

PROCEEDINGS:

OF THE THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE ARKANSAS STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST

The Ministers, Deacons, Delegates, and Associational Clerks composing that part of the Church of God or Christ, commonly known as Free Will Baptist of the Arkansas State Association, met in annual conference with Harmony Church, near Aye, Cleveland County, October 3-6, 1935.

The inception was marked by a large and enthusiastic confluence of people. This spirit prevailed throughout the entire session.

The people of the Harmony community, assisted by the Saline Association, had made arrangements to serve the noon and evening meals on the Church ground. The arrangements were well carried out in a cooperative manner.

The Insignia: Badges of honor were pinned on the conventional messengers from the several subordinate associations.

While waiting upon committee reports at intervals and in the devotional services, the Stamps Sunbeam Quartet directed by Luther G. Presley and the Hartford Quartet directed by J. A. McClung rendered some special numbers to the spiritual delight of the congregation. The entire session was marked with good singing by other leaders.

THURSDAY EVENING

Exordium: Eld. W. M. Guinn conducted the introductory song service. Eld. W. A. Hearron led the evening prayer. Eld. L. C. Doyle preached the introductory sermon. Scriptural lesson, Rom. 12:1-5. Theme, The Church and the ~~Millennium~~ Millennium. The Moderator, Eld. J. D. Doyle, announced the appointment of the following committees:

Pulpit - Bro. J. H. Harrelson, and Sisters I. J. Brooks and Kate Sutton.

Credential - E. O. Wright, J. D. Coffman, A. T. Blanks.

Eld. A. N. Best pronounced the benediction.

FRIDAY MORNING

The Associational body convened at 8:30, with singing by the congregation and prayer by J. S. Lovett. The Moderator read for a lesson, Heb. 12. Eld. W. P. White gave the Welcome address.

The roll of Associations was called. The Credential committee was dismissed for consultation.

The Assembly adopted a form of a systematic program for ensuing associational state conventions.

The committee on Credentials made a partial report and the delegates mentioned therein were seated in conference by the usual greeting.

Organization being perfected, the Moderator declared nominations in order of the election of officers for the ensuing Associational year. The incumbents, Moderator, J. D. Doyle and Clerk, Ralph Staten were retained respectively, by acclamation. Eld. W. A. Hearron was elected as Assistant-Moderator.

The Moderator read the rules of Decorum.

The Moderator announced the appointment of the following committees:

Resolutions - R. D. Smith, W. P. White, C. E. Riggs, J. R. Hartley, W. S. Isbell.

Finance - Bros. J. M. Holleman, J. A. Bradley, T. L. Tackett and Sisters W. P. White, W. A. Hearron.

Temperance - Roy Moore, Ray Watkins, Roy Hughes.

Sabbath Schools - Edith Collins, Silas Woodard, W. F. McGee.

Obituary - Cliff Dyer, A. N. Best, Herbert Holleman.

Non-Represented Associations - J. E. White, J. E. Pratt, John Reel.

Union of Associations - E. J. O'Neal, O. A. Ashcraft, Edd Sutton.

Standing Church Polity and Doctrine - W. A. Hearron, L. C. Doyle, R. M. Johnson.

Program - W. M. Guinn, ~~W. C. Halcombe~~, W. C. Halcombe, J. D. Coffman.

Petitions and Requests - B. H. McClellan, W. B. Caudle, O. H. Doss.

S. L. Woodard, Warren, Ark.; was elected Corresponding Clerk and Treasurer.

W. F. McGee, Joe Phillips, R. D. Smith were retained on the Evangelistical Fund committee.

The Moderator appointed the following on the Auditing Committee:-Walter Moore, Lonnie Brown, R.B. Venable.

Business adjourned till 1:00 Saturday afternoon.

THE ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Eld. W.A. Hearron directed the song service. Eld. W.M. Guinn led in Prayer. The morning sermon was delivered in the person of Eld. J.D. Coffman. Subject- "Oneness of God's plan, and God's plan of the Oneness. Scriptural reading, Jno. 17. Text, Eph. 4:5. W.M. Guinn pronounced the benediction.

Friday AFTERNOON SESSION

The Assembly resumed business pursuant to dismissal. Eld. J.A. Hartley gave the opening prayer.

Motion sustained that the body go on record approving of the \$7.00 that W.M. Guinn, Corresponding Clerk, used in the defrayal of the State Associational sustenance expenses.

The report of the committee on Union of Associations was adopted as ^{read} and the said committee discharged.

By special request J.D. Coffman played and sang "Jacobs Ladder".

The following were elected as delegates to represent this body in the National Association:- L.C. Doyle, A.T. Blanks, Ralph Staten, J.E. White, Edith Collins.

The following young ministers made short talks:- J.E. Pratt, J.M. Holleman, John Reel, O.H. Doss, Roy Hughes..

Resolution No. 1 was adopted as read. See resolutions.

Ray Watkins made a very timely talk.

Resolution No. 2 was adopted as read. See resolutions.

~~Dismissed until~~

By motion the conference recessed until Saturday morning 8:30 A.M.

FRIDAY EVENING SERVICES

The song services were directed by J.A. McClung and L.G. Presley. A testimonial service was conducted by Eld. C.E. Riggs. Eld. Ralph Staten gave the evening prayer. The evening sermon was given in the person of Eld. W.A. Hearron. Subject, 'The Baptism of the Holy Ghost'. Eld. J.D. Doyle pronounced the benediction.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The Association opened with praise by T.L. Taskett and prayer by R.M. Johnson.

The report of the committee on Sabbath Schools was adopted as read and the said committee was discharged.

The amendment to the program form was adopted as read. See program form.

Eld. C.E. Wilson was appointed to fill the vacancy of Eld. R.B. Venable on the Auditing committee.

Resolution No. 3 was adopted as read. See resolutions.

Motion prevailed that W.M. Guinn be empowered to pay out of the general fund the sum of \$4.50, to pay for the badges.

The report of the committee on Non-Represented Associations was adopted as read and the said committee discharged.

The committee on Obituary made a report which was adopted as read and the said committee discharged.

The committee on Credentials made a report which was adopted as read.

The business was dismissed until 1:00 P.M.

SATURDAY ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

The Memorial service was opened with singing directed by W.M. Guinn. Eld. C.E. Wilson preached the Memorial sermon. Text, Phil. 1:8. Eld. J.A. Hartley pronounced the benediction.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The Assembly convened pursuant to dismissal. The song service was directed by Lonnie Pace. Eld. O.A. Ashcraft led the afternoon prayer.

The report of the committee on Temperance was adopted as read and the said committee discharged.

The report of the committee on Petitions and Requests was adopted as read and the committee discharged.

The final report of the committee on Credentials was adopted as read and the said committee discharged.

Motion seconded that the Clerk be empowered to ~~dis~~ ^{dis} ~~miss~~ ^{dismiss} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~meeting~~ ^{meeting} of the

badges and that the Corresponding Clerk and Treasurer be empowered to pay out of the general fund the sum required to have the badges made.

A report of W.M.Guinn, one of the state evangelist, was made. The report was adopted as read. ^{the} ~~stipulated~~ ^{\$10.} ~~money~~

Motion sustained that W.M.Guinn be empowered to use ^(A) the stipulated sum of ~~(money)~~ out of the Tent Fund to pay the rent on the use of the tent of Eld.Gattlen.

The committee on Church Polity and Doctrine gave a verbal report and have delayed the final report until the next Associational meeting.

The evangelist report of J.R.Hartley and request for reindorsement was adopted as read.

Evangelist E.C.Doyle gave a verbal report of his labors and was retained as a state evangelist for the ensuing year.

Resolution No.4 was adopted as read and the committee on resolutions discharge

The report of the Program committee was adopted as read and said committee was discharged.

Motioned and seconded that the Association go on record in indorsing Bro. Luther G.Presley as one of our distinguished song writers.

W.A.Hearron and W.P.White were indorsed as additional state evangelists.

The report of the Auditing committee was adopted as read and the said committee was discharged.

Motion sustained that the Burial Fund, 10¢ per member, and the Tent Fund, 10¢ per member, campaign be continued another year.

Bro.and Sister W.A.Hearron were elected as State Corresponding delegates to the Oklahoma State Association of Free Will Baptist.

The Association dismissed until 6:15 P.M.

SATURDAY EVENING SERVICES

The devotional services were conducted by Eld.A.N.Best. Sister C.E.Wilson led the evening prayer. The evening sermon was delivered in the person of Eld. J.D.Doyle. Text, John 3:14-15. The Clerk read the resolution of Thanks and pronounced the adjournment prayer.

RESOLUTIONS

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1. Be it Resolved that the State Association ask each Church in the state to pay (\$1.00), one dollar, per year to the Corresponding Clerk and Treasurer. The sum collected to be divided as follows: 50¢ be used for the publication and distribution of the Minutes; and the other 50¢ be sent to the Church where the next Association will convene for the purpose of defraying the State Association-al expenses. If there should be an insufficient amount sent in, the said amount is to be collected when the State Association meets.
2. Be it Resolved that the Credential committee be abolished by this body and that the said body recommend that each associational letter be read by the Clerk and be received or rejected as read by the associational body.
3. Be it Resolved that this Associational body ^{two} representative men of our doctrine in addition to the elected delegates to the National Association to assist the delegation in safeguarding the fundamental principles of the faith, doctrine and practice of the Free Will Baptist people.
4. We, the Arkansas State Association, of Free Will Baptist, wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to Eld. Gattlen for his kindness in letting us use his tent during this session of the Association, and we pray that God's richest blessings may rest upon him in the days to come.

Committee, R.D. Smith, W.P. White, J.R. Hartley, C.E. Riggs, W.S. Isbell.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

We very gratefully extend to Harmony community and Church and the Saline Association our most heartfelt thanks for their hospitality during our stay with them. We feel that the efforts that you have made for our comfort and happiness while with you has never been excelled. You are to be congratulated and deserve much credit for your untiring efforts in caring for this great assembly in such a liberal manner.

We further wish, to thank Bro. McClung and his quartett and Bro. Presley and his Melody Sunbeam quartet and all other good singers for the splended music rendered, which was so inspiring and upbuilding in the service.

May God's richest blessings rest upon you all.

Committee, R.D. Smith, W.P. White, J.R. Hartley, C.E. Riggs, W.S. Isbell.

MESSENGERS' ENROLLMENT

Saline - Will Harrelston, J.E. Funderburg, E.H. Willis, Dallas Jones, S.T. Rowell.
 Zion Hope No. 1 - W.B. Caudle, C.T. Marble.
 Social Band - Edd Sutton, Kate Sutton, Beulah Staten.
 Little Missouri River - E.J. O'Neal, Ollie, Edith, and Doyce Jones, Sister W.A. Hear
 Polk Bayou - Sister L.C. Doyle, A.T. Blanks, George Dillion, Bro. and Sister Ferguson
 Antioch - T.L. Tackett, J.J. West, Jess Looper, Ira Wright, A.R. Lowery.
 New Hope - Sister C.E. Wilson, Bertha Tulas, Opal Maddox, Gladys Beck, J.M. Holleman
 Big Springs - Delbert Davis.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

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SABBATH SCHOOLS: We your committee on Sabbath Schools submit the following report: We find that there is a growing interest of Sabbath School work throughout the state. Yet, in some places, a lack of interest prevails and we are forced to believe that no vision accompany these people where lack of Sunday School interest prevails. We believe that the Free Will Baptist plan is more in harmony with the teachings of the Bible and historical events. Therefore we urge that our literature, (Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, N.C.), be used as much as possible throughout the state in the Sunday School work. We have found that some of our local associations are holding rallies or conventions toward the growth of Sunday Schools and, we, as a committee, ask other associations to adopt the same plans. Four associations report a membership of 1,796 students. We urge that our state convention of Sabbath Schools be revived in full support. Too, we urge the local associations to report in the next annual state meeting.

Committee-Edith Collins, Silas Woodard, W.F. McGee.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS: We your committee on Petitions and Requests beg leave to submit the following as associations which have given an invitation for the 39th session of this state associations: There has been one invitation: The Alice Brook's Church at Sharum, in Randolph County, of Social Band Association. We recommend that this invitation be considered by this body and be selected to entertain the 39th sitting of this Associational assembly.

Committee, -W.B. Caudle, O.H. Doss, B.H. McClellan.

UNION OF ASSOCIATIONS -We your committee on Union of Associations submit the following report: We have found upon investigation of the representatives of the several associations that their doctrine and practice is in harmony with the teaching of the sacred Scriptures. We pray that such harmony be maintained and that such harmony fruit into one great brotherhood of fellowship with one another.

Committee, -Edd Sutton, E.J. O'Neal, C.A. Ashcraft.

NON*REPRESENTED ASSOCIATIONS - We your committee on Non-Represented Associations submit the following as our report: We have found that the following, eight in number, were represented in this session of the Association: -Saline, New Hope, Little Missouri River, Polk Bayou, Big Springs, Antioch, Social Band, Zion Hope No. 1. There were six associations which were not represented and we pray that there be such possibilities presented to them that they may avail themselves of the opportunity to attend and represent in our next Associational meeting.

Committee - J.E. White, J.E. Pratt, J.L. Reel.

TEMPERANCE - We, that part of the Church of God of the people commonly known as Free Will Baptist of Arkansas, stood firmly for the retention of the eighteenth amendment and pledged our support to all in authority for the enforcement of the prohibition laws. We most emphatically deny that the eighteenth amendment was in any way responsible for the great crime wave now existing; while we have opposed any entangling political alliances, we call upon all of our members in their individual capacities to vote against all persons running on wet platforms or known to be wet themselves. We urge our members to boldly and freely use their rights as American citizens; the only way that will count for or against this great issue. We cordially invite the cooperation of all other denominations or creeds who wish to stand for good morals and laws to protect them in this beloved nation of ours; which was purchased by the blood of our forefathers and handed to us with its wonderful laws to govern.

Be it further resolved: That we don't want any revenue that is derived from any intoxicating beverages, red light districts, or any other immoral institutions of destructive elements for the sustenance of our institutions of learning. We believe that these institutions can and should function from revenues obtained from property and corporation that are creditable and we can point to with pride.

Committee - A.M. Moore, Ray Watkins, Roy Hughes.