

**Canadian Association
of
FREE WILL BAPTIST
CHURCH OF GOD**

1951

*Proceedings of the 46th
Annual Session*

Convened With Vanzant Church,
Vanzant, Oklahoma, Beginning on
Wednesday Night Before the Second
Sunday in August, 1951

Minutes
of the
Forty-Sixth Annual Session
of the
Canadian Association
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
Of God

OFFICERS

Moderator ----- Elder Ernest Harrison
Ass't. Moderator ----- Elder Cecil McKenzie
Clerk ----- Sister Audrey Overlease
Ass't. Clerk ----- Sister Clara Caton

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Elder Melvin Mouser ----- One Year
Elder W. E. Wilson ----- Two Years
Elder Carl Shivers ----- Three Years
Elder Olin Bevon ----- Four Years
Elder Leonard Bean ----- Five Years

The next annual session of this Association will be held with the Weleetka Church on Wednesday night before the 2nd Sunday in August, 1952.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Introductory Sermon
2. House called to order by Moderator
3. Letters called for, read and received.
4. Right hand of fellowship and seating of Delegates.
5. Election of Officers
6. Petitionary letters called for.
7. Reading rules of order. (By-Laws).
8. Invite visiting brethren to seats in Council.
9. Appointment of Committees.
10. Unfinished business.
11. New business.
12. Report of Committees.
13. Miscellaneous business.

Annual Session of Canadian Association met with the Vanzant Church Wednesday night, August 8th, 1951. Services were opened with Congregational singing led by Sis. Joy Vanzant, and prayer by Eld. W. E. Wilson. Elder Carl Shivers acted as Moderator-pro-tem. A special number in song was rendered by Eld. Marion Caton, Sis. Caton, Eld. W. E. Wilson and Joe Caton. Devotional services were led by Sis. Erma Smith. Several more specials were enjoyed and an altar prayer followed. Elder Tom Elliott delivered an inspiring message on the 15th Chapter of John. An altar call was made. And the meeting was dismissed in prayer.

Thursday morning Session of Canadian Association opened with singing led by Bro. Claud Chisum. Prayer by Eld. Arthur Reid. Moderator Marion Caton in charge. He chose Psalms 133 Chapter as his scripture reading. Prayer by Elder McCready. Moderator the body ready for business. Letters of various churches called for at this time: Holdenville, Hanna, Cross Roads, Schoolton, Spring Creek, Paden, Vanzant, Allen, Non, Weleetka and Hill Top responded.

Motion carried we call for petitionary letters. Calvin and Oke-mah presented petitionary letters. Motion carried we receive the two churches into our organization and Delegates to be seated. The temporary appointed divine Committee reports that Eld. Ernest Harrison and Eld. George Taylor will bring the eleven o'clock message. Recessed for five minutes. Called together by singing led by Eld. Wilson and Sis. Martha Crow at the piano. Elder Harrison chose as his message, "Why are you not a Christian?" Eld. Taylor used, "Why are You a Sinner?" Both were wonderful messages. Lunch was served at the church. Elder Arthur Reid graced the table.

Thursday afternoon session was opened with singing led by Sis. Joy Dell Vanzant. Prayer by Eld. Lonnie Hall. Assistant Moderator, Eld. Wilson read Romans 12:1-5 as his scripture and Moderator declared body ready for business.

Officers elected were as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Eld. Ernest Harrison | Moderator |
| Eld. Cecil McKenzie | Asst. Moderator |
| Sis. Audrey Overlease | Clerk |
| Sis. Clara Caton | Asst. Clerk |

And Committees appointed were as follows:

Divine Committee—Bro. Loy Shivers, Bro. George Reich and Bro. Young.

Resolution Committee—Eld. Marion Caton, Eld. Lonnie Hall, Bro. Claud Chisum.

Sunday School Committee—Bro. Lyle, Sis. Ruth Walker and Sis. Mattie Harriman.

Finance Committee: Sis. Bessie Shaeffer, Eld. Leonard Bean, and Sis. Melvin Mouser.

Obituary Committee—Sis. Lila Wilson, Sis. Mildred Searcy and Sis. Florence Burden.

Temperance Committee—Bro. Jimmy Searcy, Bro. Johnny Strickland and Sis. Young.

Recessed for thirty minutes. Session called together with song led by Bro. Wilson. Eld. Champion led prayer. Motion carried we receive the minutes approved as read and all ordinations be carried over in the Annual Minutes.

Motion carried we abolish the Associational Camp Meeting and revival money.

Motion carried Annual Association will convene at the Weleetka Church. Eld. Carl Shivers and Eld. Claud Chisum were chosen to bring the introductory message.

Motion carried we select a site for Associational Camp grounds. Motion carried we adjourn business meeting until 9:30 Friday morning.

Thursday night Session opened with Congregational singing and prayer led by Eld. Leonard Bean. Mod. Ernest Harrison in charge. Old-fashioned altar of prayer by Eld. Arthur Reid. Eld. Olen Bevons in charge of Devotional Services. Eld. Claud Chisum and Eld. W. E. Wilson delivered inspiring messages on "Prayer." After placing delegates in homes for the night, Bro. Melton Baughn dismissed meeting with prayer.

Friday morning opened with singing led by Eld. W. E. Wilson. Moderator Ernest Harrison in charge. Moderator declared body ready for business. Motion carried a committee be selected from this body (other than ministers) to work with League Committee about Ass. Camp Grounds. This committee consists of: Bro. Lyle, Bro. Martin, and Bro. Berry.

Motion carried highest voted man to be chairman of this committee. (Bro. Lyle). Motion carried committee make a report to each individual thirteen churches before the first quarterly meeting.

Motion carried that the quarterly meetings be placed as follows: First quarterly meeting with Calvin on Thursday night before the 2nd Sunday, in Nov. 1951. Eld. Odis Robinson and Eld. Bevons to bring the introductory messages.

Second quarterly meeting to be held at Schoolton on Thursday night before the 2nd Sunday in February, 1952.

Third quarterly meeting to be held at Cross Roads on Thursday, night before the 2nd Sunday in May, 1952.

Recessed for 15 minutes. Called back into session with singing led by Joy Vanzant. Eld. Bevons and Elder Bean delivered wonder-

ful messages and a soul was won to the Lord. Dismissed for lunch and Elder Jim Edmond graced the table.

Friday evening session began with Congregational singing led by Bro. Chisum, prayer by Eld. Harrison and a solo by Bernice Smith.

Motion carried Brethren having more than one office has the privilege of selecting the one he desires. Motion carried we receive Evangelist report as read. Eld. Tom Elliot and Eld. Marion Caton were selected as our Evangelists.

Delegates elected to the State Association were Bro. Loy Shivers, Bro. Lyle, and Bro. Jim Martin. Elder Marion Caton elected as delegate to the General Board for next year.

Motion carried that minutes were to be accepted as read. Meeting turned over to the two oldest ministers, Elder McCready and Eld. Arthur Reid.

Motion carried that we accept the report of the Committees appointed and discharge same.

Motion carried clerk check to see how much each church owes our Evangelist. Motion carried we give Vanzant a standing vote of thanks for their kindness and hospitality shown during this session.

Motion carried we adjourn until our next Annual Session to be held with the Weleetka church on Wednesday night before the 2nd Sunday in August, 1952.

Committee Reports:

Temperance: We, your Temperance Committee recommend that each pastor preach at least one sermon on temperance each quarter. We, also recommend that as a body of Christian people, we abstain from all intoxicating beverages and any other practice that defiles the church. Signed by Committee

Obituary: We, humbly submit to God's wisdom in calling from our midst our Brothers and Sisters in Christ: Bro. Sam Hollingsworth, Bro. Silas Wilcox, Bro. Lee Burden, Bro. John Jones, Bro. Jim Radford, Bro. W. Patterson, Bro. James Crow, Bro. Thomas, Bro. Tom Haggard and Sister E. C. Clark and Sis. Bertha Orr.

Signed by Committee

Sunday School: We, the Sunday School Committee recommend that parents bring their children to Sunday School, teaching them memory verses from the Bible for each Sunday. We recommend cards be sent to absentees, reminding them they were missed and inviting them back to Sunday School.

Signed by Committee

Examining Board: We, your Examining Committee, find Eld. Richard Venable of Holdenville Church to be of sound doctrine and faith and therefore recommend him to his home church for his ordination to the ministry. We, also, recommend Bro. Nathaniel Vanzant of Hill Top Church, Bro. Cephas Mouser of Spring Creek Church, and Bro. Aubry Willbanks of Calvin Church to their respective churches to be ordained as Deacons.

Signed by Committee

RESOLUTIONS

1925) No. 1. Be it resolved that each pastor preach at least two doctrinal sermons each year.

No. 2. That if the churches of this association, that do not pay amount promised pastor if he fills his part of the agreement, shall have no other pastor until they pay the deficit.

(1936) No. 1. Be it resolved that each minister make a written report of his years work to the annual Association.

No. 3. Be it resolved that only ordained ministers and deacons administer Ordinance of the church.

(1937) No. 2. Be it resolved that we carry out Gods plan on tithing.

No. 3. Be it resolved that all ministers and Deacons go before the Examining board for qualification before ordination.

Resolved by Executive board on August 22, 1950 that resolution No. 2 of 1938, be abolished.

(1939) No. 1. Be it resolved that this Association so order all churches in this Association prohibit the use of tobacco in any form inside the church building and that the pastor and deacons see that this ruling be enforced.

No. 2. Resolved that this Association demand all ministers, pastoring in Canadian Association, while belonging to another association, abide by Canadian Association laws, during their pastoral care in it.

(1940) Annual No. 1. Be it resolved that the devotional Com. Select no minister more than one time in any Association or quarterly meeting.

Annual No. 2. Be it resolved that each church make a report of all deaths in their letter to the Annual session.

Resolved by Executive board August 22, 1950 to abolish resolution No. 1. 1st quarterly meeting.

(1940) 1st quarterly meeting. Be it resolved any person or persons trying to obstruct the duty of this Association, shall not hold a seat in Association until they make their acknowledgement and apologies for same.

(1940) 2nd quarterly. No. 1. Be it resolved that this Association require its licensed ministers to preach at least ten sermons on church government before ordination.

Resolved by Executive board August 22, 1950 to abolish resolution No. 3, 1940.

(1942) No. 1. Be it resolved that when an individual church call the Executives board that they pay the expense of the board.

Resolution by Executive board, August 22, 1950 that No. 1 of first quarterly be abolished.

2nd quarterly. Be it resolved that each church send letters to our quarterly meetings like the form in our minutes.

(1943) No. 1. Be it resolved that we the Canadian Association, send a letter with a corresponding delegate to sister associations to help bring about a better spirit of Christian friendship and brotherly love.

(1948) Be it resolved that each church send \$15.00 minute and association expenses to the annual session.

(1949) annual. Be it resolved that this association elect ministers to preach only for the first quarterly meeting and one quarterly thereafter.

2nd quarterly No. 1. Be it resolved that we carry out the plans of our state association.

(1950) 2nd quarterly. Be it resolved that the Canadian Association start a building fund for the purpose of building new churches

and be it further resolved, we elect a board of five to administer these funds. Be it also resolved that we ask each resident member to contribute one dollar per member each year.

(1951) No. 1. Be it resolved that the Association elect a new moderator and clerk each year. (Not to succeed themselves.)

No. 2 Be it resolved that the Association does not leave more than two men on any board for more than two years at one time with the exception of the Credential Committee to stand as it is in the Constitution.

No. 3. Be it resolved that no one hold more than one office in this Association in any one year.

No. 4. Be it resolved that this Association leave Article One of the Constitution on this Association to read exactly as they are in the Minutes with the exception that the clerk and assistant shall also be regular members.

No. 5 Be it resolved that we extend to the Vanant Church and community our heart-felt thanks for their hearty welcome and hospitality during our ten day meeting and Annual Association.

Signed by,
Committee

MINISTERS DIRECTORY

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Leonard Bean, Box 264 | Wetumka, Okla. |
| Olen Beyon, Route 2 | Okemah, Okla. |
| J. N. Caton, 508 West 4th | Ada, Okla. |
| Marion Caton, Route 4 | Holdenville, Okla. |
| J. P. Champion | Okemah, Okla. |
| Claud Cisum, Box 2 | Non, Okla. |
| Albert Collier | Okemah, Okla. |
| J. T. Elliott, Box 225 | Calvin, Okla. |
| Ernest Harrison | Weleetka, Okla. |
| W. D. McCready, Route 2 | Okemah, Okla. |
| Cecil McKenzie, Route 2 | Sasakwa, Okla. |
| Carrie May | Weleetka, Okla. |
| Melvin Mouser | Hanna, Okla. |
| Gene Overlease, Box 344 | Weleetka, Okla. |
| Arthur Reid | Weleetka, Okla. |
| Odis Robinson | Okemah, Okla. |
| Carl Shivers, Route 1 | Paden, Okla. |
| George Taylor, Box 86 | Snomae, Okla. |
| W. E. Wilson, Box 103 | Holdenville, Okla. |

Orphanage Board

Eld. Cecil Mckenzie
Eld. Tom Elliott

Eld. Johnny Strickland

Eld. Odis Robinson
Eld. Gene Overlease

Finance Board

Eld. Marion Caton
Eld. Loy Shivers

Eld. Johnny Searcy

Eld. Weyland Bogle
Eld. Claud Chisum

Examining Board

Eld. U. D. McCready

Eld. Ernest Harrison

Eld. U. E. Wilson

| Church | Pastor | Clerk | No. on Roll | Received | Dismissed | Deceased | Meeting Date | Value of Church Property |
|--------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------|----------|-----------|----------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Allen | Albert Collier | Carrie May | 67 | | | 2 | Full Time | |
| Calvin | Leonard Bean | Lizzie Hawks | 13 | 6 | | | Full Time | |
| Cross Roads | W. E. Wilson | Josie Blaylock | 41 | | 1 | 1 | 4th Sun. | |
| Hanna | Jack Dodson | Ethel Mouser | 43 | 17 | | | Full Time | 3,000 |
| Hill Top | George Taylor | Ethel Hume | 76 | 8 | | | Full Time | 2,000 |
| Holdenville | C. E. McKenzie | Martha Crow | 97 | 29 | | 1 | Full Time | 10,000 |
| Non | Clarence Dodson | Mable Priest | 159 | 19 | 1 | | 3rd Sun. | 4,000 |
| Okemah | Olen Bevons | Ida Berry | 21 | 18 | | | Full Time | 1,000 |
| Paden | Carl Shivers | Sylvia Loney | 46 | 8 | 6 | 1 | Full Time | 4,000 |
| Schoolton | Odis Robinson | Jewel Hinkle | 78 | 9 | 9 | 2 | Full Time | |
| Spring Creek | Marion Caton | Ruth Philips | 87 | 2 | | 2 | 2nd Sun. | 2,000 |
| Vanzant | Carl Shivers | Gertrude Liles | 26 | | | | | |
| Weleetka | Ernest Harrison | Audrey Overlease | 185 | 12 | | 3 | Full Time | 3,700 |
| | | | 939 | 128 | 17 | 12 | | TOTAL \$20,700 |

FINANCE

We wish to report that various churches have sent the following amounts:

| Church | Revival Fund | State Min. | Canadian Min. |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Allen | | \$ 2.00 | \$ 3.00 |
| Calvin | | | \$ 3.00 |
| Cross Roads | \$10.00 | \$ 5.00 | \$ 10.00 |
| Hanna | \$10.00 | \$ 2.00 | \$ 5.00 |
| Hill Top | | \$ 5.00 | \$ 10.00 |
| Holdenville | \$10.00 | \$ 5.00 | \$ 15.00 |
| Non | \$10.00 | | \$ 15.00 |
| Okemah | | \$ 3.00 | \$ 7.00 |
| Paden | | \$ 7.00 | \$ 5.00 |
| Spring Creek | \$10.00 | \$ 5.00 | \$ 10.00 |
| Scholton | | \$ 2.50 | \$ 5.00 |
| Vanzant | \$ 5.00 | \$ 5.00 | \$ 10.00 |
| Weleetka | | \$ 2.50 | \$ 5.00 |
| | <u>\$55.00</u> | <u>\$44.00</u> | <u>\$103.00</u> |
| | | | 44.00 |
| | | | 55.00 |
| TOTAL | | | <u>\$202.00</u> |

Signed by Committee

CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORT:

| | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1951 Balance brought forth | | \$ 64.86 |
| Annual Revival Fund | | 55.00 |
| Canadian Minutes | | 103.00 |
| State Minutes | | 44.00 |
| Associational Evangelist | | 25.00 |
| Building Fund | | 10.00 |
| | | <u>\$301.86</u> |
| Paid: | | |
| Annual Revival: | \$55.00 |) |
| Building Fund: | \$10.00 |) |
| Asst. Evangelist | \$15.00 |) |
| | <u>\$80.00</u> | |
| | | Bal. \$221.86 |

ARTICLES OF FAITH

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 Peter 1:20-21.

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; John 5:7

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.

4. That Salvation, Regeneration, Sanctification, Justification and Redemption are by the Life, Death, Resurrection, Ascension and

Intercession of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.—Acts 4:12; Titus 3:5.

5. That he that shall endure to the end, the same shall be saved.—Matt. 22:13; Rev. 2:10.

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

7. That Baptism and the Lord's Supper, and the washing of the Saint's feet are the 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.

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 cases of necessity and mercy.—Ex. 31-15; Deut. 5-12; Matt. 12:12.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the body, both of the just and unjust, but every one in 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; 1 Thess. 4:16.

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.

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; Tim. 2:5-6; John 3:14-16; Cor. 15:20-22; Romans 5:15.

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 10-7; 1 Peter 3:21.

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

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 members 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.

RULES FOR HOLDING CHURCH CONFERENCE

1. Call Church into Conference.
2. Invite visiting Brethren to seats in Council.
3. Reading of minutes of last meeting.
4. Report of Treasurer or Finance Committee.
5. Unfinished business.
6. New Business.
7. Any sick or in need.

LETTER OF DISMISSAL

This is to certify that is a member in good standing of the Free Will Baptist Church at and as such we recommend him (or her) to the fellowship of God's people, and is dismissed from us when united with another church.

Done in Church Conference this day of 19.....
Pastor Clerk

LETTER TO ASSOCIATION

The Free Will Baptist Church of God, worshipping at county of this (date) P.O. address sends greetings to the Annual Session of the brethren and sisters composing the Canadian Association of Free Will Baptists, to let you know of our love and fellowship and our zeal for the cause of Christ.

Pastor's salary for the coming year \$..... Meeting day is on the Sundays of each month. We have received by Confession Letter; Excluded; Died; Resident Members; Non-resident Members; Total in full Fellowship We have in our membership, Ministers names Ordained Deacons names We have paid out for Evangelistic Work \$.....; Missions \$..... Support of the Association \$..... Total Amount paid out by the Church \$..... We (have or have not) a F. W. B. Sunday School. We (have or have not) F. W. B. League. Value of Church Property \$..... Contribution for Minutes \$.....; State Minutes \$..... We have chosen (brothers or sisters) as our delegates to represent us in the Annual Session when convened with Church. We have chosen Elder for our pastor for the ensuing year. (Here ask for the Next Association or Quarterly if wanted). Pray for us: Done in conference this day of 19.....

....., Moderator
....., Address
....., Clerk
....., Address

CONSTITUTION

From long experience, we, the members of the Church of God (denominated Free Will Baptist), being regularly baptised upon a profession of our faith in Lord Jesus Christ, and being convinced of the necessity of a combination 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 different churches 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 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 address of ordained and licensed ministers, the number of members received upon profession of faith, by letter or recommendation, by restoration or denominational choice; the number dismissed by letter, excluded, and those having died since last Association. Churches, in sending their letters, may send obituaries of any who died during the year, that we may keep up the memorial of our dead.

Art. 4. OFFICERS. The Association to have a Moderator, a clerk, and a Credential Committee of three ordained elected by the suffrage of the members of the Association at each annual association. The Credentials Committee shall be elected as follows: One for three years, one for two years, and one for one year. Then one each year following to succeed the outgoing members.

Art. 5. NEW CHURCHES. Newly constituted churches may be admitted to the Association, which are to petition by letter and delegates, and if upon examination, they are found to be orthodox and orderly, they may be received into the Association, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

Art. 6. QUESTIONS. No questions from any church shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it has been first considered 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 amount paid by 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. **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. 12. **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. 13. **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. 14. **AMENDMENTS.** Amendments to this Constitution may be made, when necessary, by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular session.

FREE WILL BAPTIST 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 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.

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.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises the support of missions, the success of Sunday 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.

