

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**1945 SESSION**  
of the  
**ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE OF**  
**NORTH CAROLINA**  
of the  
(Original)  
**FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH**



1945  
FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS  
AYDEN, N. C.



MINUTES  
of the  
FIRST SESSION  
of the  
ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE OF NORTH  
CAROLINA  
of the  
(Original)  
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
held with  
SOUND SIDE CHURCH  
Tyrrell County, N. C., October 10 and 11, 1945

o———o

Rev. W. A. Hales.....Moderator  
Rev. R. P. Harris.....Clerk  
Rev. W. A. Hales.....Conference Host





## ROLL OF CHURCHES WITH THEIR CLERKS AND NEWLY ELECTED PASTORS

### Martin County—

Corinth—L. F. Waters, Clerk, Jamesville, N. C., W. L. Moretz, Pastor.

### Washington County—

Mt. Tabor—Mildred Ambrose, Clerk, Creswell, N. C., Herman Wooten, Pastor.

Mt. Olive—L. D. Ange, Clerk, Jamesville, N. C., W. L. Moretz, Pastor.

Mt. Zion—Cedia Ray Phelps, Clerk, Roper, N. C., W. H. Ivey, Pastor.

Union Chapel—J. H. Allen, Clerk, Plymouth, N. C., R. B. Spencer, Pastor.

Piney Grove—J. R. Forrest, Pastor.

### Tyrrell County—

Free Union—Mrs. Viva Spencer, Clerk, Columbia, N. C., L. E. Ambrose, Pastor.

Sound Side—E. B. Armstrong, Clerk, Columbia, N. C., J. W. Alford, Pastor.

Malachi's Chapel—C. A. Voliva, Clerk, Columbia, N. C., J. W. Alford, Pastor.

Gum Neck—B. O. Cohoon, Columbia, N. C., J. W. Alford, Pastor.

### Beaufort County—

Free Union—F. H. Woolard, Clerk, Pinetown, N. C., Duffy Toler, Pastor.

Trinity—A. W. Harris, Clerk, Pike Road, R. B. Spencer, Pastor.

Belhaven—Florence Dillon, Clerk, Belhaven, N. C., Kenneth Gaskill, Pastor.

Sidney—Agnes Edwards, Clerk, Ransonville, N. C., J. D. Vernelson, Pastor.

### Pasquotank County—

Elizabeth City—Mrs. John Copeland, Clerk, Elizabeth City, N. C., A. L. Reynolds, Pastor.

### Hertford County—

Hickory Chapel—Merton Early, Clerk, Ahoskie, N. C., P. C. Wiggs, Pastor.

### Virginia—

Norfolk—Robert M. Gradeless, Clerk, 2508 Lafayette Blvd., W. A. Hales, Pastor.

# PROCEEDINGS

The first Session of the North Carolina Albemarle Conference of the original Free Will Baptist Church convened with Sound Side Church, Tyrrell County, October 10 and 11, 1945.

Devotions were conducted by Rev. L. E. Ambrose.

Welcome address given by Rev. W. A. Hales, Pastor of the church. Response given by M. L. Ratcliff.

Rev. W. A. Hales, chairman of the committee on organization, made a few timely remarks regarding the work of the committee appointed by the Union meeting to draw up plans for the organizing of the conference. A report of the committee was given and then Brother Hales declared the business of completing the organization in order.

The electing of officers was as follows: Moderator, Rev. W. A. Hales; Vice-Moderator, A. L. Reynolds; Clerk, Rev. R. P. Harris; Treasurer, Rev. T. F. Davenport.

The following ministers took membership with the Conference: D. M. Ratcliff, R. C. Alexander, T. F. Davenport, R. P. Harris, W. E. Richardson, W. A. Hales, L. E. Ambrose. Licensed Ministers: R. C. Ambrose, M. A. Woolard, A. L. Reynolds.

## BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

**Executive Board**—Rev. W. A. Hales, Rev. A. L. Reynolds, Rev. R. P. Harris, Rev. T. F. Davenport, Mr. D. H. Furlough.

**Ordaining Council**—Rev. R. P. Harris, Rev. W. A. Hales, Rev. W. E. Richardson.

Business called off until after lunch.

Visiting ministers present recognized and given the privilege to speak included Rev. C. K. Wright, Methodist minister of Columbia, N. C., Revs. D. W. Alexander, W. A. Dail, of the Central Conference; Revs. J. W. Alford, J. A. Evans, of the Western Association; Rev. James E. Baker, Baptist Minister of Columbia, N. C.; Rev. J. C. Griffin of the Eastern Conference, and Miss Lona B. Weatherly, Missionary of the Episcopal Church, Creswell, N. C.

Mrs. L. E. Ballard led us in congregational singing.

Rev. J. W. Alford preached at eleven thirty o'clock, using as a subject, "Go Forward." Text: Exodus 14: 15.

An offering taken for the Orphanage amounted to \$31.37.

Rev. W. A. Hales made a few timely remarks regarding dinner, insuring everyone a welcome.

At 12:15 called off for dinner. Dismissed by prayer.

## WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

1:15 re-assembled.

Devotions by Rev. T. F. Davenport.

Solo by Mrs. L. E. Ballard.

Business session.

### ELECTION OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES COMPLETED

**Board of Education**—Rev. R. P. Harris, Mrs. W. A. Willoughby, Mrs. D. H. Furlough.

**Board of Trustees**—Rev. R. C. Alexander, Mr. W. A. Willoughby, Mr. M. L. Ratcliff.

**Board of Finance**—Mr. A. M. Reynolds, Rev. L. E. Ambrose, Mr. H. P. Swain.

**Mission Board**—Rev. W. A. Hales, Rev. A. L. Reynolds, Rev. W. E. Richardson.

**Sunday School Board**—Mr. D. H. Furlough, Mrs. A. M. Reynolds, Miss Alice Webster.

**Resolutions Committee**—Rev. R. C. Alexander, Mrs. Earl Jones, Mr. Robert M. Gradeless.

**Credentials Committee**—Mr. Robert L. Spencer, Rev. R. C. Alexander, Rev. T. F. Davenport.

On motion all **BOARDS** and **COMMITTEES** become standing **BOARDS** and **COMMITTEES**.

On motion the clerk purchase a book suitable for recording the minutes of the Conference and draw on treasury to pay for same.

On motion the Clerk shall receive thirty-five dollars for his services.

On motion the Clerk write to the Clerk of the Central Conference giving to him the names of the churches taking membership with this Conference.

Address on Assembly Grounds by Mrs. L. E. Ballard.

On motion the Clerk write to the Clerk of the Central Conference giving to him the names of the Ministers of the Central Conference taking membership with this Conference.

On motion the Finance Committee serve as the Appropriation Committee.

On motion the Conference issue identification cards and present them to all preachers taking membership with this Conference.

On motion business be called off until Thursday morning at nine-thirty.



## WEDNESDAY EVENING

At 7:30 Rev. W. A. Hales led in a prayer and praise service.

At 8:00 Rev. R. P. Harris preached, using as a subject, "The Strait Gate of the Kingdom." Text: Luke 13: 24.

## THURSDAY MORNING

Prayer, Praise and devotions led by Rev. A. L. Reynolds.

Business session.

On motion article seven in the By-Laws be altered substituting the word "vote" for the word "seat."

Roll call of ministers.

On motion the Moderator appoint a Reading Clerk. Rev. A. L. Reynolds was appointed.

Roll call of churches.

On motion the name of the newly elected pastor be placed on the report blank.

Report of Ordaining Council.

The Ordaining Council reported that they had examined Rev. L. E. Ambrose and recommended that he be ordained for the Gospel ministry.

Report adopted.

## ORDINATION SERVICE

Rev. W. A. Hales delivered the charge. Rev. R. P. Harris presented the Bible. Rev. W. E. Richardson led in the ordination prayer.

Rev. F. A. Rivenbark being absent, the Conference invited Rev. D. W. Alexander of Bethel, N. C., to preach in his stead.

Rev. D. W. Alexander preached a very interesting sermon using as a subject "Some of the Responsibilities of the members of this Conference and other Christians." Text: Romans 2: 19, 20.

An offering for Cragmont Assembly Grounds was taken and \$16.38 was received.

Called off for lunch at 12:00 o'clock.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON

1:00 re-assembled.

Devotions led by Rev. W. E. Richardson.

Business session.

On motion the report of the Resolutions Committee be adopted. See report.



On motion the report of the Educational Board be adopted. See report.

**Petitions**—On motion we accept the invitation of the Norfolk Church for the 1946 session of the Conference.

On motion we adopt the report of the Mission Board. See report.

On motion the report of the Committee on Finance be adopted. See report.

On motion the Clerk become a committee of one to arrange program for the 1946 session of the Conference.

The Moderator appointed the following delegates to represent us in other Conferences of the state.

**Western**—Rev. R. P. Harris.

**Eastern**—Mr. W. C. Brinson.

**Cape Fear**—Mrs. Earl Jones.

**Central Conference**—Rev. R. P. Harris.

**State Association**—Mr. A. M. Reynolds and Mr. C. A. Voliva.

On motion the report of the Sunday School Board be adopted. See report.

Orphanage address by Rev. J. A. Evans. Brother Evans stated that the Home was progressing nicely, that the erection of a chapel building has been ordered by the Board and that the erection of the Boys' Cottage will begin soon. He stated that seventy-seven boys and girls are inmates of the home now, and that more are on the waiting list.

On motion Rev. R. P. Harris work with the committee of the Orphanage in planning the Cottage Building for the boys.

On motion report of the Treasurer be adopted.

On motion a rising vote of thanks be extended to this church and community for the very fine manner they have entertained this Conference.

On motion the Conference close until the 1946 session to be held with the Norfolk church October 9 and 10, 1946.

Conference closed with prayer and praise.

## — R E P O R T S —

### SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD

We, the Sunday School Board, recommend that the churches not having Sunday Schools organize same and represent at the next sitting of the Conference and that our Sunday Schools put forth a special effort to increase their attendance at Sunday School and church services. We also recommend that our local Schools petition the Lord to help them elect officers and teachers that will work more efficiently in His cause.

Mr. D. H. Furlough,  
Mrs. A. M. Reynolds,  
Miss Alice Webster.

### MISSION BOARD

God's Word says "Ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth," Acts 1: 8.

As your committee on missions, we wish to recommend that this Conference launch a definite Home Mission program in this district, that the Gospel may be preached and non enlisted souls be brought into the kingdom of God.

We further recommend that this Conference join with our State and National program of Home and Foreign mission work.

Mrs. L. E. Ballard,  
(for W. A. Hales)  
A. L. Reynolds,  
W. E. Richardson.

### EDUCATIONAL BOARD

Resolve that we indorse the action of the National Association with regards to the \$100,000 campaign to expand and promote the educational program of the College, that this Conference raise \$200.00 during the year to be applied on the \$20,000 quota for North Carolina, and that each church raise \$12.50 for this cause as early as possible.

J. A. Harris,  
(for R. P. Harris)  
Mrs. W. A. Willoughby,  
Mrs. D. H. Furlough.

### RESOLUTION

Resolve that the Executive Board of this Conference be asked to study the mission needs of this district and to take necessary steps to rightly place a man on the field whose job it shall be to serve as organizer, evangelist, and

field worker, making ample reports to this Executive Board.

Offered by R. P. Harris.

Committee:

R. C. Alexander,  
Mrs. Earl Jones,  
Robert M. Gradeless.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Received from churches -----	\$131.25
Collection for Orphanage -----	31.37
Collection for Cragmont -----	16.38
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Total received at this Conference -----	\$179.00

#### Disbursements

Total for Orphanage -----	\$ 50.00
Total for Cragmont Assembly Grounds -----	25.00
Clerk -----	35.00
Minutes -----	30.00
Report blanks, Constitution and By-Laws, (Printing) -----	7.00
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Total paid out -----	\$147.00
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Balance on hand -----	\$ 32.00

H. P. Swain,  
L. E. Ambrose,  
A. M. Reynolds,  
Committee.



# STATISTICAL TABLE

Church	County	Delegates	Died	Rec'd. by Letter	Baptized	Dismissed	Excommunicated	No. Members	Contribution	No. Minutes
Corinth-----	Martin-----	By Letter-----	--	--	--	--	--	98	\$10.00	15
Mt. Tabor-----	Washington-----	D. H. Furlough, C. E. Barnes-----	1	1	1	1	--	221	5.25	15
Mt. Zion-----	Washington-----	Not Represented-----	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5
Mt. Olive-----	Washington-----	Wheeler Ange-----	2	--	6	3	--	97	5.00	10
Free Union-----	Tyrrell-----	C. G. Simmons, H. C. Ainsley-----	--	2	12	--	--	44	2.50	10
Sound Side-----	Tyrrell-----	A. W. Brickhouse, F. C. Brickhouse-----	1	--	8	2	--	140	12.50	15
Malachi's Chapel-----	Tyrrell-----	R. L. Spencer, H. P. Swain-----	2	--	31	6	--	347	10.00	20
Free Union-----	Beaufort-----	M. L. Ratcliff, L. B. Keech-----	4	--	19	2	--	406	25.00	20
Trinity-----	Beaufort-----	J. A. Harris, M. H. Barnett-----	1	--	--	--	--	73	15.00	10
Belhaven-----	Beaufort-----	Brinson, Emma Merriner-----	--	2	5	--	--	50	10.00	10
Sidney-----	Beaufort-----	By Letter-----	1	1	8	4	--	105	6.00	15
Elizabeth City-----	Pasquotank-----	Mrs. John M. Copeland-----	2	12	11	1	--	125	5.00	15
Hickory Chapel-----	Hertford-----	W. A. Willoughby-----	1	1	5	3	--	164	10.00	15
Norfolk-----	State of Virginia-----	Wilton Dail, Mrs. Earl Jones-----	--	6	2	8	--	60	15.00	15



## THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION OF THE ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

The Women's Auxiliary Convention of the Albemarle District met with Belhaven Church October 4, 1945. The meeting was opened by singing "Help Somebody Today." Prayer was offered by Mr. W. C. Brinson. The Theme for the day was "Making His Way Known."

The President, Mrs. Edwin Roper, gave a very interesting talk on the theme. The devotional was given by Mrs. Archie Willoughby. Prayer was offered by Rev. W. A. Hales.

An interesting talk was given by Mrs. Dennis A. Swain. She used for her subject "Making His Way Known Through Prayer."

Another interesting talk was given by Rev. W. A. Hales. He used for his subject "Making His Way Known Through Our Talents."

We were favored with a duet by "Dot" McHarney and Joyce Russ,

Mrs. Ballard made an interesting talk, using for her subject, "Making His Way Known Through Love." Prayer was offered by Mrs. Edwin Roper.

The President appointed Mrs. D. H. Furlough as friendship committee. An offering was taken and \$23.77 was received. Mr. W. A. Willoughby offered thanks for the offering and pronounced the benediction.

### AFTERNOON SESSION

The afternoon session was opened by singing "I Want to Be A Worker." The devotional was conducted by Mrs. J. A. Alexander. Rev. W. A. Hales was the only minister with us in our meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The list of churches was called and the following responded:

Shiloh, by letter -----	\$ 5.00
Free Union, Miss Nellie Webster -----	8.21
Sidney, Margie Daw -----	8.75
Malachi's Chapel, Mrs. Alton Reynolds -----	21.60
Norfolk, Mrs. Bertha Ange -----	10.00
Trinity, Mrs. C. B. Cooper -----	1.00
Belhaven, Miss Lenoir Mercer -----	5.00
Mt. Tabor, Mrs. L. E. Ambrose -----	6.50
St. Paul, by letter -----	2.00
Malachi's Chapel Welcome S. S. Bible Class, Mrs. Dennis Swain -----	5.00
<b>Total Receipts -----</b>	<b>\$71.06</b>

### Disbursements

Convention expense -----	\$ 6.25
Christian Education -----	7.25
Orphanage -----	17.75
Extension work -----	.75
Superannuation -----	7.50
Missions -----	10.00
10 Per Cent Capita dues to District -----	3.81
20 Per Cent Capita dues to State -----	1.25
Boy's Building at Orphanage -----	15.00

Mr. Hales stated that the minutes of the Albemarle Auxiliary Convention could be printed in with the minutes of the Albemarle Conference.

A motion was carried petitioning the Albemarle Conference to allow the annual session of the Women's Auxiliary Convention to be held with them. Mrs. Edwin Roper was appointed delegate to take this petition to the Conference.

Mrs. Ballard brought greetings from the State Auxiliary Convention and she also explained the \$50,000.00 Co-laborer plan as offered by the National Unified program. This plan calls for \$2.00 or more each month and is to be sent to Mrs. Herman Nobles, Greenville, N. C. This amount covers all offerings due the National Treasurer to be used for National Education, Foreign Missions, Home Missions, and Superannuation. Each department will receive their pro-rata part.

Mrs. J. H. Harrison, Mrs. Jennie Brinson and Mrs. Archie Willoughby were appointed Apportionment Committee.

On motion the "Welcome Bible Class" of Malachi's Chapel be admitted as a member of this Convention.

Mrs. L. E. Ballard brought a message in song.

A brief report was given of the State Auxiliary Convention by our delegate who attended.

### REPORT OF VICE-PRESIDENTS

1st. Vice-President, Mrs. Archie Willoughby, Ahoskie, N. C.

2nd. Vice-President, Mrs. Alton Reynolds, Columbia, N. C.

3rd Vice-President, Mrs. Robert Gradeless, 2508 Lafayette Blvd., Norfolk, Va.

4th. Vice-President, Mrs. W. A. Rhem, Pinetown, N. C.

5th. Vice-President, Mrs. John Copeland, Elizabeth City, N. C.

6th. Vice-President, Mrs. H. I. Fowler, Elizabeth City, N. C.

Mrs. Ballard spoke concerning the Orphanage. Mr. Hales made a few remarks regarding his leaving Tyrrell County and going to the Norfolk church.

On motion the treasurer's report was accepted.

Miss Lona B. Weatherly, Missionary of the Episcopal Church, was a visitor with us in this convention. An expression of appreciation to the Belhaven church for the fine way they entertained the Convention was made by Mrs. D. H. Furlough.

On motion the meeting close to meet with the Sidney Church the first Thursday in April, 1946. Rev. W. A. Hales pronounced the benediction.

Mrs. Edwin Rojer, President.  
Miss Alice Webster, Secretary.





