

MINUTES
OF THE
Alabama State Conference
OF THE
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST
HELD WITH
Brilliant-Boston Church

October 30-31, November 1, 1934

OFFICERS

Rev. M. L. Hellis Moderator, Tupelo, Miss.
Rev. J. E. Tilley Vice Moderator, Ethelville, Ala.
Bro. L. E. Parker Secretary-Treasurer, Millport, Ala.
Sister Nellie Dupree Field Secretary, Guin, Ala.

The next Session of this conference will be held with Belk Church, Belk, Ala., beginning Monday night after the 4th Sunday in October, 1935 at 7:00 o'clock P. M., 28th-29th and 30th.

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The Alabama State Conference of the original Freewill Baptist met with Brilliant-Boston Church, Monday evening, October 30-31-November 1st, 1934 at Brilliant Alabama.

7:00 o'clock—Song and devotional service conducted by brother Whitman. Sermon by Rev. J. M. Haas. Text from 16th chapter Matthew.

TUESDAY MORNING

9:00 o'clock—Song and devotional service conducted by L. E. Parker. Conference opened in order.

9:30 o'clock—Reading reports from the different churches. Read and received by the conference as read.

10:00 o'clock—The moderator read and commented the 25th chapter Matthew after which seated delegates present.

Rev. M. L. Hollis addressed the conference on the need of coming together in a state conference.

10:30 o'clock—Special song service by L. E. Parker

10:45—Address by Elder J. R. Bennett from N. C., on the conditions of the Free Will Baptists and the Orphans Home in the state of N. C., with its 40,000 members in the front lines for God.

11:00 o'clock—Rev. Daniel Pelt being absent Eld. J. R. Bennett brought the message reading the 4th chapter of 2nd Kings using as a text the latter verses. The message was ably delivered and enjoyed by all present.

12:00 o'clock—Dismissed for lunch.

1:30 o'clock—The conference called to order by moderator, Rev. M. L. Hollis. After song and prayer service the moderator called for the balance of reports of churches and association which was read and received by conference and delegates seated or reported.

2:00 o'clock—Special music by orphan children from North Carolina Orphans Home.

2:15 o'clock—Elder T. H. Dixon made report from Oklahoma and Arkansas, there being 8,594 members in the state of Arkansas, lots of work being done for God and His Kingdom and a host of opportunities for men of God to fight the devil and his works in the west. Elder Thomas H. Dixon is a live wire for God and his Righteousness in these ends of the earth.

2:30 o'clock—Special music by orphan children from the Orphan's Home in N. C.

3:00—Dr. J. L. Welch from Nashville, Tenn., gave a very interesting report from the state of Tenn., very much being done in that state for God and His cause.

TUESDAY EVENING

7:00 o'clock—Song service by Brother Whitman. Devotional service by Rev. J. D. Byars.

7:30 o'clock—Sermon by Dr. J. L. Welch from Nashville, Tenn.,

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subject from the 5th chapter of 2nd Corinthians.

WEDNESDAY MORNING

9:00 o'clock—Song service by W. L. McAdams. Devotional conducted by Rev. J. L. Conner. Scripture reading Matthew 6:1-16. Prayer by Rev. J. H. Potts. Song. Prayer by Dr. J. L. Welch.

9:30 o'clock—The moderator called conference opened for business. Committees elected by the body as follows:

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

Rev. J. L. Conner, Rev. J. D. Byars and Rev. J. M. Haas.

Move in order for Resolution Committee to revise the Constitution as per report carried.

QUERRIE COMMITTEE. Rev. J. M. Haas, Brother J. M. Stokes and Brother A. F. Barnes. CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE: Brother M. L. McAdams, W. C. Lacy, M. J. Dupree.

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE: Rev. J. H. Potts, Rev. Joe S. Fredrick, Rev. H. D. Williams.

Called for Field Secretary's report which was made and received by adding the Cahaba River report which was made by letter. See report.

10:00 o'clock—Address by Sister Fannie Palston from Nashville, Tenn., on stewardship. Very ably and interestingly delivered.

10:30 o'clock—Song service. Special song by orphan children.

11 o'clock—Sermon by Dr. Welch from Nashville, Tenn. Subject "come over and help us."

12:00 o'clock—Adjourned for lunch.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

1:30—Song by M. L. McAdams. Devotional conducted by Rev. Joe S. Fredrick. Scripture reading 1 chapter of Psalms. Program by Rev. J. D. Byars. Community on scripture read. Prayer by Rev. Fredrick.

1:45 o'clock—Sister Palston asked ladies to retire to sister Whitman's home for ladies meeting with sister Fannie Palston on women's work, while the conference continued with business.

Move in order to hear report on Temperance made and received and committee discharged. See report.

Section One—Partial report of Resolution Committee as follows: Section One. Resolved that we send a delegate to the general conference which is to convene with Black Fork Church in North Carolina next June and that we pay \$10.00 conference dues out of the treasure.

Section Two—We further recommend that the clerk superintend the printing of the minutes and that we have 500 copies printed and distribute them to the best of his knowledge and that he be paid \$5.00 for his service.

Section Three—We recommend that \$2.50 be paid Rev. M. L. Hollis for expenses of printing programs.

Move in order to receive report thus far made and retain com-

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mittee. Move in order for nomination to elect delegate to General Conference, nominated Rev. M. L. Hollis which was elected.

Nominated J. M. Haas and Joe S. Frederick. Rev. Frederick elected alternate.

Move in order to recess 10 minutes before preaching.

2:30 o'clock—Song by congregation, prayer by Elder J. R. Bennett. Sermon by Eld. Thomas H. Dixon from Oklahoma.

WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICE

7:00 o'clock—Song service by Bro. W. L. McAdams, prayer by Rev. J. T. Conner. Picture slots and lecture by Eld. J. R. Bennett from orphan home at Middlesex, N. C., on care and management of home the congregation being so large Eld. Bennett gave the lecture to the second house full, which was very interesting, after which a public collection for home was taken, amounted to \$21.45.

THURSDAY MORNING

7:00 o'clock—Song service by Bro. W. L. McAdams. devotional service by Rev. J. E. Tilley, reading the 5th chapter of Galations, prayer by Rev. J. E. Tilley, commenting on Righteousness. Prayer by Rev. J. M. Haas. special prayer for sick sister by Rev. J. D. Byars.

7:30 o'clock—Business session called for report on finance read and received (see report.)

Called for report from Brother J. M. Stokes, who was appointed to get report from Mission Board Treasurer, Bro. Stokes reported failed to get report from treasurer except statement no money in treasurer received report and discharged Bro. Stokes.

Called for report on credential read and received (see report.)

Called for report on constitution and by-laws, report read and received (see report.)

Move in order for the clerk to have the \$2.75 balance in treasurer from last year for his service of last year carried.

Move in order to go into election of officers elected as follows: Rev. M. L. Hollis, Moderator, Tupelo, Miss., Rev. J. E. Tilley, Vice Moderator, Ethelville, Ala., Bro. L. E. Parker, Secretary-treasurer, Millport, Ala., Sister Nellie Dupree, Field Secretary, Guin, Ala.

Move in order to select place for the next session of the State Conference carried places that ask for conference, Mt. Harmony, Friendship, East Tupelo and Belk. Belk church gets the conference by a unanimous vote.

Move in order to adjourn to meet with Belk church Monday night after the 4th Sunday in October, 1935. 7:00 o'clock P. M. 28th-29th-30th.

11:00 o'clock—The closing sermon by Eld. Thomas H. Dixon from Oklahoma after which the parting hand was taken.

Rev. M. L. Hollis, Moderator,
L. E. Parker, Secretary.

LIST OF DELEGATES

Mt. Mariah Association, J. M. Stokes; Masedonia church W. L. McAdams; Belk church, H. D. Williams; Vernon Association, Rev. J. M. Haas; Mt. Harmony church, A. F. Barnes; Jasper Association, Bro. W. C. Lacy; Union Hill church, J. H. Feed; Mt. Pleasant church, G. W. Doss; Mt. Olive church, R. L. Johnson; ministers, Rev. J. D. Byars; Rev. J. E. Tilley; Rev. J. M. Haas; Rev. M. L. Hollis; Rev. Joe S. Frederick; Rev. J. L. Conner; Rev. J. H. Potts; Rev. A. L. Warren; Rev. J. F. Ashmore; Rev. Dewey Atkins; Rev. J. R. Williams. Visiting delegates and brothers and sisters from different states, Elder Thomas H. Dixon, Oklahoma; Eld. J. R. Bennett and wife, two orphan children from North Carolina; Dr. J. L. Welch, Sister Fannie Palston, Miss Agnes Cantrell from Nashville, Tenn.; Rev. O. D. Thomas from M. E. Church S. of Brilliant, Ala.

LIST OF MINISTER'S AND POSTOFFICE ADDRESS

Rev. J. D. Byars, Millport, Ala.; Rev. J. E. Tilley, Ethelville, Ala.; Rev. J. M. Haas, Tupelo, Miss.; Rev. M. L. Hollis, Tupelo, Miss.; Rev. Joe S. Frederick, Fayette, Ala.; Rev. J. L. Conner, Winfield, Ala., Rt. 3; Rev. J. H. Potts, Beaverton, Ala.; Rev. A. L. Warren, Brilliant, Ala.; Rev. J. F. Ashmore, Winfield, Ala., Rt. 3; Rev. Dewey Atkins, Winfield, Ala.; Rev. J. R. Williams, Brilliant, Ala.; Eld. Thomas H. Dixon, Hitchita, Okla.; Eld. J. R. Bennett, Middlesex, N. C.; Dr. J. L. Welch, Nashville, Tenn.; Bro. E. A. Price, to be licenstd, Bro. Dewey Johnson to be licensed, Bro. Dewey Atkins to be licensed.

FIELD SECRETARY REPORT

	1934	1933
Mt. Mariah Association churches	15	
Number of members	1772	1709
Number members deceased	14	19
Number of ministers	16	
Vernon Association churches	19	
Number members	969	909
Number members deceased	8	3
Number of ministers	9	
Jasper Association churches	28	
Number of members	1808	1756
Number of members deceased	11	16
Number of ministers	22	
Report value	\$10,450	\$9,750
Cahoba River Association churches	17	
Number of members	1045	
Number of ministers	17	
Number of members deceased	1	
Number of Sunday Schools	15	

Miss Nellie Dupree, Field Secretary.

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We your committee on credential finance all alright as per list of ministers, we find our preachers at peace with each other so far as we know we urge our preachers to preach the Bible and stand for the Free Will Baptist doctrine.

W. L. McAdams, Chairman.

REPORT OF TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

We your committee on temperance submit the following report:

1st. We recommend that our people continue to teach the doctrine of temperance and urge the people to refrain from the use of any form of intoxicating drinks and to be temperate in all of their habits.

2nd. That as a denomination we continue to stand behind the offer to keep our State dry and pledge our selves to work for national prohibition.

3rd. That our people support for office those men who are in favor of temperance and prohibition. We also wish to commend our officers who try to enforce the prohibition law.

Rev. J. H. Potts, Joe S. Frederick and H. D. Welham, com.

FINANCE REPORT

Vernon Association churches \$4.30; Mt. Harmony \$1.67; Friendship \$1.00; Damascus \$1.00; Beaverton \$1.00; Mt. Mariah Association \$4.85; Belk \$1.00; Masedonia \$1.00 Shiloh \$1.00 Jasper Association \$8.00; Union Hill \$1.00; Guin Springs \$1.00; Lane Star \$1.00; Union Chapel \$1.00; New Oak Grove \$1.00; Friendship \$1.00; Red Bay \$1.00; East Tupelo \$1.00 Mt. Pleasant \$1.00; Free Water \$1.00; Mt. Olive \$1.00; Total \$35.82; last year balance \$2.75; grand total \$38.57; paid out this session \$20.25; balance in treasurer \$18.32.

L. E. Parker, Treasurer.

REPORT ON RESOLUTIONS

1st. In reply to the request of the General Conference as to a statement of difference between the State Conference of Alabama and the Progressive Association. The Progressive Association does not now; nor at any time take the place of nor replace the State Conference which has been a continuous body for 25 or more years.

Resolved that we only resent injustice of violently taking our church property contrary to Christian practice.

2nd. We recommend that each preacher that is a member of this conference bring a years report of his work and bring one dollar from each church or have one delegate elected from each church to bring same.

3rd. We recommend that an offering be taken on each 5th Sunday from each church and same to be sent to Orphan's Home at Middlesex, North Carolina the pastor to be in charge of same.

4th We recommend an ammendment of by laws of section? So

as to read all deacons and church clerks shall be regular soanding delegates to the State Conference.

Resolved that we send a delegate to the General Conference that is to convene with Black Jack church in N. C. next June and that we pay the \$10.00 conference dues out of the treasure.

Also that the clerk superintend the printing of the minutes and that he have 500 hundred copies printed and distribute them to the best of his knowledge and that he be paid \$5.00 for his service, also \$2.50 be paid Rev. M. L. Hollis for printing of programs. Moved and carried by rising vote to return thanks to Brilliant-Boston church and community for tneir splendid hospitality and entertainment during the 1934 session. Report received as made and committee discharged.

Rev. J. L. Conner, Rev. J. D. Byars, Rev. J. M. Haas, com.

CONSTITUTION

From a long series of experience, we, the Association of Jesus Christ, being regularly baptised upon the profession of faith in Christ, are convinced of the necessity of combination of Associations to perpetuate a union and communion among us, and to preserve and maintain a correspondence with each other, we therefore purpose to keep order and rules of our Association according to the following plan of government.

1. The State Association shall be composed of five Messengers chosen by each District Association of this union and all regularly ordained ministers, Deacons and Association clerks.

2. Letters from different Associations shall express their number in fellowship, the number received by experience, letter or recommendation, dismissed, restored, and that have died since our last Association; and the name of the clerk, moderator, county postoffice, Sabbath of meeting, and the amount paid for Minute Fund.

3. The members thus chosen and convened, to be denominated the State Association of Free Will Baptists, being composed of the subordinate Associations of the State of Alabama, and the Association to have no power to Lord it over God's heritage, nor to have any ecclesiastical power of the Association, reservinv the right of withdrawing from any Association becoming disorderly.

4. The Association shall have a Moderator, Clerk and a Corresponding Clerk, who are to be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

5. New Associations may bt admitted into the Association by letter and delegates, of found orthodox in the faith of Free Will Baptists, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

6. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it be withdrawn by the members making it.

7. This Association is to endeavor to furnish the subordinate Associations with the minutes of this Association, in proportion to the number of members in each Association, the distribution being at the discretion of the Association.

8. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular file of the Minutes.

9. The Minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if needed, and signed by the Moderator and the Clerk before the Association closes.

10. The Association shall have a fund for her support, which shall supplied by voluntary contribution of the Association, whose duty it shall be to send it to the hands of the messengers, which money so sent shall be deposited in tht hands of the Treasury for that purpose and he shall be held accountable to the Association for all money received by him until paid out as they may direct.

11. The Association, in case of failure of any Association to attend, may inquire into the cause.

12. It is the duty of the Association to see after the union of the Associations.

13. Amendments to this plan of government may be made at any time when the majority of the members may deem it necessary.