

MINUTES
OF THE
THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
CENTRAL WESTERN MISSOURI
and
SOUTHEASTERN KANSAS ASSOCIATION
of

FREE WILL BAPTIST

Mr. Potts

HELD WITH
Hannon Free Will Baptist Church, Hannon, Mo.
beginning at 8:00 p. m., August 23, 1939.

The next Annual Session of this Association will be held with Fair View Church, near Chetopa, Kansas, beginning on Wednesday night before the fourth Sunday in August, 1940.

Eld. Ronea Thomas to preach the Introductory sermon, with Eld. W. K. Weston as alternate.

Free Will Baptist Gem Print, 211 Bond St. Monett, Mo

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OFFICERS

Moderator,	Eld. Arlie Hoover, R.1, Arcadia, Ks.
Ass't Mod.	Dea. L. C. Wade, Bronaugh, Mo.
Clerk-Treas.,	Mrs. Zola Truskett, Hannon, Mo.
Ass't Clerk,	Mrs. Mary Hizar, Iantha, Mo.
Statistician,	Mary Wade, Liberal, Mo.

Executive and Home Mission Board

Deacon Willie Bowman	R1, Iantha, Mo.
Elder Arlie Hoover	R1, Arcadia, Kans.
Deacon Otis Martin	Greenfield, Mo.
Elder Roena Thomas	R1, Arcadia, Kans.
Elder A. Kicenski	Jerico Springs, Mo.

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Ministers' Conference of Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association of Free Will Baptist met in its Second Annual Session, at Hannon Free Will Baptist Church on Wednesday night, August 23, 1939.

Service opened by singing.

Conference President, L. C. Wade in charge.

After a good song service, Bro. B. F. Brown was chosen to fill the stand in the absence of Bro. Cecil Campbell. He brought a stirring message on the subject, "Feeding the flock of God," showing us the great importance of Spiritual food; so lacking in many of our churches today.

THURSDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened by singing led by Bro. John Swaffar.

Scripture lesson read from Philippians Chapter 1 by Bro. Harold Hoover.

Prayer by Sister Roena Thomas.

Song, "I Want To Be A Worker."

The following officers were elected for the following year.

President	L. C. Wade
Vice President	Roena Thomas
Secretary	Zola Truskett

Eld. Arlie Hoover took the stand using as a subject, "And He went a little farther."

Duet by Bro. and Sister Kicenski, "Farther Along."

The stand was filled by Sister Roena Thomas. Text: Lev. 27:30; subject: "The financial plan God has for us." A mighty message was brought from God to us through Sister Thomas.

There were short talks from our visiting brethren, Bro. B. F. Brown and Bro. John Swaffar.

Eleven O'Clock Service

Came together by singing.

Scripture lesson read from Acts 6:1 to 8 by Bro. Cecil Campbell.

Prayer by Eld. John Swaffar.

The stand was then filled by Eld. A. Kicenski, speaking on the subject of "The ministry of highways and hedges"; a very inspiring message.

The Ministers' Conference was then brought to a close with a handshake and closing prayer.

Mission and League Proceedings

All Thursday afternoon was given to Mission and League work.

Came together by singing "Let The Lower Lights Be Burning" and "When The Missions Learn How To Tithe"; led by President, Sister A. W. Hartley.

Scripture lesson read from John 15.

Prayer by Sister Iva Garver.

Mission reports from Hannon, Independence, and Mt. Olive Circles were read, accepted and delegates seated.

There were some good talks on missions and giving by the following:

"Feeding the hungry souls" by Sam Marcum.

"The Need of men in our missions" by Bro. Campbell.

"National home missions and schools" by Bro. Brown.

"Echoes from the National meeting" by Mary Wade.

Report of League work by Sister May Dell Rector. Mrs. Rector was appointed to visit the churches to organize or encourage Young Peoples League work.

Vote carried that each Mission Circle or League elect their delegates to state meeting.

Motion carried that Bro. Campbell fill the stand at the Mission meeting in 1940.

Duet by Maryln and Wilma Smith.

A collection of \$3.30 was taken for foreign missions.

Thora Arbgest, Secretary.

ASSOCIATION PROCEEDINGS

The Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association of Free Will Baptist met in its Thirty-first Annual Session at the Hannon Free Will Baptist Church at Hannon, Missouri, August 23, 1939, at eight o'clock.

Meeting was called together by Eld. Arlie Hoover.

Song service led by Mary Wade.

Devotional led by Eld. Sam Marcum.

Prayer by Eld. B. F. Brown.

We were then favored by two special duet numbers by Wilma Smith and Marie Thomas.

The League quartette sang, "In Cannan Land." In the absence of Eld. F. C. Zinn, Bro. John Swaffar filled the stand. Subject: "Let the redeemed say so." (Psalms 107:2). A spiritual feast was certainly enjoyed by God's people. This was a wonderful message and greatly appreciated. Bro. Swaffar sang "If I Be Lifted Up."

Temporary Pulpit Committee appointed.

A request for prayer was given in by Bro. Marcum for the healing of an afflicted eye. Prayer by Bro. Cambell.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Came to order by singing.

Devotional by Lottie Marshall reading Gal. 3.

Prayer by Eld. Sam Marcum.

At the request of the Clerk, Bro. Potts, a senior member of our Association declared a quorum present to transact business. Called Moderator to chair.

Letters were read, received and delegates seated from the following churches: Hickory Grove, Hannon, Waggoner, Mt. Olive, Independence, Fairview, and Verdella.

Motion carried that the present pastor of the Independence church be named instead of former pastor.

Election of Officers

Moderator, Eld. Arlie Hoover, R.1, Arcadia, Ks.
Ass't Mod. Dea. L. C. Wade, Bronaugh, Mo.
Clerk-Treas., Mrs. Zola Truskett, Hannon, Mo.
Ass't Clerk, Mrs. Mary Hizar, Iantha, Mo.
Statistician, Mary Wade, Liberal, Mo.

Bro. Kicenski was elected on Executive Board for a term of five years.

Statistician report was read and accepted.

Motion carried that the Moderator appoint a Committee on Committees. Those appointed were: Bro. Glenn McCarty, Sister Lottie Marshall, Bro. L. C. Wade, Sister Ruby Reed, and Bro. Potts.

Ministers' reports read and accepted from Harold Hoover, Arlie Hoover, A. Kicenski, C. R. Dick, H. S. Ford, Sister Roena Thomas and Sister Lowell Martin.

The following delegates were elected to the Missouri State Association: Brothers Glenn McCarty, A. W. Hartley, John Bough, J. T. Terry, A. L. Wiley and Harold Hoover, and Sisters Zola Truskett, Lottie Marshall, Mary Hizar, Tessie Cross and Bro. and Sister Doc Hill.

Motion carried that delegates have the power to appoint alternates.

Motion carried to adjourn until eleven o'clock.

FRIDAY ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Prayer by Sister Mary Wade.

The Stand was filled by Eld. Cecil Campbell. Text: Isa. 4:1. A wonderful message was enjoyed by all.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Meeting called to order by Moderator and singing.

Prayer and Scripture reading by Bro. Tom Lewis.

Bro. Sam Marcum was here from Northeast Association and gave an encouraging report of their work.

Bro. Cecil Campbell reports from Indian Creek that they are going forward.

Motion carried that Central Western and S. E. Kans. Association accept invitation from Fairview church for the Association of 1940.

Eld. Roena Thomas to preach Introductory Sermon; Eld. W. K. Weston, alternate.

Report of Executive Board read and accepted.

Committee reports read, discussed and accepted.

Motion carried that we extend our meeting over Saturday and devote the afternoon to a covenant meeting.

Motion carried that Mt. Olive church send an invitation to State Association to convene with them in 1940.

Report of Educational System by Sister Mary Wade.
Minutes Read and approved.

Motion carried to adjourn until Wednesday night before the fourth Sunday in August, 1940.

Arlie Hoover, Moderator,
Zola Truskett, Clerk.

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Came to order with singing led by Sister Mary Adams.

Devotional by Bro. Arlie Hoover.

Prayer by Edd Wade.

Special duet by Wilma Smith and Marie Thomas.

Song by the Gospel Team Quartette.

Duet by Betty Feren and Margaret Truskett.

Bro. Sam Marcum preach a wonderful message which reached out with power. Text: John 3:16.

A collection of \$10.30 was taken for our State Evangelist.

Dismissed with a Christian handshake.

Benediction by L. C. Wade.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Resolutions — We, your Committee on Resolutions, wish to submit the following:

Res. No. 1 — Be it Resolved, That we continue to begin our Association on Wednesday night instead of on Thursday night, and that the extra day be given to the Ministers' Conference, Mission and League work.

No. 2 — Be it Resolved, That we, your committee, recommend that By-Law No. 11 be changed to read that each church is to send all the budget money to the clerk of the Local Association, and By-Law be ammended to read the same.

No. 3 — Be it Resolved; Should the time of the Association be lengthened, that the evening service be devoted to evangelistic sermons and maintain a revival spirit throughout the Association.

No. 4 — Be it Resolved, That we, the members of the Association convened at Hannon church, do express our sincere thanks to God for the good spirit and the brotherly love.

We also extend our thanks to our visiting brethern from other Associations, and local communities for their kindness and hospitality shown during our Association.

Committee { Lloyd Warren,
 { Preston Cross,
 { Mrs. Mildred Kicenski.

Home Mission — Realizing the great importance of a great Home Mission work, we recommend that each of our churches get behind us, that Mission circles be organized in every church, and that those already organized work with greater zeal for the up-building of God's kingdom. May we also strive for the growth of our fifth Sunday Mission meetings.

Committee { Nannie Martin,
 { Mildred I. Peters,
 { Tom Lewis.

Foreign Missions — We, your Committee on Foreign Missiions, wish to submit the following report:

We recommend that each church in our Association take up a free will offering once a month for foreign

missions.

We recommend that each church in our Association take up a free will offering once a month for Foreign Missions.

We further recommend that the Free Will Baptist Gem be placed in every home in order that they keep informed on Foreign Missions.

Committee { Sam H. Marcum,
Cecil Campbell.
Arthur Kicenski.

Sunday School — We, your Committee on Sunday School, submit the following:

We recommend that all teachers be fully consecrated and should be members of the Free Will Baptist.

Parents should bring children to Sunday School rather than send them.

We recommend the use of Free Will Baptist literature in our Sunday Schools.

We recommend that all Sunday Schools take an active part in the Foreign Mission program.

We urge that each Free Will Baptist member feel his or her personal responsibility in the upbuilding of our Sunday School for the cause of Christ.

Committee { Thora Arbogast,
Pauline Warren,
Maydelle Rector.

Obituary — We, your Committee on Obituary, wish to extend to the bereaved members of our Association, our heart-felt sympathy for the loss of their loved ones through the past year.

We also have a desire to ever be able to lend a helping hand to those whose hearts and homes have suffered such loss, and recommend them ever to the great Comforter who is able to heal and bind up broken hearts.

Names of the deceased are:

Verdella — Deacon Orville Cassatt.

Hickory Grove — Mrs. Martha Cocksrell.

Independence — Mrs. Maleala Bell.

Committee { Mrs. Helen Spices,
Mrs. Mary Wade,
Mrs. Gracie McCarty.

Temperance—We, your Committee on Temperance, heartily endorse the Bible as the word of God; regardless of what man may say regarding temperance. Regardless of the modification of the Volstead Act, we must keep fighting for Temperance.

We also wish to discourage the use of cigarettes and tobacco in any form as well as alcoholic drinks among our ministers according to our ordaining constitution.

We are also opposed to all sinful amusements among our members.

Committee { Mrs. O. T. Fast,
Ina Garver,
G. C. Lewis.

Ministerial Standing— We, your Committee on Ministerial Standing, find that the following named ministers have complied with the requirements of the Association, and believing them to be worthy, God fearing, with full purpose of heart to push on in the work into which they are called; we heartily recommend that they be granted Annual Certificates of Ministerial Standing:

Elders C. R. Dick, Arthur Kicenski, Lowell Martin, Roena Thomas, Arlie Hoover, Harold Hoover and H. S. Ford; also two supernaturated ministers, Eld. J. T. Williams and Sister Edith Mayfield.

Committee { Ross Thomas,
Mary Hizar,
J. T. Terry,
Mrs. A. W. Hartley,
Mrs. Dora Mead.

Publication— We, your Committee on Publication, beg to submit our report.

We realize that great influence is manifested through the printed page. Therefore, we recommend the discouragement of reading of undesirable and questionable literature.

Furthermore, we recommend that the "Gem" should be in every Free Will Baptist home. We believe the reading of the "Gem" gives a stronger feeling of fellowship with one another, and broadens our views of God's work.

Also, we recommend the use of Free Will Baptist literature in our Sunday schools and leagues, wherever it is practicable.

Committee {L. C. Wade,
 {O. T. Fast,
 {John E. Bough.

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT

The Executive Board of the Central Western Mo. & Southeast Kansas Association have transacted the following business since the last meeting of the Association.

In 1938 the Executive Board met in session at Hannon church to examine Rev. Kicenski for ordination for the ministry, Sister Lowell Martin license for the ministry and Bro. Lloyd Jeffries ordination for deacon. The ordaining council was Bro. Davis, Chairman, and Bro. Campbell, Bro. Hoover and Sister Thomas, assisting.

In February, 1939, we met at Hannon in advisory council with Bro. Kicenski in regard to denominational work.

On June 4, 1939, we met again at Hannon to examine Bro. Henry Ford for ordination for the ministry and Bro. Harold Hoover for license for the ministry. The ordaining council at this time was Bro. Campbell, chairman, assisted by Sister Thomas and Bro. Arlie Hoover.

On May 14, 1939, we again met to discuss business pertaining to State and Denominational work.

Sister Lorena Thomas, President
L. C. Wade, Clerk.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Amount of Budget Received

Hannon	\$5.60
Waggoner	3.00
Fairview	3.00
Verdella	4.20
Independence	4.00
Hickory Grove	3.40
Mt. Olive	8.70
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Total Budget	\$31.90
Mt. Olive, for clerk expence	\$1.25
Fair View, for clerk expence	1.00
Amount forward from 1938	1.91
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Total besides the Budget	\$4.16
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Total receipts	\$36.06

Disbursements

Half of Budget to State Treasurer ..	\$15.97
For printing local minutes	15.00
Programs	1.50
Clerk hire	5.00
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Total Expence	\$37.47
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Difference	\$1.41

Expense of Texas Trip

Amount received for trip from C. W. Mo. & S. E. Kansas Association	\$13.00
Bus Fare	\$5.00
Lunch .....	.25
Ice Fund .....	.05
Lunch .....	.10
Breakfast .....	.25
Lunch .....	.10
Breakfast .....	.25
Supper .....	.15
Breatfast (Galveston) .....	.25
Eats .....	.50
Lunch .....	.18
Breakfast (Van Buren) .....	.35
Ice .....	.05
Lunch .....	.20
Taxi to Bus .....	.10
Bus Fare to Lamar	1.22
Expense to Neosho and back	2.00
Educational Offering	1.00
Missionary Offering	1.00
Total	\$13.00

MINISTERS' REPORTS

ROENA THOMAS—I humbly beg to submit the following report of my ministerial work during this passing Associational year.

I have had one regular appointment at Shiloh school house; preaching twice each month until June 1, since then only once a month. This finishes up two years work at this place, and have been called for the coming year. I have supplied for other pastors a few times; also, during the year, helped in one revival meeting with Bro. Marcum at Independence church. In all I have preached 55 sermons, conducted 2 funerals, witnessed 13 conversions, traveled about 750 miles and received in cash about \$65.00 besides donations of other kinds.

We are happy to have a little part in God's kingdom work; trusting the coming year we may be able to do more for him. We covet your prayers for our success.

H. S. FORD—I humbly submit the following report of my years work. I have preached 104 sermons, have seen 38 come to the altar for salvation, conducted 1 funeral and traveled 2,000 miles. I ask the prayers of God's people that I may be more useful the coming year.

ARTHUR KICENSKI—I submit the following report: In the past associational year, I preached 108 sermons, one funeral, witnessed six conversions, baptized six and received \$260.50

I thank the Lord for the many blessings of the past year, and I am expecting greater things next year., God being my helper.

LOWELL MARTIN—I submit the following report of my work since October: I have preached 30 sermons and witnessed three conversions. Amount received, \$49.89

I have found several places where no services of any kind are being held, and I hope to more fully hold up Christ's cause in these places where there is such a need. I have been inactive in service for several months, but desire to soon launch out again and use my life in my Saviour's cause.

Pray for me that I may be led by the Holy Spirit into fields of greater usefulness.

ARLIE HOOVER—During the past year I have preached a few sermons. I have been active in Executive Board work, having helped to ordain two ministers, three deacons and license two ministers; traveled about 1200 miles in the service of the Lord, and baptized four. Humbly submitted.

C. R. DICK—Greetings in Jesus' name: I wish to submit the following report: I have preached 35 sermons, conducted 6 funerals, re-organized one Sunday School, witnessed one conversion, made several sick calls and received \$36.68

I have been greatly handicapped as I have to travel afoot, but I am still willing to serve.

HAROLD HOOVER—The report of our ministerial accomplishments must be short because we are new in this service. During the time our church has endorsed our services, we have delivered five sermons, traveled 289 miles, and received \$10.11 Will the church pray for us that we may be more successful the coming harvest year? "Even Christ pleased not himself" (Romans 15:3) is our motto.

STATISTICAL TABLE OF THE CHURCHES

Church	Membership	Members Received	Members Dismissed	Members Deceased	No. of Prayer Meeting	League Membership	Am't. Paid Pastors	Am't. Paid Evangelists	Value of Property	Clerk
Hannon	80	9	2		1	25	\$207.50	\$55.56	\$1,000.00	Frankie Wade
Independence	86	11		3	1	23	96.07	58.42		A. B. Whistance
Fair View	61						133.45	45.00		Geneva Lamb
Verdella	42	6		1			88.00	56.82	1,000.00	Mary Hizar
Waggoner	30	6	2		1		21.90	10.79	800.00	
Hickory Grove	34	4	3	1			101.73	21.69	1,000.00	Lloyd Warren
Mt. Olive	87	8	2		1	20	273.23	43.20	1,200.00	Jewell Maberry
Totals	420	44	9	5	4	68	\$921.88	\$291.68	\$5,000.00	

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant. We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid the appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world; from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit," in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society; constantly praying and toiling that the kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

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

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 the 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 the 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 and obedience 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 WILL.** The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit and live, 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 the 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 the 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 shall "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

CONSTITUTION

Art. 1. 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. 11. The acting members of this Association shall be such as are chosen by the several churches of which it is composed. Each acting 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 composing 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 reside 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 their office until their successors are elected and qualified.

Art. IV. This Association shall elect a board of five members, two of them 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 Board of this Association shall be Trustees of the Association, and shall have charge of its property.

Art. 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 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 Annual Certificates of Ministerial Standing by the Association.

Art. VI. This Constitution may be altered or amended by vote at any regular 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, or in his or her absence, the assistant Clerk, and in his or her absence, the standing member having seniority in 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 in years of 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 Association.

6. The yeas and nays may be taken on any question when requested by 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 of the Association, and shall 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 shall decide.

11. It shall be the duty of the churches of this Association to collect, during the month of July each year, a sum of money not less than ten (10c) cents per member, to comply with the Budget System enacted by the Missouri State Association, and all of the money collected to be turned over to the Treasurer of this Association, who shall send half to the Treasurer of the State Association. It shall be the pastor's duty to see that this "Budget" of ten cents per member is collected and turned in so it will be on hand for associational expenses.

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 the church that a brother or a sister be examined for license or ordination to preach the Gospel shall not mean that he or she shall be licensed or ordained, but that a council be appointed to examine him or her, and if, after 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 of this Association to have its pastoral year 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 in the minutes.

17. All old and 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. It shall be the duty of the preachers belonging to this Association to present their ordination papers to the Clerk, that a correct copy can be secured and become a part of our permanent record for future reference and use.

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