

MINUTES  
OF THE  
Forty-Third Annual Session  
OF THE  
West Florida Liberty Free-Will  
Baptist Association  
HELD WITH  
Blountstown Church

BLOUNTSTOWN, FLORIDA  
October 16th and 17th, 1931

— o —  
BRO. G. W. OWENS.....Moderator  
J. T. BIRGE.....Clerk and Treasurer

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

T. E. Parrish  
J. A. Johnson      W. C. Sheffield  
J. T. Birge      Jesse Gainey

— o —  
The next Session will convene with Happy Days Church, 4 miles south of Grand Ridge, Thursday before the third Sunday in October 1932. Rev. C. I. Wells will preach the introductory. Spring Hill Church, 4 miles north of Bonifay gets the next Union Meeting. Rev. A. L. Pate will preach the introductory, on Saturday before the second Sunday in August.

Printed by The News, Graceville, Florida

# PROCEEDINGS

— 0 —

## THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

The Association met in regular order. As Bro. Duncan was sick and not able to fill the stand, Rev. K. V. Shoots preached, and Bro. Wells closed.

Scripture Lesson, Matthew 28 chapter, 19th and 20th verses

After which a special prayer was rendered for Bro. Duncan.

Dismissed one hour for noon.

— 0 —

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

House called to order by the Moderator.

Prayer by W. P. Burk.

Scripture Lesson, 2nd Chapter Hebrew.

Call for letters from various Churches and enrollment of delegates as follows:

From Noma, \$2.00; Sister Nonie Birge.

Piney Grove—For Minutes \$3 00 Isaac Shores, J. A. Johnson, J. A. Owens, T. D. Owens, A. P. Weeks, W. H. Shores, C. D. Owens, Coy Owens.

Beulah—\$2.55. W. C. Pettis, Sister Ellen Breck, H. E. Elmore, C. J. Brock.

St. John—\$1.75. J. W. Nelson, A. B. Cook, Sister Cook, Sister Rosie Young, Pastell Paramore.

Spring Hill—\$2.00. Levy Davis, J. I. Mears, Sister Janie Mears, E. C. Anderson, Sister Mollie Anderson.

Blountstown—\$5.00. Charley Yon, W. A. Ray, Linnie Spivey, W. J. Starry, J. W. Causey, Arthur Bryant.

New Concord—By letter only.

Cowarts Creek—\$2 50 H. B. Fowler, D. T. Hall, M. C. Dixon, A. Fowler, Sister Lizzie Fowler.

Poplar Head—\$1.50. A. L. Pate.



## 2 West Florida Liberty Free-Will Baptist Assn.

Liberty—\$1.25. A. B. Cook.

Mt. Glory—\$3.00. J. W. Powell and wife, J. A. Taylor Rev. J. I. Moody.

Poley Branch—\$2.00. W. C. Whitted, J. C. Morris, W. R. McAlpin.

New Harmony—\$1.50. J. D. Hughes, Simon Barkley.

Pleasant Hill—\$1.50. Whit Lawrence, Henry Mears, Marty Mears.

St. Paul—\$1.25. J. C. Clemons, C. C. Clemons, Sister Ludia.

The Association being duly organized went into election of a Moderator and Clerk.

Bro. G. W. Owens was elected Moderator and J. T. Birge, Clerk.

Call for Petitionary Letters was received as follows:

Happy Days Church with \$2.50 was received with their delegate Rufus Neal and Green Hatcher.

Call for Delegates from Sister Association.

From Salem—Rev. Hyman, Rev. Shoots. A. W. Cook, I. O. Cook.

The Delegates were welcomed by the Association.

The various committees were appointed as follows:

Committee on Divine Service—Charley Yon, Bennett Cook J. H. Mears, W. C. Pettis.

Committee on Resolutions—Rev. A. L. Pate, T. E. Parrish, T. D. Owens, W. C. Whitted, Henry Elmore.

Committee on Finance—Sister Julia Clemons, Sister Janie Mears, Bro. Hyman.

Committee on Auxiliary—R. E. Golden, Sister Pendarves, W. J. Starry, Sister Florence Fiveash.

Committee on Temperance—S. J. Spivey, C. C. Clemons, W. C. Sheffield, J. I. Mears, G. W. English, J. A. Owens.

Committee on Nomination—E. C. Anderson, Coy Owens, J. C. Clemons.

Committee on Ministers, Churches and Association—Henry Elmore J. A. Johnson, Johnnie Morris, James A.

Taylor, David Cook, Rufus Neel, J. W. Causey.

Committee on Education—J. I. Moody, G. W. English, Bro. Hyman, J. S. Hughes, K. V. Shoots, Isaac Shores.

Committee on Divine Service reported as follows:

Rev. C. I. Wells will preach at 7 o'clock. Bro. Pate will close.

Committee on Memorial—Sister Rosie Young, Sister Mary Cook, Sister Nonie Birge, Sister Rebecca Shores, Arthur Cook, M. H. Conger, W. H. McAlper.

Adjourned until 8:30 a. m. Friday.

Bro. Wells and Bro. Pate delivered a fine sermon. Scripture lesson, 25th chapter of Matthew,

— o —

### FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

House called to order by Moderator.

Prayer by J. I. Moody.

Scripture Lesson, James 3rd chapter.

Divine Service Committee reported Bro. K. V. Shoots to preach at 11 o'clock with Bro. Joe Hudson to follow.

Renew the call for correspondence.

— o —

### CALL FOR REPORT OF COMMITTEES

#### COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE

Retained same old report and make the following report: We are made to believe that Temperance is one of the greatest thoughts known to mankind. If we disobey the laws of God by getting into an intemperate attitude we bring upon ourselves condemnation, because He said: "Be ye temperate in all things", therefore we should all join together in urging and helping one another to be more temperate because the things that God has given as a blessing to mankind can be used so that it will prove a curse instead of a blessing.

S. J. SPIVEY, Chairman.

## 4 West Florida Liberty Free-Will Baptist Assn.

---

### COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

Report as follows: We have no change to make as we have all the laws that we need if we will keep them, and we urge our churches to keep them to the letter.

T. E. PARRISH, Chairman.

### COMMITTEE ON NOMINATION

As we have two churches calling for the Association we will leave it up to the Association to settle the place.

E. C. ANDERSON, Chairman.

### COMMITTEE ON MEMORIAL

Reported as follows: God has seen fit to call from us the following members: Rev. F. C. Morris and wife, Sister Dicey Morris of Poley Branch. C. F. Cook and Sister Martha Nelson of St. John. C. A. Fussel and Sister Georgia Parker, age 80, of Piney Grove. Sister Jane Clemmons and Sister Mollie Gainey of St. Paul. Sister Morris and one unknown of New Harmony. One unknown from Poplar Head. Rev. W. N. Evans of Blountstown.

The following delegates to visit Sister Association:

Union Hill—Rev. A. L. Pate, Henry Mears, Sam Spivey, G. W. English.

Salem—Sam Spivey, T. D. Owens, G. W. English.

State Line—J. S. Moody.

Bro. K. V. Shoots was elected State Evangelist.

11 o'clock sermon.

Prayer by Rev. W. M. Duncan,

Text, Neh. 4. 6.

Public collection for Zion Bible School \$6.80.

Public donation for Bro. Duncan \$12.00.

Dismissed one hour for refreshments,

— o —

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

House called to order by the Moderator.

G. W. Owens and J. T. Birge were elected delegates to

the General Conference.

It was voted that every member try to send 10 cents to the Treasurer of the Association for Associational purposes.

Moved to retain same Executive Committee.

Moved to print 300 minutes.

Moved to pay the clerk \$7.50.

#### COMMITTEE ON MINISTERS AND CHURCHES

Report as follows: We have investigated the case of Bro. N. E. Chestnut and he has made satisfactory to this committee and will make the proper acknowledgement to Poplar Head.

HENRY ELMORE, Chairman

#### COMMITTEE ON AUXILIARY

We your committee find out of 17 churches there are five Sunday Schools, two Leagues, and one Aid Society. We also notice that the churches which have these organizations are more progressive in every way than those that do not have any of them. Therefore we urge every church to organize them, as they furnish a place for every member to work. We hope to find more of them in the next Association.

K. V. SHOOT, Chairman.

#### RESOLUTION OF THANKS

We the Delegates and Messengers of the Liberty Association do offer our thanks to the Blountstown church and the town at large for our stay with them. Tongues cannot express our heart felt thanks toward those good people. May God bless one and all for the kindness and care rendered us.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

We find on hand.....\$32.05

We find in the Treasury..... 4.02

Total \$36.07

BRO. HYMAN, Chairman.

## 6 West Florida Liberty Free-Will Baptist Assn.

---

### TREASURER'S REPORT

We have on hand.....	\$36.07
Less clerk's salary.....	7.50
Total	\$28.57

St. Paul \$1.25 unpaid.

— o —

### LIST OF DELEGATES

Sister Nonie Birge, Isaac Shores, J. A. Johnson, J. A. Owens, C. D. Owens, Coy Owens, A. P. Weeks, W. H. Shores, Sister Ellen Brock, H. E. Elmore, C. J. Brock, J. W. Nelson, A. B. Cook and Sister Cook, Sister Rosie Young, Pastell Paramore, Levy Davis, J. I. Mears, Sister Janie Mears, E. C. Anderson and wife, Charley Yon, W. A. Ray, Sister Linnie Spivey, J. W. Starry, J. W. Causey, Arthur Bryant, K. B. Fowler, D. T. Hall, M. C. Dixon, A. Fowler, Sister Lizzie Fowler, A. L. Pate, A. B. Cook, J. W. Powell and wife, J. A. Taylor, Rev. J. I. Moody, W. C. Whitted, J. C. Morris, W. R. McAlpin, T. D. Hughes, Simon Barkley, Whit Lawrence, Henry Mears, Marty Mears, J. C. Clemmons, C. C. Clemmons, Sister Julia Clemmons, Rufus Neal, Green Hatcher, T. D. Owen.

— o —

### COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Report as follows: 1. Seeing the tendency of this enlightened age is to expand, we urge our parents to give their children a Christian education. For the bible says: "Raise up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he won't depart from it." We also ask our ministers to better prepare themselves to rightly divide the word of Christ.

2. We also find that there is six Associations near Zion Bible School at Blakely, Ga., and if each one will give \$200.00 it will pay two teachers and will put the school out of debt. We ask that this Association and one member of



each church to help raise this money and send it to the School for we want the School to continue. This school is for the purpose of carrying on the faith that our fathers have followed thus far, having labored in the heat of the day for us. Will we let this banner they are having to lay down trail in the dust, or carry it on? Let us carry it on Brothers.

We ask our people to subscribe for the Free-Will paper and for the Sunday Schools to use the Free-Will Baptist literature.

BRO. HYMAN, Chairman.

— o —

#### COMMITTEE ON FINANCE FOR ZION BIBLE SCHOOL

Bro. W. C. Whitted, Greensboro, Fla.

Sister Beatrice Owens, Chipley, Fla.

Sister Florence Fiveash, Blountstown, Fla.

J. W. Powell, Route B, Quincy, Fla.

W. C. Sheffield, Graceville, Fla.

Whit Lawrence, Bonifay, Fla.

Rosie Young, Bonifay, Fla.

May Cook, Bonifay, Fla.

Janie Mears, Bonifay, Fla.

Myrtle Brundrick, Grand Ridge, Fla.





## 8 West Florida Liberty Free-Will Baptist Assn.

---

### ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Call for Corresponding Letters and Enrollment of Delegates.
3. Electing a Moderator and Clerk.
4. Call for Petitionary Letters.
5. Call for Correspondents from Sisterly Association.
6. Appointing of Committees.
7. Appointing of Correspondents.
8. Reading of Corresponding Letters.
9. Hearing Report of Committee.
10. Miscellaneous Business.

— o —

### NAMES OF ORDAINED MINISTERS

A. L. PATE .....	Bonifay, Fla.
A. B. NELSON .....	Bonifay, Fla.
C. I. WELLS .....	Graceville, Fla.
M. L. HALL .....	Bonifay, Fla.
J. H. CHESTNUT .....	Bonifay, Fla.
G. W. ENGLISH .....	Chipley, Fla.
S. E. CARROLL .....	Hartford, Ala.
J. C. CARNLEY .....	Bonifay, Fla.
J. M. McDANIEL .....	Vernon, Fla.
W. A. CLARK .....	Black, Ala.
JOE HUDSON .....	Vernon, Fla.
W. M. DUNCAN .....	Blountstown, Fla.
J. I. CHASON .....	Rt. 1 Box 44, Crescent City, Fla.



## STATISTICAL TABLE

Churches and Pastors	Clerk	Baptism	By Letter	Restored	Total Recieved	Dis By Letter	Excluded	Died	Membership	Days of Meeting
Blountstown, C. I. Wells..	T.E. Parrish, Blountstown, Fla	37	16	2	55	0	7	1	136	3rd Sunday
P'y Grove, J. C. Eldridge	T. D. Owens, Chipley, Fla.....	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	93	4th Sunday
Noma, Joe Hudson.....	Sophie Glass, Bonifay, Fla.....	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	129	1st Sunday
St. Johns, Rufus Hyman..	J. E. Sims, Bonifay, Fla.....	11	3	0	14	1	0	2	115	3rd Sunday
Poplar Head, A. L. Pate..	A. F. Squires, Bonifay, Fla.....	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	40	1st Sunday
Mt. Glory, W. J. Rooks....	Mrs. J. A. Taylor, Quincy, Fla.	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	60	
Beulah, Rufus Hyman.....	W. C. Pettis, Graceville, Fla.....	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	80	4th Sunday
C'wts Creek, J. A. Pettis	J. C. Fowler, Dothan, Ala.....	1	5	0	6	1	8	0	89	4th Sunday
Spring Hill, A. B. Nelson	J. L. Smith, Bonifay, Fla.....	3	2	0	2	9	2	0	85	2nd Sunday
Liberty, A. B. Nelson.....	J. Foster, Vernon, Fla.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	63	
New Concord		1	1	0	0	1	0	0	41	
St. Paul, C. I. Wells.....	J. L. Gainey, Vernon, Fla. ....	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	43	2nd Sunday
P'ly Branch, M. H. Conger	J. C. Morris, Greensboro, Fla.	5	0	0	7	0	1	2	43	4th Sunday
New Har'y, S. E. Carroll..	H. C. Martin, Chipley, Fla.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	35	
Pl'nt Hill A. B. Nelson....	W. G. Lawrence, Bonifay, Fla.	2	2	0	4	0	0	0	43	
Happy Days J. A. Hudson	Early Hatcher	12	0	16	0	0	0	0	28	

## 10 West Florida Liberty Free-Will Baptist Assn.

### CHURCH DECORUM

1. The church may choose a pastor annually at last conference in Association year, or, if they prefer, may choose a pastor for an indefinite length of time to continue from year to year as long as he 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 Moderator of church, but when the Moderator, being present, same is absent, or does not sit, a suitable brother shall be appointed in his place.

4. There shall be two or more deacons in the church whose duty it shall be to superintend the collection and distribution of all contributions made for pastor, etc., and to distribute the bread and wine in the administration of the Lord's Supper.

5. The deacons shall also take notice of such members as refuse or neglect to partake of the Lord's Supper, and endeavor to ascertain the cause, that the same may be laid before the church conference if necessary.

6. 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 preserve a file of the minutes of the Association.

7. When a clerk is appointed all the books, minutes, etc., belonging to the clerk shall be immediately turned over to him by his predecessor.

8. When it becomes 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 cases of dealing, etc., with the church.

9. The church shall hold two day's meeting embracing Saturday and the Lord's Day following, the first of which shall be the regular time for conference.

10. It shall be the duty of every member, male or female to attend each conference, if they can, for on that day the pastor is expected to instruct the church in a special manner by giving plain and pointed lessons on church doctrine, discipline and rules of holy living.

11. Any male member who shall fail to attend three successive conferences, and any member who may be generally remiss in attending meetings of the church according to covenant (Article 10) shall be cited to appear in conference and answer for his conduct, but the church may exempt members from this if necessary.

12. Conference shall be opened as follows: First prayer, unless divine service has just been concluded, and generally then; Second, invite visiting brethren to seats with us; Third, open the doors for reception to members; Fourth, call for absentees; Fifth, for acknowledgements; Sixth, for references or deferred business; Seventh, for matters of dealing which are in order to come before the church; Eighth, for miscellaneous business.

13. Visiting brethren called in as help from other churches shall be allowed to vote.

14. An ordinary member of a Baptist church which does not hold this church in fellowship, may be received into this church without a letter when it is made apparent that his Christian character is unrepachable and that he has applied for a letter and could not obtain it because he wanted to join this or some sister church. All other persons must join by letter or baptism.

15. We receive members by experience or baptism; on confession of faith; by letter or restoration.

16. When the Moderator calls for absentees the Clerk



## 12 West Florida Liberty Free-Will Baptist Assn.

shall inform the church what male members have been absent from three successive conferences, and the Moderator shall appoint some brother or brethren to cite each of them the next conference.

17. 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.

18. 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 the witness?"

19. The evidence in every case of dealing and acknowledgement shall be printed in the church book.

20. Members dismissed from the church by the letter who become disorderly or continue to hold their letter without good reason shall be cited to conference to answer for their conduct.

21. Expelled members may be restored to fellowship on their petition, if their walk since expulsion has convinced the church that they have sincerely repented of their former evil.

22. A vote shall not be taken on any question without a move and second, and on all important questions the vote shall be taken by rising to the feet.

23. No motion shall be made while a move and second is before the conference.

24. It shall be considered disorderly for a member to absent himself from conference when an important question is to be decided; but a member upon request may be exempted by the church from voting on either side in peculiar cases.

25. No member shall leave the house during conference without a sufficient excuse, nor engage in conversation or whispering, without being subjected to be called to

order by the Moderator.

26. All discussion in conference must be conducted with calmness and good feeling. Those who speak must rise to their feet and keep to the point in debate.

27. No one shall speak more than three times on the same subject without permission of the Moderator, nor shall the remarks on any one be unreasonably long.

28. When the Moderator speaks he must nominate some brother as Moderator in his stead.

29. No one shall be interrupted while speaking unless it be necessary to call him to order.

30. We believe it to be the duty of the church to communicate, wash the saint's feet as often as the church sees fit, the expenses to be paid by the church.

31. Members not in good standing should not commune, but the administration should not be deferred on account of any ordinary matter of dealing.

32. Public fasting, humiliation and prayer shall be observed on proper occasions.

— o —

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe there is but one living and true God, whose name is Jehovah, the maker and ruler of the universe.—1st Cor. 8:6; 1st Tim. 2:5-6.

2. We believe that there is one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and by whom salvation is made secure —Heb. 2:9; St. John 3:16; 1st John 2:2.

3. We believe that in the beginning that God made man upright and placed him in a state of glory, without the least mixture of misery from which he voluntarily, by transgression fell, and by that means brought on himself, a miserable and mortal state, subject to death.— Genesis 2:17; 3:19.

## 14 West Florida Liberty Free-Will Baptist Assn.

4. We believe that no man shall suffer in hell for the lack of Christ.—Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47; 1st Tim. 2:4,

5. We believe that the holy scriptures are the word of God and they are the only rule of faith and practice.—Acts 17:30; Heb. 3:10; 1st John 5:10.

6. We believe that sinners are drawn to God, the Father, by the Holy Ghost through Jesus Christ, the Son.—2nd Tim. 3: 16-17.

7. We believe that good works are the fruits of faith and faith without work is dead.—Luke 14:16; Math. 28:19; Luke 13:3-5; Acts 3:19 38; St. Mark 1:15,

8. We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free and attainable by all mankind.—Math, 11:27-30; St. John 6:44-65; Psalms 1:1; Titus 2:11-12.

9. We believe that Commemoration and Feet Washings are the ordinances of Christ and immersion only is baptism.—St. John 13: 1; Tim. 5:6; Psalms 28: 17.

10. We believe that all Christians should unite in performing the sacred ordinances.—Rom. 12:4 5.

11. That the end of the world is approaching when Christ will descend from Heaven and raise the dead from their graves to final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place, the righteous being adjudged to everlasting happiness and the wicked to endless punishment and this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.—Rev. 22:12; St. John 14:2-3.

