

MINUTES

OF THE

Sixty-Sixth Annual Session

OF THE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

OF THE

Original Free Will Baptists
(OF NORTH CAROLINA)

HELD AT THE

ASSEMBLY GROUNDS

October 18, 19, 1961

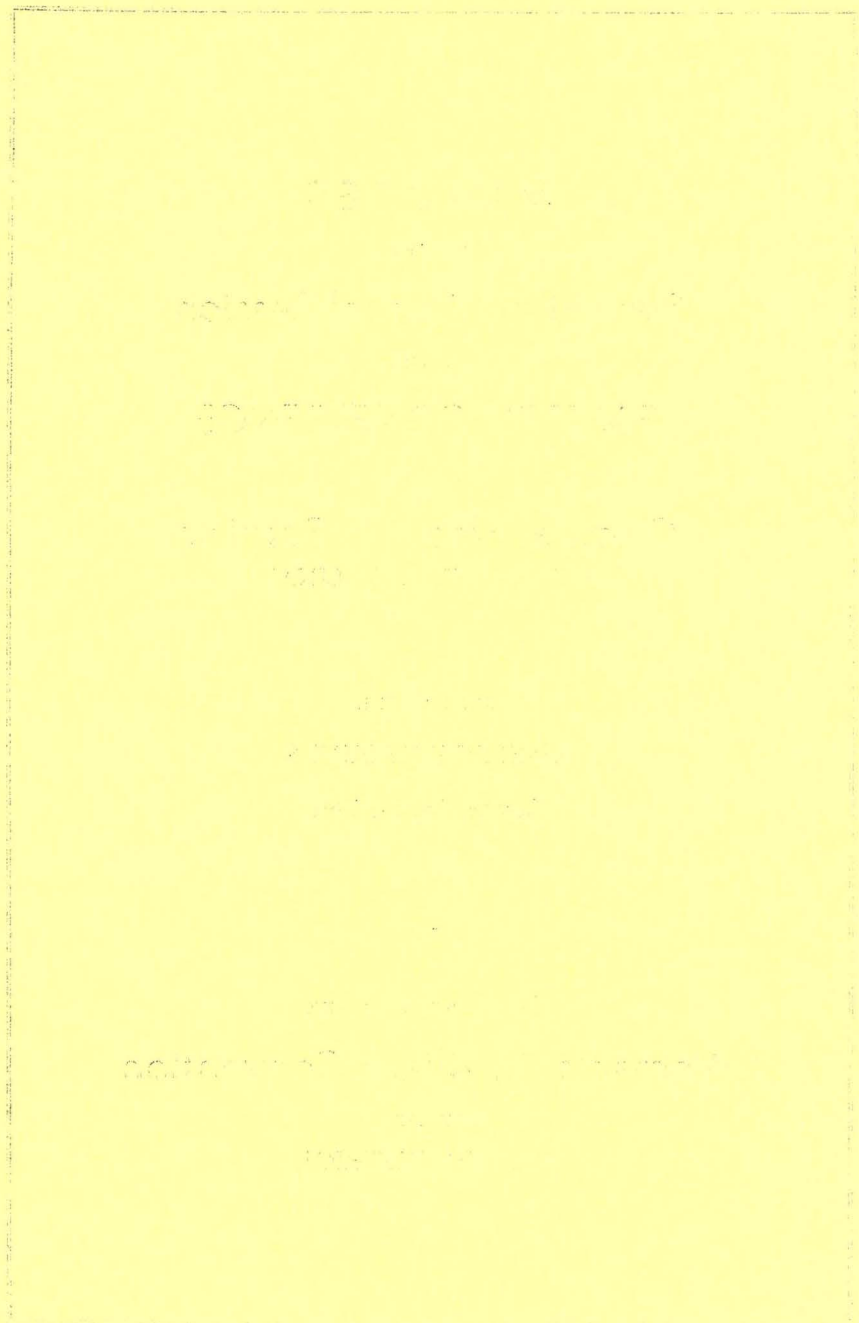
ALSO

THE MINUTES OF THE

Woman's Auxiliary Convention

OF THE

EASTERN DISTRICT



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Order of Business

FIRST DAY

10:00 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 Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, to be held at _____ Church, _____ County, North Carolina, commencing on Wednesday before the fourth Sunday in October, 19____.

We, the church at _____, _____ County, send as delegates to your honorable body _____.

The condition of our church is as follows: Received by baptism _____, by letter _____, lost by death _____, transfer _____, excommunicated _____, total number of members _____, value of all church property \$ _____, pastor's salary, \$ _____, sent to all denominational enterprises \$ _____, total raised by all departments of church \$ _____, amount sent to conference \$ _____.

Elder _____ is our pastor.

Clerk _____

Post Office _____

WE PETITION FOR THE NEXT CONFERENCE: Yes [] No []

OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR

Rev. C. B. Hansley, Moderator, Vanceboro, North Carolina
 Rev. A. G. Lane, Assistant Moderator, Ernul, North Carolina
 Rev. Ralph Lightsey, Clerk, Mount Olive, North Carolina
 H. M. Mallard, Treasurer, Trenton, North Carolina

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. C. B. Hansley, Chairman, Vanceboro, North Carolina
 Rev. Ralph Lightsey, Clerk, Mount Olive, North Carolina
 Rev. J. C. Griffin (honorary for life) Bridgeton, North Carolina
 H. M. Mallard, Trenton, North Carolina
 Rev. Lloyd Vernon, Route 2, Richlands, North Carolina
 Rev. L. L. Parker, Route 1, Box 88, Holly Ridge, North Carolina

EXAMINING BOARD

Rev. S. A. Smith, Beulaville, North Carolina
Rev. Lloyd Vernon, Chairman, Route 2, Richlands, North Carolina
Rev. D. W. Hansley, Route 1, Pinetown, North Carolina
Rev. Lemmie Taylor, Route 2, Richlands, North Carolina
Rev. Clifton Rice, 1805 West Vernon Avenue, Kinston, North Carolina

CONFERENCE MISSION BOARD

Rev. L. L. Parker
Rev. C. B. Hansley

Rev. A. G. Lane

TO REPRESENT THIS CONFERENCE IN THE MEETING OF THE
PRINTING COMPANY

Rev. D. W. Hansley, Route 1, Pinetown, North Carolina
H. M. Mallard, Trenton, North Carolina

TRUSTEES

D. W. Hansley A. G. Lane Lloyd Vernon
Clifton Rice O. B. Taylor

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

Mrs. Marie Gaskins Rev. Ralph Lightsey Mrs. Clara Jarman

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

L. J. Lupton Sheldon Howard D. W. Hansley

List of Ordained Ministers

H. Pipkin (Retired), Mount Olive
B. F. Ringgold (Retired), Bridgeton
A. C. Austin (Retired), Aurora
Lloyd Vernon, Richlands
Wesley Price, Seven Springs
J. R. Davenport, Deep Run
F. E. Jones, Kenansville
Clifton Rice, Kinston
D. W. Hansley, Pinetown
J. C. Griffin, Bridgeton
S. A. Smith, Beulaville
K. W. Gaskill, Sea Level
Clinton Lupton, Bayboro
Elmo Harper, Maribel
E. E. Edwards, Chocowinity
W. E. Stille, New Bern
L. W. Whaley, Anchorage, Alaska
Clifton Styron, Davis
L. E. Styron, Morehead City
T. O. Terry, Davis
O. B. Everette, Holly Ridge
N. D. Wiggs, Greenville
J. E. Howard, Newport
L. L. Parker, Holly Ridge
D. W. Cleeve, Vanceboro
H. W. Armstrong, Washington
C. M. Dixon, Chocowinity
A. Graham Lane, Ernul
Danny Jenkins, Holly Ridge
J. W. Grimesley Jr., Bridgeton
Elmer Goodwin, New Bern
Alton Mason, Harker's Island
J. B. Starnes, Morehead City
L. J. Lupton, Vanceboro
C. T. Rice, New Bern
T. C. Smith, Wilmington
C. B. Hansley, Ernul
L. W. Rowe, Bridgeton
Lemmie Taylor, Richlands
O. B. Taylor, Pink Hill
Virgil Day
R. L. Cauley, Kinston
B. G. Outland, New Bern
J. Albert Harris, Jacksonville
R. M. Fader, Kinston

Winston Sweeney
C. S. Howard, Wilson
Ralph Lightsey, Mount Olive
David E. Hutchinson
Seldon Bullard, Morehead City
G. R. Sebastian, Stacy
J. L. Hughes, Bridgeton
L. R. Cutler, Jacksonville
G. A. Ludwig, Cove City
S. R. Kennedy, Greenville
A. J. Lyczkowski, Arapahoe
H. G. Gaskill, Sea Level
W. S. Burns, Cove City
John Floyd, Jacksonville
J. Graham Baker, Newport
Herman A. Grubbs, Mount Olive
Norman Ard, Ayden
Thomas Bruce Dudley, Beaufort
Albert J. Keech, Arapahoe
Kenneth Grubbs, Mount Olive
Bobby G. Bazen, Saratoga
John Owens
Luther Swinson
Edward H. Fordham, New Bern
Andrew Hill, New Bern
William L. Bronson
R. W. Hardison, New Bern
Phillip D. Rice, Arapahoe
David Charles Hansley, Wilson
B. M. Taylor
David Paramore, Kinston
David Thomas, New Bern
Dallas Bryson
Roy C. O'Donnell, Mount Olive

Licensed Ministers

Frank H. Dunn, E. L. Purifoy, T. A. Hughes, J. R. Carmady, Ronald Howland, J. W. Long Jr., Robert Earl O'Quinn, Carl R. Johnson, Dallas Brinson, Pat Corbett, Lynwood Boyette.

Church Clerks and Their Post Offices

BEAUFORT COUNTY

- Core Point Chapel—Mrs. J. B. Paul, Blount's Creek, N. C.
- Dublin Grove—David Mayo, Aurora, N. C.
- Ephesus—J. L. Carrington, Blount's Creek, N. C.
- Mount Olive—Mrs. C. C. Ireland, Route 2, Aurora, N. C.
- Smyrna—Maury Roy Whitford, Chocowinity, N. C.
- Union Chapel—
- White Hill—Mrs. Elsie G. Rowe, Aurora, N. C.

CARTERET COUNTY

- Grab Point—Mrs. Cleta Buck, Morehead City, N. C. *none*
- Davis—Leslie Styron, Davis, N. C. *none*
- Edwards Chapel—Mrs. Marie Wallace, Route 1, Beaufort, N. C. *none*
- Faith—Mrs. Beatrice Lovick, Morehead City, N. C. *none*
- Free Union—Mrs. Dollie Taylor, Sea Level, N. C.
- Holly Springs—~~Eco Gray~~, Newport, N. C. *James H. Eurganus*
- Mount Pleasant—Mrs. John D. Brown, Route 2, Newport, N. C. *none*
- Otway—Mrs. Mary B. Lewis, Marshallberg, N. C. *Mrs. Evelyn Golden*
- Pilgrims Rest—Mrs. Mattie Daniels, Cedar Island, N. C. *R-2, Beaufort*
- Russell's Creek—Mrs. Fred McDaniel, Route 1, Beaufort, N. C.
- Sound View—Mrs. R. L. Lewis, Newport, N. C. *Larry Pelletier*
- Welcome Home—~~Janet Lewis~~, Route 2, Box 165, Beaufort, N. C. *Mrs. Dorothea Lewis*

CRAVEN COUNTY

- Antioch—J. M. Tyndall, Route 5, New Bern, N. C.
- Bridgeton—Mrs. Nelson Simpson, P. O. Box 55, Bridgeton, N. C.
- Core Creek—L. V. McCoy, Cove City, N. C.
- Croatan—Mrs. Wilbur Herring, Route 4, Box 335, New Bern, N. C.
- Gethsemane—Mrs. Roy Morton, Route 2, New Bern, N. C.
- Juniper Chapel—William C. Morris, Vanceboro, N. C.
- Macedonia—Mrs. Beulah Best, Route 2, Box 60, Vanceboro, N. C.
- Moseley's Creek—Mrs. Hazel White, Dover, N. C.
- New Haven—Mrs. Dicie Ipock, Ernul, N. C.
- New Salem—Mrs. Charlie Smith, Route 2, Vanceboro, N. C.
- Oak Grove—Donald Smith, Route 1, Vanceboro, N. C.
- Pleasant Acres—James E. Davidson, Route 5, New Bern, N. C.
- Reunion Chapel—E. C. Laughinghouse, Vanceboro, N. C.
- Saint's Delight—Mrs. Worth Williams, P. O. Box 5, New Bern, N. C.
- Saint Mary's—S. M. Harrison, New Bern, N. C.
- Spring Hope—Mrs. Annis Jones, Route 5, Box 164, New Bern, N. C.
- Vanceboro—Mrs. Lee Belle Buck, Vanceboro, N. C.
- Wintergreen—Mack D. Ange, Route 1, Cove City, N. C.

DUPLIN COUNTY

- Bethany—
- Bethlehem—Sutton Fountain, Chinquapin, N. C.

*Free Church, 70 S. E. Corner
Duplin, N. C.
m. d.*

Beulaville—Mrs. Milton Edwards, Beulaville, N. C.
Cabin—Calvin Mercer, Route 1, Beulaville, N. C.
Lanier's Chapel—Richard Pickett, Beulaville, N. C.
Long Ridge—Lina Belle Pate, Route 1, Mount Olive, N. C.
Mount Zion—William Bryant, Route 2, Beulaville, N. C.
Pearsall's Chapel—Mrs. Carl Powell, Kenansville, N. C.
Piney Grove—Paul Lee, Albertson, N. C.
Rooty Branch—Mrs. Pearl Amon, Route 2, Mount Olive, N. C.
Sandy Plain—Ann Chesmore, Route 2, Pink Hill, N. C.
Sarecta—Wilbur A. Jones, Route 1, Kenansville, N. C.
Snow Hill—Mrs. Rotha Reardon, Route 2, Mount Olive, N. C.
Warsaw—Leonard F. Anderson, Warsaw, N. C.

JONES COUNTY

Friendship—Mrs. Harold Mallard, Trenton, N. C.
Pilgrim's Home—Mrs. Earl Thomas, Route 2, Dover, N. C.
Whaley's Chapel—James W. Batchelor, Route 2, Richlands, N. C.

LENOIR COUNTY

British Chapel—Miss Rebecca Hill, Route 6, Kinston, N. C.
Christian Chapel—Coy Kennedy, Route 1, Pink Hill, N. C.
Daly's Chapel—Willie T. Shivar, Route 1, Seven Springs, N. C.
Deep Run—Mrs. Shirley Griffin, Route 1, Deep Run, N. C.
Gray Branch—Lynwood E. Smith, 608 Tyree Road, Kinston, N. C.
Kinston—Mrs. Mavis Taylor, P. O. Box 852, Kinston, N. C.
Smith's New Home—Mrs. J. J. Blizzard, Deep Run, N. C.
White Oak Grove—Ben D. Herring, Route 3, LaGrange, N. C.
Tower Hill—Mrs. Carl Freeman, Kinston, N. C.

ONslow COUNTY

Angola—Mrs. Luther Brinson, Maple Hill, N. C.
Calvary—Mrs. Harmon Parker, Route 3, Jacksonville, N. C.
Emmanuel—Mrs. B. A. Avery, Route 2, Box 553, Jacksonville, N. C.
Folkstone—Ernest Parker, Holly Ridge, N. C.
Jacksonville—Mrs. Leslie Oliver, P. O. Box 4613, Jacksonville, N. C.
Mount Zion—William Bryan, Beulaville, N. C.
Snead's Ferry—Mrs. Judy Brown, Snead's Ferry, N. C.
Verona—Thurman Sewell, Route 3, Box 342, Jacksonville, N. C.

PAMLICO COUNTY

Arapahoe—Mrs. Howard Lee, Arapahoe, N. C.
Bethel—Mrs. Kathleen Slade, Route 1, Box 144, Merritt, N. C.
Mount Zion—R. B. Newton, Route 1, Bayboro, N. C.
New Bethlehem—Donald W. Dixon, Grantsboro, N. C.
Oriental—Mrs. Bertha S. Thompson, P. O. Box 42, Oriental, N. C.
Rock of Zion—Mrs. Eva Belle Brinson, Grantsboro, N. C.
Trent—Mrs. Gladys Harris, Merritt, N. C.
Warden's Grove—George M. Jarvis, Lowland, N. C.

WAYNE COUNTY

Grant's Chapel—Mrs. Johnnie Summerlin, Route 2, Seven Springs, N. C.

Indian Springs—Elton Price, Route 4, Mount Olive, N. C.

May's Chapel—Mrs. Charles Johnston, 206 Banks Avenue, Goldsboro, N. C.

North East—Oliver Cook, Route 4, Mount Olive, N. C.

PROCEEDINGS

The Sixty-Sixth Annual Session of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina convened at the Assembly Grounds, Duplin County, North Carolina, October 18, 1961, at 10:00 a.m.

The session opened by singing "Leaning On the Everlasting Arms." After the devotional by the Reverend Clifton Styron, the Reverend Robert M. Fader welcomed the ministers, delegates, and visitors. The Reverend Melvin K. Everington gave the response.

The Reverend S. A. Smith, moderator, expressed appreciation for the confidence placed in him. He pledged to stand by Original Free Will Baptist faith and practices.

Visiting ministers were recognized and enrolled as follows:

Albemarle Conference: A. B. Bryan.

Central Conference: Walter Reynolds, J. W. Everton, C. L. Patrick, L. B. Manning, T. P. Ellis, Walter Sutton, Henry Melvin, Charles Keith, Tommy Godley, Melvin Worthington, C. H. Overman, R. H. Mason, C. J. Harris, and N. D. Beaman

Piedmont Conference: J. J. Brooks.

Western Conference: R. N. Hinnant, Andrew Hill, Dewey C. Boling, R. H. Jackson, M. L. Johnson, Earl H. Glenn, Robert Rollins, and H. M. Minchew.

At this time, the moderator appointed the following committees:

Finance: Bruce Dudley, Lemmie Taylor, and David Charles Hansley.

Temperance: O. B. Taylor, E. G. Heath, and D. W. Cleeve Jr.

Sunday School: J. E. Howard, Jimmy Tyndall, and William Carter.

Ministerial Character: J. C. Griffin, Melvin Everington, and A. G. Lane.

Digest: Graham Baker, Jerry Williams, and J. B. Starnes.

Allocations: Lloyd Vernon, Ralph Lightsey, and Phillip Rice.

Resolutions: C. B. Hansley, R. W. Mallard, and Lonnie Andrews.

Memorial: Fountain Taylor and J. Albert Harris.

Nominating: Lloyd Vernon, Clifton Styron, and E. E. Edwards.

The Reverend R. H. Jackson reported for State Missions. He expressed appreciation for the good support from the Eastern Conference and urged that it be continued.

At this juncture, Dr. W. B. Raper gave the report of Mount Olive College, pointing out that its student body had grown from nine to an enrollment of 187 and its assets from \$6.17 to \$250,000. An offering for the college was received in the amount of \$159.71.

The business recessed at this point for the worship service. The Reverend J. C. Griffin brought an inspiring message from Matthew 16:16-18. His text was "Upon this rock I will build my church." The Reverend L. B. Manning pronounced the benediction.

Adjourned for lunch.

AFTERNOON SESSION

After the devotional by the Reverend Phillip Rice, the Credentials Committee gave a partial report. See report. Moved, seconded, and carried to adopt by vote of 156 for and 3 against.

The minutes of the Executive Committee and Examining Board were read as follows:

The Examining Board of the Eastern Conference met in the Bridgeton Church on November 14, 1960, at 10:00 a.m.

All members were present.

Prayer by Brother Lemmie Taylor.

Brother B. F. Ringgold came before us and signed the conference pledge.

Brother W. L. Moretz came before us and cleared for work in this conference.

Adjourned by motion.

The Examining Board of the Eastern Conference met at Gault's Cafe near Vanceboro on December 12, 1960, at 12:00.

All living members were present.

Moved and carried that Lloyd Vernon be elected as chairman and that Clifton Rice as secretary of the Examining Board.

Adjourned by motion.

The Executive Committee met in the Bridgeton Free Will Baptist Church, December 12, 1960, at 10:00 a.m., for the purpose of filling the vacancies left by the death of the Reverend J. W. Alford. The following were elected to fill the unexpired term:

Ralph Lightsey, Clerk

S. A. Smith, Examining Board

H. M. Mallard, Representative of Press Stock

Graham Lane, Board of Trustees

Session adjourned.

The Executive Committee and Examining Board met in joint session at the Bridgeton Free Will Baptist Church, December 12, 1960, at 9:45 a.m.

On motion, the invitation of the Third Union Meeting to convene the 1961 session of the Eastern Conference at the Assembly Grounds was accepted.

It was moved and carried that the record of the Eastern Conference be made conform to the official record of the Free Will Baptist Press relative to the number of shares of stock the conference owns in the press. It is 167½ shares.

It was moved and carried that Ralph Lightsey and Lloyd Vernon write a resolution of respect of the Reverend J. W. Alford and that a copy be sent to the Press, to the family, and a copy be retained in the minutes.

Adjourned.

A joint session of the Executive Committee and Examining Board of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina was held at the Bridgeton Free Will Baptist Church, Bridgeton, North Carolina, January 16, 1961. The meeting began at 10:00 a.m. All members of both boards were present. The opening prayer was offered by the Reverend Al Lyczkowski.

On motion, the Reverend Al Lyczkowski was asked to sit with us during our deliberations.

Mr. Harry Jones, a deacon from British Chapel Church, was present and gave a good report concerning Brother Lyczkowski. The report of Mr. Jones was accepted. On the basis of a promise of Mr. Jones to report any misconduct by Mr. Lyczkowski, a motion was made and carried that Mr. Lyczkowski not be required to make any additional reports.

Having received a letter from George Bercaw stating his plans to unite with the Methodist Church and requesting that his name be dropped from our list of licensed ministers, therefore, motion was made and carried that his name be dropped from our list and that Mount Olive College and his local church be notified of this action.

The Reverend R. H. Jackson and the Reverend T. C. Smith spoke to us concerning the Wilmington Mission. On motion, the Reverend Lloyd Vernon, the Reverend Ralph Lightsey, the Reverend David Hansley, and Brother H. M. Mallard be appointed a committee to investigate the proposition submitted by the Reverend Jackson and the Reverend Smith and to co-operate with the State Mission Board, Conference Mission Board, and Church Finance Association and report back to us.

There was a discussion on request made by the moderator of the Cape Fear Conference in Ayden, North Carolina, January 3, 1961, for certain things to be given in writing from the Eastern Conference. By motion, we request a meeting with the Executive Committee and Ordaining Council of the Cape Fear Conference with the Examining Board and Executive Committee of the Eastern Conference. The meeting to be arranged at time and place agreed on by the Reverend L. R. Ennis and the Reverend Clifton Rice.

On motion, a copy of letters from Ruth's Chapel and Beaufort Churches notifying us that they had requested membership in the Cape Fear Conference be sent to the moderator of their respective union meetings and that any church using a silenced minister is out of harmony with the conference.

On motion, Ronnie Peele be silenced within the bounds of the Eastern Conference until he clears with this board and that a copy of this motion be sent to him and to the chairman of the board of deacons at May's Chapel Church.

On motion, we adjourned. Minutes of this meeting were read and approved. Dismissed by the Reverend David Hansley.

The Executive Committee and Examining Board met in the First Free Will Baptist Church of Kinston with all members present February 23, 1961.

On motion, the following interpretation was given the pledge which all ministers of this conference are required to sign:

It is understood that the measure of a minister's obligation when he signs the pledge shall be governed by personal loyalty to the Word of God and to the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina* as revised in 1955.

On motion, the order of silence was lifted from A. L. Hines, Randy Cox, and Melvin Worthington since they had cleared with the conference and signed the pledge.

It was moved and carried that we ask the churches to send \$10.00 annually to the conference over and above their regular contribution to establish a scholarship at Mount Olive College in memory of the Reverend J. W. Alford.

The following resolution was adopted:

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE EASTERN
CONFERENCE OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF NORTH CAROLINA

February 23, 1961

Be it resolved, that we call attention to the position of the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina* on "The Ministry," Page 48, which reads in part, "Each conference or association assumes and exercises authority over the Original Free Will Baptist ministers in its jurisdiction or bounds."

Be it further resolved, that this Executive Committee reaffirm our support of this statement as representing the position and practice of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina for many generations.

Be it also resolved, that we call attention to the position of the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina*, Pages 52 and 53, on "The Independence of Churches" which reads in part as follows:

"Each local church is a distinct and independent organization, with full authority to manage its own internal affairs, elect its officers, receive, dismiss, discipline, and exclude members. But this principle of the independence of each church is not held as a law of isolation; on the contrary, churches conveniently situated associate and co-operate in all things which tend to advance the common cause. Councils are, therefore, called in the organization of a church and the settlement of serious difficulties. On the same principles, the churches meet by delegation in the annual conference or association. The annual conference or association being the highest tribunal, shall have final disciplinary authority over the local church."

Be it further resolved, that this Executive Committee reaffirm our support of this statement as representing the position and practice of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina for many generations.

Be it further resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be placed in our

minutes and that a copy be sent to *The Free Will Baptist* for publication at an early date.

Session adjourned.

The Executive Committee met at the Tower Hill Mission April 11, 1961, for the purpose of examining it relative to organizing it into a church. After examination, it was duly organized into the Tower Hill Free Will Baptist Church, with the election of the usual officers.

It was moved and carried to recommend that Tower Hill Church be enrolled as a member of the Eastern Conference.

Adjourned.

The Executive Committee and Examining Board of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists met at the Bridgeton Free Will Baptist Church at 9:00 a.m., April 17, 1961. The members present were S. A. Smith, Ralph Lightsey, Lloyd Vernon, J. C. Griffin, D. W. Hansley, Lemmie Taylor, Clifton Rice, and H. M. Mallard. The opening prayer was given by D. W. Hansley.

The Reverend William L. Bronson of the Union Association of Georgia came before us for membership in the Eastern Conference. On a motion made and carried, we recommended that he be enrolled.

Our clerk read a letter from the Reverend Herman Hersey requesting a letter of commendation and of transfer of membership of the Reverend Wingate Hansley to the Cape Fear Conference. On a motion, we instructed our clerk to write the Reverend Mr. Hersey that since Mr. Hansley is not in good standing at the present time, we will grant the request when the Reverend Mr. Hansley clears himself with the Eastern Conference.

R. W. Hardison, P. D. Rice, David Charles Hansley, B. M. Taylor, Dallas Bryson, and David Paramore took the examination for ordination. All the foregoing passed the examination. Plans for their ordination were announced by the chairman of the Examining Board, the Reverend Lloyd Vernon. The ordination service is to be held at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston, North Carolina, on Tuesday, May 2, 1961, at 8:00 p.m. The Reverend David Hansley, the Reverend S. A. Smith, and the Reverend Clifton Rice are to be in charge of the service.

Mr. Billy G. McClintock came before us and signed the pledge and code of ethics and asked for a letter of recommendation to the Western Conference. On a motion, the letter was granted. His address is Bailey, North Carolina, Route 2.

Mr. Luther Swinson came before us for examination for ordination, and we recommended that he further prepare himself and come back before us in October of this year.

On a motion, the future meetings of the Examining Board will be held in Kinston instead of Bridgeton.

On a motion, a vote of thanks was extended to the Reverend J. C. Griffin for his kindness to us in the past.

On motion, we adjourned. Dallas Bryson gave the closing prayer.

The examining Board of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists met in the First Free Will Baptist Church of Kinston, North Carolina, May 2, 1961, at 6:45 p.m. All members were present. Prayer was given by Clifton Rice. Brother David Thomas came before us to complete his examination. Said examination was satisfactorily passed. On a motion, Brother Thomas is to be ordained at 3:00 p.m., May 2, 1961, in said Kinston Church along with others who had previously passed the examination.

The Executive Committee met at Beulaville July 7, 1961, for the purpose of discussing incorporated churches.

It was moved and carried to ask A. L. Hines and Randy Cox, together with representatives from their pastorates, to meet with the joint session of the Executive Committee and Examining Board at Bridgeton, July 17, 1961.

Adjourned.

The Executive Committee and the Examining Board of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists met in joint session at the Bridgeton Free Will Baptist Church on July 17, 1961, 9:15 a.m. Members present were H. M. Mallard, the Reverend J. C. Griffin, the Reverend Lloyd Vernon, the Reverend S. A. Smith, the Reverend Lemmie Taylor, the Reverend D. W. Hansley, the Reverend Clifton Rice. Prayer was by H. M. Mallard.

Since the First Free Will Baptist Church of Beaufort, North Carolina, has incorporated; and since certain articles of said corporation and more especially Articles 11 and 13 of said corporation are in direct violation of the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina* as revised in 1955; and since the Eastern Conference operates on this statement of faith and discipline; and since incorporating the foregoing church makes it an independent church; a motion was made and carried that the Executive Committee and Examining Board of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, in session at foregoing time and place, declare the First Free Will Baptist Church of Beaufort, North Carolina, and its pastor, the Reverend Randy Cox, out of fellowship with the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina until such time as the foregoing church votes to rescind the action of incorporating and the church and pastor make proper apology to the Eastern Conference.

On a motion, the moderator of the Carteret County Union be furnished a copy of the foregoing motion and that at the request of the Reverend Randy Cox he and the church clerk be furnished with a copy of same.

Brother Lynwood Boyette of Route 1, Albertain, North Carolina, came before us for an examination for license to preach, recommended by Gray Branch Church. Mr. Boyette passed; therefore, we recommend that his church grant him license.

Whereas three of our ministers: namely, the Reverend Ralph Lightsey, the Reverend D. W. Hansley, and the Reverend J. C. Griffin were dropped from their offices on national boards by the National Association during its annual session held in Norfolk, Virginia, in July, 1961, and since these brethren were dropped through no fault of their own, a motion was passed that

we give each of the foregoing men a letter stating that he is a member of the Eastern Conference in good standing, whose character and integrity are above reproach. Said letters to be prepared by Clifton Rice, secretary of the Examining Board.

On a motion, we adjourned. Dismissed by J. C. Griffin.

The Executive Committee and Examining Board of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina met in joint session at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Kinston, North Carolina, at 10:00 a.m., on August 31, 1961. Prayer was by A. G. Lane.

Since one item to come before us concerned the Wilmington Mission, the State Mission Board and the Mission Board of the Eastern Conference met with us. After much discussion, motion was made and carried that the Reverend R. H. Jackson, chairman of the State Mission Board, be left in charge of the Wilmington Mission. In case Brother Jackson needs assistance, he was authorized to call upon the Reverend Allen Bryan, treasurer of the State Mission Board; the Reverend Lloyd Vernon of the Eastern Conference; the Reverend A. G. Lane of the Eastern Conference Mission Board; and the Reverend M. L. Johnson of the Church Finance Association.

The Reverend Allen B. Bryan of the Albemarle Conference came before us and cleared for work in the Eastern Conference.

On motion, the Board of Trustees of the Eastern Conference be instructed by the Eastern Conference to inform the Wilmington Mission that under present conditions it is not possible to sign the deed for Wilmington Mission property to be sold.

Motion made and carried that in view of the fact that incorporating a church makes the church an independent body and that said incorporation is contrary to the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina*, we, the Executive Committee and Examining Board of the Eastern Conference, in joint session August 31, 1961, declare such churches and their pastors out of fellowship with the Eastern Conference until such time as they dissolve said corporation and make satisfactory apology to the Eastern Conference and that the foregoing motion be published in *The Free Will Baptist*.

On motion, we adjourned. Dismissed by the Reverend Carroll Hansley.

The Executive Committee and the Examining Board met at the Bridge-ton Free Will Baptist Church October 2, 1961.

On motion Virgil Day's name was replaced on the list of ordained ministers since he had moved back to this area.

It was moved and carried to secure identification cards for ministers in good standing with the Eastern Conference.

On motion the program for the 1961 session of the conference was adopted.

It was moved and carried to recommend that the conference meet at the Assembly Grounds each year and that arrangements be made with someone to furnish meals at a reasonable cost to those attending.

It was moved and carried that the moderator and clerk check with Roy O'Donnell relative to his seeking membership in this conference and report to the Examining Board on October 16.

On motion, the following allocations were made:

Children's Home	\$175.00
Mount Olive College	175.00
Superannuation (State)	100.00
State Missions	25.00
Conference Missions	25.00
	<hr/>
Total Allocations	\$500.00

Adjourned.

The Executive Committee and the Examining Board met at the Bridgeton Free Will Baptist Church October 9, 1961.

Gordon Sebastian, Seldon Bullard, and A. L. Hines were asked to meet with us relative to action taken in their pastorates.

Inasmuch as A. L. Hines has led Ruth's Chapel to incorporate in a way contrary to the provisions of the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina* regarding the examination, ordination, and disciplining of ministers and has become the executive officer of the said corporation, he has thus departed from the fundamental customs, practices, and usages of Original Free Will Baptists. Therefore, his actions have nullified his credentials; and on the basis of his actions, it was moved and carried that we recognize his annulment of his credentials until such time as he brings himself back in line with the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina*. Since he has annulled his credentials, we demand that he surrender them to the conference.

Adjourned.

The Executive Committee and the Examining Board met in joint session at 9:00 a.m. at the Bridgeton Free Will Baptist Church, October 16, 1961. Prayer was by the Reverend D. W. Hansley.

Pat Corbett of Holly Springs Church came before us for license to preach. After examining Brother Corbett, we recommend that the license be granted.

Brother Tommy Godley came before us and cleared for work in the Eastern Conference.

Brother Henry Melvin came before us and cleared for work in the Eastern Conference.

John Owens, Edward Fordham, and Luther Swinson took the examination for ordination; having passed same, we recommend they be ordained at this session of the conference at the 11:00 a.m. service.

Adjourned.

Moved, seconded, and carried to adopt minutes of the Executive Committee and Examining Board by vote of 149 to 0.

The Reverend N. B. Barrow gave the report of the Free Will Baptist Press.

The Resolution Committee gave a partial report at this time. See report. Moved, seconded, and carried to adopt Item 1 by vote of 132 to 0.

Moved, seconded, and carried to adopt Item 2 by vote of 138 to 0.

Moved, seconded, and carried to adopt Item 3.

Moved, seconded, and carried to adopt Item 4.

Moved, seconded, and carried to adopt Item 5.

Moved, seconded, and carried to adopt Item 6.

Adjourned until 9:30 a.m., Thursday, October 19, 1961.

Benediction by the Reverend Luther Swinson.

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

The session opened with singing "Rescue the Perishing." After a devotional by the Reverend J. R. Davenport, the minutes of the previous day were read and approved.

The Reverend Walter Reynolds gave the Board of Superannuation report. Moved, seconded, and carried to receive as information.

The Reverend J. W. Everton reported for the Children's Home. An offering in the amount of \$142.53 was received for the Home.

The Nominating Committee reported at this time. The report unanimously adopted. See report.

The Ministerial Character Committee reported, but the report was referred back to the committee for revision. It was later brought back and adopted unanimously. See report.

At this juncture the business was suspended for the worship service, during which Luther Swinson, John Owens, and Edward H. Fordham were ordained to the ministry. The Reverend A. G. Lane preached the ordination sermon. The hand of fellowship was then extended to the newly ordained ministers.

Recessed for lunch.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The Reverend Bruce Dudley led the devotional, after which an impressive memorial service was conducted for the Reverend J. W. Alford who died during the year.

Moved, seconded, and carried to dedicate the minutes of this session in memory of the Reverend Mr. Alford.

The Sunday School Committee reported at this time, and the report was adopted unanimously. See report.

The Resolutions Committee made a further report at this time.

Moved, seconded, and carried to adopt Item 7.

Moved, seconded, and carried to adopt Item 8.

Moved, seconded, and carried to adopt Item 9.

Moved, seconded, and carried to adopt Item 10.

Moved, seconded, and carried that each Union Meeting of this Conference be notified that no church or minister out of fellowship with this Conference should be seated in the Union Meetings. Specifically, the churches are First of Morehead City, Stacy, Union Chapel, and Palmetto Chapel. The ministers are Seldon Bullard, Gordon Sebastian, and Melvin Worthington.

Moved, seconded, and carried to adopt Treasurer's Report. See report.

Moved, seconded, and carried to adopt Mission Board Report. See report.

Moved, seconded, and carried to adopt Digest Committee Report. See report.

The Credentials Committee made its final report at this time. It was adopted unanimously.

Moved, seconded, and carried to adopt Allocation Committee Report. See report.

Moved, seconded, and carried to adopt final report of Executive Committee and Examining Board.

Moved, seconded, and carried to leave election of delegates to the State Convention to the Executive Committee and Examining Board.

The minutes were read and approved.

Session adjourned.

J. C. Griffin pronounced the benediction.

PARTIAL REPORT OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

I. Be it resolved that this Conference adopt the following:

STATEMENT AND AN APPEAL TO THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WAKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

We, the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, an unincorporated religious organization, duly assembled in our sixty-sixth (66th) Annual Session do hereby depose and say:

That we are very familiar with the libel suit for \$400,000 (Complaint 13,974), wherein one Ronald Creech has sued the members of the Executive Committee and Board of Ordination of the Western Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, praying of the court the following:

- “(a) That plaintiff have and recover of the defendants and each of them the sum of \$200,000 for actual damages to his reputation and character;
- “(b) That plaintiff have and recover of the defendants and each of them the sum of \$200,000 as exemplary and punitive damages;
- “(c) For the costs of this action and for such other and further relief as to the court may seem just and proper; and
- “(d) That a restraining order or injunction be issued by the court

enjoining the defendants from circulating and republishing the statements of and concerning the plaintiff and his status as an ordained minister of the Original Free Will Baptist Church (Edgemont) and of said denomination to the effect that plaintiff's rights, credentials and certificate of ordination as an Original Free Will Baptist minister have been revoked and further enjoining the defendants from otherwise interfering with plaintiff in his duties and contractual relations with and obligation to the Edgemont Original Free Will Baptist Church of Durham, North Carolina, and with his position, offices and standing in the Original Free Will Baptist denomination or otherwise interfering with the plaintiff in the practice of his profession and calling as alleged in the foregoing paragraphs of this complaint, until such time as a final hearing of this matter might be held; and plaintiff further prays that this verified complaint be treated as an affidavit in support of this motion for injunction or restraining order."

That we are very familiar with the temporary restraining order signed in this case by the Honorable Henry A. McKinnon Jr., on the 11th day of October, 1960, and served upon the officials of the Western Conference on the 12th day of October, 1960, at the very time and place for the opening of the seventy-fourth annual session of the Western Conference.

That this order did in fact prevent the Western Conference from hearing the report of its Executive Committee and Board of Ordination in regards to this matter, as scheduled to be heard on the 12th day of October, 1960.

That we are also very familiar with the modified restraining order and temporary injunction signed by the Honorable Henry A. McKinnon Jr. on the 15th day of November, 1960, following the show cause hearing held on the 24th day of October, 1960.

That we are also very familiar with the causes of action set forth in the above mentioned complaint; that we are familiar with said causes of action by reason of the wide publicity given this case in the newspapers, radio stations, television stations, publications circulated among our people by Ronald Creech and others, and by hearing said complaint read in court hearings.

That this statement and appeal is made on behalf of each of the defendants in the above mentioned complaints: namely, M. L. Johnson, R. N. Hinant, Dewey C. Boling, R. H. Jackson, Earl H. Glenn, Boyd L. Shook, Albert T. Coates, W. E. Renfrow, Leonard B. Woodall, and Wiley Ferrell.

That we do hereby certify that these defendants and each of them are ordained ministers holding membership in the Western Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina; that they and each of them are in good and regular standing among Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina; that they and each of them have faithfully served in various offices of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina; that in their service they and each of them have faithfully adhered to the fundamental and long established doctrines, customs, usages, and practices of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina.

That the question of the action of the Executive Committee and Board

of Ordination, as complained of by Ronald Creech in the above mentioned complaint is now a moot question, in that the Western Conference did, on January 18, 1961, in an official reconvened session, annul and revoke the ministerial rights and credentials of Ronald Creech, until such time as he presents himself fully to the jurisdiction of the Western Conference and its duly constituted boards and committees, without restraint. And further passed a motion, that the above motion fully apply to all prior action taken by the Executive Committee and Board of ordination, relative to this controversy, and that said action be adopted as duly authorized by, and as the action of, this conference. (These motions were passed by votes of 98-22 and 98-11 respectively.)

That the ministerial rights held by Ronald Creech were by virtue of his endorsement by and membership in the Western Conference and he was under obligation, as such, to abide by the fundamental and long established doctrines, customs, usages, and practices of the Western Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina.

That it was also the duty of the Executive Committee and Board of Ordination to notify parties concerned and having a mutual interest in this action, including the officials of Edgemont Free Will Baptist Church and the persons who had filed charges against said Ronald Creech.

That it is the conviction of this conference that the above mentioned complaint and lawsuit; have no basis in fact; have already caused irreparable harm and damages to Original Free Will Baptists in general and the Western Conference in particular; and that if allowed to continue will cause even greater harm and damages to this denomination.

That this conference does hereby pray the honorable court to immediately dismiss or non-suit this lawsuit and thereby save this denomination further unfavorable publicity, embarrassment, harm, damages, and expensive legal cost.

That further this conference does hereby pray the honorable court to tax the cost of this action upon the plaintiff and order him to reimburse the defendants and the Western Conference for the expense to which they have been forced to go, in their defense of themselves and their good name, as may to the court seem just and proper.

That we do hereby instruct the moderator and clerk of this conference to have this statement and appeal prepared in affidavit form; execute it on behalf of this conference; and cause it to be presented to the Superior Court of Wake County, North Carolina.

This statement and appeal approved in regular session of the Eastern Conference on the 18th day of October, 1961, by a vote of 132 to 0.

S. A. Smith, Moderator

Ralph Lightsey, Clerk

II. Be it resolved that this conference adopt the following:

A STATEMENT AND CERTIFICATION TO THE SUPERIOR COURT OF DURHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA OR ANY OTHER COURT THAT MAY BE CONCERNED

We, the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North

Carolina, an unincorporated religious organization, duly assembled in our sixty-sixth (66th) Annual Session do hereby depose and say:

That we are familiar with the three complaints now pending in the Superior Court of Durham County, North Carolina, which involve Ronald Creech, the James A. Miles Associates, and J. G. Teasley Associates of Edgemont Original Free Will Baptist Church, and the Western Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina to wit: Complaints 4736, 4737, and 4738.

That the action of the officers and Executive Committee in filing or causing to be filed Complaints 4736 and 4738, on behalf of the Western Conference, was in keeping with the duties and responsibilities assigned to them by their Constitution and Bylaws, and was unanimously approved by the Western Conference in session on October 11, 1961.

That the action taken on January 18, 1961, by an official reconvened session of the Western Conference was in keeping with the fundamental and long established doctrines, customs, usages, and practices of Original Free Will Baptists and more especially Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina; this being the action upon which the above mentioned complaints are based.

That we are very familiar with the plaintiff's affidavit, signed by more than fifty ordained Original Free Will Baptist ministers of North Carolina, filed in the above mentioned complaints; that we are familiar with said affidavit by reason of having read a copy of the same or having heard it read publicly during this annual session of this conference.

That this affidavit is in complete harmony with what we have considered to be the fundamental and long established doctrines, customs, usages, practices and church government of Original Free Will Baptists and more especially Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina.

That we further believe, from records and history available, that this affidavit is in complete harmony with the fundamental doctrines, customs, practices and church government, as developed and practiced during the history of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, since their beginning in the year of 1727.

That we do hereby instruct the moderator and clerk of this conference to have this Statement and Certification prepared in affidavit form; execute it on behalf of this conference; and cause it to be presented to the Superior Court of Durham County, North Carolina, or any court concerned with these cases.

This Statement and Certification approved in regular session of the Eastern Conference on the 18th day of October, 1961, by a vote of 138 to 0.
III. Resolved:

That this conference go on record commending those ministers who signed the affidavit in support of the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina* and as expressing our faith in their

integrity and in their effort to preserve our denominational customs and practices.

IV. Be It Resolved:

That this conference pledge its support to the boards of the State Convention in whatever stand they take in regards to the answer of the National Association as to the standing of the State Convention in said National Association.

V. Resolved:

That we commend the boards of this conference for their actions in regards to the controversy between the National Association and the State Convention and the matters involving our own conference.

IV. Resolved:

That the Executive Committee of this conference be empowered to call a special session of this Eastern Conference should the Executive Committee deem it necessary.

VIII. Be It Resolved:

That this 1961 session of the Eastern Conference go on record as endorsing the "Statement and Recommendations of the Executive Committee of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists to the 1961 session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists." See statement.

VIII. Be It Resolved:

That we ask our churches within the bounds of this Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina to refrain from using any ministers who oppose the program of this conference, State Convention, institutions, and the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina*.

IX.

Whereas, a number of our churches and ministers have incorporated, under charter, in conflict with the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina*; and whereas, these churches and ministers are not in good standing with this Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina; and whereas, a number of these churches and ministers have applied to the Cape Fear Conference for membership through its Executive Committee; and whereas, a number of ministers, not in good standing with this Eastern Conference, for other reasons, have also applied to the Cape Fear Conference for membership;

Therefore, be it resolved, that this Eastern Conference go on record as protesting any action of the Cape Fear Conference through its Executive Committee, or in any other way, receiving said churches and ministers as members, until they have cleared with this Eastern Conference. That a copy of this resolution be carried to the Cape Fear Conference by the moderator of this Eastern Conference.

Church and County	Delegates	Received by Baptism	Received by Letter	Died	Transferred	Excommunicated	Total Membership	Value of All Church Property	Pastor's Salary	Sent to All Denominational Enterprises	Total Raised by All Departments of Church	Sent to Conference	Sent for J. W. Alford Memorial Fund
Beaufort County													
Dublin Grove	By Letter	0	1	1	2	0	180	\$ 12,000	\$1,080.00	\$	\$	\$18.50	\$
Ephesus	J. L. Carrington and W. C. Wollard	2	0	0	0	0	73	5,000	900.00			10.00	
Mount Olive	Mrs. John Hamilton	0	0	0	1	0	26	500	180.00	379.68	417.67	5.00	
White Hill	George Hollowell and Milton Hollowell	0	0	0	0	0	195	16,000	1,200.00			20.00	
Core Point Chapel												5.00	
Carters County													
Crab Point	Mrs. Neva Norriss, Mrs. Annie Dixon	8	3	0	0	0	89	20,000	3,120.00			10.00	5.00
Davis	Joseph Williams, Ralph Laurimore	0	4	0	0	0	211	81,000	4,160.00	2,875.00	13,011.00	20.00	5.00
Edwards Chapel	By Letter	10	0	1	0	0	136	10,000	1,200.00	498.44	3,131.10	5.00	
Faith	Henry Goodwin, F. R. Bass	15	0	0	0	0	183	35,000	3,980.00		8,719.58	20.00	5.00
Free Union	T. A. Taylor	12	0	0	0	0	283	40,000	2,223.76		3,364.88	10.00	
Holly Springs	Roy Gardner, Francis Garner, Kenneth Skinner	18	3	1	6	0	267	43,000	3,900.00	805.70	15,415.49	30.00	
Mt. Pleasant	Norman Culpepper	0	0	1	0	0	39	12,000	1,013.00	208.00	3,385.00	10.00	
Otway		1	4	1	0	0	59	12,000	992.01	154.42		5.00	
Pilgrim's Rest	Mrs. Gladys Lupton	0	2	0	0	0	24		657.88		1,168.83	5.00	
Russell's Creek	By Letter						92	15,000	1,200.00	433.00	1,633.00	5.00	
Sound View	W. A. Page	5	1	0	5	0	85	15,000	1,440.00	490.00		10.00	
Welcome Home	Mrs. Lela Golden	1	0	1	0	0	78	13,500	2,400.00	210.00	5,280.00	10.00	5.00
Craven County													
Antioch	Mrs. Thad Tripp, Mrs. Edward Fordham	9	8	0	8		162	25,000	1,440.00	700.00	4,400.00	25.00	
Bridgeton	Mrs. J. C. Griffin, Mrs. Hugh Belanga	6	11	4	0	0	128	49,000	3,640.00	1,273.23	11,775.59	10.00	15.00
Core Creek	Earl Ippock, Wayne Heath, Robert Avery	10	5	2	6	0	257	15,000	4,000.00	761.54	7,838.37	46.51	
Croatan	Mrs. Wilbur Herring	10	3	1	3	0	96	12,000	1,300.00	341.66	2,429.67	10.00	
Gethsemane	Gerald Moore	3	2	0	0	0	140	10,000	1,440.00		3,708.00	20.00	5.00
Juniper Chapel	Velma Morris	8	4	2	1	0	75	25,000	1,680.00			5.00	
Macedonia	Alton Whitford, Bill Gaskins, Paul Gaskins	10	3	2	3	0	266	38,000	3,900.00	953.38	8,514.05	20.00	5.00
Moseley's Creek	Mrs. Bett Ormond	2	0	1	2	0	97	32,000	1,200.00		2,722.37	10.00	
New Haven	Robert Whitford, Elmo Stilley	1	0	1	2	0	140	15,000	1,200.00	753.00	4,904.87	5.00	
Oak Grove	Mr. and Mrs. Josh Smith	5	2	3	0	0	164	15,000	1,500.00			5.00	
Pleasant Acres													
Reunion Chapel													
Sts. Delight	Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Rice	3	0	0	1	0	151	26,400	1,200.00		1,715.11	8.50	
St. Mary's	Mr. & Mrs. E. L. Mallard, Mr. & Mrs. R. A. Morris, Mrs. W. E. Baldree	15	12	3	6	39	552	185,000	5,410.00	4,838.07	27,439.07	25.00	5.00
Spring Hope	Ed. Gentry, G. C. Brock Sr.	2	2	0	2	0	32	15,000	1,000.00	202.38	1,985.03	10.00	
Duplin County													

[illegible]

Be it further resolved that the Executive Committee be instructed to file whatever complaint against the Cape Fear Conference regarding its action in interfering with our churches and ministers.

X.

That the Examining Board be instructed to try any minister who uses his influence against the Eastern Conference, North Carolina institutions, or the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina* and take such action as they deem necessary.

Resolution Committee:

L. L. Parker
Lonnie R. Andrews
C. B. Hansley

PARTIAL REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

We, the Credentials Committee, recommend:

1. That this 1961 session of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina reaffirm its faith in, be governed by and adhere to the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina*.

2. That all delegates representing churches and union meetings in this Eastern Conference and adhering to the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina* be seated in this 1961 session of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina with the privilege of voting and/or discussing any issue coming to the floor of said conference.

3. That all ordained ministers who are members of this Eastern Conference in good standing and adhering to the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina* be seated in this 1961 session of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina with the privilege of voting and/or discussing any issue coming to the floor of said conference.

4. We further recommend that the moderator and/or chairman of this conference arrange all voting personnel in an area of this auditorium so all votes may be correctly tabulated; that all having voting privileges visibly wear their identification cards for verification. Any person not having on an identification card and/or who has not properly registered with the Credentials Committee will not be recognized by the moderator and/or chairman of this conference.

5. This Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina shall be composed of all general officers, members of standing boards and committees, all ordained ministers in good standing with the conference and wearing the identification card, one delegate from each church in good standing with the conference for each hundred members and/or fraction thereof and wearing the identification card, one delegate from each Union Meeting within the bounds and/or jurisdiction of the Eastern Conference and

in good standing for each 1,000 members and/or fraction thereof and wearing their identification card.

6. This Eastern Conference is open to any minister willing to adhere to the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina* and the regulations of said conference, even though his church of which he is a member and/or which he pastors and/or the Union Meeting of which he is a member has disqualified themselves. We further recommend that this conference be open to any church and its delegates willing to adhere to the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina* and willing to abide by the regulations of this conference, even though the pastor or Union Meeting of which it is a member has disqualified themselves.

If this involves you as a delegate or minister, please see the Credentials Committee immediately.

7. It is our opinion that a church corporation, especially churches incorporated with provisions in its charter in conflict with the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina* is an independent unit, separate and apart from the Union Meeting and this conference; as such, it cannot be in fellowship with this conference. We, therefore, recommend that any church having incorporated itself and the pastor having approved and endorsed the same, under charter, shall not be privileged a seat in this 1961 session of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, this conference being the final voice.

8. We recommend that any church and/or minister having adopted the congregational church government as set forth in the National Treatise and/or voting to concur with the action of the National Association in its 1961 session be refused a seat in this session of the Eastern Conference.

9. That all delegates, churches, and ministers of this Eastern Conference who voted in the 1961 session of the National Association and lending their support approving the action of the National Association against the true delegation of North Carolina and who voted in the 1961 session of North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists with a dissenting group shall not be privileged a seat in this Eastern Conference.

10. That all delegates, ministers, and churches of the Eastern Conference who walked out of the 1961 session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists with a dissenting group and later met in the church of Goldsboro, North Carolina, identifying themselves as the "Conservative Group" shall not be privileged a seat in this conference.

11. That all delegates, ministers, and churches who attended the meeting of the so-called "Conservative Group" in Goldsboro, September 13 and 14, 1961, shall not be privileged a seat in this conference.

12. All delegates, ministers, and churches who have attended any other meetings with said "Conservative Group" with the idea of destroying the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina* and/or helping to cause confusion and discord among our people shall not be privileged a seat in this conference.

13. That all visiting delegates, ministers, and churches, regardless of what they represent, who voted with and concurred in the action of the 1961 session of the National Association against North Carolina, and who voted with the dissenting group in the 1961 session of the North Carolina State Convention, shall not be accorded a seat or voice in this conference.

14. That the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina* be the only Constitution and Bylaws in effect for this 1961 session of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina.

David W. Hansley, Chairman

James Lupton

Lloyd Vernon

FINAL REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

We, the Credentials Committee, wish to submit this final report to the October 18, 19, 1961, session of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina.

Ministers Registering First Day	54
Delegates Registering First Day	120
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Total Registering First Day	174
Ministers Registering Second Day	6
Delegates Registering Second Day	3
	<hr/>
Total Registering Second Day	9
Total Registering	183

We recommend that this Eastern Conference extend to the Third Union Meeting a rising vote of thanks for their fine hospitality and the most generous way they have entertained this 1961 session of the conference.

We recommend that this Eastern Conference extend to all retiring officers, board members, and committee members a rising vote of thanks for faithful and untiring services.

We recommend that the pastors and a delegation from each of the following churches—First of Morehead City, Stacy, Union Chapel, and Palmetto Chapel—which were refused a seat in this session of the conference meet with the next joint session of the Executive Committee and Examining Board for the purpose of clarifying their status in the conference. Those who give satisfactory evidence that they desire to co-operate with this conference and the State Convention and be governed by the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina* be declared in good standing. Churches failing to give this evidence are to be declared out of fellowship with this conference, and pastors failing to do so are to be declared silenced by this conference.

We further recommend that Cecil Campbell and Wingate Hansley be excommunicated from this Eastern Conference.

David W. Hansley, *Chairman*
James Lupton
Lloyd Vernon

RESOLUTION OF RESPECT

We, the Executive Committee of the Eastern Conference, for ourselves and the entire membership of the conference, wish to express our sympathy to the family of the Reverend J. W. Alford. His passing is a loss, not only to his loved ones and many friends, but to the Eastern Conference, the State Convention, and the Free Will Baptist church.

We also wish to express our appreciation for his long, loyal, and untiring service as a humble servant of the Lord Jesus Christ and the Free Will Baptist church. His faithfulness stands as a monument to our cause, as well as an inspiration to us to exalt our Lord and Saviour and to preserve the principles of the Free Will Baptist faith, for which he so earnestly contended.

STATEMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY THE STATE CONVENTION, SEPTEMBER 13, 1961

Statement and Recommendations
of the Executive Committee of the
North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists
Mount Olive, North Carolina
September 13, 14, 1961

STATEMENT:

The Executive Committee recognizes its solemn responsibility in this hour of grave crisis. We are aware that decisions made at this convention may determine the character and destiny of Original Free Will Baptists for generations yet unborn.

Because of our desire to faithfully discharge the duties committed to us by this convention, we have co-operated with ministers and lay leaders throughout the state who have asked our help in informing our people about the issues now confronting us. Through area meetings, the newspapers, church periodicals, and other sources, we believe that our people are aware of the problems we face.

We believe that Christian people who are properly informed will think and pray through their problems, and under God they can be relied upon to make right decisions. We believe that it would result in immeasurable harm to drag all the arguments, charges, and counter-charges regarding Ronald Creech and Edgemont Church onto the floor of this convention. To do so would further threaten the spirit of Christian brotherhood and unity of our great convention.

We are not met here to serve as a Sanhedrin court to defame and crucify

our brethren. We are not met here to show a spirit of revenge toward those who have wronged us.

We recognize the North Carolina State Convention as an advisory body to the conferences, churches, union meetings, and ministers who hold membership in it. It is the duty of the convention to solicit the co-operation of the conferences and associations in promoting the work of the convention.

We believe that the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists wishes to conduct its business and promote the cause of Jesus Christ in an atmosphere of peace and harmony.

We recognize that it is not uncommon for brethren to disagree and that controversies are sometimes inevitable. We believe, however, that these differences should be settled according to the Scriptures and the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina*.

We recognize that each local church is a distinct and independent organization, with full authority to manage its own internal affairs, elect its officers, receive, dismiss, discipline, and exclude members.

We also recognize that "this principle of the independence of each church is not held as a law of isolation; on the contrary, churches conveniently situated associate and co-operate in all things which tend to advance the common cause. Councils are, therefore, called in the organization of a church and the settlement of serious difficulties. On the same principle, the churches meet by delegation in the annual conference or association. The annual conference or association being the highest tribunal shall have final disciplinary authority over the local church." (*Quotations from the Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina.*)

We believe also that the conference or association is the highest tribunal in examining, ordaining, and disciplining ministers.

For a congregation to be a Free Will Baptist church, it must hold membership in a Free Will Baptist conference or association. We do not recognize independent churches as being Free Will Baptist churches.

In the same manner, for a man to be a Free Will Baptist minister, he must hold membership in a Free Will Baptist conference or association. We do not recognize independent ministers as being Free Will Baptist ministers.

We believe that there are distinct advantages in limiting ecclesiastical authority to the annual conferences. This form of church government has been practiced by Original Free Will Baptists for more than two centuries. In this manner we avoid the selfish spirit of isolationists and the ecclesiastical tyranny that comes from centralized authority.

We have observed that Free Will Baptists today are being caught in the flux of two conflicting concepts of church government. One extreme is to isolate the local churches and make them independent congregations. Also a part of this trend is the defiance of the long-established authority of the annual conference in the examining, ordaining, and disciplining of ministers who walk disorderly. Through acts of incorporation, some congregations have already repudiated the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original*

Free Will Baptists of North Carolina by appropriating to themselves the authority to ordain men to the gospel ministry.

The other extreme of church government is the lodging of ever-mounting authority in a national organization. It is our belief that the ultimate goal of this trend is to destroy all forms of church government between the local church and the national organization. We wish to warn our churches that the end result of this movement would be the control of the Free Will Baptist denomination by a small group of ambitious men. From one national office this small group would seek to control the literature, all publications, educational institutions, and the entire program of Free Will Baptists.

We believe that Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina wish to avoid both of these extremes. We do not want our church to disintegrate into a conglomeration of independent congregations. Nor do we want the tyranny of a national office with centralized authority.

The Executive Committee of the North Carolina State Convention believes that the vast majority of Free Will Baptists wish to adhere to the ancient landmarks of our faith which recognizes the annual conference as the highest denominational tribunal. The annual conference is close to the people, and it gives proper recognition to the laity.

We believe that our position on church government is clearly defined in the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina*. The formulation of this position was a joint activity of the brethren from many conferences. It took place in a spirit of Christian brotherhood before the present crisis ever arose.

We do not believe that it would be the part of wisdom to abandon the principles of church government and Biblical faith that have stood the test of time.

We believe it would be an injustice to our forefathers to forsake the ancient landmarks which they prayerfully set in order to chart a new course for the expedience of any pressure group that might clamor for personal favor.

In recognition, then, of our solemn responsibility to promote the cause of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, to advance Biblical truth and to act on Christian principles and from Christian motives, the executive committee humbly presents this statement and the following recommendations to the 1961 session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. We advise Mr. Ronald Creech to withdraw his libel suit in the amount of \$400,000 against the Executive Committee and the Board of Ordination of the Western Conference;

2. We advise that Mr. Creech recognize the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina* which empowers the annual conference to examine, ordain, and discipline ministers;

3. We advise Mr. Creech to present himself fully to the jurisdiction of the Western Conference and its duly constituted boards and committees

without restraint in order that the controversy between him and the Western Conference may be settled according to the Holy Bible and the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina*;

4. We advise the James A. Miles Associates to recognize the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina* which calls for councils in the organization of a church and the settlement of serious difficulties.

Upon the compliance of Mr. Creech and the James A. Miles Associates with the above:

1. We advise the Western Conference to withdraw its complaint and restraining order against Mr. Creech and the James A. Miles Associates;

2. We advise the Western Conference to give Mr. Creech a speedy, fair, and impartial trial according to the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina*;

3. We advise the J. G. Teasley Associates to withdraw their complaint and restraining order against Mr. Creech and the James A. Miles Associates; and

4. We advise all conferences, associations, union meetings, and churches belonging to the North Carolina State Convention to honor the decisions of the Western Conference in seeking a Christian solution to the problems involving Mr. Creech and Edgemont Church.

In order that this convention may proceed to transact its business in a spirit of peace and love, we recommend that the presiding officer be empowered to rule out of order any other discussion, debate, resolution, or item of business relative to the Edgemont Church dispute or Ronald Creech that may come before this convention.

(The above Statement and Recommendations were read to the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and adopted by a vote of 364 for, to 61 against, on September 13, 1961.)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Moderator—C. B. Hansley

Assistant Moderator—A. G. Lane

Clerk—Ralph Lightsey

Treasurer—H. M. Mallard

Executive Committee—Lloyd Vernon, L. L. Parker, J. C. Griffin, Honorary Member for Life.

Examining Board—Lloyd Vernon, S. A. Smith, D. W. Hansley, Lemmie Taylor, Clifton Rice.

Mission Board—L. L. Parker, A. G. Lane, C. B. Hansley.

Represent this Conference in Printing Company—D. W. Hansley, H. M. Mallard

Trustees—D. W. Hansley, A. G. Lane, Lloyd Vernon, Clifton Rice, O. B. Taylor.

Publicity Committee—Mrs. Marie Gaskins, Ralph Lightsey, Mrs. Clara Jarman.

Credentials Committee—L. J. Lupton, D. W. Hansley, Sheldon Howard.

Nominating Committee,

Lloyd Vernon

E. E. Edwards

Clifton Styron

MINISTERIAL CHARACTER COMMITTEE

We, the Ministerial Character Committee of the Eastern Conference of the 1961 session, recommend that all ministers and churches who were not seated in the 1961 session of the Eastern Conference be not recognized as in good standing until such time as the ministers and churches clear themselves with the Executive Committee of the Eastern Conference or with the Eastern Conference while in regular session.

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

We recommend that

1. Since there has been so much trouble with doctrine other than Original Free Will Baptist in our state that our pastors and churches be more careful in the selection of Sunday school officers and teachers.

2. That the six-point record system be maintained as an incentive for Sunday school attendance.

3. That our educational institutions supported by our state be constantly placed before our Sunday school students in the classrooms.

4. Whereas there are so many benefits to be derived from a departmentalized Sunday school that each pastor make a survey of his Sunday school and wherever it is practical put this plan into effect.

3. That this conference go on record as endorsing the action of the State Convention in its 1961 session regarding the North Carolina State Sunday School Convention.

James E. Howard

William Carter

Jimmie Tyndall

TREASURER'S REPORT

Grand Total on Hand to be Accounted For

\$1,702.01

Disbursements

1. The Reverend J. W. Alford	
Expenses \$83.30, Fee \$60.00	\$ 143.30
2. The Reverend Lloyd Vernon, Expense	30.27
3. The Reverend Clifton Rice, Expense	73.40
4. The Reverend David Hansley, Expense	23.00
5. The Reverend Lemmie Taylor, Expense	35.28
6. The Reverend E. E. Edwards, Expense for Programs	13.00
7. Free Will Baptist Press, Bibles	34.00

8. Treasurer's Fee \$30.00, Expense \$35.00	65.00
9. Children's Home Offering	200.35
10. Mount Olive College Offering	131.25
11. The Reverend Melvin Everington, Expense	35.40
12. The Reverend S. A. Smith, Expense	45.95
13. Mount Olive College, Memory of J. W. Alford	50.00
14. Free Will Baptist Press, Minutes	192.50
15. Free Will Baptist Press, Bible for Tower Hill Church	17.00
16. The Reverend Ralph Lightsey, Conference Work	16.00
17. Free Will Baptist Press, Five Bibles	42.50
18. The Reverend J. C. Griffin, Expense	21.81
19. Children's Home Allocation	175.00
20. Mount Olive College, Allocation	175.00
21. Superannuation, State Use Only	100.00
22. State Missions Allocation	25.00
23. Conference Mission Allocation	25.00
	<hr/>
Total Disbursed	1,670.01
	<hr/>
Balance in Treasury	\$ 32.00
Received Today for Allocation	\$1,117.51
Children's Home Offering	142.53
Mount Olive College Offering (\$159.71), J. W. Alford	
Scholarship Fund (\$85.00)	244.71
	<hr/>
Grand Total	\$1,536.25

Respectfully submitted, this 19th day of October, 1961.

H. M. Mallard, *Treasurer*

EASTERN CONFERENCE MISSION BOARD REPORT

On hand last Conference	\$255.23
Received During 1960-61	486.93
	<hr/>
Total	\$742.16
<i>Paid Out:</i>	
Wilmington Mission	\$400.00
Travel, Board Expense, Promotion and Postage	119.10
	<hr/>
Total Paid Out	519.10
	<hr/>
Balance on Hand	\$223.06

Because of the pressing financial obligation, the Conference Mission Board recommends that the Eastern Conference request all the churches to receive an offering to relieve the Wilmington Mission of its obligation to the Church Finance Association.

A. Graham Lane, *Treasurer*

DIGEST COMMITTEE REPORT

Churches in Eastern Conference	85
Letters Received	70
Members Received by Baptism	336
Received by Letter	140
Died	63
Transferred	162
Excommunicated	40
Total Lost	265
Net Gain	211
Total Members	9,992
Value of All Church Property	\$11,712,568.00
Total Paid Pastors	\$118,313.48
Money Sent All Denominational Enterprises	\$36,475.48
Money Raised by All Departments	\$233,491.68

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

Because of the laxity of our people through the weakness of the flesh, knowing that the Spirit is willing but the flesh is weak,

1. We recommend that our people be reminded frequently of our traditional stand against worldliness as stated in our Church Covenant.

2. We further recommend that our church people take their stand against alcoholic beverage by total abstinence from the use and sale of such and that they use their influence whenever possible to stamp out the curse.

3. Realizing that more impressions are received by the eye than any other means, we recommend that parents guard against unholy influence brought into the home by unwholesome literature and questionable television programs.

O. B. Taylor
Dewitt Cleve Jr.
E. G. Heath

ALLOCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Minutes	\$200.00
Superannuation	50.00
State:	
State Missions	25.00
Eastern Conference Missions	25.00
Cragmont	25.00
Mount Olive College	100.00
Children's Home	100.00
Clerk	60.00
Treasurer	30.00

Total

\$615.00

Lloyd Vernon
Clifton Rice
Ralph Lightsey
H. M. Mallard, *Treasurer*

FINAL REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND EXAMINING BOARD

The Executive Committee and Examining Board of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists met October 18, 1961, at 3:30 p.m., in the Eastern Conference Assembly Building.

The Reverend Robert Rollins came before us and was approved for work in the Eastern Conference.

On motion a letter of transfer be granted to the Reverend Joe Ingram to unite with the Western Conference.

On motion a letter of transfer be granted to the Reverend Albert Rollins to unite with the Cape Fear Conference.

On motion a letter of transfer be granted to the Reverend Jerry Rowe to unite with the Central Conference.

On motion the Reverend Roy O'Donnell be received as a member pending his letter of transfer.

On motion the Reverend Andrew Hill be enrolled as a member of the Eastern Conference.

The Reverend N. D. Beaman was approved for work in the Eastern Conference.

The Rev. M. K. Everington be granted a letter to the Western Conference.

Adjourned.

MINUTES OF THE NORTH CAROLINA EASTERN DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION CONVENING WITH SOUND VIEW CHURCH, CARTERET COUNTY, MARCH 23, 1961

The Eastern Woman's Auxiliary Convention held its annual session March 23, 1961, at Sound View Church, Carteret County, North Carolina. The theme for the day was "And being fully persuaded that what he has promised, he was able also to perform" (Romans 4:21). The subject for the day "God is Able."

The meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. T. O. Terry, and opened with a congregational singing of "How Firm a Foundation," led by Mrs. Norman Ard, followed with prayer by Mrs. J. C. Griffin.

Delegates and visitors were welcomed by Mrs. Willie Padgett of the host church. Response given by Mrs. Hilda Tyndall.

The president recognized and welcomed the 14 ministers who were present.

State officers: Mrs. J. C. Moye, president; Mrs. Carl Dudley, field worker; Mrs. J. K. Rhodes, benevolence chairman; Mrs. H. L. Spivey, pin awards chairman; and Mrs. Alice Lupton, honorary member, were each recognized and welcomed.

Mrs. Terry, the president, extended a very warm welcome to everyone present and spoke to the convention on, "The Challenge of Faith" (Mark 9: 23); (1) To pray; (2) to proclaim; (3) to promote. All these summed up together is: "Communion with God, compassion for a lost world, and consecration to our task."

Mrs. S. A. Smith, Children's Home chairman, gave the auxiliary report of work done for the home, and brought her message on, "God Is Able to Do Marvelous Things in Our Children's Home." She presented Mrs. Wilbert Everton, the superintendent's wife from the home, who brought greetings from the superintendent, staff and children. Mrs. Everton reported there were 72 children in the home with six more expected any time. She thanked everyone for what they had done and asked for continuance of prayer and support. The auxiliary was asked to please send contributions on the debt of the kitchen, if they had not already done so. An offering was received for the home amounting to \$96.00. Offertory prayer by the Rev. Carroll Hansley.

Mrs. Carl Dudley, state field worker, brought greetings from the Auxiliary Convention. She asked the auxiliaries to send a contribution for promotional work to the State Convention; also urged continued support of our missionaries and the African project.

Mrs. W. C. Baldree, acting for Mrs. D. W. Hansley, study course chairman who could not be present, gave her report with a few remarks (see reports).

Mrs. J. C. Griffin, acting for Mrs. Reginald Styron, enlistment chairman who could not be here today, gave her report and remarks on "God Is Able to Perform His Will by Reaching for Others."

Mrs. Woodrow McCoy, benevolence chairman, gave her report and brought a message on, "God Is Able to Reveal His Love Through Our Benevolent Work." Scripture, 1 John 3:16, 17. Mrs. McCoy asked the members to continue to remember the superannuated ministers and widows with cards and gifts.

Mrs. Clyde Banks, assistant secretary and pin award chairman, gave the publicity report and a few remarks on "God Is Able."

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mt. Olive College, brought greetings from the school, and expressed their appreciation for our prayers and support. He asked the question, "What would you like for your children and grandchildren to do or be?" Can they do it without an education? Dr. Raper asked that the daily vacation Bible school offerings, or a part of it, be designated for Mt. Olive College.

A motion was made and carried that we receive an offering for Mount

Olive College. Amount received, \$52.00. Offertory prayer by Mrs. Alice Lupton.

The president appointed committees at this time.

Special music was rendered by Mrs. Norman Ard.

Mrs. W. J. Gaskins, youth chairman, gave her report (see reports), and a message, "God Is Able to Strengthen Our Youth in These Trying Days." Mrs. Gaskins introduced and presented the winners of the declamation contest, and each gave their speech. Miss Karen Hancock was the G.T.A. winner from St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church in New Bern, N. C. Miss Claudia Saratowski from First Free Will Baptist Church, Morehead City, N. C., was the Y.P.A. winner.

We adjourned for lunch with grace and benediction by the Rev. S. A. Smith.

Afternoon Session

The afternoon session was opened with congregational singing and devotional by Mrs. Carroll Hansley. Scripture reading, Romans 8:26-39.

The winning Y.P.A. and G.T.A. essays were read. Subject, "The Worth of a Family Altar." The winners were Miss Vicki Warren, G.T.A., and Miss Barbara Lancaster, Y.P.A., both from the First Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston.

Mrs. Annie Heath, district field worker, gave her report and thoughts on "God Is Able to Make Us Better Workers Through Our Workshops."

Mrs. J. K. Rhodes, program-prayer chairman, gave her report and message on "God Is All-Sufficient in Our Everyday Lives."

Next we entered into denominational enterprises.

Rev. S. A. Smith represented the press for Brother Bruce Barrow. He urged all Free Will Baptists to subscribe to *The Free Will Baptist*.

Rev. R. H. Jackson brought greetings from our missionary families all over the world. He asked the question: "Have we failed God in the missionary plan?" Urged continued support.

Mrs. J. C. Moye, state president, asked us to support all the causes that have been brought to our attention today.

Miss Velma Morris brought greetings from Cragmont and urged women to attend Woman's Conference in August. She urged us to try to help pay the debt off.

BUSINESS SESSION

The secretary gave her report (see reports), and read the minutes of the executive committee meeting. They were accepted by vote.

Mrs. Rom Mallard, treasurer, gave her report and it was accepted by vote.

Finance committee report was given (see reports). They recommended that the convention give \$10.00 to the Alford Scholarship Fund at Mount Olive College, and \$50.00 for current expenses there; also to send \$15.00 on

the Cragmont building program. A motion was made and seconded that we accept these recommendations. Motion carried.

Committee reports were given (see reports). Mrs. J. C. Griffin and Mrs. S. A. Smith will serve as delegates to the State Convention.

Mrs. Terry urged all auxiliaries to please send in the designated amount for our national project.

A rising vote, thanking the officers for their work, was given.

The courtesy report was given (see reports), and the entire convention gave a rising vote of thanks to the host church.

We adjourned for the day with the benediction by the Rev. Andrew Hill.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. T. O. Terry, President

Mrs. Nelson Simpson Sr., Recording Secretary

Reports

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR MARCH 23, 1961

This report from September 1960 to March 23, 1961

Balance from Last Convention	\$ 1.58
Sent in Late for Convention Report	8.50
Received for the Willey Fund	795.00
Received Special for Willeys Household Expenses	50.00
Total to Account For	<hr/> \$855.08

Disbursements

The Willey Fund (Salary)	\$795.00
Willeys Gift for Household Expenses	50.00
Executive Board Expenses	9.90

Total Paid Out	<hr/> 854.90
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Balance on Hand March 23, 1961	<hr/> \$.18
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Mrs. Rom Mallard, Treasurer

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT FOR MARCH 23, 1961

Received Contributions for Convention	\$253.23
Received Per Capita Dues	342.10
Received Offering for Children's Home	96.00
Received Offering for Mount Olive College	52.00
Left on Hand	.18

Total Gifts Received	<hr/> \$743.51
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Disbursements

Offering for Children's Home	\$ 96.00
Offering for Mount Olive Junior College	52.00
National Per Capita Dues	114.03
State Per Capita Dues	114.03
Secretary's Salary	20.00
Secretary's Expense	4.35
Assistant Secretary	10.00
Child's Clothing	45.00
Executive Board Meeting	15.00
Minutes Published	67.50
Life Membership Certificate	25.00
Expense for Youth Rally	46.64
Paid Out by Vote of the Convention Today:	
J. W. Alford Scholarship	10.00
Mount Olive Junior College	50.00
Cragmont Building Program	15.00
	<hr/>
Total Paid Out	684.55
	<hr/>
Balance in Treasury	\$ 59.96

By the Finance Committee,

Mrs. Al Lyczkowski

Mrs. J. J. Blizzard

Miss Velma Morris

Mrs. Rom Mallard

SECRETARY'S REPORT

There were 156 report blanks mailed out with 117 reporting. St. Mary's Auxiliary of New Bern, N. C., reported A-1 standard; 14 auxiliaries reported Grade B; and two auxiliaries reported Grade C. Fifteen cards and seven letters were sent; also information concerning auxiliary work, whenever it was requested. Attended two executive committee meetings, two district conventions, and prepared minutes for these. Also attended one state workshop for officers and two district workshops and taught two classes on secretarial work at these.

Mrs. Nelson Simpson, Secretary

Resolution committee had no report.

PETITION COMMITTEE

We, the petition committee, wish to submit the following report:

The Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Newport, N. C., Carteret County, has petitioned for the fall convention.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. M. R. Lovick

Mrs. Gladys Davis

Mrs. Hubert Summerlin

COURTESY COMMITTEE

We, the members of the courtesy committee of this convention, would like to express our appreciation to the women of this church and everyone who had a part in making this day an enjoyable one and such a blessing to our hearts. The program, the beautiful flowers, the warm fellowship and delicious lunch all have made this an inspiring day in the Lord's work.

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Marie Newell
Mrs. G. N. Marshburn
Mrs. Annie Ruth Parrish

Convention voted to accept these reports.

Nominating committee appointed to bring in slate of officers for ensuing year: Mrs. W. E. Baldree, Mrs. Carroll Hansley, Mrs. Alice Lupton.

REPORTS OF CHAIRMEN

I. Enlistment Department:

(1) Enrollment at beginning of year, 1,190; present enrollment, 1,213; number lost, 67; average attendance, 658. (2) Number making contacts to enlist new members, 287; bring back absentees, 247.

Mrs. Reginald Styron

II. Youth Department:

Attended two district executive committee meetings; wrote 90 cards and 35 letters; traveled approximately 1,140 miles in the interest of youth work, made 25 phone calls. Wrote one promotion ceremony for G.T.A.'s and two for Y.P.A.'s. Attended five state meetings; conducted one youth executive meeting. Spoke at one youth rally and two youth banquets. Conducted one district youth workshop. Sponsored fall youth rally. Sponsored spring youth fellowship, and received a "money shower" at this meeting for our national project which is supplying medical facilities for children's division in Africa. Amount received, \$236.28.

Mrs. W. J. Gaskins

Youth Department: (1) Number members in youth organizations: G.T.A. 269; Y.P.A. 289; B.A. 38; F.W.B.L. 1,005. (2) Participation in: declamation contest, 11; essay contest, 4. (3) Do you have a church library? 9. (4) Did you have VBS? 37. (5) Number college students helped, 9. (6) Number Y.P. helped to go to Cragmont Youth conferences, 24.

Mrs. W. J. Gaskins

III. Study Course Department:

(1) Courses conducted	Average Attendance
Missions, 14	258
Stewardship, 10	137
Guidebook and/or manual, 11	182
Evangelism, 7	124

- Prayer, 12
(2) Reading Circle, 9
(3) Number Daily Bible Readers, 243.

197

Mrs. David Hansley

IV. Program Prayer Department:

(1) Number special programs, 31. (2) Number weeks of prayer, 44.
(3) Number family altars, 136. (4) Number observing WNAC prayer fellowship, 30. (5) Number members North Carolina prayer band, 7. (6) Number subscribing to Free Will Baptist papers: The Free Will Baptist, 485; Contact, 56; Cragmont Courier, 12; Young People's Friend, 2.

Mrs. J. K. Rhodes

V. Children's Home Department:

Contributions to Children's Home: Clothing, \$685.89; commodities, \$222.35; equipment, \$76.32; Number coupons, 5,880. Do you clothe a child? 10.

Mrs. S. A. Smith

VI. Benevolence Work:

(1) Number sending cards to superannuated ministers or ministers' widows, 108. (2) Number making soul-winning efforts: Contacts, 172; attending cottage prayer meetings, 240. (3) Number making personal service efforts; Visited sick, 666; gave garments, trays, baskets or flowers to church, shut-ins or needy persons, 470; gave to: Red Cross, 209; W.C.T.U., 10; community chest, 71; other civic or benevolent projects, 186; given Bibles, 37, tracts, 1,087.

Mrs. Woodrow McCoy

VII. Publicity Work:

(1) Number articles written for publication, 140. (2) Other publicity work done, 18.

Mrs. Clyde Banks

VIII. Personal Gifts Contributed Through Channels Other than Woman's Auxiliary:

Home missions, \$422.96; foreign missions, \$591.84; Mount Olive College, \$299.16; Bible College, (Nashville) \$120.00; Children's Home, \$227.66; Cragmont Assembly, \$19.00; Superannuation, \$24.00.

IX. Stewardship of Possessions:

Number members contributing to missions, 581; number members tithing at beginning of year, 234; number tithes gained as result of stewardship study course, 8; number new tithers this year, 25; present number of tithers, 269.

Mrs. Rom Mallard

MINUTES OF THE NORTH CAROLINA EASTERN DISTRICT
WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION, CONVENING WITH
HOLLY SPRINGS CHURCH, NEWPORT, N. C., SEPT. 21, 1961

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention held its semiannual session, September 21, 1961, at Holly Springs Church, Newport, N. C. The theme for the day was "These Things I Command You that You Love One Another" (John 15:17).

The meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. T. O. Terry, and opened with congregational singing led by the Rev. Leroy Cutler. The devotional was brought by Mrs. M. L. Johnson, and the Scripture reading was taken from 1 John, Chapter 2. Impressive remarks on overcoming hatred with love were given by Mrs. Johnson, followed with a solo by Miss Lorraine Garner and prayer.

Delegates, officers, and visitors were welcomed by Mrs. Dorla Hill. Response given by Mrs. Charles Lancaster.

The president extended a very warm welcome to the ministers, officers, delegates and visitors. There were eight ministers present and four state officers. Each one was recognized.

Mrs. Ruth Taylor brought greetings from the Central District.

Mrs. T. O. Terry brought her message to the convention using for her Scripture, Hebrews 13:1-3; 6:10. The main thought for the convention was "That we continue in brotherly love as admonished in the Scriptures."

A skit entitled, "An Imaginary Called Circle Meeting," was presented by several ladies from St. Mary's Auxiliary. Special music was rendered by the Rev. and Mrs. Henry Melvin.

Mrs. S. A. Smith, Children's Home chairman, gave a few remarks concerning the home and then presented the Rev. J. W. Everton, superintendent of the home. Mr. Everton brought greetings from the children and thanked members of the convention for their part in helping out with the operating expense. The state project for the Children's Home this year is for mattresses and springs. He asked for prayers and continued support and invited everyone to visit the home. Mrs. J. C. Moye, state president, stated that the \$25.00 for the life membership awards would go to the Children's Home this year. An offering was received for the home. Amount received, \$95.00. Offertory prayer by Mrs. Alice Lupton.

The business session of the meeting was entered into.

Minutes of the executive meeting were read and by motion and vote were accepted.

The nominating committee chairman gave report and motion was made by Mrs. W. J. Koonce, seconded by Mrs. Will Swindell, that we accept it. Motion was carried (see reports).

Special music by Rev. Tommy Willey Jr. was followed with a few remarks by Mrs. Emma Ruth Willey. She thanked the convention for their prayers and support and asked for continued prayers as they begin their new

missionary work in Costa Rica. Rev. Willey brought the worship message. Scripture reading, St. John 15:7-20. He spoke on "What it Means to Be a Christian, and how to be a Friend of Jesus," followed with prayer.

We adjourned for lunch. Grace and benediction were given by the Rev. Henry Melvin.

Afternoon Session

The afternoon session was opened with congregational singing, "Love Divine." The devotional was brought by Mrs. Seldon Bullard. Scripture reading, 1 Corinthians 13; followed with prayer.

Officers for the ensuing two years were installed by Mrs. Harold Mallard.

An impressive memorial service was given by Mrs. John Floyd. There were ten deceased members since the fall convention of September, 1960. They were as follows:

Mrs. May Rouse, May's Chapel.

Mrs. Louise Hood, Pilgrim's Home.

Mrs. Josephine Tyndall, Christian Chapel.

Mrs. Alice Rolison, Mt. Zion.

Mrs. Rena Hall, First Free Will Baptist, Morehead City.

Mrs. Lula Matthews, Oak Grove.

Mrs. Martha Parker, Indian Springs.

Mrs. Albert Harper, Arapahoe.

Mrs. Emma Evans, Arapahoe.

Mrs. R. J. Kennedy Jr., Holly Springs.

Life membership awards were presented to Mrs. Rosa Heath and Mrs. Clyde Banks by Mrs. J. C. Griffin.

DENOMINATIONAL ENTERPRISES

Mrs. Bruce Barrow, representing the Free Will Baptist Press at Ayden, had a display of material and urged everyone to purchase this material as needed and to subscribe to the Baptist paper.

The Rev. M. L. Johnson brought greetings from Mount Olive College for Dr. Raper who could not be present due to a death in his family. Mr. Johnson thanked the convention members for their prayers and support. He urged this convention to give \$100.00 twice a year on the building program of a dormitory at Mount Olive College.

Mrs. J. C. Moye, state president, stressed the need of enlarging our Children's Home. She reported that the state project for the year was "Funds for Our Alaskan Home Mission Station." Mrs. Moye urged our continued support of the Anna Phillips Loan Fund.

Mrs. Carl Dudley, state field worker, reported a change of time of the State Convention and G.T.A. Youth Conference. She hoped that the state would raise \$2,000.00 this year for the mission project.

Each auxiliary is asked to send \$5.00, earmarked for kitchen fund at Mount Olive College, to Mrs. Raymond Sasser, state treasurer.

Mrs. Dudley reported a great Woman's Conference was held at Cragmont this year. She asked us to stand behind them with prayers and support.

Rev. M. L. Johnson, representing the State Mission Board, brought greetings from our missionaries and asked that Free Will Baptists give \$1.00 per member for mission work this year.

Mrs. Woodrow McCoy brought news from the National Convention.

Mrs. Annie Heath brought State Convention news.

The treasurer's report was given (see reports) by Mrs. Harold Mallard, proxy for Mrs. Rom Mallard, and by motion and vote it was accepted.

A motion was made and carried that we receive an offering for Mount Olive College; amount received, \$48.75.

Mrs. Alice Lupton made a motion that this body give a rising vote of thanks to our outgoing officers for their loyalty and faithfulness of service. Motion carried.

The president asked for committee reports (see reports).

Mrs. W. J. Gaskins made a motion that we send a message of condolence to Dr. W. Burkette Raper and our regrets that he could not be with us today and that we reaffirm our faith in him and Mt. Olive College. Motion carried.

Mrs. S. A. Smith made a motion that the executive committee present a plan for the auxiliaries to raise money for the \$1,000.00 Club which is for the building program at Mount Olive College. Motion carried.

Mrs. W. J. Gaskins made a motion that auxiliaries wishing to entertain the convention purchase the lunch and each one attending buy their lunch. The proceeds to go to the building program at Mount Olive College. Motion carried.

These minutes were read and approved by the executive committee.

We adjourned with benediction by Mrs. Emma Ruth Willey.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. T. O. Terry, *President*

Mrs. Nelson Simpson Sr., *Recording Secretary*

Reports

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 21, 1961

Balance on Hand from Last Convention	\$ 52.96
Sent in Late for Convention	6.00
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Total Balance	\$ 58.96
Received for Willey Fund Salary	730.00
Received for Willey Fund Special	80.00

Received for African Hospital Fund	27.00
Received for Missions	4.00
Total	<u>\$899.96</u>

<i>Disbursements</i>	
Executive Board Expense	\$ 24.62
Engraving Cups	10.00
Placques and Cups	19.00
Wiley's Salary and Special	810.00
African Hospital Fund	27.00
Missions	4.00

Total	<u>894.62</u>
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Balance in Treasury	\$ 5.34
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FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 21, 1961

Balance on Hand	\$ 5.34
Received Today (Contributions)	215.00
Received for Children's Home	95.00
Received for Mount Olive College	48.75

Total Received	<u>\$364.09</u>
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<i>Disbursements</i>	
Children's Home	\$ 95.00
Mount Olive College	48.75
Minutes (Last Year)	76.00
Orphan Child's Clothing	45.00
Orphan Child's Christmas Gift	10.00
Assistant Secretary	10.00
Recording Secretary	20.00
Life Membership Certificate	25.00
Life Membership Auxiliary Pins	10.50
Secretary's Expense	4.80

Total Paid Out	<u>345.05</u>
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Balance in Treasury	\$ 19.04
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Resolutions committee urged that we resolve to go back to our local auxiliaries and get rid of "Can't-Itis," and really go to work.

Submitted by,

Mrs. Hugh Belangia
Mrs. Arthur Whitford

PETITION COMMITTEE

We, the petition committee, report three auxiliaries wishing to entertain the next convention. They were Long Ridge, Christian Chapel, and First Free Will Baptist, Kinston. Vote was unanimous that we accept the invitation from the Kinston Church.

COURTESY COMMITTEE

We, the auxiliaries of this convention, extend to this church our sincere thanks for their kind hospitality and the bountiful lunch and the lovely flowers which are in our national colors of lavender and white and Eastern District colors of red, white and blue. Meeting with you today has been a real blessing to us. May the Lord continue to bless, in our woman's work.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Rudolph Hill

Mrs. Virginia Nobles

Mrs. W. J. Koonce

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Slate of Officers for Ensuing Two Years

President

Mrs. J. C. Griffin

Vice-President

Mrs. M. L. Johnson

Enlistment Chairman

Miss Velma Morris

Youth Chairman

Mrs. David Hansley

Study Course Chairman

Mrs. Nora Winstead

Program-Prayer Chairman

Mrs. D. W. Hancock

Children's Home Chairman

Mrs. S. A. Smith

Benevolence Chairman

Mrs. Woodrow McCoy

Field Worker

Mrs. J. K. Rhodes

Recording Secretary

Mrs. Nelson Simpson Sr.

Assistant Secretary

Mrs. Clyde Banks

Treasurer

Mrs. Rom Mallard

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. W. E. Baldree

Mrs. Carroll Hansley

Mrs. Alice Lupton



