

MINUTES
OF THE
SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
SARDIS ASSOCIATION
Of Old Regular Baptist
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
In Session Assembled With
DIX FORK CHURCH
Canada, Kentucky



September 8, 9, and 10, 1961



Eld. Ester Hopkins - Moderator
Eld. Emmitt Case - Asst. Moderator
Bro. Ralph W.E. Varney, Jr. - Clerk
Eld. Ellis Davis - Asst. Clerk

PSALMS 25

thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

my God, I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me.

3. Yea, let none that wait on thee be ashamed: let them be ashamed which transgress without cause.

4. Show me thy ways, O Lord; teach me thy paths.

5. Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day.

6. Remember, O Lord, thy tender mercies and thy loving kindnesses; for they have been ever of old.

7. Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O Lord.

OF THE
SIXTY NINTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE
SARDIS ASSOCIATION
OF THE OLD REGULAR BAPTIST CHURCH
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

In session, assembled with the Dix Fork Church, Canada, Pike County, Kentucky, September 8, 9 and 10, 1961 at the place where arrangements were made for the preaching. The services were introduced by Elder Charlie Johnson followed by the introductory sermon delivered by Elder B. H. Bevins, who used as his Text 1. Samuel 12:7:

"Now therefore stand still, that I may reason with you before the Lord of all the righteous acts of the Lord, which he did to you and to your fathers."

The delegates then assembled at the church house and after a short talk by Elder Banner Mann, song and prayer, by Elder Banner Mann, the Association proceeded as follows:

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

2. The Association then organized by electing Elder Ester Hopkins, Moderator, Elder Emmitt Case, Assistant Moderator, Bro. Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr., Clerk, and Elder Ellis Davis, 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 the letters from Sister Associations and received the following:

NEW SALEM: By the hands of Elders M. V. Burke, Jim Case, Mack McCloud, Tack K. Hall, E. V. Hamilton, Ellis Moore, Banner Mann, Henry Little, Walker Moore,

McCray. Letter in the hands of Elder M. V. Burke.

UNION: By the hands of Elders John Justice, Elmer Church, N. A. England, Willie Kendrick, Fon Bowling, J. R. Coleman, Boyd Smallwood, M. A. Musick, Bill Hall, W. F. Hubbard, Crockett Baker, Bruce Mullins, G. M. Perrigan, T. W. Church, Earl Belcher, Evans Bailey, Ted Parker, Henry Hensley and Bill Rose. Bros. Booker Belcher, Bill Parson, Charley Gibson, Oliver Tackett, Mander Yontz, Rufus Perrigan, J. F. Thacker, E. H. Wallen, Earl West and Thelmar Brown. Letter in the hands of Elder Fon Bowling.

PHILADELPHIA: By the hands of Elders George Woods, John Moore and Ernest Runyon. Bros. John Griffith, Dave Gilliam, Sterling Cole and John Reed. Letter in the hands of Bro. John Griffith.

MUD RIVER: By the hands of Elders Gilbert Miller, Ernest Breedlove and Bert Hall. Bros. Lee Vance and Cecil Miller. Letter in the hands of Bro. Lee Vance.

NORTHERN NEW SALEM: By the hands of Elders Baxter Osborne, Claude Ousley, Homer Elliott, Sidney Hudson, Roy B. Akers and Paris Tackett. Bros. Tip Collins, John Elliott, Anthony Hamilton and Shade Meeks. Letter in the hands of Elder Baxter Osborne.

FRIENDSHIP: By the hands of Elders G. W. Hopson, A. H. Akers, Josh Crouse and B. Blane England. Bros. Joe Runyon, H. W. Blair and George Endicott. Letter in the hands of Elder G. W. Hopson.

THORNTON UNION: By the hands of Elders R. H. Welch, Charlie Cornett, Monroe Hubbard, Raymond Collins and Kirby Isom. Bro. Hargis Caudill. Letter in the hands of Elder R. H. Welch.

INDIAN BOTTOM: By the hands of Elders Manis Isom, Riley Fouts, Otis Baldrige, Alonzo Allen and Beckham Fields. Bros. Jerome Watts, Jessie Eversole, Alviro Hubbard and Arthur Slone. Letter in the hands of Elder Alonzo Allen.

our faith and order. Received as follows: Elders Ellis Davis, Perry Cline, George Elkins and Ernest Cochran.

7. By motion and second, it is ordered that we correspond with the following associations: NEW SALEM UNION, PHILADELPHIA, MUD RIVER, NORTHERN NEW SALEM, FRIENDSHIP, THORNTON UNION AND INDIAN BOTTOM.

8. By motion and second, it is ordered that the Moderator make all temporary appointments.

9. Clerk appointed to write letters to corresponding Associations.

10. Committee appointed to take care of the visiting Brethren as follows: Elder Ernest Cochran, Bros. Clyde Brown, Sterl Smith and Homer Williamson.

11. Committee appointed to see that the stand be supplied with Ministers and that peace is preserved around the stand as follows: Bros. Ballard, Blackburn, James Brown and Cullen Smith.

12. Committee appointed to arrange the preaching for Friday night and Saturday, consisting of one member from each church and the entire delegation of the Dix Fork Church, which reported as follows:

<u>Friday Night</u>	<u>Association</u>
Elder Mack McCloud	New Salem
Elder George Woods	Philadelphia
Elder Sid Hudson	Northern New Salem

<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Association</u>
Elder Tack K. Hall	New Salem
Elder Baxter Osborne	Northern New Salem
Elder Nick A. England	Union
Elder Banner Mann	New Salem

13. Committee on Arrangements appointed consisting of one delegate from each church, Moderator, Clerk and delegates from our corresponding Associations, to arrange the order of business for Saturday's session.

11 nine o'clock Saturday morning.

SATURDAY MORNING

Met pursuant to adjournment and after singing several old and beautiful songs of Zion, services were introduced by Elder M. C. Wright followed by prayer for peace and love by Elder Tack K. Hall. The Association then proceeded as follows:

1. Called the roll and marked all absentees.

2. Read the Bill of Arrangements and discharged the Committee on same.

3. Appointed a Committee on Finance as follows: Bro. W. Elmer Blackburn, Elder Wayne Herald and Elder Edwin May.

4. Called for Treasurer to report, who reported as follows:

Total on hand September 10, 1960		\$686.98
Printing Minutes	\$414.88	
New Typewriter	91.47	
Clerk's Fee	75.00	
Other expenses	<u>17.00</u>	
Total Paid Out		598.35
Balance in bank September 8, 1961		\$ 88.63
Add:		
Received for Pictures	\$ 75.00	
Received from Donations	4.00	
Received from Churches	<u>478.00</u>	
Total Received		557.00
Total in Bank September 10, 1961		<u>\$645.63</u>

5. By motion and second, it is ordered that Bro. Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr., be appointed Secretary and Treasurer and that he be allowed \$10.00 for his services.

6. By motion and second, it is ordered that the Clerk superintend the printing of the Minutes; that he be allowed \$65.00 for his services; and that he have 3000 copies printed.

received, failures were excused and they were admonished to be more faithful this coming year.

8. Appointed the same Committee to arrange the preaching for Saturday night and Sunday which reported as follows:

<u>Saturday Night</u>	<u>Association</u>
Elder Tommy Adair	Sardis
Elder W. Francis Hubbard	Union
Elder Jonah Ester Williamson	Sardis

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Association</u>
Elder Earl Belcher	Union
Elder John Justice	Union
Elder Parris Tackett	Northern New Salem
Elder Ester Hopkins	Sardis

9. Letters to Sister Associations read and appointed delegates as follows:

UNION: To be held with the Bethel Church at Jenkins, Letcher County, Kentucky beginning on FRIDAY BEFORE THE THIRD SATURDAY IN SEPTEMBER 1961. Elders J. G. Thornsby, B. H. Bevins, Ester Hopkins, Emmitt Case, Lloyd SESCO, Wayne Herald, H. C. Maynard and Ken Varney. Bros. Harold Varney, Clyde Brown, Fred Bevins, Bill Williams, Mack Smith, Otis Hall, Earl D. West, Newton Walters, Mike Young, Jim Bevins, John G. Blackburn and Ralph W. E. Varney, Sr. Letter in the hands of Elder B. H. Bevins.

NEW SALEM: To be held with the Island Creek Church, a short distance above Pikeville, Pike County, Kentucky beginning on FRIDAY BEFORE THE FOURTH SATURDAY IN SEPTEMBER 1961. Elders Lloyd SESCO, Avery Lowe, B. H. Bevins, Emmitt Case, H. C. Maynard, Tracy Hatfield, Ester Hopkins, Willie White, Ross Cline, J. G. Thornsby and Harvey Lowe. Bros. Harold Varney, Fred Bevins, Clyde Brown, W. Elmer Blackburn, Julius Cockrell, Mike Young, Earl D. West, Jim Bevins, Newton Walters, Jim Thornsby, Mike Sheppard and Ralph W. E. Varney, Sr. Letter in the hands of Elder Ester Hopkins.

ana beginning on FRIDAY BEFORE THE FIRST SATURDAY IN AUGUST 1962. Elders Emmitt Case and Jonah E. Williamson. Bros. Mike Sheppard, Newton Walters, James Bevins, Earl D. West, Mike Young, Harold Varney, James Scott and Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr. Letter in the hands of Elder Emmitt Case.

PHILADELPHIA: To be held with the South Fork Church, Worthington, Greenup County, Kentucky beginning on FRIDAY BEFORE THE SECOND SATURDAY IN AUGUST 1962. Elders H. C. Maynard, J. G. Thornsberry, Emmitt Case, Tracy Hatfield, Harvey Lowe, Ernest Cochran, Ireland Harrison, B. H. Bevins and Ester Hopkins. Bros. Clyde Brown, Julius Cochran, Clint Taylor, Gilbert Blackburn, Ralph W. E. Varney, Sr., Earl D. West, Harold Varney and Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr. Letter in the hands of Elder J. G. Thornsberry.

THORNTON UNION: To be held with the Thornton Church, about thirteen miles beyond Jenkins, Kentucky toward Whitesburg, Kentucky, beginning on FRIDAY BEFORE THE THIRD SATURDAY IN AUGUST 1962. Elders B. H. Bevins, Ester Hopkins, Ken Varney, Emmitt Case, J. G. Thornsberry, Jonah E. Williamson and Ernest Cochran. Bros. Calvin-Bevins, Floyd Morrison, Jim Bevins, Newton Walters, Mike Young, Harold Varney, L. L. Keesee, Earl D. West, Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr., and Troy Walters. Letter in the hands of Bro. Earl D. West.

MUD RIVER: To be held with the Mt. Zion Church at Pecks Mill, Logan County, W. Va., beginning on FRIDAY BEFORE THE FOURTH SATURDAY IN AUGUST 1962. Elders Edwin May, Harvey Lowe, Johnnie Nickols, B. H. Bevins, Ester Hopkins, Emmitt Case, Tracy Hatfield, John Fouch and Wayne Herald. Bros. Mike Sheppard, Joe Robinson, Jim Bevins, Earl D. West and Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr. Letter in the hands of Elder Ester Hopkins.

FRIENDSHIP: To be held with the Antioch Church in Wyoming County, W. Va., about six miles from Welch, W. Va. on the Welch-Pineville Road on Route 16, beginning on FRIDAY BEFORE THE FIRST SATURDAY IN SEPTEMBER.

Bevins and Ester Hopkins. Bros. Bill Williams and Mack Smith. Letter in the hands of Elder Emmitt Case.

INDIAN BOTTOM: To be held with the Kingdom Come Church, take Route 15 out of Whitesburg, Kentucky and turn left on Route 588, beginning on FRIDAY BEFORE THE FIRST SATURDAY IN SEPTEMBER 1962. Elders Lloyd SESCO and Lewis Marcum. Bros. Harold Varney, Earl D. West, Fred Bevins, Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr. and Elmer Blackburn. Letter in the hands of Bro. Harold Varney.

10. By motion and second, it is ordered that request for Union Meetings and Memorial Meetings be published in our Minutes.

11. By motion and second, it is ordered that obituaries of our deceased Brethren and Sisters be printed in our Minutes. These are to be presented to the Clerk at the close of the Association or within ten (10) days thereafter.

12. The Circular Letter written by Elder B. H. Bevins was read and on motion and second, was ordered printed in our Minutes. Elder Tommy Adair was chosen to write the Circular Letter for next year.

In addition to the Circular Letter, our beloved servant Elder B. H. Bevins wrote a soul stirring letter beseeching the Association, the churches and the Brethren and Sisters to work together in love and reasoning for peace and harmony. On motion and second, it was ordered that this letter also be printed in our Minutes.

13. By motion and second, it was ordered that the Treasurer pay the expenses of one (1) car for visiting the Sister Associations, that is, paying for the gas and oil.

14. In response to a query from the Elk Fork Church and by motion, second, objection and vote of 63 to 3, it was ordered that items 14 and 15 in our 1960 Minutes be retained in our Minutes which read as follows:

(a) "We advise our ministers of our Association

(b) "Shall we receive into our fellowship men or women having more than one wife or husband?"

ANSWER: We advise the Churches not to receive into fellowship any such, except those who have put away their companions for the cause of fornication. Such cases to have Gospel or Church evidence of same."

15. By motion and second, it was ordered that Elders H. C. Maynard, Ester Hopkins and B. H. Bevins be retained as a Committee to approve or disapprove the book "History of the Regular Baptist Church" completed by Bro. Rufus Perrigan.

16. The Committee appointed to study the Articles of Faith, Constitution and Rules of Decorum in order to promote uniformity among the corresponding Old Regular Baptist Associations, consisting of Elders Ester Hopkins, B. H. Bevins, Wayne Herald, Willie White and Emmitt Case, made their report that this Committee met with like Committees from our Sister Associations at the Sulphur Springs Church, Elkhorn City, Kentucky on November 18, 1960; that uniform Articles of Faith, Rules of Decorum and Constitution were worked out, accepted unanimously by the Committees and recommended to the several Associations for approval after regular motion, second and unanimous agreement.

(a) After general discussion of the Committee report, Elder Wayne Herald offered a suggestion that the Articles of Faith as recommended by the Committee be amended as follows:

(1) Article No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 remain unchanged.

(2) Substitute for Article No. 5 the following:

"We believe that sinners are called to repentance and believe in the Gospel and regeneration of the soul and sealed with that Holy

(3) Add the following Article:

"We believe that repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and regeneration are necessary previous to Baptism and that immersion is the only right way of administering the Church Ordinance."

(4) Article No. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 remain unchanged.

(b) After further discussion and on motion and second, it was ordered:

(1) That we defer acceptance of the Committee's recommended Articles of Faith, Rules of Decorum and Constitution until we see how our Sister Associations receive this report;

(2) That we print Elder Wayne Herald's suggested amendments to the Articles of Faith in our Minutes and, in addition, present these suggested amendments to our Sister Associations for their consideration;

(3) That we retain the original Committee mentioned above;

(4) That the Churches study the recommendations of the Committee with the idea in mind of either accepting or rejecting these recommended Articles of Faith, Rules of Decorum and Constitution at our next Association;

(5) And that we print the Committee report in our Minutes as follows:

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

on the

ARTICLES OF FAITH,
CONSTITUTION

and

RULES OF DECORUM

November 18, 1960.

The committee appointed by the New Salem, Union and Sardis Associations for the purpose of reviewing the Articles of Faith, Constitutions and Rules of Decorum of the several Associations and endeavor to present recommendations of uniformity and similarity in these important documents for approval at their next regular sessions, met at the time and place stated above and after prayer by Elder J. R. Stanley the following brethren; Elder Banner Manns, Elder M. V. Burke, Elder Grady Adkins, Bro. I. G. Frazier and Bro. Millard Allen from the New Salem Association; Elder Elmer Church, Elder John Hess, Elder George Perrigan, Elder Bruce Mullins, Elder Mittie Thacker, Bro. Rufus Perrigan and Bro. John M. Mullins from the Union Association; Elder Ester Hopkins and Elder B. H. Bevins from the Sardis Association, organized by choosing Elder Ester Hopkins, Moderator; Elder M. V. Burke, Assistant Moderator; Brother John M. Mullins, Clerk and Elder Roy B. Akers, Assistant Clerk.

Elder Roy B. Akers not having been appointed by his Association, The Northern New Salem, as a delegate was seated with the committee upon regular motion and second and unanimous consent.

Several Brethren spoke briefly on the manner in which we should proceed. It was then agreed, after finding that New Salem, Northern New Salem and Sardis Associations were already similar in the documents under consideration, that we compare those of the New Salem and the Union Associations, one by one, and in a spirit of love and cooperation bring about uniformity.

The Articles of Faith were considered first. With very few minor changes of both, we approved a complete list of thirteen Articles for further approval by the several Associations at their next regular sessions by regular motion and second and unanimous agreement. A copy of our recommendations is attached hereto and made a part of these Minutes.

agreement, we adjourned until the following morning (Saturday, November 19, 1960), after prayer by Elder Banner Mann.

November 19, 1960, Saturday Morning

The committee met back at the Sulphur Springs Church House and after prayer by Elder Crockett Baker, proceeded to business.

Elder Baxter Osborne of the Northern New Salem Association being present and not having been appointed by his Association as a delegate, was seated with the committee by regular motion and second and unanimous agreement.

The Moderator by the authority vested in him then appointed a committee to give scriptural reference supporting each and every Article of Faith, consisting of Elders Elmer Church, Bruce Mullins and Baxter Osborne.

The committee then proceeded to review the Constitutions of the New Salem and Union Associations, accepting, as they deemed, the better of each, compiling a Constitution to be recommended for approval by the several Associations. This document was unanimously approved by the committee, upon regular motion and second, and a copy is attached hereto and made a part of these Minutes.

The Rules of Decorum of the New Salem and the Union Associations were compared and with very few minor changes and revisions are hereby recommended to the several Associations for approval, after regular motion and second and unanimous agreement. A copy is attached hereto and made a part of these Minutes.

Upon regular motion and second and unanimous voice, this collective committee was dissolved and are to report back to their several Associations.

After prayer by Elder Baxter Osborne, we were dismissed.

Elder Ester Hopkins, Moderator
Elder M. V. Burke, Assistant Moderator
Brother John M. Mullins, Clerk
Elder Roy B. Akers, Assistant Clerk.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

As Adopted By The Committee

1. WE BELIEVE in one true and living God, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and these three are one.
2. WE BELIEVE that the Old and New Testament Scriptures are the written, infallible word of God and the only rule of faith and practice.
3. WE BELIEVE in the doctrine of election by grace, for by grace are you saved through faith.
4. WE BELIEVE in the doctrine of Original Sin and Man's inability to rescue himself from the fallen state he is in by nature; therefore, the Saviour is needed for the redemption.
5. WE BELIEVE that sinners are called, converted, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit and all that are so regenerated and born again by the Spirit of God shall never fall away.
6. WE BELIEVE sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ.
7. WE BELIEVE that BAPTISM, the LORD'S SUPPER and FEET WASHING are Ordinances of the Church of Jesus Christ and that true believers are the only proper subjects of these ordinances and we believe the only true mode of baptism is by immersion.

righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

9. WE BELIEVE that Jesus Christ is the head of the Church and the government thereof is upon His shoulders.

10. WE BELIEVE no minister has the right to administer the ordinances of the Gospel except such as are regularly called and come under the imposition of hands by a presbytery of the Church.

11. WE BELIEVE that the Church of Jesus Christ of Regular Baptist is a congregation of faithful believers in Christ who have obtained fellowship with the Lord and have agreed to keep up a Godly discipline.

12. WE BELIEVE every doctrine that goes to encourage or indulge people in their sins or cause them to settle down on anything short of saving faith in Christ for Salvation is erroneous and such doctrine shall be rejected by us.

13. None of the above articles shall be construed as to hold with particular election and reprobation so as to make God partial, directly or indirectly, nor shall any of these articles be altered without legal notice and free consent.

CONSTITUTION

As Adopted By The Committee

From a long series of experiences, we, the Churches of Jesus Christ, being legally baptized upon a profession of our faith in Christ and convicted of the necessity of a combination of Churches in order to have a union and communion among us and preserve, perpetuate and maintain a correspondence with each other in our union, we therefore, propose to keep the order and rules of an

1. The Association shall be called the _____.
2. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different Churches in our union and sent to represent them in the Association and upon their producing letters from their respective Churches certifying their appointment, they shall be entitled to a seat.
3. In the letters shall be expressed their number in fellowship, those baptized, received by letter, dismissed, excluded and deceased since our last Association.
4. The members thus chosen and convened shall have no power to lord anything over God's heritage, nor shall they have any clerical power over the Churches, nor shall they infringe on any of the internal rights of any Church in the union.
5. The Association, when convened, shall be governed by a regular and proper decorum.
6. The Association shall have a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Assistant Clerk, who are to be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.
7. New Churches may be admitted to this union, which 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.
8. Every Church in the union shall be entitled to representation in the Association.
9. Every query presented by the Churches to the Association, being first debated in their own Churches,

10. Every motion made and seconded shall be considered by the Association except it be withdrawn by the party who made it.
11. The Association shall endeavor to furnish the Churches with Minutes of the Association.
12. We believe it necessary that we should have an Association fund for defraying expenses of the same. We think it the duty of each Church in the union to contribute such sums as they think proper and send it by their delegates to the Association, and such sums to be deposited in the hands of the Treasurer chosen by the Association, who shall be accountable for the money paid him by the Association, and paid out as the Association may direct.
13. There shall be an Association book kept where-in the proceedings of every Association shall be recorded by the Secretary appointed by the Association, who shall receive a compensation for his services.
14. Amendments to this plan or form of government may be made by a majority of the union, if deemed necessary.
15. All matters coming before the Association shall be decided by will of a majority of the delegates present. (This item does not apply to the government of Churches.)
16. The Association shall have the power to provide for the general union of the Churches and to preserve a chain of communion among the same; give the Churches all necessary advice in matters of Church difficulty; inquire into the cause why any Church shall fail to be represented at any time in the Association; appropriate the money received to any purpose it may think proper; appoint any members, by their consent, to transact any business it may think necessary; withdraw from any Church in the union which may violate any of the rules of the Association or deviate from the orthodox principles of religion; admit any orderly minister of our faith and order to a seat in the Association; and adjourn to any future time and place it deem convenient.

1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.
2. A Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Assistant Clerk shall be chosen by the delegates present.
3. Only one member shall speak at a time, who shall arise from his seat and obtain consent from the Moderator when he is about to make his speech.
4. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in his speech by anyone except the Moderator until he is done speaking.
5. He shall strictly adhere to the subject and in no wise reflect on the person who has spoken so as to make remarks on his slips or imperfections, but shall fairly state the cause as nearly as he can so as to convey his ideas.
6. No person shall abruptly absent himself from the Association without leave of the same.
7. No person shall rise to speak more than three times on any one subject without permission from the Association.
8. No member of the Association shall have the liberty to laugh during the sitting of same, nor whisper in time of public speech.
9. No member shall address another in any other form or term than that of "brother" or "sister".
10. The Moderator shall not interrupt or prohibit any member from speaking until he gives his view on any subject, unless he violates the Rules of Decorum.

12. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as any other member, provided the chair be filled, but he shall have no vote, unless the Association be equally divided, in which event he shall give the deciding vote.

13. Any member who shall willingly and knowingly violate any of the decorum shall be reprovved by the Association as they think proper.

***** THE END *****

17. In response to a query from the Mt. Pleasant Church and on motion, second and vote of 36 to 6, it was ordered that Article 14 of the Constitution of the Sardis Association be changed to read:

"All matters coming before the Association shall be decided by will of a majority of the delegates present."

18. By motion and second, it was ordered that we receive the report of the Committee established by Item 18 in our 1960 Minutes and in so doing, discharge this Committee and remove this Item from our Minutes.

19. By motion and second, it was ordered that we remove Item 19 of the 1960 Minutes from our Minutes.

20. By motion and second, it was ordered that we print the address of our Churches in our Minutes.

(Note: These addresses are shown on the same page as the names and addresses of our Church Clerks.)

21. By motion and second, it was ordered that each church in the Sardis Association help Bro. Rufus Perrigan finance the printing of the book "History of the Regular Baptist Church".

at Varney, Pike County, Kentucky beginning on FRIDAY BEFORE THE SECOND SATURDAY IN SEPTEMBER 1962.

23. By motion, second and unanimous vote, it was ordered that Elder Charlie Johnson preach the introductory sermon at our next Association and that Elder Emmitt Case be his alternate.

24. By motion and second, it was ordered that we tender our thanks for a successful, peaceful and memorable Association to the Dix Fork Church, the community at large, Pike County Sheriff's Department, Radio Station WPKF of Pikeville, Kentucky and Bro. Harold Varney for his furnishing of material for the Stands and a Sardis Association direction sign.

(a) It was further ordered that a special letter of thanks to Radio Station WPKF be prepared by the Clerk.

25. By motion and second, it was ordered that the Minutes be read, approved and signed by the Moderator and Clerk.

26. By motion and second, it was ordered that we be adjourned to the time and place mentioned above.

This work done and signed by the Sardis Association.

- Elder Ester Hopkins, Moderator
- Elder Emmitt Case, Assistant Moderator
- Bro. Relph W. E. Varney, Jr., Clerk
- Elder Ellis Davis, Assistant Clerk

SUNDAY MORNING

We met under an umbrella of God's green trees, a short distance upon the hill where the Brethren had prepared the Stands, with a large and beautiful congregation of Brethren, Sisters and friends. The air was tingling with the first hints of Winter and the congregation seemed to sense the very presence of the Lord even before the services began. Old and sweet songs of Zion filled the air,

to our Lord.

Elder Earl Belcher, of the Union Association, introduced the services using as his text a portion of the Sermon in the Mount found in Matthew 5:14, 15 and 16:

"Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven."

After much exhortation for peace and good works, Brother Belcher gave way to the singing of the beautiful song, "Bold Soldiers All, on you I call". Brother Belcher then offered prayer, praising God for his heartfelt presence in our Association.

Elder John Justice, of the Union Association, opened the services using as his text James 1:2:

"My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience."

Brother Justice answered fully the age old question of, why must I bear these trials and tribulations?

Then with a sincere heart he pleaded for brotherly love to abound in our Churches; for Godly fellowship one to another; reminded the older Brethren and Sisters of their duty to help the younger; and, gave Godly comfort to all who suffer chastisement by quoting Hebrews 12:6:

"For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth."

Elder Parris Tackett, of the Northern New Salem Association, followed in the Stand singing an old favorite song, "Jacobs Vision" and used as his text John 1:11:

him not. "

Brother Tackett was wonderfully blessed to feed a hungry and receptive congregation of that manna which flows only from God. Again there was much exhortation to love amid marvelous testimonials.

Amidst much shouting and rejoicing, the presence of the Lord seemed to overshadow everything in sight of the natural eye and the congregation sang "Oh, the Gospel Train is Running. "

Elder Ester Hopkins, our beloved Moderator of the Sardis Association, came to the Stand and despite claims of physical weakness delivered a very strong sermon combined with pleas for Christian fellowship. Bro. Hopkins used for his text Romans 8:18:

"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed to us. "

Elder Emmitt Case, our loved and capable Assistant Moderator of the Sardis Association, came to the Stand weeping both with joy at the good things spoken here today and with sadness that the hour of departure had come.

Bro. Case seemed to be overpowered by the spirit of the Lord while he preached brotherly love from Galations 6:2:

"Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. "

and from I Corinthians 15:19:

"If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. "

Services were dismissed in prayer by Elder J. G. Thornsbury.

And so, the Sixty-ninth Annual Sardis Association was brought to a close with mixed emotions of both sadness

given us such a good Association. When the first song was sung to begin our Association it was evident that God was in our presence and as time went on it was clear that we had supped with the Lord and He with us. Let us therefore, give all the praise and glory unto God who so graciously showered down His blessings of love and peace; for the warm sunshine and beautiful hills; for the opportunity to worship Him in this land of freedom in the way we believe He desires to be worshipped; and, for the countless thousands of other blessings we have received throughout the past year. Brethren, let us never cease to be thankful and let us pray throughout the coming year for God to continue these blessings and that we can meet in another Association next year with even more peace, harmony and brotherly love.

God be with you until we meet again,

Your Clerk,

Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr.

UNION MEETINGS and MINISTERS TO ATTEND

APRIL

SOUTHERN HOME: First Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening. Elders Nick England, Brown Lowe, Johnny Nichols, Emmitt Case, Charley Johnson, Andy Baker, B. H. Bevins, H. C. Maynard, Wayne Herald, Harrison Jude and Lewis Marcum.

MAY

SALEM: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday at 4 P. M. Elders Wayne Herald and Charlie Johnson.

TURKEY CREEK: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday at 4 P. M. Elders Willie Stanley, Emmitt Case and Wayne Herald.

APPLE ORCHARD: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening. Elders Willis Dials, Ester Hopkins, Charley Johnson and Emmitt Case.

ENON: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening. Elders Wayne Herald, Edwin May, Charlie Johnson and Parris Tackett.

LITTLE ROSA: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening. Elders J. G. Thornsby, Jonah E. Williamson, Lloyd SESCO and Jeff May.

MUNCY VALLEY: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion on Saturday at 5 P. M. Elders John Fouch, Carlos Meadows, Edwin May and J. H. Hensley.

BUCK CREEK: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening. Elders Elias Cotton, Edwin May, Jonah E. Williamson, Bert Hall and Baxter Osborne.

LITTLE VIRGIE: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening. Elders Grover Adkins, B. H. Bevins, Ester Hopkins and Willie Stanley.

SIDNEY: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening. Elders Ernest Cochran, Johnnie Cline, Ross Cline and Willis Dials.

JULY

DIX FORK: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday at 4 P. M. Elders Wayne Herald, Lloyd SESCO, Parris Tackett and Bud Coleman.

SAMARIA: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening. Elders Wayne Herald, Willie Dials and Elias Cotton.

LEANNAH: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening. Elders Willie White, Willis Dials, Tracy Hatfield and Ernest Cochran.

MT. PLEASANT: Second Saturday and Sunday. Com-

Adams, Grover Adkins, Wayne Herald, Tack Hall, Sid Hudson and Roy B. Akers.

BIG BRANCH: Third Saturday and Sunday starting at 1 o'clock. Communion Saturday evening. Elders Edwin May, Tracy Hatfield, Charles Johnson, Wayne Herald, Harvey Lowe and J. L. Nichols.

MARY ELIZABETH: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening. Elders H. C. Maynard, Wayne Herald and Ross Cline.

ROSA: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion third Sunday in August. Elders Willie White, Jeff May, Isom Hannah, Julius Lester and Elbert Justice.

NARROWS BRANCH: Friday before fourth Saturday. Communion Saturday evening. Elders Parris Tackett, Elmer Church, Edwin May, Emmitt Case and Lloyd SESCO.

PILGRIM'S HOME: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion fourth Sunday in August. Elders Parris Tackett, Matt Justice and Evans Bailey.

AUGUST

TABITHA: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening. Elders Edwin May, Lloyd SESCO, Charlie Johnson, Ross Cline and Mont Ellis.

REBECCA: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening. Elders Ross Cline, Jonah E. Williamson, Parris Tackett, M. V. Burke and Hershel Huff.

ELK FORK: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening. Elders Cecil Evans, Willie Varney, Charlie Evans and Mont Ellis.

BENT BRANCH: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening. Elders B. H. Bevins, Hershel Huff, Charlie Johnson, Ester Hopkins and Edwin May.

BETHANY: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening. Elders Elias Cotton, Tracy Hatfield,

SARDIS: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening. Elders Jeff May, H. C. Maynard, W. H. May, Tracy Hatfield, Charlie Evans and Edwin May.

MEMORIAL MEETINGS

MAY

LITTLE VIRGIE CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the fourth Saturday and Sunday in May 1962. Ministers called: H. C. Maynard, Harold Edmonds, Mat Justice and Wayne Herald.

MEMORIAL MEETING of Pete McCoy and son, Jim Ratliff and family and others will be held on the Ratliff's Cemetery on Sunday after the third Saturday in May 1962. Ministers called: Charlie Johnson, Harvey Lowe, J. L. Nichols and Ernest Cochran.

TABITHA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the first Saturday and Sunday in May 1962 for all of the Brethren and Sisters of the Tabitha Church that have departed this life and gone on. All Regular Baptist Ministers are invited to attend.

SARDIS CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Pigeon Roost Branch Cemetery, Route 1, Delbarton, W. Va., on Sunday following the fourth Saturday in May 1962. All Regular Baptist Ministers are invited.

NARROWS BRANCH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting the fourth Saturday and Sunday in May 1962. Ministers called: H. C. Maynard, Wiley Coffee, Ernest Cochran and Jonah E. Williamson.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting for all the deceased on the Muncy Cemetery on Sunday after the second Saturday in May 1962. Ministers called: Edwin May, Wayne Herald, Willis Dials and Emmitt Case.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held on the Runyon Cem-

May 30, 1962. Ministers called: Jeff May, Fay Scott and Avery Lowe.

MEMORIAL MEETING of John Jude will be held on Sunday after the fourth Saturday in May 1962. Ministers called: Clinton Howard, Willis Dials, J. L. Nichols and Emmitt Case.

JUNE

SOUTHERN HOME CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting the first Sunday in June 1962. All Regular Baptist Ministers are invited.

BENT BRANCH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the third Saturday and Sunday in June 1962. Ministers called: B. H. Bevins, John M. Justice, Grover Adkins, Edwin May and Lloyd SESCO.

MEMORIAL MEETING of Brother James and Sister Betty Gilman and others will be held on the third Sunday in June 1962 at the Cemetery where they are buried, just above the Elk Fork Church. Ministers called: H. C. Maynard, Cecil Evans, Willie Varney, Willie White, Edwin May, Brown Lowe and Ross Cline.

MEMORIAL MEETING of Brother William, Sisters Cora and Ida Riffe will be held in the first Sunday in June 1962. Ministers called: Mont Ellis, Cecil Evans, Charley Evans and Carlos Meadows. This will be held on the Riffe Cemetery at Hanover, W. Va.

MEMORIAL MEETING of Elder W. A. Hurley will be held at the Estep Cemetery on the Duncan Fork of Trace Creek on Sunday after the second Saturday in June 1962. Ministers called: Ester Hopkins, Willie White, Ellis Davis, Gilbert Miller, Bert Hall and Ernest Breedlove.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting for Sister Esta M. Reed, Matilda M. Robinson and others on Sunday after the second Saturday in June 1962. Ministers called: Edwin May, J. L. Nichols, Lloyd SESCO and Jonah E. Williamson. This is near Ben Scott's home.

1962. Ministers called: Harvey Lowe, Jonah E. William-son and J. L. Nichols.

MEMORIAL MEETING of Brother Johnnie Nichols, Sr. and wife will be held on the fourth Sunday in June 1962. Ministers called: Harvey Lowe, Edwin May, J. L. Nichols, Ernest Cochran and Charlie Johnson.

JULY

MEMORIAL MEETING of J. M. Taylor and family, Brother Flem Maynard and family, and all others at the Taylor Cemetery will be held on the Taylor Cemetery on Sunday after the third Saturday in July 1962. Ministers called: Emmitt Case, Edwin May, Wayne Herald and Ernest Cochran.

SARDIS CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Adair Cemetery on Sunday after the fourth Saturday in July 1962. Ministers called: B. H. Bevins, Wayne Herald, Harold Edmonds, Avery Lowe and Tommy Adair.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased in the Robinson Cemetery on Sunday after the second Saturday in July 1962. Ministers called: Ernest Cochran, Willie White, Willis Dials and Tracy Hatfield.

- (a) Memorial of Tom McCoy, Oscar Blackburn, Dike Blackburn and infant baby of Ollie Phillips is to be preached at the same time of the above Leannah Church memorial. All of these are buried in the cemetery at the mouth of Wolf Creek.

MEMORIAL MEETING of Brother Carl Lowe, Phillip Hannah and Linda Sue Taylor will be held on Sunday after the fourth Saturday in July 1962. Ministers called: Harvey Lowe, J. L. Nichols, Edwin May and Ester Hopkins.

MEMORIAL MEETING of Bonnie Hickman, granddaughter of Jobe Blackburn at Pilgrim, Kentucky, will be

J. L. Nichols, Jeff May, Ernest Cochran, J. H. Thorns-bury, Wayne Herald and Edwin May.

TURKEY CREEK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on Long Branch on the third Sunday in July 1962. Ministers called: Charlie Johnson, Harold Edmonds and Avery Lowe. Dinner near-by.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held for all the deceased on the Julius Scott Cemetery at Hardy, Kentucky on Sunday after the third Saturday in July 1962. Ministers called: H. C. Maynard, Ester Hopkins, Edwin May and Willie Stanley.

MEMORIAL MEETING of Elder F. M. Preece, Sr. and others will be held on the Preece or Runyon Cemetery on Sunday after the second Saturday in July 1962. All ministers invited to attend.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held at the Big Branch Church on Sunday after the fourth Saturday in July 1962. Ministers called: Charlie Johnson, Wayne Herald, Edwin May, Harvey Lowe and J. L. Nichols.

AUGUST

SAMARIA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Dillon Cemetery, three miles from Dingess, W. Va., near the church house and across from Brother Everett Hannah's home, on the first Sunday in August 1962. Ministers called: Willie White, Jeff May and Willis Dials.

ENON CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting the first Saturday and Sunday in August 1962. All Regular Baptist Ministers are invited.

BETHANY CHURCH will hold its memorial meeting at the same time as the Union Meeting, the fourth Saturday and Sunday in August 1962. Ministers called: Elias Cotton, Tracy Hatfield, Jeff May, Wayne Herald and Edwin May.

DIX FORK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the first Saturday in August 1962. Ministers called: Ken

MARY ELIZABETH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Elder J. W. Smith and all others, deceased members, on Sunday after the third Saturday in August 1962. Ministers called: Edwin May, H. C. Maynard and Ernest Cochran.

REBECCA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Elder H. Maynard, Elder W. C. Hay, Elder M. J. Mounts and others on Sunday after the second Saturday in August 1962. Ministers called in Union Meeting will be used.

LITTLE ROSA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the second Saturday and Sunday in August 1962. Ministers called: Wayne Herald, Willis Dials and S. B. Farley.

SIDNEY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting for the deceased members of the Sidney Church on the fourth Saturday and Sunday in August 1962. Ministers called: W. H. May, Jeff May, Wayne Herald, Tracy Hatfield and Milford Lowe.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting for all the deceased buried on the Lowe Cemetery, Pike County, Ky., on Sunday after the second Saturday in August 1962. Ministers called: Edwin May, Willis Dials, Harvey Lowe and Ernest Cochran.

SAMARIA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting at the Hannah Cemetery, in the head of Marrowbone Creek, W. Va., on the third Sunday in August 1962. Ministers called: Isam Hannah, Avery Lowe and Milford Lowe.

MEMORIAL MEETING of Pfc. Edward McCoy and others will be held on the Henry Taylor Cemetery on Sunday after the fourth Saturday in August 1962. Ministers called: Ernest Cochran, Edwin May and Milford Lowe.

MEMORIAL MEETING of Brother Harrison McCoy and others will be held on Sunday after the third Saturday in August 1962. Ministers called: Ernest Cochran, Charlie Johnson, Willis Dials and Emmitt Case.

APPLE ORCHARD CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on Sunday after the first Saturday in August 1962. Ministers called: Wayne Herald, Noah May and H. C. Maynard.

MEMORIAL MEETING of Brother John and Sister Melvine Allen, Ross Allen, Will Allen, Elizabeth Allen, Ellen Allen, Vimmie Allen, grandchildren and others will be held at the Hays Lowe Cemetery on the first Sunday in August 1962. Ministers called: Ireland Harrison, H. C. Maynard, Charlie Johnson and Wayne Herald. There will be dinner on the ground.

SEPTEMBER

MEMORIAL MEETING on Joe Taylor Cemetery will be held on Sunday after the first Saturday in September 1962. Ministers called: Ernest Cochran, Charlie Johnson, Milford Lowe and J. L. Nichols.

MARY ELIZABETH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Elder Wallace Jackson and others on Sunday after the third Saturday in September 1962. Ministers called: Emmitt Case, Ernest Cochran, Grover Adkins and Charlie Johnson.

MEMORIAL MEETING of Rosco McCoy and others will be held on the third Sunday in September 1962. Ministers called: J. L. Nichols, Harvey Lowe and Ernest Cochran.

MEMORIAL MEETING of Elder W. H. Bowling, wife and family will be held at Tom Price School House, Piso, Kentucky on the first Saturday and Sunday in September 1962. Ministers called: Jonah E. Williamson, Lloyd SESCO, Ireland Harrison and Emmitt Case.

SAMARIA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting at the Lackey Cemetery, in the head of Marrowbone Creek, W. Va., on the first Sunday in September 1962. Ministers called: Jeff May and Isam Hannah.

SALEM CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting the first Saturday and Sunday in October 1962. Ministers called: Ester Hopkins, Wardie Craft and Jonah E. Williamson.

TURKEY CREEK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the second Saturday and Sunday in October 1962. Ministers called: Ken Varney, L. G. Lowe, Avery Lowe and Charlie Johnson.

MT. PLEASANT CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the second Saturday and Sunday in October 1962. Ministers called: Parris Tackett, Emmitt Case, J. G. Thornsbury, Mack McClaud, Banner Mann and Crockett Baker.

ELK FORK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the third Saturday and Sunday in October 1962. Ministers called: Willie White, Ester Hopkins, H. C. Maynard, Jeff May, Ellis Davis and Johnnie Cline.

PILGRIMS HOME CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the fourth Saturday and Sunday in October 1962. All Regular Baptist Ministers are invited.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Scott Cemetery, near Jack Jude's home, on Sunday after the second Saturday in October 1962. Ministers called: Willis Dials, Edwin May and J. L. Nichols.

ROSA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the third Saturday and Sunday in October 1962. All Regular Baptist Ministers are invited.

Obituaries



SISTER DAISY SMITH

It is with much weakness that I try to write the obituary of Sister Daisy Smith. She was born July 13, 1907 in Floyd County, Kentucky and was the daughter of Henry and Douglas Pigman Wills. She was married to George Smith who survives. Sister Daisy leaves two children to mourn the loss of a precious mother, George J. Smith and Mary Smith Brown, Hardy, Kentucky and five grandchildren.

Sister Daisy became a member of the Old Regular Baptist Church the fourth Saturday in May 1934 and was baptized the same day by Elders Willie Hay and Lewis Smith. She was a faithful member as long as she was able to attend and we, the Narrows Branch Church, have lost a good sister. George has lost a good companion and the children have lost a good mother. But we all feel that her soul is at rest in hope and that when Jesus calls for the sleeping dead that are in their graves, Sister Daisy will go home to heaven, both soul and body, to live forever more around the throne of God. I feel our loss is Heavens' gain.

Written by a Brother in Hope of Eternal Life,
Elder Willie Stanley
May God Bless You All.



SISTER LUNA BLEVINS

It is with much sadness that I try to write an obituary of my loving mother, Mrs. Luna Blevins. She was a daughter of Samuel and Mary Smith. She was born November 23, 1889, and died Sunday morning, October 16, 1960 at St. Marys Hospital, Huntington, West Virginia making her stay here on earth 71 years.

She was married to George Blevins, Kenova, West Virginia, in 1907. To this union was born six children, one of whom preceded her in death. She leaves her husband; four sons: Alpha, of Kenova, W. Va., Luther, of California, George, Jr., of California, and Charles of Detroit, Michigan; and one daughter, Edith Browning of Ashland, Kentucky. Also surviving are two brothers, Jim Smith of Huntington, W. Va., Marion Smith of Illinois; and three sisters, Mrs. Delphia Mathews and Manda Romans of Huntington, W. Va., and Rachel Scaggs of Waverly, Ohio. There are 27 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and a host of friends to mourn her passing away.

She joined the Old Regular Baptist Church some 50 years ago at Quaker, W. Va., lived a faithful life, and Jesus called her over home to live with Him where suffering will not be and parting can't come. She told us children she was ready to go and just waiting her call home. We feel our loss is her eternal gain, a home in Heaven.

Written by her daughter, Edith Browning and Mrs. Tracy Hatfield.



JANE JUSTICE

With the help of God, I will try to write the obituary of my sweet mother, Jane Fields Justice. She was born September 6, 1885 and deceased this life February 10, 1961, making her stay on earth 75 years and 5 months. She was the daughter of Johnny Fields and Charty Sullivan Fields.

She was united in marriage to Willile Justice in December 1900 and to this union was born five children, one of whom preceded her in death. She leaves four children: Mrs. Flora Estep, Majestic, Ky., Lon Justice, McCarr, Ky., Mrs. Lillie Anderson, Matewan, W. Va., and Lee Etta Justice, McCarr, Ky. She leaves two sisters, Nora Gooslin, McCarr, Ky., and Lillie Dayer, Thacker, W. Va. She also leaves her husband, Willile Justice, 14 grandchildren and 33 great-grandchildren to mourn her loss.

My mother didn't belong to the church but she believed in the Old Regular Baptist. I talked with her before she died and she told me that the Lord had forgiven her sins. My mother left good hopes. I feel that mother is sleeping in the arms of Jesus until the judgment day. I've got that hope of meeting my mother in heaven in that day and I want to say to my father, my brother and my sisters that are left in sin to mourn her loss, if they want.

for the Lord in this life until the end.

Written by her daughter, Lillie Anderson.



BROTHER GEORGE D. STANLEY

By request of the family, I will try to write an obituary of Bro. George D. Stanley. He was born April 29, 1891, departed this life at 4:45 A. M. October 11, 1960, making his stay here on earth 69 years, 5 months and 12 days. He was the son of the late Melvin and Lida Jane (Smith) Stanley and was married to the former Margie Williamson who survives.

Bro. George professed a hope in Christ and joined the Old Regular Baptist Church the 2nd Sunday in June and was baptized the 4th Sunday in June 1936 by the hands of Elder W. C. Hay and Elder Lewis Smith. He placed his membership with the Narrows Branch Church and lived a faithful life until death.

Surviving in addition to his wife are: Three daughters, Mrs. Homer Stanley, Meta, Ky., Mrs. Clifford Johnson, Hardy, Ky. and Elsie, at home; Seven grandchildren whom he raised, Mrs. Jimmy Bevins, Huntington, W. Va., Mrs. Billy Ray Runyon, Delbarton, W. Va., Jonah, Columbus, Ohio, George Edward, Wilmington, Ohio and Hazel, Clifford and Harrison, at home; Eleven other grandchildren; Two great-grandchildren; One brother, Orville Stanley; Three sisters, Mrs. Ambrose Jude and Mrs. Bob Morrison, Varney, Ky. and Mrs. Lurline Stanley, Sidney,

Stanley, Goody, Ky.; Leonard Stanley, Mrs. John Murphy and Mrs. Lawrence Scott, all of Ohio; Kenner Stanley, Sidney, Ky.; and Mrs. Blaine Grace, Kermit, W. Va., a son, Elden Stanley, and a daughter, Lizzie Stanley, preceded him in death.

Bro. George left a large family, a host of friends, all the Brethren and Sisters of the Narrows Branch Church and churches elsewhere to mourn his loss, but we truly believe our loss here on earth will be Heaven's eternal gain.

Written by Bro. Clyde Brown,
Clerk of Narrows Branch Church.



SISTER VICIE (COLLINS) SMITH

Sister Vicie (Collins) Smith, the daughter of the late William Collins and Sarah Jane (Phillips) Collins, was born May 17, 1879 at Canada, Kentucky and deceased this life on Thursday, December 29, 1960 about 7:25 A. M. making her stay here 81 years, 7 months and 12 days. Her life was a blessing to all who knew her.

Sister Vicie was married to Roland T. Smith on November 3, 1895, and to this union was born three children, one son and two daughters. One son and one daughter preceded their mother in death.

... became a member of the Old Mount Pleasant Church of Regular Baptists, the Church of Jesus Christ, being baptized at the hands of Elder Jonah Bevins on the second Sunday in May 1932 and remained a faithful member until death took her from our midst.

Left to mourn the loss of this good Sister are her husband, Roland T. Smith, her daughter, Mrs. Landon Thacker; three sisters, Sister Jane Pauley and Sister Lydia Varney, both of Sidney, Kentucky, and Mrs. Louise Brundy of Canada, Kentucky; 10 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and 5 great-great-grandchildren; besides a great host of relatives and friends.

But we feel that our loss is her eternal gain. For we believe that Sister Vicle heard the gospel of her salvation and then when she believed it, she was sealed with the Holy Spirit of Promise. She felt the Lord knocking at the door of her heart and opened the door and let Jesus come in and since that good day Jesus has been her Savior and the scripture tells us that He is the Savior of the whole world and a special Savior to the believer. Since Sister Vicle was a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, He was her special Savior and went to prepare a place for her and all the redeemed of the Lord and He is coming again to receive us unto Himself, that where He is, there we may be also. Yes, Roland, Stella and you good Sisters, relatives and friends, we believe that Sister Vicle's soul has returned to God who gave it and in the Resurrection at the last day God will bring her body out of the grave and fashion it like unto His most glorious body; and soul and body will live forever with the Lord in Heaven where all will be peace, joy and happiness forever and ever.

Our prayer for you is that all of you may meet her in Heaven and live with the Lord forever in His eternal home prepared for all who will love and serve Him. May God richly bless each and every one of us in my prayer, in Jesus' name.

Written as requested by her just a few days before she left us, by one she loved, Elder Harold Edmonds.



SISTER LOUVENA (CRICKET) HALL

I will try to write the obituary of my beloved mother, Louvena (Cricket) Hall. She was born April 14, 1890 and deceased this life January 24, 1961. She was the daughter of Mack and Hallie Hall. She was married to Fred Hall and to this union was born two sons, Kessie and Wallace Hall. Mother leaves seven grandchildren, two sisters, three brothers and a host of friends and relatives to mourn her loss.

Mother joined the Regular Baptist Church the first Saturday in September 1944 and was baptized by Brother A. C. Evans. The Church has lost a faithful member and we have lost the greatest love and best friend we ever knew. We feel that our loss is Heaven's gain.

I always think of Mother
No matter where I roam
I always think of Mother
Tho she is gone, I hope to meet her
Someday around the great throne.

Written by her son, Kessie Hall.



JIM GILLMAN

I will try to write the obituary of Granddad Gillman. He was born April 14, 1860 in the State of Virginia. Deceased this life October 13, 1959. Making his stay on earth 99 years and 6 months.

He was married to Victoria Stepp July 30, 1885, who preceded him in death many years ago. To this union was born ten children, namely: Floyd, Hi, and Walter Gillman, of Hatfield, Ky.; Mrs. Hazel Stepp, of Hatfield, Ky.; Mrs. Emma Smith of Cheshire, Ohio; and five preceded him in death. He had 60 grandchildren. Besides these, his children and grandchildren, he leaves a host of friends to mourn his loss.

His seat is vacant in the Mary Elizabeth Church where he was a faithful member as long as his health permitted him to be. He joined the Regular Baptist Church over 40 years ago. He was unable to attend church for some time before he passed away. His dear face would light up when the Brethren came in and had service with him. I feel that the life he lived here on earth causes us to believe that he is at rest today.

Written by Tommy Jackson.



SISTER BESSIE STANLEY

She was born February 25, 1912 at Raben Cross, Tennessee. She was the daughter of Ferdand and Trinkle Lawson.

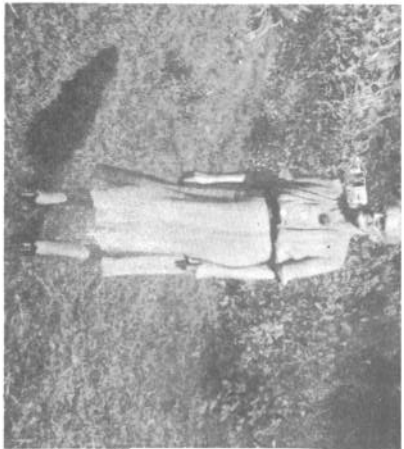
She deceased this life August 3, 1961. She was married to Albert Stanley, who survives. To this union was born eight children: Anita, Carmen June, Dabid and Bobbie all at home; James Fish of Detroit, Michigan; C. B. Fish, Mrs. Helen Brown and Lloyd Fish, all of Columbus, Ohio. Nine grandchildren, two brothers and three sisters and a host of friends mourn her loss.

Sister Stanley joined the Old Regular Baptist Church the third Sunday in October 1960, and was baptized by the hands of Elders Charlie Johnson and Ernest Cochran.

We feel our loss is her eternal gain. Children I want to say to you, seek the Lord while He is near and call upon Him while He may be found. What He has done for your mother He stands ready and waiting to do for all who will call upon Him.

May God bless and save you all is my prayer.

Written by Mrs. Stirl Smith.



MAGGIE (ONEY) CRIGGER

It is with much sadness in my heart that I will try to write the obituary of my dear loving mother, Maggie (Oney) Crigger. She was born March 13, 1886, making her stay here on earth 75 years, 1 month and 8 days. She ceased this life April 21, 1961. She was the daughter of the late William and Mary (Nelson) Oney and was united in marriage to W. A. Crigger who preceded her in death.

She is survived by two sons, Lee of Canada and Frank of Meta, Kentucky. She is also survived by four daughters, Mrs. Ethel Smith, Mrs. Agnes Blackburn and Mrs. Gladus Thacker all of Canada, Ky., and Mrs. Eliza Smith of Goody, Kentucky.

One son and daughter preceded her in death, Henry and Juanita.

She also leaves 32 grandchildren and the following brothers and sisters: Mrs. Sarah Stanley and Mrs. Mary Nelson, both of Williamson, W. Va.; Dewey and W. M. Oney, both of Harrisonville, N. C.; and Charles and Berlin Oney, both of Ashland, Kentucky.

Mother joined the Old Regular Baptist Church and was baptized the second Sunday in September 1943 by the hands of Elders Jonah Bevins and placed her membership at the Dix Fork Church where she remained a faithful member until God called her away. I want to say to the children

you will have to prepare in this life, for as death finds us, so will the judgment receive us. So to all of you, begin today to lay up treasures in heaven where your loved ones have gone to wait for you.

Mother dear, we long to see you, in your robe and crown so bright. We will pray for God to guide us and to lead us by His shining light. Mothers' memory will linger with us from day to day. I hope by God's sweet mercy we will meet her some sweet day.

Written by her daughter, Mrs. Ethel Smith, Canada, Kentucky



JAMES GANNON

It is with much sadness that we try to write the obituary of our beloved husband and father, James Gannon. He was born February 16, 1896. Departed this life September 27, 1960, making his stay here on earth sixty-four years, seven months and eleven days. He was the son of Nancy and Bud Gannon, and was married to Eula Church Gannon on August 13, 1916 and unto this union was born six children, three boys and three girls. He has nineteen grandchildren and a host of friends and relations. He also had six sisters and five brothers.

He joined the Old Regular Baptist Church in 1946. He was a faithful member and loved to go to church. Daddy knew few pleasures in this life. He raised his

Our home is so sad and lonesome here but we all do pray we will meet again where we will never have to part.

He followed our Lord Jesus to the end. He loved our Lord Jesus with all his heart. This pen cannot find words to tell of the love he had for his fellow man, nor to explain his life here on this earth. His life here on earth proved he was a child of God. He wouldn't turn anyone down in their time of need. His light was always shining for the world to see. We cannot believe he is dead. In our Lord Jesus' own words, "If you live and believe on my name you shall never die". We feel he laid straight the pathway to follow, and I don't believe we could stand it if it was not for the mercy our Lord Jesus has shown on us all. He is helping us with our sorrow, but it is so hard. It seems like a part of us is missing. We feel though that when this life is over and our work complete, we will be with him forever, nevermore to part, no more sorrow or pain we will know. We miss daddy so much, but we wouldn't call him back if we could because we feel that his soul is at rest under the altar of God awaiting the resurrection of the body. Let us pray the family circle will never be broken though daddy has gone from us. His life will live on with us and be a memory around our hearts always.

To all his children that haven't turned to our Lord Jesus, Daddy has shown you the gate, you must enter in at the gate, and that gate is our Lord Jesus, if you ever want to see him again and be together in heaven. We feel our loss is his eternal gain.

Written by his Wife and Children

Dear Daddy, how we miss you. We know you went to rest, but while you were with us we loved you the best. This home is not the same since we lost your loving name. Someday we shall meet once again to speak. No matter where we are, to us you are a shining star. We shall follow 'till we die and meet you in the bye and bye.

Written by his Son-in-law.



ANNA BLACKBURN

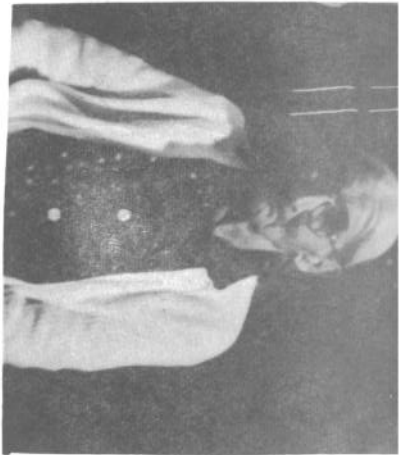
To the memory of our beloved and Sainly mother, Anna Blackburn, who was born March 28, 1873 and departed this life June 23, 1961 at the age of 88 years.

Mother was the daughter of Melvin and Polly Muncy Chapman and was married to Hi Blackburn who preceded her in death. To this union was born 8 children, 6 of whom are still living.

She joined the Regular Baptist Church and was baptized in 1906, taking membership with the Sidney Church and lived as a faithful member for 55 years. Her life was completely dedicated to her church, family and community. Her loyalty and devotion to the Regular Baptist will always be remembered and admired by those who were privileged to know her.

We the children thank God who gave us a special blessing through such a devout Christian mother to guide and counsel us through the troubles and trials that beset us through the vista of life. God blessed her with health and vigor to go to Church and visit among her family, friends and loved ones almost to the very end of her long Christian life. We will miss her but we do not mourn her because we realize that death is only a fitting close to a long and useful life. She leaves 6 children, 32 grandchildren, 31 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild as proof that the Lord blessed and prospered her in her generation.

Written in her memory and for all her family
By her son, Henry Blackburn.



SARAH JUDE

It is with much sadness that I will write an obituary of my mother, Sarah Louise (Fraleley) Jude. She was born September 11, 1866 and died June 20, 1961, making her stay on earth 94 years, 9 months and 9 days.

She was the daughter of William and Margaret M. (McCoy) Fraley and was married December 17, 1891 to David Jude. To this union was born 10 children, 6 boys and 4 girls, of which she was preceded in death by 2 sons and 1 daughter, as well as, her husband. Those remaining are: Soney, Pilgrim, Ky., John and Jack, Threeforks, Ky.; Lewis, Williamson, W. Va.; Morning Sluss, Warfield, Ky.; Mary Duncans, Threeforks, Ky.; and Patty Horn, Shelby, Ohio. There are 62 grandchildren, 135 great-grandchildren and 17 great-great grandchildren and many friends to mourn her loss.

She accepted Christ as her personal Savior and was baptized by the hands of Elder Charley Jude in May 1909, placing her fellowship with the Sidney Church at Threeforks, Ky. She was a faithful and regular attending member for 52 years.

I realize mother's companion is gone, her place is empty in the home and her seat is vacant at the church house but I believe mother has made a happy exchange and is in a better home. I feel that during mother's stay on earth she set a wonderful example for her children, relatives and many friends to follow if they want to meet

"What is man, that thou are mindful of him?
And the son of man, that thou visitest him?
For thou hast made him a little lower than the
angels and has crowned him with glory and
honour. Thoumadest him to have dominion over
the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things
under his feet."

Written in her memory and for all the family,
By her son, Jack Jude.



SISTER ORA HOWELL

With the help of the Lord, I will try to write the obituary of Sister Ora Howell. She was the daughter of John Reed and Rachel Jude Reed. Sister Ora was born April 15, 1907, deceased June 17, 1961, making her stay on earth 54 years, 2 months and 2 days. She was married to Brother Tan Howell on August 11, 1925 and to this union was born ten children, 6 boys and 4 girls, with Grethel Howell preceding her in death. The other children are: Carmel Howell, Kermit, W. Va.; Ornal Howell and Dennie Pilgrim, Ky.; Denis, Robert, Buddy and Dorothy Howell, all at home; Mrs. Mae Jude, Pilgram, Ky.; and Mrs. Mary Staton, Jackson, Michigan. There are 15 grandchildren.

Sister Ora joined the Regular Baptist Church, placing her membership with the Sidney Church, baptized by the hand of Elder Bill Jude, the fourth Sunday in May 1949.

smile. She is badly missed by the Sidney Church, her family and all who knew her. We believe our loss is Heavens' gain.

Children if ever you expect to meet mother again you will have to repent of your sins and be born of the Spirit of God and follow in the footsteps of Christ. Then you can join with mother where parting is no more in that Heavenly home without sickness, pain or death but all will be peace, joy and happiness for ever and ever.

Written by a Sister in hope of eternal life,
Stella Maynard.



BROTHER BEN SCOTT

By the request of the family, in love and great fear, and by the help of God, I will try to write the obituary of Brother Ben Scott.

He was born November 23, 1890, died September 12, 1960 making his stay here 70 years, 9 months and 19 days.

Brother Ben was united in marriage to Myrtle Taylor Scott, August 7, 1915. To this union was born no children, but they have an adopted daughter, Ivegene Scott Blackburn.

Brother Ben was baptized November 21, 1954, taking membership with The Big Branch Church, to which he de-

He leaves to mourn his loss, a loving wife, daughter and six grandchildren, seven brothers, six sisters and a host of friends.

He always wanted peace in the Church and elsewhere. His life was such a wonderful light, even to the world. His love went to one and all. I would go see Brother Ben while he was sick and not able to attend Church, he would throw his arms around me and say, "Brother Johnnie, I love you."

When Brother Ben thought trouble was coming in the Church he would advise the Brethren to live in peace and love. I believe when Brother Ben comes from the grave he will be wearing that long White Robe. He was a wonderful friend to those in need.

God bless his loving family. Jimmy and Ivegene, I know you will miss Brother Ben. He can't come back to us and I do know you want to see Dad again, and if you will accept Jesus as your personal Saviour you can live with Dad again.

Sister Myrtle, I know you are lonesome here, but we know Brother Ben is resting and won't have to suffer anymore. It won't be long until we will see Brother Ben again. He will have a body liken unto the body of our Lord Jesus.

My tongue is not able to speak the good things of such a wonderful Brother. So God knows everyone of us today.

I want to say one more time to Jimmy and Ivegene, I love you and Dad loved you too, but there is a greater love than our love. God loved you so great that he gave His son for you.

I must close. The half has not been told about his good life.

So farewell for awhile. Sleep on Brother Ben, it will not be long 'till God will call his children home.

By one in hope of eternal life, Elder J. L. Nichols.



LUCY BLACKBURN

With the help of the Lord, I will try to write the obituary of my mother-in-law, Lucy Blackburn, the daughter of Flem and Bell (James) Maynard.

She was born January 4, 1897 and she passed away February 8, 1961, making her stay on earth 64 years, 1 month and 4 days.

Mother married Ben Blackburn April 8, 1915. God blessed them with six boys and three girls, four of them preceded her in death.

Mother joined the Old Regular Baptist Church the third Sunday in June 1937 taking her membership with the Apple Orchard Church. She filled her seat faithfully 'til God called her to rest and I feel she went to sleep in the arms of Jesus.

She leaves to mourn her loss her husband and five boys, Jobie, Flem, Pem, Malta and Harlen Blackburn; two brothers, Vernon and Kennie Maynard; one sister, Dicy Ann Lowe; and a host of friends.

Mother was loved by all that knew her and she had a word of advise for all. She was a bright and shining light to her family.

and to gain our will sin, close in with God, for he loves you with an everlasting love. He'll go through the shadows of death with you and then I feel you can live with mother again and above all, with Christ our redeemer-one who will say come, and we will go prepared or unprepared; and at the last day we will come out of the grave and meet God face-to-face and, Oh, what a happy time if our robes have been made white in the blood of the lamb.

I feel I could write on and on. My prayer is that God will richly bless and save every one of us in Jesus' most high and Holy name.

Written by her daughter-in-law, Mintie Blackburn.



JOEL CANTERBURY

I will try in my weakness to write an obituary of my beloved husband, Joel Canterbury. He was the son of Elder John and Kansas Browning Canterbury. Born April 27, 1910, he deceased this life August 28, 1961, being 51 years, 4 months and 1 day old at death.

He was married to Elizabeth Evans Canterbury and to this union were born ten children, namely: Mrs. Cecil Smith of Lisbon, Ohio; Mrs. Frank Hall of Lisbon, Ohio; Mrs. Elizie Bryon Adkins, Jr., 903 Bank Street, East Liverpool, Ohio; Miss Vicy Pearl Canterbury of Lenore, W. Va.; Mr. Joel Canterbury, Jr., of Lenore, W. Va.,

John Lee Canterbury of Lenore, W. Va. Two preceded him in death. There were seven grandchildren; four brothers, namely: Jessie Canterbury and Timothy Canterbury, who preceded him in death; John and Cornelius Canterbury of Lenore, W. Va.; two sisters, namely: Mae Barom, deceased; and Sarah Chafin of Lenore, W. Va.

Brother Joel Canterbury became a member of the Bethany Church of Old Regular Baptist in August 1959 and lived a beautiful and faithful life until death. I have lost a good husband, the children a wonderful father, and the Bethany Church a loving Brother, but we feel our loss is Heaven's gain.

Children follow in father's footsteps and meet him in Heaven where our family will never be separated again.

Written by his wife, Elizabeth Canterbury.

SISTER WILDA HINKLE

Sister Wilda was the daughter of George Young and Vicie Scalf Young. She was born January 6, 1906 and deceased this life January 13, 1960, making her stay here 54 years and 25 days.

She was married to Clarence Hinkle January 15, 1922 and to this union was born nine children, four sons and five daughters, their names are as follows: Dortha May Ray, Ida Bell Ray, Clarence Lee Hinkle, Rosetta Hinkle and James Lacie Hinkle, all of Varney, Ky.; George Hinkle of Turkey Creek, Ky.; Billy Hinkle of Keen Mt., Va.; and Claudia Ellen Pennington, of St. Louis Park, Minn. One daughter, Bonnie Lue, preceded her in death. She also leaves 18 grandchildren.

Sister Wilda felt that the Lord, for Christ's sake, saved her soul and became a member of the Pilgrim's Home Church of Old Regular Baptist. She was baptized November 21, 1959 by the hand of Bro. Jonah E. Williams-son. She was never able to attend church after being baptized but we have reason to believe with all our hearts, that she is now resting in Christ, where she will never

over.

And now the greatest honor you can do for mother is to repent of your sins, and accept the Lord Jesus as your personal Saviour. I believe you will meet mother again where you will not have to give her up any more. I know you all loved her very much and our prayer for her husband, children, relatives and friends is that all of us may be ready on that sweet day when Jesus comes.

Mother dear, our home is lonesome,
Yet, your memory here will stay,
And we hope by God's great mercy,
We will meet you some sweet day.

Written by a close neighbor, Bessie Robbinette,

MINTIE VICTORIA LAWSON

It is with much sadness that I try to write an obituary of my Sister in the flesh and in the Lord, Mintie Victoria Lawson, a daughter of Elder Mont and Tempia (Francis) Williamson, was born January 23, 1888. She departed this life February 5, 1961, being 73 years and 13 days old.

She was united in marriage to W. M. Lawson April 16, 1906, and to this union was born 12 children. Six of the children preceded her in death. Besides her husband, she leaves 6 children, whose names are as follows: Mrs. Dovie Sartin, Marshall Lawson, Dennie Lawson, Tempia Jane Macfry, Mrs. Texie Ross and Mrs. Elvie Francis. She also leaves a brother, Mr. Landon Williamson and 5 sisters, Mrs. Rebecca Preece, Mrs. Belle Francis, Mrs. Elon Francis, Mrs. Charlie Lee and Mrs. Mary Thompson. These, along with a host of friends and relatives and the entire membership of the Pilgrim's Home Church, are left to mourn her passing.

Sister Minnie professed a hope in Christ many years ago in the days of her youth and was baptized by the hands of our father, Elder Mon Williamson, and Elder Moses Maynard. She placed her membership with the Bent Branch Church of Regular Baptist and later came as a

the Pilgrim's Home Church, where she remained a faithful member until her health prohibited her attendance. She was in ill health for two years but she never lost patience just kept looking to Jesus for her strength and courage. I believe she has joined a band of Angels. Her heartaches and pain are over.

Children, mother's prayers for you have ceased, her presence is gone from your home. Now, if you miss her presence and want to see her again, take heed to the council she gave you and when your call comes to go you can join hands with mother again where parting with loved ones will come no more.

Be good to your father, he is left without the companion of his youth; his life will be lonely. I hope he will accept Jesus for his Saviour in the near future. He has lost a good companion and you children a good mother. We have lost a lovely Sister, but I feel our loss is her eternal gain and we should be happy to know her suffering is over, although we miss her company here, but the Lord is able to heal all broken hearts if we will put our trust in Him.

Written by her sister, Elon Francis.
SISTER INEZ THOMPSON

It is with much sadness that I attempt to write the obituary of a dear Sister in Christ, Sister Inez Thompson. She was the daughter of William and Mintie Hinkle Robbinette. She was born December 23, 1908 and deceased this life April 24, 1961, making her stay here in this life 52 years 4 months and 1 day.

She was united in marriage to Henry H. Thompson May 1, 1926. To this union was born eight children, three of them preceded her in death. Those left to mourn her passing are her husband, Brother Henry Thompson of Varney, Ky., three sons, Eugene Thompson of Albuquerque, New Mexico; James Freddy Thompson and Edgar Thompson of Varney, Ky., and two daughters, Mrs. Joyce Blackburn and Miss Virginia Thompson of Varney, Ky.; one sister, Mrs. Eula Williamson of Varney, Ky., six brothers, Mr. Lilburn Robinette of Varney, Ky.; Lee Robinette of

Lebanon, W. Va.; Freda Robinette of Alex, Ky.; Marvin Robinette, John Robinette and Eldon Robinette all of Pontiac, Michigan. She also leaves a host of friends to mourn her passing on.

Sister Inez felt that God, for Christ's sake, spoke peace to her soul. She did as God commanded, "Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee."

She became a member of the Pilgrim's Home Church September 28, 1951. She lived a faithful life until death and filled her seat in the Old Church as long as she was able to do so.

I feel that the Church has lost a faithful member, her husband a loving wife, her children the most precious thing a child ever had, a kind, sweet, loving mother. I feel that your loss is Heaven's eternal gain. Children I know that home will not be the same now, but don't weep for mother but rather weep for yourselves. I feel that mother's soul is over in Heaven with little Charles' and those other two infants' souls. Mother is only resting now awaiting that great, notable Resurrection Day when soul and body will reunite and live forever in the Paradise of God. May God bless each and every one of you.

Written by one in hope of eternal life,
James M. Ray.

ABBA HANKINS

It is with a heavy heart that I shall try, with the help of God, to write the obituary of my late beloved and precious foster mother, Abba Hankins.

Because of her love for God and mankind she helped those who needed help most and with that fact in mind, she took me when I couldn't help myself, at only five months old, due to the illness of my mother, Zetta Morris Bevins. From that date on she loved me and provided for me as if I had been born to her, and to me she was devoted and loving mother until her death. Although I now am married to a wonderful husband and have two precious

my heart which cannot be filled now, that mother has left this troublesome world, because there is no one in the world who can take mother's place in my heart. Although I am left behind to mourn my loss, I know the Angels are rejoicing around God's throne over Heaven's gain because I have no doubt but that her soul is at rest with Christ where it shall dwell until the Resurrection when it shall be reunited with her body and will be fashioned like His body and she will enter into Heaven to live eternally with her Redeemer whom she loved and walked with hand in hand daily. I thank God for her and for the life she lived because she taught me that God is love and I feel that through her teaching and guidance I found Jesus as my Saviour, too.

She was one of several children born to the late Thomas and Polly Ball Blackburn of Canada, Ky. She entered this life January 13, 1901 and departed it August 8, 1961, at 5:30 P. M. She was preceded in death by her father, mother and several brothers and sisters. She was married to James Melvin (Peb) Smith who preceded her in death on July 9, 1943. She later married Tom Hankins, who survives.

She was baptized by the hands of Elders Ester Hopkins and Harrison Bevins, upon her profession of faith in Christ, into the Salem Regular Baptist Church of which she was a devoted and faithful member for many years. She attended their regular monthly meeting on Saturday, only three days before the Angels come to carry her to the bosom of her Lord and Saviour whom she served. I feel that I have lost a precious mother, her husband has lost a devoted wife and the church a faithful member.

I could never write all the good things that are stored in my heart concerning mother, so I shall close with this prayer upon my lips, that her good, devoted companion whom she had to leave behind shall prepare to meet her again so we all shall be able to join her around God's throne, singing and praising Him.

Written by her foster daughter in love and Sister in Christ,
Mrs. Glen Nickels.

It is with much sadness that I try to write the obituary of my dear sister-in-law, Tella Jones. She was born May 24, 1903, the daughter of Rass and Maude Scott, deceased this life November 26, 1960. Surviving are her father, Rass Scott; two sons, Charles of Chattahoochee, Va., and Sylvester of San Francisco, California; one daughter, Alverta, died in infancy; and five brothers and five sisters, with a host of relatives and friends to mourn her passing. But we feel our loss is her eternal gain. Sister Tella joined the Old Regular Baptist Church in 1944 being baptized by the hand of Elder B. H. Bevins, placing her membership with the Salem Church at Goody, Kentucky, where she remained a faithful member until her death. I would like to say I have known Sister Tella for many years. She was very dear to me. My home was her home. She was always welcome. I believe that when the death angel came and took her spirit away from her body that she rejoiced to leave this old world of trouble and grief. She was strong in faith, believing that God would take care of His children. I would like to ask the Church to pray for her children, her brothers and sisters, whom she loved so dearly, that God would grant them Repentant hearts before it is too late. For as death finds them, so will the Judgment.

There is much more I could write about Sister Tella but space will not permit. I want to say that I believe that when we cross over to the other side that we can clasp Sister Tella's hand again.

We do not know the pain she bore,
We did not see her die,
We only know she passed away,
And could not say good-bye.

Written by her Sister-in-law, Ollie Scott.

SISTER SALLY OMA SMITH

Sister Sally Oma Smith, the daughter of Henderson Maynard and Susan Smith Maynard, was born December 6, 1879 and deceased this life on Tuesday, January 19,

Sister Smith was married to Harmon Smith and to this union was born five children, three boys and two girls. One of the daughters, Liza Nance, preceded her mother in death as did her husband, Harmon Smith, who died December 29, 1929, at age 52.

She became a Christian several years ago and was baptized into the membership of the Dix Fork Church of Old Regular Baptist, the Church of Jesus Christ, where remained a faithful member until death took her from our midst.

She leaves the following: Three sons, Robert Smith of Route 1, Pikeville, Ky., Pearl Smith of Attica, Ohio, and George W. Smith of Cleveland, Ohio; one daughter, Mrs. Tennessee Allred, of Kingston, Tennessee; two brothers, Jim Maynard of Canada, Ky., and Jack Maynard of Kiserville, W. Va.; one sister, Mrs. Rebecca Meade of Meta, Ky., besides a great host of relatives and friends who are left to mourn her loss. But we feel that our loss is her eternal gain.

We believe that she sought the Lord while He could be found, and found Him sweet to her never dying soul. She heard Jesus say, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Though heavy laden she might have been with the burden of sin, she came to Jesus and found that sweet rest that passeth all understanding. Yes, children, your mother has, like Mary, "chosen that good part which can never be taken away from her." Do not forget the good life your mother lived, with rejoicing in the God of her salvation. Do not forget the good counsel that she gave you, and if you haven't already done so, prepare to meet your mother again up in Heaven, where there will be no sickness, pain or death, but all will be happiness, joy and peace forever and ever. May God richly bless and save everyone of you is our prayer in Jesus' most holy name.

Written by a brother, in hope of eternal life,
Elder Harold Edmonds.

Sister Onie (Smith) Pinson, the daughter of Lewis Smith and Minnie (Oney) Smith, was born June 6, 1901 at Sidney, Kentucky, and deceased this life January 17, 1961 about 9:00 A. M., making her stay here 59 years 7 months and 11 days. She was dearly loved by all who knew her.

Sister Onie, as we loved to call her, was married to Brother John Lee Pinson April 16, 1924 and to this union was born six daughters. Brother Pinson preceded Sister Pinson in death on April 11, 1959.

Sister Onie confessed Christ as her personal Saviour and became a member of the Old Mount Pleasant Church of Regular Baptist, the Church of Jesus Christ, about twelve years ago and remained a faithful member until her death took her from our midst.

Survivors include six daughter, Mrs. Mattie Marie Harris of Williamson, W. Va., Mrs. Carrie Mildred Sword, of Wellington, Ohio; Mrs. Kathryn Jacobs, of Louisville, Kentucky, Mrs. Alice Francis of Meta, Kentucky, Mrs. Lois Jean Charles of Pikeville, Kentucky, and Mrs. Anna Mae Wills, of Flint, Michigan; two stepdaughters, Mrs. Elsie Damron, of Sophia, W. Va., and Mrs. Mary Farris, of Fort Lauderdale, Florida; four brothers, Lacy B. Smith of Meta, Kentucky; Mark Smith, of Chattaroy, West Virginia, and John C. Smith and Ballard Smith, both of Sidney, Kentucky; three sisters, Mrs. Sarah Hatfield and Mrs. Dorothy Clevinger both of Sidney, Kentucky; and Mrs. Faye Woods of Akron, Ohio; sixteen grandchildren and a great host of relatives and friends who are left to mourn the loss of this good mother, grandmother, Sister and friend. But we feel that our loss is her eternal gain.

For we believe that Sister Onie has, like Mary, "chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her." When Christ shall come in His glory and all the holy angels with Him and when the King shall sit upon the throne of His glory, then shall He say unto them on His right hand, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of

heard. Our prayer for you children, stepchildren, relatives and friends is that you, too, may hear these welcome words of the Lord, and be with Him forever in Heaven where no sorrow, pain or death can ever come. May God richly bless and save all of us, in our prayer in Jesus' most glorious and Holy name.

Written by one she and her husband both loved,
Elder Harold Edmonds.

SISTER FLORA HANKINS

Sister Flora Hankins, the daughter of the late Joseph Bogar and Nancy Morris Bogar, was born February 4, 1876 in Pike County, Kentucky. Her sweet soul returned to God who gave it about 1:30 A. M. Saturday, August 26, 1961, making her stay here 85 years, 6 months and 22 days. Her sweet disposition endeared her to every one who knew her.

"Aunt Flora" as we loved to call her was married to Uncle Sheffie Hankins, who preceded her in death as did her son, Willie Hankins.

Aunt Flora found the Lord precious to her never dying soul and became a member of the Mount Pleasant Church of Old Regular Baptist about 11 years ago and was a faithful member until death took her from our midst.

Left to mourn the loss of this good mother, sister and grandmother are her daughter, Mrs. Bertha Blackburn of Roanoke, Virginia; her brother, Eugene Bogar of Hardy, Kentucky; her grandchildren, Mrs. Bulah Flora, Willie Blackburn and Vernon Blackburn; her great grandchildren, Billy Blackburn, Linda Blackburn, Timmie Blackburn, Douglas Blackburn and Bruce Blackburn, besides a great host of relatives and friends.

But we feel that our loss is her eternal gain. We believe that Sister Flora obeyed the still small voice of Jesus when He said, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Revelation tells us that the writer heard a voice from heaven saying,

henceforth; yea, saith the spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them." In the 45th chapter of Isaiah and in the 12th verse the Lord tells us, "I have made the earth, and created man upon it: I, even my hands, have stretched out the heavens, and all their host have I commanded." Then, in the 22nd verse He says, "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else." We are thoroughly convinced that Sister Flora looked unto Him and was saved. Yes, Bertha, to you and the family, the poet, H. Drummond, expressed in his poem "No more Death" what Aunt Flora might say to us now:

No more death; no more sorrow, and no fears;
No valley of the shadow, no more pain!
No weeping, for God dries away the tears,
And dried by him tears never rise again.

No darkened room, no silence, and no cry
of bitterness as he recalls the breath;
No unfilled bland, no nameless agony;
For he hath said, "There shall be no more death."

No more death! Then take comfort, ye who weep
Give thanks to God, and raise the bowed head;
They are not lost -- 'till "his beloved sleep,"
And he who takes and keeps the holy dead.

Are they not safe with him? And when the veil
is rent for us, and sight supplanted faith,
Then, reunited, love shall never fail;
For he hath said, "There shall be no more death."

May God richly bless and save all of us in my prayer
in Jesus' name.

Written by one she loved,
Elder Harold Edmonds.

MOSE STANLEY

It is with a sad and aching heart that we try to write
an obituary of our loving father, Moses Stanley, who was
born April 4, 1883 in Pike County, Ky. He deceased this

8 months and 21 days.

He was the son of George and Cellie Stanley, who preceded him in death and was married to the former Nancie Jane Smith and to this union was born 12 children. Eight preceded him in death and four are still living--Mrs. Harvey Chapman of McVeigh, Ky., George of Hardy, Ky., Irland of McVeigh, Ky., and Luther of Hardy, Ky. One grand daughter whom he raised, Mrs. Joe Smokey, New York and 21 other grandchildren, 28 great grandchildren, one brother and three sisters and a host of friends are left to mourn his loss but we feel our loss is his eternal gain in glory.

He was a member of the Old Regular Baptist Church for 5 years and was a faithful member. The Church has lost a good member and Mom a good husband, the children a good Daddy. We want to turn to Luther and Irland and say to them, if they ever expect to see Daddy again they will have to repent of their sins and look to the same Jesus Daddy looked to. His companion, daughter and one son, George have been members of the Old Regular Baptist Church of several years.

We have great hopes of meeting our dear old Dad over in glory on the Judgment Day. We want to say to the children to be good to mother and try to meet Daddy over in the glory land where all is joy, peace and love.

Written by his Son and Son-in-law,
George Stanley
G. H. Chapman.

SISTER BELL JUDE

It is by request of this loving mother that I attempt, with the help of God, to write an obituary of a dear Sister in Christ, Sister Bell Jude. She was born September 4, 1878, the daughter of Henderson Jude and Mary Maynard Jude, and died January 28, 1961 at the age of 82 years, 4 months and 24 days. She was married to John Jude on August 26, 1896 and to this union was born four children, three boys and one girl, as follows: Elmer Jude, Warren

and Butler Jude of Beauty, Kentucky. There are 33 grandchildren and 24 great grandchildren.

Sister Bell Jude joined the Regular Baptist Church the fourth Saturday in June 1932. Baptized by the hands of Elder James Jude she took fellowship with the Sidney Church and was a faithful member as long as she was able to go. I, the writer, could write a book of her life, she was so good to me, so kind, and talked about the Hope that she had in Christ the Lord. She said that she hated to leave her children and loved ones. But she believed that when death come that her troubles would be over. Now, children let me beg to you that have not made peace with God, if ever you expect to see mother again you must accept the Lord as Aunt Bell did--I always called her Aunt Bell.

I must say to Elmer and family, I know that a chair in your home is empty that can't be filled anymore because mother is gone. But by the help of God you all can meet her by being born again, for I deeply feel that our loss is her gain. I believe that Aunt Bell has chosen that good part, for Jesus said, "Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." I believe she accepted that call and is resting today in Christ from all of her labor. So farewell and may God bless her children before it is too late.

Written by your unworthy servant,
Elder Clinton Howard.

BROTHER SIMPSON HOWELL

By request of the family and with the help of the Lord, I will try to write the obituary of Brother Simpson Howell. He was the son of Bob Howell and Liddie Hall Howell. Brother Howell was born January 26, 1886 and God called him away August 1, 1960, making his stay here 75 years and 7 months. He married Dixie Blackburn in 1907 and to this union was born ten children; with four preceding him in death. Those remaining are Johnny Howell, Pilgrim, Ky., Lacy B. Howell, Threeforks, Ky., Mrs. Bertha Howard, Laura, Ky., Mrs. Spicie Jude, Threeforks, Ky., Mrs.

raunera, ny.; 33 granacnildren; 28 great grandchildren; and a host of friends and relatives to mourn his loss.

Brother Simpson joined the Regular Baptist Church in September 1959, was baptized by the hand of Elder Edwin May and placed his membership with the Leannah Church.

Children, if you want to see Daddy again, you will have to repent and believe on the Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Written as requested by Stella Maynard

SISTER DIXIE HOWELL

By request of the family and with the help of the Lord, I will try to write the obituary of Sister Dixie Howell. She was a daughter of Jobe Blackburn and Morning Jude Blackburn. Sister Dixie was born February 6, 1890 and deceased this life January 18, 1961, making her stay on earth 70 years, 11 months and 12 days. She was married to Simpson Howell in the year 1907 and to this union was born ten children, four preceding her in death. Those remaining are Johnny Howell, Pilgrim, Ky., Lacy B. Howell, Threeforks, Ky., Mrs. Bertha Howard, Laura, Ky., Mrs. Spicie Jude, Threeforks, Ky., Mrs. Myrtle Lowe, Heenon, Ky., and Ethel Maynard, Hatfield, Ky.; 33 grandchildren, 28 great grandchildren, and a host of friends, relatives and the Leannah Church to mourn her loss.

Sister Dixie joined the Regular Baptist Church, was baptized by the hands of Elder Andy Case in October 1930 and placed her membership with the Leannah Church.

I want to say to her children, do not weep for mother but rather, weep for yourselves and your children, repent of your sins and live like mother did and you will meet her some sweet day.

Written as requested by Stella Maynard.

SISTER LOUISE RUNYONS CLINE

By the request of the family and by the guiding spirit of the Lord, in much fear, I will try to write the obituary of Elder Wayne Cline and his wife, Louise Runyons Cline.

Brother Wayne was born October 30, 1870, deceased this life August 16, 1961, making his stay here on this earth 91 years, 9 months and 17 days.

Sister Louise Cline was born September 24, 1872, deceased this life February 3, 1944, making her stay here 71 years, 4 months and 27 days.

They were united in marriage May 19, 1891 and to this union were born ten children, five of them deceased and five are left to mourn the loss of father and mother; one son, Ellis Cline, and four daughters, Mrs. Dixie Alley, Mrs. Ivia Ray, Mrs. Goldie Charles, Mrs. Lillie Maynard; also many friends and loved ones to mourn their loss, but we feel that our loss if Heavens gain.

Brother Wayne and his wife were members of the Regular Baptist Church. Their membership was with the Apple Orchard Church. They have belonged to the Old Church for many years. Their funeral was preached August 19, 1961 by Elder J. L. Nichols, Emmitt Case and Brother J. R. Coleman.

Brother Wayne was a minister for many years. Now I want to say to his blessed children, Dad and Mother are gone, resting from their labor and their works do follow on. They can't come back to us but, by the Grace of God, we can go to them some sweet day. They will have a body liken unto Christ's most glorious body, that will live forever and ever to never die anymore.

So if you children expect to see father and mother again, those that haven't made peace with God will have to repent of your sins.

There are many things we could say about Brother Wayne and his wife, but they have fallen in the hands of a just God and He will give to everyone a just reward.

for yourselves and your children. God bless the offspring of Brother Wayne and his wife. The Bible says, "prove all things and hold fast to that which is good." Take heed to yourselves and to the Doctrine of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

I believe Brother Wayne and his wife will come from the grave in the last day with a body of flesh and bone, a change from a natural body to a spiritual body that will never die.

God bless you all is my prayer.

Written by one in hope of Eternal Life.

Elder J. L. Nichols.

MATILDA ELIZABETH ROBINSON

With the help of the Lord I will try to write the obituary of my dear sweet mother, Matilda Elizabeth Robinson. She was born September 13, 1873, deceased December 24, 1960, making her stay here 87 years, 3 months and 11 days. She was a member of the Old Regular Baptist Church.

She was the daughter of William Stanley and Sarah Ann (Scott) Stanley, and was married to James Robinson in July of 1895 and to this union was born ten children, six boys and four girls. One boy and one girl preceded her in death. Her husband, James Robinson, passed away December 23, 1941. She leaves five boys and three girls to mourn her passing, whose names follow: Kenia Robinson, Heenon, Kentucky; W. B. Robinson, Route 1, Box 151, Citra, Florida; Elcain Robinson, Heenon, Kentucky; Johnnie Robinson, Varney, Kentucky; Cleston Robinson, Varney, Kentucky; Gertrude Newsom, Turkey Creek, Kentucky; Sarah Ann Maynard, Meta, Kentucky; and Bessie Robinson, Heenon, Kentucky.

She leaves three brothers, Mont Stanley, Meta, Kentucky; Floyd Stanley, Meta, Kentucky; and Mose Stanley, Ransom, Kentucky; 36 grandchildren and 33 great grandchildren, besides her friends and neighbors.

hands of Elder Edwin May and Elden Maynard. She placed her membership with the Apple Orchard Church which she attended regular as long as her health permitted her to go.

She was the sweetest mother on earth to me. God only knows how I miss her sweet company. There is no one who can take her place in my heart. I could write all day, but I could not explain how much I miss her. I hope to meet her some sweet day where there won't be no strokes or sickness, it will all be happiness and joy forever.

Written by one she loved and one that loves her mother with all of her heart.

Her Baby Girl, Bessie Robinson.

DAISY MOORE

I will try in my weakness to write an obituary of Sister Daisy Moore. She departed this life April 10, 1961, making her stay on this earth 75 years, 8 months and 21 days. She was the daughter of the late Green and Sarah Runyon, born in the year 1885. She was united in marriage to George Moore in 1919 and to this union was born four children, two having preceded her in death. The children remaining to mourn her loss are Mrs. Sarah Horton and Mary Moore and one stepson, Bennie Moore.

She joined the Regular Baptist Church at Rebecca in 1904 and was a faithful member until her death. She has withstood the cold, heat, rain and snow in order to fill her seat at the Old Church, as this writer has witnessed for years.

I want to say to her husband and children, if you want to meet mother again after this life is over, you must accept Jesus Christ, our precious Redeemer, as your Saviour and keep His commandments. Then you can meet mother where there will be no heartaches, troubles or pain anymore.

Written by your humble servant.
F. M. Preece.

Sister Nancy May, the daughter of the late App and Celia Hackney Smith, was born at McAndrews, Kentucky July 10, 1889 and deceased this life about 4:20 A. M. October 6, 1961, making her stay here 72 years 2 months and 26 days. She died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Goldie May, at McAndrews, Kentucky after a lingering illness.

She became a member of the Mount Pleasant Church of Old Regular Baptist being baptized at the hands of Elder Jonah Bevins October 14, 1934, and remained a faithful member until death took her from our midst.

Sister May was married to Brother John H. May in September 1906 and to this union was born nine children, six sons and three daughters. One son and one daughter preceded their mother in death as did her husband who died January 29, 1958.

Survivors include five sons, Jonah May of Huddy, Kentucky, Tony May of McAndrews, Kentucky, Lones May and Grady May, both of Stratt, West Virginia and Vero May of Switzer, West Virginia; two daughters, Mrs. Myrtle Nunley and Mrs. Goldie May, both of McAndrews, Kentucky; one stepson, Jeffie May of Pinsonfork, Kentucky; one stepdaughter, Mrs. Sallie Smith of Pinsonfork, Kentucky; three brothers, Tony Smith and Willie Smith, both of Pinsonfork, Kentucky and Jim Smith of Cincinnati, Ohio; 35 grandchildren and 20 great grandchildren besides a great host of relatives and friends who are left to mourn her loss.

But we feel that our loss is her eternal gain. She, like Mary, has chosen that good part that can never be taken away from her. No doubt the family can well remember the day Sister May and Brother John were baptized and became members of the Church. Their lights were set on the candlestick and have given light to all that were in the house. Even the world can say of a truth that they have lived devoted Christian lives, presenting their bodies living sacrifices which God has found holy and acceptable unto Him.

If you have not made your peace call and election sure with God, repent of your sins, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, being born again, not of a corruptible seed but of an incorruptible, by the word of God which lives and abides forever, and be prepared to meet your loved ones in Heaven when this troublesome life is over. May God richly bless and save every one of us in my prayer in Jesus' name.

Written by one she loved,
Elder Harold Edmonds.

JULIUS SCOTT

Julius W. Scott, son of Henderson and Vicky (Farley) Scott, early settlers of the Pond Creek section, was born July 18, 1878, died March 15, 1961 made his stay here on earth 82 years, 7 months and 24 days. His entire life was spent in the vicinity in which he was born. He was married to Polly (Sissie) Hatfield on December 6, 1900, who preceded him in death in 1935. Sissie, as she was more commonly known, was the daughter of Elder Anderson Hatfield, a Primitive Baptist Preacher, Uncle Julius, as he was respectfully called, spent the early part of his life in the lumber business and later became an employee of the Fordson Coal Company. But none of his business transactions caused him in the least to fail to give his family the attention they should have. He was a devoted father and lived a life that should be emulated by his children and a good example to all who knew him.

On June 12, 1949 he affiliated himself with the Regular Baptist Church on Narrows Branch and was baptized on that date by Elders H. C. Maynard and Willie Stanley. Since that date he has lived a devoted Christian life and a loyal member of the church. The fruits that he bore causes us to believe that our loss on earth will be Heaven's gain. It is our fervent prayer that his beloved family will someday meet him in Heaven and the circle be UNBROKEN.

Surviving are five sons as follows: Pete Scott of Tallahassee, Florida; Sherman Scott and B. H. (Bankie)

and Ermine Scott preceded him in death in 1918. Four daughters as follows: Maudie Jane Stanley, Virginia Fern Brown, both of Hardy, Ky., Mrs. Magdaline Blackburn and Mrs. Georgia Brown of South Williamson, Ky.; One sister, Ally Hughes preceded him in death; one half-sister, Parlee Blackburn of Russellville, Logan County, W. Va., 30 grandchildren and 25 great grandchildren and a host of neighbors, relatives and friends to mourn his passing.

Written by Roland T. Farley.

CIRCULAR LETTER

Dear Brethren and Sisters of the
Sardis Association of Regular Baptists:

Inasmuch as it was the will and request of the delegates of the Sardis Association to request me to address you in the form of a Circular Letter, I now with prayer in my heart, will try by God's divine grace to commit myself into His hand to the extent that it may be His will to give me of His power and Holy Spirit to write it in harmony with His will and in answer to the request of the delegates of the Sardis Association, feeling that this will be my last opportunity to address you with the Circular Letter.

I shall use as a scripture and subject the 19th and 20th verses of the 28th chapter of Matthew, which reads as follows: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and in the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

The first question is, What must we teach them?

We should first preach to the lost men and women of the world to repent of their sins, and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, to the extent that God's saving grace which flows through the channel of faith to the soul to save and born it again of the Spirit, because it is said by the Word

Yourselves, it is the gift of God, and no works, lest any man should boast" (Eph. 2:8-9).

There is no salvation, except by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, who by the grace of God tasted death for every man and suffered His blood to be shed for the sins of the whole world so that those who have it applied to their souls by faith can be justified "by His blood", as stated in Romans 5:9, which says: "Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him" and as said in Romans 5:1 and 2 as follows: "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: by whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God."

We should teach them that God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life; and when they receive that justification by faith and which is by grace also, wrought in the soul by the Spirit of God, whereby we receive Christ as He is revealed in the gospel, to be our Prophet, Priest and Saviour and King, and trust in, and rely upon Him and His righteousness alone for justification and salvation, then this saving faith begets a sincere obedience in life and conversation. Then, after this has taken place, we should teach them that Christ has a true Church that He organized and set it in working order while He was here on earth, and set in the ordinances of the Church and gave it the precepts and doctrine of Christ and turned the matter of teaching over to His apostles whom He had chosen for that purpose.

One of the ordinances of the Church was to set the visible seal of discipleship upon the believer by baptizing him or her in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. When this has taken place, then they are scripturally members of the Church, and entitled to all the privileges of the Church. They are now in the Church and under the oversight of the Moderator of the Churches, whose duties it is to teach them to observe all things taught by Christ and His apostles as set out in the New Testament. The newly admitted ones are lambs to be fed the sincere milk of the Word that they may grow thereby, and then they are to be taught all the things which

them will gratefully acknowledge the letter of the apostle Paul to Timothy and Titus.

As I said in the outset, this will probably be my last Circular Letter, and I wish to admonish you in the language of the apostle Paul to Timothy, the one relating to overseeing the churches, and he wanted him to meditate upon the things he had written to him, to take care of the Churches.

I believe that by God's grace and Holy Spirit, we can live so as to please God, if we will take heed and obey the teachings of our Lord and His apostles, but we need to watch and pray and work together in love. And so farewell and God bless you all.

Your humble Brother in hope of eternal life.

Elder B. H. Bevins.

OPEN LETTER TO THE SARDIS ASSOCIATION

Dear Brethren:

In verse 2 of Acts 17, I read where the apostle Paul "as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures."

I desire to "reason" with my brethren concerning our present state, and the cause of some of our failures in the work of the Church, as I see matters today after nearly forty-seven years in the fellowship of Regular Baptists.

I was baptized by Elder J. W. Fields and was received into the fellowship of the Church of Jesus Christ of Regular Baptists the 2nd Saturday of February 1913. Since that time, and by the grace of God and by the direction of His Holy Spirit, as I believe, I have tried to walk and work in His will to the glory of His name, trusting that through His great mercy I might so live and preach and do His good will that He would be well pleased and that I might be accepted in my labor in His vineyard. I have searched the Scriptures and prayed to God for His wisdom and power to enable me to be edifying and helpful

and in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

As I understand the teaching of His word, and as I understand His revealed will concerning His people and His church, it is that each local Church is held accountable to the Lord for its own affairs, but that fellowship is enjoined upon all His people when they come together in the Church or in Associations for counsel and advice and worship. I do not find in the scriptures where any other body has any Scriptural authority to lord it over the Church. However, it seems that in the last few years there has been some departure from our first love and good fellowship in the Churches like we used to have when I first entered into fellowship with the Regular Baptists. I feel like the Association is helpful in many ways by discussion and by reasoning together on the Scriptures so that there might be agreement in doctrine and practice, but I have always believed that the Association should give advice and counsel with the Churches, and not try to lord it over the Churches. I am sure that it is God's will that we all work together in love and reason together and do all we can to help one another and to help the Churches about us wherever we are so that it may go well with them and be pleasing to our Lord and Saviour, and so that the world may know that we are the disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Instead of setting down and reasoning with one another, it seems that sometimes there is a tendency to act with great haste without reasoning with one another, and that when something is not just what it ought to be, or what some think it ought to be, it is decided to drop correspondence with a Church or Association before there is enough love and concern shown, and before the matter is handled as it was in regard to circumcision as in Acts 15th Chapter, which it appears was written as our guide in handling matters which cause difference or confusion today. I think matters affecting an Association ought to be handled along the same line of reasoning and prayer as with a Church which is having difficulty or with an individual who is having difficulty or in disorder, except that in the case of an Association God has not given the same power or authority or responsibility as the Church.

writing this in love and in hope that the Lord will bless it to be received in the same way.

Your Humble Servant,

Elder B. H. Bevins.

CONSTITUTION

of

THE SARDIS ASSOCIATION

From a long series of experiences, we, the OLD REGULAR BAPTIST CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST, being baptized upon a profession of faith in Christ are convinced of the necessity of a combination of Churches in order to perpetuate a union and communion among us and keep the order and rules of an Association according to the following plan of government.

1. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different Churches in our union and sent to represent them in the Association and upon their producing letters from their respective Churches certifying their appointment, they shall be entitled to a seat.
2. In the letters shall be expressed their number in fellowship, those baptized, received by letter, dismissed, excluded and deceased since our last Association.
3. The members thus chosen and convened shall have no power to lord anything over God's heritage, nor shall they have any clerical power over the Churches, nor shall they infringe on any of the internal rights of any Church in the union.
4. The Association, when convened, shall be ruled by a regular and proper decorum.

6. New Churches may be admitted into this union, who shall petition by letter and delegates, and if found, upon examination, to be orthodox and orderly shall be received; and every Church in the union shall be entitled to a representative in the Association.

7. Every query presented by the Churches to the Association, being first debated in their own Churches, shall be taken up by the Association.

8. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association except when withdrawn by the one who made it.

9. The Association shall endeavor to furnish the Churches with Minutes of the Association.

10. We think it necessary that we should have an Association fund for defraying expenses of the same. We think it the duty of each Church in the union to contribute such sums as they think proper and send it by their delegates to the Association, and such sums to be deposited in the hands of the Treasurer chosen by the Association, who shall be accountable for the money paid him by the Association, and paid out according to the Association.

11. There shall be an Association book kept where-in the proceedings of every Association shall be recorded by a Secretary appointed by the Association, who shall receive a compensation for his services.

12. The Minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if need be, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association rises unless the same is dispensed with.

deemed necessary.

14. All matters coming before the Association shall be decided by will of a majority of the delegates present.
15. The Association shall have the power for the general union of the Churches and to preserve inviolable a chain of communion among the Churches; to give the Churches all necessary advice in matters of difficulty; to inquire into the cause of the Churches failing to represent themselves at any time in the Association; to appropriate the money contributed by the Churches for the Association Fund to any purpose they may think proper; to appoint any member, by their consent, to transact any business which they see necessary; they shall have power to withdraw from any Church in the union which shall violate the rules of the Association or deviate from the orthodox principles of religion; and, to admit any orderly minister of our order to a seat with us. The Association shall have the right to adjourn themselves to any future time or place they think most convenient to the Churches.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

-of

THE SARDIS ASSOCIATION

1. We believe in only one true and living God, the Father, the Son, and Holy Ghost, and these three are one, equal in power, essence and glory.
2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the written words of God and the only rules of faith and practices.

4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin, and of man's inability to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, therefore the Saviour is needed for our redemption.

5. We believe that sinners are called to repentance and believe in the Gospel and regeneration of the soul and sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, and none such shall fall away and be lost.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of JESUS CHRIST.

7. We believe that baptism is the ordinance of God's church on earth and the mode of IMMERSION back foremost so as to cover all over.

8. We believe that the Lord's Supper is the command of the Saviour and that by the use of bread and wine, and feet-washing should be kept up until His second coming by His believers.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust, and that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked shall be eternal.

10. We believe that no minister has the right to administer the ordinances and commands of the Gospel except such as regularly ordained and baptized, and that by immersion by a legal administrator of the Gospel comes under the hands of a regularly chosen presbytery of the Church.

11. We believe it to be the duty of all church members to contribute for defraying all reasonable expenses of the Church, never forgetting the poor according to their several abilities.

them to settle down on anything short of saving faith in Christ for salvation is erroneous and such doctrine will be rejected by us.

13. We believe that the Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful believers in Christ who have obtained fellowship with the Lord and with one another and have given themselves to the Lord and have agreed to keep up a Godly discipline, according to the rules of the Gospel.

14. We believe that Jesus Christ is the head of the Church and the government thereof is upon His shoulders.

15. None of the above articles shall be considered as to hold with particular election and reprobation so as to make God partial directly or indirectly, nor to injure any of the children of men; nor shall any of these articles be altered without legal notice and free consent.

RULES OF DECORUM

of

THE SARDIS ASSOCIATION

1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

2. A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the members present.

3. Only one member shall speak at a time, who shall arise from his seat and obtain consent from the Moderator when he is about to make his speech.

4. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in his speech by anyone except the Moderator until he is through.

so as to make remarks on his slips or imperfections, but shall fairly state the cause as nearly as he can so as to convey his ideas.

6. No person shall abruptly absent himself from the Association without leave of the Association.

7. No person shall speak more than three times on any subject without leave of the Association.

8. No person shall have the liberty of laughing during the sitting of the same nor whisper in time of public speech.

9. No member of the Association shall address another in any other term of appellation than that of "Brother".

10. The Moderator shall not interrupt or prohibit any member from speaking until he gives his light on any subject unless he violates the rules of the decorum.

11. The names of the members of the Association shall be enrolled by the Clerk and called as often as the Association requires.

12. The Moderator shall have the same right of speech as any other member provided the chair be filled. And he shall have no right to vote unless the Association be equally divided; then he may give the deciding vote.

13. Any member who shall willingly and knowingly violate any of the decorum shall be reprovved by the Association as they think proper.

CHURCHES AND CLERKS

Church and Address	Clerk and Address
MT. PLEASANT	Sidney, Ky.
APPLE ORCHARD	Heenan, Ky.
ENON	McCarr, Ky.
REBECCA	Myrtle, W. Va.
BENT BRANCH	Meta, Ky.
SARDIS	Delbarton, W. Va.
BIG BRANCH	Thomas, Ky.
MARY ELIZABETH	Hatfield, Ky.
BETHANY	Lenore, W. Va.
ELK FORK	Delbarton, W. Va.
PILGRIM'S HOME	Varney, Ky.
SALEM	Goody, Ky.
SIDNEY	Threeforks, Ky.
DIX FORK	Canada, Ky.
NARROWS BRANCH	Hardy, Ky.
LEANNAH	Pilgrim, Ky.
BUCK CREEK	Beauty, Ky.
TABITHA	Barnabus, W. Va.
LITTLE ROSA	Chattaroy, W. Va.
TURKEY CREEK	Turkey Creek, Ky.
SAMARIA	Dingess, W. Va.
ROSA	Baisden, W. Va.
MUNCY VALLEY	Delbarton, W. Va.
LITTLE VIRGIE	Kimper, Ky.
SOUTHERN HOME	Ocala, Fla.

James Scott, Box 105, Canada, Ky.
Elcain Robinson, Heenan, Ky.
Logan Spencer, McCarr, Ky.
F. M. Preece, Rt. 1, Delbarton, W. Va.
Forest Bevins, Meta, Ky.
Jesse Farley, Rt. 1, Box 10, Delbarton, W. Va.
J. L. Nichols, Thomas, Ky.
Lacy Lowe, Hatfield, Ky.
Ellis Davis, Rt. 1, Box 180, Williamson, W. Va.
Wayne Sheppard, Rt. 1, Box 73, Delbarton, W. Va.
Marion Young, 610 Central Ave. Williamson, W. Va.
Calvin C. Bevins, Box 168, Goody, Ky.
Stella Maynard, Threeforks, Ky.
Omer Williamson, Canada, Ky.
Clyde Brown, Hardy, Ky.
T. J. Robinson, Pilgrim, Ky.
Burgess Dials, P. O. Box 625, St. Albans, W. Va.
Comfort Gillman, Barnabus, W. Va.
Fay Scott, Rt. 1, Box 220, Williamson, W. Va.
James Varney, Box 915, Williamson, W. Va.
Ersel Prince, Dingess, W. Va.
Uley Perry, Box 96, Gilbert, W. Va.
Julia Ellis, Rt. 2, Box 143, Delbarton, W. Va.
Ohlon Justice, Kimper, Ky.
Jesse Woods, 1721 N. Newberry, Ocala, Fla.



Church and Delegates	Received by Baptism	Received by Letter	Received by Restorat	Received by Recomm	Dismissed by Letter	Deceased	Excluded	Total Membership	Church Time	Church Contribution
MT. PLEASANT: James Scott, Harold Varney, George Hinkle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	42	2	\$15.00
APPLE ORCHARD: Willie Nichols, Elcain Robinson, John M. Lowe	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	41	1	10.00
ENON: Logan Spencer, J. B. Anderson, Toke Farley	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	11	1	10.00
REBECCA: Marco Gillman, Mike Sheppard, A. A. Sheppard	1	1	0	0	1	2	1	76	2	35.00
BENT BRANCH: Lloyd Sisco, W. Elmer Blackburn, Fred Beville	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	81	3	25.00
SARDIS: G. W. Estep, Jesse Farley, Willie Varney	5	0	0	0	3	3	0	140	4	25.00
BIG BRANCH: Harvey Lowe, J. L. Nichols, Clinton Toplor	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	43	3	15.00
MARY ELIZABETH: Lacy Lowe, George Farley, Tommy Jackson	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	45	3	15.00
BETHANY: Willie White, Isaac Hannah, Everett Hannah	3	0	0	0	1	2	0	58	4	15.00
ELK FORK: Andrew Maynard, Anse Curry, Alonzo Curry	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	80	3	25.00
PILGRIM'S HOME: Emmit Case, Jonah E. Williamson, Jim Bevins	5	1	0	0	0	2	3	177	4	40.00
SALEM: B. H. Bevins, Floyd Morris, Calvin Bevins	0	0	0	0	1	7	2	116	1	40.00
SIDNEY: Bascom Maynard, Tom Howell, Walker Scott	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	34	4	13.00
DIX FORK: J. G. Thornsbury, Henry G. Maynard, Charlie Johnson	2	0	0	0	1	3	0	74	1	30.00
NARROWS BRANCH: Willie Stanley, Bill Williams, Clyde Brown	4	0	0	0	0	3	0	77	4	25.00
LEANNAH: Mildred Lowe, T. J. Robinson, Freelin Jones	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	38	2	15.00
	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	29	3	10.00
	1	0	1	3				44	1	15.00
	1	0	0	2				23	2	10.00
	0	0	0	1				99	2	20.00
	0	0	0	0				32	1	-0-
	0	0	1	1				95	3	25.00
	0	0	0	0				25	2	15.00
	0	0	0	0				13	4	10.00
	0	0	0	0				24	1	20.00
	0	7	40	13				1403		5478.00