MINUTES

OF THE

Fifty-Seventh Annual Session

OF THE

ARKANSAS STATE ASSOCIATION

OF

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

AT THE

WILLOUGHBY CHURCH

Saline Association

WARREN, ARKANSAS

September 30-October 1, 1954



The next regular Annual Session will convene with the Pocahontas Church, Pocahontas, Arkansas, Social Band Association, beginning Wednesday evening, September 28, 1955.

> REV. OTHEL T. DIXON, Moderator Russellville, Arkansas

> BRO. R. D. SMITH, Clerk-Treasurer New Hope, Arkansas

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OFFICERS

Moderator—Rev. Othel T. Dixon Assistant—Rev. Ray Watkins Clerk-Treasurer—Bro. R. D. Smith Assistant—Bro. H. P. Brown Corresponding Clerk—Rev. Lewis Barker Assistant—Rev. J. C. Rawls	Rt. 2. Newport, Ark. New Hope, Ark. Russellville, Ark. New Edinburg, Ark.	
EXECUTIVE BOARD		
Rev. Lonnie Coffman—5 Years Rev. J. Reford Wilson—4 Years Rev. J. E. White—3 Years Rev. Tom Day—2 Years Rev. Ray Watkins—1 Year	Pocahontas, Ark. New Edinburg, Ark. Rt. 4, Springdale, Ark.	
GENERAL HOME MISSION BOARD		
Rev. Lonnie Coffman—5 Years Bro. Grady Linebaugh—4 Years Bro. Earl Smith—3 Years Rev. R. G. Lane—2 Years Rev. Vandella Voss—1 Year	Walnut Ridge, Ark. Pocahontas, Ark. Conway, Ark.	
HOME MISSION DIRECTOR		
Rev. Othel T. Dixon 868 N. Ark	•	
Rev. Rupert Pixley Rev. Wayne Tucker	Fort Smith, Ark.	
Rev. C. O. Garrison	Huntsville, Ark.	
Rev. C. O. Garrison STATE LEAGUE DIRECT	Huntsville, Ark.	

PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 29, 1954

The Fifty-Seventh Annual Session of the Arkansas State Association of Free Will Baptists was called to order by the Clerk, R. D. Smith of New Hope, Ark., who gave us a preview of the origin and progress of our Denomination.

Three grand old hymns rang out from the auditorium of the Willoughby Church in spiritual melody, led by Rev. Stanton White, assisted by Miss Geneva Doggett at the piano.

The Rev. George Been led in the opening invocation, and Rev. J.

E. White gave the Scripture and comments.

The Clerk introduced the Rev. Othel T. Dixon of Russellville, Moderator of the Association who gave the usual welcome and appointed the credentials and pulpit committees.

Special song, the Pace sisters.

Quartette, "I'm Redeemed," the Doggett family.

Prayer, the Rev. Glen G. Dipboye.

We sang the song, "Just a Little While."

Invocation, Rev. Reedy Saverance.

The Moderator introduced Rev. W. S. Isbell of Russellville, who gave a brief history of our State Association and brought the keynote address using the subject, "Seeing Ourselves as a State Association as God Sees Us." Text Judges 7:21.

Closing remarks were made by the Moderator.

Placement of visitors—Pastor of the host church, Rev. Reedy Saverance.

The benediction was spoken by Rev. Lewis Barker.

THURSDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 30, 1954

Called to order at 9:00 by the Moderator.

The devotional services and prayer were led by the Rev. W. F. Pritchett. He used as Scripture for his devotional thought Psalms 1. Rules of Order read by the Moderator. Reading of the Constitu-

tion by Bro. Henry Brown.

Program read from the Clerk's desk, and adopted with a few minor changes.

Motion sustained to receive partial report of the Credentials com-

mittee and retain them.

Rev. William Mishler, our Promotional Secretary of the National Sunday School Department, was recognized by the body.

The right hand of fellowship was extended while the congrega-

tion sang "In the Light."

Welcome address, Rev. Reedy Saverance, pastor of the host church. Response, Rev. Rupert Pixley.

Rev. Ray Watkins led in prayer.

Upon duly sustained motion, the Woman's Auxiliary report was received, as read by Sister Henry Brown.

Rev. Damond C. Dodd, Promotional Secretary, National Home Mission Board, recognized by the body.

Adjournment for 11:00 worship.

11:00 O'CLOCK WORSHIP SERVICE

We sang the song "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms." Rev. W. F.

McGee led the devotional prayer.

Sermon, Rev. William Mishler, Promotional Secretary, National Sunday School Department, reading from Gen. 15-Mark 9 scripture to sustain his thoughts, and using for his subject "Sunday Schools As An Investment."

Benediction, Rev. Tom Day.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, SEPTEMBER 30, 1954

After the song "Amazing Grace" and prayer by Rev. H. E. Taylor, Rev. V. B. True brought the afternoon devotions, reading scripture from Psalms 125 to sustain his devotional thoughts.

"The Outlook for Sunday Schools," Rev. William Mishler, Promo-

tional Secretary of the National Sunday School Department.

Motion sustained to receive report of the Sunday School committee, as read, and discharge them.

Motion sustained to receive written report of Rev. Raymond Riggs, as read by the Moderator.

Motion sustained to receive report of the Land Purchasing committee.

The need for State Home Missions, presented by Rev. R. G. Lane. Short sermon on National Home Missions, by the Rev. Damond C. Dodd, Promoional Secretary of the Naional Home Mission Department.

Motion sustained to receive partial report on Home Missions presented by Rev. R. G. Lane.

Motion for adjournment sustained. Benediction, Rev. Damond C. Dodd.

THURSDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 30, 1954

We sang the song, "Camping in Canaan." Rev. J. W. Moore led the evening prayer. Special song by the host church trio.

Prayer, the Rev. Thomas H. Dix of Oklahoma. Offering for the General State Fund. \$53.47.

The song "I Want to Be a Soul Winner for Jesus," led by Bro. Leonard Doggett.

Bro. Henry Brown led in the evening devotions.

Quartette by the Jefferys, "When We Reach Heaven."

Rev. Rupert Pixley was introduced by the Moderator and spoke a soul-stirring sermon, using the scripture text Matt. 16:16. We witnessed several conversions and rededications in this service.

Benediction, spoken by the Rev. George Been.

FRIDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 1, 1954

For the opening song we sang "The Royal Telephone," led by Sister Marie Turner, with Sister Ann Romack at the piano.

Rev. Ira Gates led the morning devotions, reading scripture from Luke 10.

Rev. Rupert Pixley led the devotional prayer.

The Moderator took charge and called for the first business item, which was talks on our college work to improve it, by Rev. and Mrs. Lonnie Coffman.

Response, the Rev. Reedy Saverance.

Motion made and sustained to enter the minutes a letter from our Assistant Moderator, the Rev. J. Reford Wilson, as read from the Clerk's desk.

Motion sustained, that as Rev. Wayne Tucker, Foreign Mission Director, is not present, Rev. Opie Hargrave shall substitute in his place. Motion sustained to receive the written report of our State Statistician, the Rev. George Been. Motion sustained to receive the Ministers' Diary committee report. Motion sustained to receive the Obituary committee's report, and discharge them.

Program committee elected as follows: Rev. Lewis Barker, Bro.

Henry Brown, Rev. Reedy Saverance.

Rev. Lonnie Coffman elected Home Mission Board member—fiveyear term.

Rev. Othel T. Dixon elected Home Mission Director.

Foreign Mission Board members elected as follows: Rev. Rupert

Pixley, Director; Rev. Cecil Garrison, Rev. Wayne Tucker.

The Free Will Baptist Church of Pocahontas was selected to entertain the next regular annual session our our State Association, beginning Wednesday evening, September 28, 1955.

Motion sustained for adjournment. Benediction by the Rev.

Thomas H. Dixon.

FRIDAY 11:00 O'CLOCK WORSHIP SERVICE

We sang the song, "I'll Live in Glory." Rev. R. M. Moon led in prayer.

Rev. Ray Watkins was introduced by the Moderator, and delivered the memorial message, reading scripture from Matt. 16, using as his text scripture John 16:16, and the theme "A Little While."

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 1, 1954

Devotions for the afternoon session were conducted by the Rev. Cecil Sanders. We sang the song "Amazing Grace."

Rev. W. F. McGee led the afternoon prayer.

Motion made and sustained that we elect someone as member of the Executive Board for a five-year term, to fill the vacancy created by the retiring member, Rev. Wayne Tucker. Rev. Lonnie Coffman was elected to fill the vacancy.

Report of the Non-Represented Associations committee received by duly sustained motion, and the committee discharged. Rev. W. F. Pritchett was elected to deliver the keynote message at the next regular annual session of our Association; Rev. Tom Day, alternate.

Rev. Rupert Pixley was elected to speak the memorial message; Rev. Cecil Garrison, alternate.

Rev. Cecil Sanders was elected to deliver the evangelical message, with the Rev. Othel T. Dixon as alternate.

Motion sustained to receive the report of the General Home Mission Board.

Motion sustained to receive the report on Home Missions, with recommendations offered by the Rev. R. G. Lane.

Motion sustained to receive report of the Auditing committee, and discharge them.

Motion sustained to receive the Finance committee report, and discharge them.

Motion sustained to receive report of the Sunday School committee, and discharge them.

Motion sustained to receive some amendments to the report on Missions, as presented by the Rev. Opie Hargraves.

Motion sustained that we proceed to elect delegates to the National Association.

Delegates elected as follows: Bro. Henry Brown, Bro. Clifford Sawrie, Sister Ann Romack, Sister C. E. Wilson, Sister Aubrey Lord, Sister Frank Revier, Sister Joyce White, Sister Margaret Dixon, Sister Clifford Sawrie, Sister W. F. Pritchett.

Alternates: Sister Henry Brown, Sister W. S. White, Sister Lonnie Coffman, Sister Cecil Sanders, Bro. Levi Pennington, Bro. Raymond McNutt, Bro. Jack Sexton, Bro. A. D. Furgerson, Bro. H. B. Doyle.

Motion sustained to proceed with the election of officers for the next Associational year. Election as follows:

Rev. Othel T. Dixon, Moderator, Russellville.

Rev. Ray Watkins, Assistant Moderator.

Bro. R. D. Smith, Clerk-Treasurer, New Hope.

Bro. Henry Brown, Assistant.

Rev. Lewis Barker, Corresponding Clerk. New Edinburg.

Rev. J. C. Rawls, Assistant.

Rev. George Been, State Statistician, Springdale. Rev. G. W. Million, State Historian, Pocahontas.

Rev. Othel T. Dixon, Corresponding Delegate to the Oklahoma State Association.

Bro. Henry Brown, State Sunday School contact man, Russellville. Motion made and sustained that we extend to Rev. W. H. Doyle our gratitude for his faithful service as Assistant Moderator.

Motion made and sustained for the program committee to have full control of arranging the program and printing the pamphlets. Motion made and sustained authorizing the Clerk to have 3,000 State Minutes printed.

Motion made and sustained, asking all State officers to use special letterheads and stationery in writing official letters.

Motion made and sustained that we present the delegates of all future sessions with registration cards as a matter of identification. Motion made and sustained for adjournment.

Benediction, spoken by the Moderator.

FRIDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

We sang "Rock of Ages." Rev. J. E. White led in prayer. The White Quartette sang "A Closer Walk With Thee."

Sister C. E. Wilson conducted the evening devotions, and led in

prayer.

We sang "He's Leading Me Home," led by Rev. Cecil Garrison.

Rev. Lonnie Coffman, the speaker of the hour, was introduced by the Moderator, and delivered the evangelistic message. Reading scripture from Isaiah, he used the theme "Come now and let us reason together." Invitation song, "Only Trust Him."

Duet, "Sometime," the Pace sisters.

Bro. Henry Brown led in prayer. Closing song. "Only Trust Him."

Offering for the General Fund, \$40.31.

Benediction. We prayed the Lord's Prayer, led by the Moderator.

REV. OTHEL T. DIXON, Moderator.

BRO. R. D. SMITH, Clerk-Treasurer.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Committees appointed by the Moderator:

Pulpit committee: Mrs. C. E. Wilson, Frank Duvall, Aubrey Lord, Ike Puckett, Mrs. Cecil Gladden.

Credentials committee: Rev. J. E. White, Rev. Rupert Pixley, Rev.

Tom Day, Rev. Lonnie Coffman, Bro. A. D. Furgerson.

Resolutions committee: Rev. Cecil Garrison, Rev. Ray Watkins, Bro. Taylor.

Finance committee: Rev. J. C. Rawls, Sister Marie Turner, Sister Ann Romack.

Temperance committee: Ollie Jones, O. S. Sawrie, Mrs. Verda Hawkins.

Sunday School committee: Mrs. A. D. Fergurson, Mrs. Inez Adkinson, W. W. Crow.

Obituary committee: Herman Greenwood, H. B. Doyle, Mrs. Ethel Hyatt.

Non-Represented Associations: E. O. Wright, Mrs. Frank Revier, Geraldine Johnston.

Program committee: Rev. Lewis Barker, Bro. Henry Brown, Rev. Reedy Saverance.

Ministers' Diary committee: The Executive Board performed the duties of this committee.

BOARDS AND DIRECTORS ELECTED BY THE DELEGATION

Foreign Missions Board: Rev. Rupert Pixley, director; Rev. Wayne Tucker, Rev. Cecil Garrison.

Home Missions director: Rev. Othel T. Dixon.

COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

We, the Credentials committee, offer as our report the following delegates by Associations, standing delegates not included:

ZION HOPE NO. 2 ASSOCIATION: Mrs. Boyd Allen, Mrs. Julian Hawkins, Mrs. Ethel Hyatt, Mrs. Lennie Jolly, Jim Gregory.

OLD MT. ZION ASSOCIATION: Mrs. Ethel Gladden, Sister Elsie

Vaught, Sister Marguerete Shaver.

SALINE ASSOCIATION: Bro. Oris Doggett, Sister Hazel Moore, Sister Leo West, Sister J. E. White, Bro. William Dyer, Sister Frank Revier.

SOCIAL BAND ASSOCIATION: Bro. C. B. Stone, Sister Naomi Denton, Sister Dora Walker, Sister Lorene White, Sister Ann Romack.

ARKANSAS ASSOCIATION: Represented by letter.

LITTLE MISSOURI RIVER ASSOCIATION: Sister Myrtle Smith,

Sister Edith Jones, Sister Frank Sevier.

NEW HOPE ASSOCIATION: Sister C. E. Wilson, Sister Marie Turner, Sister Lonnie Coffman, Sister A. D. Furgerson, Bro. Clifford Sawrie.

ANTIOCH ASSOCIATION: Bro. Front Duvall, Sister Gertie Crow. Sister Prue Jones, Sister Rose McGee, Bro. Bill Duvall.

RICH MOUNTAIN ASSOCIATION: Rev. S. B. Metcalf.

POLK BAYOU ASSOCIATION: Sister Geraldene Johnston, Sister Inez Adkinson, Sister Gertie Doyle.

BIG SPRINGS ASSOCIATION: Rev. Opie Hargraves.

PULPIT COMMITTEE

We, your committee, offer the following report: Ministers will fill the stand in the order named here:

Wednesday evening, Rev. W. S. Isbell, the keynote address.

Thursday, 11:00 a. m., the Rev. William Mishler, National Sunday School Promoter.

Thursday evening, Rev. Ruper Pixley.

Friday, 11:00 a. m., the memorial, Rev. Ray Watkins.

Friday evening, the evangelical message, Rev. Lonnie Coffman.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

We offer the following report: We have received from the eleven District Associations \$486.63. From this fund we paid Willoughby Church \$243.31, leaving a remainder of \$243.32. We received an offering Thursday evening of \$53.47, making a total of \$296.79, turned over to the State Clerk, R. D. Smith.

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

We your committee, offer the following:

We wish to commend our people for their good temperance conduct in all things, and admonish them that temperance means moderation in the good things of life, and abstenance from all that pertains to evil.

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

We offer the following: We find 159 Sunday Schools reported, with a total membership of 7,610. Attendance reported fair to good. We urge all Sunday Schools to use our literature when feasible, and to use only Christian teachers. We insist that all churches have a Teachers' Training Course or Vacation Bible School each year.

OBITUARY COMMITTEE

We, your committee, find that God in His wisdom has seen fit to call from labor to reward, eighty-three of our number. They rest from their labor, and their works do follow them on.

NON-REPRESENTED ASSOCIATIONS COMMITTEE

We offer the following report: We find that all District Associations in the state are represented in this meeting, for which we are very grateful.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

We the program committee, recommend the regular program as printed, with a few minor changes.

AUDITING COMMITTEE

We your Auditing committee has examined the report of the State Clerk-Treasurer, also the report of the Home Mission Board's Treasurer, and found them properly filed, orderly reported, and their balances properly stated.

GENERAL HOME MISSION BOARD REPORT

We, your General Home Mission Board, wish to make the following report: Received this year, \$306.79. On hand from last year, \$73.74. Total \$380.53. Sent to the National Home Mission Board, \$100.00. Paid \$85.00 to each of the following newly-organized churches: Conway, North Little Rock, and the church in East Little Rock, leaving a balance of \$25.53 in the treasury for W. S. Isbell, Secretary-Treasurer.

STATE LEAGUE CONVENTION REPORT

We, the officers of the State League Convention, do not have the minutes of the last meeting, to give a complete report of our last meeting. But we would like to report a great meeting, and much good accomplished. Two souls were saved, and above 200 others enjoyed the blessings of God.

We are sorry to report the final payments on our property past due since July 14, 1954. We urge everyone to be sure if your pledge hasn't already reached our treasurer to send it soon.—Henry Brown, Corresponding Secretary; Clifford Sawrie, Treasurer; Raymond McNutt, Board member; Rev. R. E. Pixley, Vice President.

LETTER FROM REV. WILSON

Letter from Rev. J. Reford Wilson, Chairman, Executive Board, and Assistant Moderator.

To the Arkansas State Association of Free Will Baptist: Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ. Unable to be with you. May God bless you richly. Welcome to Pocahontas.—Rev. and Mrs. Reford Wilson.

SPECIAL REQUEST OF THE HOME MISSION BOARD

We, your Home Mission Board, recommend that each District Association elect a Mission Board of three members to work with the State Mission Board. The State Home Mission Board will pay our National Home Mission quota of \$1,200 to the National Home Mission Board. The balance of all Home Mission funds will remain with our State Home Mission Board, to be used as the State and District Home Mission Boards may see fit.

The above amount of \$1,200 is to be raised during the year, with other funds the State may appropriate.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your Resolution committee, offer the following as our report: Resolution No. 1.—Be it resolved that all funds for Foreign Missions be sent to the State Foreign Mission Director, or the Promotional Secretary of Foreign Missions, that a more accurate record may be kept.

Resolution No. 2.—Be it resolved that all matters of doctrine, questions of conduct and discipline of our ministers, deacons and laity, of the Free Will Baptists of the State of Arkansas, be settled according to the Articles of Faith and rules given in our National Treatise.

Resolution No. 3.—Be it resolved that all ministers' wives over the age of sixty be accepted as honorary delegates to our State Association.

Resolution No. 4.—Final resolution of thanks: Be it resolved that this association has been so graciously entertained, that we in behalf of the State Association express due thanks to the good people of Willoughby Church, Saline Association, the Warren Butane Gas Co., and Mr. Donald Divine, the faithful cook, for their kindness and hospitality during our stay with them. We feel that your efforts for our welfare cannot be excelled, and we pray that the blessings of the Lord may dwell richly upon you all.

MINISTERS' DIARY REPORT

Submitted by the Executive Board, by District Associations:

Zion Hope No. 2 Association

Glen G. Dipboye, Rt. 1, Van Buren J. M. Cole, Rt. 1, Van Buren. Sam Southerland, Rt. 1, Charleston P. J. Mullen, Rudy Luther Clark, Hackett Oscar Crabtree, Van Buren Henry Hart, Rudy Burl Osburn, Van Buren Douglas Peters, Rudy R. L. Daniel, address not supplied Tom Nolen, Fort Smith Ray Purdom, Fort Smith J. A. Joslin, Rt. 3, Van Buren Edward Brewer, Dyer Rupert E. Pixley, 3722 Armour Earl Christian, Alma Ave., Fort Smith Gilbert Pixley, Rt. 2, Alma

Albert Razzell, Van Buren Ben Pixley, Rudy C. S. Graham, Mountainburg H. D. Shipley, Fort Smith Rudolph Winborn, Alma J. H. C. Jordon, Winslow E. W. Simpkins, Fort Smtih J. K. Woods, Fort Smith Earl Gentry, Rudy Robert Satterfield, Rudy Leonard Crewder, Rt. 1, Walnut St., Fort Smith Lesley Peterman, N. 49th St., Fort Smith Julian Hawkins, Poplar St., Van Buren

Old Mt. Zion Association

Geo. Been, age 72, Rt. 5, B. 224, Steve Montgomery, Rt. 4, Hunts-Springdale. P. J. Kirk, age 67, Rt. 5, Rogers Jack Ledbetter, Rt. 1, Huntsville Claud Lynch, age 60, Rogers Kenneth Shepherd, Rt. 1, Clark Barker, age 53, Rogers Huntsville Bruce Phillips, age 50, Rt. 1, Ernest Corley, Fayetteville Hindsville Jack Hobbs, age 49, Rt. 4, Hunts- Francis Clark, age 45, Rt. 1, ville. H. M. Knox, age 47, Rt. 5, Rogers Edd Stiley, age 23, Rt. 2, Willie Capp. age 46, Rt. 5, Rogers Eureka Springs

J. H. Roberts, age 81, Springdale Vivian Rhodes, Huntsville ville Bill Williams, age 41, Rogers Garfield

Sammy Lane, St. 5, Rogers Oscar Cavins, Rogers Bruce True, 4309 S. Ave., Oklahoma City C. O. Garrison, age 43, Rt. 6 Huntsville George Lynch, age 43, Rt. 1, Huntsville Elmo McKinney, age 47, Rudd Tom Pinkerton, Enid, Okla. Tom Day, age 42, Rt. 4, Spring-Rufus Young, Springdale dale

I. E. Hawley, age 72, Huntsville Dave Casteel, Hindsville Clyde Cotney, Berryville Alfred Glenn, Fayetteville Boyd Bennett, Huntsville Claud Hendrix, Rogers Loyd Edmonson, Rt. 5, Rogers Amos Howard, Springdale Joe Weldon, Springdale Clarence Tice, Huntsville

Saline Association

Lewis Barker, New Edinburg Elbert McClellan, New Edinburg L. W. Wheeler, Warren H. P. McClellan, New Edinburg Loyd Williams, Warren Cecil Sanders, New Edinburg J. E. White, New Edinburg J. C. Mooring, England H. E. Taylor, Sherril J. T. Ply, Deaumont Roy Moore, Star City J. W. Moore, Little Rock Johnny Hartley, Rison J. C. Rawls, Rt. 3, Box 206, Warren Cecil Cornett, Warren

Stanton White, Warren Hermon Greenwood, Warren Ralph Doggett, Warren H. L. Myers, Warren Robert Hill, Cedar Hill, Tenn. J. M. Estell, Hamburg Charlie Collins Monticello Bill Smith, Oak Grove, La. D. Smith, Lake Providence, La. Hershell Sharpton, Oak Grove, La.

Social Band Association

Edwin Bibbs, address not supplied Wayne Tucker, Peach Orchard Henry Pauley, Bush Grove Melvin Smith, Walnut Ridge B. E. Forester, Walnut Ridge Eugene Davis, Reyno W. P. Watts, Osceola Carl High, Okean Dewey Thompson, Pocahontas R. S. Shelton, Okean W. C. Lackey, Sedgwick George W. Million, Pocahontas Herman Johnson, Reyno

Orville Cox, address not supplied Hubert Forester, Walnut Ridge J. Reford Wilson, Box 86, Pocahontas O. D. Winfrey, Walnut Ridge L. W. Hodge, Sedgwick W. C. Hudson, Jonesboro Grady Linebaugh, Walnut Ridge H. Glenn Campbell, Walnut Ridge G. E. Hester, Bono Ira Gates, Peach Orchard J. W. Russell, Walnut Ridge Jerry Thompson Pocahontas Will S. White, Pocahontas L. D. Gillion, Warm Springs

Arkansas Association

Lester Bradley, Charleston I. J. Wilson, Charleston Elmer Turner, Branch B. O. Stall. Plainview B. A. Artman, North Hollywood, J. S. Branch, Belleville Calif. Robert Hidde, Fort Smith J. T. Burnett, Waldron

B. F. Black, Hackett W. M. Guinn, Booneville Albert Rimby, Booneville C. C. Kitchens, Gravelly J. S. Lovett, Magazine Bethel Garner, Blue Ball

Little Missouri River Association

R. L. Rainwater, Mena W. E. Pinkerton, New Hope. W. R. Porter, Norman

Roy Hughes, California J. B. Ewing, 16 Terry St., Hot Springs

Antioch Association

M. A. Thompson, Jerusalem A. F. Banks, Rt. 1, Atkins Edgar Alderson, Clarksville E. L. Hill. Rt. 3, Atkins Coy Douthit, Rt. 2, Atkins Hurshel Burris, Fort Smith Avaugh Vaughn, Moreland G. Z. Clayburn, address not supplied W. E. Coffman, Rt. 1, Hector T. J. Robertson, Rt. 3, Dover J. E. Phillips, Oklahoma John Parks, Rt. 1, Morrilton ville J. M. Crouch, Rt. 2, Atkins Junior Proctor, Dover Paul Jones, Rt. 4, Marshall Will Crouch, Rt. 2, Atkins Rock

W. F. McGee, Rt. 1, Lamar W. S. Isbell, 609 E. C St., Russellville R. L. Taylor, Hector Frank Harris, Rt. 2, Russellville J. A. Venable, Rt. 1, Dumas J. D. Coffman, Hector C. U. Kinder, Rt. 4, Russellville R. G. Webb, Atkins J. D. Kinder, Caglesville P. C. Denton, Scranton A. J. Latham, Rt. 2, Russellville T. V. Johnson, Rt. 4, Russellville Thomas Breshears, Rt. 2, Russell- Ellis Warren, Rt. 4, Russellville Lytle Hallum, Rt. 2, Russellville Melvin Snow, Scranton E. Henderson, Carruthersville, Mo. W. A. Crouch, Hector Everett G. Farnun, Rt. 2, Little Othel T. Dixon, 808 N. Ark. Ave., Russellville R. L. McVey, Rt. 2, Atkins Clarence Campbell, Russellville

Rich Mountain Association

T. H. Horton, Rt. 2. Mena J. C. Nichols, Yakima, Wash. R. I. Cook, Rt. 2, Mena

R. S. Harrison, Little Rock

Homer Eakin, Rt. 4, Russellville

Fate Mize, Watts

Bennie Fisher, Rt. 1, Hatfield S. B. Metcalf, Hatfield

Polk Bayou Association

M. G. King, Powhatan Ray Watkins, Rt. 2, Newport W. H. Doyle, Rt. 2, Newport Obie Eagen, Saffell W. B. Hardin, Hoxie Owen Harvell, Lunenburg Archie Warmick, Mt. Pleasant Coy Staggs, Batesville O. Safirt, Grubbs Austin Mullin, Strawberry Jeff Weavers, Banks, Ore. B. W. Woodruff, Rt. 2, Newport

J. W. Blanks, Rt. 2, Newport Henry Oberts, Black Rock C. Harris, Black Rock H. H. Ping, Monette Lyle Cartwright, Batesville J. H. Tinkle, Corning John Biggs Rt. 2, Batesville Lonnie Palmer, Batesville Ernest Elms, Batesville Charles Tucker, address not supplied

Big Springs Association

Noah Miller, West Plains, Mo. Carl Davis, Elizabeth Delbert Davis, Lamesa, N. Mex. W. C. Keylon, Union

Marvin Davis, Mountain Home Opie Hargrave, Bakerfield, Mo.

New Hope Association

Homer Parker, Box 2602, Little Rock R. G. Lane, Box 349, Conway John Pate, Vilonia Jesse E. Pratt, Rosebud J. H. Hartsell, Romance

Edd Hall, Greenbrier

A. L. Mote, Beebe Curtis Lybereger, Rosebud W. F. Pritchett, Conway Walter Maddox, Searcy Reuben Pruitt, Searcy Lonnie Coffman, Searcy J. M. Halleman, Rosebud

REPORT OF THE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

We, the Woman's Auxiliary of the State of Arkansas, beg leave to report the following to the State Association and request that we be officially recognized as a part of the state work.

On September 29, 1954, three District Women's Auxiliaries and two local Woman's Auxiliary came together and organized a State Auxiliary. Great blessings were enjoyed throughout the convention and we are praying that we may be used of the Lord in furthering the cause of Christ and our denomination. We voted to meet annually at the same place of the State Association to convene at 10 a.m. and continue until 4 p.m. on Wednesday, the same day that the Association is scheduled to convene at 7 p.m.

Other business transacted included the election of our officers, which are as follows: President, Mrs. Othel Dixon; Vice-President, Mrs. Clifford Sawrie; Recording Secretary, Mrs. W. G. (Ted) Henry; Assistant Recording Secretary, Mrs. Ida Broodway; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Lonnie Coffman; Treasurer, Mrs. Aubrey Lord; Field Secretary, Mrs. Ethel E. Wilson; Youth Chairman, Mrs. Rufus Doggett; Study Course Chairman, Mrs. R. G. Lane; Stewardship Prayer Chairman, Mrs. Reedy Saverance; Personal Service Chairman, Mrs. Reford Wilson.

Motions sustained:

- 1. That we adopt the State Constitution.
- 2. That we send a resolution to the State Association that we be received as a part of the Association.
- 3. That we include in the resolution that we set the time to meet to be the day before the State Association that night.

STATISTICIAN'S REPORT

This 1954 session of this State Association is composed of eleven District Associations in the State of Arkansas, representing 171 Churches, 221 Ministers, 509 Deacons, a total membership of 12,458. The records show there has been received into our fellowship during the past year 1,157; dismissed by letter 192; excluded 50; died 81. We find we have 159 Sunday Schools with an average attendance of 5,026. We have spent for literature \$1,720.81, have paid pastors \$61,468.67, and for evangelistic services, \$14,887.30; for Home Missions, \$3,217.00; for Foreign Missions, \$1,960.68, but the National Foreign Missions board gives Arkansas credit of \$2,102.27; for budget, \$2,574.18; incidental \$4,980.37; building and repair, \$49,881.32; for radio program, \$3,209.00.

We find we now have 13 Ladies Auxiliaries with a membership of 538. We report using \$1,226.86 for education and lights; for Cuba, \$49.81. Our total expenditures, \$1597.74.21. Our total expenditures, \$159,774.21; total valuation of church property as \$455,489.75. Rev. George Been, statistician, \$138.90.

CLERK'S REPORT, 1954

Assets

Public Offering	\$ 54.00
State Finance Committee	354 25
Old Mt. Zion Association	
Polk Bayou Association	
New Hope Association	17.00
Little Missouri River Association	
Old Mt. Zion Association	
Zion Hope Association	
Antioch Associatiotn	
Social Band Organization	
Saline Association	
Polk Bayou Association	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$550.07
Liabilities	
Rev. W. H. Doyle, Printing	\$ 10.00
Moderator's Fee	15.00
Clerk Hire	25.00
Sydney Byrd of Host Church	162.00
Deficit from Last Year	6.75
2,000 State Minutes	190.50
Postage, National Minutes	3.30
Delegates to National Association	65.00
Printing Convention Ribbons	
Printing State Program Pamphlets	18.11
Postage	
State Seal and Ministers Cards	27.50
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$547.57
Balance	\$ 2.50

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 1. Introductory sermon.
- 2. Association called to order by Moderator; in his absence, the Clerk.
- 3. Letters from the District Associations called for, received and Delegates invited to seats.
 - 4. Right hand of fellowship.
 - 5. Election of permanent officers.
 - 6. Call for petitionary Associations.
 - 7. Reading Rules of Order by Chair or Clerk.
- 8. Appointment of following Committee: (a) Arrangements for Preaching, (b) Resolutions, (c) Finance, (d) Temperance, (e) Sunday Schools, (f) Obituary, (g) Condition of Non-Represented Associations, (h) Union of Association, (i) Auditing, (j) Program, (k) Ministers Diary.
- 9. Report of Committees appointed at last Association and other unfinished business.
 - 10. Report of new committees.
 - 11. New business.
 - 12. Adjournment.

RESOLUTIONS—1947

Be it resolved that the ministers of the Free Will Baptist churches in the state of Arkansas teach and preach in harmony with the articles of faith of our State Association.

Be it resolved that Section One of the Constitution be amended as follows, in the event of part, or all, of the elected delegation to report by 1:30 p. m. Thursday. That said vacancies may be filled, provided someone from said Association recommend others for said vacancies.

Resolutions of 1922—Be it resolved that a committee of five be appointed to supply the Stand.

Resolutions of 1923—Be it resolved that we go on record as condemning the doctrine of Evolution, because we believe it is doing more to skepticism, infidelity, and Atheism than anything or doctrine now in existence.

Resolutions of 1926—Be it resolved that in all future sessions of this Association, we adhere strictly to the articles of faith of this Association, and that we ask all District Associations in the state to see that their articles are in harmony with those of the State Association, so that we may become one in doctrine and harmony.

Resolution of 1938—Be it resolved that each district Association have an ordaining council.

Resolution of 1939—Be it resolved that the State Association shall be composed of five delegates chosen by each District Association of this union and all ordained ministers, deacons and District Associational clerks.

Resolution of 1943—No. 2—Inasmuch as there are so many different theories presented the people today as Bible-taught doctrines, and amid the confusion it has brought, there are earnest inquiring subjects that have a right to know what we, Free Will Baptists, teach. Feeling that this has been neglected to a great extent, Be it resolved by this assembly that all District Associations request of their churches, to have pastors or evangelists preach to their churches each year, at least one sermon on the principles, treaties, and doctrine set forth by the Free Will Baptists.

Resolution No. 1, 1945—We, your committee, recommend that the Clerk be made treasurer without being bonded, and that it shall become the duty of the corresponding clerk to work with, and inform, our people of their duty and obligations to the state Association.

No. 2—Whereas the training of our Free Will Baptist young people is of vital importance, we hereby resolve: That all ministers and interested laymen do all within their power to organize and promote Free Will Baptist Leagues in our churches and associations.

Realizing the many evils that our young people are having to cope with, and especially the theatre, we, your committee, recommend that our pastors and Sunday School teachers do their utmost in warning our youth of such evils.

The members of the Executive Board serve for life as long as there are three active members of the five. Vacancies may be filled at any regular session of the State Association.

RESOLUTIONS-1948 1. As we see the need of home and foreign mission work, we ask this body to have one sermon each session on the need of the work. 2. We, your Committee, recommend this body meet on Wednesday night and close Friday night. 3. Inasmuch as our mission work is in its infancy, therefore, be it resolved that instead of electing a state evangelist, we recommend that each district association have its own evangelist or in other ways work out their own mission plans working in harmony with ARKANSAS STATE ASSOCIATION ARTICLES OF FAITH (Reported by Committee and Adopted by Convention)

(See Report of Committee)

the State Board.

- 1. GOD—We believe in one true and living Triune God; composed of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, equal in divine essence, Purpose, Power and Glory. St. John 1:1; I Cor. 8:6; I John 5:7; St. John 10:30.
- 2. CHRIST—We believe that Jesus Christ is the divine Son of Gcd. Was with the Father and the Holy Spirit at the time of the Creation, left the Courts of Heaven and came to this earth. Took upon Himself the form of humanity, sin excepted, by being born of the Virgin Mary, manifested His power, was crucified, placed in Joseph's new tomb, arose from the dead the third day, completing the great plan of salvation, walked and talked with His disciples, publicly ascended up to heaven, and that He will descend again to gather His jewels home. Isaiah 9:6; St. John 1:14; Luke 1:26-28; Matt. 14:13-21; Mark 16:9-16; Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:9-12; Mark 15:22-41.
- 3. HOLY SPIRIT—We believe that the Holy Spirit has visited true believers in all ages and especially since the ascension of the Son back to the Father, and is coming on the day of Pentecost. Has taken up its office work among all nations of people as a Divine Reprover, Comforter, and Guide. Judge 6:34; 11:29; St. John 16:8-14; Isaiah 63:10-12, Eph. 4:30; Acts 8:17-20.
- 4. THE BIBLE—We believe the Bible, which is composed of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, was given by Inspiration of God, is our way bill from earth to heaven, and only infallible rule of faith and practice. II Peter 1:19-21; II Tim. 3:14-17; Daniel 10:21; Acts 1:16-17; Matt. 21:42.
- 5. THE FALL OF MAN—We believe that God created Man good, gave him a just law by which he should be governed, with promises of reward for faithfulness and with penalties and punishment for disobedience. Gave man power of free moral agency to choose the right and reject the wrong. But our first parents heeded the voice of the great enemy of Souls, voluntarily transgressed the law of God, and were unable of their own power to extricate or save themselves from the great dilemma into which they had fallen. God gave to them the hope of salvation through the coming of CHRIST. Gen. 1:27; Gen. 2:16-17; Rom. 11:11-35; Psalms 37:23-24; Rom. 5:18.
- 6. REDEMPTION, SALVATION, ADOPTION—We believe that Jesus Christ by His birth, death, burial and resurrection and ascension, paid the purchase price of the redemption of the whole human race, arranged a pardon for all who come to Him upon Gospel terms: and a law of adoption into the Kingdom of Heaven, and an eternal

inheritance into the glorified Kingdom above. Heb. 9:12; Gal. 3:13, 4:4-5; Titus 2:14; St. John 3:16; Isa. 45:22.

- 7. CONDITION OF SALVATION—We believe that all persons dying in infancy and all idiots are saved by the atoning merits of the Son of God without any act upon their part; that persons coming to the years of accountability, transgressing the law of God, must upon their part exercise faith in Jesus Christ through repentance toward God, at the completion of which pardon takes place in the mind of the Father and by the Holy Spirit they pass through an ordeal of regeneration, are washed in the blood of the Lamb and are planted in the Kingdom of Christ. John 3rd chapter; Matt. 19:13-22; II Cor. 7:10; Luke 18:16-17; St. John 4:11-6; Psalms 98:3.
- 8. SALVATION FREE—We believe that God desires the salvation of all; Christ died for all; the gospel invites all; the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whomsoever will may come and be saved upon the terms of the gospel. I Peter 1:9-13, 25; 2:9-24; Rev. 22:17.
- 9. BAPTISM—We believe that Christian Baptism is the immersion of believers in water, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, in which is represented the burial and resurrection of Christ; also represents our death to sin, and only those who have come under the presbytery of elders are qualified to administer the same. Matt. 3:14,15,16; I Peter 3:21; St. John 3:23; Acts 10:47; Matt. 28:19.
- 10. COMMUNION AND FEET WASHING—We believe that the Lord's Supper and the washing of feet are ordinances of the gospel of Christ; the Lord's Supper was instituted by our Saviour to commemorate His broken body and shed blood for the sins of the world, and to show our remembrance of Him till He comes. All Christians have a right to the Lord's Supper and should be invited; "Let a man examine himself and so let him eat."

The washing of feet was instituted by our Lord at the same time that the supper was instituted as an act of humility to show our love for each other and both ordinances should be perpetuated by all Christians until His second coming. Luke 22:19-20; I Cor. 11:20-29; St. John 13:1-18; Matt. 26:27, 28, 29.

- 11. THE SABBATH—We believe that the Christian Sabbath should be observed as a day of rest and for the worship of God; that we should abstain from all sinful amusements and secular employments, works of mercy and piety excepted. Exodus 2:11; Exodus 31:12-18; Deut. 5:12-15; Ezek. 20:12; Matt. 28:1; Luke 23:56; Acts 13:42-48: Mark 2:27.
- 12. CALL TO THE MINISTRY—We believe in a divine call of the ministry; that God in His goodness and power of grace, impresses His ministers with the burden of lost souls, to the extent that the call becomes irresistible with personal contentment; that when they yield to the call and exercise their native gifts according to the scriptures with a full reliance upon Him; He accompanies them in the person of the Holy Spirit to guide them in the way of truth and to bless their labors according to His purpose. Jonah 1:1; Jer. 1:5; Mark 3:14; Acts 1:22-26; Matt. 28:19.
- 13. THE INVISIBLE CHURCH—We believe that the Invisible or Spiritual Church is the redeemed in the aggregate, is the family of God, is composed of all true Christians of every congregation from righteous Abel to the restitution of all things, from every kindred, nation, tongue and people. Eph. 3:16-21; Heb. 12:22-23; I Peter 2:5, Eph. 2:20-22; Acts 2:47; Matt. 16:18.

- 14. THE VISIBLE CHURCH—We believe that a visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men and women, having obtained fellowship with the Lord and with each other, agreeing to keep up good discipline and doctrine according to the rules of the gospel. II Thes. 1:1; Acts 16:5; III John 1:10; Matt. 18:17; Acts 20:28; Rev. 1:4-11-20.
- 15. PERSEVERANCE—We believe that all true believers in Christ should persevere in divine grace, and in the knowledge of the truth and that God's grace is sufficient to help them to overcome all the obstacles of life and that all the combined forces of the great enemy of souls on earth and in Hell (or in his eternal abode) are not able to pluck them from his hand so long as they walk in the path of duty; but those who sidestep and willfully refuse or neglect to perform their duty, they would backslide and if persistently continued, would be eternally lost. II Cor. 9:10; II Peter 1:4-8; I Peter 2:2; Rom. 8:35-39; Apostasy: II Peter 1:8-9; I Cor. 10:1-13; Heb. 12:15-17; I John 5-16; Heb. 6:16; I Tim. 4:1-2; Heb. 3:12; St. John 15:1-7; Matt. 12:31-32.
- 16. CHRIST THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH—We believe that Christ is the Great Head of the Church, and that the government of the local church is with the body. Col. 1:18-19; Matt. 16:18; Heb. 12:23; Matt. 21:42; Eph. 1:22; Acts 16:4-5.
- 17. SANCTIFICATION—Sanctification is a work of God's grace, by which the soul is cleansed from all sin and wholly consecrated to Christ. It takes place in regeneration. The Christian can and should abide in this state to the end of life, constantly growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. I Cor. 6:11; II Thes. 2:13; Heb. 12:14; Phil. 3:21; II Thes. 5:19-23; St. John 17:17-19; II Tim. 2:20-21.
- 18. THE SOUL—The soul is endless, hence does not die with the body, but immediately after death enters into a conscious state of happiness or misery according to the spiritual character possessed. Phil. 1:23; Luke 23:43; Rev. 6:9; Luke 16:19-25; Matt. 10:28.
- 19. THE RESURRECTION—We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both of righteous and wicked. When the resurrection shall take place, the soul and body shall be reunited, the righteous shall be received into everlasting happiness to reign with God forever; but the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment. Matt. 28;6; St. John 5:28-29; I Cor. 15:51-58.
- 20. JUDGMENT—We believe that there will be a general, universal judgment, when all men shall be judged according to their works whether they be good or bad, and that immediately thereafter the wicked shall enter into everlasting punishment and the righteous into eternal happiness. II Thes. 1:4-9; Rev. 14:9-13; Acts 17:31; Luke 16:23; Rev. 21:8; II Cor. 5:10; Matt. 12:36-37; Rev. 20:12-13.

ARKANSAS STATE ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

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

- 1. The State Association shall be composed of five Delegates chosen by each District Association of this union and all regularly ordained ministers, deacons, the district associational clerks, and executive board members.
- 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, Sunday 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 District Associations of the State of Arkansas, and the Association to have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor to have any ecclesiastical power of the Association, reserving 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 be admitted into the Association by letter and delegates if found orthodox in the faith of the 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 is withdrawn by the members making it.
- 7. The Association is to endeavor to furnish the District 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 Clerk before the Association closes.
- 10. The Association shall have a fund for her support, which shall be supplied by the voluntary contribution of the Associations, whose duty it shall be to send it by the hands of delegates, which money so sent shall be deposited in the hands of the Treasurer for that purpose, and he shall be held accountable to the Association for all Money received by him and 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. Amendment to this plan of government may be made at any sitting of the annual State meeting of Free Will Baptist in Arkansas by a two-thirds vote of the members of said body.
- 14. First—in the absence of the pastor, the deacons of any Free Will Baptist Church in the State of Arkansas are authorized to preside at any Conference, any business transacted during the conference will be legal, if the majority of its active church members are present and the church is in good standing in its association.

Second—The Baptism will not be accepted unless administered by

an ordained individual.

RULES OF ORDER

- 1. At every sitting of the Association, business shall be opened and concluded with a prayer.
- 2. Those who speak shall rise, address the Moderator, and personal reflections shall be avoided.
- 3. All motions made and seconded shall be open for discussion, but debate may be shut off at any time by a majority of the members of the Association.
- 4. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member and the vote taken separately.
- 5. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded in the Minutes, unless so ordered at the time.
- 6. No one shall speak more than once on the same subject without special leave from the body.
- 7. All questions shall be decided by a majority of the members present.
- 8. No member shall absent himself without leave of the Moderator.
- 9. Arrangements shall be made so as to insure two sermons or other devotional exercises equivalent thereto in addition to the business session each day, and the Moderator announce at the adjournment of each business session who is to have charge of said service.
- 10. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular meeting of the Association.