



Proceedings
of the
Fifty-first Annual Session
of the
Sardis Association of
Old Regular Baptist
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

IN SESSION ASSEMBLED WITH
BENT BRANCH CHURCH
Pike County, Kentucky

September 10, 11, 12, 1943

PROCEEDINGS

of the

FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION OF THE SARDIS ASSOCIATION OF OLD REGULAR BAPTIST THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

In session assembled with the Bent Branch Church, September 10, 11 and 12, 1943, at the Bent Branch Church house where arrangements were made for the Preaching; the services were introduced by Elder W. C. Hay, followed by the introductory sermon delivered by Elder Grover Carey, text: St. Matthew the 28th chapter, and the latter clause of the 6th verse, which reads as follows: Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

Then the delegates assembled at the Church house and after a short talk and song by Elder Jonah Bevins. Elder Finis Adkins led us in prayer, then the association proceeded as follows:

1. Called for the letters from the several churches and received the letters and seated the delegates.

2. Then the association organized by electing Elder Hi Maynard as moderator, Elder Ester Hopkins assistant moderator, Elder Jonah Bevins as clerk, and Elder W. C. Hay assistant clerk. By request of Elder Jonah Bevins that he be released as clerk, his request was granted. By motion it was ordered that Elder W. C. Hay serve us as clerk and Brother Troy T. Francis, assistant clerk.

3. At the request of the moderator the rules of decorum were read by the clerk.

4. Called for newly organized churches and received none.

5. Called for letters from sister association and received as follows: New Salem, by the hands of Elders

Hayes Maynard, C. F. Conn, Sam Thomas and Brothers Billie Moore and J. L. Dill, letter and minutes received later; Philadelphia, by the hands of Elders Finis Adkins, John Moore, W. L. Burnett, W. M. Burnette, letters in the hands of Elder Finis Adkins. Union, by the hands of Elders Basil May, and V. D. Ratcliff, letter in the hands of Elder Basil May. Mud River, by the hands of Elders Gilbert Miller, Wetzel Ball, George Adkins and Hillard Pauley, letters in the hands of Elder Gilbert Miller.

6. Called for transient ministers and members of our faith and order, the following received: H. C. Maynard, Willis Blackburn, J. H. Hensley, G. L. Adkins, Jonah Bevins, Harrison Bevins, Asa Evans, Basil Robinette, Emmett Case, Ernie Runyon, Willie White, Shadle Pauley, N. A. England and Lewis Smith.

7. Ordered that the moderator make all temporary appointments.

8. Committee appointed to take care of the visiting brethren as follows: Tom Morrison, Cleve Bevins, Ben Curry and Forest Bevins.

9. Committee appointed to see that the stand be supplied with ministers and that peace is preserved around the stand. (None appointed.)

10. Committee to arrange the ministry for Saturday, consisting of one member from each church with the entire delegation of the Bent Branch Church. Ministers as follows: First, Elder G. L. Adkins; Second, Gilbert Miller; Third, Hayes Maynard, and Fourth, C. F. Conn.

11. Friday night services, Elders Ernie Runyon, Basil May and Finis Adkins.

12. Appointed clerks to write letters to corresponding associations.

13. Committee on arrangements consisting of one delegate from each church with the moderators and clerks with the corresponding associations invited.

14. On motion by Brother Dock Maynard the association adjourned until 9:00 o'clock Saturday morning.

Saturday Morning

Met pursuant to adjournment and after song and prayer, service were introduced by Elder Willie White.

1. Called the roll and marked the absentees.

2. Read the bill of arrangements and discharged the committee on same.

3. Appointed a committee on finance consisting of Elders Willis Blackburn, Esther Hopkins and Jonah Bevins, who reported the contributions from each church as shown in the statistical table.

4. Called on the treasurer to report who reported as follows:

Total on hand for the year ending September 11, 1943	\$479.02
Paid out for printing of minutes ...	\$70.00
Paid out for note on Enon Church House	283.50
Secretary's Fee	10.00
Expenses of delegates to sister associations and state tax	2.10
Clerk's Fee	15.00
Refund error in 1942 minutes	9.00
Total paid out	\$389.60
	<hr/>
	\$389.60

Balance on hand in bank	\$ 89.42
Received from churches this year	\$ 165.80
	<hr/>

Total on hand for next year

5. Ordered that Elder Willis Blackburn be retained as treasurer and that he be allowed \$10.00 for his service.

6. Ordered that the clerk superintend the printing of the minutes and that he have two thousand (2000) copies printed and that he be allowed \$15.00 for his services for preparing the manuscript and recording the same.

7. Brethren called in union meetings and associations last year made their reports. Their report received

and failures excused. They all were admonished to be more faithful this coming year.

8. Appointed same committee to arrange for preaching Sunday, who reported as follows: First, Elder Harrison Bevins; Second, Elder Finis Adkins; Third, Elder Esther Hopkins, with our Moderator Elder Hi Maynard closing. Also Saturday night service: First, Elder J. H. Hensley; Second, Elder Willie White, and Third, Elder Willis Blackburn.

9. Letters to sister associations read and appointed delegates as follows:

New Salem, to be held with the Philadelphia church to begin on Friday before the fourth Saturday in September, 1943. Elders Hi Maynard Harrison Bevins, and Basil Robinette. Letter in the hands of Elder Harrison Bevins.

Philadelphia, to be held with the Mt. Olivet Church to begin on Friday before the third Saturday in September, 1943. Elders W. C. Hay, Willis Blackburn, Ernie Runyon, H. C. Maynard, W. A. Hurley and Brother Ben Curry. Letter in the hands of Elder W. C. Hay.

Mud River, to be held with the Sarrah church to begin on Friday before the fourth Saturday in August, 1944. Elders Esther Hopkins, E. S. Coleman, W. A. Hurley and Brothers Mosco Gilman and Fayette Hackney. Letter in the hands of Elder Esther Hopkins.

Union, to be held with the Frozen Creek Church to begin on Friday before the third Sunday in September, 1943. Elders Basil Robinette, Esther Hopkins, Hi Maynard and Brothers Harvy Young, Caudill Williamson and George Hinkle. Letter in the hands of Elder Esther Hopkins.

Upon Request the Following Churches Have Union Meetings

May

SALEM: First Saturday and Sunday. Elders Willie White, W. C. Hay and Hi Maynard, with moderator attending.

TURKEY CREEK: Second Saturday and Sunday. Elders Wallace Maynard, Willie White and Grover Carey; with moderator attending.

June

ENON: First Saturday and Sunday. Elders Willie White and J. H. Hensly, with moderator attending.

APPLE ORCHARD: First Saturday and Sunday. Elders Ernest Runyon, Ester Hopkins and Harrison Bevins, with moderator attending.

LEANAH: Second Saturday and Sunday. Elders Esther Hopkins and Harrison Bevins, with moderator attending.

BUCK CREEK: Third Saturday and Sunday. Elders Grover Carey, Willie White and Asa Evans, with moderator attending.

SIDNEY: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Elders Esther Hopkins, Harrison Bevins, Emmet Case and Bud Coleman, with moderator attending.

July

DIX FORK: First Saturday and Sunday. Elders Lewis Smith, W. A. Hurley, Grover Carey, Willie White and J. H. Hensley, with moderator attending.

MT. PLEASANT: Second Saturday and Sunday. Elders Willis Blackburn, Asa Evans and Esther Hopkins, with moderator attending.

MARY ELIZABETH: Third Saturday and Sunday. Elders Emmet Case, H. C. Maynard, Ester Hopkins and L. G. Lowe, with moderator attending.

BIG BRANCH: Third Saturday and Sunday. Elders, Shadle Pauley, Grover Carey, Emmet Case and Hi Maynard with moderator attending.

NARROWS BRANCH: To begin on Friday before the fourth Sunday. Elders Grover Carey, Willis Blackburn and Ester Hopkins, with moderator attending.

LITTLE ROSA: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Elders Shadle Pauley, Emmet Case, Grover Carey, Wallace Maynard; Ester Hopkins, and Harrison Bevins, with moderator attending.

August

LITTLE DOVE: First Saturday and Sunday. Elders J. R. Evans, Wallace Maynard, Willie White and Hi Maynard, with moderator attending.

TABITHA: First Saturday and Sunday. Elders James Thornsby, Willie White and J. R. Evans with moderator attending.

REBECCA: Second Saturday and Sunday. Elders Harrison Bevins, Willie White, Grover Carey and Hi Maynard, with moderator attending.

ELK FORK: Third Saturday and Sunday. Elders Willie White, W. A. Hurley and Wallace Maynard, with Moderator attending.

BENT BRANCH: Third Saturday and Sunday. Elders W. C. Hay, Willis Blackburn, Jonah Bevins and Grover Carey, with moderator attending.

BEECH GROVE: Third Saturday and Sunday. Elders H. C. Maynard, Finis Adkins, J. G. Thornsby, Wallace Maynard and Willie White, with moderator attending.

PILGRIM HOME: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Elders W. C. Hay, Willie White and W. A. Hurley, with moderator attending.

SARDIS: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Elders Willie White, Wallace Maynard and J. R. Evans, with moderator attending.

BETHANY: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Elders Matt Mounts, J. G. Thornsby, E. S. Coleman, Grover Carey and Willis Blackburn, with moderator attending.

10. Ordered that we print Obituaries presented to the Brother clerk at the close of the Association, or within ten days.

11. Ordered that the treasurer pay the expenses of one car for the delegates to attend sister Associations, paying for the gas and oil.

12. Ordered that we advise ministers of our Association not to marry people into adultery where either man or woman has a living wife or husband.

13. Shall we receive into our fellowship men having more than one wife or women having more than one husband?

Answer:

We advise churches not to receive into their fellowship any such except those who have put away their Companions for the cause of fornication and such cases to have the Gospel or church evidence of same.

14. Ordered that we pass Article 17 of last year's minutes concerning building of Church Houses.

15. Ordered that we adopt the Articles of faith that was printed in minutes of 1941, as existed in the year of 1858, in the Apple Orchard Church, with the addition of Articles 12 and 13 of our present Articles of Faith, which reads as follows: We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both of the just and of the unjust. Also the happiness of the Saints and the punishment of the wicked are eternal.

NOTE: Call for report concerning note that was paid off on Enon Church House and received the report that the same was paid, and cancelled.

16. Ordered that our next association be held with the Little Dove Church, Belo, Mingo County, West Virginia, about seven miles from Naugatuck, West Virginia, up Pigeon Creek, to begin on Friday before the second Saturday in September, 1944.

17. By vote it was ordered that Elder Willie White

preach the introductory sermon and that Elder Harrison Bevins be his alternate.

18. Ordered that we tender our thanks to the Bent Branch Church, and the community at large.

19. Ordered that the minutes be read and signed by the moderator and clerk. The Association then adjourned to the time and place above mentioned.

Elder Hi Maynard, Moderator,
Elder Ester Hopkins, Asst. Moderator.
Elder W. C. Hay, Clerk,
Brother Troy T. Francis, Asst. Clerk.

SUNDAYS SERVICE

Sept. 12, 1943

An unusually large and well behaved congregation assembled in and around the Bent Branch Church house Sunday morning. The congregation being much too large for all to be able to get inside the house.

Several of the old time songs of Praise were sung and introduction was made by Elder Harrison Bevins.

Elder Finis Adkins followed the opening and used as a text St. John, 5th Chapter and 21st verse as follows: "For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will."

Elder Adkins dwelt wonderfully on the hope of the children of God in the resurrection of the dead considering his aged and weakened condition.

Second: Elder Ester Hopkins occupied and used for a text St. Mathew, 6th Chapter and last portion of 30th verse as follows, "Oh ye of little faith."

Third: Elder Hi Maynard, Moderator of the Association occupied and used as a text the 14 chapter and latter clause of the 17th verse as follows: "Come, for all things are now ready." Speaking briefly, but powerfully to the extent that provision was made and still is ready for those who will believe in Jesus Christ the immaculate Son of God.

In conclusion the brethren and sisters sang together and in unison the old song "My dearest friends in Bonds of Love" singing with the Spirit and understanding. Amid much rejoicing and praising the name of Him who died for us.

Thus was brought to a close the 51st Annual Session of the Sardis Association.

We felt assured that the brethren and sisters separated in the Spirit of Love looking hopefully forward to our next Session of the Sardis Association and not only so, but by faith looking ahead to that final eternal meeting with one another and with God and Christ, our Savior.

By the Clerks.

MEMORIALS

Memorial of Elder J. S. Muncy and other deceased members of the narrows Branch Church will be held the fourth Saturday and Sunday in May, 1944, all ministers invited to attend. Also the funeral of Brother Pat Smith will be held at the Narrows Branch Church on the 30th of May, 1944. Ministers requested Elders Willie White, J. H. Hensley and Asa Evans.

Memorial of Brother Lee Robinson and wife to be held with the Leanah Church the second Saturday and Sunday in July, 1944. All ministers invited.

Memorial of all the deceased members of the Buck Creek Church will be held the third Saturday and Sunday in June, 1944. This being our union meeting time. All ministers invited to attend.

Memorial of all the deceased members of the Little Dove Church will be held the first Saturday and Sunday in June, 1944. All ministers invited to attend.

Memorial of Elder W. H. Bowling and his wife Cynthia Bowling, and others will be held on the first Saturday and Sunday in September, 1944. Ministers requested, Elders Wallace Maynard, Grover Carey, Richard Evans, and Orville Runyon.

Memorial of all the deceased members of the Turkey Creek Church will be held the second Saturday and Sunday in October, 1944. Ministers requested, Hi Maynard, Ester Hopkins, Jonah Bevins, and Wallace Maynard.

Memorial of Elder Wallace Jackson and others to be held with the Mary Elizabeth Church the third Saturday and Sunday in September, 1944. Also the memorial of Brother M. B. Romans to be held the first Sunday in July, 1944, on the Cemetery at his home. Ministers requested, Elders Ester Hopkins, Hi Maynard, Bill Jude and Willis Blackburn.

Memorial of J. M. Taylor and others to be held the third Sunday in July, 1944, of Harrison McCoy and others the third Sunday in August, 1944. Also memorial of Russell P. McCoy the third Sunday in May, 1944. All of these memorials will be held with the Big Branch Church.

Memorial will be held on the Joe Taylor Cemetery the third Sunday in September, 1944. All ministers are invited.

Memorial at the Hannah Cemetery will be held the third Saturday and Sunday in August, 1944, at the Stergell Cemetery the fourth Saturday and Sunday in August, 1944. Elders Willie White, Richard Evans and Wallace Maynard are requested.

Memorial to be held with the Rebecca church on the second Saturday and Sunday in June, 1944. All ministers invited to attend.

Memorial of Elder Heenan Maynard and others to be held with the Apple Orchard Church the first Saturday and Sunday in August, 1944. Also the memorial on the J. M. Lowe cemetery will be held the first Saturday and Sunday in July, 1944. Elders H. C. Maynard and Jonah Bevins especially requested with all others invited. Also Memorial to be held in the head of Big Branch the fourth Saturday and Sunday in August, 1944.

Memorial of all deceased members of the Enon Church will be held on Sunday of our Union Meeting. Time is the first Saturday and Sunday in June.

Memorial of all deceased members of the Bent Branch Church will be held on the third Saturday and Sunday in June, 1944. All ministers invited to attend.

Memorial of all deceased members of the Elk Fork Church will be held on the third Saturday and Sunday in May, 1944. All ministers invited to attend.

Memorial of all deceased members of the Pilgrim Home Church will be held the fourth Saturday and Sunday in October, 1944. All ministers invited to attend.

Memorial of all the deceased members of the Salem

church will be held the first Saturday and Sunday in October, 1944. All ministers invited to attend.

Memorial of Nathan Jude and others will be held on the point near Dave Jude's home the fourth Sunday in July, 1944. Also memorial of all the deceased members of the Sidney Church will be held the fourth Saturday and Sunday in August, 1944. All ministers invited to attend.

Memorial of all the deceased members of the Dix Fork Church will be held the first Saturday and Sunday in August, 1944. All ministers invited to attend.

Memorial of Brother Tom McCoy that was held on Buck Branch of Wolf Creek last year will be moved to the Leanah Church and be attended to at the same time of Brother Lee Robinson, and wife (also) of Brother Job Blackburn and others.

Memorial of Elder J. W. Smith and others will be held at the Fraley Cemetery, the third Saturday and Sunday in August, 1944. All ministers invited to attend.

OBITUARIES

Martha Gilman

This sister and mother was the daughter of the late Alexander, Sr. and Nancy Runyon. She was born April 10, 1874. Sister Gilman was reared and most of her life was spent not far from where she was born.

She professed a hope in Christ and was baptized above 40 years ago. She had her fellowship in the Rebecca Church.

She was married to Brother Sam Gilman on March 19th, 1899 and after a long illness she bade farewell to her many friends and relatives on November 21, 1943, when death took her away.

that she possessed the meekness of that spirit that is given to the believer in Christ Jesus. She often expressed her thankfulness that God in his tender mercy had blessed her to live to be 87 years, 2 months and 7 days old. After she become disabled to attend church meetings she often called for service in her home and seemed overjoyed at our gathering with her.

Octavia, you are left alone to plead for those grand children that your father and mother were so fond of. Their prayers will not be heard any more, but press on, hold up the bloodstained banner of Jesus. Persuade Jim and the children to join in with you for the prayers of the righteous availeth much and if we continue in prayer unto the end we will have the joy of hearing Jesus say, "Come in ye, blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you. So, farewell and may God bless the entire family of Brother and Sister Varney.

Love is the sweetest bud that blows,
Its beauties never die,
On earth among the saints it grows
And ripens in the sky.

Written by her Nephew,
Troy T. Francis.

Matilda Weih

It has become my sad duty to write the obituary of a kind old Aunt of mine, to-wit: Sister Matilda Weih. She was the daughter of Elijah and Charity. Francis was born August 13, 1849. She was married to Harrison Burris approximately 60 years ago and I have no record just how long they were married until they were separated by reason of his death. She later was married to Johnie Weih. No children were born in either marriage. Aunt Kate as she was known to me joined the regular Baptist Church several years ago and was baptized by Elder W. W. Fields. She was received into the Pilgrim Home

Church by letter August 4th, Saturday, 1931, and lived a faithful member until Jesus called her away on February the 9th. At the time of her death she was 93 years, 5 months and 27 days old. I have visited her many times in her lonely hours. Aunt Kate was very feeble and helpless during her last few years of this life, not able to go out to church as she would have liked to go, but very often the brethren and sisters would go in and sing and have service for her. It always seemed to do her soul good to see them come in and spend a little time with her. Aunt Kate we will all miss you, because you always seemed so humble and kind, but we deeply feel you have made a happy exchange where you don't have to feel that you are being a burden to anyone you will not be feeble and helpless in that beautiful home for Jesus will make you whole, and I am grateful to my Lord, that by his saving Grace I can say farewell Aunt Kate I will meet you in the great beyond when my work is done below, and may God bless the rest of your nephews and nieces, to become interested in the welfare of their souls that they may be permitted to partake of the joy and the happiness that await the many saints of God.

A feeble voice from us is gone,
No longer it we hear,
When God has blessed us to the end,
Again that voice we'll hear up there.

Written by her nephew,
Troy T. Francis.

Pollyann Maynard

It is with a sad heart but a glorious hope that we try to write the obituary of our mother, Pollyann Maynard. She was born August the 9th, 1861, and departed this life April the 2nd, 1943, at the age of 81 years and 7 months. She was married to A. J. Maynard, in the year of 1878, and to this union was born twelve children, six

with our father preceded her in death. She leaves three sons, George, Tremble and Gordon, and three daughters, Mary Stanley, Flora Smith and Maryland Lowe with a host of friends and relatives to mourn her loss, but we feel our loss is her eternal gain. She joined the Regular Baptist Church and placed her membership with the Pilgrim Home Church about 19 years ago and served a faithful member until death took her from among us. Mother lived a Christian life before us and I pray God that all of us will respond to her council while life still permits us to, that

Some day we'll meet dear mother,
Beyond the starry plains,
Where she'll not be afflicted,
And she'll be well again,
Written by her children.

W. B. Maynard

It is with a sorrowful heart but a hopeful mind that I try in my weakness to write the obituary of a dear brother in the lord, to-wit. Brother W. B. Maynard. He was born November the 5th, 1897, and departed this life November the 21st, 1942. Brother Maynard was married to Myrtle Maynard, around 24 years ago and to this union was born one son, Wander Maynard. Brother Brad as I always called him, was a close neighbor and friend of mine. He had poor health during his last few years of life. He confessed a hope in Christ and was baptized into the fellowship of the Turkey Creek Church, of regular Baptist, May the 14th, 1939, to which he lived a faithful and obedient life until that lonely day when the death angel visited his home and took his soul away. I have often visited Brother Brad during his illness and he often wanted to talk about his hope in the resurrection of the dead, and by his conversations with me I am led to believe that our loss is his eternal gain and I feel from the depths

of my soul that when the great trumpet shall sound, that time will be no more. I can then see Brother Maynard, and shake hands with him in the paradise of God, and I want to say to his wife and son, if you want to meet with your husband and father, now is the time to make your peace calling and election sure. This world is only a dressing room for heaven, and unless you put on the whole armour of God, as you travel through this life you will miss all the happiness of the saints. There is a crown laid up in Glory. It is yours if you will ask for it with a faithful and contrite heart. God's grace is sufficient to save the whole world, if they will accept and obey his teachings. So farewell to you both and may God bless you with a mind to plead Jesus and beg for mercy as Brother Brad did.

Written by a brother in hope of
the resurrection of the dead,
Ken Varney.

William Parsley

It is by the help of the Lord and in my weakness that I write the obituary of Brother William Parsley, and his wife's sister, Roxie Alice Parsley. Brother Parsley was born September the 15th, 1863, and passed from this life October the 20th, 1942, age 79 years 1 month and 5 days old. Sister Roxie was born April the 21st, 1888, departed this life February the 8th, 1943, age 53 years, 2 months and 13 days old. Brother and Sister Parsley both joined the Regular Baptist Church several years ago and placed their membership with the Bethany Church to which they lived a faithful life, until the Lord of Glory seen cause to waft their worried spirits home. They leave one son and one daughter with a host of friends and relatives to mourn their loss. This good brother and sister enjoyed the company of all the brothers and sisters and wanted them to come in and sing and pray with them. They seemed to bear their suffering with much patience. They

will be missed in our community but I feel that our loss is heaven's gain. I want to say to the children who by nature is my relation, if you want to meet your father and mother in that bright world to come in peace at the coming of our Lord. You will have to forsake the things of this life, and accept Christ as your Saviour who died for you that you through the redemption of his blood, might have a right to the tree of life. I believe children that it will be the body of your father and mother, that will come forth from the grave, when Gabriel sounds the trumpet. They will in their own bodies come forth to be caught up in the air to meet the Lord with all the Saints that have gone on before. Won't you two children join in with Jesus and be among that happy number.

Written by a brother in hope of eternal life,
Elder Willie White.

William P. Smith

I have been requested by the family to attempt to write the obituary of my brother in the flesh (also) in the Lord, to-wit, William P. Smith, known as (Pat) Smith, a son of Bud and Arminda Varney Smith. He was born January the 18th, 1897, passed from this life June the 8th, 1943. He was 46 years, 5 months and 12 days old. He was married to Virgie Evans, in the year of 1920, and to this union was born nine children, five boys and four girls, two of them preceded him in death, leaving a wife and seven children to mourn his loss. He joined the Regular Baptist Church one year before his death and placed his membership with the Tabitha Church, he was loved by all the brethren and sisters of that church and all that knew him in that neighborhood. The writer knows there was a great change in brother Pat's life, and mother, with us children rejoiced in the wonderful change that repentance brought into his life. I will now turn to you Virgie, you have confessed a hope in Christ. Don't fail

to attend your church, and keep telling your little children about the love of God, by your walks as well as by your words, and to you boys that are drafted in this great war of the earth, don't fail to accept Christ as your captain, for he will guide you safely through, to Gladis. I know how you feel without a Daddy but just look to the same Jesus that I trust your daddy did and is asleep in him today. I want to ask you children to be good boys and girls and meet your dad where he will be well again. So, may God bless you all is my prayer,

Written by his eldest brother
in hope of eternal life,

Elder Lewis Smith.

Ervin Lowe

By request of Ervin Lowe, son of the deceased, I will try to write the obituary of a Sainted Brother in Christ. It is with sadness of heart when I think of his passing away from his family and the great host of his brethren and sisters in the Church. He was much loved by all who knew him.

Brother William Fields Lowe was born September 30, 1868. He was the son of Brother Lark Lowe, Sr. He was married to Nancy Howard, and to this union was born three children Hazel, Ervin and Jane Lowe, whom he left to mourn the loss of a Christian father. Brother Lowe joined the Regular Baptist Church of Jesus Christ and was baptized by the hands of Elder Hayze Maynard, about July, 1923, and took fellowship with the Bent Branch church, of regular Baptist faith and was a faithful member to the end of his life.

According to the word of Christ which said, Be thou faithful unto death and I will give you a crown of life, Brother Lowe's life came to an end in this world, February 10th, 1943, and to you, Ervin the Mother and two daughters, I quote you the infallible words of God, of those

that die in the Lord Christ, speaking to John his servant, told John this truth of all who die in the Lord, and said to John. Write, Blessed are they that die in the Lord, from henceforth yae sayeth the spirit, they rest from their labors.

Brother Lowe, by a faithful life of labor, which has been accompanied by much tribulation which worked for him patience and hope which when after he heard the Gospel of his Salvation and after he believed then was he healed with the spirit of promise, which is the earnestness of his hope, which hope is the anchor of his soul, which returned to God who gave it to man. It was Brother W. F. Lowe, who lived in this world known of God and man. It will be Brother Billie Lowe's body that will be fashioned again by the power of God, and Brother Lowe's mortal body will be immortalized and come out of the grave, an immortal or terrestrial body, which was the Glory of his hope, which is his patience he waited for like Paul, to-wit, the redemption of our body so there shall be a resurrection of the body, both of the just and the unjust one to life eternal. The other to a life of damnation.

This obituary is becoming too lengthy. I must close, but there is laid up in Heaven all the blessings of God for the righteous. Them that are born of God, who walk not after the flesh but after the spirit, I had the pleasure of visiting Brother Lowe a few days before he died and he went over his life briefly with me and told me he was prepared to go and asked me to remember his family in my prayers after he was gone, which I will do by the grace of God. He said he had no doubt as to the church in which he was affiliated with to be the true church of Christ, but he had fought the battle alone. Without the fellowship of his wife and children, but like John Bunion, after his death his wife and children took up the cross and followed Him. May God bless Brother Lowe's family to do the same,

A Brother in hope,
Elder Jonah Bevins.

Joe Bill Dempsey

It is by request of the family that I try to write the obituary of a dear brother, to-wit, Brother Joe Bill Dempsey. He was born the 25th of December, 1873, departed this life August 14th, 1943. Brother Dempsey was married to Rebecca Maynard February 14th, 1892, and to this union were born ten children, seven boys and three girls. Four boys preceded him in death, three of them professed A Hope in Christ. Brother Dempsey some years ago joined the Regular Baptist Church and his membership with the Turkey Creek Church to which he lived a faithful member until death called him from among us. I being a close neighbor of Brother Dempsey have had the privilege of visiting him on many occasions. His conversations were always concerning the church and the blessings of God. He leaves a Christian companion, three boys and three girls, with a host of friends to mourn his loss, but we feel our loss is his eternal gain and if we like Brother Dempsey, hold out faithful to the end, we, too can enjoy the beauties of heaven and immortal glory, where parting will be no more and now to you Sister Dempsey and the rest of the family pray without ceasing for prayer is the key that unlocks the windows of heaven, by continuing in prayer you can again clasp hands with your husband and father again in the paradise of God, so farewell to all.

Our home is sad and lonely
And grief fills every heart.
We hope to meet you father
And never more to part.

Written by Ken Varney.

W. H. Bowling

It is by request of the family that I write an obituary of my father, Elder W. H. Bowling. He was born June

the 5th, 1852, and departed this life April 17th, 1943. He was 87 years, 10 months and 12 days old at his death. He was married to Cyntha Farmer about 67 years ago and to this union was born eight children. Mother and two of the children preceded him in death leaving six children to mourn his loss, two boys Alvin and Taulby Bowling and four girls Nancy Stanley, Febie Harris, Mary Runyon Cora Runyon and a host of friends and relatives.

Father joined the Regular Baptist Church some fifty years ago and was baptized by Elder Bill Fields. Father was a faithful member and also a Minister of the Gospel for many years traveling through the heat and cold to try to comfort those that were in mourning. Father had a long illness but bore his pain with great patience. He told me many times he was willing for the Lords will to be done with him although he hated to leave the good brethren and sisters. He was loved by all who knew him. Father has set a good example before us children as well as for his neighbors. If we will take warning to his council and from the life he lived before me I have every reason to believe that his spirit is resting in the paradise of God. He will rest from his labor and his works will follow him. Now children you have all professed a hope in Christ and found Jesus precious to your never dying souls. Just continue on as father did.

I want to say to his friends and neighbors that are still in sin, you will have to seek the Lord while he may be found. Call upon him while he is near. He is rich and full of mercy ready to give to all that will ask in faith.

Oh dear Father how we miss you
We're so lonely since you've gone
Before long we'll soon be with you
When the Saviour calls us home.

Written by his son,
Alvin Bowling.

Elon Williams

It is with sadness in my heart that I attempt to write an obituary of my sister in the Lord and in the flesh, to-wit, Sister Elon Williams, who was born August the 23rd, 1899 and died July the 8th, 1943, she was married to Bona Williams in the year of 1906 and to this union was born four sons and one daughter, the daughter preceded her in death. Sister Elon was the daughter of John W. and Cyntha Bevins. She joined the Regular Baptist Church on May the third, Sunday, 1932, and was baptized by Elder Ester Hopkins and lived a faithful life until the death angel took her from us.

She was a good mother to her sons, a loving wife to her husband, a good neighbor in her community. She has left four sons, a husband, and a host of friends and relatives to mourn her loss, but I feel the most precious gift she left me is the bright hope that I will be permitted to meet her again when this life is over, and I want to say to Bon and the boys if you ever expect to live with Sister Elon again you will have to seek Jesus for he says in his precious word, take up the cross and follow me, my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to the brothers and sisters and all her neighbors, for the kindness shown her through her hours of pain and suffering and especially to Brothers Forest Bevins, Tom Morrision and Henry Hensley, for their regular attendance, their good songs and pleading prayers that Sister Elon loved to hear so well. Children I believe your mother is living today where her soul will never die. Won't you turn to Jesus and when he calls your name, you can say, come, welcome death, I'll gladly go with thee.

A precious one from us is gone,
A voice we loved is still,
A place is vacant in our home,
That never can be filled.

Written by her brother,
Johnie Bevins.

CONSTITUTION

From a long series of experiences, we, the churches of Jesus Christ being regularly baptized upon our profession of faith in Jesus Christ are convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches in order to perpetuate a union and communion among us and preserve, maintain and keep the rules and orders of an association according to the following form of government:

ARTICLE I. The association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches and duly sent to represent them in this association who shall be members whom they shall think best qualified for the purpose. And, producing letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to seats.

ARTICLE II. In the letters from the different churches, shall be expressed their number in full fellowship, their baptized, received by letters, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and dead since the last association.

ARTICLE III. The members thus chosen and convened shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor shall they infringe upon the internal rights of any church in the union.

ARTICLE IV. The association, when convened, shall be governed and ruled by a regular and proper decorum.

ARTICLE V. The association shall have a moderator, clerk and treasurer, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

ARTICLE VI. New churches may be admitted into our union that shall petition by letter and delegates, and if found upon examination to be orthodox and orderly shall be received by the association and manifested by the moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

ARTICLE VII. Every church in the union shall be entitled to a representative in the association.

ARTICLE VIII. Every query presented by any church to the association being first debated by their own church, shall be taken up by the association.

ARTICLE IX. Every motion made and seconded shall be taken up by the association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

ARTICLE X. The association shall endeavor to furnish the churches with the minutes of the association.

ARTICLE XI. The churches shall send money by the delegates of each church for printing the minutes of the association.

ARTICLE XII. There shall be a record book kept wherein the proceedings of every association shall be regularly recorded by the secretary appointed for that purpose.

ARTICLE XIII. The minutes of the association shall be read and corrected, if need be, and signed by the moderator and clerk before the association rises.

ARTICLE XIV. Amendments to this plan or form of government may be made at any time, by a majority of the union, when they deem necessary.

ARTICLE XV. All matters coming before the association shall be decided by the will of the majority.

ARTICLE XVI. The association shall have power:

1. To provide for the general union of the churches.
2. To preserve inviolably a chain of communication among the churches.
3. To give the churches all necessary advice in matters of difficulty.

4. To inquire into the cause when the churches fail at any time to present themselves in the association.
5. To appoint any member by and with their consent to transact any business which they think necessary.
6. The association shall have power to withdraw from any church in this union which shall violate the rules of the association or deviate from the orthodox principles of religion.
7. To admit any orderly minister of our order to a seat with us in the association.
8. The association shall have power to adjourn themselves to any future time or place they may think most convenient to the churches of the union. That no minister shall be ordained unless forwarded by the church, and it shall require two or more ordained ministers to compose a presbytery, for that purpose.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

ARTICLE I. We believe the holy bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heaven by instinct, that it has God for its Author; salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its mother; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us and, therefore, is and shall remain to the end of the world the true center of Christian union and the supreme standard by which all human conduct and opinions shall be tried.

ARTICLE II. That there is one and only one true and living God, whose name is Jehovah, the maker and the supreme ruler of heaven and earth, inexpressible, glorious in holiness, worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love, revealed under the personal relation of the father, the son, and the Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct, but harmonious, offices in the great work of redemption.

ARTICLE III. That man was created in a state of holiness under the law of his maker, but by voluntary transgression, fell from that holy and happy state, in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint, but by choice, being by nature utterly void of that holiness, required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, of Satan, and their ever sinful passions, and, therefore, are under just condemnation to eternal ruin without defence or excuse.

ARTICLE IV. That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, the meditorial offer of the son of God, who took upon Him our nature yet, without sin honored the law by his personal obedience and made atonement for our sins by his death, being risen from the dead, he is entered into heaven and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection, is in every way quali-

RULES OF DECORUM

ARTICLE I. The association to be opened and closed by prayer.

ARTICLE II. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

ARTICLE III. Only one member shall speak at a time and he shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator when he is about to make a speech.

ARTICLE IV. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in his speech, except by the Moderator, until he is done speaking and shall strictly adhere to the subject, and in no wise reflect upon the person who spoke before, nor make remarks or mishaps, failures or imperfections, but shall verily state the cause and matter as nearly as he can, so as to convey his light and idea.

ARTICLE V. No person shall rise and speak more than three times on one subject without consent of the association.

ARTICLE VI. No person shall abruptly break off or absent himself from the association without liberty obtained therefrom.

ARTICLE VII. No member of the association shall have the liberty of laughing during the sittings nor whispering in the time of public speech.

ARTICLE VIII. No member of this association shall address another by any other term or appellation other than that of brother.

ARTICLE IX. The Moderator shall not interrupt a member nor prohibit him from speaking until he gives

his light upon the subject, except when he breaks the rules of decorum.

ARTICLE X. The names of several members of the association shall be enrolled by the clerk and called over so often as the Moderator requires.

ARTICLE XI. The Moderator shall have the same privilege of speech as another member; provided the chair be filled. But shall have no vote unless the association be equally divided.

ARTICLE XII. Any member who shall wilfully and knowingly break any other rules shall be reproved by the association as it may think proper.

ARTICLE XIII. The delegation to be seated in this association shall be limited to three members from each church.

ARTICLE XIV. No person shall speak more than five (5) minutes at the same time without liberty obtained from the association.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Jonah Bevins	Box 1534, Williamson, W. Va.
Harrison Bevins	Box 655, Williamson, W. Va.
Dike Blackburn	Morre, Ky.
J. H. Brown	Canada, Ky.
Willis Blackburn	Goody, Ky.
E. S. Coleman	Hardy, Ky.
Grover Carey	R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.
P. H. S. Curry	R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.
Emmet Case	Varney, Ky.
Asa Evans	R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.
J. R. Evans	R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.
E. F. Fields	Moore, Ky.
S. B. Fraley	Hatfield, Ky.
Esther Hopkins	Williamson, W. Va.
W. C. Hay	R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.
W. H. Hurley	Verdunville, W. Va.
J. H. Hensley	Chauncey, W. Va.
James Juds	Hode, Ky.
Bill Jude	Pilgrim, Ky.
L. G. Lowe	Williamson, W. Va.
Hi Maynard	R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.
H. C. Maynard	Hardy, Ky.
M. J. Mounts	R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.
Wallace Maynard	Delbarton, W. Va.
Virgil Maynard	Threeforks, Ky.
B. F. Maynard	Holden, W. Va.
Shadle Pauley	Beauty, Ky.
James Queen	Hearts, W. Va.
Ernie Runyon	Greenup, Ky.
Orville Runyon	Chattaroy, W. Va.
Basil Robinett	Varney, Ky.
W. T. Rife	Suram, W. Va.
L. C. Swanson	Boomer, N. C.
Lewis Smith	Hardy, Ky.

A. A. Shephard	R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.
Jonah Smith	Turkey Creek, Ky.
J. E. Taylor	Heenan, Ky.
J. G. Thornsby	Canada, Ky.
Willie White	Lenore, W. Va.

LICENSED MINISTERS

Tommy Adair	R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.
George Hinkle	Hardy, Ky.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF CLERKS

Mt. Pleasant	Harold Edmonds	Canada, Ky.
Apple Orchard	Eldon Maynard	Heenan, Ky.
Enon	Logan Spencer	McCarr, Ky.
Rebecca	Amos Evans	R.F.D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.
Bent Branch	Forest Bevins	Meta, Ky.
Sardis	Tommy Adair	Delbarton, W. Va.
Big Branch	J. L. Nichols	Thomas, Ky.
Mary Elizabeth	Lacy Lowe	Hatfield, Ky.
Bethany	Willard Blair	Lenore, W. Va.
Elk Fork	Matilda C. Curry	R.F.D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.
Pilgrim Home	Troy T. Francis	Box 52, Williamson, W. Va.
Salem	A. M. Varney	Roadfork, Ky.
Sidney	Virgil Maynard	Threeforks, Ky.
Dix Fork	J. G. Thornsby	Canada, Ky.
Narrows Branch	Willie Stanley	Hardy, Ky.
Leannah	Eldon Maynard	Heenan, Ky.
Buck Creek	Harmon Smith	Beauty, Ky.
Tabitha	Comfort Gilman	Barnabus, W. Va.
Little Dove	James Dempsey	R.F.D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.
Litle Rosa	Orville Runyon	Chattaroy, W. Va.
Beech Grove	Joe Hannah	R.F.D. 1, Kermit, W. Va.
Turkey Creek	Ken Varney	Turkey Creek, Ky.

STATISTICAL REPORT

Churches and Delegates

	Received by Baptism	Received by Letter	Restoration	Received by Recommendation	Dismissed by Letter	Died	Excluded	Total Membership	Church Time	Church Contributions
Mt. Pleasant: J. H. May, Frank Collins, E. B. Scott-----	5	0	0	0	0	3	2	35	2	\$10.00
Apple Orchard: J. M. Lowe, Willie Nichols, Eldon Maynard-----	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	46	1	4.00
Enon: Logan Spencer, J. B. Anderson, Hi Keesee-- Rebecca: W. A. Hurley, Mosco Gilman, Sam Gilman-----	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	9	1	5.00
Bent Branch: Forest Bevins, Thomas Morrison, Loran Deskins-----	1	0	2	0	0	1	1	53	2	10.00
Sardis: N. R. Evans, Elmer White, Oscar Chapman-----	3	0	0	0	0	3	1	47	3	10.00
Big Branch: Alie Griffith, J. L. Nichols, Harvey Lowe-----	6	0	0	0	1	2	2	192	4	8.00
Mary Elizabeth: S. B. Fraley, T. D. Lowe, Lenard Stanley-----	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	31	3	3.50
Bethany: Thomas Runyon, Jesse Canterbury-----	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	28	3	5.25
	3	1	0	1	0	4	5	54	4	15.00
Elk Fork: Grover Carey, Will Runyon, John Ward--	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	78	3	8.00
Pilgrim Home: T. T. Francis, Orison Stanley, George Maynard-----	4	0	0	0	0	5	1	125	4	15.00
Salem: A. N. Varney, Clyde Bevins, Fayette Hackney-----	7	0	0	0	2	5	119	1	16.00	
Sidney: Bascom Maynard, Richard Fletcher--	2	0	0	0	0	1	30	4	8.00	
Dix Fork: E. S. Coleman, George Hinkle, B. Blackburn-----	0	1	0	0	0	1	40	1	7.00	
Narrows Branch: George Stanley, Kelley Smith, Willie Stanley-----	0	2	0	0	0	0	42	4	12.00	
Leannah: (No delegates, letter and contribution received by mail-----	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	23	2	3.00
Buck Creek: Pete Dials, Alvis Maynard, Jerry Cline-----	0	0	0	0	0	1	25	3	3.75	
Tabitha: Charley Evans, Joe Robinett, Bill Gilman--	0	0	1	0	0	1	4	45	1	5.00
Little Dove: James Dempsey-----	1	0	0	0	0	0	44	1	5.00	
Little Rosa: Orville Runyon, R. Smith, Ireland Harrison-----	2	1	0	0	0	1	1	23	4	3.00
Beech Grove: Joe Hannah-----	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	3	3.50
Turkey Creek: L. G. Lowe, Julius Burgett, George Runyon-----	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	38	2	6.00
TOTALS-----	43	7	6	2	2	28	25	1143		\$165.80