

MINUTES
of the
Thirty-First Annual Session
of the
Eastern Conference
of the
Original Free Will Baptist
of South Carolina
which convened with
Saint John's Free Will Baptist Church
FLORENCE COUNTY
October 31, November 1, 1946

The next session of the Conference will be held with Little
Lamb Church in Horry County, Thursday before the first
Sunday in November, 1947, 10:00 o'clock A. M.,
Eastern Standard Time.

LIST OF OUR MINISTERS AND THEIR P. O. ADDRESSES

Elder T. A. Williams, R-2, Hemingway, S. C.
Elder J. L. Smith, Georgetown, S. C.
Elder R. G. Gaskins, Georgetown, S. C.
Elder N. V. Sturgeon, Hemingway, S. C.
Elder G. W. Howell, R-1, Conway, S. C.
Elder J. D. Branton, R-1, Conway, S. C.
Elder J. T. Sinclair.

CHURCH CLERKS AND THEIR P. O. ADDRESSES

Williams Hill

Z. G. Tanner, R-2, Hemingway, S. C.

New Prospect

M. L. Stone, Hyman, S. C.

Greelyville

Joe Gamble, Greelyville, S. C.

Little Lamb

Woodrow Howell, Bucksport, S. C.

New Zion

Blanche Capps, R-3, Hemingway, S. C.

Muddy Creek

Mrs. Graddy Perry, R-2, Hemingway, S. C.

Saint John

Roy Powell, Hyman, S. C.

Gethsemane

(Not known)

Proceedings

Of the Thirty-First Session of the Eastern Conference of the Original Free Will Baptist of South Carolina.

According to previous appointment Conference met with St. Johns Church, Florence County, October 31, November 1, 1946.

THURSDAY MORNING, 10:00 A. M.

Devotionals: Song by congregation. Scripture lesson, 1 Corinthians, second chapter was read, and prayer offered by the Moderator in charge, Elder T. A. Williams, who also gave a very inspiring comment.

The following committees were appointed by the Moderator:

Devotional—Brethren W. A. Powell, Lorie Tanner and Sister Eula Wise.

Finance—Brethren J. D. Howell, T. B. Williams and W. O. Green.

Sunday School and Temperance—Elders James Powell, T. A. Williams and J. T. Sinclair.

Programs—Brethren C. R. Stone, T. B. Williams and J. M. Williams.

Education—Elders E. P. Kirby, M. F. Howell and James Powell.

Roll call of our ministers was heard. Those present paid one dollar each, and made a very interesting report of their years' work: Eld. T. A. Williams, present; Eld. J. L. Smith, present; Eld. M. F. Howell, present; Eld. James Powell, present; Eld. G. W. Howell, present; Eld. N. N. Davis, absent; Eld. R. G. Gaskins, absent; Eld. N. V. Sturgeon, absent; Eld. J. D. Branton, absent.

Brother R. G. Gaskins sent a reasonable excuse and donation of \$5.00 to the Conference.

By motion, at this time, all visiting Brethren were given a welcome, voice and seat in the Conference. Elder E. P. Kirby and Elder T. G. Ard from the South Carolina Conference were present, also Elder L. L. Moore from the Pee Dee Conference was with us. These Brethren gave comments of much interest on various topics that were enjoyed very much by all.

After prayer by Brother Ard, 15 minutes recess was given, after which Bro. Ard preached a wonderful sermon using Jeremiah, 6th chapter from 7th to 17th verses as scripture lesson. Conference called off until 2:30 for refreshments.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

Conference re-assembled at 2:30 o'clock. Song by congregation, prayer by Elder J. L. Smith.

No reports were heard from or to other Conferences.

Then was heard the roll call of churches which were represented by letter through delegates as follows:

Black River—W. F. Fulton, delegate.

Antioch—Not represented.

Greelyville—Sister Molsie Dennis, delegate.

Spring Pond—Not represented.

New Hope—Bro. O. O. Matthews and Bro. James Avant, delegates.
Williams Hill—T. B. Williams, delegate.
New Prospect—Brethren C. R. Stone and Jethro Cooper, delegates.
Little Lamb—Brethren J. D. Howell and W. O. Green, delegates.
Gethsemane—Bro. W. A. Powell, delegate.
St. Johns—Bro. Lorie Tanner and Sis. Myalee Benton, delegates.
Muddy Creek—Brethren S. A. Owens and Walter Avant, delegates.

(Note)

It is very much regretted, that on account of incomplete letters from various churches, we find it impossible to compile a statistical table, or even give an accurate report. It is kindly requested by the Clerk that each church Clerk give a more detailed report, see to it that the letter is accurately and completely filled out, thus enabling your Clerk to make a complete report in our Minutes.

The business of our Orphanage was taken up at this time. Interesting comments relative to this worthy cause were heard from Elders L. L. Moore, E. P. Kirby and others.

After song, Benediction. Called off until Friday morning, 9:30 o'clock.

FRIDAY MORNING

Conference re-assembled. Devotional by congregation. Prayer was offered by Elder G. W. Howell, who also read a scripture lesson (Psalms 24). Business resumed.

Reports of the various Committees were heard which were as follows:

Devotional—Elder F. G. Ard preached Thursday, Noon. Elder J. T. Sinclair preached Thursday night. Elder J. L. Smith preached Friday, Noon. Elder T. A. Williams preached Friday night.

Bro. W. A. Powell,
Bro. Lorie Tanner,
Sister Eula Wise,
Committee.

Sunday School and Temperance—We, your Committee on Sunday School and Temperance, beg to submit the following: That we should have an Evergreen Sunday School in all our churches, Christian teachers and leadership, use our own literature, and that all questions be asked relative to the lesson. Children be taught to give. Class teachers emphasize tithing.

On Temperance—Brethren and Sisters, let us be careful how we talk and how we use our tongue, as it is a great evil. May we abstain from the very appearance of strong drink and abstain from anything which would cause our Brother to become offended.

Your Committee:

T. A. Williams,
James Powell,
J. T. Sinclair.

Education—We, your Committee, recommend:

(First)—Rally to the support of our Bible College in Nashville, Tenn., that we may have a school we will be proud of.

(Second)—That our ministry and especially our young men avail themselves of every opportunity to better prepare for our future work.

(Third)—Our ministry of our local churches make a special effort to keep at least one boy or girl in the Bible School every year, that we may have them in our local churches to lead our young people to Christ.

Your Committee:

E. P. Kirby,
M. F. Howell,
James Powell.

Missions—We, your Committee on Missions, report as follows:

Seeing as we do the need of a greater missionary program, we recommend that we as a denomination endeavor to, at least, make our Home Mission Program to measure up to our Foreign as we are aware that there are many counties in our state that do not have our Doctrine or even a Free Will Baptist Church.

L. L. Moore,
M. F. Howell,
James Powell,
Committee.

Finance—We, your Committee on Finance, submit the following report:

Found on hand from last Conference	\$200.78
Received at this Conference	126.50
Total	\$327.28
Paid Clerk	\$10.00
Paid for Minutes	15.00
Postage and Mailing Expense50
	<hr/>
	26.50
	<hr/>
	\$300.78

J. D. Howell,
T. B. Williams,
W. O. Greene,
Committee.

Motion: Reports accepted and all Committees were released.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion: A Standing Investigating Committee was appointed: namely, Bro. J. D. Howell, Bro. T. B. Williams and Elder J. L. Smith.

Elder J. T. Sinclair came to us well recommended by his local church

for restoration in our Conference. By motion, he was received and his name duly entered on our list of Ordained Ministers.

Next, was taken up a request by Black River Church who asked for a transfer. By motion, a letter of recommendation to whom it may concern was granted to said church. New Hope Church also made similar request; same was granted. Elders M. F. Howell, N. N. Davis and James Powell asked for a letter of recommendation. By motion, same was granted.

The delegate from Gethsemane Church asked for a letter of transfer for this church; but, as he had no letter or other evidence that this was the desire of the church, the matter was deferred.

Petitions for the next Conference were considered and by motion it goes to Little Lamb Church in Horry County.

Motion, by recommendation by our Program Committee, our present program was retained and remains in force for the sitting of our next Conference.

Motion, we return our heartfelt thanks to the good and generous people of this vicinity, for their kindness, and the hospitable manner in which they received us and administered to our comforts during the sitting of this Conference.

By motion, Conference to meet again with Little Lamb Church in Horry County near Bucksport, S. C., Thursday morning before the first Sunday in November, 1947, at 10:00 o'clock.

Benediction.

T. A. Williams, Moderator,
J. M. Williams, Clerk.