

MINUTES
OF THE
TWENTIETH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
CENTRAL WESTERN MISSOURI
—AND—
SOUTHEASTERN KANSAS ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTIST
HELD WITH
Neola Church, seven miles north of Greenfield, Mo.,
and one-fourth mile south of Neola, Mo., be-
ginning on Wednesday night before the 4th
Sunday in August, 1928.

The next Annual Session of this Association will be
held with Wagoner Church, at Wagoner, Mo.,
about eight miles nearly north of Stockton,
Mo., Beginning on Wed. night before
the 4th Sunday in Aug., 1929.

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CENTRAL WESTERN MISSOURI AND
SOUTHEASTERN KANSAS ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTIST

OFFICERS

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Deacon W. H. Potts, Moderator, | Stockton, Mo. |
| Eld. B. F. Brown, Assistant Mod. | Tecumseh, Okla. |
| Eld. W. H. York, Clerk-Treasurer, | Hannon, Mo. |
| Lee Hammond, Assistant Clerk, | R. 2, Freeman, Mo. |

EXECUTIVE AND HOME MISSION BOARD

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| J. W. Moul, | R. 2, Freeman, Mo. |
| Deacon Ed Washburn, | Moundville, Mo. |
| Deacon O. T. Fast, | R3, Liberal, Mo. |
| Eld. W. H. York, Sec'y, | Hannon, Mo. |
| Eld. T. C. Ferguson, Chair., | Ash Grove, Mo. |

ASSOCIATION EVANGELISTS

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| Eld. T. C. Ferguson, | Ash Grove, Mo. |
| Eld. W. H. McGovern, | El Dorado Springs, Mo. |

Proceedings

The Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association of Free Will Baptist met in its Twentieth Annual Session, with Neola Church, eight miles north of Greenfield, Mo., beginning on Wednesday night, August 22, 1928.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Conference was called to order by Moderator, Eld. T. C. Ferguson. Singing by congregation, and prayer.

Eld. W. H. York gave the welcome address, and Eld. W. H. McGovern the response. Both well received.

Eld. W. H. York who had been chosen to preach the introductory sermon gave that honor to Eld B. F. Brown of Tecumseh, Oklahoma. Bro. Brown was called to the stand and delivered a splendid discourse from Eph. 2:10.

Adjourned to meet at nine o'clock a. m. Thursday. Closing prayer by Eld. T. C. Ferguson.

THURSDAY MORNING

Came together at the appointed time with singing by the congregation. Scripture reading from St. John XIII. and prayer by Moderator, Eld. T. C. Ferguson.

Church letters were called for and letters from the following churches were read, received and delegates seated.

Hannon—State of religion good. Sunday school good. Prayer meeting once a week and very spiritual. Pastor W H York. Two deaths. Total membership 171. Paid pastor \$240.00. Minute money enclosed \$4.00. Deacons of the church, C. W. Ricketts, R. R. Thomas,

Hannon, Mo., Grover Lewis, Liberal, Mo., L. C. Wade, Bronaugh, Mo., Delegate seated in conference, Elder T. L. York. Clerk, Frankie D. Wade, Bronaugh, Mo.

Hickory Grove—State of religion, good. Sunday School, good. Prayer meeting every week. Pastor, W. H. York. One death. New members, 4. Withdrawn by letter, one. Total membership, 175. Paid pastor \$224.68. Evangelists, \$48.00. Minute money, \$4.00. Deacons of the church, W. S. Mosby, F. S. Evans, AUSA Cockrell, Freeman, Mo. R. 2, Walter Newnam, Archie, Mo., Clويد Hensley, Madison, Kansas. Delegates seated in Conference: J. W. Moul, Ivy Moul, Iris Jones, Meta McDonald, Alma Hammonds, Lee Hammonds, Freeman, Mo., R. 2, Anna Hocker, Archie, Mo. Ira McDonald, Clerk, Freeman, Mo. R. 2.

Verdella—State of religion, good. Sunday School, good. No prayer meeting at present. Total membership, 49. Pastor, Eld. O. C. Keller of Lamar Mo. Paid pastor, \$93.70 and to Bro. McGovern \$7.80. Deacons of the church, O. T. Fast, Liberal, Mo., Edd Coles, Willie Bowman, Earl Phillips, Iantha, Mo. Minute money, \$3.00 Delegates seated in Conference, O. T. Fast, Nellie Fast, Liberal, Mo. Lena Stacy Iantha, Missouri—Mrs. Amanda Phillips, Clerk, Iantha, Mo.

Fairview—State of religion, good. Sunday School, good. Prayer meeting every week. Christian Endeavor every Sunday evening. Total membership 57. New members, 5. Pastor, Eld. J. W. Martin, Douthat, Oklahoma. Preaching, 1st and 3rd Sundays. Paid pastor since February, \$76.05. Ministers of the church, Eld. C. W. Mayfield, Chetopa, Kansas, Eld. W. H. York, Hannon, Mo. Deacons, Chas. Shipley, W. H.

Holley, Chetopa, Kansas, R. 5. Will Bender, Bartlett, Kansas, R. 1. Minute money, \$3.00. Delegates seated in Conference, Glenn McCarty, Vernie McCarty, Chetopa, Kansas, R. 5.

Mrs. Nettie Beck, Clerk, Chetopa, Kansas, R. 5.

Wagoner—State of religion, fair. Total membership, 90. Pastor, L. J. Gearing, Mountain Grove, Mo., for three months, only. Paid pastor, \$25 00. Minute money, \$3.00. Our deacons are: W. H. Potts, W. H. Whistance and W. L. Douglas, Stockton, Mo. Delegates seated in Conference, Mrs. Mattie Whistance, W. H. Whistance, W. H. Potts, Minnie Pott's, Stockton, Missouri.

Mrs. Tressa Cross, Clerk, Stockton, Mo. R 6

Neola—State of religion, good. Sunday School every Sunday Total membership, 65. New members, 1. Paid pastor, \$120.00. Evangelist, \$38 00. Minute money, 3 00. Our ministers are Eld. J. T. Williams, (superannuated) Greenfield, Mo, deacons, G. B. Manis, Mrs. Gorden Mayberry, T. A. Baugh, Audra Dill, Greenfield, Mo Pastor, W. H. York.

Mrs. Annie Smith, Greenfield, Mo.

Eldorado Springs—State of religion, good. Prayer meeting, good. Total membership, 20. New members added four, baptized by Bro. T. C. Ferguson, Evangelist. Pastor, P. B. Barker, Knobnoster, Mo. Our ministers W. M. C. Bybee, Wm McGovern, Eldorado Springs, P. B. Barker, Knobnoster, Mo, Johnson Co. Delegates seated in Conference, Mrs. Mary Snidow, Mrs. Wm McGovern, Eldorado Springs, Mrs. P. B. Barker, Knobnoster. Mo. We request the Conference to grant Bro. P. B. Barker license to preach another year.—Mrs. Mary Snidow, Clerk.

Sylvandale—State of religion, good. Prayer meeting, good. Sunday School, good. Total membership, 29. One death. Pastor, W. H. York. Paid pastor, \$60.00. For minutes, \$4.00. Our ministers and deacons are Eld. T. C. Ferguson, Ash Grove, Mo. Ed Washburn, T. M. Duncan, C. Centers, Moundville, Mo.

Mrs. Amelia Duncan, Clerk, Moundville, Mo.

Independence—State of religion, common, Sunday School part time. prayer meeting, good. Total membership, 81. New members, 2. Pastor, L. J Gearing. Paid pastor, \$60.00, evangelist, \$25.00. Our deacons are J T. Long, I. V. Sell, Stockton, Mo. R 4, C. C. Barton, Boling, Texas.

A. B. Whistance, Clerk, Stockton, Mo., R 4.

The Clerk then declared a quorum present to transact business.

Officers Elected For Ensuing Year

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|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Moderator, | Deacon W. H. Potts |
| Assistant Moderator, | Eld. B. F. Brown |
| Clerk-Treas. | Eld. W. H. York |
| Assistant Clerk, | Lee Hammonds |
| Member Ex. Board for 5 years | J. W. Moul |

Moderator appointed as Committee on committees
T. C. Ferguson, J. W. Moul, Will Whistance.

Committee of committees made report as nominating the following committees:

Business—P. B. Barker, Wm McGovern, J. W Moul.

Credentials and Examination—T. L. York
Wm McGovern, B. F. Brown.

Publication and Education—T. L. York, B F. Brown, G. B. Manis.

Ministerial Standing—Miss Alma Hammonds Mrs. Vernie McCarty, Mrs. Mary Snidow, Mrs. Ivy Moul.

Obituary—Lee Hammonds. Mrs Nellie Fast, Mrs McGovern.

Temperance—Glenn McCarty, Nellie Fast, I. V Sell.

Motion carried to accept the report of Committee on committees.

Motion carried to grant all visiting brethren all privileges of the floor with us except making and seconding motions and voting.

Pulpit Committee reported that Bro. P. B. Barker was chosen to preach the eleven o'clock message.

Motion carried to adjourn for preaching service, to meet again at 2 p. m.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Bro. Barker's sermon was a splendid soul-stirring message from 1st John 3: 1. Benediction by Bro. B F. Brown.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

Session called to order by Moderator. Song by congregation. Scripture reading the 23rd Psalm. Prayer by Bro. McGovern. After singing a song, opportunity was given for testimony and good interest was manifested.

The minutes for Wednesday evening and Thursday morning were read and approved.

Verdella church letter was read and received and delegates seated.

Motion carried to allow Bro T. C. Ferguson to use the tabernacle for the rest of the tent meeting season or until winter, and that he place the tent in responsible hands when through with it.

Motion carried to elect one or more association evangelists. Elders T. C. Ferguson and W. H. McGovern were elected to serve as evangelists for one year. Motion carried to adjourn till 9:30 a. m. Friday.

THURSDAY NIGHT

Divine service, at 8 c'clock, conducted by Brother McGovern. We listened to a splendid discourse from the text, "Be sure your sin will find you out."

Closing prayer by Bro. T. L. York.

FRIDAY MORNING

Meeting called to order by the Moderator. Song by the congregation. Scripture reading Isa. LV. by Moderator. Prayer by Bro. Ed Washburn.

Minutes of previous session read and approved.

Motion carried to accept the proposed amendment of Art 2, Sec. 1, of our Constitution as found in last year's minutes, page 12.

Roll was called with response from 9 churches, 7 ministers, 8 deacons, and 25 delegates, a total of 40.

Roll Call

Hannon—Eld. T. L. York, Hannon, Mo.

Hickory Grove—J. W. Moul, Mrs. Ivy Moul, Mrs. Iris Jones, Mrs. Meta McDonald, Alma Hammonds, Lee Hammonds, Freeman, Mo., R2, Mrs. Anna Hocker, Archie, Mo.,

Verdella—O. T. Fast, Mrs. Nellie Fast, Liberal, Mo. R3, Mrs. Lena Stacy, Iantha, Mo.

Fairview—Eld. W. H. York, Hannon, Mo., Glenn McCarty, Mrs. Vernie McCarty. R5, Chetopa, Kans.

Neola—Eld. J. T. Williams, G. B. Manis, Mrs. Gordon Mayberry, Mrs. Audra Dill, Mrs. Anna Smith, Mrs. Jewell Mayberry, Mrs. Floy Kelley, Miss Lena Mayberry, Greenfield, Mo., Eld. B. F. Brown, Tecumseh, Okla.

Sylvandale—Eld. T. C. Ferguson, Ash Grove, Mo., Ed Washburn, Mrs. Mary Washburn, Moundville, Mo., Mrs. Harry Downey, Nevada, Mo.

ElDorado Springs—Eld. W. H. McGovern, Mrs. Myrtle McGovern, Mrs. Mary Snidow, ElDorado Springs, Mo., Eld. P. B. Barker (licentiate), Mrs. P. B. Barker, Knobnoster, Mo.

Wagoner—W. H. Whistance, W. H. Potts, Mrs. Minnie Potts, Mrs. Mattie Whistance, Stockton, Mo.

Independence—I. V. Sell, T. W. Lewis, Mrs. Mamie Lewis, W. A. Anderson, Stockton, Mo.

Motion carried to adjourn till 2 o'clock p. m.

Closing prayer by Eld. W. H. York.

FRIDAY, ELEVEN O'CLOCK

Divine services were conducted by Sister Nellie Mitchell and her two co-workers. We enjoyed a spiritual, feast, heartily appreciated by all.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Came together with singing by the congregation. Scripture reading, Psalm 28, by the Moderator. Prayer by Bro. Ferguson.

Minutes of morning session read and approved.

Letter from Independence Church was read and received and delegates seated.

The roll was called with full delegated response.

Reports from the following committees were read and received: Executive Board, Temperance, Publication and Education, Ministerial Standing, Obituary, Business, Credentials and Examination.

Reports from the following ministers were read and received: W. H. McGovern, T. L. York, W. H. York, C. W. Mayfield, W. M. C. Bybee, T. C. Ferguson, J. T. Williams, P. B. Barker (licentiate).

Clerk's report read and received.

Motion carried to take an offering to help with the Association expenses. \$6.24 was received.

Motion carried that Bro. B. F. Brown print 200 minutes, small size.

By unanimous vote it was decided to hold the next Annual Session of the Association with Wagoner Church, at Wagoner, Mo., about 8 miles north of Stockton, Mo., beginning on Wednesday night before the fourth Sunday in August, 1929.

Motion carried that Bro. W. H. York preach the introductory sermon next year, Bro. Barker alternate.

The verbal report of our corresponding messengers to Union Association was accepted.

Moderator appointed as committee on closing resolutions: Ed Washburn, Glenn McCarty and Sister McGovern.

Motion carried to adjourn till 9:30 a. m. Saturday.

FRIDAY NIGHT

Divine service conducted by Eld. T. C. Ferguson. Lesson, Isaiah XII. Subject, "Getting acquainted with God." Bro. and Sister Barker favored us with a special song. Prayer by Bro. Ferguson. We enjoyed, as usual, an enthusiastic, spiritual message. Concluded with a very interesting praise service.

SATURDAY MORNING

Called to order by Ass't Moderator, Eld. B. F. Brown. Praise by congregation. Scripture reading, Phil. 3:7-14, with brief comment, by Bro. Brown. Prayer by Bro. O. T. Fast.

Minutes of Friday p. m. session read and approved

After some discussion as to whether women are eligible to be ordained deacons, a motion carried to

take a secret ballot to determine whether this Association favors ordaining a woman to the office of deacon or not. Ballot was taken and stood 19 in favor of our sisters being ordained deacons, and 6 against it. So the matter of ordaining women to serve as deacons in Neola Church was left to the church.

Motion carried that we ask the State Association whether a woman shall be ordained as deacon or not.

Delegates to State Association

Motion carried that each church shall elect two or three delegates.

Neola—Sisters Walter Dill, Nannie Martin, G. B. Manis.

Wagoner—Minnie Potts, J. K. Stephens.

Independence—J. T. Long, A. B. Whistance, A. L. Wiley

Eldorado Springs—Sisters Mary Snidow, P. B. Barker.

Sylvandale—Harry Downey, Mary Washburn.

Hannon—Sisters Martha Ricketts, Myrtle Dickey and Emma J. Thomas.

Hickory Grove—Joe Cockrell, J. W. Moul, and Miss Alma Hammonds.

Fairview—Sisters Nellie Bender, Marjory Shipley.

Verdella—Sisters Nellie Fast, Lena Stacy.

Motion that state delegates be given power of substitution, and that we request that members of our body, who are in good standing, and present, be seated as delegates in lieu of absent delegates.

Motion carried that we ask Bro. Brown to furnish us with Letter Blanks, Preacher's and Deacon's Ordination Blanks, Minister's License Blanks and Ministerial Standing Certificate, to be paid for in the usual way.

Motion carried to adjourn till 2 o'clock p. m.

Closing prayer by Bro McGovern.

SATURDAY, ELEVEN O'CLOCK

Divine service conducted by Eld. T. L. York. Lesson Mark 10:25-30, read by Bro. Brown. Subject, "Reward for them that forsake all and bear persecution for Christ's sake." A very interesting message.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Called to order by Ass't Moderator. Praise by the congregation. Scripture reading 1 John 4:11-21 by Bro. Brown, Prayer by Bro. Ferguson.

Motion carried to have a doctrinal sermon during our Association next year. Bro. W. H. York was chosen to preach the doctrinal sermon.

Minutes of Saturday a. m. and p. m. sessions read and approved.

The covenant meeting was conducted by Bro. P. B. Barker. We all enjoyed a Spiritual feast.

Motion carried to adjourn to meet at Wagoner Church, on Wednesday night before the fourth Sunday in August, 1929.

Committee Reports

CREDENTIALS & EXAMINATION—— We, your Com. on Credentials and Examination, report as follows:

We have examined Bro. P. B. Barker on qualifications and ability and fitness to preach the Gospel. We are satisfied as to his purpose, fitness and ability to preach the Gospel, and, therefore recommend that he be licensed for one year.

We further report that we have examined the ordination papers of Bro. C. W. Mayfield of Chetopa, Ks., and find them satisfactory. We, therefore, recommend that he be accepted by this Association, in full fellowship, as a preacher of the Gospel.

Committee { Eld. T. L. York
Eld. W. H. McGovern
Eld. B. F. Brown

MINISTERIAL STANDING—We, your Comm. on Ministerial Standing, find that the following ministers are entitled to Annual Certificates of Standing: T. C. Ferguson, T. L. York, W. H. York, W. H. McGovern, J. T. Williams, W. M. C. Bybee, C. W. Mayfield, P. B. Barker (licensed).

Committee { Alma Hammonds
Vernie McCarty
Mary M. Snidow
Ivy Moul

OBITUARY—We, your Committee on Obituary, wish to extend our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved families of our Association who have lost loved ones. Deceased are as follows:

Hickory Grove, Mildred Cockrell.

ElDorado Springs, Silas Leeper, Frank Bostic, Frank Shaw.

Wagoner, Bertha Wyrick.

Sylvandale, Sister S. C. Douglas.

Hannon, Joseph Marts.

Neola, Dan Roberts.

Committee { Lee Hammonds
Myrtle McGovern
Nellie Fast

PUBLICATION and EDUCATION—We, your Committee on Publication and Education, recommend that all our people read our publications; The Free Will Baptist, published at Ayden, N. C., and The Mission World, published at Cushing, Oklahoma. We also recommend that, as far as practical, all our Sunday schools use our denominational S. S. literature, published at Ayden and Cushing.

We further recommend that all our preachers be expected and encouraged to avail themselves of every opportunity to qualify themselves for a more efficient

ministry; and urge that they be loyal in their support of all our denominational enterprises.

We also endorse and recommend our Eureka College at Ayden, N. C. as a proper and worthy institution of learning—a suitable school for our young preachers.

Committee { Eld. B. F. Brown
Eld. T. L. York.
Dea. G. B. Manis.

TEMPERANCE—We, your Committee on Temperance, heartily endorse the Eighteenth Amendment, and stand for its rigid enforcement.

We also wish to discourage the use of cigarettes and tobacco in every form among our membership, especially ministers, according to our ordaining constitution.

Committee { Glen McCarty
Nellie Fast
I. V. Sell

BUSINESS—Resolved, That Art 5, Sec. 2, of our Constitution be amended to read:- It shall be the duty of all ministers of this Association to attend each session or report by letter, all being required to report their work for the year in writing. All ministers thus reporting, if otherwise worthy, shall receive an Annual Certificate of Ministerial Standing by the Association. (To be finally acted on next year)-

Be it resolved, That we endorse the starting of a Church Paper in Missouri, and the establishment of an Orphan's and Old Minister's Home in our home State. We, therefore, recommend the endorsement of this body so it may be presented to the State body.

Committee { Eld. W. H. McGovern
Eld. T. L. York
Dea. G. B. Manis

EXECUTIVE BOARD—We, your Executive and Home Mission Board, report as follows: In the matter of getting up a form of Order of Business, put into our hands last year, to report on at this session, we recommend that the printing of the minutes be given to Bro. B. F. Brown, and that he print in the minutes this year, an order of business, for our consideration next year.

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| Executive Board | { | Eld. T. C. Ferguson |
| | | Eld. W. H. York |
| | | J. W. Moul |
| | | Ed Washburn |
| | { | O. T. Fast |

CLOSING RESOLUTIONS—Be it resolved, That we, the delegates composing this body, and the visitors, express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the kindness and hospitality, and the Christian Spirit shown by the Neola Church and community during the Association.

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| Committee | { | Ed Washburn |
| | | Glen McCarty |
| | | Myrtle McGovern |

CLERK'S REPORT

To the Free Will Baptist brethren, in conference with Neola Church, Greetings in Jesus' name.

Having been clerk during the past year to the best of my ability, will thank you for the honor, and for the assistance you have given me. I sent the minute work to Bro. B. F. Brown for publication the past year, as he gave the cheapest rates, and good service. I would be glad if the brethren would give me helpful suggestions in the performance of my duties. If no objection will give Bro. Brown the printing

TREASURER'S REPORT

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|---|----------------|
| Total receipts last year | \$24.70 |
| Minute money paid out | \$22.00 |
| Postage..... | 1.50 |
| Total expenditures..... | <u>\$23.50</u> |
| On hand from last year | 1.20 |
| Received this year..... | <u>26.00</u> |
| Total on hand this date..... | <u>\$27.20</u> |
| Prayerfully submitted by your humble servant, ¹³ | |
| (Eld.) W. H. York. | |

Minister's Reports

Eld. T. C. Ferguson—I, as your evangelist for the past year, beg to submit the following report: The past year I have been constantly in evangelistic work. I have held meetings the past year in five churches in our Association, and souls were saved and added to the churches. I was able to locate pastors in four of our churches. I have held meetings in many churches in other associations, where many souls were saved and added to the churches.

I am now holding meetings under our Association tent at Douthat, a small mining town 2 miles south of Picher, Okla. We are having a good meeting and souls are being saved; no doubt our nearby churches will receive members as a result of this tent meeting. God being willing, I aim to continue in evangelistic work the coming year.

I enclose \$1.00 to help on Association expenses.

I hope and pray that God's richest blessings will be upon the entire Association throughout.

Prayerfully submitted by your evangelist and Bro. in Christ.—Eld T. C. Ferguson, Ash Grove, Mo.

Eld. P. B. Barker—I have been preaching the past 9 months for our ElDorado Springs Church; in that time I held them a week's meeting which resulted in three professions. I have conducted one funeral. I have enjoyed God's blessings in the work, and expect to continue in the Lord's work the coming year. Pray for me—Eld. P. B. Barker.

Eld. W. H. McGovern—I regret to say that I have not preached as much as I should on account of sickness and asthma. However I have preached about forty sermons and held one revival. I rented a mission hall in Rich Hill, but on the account of divisions gave it up without results. I have assisted in meetings and S. S. Conventions, and now, that my health is good, and my wife's health is good, I would be glad to serve any church needing our services.

Eld. Wm. McGovern.

Eld. W. H. York—To the brethren and the churches assembled in conference, greetings in Jesus' name: I have pastored four churches the past year, and held a few night's meeting for Hannon and Sylvandale Churches, and, with Bro Keller, held a three week's meeting for Neola Church, also for Hickory Grove Church. I baptized nine. I also held a meeting for a Methodist church at Lafontaine, Kans., which resulted in 7 converts and about 14 additions to the church. Then, in May, I was honored by the High-school of Lafontaine to preach the baccalaureate sermon. I feel that my year's work has not been a failure, maybe not all it should have been, yet I trust that in that Day, when I stand to be judged, I shall receive for all the good I have done. Trusting all to Him who is able to keep me, I pray God to richly bless you all—Eld. W. H. York.

Eld. T. L. York—To the Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association of Free Will Baptist when convened with Neola Church, Greetings in Jesus' name. The past year I have done the best I could. I was elected as one of the corresponding messengers to Union Association, and had a fine trip over to Wolfe Creek Church. I delivered one message while there. We were royally entertained, and found the churches and ministers flourishing in the Lord's work. They have 32 churches and 38 ministers in the Association. After our message one man was reclaimed.

I preached ten sermons the past year. By request I preached one sermon on the resurrection and one on the birth of Christ. I helped in two revivals, and attended Sunday school almost every Sunday. Visited the sick about forty times.

May the Lord bless you in conference, and may peace and harmony prevail in all your deliberations. Your humble servant for Christ—Eld. T. L. York.

CONSTITUTION

Art. I. This body shall be known as the Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association of Free Will Baptist, and shall be composed of such consistent well regulated Free Will Baptist churches as shall, from time to time, unite with the body and agree to this Constitution.

Art II. Sec. 1. The acting members of this Association shall be such as are chosen by the several churches of which this Association is composed. Each church being entitled to one delegate, and each church having twenty-five (25) resident members, two delegates, and one delegate for each additional twenty-five resident members or major part thereof, together

with all ordained deacons, ordained and licensed ministers, and church clerks of the several churches of this Association.

Sec. 2. A resident member shall be a member in good standing who discharges his or her obligations to the church, and who resides near enough to attend church services, or who resides at a distance but discharges his or her obligations to the church; unless feeble minded or invalids. All other members shall be considered non-resident members.

Art. III. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, an Assistant Moderator, a Clerk, an Assistant Clerk, and a Treasurer; all of said officers to be elected annually at the regular session of the Association, and shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualified.

Art. IV. This Association shall elect a board of five members, two of which shall be ministers. This board shall be called the Home Mission and Executive Board of this Association. One member of this board shall be elected to hold office for one year, one for two years, one for three years, one for four years and one for five years. After the first election one member shall be elected each year and hold office for five years. or until his successor is elected. This board shall have charge of the work of the Association when it is not in session.

Sec 2. The Home Mission and Executive Board of this Association shall be Trustees of the Association and shall have charge of its property;

Act. V. This Association shall meet annually at such time and place as shall meet with the approval of the Association and it shall be the duty of all the churches of which it is composed to represent themselves by letter and delegates.

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of all ministers of this Association to attend each session or report by letter. And all ministers reporting by letter or in person shall be entitled to a Certificate of Ministerial Standing by the Association.

Art. VI. This Constitution may be altered or amended by vote of any session of the Association, notice of such intended change having been given in writing not less than three months before such change shall be voted on, to the Executive Board.

BY--LAWS

1. Each Annual Session of this Association shall be called to order by the Clerk, and in his or her absence, the Assistant Clerk, and in his or her absence, the standing member having seniority of years in service. After the Clerk, or the one calling the assembly to order, shall declare a quorum present, he or she shall call the Moderator to the chair, and in his or her absence, the Assistant Moderator, and in his or her absence, the standing member having seniority of years in service.

2. Each session of this Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

3. Five (5) delegates, from three (3) or more churches, shall constitute a quorum to transact business for the Association, but any less number may adjourn from time to time.

4. A member wishing to speak in conference, shall arise and address the Moderator, and shall be recognized by him, and shall not be allowed to speak longer than five minutes, nor more than twice on the same subject without the consent of the conference.

5. New churches may be admitted to this Association by a majority vote of the conference.

6. The yeas and nays may be taken on any question by the request of one-third of the members present.

7. A committee of five lay members, delegates present at the Association, shall be elected to look into the standing of the ministry and report to the Association before it adjourns, for approval.

8 No one shall be ordained to the ministry in this Association until they have carried preacher's license for at least one year, and must have received a call to pastor some church. The call for ordination must come from the church that has called him or her to pastor it, or from the church in which he or she holds membership.

9. All committees shall be appointed by the Moderator or the Assistant Moderator, when not otherwise provided for by the Association.

10. Whenever practicable, all business of importance coming before the local churches shall be decided by secret ballot, a majority vote to decide.

11. It shall be the duty of the churches of this Association, that have a total membership of less than fifty, to send to the Clerk of this Association the sum of two dollars (\$2 00) each year, and each church with a total membership of fifty or more, shall send the sum of three dollars (\$3 00) each year to defray the general expenses of this Association.

12. It shall be the duty of the preachers and the churches of this Association to try to work in harmony with the Home Mission Board of this Association.

13. A request from a church that a brother or sister be examined for license or ordination to preach the Gospel shall not mean that he or she shall be li-

censed or ordained, but that a council be appointed to examine him or her, and if, after the examination, the council thinks best he or she may be licensed or ordained

14. Any preacher belonging to this Association who does not make a report of his or her work, either in person, by letter or by proxy, for three successive years, shall have his or her name dropped from the minutes.

15. It shall be the duty of each church to have its pastoral year to end with the annual session of the Association, and to hold its annual business meeting before the Association meets each year.

16. When a church fails to report to the Association its last report shall be carried over in the minutes

17. All old or afflicted ministers, who so desire, may be enrolled on a superannuated list, and not be required to report to the Association in order to receive an Annual Certificate of Ministerial Standing.

18. These by-laws may be amended at any session of this Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant. We promise by his grace to love and obey him in all things, to avoid 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:

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

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

FREE WILL BAPTIST ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. The Bible. The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. God. There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe, and in the Scriptures as the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore, and obey.

3. Christ. Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in his divine nature truly God, in his human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified, he is now risen and glorified and is our ever present Savior and Lord.

4. The Holy Spirit. The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all attributes of God. He is the reprover, comforter, guide and sanctifier of men.

5. The Government of God. God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of grace, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of man requires.

6. The Sinfulness of Man. Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherited a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability sin, and become guilty before God.

7. The Work of Christ. The Son of God, by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.

8. The Terms of Salvation. The conditions of salvation are, 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith until death.

9. Election. God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.

10. Freedom of the Will. The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.

11. Salvation Free. God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely

12. Perseverance. All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation.

13. Gospel Ordinances. BAPTISM, or the immersion of believers in water, and the LORD'S SUPPER, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel; FEET WASHING, an ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.

14. The Christian Sabbath. The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works and activities, and for personal communion with God.

15. War. War destroys the lives of the innocent, and is contrary to the New Testament, therefore, we are opposed to war.

16. Resurrection, Judgment, and Final Retribution. The Scriptures teach resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Call to order by the Clerk.
3. Moderator takes charge.
4. Letters read and delegates seated.
5. Right hand of fellowship.
6. Election of officers.
7. Reading Rules of Order (By-Laws)
8. Petitionary Letters.
9. Invite visiting brethren to seats in council.
10. Unfinished Business.
11. New Business.
12. Appointment of Committees.
13. Report of Committees.
14. Miscellaneous Business.

LETTER OF DISMISSION

This is to certify that is a member in good standing of the Free Will Baptist Church of Christ 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.....
.....PastorClerk