, who departed this life on February 6, 1945. He was born December 5, 1858 and joined the Congregationalist Church in 1878. On July 17, 1897 he was ordained a minister by that denomination. He pastored churches for a few years and then joined the Free Will Baptist Church at Prospect in East Dothan, Ala. He was given the privilege to pastor churches under the same ordination given him by the Congregationalist denomination. He served churches of the Free Will Baptist denomination in the Wiregrass section for many years until his eyesight began to fail him so bad he could not read. Even after he was almost blind and deaf he got an old negro man to drive a horse and buggy and take him to his own church on Conference days. He was loyal to his church and his God until the death angel came and took him away. He married Miss Sarah Newton when he was a young man. To this union there were seven children born. Three of these and his loving wife preceded him to the grave. He leaves to mourn his going two sons, Houston Burdeshaw of Birmingham, Ala., and Dr. H. B. Burdeshaw of Dothan, Ala., two daughters, Mrs. Lila Robinson, Dothan, Ala., and Mrs. Blanche Still of Montgomery, Ala., also three grandchildren and one great-grandchild. His funeral was conducted at the home with Rev. L. C. Brannon officiating and Rev. Annie Campbell assisting. The body was laid to rest in the family plot at Rocky Branch Church, under a great mound of beautiful flowers. There is a vacancy in his home, his church and community that can not be filled. We feel that he could say with Paul, "I have fought a good fight, I have fin-

ished my course, I have kept the faith, henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day." Written by Prospect Church Clerk.

ARNOLD—On September 21st, the death angel visited the home of Mr. Henry Arnold and took away his wife, Lula Arnold. She was 58 years old. Sister Arnold was loved by every one who knew her. She was a devoted wife and loving mother. She leaves her husband and 5 children. They are Mildred Arnold, Victor and Donald Arnold of Dothan, Route 3, Douglas Arnold of Lynn Haven, Fla., Rosby Arnold of U. S. N., 3 sisters, 1 brother, 5 grandchildren, 3 uncles and 3 aunts and a host of friends and other relatives to mourn her death. Sister Arnold joined Prospect Free Will Baptist Church when she was young and lived a true Christian all the rest of her life. Her funeral was conducted by her pastor, Rev. Rufus Hyman, at the home, and her body was laid to rest in the City Cemetery beneath a mound of beautiful flowers. There is a vacancy in her home, church, and community that can not be filled, but our loss is heaven's gain. Let us all strive to meet her where there is no sad parting. Written by her cousin, Mrs. Rosana Prevatt.

STEPHENS—In memory of our beloved Bro. James T. Stephens, who departed this life early in 1945. He gave his life and a vacant place in his home for the sake of the dear old U. S. A., and its religion.

Your gentle face and patient smile
With sadness we recall;
You had a kindly word for each
And died beloved by all.
The voice is mute and stilled the heart
That loved us well and true,
Ah, bitter was the trial to part
From one so good as you.
You are not forgotten, loved one,
Nor will you ever be,
As long as life and memory last
We will remember thee.
We miss you now, our hearts are sore,
As time goes by we miss you more;
Your loving smile, your gentle face;
No one can fill your place.

—Written by Clerk.

MILLER—In memory of our beloved Bro. T. J. Miller who departed this life early in 1945. He leaves a companion and several children and a host of friends to mourn his departure. There is a vacancy in his home, his church and community that will not be filled. But our loss is heaven's gain. Let us strive to meet him where there is no sad parting. Peace be to him. Written by the Clerk of Association.

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

ARTICLES OF FAITH

of members present at any two successive monthly conferences.

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 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.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

A. C. Tolar, Union Springs	Center Hill, Ala.
W. T. Henderson, Union Springs	Webb, Ala.
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. Stephens, Hickory Grove	St. Petersburg, Fla.
Joseph Whitaker, Howard Grove	Ashford, Ala.
L. C. Mixon, Pleasant Home	Geneva, Ala.
W. T. Hutto, Corinth	Midland City, Ala.
J. J. Burdeshaw, Prospect	Dothan, Ala.
P. A. Brackin, Shiloh	Blakely, Ga.
D. W. Poole, Pleasant Ridge	Columbus, Ga.
John Carr, Pleasant Home	Greenwood, Fla.
D. N. Guy, Cedar Grove	Bascom, Fla.

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.

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
1942—J. C. Howell, C. B. Green, Pleasant Home	2672
1943—G. W. Nobles, C. B. Green, Pittman Creek	2727
1944—G. W. Nobles, C. B. Green, Howards Grove	2788
1945—G. H. Jordan, C. B. Green, Union Springs	2717

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
Shiloh	J. N. Barnes	Bentley Smith, Columbia, Ala., Rt.	4	4					1	75	82	2-4	\$ 2.00	Billie Caldwell, Columbia, Ala.
Spring Hill	Rufus Hyman	Mrs. Hugh Jeffcoat, Gordon, Ala.	5			4		1	2	96	122	4	4.00	
New Pilgrim	W. A. Clark	E. L. Hunter, Columbia, Ala.											1.00	
Spring Field	B. W. Clenny	Vera Mae Hamrick, Ashford, Ala.					3		1	40	60	1	1.00	
Corinth	W. S. Sketo	S. Jackson, Midland City, Ala.								58	72	3	4.00	
Rocky Grove	J. L. Tedder	Alice Robinson, Greenwood, Fla.	1	1						32	49	2	2.00	
Howards Grove	H. L. Catrett	J. R. Adams, Cottonwood, Ala.	3	1			2		5	114	320	4	2.50	
Magnolia	D. W. Pool	W. T. Weed, Midland City, Ala.	1	6			1			51	62	2	2.00	
Pleasant Ridge	L. C. Mixon	Sidney Tindell, Cottonwood, Ala.	1				2		1	52	51	1	2.00	
Pleasant Home	L. C. Mixon	H. E. Dixon, Geneva, Ala.					4		2	133	176	3	3.00	
Hickory Grove	D. F. Pelt	J. W. D. Stephens, Bascom, Fla.					1		2	115	160	1	4.00	
Prospect	Rufus Hyman	Mrs. Arthur Trawick, Dothan, Ala.	10	1	1		6	1	3	43	60	1-3	2.00	Mary Edna Brown, Dothan, Ala., Rt. 4
Union Springs	J. L. Tedder	E. J. Henderson, Columbia, Ala.	7							91	159	2	2.00	
New Harmony	T. B. Mellette	A. J. Granger, Cottonwood, Ala.							2	89	134	2	1.00	
Pittman Creek	A. J. Carr	M. F. Smith, Black, Ala.	2		3				1	53	103	1	1.50	
Cedar Grove	J. A. Carr	Wayne Hicks, Greenwood, Fla.	1	1	1		1			11	16	4	2.00	
Hickory Hill	A. C. Toler	Evelyn Brandon, Center Hill, Fla.	7	3						11	27	1	1.50	
			42	15	7	4	20	2	20	1064	1653		\$37.50	

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 Superintendents and Post Offices
Shiloh	\$ 1.00	\$ 6.00	\$ 3.00	\$177.29	\$ 800	\$ 200	52	26		Pat Love, Columbia, Ala.
Spring Hill	2.00	2.00	2.00	190.12	1,000	500	55			Whitman Lynn, Gordon, Ala.
New Pilgrim	2.00									
Spring Field	3.00		4.00	150.00	1,000	500				
Corinth	1.00			150.25	700	200	29			A. J. Benefield, Midland City, Ala.
Rocky Grove	.75	2.25		75.00	1,200	200	18			Oliver Robinson, Greenwood, Fla.
Howards Grove	3.50	4.00	5.00	285.00	1,000	500	65			E. S. Jones, Ashford, Ala.
Magnolia	2.00	3.00	3.00	175.00	1,000	500	25			Summers Paramore, Midland City, Ala.
Pleasant Ridge	2.00			195.00	1,000	250	42			Elmer Monday, Marianna, Fla.
Pleasant Home	1.50	1.50	3.00	87.90	1,500	500	81			Joe Edd Bottoms, Geneva, Ala.
Hickory Grove	4.00			244.84	1,500	500	62			J. W. D. Stephens, Bascom, Fla.
Prospect	2.00			401.11	1,500	1,500	77	30		C. G. Scott, Dothan, Ala., Rt. 4
Union Springs	2.00			125.00	2,000	300	42			W. P. Merritt, Pansey, Ala.
New Harmony	1.50		13.00	125.00	1,500	200				
Pittman Creek	1.50	1.00	1.00	160.15	1,000	400	46			W. M. Davis, Black, Ala.
Cedar Grove	.50	5.00	5.00	100.00	900	150	23			Wayne Hicks, Greenwood, Fla.
Hickory Hill	1.50			47.25	500	100				
	\$31.75	\$24.75	\$39.00				510	56	00	