

**1987-88
Yearbook
for
Original
Free Will Baptists
of
North Carolina**

Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0039

CONTENTS

FOREWORD	7
DIRECTORY OF MINISTERS	9
DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES	19
DIRECTORY OF DENOMINATIONAL MINISTRIES	77
MINUTES OF STATE BODIES	81
State Convention of Churches	83
Officers, Boards, and Committees	83
Proceedings	85
Reports	
Woman's Auxilliary	90
Layman's League	90
Hymnal Committee	92
General Conference	92
Chaplain's Commission	93
Obituary Committee	93
Credentials Committee	93
Resolutions Committee	94
Nominating Committee	95
Woman's Auxilliary Convention	96
League Convention	112
MINUTES OF CONFERENCES	117
Piedmont	119
Albemarle	124
Western	130
Pee Dee	138
Eastern	145
Cape Fear	168
Central	182
STATISTICAL TABLES	199

MINUTES
of the
239TH ANNUAL SESSION
of the
CENTRAL CONFERENCE
of the
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
of
NORTH CAROLINA
Held With
First Free Will Baptist Church of La Grange
Lenoir County
Thursday, November 5, 1987

The Rev. Ronnie Vann Hobgood, *Moderator*

The Rev. Leon Grubbs, *Clerk*

The Rev. Ronnie Vann Hobgood, *Host Pastor*

OFFICERS OF THE CONFERENCE

MODERATOR

The Rev. Ronnie Vann Hobgood

ASSISTANT MODERATOR

The Rev. W. Scott Sowers

CLERK

The Rev. Leon Grubbs

ASSISTANT CLERK

The Rev. Gary Bailey

TREASURER

Mrs. Hilda Sasser

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Rev. Ronnie Vann Hobgood, *Moderator*

The Rev. W. Scott Sowers, *Assistant Moderator*

The Rev. Leon Grubbs, *Clerk*

The Rev. Gary Bailey, *Assistant Clerk*

Mrs. Hilda Sasser, *Treasurer*

BOARD OF ORDINATION

Dr. Michael Pelt (1988)

The Rev. W. Bruce Jones (1989)

The Rev. Harry Grubbs (1990)

The Rev. N. D. Beaman (1991)

The Rev. J. B. Narron (1992)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mr. Willie Harris (1988)

Mr. A. H. Cobb (1989)

Mr. Zeb Roy Harrison (1990)

The Rev. C. L. Patrick (1991)

Mr. William Earl Stocks (1992)

BOARD OF MISSIONS

The Rev. Raymond Sasser (Honorary)

Mr. Albert Proctor (Honorary)

The Rev. Cedric Pierce (1988)

Mr. Billy Gurkin (1989)

The Rev. Leon Harris (1990)

Mr. Billy Churchill (1991)

Mr. Lynwood Cobb (1992)

BOARD OF FINANCE

Mrs. Alice Barrow (1988)

Mr. J. T. Beddard (1989)

Mrs. Mary Boyd (1990)

Mr. Leo Tripp (1991)

The Rev. Charles Branch (1992)

REPRESENTATIVES OF MEMBERSHIPS IN THE FREE WILL**BAPTIST PRESS FOUNDATION, INC.**

The Rev. Billy Ray Jordan (1988)

Mrs. Alma Buck (1989)

The Rev. J. B. Narron (1990)

The Rev. Earl Glenn (1991)

Mrs. Dot Dail (1992)

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

The Rev. Donald Ribeiro (1988)

Mr. J. C. Boyd (1989)

The Rev. Bryant Hines (1990)

OBITUARY COMMITTEE

Mrs. Hubert Burress (1988)

Mrs. C. L. Patrick (1989)

The Rev. David Hill (1990)

CONFERENCE HISTORIAN

Mrs. Ruth Taylor (1988)

PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN

Miss Leah McGlohon (1988)

REPRESENTATIVE OF MEMBERSHIPS IN CHURCH FINANCE ASSOCIATION, INC.

The Rev. Willis Wilson (1988)

ROLL OF MINISTERS BY SENIORITY

	1985	1986	1987
N. D. Beaman	A	L	P
J. P. Barrow (Retired)	A	A	A
R. P. Proctor (Retired)	A	A	A
C. L. Patrick	P	P	P
N. Bruce Barrow	P	P	P
J. B. Narron	P	P	P
Michael Pelt	P	P	P
Willis Wilson	L	P	P
Raymond Sasser	P	P	P
C. H. Overman	P	L	P
Joseph Lehman	P	P	P
Walter Pollard	A	A	A
Charles Branch	P	P	P

Bruce Jones	P	P	P
Clinton Davis	A	A	P
Gary Bailey	P	P	P
Walter Reynolds	P	P	P
Tom Miller	P	P	P
Stewart Humphrey	L	L	L
Leon Grubbs	P	P	P
Bobby Taylor	P	P	P
Robert Rollins	A	P	P
Ronnie Hobgood	P	P	P
Cedric Pierce	P	P	P
Melvin Moore	P	P	P
Harry Grubbs	P	P	P
Frank Flowers	L	A	P
Earl Glenn	A	P	P
Billy Ray Jordan	P	P	P
Robert Murray	A	A	A
R. P. Harris	P	A	A
Leon Harris	P	P	P
Clarence Harris	A	A	A
Clifford Ball	P	P	L
Edward Thornton	P	P	A
David Ricks	P	P	P
Ray Williamson	P	P	A
Allan Sterbin	A	A	A
James Owens	P	P	L
Ronald Braxton	P	P	A
Donald Ribeiro	P	P	P
David Hill	P	P	P
Mark Hobbs	L	L	L
Ronnie Mohn	P	P	P
James Sowers	P	P	P
Roger Heath	A	A	A
Bass Mitchell	P	P	P
Bryant Hines	P	P	P
W. Scott Sowers	P	P	P
Stanley Buck	P	P	P
James Lupton (Retired)	A	P	P
Robert Burke	A	P	A
Steve Hargrove	P	P	P
Jerry Campbell	P	A	A
Mike Tart	P	P	P
Dan Rivers		P	A
David Langley			P

LICENSED MINISTERS

Samuel Gay	P	P	A
Douglas Gayhardt			
J. D. Thorne			
John Price			
Carroll Bradbury			

ROLL OF CHURCHES

	Delegates	Letter	Contribution
Aspen Grove	no	no	none
Ayden	yes	yes	\$ 30.00
Bethany	yes	yes	10.00
Black Jack	yes	no	none
Community	no	no	none
Daniels Chapel	no	yes	25.00
Dilda's Grove	yes	yes	20.00
Edgewood	yes	yes	10.00
Elm Grove	no	yes	none
Free Union	yes	yes	100.00
Friendship	no	yes	50.00
Greenville, First	yes	yes	25.00
Grimsley	yes	yes	none
Gum Swamp	yes	yes	none
Harrell's Chapel	yes	yes	25.00
Hickory Grove	no	no	none
Howell Swamp	no	yes	10.00
Hugo	no	yes	10.00
Hull Road	yes	yes	50.00
King's Cross Roads	no	yes	45.00
La Grange, First	yes	yes	50.00
Little Creek	yes	no	none
Marlboro	yes	yes	20.00
Ormondsville	yes	yes	50.00
Otter's Creek	no	no	none
Owens Chapel	yes	yes	50.00
Peace	no	yes	50.00
Piney Grove (Beaufort)	yes	yes	25.00
Piney Grove (Pitt)	no	no	none
Pleasant Hill	yes	yes	25.00
Reedy Branch	yes	yes	25.00
Rocky Mount, First	no	no	none
Rose Hill	yes	yes	25.00
Rose of Sharon	yes	no	none
Saints Delight	yes	yes	25.00
Saratoga	yes	yes	30.00
Spring Branch	yes	yes	70.00
Sweet Gum Grove	yes	no	none
Tarboro, First	no	yes	50.00
Walnut Creek	no	yes	30.00
Watery Branch	no	no	none
Williamston, First	no	yes	25.00
Winterville	yes	yes	55.00
Hillside Mission (Grifton)	yes	no	none

PROCEEDINGS**MORNING SESSION**

The Central Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, being the continuation of the General Conference, convened in its 239th annual session with the First Free Will Baptist Church of La Grange, Lenoir County, on November 5, 1987, at 9:30 a.m.

The Conference was opened with a hymn led by Miss Leah McGlohon. The Rev. C. L. Patrick gave a devotional and led in prayer.

The Rev. Leon Grubbs, clerk, called the annual session to order and presented the moderator, the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, who presided over the session.

Mrs. "Pete" Vose of the host church extended a cordial welcome to the Conference. The Rev. J. B. Narron, pastor of Ayden Church, responded on behalf of the Conference.

The moderator addressed the Conference. The roll of churches was called followed by the roll of ministers.

Visiting ministers were recognized: From the Eastern Conference: Bruce Dudley, Walter Sutton, Frank Brinson and Harry Jones; From the Cape Fear Conference: Foy Futrelle, Ed Miles, and Ed Taylor; From the Western Conference: Ray Wells, De W. Eakes, Dennis Sherrod, and Luther Bisette.

The moderator appointed temporary committees: Parliamentarian: The Rev. J. B. Narron; Resolutions and Temperance Committee: The Rev. Bass Mitchell, chairman, the Rev. Leon Harris and Mr. George Harrison; Nominating Committee: The Rev. C. H. Overman, chairman, the Rev. Willis Wilson and Mrs. Lou D. McLawhorn; Timekeeper: The Rev. Gary Bailey.

The clerk read the minutes of Executive Committee meetings. Upon proper motion and second, the minutes were received and the recommendations therein were adopted. (See Reports.)

The moderator opened the floor for the transaction of miscellaneous business. The Rev. James Lupton requested that his name be placed on the retired ministers' list.

The worship service was held at 10 a.m. The organist played a prelude and the host pastor gave the Call to Worship from Psalm 95:1-2. Following the invocation, the worship hymn, "Love Divine," was led by Miss Leah McGlohon. An offering was received for the Conference. Donna Sowers provided special music. The Rev. N. Bruce Barrow delivered the worship sermon based on Galatians 3:1. The worship was concluded with a hymn of affirmation, "I Am Thine, O Lord," followed by the benediction.

The Conference reconvened its business with reports from denominational ministries: State Convention by the Rev. De W. Eakes, President; Children's Home by the Rev. Bobby Taylor, Executive Director; Church Finance Association, by the Rev. Walter Reynolds, President; Cragmont Assembly by the Rev. Harry Grubbs, Board Member; Foreign Missions, by Mrs. Sandra Jones; Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, by Mr. Cliff Gray, Executive Director.

The Conference was led in the singing of a hymn by Miss Leah McGlohon.

Reports of Denominational Ministries continued: Home Missions, by the Rev. David C. Hansley, Director; Ministers' Program, by the Rev. Donald Fader, Director-Treasurer; Mount Olive College, by Dr. Michael Pelt; Retirement Homes, by the Rev. Walter Sutton, Director.

The Conference adjourned its business for lunch.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The afternoon session of the Conference was opened by a hymn led by Miss Leah McGlohon followed by devotions and prayer given by the Rev. David Langley, pastor of Bethany Church.

A report on Camp Vandemere was given by the Rev. Bruce Dudley, Manager.

The Rev. Harry Grubbs gave the report of Board of Ordination. By proper motion and second, the report was adopted. (See Reports.)

The Rev. David Langley was extended the right hand of fellowship by the moderator and other officers of the Conference.

The Rev. Cedric Pierce gave the report of the Conference Missions. Upon proper motion and second, the report was adopted. (See Reports.)

The report of the Obituary Committee was given by Mrs. C. L. Patrick. Upon proper motion and second, the report was adopted. (See Reports.)

The Rev. Bryant Hines gave the report of the Credentials Committee. Upon proper motion and second, the report was adopted. (See Reports.)

The moderator opened the floor for the transaction of business. A motion was offered by the Rev. J. B. Narron that the Executive Committee of the Central Conference make an in-depth study of ways and means to involve the ministers and churches of the Conference in better attendance at its annual sessions and to design ways to involve the ministers and churches in outreach and evangelism in the Conference. After a proper second, the motion was passed.

The Rev. Leon Harris gave the report of the Resolutions and Temperance Committee. The two resolutions were read separately. After each was read a motion was made, seconded and passed to adopt it. (See Reports.)

The Rev. C. H. Overman gave the report of the Nominations Committee. Upon proper motion and second, the report was received. The moderator opened the floor for further nominations. A motion was made to elect the slate of officers offered by the Nominating Committee by acclamation. Upon proper second, the motion was passed. (See Reports.)

Mrs. Hilda Sasser gave the report of the Treasurer. Upon proper motion and second, it was adopted. (See Reports.)

Mrs. Hilda Sasser gave the report of the Finance Committee. Upon proper motion and second, it was adopted. (See Reports.)

A motion was made that we adjourn, leaving any unfinished business in the hands of the Executive Committee. Upon proper second the motion was passed.

The Rev. N. D. Beaman was called upon for the benediction.

NOTE: The Constitution and Bylaws of the Central Conference can be found beginning on page 337 of the 1985 *Yearbook*.

REPORTS

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(December 8, 1986)

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met on December 8, 1986, at the First Free Will Baptist Church in La Grange. All members were present.

The meeting was opened with prayer led by Gary Bailey.

The treasurer reported a balance on hand of \$1,870.25. Upon proper motion and second, the report was received.

The moderator presented an invitation from the La Grange Church for the Conference to meet with them in 1987. Upon proper motion, the invitation was accepted.

The moderator reported that the Free Will Baptist Press is printing a denominational calendar for 1987. They are requesting that each Conference aid them with the expense of the calendar by donating \$5.00 per entry. The Central Conference has five entries. After discussing this matter at length, a motion was made that we purchase a \$25

membership in the Press Foundation and extend our thanks to them for the five entries on the calendar. After a proper second, the motion passed.

The moderator reported that the Board of Ordination was having cooperation problems with the National Association minister called to pastor Saints Delight Church and they are requesting our help in solving the problems. After a lengthy, in-depth discussion, a motion was offered that we write to Saints Delight Church to let them know they are out of order in having called a pastor who is not a member in good standing with our Conference and denomination; that we include in the letter the proper procedures for rectifying the situation as stated in *The Articles of Faith*; and that we request a response within sixty days. After a proper second, the motion was passed.

Scott Sowers read the minutes of the Central Conference. Minor errors were corrected.

The section containing the mailing addresses of Conference ministers was discussed. It was pointed out that this section is repetitious since the addresses of all the ministers of the State Convention are in the "Directory of Ministers" in the front of the *Yearbook*. Upon proper motion, this section will be deleted.

It was noted that the Board of Finance has a vacancy since Calvin Heath has transferred his conference membership. Upon proper motion, Mrs. Alice Barrow will be asked to fill this position.

It was suggested that the roll of churches be changed to show whether or not each church represented at the Conference by delegate, by letter, and to list the amount of contribution. Upon proper motion, this action will be taken.

Upon proper motion the minutes were approved with the changes as indicated.

Upon proper motion the clerk's annual salary will increase to \$50.

A motion was made that the Conference reimburse \$.15 per mile to anyone who incurs authorized travel expenses on behalf of the Conference on approval of the Executive Committee. Upon proper second, the motion passed.

We adjourned with prayer led by Leon Grubbs.

(March 23, 1987)

The Central Conference Executive Committee met on March 23, 1987, at the Skylight Inn in Ayden following the meeting of the Central Conference Ministers' Fellowship. All members were present.

The moderator called the meeting to order. Scott Sowers led in prayer.

Ray Williamson, secretary of the Board of Ordination, met with the Committee to give details of the Board's involvement with the pastor of Saints Delight Church, Mack Humbles.

The clerk read to the Committee a letter he had written and had been sent by the moderator to Saints Delight.

The moderator shared two letters with the Committee from Saints Delight. The first, dated March 1, 1987, was in response to the letter to them concerning their pastor. They expressed a desire to meet with the Executive Committee and Board of Ordination in an effort to resolve the difficulties that have arisen. The second letter, dated March 20, 1987, informed the Committee that their pastor had resigned in order to restore the church to good standing with the Conference.

In view of the actions taken by Saints Delight and their pastor's resignation, a motion was made that we write a letter to Saints Delight acknowledging receipt of the two letters from them; that we inform them that they are now in good standing with the Conference; that we inform them they can find a list of ordained ministers in good standing with our

denomination in the 1987 *Yearbook*; and that we include a copy of the original letter we mailed to them in January. The motion passed.

By proper motion, a copy of the letter we sent to Saints Delight in January will be included in these minutes.

The treasurer reported a balance on hand of \$1,795.

We adjourned with prayer led by Gary Bailey.

P.O. Box 301
La Grange, NC 28551
January 21, 1987

To Saints Delight Original Free Will Baptist Church

Greetings in the Name of Christ:

It has been brought to the attention of the Executive Committee of the Central Conference that Saints Delight has called as its pastor Mack Humbles, a man who is not recognized as a duly ordained Original Free Will Baptist minister. We have been informed that he is not in good standing with the Central Conference and has refused to cooperate with the Ordaining Council of the Conference in meeting the necessary requirements to come into good standing.

The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists, page 70, states, "The church shall call its own pastor, from among the duly ordained Original Free Will Baptist ministers who are approved by the Conference of which the church is a member." Since Mr. Humbles does not meet these requirements, the church is out of order in having called him as its pastor. It is not our desire as Executive Committee of the Central Conference to place any unnecessary hardship upon you as a church. It is only our desire to assist the church in correcting this matter as soon as possible.

According to the rules and regulations of the Conference you have two possible courses of action. 1) Encourage Mr. Humbles to cooperate with the Conference Ordaining Council. They will be glad to assist him in meeting all necessary requirements for being approved for pastoral work in the Conference (see *Articles of Faith*, "Examination and Procedures for Transfer from Another Denomination" and "Relationship to the Conference," pp. 89 and following). No requirements are made of Mr. Humbles that have not been met by every other minister in our Conference and denomination. If he has the best interest of Saints Delight at heart, he will cooperate with the Ordaining Council.

2) If Mr. Humbles has an unChristian spirit and refuses to cooperate with the Ordaining Council, the church can terminate their pastoral call to him and call a pastor who is in good standing with the Conference.

Either course of action will put the church in good order.

Our prayers are with you as you undertake this responsibility. If we can be of assistance to you in any way, let us know. Please contact us within sixty days to let us know what course of action you are taking.

Yours in Christ,
Executive Committee of the Central Conference
Ronnie Hobgood, *Moderator*
Leon Grubbs, *Clerk*

(August 6, 1987)

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met on August 6, 1987, at Hull Road Church, at 10 a.m. The following members were present: Ronnie Hobgood, Scott Sowers, Hilda Sasser and Leon Grubbs.

The moderator called the meeting to order and Scott Sowers led in prayer.

The clerk read the minutes of the two previous meetings of the Executive Committee. The treasurer reported a balance on hand of \$1,228.93.

The moderator reported that he had met with Mrs. Jean Spivey of the Maury Free Will Baptist Church in Greene County. She and her children are the only remaining members of the church. She expressed a desire to have the church officially disbanded and the property properly disposed of by the Conference. In response to this meeting, the moderator contacted Mrs. Spivey by letter and asked her to sign a document stating that the church had not met in four years; that there were no plans to reactivate; and that, to the best of her knowledge, Mrs. Spivey and her children are the only members of the church. Mrs. Spivey signed the document and returned it. She also turned over to the Conference the church treasury, a Communion set and other properties. We were informed that pews, pulpit furniture, a piano, etc., were still in the church building and could be disposed of as we desired.

The moderator also reported that he had been contacted by potential buyers of the real estate. Mrs. Helen Gaydek, who recently bought the house adjacent to the church building, expressed a desire to meet with us concerning a problem encountered following a survey of the lot on which the house stands. It seems the house is partially standing on church property.

A motion was made that, based on signed statements by Mrs. Jean Spivey, we declare the Maury Church disbanded; that we claim all property of said church to belong to the Central Conference; and that we recommend to the Conference that said property be sold. Upon proper second, the motion was passed.

Upon proper motion, the moderator and clerk are instructed to take the necessary steps in securing the property, including an inventory of the buildings and their contents.

The Committee worked on the program for the Conference. The theme, "Opportunities for Service," was adopted in keeping with the theme of the State Convention. The Conference will convene with the La Grange Church on Thursday, November 5. Registration will begin at 9 a.m. and the Conference will start at 9:30. It was decided that the worship service begin at 10 a.m. followed by reports from denominational ministries. Other portions of the program will be the same as last year. The Rev. C. L. Patrick will be asked to do morning devotions, the Rev. N. Bruce Barrow to bring the worship sermon, and the Rev. David Langley to conduct afternoon devotions.

The meeting adjourned with prayer led by Leon Grubbs.

(September 17, 1987)

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met on September 17, 1987, in College Hall on the Mount Olive College campus, at the close of the State Convention. All members were present.

The moderator and clerk reported that they have taken the necessary steps to secure the Maury Church property including an inventory. There are two buildings on the site. One is the original sanctuary and Sunday School rooms. The other is a block building on a cement slab with a shingle roof. The sanctuary building is in very poor shape with rotting floor joists and sagging roof. The block building is in good condition except for the edge of the roof where overhanging trees and shrubs have caused minor damage.

The contents of the buildings reveal that little of value remains in them. There is an old piano, 26 Free Will Baptist Hymnals, 1 piano stool, 4 light fixtures, 16 folding carry

stools (nursery size), 1 three-brick gas heater, 2 new wood doors (never used), approximately 1,000 square feet of carpet, homemade pulpit stand (in poor condition), 29 homemade pews, and other odds and ends with little or no value.

Copies of the two deeds to the property show the property to be one hundred seventy five feet by one hundred fifty feet on the corner of Mayo and Fourth streets in Maury, Greene County. Luther Barrow of Barrow Surveying and Mapping in Snow Hill has examined the property, determined the locations of the corners, and provided a map of the property. (Mr. Barrow's work was done with no charge to the Conference.) The property and buildings have been appraised to be valued at between seven thousand and eight thousand dollars. Several parties have been in contact with the moderator and clerk expressing interest in purchasing the property.

After the report by the moderator and clerk, a discussion ensued on what course of action to recommend to the Conference concerning the disposal of the property.

By proper motion, the moderator will contact Home Missions and allow them to pick up any items they deem useful for their department.

It was decided that the easiest and least expensive way for the Conference to sell the property would be to offer it for sale to Mrs. Helen Gaydek, a member of Grimsley Church, who owns the house and lot adjacent to the sanctuary building. By proper motion, the clerk will contact Mrs. Gaydek and offer to sell the property, as is, at a price of \$7,500, pending approval of the Conference in session on November 5, 1987. She will be given thirty days to decide whether the offer will be accepted.

By motion, we adjourned.

(November 5, 1987)

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met on November 5, 1987, at the La Grange Church, prior to the meeting of the Conference. The following members were present: Ronnie Hobgood, Gary Bailey, Scott Sowers and Leon Grubbs.

The moderator called the meeting to order. Gary Bailey led in prayer.

The moderator went over the final program for the Conference meeting and listed temporary committees.

The clerk reported that Mrs. Gaydek had accepted the offer to purchase the Maury Church property at a cost of \$7,500.

By proper motion that we recommend to the Conference that we contribute \$200 to the Headquarters Improvement Project. The motion passed.

By proper motion that we recommend to the Conference that we place the proceeds from the sale of the Maury Church property in bonds at Mount Olive College for a period of twelve months and allow the Executive Committee to explore where best to use the money and make recommendations to next year's Conference. The motion passed.

By proper motion, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Ronnie V. Hobgood, *Moderator*
Leon Grubbs, *Clerk*

REPORT OF THE ORDAINING COUNCIL

(November 5, 1987)

This year the Ordaining Council recommended three men to their churches for licensing. They are Douglas Gayhardt, Edgewood Church, on January 5, 1987; J. D. Thorne, Peace Church, on July 6; John Price and Carroll Bradbury, Saratoga Church, on October 5.

Jeffery Harrison, Marlboro Church, allowed his license to lapse.

The Rev. David Langley, a minister of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, requested transfer to the Central Conference on April 6. He joined Piney Grove Church, and on October 5, after six months of full cooperation under the watch-care of the Central Conference Ordaining Council, he was received as an ordained minister of the Central Conference.

The Rev. Gordon Massey has missed three consecutive sessions of the Central Conference, and his credentials were revoked. On January 5, he appeared before the Ordaining Council to plead his case and ask forgiveness. He was reinstated and transferred to the Piedmont Conference.

Mack Humbles, a minister of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, asked to be received into the Central Conference. He refused to cooperate with the requirements of the Ordaining Council, and his credentials were declared null and void in the Central Conference on January 5.

Please add the name of David Langley to the list of ordained ministers.

Respectfully submitted,
 Harry Grubbs, *Chairman*
 Ray Williamson, *Secretary*
 Dan Beaman
 Bruce Jones
 Michael Pelt

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE MISSION BOARD

(November 5, 1987)

The Central Conference Mission Board has experienced the greatest and most productive year in its entire history! We want to thank all of you very sincerely for making this possible through your prayer and financial support of *your* Conference Mission Program! A very special "THANK YOU" is extended to our ladies who, through the State Woman's Auxiliary Convention, have continued their generous support. We depend greatly upon *all* of you to make it possible for your Mission Board to move forward in the areas of responsibility you have assigned to us!

Our financial report will reveal receipts of \$7,213.62 and expenditures of \$9,827.11 of which \$9,290 went to the support of the Grifton Mission. Also during this fiscal year, as we reported last year, "THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE MISSION BOARD ENDOWMENT FUND" was established in the amount of \$80,000 and we show an accountability for \$72,617.56. PLEASE REMEMBER: It is our desire and aim to use wisely *all* that which you have committed to our trust!!! Accordingly, the sole purpose of the Endowment, as stated in the Certificate, is to further fulfill the goals and responsibilities of the Mission Board as assigned by this Conference which are:

1. "AN ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH IN EVERY TOWN";
2. Stand ready to assist any church in our conference that might need help;
and
3. Be prepared to launch out in the establishment of another mission or supporting a prospective group which feels led to organize.

Please encourage your people to give additional funds to help build the Endowment to the point that it will be possible for your Board to provide an even greater mission program for the Kingdom of Christ through the Central Conference. We urge our people to take advantage of the services available through your Mission Board, as stated in our goals above.

The Grifton Mission is continuing to grow under the able leadership of the Rev. Jimmy Sowers. During this year your Mission Board has continued its supplement to the

property payment in the amount of \$300 per month and provided \$5,690 to underwrite the air conditioning of their building. The Mission has requested that we begin a phase-out program of support by reducing our supplement by \$50 per month every six months. We highly recommend the Grifton people for taking this gigantic step forward. Accordingly, we have agreed to continue our supplemental support at the rate of \$250 per month for January—June and \$200 per month from July—December, 1988. Please continue to pray for the Grifton people and support them in every way you can!

We solicit your continued prayer and financial support! All contributions to Central Conference Missions should be mailed to:

CENTRAL CONFERENCE MISSIONS

c/o Dr. Cedric D. Pierce Jr.

P.O. Box 36

Pikeville, NC 27863-0036

Respectfully submitted,

Billy Gurkin, *Chairman*

Cedric D. Pierce Jr., *Secretary-Treasurer*

Joseph Lehmann

Bill R. Churchill

Leon Harris

CENTRAL CONFERENCE MISSION BOARD

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TREASURER

To the Conference in Session at La Grange Church

November 5, 1987 (Year Ending June 30, 1987)

	1984/85	1985/86	1986/87
Aspen Grove	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 5.00
Ayden	20.00	15.00	15.00
Bethany	10.00	10.00	5.00
Black Jack	15.00	-0-	30.00
Community	5.00	5.00	-0-
Daniels Chapel	15.00	20.00	10.00
Dilda's Grove	393.87	446.24	501.38
Edgewood	-0-	-0-	10.00
Elm Grove	-0-	5.00	5.00
Free Union	110.00	110.00	110.00
Friendship	305.00	280.00	522.83
Greenville, First	10.00	10.00	5.00
Grifton Mission	95.00	143.44	200.00
Grimsley	-0-	10.00	5.00
Gum Swamp	10.00	10.00	-0-
Harrell's Ghapel	-0-	-0-	-0-
Hickory Grove	10.00	-0-	25.00
Howell Swamp	10.00	5.00	10.00
Hugo	-0-	-0-	10.00
Hull Road	10.00	10.00	10.00
King's Cross Road	76.92	76.46	96.43
LaGrange	10.00	10.00	10.00
Little Creek	10.00	10.00	12.50
Marlboro	20.00	20.00	10.00
Ormondsville	58.00	69.00	53.00

Central Conference

Otter's Creek	-0-	-0-	-0-
Owen's Chapel	101.00	130.00	101.00
Peace	10.00	10.00	13.00
Piney Grove (Beaufort County)	242.50	287.34	285.25
Piney Grove (Pitt County)	-0-	-0-	-0-
Pleasant Hill	5.00	10.00	5.00
Reedy Branch	10.00	10.00	5.00
Rocky Mount, First	5.00	5.00	5.00
Rose Hill	10.00	25.00	26.00
Rose of Sharon	10.00	5.00	10.00
Saratoga	5.00	5.00	-0-
Spring Branch	15.00	5.00	-0-
Saints Delight	-0-	-0-	-0-
Sweet Gum Grove	10.00	5.00	10.00
Tarboro, First	85.00	135.00	110.00
Walnut Creek	-0-	-0-	-0-
Watery Branch	-0-	-0-	-0-
Williamston	-0-	-0-	-0-
Winterville	15.00	20.00	10.00
TOTAL: Churches, S.S., W.A.	\$1,727.00	\$1,887.48	\$2,241.19
Second Union Meeting	58.43	54.37	48.54
Second Union Sunday School Convention	-0-	-0-	125.00
Fourth Union Meeting	-0-	-0-	-0-
Central District Auxiliary Convention	5.00	-0-	-0-
Interest Earned	4,134.35	4,800.95	4,798.89
Miscellaneous	5.00	-0-	-0-
GRAND TOTAL	\$5,930.07	\$6,742.80	\$7,213.62

TREASURER'S REPORT

Year Ending June 30, 1987

November 5, 1987

Balance on Hand—July 1, 1986		\$65,403.94
Checking Account	\$ 361.94	
Savings Accounts	<u>65,042.00</u>	
Total Balance on Hand—July 1, 1986	\$65,403.94	

Actual Receipts

Churches, Sunday Schools, Woman's Auxiliaries, etc.	\$ 2,241.19	
Second Union Meeting	48.54	
Second Union Sunday School Convention	125.00	
Interest on Savings	<u>4,798.89</u>	
Total Receipts as Reflected on Printed Report	\$ 7,213.62	\$ 7,213.62
TOTAL FOR WHICH TO ACCOUNT		<u>\$72,617.56</u>

Actual Disbursements

Grifton Mission Property Payment Supplement	\$ 3,600.00
Grifton Air Conditioning	5,690.00
Office Expense	195.61
Board Meetings Expense	108.87
Wilson Deaf Ministry—State Home Mission Board	232.63

Established Central Conference Mission Board

Endowment Fund (As reported in last year's report)

60,000.00

Total Disbursements

\$69,827.11

\$89,827.11

BALANCE ON HAND—June 30, 1987

\$ 2,790.45

Checking Account

\$ 790.45

Savings Account

2,000.00

Total Balance on Hand

\$ 2,790.45

NOTE: All Savings are on deposit with the Church Finance Association, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Cedric D. Pierce Jr., *Secretary-Treasurer*

REPORT OF THE OBITUARY COMMITTEE

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints (Psalm 116:15).

We are saddened today in the loss of one who walked and worked among us in the Central Conference—the Rev. C. D. (Charlie) Hamilton, who for many years preached the Word of God. I'm sure he led many souls to the Lord. Born 1908—Died February 28, 1987. Today we miss him, but we know he is in a much better place.

Today we want to also remember our laity who have gone to be with the Lord. We have fond memories of them. There are several faces we miss today who always enjoyed the Central Conference and were very active in our denominational work.

Everything these dear friends did to build up the work of the Lord, we greatly appreciate.

AWAY

I cannot say, and I will not say
That he is dead. He is just away.

With a cheery smile, and a wave of the hand,
He has wandered into an unknown land.

And left us dreaming how very fair
It needs must be since he lingers there.

And you—O you, who the wildest yearn
For the old-time step and the glad return—

Think of him faring on, as dear
In the love of there as the love of here;

Think of him still as the same, I say;
He is not dead—he is just away!

James Whitcomb Riley

Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Bass Mitchell

David Hill

Mrs. C. L. Patrick

REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

1. We recommend that all delegates who have properly registered for the 239th annual session of the Central Conference be seated in the 1987 session.

2. We recommend that all ministers who are in good standing with the Conference be seated.

3. We further recommend that all ministers and delegates having identification cards and having registered properly, be seated.

4. The following have registered today:

- a. Central Conference ministers: 44 of 57, 4 of these by letter
- b. Delegates: 34
- c. Visiting Ministers: 14
- d. Churches represented: 37 of 44, 10 by letter and 26 by delegate
- e. Officers: 1
- f. Licensed Ministers: 2
- g. Visitors: 18

Total Registered Attendance: 107

Respectfully submitted,
Bryant Hines Jr.
J. C. Boyd

REPORT OF RESOLUTIONS AND TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

1. WHEREAS, the ultimate goal of all our ministers is to point people toward Christ, and since there is so much confusion, heartache and suffering in our world and church communities, BE IT RESOLVED that we leave this Conference with a deeper commitment in our hearts to seize the opportunities God gives us to bring people to Jesus Christ.

2. WHEREAS, the First Free Will Baptist Church of La Grange has been a most gracious host for the 1987 session of the Central Conference, BE IT RESOLVED that we give the church and its good pastor a rising vote of thanks.

Respectfully submitted,
Bass Mitchell
Leon Harris
George Harrison

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We, the Nominating Committee, place the following names in nomination:

Board of Ordination: J. B. Narron (1992)
Board of Trustees: William Earl Stocks (1992)
Board of Missions: Lynwood Cobb (1992)
Board of Finance: Charles Branch (1992)
Representative of Memberships in the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Mrs. Dot Dail (1992)
Credentials Committee: Bryant Hines (1990)
Obituary Committee: David Hill (1990)

Respectfully submitted,
C. H. Overman, *Chairman*
Willis Wilson
Lou D. McLawhorn

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Balance Received From Former Treasurer \$1,870.25

Receipts:
Maury Church \$ 73.24

Interest Earned on Checking Account	<u>57.35</u>	
Total Receipts		<u>130.59</u>
Total to Account for		<u>2,000.84</u>
Disbursements:		
NC State Convention (<i>Yearbooks</i>)	\$ 602.00	
Free Will Baptist Press Membership	25.00	
Executive Board Expense (Phone Postage, Supplies, Mileage, etc.)	<u>200.93</u>	
Total Disbursements		<u>827.93</u>
Balance in Treasury: November 5, 1987		<u><u>\$1,172.91</u></u>

Respectfully submitted,
 Rev. Ronnie V. Hobgood, *Moderator*
 Hilda B. Sasser, *Treasurer*

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

We the Finance Committee of the Central Conference, submit the following report:

Offering Today	\$ 79.34
Monies from Churches	
(Donations and <i>Yearbooks</i>)	950.00
Superannuation	<u>100.00</u>
Total Receipts	<u>\$1,129.34</u>

We recommend that these funds be spent for the Lord's work through the Central Conference.

Respectfully submitted,
 Hilda B. Sasser, *Chairperson*
 Alice Barrow
 Mary Boyd

[illegible]

Otters Creek	66	66	21	75	0	9	0	0	0	0	64	54	
Owen's Chapel	205			150	8	0	0	4	1	0	99	92	
Peace	120			80	5	7			3	9	72	51	28717.92
Piney Grove (B)	38	38	11	35				1	1	2	39	27	9420.78
Piney Grove (P)	152	130	0	130	18	8	0	4	0	0	22	105	105 71785.57
Pleasant Hill													
Reedy Branch	323			150	4	2		7		1	168	125	79751
Rocky Mount	105	27	78	30					2	2	25	19	30253.44
Rose Hill	285	204	81	175	7	3		6		6	113	75	
Rose of Sharon	175	101	74	80	1	1	0	4	0	0	108	94	42345.57
Saratoga	183	183	37	114	0	0	0	1	0	1	112	91	3095669
St Delight	26	19	12	30	0	0	0	0	0	5	31	24	
Spring Branch	228			120				3	1	4	120	90	35373.45
Sweet Gum Grove	209			90	0	1	0	2	0	0	-1	120	90 23379.52
Tarboro, First	406			150	2	3		9	3	2	9	172	130 90337.42
Walnut Creek	65	65	30	45	1	0	0	1	0	0	68	44	2377226
Watery Branch													
Williamston	85	83	124	70	4	1	0	2	0	0	55	40	
Winterville	263			138		9			1	2	6	155	116 79465.33

CENTRAL TOTALS	7750	3418	1408	3971	114	122	5	88	41	14	160		3247
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EASTERN CONFEREN

Angola	54	20	34	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	37	15	10042.26
Antioch	323			225		7			1	6	150	121	
Arapahoe	313	150	163	145	6	5	3	1	0	0	201	135	78113.24
Beaufort	72			40	1	3	0	0	6	8	35	35	
Bethel	65	37	28	35				1		1	40	35	15862.56
Bethlehem	178	139	39	100	0	1	0	1	0	0	130	90	37344.85