

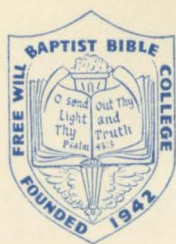
James Nelson

**The
Ohio State
Association
of
Free Will Baptist**

1945

**Proceedings of the
4th. Annual Session**

**Convened at
Old Kyger Church**



FREE WILL BAPTIST
BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented by

Rev. Homer Nelson

MINUTES

OF THE

SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OHIO STATE ASSOCIATION

and the

FOURTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

DISTRICT WOMANS AUXILIARY

OF

FREE WILL BAPTIST

HELD WITH

Old Kyger Church, June 5, 6, 7, 1945 at
Cheshire, Ohio

OFFICERS

Moderator, Rev. Jesse Sizemore, Pedro Ohio
Ass't. Moderator, Rev. W. J. White, Portsmouth, Ohio
Clerk, Grace Peach, Sciotoville, Ohio, R. R. 4.

The next annual session of this association will be held with Sciotoville Church, at Sciotoville on state route 140 on Shela boulevard, June 4-5-6, 1946.

Free Will Baptist Gen., 211 Bond St. Monett, Missouri

PROCEEDINGS

The Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists met in its Seventh annual Session with Old Kyger Church, June 6, 7, 1945.

Rev. Robert Crawford of Nashville, Tenn. leading devotionals. Scripture reading, Psalms 100.

Prayer by Rev. Clarence Herles.

Welcome address was given by Rev. Melvin Dunn pastor of the host church.

Response was given by Rev. Wm. Coyle.

The clerk opened the business part of the association and introduced the moderator, Rev. Jesse Sizemore.

Scripture reading, Phil. 2 by Moderator.

United prayer at the altar led by Dea. John Henning.

Rev. W. J. White was chosen as assistant moderator.

Rev. Melvin Dunn as assistant clerk.

Reading Constitution and by-laws.

Credential committee appointed were: Dea. John Henning, Rev. S. N. Neirman, Rev. W. B. May.

Minutes of last association were read and approved.

Report of Credential Committee:

We, your committee on credentials do recommend the delegates be seated in this association.

Report accepted, and delegates seated as provided in by-laws.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Business Committee—Rev. F. Delawder, Rev. Melvin Dunn, Rev. Ed Carter.

Resolution Committee—Rev. W. J. White, Rev. Homer Nelson, Rev. Charles Moore.

Program Committee—Sister Mollie Sheppard, Sister Dorothy Rupe, Sister Alice Childers.

Minutes Committee—Sisters Grace Peach, Bianca Riddlebarger, Ella Adams.

Publicity Committee—Dea. F. S. Adams, Sisters Mae Stevens, Elizabeth Yeley.

Foreign Mission Committee—Sisters Zella Jacobs, Lovine Henning, Katherine Neirman.

Obituary Committee—Rev. Robert Crawford, Rev. Wm. Coyle.

Bro. David Widdig.

The congregation stood at attention and gave one minute of silent prayer in honor of Rev. W. J. Sheppard.

Motion made and carried that we adjourn the business part of the association until 1:30 P. M.

Rev. Jesse Sizemore gave a short and inspiring talk.

Dismissed with prayer by Rev. W. B. May.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Devotional led by Rev. Homer Nelson. Scripture reading, Heb. 4.

Duet by Sisters Elizabeth Yeley and Hazel Smith.

Moderator takes charge.

Report of State Home Mission board.

Acting on the resignations of Rev. John Kemper and Rev. Jesse Sizemore, we, your State Home Mission board do declare their places vacant on the board.

Motion made and carried to accept the report.

Motion by Dea. John Henning and second by Bro. David Widdig that Dea. Lester Roush act as one member. Carried.

Motion made by Dea. Frank Adams and second by Rev. Melvin Dunn that Dea. David Widdig act as the other member. Carried.

Report of Foreign Mission treasurer. Report accepted. (See Reports.)

Motion made and carried that Rev. W. J. White fill the vacancy on the foreign mission board caused by the death of Rev. W. J. Sheppard.

Report of Foreign committee by Sister Zella Jacobs. Report accepted.

Rev. Robert Crawford gave a report on the activities of the National Association. The report was accepted.

Appointment of delegates:

Kentucky State Association—Rev. Clarence Herles, alternate, Rev. W. J. White.

National Association—Zella Jacobs, Biance Riddlebarger, David Widdig, Ella Adams, Mollie Sheppard, Lovina Henning, Dorothy Rupe.

Report of delegates to the last National association given by Sisters Mollie Sheppard, Zella Jacobs, Biance Riddlebarger, Rev. Melvin Dunn. Report accepted.

Minutes of the association up until this time were read and approved.

Motion made and carried to adjourn until 10:00 a.m. Thursday.

Dea. John Henning led the prayer and praise service which was enjoyed by all.

Dismissed with prayer by Rev. Melvin Dunn.

WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICE

Devotional led by Rev. Edward Carter. Scripture reading, Matt. 20:1-16.

Solo, "I'd rather have Jesus," by Rev. Homer Nelson.

Duet by Dorothy Rupe and Charlotte Scott.

Special song by the Darst sisters.

Duet by Walter Darst and Kenneth Ralph.

Special song by the young peoples choir.

Message brought by Rev. W. J. White, Subject, "There." Text, Luke 5.

Dismissed with prayer by Rev. R. B. Crawford.

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

Devotional led by Rev. W. J. White. Scripture reading, John 15.

Report of the State Evangelist by Rev. Jesse Sizemore. Report accepted.

Report of the resolution committee. Report accepted.

Motion made and carried we send a copy of resolution No. 1 to our congressmen Jenkins and Taft. And one to E. O. McCowen and The Federal Communications Commission.

Report of Obituary committee. Report accepted.

Report of committee on minutes. Report accepted.

Report of the program committee, for the next session. Program was read.

Motion made and carried that the association receive Rev. John Kempers resignation as treasurer of this association.

Rev. Homer Nelson was elected as treasurer.

Motion made and carried that Dea. David Widdig act as new member on the Superannuation board as Rev. Coyle's time automatically expired.

Motion made and carried that Rev. Homer Nelson fill the

vacancy on the superannuation board caused by the death of Rev. W. J. Sheppard.

Rev. James Shonkwiler's resignation from the superannuation board was accepted. Rev. W. B. May was elected to fill the vacancy.

Motion carried to adjourn the business until 1:30 P. M.

The message was brought by Rev. Clarence Herles. Text, Acts 8.35.

Dismissed by Rev. Crawford.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Devotional led by Rev. Jacob See. Scripture reading, Romans 8:1-14.

Special song by the Darst sisters.

Solo by Rev. Homer Nelson.

Solo by Sister Velva Mae Evans.

Moderator takes charge.

Report of State Home board treasurer. Report accepted.

Report of property committee. Report accepted.

Report of the State Home Mission board chairman that Rev. Jesse Sizemore has been hired to serve as Evangelist for the coming year at the same salary. Report accepted.

Report of Superannuation board by Rev. Homer Nelson. Report accepted.

On behalf of the Woman's Auxiliary, Sister Mollie Sheppard extended our thanks to the women of Old Kyger Church for their hospitality.

An invitation was received from Sciotoville Church for the next association in 1946, Motion made and carried to accept the invitation.

Rev. W. J. White was elected moderator for the coming year. Offering \$20.03.

We, the State Association move to express to Old Kyger Church our appreciation for the great way they have entertained this seventh session of the association by a standing vote of thanks.

A report on the Free Will Baptist Bible College was given by Rev. Crawford. Report accepted.

Minutes of the association were read and approved for publication.

Motion made and carried to adjourn the business until

next year. Dismissed with prayer by Rev. Russell Milam.

THURSDAY EVENING SERVICE

Devotional led by Dea. David Widdig. Scripture reading, Ezekiel 47:1-10.

Solos by Rev. W. B. May, Rev. Robert Crawford, Rev. Homer Nelson. Song by the Darst sisters. Song by the Ralph sisters.

Message brought by Rev. Russell Milam.

Offering taken was given to Rev. Crawford for the National Unified Program. Amount \$17.00.

Dismissed with prayer by Rev. W. J. White.

Report of Resolution Committee:

Resolution No. 1— We, the members of the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists in annual session at Chesire, Ohio, June 7, 1945, do protest against the practices of discriminations against the protestant faith in forbidding the use of free speech and press that is causing a loss of freedom of religion in the United States. The gradual but sure cutting down and out of the use of radio by protestant ministers or churches is alarming.

The tendency is not healthy or helpful toward a free and happy people. Persecution has never ceased, therefore we pledge ourselves to prosecute plans to prevent further discriminations. We call upon you to do your part in your power to change conditions to make our country free from domination by powers who are preventing our freedom.

We ask that a copy of this action be sent to Federal Bureau of Communications and Senator Taft and Congressmen Jenkins and E. O. McCowen.

Resolution No. 2 — Mrs. Edward Stevens clerk of Petrea Church and I as pastor of same wrote to the Ration board just before our last Quarterly meeting to try and get some sugar for baking and serving dinner to Quarterly meeting folks. We were turned down flatly, but the same month a large supper was given for political purposes and the same ration board gave without limit for it. Why is it after our boys are dying for freedom of worship that we as christian organizations are not considered?

Resolution No. 3 — Whereas, the National Association has a training program known as "Christian Workers Institute" as a state association we invite a session here in Ohio for the benefit of the cause of Christ at the time and place to be decided by state leaders.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. W. J. White

Rev. Homer Nelson

Rev. C. G. Moore

Report of committee on Minutes:

We, your committee on Minutes recommend that the clerk prepare a copy of this session of the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists and send it together with a copy of the program as prepared by the committee to our printing press at Monett, Missouri and have 300 copies made.

Mrs. Grace Peach

Mrs. Blance Riddlebarger

Mrs. Ella Adams

Report of Superannuation Board:

We, the Superannuation board have met and organized as follows:

Rev. Melvin Dunn, Chairman

Rev. Frank Delawder, Vice Chairman

Rev. Homer Nelson, Secretary-Treasurer

We, the committee have set aside the month of September for Superannuation month to get funds through freewill offerings for operating expenses and for promoting the State Superannuation program in co-operation with the National Superannuation program.

State Evangelist Report for four months:

Places where meetings were held: Old Kyger Church, Buckeye, Wakefield, Vernon community, Antiquity. Attended (5) quarterly meetings.

Filled in for other pastors.

Held (5) revivals.

Confessions of faith, 21.

Sermons preached, 44.

Funerals conducted, 2.

Received for salary for four months from board \$200.00.

Rev. Jesse Sizemore

Obituary Committee:

We, your committee on obituaries, wish to express our sympathy on behalf of the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists in the going home of our beloved ministers, Rev. Mrs. Elizabeth Brady, Rev. W. A. J. Smith, of Wellston Ohio, and Rev. W. J. Sheppard of Sciotoville, Ohio.

Their positions of responsibilities be reviewed orally by this committee to the State Association. We yield to the will of our Heavenly Father who does all things well. We express to their loved ones and friends our regrets and prayers and commend all who feel their going to the power and presence of the Holy Spirit.

A copy of this notice be printed in the State Association minutes and also a copy be sent to the nearest of Kin.

Your committee,

Rev. R. B. Crawford chairman

Rev. Wm. Coyle

Dea. David Widdig

Financial report of the Association

Amount in treasury in 1944	\$133.48
Registration fees	\$21.00
Yearly meeting dues	20.00
Offering	20.03
Freewill offering from Porter church	10.00
Freewill offering from Bloom church	10.00
Freewill offering from Scotodale church	16.32
Freewill offering from Swager Valley	1.50
Freewill offering from Long Run church	10.00
Total	100.96
Grand Total	\$240.44

Disbursements

Minutes	\$23.00
Clerk fees	15.00
National Dues	20.00
Interest	1.14
Total	59.24
Grand Total	\$183.48

Foreign Mission Report

Balance in treasury in June, 1944	\$129.14
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Porter Quarterly meeting:

August	100.71
November	141.05
February	124.72
May	146.78
Total	\$513.26

Pine Creek Quarterly meeting:

August	\$53.64
November	46.52

February	48.16
May	51.79
Total	\$200.11
Silver Run Church:	
June 1944	5.57
November	2.07
February 1945	11.70
May	3.61
Total	\$22.95
Old Kyger Church:	
June 1944	\$16.21
February 1945	27.15
May	9.92
Total	\$53.28
Old Kyger Y. P. League, June 1944	\$.81
Old Kyger Y. P. League, February 1945	2.79
Total	3.60
Vinton Quarterly meeting:	
July 1944	\$26.62
May 1945	22.00
Jackson Quarterly meeting:	
August 1944	20.00
Coalton Church, Nov. 1944	5.00
Coalton Church Jan. 1945	5.00
Wellston Church Nov. 1944	33.56
Mt. Calvary Church Jan. 1945	2.75
Total	\$114.93
Grand Total	\$1037.27
Disbursements:	
National foreign mission board	\$800.00
Stamps and money orders	1.41
Insurance	8.32
Total Disbursements	809.73
Balance in treasury	\$227.54

**FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY**

Devotional led by Sister Grace Peach. Scripture reading,
2nd. Cor. 5. Prayer by Rev. W. J. White.

Welcome by Sister Dorothy Rupe.

Response by Sister Bessie Cole.

Report of field worker—Sister Alice Childers.

Talk on Enlistment—Sister Kathleen Conkey read by Sister Peach in her absence.

Talk on Benevolence—Sister Biance Riddlebarger.

Talk on Education — Sister Bessie Cole read the paper prepared by Sister Lillian Russell.

Praise service led by Sister Isabel Widdig was greatly enjoyed.

Dismissed with prayer by Rev. Wm. Coyle.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Devotionals led by Sister Dorothy Rupe. Scripture reading, 1 Cor. 3:1-11.

Prayer by Rev. Robert Crawford.

President Sister Mollie Sheppard took charge and delivered a brief message.

Constitution and by-laws were read.

Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's report read and approved.

The president gave two readings entitled, "Which are You?" and "Too Busy."

Reports of the district Vice-presidents were given and accepted.

Motion made and carried that the Auxiliary send cards of sympathy to Rev. and Mrs. F. S. Van Hoose in the loss of their son in action. Also cards to Rev. John Kemper and Rev. Walter Doll extending to them our wishes that they will soon recover.

Also one to Sister Mollie Sheppard expressing our sympathy to her and our appreciation for the help which Rev. Sheppard gave to the Woman's Auxiliary work.

Officers elected for the coming year are as follows:

President, Sister Alice Childers, Long Run Church.

1st. Vice-president, Sister Bessie Cole, Union Church.

2nd. Vice-president, Sister Ella Adams, Porter Church.

3rd. Vice-president, Sister Bessie Christian, Sciotodale Church

4th. Vice-president, Sister Lima Noxsel, Porter Church.

5th. Vice-president, Sister Emma Herles, Sciotodale Church

Secretary-Treas. Sister Biance Riddlebarger, Long Run Church

Field Worker, Sister Mollie Sheppard, Sciotodale Church

Report of delegate to National Association by Sister Alice

Childers followed by remarks by Rev. Crawford and Sister Sheppard.

Appointment of delegates to the National session were Sister Bessie Cole and Sister Grace Peach.

Program committee appointed were Sister Mollie Sheppard, Sister Ella Adams and Sister Bessie Cole.

Voted to give Sister Sheppard a love offering of \$15.00.

Offering taken was \$12.10.

Talk on Missions by Sister Ella Adams.

Talk on Stewardship by Rev. Clarence Herles.

Dismissed with prayer.

TUESDAY EVENING SERVICE

Devotional led by Sister Lovina Henning. Scripture reading, 2nd. Cor. 4.

Special singing by the Old Kyger choir.

Special song by the Darst Sisters.

Solo by Rev. Crawford, "Something for Jesus"

Message was brought by Rev. Crawford in the absence of Rev. Kemper. Subject, "She hath done what she could." Text, Mark 14:3-8.

The Auxiliary adjourned to meet next year at Scioto Dale.

Dismissed with prayer by Rev. Clarence Herles.

Treasurer's report:

Balance in treasury	\$4.27
District and National dues	9.60
Offering	12.10
Total	\$25.97
Disbursements:	
Gift to Sister Sheppard/	\$15.00
National dues	4.80
Cards and stamps.....	.52
Total	\$20.32
Balance in treasury	\$5.65

Statistics of the Ohio State Association:

No. Churches	50
No. Ministers	73
Total No. members	2,565
No. Sunday School Scholars	1,881

No. Sunday Schools	48
No. Y. P. Leagues	5
No. Woman's Auxiliaries	4
Value of church property	\$75,000.00
Members of the State Home Mission Board:	
Chairman, John Henning, Sciotoville, Ohio, R. R. 4.	
Mrs. Mae Stevens, Wellston, Ohio, R. R. 3.	
Mr. Lester Roush, Cheshire, Ohio, R. R. 2.	
Rev. Melvin Dunn, 507 E. First St. Wellston, Ohio.	
Mr. David Widdig, Wheelersburg, Ohio, R. R. 1.	
Members of Superannuation Board:	
Rev. Melvin Dunn, 507 E. First St., Wellston, Ohio.	
Rev. W. B. May, Cheshire, Ohio, R. R. 1.	
Rev. Frank Delawder, Wellston, Ohio, R. R. 2.	
Rev. Homer Nelson, Wheelersburg, Ohio.	
David Widdig, Wheelersburg, Ohio, R. R. 1.	

Ministers attending were:

Rev. B. L. Darst, Cheshire, Ohio, R. R. 2
 Rev. C. G. Moore, Wellston, Ohio, R. R. 2
 Rev. J. M. Wykle, 513 W. First St. Wellston, Ohio
 Rev. Jesse Sizemore, Pedro, Ohio, R. R. 2
 Rev. Homer Nelson, Wheelersburg, Ohio.
 Rev. W. J. White, 1314 Mound St. Portsmouth, Ohio
 Rev. Edward Carter, Lucasville, Ohio, R. R. 2
 Rev. Frank Delawder, Wellston, Ohio, R. R. 2
 Rev. Wm. Coyle, Letart Falls, Ohio
 Rev. S. N. Neirman, 1304 New Hampshire Ave. Wellston, Ohio
 Rev. Clarence Herles, Wheelersburg, Ohio, R. R. 1.
 Rev. W. B. May, Cheshire, Ohio, R. R. 1
 Rev. Melvin Dunn, 507 E. First St. Wellston, Ohio
 Rev. Edward Stevens, Wellston, Ohio, R. R. 2
 Rev. Russell Milam, Sciotoville, Ohio, R. R. 2.
 Rev. Jacob See, Sciotoville, Ohio, R. R. 4.
 Visiting Minister, Rev. R. B. Crawford, 3609 Richland Ave.
 Nashville, Tenn.

CONSTITUTION

Article 1—This association shall be called the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists, and shall be composed of all regularly well organized and well disciplined Free Will Baptist yearly meetings as may embody themselves under this constitution.

Article 2—The purpose of this association is for to promote the cause of Christ among our people, and bring about a better spirit of union among our several quarterly meetings.

Article 3—The officers of this association shall be a clerk and treasurer, who shall serve at the pleasure of this association, a moderator, who shall be elected one year in advance of the year he shall serve.

Article 4—The members of this association shall consist of ten (10) delegates from each yearly meeting, together with all ordained authority belonging to same.

Article 5—Any well organized and well regulated yearly meetings in the state shall by application and conforming to the usages of the Free Will Baptist denomination shall be received into this association by a majority vote of this association.

Article 6—The session of this association shall be held on the first Tuesday in June of each year, the place being in one of the various yearly meetings in rotation and placed by vote of association till each have had an association and repeated and etc.

Article 7—This association shall have power to adopt any regulations and by-laws that are consistant with this constitution or usages of the Free Will Baptist denomination.

Article 8—This constitution may be altered or amended by vote of this association at any session by a two-thirds majority vote.

Signed: Rev. W. J. Sheppard, Chairman, Rev. G. D. Webb, Rev. Melvin Dunn, Drawn up June 14, 1939, at Porter Church.

BY-LAWS

Section 1—The clerk shall call the conference to order, and in his absence the oldest minister present shall call the conference to order.

Section 2—It shall be the duty of each body belonging to the association send a letter giving statistics of the body.

Section 3—Each meeting shall be opened by reading scripture and prayer.

Section 4—The association shall sit with open doors except when it goes into a committee as a whole.

Section 5—No person shall nominate more than one, if that person be elected.

Section 6—The moderator shall not allow any conversation except it be in a christian spirit, or when he thinks it will cause discord.

Section 7—Any one desiring to speak must rise to his feet and address the moderator.

Section 8—Voting must be done by the show of the right hand.

Section 9—No member shall be allowed to speak more than twice on any subject and not more than five minutes at a time.

Section 10—It shall be the duty of the moderator to seat the delegates in a body in a convenient place.

Section 11—All ordained authority and licentiates are standing members.

Section 12—We, your committee on resolutions recommend that the form of financing the state association be adopted in our by-laws. Yearly meeting dues \$10.00 all ordained authority pay 50 cents per year. One collection from each church each year. One collection taken at the state association each year.

Section 13—These by-laws may be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of members present.

Signed: Rev. G. L. Yeley, Chairman, Rev. Earl Rankins, Dea. F. S. Adams.

PROGRAM FOR WOMAN'S AUXILIARY FOR 1946

TUESDAY MORNING

- 10:00 — Devotionals led by Sister Isabel Widdig.
- 10:15 — Welcome, Sister Bessie Christian.
- 10:30 — Response, Sister Abbie Knore.
- 10:45 — Experience as field worker, Sister Mollie Sheppard
- 11:00 — Enlistment, Sister Oma Church.
- 11:15 — Benevolence, Sister Beatrice Bradbury.
- 11:30 — Education, Sister Ola Corriell.
- 11:45 — Praise service, Sister Malinda Kayser.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON

- 1:30 — Devotional.
- 1:45 — President takes charge and gives her address.
- 2:00 — Business.
- 3:30 — Stewardship, Sister Lima Noxsel.
- 3:45 — Missions, Sister Lillian Russell.
- 4:00 — Closing.

TUESDAY EVENING

- 8:00 — Devotional led by Sister Garnet Carver.
Song service by Old Kyger Church.
8:30 — Message by Rev. Clarence Herles. Text, Ruth, 1:16-17.
Subject, Ruth's Resolution.
Closing.
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PROGRAM FOR THE STATE ASSOCIATION

WEDNESDAY MORNING

- 10:00 — Devotional led by Rev. Melvin Dunn.
10:20 — Welcome by Rev. Clarence Conway.
10:30 — Response by Rev. Frank Delawder.
10:40 — Association called to order by clerk.
Moderator takes charge.
11:00 — Appointment of committees.
11:15 — Enrollment of ministers and delegates.
12:00 — Lunch.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

- 1:30 — Devotional led by Rev. Clarence Conway.
1:50 — Miscellaneous business period.
3:15 — Praise service. Leader to be chosen.
4:00 — Closing.

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- 8:00 — Devotional led by Rev. Milford Riddlebarger.
8:30 — Message by Rev. Selven Percell.
Special singing by Long Run Choir.
Closing.

THURSDAY MORNING

- 10:00 — Devotional led by Rev. W. B. May.
10:20 — Report of the State Evangelist.
Business period.
11:20 — Message by Rev. Clarence Herles.
12:00 — Lunch.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

- 1:30 — Devotional led by Rev. Homer Nelson.
1:50 — Business period.
3:30 — Prayer and praise service, leader to be chosen.
4:00 — Closing.

THURSDAY EVENING

- 8:00 — Devotional led by Rev. Earl Rankins.

Song service by Union Choir.

8:30 — Message by Rev. Jesse Sizemore.

Closing.

Credential.

Roll Widdig, Marya. →

Com. — Committees.

Henry — Susan Sizemore
Business: May Heeles, Melan

Rec. Nelson — Constance Deland

Prog. M. Hays, Ruth Lacey, W. A.

Miss. Beach — Rank — Hojel

Part. Kenning — Rank — Percel

L. M. C. Wilder — Sheppard Davis

John Miller — Dell Turner

