

MINUTES
OF THE
TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
CANADIAN ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTIST

Held with Paden Church, Paden, Oklahoma, beginning
Thursday night, August 8, 1929.

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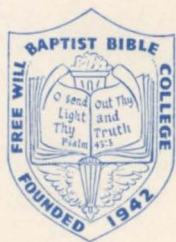
OFFICERS

Moderator,	Rev. J. T. Champion,	Weleetka, Okla.
Ass't Mod.,	W. D. McCrady,	Edna, ..
Clerk,	Bro. C. H. Goode,	Paden, ..
Ass't Clerk,	Rev. W. P. Scott,	Holdenville, ..

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The next Annual Session of this Association will be held with Allen Church, near Weleetka, Oklahoma, beginning on Thursday night before the second Sunday in August, 1930.

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FREE WILL BAPTIST
BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented by

Rev. John H. West

PROCEEDINGS

The Twenty-fourth Annual Session of the Canadian Association of Free Will Baptist was held with Paden Church, Paden, Oklahoma, beginning at eight o'clock p. m., August 8, 1929.

Opening song, "I Can Hear My Savior Calling." Opening prayer by Bro. J. B. Westbrook. Song, "There is a Land Fairer than Day." Prayer by Bro. Pendergraft. Song, "How Firm a Foundation."

Introductory sermon by Rev. W. D. McCrady, followed by Rev. Arthur Reed. Text, Romans 1:14.

Closed by singing, "Let Me in the Kingdom." and an old fashioned hand-shake.

Adjourned to meet at 8:30 Friday morning, August 9th. Closing prayer by Rev. A. N. Blackford.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Called together by singing, "Amazing Grace." Prayer by Rev. W. H. Carter.

Rev. J. T. Champion was elected Moderator; Rev. W. D. McCrady, Ass't Moderator; Rev. W. P. Scott, Ass't Clerk

Reading of the Rules of Order of the Association by the Moderator.

The church letters were called for and the following churches responded by letter and delegates: Shady Grove, Mountain View, Tuskegee, Allen, Paden, and Antioch. Letters received and delegates seated. The right hand of fellowship was given to the delegates while the congregation sang, "Am I a Soldier of the Cross?"

Church reports as taken from church letters:

Antioch—State of religion good. Pastor for coming year, Rev. W. P. Scott. Paid pastor for past year, \$57.95. Meeting day, second Sunday in each month. Members dismissed by request, 2; excluded, 1; dismissed by letter, 1;

resident members, 15; non-resident members, 2; total membership, 17. Contribution for minutes, \$1.00. Delegates: W A. Smith and Lucy Smith; Bro. Jesse Eason, alternate.

Lucy Smith, Clerk, Wetumka, Okla.

Tuskegee—State of religion, good. Pastor for coming year, Rev. W. D. McCrady. Members received by confession, 3; resident members, 23; non-resident members, 7; total membership, 30; Contribution for minutes, \$3.00 Delegates: Sisters Carter and West.

Bessie West, Clerk, R5, B117, Bristow, Okla.

Allen—State of religion good. Pastor for coming year, Rev. Arthur Reed. Paid pastor for past year, \$25.82. New members added this year, 2; dismissed by letter, 4; one member, Bro. Parson Green, died; total membership, 40. Contribution for minutes, \$1.50. Delegates: Bros. Jim and Richard Burden and Sisters Susie and Leola Burden. We ask that the next Association be held with our church.

Leola Burden, Clerk, Weleetka, Okla.

Shady Grove State of religion good. Pastor for coming year, ——. Meeting day, fourth Sunday in each month. Members received by confession, 4; by statement, 3; died, 4; resident members, 50; non-resident, 36; total membership, 88. Value of church property, \$600.00. Contribution for minutes, \$3.00. Delegates: Bros. Westbrook and B M Mayfield. We ask for the next Association.

B M Mayfield, Clerk, Wetumka, Okla.

Paden—State of religion good. Pastor for coming year, Rev. W K Smith. Paid pastor last year, \$130.60. Subscribed for pastor this year, \$130.00. Contribution for minutes, \$3.00. Value of church property, \$1000.00. Members lost by death, 2, Rev. Mansker and Bro. Carson; resident members, about 30; non-resident, about 50; total membership, about 80. Delegates: Bros. N J Munsey, J L Billings, and Ben Loney. Sister C H Goode was elected clerk for this year.

Ben Loney, Clerk, Paden, Okla.

Mountain View—Pastor for the coming year, Rev. W P. Scot. Meeting day, fourth Sunday in each month. Members received by letter, one; resident members 44; non-resident about 40; total membership about 84. Value of church property \$50.00. Subscribed for pastor this year \$50.00. Contribution for minutes \$2.15. Delegates: Bro. Grimes and Sister Scott and Sister Carmichael, and Sister Rupe as alternate.

Josie Baylock, Clerk.

All visiting Brothers and Sisters were invited to seats in council.

Appointment of committeers by Moderator.

Devotional—Bros. G. H. Jones, B. M. Mayfield, G. W. Baker.

Obituary—Bros. J. B. Westbrook, J. H. West, B. Pendergraft.

Temperance—Bros. S. P. Carmichael, M. F. Reed, J. A. Burden.

Finance—Sisters W. H. Carter, Bessie West, Avie Carmichael.

Resolutions—Revs. W. H. Carter, Arthur Reed, W. K. Smith.

Sunday Schools—Rev. Arthur Reed, and Sisters Susie Burden and Lola Burden.

Arrangements—Bros. G. W. Baker, J. L. Billings, P. W. Deweber.

Financial Support of the Ministry—Revs. W. H. Carter, O. P. Westbrook, W. K. Smith.

Ministerial Standing and Character—B. F. Mayfield, M. F. Reed, G. W. Baker, J. H. West.

New Business—Bros. W. H. Carter, W. D. McCrady, and W. K. Smith were appointed a special committee to investigate rumors against E. A. O'Donnell and the Mission Publishing Company of Cushing, Oklahoma, for embezzlement of minute money belonging to this Association.

Motion carried that this article be accepted and printed in the minutes of this Association.

Preaching at eleven o'clock by Rev. W. K. Smith, followed by Rev. S. B. Pendergraft. Text, Galatians 6:1. Closed by singing "I Am Bound for the Promised Land." Benediction by Rev. W. D. Walden.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Called together by singing "How Firm A Foundation." Scripture reading, Psalm 23, by Moderator. Prayer by Rev. T. J. Townsend. Song, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."

Reports were received from the following committees: Resolutions, Sunday Schools, and Temperance.

A very interesting talk by Rev. T. J. Townsend on conditions of his church at Wetumka, some good reports and some discouraging. Followed by Rev. W. H. Carter, indorsing most of what Rev. Townsend said, and pleading for better results and better churches—more interest in supporting the ministers and paying them more for their labor. Followed by Rev. J. T. Champion on some propositions of churches and indorsement of most of what had been said.

Report of Ministers called for and the following ministers reported: Rev. W. P. Scott responded as follows: Sermons preached, ninety-one, baptized five, married eight couples, received \$145.00, traveled 1245 miles.

Motion carried to adjourn to meet at 8:30 a. m. Saturday, August 10th.

Song, "Are You Ready?" Prayer by Rev. W. D. Walden

Friday Night Session—Opening song, "In the Sweet By and By." Prayer by Rev. R. L. Roberts. Song, "I Want to be a Worker." Preaching by Rev. W. P. Scott, followed by Rev. Walden. Scripture lesson, Psalm fifty-one.

Concluding song, "Oh Fathers Will You Meet Me?" Dismissed by Rev. T. J. Townsend.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Called together by singing, "Will There Be any Stars in My Crown?" Prayer by Rev. Westbrook.

Reports received from the following committees: Obit-

uary, Finance.

Motion carried to continue our fifth Sunday meetings, to be held as follows:

First, at Tuskegee Church, Sept. 29, 1929. Introductory sermon by Rev. R L Roberts, Rev. Carter alternate.

Second, at Crossroads school house, Mountain View Church, sixteen miles south of Wetumka, Dec. 29, 1929. Introductory sermon by Rev. W D Walden.

Third, at Paden Church, March 30, 1930. Introductory sermon by Rev. T J Townsend.

Shady Grove and Allen Churches asked for the next Association. By vote Allen church received 22 votes, and the vote was made unanimous for Allen church.

Motion carried that we send delegates to the State Association. Bros. Joe Westbrook, J H West and J L Billings were elected.

Motion carried that we send as much as \$3.00 to the State Association for minutes.

Motion carried that we refer the expense of the delegates to the State Association to the several local churches represented here, the money to be turned to the nearest delegate.

Motion carried that we have 300 minutes printed, and have them printed where we can get the best results.

Motion carried to adjourn our business session till 2 o'clock p. m.

Dismissed by Rev. O P. Westbrook.

Saturday, 11 o'clock Service: Song, "Blessed Be the Name." Prayer by Rev. A N Blackford. Song, "Draw Me Nearer." Scripture reading, 27th chapter of Luke.

Preaching by Rev. Blackford. Text. 1st Kings 5:2,

Closing song, "Oh How I Love Jesus," and an old-fashioned hand shaking.

Dismissed with prayer by Rev. O P Westbrook.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Called together by singing, "I Want to Be a Worker." Scripture reading from Psalm 133 by Moderator. Prayer by

Rev. Boykin. Song, "Bind Me Closer."

Motion carried that we appoint a standing Ministerial Committee of five members to investigate the standing and character of the ministers of this Association, and report at next Annual Session of the Association. Bros. J E Burden, S P Carmichael, J H West, J A Eason, and Joe Westbrook were appointed.

Motion carried that we take up a freewill offering for Clerk's labor. Amount received, \$5.45.

Motion carried that we appoint a committee to formulate a plan for better support for our ministers. Rev. W H Carter, O Westbrook, and W K Smith were appointed.

Motion carried that we give a vote of thanks to the members of Paden church for their kindness and hospitality in caring for the visiting members and delegates of the Association.

Motion carried to adjourn to meet on Thursday night before the second Sunday in August, 1930., with Allen church.

Closed with singing, "God Be With You Till We Meet Again." and hand shaking.

Closing prayer by Rev. T J Townsend,

Rev. J T Champion, Moderator,

C H Goode, Clerk.

Ministers Present at the Association:

Rev. T J Townsend,	Wetumka, Okla.
" J T Champion,	Okemah, "
" W K Smith,	Paden, "
" W D McCrady,	Edna, "
" W P Scott,	R6, Holdenville, "
" W T Childers,	R3, Earlsboro, "
" Arthur Reed,	R1, Weleetka, "
" W H Carter,	Tuskegee, "
" O P Westbrooks,	Okemah, "
" W T Walden,	Mason, "
" R L Roberts,	Weleetka, "
" S D Pendergraft,	Welty, "

Committee Reports

Temperance — We, your Committee on Temperance, submit the following: We indorse the report in our 1928 minutes, and ask that it be retained in our minutes for this year.

We believe that a majority of the crimes committed are caused from the use and unlawful sale of intoxicating drinks; it is detrimental to the cause of Christianity, morality and decency, blighting the fairest flowers of our country. It clouds the mind, corrupts the morals of both young and old, wrecks many otherwise happy lives and homes and laughs at the ruin it has wrought. None are exempt from its direful influence.

Therefore, be it resolved, that we recommend a rigid enforcement of our prohibition laws, and that we assist in the enforcement of the same. That our ministers preach one or more discourses to each church they pastor during the year on temperance.

Be it resolved, That we place ourselves on record as a denomination that opposes the use and the sale of cigarettes to our boys, and that we use our influence to put down the use and sale of the same.

Committee { S. P. Carmichael
M F. Reed
J. A. Burden

Report received and committee discharged.

Resolutions — We, your committee on resolutions, beg leave to indorse the Resolutions as laid down in 1928 minutes, and ask that they be carried in this year's minute:

No. 1. Resolved, That each minister in this Association report full for the previous year's work, giving in detail the the number of miles traveled, number of churches pastored, number converted, number received into churches, number baptized, total amount received in money or its equivalent.

No. 2. Resolved, that we drop the names of non-resident members from our church roll, after they have been away and have not reported to the church for twelve months.

We indorse the suggestion that all who can take the Free Will Baptist Gem, printed at Tecumseh, Okla.

Finding no further business, we beg to be discharged.

Committee { Rev. W. H. Carter
 .. Arthur Reed
 .. W. K. Smith

Report received and committee discharged

Sunday Schools—We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, recommend that we indorse the 1928 report and carry same in this year's minute:

We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, submit the following: That each minister organize a Sunday School in each Church, if possible; that the Bible be used by all who can read it and that we use our own literature, when practical, as we have a publishing house. We believe the Sunday School to be the nursery of the church. We would urge that each church try to report their Sunday School to the Association.—From 1928 minutes.

Furthermore we find, from statistics of the United States, that 98 per cent of all church members have come from the Sunday schools, and that 98 per cent of all crimes are committed by those who do not attend Sunday school.

We further find that only about 60 per cent of our people are members of any Sunday school today. We know from our own observation that the church that has no Sunday school has not the life it should have.

Taking the above facts as stated, we heartily indorse Sunday schools as a part of religious worship, in which our minds may be started with the teaching of God's word. We also find that many of our churches are without Sunday schools. We urge our people to maintain a Sunday school in every church in our great state.

Committee { Rev. Arthur Reed
 Sister Susie Burden
 Lola Burden

Report received and committee discharged.

Financial Support of the Ministry—We, your Committee on the Financial Support of the Ministry, recom-

mend that a stipulated salary be made for each pastor within the bounds of this Association, and that such salary be made through his pastoral charge, and that the sum fixed be a reasonable support for the pastor and his family, said fixed amount to become a contract by the churches of which he is servant.

Said amount to become an assessment upon the membership, upon each member or head of family according to their several abilities to pay, and shall be collected by the deacons and clerk. And should the deacons and clerk fail in this capacity, they shall become responsible to the pastor and he shall deal with them according to his discretions.

Committee { Rev. W. H. Carter
" O. P. Westbrook
" W. K. Smith

Motion carried to receive the report to be printed in the minutes and to discharge the committee.

Finance—We, your Committee on Finance, find that the different churches have paid in for minutes, \$14.15.

Committee { Bessie West
Rosa Carter
Avie Carmichael

Report received and committee discharged.

Obituary—We, your Committee on Obituary beg leave to report the following: After close investigation, we find that God, in His divine providence saw fit to call from churches by death: Bro. J. J. Troop, Bro. L. K. Green, Bro. Willie Wilkison, Sister Dora Gagg, from Shady Grove church, age and date not given. Bro. D. T. Mansker, age 82 years, ten months. Died March 6, 1929. Bro. Mansker has been in the Free Will Baptist service thirty-five or forty years. Was a member of Paden Church,

Bro. John F. Carson, 81 years of age, passed on to meet God on March 31, 1929. He was a member of Paden church and lived a consistent Christian life up to his death. Our loss is his gain.

Committee { S. D. Pendergraft
J. B. Westbrook
J. H. West

Ministerial Standing and Character—We find our Ministers to be worthy of their calling and find nothing against any of them in any way. We are proud to make this report. May God bless each of them and crown their efforts with success. Brethren, let us help them in every way we can.

Committee { B. F. Mayfield
W. F. Reed
G. W. Baker
J. H. West

Report received and committee discharged.

Devotional—We, your Committee on Divine Service, have supplied the pulpit thru the Association as follows:

Friday morning, Rev. W K Smith, followed by Rev. S B Pendergraft. Friday night, Rev. W P Scott, followed by Rev. Waldon. Saturday morning, Rev. A N Blackford. Saturday night, Rev. J T Champion, followed by Rev. W K Smith. Sunday morning, Rev. T J Townsend, followed by Rev. O Westbrook. Sunday night, Rev. W H Carter, followed by Rev. W D McCrady.

Committee { G H Jones
B M Mayfield
G W Baker

Report received and committee discharged.

Treasurer's Report—Treasurer reports as follows:

Received for minutes, 1928,.....\$21.85

Paid for printing 300 minutes,....\$14.00

Phone call and postage,85

Total amount paid out, 1928,.....\$14.85

Balance on hand August 9, 1929,.....\$ 7.00

Received from churches, 1929: Paden..... 3 00

Tuskegee,.... 3.00

Shady Grove,-- 3.00

Allen, 2.00

Antioch, 1.00

Mountain View, 2.15

Total amount on hand August 10, 1929,....\$21.15

Report received. C H Goode, Clerk-Treas.

churches, reserving the right of withdrawing from any church becoming disorderly.

Art. 3. Letters. Letters from the different churches representing are to express their number in fellowship, including the names and addresses of ordained and licensed ministers, the number of members received upon profession of faith, by letters or recommendation, by restoration or denominational choice; the number dismissed by letter, excluded, and those having died since last Association. The churches in sending their letters, may send obituaries of any who have died during the year that we may keep up the memorial of our dead.

Art. 4. Officers. The Association shall have a Moderator, a Clerk, and a Treasurer, who shall be elected at each annual session by the suffrage of the members present.

Art. 5. New Churches Newly constituted churches may be admitted to this Association, who petition by letter and delegates, if upon examination they are found to be orthodox, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

Art. 6. Questions. No question from any church shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it has been first discussed in its own church.

Art. 7. Motions. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

Art. 8 Minutes. The Association is to endeavor to furnish the churches with minutes of the Association in proportion to the number of members in each church, the distribution to be at the discretion of the Association.

Art. 9. Clerk. It shall be the duty of the clerk to keep a regular file of the minutes of the Association in a book to be kept by the Association for that purpose.

Art. 10. Signatures. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if needed, and signed by the moderator and clerk, before the close of the Association.

Art. 11. Amendments. Amendments to this Constitution may be made when necessary by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

Art. 12. Ordinances—The pastor of the church shall preach on the ordinances of the church once a year, and one discourse on the support of the ministry.

Art. 13. Church Finances—Every church shall call their pastor, state what amount they can raise, and it shall be the duty of the deacons to solicit the amount of funds necessary for all the expenses of the church; act as treasurer, keeping account of all business, and report all transactions to the church conference and, in case of more than one deacon in the church, the deacons shall select one of their number to act as treasurer, provided the church has no treasurer.

Art. 14. Fifth Sunday Meetings—This Association shall hold three Fifth Sunday Meetings each year, and the ministers and deacons shall make a written report of their work, and it shall be the duty of each quarterly conference to look after the necessities of the widows and orphans, and the order of the ministry, and the quarterly conference shall make a written report to the Association annually.

Art. 12. Treasury—Resolved, That each church have a treasurer, and come together and subscribe the amount they are willing to pay into the treasury during the year for the support of the ministry, widows, orphans, and incidental expenses, and that said amount be paid quarterly, and that said funds shall not be paid out except by order of the church.

A Presbytery for Ordaining Ministers and Deacons

1. The Presbytery for ordaining an Elder shall consist of two ordained ministers and one ordained deacon.
2. A Presbytery for ordaining a deacon must be composed of two ordained deacons and one ordained minister.

Rules for Ordaining

1. To present the candidate.
2. To examine the candidate on doctrine and qualifications.
3. Praying and laying on of hands by Presbytery.
4. Presentation of Bible.
5. To deliver him the charge.
6. To extend him the right hand of fellowship,

Order of Business

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Call for letters.
3. Election of Officers.
4. Call for Petitionary Letters
5. Reading Rules of Order.
6. Invitation to Delegates and Brethren to Seats.
7. Appointment of Committees.
8. Call for Report of Treasurer.
9. Report of Committees.

Letter to Association

..... Church of Okla. County of
(date)..... (P. O. address).....
church sends greetings to the..... Annual Session of the
Brethren composing the Canadian Association of Free Will
Baptists, to let you know of our love and fellowship and of
our zeal for the cause of Christ. Statistics are as follows:

Pastor's salary for next year \$..... Meeting
days are on the..... Sunday in each month. We have
received by confession..... by letter..... dismissed
by letter..... excluded..... withdrawn.....
dead..... resident members..... non-resident mem-
bers..... total in full fellowship..... value of church
property \$..... contribution for minutes \$.....
We have chosen (Brothers or Sisters).....

..... as our delegates to
represent us in the Annual Session when convened with
..... church. (Here ask for the next
Association if wanted.) Pray for us. Done in Conference
on the..... day of..... 193.....

..... Moderator
..... Clerk

RULES OF ORDER

1. The association when met shall be opened and closed by singing and prayer.

2. Only one person shall speak at a time, and he shall rise to his feet and address the moderator.

3. Any person shall not be interrupted by anyone except the moderator until he is through speaking; nor shall the moderator unless he breaks order.

4. Any person speaking shall adhere to the subject in question and shall not cast any reflections on him who may have spoken before him.

5. No person shall speak more than three times on any one subject without leave of the association.

6. No person shall laugh or whisper in time of public speaking.

7. The members shall be addressed by the appellation of brothers or sisters.

8. No member shall absent himself from the association while in session without leave.

9. The names of the members of the association shall be enrolled and called over as the association deems it necessary.

10. No member shall speak more than fifteen minutes at any one time without leave of the association.

11. Any person who knowingly breaks any of these rules shall be reproved by the moderator according to direction of the association.

