

The Free Will Baptist Gem

ORGAN OF THE MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS
IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Monett, Missouri, June, 1943

Volume 15, Number 6

The Rescue Free Will Baptist Church Near Whittington, Illinois

The Rescue Church was organized over thirty years ago. One of its charter members is the present pastor, Rev. W. R. Burton, honored and loved by all its membership of around two hundred. The Christian Workers' Institute was held here in October, 1942.



The Free Will Baptist Gem
Organ of
Missouri State Assosiation

Published Monthly
Monett, Missouri

EDITOR
John B. Rollins

Entered as Second Class
Matter July 14, 1939, at the
Post Office, Monett, Mo., un-
der the Act of March 3, 1879.

TERMS

75 cents per year, cash in
advance. Paper will be dis-
continued when subscription
expires.

MISSOURI STATE ASS'N
OFFICERS

Moderator..James F. Miller
Flat River, Missouri
Ass't. Moderator, O. T. Allred
Monctt, Missouri
Clerk-Treas. .. Winford Davis
Monett, Missouri

EXECUTIVE BOARD

B. F. Brown, Cassville, Mo.
Arlie Hoover, Arcadia, Kans.
Cecil Campbell,Carterville,Mo.
O. T. Allred, Monett, Mo.
C. B. Dees, .. Desloge, Mo.

NAT'L. ASS'N. OFFICERS

Moderator..James F. Miller
Flat River, Missouri
Clerk E. C. Morris
Elizabeth City, N. C.
Treasurer .. F. S. VanHoose
Paintsville, Kentucky

CHAIRMEN NAT'L BOARDS

Education .. J. R. Davidson
3609 Richland Ave.
Nashville, Tenn.
Home Mission, M. L. Hollis
Red Bay, Alabama
Foreign Mis'n.,Winford Davis
Monett, Missouri
League..... Henry Melvin
Nashville, Tenn.
Superannuation..F. C. Zinn
Fredericktown, Mo.

Table of Contents

Gospel Sermons

The Sabbath and Redemption	Page 3
The Cross of Christ — Our Glory	6
Sin	9

Our Boys in the Service

A Letter From a Soldier	11
When Christ Came to My Rescue	13

General Articles

Alabama Orphanage News	14
Spiritual Benefits From Our Church Papers	16
Chicago Free Will Baptists Advance	17

Our Bible School

Our Bible School	18
------------------------	----

The National Association Enterprise Department

Christian Workers' Institute in Michigan	19
Program for the National Association	21

Woman's Auxiliary Department

The Hour of Prayer	22
Personal Service in Woman's Auxiliary	23

Missionary Department

A Letter From Cuba	24
Report of National Treasurer	25

Letters and Reports

Church Letters and Field Reports	26
Obituaries	35

A Special Article

History of Hickory Grove Church, Haddam, Kansas ..	33
--	----

Oh! Lord, Intervene

T. H. Newsome, Springtown, Texas

Why the distress, why the sorrow,
Why the misery and the pain,
Why does war with all its horror
Drench the earth again with blood?

Will our boasted Christian nations,
From such carnage never cease?
Let the law of right relations
Rule the earth with love and peace.

O, Thou God of all Creation,
Maker of the universe;
Intervene, lest devastation
Shall continue to grow worse.



GOSPEL SERMONS



The Sabbath and Redemption

John B. Rollins, Editor

NOTE—This sermon was preached in the Free Will Baptist Church, Cartersville, Missouri, where the Editor is pastor, and stenographically written by Norma June Summers, Secretary of the Free Will Baptist Gem.

IT IS COMMON knowledge among Christians everywhere that God created the world in six periods of time called days, and that on the seventh day He rested. He sanctified that day for His sabbath of rest; and He enjoined upon His people to hallow the seventh day and to remember it and to keep it holy and, by all means, to abstain from labor. Down through the ages the people of God kept this day; and, at the time of Christ, they were very strict in its observance. Since Christians, generally, do not observe the seventh day for their sabbath, they have allowed themselves to become careless and refer to that day as the sabbath of the Jews. It was not the Jew's sabbath. It was God's sabbath—God's holy Sabbath. Since Christians, generally, do not observe Saturday, but rather the first day of the week, there is some question among us; "Who made Sunday the sabbath?" The answer is clear—All Mighty God. "When?" Way back in the early days of the Old Testament, as recorded in the 23rd chapter of Leviticus.

God had more than one sabbath—He had many sabbaths. To be specific, God ordained ninety different kinds of sabbaths, and they were all God's, and they all had their purpose. This is an important truth when we come to understand and interpret the New Testament. For example, the New Testament says that our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified "on the preparation day; that is, the day before the sabbath." So Christians adopted the theory that Jesus



John B. Rollins

was crucified on Friday. It is clear that Jesus was out of the grave before dawn on the first day of the week. Jesus said concerning Himself, in Matthew 12:40, "For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." We know that seventy-two hours backward from Sunday morning is certainly not Friday. Some may ask: "What difference does it make on which day of the week the Lord was crucified?" And I agree, it makes no difference at all on which day of the week the Lord was crucified, but it does make a difference how we teach lies to the children concerning the time element in the crucifixion of our Lord. From Friday afternoon till dawn Sunday morning is only thirty-six hours and not seventy-two. So the fact remains,

He was crucified before the sabbath, but that sabbath was not the seventh day sabbath. Then which sabbath?

Now we go to the Old Testament. Look at Leviticus 23 beginning with the 23rd verse. There God talks to Moses. "In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, shall ye have a sabbath; a memorial of blowing of trumpets, an holy convocation." Now look on down in the chapter. "Also on the tenth day of this seventh month there shall be a day of atonement: it shall be an holy convocation unto you." Still speaking of the day of atonement—"It shall be unto a sabbath of rest." Now look further down. "The fifteenth day of this month shall be the feast of Tabernacles for seven days. On the first day shall be an holy convocation. Ye shall do no servile work therein—on the eighth day shall be an holy convocation unto you." Of this feast, it is said, "On the first day shall be a sabbath and on the eighth day shall be a sabbath." The first day of the month, the tenth day, the fifteenth day, and the twenty-third day are all sabbath days, and neither of them the seventh day sabbath because these figures are not divisible by seven. There are many other such sabbaths—ninety of them in all.

In the fore part of the 23rd chapter of Leviticus—"In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is the Lord's passover." This was a special sabbath, an holy convocation. There were seven other consecutive days following, each day being a sabbath day with the eighth day being another special sabbath, an holy convocation. They observed the letter of the Passover through the ages, which means very little to us; but the spirit of the passover is the crucifixion of Christ. As Paul tells us, "For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us" (1 cor. 5:7). Peter referred to Christ as the Lamb without spot or blemish (1 Peter 1:19).

In the midst of the passover week-sabbath was another special sabbath. It is designated as being one of the most important days of the whole Bible. The name of it was the Feast of First Fruits, and it was to occur "On the morrow after the sabbath"—after the seventh-day sabbath. The

spirit of the feast is the resurrection of Christ. In speaking of the resurrection Paul said, "But every man in his own order. Christ the first fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming" (1 Cor. 15:23). Christ said of himself "Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die it abideth alone." He was the corn of wheat, and he died and by his resurrection the resurrection of all men is made possible in a personal resurrection typified by the Priest waving a sheaf of grain over the audience on the sabbath of the first fruits.

Another sabbath is the Feast of Pentecost. "And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave-offering; seven sabbaths shall be complete: Even unto the morrow after the seventh sabbath shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall offer a new meat-offering unto the Lord." The spirit of this in the New Testament is that exactly fifty days after

Anchored To The Rock T. H. Newsome, Springtown, Texas

A storm was raging on the deep,
And not a soul would dare to sleep;
Our little ship rocked to and fro—
Foam-crested billows swept her bow.
Her inmates were all filled with dread,
But our brave pilot bravely said;
This small, frail craft will bear the shock
'Tis firmly anchored to a rock.

Dark, sullen clouds may over-spread
Life's firmament, above my head,
The vivid lightnings rend the sky,
And deep-toned thunders make reply:
Great waves of Anguish surge and roll
Threat'ning to o'erwhelm my soul,
But my frail craft will bear the shock,
'Tis firmly anchored to The Rock.

I fear not, though no ray of light
May cleave the darkness of the night,
Tho' winds may howl and tempest beat
And torrents fall, a solid sheet;
No fear of danger will I feel,
For Christ, my Pilot, is at the wheel,
And my frail craft will bear the shock,
'Tis firmly anchored to The Rock.

the resurrection of Christ came the day of Pentecost which occurred on the morning after the seventh-day sabbath and is the same order of the first day of the week according to which our Lord was raised from the dead. The feast of Pentecost was another special sabbath, "An holy convocation—ye shall do no servile work therein."

We look on into the seventh month, in the first day of the month shall ye have a sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets. The Spirit of this feast is yet to be fulfilled at the blowing of the last trumpet, "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first" (1 Thes. 4:16).

There is another sabbath of the order of sevens in a much larger sense, being a sabbatic year every seven years. The spirit of this sabbatic year, which is the "sabbath of the land" shall be fulfilled during the millennium when the curse of sin shall be removed from creation. The millennium will be in the largest sense a climax of the seventh day sabbaths.

The sabbath of the First Fruits, on the morrow after the seventh day sabbath when our Lord rose, advanced in a larger sense into the sabbath of Pentecost, which was on the morrow after the seventh day sabbath, when our Lord established the Church which He would perfect into an institution having neither spot nor wrinkle, and it advances in a still larger sense to the morrow after earth's millennial rest—even to the very dawn of eternity. This is the spirit of the Old Testament Jubilee Sabbath, when the redeemed of earth shall enjoy the glories and blessings and fruits of God throughout eternity without having to work to obtain them. This is the climax toward which God's whole plan of sabbaths is moving, and Christians hear the joyful sound in their spirit and consciousness that "there remaineth therefore a sabbath to the people of God."

A Voice from the audience—"Please give chapter and verse which authorized a change in the observance of the regularly

recurring seventh day to the first day of the week."

There is no such chapter and verse. The spirit of the Old Testament sabbaths of the order of "the morrow after the (seventh day) sabbath" bespeaks the resurrection of Christ and all that His resurrection is able to accomplish, which is the basic principle of the Dispensation of Grace. As a change was affected from the dispensation of law to the dispensation of Grace without any commandment authorizing the change so the basic principle of the grace dispensation was also brought in with the dispensation—and that without any commandment authorizing it. The crowning achievement of God set forth in the Bible—the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ—is of such significance that it brought the grace of God which gives salvation to us all, which the letter of the Law in the Old Testament could not do. What greater authority is necessary?

FREE WILL BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPPLIES

SCHOLARS' QUARTERLIES

Advanced Quarterlies	8c each
<i>(For Young People and Adults)</i>	
Senior Quarterlies	7c each
Intermediate Quarterlies ..	5c each
Junior Quarterlies	5c each
Little Folks' Quarterlies	5c each
Acme Picture Lesson Cards ..	5c set
Little Folks' Story Card ..	5c set
<i>(Our New Card)</i>	

Standard Picture Roll \$1.00 ea.

TEACHERS' QUARTERLIES

Adult Bible Teacher	17c each
Senior Bible Teacher	16c each
Intermediate Bible Teacher ..	15c each
Junior Bible Teacher	14c each
Primary Bible Teacher	14c each

F. W. B. League Supplies

Senior League Quarterlies ..	10c each
Intermediate L. Quarterlies	10c each
Junior League Quarterlies ..	6c each

Order From

The Free Will Baptist Press
Ayden, North Carolina

The Cross of Christ -- Our Glory

Damon C. Dodd, Student Minister in the Free Will Baptist Bible College
3609 Richland Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee

Text: "But God forbid that I should glory save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me and I unto the world." (Galatians 6:14)

FROM THE EARLIEST history of man until the present day, landmarks have played an important part in the activities of his life. These landmarks may have been many and varied. The Children of Israel remembered Egypt by the fleshpots, the onions, leeks, and garlic. Jacob set up twelve stones at Bethel to mark the place where he had made a vow to God. The priests of Israel, at the command of Joshua, set up a mound of twelve stones at the place where the Jordan had parted to let them pass through. Abraham's altar at Bethel served as a landmark to remind him of his duty to God after he had gone into Egypt and sinned. Lot's wife was turned into a pillar of salt for looking back at the wicked city from which she was fleeing, and this landmark stood as a mute warning against disobeying the Lord God. Babylon was laid waste because her rulers and people forgot God, and today the wild

jackals and other desert animals harbor there on the site of the otherwise desolate scene, which serves as a landmark of what the displeasure of God can do to any nation that forgets Him. Even today, landmarks serve a great purpose. We locate our homes by them; we describe scenes by them; in fact, without them we would be seriously handicapped. But above them all looms one landmark that means more to us than any other. All peoples of the world have, or should have the same interest in it because it means as much to one as to another. It marks the scene of the greatest victory ever won, the most marvelous, yea, the most miraculous conquest ever made. There it stands prominent and availing today as every day, and its shadow touches every part of the world, whether Christian or heathen, for behind it shines the light of God. Yes, the Cross of Calvary looms out as the landmark of all landmarks, for therein lies the way home to God. Truly "The way of the Cross leads home."

That Cross stands out as the most important object in one's life. It is there that we may leave our sins and find new life. It is there that many things can be obtained that will make life worth while to live. Therefore, we can glory in the Cross, for by it we are crucified to the world and made new in Christ. "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me." (Gal. 2:20).

When Christ died on Calvary, He became the offering for our sins. His blood was shed for that purpose, thus fulfilling the demands of the law which had said, "Without the shedding of blood there is no remission." (Heb. 9:22). John the Baptist had said, referring to Jesus, "Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world." So when we come to the Cross, we first of all obtain cleansing from sin. "But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with



Rev. and Mrs. Damon C. Dodd

another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanseth us from all sin." (1 John 1:7). This cleansing is of such nature that we are made whole; a new creature in Christ Jesus. "Therefore, if any man be in Christ he is a new creature: old things are passed away: behold, all things are become new." (2 Cor. 5:17). We are redeemed, not by the perishable things of the earth, not of any good thing that we have done; but as Paul wrote in Eph. 2:8-9, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God. Not of works lest any man should boast." It is through the blood shed on the Cross that our sins are forgiven. Eph. 1:17, "In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins...."

In thus coming to the Cross and having the Blood applied, we can henceforth stand in God's presence justified. "So then, being justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Again, in Romans 3:24 "Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." Thus justification makes it possible for us to stand in God's presence with the assurance that we will be accepted of Him for His Son's sake. We are as guiltless creatures, even as His very own sons. 1 John 3:1, "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us that we should be called the sons of God." Verse two is very definite, "Beloved, now

are we the sons of God." Such an experience removes all condemnation as stated in Romans 8:1, "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus...."

Having been *redeemed* and *justified* by coming to the Cross, we obtain peace—peace of mind and heart. While we were waiting and considering before coming, fightings and fears were raging within and without. A great unrest was felt and such uncertainty of the future that was present. All was black and hopeless and no peace was to be found. Isa. 57:21, "There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked." At the Cross all fear and misgiving vanished and perfect peace came. "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out all fear." (1 John 4:18). In Christ is peace, for we read in Eph. 2:14, "For he is our peace who hath made both one." Again in Romans 5:1, after justification we have "peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." God's love shed abroad in our hearts puts us at ease and gives peace not as the world gives, but that which passeth understanding.

At the Cross a reconciliation is made. We who were once at variance with God and His Son; we who had been in open rebellion against His will; we who were strangers to His grace, obtained the friendship of God at the Cross through becoming *reconciled* to Him through His Son. Eph. 2:16-17, "And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the Cross, having slain the enmity thereby: and came and preached peace to them which were afar off, and to them which were nigh." The story is told of a young man and his father who had come to bitter disagreement and had become so enraged that they clashed. The father thereupon ordered the son to leave at once, as he would not have such a disobedient, ungrateful wretch under his roof. The son went his way and for years did not venture to come near his home. Eventually, the mother, worn with care and grief, came down to her bed and when her case was diagnosed, she was told that she would never recover. Thus she lay, until knowing that she could live only a few more days, requested that her son be called. This was done, and when the son

PERSONAL SOUL WINNING

A guide to the most effective methods of winning men to Christ
by William Evans

"That the individual Christian may be prompted, encouraged, and equipped to do this kind of Personal Soul-winning work, is the purpose of this book. The leading scripture references have been made to stand out distinctly from the main body of type in order that they may be easily located."

192 Pages, Cloth Covers, \$1.25

Order from "The Gem" Monett, Mo.

arrived his mother was dying. However, her last moments were blessed with full consciousness, and she recognized the son who was standing at the head of the bed. Neither the son nor the father had offered to speak to the other. The mother, with her hands that were already becoming cold with death, took the hand of her husband, who was standing opposite the son, and the hand of the son and with the last ounce of energy that remained, she brought their hands together over her dying body. They thus stood as the wife and mother slipped out into eternity with a smile of triumph on her face because she had reconciled father and son. That is exactly what Jesus did by His death. He took the hand of guilty man and placed it in the hand of God, thus reconciling us to God. So the Cross represents a *reconciliation*.

Through the Cross we have access to God Heb. 10:19, "Having boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Christ." Under the ceremony of the Law, only the High Priest could enter the Holy of Holies and that only once a year for the purpose of sprinkling the blood on the mercy seat to atone for the sins of all Israel. Thus the requisite of God for the cleansing of a sinful people was met for the time being. Nor did any one else dare to enter this place for none had access to God but the High Priest. When Jesus died, the veil of the Temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom, exposing the Holy of Holies and tearing down the wall of partition once for all. "Therefore, by the blood of Christ we have access to God. By a new and living way which he hath consecrated for us." For He "has not entered into the Holy places made with hands which are figures of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us." (Heb. 9:24). So He becomes our Mediator and through Him we have access unto God.

Having come to the Cross, we are no longer under the curse of the Law nor are we bound to it for any cause or principle. "For by the works of the Law shall no flesh be saved." (Gal. 2:16). Instead we, through God's law come to Him by the blood, since we cannot be saved by the Law. Thus were all the sins of all men

laid on Christ when He went to Calvary. The Cross stands not only for my redemption, but also avails for "the sins of the whole world." Romans 8:2-4, "For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh and for sin condemned sin in the flesh: that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."

Then, we are sanctified through the Cross. Heb. 13:12 "Wherefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered without the gate." Through full acceptance of Christ and His sacrifice we are set apart, cleansed and made meet for the Master's use. This sanctification fits us for the battles of life in that we are made able to overcome the tempter, we are given a desire to do His will fully and we are set at variance with the world to the extent that those things which we once loved we will hate. Our love will be centered on the Lord and things heavenly. Thus we are cleansed and made meet for the Master's use. 2 Tim. 2:21, 22.

With all these wonderful blessings secured and made mine by the death of Christ on the Cross, why should I do other than glory therein. Thus, I can only say with Paul "God forbid that I should glory save in the Cross of the Lord Jesus Christ." And in thus glorying I can do no less than take up my cross, deny my-

THE GREAT DOCTRINES OF THE BIBLE By William Evans

This volume is intended as a ground work or text book in the study of theology and is a very careful and painstaking setting forth of the great doctrines of the Word of God. It has been used for years in a number of Bible schools and training institutes for Christian workers. Adopted also for group Bible class, or individual use.

275 Pages, Cloth Covers, \$1.50

Order from "The Gem" Monett, Mo.

self and follow Him. In the words of the beautiful song may I impress upon everyone the happiness of glorying in the Cross.

In the Cross of Christ I glory,
Towering o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'ertake me,
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy.
Never shall the Cross forsake me:
Lo! it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming
Light and love upon my way,
From the Cross the radiance streaming
Adds more luster to my day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
By the Cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure,
Joys that through all time abide.

Thus we are inspired to take the Cross,
not as an emblem of shame, but as an honor and glory. And may God grant that we may stay near the Cross.

I take, O Cross, thy shadow as my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine but the sunshine of His face.
Content to let the world go by, to know no pain nor loss,
My sinful self my only shame; MY GLORY
ALL THE CROSS.

SIN

Sam R. Kennedy, Student Minister in the Free Will Baptist Bible College
3609 Richland Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee

THERE IS IN the minds of some people a question about sin. Some preach that a person can live without sin, and some preach that one cannot live without sinning. Why not settle this question now? All we have to do is to take what the scriptures say. Some people had rather take what some college student says about it than to take the words of the Bible, but this does not change the Word of God.

The Origin of Sin

Sin is the transgression of the divine law. All unrighteousness is sin overstepping the law, the divine boundary between good and evil. In the beginning God created man in His own image, that is, man was holy, righteous and possessed with a knowledge of all that is good. God placed him in the Garden of Eden, a place of happiness and contentment, where there was no pain, sorrow or anything that was discomfiting. He also made Eve, Adam's help-mate, to be with him. Then He gave them a commandment, saying, "Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but the tree of knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." There God gave them the freedom to keep

their happiness or lose it. We see that Eve partook of the forbidden fruit because the serpent said she would not surely die, and she gave also to Adam, her husband, and he did eat. We see that Adam and Eve did not have to commit that sin, they listened to Satan rather than to God, and they were driven out of the garden or the place of happiness, because they disobeyed God one time. He plainly states in His Word that He is not a respecter of person, likewise if we sin He will punish us.

Provision for Sinners

Man sinned and fell just like many people are doing today. They are listening to Satan rather than to God. God loved man, and because of that love He gave His only begotten Son to the world that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life (John 3:16). He gave him as a ransom (Matt. 20:28). What is meant by a ransom is clearly set forth in Lev. 25:47-49. It is to deliver a thing or a person by paying a price; to buy back a person or thing by paying the price for which it is held in captivity. So sin is like a slave market in which sinners are sold under sin (Rom. 7:14). Souls are under the sentence of death (Eccl. 18:4).

Christ, by His death, buys sinners out of the market, thereby indicating complete deliverance from the service of sin. He looses the bonds, sets the prisoners free by paying a price—that price being the blood of His own body. Now we see how we are placed back in fellowship with God. Then if we sin we will fall back under the curse of sin again and without repentance we will perish with sin (2 Peter 2:22).

Now Let Us Reason a Bit

When we are born again, we have the Spirit within our hearts as our teacher and to lead us along the way. We say that He is a great teacher, and He has all power in heaven and earth; also we agree that He has power to deliver us from sin, but some like to stop there. Why not go a bit farther and say that He has power to keep us from sinning? In Romans 6:14 is written "For sin shall not have dominion over you for ye are not under the law but under grace." This teaches us that sin has lost its power as long as we are in Christ. Let us look at Romans 6:12 "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we that are dead to sin live any longer therein?" Now let us read 1st John 5:3-4, "For this is the love of God, that ye keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." There are other scriptures which we could mention just here, but let us consider a little further. We say that Christ has more power than Satan. If He does, why cannot He keep us from sinning? If we say that we have to sin and cannot live a clean life, we do not understand the way God wants us to live. In Isaiah 35:8 He says that the way is so plain that a wayfaring man though he be a fool need not error therein. So we see that the way is so plain that we need not sin against God.

Here is a story I would like to relate to you. There was a young boy that went to church, and his pastor preached that he could not live a clean life, and that he had to sin every day of his life. One day the boy committed a sin, and the officers arrested him and put him into the jail. The

preacher came in to talk with him. He said, "Son, why did you commit this crime? You have disgraced yourself and your family." The boy replied, "Preacher, you have preached to me from your pulpit Sunday after Sunday that I could not live without committing sin, and you are here now asking me why I have done this." Those who preach that people cannot live without sinning are the ones who look down on the prisoners and the people who have lost their characters, and who drink, swear and gamble. All sin is displeasing to God, and one sin is just as great in the sight of God as another.

Christ the Savior

Let us give Christ the credit for being a real Savior who can save from sin and keep one from committing sin. It all depends on our choice of Christ. God has given us our free will to choose the way that we desire. Choose today whom you will serve (Josh. 24:15). We cannot serve two masters. We cannot serve God and Mammon. We are for one or the other. I will ask that you show me one scripture that justifies a man in his sins, or even justifies him in committing one sin, and I will show you many that teaches us not to sin.

1st. John 3:8 "He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil." Christ was made known for the purpose of destroying the works of the devil. If His people cannot live without sinning, how is He going to destroy the works of the devil?

We cannot live this life by ourselves, if we could, there would have been no need of a Savior. (Phil. 4:13) "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." A clean life is based upon our faith. Mark 11:24 "Therefore I say unto you, what thing soever ye desire, when ye pray believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." Do you desire a clean life? If so believe that through Christ you can live it.

I am always open for conviction and ready for correction.



Our Boys in the Service



A LETTER FROM A SOLDIER

Herein is presented a letter from a lieutenant in the United States Army in some far off battle front to his sister in Pennsylvania. The original is in possession of Rev. Ray B. White of Zarephath, New Jersey.

The Wilds of Nowhere
The Land of Death and Destruction.
Rec'd Sept., 3, 1942.
Dear Sis:-

In writing this letter to you, I don't know where to start first. So many things have happened since last I wrote. Well, to begin with, I have escaped death at the hand of an enemy in a way so amazing I am still in a daze. You remember I told you when I knew I was going over I was going over armed with the Bible. That is the reason I am still here and able to write this letter to all America.

Here is the story: My buddy and I were sent out on duty with our equipment in the work I told you before was our job. We had just received information, the most important for weeks, when we were

discovered by the enemy. I gave my buddy the information we had collected, told him to beat it with it, prepared myself to face them. It was the first time I'd been forced with necessity of pointing my gun at a man and blasting the life from his miserable body. I thought fast: then I said, "Lord, it's Your responsibility now." My buddy had not obeyed my order. He had no such scruples. As I reached for my carbine, a shot from one of them struck me in the breast and blasted me down. Thinking I was dead my pal jumped for me, grabbed my carbine as well as his own, stood astride my body, blasting away with both guns. He was blasted to his knees with three bullet wounds, but when he finished, there was not a one of them left. He was amazed when I rolled over and tried to get up. The force of that bullet had only stunned me. Dazedly, I wondered why. I pulled that little Bible out of my pocket and in utter muteness looked at the ugly hole in the cover. It had ripped through Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, on through the Pentateuch, on through the other books, Samuel, Kings, Chronicles, and kept going. Where do you think it stopped? In the middle of Psalm 91, pointing like a finger at this verse: "A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand, but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked." Sis, when I read that verse it raised me three feet off the ground. I did not know there was such a verse in the Bible. I'd been reading mostly in the New Testament. I read the rest of that chapter, the first part was ripped apart. In utter humility I said, "Thank You, precious God," and felt like a little boy that had escaped the mouth of an enemy of prey.

When I got my buddy back to the post, he said, "Lute, (he calls me Lute), I've had enough. This convinces me. Come on, I want to get right with God, starting right now." He wouldn't let them tend his wounds, he said, "Nothing else matters now but this." He stayed on his knees sixteen

hours with three wounds. His body became so numb he couldn't move it, but he would not give up. When the Lord finally came in, he moved! That soldier went crazy for God. He jumped over chairs (I mean boxes). He jumped over bunks. He even ran outside and shouted to the whole camp.

Since I've given my heart to God, and talked with the boys, hold meetings and pray with them, God has given me 25 souls. Twenty-five of my buddies have come out for God. God even gave me my general. It took a long time. He was so dignified, but God told me to go after him. I stuck on his trail until he was grounded and came through. The Spirit of God hovered over that tent with a sort of glimmering, golden haze. I tell you, Sis, prayer is going to win this war, not guns alone, fervent, agonized prayer I know is. God is bringing them in one by one. The whole company will be a company of praying men, God has promised them to me, given me assurance. Think of it, 120 praying men and one general in one regiment! When that happens this unit will be unconquerable. Pray, Sis. Pray as you never prayed before. Tell every one to pray. Tell all America to go to its knees.

Before each decisive victory anywhere over here, sometimes for hours, sometimes for days, there has been a feeling of people praying far away. The feeling is so strong, you can hear. One of the men, the most stubborn of them, said in the stillness of the night, "God! Did you hear anything? Sounded like people praying from some distant place. Must be hearing things in this dead place."

So pray everyone. It will have to come from afar. No one prays in this land of utter desolation. God has turned His face away from the horror and destruction man has brought on himself.

Again I plead, tell America to pray! This war will not end until nations of people have paid in blood and tears for thrusting God out of their hearts, out of their nations, out of their lands. And tell them, for God's sake, to send Bibles, and more Bibles, and more Bibles! A Bible will give him confidence that God is with him. I'd like to have this letter broadcast from every radio station in America. Try to get it on the air, in the papers, in anything that is printed. Make copies of it. Send it

from coast to coast. Tell them the Army wants prayers and Bibles.

And you complacent, bridge-playing, fox-trotting, cocktail drinking mothers, why don't you teach your sons about God instead of handing him a cigarette, a cocktail glass and dance program! Get on your knees and ask God to forgive your sins. Then pray for the Army, pray, pray! And you great dignified preachers! Why don't you teach your people to pray; to follow God instead of standing before them in your silken robes and reading them a ritual. Only atonement for sin can stop the shelling, the killing, the murdering. Even the shells that come whizzing through the air scream only one word, "Atonement!"

I could go on, but I am tired, so weary. But in all so happy to see them coming to God one by one. So tell them to pray for sin, and keep praying. And when you send things to your boys, send Bibles, they want Bibles.

Copies of this story may be secured in tract form for distribution among public travelers and Service Men by ordering them from The Free Will Baptist Gem. The tracts are free, but please enclose a free-will offering to cover the bare cost of printing and mailing. —Editor

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD Dunn-Wolfe

Neatly fitted in loose-leaf notebook covers.

A loose-leaf series of 50 lecture outlines on the conduct and activities of the minister, both in the pulpit and out, and in every department of church work. Pronounced *VERY GOOD* by Rev. L. R. Ennis, Dean of our Bible school educational work.

Dr. Dunn was the founder of the old Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College in Michigan and Dr. Wolfe recently closed THE SCHOOL OF THE BIBLE which was "The only Free Will Baptist Correspondence School" for nearly 50 years.

Limited Supply 200 Copies
Price, Postpaid \$1.00

Order from "The Gem" Monett, Mo.

When Christ Came to My Rescue

A Soldier's Testimony

Following is a testimony of Dennie Lee Whaley who is now in the armed forces stationed on a South Sea Island. He is originally from Pink Hill, N. C. His wife, Mrs. Etheline Whaley, who has not seen him since March, 1942 when he left Fort Bragg, N. C., is now attending the Free Will Baptist Bible School in Nashville, Tenn. It is her desire that our people have an opportunity to learn of Lee's experience in the Lord.

This testimony is now printed in tract form, and copies may be secured from Mrs. Etheline Whaley, 3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tennessee.

As time passes by, I feel that to tell my experience with Christ will help to bring comfort to some one when worried and afraid, just as the experience has done for me.

My story begins on Saturday night before we were to sail on Monday for an unknown destination in the war zone. Yes, I was afraid. As I lay on my bunk in a tent in San Francisco, waiting for our time to sail, I was thinking of the danger that we might run into. I could picture our transport being attacked and sunk. I couldn't see any way to escape certain death, for I had been on a transport before and knew just how crowded one is. There was every possibility that an enemy would get us. If we had luck to land, where would it be? Yes, it would be somewhere to fight the enemy and I would probably be killed. What would happen to my loved ones? If I had luck not to be killed, I would be gone for so long. Could my loved ones get along without me? Would they be living when I returned? Etc. To be waiting to go to war without trusting God is a very miserable feeling. I know, for I tried it.

About eight-thirty on this Saturday night, Christ appeared before me just as natural as any man. The picture looked as if Christ were standing on a hill just in front of our tent. He said in a very natural voice, "Be not afraid; I am with

you." The dark, cloudy picture of fear left me and everything became bright and shining. It was a wonderful feeling to have all trouble, fear, and doubt removed at once and Christ standing there ready to help me. In any instant I was happier than I had ever been. I arose from my bunk and wrote a very good friend of mine, a worker for Christ, and told him of my experience of seeing and talking with Christ. I also asked him to pray with me at a certain time each week. At this time I go to God in a special prayer, thanking Him for the love and care that He has shown over me and my loved ones. I always ask Him to give me courage and strength and to lead and guide me in the way I should go. I have not had the least fear or doubt about my future since that Saturday night in San Francisco.

On a censored date, we landed on a South Sea Island without the loss of a man. Since we have been here God has wonderfully blessed us. Without Christ, this would be a miserable place. I have had many experiences that the censor would not let me write, but God has always been near to cast away every fear. We have with us a nice little chaplain who is very faithful to us and God's work. Very soon after we arrived here he and some of the men built a church of poles and palm leaves. Each Sunday morning we meet there to worship our Lord and Savior.

I was reared in a Christian home and was taught to go to church and Sunday School. I was taught the love of God and tried to live a straight life. But I had never been in touch with Christ as I have since that Saturday night in San Francisco. I am very glad I was sent over seas, for I am not only serving our country in its great need but I have learned to rely upon the Lord Jesus Christ. I know His wonderful love and comfort, which I probably never would have known if I had not come. I don't know what lies ahead. I don't worry about that, for God will take care of me. I feel He will take me safely home in due

time. As I look back over the past, I have not done anything for Christ. But when I get back home I intend to do everything possible to help others to take Christ as a partner and to know His love and comfort as I do.

Here on this Island, most of the natives are Christians. Until about thirty years ago they didn't know of Christ the Savior. The old Chief told me that thirty years

ago an American Missionary taught him and his tribe the love of Christ, also the English language. The Chief has been teaching the Word of God to his people ever since. They have some very interesting services.

I would like to say in conclusion that if you seek God in time of trouble or fear you will always find Him near and ready to help you.



GENERAL ARTICLES



Alabama Orphanage News

Rev. K. V. Shutes, Chairman Board of Trustees of Alabama State Association
Cordova, Alabama

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES of the Orphanage Movement, appointed by the Free Will Baptist State Association, met in Jasper, Alabama, on March 5, 1943 and purchased the property known as the Baptist Academy of Eldridge, Alabama.

This property consists of near ten acres of land, one large two-story brick building with fifty-five rooms, heating plant and water system; the next building in size which has been used for class rooms has six nice rooms and an auditorium; and the smallest building has about fourteen rooms. Pictures of the three buildings herein pre-

sented show what a beautiful sight it is.

This property was purchased to be used for an orphanage. But, there is room to have a home for our superannuated ministers or to be used for a Bible School. It seems to me we could care for over 100 children there, so far as room is concerned.

We paid \$500.00 down on the property, we are to pay \$500.00 the 1st. of July, and \$1,000.00 each January 1st until we pay \$7,000.00 with 5% interest. But I believe we Free Will Baptists of Alabama can pay for it this year.

The day we bought the property, many





of our men had to leave on buses or be left. So we did not elect a field man. Each trustee is a financial agent until we meet again. We tried to get a man on the board from each association, but didn't quite do that.

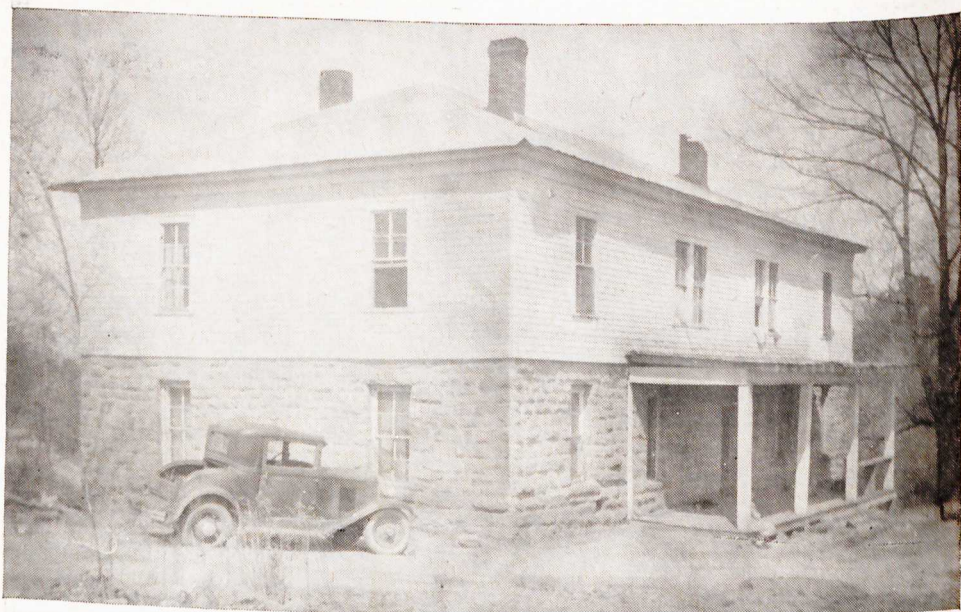
The State Board at Montgomery for "Child Caring Institutions" advised us not to take children until all debts are canceled. The State Board has hard rules in this State.

I believe our people will help if you, Brother Preachers, will put it before your people. I have found our people very responsive to the needs of our church when they were properly informed. Many of our people are giving \$5, \$10, or even more who never had this opportunity before. I believe if we can contact these 20,000 Free Will Baptists in the state, we can pay for it this year. If you live out of the state, and want to help, it will be gladly accepted. Send your money to Mr. V. C. May, Vernon, Alabama.

Come on Free Will Baptists and let's pay for this property this year and not use six or seven years in which to do it. A

big "guess" says it will take around \$2,000 to put this property back in first class shape. But then we will have property valued at around \$100,000.00. The man who is looking after this property has seen it from the beginning, and says the largest building, heating plant and water system cost \$75,000.00. Do you want your money's worth? Surely you do. Then help us pay for this property.

There is to be a Rally Day at the Ophanage Property on the fifth Sunday in August. Rev. M. L. Hollis and Rev. Mrs. Lizzie McAdams will be the speakers. Our people are requested to be present by eleven o'clock and stay until three o'clock in the afternoon. If any desires to come the day before, there is room in the building to sleep, just tell the caretaker what you are there for and it will not cost you a penny. Eldridge, Alabama is on Bankhead Highway, U. S. No. 78 about sixty-five miles northwest of Birmingham, and is on the Frisco rail road from Birmingham to Memphis, Tennessee. Come and be with us the fifth Sunday in August and see this property for yourself.



Spiritual Benefits From Our Church Papers

Mrs. Emma Moore, 327 North Grand Avenue East, Springfield, Illinois

THE CONVERTED HEART desires to be more spiritual and to be of benefit to God and His work while living here on the earth. There are laws to be followed for spiritual development as well as for physical development. One may neglect the laws which make physical progress and become stunted in growth, and sickly—we may do the same in spiritual progress.

There are four things in particular one must observe to do if he is to enjoy life in the Spirit: (1) Prayer, first of all. (2) Meditation. (3) Reading. (4) Hearing the Word expounded by persons of God's choosing. To neglect any of these is to retard growth in the Spirit. Man may use his free will in the choice of doing any of these,

many other references from the counsel of God which are profitable for our good and our growth.

Meditation

To be blessed of God, delight yourself in the law of the Lord, and meditate therein day and night (Psalms 1:2). It is good to thus meditate for "the law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul." (Psalms 19:7). David further instructed us to commune with our own heart (Psalms 4:4).

Reading

Paul instructed Timothy, "Till I come, give attendance to reading...." (1 Tim. 4:13). What we see and read contributes a great deal to our learning, therefore care must be taken in what we read. In the majority of the homes of our beloved Free Will Baptist denomination there are no church papers to be found. Some may say, "I prefer to read my Bible rather than any church paper." The church paper illuminates your mind with reference to the Bible until the reading is more profitable because of the Holy Spirit's work through its printed page. The reader of

Prayer

First of all, why pray? Jesus said in Luke 18:1, "Men ought always to pray, and not to faint." Paul said in Eph. 6:18, "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints." And again in 1 Thes. 5:17, "Pray without ceasing." There are

the church paper is also inspired and encouraged to participate in the great enterprises set forth in the Bible. Others say, "I listen to the radio and get all the blessing I need." But do you? Others say, "I cannot afford a church paper." Truthfully, you cannot afford *NOT* to have a church paper. Isn't it true that we do afford many other things which cost far more than the church paper and are absolutely non-essential to life—a spending of money for that which is not bread and for that which satisfieth not?

Here is my personal testimony: The benefits that come to me from reading my church papers (and I read *The Gem* and *The Baptist*) are of such nature that I would be lean in soul were it not for them. The sermons direct me to know those whom God has called for the purpose of enlightening our understanding. Often when a particular scripture is not clear, the Holy Spirit sends an article in the church paper dealing with the very subject, and my soul would loose the blessing if I were not a subscriber. Many times when I wish to pass along a blessing received from a good sermon from the pulpit, I find I cannot remember to express the thought clearly as was given by God's minister; not so with an article from the church paper, I can pass it on word for word. My heart is made to thrill with the news of a distant missionary service, and I can file it away to again renew my thoughts with its message. The church paper broadens our vision and serves as a field glass by which we can see various evangelists and missionaries struggling to plant the Gospel in dark

places. This is inspiration leading to vision—our church papers bringing us into contact with the entire Church and its program for Christ. I learn what others are doing, how they do it, and I am stirred to similar action. Our church paper keeps us out of ruts. By reading them, we have a better understanding to which the Holy Spirit gives power. If you want your spiritual life improved, read your church papers. Their contents will enlarge your vision, inspire your soul, stir your zeal, fire your spirit, and benefit your entire spiritual, inner man. The result will be a revival beginning within you.

Hearing the Word Expounded

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is." (Heb. 10:25). Christian fellowship around the Word, thank God! Pastors, who feed the flock, will you tell the people of the good things the church papers give—and let them help you feed. Encourage our people to avail themselves of this privilege. As the windows in a house give light and ventilation so our church papers gives truth and inspiration. Our church papers stand at the top above all other journals and magazines as our Bible stands away above all other books. As the Bible has a message no other book has, so your church paper has a special benefit for you that no other paper can give you.—You need it! Renew your subscription and encourage a friend to subscribe.

"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever. Amen." 2 Peter 3:18.

Chicago Free Will Baptists Advance

NOTE—Free Will Baptist residents of the city of Chicago have been zealously endeavoring to establish a Free Will Baptist Church there, and this is news of a great and very definite step toward that goal. Blessings upon them. —The Editor

ON APRIL 11th, the Free Will Baptists of Chicago met at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Leonard Earl Harris, 4330 South Lake Park Avenue. After the devotional period, we decided to have an Easter Ser-

vice. We engaged a room in Kimball Hall with a Grand piano and chairs to accommodate seventy-five people. Since Easter is the day of newness of hope, we thought it a good time to begin the work we wish to see accomplished. The service began at three o'clock. After several musical numbers directed by Dr. Harris, the very effective Easter message was presented by our guest speaker, the Reverend Frank Osterberg.

Our first offering amounted to \$15.00 for which we are very grateful. Plans are to meet every second and fourth Sunday at three o'clock, Kimball Hall, Room 1421, East. Kimball Hall is located in the loop at 306 South Wabash Avenue. We solicit the prayers of Free Will Baptists everywhere for the success of our work.

We are still hoping to add new names to our mailing list so if any *Gem* reader has a relative or friend or anyone interested in worshipping with us, PLEASE send their names and addresses AT ONCE to Mrs. George Morawe, 5925 S. Normal, Chicago, Illinois.



Our Bible School

Rev. L. C. Johnson, President



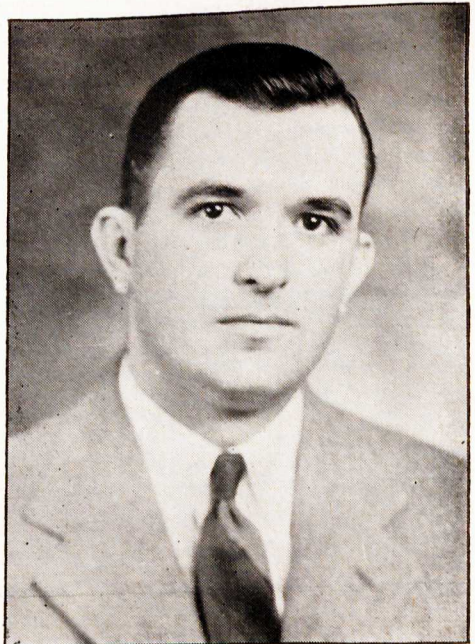
ON MAY 28, the Free Will Baptist Bible College will close out its first year of history. As we look back over this year and count the blessings that we have enjoyed, our hearts overwhelm us with gratitude. Surely God has been good to us.

We do not say that there have not been mistakes made during this first year or that everything has been perfect, but we do fully believe that mistakes have been kept to a minimum, and God in His mercy and grace has overruled in every instance. We can say that all in all it has been a glorious year.

It has been inspiring to watch from day to day the growth and development in the lives of our students. To know that these fine young men and women in a short time will be taking their places in the work of our church gives a most encouraging outlook for our denomination. We have kept before us constantly the great responsibility that rests upon us. We know that this institution, in the space of a few years, will be influencing our entire denomination, and what we are in this school will determine what our denomination will be. Therefore, we have felt the need of putting first things first that out from this institution might go sane, intelligent, capable, spirit-filled men and women to herald forth the message of Christ to a lost world.

We come to the end of this first year with our conscience clear. We have tried to put Christ first in all things. We believe to do this that we must work. That, we have done. We have realized that we have, more or less, been on trial before our people throughout the different states. We have realized more than this, that we

are stewards of the money, time, and prayers that our people have invested in this institution. To have failed would have destroyed the confidence that has been built up among our people; to have failed would have destroyed the purpose that God has for this institution; to have failed would have blasted the hopes of many young men and women who are looking this way for training; to have failed would have meant another opportunity missed for our church to take its proper place as an evangelistic denomination. Thanks be unto the Lord, we do not have to fail when we serve an unfailing Lord! To Him we offer honor



Rev. L. C. Johnson

and praise for all our accomplishments.

The outlook is bright for our school. The other morning in chapel I had all the students who plan to come back another year to sign their names on pieces of paper and hand them to me. Every student signed his name and handed it to me with the statement that he planned to be back next year. This is an indication that our students are well satisfied with the training that they are receiving. Each one feels that God definitely led him to this school.

We have recently sent out communications to about thirty-five other fine young men and women of our denomination who have expressed an interest in coming here to school. Every few days brings us new prospective students. There seems to be a general awakening among our people along educational lines. In fact, it seems that we may have more students another year than we will know what to do with.

Therefore, we are urging those who are making definite plans to come to let us know at the earliest possible date so that we can make some arrangements to care for them when they arrive.

From the financial standpoint we could not have asked for the response to have been better. Through our people God has supplied our every need. We have no doubts about the future. God has made us certain that if we honor Him, He will honor us. We want you to pray with us that this will be a center of Christian testimony.

We have recently published a college bulletin that we will gladly send to anyone interested in receiving one. If you are interested in attending the Free Will Baptist Bible College and feel that God would have you come here for training, we would appreciate hearing from you.

The National Association

Enterprise Department

The Christian Workers' in Michigan

**Rev. J. R. Davidson, Business Manager, Free Will Baptist Bible College
3609 Richland Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee**

AT NOON February 27, 1943, Rev. Damon Dodd and I boarded the train at Nashville enroute to Highland Park, Michigan for the purpose of conducting a session of the Christian Workers' Institute, which was scheduled to run from March 1 through 12. We arrived at the station in Detroit at seven o'clock Sunday morning, and was met by the pastor of the Highland Park Church, Rev. Raymond Riggs. After having been served breakfast, we were taken to the pastor's home, allowed to clean up and then taken over to the home of Brother and Sister Bert Bagwell where we were cordially entertained during the days of the Institute. We next were escorted to the church for Sunday School and the preaching service, which marked the opening of a series of revival services which were to

be conducted in connection with the Institute. The afternoon was an opportunity to advertise the Institute by attending an afternoon song program which is conducted every Sunday afternoon at the Hazel Park Church. We enjoyed this program as well as possible for ones who had not been privileged to sleep any the night before; then returned to the church for League and the evening service. Soon after the evening service was over, we accompanied several of the congregation to one of the radio stations, where we were in "The Old Time Religion Program" until almost midnight, and then decided to call it a day and turn in for a few hours of rest.

At nine o'clock, Monday morning, the session of the Institute was opened with appropriate worship, and we launched out

in a two weeks' profitable study of the Word, and courses which served to throw light on the Word. Twenty-two students were enrolled the first day, and additions were made until we had twenty-eight regulars, and several others sitting in on class periods as their sundry duties would allow. As history was made, interest seemed to grow, and each class period seemed to close with regrets that the time had passed so quickly. The final day found twenty-two of those enrolled ready to take the examinations, and it is interesting to be able to report that all twenty-two received certificates; also that the average grade was ninety plus.

The courses offered were: Biblical Introduction, History of Missions, Personal Soul-Winning, and Preparation and Delivery of Gospel Messages. Brother Dodd presented three of the courses, in as much as it was my responsibility to do the most of the preaching for the revival services.

Something of what the spirit of the Institute, and the courses taught meant to the students is expressed in the following quotations taken from a few of the students' examination papers, which follow:

A Young Licensed Minister

"I believe that the Christian Workers' Institute has been the greatest opportunity of my life. To me it has presented the scriptures so that a young child could easily understand them, yet they were presented in a way whereby the deepest parts in the Bible were brought out. To me it has shown my responsibility in telling the lost of Jesus Christ."

An Institute Convert

"As to my appraisal of the Christian Workers' Institute—I think that it is a most wonderful opportunity for any one, who is interested, to learn more about the Bible; its source, contents, etc. I cannot begin to tell all that it has meant to me, and I intend to continue to study that I may gain more knowledge and blessings."

A Christian only two weeks

"To me, who when the Institute began was only an infant, this has been the most wonderful two weeks of my life. The courses have taught me to love the Lord more, they have increased my curiosity, and my desire to know more about His



Rev. J. R. Davidson

Word has become very great. The courses I like most are Bible Doctrine and Personal Soul-Winning. My desire is to put into practice the things I have learned. No other courses, in my opinion, could have been better. They increased my faith in, and love for, God. My desire now is to live a straight Christian life, to win souls to Christ, and to help such to also become faithful Christian workers."

A Pastor's Wife

"I think that the Christian Workers' Institute is one of the best things in the land, and has the best teachers anywhere. I think the courses offered are the most important subjects that could be taught. To me these Institutes have meant more than I can find words to express. They have shown me more about the doctrines of the Bible, and, also how to become a better soul-winner for Jesus Christ. They have given me more determination to serve Jesus with all my heart and life."

Woman's Auxiliary Worker and Sunday School Teacher

"I think that the Christian Workers' Institute is a wonderful inspiration, both as to invaluable instructions and spiritu-

ality. Most of us would not receive this information otherwise. I truly would hate to say which course has meant most to me, but Biblical Survey will surely make it possible for me to be sure when I am asked where and how we got our Bible; and, if, and how our Bible is inspired. Bible Doctrine made me to see Jesus more plainly than I ever did, and I am sure that I shall now be more able to tell others the same. Personal Soul-Winning has given me a greater desire to be up and about my Father's business; and, I do think that Preparation and Delivery of Gospel Messages will cause me to be more methodical in my teaching."

The revival services held each evening and the three Sundays was a most wonderful success. Christians were greatly revived, backsliders were reclaimed, non-Christian church members were reached, faithful Christians were refilled, and sinners were convicted; and some of them were saved, and several were added to the local church membership. Word, of late, from the pastor is to the effect that the revival fires are still burning, and we praise the Lord for this.

The following financial statement is further evidence of a fruitful session for the local church, and the cause in general. Expense to local church:

Rent of dining hall (paid by Wol-	
verine Association)	\$100.00
Meat bill	60.75
Paid cooks	50.00
To Lee and Cady	25.70
General merchandise	93.67
Milk bill (donated by a member) ..	16.75
<hr/>	
Total	\$346.87
Amount raised for Unified Program	\$100.00
Registration fees	28.00
Love offerings	85.00
<hr/>	
Total	\$213.00
Regular offerings for church expense	\$587.00
<hr/>	

Grand total expended by church \$1,147.82

It may easily be seen that this congregation did not lose the support to the local work by investing in the general cause, rather it always proves to be a stimulus. After settlement was made for everything relative to the work of the Institute, there were \$20.00 surplus, and this congregation divided it between the Bible College and one of its students. The way the Lord has blessed this church in its liberality in entertaining this session of the Institute should serve to encourage other congregations to look forward to enjoying the privilege of rendering such a service to promote such a constructive program in their districts.

Program for the National Association

To Be Held With East Nashville Free Will Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn.

July 12 - 15, 1943

Sunday Evening, July 11th

8:00 — National Sunday School Convention
(Program to be published later).

Monday, July 12th

9:00 — National Sunday School Convention

Monday Evening, July 12th

8:00 — Woman's Auxiliary Convention
(Program to be published later)

Tuesday, July 13th

9:00 — Woman's Auxiliary Convention

Tuesday Evening, July 13th

National Association in Session
Rev. James F. Miller, Moderator

8:00 — Worship: Hymn singing directed by

Rev. Henry Melvin. Scripture reading and prayer by Rev. B. F. Rogers.

8:30 — Address of Welcome by Chairman of Host Committee of local church.

8:40 — Response to Address of Welcome by Rev. John B. Rollins.

8:45 — Organization: Election of General Officers of the Association.

9:00 — Moderator's Message.

9:20 — Music by Association Choir.

9:30 — Appointment of Committees.

9:35 — Report of the General Board by Rev. Henry Melvin, Chairman.

10:00 — Adjournment as directed by the Moderator.

Wednesday Morning

9:00 — Worship: Hymn of praise, Scripture reading, and prayer, Rev. J.L. Welch

9:15 — Report of Woman's National Auxiliary Convention, Mrs. Fannie E. Polston.

Address: "The Auxiliary Revival" by Evangelist Elsie Curtis, Fifth Vice President.

10:00 — Report of Free Will Baptist Bible College by Rev. J. R. Davidson, Chairman Board of Trustees.

Address: "Ye Shall Know the Truth" by Rev. L. C. Johnson, President Bible College.

11:00 — Music by Association Choir.
Associational Sermon by Rev. L. R. Ennis.

12:00 — Lunch.

Wednesday Afternoon

2:00 — Worship: Hymn, Scripture, and prayer, Rev. Damon C. Dodd.

2:15 — Report of the Executive Secretary, Rev. L. R. Ennis.

2:30 — Report of Promotional Secretary, Rev. Lizzie McAdams.

2:40 — Report of Board of Publications and Literature, Rev. J. C. Griffin, Chair.

3:00 — Address: "Our Debt to the Retired Minister" Rev. E. C. Morris.

3:15 — Report of Superannuation Board, Rev. F. C. Zinn, Chairman.

3:30 — Business Session.

4:00 — Adjournment.

Wednesday Night

8:00 — Worship: Missionary Hymns, Scrip-

ture lesson, and prayer, Rev. Chester Pelt.

Report of Foreign Mission Board, Rev. Winford Davis, Chairman.

Address: "The Missionary's Call," Miss Laura Belle Barnard, Missionary to India.

Address: "The Progress of Free Will Baptist Missions in Cuba," Rev. T. H. Willey, Missionary to Cuba.

10:00 — Adjournment.

Thursday Morning

9:00 — Worship: Hymn, Scripture reading, prayer, Rev. Melvin Bingham.

9:15 — Report of National Sunday School Convention, Mr. W. E. Coville, President.

9:30 — Report of Free Will Baptist League Board, Rev. Henry Melvin, Chair.

9:45 — Report of Home Mission Board, Rev. M. L. Hollis, Chairman.

10:00 — Report of Treasurer, Rev. F. S. Van Hoose.

10:10 — Report of Statistician, Rev. Clarence F. Bowen.

10:20 — Reports of Special Committees: Resolution, Temperance, Nominating

11:00 — Miscellaneous Business.

12:00 — Fellowship and Adjournment, by Rev. George D. Dunbar.

NOTE — Rev. Henry Melvin, Pastor of the East Nashville Free Will Baptist Church, will act as music director throughout the session of the Association.

The Great
Commission
— Our Mission



Woman's Auxiliary Department

The Whole
World
For Christ

**The Hour of Prayer**

Mrs. K. V. Shutes, Cordova, Alabama

"If ye abide in me and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." (John 15:7).

IN THIS Verse lies the secret of prayer. This kind of prayer has power. "Ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you." There is a way of getting what we ask for, and Jesus gives us the conditions

by which we can obtain the things our hearts desire. One condition is, "If ye abide in me." Christ compares Himself to a vine and His disciples to the branches in the vine. He said that some of these branches remained in the vine so that the life of the vine flowed into them. Their life was wholly dependent upon the vine.

They had no life without the vine. The fruit that they bare was not their fruit, but it was the fruit of the vine. They were entirely fruitless without the vine.

For a Christian to continue to abide in Christ, he must renounce the life independent of Christ and look to Him for the inflow of His life into his. Without Him we can do nothing. Our life is entirely dependent on Him. Without Christ, without the Holy Spirit in our lives, without the influence of grace derived from Him, we are helpless and fruitless. So far, then, as we abide in Christ and His words abide in us, our prayers will procure the things that we ask of Him. If we, by faith, embrace His promises, and by obedience live up to His commandments, we may ask of Him in prayer, with a due submission to the wisdom and will of God.

If we are truly abiding in Christ and have renounced our self-life, our selfish purposes, our selfish wills, our selfish thoughts and affections, then our prayers will not just be our prayers, but will be Christ praying in and through us. Prayers like this will be consistent with the will of God. If we look to Christ to pray for us then we are praying "in the Spirit." "The Holy Spirit maketh intercessions for us with groanings which cannot be uttered."

Let us be sure that we are in the Vine, and then let us pray on God's promises.

In just a few days we will be coming together again from our different states in the capacity of another National Association to transact business for our King, and to try to advance the Kingdom of God. I think we should give much prayer to this cause. Due to existing conditions, we probably will not have things as we have had heretofore, but God is able to give us the greatest association yet. God is able to do exceeding, abundantly above that we are able to ask or even think. Praise His name! Let us pray that the Holy Spirit may have complete leadership throughout the meeting, and through the lives of our presiding officers. Pray for our different boards that God will give them wisdom to know how to do and what to do. "If any lack wisdom, let him ask of God who giveth to all men liberally and upbraideth not." Pray for God to lead in the election of officers in our National fervent prayer of a righteous man Woman's Auxiliary Convention. "The effectual much" (James 5:16).

To pray is to desire; but it is to

desire what God would have us desire.

He who desires not from the bottom of his heart, offers a deceitful prayer. —Fenlon

Personal Service in Woman's Auxiliary

Elsie M. Curtis, Fifth Vice President National Auxiliary Convention
1104 South 12th Street, Herrin, Illinois

IN ONE of the classes of the Christian Workers' Institute, the teacher of Personal Evangelism made the statement that statistics reveal the fact that many more souls are won to the Lord by personal contact than by mass revival efforts. He then called upon the class to testify individually as to which was true in their own cases. It was found that the greater number of the class, then in session, had been brought to the Lord by personal contact. Many a good, earnest Christian has sat idly, with folded hands in the church, longing for a work to do, not knowing that the Master's "Go Ye" was meant for them. There is a vast harvest field stretching out from every Christian's door and the

Lord of the Harvest is saying in the words of the poet,

"Who will go and work today?

Fields are white and harvest's waiting:

Who will bear those sheaves away?"

The personal service department of the Woman's Auxiliary must not fail in their mission. The orphans must be loved, and fed, and clothed, the aged minister must be comforted and sustained, but standing out clearly over and above all, must be the vision of the great field of lost souls which must be harvested before the "night comes when no man can work."

Because of a great compassionate heart that could not complacently pass by any of humanity's suffering, Jesus healed the

sick and fed the hungry; but always did He emphasized the all important need of the soul. To the woman at the well, He said as she drew the natural water to quench the physical thirst; "If you would ask of me I would give you to drink of that Living water...." To the multitudes gathered at the last day of the feast He stretched out His hands and cried, "If *any man* thirst let him come unto *me* and drink...." He touched the bodies of the sick and even as the healing virtue coursed through their physical beings they heard Him say, "Go, and sin no more...."

To the twelve, Jesus said, "Go....", to the seventy, the command was the same. "Go...." to Mary at the open, empty tomb. He said, "Go tell...." To the ones gathered with Him after His resurrection, the Great Commission was given, "Go ye into all the world...." Beginning at Jerusalem they obeyed and "there was added unto the church daily such as would be saved." What an array of souls mentioned in the Bible as a testimony to the success of personal service! Philip, Nathaniel, Nicodemus, the woman at the well, the eunuch of

Ethiopia, the Phillipian jailor and his family, and others too numerous to mention. There is plenty of space in the harvest field for every Christian and the harvest time is fast passing away. Many of our boys are daily slipping out of our sight, going into all the far flung battle fields of the world that are raging in deadly conflict. Opportunities for soul winning present a challenge every time we board a train or ride a bus where soldiers are thrown in our presence. One of our Christian women testified to a couple of soldier boys of the saving power of Jesus Christ, and this was the statement of one of them: "Lady, I've been in the army six months and have come in contact with a lot of people traveling about on the trains and busses, but you're the first to speak to me about Christ or the church." If we will lift our gaze to the Master's face, we will see His pointing finger, and hear His tender voice, and in this present year of our Lord, the Commission will be the same, "Go ye into all the world...." May we be so on the alert that no opportunity shall ever be a lost opportunity!



Missionary Department



Rev. Winford Davis, Chair.-Treas. National Board, Monett Mo.

A Letter From Cuba

Rev. Thomas H. Willey, Missionary

I WOULD THAT it were possible for each of you who read this to grasp some idea of the task that confronts us as a Church. So great has the burden become on our native ministers and myself, as the field director, that I have not had time to write an article for the papers, simple because I am in the saddle day and night. During the month, I have ridden horseback an estimated 194 miles, and have been enabled to reach only half of our forty-two stations. I have preached every night, and sometimes twice a day. We have entered valleys and towns in which the Gospel had never been preached, and the Bible is an unknown Book: still there are hundreds

of valleys and communities thickly settled which we have not reached. It is a sad truth that this condition exists only ninety-five miles from the United States. People here live in poverty the like of which I cannot describe to you, and the saddest of all they are impoverished for the want of the Word of God. Not a single representative of any evangelical denomination has ever preached a single Gospel message in some of these parts. This is the summary of our field of missionary labors.

I want you to share with us the joy of an initial trip into one of these new districts, La Palma by name. One of our workers, a widow named Maximina Sanchez,

has been visiting her people which consist of very large families, and has had among them some definite and remarkable conversions. Pedro and I went to this town, which is a County-seat town, to follow up these contacts. In our all-day transit to the place, we met hungry and open hearted people anxious to hear the message we have. In the town, we met a school teacher who manifested his desire to know the message and help us put the Word out. He presented us to all the leading people of the town, thus giving us a good send-off. A large hall was secured, and with a few brief announcements, the place was packed with interested people. At the end of the service, as is our custom, we wanted to know how many knew this message and were willing to accept Christ and practice it. Every hand in the building was raised, and they came to us after the service pleading that we return. That night, we rode all night to reach Vinales. Since that trip, we have rented a horse and have had a number of conversions there. The third trip was made with our Bible Woman, and we opened five definite preaching points around La Palma. On the last trip, one old countryman was definitely converted and all his house. Two of his daughters are school teachers, and they are beginning at once to teach the Word of God. This same old man is a large property owner, and has turned over to us an immense ware house for a gospel center. His hold-

ings of land amount to more than a thousand acres. In all this terminis, we are the only protestant church, and this lone widow is responsible for a population of over 50,000 people who were absolutely in ignorance of the Word of God.

Last week, we entered another large section and established a center, the mining district of Matahambre. The American officials gave us a cordial invitation to preach once a month. In this section, we have three preaching points. We are facing a ministry that angles might covet. Another section in the extreme end of the island where I have already visited a group of converted people without a missionary and in need of a strong worker, has written and visited me, and begged me to send them a worker. There are over 5,000 people grouped together there easily accessible with a good horse. Two men from this section walked over forty miles to beg me for a missionary, they begged with tears in their eyes. I received another letter yesterday from another field begging me to come and preach. What shall we do with these who reach out their hands for the Gospel? It gets to be heart-rendering to only continue promising them "some day".

We are making plans to meet our people at the National Association in July, then we shall tell you as we cannot write the opportunities that confront us. Pray that nothing shall hinder this visit.

Report of National Foreign Mission Treasury

Receipts for the Month of April
Rev. Winford Davis, Treas. Monett, Mo.

Missouri	\$214.29	Michigan	13.95
Alabama	102.31	Kansas	7.75
North Carolina	91.57	South Carolina	2.00
Tennessee	76.25	National Waman's Auxilliary Con. ..	48.20
Oklahoma	35.83		
Texas	19.00	Total	\$611.15

IMMORTALITY

T. H. Newsome, Springtown, Texas

Men do not cease to live because they die.
For all who trust in God and then comply
With His commands, and on Him do rely
Shall never, never die.

Men don't cease to live when they are dead
The deeds they have done, things they said
Live on and on, after the soul hath fled
Into the Great beyond.

Church Letters - Field Reports

A Visit to a Church in Emporia, Kans.

My visit with Rev. and Mrs. Everett Wilson and the church they are pastoring in Emporia, Kansas was in response to the request written by Brother Wilson in the March issue of the *Gem*. We consented to visit them the first Sunday in April, and secured Sister Rowena Thomas to preach for us here in Monett on that Sunday morning and Rev. W. K. Weston on that Sunday night. We left Monett at 11:28 Saturday a. m. and arrived in Emporia at midnight. Brother Wilson was still up waiting for us.

After enjoying a splendid visit in the home of Brother and Sister Wilson, we went to the church and found a small group of real Christians zealously working for the Lord. Their present place of worship is in a lodge hall, but they are working on a church building now. They had the foundation laid, and were to begin putting up the frame work the next week after I was there.

We spent the day with them in the service of the Lord. After the eleven o'clock service, a basket dinner was served. An old time fellowship meeting was engaged in the afternoon, then young people's meeting and preaching service at night. At this service, they took the Communion and washed the saints' feet.

We enjoyed the fellowship with these people and pray that God will make of them a great church, all to His glory.

— Rev. O. T. Allred

30

The Young People of Flat River, Mo.

It is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to report for the young people of my church. We have long looked forward to the time when we, as the young people, might report our activities to other Free Will Baptist young folk, and we are thankful for the space allotted us in our church paper.

Most of our activities are carried on

through our choir work. We have a large choir composed of young people, being directed by our pastor and accompanied by an able pianist, a member of our own group. We meet each Tuesday evening for our weekly devotional and have charge of each Sunday evening devotional services, also.

Even though many of our young men have been called into the service of our country, we are doing our best to be brave and fight on for the cause of the Lord. We feel it is our job here at home to keep things going and have everything in order when our boys come home.

The fact cannot be denied that we are instruments in the hands of the Lord. Recently we young people conducted a service in honor of all our boys in the service. Each mother in our church pinned a star on the flag in honor of her son in the service. This proved to be very impressive. From this service, we have been made stronger and have gained an urge to push forward the wonderful cause of our Lord.

One cannot overlook the fact that young people must have a working part in the church activities. We, as a group, like our work for the Lord. It gives us the experience and pleasure of sharing the blessings of the Lord. What is the atmosphere of a church without its young people at work?

Much credit is due our fine pastor. His patience and love for us keeps us together in unity. Our chief aim is to please the Lord.

We want to be co-operative and a helpful group to all the young people throughout our denomination. Almost all our members are readers of the *Gem*. We would like to hear from other Free Will Baptist young people. Perhaps we could exchange ideas and help one another through our church papers. May the Lord richly bless every young person throughout our Free Will Baptist denomination is our earnest prayer.

— Alberta Dodd

Woman's District Auxiliary Meeting Whittington, Illinois

Dear Gem Readers:

We wish to make this report, believing our readers will be glad to hear how God is blessing us. The district meeting of our Woman's Auxiliary met with Rescue Church near Whittington, Illinois, April 23, 1943, for an all day session. Our president, Sister Opal McClerrin, was unable to be with us.

The meeting was called to order by Lois Sneed, our first vice president. All joined in signing our theme song, "I Love to Tell the Story," followed in prayer by Sister Elsie Curtis. Our recording secretary, Rosie Conner, who has been so faithful, was unable to be with us on account of sickness. Claudie Britton acted in her absence. This work is yet new to many of us, and we spent much time in discussion of difficult problems.

God is blessing in a wonderful way. We have two new auxiliaries since our last meeting, Mt. Vernon and Pleasant View churches have organized. Our next meeting is to be with the Mt. Vernon church on Friday before the fourth Sunday in October. The women of Bear Point are to put on the program.

A bountiful dinner was served at the noon hour in the basement of the church.

Officers for the next year were elected as follows:

President, Emma Moore, Springfield, Ill.; First Vice President, Lois Sneed, Whittington, Ill.; Second Vice President, Emily Malone, Mulkeytown, Ill.; Third Vice President, Wanda Boggs, Walnut Hill, Ill.; Fourth Vice President, Juanita Smith, Whittington, Ill.; Fifth Vice President, Lois Kitterman, Woodlawn, Ill.; Treasurer, Mary Rainey, Mt. Vernon, Ill.; Recording Secretary, Rosie Connor, Whittington, Ill.; Corresponding Secretary, Mabel Kettelman, Macedonia, Ill.

Following the election of officers, we gathered at the altar for a consecration prayer. Delegates for the National Convention were also appointed at this time, who were, Emma Moore, Mabel Kettelman, Olive Street, Mary Rainey, and Emily Malone.

At the close of the business session we were favored with a talk by Sister Curtis, our national worker, and a reading by Vanita Baxter.

The meeting was then turned into an old fashioned testimonial meeting, and oh, how we did feel the presence of the Holy Spirit. We thank God for these good testimonies. We feel the auxiliary work is drawing us closer together and closer to God. I pray that we might all be laborers together and that we might study to shew ourselves approved unto God a workman that needeth not to be ashamed.

May God bless our little Gem as we so much like to read the reports of the other auxiliaries and know that our women in other states are being blessed by this great work.

30

New Hope Free Will Baptist Church Joelton, Tennessee

Mrs. Felix Simpson, clerk

Rev. E. A. Craft, pastor

I count it a privilege and a blessing to report that New Hope is still pressing toward the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Our pastor, Rev. A.E.Craft, has pastored our church eight years. He brings us soul stirring sermons each Lord's day. Our cups run over with joy. We are living in perilous times with sin and war on every hand, but praise the Lord, we still have a Savior in whom we can rejoice.

Our consecrated Sunday school superintendent, C. B. Turrentine, has been faithful for seven years. With good teachers, officers, and splendid classes, our Sunday school is doing good work for the Lord. Our Sunday school boys and girls are receiving the new birth for which we give the Lord the praise. Our Sunday school attendance has fallen off some, due to so many of our boys being called to the colors for freedom of our Nation, but we still have a very good attendance.

Our Service Flag hangs at the front of the church with 69 stars. With much sorrow, we report a gold one, one of our dear Sunday school boys. The church held a dedication service in honor of the boys in uniform April 11, at the eleven o'clock

hour. Devotional prayer led by Rev. Darnell Williams of Columbia, Tennessee. The boys were honored by reading names on flag by the pastor. Dedication prayer by Rev. J. E. Parsons, Nashville, Tennessee, with flag held on altar by the pastor and superintendent. Dedication sermon delivered by the president of our Bible School, Rev. L. C. Johnson, Nashville, Tennessee. Brother Johnson brought a good message and was enjoyed by a large crowd, with people standing in the back of church. We miss our boys very much in our church worship. May God bless and keep them in His name.

Our Woman's Auxiliary is still progressing with the Lord's help. We have a membership of 30. With the president, Mrs. N. V. Williams, all the vice presidents and officers and members co-operating, we have spiritual meetings. We give one full day each month. Our day of meeting is filled with work for the Lord. We have both mission and stewardship classes, and use the year book of programs. We have special prayers for our missionaries, our boys in service and for all the other work which is on our hearts. Our Auxiliary has a special offering, besides dues, each month for both home and foreign missions, orphanage and education.

Our League is doing good work with Garner Caldwell, a fine Christian man, as leader. He is training our youth in a wonderful way. We have two quartets and good singing which is enjoyed by all who attend service. We have cottage prayer meeting each week and the Holy Spirit is with us.

Our financial work is growing wonderfully in all branches of the church, especially in our general church fund. "God loveth a cheerful giver." "Bring ye all the tithe into the store house." May the Lord continue to bless in this work.

30

The Free Will Baptist Church St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Gem Readers:

It gives me great pleasure to write unto you of the blessings that only God can give to us.

We had our first Sunday School Con-

vention on April the fourth, and the Lord really poured out His blessing and we had a wonderful time. We were glad to have Rev. Albert Tucker, president of our Sunday School Convention, give us a fine spiritual message.

We are glad to announce that the Lord has blessed us with our old building, being led to worship in the same building as we have been for sometime. God has so arranged that we could buy it, and as we go farther to improve this, we ask that you continue to pray for us.

We were glad of the good revival held recently at Fredricktown, Missouri, by our own pastor, Rev. Mark Lewis, and for the souls that were saved, also for the services that Rev. Zinn brought for us in our pastors absence, and for the souls that were saved here.

Our Sunday school is growing rapidly since we last wrote you. Over a hundred attend and about 75% are staying for church service. We are glad for our new convert, Sister Sutherland, who went out and brought 21 new children to Sunday school, who did not attend any place. We are also glad for our Womans Auxiliary who is doing so much for the Lord and for the church. They gladly welcomed their visitors, Rev. John Rollins, Rev. Melvin Bingham, and Rev. Winford Davis. We pray that God will bless them in their business journey.

"The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein."—Psalms 24:1. Come to church and serve Him that when He calls you, He will say "Well done thou good and faithful servant."

30

"The GO-Tell Band" Tulsa, Oklahoma

Last fall, a short time before school began, a small group of junior girls of our church met and organized a "Go-Tell Band." We named our Band "The Barbara Jean Circle" in honor of little Barbara Jean Willey, our missionary's daughter.

For a Christmas gift to Barbara Jean, each girl brought a little gift, and we took money from our treasury to buy material for her a dress. For this we received a precious

letter of thanks from Sister Willey.

We also sent out Christmas greeting cards to the aged and retired ministers of our association.

We write letters to the boys in the armed forces. We want to be able to carry on the good work of the church while our dear boys are gone. We have a large number gone from our church, and the Lord only knows how we miss them. We pray that the Lord will hasten the day when they can be back with us. We want our church to be active when they come back.

We have not been able to do much since we first organized on account of school and bad weather and poor transportation and all the other little things the devil could find to hinder the good work, however, we are expecting to do more now since Spring is here and everything seems favorable.

On April 3rd, we went on a picnic on beautiful Reservoir Hill. After we had enjoyed a delicious lunch cooked on an open fire, we had a business meeting. After prayer and Scripture reading, we re-organized because some of our officers have moved away and some others are being promoted to the intermediate circle. We really had a wonderful time. There were thirteen children and three mothers, and we rode a city bus to the foot of the hill then hiked the rest of the way. We enjoyed cooking "stick bread" and roasting wieners, gathering wild flowers, taking snap shots with kodaks, climbing over hills and rocks, and some of the girls played ball, but the mothers were too tired for that. It was a tired, dirty looking group of us who rode the city bus back through town, but it was worth it all. The Lord really blessed us.

We ask an interest in all your prayers that we might always be able to do our little part in whatever the Loving Master might have for us to do.

We are sorry to say that we are losing our vice president, Doylene Dipboye, who is moving to Arkansas. We are going to miss her so much for she is such a sweet little girl, but we know God can use her down there too, so we submit to His will.

Barbara June Hancock, President
Donna Hamilton, Secretary
Thelma Lister, Treasurer

The Free Will Baptist Church Drumright, Oklahoma

Rev. Harry E. Staires, Pastor
Mrs. Vera Stanley, Reporter

Dear Gem Readers:

Again I will report the glorious blessings of our church. We had a revival meeting in April with Rev. George W. Scott of Mountain Grove, Mo. as our evangelist. We are rejoicing over the souls that were brought to Christ during the revival, because we know that one soul brought to Christ is worth everything in this world. Brother Scott was a real inspiration and blessing to our church while he was here.

We enjoyed the second-Sunday singing here in April. A large crowd attended and enjoyed singing the songs of Zion. We could feel the Spirit of God prevailing in the songs.

Our mission work is progressing too. The ladies spend every Thursday afternoon in prayer meetings in different homes where there are aged or sick people who are not able to attend church.

We held a week's prayer service at the church the last of April which was dedicated to our country and our boys on the battlefield. We had a different leader every afternoon.

30

A Woman's Auxiliary Organized Fredericktown, Missouri

Dear Gem Readers:

We are proud to inform you that we have organized a Woman's Auxiliary in our Free Will Baptist Church, and are striving to the best of our knowledge to carry the Great Commission, our mission, beginning in Fredericktown, Mo. We have nineteen members now and are looking forward to a greater interest in this wonderful work. We earnestly desire your prayers for our success in the Woman's Auxiliary work.

Our officers are:

Sister Belda Zinn President
Sister Elsie Myers First vice president
Sister Emma McGraw Second vice pres.
Sister Beulah Spivy Third vice pres.
Sister Helen McGraw Fourth vice pres.
Sister Rose Sharp Fifth vice pres.
Sister Allie Hanes, Recording Sec. & Treas.

Sister Emma Bebout, Corresponding Sec.
We feel this Auxiliary work is needed here in Fredericktown very much, and are anxious to see this great work go on.

—Mrs. Emma Bebout

30

A Revival Meeting Noble, Illinois

We have just closed our annual two weeks' revival at the Glenwood Cong-Christian Church with Rev. George McLain of Oklahoma City as evangelist.

Rev McLain was privileged to witness the result of the great revival he conducted for us last year when one after another testified for their Lord. Rev. McLain preaches straight forward Bible messages and with a power that holds the interest of old and young. His sermons are a spiritual feast to both those who are within the fold and those who are yet out in sin.

The attendance was very gratifying in spite of rationing, rural location, and April showers. Many were moved and have expressed a desire to walk in the light and continue to seek the Lord until they find Him, beside those who prayed through for forgiveness. Thirteen souls were saved in this revival and ten new members were added to the church.

This meeting not only reached our community, but also the surrounding communities. The meeting is adjourned, but not over; the Holy Spirit and a praying church remain. To Him, our wonderful Saviour, belong all the glory and praise for what has been accomplished.

—Audrey Eagleton, reporter

30

Woman's Auxiliary, Tulsa, Okla.

Mrs. J. E. Renegar, President

Mrs. N. S. Miller, Recording Sec.

Since we have not had a report from this department of our church in the *Gem* for a long time, we felt inclined to tell of some of our Auxiliary's activities.

The Auxiliary is still moving forward, and doing the Lord's work even though we are few in number since so many of our members are otherwise employed. The Lord continues to bless our efforts.

The observance of the National Week of Prayer proved a great blessing to all and especially to those who took part. The program was well arranged, with different speakers each day and special numbers in song that blessed us all. A total of seventy persons, and several children, attended the services.

The Auxiliary also honored all the aged mothers of our church with an all-day service on Thursday, and a Mothers' Day program was given and cards and gifts were presented to the honored mothers. We had 22 mothers present, and our pastor and several children.

The Auxiliary sponsored the "Invitation Drive" by visiting in the neighborhood homes and inviting folk to church. In the 42 homes we visited, we found that a goodly number of people did not attend Sunday school and church any place.

30

MOTHER

Grandmother Dixon, Aurora, Mo.

When I take my flight to heaven,

When this earth I'll trod no more;
There with Jesus I'll be waiting,

For my children ever more.

For them I will be watching,

In that happy, peaceful place,
For I know that He can save them
Through His blessed saving grace.

I trust they will be ready,

When He calls them to the gate;
For they will have to meet Him,
And will behold His blessed face.

There they'll receive a message,

By no other can be told;
So, my children, look to Jesus,
Take Him deep within your soul.

Oh! That His loving sunshine,

From your soul shall ne'er depart;
While upon this earth you travel,
Serve the Lord with all your heart.

Take Him with you always,

In every lane and distant land;
Then, dear Jesus, teach us kindly,
Lead us by Thy loving hand.

Washington D. C.

Dear Gem Readers:

It seems that the weeks and months have just flown since we last found time to write you, but even though we have been silent for so long, we are still on the Lord's side. Since we have found a place to worship, and have been attending regularly, the time seems to fly, and we find ourselves busy with those things that necessarily have to be done and attending services sometimes every night in the week. We thank God for hearing and answering our prayers in regard to a place of worship.

When we first came to Washington, we were negligent in attending services, but soon learned by experience that no matter how consecrated one might have been previously, staying away from God's house soon causes him to become negligent in regard to his responsibilities as a Christian. We now attend services regularly at the National Tabernacle, 6440 Piney Road, N.W., Washington, D. C. We have become acquainted with several of the people here, including the pastor and church treasurer. The treasurer, Brother Eaton, has proved a source of help to us as he is ever ready to make one feel at home and acquainted with the various ones connected with the Tabernacle. The pastor is Dr. John McNeil, a real Scotchman.

The Young People's Service on Sunday evening has especially proved a blessing. The leader, Sister Reed, is a devoted Christian and often passes on to her congregation thoughts that prove a help when one needs it most.

It has been our privilege to hear some nationally known and outstanding ministers during our year here in Washington. Among those we would mention are Dr. James McGinlay, Rev. Delbert S. Grant, and Rev. Harry A. Jaeger. There are many others, but time and space will not permit our mentioning them all.

Just yesterday (Sunday, May 2), we attended one of the best services we have witnessed in Washington. It was a Young People's Rally at Constitution Hall, with Rev. Harry A. Jaeger as the principle speaker for the afternoon. The theme of the Rally was "A Bible for Every Life

Boat," and the offering for the afternoon was over \$300.00. Two U. S. Chaplains spoke briefly — Chaplain John F. Carruthers and a Chaplain from Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Rev. Jaeger is working in our Army Camps with our boys and has a living message of hope to give to all who listen. He spoke a few minutes after the main service with a group of young people who gathered in the lobby, and would to God that those who think young America is going to the dogs could have seen the eager upturned faces of those young people as they listened anxiously to every word Brother Jaeger had to say as though they were afraid they would miss part of them! I, myself, was guilty after being here a few months of thinking that young America was unconcerned, but I have learned more and more that all are not. It is true that seemingly the majority are unconcerned, but we are glad that it isn't always the majority that win — and how much more that is true in this Christian Warfare. It would do anyone's heart good to watch them as Brother Jaeger gave them Scriptures and encouraged them in being better Christians.

We could not be honest with ourselves or with others if we failed to openly thank God for the past year in our Nation's Capitol. There have been more than once when we were ready to quit because things were not running smoothly, but how glad we are that we didn't! There have been many discouraging times, and old Satan has done his best to get us to give up, but with God we have won the victory thus far.

Continuing to trust in the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we rededicate and reconsecrate our life afresh upon the altar to God for Him to use just as He sees best. In these closing words, we earnestly request your prayers in our behalf that we shall let God lead in all decisions to be made.

— Gertrude Bowe

123½ Carroll Ave., Takoma Park
Washington, D. C.

30

Myrtle, Missouri

Dear Gem Readers:

I am praising the Lord for this privilege and blessing afforded me by writing again to the Gem readers. I am glad for this

little paper that reaches out over land and sea. I am glad that some of our dear boys in the service have the privilege of reading the Gem. We do so enjoy the letters some of them write.

Our Service Flag is hanging in our church with thirty-two stars placed on it. On February 28, we dedicated it to all the boys around Myrtle who have gone from us, of whom we are very proud. "For we are laborers together with God." God does not require less of us when He calls for laborers in His great field of service. What a glorious privilege it is to be a laborer in the Master's vineyard. We Free Will Baptists are learning that we need one another more than ever before in this great crisis. Are we Christians failing to do our duty? Let us work while it is day for the night cometh when no man can work. Let us join in prayer for the boys in the service, and for one another.

— Ora Clark, Church Clerk

30

The Free Will Baptist Church Picher, Oklahoma

The Northwest Picher Free Will Baptist Church, called "Blue Front" has been engaged in a revival meeting for the past eighteen days with Rev. Ova Stalcup conducting the meeting. The church has been greatly edified and uplifted spiritually. There have been nine souls saved and two

additions to the church. Brother Stalcup is a capable, God-called man. We want to recommend him to all. His address is Box 957, Oklahoma City, Okla.

— Mrs. Elsie Dunn, Clerk

30

Ruth Dale Free Will Baptist Church Charleston, West Virginia

Dear Gem Readers:

I am happy to report the wonderful things God has done for His people in this community. It is a wonderful thing what people can do when they will let God have His way in their hearts.

A short time ago, some Free Will Baptist people were in this community without a place to meet. They began praying and working, and soon a nice church was built. On March 7, the first meeting was conducted in the new church. A good many people came to church though it was cold and bad. Bro. Jones Herrald brought a wonderful message on "Ye Are the Salt of the Earth." I am sure everyone around this little church is glad to live in a place where the Word of God is preached in its purity. While I am not a member, I am thankful for it. I am also thankful for men like Bro. R. E. Dunlap and Bro. Willie Rabol. Because of these men, the church stands on top of the hill. God is blessing this place. Let us do more for Jesus this year than ever before.

— Deacon, Joe Childers, reporter

Report of Missouri Treasury

Rev. Winford Davis, Treas. Monett, Mo.

Foreign Missions

Myrtle Long, Patton, Mo.	\$1.00	Independence Church	27.00
Amity Church, Niangua, Mo.	3.00	Mrs. Ottie Metzger, Liberal, Mo.	5.00
Flat River Church	38.75	Neola Woman's Auxiliary	4.00
Fredericktown Church	4.69	Mine La Motte S. S.	3.53
New Harmony Mission Circle,	5.00	Rev. Lloyd Jeffries	5.00
Aurora Church	6.00	Hickory Grove Church	6.30
Eldorado Springs Church	6.20	Third Church, St. Louis, Mo.	13.60
Mill Creek League and S. S.	20.00	Buffalo Sunday School	1.21
Shibleys Point Church	1.00	Aurora Church	3.75
Will Price, Arcola, Mo.	2.00	Sublette Church	3.45
Mt. Olive (Neola) Church	6.00	Northeast Mo. Mission Band	25.00
True Blue Class, Neola S. S.	1.00	Monett Church	13.00
Ottis Martin, Greenfield, Mo.	7.00	Rock Chapel	2.00
		Amity Church	2.00

Oak Grove Church near Alton, Mo. . .	4.00
New Harmony Mission	7.75
Macedonia Church	2.31
Fredericktown Auxiliary	1.50
Wiley Circle, Flat River, Mo.	15.00
Leadington Church and S. S.	7.88
Merls Chapel	7.80
Fredericktown Sunday School	4.32
Hannon Church	15.00
Macedonia Sunday School	2.50
Pvt. Loy Smith	2.00
Blue Eye Church	1.72
Elsie Heard, Oakland, Mo.	4.25
Willing Workers Circle, Flat River . .	3.00
Hickory Grove Auxiliary	1.00
Wagoner Church	5.60

Budget Fund

Carterville Church	\$5.41
Mrs. Edith Blair, Buffalo, Mo.	2.00
Macedonia Church	1.00

Benevolence Fund

Neola Auxiliary for Superannuation	\$2.00
Hickory Grove Auxiliary for Tenn.	
Orphanage	1.00
Hickory Grove Auxiliary for Super annuation	1.00

Allocation Fund (Penny-a-Day)

Monett Church	\$2.03
Neola Church	4.10
Merls Chapel	6.35
Macedonia Church	5.28
Wiley Circle, Flat River, Mo.	2.50
Hannon Church40

Jehoida Chest Fund

Hickory Grove Auxiliary	\$1.00
Macedonia Church	2.00
Hannon Church	1.00

Educational Fund

Fredericktown Church	\$3.66
New Harmony Mission Circle	5.00
Ottis Martin, Greenfield, Mo.	2.00
Rev. Lloyd Jeffries	5.00
Merls Chapel	10.00
Leadington Church and S. S.	5.60
Fredericktown Sunday School	1.73
Hickory Grove Auxiliary	1.09
Robert Cross	3.00

New Machinery Fund

J. A. Kempt, Norwood, Mo.	1.50
-----------------------------------	------

A Special Article

History of Hickory Grove Church, Haddam, Kans.

Miss Portteus Latimer, Haddam, Kans.

THE HICKORY GROVE Free Will Baptist Church, near Haddam, Kansas, was organized by Rev. Wm. Marks on December 13, 1870, and was first known as the Mill Creek Church. One charter member, Sister Marietta Grover who celebrated her ninety-sixth birthday on May 3, 1943, is still with us. The organization was perfected, and services were held for several years in a log school house near the site of the present church building. Rev. John Palmer was called as the first pastor, and he held the pastorate nine years.

In 1885, during the pastorate of Rev. Joseph Westley, plans were commenced for building a church, and the building was

completed during the summer of 1886, on ground presented by Brother Wm. Gray, a deacon in the church. Dedication services were held on August 30 of that year, with Rev. Ransom Dunn, co-author of "Butler-Dunn Theology" delivering the dedicatory sermon. At that time the name was changed from Mill Creek to Hickory Grove. Also, on that day, Sister McKinney organized The Woman's Missionary Society. The Society has always been a great help to the church, both financially and spiritually, and at present has twenty-two members.

In 1890, while Rev. A. S. Reeves was pastor, a four room parsonage was built



Hickory Grove Church, Haddam, Kans.

near the church; later two other rooms were added.

On July 11, 1910, the church was completely destroyed by a tornado; the parsonage which stood about fifty feet away was only slightly damaged. Although misfortune had come, those faithful members, few of whom remain, were not discouraged. Five days later a meeting was called and plans were laid for rebuilding. While the new church was under construction, services were again held in the district school house. The new church was built on the foundation of the old one, and on January 6, 1911, was dedicated to the service of God. This time the dedicatory sermon was delivered by Rev. I. H. Murphy, returned missionary to India.

During the seventy-two years since its organization, the pastorate of the church has been held by twenty-one ministers. Five of its members have entered the ministry, namely: Brother Paul Reeves, Sister Maude Mann, Sister Ada Grover Reiger, Brother Oscar Grover, and Sister Vera Dawdy, the latter having received her license at the last session of the Northwest Missouri Association of Free Will Baptists.

At the present time, the church has fifty-six members on its roll; however a number of those are non-resident, leaving the re-

sponsibility resting upon a few. It has a live Sunday school, with special interest manifest in the Junior and Intermediate classes. There is also a Young People's Christian Endeavor Society, although that group feels most the demands of war. Several of the best of our young men have answered our country's call, and they have left vacancies in both the Christian Endeavor and the Sunday School that make our hearts ache. We pray that they may all be permitted to return to us and to those places in the church and the community that they once filled.

Cottage prayer meetings are held twice each month, and are truly a source of inspiration and help to all who attend. The Woman's Missionary Society also meets twice a month. Rev. A. H. DeWeese is serving his second year as full time pastor.

Since there are no longer any other churches of the Free Will Baptist denomination in this section of the state, in 1940 the church united with the Northwest Missouri Association, and is now a part of that body.

Although there is much to be done in this part of God's vineyard, we are thankful for what has been and is being accomplished. May we be enabled to do more, is our prayer.

OBITUARIES

FERGUSON—Rev. S. M. Ferguson, one of the oldest Free Will Baptist preachers in south east Missouri, passed away at his home in River Mines, April 12, 1943. He was for many years active in the church in his yearly meeting, and was at one time pastor of the Flat River church. He had many interesting experiences to tell of the earlier days of the Free Will Baptists of St. Francois County. His going was in the triumph of a living faith in the Son of God.

Rev. S. M. Ferguson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Austin Ferguson, was born in Boiling County Mo., Oct. 2, 1862, and died April 12, 1943, at his home in River Mines, Mo., at the age of 80 years, 6 months and 10 days. On Oct. 2, 1887, he was united in marriage to Mary Ann Trousdale of Libertyville, Mo., and to this union was born 13 children, two of whom preceded him in death. He is survived by his wife, eleven children, 40 grand children, 21 great grand children, and other relatives and a host of friends.

Brother Ferguson had been an ordained preacher in The Free Will Baptist church for more than 40 years, and had many friends.

The funeral service was held at the Flat River Free Will Baptist church Wednesday, May 14th. The service was conducted by Bro. James F. Miller in the presence of a large number of friends who had gathered to offer sympathy to the family.

THORNTON—Wm. E. Thornton was born in Macoupin County, Ill., April 29, 1869, and departed this life Tuesday, April 6, 1943, at his home near Liberal, Missouri, being at the time of his death 73 years, 11 months and 8 days old.

He moved with his parents to Barton county when a little boy of two years old, and has lived the remainder of his life near Liberal.

On January 29, 1889, he was united in marriage to Josephine Thompson. To this union was born six children, five sons and one daughter. All these are surviving

him. They are Roy and George of near Liberal; Clarence of Ft. Smith, Arkansas; Wallace of Cape Girardeau, Mo.; Ralph of East St. Louis, Ill. and Ethel of Kansas City, Mo. Also surviving him are one brother, Frank Thornton, New Berlin, Ill., and one sister Mrs. Bessie Jones of Minonk, Ill., 14 grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Mr. Thornton lived to see a raw country of mere cow paths developed into paved highways, railroads built, prairies turned into farm land and homes and schools developed.

Two years ago last September he and wife enjoyed a family reunion at their home where children, grand children and great grand children were present. On that same day occurred "The Shiloh picnic" which is an annual event and means so much to the older generation. Mr. and Mrs. Thornton, with their family visited the old school ground, where they two had been sweet hearts over 50 years ago. All of their own children and 10 grand children attended this school, something very unusual for three generations to attend the same rural school.

Four years ago last January 29, they celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary, another glorious day for this family to spend together. No angel of death had ever entered this home, even four more years were added to this good fortune.

Mr. Thornton was a faithful husband, father and friend. It is men like him that has made our country and his family of loyal sons and daughter are a living monument to the community in which this good man has spent over 70 years of his life.

Funeral service was conducted by Rev. Winford Davis at the Hannon church in the presence of a large audience.

PAIGE—Rual Hadley Paige, son of Harvey B. and Diantha Paige, was born in Chittenanga, New York, January 27, 1857. He grew to manhood in the state of New York, and was married in October 18, 1882, to Miss Fannie Johnson also of Chittenanga. They moved to Missouri in 1891, and settled in Barton county in the Verdella neighborhood.

He was converted in early life and when he came to Barton county, he became a charter member of the Verdella Free Will Baptist church there where he was always present and took an active part as long as health permitted. He and his dear companion loved their church and their home was always the "preachers' home" when they came that way.

He and his good wife celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Oct. 18, 1942, at the home where they had lived for over 50 years.

He quietly fell Asleep in Jesus on the evening of March 4, 1943., at the age of 86 years.

Besides his aged companion, he leaves one son, Dr. R. S. Paige, who was his father's pride and joy, and two grandsons, Chester and Harvey Paige, who are serving their country in foreign lands, and one little granddaughter, Gale Paige, of Joplin, Mo., and many other relatives and a great host of friends who knew and loved this good man.

Funeral services was conducted at the little church where he attended so faithfully all through his life, by the writer who was a very close friend of the family,

and burial was made in Barton City Cemetery near by where all that was mortal of the one we loved was laid to rest to wait the Call in the Great Resurrection morning when all that are in the graves shall hear the voice of the Son of God and shall come forth.

— Mrs. Rowena Thomas

SPEARS — Death claimed Franklin Pierce Spears following an illness of one week. He was born in Johnson County, Kentucky, November 27, 1854, a son of Enoch and Melinda Williams Spears. A carpenter by trade, he had retired fifteen years ago. "Uncle Frank" as he was known, had lived forty-four years in Catlettsburg, Kentucky. He was a member of the Enterprise Baptist Church. He was a faithful attendant of the Sandy City Free Will Baptist Church and Sunday School. He is survived by three daughters, Mrs. J. A. Eaker, Mrs. Lloyd Bullington and Mrs. G. C. Spiver; one son, Thomas Spears; two brothers, Julius Spears and Dock Spears; one sister, Mrs. Ann Webb, and a host of friends.

Rev. L. E. Colliwer and Rev. Jay Duvall conducted an impressive funeral service and burial was in the Catlettsburg Cemetery.

You Should Read Your Church Papers

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Published Weekly

\$1.50 per year — 6 months 75c
3 months 40c

Send your Subscription to
The Free Will Baptist Press
Ayden, North Carolina

Send for Sample Copies to be distributed in your Church and Community.

FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Published Monthly

75c per year — 8 months 50c
16 months \$1.00

Send your Subscription to
The Free Will Baptist Gem
Monett, Missouri

Send for Sample Copies to be distributed in your Church and Community.