

Carrie May

MINUTES
OF THE
Twenty-sixth Annual Session
OF THE
CANADIAN ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTIST

HELD WITH
Shady Grove Church, near Wetumka, Oklahoma,
beginning on Thursday night, August 6, 1931.

OFFICERS

Moderator, Rev. W. H. Carter
Ass't Mod., Rev. W. P. Scott
Clerk, Bro. C. H. Goode
Ass't Clerk, Sister Ethel Eason

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be held with Shady Grove Church, near Wetumka,
Oklahoma, beginning on Thursday night before the
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PROCEEDINGS

The Twenty-sixth Annual Session of the Canadian Association met with Shady Grove Church, near Wetumka, Oklahoma, Thursday night, August 6, 1931.

Opening song, "Amazing Grace." Prayer by Rev. W. P. Scott. Scripture reading by Rev. McCready, Acts 20: 28-38. Prayer by Rev. Arthur Reed. Song, "Am I a Soldier."

Introductory sermon by Rev. McCready, followed by Rev. Carter. Text, "Take heed therefore unto yourselves."

Dismissed by Rev. Reed to meet at 8:30 o'clock Friday morning, August 7th.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Called together by singing, "Over There." Scripture reading, Psalm 23. Prayer by Rev. Emmett Gray. Song, "Will Jesus Find us Watching?"

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

The church letters were called for and the following churches responded by letter and delegates:

East Liberty—Delegates: Brothers Hames, Housley and Purgson. We report as follows: State of religion good. Members received, 22; baptized, 17; died, one; resident members, 37; non-resident members, 6; total membership, 43. Pastor for ensuing year, Rev. Arthur Reid. Meeting day, the second Sunday. Paid pastor, \$45.35. Condition of Sunday school, good; prayer meeting, good. Minute money, \$1.01.

Mrs. C. F. Purgson, Clerk elect, Hanna, Okla.

Okfuskee—Delegates: Sisters Lillie Long, Ethel Walden and T. M. Robinson. We report as follows: State of religion, good. Members received by confession, 3; dismissed by letter, 2; resident members, 24; nonresident, 1; total in full fellowship, 25. Our meeting day the third Sunday in each month. Pastor for ensuing year, Elder J. E. Phillips. Contribution for minutes, \$1.50.

T. J. Crow, Clerk, Okfuskee, Oklahoma.

Shady Grove—Delegates: Bro. Finis Brooks and Sister Georgia Brooks. We report as follows: State of religion, good. Members died, one; resident members, 31; non-resident, 15; total in full fellowship, 46. Meeting days the fourth Sunday in each month. Value of church property, \$600.00. Contribution for minutes, \$3.00.

Rev. W. P. Scott, Moderator
B. M. Mayfield, Clerk, Wetumka, Okla.

Allen—Delegates: Sisters Carrie May and Susie Burden, and Bro. Erby Burden. Statistics: Members received by confession, 19; resident members, 41; non-resident, 30; total membership, 71. Pastor, Bro. McCready. Meeting day first Sunday in each mo. For minutes, \$2.05. Susie Burden, Church Clerk, Weleetka, Oklahoma.

Welcome—Delegates: Sisters W. H. Carter and W. D. McCready and Bro. Nation. Statistics: Members received, 27; dismissed, 2; died, one; total membership, 57. Have not called a pastor; delegates are instructed to look for a pastor. Paid pastor \$32.00; church agreed to pay pastor \$60.00 the coming year. Contribution for minutes, \$2.00.

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

Paden—Delegates: Bro. and Sister Pat McMullen and Sister Carson. Resident members, 32; non-resident, none; total membership, 32. Pastor's salary, \$150.00. Meeting days, second Saturday night and Sunday of each month. Value of church property, \$1500.00. Contribution for minutes, \$3.00.

Lillie Maddox, Church Clerk, Paden, Oklahoma

Vanzant—Delegates: Brothers W. H. Covey and R. G. Vanzant. Statistics: Meeting days are on the fourth Sunday of each month. Total membership, 23. Contribution for minutes, \$1.10.

Helen Vanzant, Church Clerk, Paden, Oklahoma.

Antioch—Delegates: Bro. Art Smith and Sister Ethel Eason. Statistics: Our meeting days are on the third Sunday in each month. Members received, none; died, one; resident members, 16; non-resident, one; total in full fellowship, 17. Contribution for minutes, \$2.15.

Ethel Eason, Church Clerk.

Called for petitionary letters. None.

Motion and second that we receive the letters and seat the delegates.

Visiting brothers and sisters invited to seats in council.

Committees appointed as follows:

Devotional—Bros. B. M. Mayfield, Art Smith, S. A. Eason

Obituary—Rev. W. T. Walden, Bro. John D. Campbell, and Bro. S. P. Carmichael.

Temperance—Rev. W. D. McCready, Sister M. C. Eason, and Sister W. H. Carter.

Finance—Rev. W. P. Scott, Sister McCready, and Bro. S. W. Renfrow.

Resolutions—Rev. W. D. McCready, Rev. Emmett Gray and Bro. G. H. Jones.

Sunday School—Sister Fannie Townsend, Sister Magnolia Green and Sister Ella Eason.

Arrangements—Brothers B. M. Mayfield, Finis Brooks and John D. Campbell.

The Canadian Association recommends to set State Association to remove section one of usages.

Motion and second that we send delegates to State Association and that they be instructed to ask removal of above article.

Motion carried that we send Rev. Carter and Rev. Scott as delegates to the State Association

Devotional Committee report Rev. Scott to preach at 11 o'clock, followed by Rev. Walden.

Adjourned for 11 o'clock service.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Called together by singing "When I Can Read My Titles Clear." Prayer by Sister Levi Smith.

Preaching by Rev. Scott and Rev. Walden. Text, 1 Tim. 4:16. Dismissed by song and prayer.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Called together by singing, "The Old Account was Settled." Prayer by Rev. W. K. Smith.

Devotional Committee report Rev. Jesse Roberts to preach at 8 o'clock p. m. followed by Rev. Carter.

Report of Temperance Committee recommend that the last year's report as recorded in the 1930 minute. Report received and committee discharged.

Motion carried that we prefer charges against Rev. E. A. O'Donnell for obtaining money from this Association through false pretense, and withdraw the hand of fellowship, and call for his credentials.

Motion carried that we adjourn to meet at 8:30 a. m. Saturday. Closing song, "Are you Washed in the Blood?" Dismissed in a word of prayer by Rev. Reed.

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Called together at 8:00 p. m. by singing song No. 139. Prayer by Rev. McCready. Scripture reading, St John 15th chapter. Text, John 15:4. Preaching by Rev. Jesse Roberts, followed by Rev. Carter. A good old time testimony meeting followed, and the power of God fell, and many shouted and praised God.

The doors of Shady Grove church were opened by singing, "I Live On." Brothers E. C. Clark and Loney B. Brooks were received into the church. Dismissed in a word of prayer by Rev. W. J. Gray.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Called together by singing, "Are You Washed in the Blood of the Lamb?" Scripture reading, Psalm 15 by Moderator. Prayer by Bro. Carmichael.

Motion carried to have 300 minutes printed.

Voting to locate Association for 1932, Shady Grove church received 11 votes, Vanzant 2, Okfuskee 10.

Motion carried to make it unanimous for Shady Grove.

Motion carried that the first quarterly meeting be held with Allen church, beginning on Thursday night before the second Sunday in November.

Motion carried that the second quarterly meeting be held with Paden church, beginning on Thursday night before the second Sunday in February, 1932.

Motion carried that the third quarterly meeting be held at Okfuskee, beginning on Thursday night before the second Sunday in May, 1932.

Report of Finance Committee received. (See reports). Report received and committee discharged.

Treasurer's report made and received. (See reports).

Motion carried to adjourn till 2:00 p. m. Closing song, "Nearer My God To Thee." Prayer by Bro. Hulsey.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Called together by singing, "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing." Prayer by Sister Townsend.

Rev. Walden was elected to preach the introductory sermon at the first quarterly meeting to be held at Allen church, Rev. Scott alternate.

Rev. Carter was elected to preach the introductory sermon at the next Association.

Motion carried that quarterly meetings begin on Thursday night.

Motion carried that we receive the verbal report of the Resolutions Committee and discharge the committee.

Devotional Committee reports that Rev. Carter preach tonight, followed by Rev. Walden.

Motion carried that report be accepted and committee discharged.

Report of Sunday School Committee read and rec'd. and committee discharged.

Committee on Ministerial Standing and Character report read, and received and committee discharged.

Minutes were read and motion carried to receive them as read.

Motion that we vote a card of thanks to the church and community for their kindness and hospitality during our stay with them.

Closing song, "There's a Great Day Coming," and a Good-bye Handshaking. Dismissed in a word of prayer by Rev. W. K. Smith.

Roll of Ministers Present

Rev. W. D. McCready,.....Edna, Oklahoma
Rev. W. P. Scott,.....R3, Holtenville, Oklahoma
Rev. W. T. Walden,.....R4, Okemah, Oklahoma
Rev. Arthur Reed,.....R1, Weleetka, Oklahoma
Rev. E. M. Grey,.....R1, Coalgate, Oklahoma
Rev. W. K. Smith,.....R1, Paden, Oklahoma
Rev. W. H. Carter,.....Tuskegee, Oklahoma

Roll of Absent Ministers

Rev. J. T. Champion,.....R1, Okemah, Oklahoma
Rev. J. W. Davis,.....R2, Seminole, Oklahoma
Rev. W. L. Hutchens,.....B7, Yeager, Oklahoma
Rev. W. T. Childers,.....Prague, Oklahoma
Rev. S. D. Pendergraft,.....Castle, Oklahoma
Rev. O. P. Westbrook,.....Okemah, Oklahoma
Rev. R. L. Roberts,.....

Treasurer's Report:

Received for minutes	\$11.05
Later Shady Grove church sent in	3.00
Balance on from 1929	3.65
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Total amount received	\$17.70
Paid out for printing minutes	\$17.00
Paid out for postage85
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Total amount paid out	\$17.85
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Amount of shortage15

Report of Finance Committee:

Minute money: Paden church	\$3.00
Antioch church	2.15
Okfuskee church	1.50
East Liberty church	1.01
Allen church	2.05
Shady Grove church	3.00
Yanzant church	1.10
Welcome church	2.00
Second day's collection	5.19
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Total collections	\$21.00

Committee | Rev. W. P. Scott
 | Sister McCready
 | Bro. S. W. Renfrow

Report of Committee on Ministerial Standing & Character:

We, your Committee, beg to report that we find all our ministers in good standing, except Rev. E. A. O'Donnell, which we find out of order.

Committee | Bro. B. M. Mayfield
 | Bro. M. F. Reed
 | Bro. G. W. Baker
 | Bro. J. H. West.

Report of Obituary Committee:

Rev. T. J. Townsend, born July 18, 1856, died January 26, 1931. He was a minister of the Gospel for 48 years. He has ceased to meet with us here on earth, but our loss is his eternal gain.

Sister Vanderpool was near 70 years old. She had been a member of East Liberty church nearly five years. We trust that our loss is her eternal gain.

Sister Jessie Gregory died about April 25, 1931. She had been a member of the church a long time. She lived a consecrated Christian life. We trust that our loss is her eternal gain.

Brother Louis Smith was 48 years old when he died. He was converted about 20 years ago. He has passed out into eternity, but we trust that our loss is his eternal gain in eternity.

Committee { Bro. S. P. Carmichael
 { Bro. John D. Campbell
 { Rev. W. T. Walden

Report of Committee on Sunday Schools:

We recommend the endorsement of the report as recorded in 1930 minutes. Report as follows:

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 practicable, 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.

Furthermore we find, from statistics of the United States, that 90 per cent of all church members have come from the Sunday school, 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 that it should have.

Taking the above facts as stated, we heartily endorse 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—From the 1930 minutes.

Committee { Sister Fannie Townsend
 { Sister Magnola Green
 { Sister Ella Eason.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

Art. 1. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the infallible word of God, and the only safe rule of faith and practice.—2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:20-21.

Art. 2. That there is but one true and living God, and in the God-Head or Divine Essence, Father, Son and Holy Ghost.—Gen. 17:1; 1 John 5:7.

Art. 3. That we are fallen and depraved Creatures and cannot extricate ourselves from our fallen situation by any ability we possess by nature.—Eph. 5:1, 19.

Art. 4. That Salvation, Regeneration, Sanctification, Justification and Redemption are by the Life, Death, Resurrection, Ascension and Intercession of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.—Acts 4:12; Titus 3:5.

Art. 5. That he that shall endure to the end, the same shall be saved.—Matt. 24:13; 2:10.

Art. 6. That the joys of the righteous, and the punishment of the wicked shall be eternal.—Matt. 25:46.

Art. 7. That Baptism and the Lord's Supper, and the washing of the saints' feet are ordinances of Jesus Christ appointed in the church, and none but true believers are proper subjects, and the only proper mode of baptism is immersion.—Mark 1:4, 9, 10; Luke 23:30; John 13:14.

Art. 8. We believe in the sanctity of the first day of the week, or the Lord's day, and that it ought to be observed and spent in the public or private worship of God, and that on it we should abstain from our worldly concerns, except in case of necessity or mercy.—Ex. 31:15; Deut. 5:12; Matt. 12:12.

Art. 9. We believe in the resurrection of the body, both of the just and the unjust, but every one on his own order; those who have done evil to the resurrection of damnation, and that God has appointed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus Christ. 1 Cor. 15:34; John 5:28-29; 1 Thes. 4:16.

Art. 10. That it is our duty to be tender and affectionate to one another, and to study the happiness of the people of God in general, and to be singly engaged to promote the honor of God.—John 13:35; Gal. 6:10.

Art. 11. We believe that Jesus Christ by the grace of God tasted death for every man; yet none can partake of His Divine benefit only by his repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, infants and idiots excepted.—Acts 20:21; 1 Tim. 1:5-6; John 3:14-16; 1 Cor. 15:20-22; Romans 5:15.

Art. 12. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is the door into the church, that baptism is a duty in answer to a good conscience.—John 17:7; 1 Peter 3:21.

Art. 13. We believe that the Lord's people are one in Him, and therefore should be one at His table.—1 Cor. 1:1, 11, 27, 28; John 17:11.

CONSTITUTION

From long experience, we, the members of the Church of God (denominated Free Will Baptist), being regularly baptized upon a profession of our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and being convinced of the necessity of a communion of churches to perpetuate a union among us, and to preserve and maintain correspondence with each other, do therefore ordain this Constitution for our better church government.

Art. 1. MEMBERSHIP. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the churches or Q. M. of our union, not exceeding three messengers from each church, and upon producing letters, they shall be entitled to seats. All ordained ministers and deacons of said union shall be regular members, when present, by virtue of their office.

Art. 2. NAME. The members thus chosen and assembled, with the ministers and deacons, to be denominated the Canadian Association of the Church of God (denominated Free Will Baptist), being composed of the several churches of our union, the Association having no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor having any ecclesiastical power over the 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 received by experience, by letters of recommendation, or restored; the number dismissed or excluded, and those who have died since the 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.

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. 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. 10. 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. 11. 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 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.

Art. 13. AMENDMENTS. Amendments to this Constitution may be made when necessary by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant. We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid the appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world; from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work. We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit," in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able promote the success of the church and of the Gospel. We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society; constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sabbath Schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of souls, and the conversion of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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 Baptist, 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 the com-
 ing year \$..... Meeting days are on the.....
 Sunday in each month. We have received by confession
; by letter.....; dismissed by letter.....;
 exeluded.....; withdrawn; died
 resident members.....; non-resident members.....;
 total in full fellowship..... Value of church prop-
 erty \$..... 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 Ass'n, if wanted). Pray for us.
 Done in Conference on the.....day of.....193.....
Moderator
 Clerk.

A. Presbytery for Ordaining Ministers and Deacons

1. The Presbytery for ordaining an Elder shall con-
 sist of two ordained ministers and one ordained deacon.
2. The Presbytery for ordaining a deacon must be com-
 posed of two ordained deacons and one ordained minister.

RULES FOR ORDAINING

1. To present the candidate.
2. To examine the candidate on doctrine and quali-
 fications.
3. Prayer and laying on of hands by the Presbytery.
4. Presentation of the Bible.
5. To deliver him the charge.
6. To extend to him the right hand of fellowship.

26
 30

 56
 18

 74

Order of Business

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

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 they shall rise to their feet and address the Moderator.
3. Any person speaking shall not be interrupted by anyone except the Moderator until they are through speaking; nor shall the Moderator unless they break order.
4. Any person speaking shall adhere to the subject in question and shall not cast any reflections on those 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 and Sisters.
8. No members shall absent themselves 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 the direction of the Association.
12. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association.

