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# MINUTES

OF THE

## CENTRAL NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE

OF THE

(ORIGINAL)

Free Will Baptist Church

HELD WITH

Hugo Church

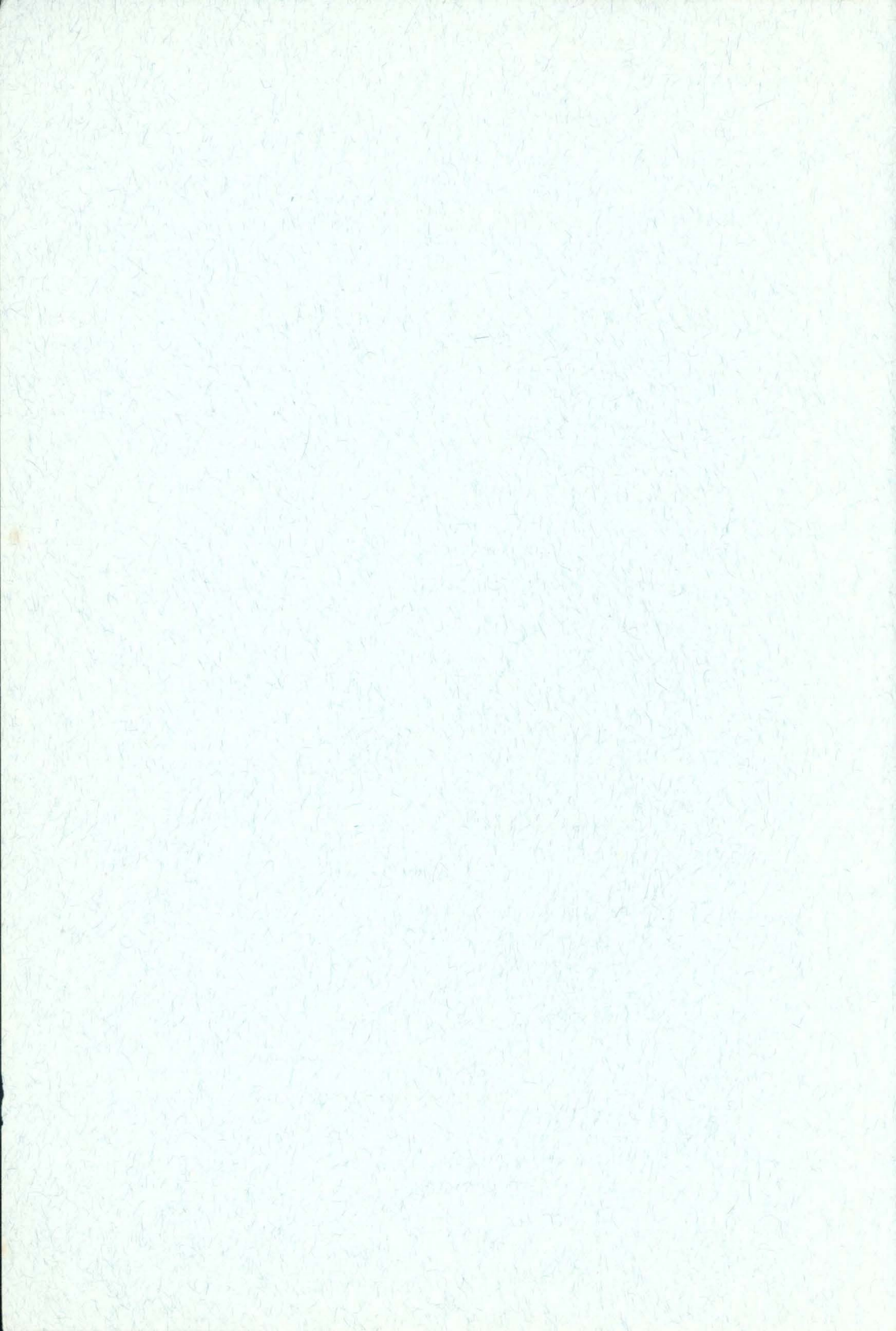
LENOIR COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

November 4, 5, 1953

REV. C. L. PATRICK, *Moderator*

LEO TRIPP, *Clerk*

CLIFTON RICE, *Conference Host*



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# Officers of the Conference

## MODERATOR

Rev. C. L. Patrick, Walstonburg, N. C.

## ASSISTANT MODERATOR

Rev. N. Bruce Barrow, Snow Hill, N. C.

## CLERK

Leo Tripp, Winterville, N. C.

## ASSISTANT CLERK

Ralph Osborne, Pinetown, N. C.

## TREASURER

Rev. C. J. Harris, Greenville, N. C.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

C. L. Patrick

Leo Tripp

C. J. Harris

N. Bruce Barrow

J. D. Vernelson

# Boards and Committees

## ORDAINING COUNCIL

N. D. Beaman

Ralph Osborne

D. W. Alexander

L. B. Manning

N. B. Barrow

W. B. Raper

## TO WORK WITH EDUCATIONAL BOARD

D. A. Windham

C. J. Harris

Loy E. Ballard

## COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

J. D. Vernelson

Kirby Wooten

I. C. Tugwell

C. D. Hamilton

Leon Barnhill

Lee Jones

Mrs. Wilbur Worthington

Russell Little

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Levi Hill

D. W. Alexander

Russell Little

Leo Tripp

R. B. Spencer

## BOARD OF MISSIONS

Rashie Kennedy

D. W. Alexander

Charles Edward Keith

W. B. Raper

Hubert Burress

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE.....Rev. Rashie Kennedy

## Roll of Ministers

D. A. Windham	Greenville, N. C.
J. C. Moye	Snow Hill, N. C.
D. W. Alexander	Bethel, N. C.
W. B. Nobles	Winterville, N. C.
W. L. Hart	Clayton, N. C.
J. E. Wooten	Ayden, N. C.
C. T. Pugh	New Bern, N. C.
E. L. Abrams	Tarboro, N. C.
M. A. Woodard, Retired	Winterville, N. C.
W. A. Dail, Retired	Winterville, N. C.
L. B. Manning	Fountain, N. C.
H. T. Sowers	Snow Hill, N. C.
R. H. Mason	Ayden, N. C.
W. G. Ennis	Greenville, N. C.
N. D. Beaman	Snow Hill, N. C.
Marshall Joyner	Winterville, N. C.
J. P. Barrow	3824, Richland Ave., Nashville, Tennessee
P. C. Wiggs	Washington, N. C.
R. B. Spencer	Ayden, N. C.
C. D. Hamilton	Fountain, N. C.
L. E. Ballard	Ayden, N. C.
Leonard Earl Harris	269 Tarboro St., Rocky Mount, N. C.
J. D. Vernelson	Route 3, Washington, N. C.
R. C. Proctor	Route 3, Wilson, N. C.
C. L. Patrick	Route 2, Walstonburg, N. C.
C. J. Harris	Greenville, N. C.
Ralph Osborne	Pinetown, N. C.
T. P. Ellis	Route 1, Fountain, N. C.
Graham Baker	Greenville, N. C.
Clarence Little	Greenville, N. C.
Rashie Kennedy	Box 913, Greenville, N. C.
Roland Cherry	624 West Main, Williamston, N. C.
Charles Craddock	Ayden, N. C.
Hubert Burress	Saratoga, N. C.
W. B. Raper	Snow Hill, N. C.
Frank Davenport	410 Johnson St., Tarboro, N. C.
Henry Melvin	Winterville, N. C.
Charles Edward Keith	Greenville, N. C.
R. L. Norville	Route 4, Greenville, N. C.
R. B. Crawford	303 Meade St., Greenville, N. C.
J. B. Narron	2706 Cooleemie Dr., Raleigh, N. C.
R. P. Harris	1200 Tarboro St., Rocky Mount, N. C.
Michael Pelt	Durham, N. C.
S. R. Kennedy	408 Greenview Dr., Greenville, N. C.

## LICENSED MINISTERS

J. C. Smith .....	Kinston, N. C.
Jerry Ballard .....	Ayden, N. C.
Willis W. Wilson .....	3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.
Roger Tripp .....	3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.
Carroll C. Alexander .....	3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.
Billie Davidson .....	3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.
Gordon Hart .....	3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.
Joseph A. Leahman .....	Walstonburg, N. C.

## Roll of Churches with Clerk and Address

### PITT COUNTY—

Reedy Branch—Gerris Vincent, Winterville, N. C.  
 Bethany—Mrs. Charles Edwards, Winterville, N. C.  
 Piney Grove—Mrs. Bettie T. Forest, 304 Oak St., Greenville, N. C.  
 King's Cross Roads—Mrs. I. C. Tugwell, Farmville, N. C.  
 Sweet Gum Grove—Mrs. Lewis Whitehurst, Route 1, Box 150, Stokes, N. C.  
 Rose Hill—Mrs. Myra Stanley, Route 3, Greenville, N. C.  
 Greenville—Mrs. Vernon Barnhill, Greenville, N. C.  
 Dilda's Grove—Mrs. Archie Horton, Macclesfield, N. C.  
 Winterville—Clyde Hines, Winterville, N. C.  
 Parker's Chapel—Lloyd Johnson, Route 5, Greenville, N. C.  
 Pleasant Hill—L. D. Stanley, Route 1, Winterville, N. C.  
 Elm Grove—Levi G. Worthington, Route 3, Ayden, N. C.  
 Black Jack—A. G. Gaskins, Route 3, Greenville, N. C.  
 Ayden—Mrs. Edward Harris, 516 S. Lee St., Ayden, N. C.  
 Marlboro—Sam V. Tugwell, Route 1, Farmville, N. C.  
 Gum Swamp—Floyd P. Harris, Route 4, Greenville, N. C.  
 Grifton—Miss Lynette Barfield, Free Press, Kinston, N. C.

### GREENE COUNTY—

Friendship—H. Carl Tyson, Route 1, Farmville, N. C.  
 Ormondsville—K. L. Wooten, Maury, N. C.  
 Sts. Delight—Mrs. C. H. Cox, Route 1, Snow Hill, N. C.  
 Little Creek—Earl McLawhorn, Route 2, Grifton, N. C.  
 Spring Branch—Mrs. Richard Owens, Walstonburg, N. C.  
 Howell Swamp—R. S. Holloman, Walstonburg, N. C.  
 Maury—Lynnell Spivey, Maury, N. C.  
 Free Union—Mrs. Frank L. Walston, Route 2, Walstonburg, N. C.  
 Hull Road—Alford Ginn, Route 2, Snow Hill, N. C.  
 Harrell's Chapel—R. E. Hart, Route 3, Snow Hill, N. C.  
 Grimsley—Jimmie Lee Jones, Hookerton, N. C.

### LENOIR COUNTY—

Hugo—Mrs. Wilton Faulkner, Route 2, Grifton, N. C.  
 La Grange—Mrs. Mary Hardy, Route 1, La Grange, N. C.

#### EDGECOMBE COUNTY—

- Tarboro—Mrs. Albert Sumberlin, Tarboro, N. C.
- Rocky Mount—Mrs. O. C. Merritt, 1509 Wilson Rd., Rocky Mount, N. C.
- Edgewood—R. H. Harrell, Route 2, Greenville, N. C.
- Otter's Creek—Raymond Jefferson, Fountain, N. C.

#### WAYNE COUNTY—

- Antioch—George C. Sasser, Route 2, Goldsboro, N. C.
- Walnut Creek—Miss Ina Ruth Langston, Route 2, La Grange, N. C.
- Watery Branch—Edger Bent, Lucama, N. C.

#### WILSON COUNTY—

- Owen's Chapel—J. E. Baker, Route 3, Elm City, N. C.
- Saratoga—Mrs. Paul Thigpen, Route 1, Stantonsburg, N. C.
- Aspin Grove—Robert Oakley, Fountain, N. C.
- Daniel's Chapel—Charlie Pittman, Jr., Route 3, Wilson, N. C.

#### MARTIN COUNTY—

- Cedar Grove—Mrs. Mae Jones, Route 3, Williamston, N. C.
- Rose of Sharon—Saith Bailey, Route 2, Williamston, N. C.
- Williamston—Mrs. Simon Gurganus, Williamston, N. C.

#### BEAUFORT COUNTY—

- Piney Grove—Alton Gray Ausborn, Route 5, Box 256, Greenville, N. C.
- Shiloh—J. E. Foreman, Route 2, Washington, N. C.

#### HALIFAX COUNTY—

- Dawson's Grove—W. D. Harris, Route 1, Enfield, N. C.

#### PASQUOTANK COUNTY—

- St. Paul—Mrs. Sudie Copeland, 715 Fleetwood St., Elizabeth City, N. C.

# PROCEEDINGS

The Central Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina convened its two hundred fifth annual session with the Hugo Church, Lenoir County, November 4 and 5, 1953. The Moderator, Rev. C. L. Patrick, presided over the meeting.

The song leader, Rev. R. P. Harris, opened the Conference by leading the congregation in singing a number of hymns.

The devotions were conducted by Rev. R. B. Crawford. Prayer by Rev. Henry Melvin.

Rev. Clifton Rice, the pastor of the host church, gave the Conference a very hearty welcome and Mrs. Frank L. Walston gave the response.

The Moderator, in his message, urged that full cooperation be practiced in carrying on the activities of the Conference.

The following ministers were enrolled:

*Central Conference*—Revs. D. A. Windham, J. C. Moye, D. W. Alexander, W. B. Nobles, W. L. Hart, J. E. Wooten, E. L. Abrams, M. A. Woodard, W. A. Dail, L. B. Manning, R. H. Mason, W. G. Ennis, N. D. Beaman, Marshall Joyner, J. P. Barrow (by letter), C. D. Hamilton, Loy E. Ballard, Leonard Earl Harris (by letter), J. D. Vernelson, R. C. Proctor, C. L. Patrick, C. J. Harris, Ralph Osborne, Clarence Little, Rashie Kennedy, Roland Cherry (by letter), Charles Craddock, Hubert Burress, W. B. Raper, Frank Davenport, Henry Melvin, and N. Bruce Barrow.

*Eastern Conference*—Revs. Clifton Rice, J. C. Griffin, J. R. Forest, J. C. Lynn, J. B. Narron, and T. C. Smith.

*Western Conference*—Revs. M. L. Tyndall, Fred Rivenbark, R. W. Allman, and W. L. Hart.

*Cape Fear*—Rev. Herman Hersey.

Rev. W. L. Jernigan of South Carolina.

All ministers, officers, delegates, boards, and committees were given seats in this Conference.

On motion the Moderator appointed the various Committees:

*Orphanage*—Revs. W. B. Raper, Rashie Kennedy, Mrs. Thomas Tyndall.

*Temperance*—Revs. R. B. Crawford, Charles Craddock, Frank Davenport.

*Resolution*—Revs. D. W. Alexander, N. D. Beaman, J. E. Wooten.

*Obituary*—Rev. D. A. Windham.

Rev. D. W. Alexander gave a partial report of the Ordaining Council, recommending that the following ministers be added to the list of ordained ministers: Revs. R. B. Crawford, R. P. Harris, J. B. Narron, Michael Pelt, S. R. Kennedy, R. L. Norville, and Charles Edward Keith. By a motion the above report was adopted.

All visiting ministers and brethren were asked to sit with us in this Conference and they were given all the rights and privileges of the Conference save that of voting.



The minutes of the Executive Committee were read and adopted.

Rev. S. A. Smith spoke concerning the activities at the Orphanage. An offering was taken for the Orphanage amounting to \$206.88.

Rev. Herman Hersey brought greetings from the State Sunday School Convention.

Rev. Burkette Raper gave a report of the state promotional Secretary (See Report).

Rev. R. P. Harris brought a special message in song.

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. D. W. Alexander.

Dismissed for lunch by Rev. James F. Miller.

### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

Reassembled at one fifteen with devotions by Rev. W. L. Jernigan.

Miss Barbara Nobles gave the memorial tribute message assisted by Miss Ruth Corbett and the two Anderson sisters. On motion the memorial tribute message be recorded as an obituary report (See Report).

Rev. W. A. Dail led in a special prayer for Rev. R. B. Spencer who is very ill.

On motion we received Rev. Joseph A. Lehmann as a licensed minister.

Rev. J. C. Griffin spoke concerning Publications and Literature.

On motion we appointed a committee to study and recommend the course of action in determining when the church year should begin and end.

The report of the State Promotional Secretary as given in the morning session was received as information. On motion the recommendation in the report be adopted (See Report).

On motion that the chairman of the Ordaining Council assist the State Committee to set up a uniform examination for ministers.

On motion we elected a Conference Historian. Rev. Hubert Burress was elected Historian.

Dismissed by J. D. Vernelson.

### THURSDAY MORNING

Reassembled at nine-thirty with congregational singing, conducted by the song leader, Rev. Henry Melvin.

Rev. Charles Craddock conducted the devotions. Prayer by Rev. Frank Davenport.

The following ministers were enrolled who were not present yesterday: Rev. N. D. Wiggs of the Eastern Conference, and Rev. Floyd B. Cherry of the Western Conference.

The minutes of yesterday's activities were read and approved.

By motion Rev. Henry Melvin was enrolled as an ordained minister.

Rev. N. Bruce Barrow gave a report of the Ordaining Council and by motion the report was adopted (See Report).

Rev. W. B. Raper gave a report of the Orphanage Committee and by motion the report was adopted (See Report).

The Resolution Committee presented a resolution pertaining to the revision of our church report blanks and by a motion the resolution was adopted (See Resolution).

Rev. D. A. Windham gave a report of the Board of Education and after some revision the report was adopted (See Report).

Rev. Charles Craddock gave a report of the Mission Board and by a motion the report was adopted (See Report).

Rev. R. B. Crawford gave a report of the Temperance Committee and by a motion the report was adopted (See Report).

Special music was rendered by Mrs. J. C. Moye and Rev. Henry Melvin.

The Conference sermon was preached by Rev. N. Bruce Barrow.

Dismissed for lunch by Rev. Charles Edward Keith.

#### THURSDAY AFTERNOON

Reassembled at one o'clock with song service conducted by Rev. Henry Melvin.

The devotions were conducted by Rev. Ralph Osborne. Prayer by Rev. J. C. Griffin.

On motion we stood with bowed heads of silent recognition to the memory of our deceased brother, Rev. J. W. Wooten, and asked the Obituary Committee to prepare suitable resolutions for the minutes and for the Free Will Baptist Paper.

On motion we extended to this church and community a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality in entertaining the Conference.

Hull Road asked for the next Conference and by a motion we accepted the invitation.

Rev. Frank Davenport offered his resignation as a member of the Mission Board, and by motion his request was granted.

On motion we give Rev. Frank Davenport a rising vote of thanks for his service as a member of the Mission Board. Rev. Hubert Burress was elected to fill the vacancy created by Rev. Frank Davenport.

Rev. N. D. Beamon offered his resignation as a member of the Mission Board, and by a motion his request was granted. Rev. D. W. Alexander was elected to fill this vacancy on the Mission Board.

Rev. Charles Craddock also offered his resignation as a member of the Mission Board, and his request was also granted. Rev. Charles Edward Keith was elected to fill the vacancy created by his resignation.

The Moderator appointed Revs. N. Bruce Barrow, Charles Craddock, and Henry Melvin as a committee to make recommendations concerning a uniform time to begin the church year.

Rev. J. D. Vernelson gave a report of the Finance Committee, and by a motion the report was adopted (See Report).

An offering was taken for the Building Funds of the Grifton, Williamston, and

Tarboro Churches. The offering to be divided equally. The offering amounted to \$70.52.

Rev. D. W. Alexander gave a verbal report of the Board of Trustees concerning the Arthur Church property.

The two hundred fifth session of the Central Conference was dismissed by Rev. Graham Baker.

C. L. PATRICK, *Moderator*

LEO TRIPP, *Clerk*

#### MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina met at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, North Carolina, on the afternoon of December 31, 1952.

The following members were present: Revs. C. L. Patrick, C. J. Harris, J. D. Vernelson, and N. Bruce Barrow.

Rev. C. L. Patrick presided over the meeting. Prayer by Rev. C. J. Harris.

At this meeting Rev. D. A. Windham and Rev. D. W. Alexander presented a resolution which had been endorsed by the Ministers' Meeting subject to the ratification of the Executive Committee of this Conference (See Resolutions). By a motion the resolution was approved.

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

By the Committee

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met at the Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, Pitt County, on Tuesday, August 20, 1953, with all members present. The Moderator, Rev. C. L. Patrick, presided over the meeting. Prayer by Rev. Burkette Raper.

The Conference Mission Board was present and presented a request that a Free Will Baptist church be organized in the town of Tarboro, on Sunday, September 6, at 3:30 o'clock.

By a motion the request of the Mission Board was granted.

The Executive Committee was given the privilege to make any investigation as they see fit.

The Mission Board was asked to arrange the program for organization.

The Mission Board also presented a similar request asking that a Free Will Baptist church be organized in the town of Greenville.

After some three hour discussion the following motion was passed: On motion the Executive Committee of the Central Conference delayed the request of the Greenville Free Will Baptist Mission for organization until ninety (90) days from now, at which time the Executive Committee will investigate this Mission with the idea of organizing it into a Free Will Baptist church provided it qualifies for such organization as stipulated by the North Carolina Treatise.

As there was no other business the meeting was adjourned.

By the Committee

CHURCHES	DELEGATES	Contributions	Value Church Property	No. Members	Baptized	Rec. by Letter	Dismissed	Died	Total Money Raised	Offerings	Tithes	Members of S. S.	Members of League	Members of W. A.	Members of Other Aux.	No. Minutes
<b>Pitt County—</b>																
Ayden	Laura Caton, Will Nobles, Mrs. Annie Lang	\$10.00	\$25,000	258	26	28	11	1	\$9,942.81	\$6,487.46	\$	140	32	20	25	30
Bethany	Mrs. Rudolph Manning, Rudolph Manning	20.00	30,000	182	8	0	4	1				114	0	30	0	20
Black Jack	M. W. Smith, Coss Hudson	10.00	33,000	390	10	10	3	6	5,059.22			365	105	75	0	40
Dildy's Grove	No. Delegates	10.00	3,500	66	3	2	5	0	1,879.86		1,879.86	69	38	19	0	20
Elm Grove	J. T. Beddard, Jr., Clarence Burrough	10.00	75,000	337	46	1	9	3	5,952.00		7	162	43	30	0	30
Greenville	Mrs. D. A. Windham, Mrs. Fannie Clark, Dennis Harris, Steve Waters, Kinsey Smith, Harvey Moore	10.00	35,000	625	45	8	17	2	8,988.12	6,459.60	3,225.00	354	50	62	21	30
Hickory Grove	Christine McGowan, Martha Belle Rollins	10.00	10,000	126	4	1	0	0				80	0	20	0	15
Kings X Road	J. A. Fulford, C. C. Corbett	20.00	8,000	240	15	4	6	3	1,984.00			0	0	0	0	30
Marlboro	Mary Belle Brooks, Mrs. Roy Carraway	20.00	3,500	197	11	1	6	1	2,950.00			175	30	34	12	30
Parker's Chapel																20
Piney Grove	Mrs. H. R. Crawford, Mrs. Leslie Humbles	10.00	21,000	227	0	1	8	3	3,220.00	308.67		143	0	43	0	15
Pleasant Hill	Mrs. Roy Gaskins, Mrs. Walter Sutton	5.00	10,000	72	5	7	0	1	3,234.00			87	0	20	0	8
Reedy Branch	Paul Braxton, C. F. Little	25.00	20,000	264	27	14	7	1	5,553.39	5,369.67		200	49	0	0	35
Rose Hill	Bernie Wilson	10.00	20,000	261	10	2	2	6	3,284.43	3,284.43		164	0	19	0	25
Sweet G. Grove	Mr. & Mrs. W. S. Brown, Mrs. C. H. Briley	20.00	20,000	188	3	1	12	3	5,308.24			113	0	30	0	20
Winterville	Clyde M. Hines, Mrs. Edward Lee Hardee	15.00	25,000	169	9	4	2	2	6,833.89			224	0	27	0	20
Gum Swamp	Mr. & Mrs. Fred Jones, Elizabeth Pollard, J. F. Hathaway	10.00	30,000	543	5	4	5	2	2,842.53			100	0	30	10	20
Grifton	Mrs. Zelbert Cox	3.00	900	30	3	0	0	0				55	0	0	0	5
<b>Greene County—</b>																
Friendship	L. D. Braxton, Jesse O'Quinn	15.00	6,000	148	0	13	6	1	3,810.00	700.00		106	0	22	0	10
Free Union	Viola Tyndall, Jack Cunningham, Mrs. Robert Heath, Clarence Hinson, L. H. Heath	35.00	28,000	423	26	2	8	3	5,023.04	2,490.16	602.32	245	0	79	0	40
Grimesley	Roy Graves, Jimmie Lee Jones	10.00	15,000	181	2	4	0	1	3,679.84	3,679.84		105	35	35	0	20
Harrell's Chapel	Mrs. Robert Hill, Miss Doris Hart	10.00	15,000	65	0	0	0	1	2,000.00			125	0	25	0	8
Hull Road	D. W. Barrow, M. S. Barrow, Levi Hill, Alfred Ginn, J. B. Barrow	40.00	40,000	485	13	4	13	6	8,264.08			322	100	35	0	40
Little Creek	Helen Phillips, Mr. & Mrs. Edward Skinner	10.00	15,000	114	9	1	0	1	2,433.60	658.25	1,661.50	0	0	0	0	12
Maury	Mrs. H. L. Spivey, Mrs. Bernice Eakes	6.25	3,000	20	20	0	0	0				35	0	8	0	10
Saint's Delight	Miss Ann Elks	5.00	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	0	10
Ormondsville	Mr. & Mrs. W. C. Edwards	10.00	15,000	347	7	2	8	1	2,257.30			130	0	28	0	25
Howell Swamp	Lee Jones, Carl Cobb	10.00	16,000	142	15	0	2	1	3,978.30	458.80		74	0	20	0	20
Spring Branch	Mrs. Richard E. Owens, Mrs. Reddin Wooten	25.00	5,000	235	4	3	0	4	2,023.75			88	36	0	0	30
<b>Edgecombe County—</b>																
Edgewood	No Delegates	20.00	12,000	114	5	4	2	2	1,267.35			112	0	23	0	10
Otter's Creek	Mr. & Mrs. J. T. Jefferson	5.00	114	13	18	2	2	0	1,875.48			89	0	21	0	10
Rocky Mount	Mrs. Otto C. Mettitt, Sr.	5.00	25,000	141	7	6	16	0	8,334.08			119	30	14	0	10
Tarboro																10
<b>Lenoir County—</b>																
La Grange	Mrs. Mary Hardy, Mrs. J. W. Wilson	10.00	10,000	124	0	8	0	1	1,003.81			189	0	24	0	15
Hugo	Mr. & Mrs. Howard Holt	10.00	16,500	229	24	1	1	1	1,389.75	264.55		156	0	23	20	20
<b>Martin County—</b>																
Cedar Grove																15
Rose of Sharon	M. S. Cowan, Leamon Taylor	10.00	6,000	141	3	1	0	1	3,795.95	2,140.65		57	0	16	0	15
Williamston																10
<b>Wilson County—</b>																
Aspin Grove	Mr. & Mrs. J. P. Killifun	10.00	35,000	200	8	0	8	1	3,000.00			165	40	25	0	10
Daniel's Chapel	C. W. Pittman, James W. Pittman	10.00	12,000	145	9	3	1	2	3,734.74	1,660.80	407.00	185	18	28	0	10
Owen's Chapel																12
Saratoga	No Delegates	10.00	6,000	223	7	2	4	3	2,546.34			0	48	26	0	25
<b>Wayne County—</b>																
Antioch	Walter Edmondson, Mazie Edmondson	10.00	25,000	154	9	0	0	1	2,700.00		60.00	134	0	36	34	15
Walnut Creek	Luna Lane, Mildred Lanston	5.00	4,500	87	19	4	3	1	2,132.71	437.37	18.25	69	0	0	0	10
Watery Branch																10
<b>Beaufort County—</b>																
Piney Grove	J. E. Ingall, Alton Osborn	10.00	2,000	85	1	0	3	0	899.88	525.07	374.81	43	26	16	0	20
Shiloh	J. E. Forceman, Wilber Cowen	20.00	2,000	302	0	0	5	3	1,875.05	1,622.94		0	0	0	0	30
<b>Halifax County—</b>																
Dawson's Grove	Mrs. Ida Drake, Mrs. Thomas Sorris	10.00	10,000	68	0	0	5	0				0	30	20	0	10
<b>Pasquotank County—</b>																
St. Paul	S. M. Meekins, Willie Twiddy	5.00	35,000	50	0	5	0	0	3,437.60	1,661.91	1,765.69	51	20	37	0	10

CHURCHES	To Evangelist	Total Paid Out	To Pastor	To Missions	To Orphanage	To Education	To Superannuation	To Church Finance Asn.	To Union Meetings	For Repairs	To Miscellaneous
<i>Pitt County—</i>											
Ayden	\$334.15	\$6,345.98	\$3,000.00	\$118.00	\$ 853.30	\$ 75.00	\$ 40.00	\$	\$ 20.00	\$ 465.82	\$1,239.81
Bethany	177.20	1,066.51	600.00								289.31
Black Jack	200.00	4,682.65	1,560.00	17.50	883.90				40.00	200.00	1,373.12
Dildy's Grove	281.00	2,219.88	506.00	52.00	231.00				21.00	1,118.88	10.00
Elm Grove	408.00	4,726.02	1,200.00	42.80	350.92				30.00	3,628.81	292.56
Greenville	420.00		3,900.00	440.80	575.00	334.11	85.50	21.87	80.00	1,514.18	1,600.00
Hickory Grove	459.00		480.00	46.15	300.00				25.00		
Kings X Roads	218.98	1,907.23	840.00	236.31	288.74	60.15			40.00	615.00	222.05
Marlboro	300.00	2,250.00	600.00	20.00	688.09	20.00	20.00		30.00	500.00	300.00
Parker's Chapel											
Piney Grove	135.00	3,049.10	665.00	10.40	342.32	41.89	9.75		12.00	1,428.00	404.74
Pleasant Hill	343.00	3,083.00	1,400.00	75.00	360.00	150.00	30.00	50.00	50.00	600.00	275.00
Reedy Branch	480.00	5,226.14	3,000.00		225.00				60.00	477.23	983.91
Rose Hill	100.00	3,087.76	1,630.57		1,028.85		21.87		24.00		
Sweet G. Grove	377.00	4,371.48	634.88	20.00	393.85	59.54	10.00	10.00	20.00	2,800.00	56.31
Winterville	100.00	5,631.65	910.00	45.00	432.63	25.00	25.00		40.00	4,314.85	64.81
Gum Swamp	443.40	2,818.67	1,364.46	63.48	291.88	100.00			30.00	178.79	336.56
Crifton			360.00								
<i>Greene County—</i>											
Friendship	380.00		880.00	75.00	400.00	150.00	35.00		40.00	1,050.00	150.00
Free Union	100.00	4,275.83	3,100.00	120.20	1,148.56	44.00	24.43		25.00		144.89

Grimsley	231.53	3,565.04	960.00	92.54	343.65	96.18	70.34	-----	41.75	1,790.00	193.86
Harrell's Chapel	200.00	1,455.00	480.00	25.00	100.00	25.00	25.00	-----	50.00	500.00	50.00
Hull Road	125.00	6,357.30	1,500.00	486.55	965.07	606.25	100.00	5.00	40.00	801.89	1,727.54
Little Creek	215.00	1,976.66	600.00	15.25	87.15	-----	6.00	-----	14.00	1,044.61	-----
Maury	-----	-----	-----	-----	25.00	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Saint's Delight	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	5.00	-----	-----	-----	-----
Ormondsville	200.00	2,440.99	700.00	14.68	633.34	7.15	10.00	-----	32.00	294.83	1,440.00
Howell Swamp	200.00	3,802.36	1,500.00	185.92	625.87	40.00	35.00	15.00	23.00	1,058.70	-----
Spring Branch	200.00	1,934.39	1,080.00	45.00	454.70	20.00	45.00	15.00	60.00	-----	97.40
Edgecombe County—	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Edgecombe	125.00	1,273.30	960.00	10.00	70.00	-----	-----	-----	17.50	33.40	57.40
Otter's Creek	275.00	-----	830.00	16.30	95.00	15.00	-----	-----	15.00	-----	60.00
Rocky Mount	20.00	8,237.93	2,969.60	53.29	175.57	34.37	20.35	-----	177.91	2,909.97	-----
Tarboro	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Lenoir County—	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
La Grange	100.00	913.25	621.44	-----	94.71	25.00	-----	-----	15.00	-----	50.00
Hugo	153.43	1,389.73	960.42	34.50	121.60	62.00	10.06	-----	20.00	560.00	74.14
Martin County—	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Cedar Grove	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Rose of Sharon	250.00	3,765.01	1,060.00	50.00	102.25	40.00	20.36	-----	32.00	1,739.66	318.34
Williamston	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Wilson County—	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Aspin Grove	225.00	-----	540.00	-----	400.00	-----	-----	-----	40.00	-----	-----
Daniel's Chapel	200.00	3,423.88	800.00	40.00	551.98	20.00	-----	-----	50.00	1,435.34	4.96
Owen's Chapel	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Saratoga	195.00	-----	1,310.83	73.04	294.40	-----	34.12	-----	74.90	492.20	197.74
Wayne County—	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Antioch	250.00	2,100.00	1,200.00	60.00	120.00	10.00	15.00	-----	25.00	-----	-----
Walnut Creek	77.00	1,580.51	360.37	57.40	200.00	-----	5.00	-----	15.00	865.10	-----
Watery Branch	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Beaufort County—	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Piney Grove	115.00	860.65	515.80	10.00	131.13	-----	-----	-----	20.00	-----	73.72
Shiloh	287.43	1,895.00	1,200.00	20.00	100.00	-----	-----	-----	40.00	60.00	-----
Halifax County—	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Dawson's Grove	297.00	1,984.49	1,175.00	47.70	136.01	32.01	-----	-----	30.00	-----	23.30
Pasquotank County—	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
St. Paul	210.00	3,319.21	2,340.00	-----	73.28	-----	-----	-----	20.00	158.60	634.72

On Sunday, September 6, the Executive Committee met at the Mission Point in the town of Tarboro for the purpose of organizing a Free Will Baptist church. The meeting was called together at 3:30 p. m. with devotions conducted by members of the Mission Board. The Moderator, Rev. C. L. Patrick, presided over the meeting.

After an examination of believers, the following church officers were elected: Clerk, Mrs. Albert Sumberlin; Treasurer, Mrs. Linwood Harris; Deacons, Albert Sumberlin, C. M. Sparrow, and Homer Webb; Trustees, W. H. Webb and L. E. Dail.

Rev. N. Bruce Barrow presented the Bible as the only rule of faith and practice.

Leo Tripp presented the Church Covenant for approval and adoption.

Rev. J. D. Vernelson led the Prayer of Consecration.

After the right hand of fellowship we were dismissed by Rev. W. B. Raper.

By the Committee

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met on the afternoon of September 8, at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden. All members of the Committee were present.

The devotions was led by Rev. C. J. Harris. The Moderator, Rev. C. L. Patrick, presided over the meeting.

The delegates to the various church bodies were appointed as follows:

*State Convention*—Leo Tripp, Levi Hill, Will Hardison, Mrs. O. C. Merritt, and Mrs. Alma Worthington.

*Eastern Conference*—Rev. D. W. Alexander.

*Albemarle Conference*—Rev. J. D. Vernelson.

*Western Conference*—Rev. C. J. Harris.

*Cape Fear Conference*—Rev. Rashie Kennedy.

The program of the 1953 session of the Conference was arranged, and the Clerk was ordered to have 500 copies printed.

As there was no other business, we adjourned.

By the Committee

## REPORT OF RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

### RESOLUTION No. 1

The following is a copy of Resolutions passed by the Ministers' Fellowship, and ratified by the Executive Committee of the Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina:

Whereas, in the past we have suffered as a result of infiltrating of different winds of doctrine; whereas the Cape Fear Conference was hopelessly divided due to religious cults using our churches and pulpits; and whereas even at this time we are having to fight to save church property; and whereas at the present time we have men about which little is known in our bounds holding meetings and getting material support from our people which is badly needed for the support of our

own cause, and whereas some of these men do not have the endorsement and co-operation of their own denomination, be it resolved:

1--That, we, the ministers of the North Carolina Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists, go on record as being definitely opposed to our church endorsing, cooperating with, or supporting any person or group of persons by tendering them use of our churches or pulpits unless it is a person or group of persons of sound doctrine and a good Christian reputation.

2--That no pastor or church in the Conference accept any man or group into the service of the church unless they are acquainted with the individual or individuals and are satisfied concerning his or their character and doctrine to the extent that they are willing to answer to the Conference for the result of any service rendered.

3--Any pastor or church violating these resolutions shall be reported to the Conference for disciplining.

4--These resolutions shall be in effect when ratified by the Executive Committee of the Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina.

Submitted by--

REV. D. A. WINDHAM

REV. D. W. ALEXANDER

I certify that the above resolutions were adopted by Central Conference Executive Committee, Dec. 31, 1952.

REV. C. L. PATRICK, *Moderator*

#### RESOLUTION No. 2

Resolved:

That a committee be appointed to study the need for revision in our conference report blank and report to the executive committee of the Conference before report blanks are mailed for 1954.

(An example of the need for revision is the fact that our present report blank makes no provision for churches to report the amount contributed to Cragmont and State Promotional Work.)

WILLIAM BURKETTE RAPER

Approved.

D. W. ALEXANDER

N. D. BEAMAN

J. E. WOOTEN

#### REPORT OF THE STATE PROMOTIONAL DIRECTOR

Of the 48 churches listed in the 1952 minutes of the Central Conference, 29 sent reports to the 1953 session of the North Carolina State Convention held with Marsh Swamp Church, Wilson County. The reports to the State Convention revealed the following information about the work of the Central Conference:

29 churches reported to the State Convention

4 churches support every phase of the United Program



- 2 churches do not support any phase of the United Program
- 11 churches support Cragmont
- 21 churches support Missions
- 23 churches support Orphanage
- 14 churches support Christian Education
- 5 churches support State Promotional Work
- 4 churches support Church Finance
- 11 churches support Superannuation

WILLIAM BURKETTE RAPER

*State Promotional Director*

#### REPORT OF OBITUARY COMMITTEE

Like a swift flying meteor another Conference Year has passed and left in its wake hearts that are bleeding and broken, as we remember those who were dear and precious, who have gone the way from whence they will not return. We pause here for a moment to cherish their memory as no honor can excell that which comes from the conscious performance of a noble deed. They acted their part well until the angel came down from the blue sky and lovingly sang them to sleep. We folded their hands in peaceful slumber, and the Great King commanded the spirit to be free. We would have gladly turned aside the dull, heavy tread of the silent reaper, but, their doom was written, dust thou art and shall to dust return.

Language is too weak and the charm of eloquence too feeble to dispell the sable cloud of bereavement that hung like a pall over your heart and pathway as you came to the valley with a dear, precious burden, and amid lilies and roses laid it to rest when the evening sun was low.

May the God of heaven, according to his riches in glory, give us a faith that will not murmur nor complain, though the road be rough and steep, and in the deepest shadows we will feel no doubt.

As we stand by the side of those in whose home a voice is forever silent, and who listen in vain for footsteps they will never hear again, we drop with them our sympathetic tear, and bid them cast their care on Him who careth for them, and whose pulsing, throbbing heart is touched by their grief.

One by one we must all come to the end of life's journey, where the stream flows silently at the foot of the hill, and the roses bow their blushing faces toward the sunset, bidding a silent goodnight to God. May we all pass out yonder in God's eternal somewhere as softly as a mother's kiss on the cheek of a sleeping infant, and as quietly as the dewdrop falls on the bosom of the midnight.

We shall sleep but not forever  
 On the lone and silent grave;  
 Blessed be the Lord that taketh:  
 Blessed be the Lord that gave.  
 In the bright Eternal City,  
 Death can never, never come;  
 In His own good time He'll call us,  
 From the grave to home sweet home.

D. A. WINDHAM, *Chairman*

## OBITUARY REPORT

Having been appointed to write a sketch of Rev. J. W. Wooten, I don't feel that I could say more than Miss Barbara Nobles has said in her memorial address appearing elsewhere in these minutes. His family and friends are referred to her address as an obituary for our esteemed Brother and Minister.

D. A. WINDHAM, *Chairman*

## REPORT OF NORTH CAROLINA STATE CONVENTION

### Recommendation:

That the Central Conference authorize a representative from this Conference to meet with a representative from the other Conferences of the state in an effort to work out a state-wide uniform examination for our ministers.

WILLIAM BURKETTE RAPER

## REPORT OF ORDAINING COUNCIL

To the Central Conference of Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, we, your Ordaining Council, wish to make the following report (Much of our report given orally.):

Many items of un-ethical practices have been brought to us only in forms of rumors. We have advised and counceled in these cases if we deemed it wise. However, we can not deal with rumors except in advisory capacity.

We have met three times due to call of either church or individual with charge, but these have been found to be without basic facts or proof, thus no official indictment on any minister.

During the year we have examined the following for license and recommended to their churches that they be issued licenses: J. C. Smith, Joseph Leahman, G. W. Hart, J. P. Ballard, J. R. Tripp, W. F. Davidson, W. W. Wilson, and Carroll Alexander.

We recommend these be enrolled.

We recommend the names of Luther and Carson Tyson be dropped because of inactivity and licenses have expired.

We are asking the conference to purchase a steel cabinet to preserve all records of the board; the same to be kept by the secretary of the board.

We are requesting all licenses be dated as of date of examination.

We want the conference to give us the authority to require all candidates for ordination to take a course of study if they have less than two years of formal Bible or seminary training.

We have met and examined for ordination the following and recommend they be placed on our list: Charles Keith and R. L. Norville.

We are asking the chairman to correct in the minutes our list of ministers.

We have received letters of recommendation from conferences or associations for the following ordained ministers and recommend they be seated with us: R. B. Crawford, J. B. Narron, S. R. Kennedy, and Henry Melvin.

The following ordained ministers are recommended to a seat in our conference

subject to the reception of a letter from them from their respective body: R. P. Harris and Michael Pelt.

The Council,

D. W. ALEXANDER, *Chairman*

N. B. BARROW, *Vice Chairman*

RALPH OSBORNE, *Secretary*

L. B. MANNING, *Member*

N. D. BEAMAN, *Member*

W. B. RAPER, *Proxy Member*

REPORT OF ORPHANAGE COMMITTEE

1. We recommend that this Conference give a rising vote of confidence to the present Superintendent, Reverend S. A. Smith.

2. We recommend that each church in our Conference do her best to raise the quota assigned them for the Orphanage, in order that the girls might have safe and adequate dormitory facilities.

3. The Orphanage superintendent informed our committee that the Home is in need of single bed spreads and sheets, and thus we recommend that each church consider sending spreads or sheets or both to the Orphanage as soon as possible.

4. We want to encourage each church to send a representative from their church to visit the Orphanage at least once a year. We recommend that our people put forth a special effort to visit the Orphanage Thanksgiving Day.

5. A number of the children are usually available for Christmas vacations and we encourage churches or families that could take a child during the Christmas holidays to contact the Superintendent. Let him know whether you are interested in a boy or girl and what age.

6. In order that the needs of the Home may be taken care of the year around, we recommend that our churches seek to make a monthly contribution to the Orphanage.

7. Finally, we recommend that our people pledge their prayers and moral support to the Home.

Orphanage Committee:

WILLIAM BURKETTE RAPER, *Chmn.*

RASHIE KENNEDY

MRS. THOMAS TYNDALL

REPORT OF EDUCATIONAL BOARD

During the year we have launched no special drive for our educational activities as our people were responding in a favorable way.

During the year students from the Free Will Baptist Bible College have done active work in the bounds of this Conference which merits the approval and endorsement, not only of your board, but all of our people.

We recommend that our people rally to the support of the Free Will Baptist College that its scope of usefulness may be broadened.

Upon the authority of our State Convention, property has been purchased in

Mount Olive for an Educational Institution of this State. We ask our people to give this work their moral support.

We are cooperating with Rev. W. B. Raper, State director of promotional work, and Dr. L. C. Johnson, president of the Free Will Baptist Bible College, in arranging an itinerary for the College Quartet and urge our people to give them their support when they visit your church.

D. A. WINDHAM, *Chairman*

C. J. HARRIS

L. E. BALLARD

#### REPORT OF MISSION BOARD

1. Number of Board Meetings held, 7.
2. Number of Mission Services held, 36.
3. Number of Churches organized, 1.
4. Number of miles traveled in above work, 2,878.
5. Number of churches helped, 3.
6. Number of county religious surveys assisted, 2.
7. Amount of money raised for mission churches, \$768.21.

Notes on the above:

2. These services were all held in Tarboro, N. C.
3. The church organized was the Tarboro Church, which is now operating on a full-time program with Reverend Frank Davenport as pastor.
5. The churches helped were Grifton, Williamston, and Tarboro.
7. This money was raised during January from the churches within the Central Conference and the money was divided equally between the Grifton and Williamston Churches. There were 21 churches who contributed to this drive.

CHARLES CRADDOCK, *Chairman*

WILLIAM BURKETTE RAPER, *Secretary-Treasurer*

RASHIE KENNEDY

FRANK DAVENPORT

N. D. BEAMAN

#### REPORT OF TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

We recommend that these statements from our Church Covenant be lived up to by all persons of this Central Conference:

"We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all 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, counting our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ."

Prayerfully your Temperance Committee,

ROBERT B. CRAWFORD, *Chairman*

CHARLES B. CRADDOCK

FRANK DAVENPORT

## REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

Brought Forward .....	\$ 3.14	
Received from Churches .....	549.25	
Offering for Orphanage .....	206.88	
Offering for Grifton, Williamston, and Tarboro Churches .....	70.52	
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Total Amount Received .....	\$829.79	\$829.79
Paid Out as Follows:		
Clerk .....	\$ 35.00	
Clerk (Expense Account) .....	10.00	
Floral Design (Rev. J. W. Wooten) .....	8.00	
C. L. Patrick (Mileage and Telephone) .....	25.00	
L. B. Manning (Mileage) .....	11.50	
Mission Board (Mileage) .....	29.95	
D. W. Alexander (Mileage and Telephone) .....	19.20	
W. B. Raper (Mileage) .....	15.20	
Ralph Osborne (Mileage) .....	28.40	
F. W. B. Press (Minutes, Programs, Bibles, etc.) .....	49.70	
Conference Minutes .....	80.00	
Superannuation .....	20.00	
Missions .....	85.00	
Bible College .....	50.00	
Mount Olive School .....	12.50	
Cragmont .....	10.00	
Orphanage (Offering and Appropriation) .....	250.00	
State Promotional Work .....	10.00	
Grifton, Williamston, Tarboro Churches, each .....	23.50	
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Balance in Treasury .....	\$ 3.82	

By Finance Committee



