

MINUTES
OF THE
SEVENTH TRI-ENNIAL SESSION
OF THE
GENERAL CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION
OF
FREEWILL BAPTISTS

Which Convened with the Denison Church
at Denison, Texas,
from Nov. 6th to 9th, 1934.



OFFICERS

Moderator, Eld. Millard Van Hoose, Paintsville, Ky.
Ass't. Mod. Eld. W. E. Dearmore, Wanette, Okla.
Clerk, Eld. Hattie Newman, Drumright, Okla.
Ass't. Clk. Winford Davis, Monett, Missouri.

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The General Co-operative Association met with the Denison Church in its Seventh Tri-ennial Session, Nov. 6th to 9th, at Denison, Texas. The clerk was absent, and Elder J.L. Tatum, the oldest minister present, called the house to order and introduced the Moderator, W.E. Dearmore. Bro. P.H. Coffman as clerk pro tem. Praise service was conducted by Eld. Harry Staires. The introductory sermon was preached by Elder Millard Van Hoose, of Paintsville, Kv.

Wednesday Morning Session

The session was opened by singing "What a Friend We have in Jesus," The Moderator read the First Psalm for the scripture lesson. Prayer was made by Eld. Winford Davis. Letters as follows were read and received: Missouri State Association, Oklahoma State Association, and the Tri-State Association, and the delegates were seated.

The Divine Service Committee reported that Bro. Everett Wilson of Missouri would bring the message at 11 o'clock, and Brother I. W. Yandell of Oklahoma, at night.

Election of Officers. Moderator, Eld. Millard Van Hoose. Assistant Moderator; Eld. W.E. Dearmore. Clerk, Eld. Hattie Newman. Assistant Clerk, Winford Davis. Executive Board: Seth Jones, B.F. Rogers, F.S. Van Hoose, Noel Turner, and J.L. Waltman.

Motion carried that the clerk will also be Treasurer of the General Co-operative Association.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats in council, after which a fine spirit of fellowship was exhibited in an old-fashioned handshake. There were 32 delegates and preachers present.

The following committees were appointed: -

Pulpit or Divine Service: B. F. Rogers, J. Q. Moore and Sister Ada Dearmore.

Resolutions: Composed of the Executive Board.

Denominational Enterprise: Melvin Bingham, John Bean, E. T. House, Sadie Fincher, and Elma Sanford

Publications: Hattie Newman, Harry Staires, E.E. Morris, Will Bean, and Ted Pyle.

Temperance: D.R. Royster, Bro. Carter, Pete Coffman, Bro. McCready, and J.L. Tatum.

Motion carried to over-rule the rules of the Moderator.

Motion carried that the colored brethren, Bro. Carter and Bro. Graham, members of the colored church at Denison, be seated as visiting brethren.

After a recess we came together by singing "Amazing Grace." Our colored brother, Bro. Carter, led in prayer. A special song was rendered by Bros. O'Donnel, Jones, Davis, and Turner. Then a wonderful message was brought by Rev. Everette Wilson of Mo. Text, Matthew 26: 25; subject, "What is in your cup."

Adjourned until 1:30 p.m. Dismissed in prayer by M.M. McKee.

Wednesday Afternoon

The brethren came together by singing "Shall We Gather at the River" Rev. Ted Pyle led in prayer. Rev. Dearmore read Psalms 67 for a scripture lesson, after which prayer was offered by Sister Hattie Newman.

The moderator appointed a committee on Home Missions composed of these: E. A. O Donnel, F.S. Van Hoose, I. W. Yandell, Winford Davis, J.L. Waltman, and W.L. Bean.

Sunday School Committee: W.T. Waldon, J.M. Manners, T.J. Nite.

Educational Committee: M M. McKee. Kenneth Turner, I. N. Pate. J H. Coffman, and Jim Miller.

Rev. E.A. O'Donnel was elected statistician, and was also detailed to find out total miles traveled by delegates on this trip to the Co-operative Association. Recessed for thirty minutes.

Reassembled with singing, and prayer by Rev. E.T. House.

By motions the reports of the following committees were received and adopted: Sunday School, Denominational Enterprises, Education, and Temperance. Adjourned with prayer by W.L. Bean.

Wednesday Night

The brethren came together upon the singing of "Revive Us Again", and prayer by J.L. Welch. Then was sung "In the Sweet By and By", after which E.C. Morris led in prayer. The devotional service was conducted by Hattie Newman. A quartet composed of Brothers Davis, O'Donnel, Blackwelder, and Jones rendered a special number which was thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated.

A wonderful message, "The Perpetuity of the Church", was de-

livered by I. W. Yandell of Dibble, Okla. Rev. Seth Jones was selected to preach at 11 o'clock Thursday. An old-time handshake was had and the meeting was ended with prayer by Rev. F. S. Van Hoose.

Thursday Morning

Opened by singing, and prayer by Bro. Jim Miller. The 24th Psalm was read for a scripture lesson. Prayer by Bro. Dearmore.

The right hand of fellowship was given to the recently-arrived brethren. The minutes of the previous session read and approved.

A few minutes was allowed the new arrivals to speak. These were: Elders J. L. Welch of Nashville, Tenn., E. C. Morris, Elizabeth City, N. C., C. J. Turrentine, Ft. Worth, Texas, M. L. Sutton, Fort Worth, Texas, and Bro. Chas. B. Weir of Ft. Worth, Texas. Motion carried to adjourn for 15 minutes for committee work.

Re-assembled with singing and prayer. Devotional conducted by Bro. Dearmore. The Constitution and By-Laws of the Home Mission read; the report of the Home Mission Committee received.

Motion carried to receive letter from the Tri State Association. By motion the report of the Publication Committee was received.

A Finance committee was appointed as follows: J. Q. Moore, Harry Staires, and W. H. Carter. Adjourned for preaching hour.

Re-assembled with singing and prayer. A special number was rendered by Bros. Davis, Rogers, O'Donnell, and Jones. The message was brought by Bro. Jones of Missouri; text: John 10:10; after this a song was sung and an old time handshake was enjoyed. Dismissed for lunch.

Thursday Afternoon

The brethren assembled with singing and prayer. Scripture lesson, Matt. 3rd. chapter. The minutes were read approved. Brother Sutton made a fine talk in regard to the Free Will Baptist Gospel Trumpet, published at Ft. Worth, Texas. Bro. Davis also talked in the interest of the Free Will Baptist Gem, published at Purdy, Mo. A wonderful song was sung by Bros. O'Donnell, Davis, and Sutton, and Sister Floyd Etta Dearmore.

At this time the report of the joint session of the Resolution Com-

mittee of the General Co operative Association and the Committee representing the General Conference. In proper form as a motion and after free and full discussion, the report was unanimously accepted by a standing vote. This was followed by a wonderful handshake of fellowship amid a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Motion carried to adopt resolution No. 1

A special song was rendered by Joy and Floyd Etta Dearmore

Motion carried that the next session of the Co-operative General Association be held with the Tulsa Church at Tulsa, Oklahoma, beginning on Tuesday night before the second Sunday in November, 1936. Elder F. S. Van Hoose of Paintsville, Ky. will preach the introductory sermon; alternate. Eld. Winford Davis of Monett, Mo,

Motion carried to appoint a committee to manage the printing of a book compiled by Eld. I. W. Yandell. The committee is: Eld. E. E. Bristow, Eld. E. E. Morris, and Elder W. G. Fields.

The Pulpit Committee announced that the stand would be occupied by Elder J. L. Welch of, Nashville, Tenn., on Thursday night.

Adjourned until Friday morning. Dismissed by Eld. J. Waltman.

Thursday Night

Service began with singing and prayer. Eld. F. S. Van Hoose led the praise service. A special number in song was given by Eld. E. A. O'Donnell. A collection of \$16.58 was taken to pay on printing of the minutes of this session. Eld. Davis sang a special number.

Eld. Welch brought a fine message. Scripture lesson: 2 Cor: 5. An old-time handshake followed the message. The Pulpit committee announced that Eld. Harry Staires of Drumright, Okla. would occupy the stand at 11 o'clock Friday morning. Dismissed with prayer.

Friday Morning

After a song, Bro. Dearmore read the 79th Psalm, and prayer was offered by Bro. A. A. Williams.

The minutes were read and approved

Motion carried to send delegates to the General Conference which meets at Black Jack Church at Greenville, N. C. in June, 1935

Motion carried that we give our heart-felt thanks to the Denison Church for the fine welcome and hospitality accorded us here.

Bro. W.E. Dearmore was elected to go as delegate to the General Conference; alternate, Bro. I.W. Yandell. Motion carried that it be taken up in the churches to pay their expenses.

A committee was elected to help locate a central place for our school, as they meet in North Carolina in 1935. These were elected: Bros. Melvin Bingham, E.E. Morris, and Selph Jones.

Motion carried that we adopt resolution No. 2.
Motion carried to adjourn. Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Dearmore.

Reports of Committees

Resolutions. No 1. Be it resolved that the Co-operative General Association meet two years in succession, and each third year the National Association meet in its regular session.

No 2. Be it resolved that we express our heartfelt thanks to the Denison Church and its loyal pastor for their kind hospitality and royal entertainment during our stay in their midst. Be it further resolved that we shall ever remember them in our petitions to the throne of Grace. H.E. Staires, Chairman.

Publication. We, your committee on Publication, beg to report that we do not endorse everything published in our papers and we recommend that we have nothing published in our papers but Free Will Baptist doctrine. Any paper which allows other than that doctrine to be printed must leave an opening for an answer. We also recommend that our Moderator appoint a Finance Committee, and we recommend that the minutes of this Association be printed by the Wanette Pub. Co., Wanette, Okla.

Education. We, your committee on Education, beg to submit this report. We recommend that all of our ministers, deacons, and lay members take advantage of every opportunity available to obtain an education. We recommend Bible Schools and the using of the King James Version therein. We will not recommend any school which teaches evolution and, or, modernism. We favor building and supporting our own schools, and the using of literature endorsed by the Free Will Baptist Denomination. M.M. McKee, Chairman.

Denominational Enterprise. Be it resolved that each state raise funds to build schools, and sponsor Bible Schools. Owing to the pro-

gressive movements of today the demands are more urgent. We also find the work in general growing, and a great demand for publication. Melvin Bingham, Chairman

Temperance. We believe that the majority of crimes are caused by and from the use and sale of intoxicating drinks and beverages. This is detrimental to the cause of Christianity, morality and decency. We also resolve that all members of the Free Will Baptist Co-operative Association abstain from the use of tobacco in any form, and do not indulge in worldly amusements such as swimming pools, Sunday ball games, card parties, picture shows, prize fights, or any thing which might pertain to indecency or bring reproach upon our denomination. We urge that all our brethren and sisters deal honestly and upright in the sight of God and mankind. D.P. Royster.

Sunday School. Each minister shall organize a Sunday School in each of the churches he pastors and in every locality where no other denomination has one, if possible. When possible use the Free Will Baptist literature or just the Bible. The Sunday School is the best means of starting our children off right. We should use the Bible as our guide and have teachers of our church who are competent and firm in Free Will Baptist belief. W.T. Walden, Chairman.

Report of Committees in Joint Conference

Denison, Texas, Nov. 8, 1934. The committees representing the General Conference and the Co-operative General Association met in a joint session during the sitting of the Co-operative General Association, Denison, Texas, Nov. 8, 1934, and continued the work of uniting the above named bodies as follows:—

1. In addition to the terms agreed upon in Nashville, Tenn. on June 15, 1933, we, the Committees representing the Co-operative General Association and the General Conference, agree to unite the above named bodies in one national body to be known as the National Association of Free Will Baptists, with the understanding that the two bodies thus united continue to operate under their present organization without becoming in any way responsible for each other's present obligations, and with the understanding that neither of the two bodies shall in any way have jurisdiction over the other, but at

the same time they are to continue their work as parts of the national body.

2. That the National Association of Free Will Baptists meet in its first session in the East Nashville Church, Nashville, Tenn on Tuesday night after the first Sunday in November, 1935.

3. That Rev. J. L. Welch act as temporary moderator and Rev. Winford Davis as Ass't. Moderator of the first session of this national body.

4. That the Moderator and Ass't. Mod act as a program committee for the first session. Respectfully submitted,

Co-op. Assn. Comm — J. L. Waltman, Noel Turner, Bert F. Rogers, F. S. Van Hoose, and Selph Jones.

General Conference Committee:— J. L. Welch, E. C. Morris, I. J. Blackwelder, and R. V. Shutes.

Basis of Agreement.

Nashville, Tenn. June, 15, 1934. We, the Committee representing the Executive Board of the Co-operative General Association of Free Will Baptist report as follows:— We agree to accept the Articles of Faith as contained in the same Treatise, (1901), or the Covenant in the Treatise of 1916. We also agree to accept the name National Assembly of Free Will Baptist Organizations which may be eligible to membership, and shall have jurisdiction over such matters as pertain to an organic union.

Signed: D. Selph Jones, Melvin Bingham, Geo W. Scott, and B. F. Brown, Chairman.

Associational Letters

Paintsville, Kentucky October 25, 1934. From the Tri-State Association of Free Will Baptists when convened with Paintsville church to the Co-operative Association when convened with Denison Church: We send as delegates our beloved brothers, Millard and F. S. Van Hoose, whom we pray you will receive to aid in your Godly deliberations. The Tri State Ass'n. is composed of Kentucky, Ohio and West Virginia. We have about three thousand members, about two hundred ordained ministers, and about fifty buildings worth about seventy five thousand dollars. Brethren, pray for us that we may grow and prosper in the work of the Lord. This done by the order of the Tri-State Ass'n. when assembled with the Paintsville Church

From Missouri State Association to the Co-operative General Association, of Freewill Baptist. Greetings: We send as delegates the following; Miss Anna Reed, Mrs J. F. Miller, Elders Selph Jones, S. H. Marceum, Everett Wilson, W. F. Millard, Arthur Bailey, E. T. House, Harry Beatty, and Deacon L. C. Wade, whom we pray you will receive and seat with you in your Godly council. We are glad to report that the last session of our Association which was held last month was one of the very best we have ever had. A large delegation was present and much interest and enthusiasm was manifested relative to the work in every way. Our State Association has been constantly on the upbuild since the last triannual session of the Cooperative Association.

We also have a state league organization, also a state mission organization and both are making very noticeable progress; both organizations had splendid sessions at our state meeting last month. We have about 225 licensed and ordained Ministers, 120 churches, 36 Leagues, with a membership of about 1100; 30 Mission Circles, with a membership of about 550; 90 Sunday schools, with an enrollment of 6250, total church membership over the state about 9 or 10 thousand, value of church property \$72,000.00 not including the linotype machine at the Gem office which is valued at about \$1300.00.

We are witnessing an unusual number of young ministers answering the call to preach the gospel, and several new churches are being organized and buildings erected over the state. While there are some things in a small way which is always true pertaining to the progress of the cause, yet we can truthfully say that the prospects for the Missouri State work looks unusually bright and encouraging. Plans are now being laid for the erection of a tabernacle centrally located for a permanent meeting place each year. The State meeting is almost entirely out of debt. May the Heavenly Father make this one of the greatest sessions we have ever had and may much and lasting good be accomplished is our prayer. Elder J. L. Miller, Flat River, Mo. Elder Winford Davis, Clerk-Treasurer, Monett, Mo.