

**Canadian Association
of
Free Will Baptist
Church of God**



1953

**Proceedings of the 48th
Annual Session**



**CONVENED WITH THE CALVIN CHURCH
Calvin, Oklahoma, Beginning on
Wednesday Night Before the Second Sunday
in August, 1953**

M I N U T E S

OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH of God

OFFICERS

Moderator	Eld. Odis Robinson
Ass't. Moderator	Eld. Austin Jenson
Clerk	Eld. Marion Caton
Ass't. Clerk	Sis. Clara Caton

The next annual session of this Association will be held with the Vanzant church on Wednesday night before the second Sunday in August, 1954.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Bro. Geo. Mitchell	One Year
Bro. Jimmy Searcy	One Year
Eld. Claud Chisum	One Year
Bro. Johnny Strickland	Two Years
Eld. W. E. Wilson	Two Years

ORPHANAGE BOARD

Eld. Geo. Taylor	One Year
Bro. Dee Blaylock	One Year
Bro. Arch Wilson	One Year
Bro. J. A. Lankford	Two Years
Bro. Howard Gann	Two Years

EXAMINING BOARD

Eld. Ernest Harrison	One Year
Eld. Carl Shivers	Two Years
Eld. Albert Collier	Three Years

FINANCE BOARD OR BUILDING FUND

Bro. Albert Hibbs	One Year
Bro. Gilbert Priest	One Year
Bro. Lon Barry	One Year
Bro. Ben Tabor	Two Years
Bro. Joe Hemmingway	Two Years

CAMP GROUND COMMITTEE

Bro. Geo. Hughes	One Year
Bro. Otis Humes	One Year
Eld. Venable	Two Years

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

Thursday morning session opened with singing led by Eld. W. E. Wilson, Sis. Carol Humes at the piano. The prayer was led by Eld. Scott Jones.

Assistant Moderator Eld. W. E. Wilson read a passage of scripture followed with a prayer by Eld. Arthur Ried. Moderator declared the body ready for business.

Letters of various churches were called for. Churches responding were Weleetka, Hanna, Schoolton, Cross Roads, Calvin, Holdenville, Vanzant, Paden, Allen, Hilltop, Non and Prague. Motion carried that the letters be accepted and delegates be seated by the right hand of fellowship.

The officers were elected as follows: Moderator, Eld. Odis Robinson; Assistant Moderator, Eld. Austin Jensen; Clerk, Eld. Marion Caton, and Assistant Clerk, Sis. Clara Caton.

A motion carried for the moderator to appoint all committees for this session.

COMMITTEES

Divine Committee—Sis. George Hughes, Sis. Gertrude Lyles, Bro. Jim Martin.

Finance Committee: Bro. Dee Blaylock, Eld. Tom Elliott and Eld. Claud Chisum.

Sunday School Committee: Sis. George Taylor, Bro. Louis Tabor and Bro. Tom Priest.

League Committee: Sister Juanita Gann, Sis. Albert Collier, and Sis. Doris Burkett.

Temperance Committee: Bro. Otis Schaffer, Bro. Tillman Vanzant and Bro. Bricker.

Obituary Committee: Sis. Sylvia Lony, Sis. Lizzie Coleman and Eld. R. A. Venable.

Divine Committee reports that Eld. Dale Munkus and Eld. Leonard Crowder will preach at 11 o'clock. Dismissed for recess by Eld. Claud Chisum. Body called together by singing and a special song by Elders W. E. Wilson, Marion Caton, Lenard Crowder, Dale Munkus. Eld. Dale Munkus read Matt. 24 and Elder Crowder chose Rev. 6:17 as his scripture reading. Both brought inspiring and uplifting messages. A song and handshake was enjoyed after which Eld. Scott Jones dismissed in prayer.

Lunch was served at the Tabernacle. Eld. Arthur Ried offered thanks at the table.

Thursday afternoon session was called together by singing. Prayer by Eld. Albert Collier. Moderator in charge. The body was declared ready for business.

The examining board recommends the ordination of Bro. Collier and Bro. Dotson as deacons of the Schoplon church.

Motion carried that we have preaching in the afternoon. Motion carried that the League, Sunday School and Obituary reports be accepted. The body stood in silent prayer in memory of those God called from our midst. Prayer led by Eld. W. E. Wilson.

Friday morning session was opened with singing led by Bro. Ben Tabor, with Sis. Erma Smith at the piano. The assistant moderator was in charge. Prayer led by Bro. Joe Hemingway. Eld. Dale Munkus read Psalm 139.

The Resolutions committee presented its report. Motion carried that resolution No. 1 be tabled until the Resolutions committee is present.

Motion carried that the Temperance report be adopted. Eld. Dale Munkus was elected temporary assistant moderator.

Divine Committee reports that Sis. Naomi Hahn and Eld. Tom Elliott preach at eleven. Motion carried for adjournment until 1 p. m. Dismissed for recess. Body called together by singing led by Eld. Dale Munkus. Sis. Ann Munkus at the piano. Prayer by Elder Art Reid. Sis. Hahn chose St. John 15:1, "Abide in me and I in you" as her text and brought a wonderful message. Eld. Tom Elliot led in prayer and then read Dan. 3 and Acts 23:11.

He brought an inspiring message. Moderator appointed a temporary examining board to examine Bro. Hiram Lyles for a deacon. Dismissed for the noon hour by Eld. W. E. Wilson. Lunch was served at the tabernacle. Bro. Tom Priest graced the table.

The Friday afternoon session was called together by singing led by Sis. Gertrude Lyles. Prayer was led by Bro. Ben Tabor.

Eld. W. E. Wilson sang "When My Saviour Reached Down for Me." Little Judy Lyles sang "Sunlight, Sunlight." Eld. Marion and Sis. Caton sang "Precious Memories" in honor of those gone on.

Motion carried that we send Eld. J. T. Champion a love offering of \$18.16. Regular order of business is again resumed.

Motion carried that we receive the report of the Examining Committee, which recommends Bro. Hiram P. Lyles for ordination at deacon of Vanzant church. Motion carried. The annual session to be held with the Vanzant church. Elders Melvin Mouser and Carl Shivers were elected to preach the introductory message on Wednesday night. Elders Marion Caton and Austin Jenson are to preach the introductory message for the first quarterly meeting to be held with the Prague church beginning on Thursday night, November 5, 1953. The second quarterly meeting is to be held with the Hanna church beginning on February 11, 1954.

The third quarterly meeting is to be held with the Cross Roads church beginning on Thursday night, May 6, 1954.

Motion carried that we have 750 Canadian minutes printed.

Motion carried that the clerk write each church clerk concerning a state delegate. Motion carried that dates of quarterly meetings be mentioned in the minutes. Motion carried that after minutes are paid for, remaining funds be sent to Home Mission fund. Minutes of this session read and approved. Motion carried for adjournment until our next annual session which convenes with the Vanzant church on Wednesday night before the 2nd Sunday in August, 1954.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Temperance: We, the Temperance Committee, recommend more closely the law we have in our Minutes concerning temperance, and that the ministers stress the need for each member to realize his responsibility.
Signed by Committee.

Sunday School: We, the Sunday School Committee, recommend the use of Free Will Baptist teachers when possible, and have a booster band. Also it is advised to visit those who do not attend, thereby building a larger Sunday school.
Signed by Committee.

League Committee: We, the League Committee, feel the need of League work in order that our Free Will Baptist work might be carried on. The League is an important training opportunity and should be supported by the pastor and all members. The six-point record system, along with the quarterlies and manual encourage a broader and more thorough study of our league programs. Sword drills should be stressed for both young and old. If the League is divided into age groups more interest will be shown. We feel that the League is a means of young Christian training and that the League of today is the church of tomorrow.
Signed by committee.

Obituary Committee: We, the Obituary Committee, find that God in his infinite wisdom, has called from our midst:

Hilltop—Sis. Lela Sanders, Bro. Homer Mulkey and Bro. Frank Sloan.

Holdenville—Bro. Alfred Mytle.

Non—Sis. Allie Vance and Bro. Tip Cluck.

Signed by Committee

Finance Committee: We, your finance Committee, wish to report that various churches have sent the following amounts:

CHURCH	State Min.	Canadian Min.
Vanzant -----	\$ 5.00	\$10.00
Hill Top -----	5.00	10.00
Calvin -----	5.00	10.00
Schoolton -----	5.00	10.00
Paden -----	1.00	3.00
Non -----	5.00	10.00
Hanna -----	5.00	10.00
Prague -----	5.00	10.00
Weleetka -----	3.00	4.00
Holdenville -----	5.00	10.00
Cross Roads -----	5.00	10.00
Richmond Ave. -----	5.00	2.00
	<u>\$54.00</u>	<u>101.00</u>
		\$ 54.00
TOTAL -----		\$155.00

Signed by Committee

Building Fund reports a balance of \$49.44, after having given the Richmond Ave. church of Allen \$49.23.

Clerk's Financial Report:

Balance brought forward -----	\$217.33
Received during 1953 session -----	175.00
TOTAL -----	\$392.33
Paid Building Fund -----	20.00
Paid for State Minutes -----	54.00
Canadian Association Minutes -----	120.00
Clerk and Assistant Clerk's pay -----	35.00
BALANCE ON HAND -----	\$163.33

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 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 God's 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 committee 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 sea in Association until they make their acknowledgment and apologies for same.

(1940) 2nd quarterly. No. 1—Be it resolved that this Association require its licenses 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 calls the executive board 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.

(1952) No. 1—Be it resolved that our Assistant Clerk, Sis. Caton, keep the books and have the minutes printed; then turn the books over to the new clerk at the first quarterly meeting. And this program to be continued.

No. 2—Be it resolved that we extend to the Calvin church our heart-felt thanks for their hearty welcome and hospitality during the 47th Session of the Canadian Association.—Signed by Committee.

MINISTER'S DIRECTORY

Leanard Bean, Box 264	Wetumka, Oklahoma
Olen Bevon, Route 2	Seminole, Oklahoma
Dale Burden, Route 1	Weleetka, Oklahoma
Marion Caton, Route 4	Holdenville, Oklahoma
J. P. Champion	Okemah, Oklahoma
Claud Chisum	Non, Oklahoma
Albert Collier	Okemah, Oklahoma
C. F. Dodson	Non, Oklahoma
J. T. Elliott, Box 225	Calvin, Oklahoma
Ernest Harrison	Weleetka, Oklahoma
Austin Jensen, Route 1	Indianola, Oklahoma
W. D. McCreedy, Route 2	Okemah, Oklahoma
C. E. McKenzie, Route 2	Sasakwa, Oklahoma
Carrie May	Weleetka, Oklahoma
Melvin Mouser	Hanna, Oklahoma
Gene Overlease, Box 344	Weleetka, Oklahoma
S. D. Pendergraft, Route 4	Okemah, Oklahoma
Elvis Priest	Holdenville, Oklahoma
Arthur Reid	Weleetka, Oklahoma

Raymond Bevon, Route 4	Okemah, Oklahoma
Dale Munkus	Allen, Oklahoma
R. A. Venable	Stidham, Oklahoma
Naomi Hahn	Weleetka, Oklahoma
Odis Robinson	Okemah, Oklahoma
Carl Shivers, Route 1	Paden, Oklahoma
George Taylor, Box 86	Snomae, Oklahoma
W. T. Walden	Weleetka, Oklahoma
O. P. Westbrook, 222 N. 2nd	Okemah, Oklahoma
W. E. Wilson, Box 103	Holdenville, Oklahoma

Visiting Ministers

Scott Jones, Ada

Harry Lee, Haywood

DEACONS DIRECTORY

Vernice May, Allen
 Russell Richardson, Allen
 Sam Milum, Allen
 Henry Patterson, Allen
 C. A. Holloway, Calvin
 Abra Willbanks, Calvin
 Bee Blaylock, Cross Roads
 Dee Blaylock, Cross Roads
 Richard Dooley, Cross Roads
 Ben Tabor, Hanna
 George Wills, Hanna
 Sample Layman, Hanna
 Otis Hume, Hill Top
 Nathaniel Vanzant, Hill Top
 Howard Gaines, Hill Top
 Ed Roberts, Holdenville
 George Rogers, Holdenville
 E. J. Howell, Holdenville
 A. L. Wilson, Holdenville
 T. A. Priest, Non
 Ed Chisum, Non
 G. A. Priest, Non
 Lloyd Mauldin, Non

L. L. Berry, Okemah
 A. C. Hibbs, Okemah
 Lester Burks, Okemah
 Trevor Case, Paden
 George Mitchell, Paden
 Clarence Day, Prague
 Dick Smith, Prague
 Melton Vaughn, Prague
 Tom McDonald, Prague
 Garland Collier, Schoolton
 Coleman Dotson, Schoolton
 L. A. Lankford, Schoolton
 Bro. Stewart, Schoolton
 Edd Phillips, Spring Creek
 J. S. Searcy, Spring Creek
 Pete Hatfield, Vanzant
 Hiram D. Liles, Vanzant
 Johnnie Stricklin, Vanzant
 Arthur Vanzant, Vanzant
 Raymond Vanzant, Vanzant
 Norman Beaulieu, Weleetka
 Erby Burden, Weleetka
 M. Reid, Weleetka

Church	Pastor	Clerk	No. on Roll	Received	Dismissed	Deceased	Meeting Date	Value of Church Property
Allen	W. T. Walden	Carrie May	48					
Calvin	Ben Pixley	Lizzie Hanks	40	1	1		Full Time	\$2500
Cross Roads	Clarence Dodson	Josie Blaylock	56	2	1		2nd and 4th	
Hanna	Austin Jensen	Wanda Masengale	45	26			Full Time	3000
Hill Top	George Taylor	Ethel Hume	89	11		3	Full Time	2000
Holdenville	Elvis Priest	Vicie Robinson	121	39	6	1	Full Time	8000
Non	Ben Pixley	Lessie Hendrix	185	24		2	Third Sun.	4000
Okemah	Odis Robinson	Ida Berry	30					1500
Paden		Clara Case	47	13			Full Time	4000
Prague	Carl Shivers	Myrtle Day	49	7	8		Full Time	
Schoolton	Albert Collier	Jewel Hinkle	74	1			First Sun.	
Vanzant	Marion Caton	Gertrude Liles	45			5		
Weleetka	Ernest Harrison	Audrey Overlease	211	13	3		Full Time	15,000
Richmond Av	Dale Munkus	Willa Mae Sanders	72	32			Full Time	

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 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 and 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 the 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; 15:20-22, and 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 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 DISMISSION

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
_____, 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 addresses 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 has 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 members 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 accordingly 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.

