

MINUTES
OF THE
Fifty-Ninth Annual Session
OF THE
EASTERN CONFERENCE
OF THE
Original Free Will Baptists
(OF NORTH CAROLINA)

HELD WITH THE CHURCH AT
FREE UNION, CARTERET COUNTY, N. C.
October 27, 28, 1954



Next session will be held at Mt. Zion, Pamlico County, North Carolina,
convening Wednesday before the fourth Sunday in October, 1955



ALSO
THE MINUTES OF THE
Woman's Auxiliary Convention
OF THE
EASTERN DISTRICT

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Order of Business

FIRST DAY

10 a. m., Devotions
Organize
Read Minutes of Executive Committee
Introductory Sermon
Dinner
Devotions
Enrollment of Visitors
Call List of Ministers
Call List of Churches
Miscellaneous Business
Adjournment

SECOND DAY

Devotions
Reading and Approval of Minutes of First Day
Enrollment of Visitors
Finish Calling List of Churches
Committee Reports
Sermon
Dinner
Devotions
Finish Committee Reports
Petitions
Miscellaneous Business
Treasurer's Report
Election of Officers (every two years)
Vote of Thanks
Adjournment

Church Letter

To the Eastern Original Free Will Baptist Conference to be held with the church at Mt. Zion, Pamlico County, N. C., commencing on Wednesday before the 4th Sunday in October, 1955:

We, the church at _____
County, N. C., send our beloved brethren _____

as delegates to your honorable body.

The condition of our church is as follows: Died _____, received by letter _____, baptized _____, dismissed _____, transferred _____, excommunicated _____, whole number of members _____, contribution \$ _____.

Elder _____ was our pastor from 19 _____ to _____, 19 _____ and filled _____ of his appointments. Elder _____ is our present pastor.

_____, Clerk

Post Office _____, N. C.

WRITE PETITION BELOW IF CONFERENCE IS WANTED

List of Ordained Ministers

Duffy Toler (Retired), Chocowinity, N. C.
L. J. Potter (Retired), Snead's Ferry, N. C.
H. Pipkin (Retired), Mt. Olive, N. C.
B. F. Ringold (Retired), New Bern, N. C., Rt. 5
J. W. Alford, Morehead City, N. C., Rt. 1
Lloyd Vernon, Richlands, N. C., Rt. 2
A. C. Austin, Aurora, N. C.
Wesley Price, Seven Springs, N. C.
J. R. Davenport, Deep Run, N. C.
F. E. Jones, Kenansville, N. C.
C. L. Bennett, Grantsboro, N. C.
Clifton Rice, Kinston, N. C., Box 216
D. W. Hansley, Pine Level, N. C.
J. C. Griffin, New Bern, N. C., 1409 Pasteur St.
S. A. Smith, Middlesex, N. C.
J. R. Forest, New Bern, N. C.
K. W. Gaskill, Sea Level, N. C.
Clinton Lupton, Bayboro, N. C.
G. W. Gaskill, Sea Level, N. C.
Elmo Harper, Grantsboro, N. C.
E. E. Edwards, Chocowinity, N. C.
W. E. Stilley, New Bern, N. C., Rt. 5
W. H. Willis, Kinston, N. C., 1502 Hyman Ave.
J. T. Forest, LaGrange, N. C., Rt. 1
Lee W. Whaley, Jacksonville, N. C., 502 College St.
Clifton Styron, Davis, N. C.
Leon E. Styron, Morehead City, N. C.
T. O. Terry, Cove City, N. C.
O. B. Everette, Holly Ridge, N. C.
N. D. Wiggs, New Bern, N. C.
J. W. Everton, Beulaville, N. C.
Robert L. Edwards, Beulaville, N. C.
James E. Howard, Newport, N. C.
Beverly Ballard, New Bern, N. C.
L. L. Parker, Holly Ridge, N. C.
James F. Miller, Kinston, N. C.
R. H. Jackson, Davis, N. C.
D. W. Cleeve, Jr., Vanceboro, N. C.
H. W. Armstrong, Washington, N. C.
C. M. Dixon, Chocowinity, N. C.
A. Graham Lane, Ernul, N. C.
Danny Jenkins, Holly Ridge, N. C.
Boyce Williams
J. W. Grimesley, Jr., Bridgeton, N. C.
Elmer Goodwin, New Bern, N. C.

Alton Mason, Harker's Island, N. C.
 J. B. Starnes
 Alton L. Hines, Bridgeton, N. C., Box 208
 Luther J. Lupton, Vanceboro, N. C., Rt. 3
 Charlie T. Rice, Jr., New Bern, N. C., Box 445
 Louis A. Jefferson, Jacksonville, N. C., 311 Anne St.
 Billy Jackson, Ernul, N. C.
 Noah Brown, Morehead City, N. C.
 Cecil Campbell, New Bern, N. C.
 W. S. Burns, Pink Hill, N. C., Rt. 2.
 T. C. Smith, Sea Level, N. C.

List of Licensed Ministers

L. L. Willis, Herbert Tripp, Charlie Robinson, George Branning, D. A. Kirk, Earl Hanson, Robert F. Breeden, Leslie Rowe, Thomas Hill, Willie Justice, Lemmie Taylor, John Flood, Melvin K. Everington, Roy Cauley, Nelson Simpson, Daniel Gaskins, Frank H. Dunn, Jr., H. G. Gaskill.

Church Clerks and Their Post Offices

CRAVEN COUNTY

CORE CREEK—C. W. Heath, Cove City, N. C.
 GETHSEMANE—C. J. Hines, New Bern, N. C., Rt. 2
 ANTIOCH—J. M. Tyndall, New Bern, N. C., Rt. 5
 CROATAN—Mrs. Wilbur Herring, New Bern, N. C., Rt. 4
 JUNIPER CHAPEL—Wm. C. Morris, Vanceboro, N. C.
 SPRING HOPE—Mrs. Annie Jones, New Bern, N. C., Rt. 5
 MACEDONIA—Mrs. Beulah Franks Best, Vanceboro, N. C.
 WINTERGREEN—Franklin Wetherington, Cove City, N. C.
 STS. DELIGHT—J. R. Hines, Bridgeton, N. C.
 MOSELEY'S CREEK—Mrs. Viola White, Dover, N. C.
 REUNION CHAPEL—E. C. Laughinghouse, Vanceboro, N. C.
 PALMETTO CHAPEL—Elmer Earl Lewis, Vanceboro, N. C.
 BRIDGETON—C. G. Ipock, New Bern, N. C., Nat'l Court
 LANE'S CHAPEL—F. H. Gaskins, Vanceboro, N. C.
 OAK GROVE—Mrs. M. W. Barrow, Vanceboro, N. C.
 NEW HAVEN—Mrs. Dicie Ipock, Ernul, N. C.
 RUTH'S CHAPEL—Mrs. J. W. Odum, New Bern, N. C., Rt. 5
 ST. MARY'S—E. A. Mallard, New Bern, N. C., Box 895
 NEW SALEM—Mrs. Charlie Smith, Vanceboro, N. C., Rt. 2
 VANCEBORO—Mrs. Oliver Griffin, Vanceboro, N. C.

WAYNE COUNTY

NORTHEAST—Mark Mozingo, Dudley, N. C.
 INDIAN SPRINGS—Wilbur Kilpatrick, Mt. Olive, N. C.

GRANT'S CHAPEL—Mrs. Floyd Williams, Mt. Olive, N. C., Rt. 1

MAY'S CHAPEL—Mrs. A. E. Rouse, Dudley, N. C.

DUPLIN COUNTY

SARECTA—Wilbert A. Jones, Kenansville, N. C., Rt. 1

PINEY GROVE—Paul Lee, Albertson, N. C.

SANDY PLAIN—Joel Kennedy, Pink Hill, N. C.

ROOTY BRANCH—Mrs. Pearl Amon, Mount Olive, N. C.

BEULAVILLE—W. D. Thigpen, Beulaville, N. C.

PEARSALL'S CHAPEL—Mrs. D. F. Chambers, Kenansville, N. C.

SNOW HILL—Mrs. Rotha Readon, Mount Olive, N. C., Rt. 2

BETHLEHEM—L. E. Jones, Chinquapin, N. C.

LONG RIDGE—Mrs. Jonas Dail, Mount Olive, N. C., Rt. 1

CABIN—Calvin R. Mercer, Beulaville, N. C., Rt. 1

LANIER'S CHAPEL—J. H. Dail, Chinquapin, N. C.

WARSAW—Miss Eleanor Taylor, Warsaw, N. C.

LENOIR COUNTY

CHRISTIAN CHAPEL—Coy Kennedy, Pink Hill, N. C.

BRITISH CHAPEL—Stella Loftin, Kinston, N. C., Rt. 5

WOODINGTON—Mrs. Elbert Potter, Kinston, N. C.

DAILEY'S CHAPEL—Willie T. Shiver, Seven Springs, N. C.

KINSTON—Billy S. Oliver, Jr., Kinston, N. C., Box 904

WHITE OAK GROVE—Ben D. Herring, La Grange, N. C., Rt. 3

SMITH'S NEW HOME—Mrs. J. J. Blizzard, Deep Run, N. C.

DEEP RUN—Mrs. Charlie White, Deep Run, N. C.

GRAY BRANCH—Walter King, Deep Run, N. C., Rt. 1

CARTERET COUNTY

HOLLY SPRINGS—Leo Gray, Newport, N. C.

SOUND VIEW—Wayne West, Jr., Newport, N. C.

BEAUFORT—Mrs. W. H. Kirk, Beaufort, N. C.

FREE UNION—Mrs. Miriam Taylor, Sea Level, N. C.

WELCOME HOME—Mrs. Arthur Mason, Beaufort, N. C.

MOREHEAD CITY—Mrs. Ruby Barker, Morehead City, N. C.

PILGRIM'S REST—Mrs. Mattie Daniels, Lola, N. C.

RUSSELL'S CREEK—Mrs. Mamie Merrill, Beaufort, N. C., Rt. 1

ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL—Jordan Lewis, Stacy, N. C.

MT. PLEASANT—Mrs. Theodore Jones, Newport, N. C.

EDWARD'S CHAPEL—Mrs. B. G. Hardy, Merrimon, N. C.

DAVIS—Leslie Styron, Davis, N. C.

PAMLICO COUNTY

ARAPAHOE—Mrs. Fannie Swindell, Arapahoe, N. C.

BETHEL—Mrs. Kathleen Slade, Whortonsville, N. C.

TRENT—Mrs. W. G. Murphy, Merriitt, N. C.

MT. ZION—R. B. Newton, Cash Corner, N. C.

ORIENTAL—Graden Lee Baker, Jr., Oriental, N. C.

WARDEN'S GROVE—C. S. Lupton, Lowland, N. C.
ROCK OF ZION—Mrs. Burton Brinson, Grantsboro, N. C.
NEW BETHLEHEM—H. S. Price, Grantsboro, N. C.

BEAUFORT COUNTY

UNION CHAPEL—J. G. Warren, Chocowinity, N. C.
DUBLIN GROVE—David Mayo, Royal, N. C.
WHITE HILL—Mrs. Marie Edwards, Aurora, N. C., Rt. 1
CORE POINT CHAPEL—Mrs. Joseph Paul, Blounts Creek, N. C.
SMYRNA—Mrs. Mabel Rowe, Blounts Creek, N. C.
EPHESUS—Mrs. Warren Gaskins, Blounts Creek, N. C.
MT. OLIVE—James L. Jarvis, South Creek, N. C.

JONES COUNTY

FRIENDSHIP—H. M. Mallard, Trenton, N. C.
WHALEY'S CHAPEL—Lemmie Taylor, Richlands, N. C.
PILGRIM'S HOME—W. G. Ipock, Kinston, N. C., 1608 Charlotte Ave.

ONSLOW COUNTY

FOLKSTONE—Ernest L. Parker, Folkstone, N. C.
MT. ZION—Henry Scott, Beulaville, N. C.
SNEAD'S FERRY—Sudie Mae Brown, Snead's Ferry, N. C.
JACKSONVILLE—Mrs. Ben Avery, Jacksonville, N. C., 508 Williams Street
VERNOA MISSION—Mrs. Ruby Foy, Verona, N. C.
COMMUNITY—Mrs. Aleen Parker, Jacksonville, N. C.

PROCEEDINGS

The fifty-ninth annual session of the Eastern Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina convened with Free Union Church, Carteret County, Sea Level, North Carolina, on October 27, 1954, at 10 o'clock a. m. (The session was held one week late, because of the hurricane one week before the regular time having carried away the North River bridge, and it was impossible for the delegates and ministers to get to the church.)

The session was begun by 15 minutes devotional service conducted by Rev. J. O. Fort, editor of the Free Will Baptist publications, after which the Moderator took charge, and the following officers were seated: Rev. Clifton Rice, Mod., Rev. K. W. Gaskill, Asst. Mod. pro tem, J. W. Alford, Clerk, Rev. Lloyd Vernon, Asst. Clerk, H. M. Mallard, Treasurer.

The following committees were appointed:

Finance—Revs. J. C. Griffin, A. G. Lane, Mrs. J. J. Blizzard.

Temperance—L. J. Lupton, T. A. Taylor, I. W. Swindell.

Sunday Schools—D. W. Cleeve, Jr., Manly Springle, Mrs. Daisy Springle.

Ministerial Character—S. A. Smith, N. D. Wiggs, J. R. Forest, E. E. Edwards, E. E. Cutler.

Digest—Lee Whaley, Mrs. A. I. Taylor, Mrs. Pannie Rhodes.

To Apportion the Funds—J. W. Alford, Lloyd Vernon, T. C. Smith.

The organization being completed, prayer was offered by Bro. Henry Armstrong.

The minutes of the Executive Committee were read as follows:

RECORD OF JOINT SESSION OF EASTERN CONFERENCE AND PIEDMONT ASSOCIATION

Members present at this session were as follows:

Eastern Conference: J. W. Alford, Clifton Rice, H. M. Mallard, J. C. Griffin, and Lloyd Vernon.

Piedmont Association: Walter Carter, Wade Calvert, and J. C. Calvert.

Brother Lloyd Vernon presided over the meeting by mutual consent of both bodies.

The grievance was over the ordination of two ministers by the Piedmont Association who were members of the Eastern Conference. The following motion was passed.

"Beginning as of this date, December 15, 1953, We, the members of the Executive Committee of the Eastern Conference and Piedmont Association of North Carolina, mutually agree and pledge ourselves not to infringe on the rights or jurisdiction of our fellow conference or association mentioned above.

"By this we mean, not to ordain any person not previously known to us to be in good standing with his conference or association.

"The same pledge and agreement applies to church membership in conference or association."

A motion was made to adjourn. The benediction was by Wade Calvert.

LLOYD VERNON, *President*
N. C. State Convention

R. N. HINNANT, *Secretary*
N. C. State Convention

The Executive Committee of the Eastern Conference met at Whaley's Chapel Parsonage on March 2, 1954, at 7 o'clock p. m. All members were present except Bro. J. C. Griffin, who had given his proxy to Bro. Clifton Rice. Prayer was offered by J. W. Alford.

The secretary of the Examining Board submitted the following report:

As agreed, the Examining Board of the Eastern N. C. Free Will Baptist conference continued the meeting of February 22, 1954 at Bridgeton Church February 25, 1954, 9 a. m.

All members were present.

Prayer by Bro. K. W. Gaskill.

Bro. C. M. Dixon was examined for ordination and made a passing grade.

The ordination of Bro. Dixon was left in the hands of Bro. Clifton Rice, who is to make arrangements for and carry out the ordination.

Bros. Alton Mason and E. M. Goodwin, who were ordained by the Piedmont Association, came before us bearing letters of transfer and asking for membership in the Eastern Conference. They were given the usual examination by the board and each made a satisfactory grade.

These brethren had been silenced at the last session of the Eastern Conference until they satisfied the Examining Board and the Conference.

They having come in all humility, making proper apology, we therefore recommended to the Executive Committee of the Conference that their confessions and apologies be accepted by the Executive Committee and the order of silence, imposed by the Conference, be lifted and that they be admitted to ministerial membership in the Conference.

We further ask Bro. Mason to sever all connection with the churches formerly asking his services, due to the division in them.

We further recommend that Bros. Mason and Goodwin be on probation to the Examining Board of this Conference for a period of three years.

Bros. Mason and Goodwin agreed to the above conditions.

Motion to adjourn.

Dismissed by Bro. D. W. Hansley.

J. W. ALFORD, *Acting Chairman*
LLOYD VERNON, *Secretary*

On motion the report was adopted.

A vacancy on the Examining Board was caused by the death of Bro. J. R. Bennett.

On motion J. W. Alford be raised from the status of honorary member to that of active member, and he take the place of Bro. Bennett.

On motion the matter of a work at Havelock be referred to the 5th Eastern Union Meeting, requesting them to investigate the possibility there.

The Chairman appointed Bros. Lloyd Vernon and J. W. Alford to arrange a suitable memorial service in memory of our deceased ministers, to be held the last day of Conference at 11:30 o'clock a. m.

The Minutes were read and approved.

On motion we adjourned. Dismissed by Bro. Rice.

The Executive Committee of the Eastern Conference met at the home of Mrs. Rosa Styron, Otway, N. C., on August 4, 1954, at 7:30 p. m.

Present: Rev. Clifton Rice, Chairman; H. M. Mallard; J. W. Alford, Sec.

After a song, prayer was offered by Rev. John Grimesley, Bridgeton, N. C.

The Chairman spoke several minutes on building on Christ if we are to build a church that will stand and prosper.

After much discussion about the conditions that has existed in the past, giving rise to this request for the organization of a new church, the group as a body, at the suggestion of Rev. Wingate Hansley who has been working with them, stated that if they have in any way offended the Conference, they ask forgiveness of the Conference.

On motion the Chairman was instructed to contact the other members of this committee, and arrange a date during the latter half of September, for the entire committee to meet for a final decision.

The Minutes were read and approved.

On motion we adjourned.

The Executive Committee of the Eastern Conference met in Welcome Home Church on September 4, 1954 at 7 p. m.

All members were present except Bro. H. M. Mallard, and he had placed his proxy in the hands of the Secretary, thus making all votes present.

Prayer was offered by Bro. Griffin.

The Chairman stated that we want the group of Welcome Home Church to help us by giving us such information as they have, bearing on the matter of a new church at Otway, N. C., and that will enable us to make a right decision about organizing the Otway group into a church.

Bro. Ralph Wilkins acted as spokesman for the Welcome Home Church, and he gave us the information that the Welcome Home group has all the time stood loyally by the Eastern Conference, and will always have open hearts and doors for the group that withdrew.

The church group was dismissed with a prayer by Bro. Vernon, and the Executive Committee went into executive session.

The committee discussed the situation for several minutes, and then the following decision and motion was dictated to the committee by Bro. Griffin: After careful study of the information from both sides, we deem it unwise to authorize a new church at Otway from the group that withdrew from Welcome Home Church, and on motion the Chairman is instructed to notify the Group at Otway of our decision.

We further recommend that, in keeping with 1st and 3rd chapters of 1st. Corinthians, the aggrieved group follow the instructions laid down by the Apostle Paul.

The above decision and recommendation was unanimous by the Executive Committee.

The minutes were read and approved.

On motion we adjourned.

Dismissed by Bro. Rice.

On motion the minutes of the Executive Committee were adopted.

The Minutes of the Examining Board were submitted as below:

The Examining Board of the Eastern North Carolina Free Will Baptist Conference met at Bridgeton Church, February 22, 1954 at 9:30 a. m.

Members present were Brothers J. W. Alford, Acting Chairman, D. W. Hansley, Clifton T. Rice, and Lloyd Vernon, Secretary.

Meeting was opened by acting Chairman.

Prayer by Brother John Grimesley, Jr.

Brother Lemmie Taylor came before us and we recommend that Whaley's Chapel grant him license.

Brother John Flood came before us and we recommend that Bridgeton Church license him.

Brother Melvin K. Everington came before us and we recommend that Antioch Church license him.

Brother Roy Cauley came before us and we recommend that Pilgrim's Home Church license him.

Brother W. R. Furefoy came before us and we decline to recommend that he be licensed.

Brother Nelson Simpson came before us and we recommend that Bridgeton Church license him.

Brother Daniel Gaskins came before us and we recommend the Antioch Church license him.

After accepting apologies from Brothers Alton Mason and Elmer Goodwin and after hearing a delegation from Welcome Home Church, and they, Mason and Goodwin, having presented letters of transfer from The Piedmont Association to the Eastern Conference, we requested Brothers Mason and Goodwin to appear before the Board on Thursday, February 25, 1954, 9 a. m. at Bridgeton Church to take the usual examination as given by the Board.

Recessed until Thursday, February 25, 1954, 9 a. m.

J. W. ALFORD, *Acting Chairman*

LLOYD VERNON, *Secretary*

The Examining Board of the Eastern North Carolina Free Will Baptist Conference met in regular session at Bridgeton Church, June 21, 1954, 10 a. m.

Members present: Brothers J. W. Alford, Acting Chairman; Clifton Rice; and Lloyd Vernon.

Prayer by Bro. Clifton Rice.

Brother Willie Justice came before us for license, recommended by Jacksonville Church, and we unanimously recommend that Jacksonville Church grant him license.

Brother Lee Starnes came before us for license, recommended by Jacksonville Church, and we recommend that his examination be completed at the October meeting.

Brother Frank H. Dunn, Jr., came before us for license, recommended by Bridgeton Church, and we recommend that Bridgeton Church grant him license.

Brother Cecil Campbell came for routine check, since he came from another state, and we find him in apparent agreement with all our customs and doctrines, and recommend him to the brethren.

Minutes read and approved.

Motion to adjourn.

Dismissed by Bro. J. W. Alford.

J. W. ALFORD, *Chairman*
LLOYD VERNON, *Secretary*

The Examining Board of the Eastern North Carolina Free Will Baptist Conference met at Bridgeton Church, August 30, 1954, 10 a. m.

All members were present.

Prayer by Bro. K. W. Gaskill.

Bro. Floyd Wagner, 311 Anne St., Jacksonville, N. C., came for license, recommended by Jacksonville Church, and we recommend that he diligently apply himself to study and come before the board at the February 1955 meeting.

Bro. Joseph Dorch, 311 Anne St., Jacksonville, N. C., come for license, recommended by Jacksonville Church, and we recommend that he diligently apply himself to study and come before the board at the February 1955 meeting.

Bro. J. B. Starnes presented a letter of commendation from the Piedmont Association, asking membership in the Eastern Conference, and we recommend that he be accepted in full fellowship.

The Board unanimously agreed that all who are ordained by this board will be under probation to this board for a period of three years.

Motion to adjourn.

J. W. ALFORD, *Chairman*
LLOYD VERNON, *Secretary*

The Examining Board of the Eastern North Carolina Free Will Baptist Conference met at Bridgeton, October 18, 1954, 9:30 a. m.

Members present: Brothers J. W. Alford, Acting Chairman, Clifton Rice, and Lloyd Vernon.

Prayer by Brother Vernon.

The following passed the examination for ordination and we recommend same at time and place to be determined by this Board: Alton L. Hines, Box 208, Bridgeton, N. C.; Luther J. Lupton, Route 3, Box 159, Vanceboro, N. C.; Charlie

T. Rice, Jr., Box 445, New Bern, N. C.; Louis A. Jefferson, 311 Anne St., Jacksonville, N. C.; and Billy Jackson, Ernul, N. C.

Adjourned.

J. W. ALFORD, *Acting Chairman*
LLOYD VERNON, *Secretary*

On motion the minutes of the Examining Board were adopted.

A deed to Bethlehem Church, Duplin County, was read, and a request made that the Trustees of the Conference be instructed to sign anything necessary to enable the church to dispose of the old property and invest the proceeds in new property.

On motion the name of Brother Warren Mallard be dropped from the list of ordained ministers at his request, he having voluntarily resigned from the ministry and surrendering his credentials, for the purpose of entering the armed services of the nation, and the clerk is instructed to file his letter and credentials for future reference.

The list of ministers was called.

On motion Rev. B. F. Ringold be placed on the list of retired ministers.

On motion Rev. J. C. Lynn be granted a letter to the Central Conference.

On motion the name of Rev. W. A. Hansley be dropped from the list of ordained ministers until a letter is received from the Western Conference.

The following licensed ministers were enrolled: Thomas Hill, Willie Justice, Lemmie Taylor, John Flood, Melvin K. Everington, Roy Cauley, Nelson Simpson, Daniel Gaskins, Frank H. Dunn, Jr., H. G. Gaskill.

At 11:30 o'clock Rev. S. A. Smith was called forward, and he delivered the introductory sermon, using Isaiah 1:3 "My people doth not consider," as a text.

After a very convincing sermon, an offering for the Orphanage was received amounting to \$114.05. We then recessed for dinner.

WEDNESDAY P. M.

After a very bountiful dinner we reassembled, and devotions were conducted by Bro. James Lupton.

Visiting ministers were enrolled from other Conferences as follows:

Western—J. A. Evans, M. L. Johnson, W. E. Anderson.

Cumberland Association of Tenn.—D. C. Dodd.

Bro. J. A. Evans from Mt. Allen Jr. College spoke a few minutes for the College, and handed out blanks for information.

The list of churches was called.

Rev. S. A. Smith, superintendent of the orphanage, reported as received from the Eastern Conference during the past year:

EASTERN CONFERENCE

1 October 1953-30 September 1954

General Fund	\$17,283.86
Clothing Fund	1,466.07

Girls Building Fund	265.11
Chapel Fund	81.35
Concert Class Receipts	3,399.51

Total Cash Receipts	\$22,495.90
Total Donated Commodities	\$ 1,229.78

On motion the above report was received as information.

Rev. D. W. Hansley, proxy for the Secretary of the State Convention, reported for the Promotional Department as follows:

(This is a condensed report of the Promotional Department.)

This Conference has enrolled in Sunday Schools 7726, Leagues 1532, Auxiliaries 1520. There are 304 class rooms in church buildings. Six parsonages valued at \$48,000.00. Total value of all church property \$775,000.00.

The churches received 535 members during the year, and lost 320, leaving a net gain of 215.

Money spent in local work \$199,932.23. Sent in to the united program or 7 point program a total of \$37,691.54, making a grand total spent for all purposes \$237,623.77.

On motion the report was received as information.

The committee on Ministerial character reported all ministers in good standing.

On motion the report was adopted.

The State Board of Superannuation reported as received from this Conference as follows, and it was received as information:

REPORT OF BOARD OF SUPERANNUATION TO THE EASTERN CONFERENCE

October 27, 1954

The amount of money received from this District during the past year was, \$1,249.29. This is a decrease of \$214.41 under the previous year.

The above amount was sent by the following:

Churches	\$ 738.95
Auxiliaries	33.00
Sunday Schools	226.34
Leagues	1.00
Individuals	5.00
Union Meetings	145.00
Conference	100.00
 Total	 \$1,249.29

There are now three (3) of your retired ministers receiving monthly pension checks and ten (10) ministers widows receiving quarterly pension checks. These are:

Ministers: Rev. Howard Pipkin, Rev. L. J. Potter, and Rev. Duffy Toler.

Widows: Mrs. Lucy Daugherty, Mrs. W. B. Everett, Mrs. L. C. Garner, Mrs.

Carrie Gray Ringold, Mrs. May Rouse, Mrs. Winifred Williams, Mrs. L. H. Wetherington, Mrs. B. W. Wells, Mrs. J. R. Bennett, and Mrs. R. C. Kennedy.

The Board of Superannuation is asking for a budget of \$10,000.00 for the Convention year of 1954-55. This can be reached if our churches will all send .25c per member. Your district gave just under 12½c last year.

M. L. JOHNSON, *Chairman-Treasurer*

REPORT OF CHURCH FINANCE ASSOCIATION, Inc., 1954

We submit this report of the Church Finance Association, Inc., as of September 1, 1954

Number members of the Association	290
Number members holding at least one \$25.00 Certificate	171
Number \$25.00 Certificates now held	399
Membership Fees collected this year	\$ 833.58
Total membership fees now held	\$ 11,414.46
Number new loans made during this year	5
Total amount loaned this year	\$ 23,835.00
Total number loans made since 1940	42
Total amount loans since 1940	\$141,882.45
Number loans now on our books	14
Our total receipts during the past year were	\$ 32,595.20
Our total disbursements during the past year were	\$ 27,647.17

Our balance on hand September 1, 1954 was\$ 4,948.03

The following figures taken from the Annual Report January 1, 1954

Our total Assets on January 1, 1954 were	\$49,038.20
Our total Liabilities on January 1, 1954 were	45,630.80

Our earned profit, or surplus, on January 1, 1954 was\$ 3,407.40

Our next Annual Meeting is scheduled to meet with Whaley's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Jones County, on Tuesday January 11, 1955 at 10:30 a. m.

The Eastern Conference has \$537.50 in the Church Finance Ass'n. Inc. for which you hold twenty-one (21) Certificates as follows; numbers 38, 57, 62, 98, 99, 101, 102, 148, 149, 150, 151, 193, 194, 247, 248, 285, 286, 308, 342, 366, 395.

CHURCH FINANCE ASSOCIATION, Inc.

R. N. HINNANT, *President*

M. L. JOHNSON, *Secy.-Treas.*

The above report was received as information.

On motion the Executive Committee of this Conference confer with the special committee from the Press, with a view of trying to determine how much stock this Conference has in the Press.

Rev. J. C. Griffin made a verbal report for Rev. J. R. Davidson for the Bible College, and ask for our continued support of the College.

On motion the report was received as information.

The Temperance Committee reported as follows:

We recommend that we go on record as being in favor of:

1. That all our members abstain from the use of strong drink.
2. That our ministers preach at least one temperance sermon every three months.
3. That each local church write to their representative in the legislature at Raleigh, requesting a referendum on the sale of alcoholic beverages.
4. We also recommend that each church request our legislators to take a stand against state-wide gambling.

On motion the report was adopted.

On motion we adjourn until tomorrow a. m. 9:30 o'clock. The opening devotions tomorrow to be conducted by Rev. D. W. Hansley.

Closing exercises conducted by Bro. L. J. Lupton.

THURSDAY A. M.

The Conference met at the appointed time, and devotions were conducted by Rev. D. W. Hansley. Prayer was offered by Rev. J. C. Griffin.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

Rev. J. C. Griffin was appointed to write a sketch of the life of Rev. J. R. Bennett, and Mrs. Pannie Rhodes was appointed to write a sketch of the life of Rev. R. C. Kennedy.

The Committee on Sunday Schools presented the following:

1. We urge all church members to take an active part in the Sunday school.
2. We also urge that every Sunday school officer, teacher and member abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world.
3. We also urge that all pastors take an active part in the Sunday school, and work for the glorifying of Christ and the saving of lost souls.

On motion the report was adopted.

Mt. Zion, Pamlico county, petitioned for the next session of the Conference, and on motion the next session will be held with that church.

J. W. Alford was selected to preach the introductory sermon, and Rev. Lloyd Vernon alternate.

On motion J. W. Alford be elected to fill the vacancy on the Examining Board caused by the death of Rev. J. R. Bennett. This election is for a term of five years.

On motion Rev. A. G. Lane be elected to fill the vacancy on the Board of Trustees of the Conference caused by the death of Rev. J. R. Bennett.

The Examining Board made a final report as follows:

The Examining Board of the Eastern Conference met at Sea Level, N. C., October 27, 1954 at 3:30 p. m. All members were present. Prayer by D. W. Hansley.

Bro. Noah Brown came before us asking for membership in this Conference, and on motion we recommend him for membership in this Conference as an ordained minister.

On motion we recommend that Bro. Cecil Campbell be enrolled as an ordained minister.

Bro. H. G. Gaskill came before us for license, and we recommend that Free Union Church, Sea Level, N. C., grant him license.

On motion we adjourned.

J. W. ALFORD, *Chairman*
LLOYD VERNON, *Secretary*

On motion the report was adopted.

A motion was made that the Conference organize a certain group at Otway into a Free Will Baptist church.

On motion the above motion was tabled. (The vote was 28 to table, 4 against.)

On motion the finance committee retire, settle with the Treasurer and the Treasurer make his report.

A bill for \$24.00 for radio announcements for the postponement of the Conference was presented, and on motion it was ordered paid.

On motion a committee of three be elected to work with the Executive Committee of the State Convention, to try to determine Conference boundaries. The committee elected consists of D. W. Hansley, Lloyd Vernon and Lemmie Taylor.

Rev. D. W. Hansley made an oral report of Mt. Allen Jr. College, and an offering for the College was received amounting to \$65.00.

On motion a rising vote of thanks be given the pastor and Free Union Church and the people of Sea Level for the fine way in which they have taken care of this Conference.

Rev. J. C. Griffin spoke to us about supporting the Press and the Free Will Baptist paper in general.

The Treasurer made the following report:

TREASURER'S REPORT

Grand Total on hand last session \$ 1,862.03

DISBURSEMENTS

For Minutes	\$ 125.00
Clerk's Fee	60.00
Treasurer's Fee	20.00
Expenses	249.95
Offering for Orphanage and Allocation	750.00
Bible College	
Superannuation	100.00
Foreign Missions	12.50
Home Missions	12.50
Cragmont	
Church Finance Association, Inc.	
Duffy Toler	35.00
H. Pipkin	35.00
L. J. Potter	35.00
9 Widows, \$15.00 Each	135.00
Mt. Allen Junior College	125.00
National Association Fee	5.00
Rev. J. R. Bennett Offering	123.26

Vanceboro Church	25.00	
Total paid out	\$1,855.21	
Grand Total on hand last session		1,826.03
Total paid out		1,855.21
Balance in Bank		\$ 6.82
Orphanage Collection		114.05
Mount Allen College Collection		65.00
Received today		1,563.10
Grand Total		\$1,748.97

Respectfully submitted, this 28th day of October, 1954.

H. M. MALLARD, *Treasurer*

On motion this report was adopted.

Rev. W. B. Raper, president of Mt. Allen Jr. College, was recognized, and he made a interesting verbal report for the College. He pleads for the Conference to continue its support of the College, and remember the College and its staff in our prayers.

The committee on Allocations made the following report:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ALLOCATIONS

We have on hand to allocate		\$1,748.97
For Minutes	\$125.00	
Clerk's fee	60.00	
Treasurer's fee	20.00	
Expenses	274.25	
Offering and allocation for Orphanage	600.00	
Bible College		
Superannuation	100.00	
Foreign Missions	12.50	
Home Missions	12.50	
Cragmont		
Church Finance Association, Inc.		
Duffy Toler	25.00	
H. Pipkin	25.00	
L. J. Potter	25.00	
11 widows \$12.50 each	137.50	
Mt. Allen Junior College and Offering	300.00	
National Association Fee	5.00	
B. F. Ringold	25.00	
Total Allocated		1,746.75
Balance in Treasury		\$ 2.22

On motion the report was adopted.

Rev. Raymond Riggs, Promotional Secretary of the National Foreign Mission Board, was called forward, and he spoke to us encouragingly concerning the Foreign Mission program, and solicited our continued loyal and liberal support of this cause.

The Digest Committee made report as follows:

REPORT OF DIGEST COMMITTEE

Number died	76
Received by letter	184
Baptized	406
Dismissed	131
Transferred	103
Excommunicated	1
Total membership	9,463
Number of churches reporting	69
Amount of contributions	\$1,563.10
Lost by death, dismissed, transferred, or excommunicated	311
Gained by letter and baptism	590
The above shows a net gain of	279

On motion the report was adopted.

Delegates to the various bodies were appointed as follows:

State Convention—Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Tyndall, Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Swindell, Mr. and Mrs. Fountain Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Blizzard.

Piedmont Association—J. B. Starnes.

Central Conference—D. W. Cleeve, Jr.

Western Conference—J. C. Griffin.

Cape Fear Conference—D. W. Hansley.

Albemarle Conference—D. W. Hansley.

Pee Dee Association—W. S. Burns.

French Broad Association—S. A. Smith

The Memorial Committee was waiting to give the Memorial service, but they waited for the reading and approval of the minutes of the day, after which a motion was made for the Conference to close with the Memorial service.

CLIFTON RICE, *Mod.*

K. W. GASKILL, *Asst. Mod. pro tem*

J. W. ALFORD, *Clerk*

LLOYD VERNON, *Asst. Clerk*

H. M. MALLARD, *Treasurer*

IN MEMORY OF REVEREND R. C. KENNEDY

Rev. R. C. Kennedy was 73 years and eight days old when the Lord called him to his reward last March. He had been an active minister 50 years, and served faithfully as pastor, also doing much revival work during these years. He organized eight churches during his ministry, and gave much assistance to several others in their undertakings.

Mine is a tribute to "one we all loved." I can say just a few things about Uncle Robert Kennedy, but a big book could be written about the Christian life he lived.

He was one of the most consecrated men I ever knew. He was the head of a Christian home and family, and lived a daily life of prayer. He taught and practiced the family altar in the home, and always encouraged and comforted those with whom he came in contact to live for Christ. His good deeds were too many to mention. His presence and prayers at any kind of service was uplifting in spirit. I can truthfully say that in his absence our services don't seem the same as when he lived. He would not agree in the last years of his life, even after afflictions came upon him, to be placed on the retired list, and it is the honest opinion of the writer that he ministered to those who came to see him, even on the last day of his life.

His was a life of happy service, and did not allow discouragement to hinder him, because he took his troubles to the Lord in prayer, and he knew He would hear and answer his prayers.

How many souls he led to Christ while living, only the Lord knows, and many there are who mourn his passing.

He is gone, but not forgotten.

MRS. WALTER RHODES

A Sketch of the Life of Jesse Randall Bennett

The subject of this sketch was born at Grantsboro, in Pamlico County, July 1, 1902. The parents, Elder Calvin L. and Emma Caton Bennett said he was named for the father of Calvin L. Bennett and Benjamin Randall. Jesse Randall Bennett was educated in the public schools of Pamlico County, and attended Elon College and Eureka College, also, took summer courses in the State schools for teachers. He taught school in connection with his ministry for several years, was principal of the Ernul school for years, this writer knows not how long.

He was ordained to the gospel ministry, at Core Creek Church, in the month of October, 1925, at the sitting of the Annual Eastern Conference. The ordaining council was composed of Elders Duff Toler, Wilson Lupton, and John Sewell, with Brother Toler preaching the sermon.

Brother Bennett was married to Miss Mabel Oglesby, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Oglesby of Bridgeton, North Carolina, August 23, 1927. To this union two daughters were born both living at this time, namely Mrs. Milton B. Langston, New Bern, North Carolina, and Miss Peggy Bennett, a student at the Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee.

Brother Bennett, was Superintendent of the Free Will Baptist Orphanage, at Middlesex, North Carolina, 1929-1934, during a very hard financial depression, but by hard work, close economy and perseverance, he made a go of the work, and held things together until a better day dawned. He was President of the North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist from 1944-1945. He was on the Eastern Conference Board of Examiners to examine candidates for the ministry for several years and had the privilege and pleasure of seeing and helping to ordain his father, Brother C. L. Bennett. He was a member of this Board at the time of

Churches	County	Delegates	Died	Received	Baptized	Dismissed	Transferred	Excommunicated	No. Members	Contributions
Core Creek	Craven	J. M. Hawkins, E. G. Heath	2	2	2	8	1	0	267	\$80.00
Gethsemane	Craven	Mrs. A. R. Wetherington, Mrs. G. S. Cook	2	2	8	0	0	0	90	25.00
Antioch	Craven	Beulah Carawan, Linda Fulcher	1	0	0	0	1	0	131	50.00
Croatan	Craven	Mrs. Nellie Potter, Mrs. Wilbur Herring	1	0	0	0	1	0	100	10.00
Juniper Chapel	Craven	Louis H. Tripp, Viola Wilson	2	0	0	5	0	0	56	37.00
Spring Hope	Craven	Albert and Sudie Purifoy	0	0	1	0	0	0	28	6.00
Macedonia	Craven	Mrs. Lillian Simpkins, Clyde Spruill	3	1	2	0	3	0	234	20.00
Wintergreen	Craven	A. B. Tilghman, W. A. Wood	0	1	2	0	2	0	200	25.00
St. Mary's	Craven	Mrs. Cecil Campbell, W. R. Sandlin	5	19	15	16	0	0	370	50.00
Sts. Delight	Craven	J. W. Stilley and Wife	4	5	11	0	2	0	156	30.00
Moseley's Creek	Craven	Mrs. Bett Ormond, Mrs. Marie Newell	1	0	7	0	6	0	166	25.00
Reunion Chapel	Craven	W. L. and Teddie Dunn	1	0	0	0	1	0	45	20.00
Palmetto Chapel	Craven	By Letter	2	0	0	0	0	0	156	15.00
Bridgeton	Craven	Mrs. Minnie Oglesby	-	-	-	-	-	-	202	25.00
Lane's Chapel	Craven		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oak Grove	Craven	Jasper Barrow, Riley Pound	1	1	9	0	3	0	135	20.00
New Haven	Craven	James Stilley, Rodman Whitford	2	0	12	0	0	0	130	17.85
Ruth's Chapel	Craven	Fred Hagan and Wife	0	5	16	4	0	0	155	10.00
Vanceboro	Craven	Oliver Griffin and Wife	0	2	3	0	0	0	24	5.00
New Salem	Craven	Wilson Watts, D. D. Morris	0	11	1	0	1	0	-	5.00
Northeast	Wayne		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Indian Springs	Wayne		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grant's Chapel	Wayne	By Letter	0	1	3	3	1	0	89	10.00
May's Chapel	Wayne	By Letter	0	2	7	3	0	0	46	5.00
Sarecta	Duplin	D. F. Jones, J. W. Lee	1	0	0	24	13	0	129	25.00
Finey Grove	Duplin	Walter Hill, Charlie Quian	0	0	3	0	0	0	132	20.00
Sandy Plain	Duplin	Dannie Burden, Edgar Robinson	1	0	5	0	0	0	206	15.00
Rooty Branch	Duplin		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Beulaville	Duplin	Mrs. S. A. Smith	0	1	1	0	1	0	188	50.00
Pearsell's Chapel	Duplin	Willie Barnette, Woodley Howard	2	7	2	0	3	0	126	15.00
Snow Hill	Duplin	By Letter	0	0	4	0	4	0	147	20.00
Bethlehem	Duplin	R. N. Baysden, Walter Simpson	0	0	0	4	0	0	99	25.00
Lanier's Chapel	Duplin		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long Ridge	Duplin	Mrs. Loraine Hill, Mrs. Nelson Kornegay	1	0	1	0	0	1	61	10.00

Cabin	Duplin	Mrs. Walter Rhodes	1	1	1	0	2	0	129	15.00
Warsaw	Duplin									
Christian Chapel	Lenoir	Timmie Tyndall, Rex Howard	2	0	3	0	1	0	180	40.00
British Chapel	Lenoir	Mary Heath, Mrs. C. A. Boqey	1	0	5	0	0	0	160	10.00
Woodington	Lenoir	J. R. Davenport and Wife	1	0	0	0	0	0	38	10.00
Dailey's Chapel	Lenoir	William Carter, W. F. Hill	0	0	0	1	0	0	190	20.00
Kinston	Lenoir	Linwood Taylor and Wife	2	30	31	0	4	0	226	46.50
Smith's New Home	Lenoir	Mrs. J. J. Blizzard, Mrs. Rachel Taylor	0	0	4	0	0	0	165	60.00
Deep Run	Lenoir	Elton Harper and Wife	2	2	14	1	0	0	292	45.00
Gray Branch	Lenoir	Ashley Heath, Alvin Deaver	2	1	15	1	1	0	202	15.00
White Oak Grove	Lenoir	By Letter	0	1	6	0	0	0	109	26.75
Holly Springs	Carteret	Elizabeth Slaughter, Ruby Flemming	2	6	18	0	4	0	233	25.00
Sound View	Carteret	Mrs. L. L. Hall, Mrs. W. A. Page	1	3	8	4	4	0	68	10.00
Beaufort	Carteret	Mrs. Lucy Dudley, Mrs. W. H. Kirk	0	2	2	0	0	0	136	10.00
Free Union	Carteret	Miriam Taylor, T. A. Taylor	0	0	5	0	1	0	74	10.00
Welcome Home	Carteret	Mrs. Lela Golden, Miss Doris Gillikin	1	0	0	15	4	0	52	10.00
Morehead City	Carteret	Mrs. Caddie Willis, Mrs. Emma Marks	3	7	24	3	0	0	162	25.00
Pilgrim's Rest	Carteret	Pauline Bowen, Mattie Daniels	1	2	2	0	1	0	38	7.00
Russell's Creek	Carteret	Manly Springle, Mrs. Daisy Springle	1	2	8	4	1	0	75	16.50
Davis	Carteret	Mrs. Maggie Willis, Mrs. R. H. Jackson	2	5	13	0	0	0	188	20.00
St. John's Chapel	Carteret	Romain Gaskill, Jordan Lewis	4	0	7	0	1	0	170	20.00
Mt. Pleasant	Carteret									
Edward's Chapel	Carteret	Grey Caraway, Mrs. B. G. Hardy	2	2	14	0	5	0	128	10.00
Arapahoe	Pamlico	I. W. Swindell and Wife	4	2	4	19	2	0	238	40.00
Trent	Pamlico									
Mt. Zion	Pamlico	Mrs. Earl Holton, Mrs. H. C. Barnes	1	1	2	0	0	0	62	20.00
Rock of Zion	Pamlico									
Oriental	Pamlico	By Letter							162	10.00
Warden's Grove	Pamlico	C. S. Lupton and Wife	2	0	26	0	4	0	125	25.00
New Bethlehem	Pamlico	Mrs. Lucy Dixon, Mrs. Minnie Dixon	1	5	3	0	2	0	100	10.00
Bethel	Pamlico	Mrs. Kathleen Slade, Mrs. Rosa Demais	5	0	0	0	1	0	65	35.50
Union Chapel	Beaufort	J. L. Carrington, Lonnie Hodges							50.00	
Dublin Grove	Beaufort	By Letter	4	0	1	0	2	0	203	13.50
White Hill	Beaufort	R. G. Gillikin and Wife	1	0	2	0	1	0	173	20.00
Core Point Chapel	Beaufort	S. J. Tripp and Wife	0	0	1	0	0	0	28	5.00
Smyrna	Beaufort	Arthur Norman, A. C. Jackson, Jr.	1	0	0	14	9	0	145	10.00
Bethlehem	Beaufort									
Ephesus	Beaufort	Ernest Cutler, Herbert Lewis	0	1	1	0	0	0	110	10.00
Mt. Olive	Beaufort									
Friendship	ones	L. C. and W. G. Mallard	1	1	0	0	4	0	162	50.00
Whaley's Chapel	ones	J. I. Taylor and Wife	1	1	4	7	0	0	220	50.00
Filgrim's Home	ones	Mrs. Roy Cauley, Mrs. Clarence Burkett	2	9	1	0	1	0	153	36.50
Folkstone	Onslow	Kirby Shepard and Wife	0	0	7	0	0	0	206	15.00
Mt. Zion	Onslow									
Snead's Ferry	Onslow	Clifton Parker	0	0	0	1	0	0	56	15.00
Jacksonville	Onslow	Ben Avery and Wife	0	12	22	2	5	0	167	15.00
Verona	Onslow	By Pastor	0	7	7	0	0	0	25	5.00
Community	Onslow	Luther Swinson	0	3	12	0	0	0	33	10.00

death and Chairman of the Board, but during the last months of life he was not physically able to serve.

He did much evangelistic work in the state of North Carolina, and also some of the other southern states. We are giving a list of part of the churches that he preached for and served as pastor, Rock of Zion (his home church), Mt. Zion, Trent, Warden's Grove, Oriental, Arapahoe, and all the churches in Pamlico County, and near the birth place of Brother Bennett. In Craven County, he served, Antioch, Macedonia, Moseley's Creek, St. Mary's in New Bern, and was serving Bridgeton as pastor up until death, however, he did no active preaching during the last month of life.

He pastored the Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro, the church in Smithfield, Johnston County, Shiloh in Beaufort County and Malachi's Chapel and Gum Neck in Tyrrell County. He was the first president of the North Carolina Minister's Conference which had its birth at Cragmont Assembly, Inc., Black Mountain, North Carolina, and was a friend to the Cragmont move from its beginning.

He served on the Board of Education of the National Association of Free Will Baptist and was a member at the time the first real concrete move was made to raise funds toward establishing the Bible School. It was a small beginning in its infancy, but it is written "Some men's work go before them and others follow after to the judgment." He was always a strong advocate of better education for the ministry. He often spoke of "Raising the Standard." The last sermon delivered by Jesse Randall Bennett, was the Dedicatory sermon of the chapel at the Free Will Baptist Orphanage, Thanksgiving day, 1953. Even though he was so weak that he had to sit in a chair to deliver the message, he put much of his former earnestness and expression into the message. He finished his preaching that day, and passed to his reward on the 17th day of January 1954. Truly it can be said, that, Jesse Randall Bennett, "Fought a good fight," he kept the faith, as declared by his denomination, which he loved and gave himself for in a great way until the end.

Written by one who worked with him a great deal, and saw much of him from his first ministerial labours.

J. C. GRIFFIN
1409 N. Pasteur Street,
New Bern, North Carolina

Minutes of the Eastern Auxiliary Convention

Minutes of the Executive meeting held February 13, 1954, by the Eastern Auxiliary Convention.

The Executive Committee met in session at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, N. C., Saturday, February 13, 1954.

In the absence of the secretary, Mrs. Lupton, who was at the bedside of a sick son in Pensacola, Fla., Mrs. Fannie Swindell, assistant secretary, recorded the minutes.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mrs. Wingate Hansley, President; Mrs. J. K. Rhodes, Vice-President; Mrs. J. C. Griffin, Chairman Enrollment; Mrs. Fannie Swindell, Publicity Chairman; Mrs. Clara Jones, Youth Chairman; Mrs. Ben Sutton, Study Course Chairman; Mrs. J. J. Blizzard, Orphanage Chairman; Mrs. Romi Mallard, Treasurer.

After the devotions, Mrs. L. E. Ballard, president of the State Auxiliary, Mrs. Floyd Hardy and Miss Priscilla Rhodes were welcomed as visitors.

Mrs. Walter Rhodes, Benevolence Chairman, could not attend, owing to the illness of her mother.

Mrs. J. K. Rhodes, Vice-President, read 1 Corinthians 13 and commented on same, after which prayer was offered.

The skeleton for the program of our March Convention, as prepared and sent to us by Mrs. Lupton, was read and on motion it was adopted, and the usual parts were assigned as deemed wise, and best.

The Treasurer presented a bill for Minutes of \$49.50. It was moved and carried that the bill be paid. She also reported that there was a balance in the treasury of \$184.70. After some discussion, it was moved and carried that Mrs. Swindell be responsible for sending out the individual report blanks to auxiliaries asking for them, as a part of her work as publicity chairman. It was suggested that Mrs. Swindell serve as an assistant to Mrs. Lupton, that she be paid one half of the salary that is paid to Mrs. Lupton, not deducting anything from that which is paid Mrs. Lupton.

By motion, we recommend that Mrs. Swindell serve as assistant secretary and that she receive one-half as much for her service as is paid Mrs. Lupton at each Convention, provided this does not necessitate a reduction in the sum now being paid to Mrs. Lupton for her services.

By motion, we recommend that the minutes of our district Convention be approved by the Executive Board in their first session after each Convention, and not by the Convention while in session.

Mrs. Ballard gave some valuable information regarding the State work, which was very timely and much appreciated.

There being no other business, there was a motion for adjournment. The meeting closed with prayer.

MRS. WINGATE HANSLEY, *President*

MRS. FANNIE SWINDELL, *Secretary Pro Tem*

MINUTES

The Auxiliary Convention of the Eastern Conference met at Smith's New Home Church Thursday, March 25th, 1954.

The meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. Wingate Hansley, after which Mrs. Ethel Whaley led the congregation in singing, "More Like the Master." Mrs. J. F. Miller led the devotions, reading a part of Matthew, 7th chapter. She made a few timely remarks on the theme, "My Task, To Obey," closing with the singing, "Trust and Obey."

The welcome address was given by Mrs. C. B. Cauley and response by Mrs. Floyd Hardy. The president spoke on "My Task—to Strengthen Spiritual growth through Prayer," after which she gave some instructions to the delegates, also gave a warm welcome to the ministers present. Present from the Central Conference was Rev. C. L. Patrick; Western, Rev. W. E. Anderson; Eastern, Revs. J. C. Griffin, J. W. Alford, S. A. Smith, David Hansley, John Grimesley, R. H. Jackson, Thurman Smith, J. F. Miller and W. A. Hansley.

Mrs. Josephine Stevens, our missionary to South Africa was presented by Mrs. J. C. Griffin at this time and she made a very instructive and illuminating talk on her work among the Zulus and the great needs existing there. Her subject, "God's Program for the Church," was founded on Acts 1:8. She said in part that she "feared that many of our churches are substituting our program for God's Program. She gave a very descriptive picture of some of the habits, manner of dress, customs, and how polygomy is common practice—they have no natural affection, and look upon women only as slaves. Many other interesting facts were brought out which were indicative of the general conditions prevailing there. She urged that we not neglect our Home Mission interest and efforts, but that by all means, do our best for Foreign Missions, together with our earnest prayers.

Mrs. Clara Jones, the 2nd Vice-Chairman spoke on "My Task—Suffer the Little Ones to Come Unto Me."

The minutes of the Executive meeting were read and on motion were adopted.

Greetings were read from the Central and Cape Fear Auxiliary Conventions.

Mrs. L. E. Ballard spoke on Cragmont and its improvements and advantages, also some plans for the Woman's Conference for August, after which the Cragmont Chorus was sung, "All the Way to Calvary." Mrs. Ballard gave as the Theme for the Conference, "Women in the Church," and the schedule and time of meeting, which was August 16-23, 1954.

"The Children's cry around the World and at Home—My Task—to Heed," was given by Mrs. J. J. Blizzard, Orphanage Chairman, who also gave her plans for the work for the ensuing six months. Mrs. S. A. Smith gave some interesting news regarding some of the work, plans and needs of the institution, and urged a continuation of the support and co-operation that the auxiliaries have been giving in the past.

The hymn, "Trust, Try and Prove Me," was sung and an offering taken, amounting to \$85.15 for the orphanage. Rev. W. E. Anderson gave the offering.

The Convention message was delivered by Rev. J. F. Miller, who used as

the foundation for his sermon, Luke 10:38, 39, emphasizing the need for us to sit at the feet of Jesus, as Mary did, and learn of Him. He urged that if men and women loved the Master today as Mary did of old, that the world would have been saved through love long ago.

A short talk was made in behalf of Mt. Allen College, by Rev. David Hansley, also by Rev. J. A. Evans, Financial Manager for the College.

There was an offering taken for Mrs. Stevens at this time.

The following committees were appointed: Resolution, Mrs. Walter Rhodes, Mrs. E. L. Kemp, Mrs. Almo Harper; Petitions, Mrs. D. T. Chambers, Mrs. W. H. Marks, Jr.

Noon. Recessed for lunch and recreation.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Mrs. Jennie Potter conducted a Memorial service for deceased members since the last Convention, which was very impressive throughout, closing with a prayer by Rev. W. E. Anderson.

Rev. S. A. Smith, Superintendent of the Orphanage made a talk on some of his experiences at the Orphanage, also gave information relative to the buildings and some of their needs. Three little girls from the Orphanage sang several choruses, which were very entertaining. Mr. Smith stressed the needs for furnishings for the girls cottage and stressed the fact that he was depending on the Auxiliary women of the State to do the work, paying them a high compliment for their past loyalty and service. Mrs. Swindell spoke on "His Command—My Task—To Witness," and Mrs. J. C. Griffin showed the great need of "Covering the Field for Christ." Mrs. Walter Rhodes gave a short talk on "My Task—True Benevolence, which is only Christianity in Action." The burden of her talk was in behalf of our retired and superannuated ministers. Mrs. Marie Gaskins brought a very impressive message on "She Hath Done What She Could," bringing out the fact that our children are our greatest possession, but that mothers of today are more interested in making them popular, or pushing them out in society to adorn and to take part in the frivolities of life, instead of heeding the words of wisdom, as given in God's Word, "Bring up a child in the fear and admonition of the Lord." She stated that "mothers and fathers are the delinquent ones instead of the children." Special music by a trio from Jacksonville was rendered, led by Mrs. Ethel Whaley. Reports were given by the Committees, also the reports of the secretary and treasurer. These were adopted as read.

Moseley's Creek Church invited the September Convention to meet with them, and on motion it was accepted.

REPORT OF SECRETARY, MARCH 25, 1954

Report blanks mailed	55
Received reports from	52
Monies received for State and National Per Capita dues	\$256.00
Contribution to State	\$100.00
Per Capita dues for the district	\$ 78.00

Contribution for district \$167.40 plus \$24.50 equals \$191.90
 Grand total received and paid Treasurer \$525.90

Alice E. Lupton

RESOLUTIONS

1st—That we extend to Smith's New Home Church and community, our deepest appreciation for the courtesies of the day, for the fine spirit of fellowship and hospitality, for the lovely corsages and floral arrangement and also for the delicious dinner which all have enjoyed.

2nd—That we manifest our thanks and appreciation for all of these gracious privileges and benefits by a rising vote, thereby showing our deep sense of joy as partakers of the day's blessings.

3rd—That we express to Mrs. Potter and her co-workers from Mt. Zion Church, our thanks for the impressive Memorial service.

MRS. WALTER RHODES
 MRS. ELMO HARPER
 MRS. E. L. KEMP

TREASURER'S REPORT

March 25, 1954—Balance on hand from last convention, \$233.70; Paid out for Minutes, \$49.00; Expense of Executive Meeting, \$10.85; Total paid out, \$59.85. Balance on hand, \$173.85.

Mrs. Rom Mallard

All full reports unavoidably lost in transit. Sorry.

Minutes of the Executive Session of the Eastern Auxiliary Convention Saturday, July 31, 1954, at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, N. C.

The Executive Committee met in a business session at the Free Will Baptist Press in Ayden, N. C., Saturday, July 31, 1954. In the absence of the president, Mrs. Hansley, Mrs. Rhodes, vice-president, presided. Mrs. Lupton, the secretary, gave the devotions, reading Psalm 112 for the Scripture lesson. Prayer was offered by Mrs. Griffin.

The recommendation made at the last Convention, that the minutes of Conventions in the future be approved by the Executive Committee in the first session thereafter, being adopted at the March Convention, the Secretary read the proceedings of the said Convention and they were approved as read.

The suggested program for the September Convention was approved, with the Theme, "Steadfastness in Christ." Different parts of the Program were assigned, and Mrs. Swindell was requested to contact each one at her convenience and ascertain if they would accept parts on the program.

There was a motion that we recommend to the next Convention, that we have only one Memorial service each year, and that it be at the annual meeting in the fall. Motion carried.

Mrs. J. C. Griffin was asked to conduct this service at the next Convention in September.

It was moved and carried that we change our week day for our Executive meetings, also our place of meeting that we, from now on, hold our meetings at Kjnston, and that we meet on Thursday instead of on Saturdays as heretofore. There being no other business, the meeting closed with prayer by Mrs. Rom Mallard.

MRS. J. K. RHODES, *Vice President*
ALICE E. LUPTON, *Secretary*

MINUTES

The Woman's Auxiliary Convention met in annual session at Moseley's Creek Church, Thursday, September 23, 1954. Mrs. J. K. Rhodes, Vice-President, called the Convention to order, after which Rev. L. R. Ennis, a former pastor, led the congregation in singing "Jesus Calls Us," followed with prayer.

The Chairman gave the Theme, "Steadfastness in Christ," and Scripture, 1 Corinthians 15:5-8, for the day. Mrs. Ethel Whaley led the devotions, using Philippians 4:6 as a foundation for her remarks on "Showing forth His Greatness in Praise and Prayer." She put great emphasis on the need of "more prayer warriors" in our every day lives.

The Vice-President's remarks consisted of instructions to delegates together with emphasis on giving God our time, talents and possessions, that His name might be exalted and that there might always be workers in His vineyard, also her regrets that our President, Mrs. Hansley, was unable to be present.

The address of welcome was given by Mrs. Marie Newell and the response was by Mrs. Evelyn Wiggs.

"More Like the Master," was sung, after which the President recognized the following ministers: Revs. L. R. Ennis, R. H. Jackson, J. F. Miller, Cecil H. Campbell and D. W. Cleve.

Remarks were made by the ministers and officers. Mrs. S. A. Smith spoke on "Steadfastness in extending Christ's kingdom through our Orphanage." Among other news items she mentioned was the fact that they needed \$10,000 as soon as possible, and recommended that if each person would give the sum of \$1.50, the amount could soon be raised.

Mrs. Ethel Whaley and Mrs. Lupton gave news of the Woman's Conference held at Cragmont Assembly, Inc., in August. Included in this report was the formation of a Prayer Band during the session that convened together, and with God to give themselves diligently to Prayer for certain objects in our denominational life. Mrs. Eleanor Parker also spoke on some of her personal experiences while attending the Conference.

Hymn, "Trust and Obey," was sung and an offering taken for the Orphanage.

A duet, "Wonderful, Wonderful Jesus," was sung by ladies of the local church.

The Orphanage collection amounted to \$77.38.

Rev. Cecil H. Campbell was presented at this time, by Mrs. Rhodes, for the Convention message. He spoke very impressively on the topic, "Christian Maturity," using as a foundation Ephesians 4:1-9. Mr. Campbell spoke of the great

need in the ranks of professed Christians today for "steadfastness in purpose, in loyalty and in service." He brought several passages of Scripture to emphasize the need to have our minds stirred to the great gospel messages that come to us, as well as for the need that we "grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ," as Peter admonished. "The work of the minister, or pastor," he said, "is not to soothe, but to stir us up to greater faith and activity in service for our Lord." He stressed the fact that "too many Christians are still in the primary department, instead of growing into strong, dependable, stalwart workers in the Lord."

The following Committees were appointed: **Resolution:** Mrs. J. H. Oglesby, Mrs. Dorothy Lacock, Mrs. Berdie Davenport; **Petition:** Mrs. W. O. Caroon, Mrs. Calvin Mercer, Mrs. N. D. Wiggs.

Noon: Recessed for lunch and recreation.

AFTERNOON SESSION

"Faith of our Mothers" was sung, after which Mrs. J. F. Miller conducted a Memorial service for deceased members. A duet, "Beyond the Sunset," was sung, after a few verses of Scripture was read. The service closed with the singing of "Near to the Heart of God." Rev. and Mrs. L. E. Ballard, together with Mrs. J. E. Wooten from Ayden were recognized, and welcomed at this time.

The business session opened with the reading of the minutes of the Executive Committee of the July meeting, 1954. These were approved as read. Mrs. Cecil Campbell gave a very good report of the National Auxiliary Convention which met in Spartanburg, S. C., in July.

Mrs. L. E. Ballard made some comments on the State Auxiliary Convention, that met at Pikeville, N. C., in May, giving some interesting statistics and some information that should cause our hearts to rejoice in the Lord. She stressed the need for a more earnest effort in behalf of the Anna Phillips Loan Fund, as so many calls were coming—more than we can supply. She also spoke on the Conference at Cragmont and its success, also of other assemblies during the summer.

Rev. L. R. Ennis brought a wonderful message on "Steadfastness in Faith, Assurance and in Christian Service," using Romans 10:10 as the base of his remarks. In part, he said, "Faith is a compelling force in the life of a Christian, and that it comes by personal spiritual communion with God, through study of His divine Word." He said that "We shall stand before the Father some day and that He would not ask, 'How much money do you have?' but, 'How many souls have you led out of sin and darkness into the marvelous life and liberty of the gospel of Christ?'" He said, "Think on these things."

Rev. R. H. Jackson made a short talk on our mission work both in our State and National, urging that we be faithful in our efforts to support this great cause. Rev. Burkette Raper spoke in the afternoon session, and made an impressive talk on "The Importance of Education in General, and the needs of Mt. Allen College in particular." He cited Hosea 4:6, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge," and said that "Education is not an end within itself, but is the means of extending Christ's kingdom through the Free Will Baptist denomination." He urged that we support our educational institutions by doing our best. Mrs. S. A.

Smith asked for an offering for Mt. Allen College, which was done, the amount was \$67.24.

Rev. Ennis led the congregation in singing "Send The Light," after which reports from the Committees were heard. The Resolution Committee asked that 1. "Each Auxiliary in the district make a more earnest effort to observe the number of Study Courses per year as prescribed and recommended in our Year Book of Programs."

2—That a standing vote of appreciation be extended Moseley's Creek Church and community for the very fine spirit of fellowship and co-operation given this Convention today, including the delicious dinner served at the noon hour.

3—That we include in this standing vote, our sincere thanks to Rev. L. R. Ennis, who has led our singing today, for the spiritual uplift that came to us through the inspiring message of Rev. Cecil Campbell, for the special music and for the part rendered by all others.

The Petition Committee reported that five petitions had been received for the next Convention in March, 1955, as follows: Christian Chapel, Arapahoe, Sarecta, Cabin, Deep Run. The vote was unanimous for Arapahoe, which received the largest number of votes, since a motion was made and sustained that the church receiving the largest vote be named as the winner. A vote of appreciation was given the other churches for their invitations. A plea was made by Mrs. Walter Rhodes in behalf of the library at Mt. Allen College, and Rev. Raper thanked the Convention for the offering. The secretary made her report which was received as information. The Finance Committee made its report and was adopted. The treasurer's report was read and on motion was adopted. Mrs. Ballard reminded us of the Clinics being held in behalf of the Auxiliary work, making a motion that at least \$50.00 be sent to the State Treasurer, Mrs. M. A. Woodard for promotion work in the district, which was carried. Mrs. Walter Rhodes made a motion that, aside from the offering taken for Mt. Allen, we contribute \$100.00 toward the library. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Fannie Swindell and was carried.

The following delegates named for district conventions as follows: Mrs. N. D. Wiggs—Central Auxiliary Convention; Mrs. Ethel Whaley—Western Auxiliary Convention; Mrs. Blanche Tosto—Pee Dee Auxiliary Convention; Mrs. S. A. Hansley, Albemarle Auxiliary Convention; Mrs. Myrtle Simpson—Cape Fear Auxiliary Convention.

It was moved and carried that we adjourn.

Mrs. J. K. RHODES, *Vice President*

ALICE E. LUPTON, *Secretary*

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mailed out 55 report blanks. Received reports from 52 auxiliaries. Twenty-seven said they were trying to reach A-1 Standard, two stated they were not making any effort, others failed to signify any interest. There are 46 auxiliaries in the district, with approximately 900 active members. There were five deaths reported during the last six months. There were five petitions received for the March,

1955, Convention. Amount received and paid treasurer, Mrs. Rom Mallard, \$169.25.

Alice E. Lupton, *Secretary*

The Treasurer reported a total amount on hand for all purposes of \$398.31.

Paid out at this Convention, aside from Convention expenses:

Library Mt. Allen College	\$100.00
Offering Mt. Allen College	67.24
Orphanage	77.38
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Total paid out	\$244.62

Mrs. Rom Mallard, *Treasurer*

