

# MINUTES

*Of The*

ELEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

STATE ASSOCIATION

OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

OF FLORIDA

HELD WITH

THE MT. CARMEL CHURCH

4 MILES NORTH OF PERRY, FLORIDA,

ON NOVEMBER 4-5, 1955.

THE 1956 SESSION WILL BE HELD WITH

THE NEW HOPE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

AT PLANT CITY, FLORIDA,

ON NOVEMBER 2-3, 1956

**PROGRAM FOR THE TWELFTH ANNUAL SESSION  
OF THE FLORIDA STATE ASSOCIATION  
OF FREE WILL BAPTIST  
NOVEMBER 2-3, 1956**

**FRIDAY MORNING**

- 9:30—Devotional and Welcome ..... Host Church  
9:45—Report of Credentials Committee  
      Seating of Delegates  
      Seating of Corresponding Messengers and Visitors  
      Report of Committee on Committees  
10:45—Fellowship Time  
11:00—Message ..... Rev. W. M. Mischler  
      Promotional Secretary of Sunday School Board of  
      National Association of Free Will Baptist  
12:00—Lunch Hour

**FRIDAY AFTERNOON**

- 1:30—Devotional ..... Woman's State Auxiliary Convention  
1:45—Business Session  
      Report of Executive Committee  
      Report of Treasurer  
      Report of Statistician  
      Report of Planning Board  
3:00—Recess

**FRIDAY NIGHT**

- 6:30—Devotional—Young People ..... Host Church  
      Business Session  
      Report of Board of Education  
      Report of Sunday School Board  
      Report of Free Will Baptist League Board  
7:30—The King's Messengers  
      ..... Quartet of the Free Will Baptist Bible College

**SATURDAY MORNING**

- 9:30—Devotional ..... State League Convention  
9:45—Business Session  
      Report of Mission Board  
      Report of Board of Superannuation  
      Report of Board of Trustees  
      Report of Woman's State Auxiliary Convention  
      Report of Minister's and Deacons Conference  
      Report of Committees  
11:00—Message ..... Rev. Damon C. Dodd  
      Promotional Secretary of Board of Home Missions  
      of the National Association of Free Will Baptist  
12:00—Lunch and Adjournment

## **OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEES OF THE FLORIDA FREE WILL BAPTIST STATE ASSOCIATION**

### **GENERAL OFFICERS**

Rev. W. B. Hughes, Moderator ..... Second St. Chipley, Fla.  
Rev. D. F. Pelt, Vice Moderator ..... Rt. 5, Marianna, Fla.  
Rev. W. A. Hansley, Clerk ..... 5856 Timuquana Rd.,  
Jacksonville, Fla.  
G. W. Cloud, Treasurer ..... 1167 Wolfe St.  
Jacksonville, Fla.

(The executive Committee consists of all the General officers  
plus the Reading Clerk and Statistician)

### **SPECIAL OFFICERS**

Rev. James C. Pelt, Reading Clerk ..... Rt. 5, Marianna, Fla.  
Rev. J. L. Grizzard, Statistician ..... Jacksonville, Fla.

### **PLANNING BOARD**

Rev. Herman Grubbs (1957) ..... Perry, Fla.  
Rev. Wesley Cockrell (1957) ..... N.W. 171 and 29th Ave., Miami, Fla.  
Rev. T. O. Cook (1957) ..... Rt. 2, Altha, Fla.  
Ernest Owen (1957) ..... Chipley, Fla.  
Rev. D. W. Poole (1959) ..... Rt. 1, Box 199, Atmore, Ala.  
Rev. Fred L. Bradshaw (1959) ..... Rt. 4, Box 26, Plant City, Fla.  
J. L. Harvey (1959) ..... Baldwin, Fla.

### **SUPERANNUATION BOARD**

Rev. Walter Eldridge (1957) ..... Cottondale, Fla.  
Rev. A. B. Cook (1957) ..... Bonifay, Fla.  
Rev. C. L. Cook (1957) ..... Rt. 2, Altha, Fla.  
Rev. T. U. Bryant (1959) ..... 3105 29th St., Pensacola, Fla.  
G. W. Hawthorne (1959) ..... Rt. 4, Box 35, Plant City, Fla.  
J. L. McDaniel (1959) ..... Perry, Fla.  
Rev. C. J. Pitts (1959) ..... 540 James St., Jacksonville, Fla.

### **BOARD OF MISSIONS**

(Home and Foreign)

Rev. Calvin Williams (1957) ..... 835 E. Parish Ave., Tallahassee, Fla.  
J. T. Hall (1957) ..... Malone, Fla.  
T. C. Mitchell (1959) ..... 2819 N.W. 90th St., Miami, Fla.  
Rev. Floyd Coleman (1959) ..... Atmore, Ala.  
Rev. John M. Rich (1959) ..... Rt. 2, Chipley, Fla.  
Rev. Raymond Roberts (1959) ..... Rt. 2, Box 326-H, Plant City, Fla.  
Donald A. Dingman (1959) ..... 653 Melba St., Jacksonville, Fla.

### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

W. F. Rice (1959) ..... 2302 36th St., Tampa, Fla.  
George Hatcher (1957) ..... Bascom, Fla.

R. L. Williams (1957) ..... Mayfair, Pensacola, Fla.  
D. J. Cook (1957) ..... Vernon, Fla.  
Sterling Tucker (1959) ..... 2819 N.W. 90th St., Miami 47, Fla.  
Elvie H. Johnson (1959) ..... 509 Pine, Auburndale, Fla.  
Rev. Charles Jamerson (1959) ..... Jacksonville, Fla.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD

Rev. L. V. Pinson (1957) ..... Murphy Lane Brent, Pensacola, Fla.  
Rev. C. A. Huckaby (1957) ..... Route 2, Chipley, Fla.  
Mrs. Mamie Page (1959) ..... Route 2, Box 981 B., Auburndale, Fla.  
Mrs. Calvin Williams (1959) ..... 835 E. Parish Ave., Tallahassee, Fla.  
Mrs. D. L. Hale (1959) ..... 2205 Thomasville Rd., Tallahassee, Fla.  
Mrs. G. W. Cloud (1959) ..... 1167 Wolfe St., Jacksonville, Fla.  
Mrs. Jessie Stephens (1959) ..... Rt. 1, Marianna, Fla.

#### LEAGUE BOARD

Rev. Q. Hansley (1957) ..... 5856 Timuquana Rd., Jacksonville, Fla.  
Aaron Burch (1957) ..... 612 Main Ave., Panama City, Fla.  
Mrs. Thelma Holley (1957) ..... P. O. Box 5287, Pensacola, Fla.  
Mrs. Beth Wood (1957) ..... Geneva, Ala.  
J. C. Taylor (1959) ..... Plant City, Fla.  
Mrs. Vida Mae Rice (1959) ..... 2302 36th St., Tampa, Fla.  
Jack Winsor (1959) ..... Cottondale, Fla.

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

D. L. Hale (1957) ..... 2205 Thomasville Rd., Tallahassee, Fla.  
Rev. Chester Pelt (1957) ..... c/o Chipola College, Marianna, Fla.  
Rev. H. L. Henderson (1957) ..... Rt. 6, Box 421, Pensacola, Fla.  
Lloyd Crews (1959) ..... 206 Shortreed St., Jacksonville, Fla.  
Marvin M. Owens (1959) ..... Vernon, Fla.  
Hugh Peacock (1959) ..... Blountstown, Fla.  
W. A. Fletcher ..... Box 154, Dover, Fla.

#### COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

Rev. Fred L. Bradshaw ..... Rt. 4, Box 126, Plant City, Fla.  
Rev. Walter Rice ..... 2302 36th St., Tampa, Fla.  
Rev. C. A. Huckaby ..... Rt. 2, Chipley, Fla.  
Rev. Dennis E. Bias ..... 3480 Commonwealth Ave., Jacksonville, Fla.  
W. E. Holley ..... 3503 W. Avery St., Pensacola, Fla. (Box 5228)  
Rev. Raymond Roberts ..... Rt. 2, Box 326-H, Plant City, Fla.

#### CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Rev. Robert Wilfong ..... 1005 E. Ida St., Tampa, Fla.  
Rev. Elvie H. Johnson ..... 509 Pine St., Auburndale, Fla.  
C. W. Lynn .....

#### REPORT REVISIONS COMMITTEE

W. E. Holley ..... 3503 W. Avery St., Pensacola, Fla.

Rev. Wayne Hicks ..... 3307 2nd. Place, Panama City, Fla.  
 C. E. Day ..... Rt. 1, Box 127, Marianna, Fla.  
 Rev. E. H. Johnson ..... 509 Pine St., Auburndale, Fla.  
 Donald A. Dingman ..... 653 Melba St., Jacksonville, Fla.

#### PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Rev. Robert Wilfong ..... 1005 E. Ida St., Tampa, Fla.  
 Rev. Raymond Roberts ..... Rt. 2, Box 326-H, Plant City, Fla.  
 Mrs. Vera Owens .....

\*(All Reports are enclosed following general proceedings)

## PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings of the Eleventh Annual Session of the Florida State Free Will Baptist Association.

Devotion brought by Rev. Fred L. Bradshaw reading II Tim. 2:1-8.

Session called to order by the moderator, Rev. Daniel Pelt.

Nominations opened for clerk pro-tem. Rev. W. A. Hansley elected.

Nominations opened for vice-moderator pro-tem. Rev. Bonnie Hughes elected.

The Credential Committee retired to register delegates and to compile reports. As this was being done we were led in an inspirational song service and testimonial service by Mrs. Calvin Williams. Prayer was led by Rev. Wood, pastor of the Free Will Baptist Church, Jesup, Georgia.

A cordial welcome was extended by Rev. Herman Grubbs, the response given by Rev. John M. Rich.

Special music was rendered by Rev. and Mrs. Calvin Williams. The selection being "Blessed Redeemer."

A partial report was made by the Credential Committee. A motion was made that the report be received and the delegates seated, which was carried.

Motion that those who are present from associations not bearing letters be accepted under the watchcare of the association and delegates seated until letters be received. Carried.

Motion to receive visitors and to seat them in the body. Carried.

Motion to welcome new associations by rising vote from the body and right hand of fellowship from the moderator. Carried. This was done by the body and Rev. Bonnie Hughes extended right hand of fellowship.

Ministers from other denominations were recognized.

Rev. Andrew Harvey of the Congregational Methodist Church of Jacksonville was present.



The Committee on Committees gave its report. It was moved and seconded to accept this report. Carried.

A devotion was brought by Rev. Walter Eldridge using the 96th Psalm then we were led in the Lord's Prayer by Rev. K. V. Shutes.

Rev. Daniel Pelt the morning messenger was introduced by Rev. W. B. Hughes. Our moderator brought his message from Rev. 1:10; 12-18. His subject being "John In Crises." He brought out the fact that though men face material, social, and spiritual loss that we as John can have a definite unmistakable conscienciousness of God's presence with us.

After this wonderful service we were led in the benediction by Rev. J. N. Barnes.

12:00 LUNCH HOUR

#### **FRIDAY 1:30**

Hymn: "When We All Get To Heaven"

Prayer: Rev. Calvin Williams

Devotional: Rev. Robert Wilfong, I Kings 18: 30-38

Subject: Revival

1. Built the Altar
2. Put the Wood in order
3. Prayer
4. The Fire fell

Prayer: Rev. Walter Eldridge

Hymn: "I'd Rather Have Jesus"

At this time Bro. Andrew Harvey a visiting minister of the Congregational Methodist Church was introduced. He gave a brief talk concerning the challenge of our task.

#### **BUSINESS SESSION**

##### **Treasurer Report.**

Moved and seconded that we accept the report, carrying the deficit in the report between the proposed budget and the amount raised. CARRIED.

##### **Planning Board Report.**

Moved and seconded that this report be received item by item. CARRIED.

The entire report was read and a motion was made to table this entire report until November 5th, 1955.

##### **Superannuation Board Report.**

Moved and seconded that this report be adopted. CARRIED.

Special Music by Rev. Calvin Williams which was followed by an inspirational Testimonial Service.

**Promotional Secretary Report.**

Moved and Seconded and this report be adopted. CARRIED.

Moved and Seconded that an offering be received for Brother Poole. CARRIED.

This offering was received amounting to \$35.54.

Moved and Seconded that we adjourn until 6:30 P.M. CARRIED.

**FRIDAY 6:30 P.M.**

Hymn: "Praise Him" and "When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder"  
Devotion brought by Rev. C. A. Huckaby from Psalms 2:8

**BUSINESS SESSION**

**Sunday School Board Report**

Moved and seconded that this report be adopted. CARRIED.

**Nominating Committee Partial Report**

Mover and seconded that this report be adopted. CARRIED.

It was moved and seconded that we seat Sister Marvin Owen and Sister Ada Holley as delegates from the Florida State Woman's Auxiliary Convention. CARRIED.

Hymn: "When All Of God's Singers Get Home"

**Woman's Auxiliary Convention Report**

Moved and seconded that this report be adopted. In conjunction with this report Sister Pearl Barrow gave a verbal report on the State Orphanage work, asking that we rally to this worthy cause.

**Report of Minister's and Deacon's Institute and Camp Meeting**

Moved and seconded that this report be adopted. CARRIED.

Moved and seconded that we adjourn until 9:30 A.M. Saturday, November 5th, 1955.

**FRIDAY 7:30 P.M.**

Hymn: "I'd Rather Be An Old Time Christian"

Introduction of Speaker by Reverend Daniel Pelt.

Messenger Reverend K. V. Shutes—National Secretary of Superannuation.

Text: Matthew 28: 19, 20.

Subject: Missions

Offering received by Brother Shutes for Missions amounted to \$40.00.

**SATURDAY 9:30 A.M.**

Hymn: "When I See The Blood"

Prayer: Rev. Elvie H. Johnson

Hymn: "Sitting At The Feet Of Jesus"

Devotion: Reverend Elvie H. Johnson—Romans 8: 1-10

Prayer: Reverend Raymond Roberts

## **BUSINESS SESSION**

Moved and seconded that all state Boards and Committees meet at 9:30 A.M.-12 noon on November 1, 1956, at the New Hope Free Will Baptist Church at Plant City, Florida. CARRIED.

Moved and seconded that all late church delegates and ministers be seated. CARRIED.

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT**

Moved and seconded that this report be adopted. CARRIED.

## **LEAGUE BOARD REPORT**

Moved and seconded that this report be adopted. CARRIED.

## **FINAL REPORT OF CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE**

Moved and seconded that this report be adopted. CARRIED

## **MISSION BOARD REPORT**

MOVED and seconded that we adopt this report, amendment to include "That each local minister receive a special Thanksgiving, Easter, and Christmas offering for missions." AMENDMENT CARRIED; MOTION CARRIED.

Moved and seconded that we include in this report the State Treasurer's name and address. CARRIED.

Moved and seconded that we take from the table the Planning Board Report. CARRIED.

Article 1. Stricken from report.

Article 2. Adopted with words **Promotional Secretary** struck out.

Article 3. Moved and seconded that we limit debate on this article to five minutes. CARRIED.

Article 3 ADOPTED.

Article 4. Adopted.

Article 5. Adopted.

Article 6. Adopted.

Article 7. Adopted.

Article 8. Adopted.

## **PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT**

Moved and seconded that this report be adopted. CARRIED.

Moved and seconded that the Program Committee continue their work through the 1956 session. CARRIED.

Voluntary delegates to the National Association was called for. They are listed as follows:

Donald A. Dingman

Mrs. Maggie Bias



Mrs. L. V. Pinson  
Mrs. Thelma Holley  
Mrs. G. W. Cloud  
W. E. Holley  
G. W. Cloud  
Mrs. D. W. Poole  
Mrs. Ruby C. Pelt

Hymn: "He's A Wonderful Saviour To Me"

Special Song by Reverend and Mrs. Calvin Williams, "Leave It There"

Hymn: "Love Took It Away"

Moved and seconded that we extend to Mt. Carmel Church a rising vote of thanks for the friendship which they had extended to us. CARRIED.

Moved and seconded that we empower the Executive Committee of the State League Convention to draw up a letter form from the local church and Associations to the State Convention. CARRIED.

Moved and seconded that we appoint a committee from (5) five associations to draw up a report blank to present to the executive committee of the State Association for approval. CARRIED.

The chair appointed the following committee:

West Florida Association .....	W. E. Holley
Liberty Association .....	Reverend Wayne Hicks
Salem Association .....	C. E. Day
Central Association .....	Reverend E. H. Johnson
North East Florida Association .....	Donald A. Dingman

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Moved and seconded that this report be adopted. CARRIED.

#### **Appointment of Committees**

##### **Committee on Committees**

Rev. Fred L. Bradshaw, Rev. W. F. Rice, Rev. C. A. Huckaby, Rev. Dennis E. Bias, Bro. W. E. Holley, Rev. Raymond Roberts.

##### **Credential Committee**

Rev. Robert Wilfong, Rev. Elvie H. Johnson, Bro. C. W. Lynn.  
Motion and seconded to adjourn. CARRIED.

DISMISSED by Rev. L. V. Pinson.

## **REPORTS**

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

We your Committee on Nomination make the following report:

#### **PLANNING BOARD**

Rev. Herman Grubbs (1957)  
Rev. Wesley Cockrell (1957)  
Rev. T. O. Cook (1957)

#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

W. F. Rice (1959)  
George Hatcher (1957)  
R. L. Williams (1957)

Earnest Owen (1957)  
Rev. D. W. Poole (1959)  
Rev. Fred L. Bradshaw (1959)  
J. L. Harvey (1959)

D. J. Cook (1957)  
Sterling Tucker (1959)  
Elvie H. Johnson (1959)  
Charles Jamerson (1959)

#### **SUPERANNUATION BOARD**

Rev. T. U. Bryant (1959)  
Rev. Walter Eldridge (1957)  
Rev. A. B. Cook (1957)  
Rev. C. L. Cook (1957)  
G. W. Hawthorne (1959)  
J. L. McDaniel (1959)  
Rev. C. J. Pitts (1959)

#### **SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD**

Rev. L. V. Pinson (1957)  
Rev. C. A. Huckaby (1957)  
Mrs. Mamie Page (1959)  
Mrs. Calvin Williams (1959)  
Mrs. D. L. Hale (1959)  
Mrs. G. W. Cloud (1959)  
Mrs. Jessie Stephens (1959)

#### **MISSION BOARD**

Rev. Calvin Williams (1957)  
J. T. Hall (1957)  
T. C. Mitchell (1959)  
Rev. Floyd Coleman (1959)  
Rev. John M. Rich (1959)  
Rev. Raymond Roberts (1959)  
Donald A. Dingman (1959)

#### **LEAGUE BOARD**

Rev. Q. Hansley (1957)  
Aaron Burch (1957)  
Mrs. Thelma Holley (1957)  
Mrs. Beth Wood (1957)  
J. C. Taylor (1959)  
Mrs. Vida Mae Rich (1959)  
Jack Winsor (1959)

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

D. L. Hale (1957)  
Rev. Chester Pelt (1957)  
Rev. H. L. Henderson (1957)  
Lloyd Crews (1959)  
Marvin M. Owens (1959)  
W. A. Fletcher (1959)  
Hugh Peacock (1959)

We recommend for **GENERAL OFFICERS**  
**MODERATOR**—Rev. W. B. Hughes  
**VICE MODERATOR**—Rev. D. F. Pelt  
**CLERK**—Rev. W. A. Hansley  
**TREASURER**—G. W. Cloud

We recommend that the Association meet at Plant City (New Hope) Free Will Baptist Church.

We recommend for the approval or disapproval of the local Association that the Moderator of each, act as promotional Secretary, or appoint someone to meet the approval of the State Executive Board.

Prayerfully Submitted,  
W. F. Rice  
Rev. John M. Rich  
Rev. H. L. Henderson

## PLANNING BOARD REPORT

We, the members of the Planning Board present the following report:

**Article 2.** Be it resolved that Article 3, Section 9, which reads, "THE MODERATOR, VICE-MODERATOR, CLERK AND TREASURER SHALL ACT AS THE EXECUTIVE BOARD," be amended to read, "THE MODERATOR, VICE-MODERATOR, CLERK, TREASURER, READING CLERK, AND STATISTICIAN SHALL ACT AS THE EXECUTIVE BOARD."

**Article 3.** Be it resolved that we employ a part-time promotional Secretary for each local Association and pay him on a percentage basis which shall not exceed 20% of all Cooperative funds received by the State Treasurer from his local association, and that our State Treasurer act as coordinator for these secretaries, furnishing them monthly statements to distribute to their churches. We recommend that he be paid 10% of all cooperative funds, to pay for his time and expense.

**Article 4.** We, the planning board, have come to an agreement with Brother D. W. Poole about his salary last year, which is completely satisfactory with him. He is satisfied with what he has received. We have paid him \$1076.34.

**Article 5.** We present the following proportional budget:

A. Promotional Secretaries and Treasurer .....	30%
B. National Cooperative Program .....	35%
C. Florida State Program .....	35%

The Florida State funds are to be divided as follows:

a. Orphanage .....	10%
b. Superannuation .....	10%
c. Youth Camp .....	15%
d. Church Extension .....	15%
e. The Tampa Mission .....	50%

**Article 6.** We recommend that each local Association have a Bible Conference in which the whole Church program shall be stressed. The local promotional Secretary and moderator are asked to sponsor this conference.

**Article 7.** Be it resolved that the Clerks of the local Associations send the State Statistician a copy of his associations minutes as soon as they are off the press.

**Article 8.** We recommend that the Committee on Committees and the Credentials Committee be elected at the close of each session to serve the next session.

## REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Number of District Associations represented—7.

With 28 Delegates.

Paying fees of \$110.00.  
 Churches representing 10, with 13 Delegates.  
 Paying fees of \$56.00.  
 Making a total of 41 Delegates.  
 Ministers present 20. Fees paid \$36.00.  
 Deacons present 16. Fees paid \$32.00.  
 Total Representation of Delegates, Ministers and Deacons 75.  
 Total fees paid \$234.00.

#### District Associations Represented

NORTH FLORIDA ASSOCIATION .....Fee \$20.00  
 Delegates: Lillian Grubbs, Alice Smith, Ben Coxwell, Jr., Doris  
 McDaniel, and Leonard Grubbs.

LIBERTY ASSOCIATION .....Fee \$20.00  
 Delegates: Bertie Baxter, Catherine Clark, Pearl Barrow, Mr.  
 John Cook.

SOUTH FLORIDA ASSOCIATION .....Fee \$10.00  
 Delegates: Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Mitchell.

CENTRAL FLORIDA ASSOCIATION .....Fee \$10.00  
 Delegates: George Hawthorne, Sister Page, Will Fletcher, Debie  
 Fletcher.

SALEM ASSOCIATION .....Fee \$20.00  
 Delegates: Walter Lamb and wife, Shelley Bracelfell, C. A. Baze-  
 nan, and wife, and Mrs. C. L. Cook.

WEST FLORIDA ASSOCIATION .....Fee \$20.00  
 Delegates: L. E. Gentry, T. U. Bryant, Mrs. H. L. Henderson,  
 Mrs. Thelma Holley, Mrs. L. V. Pinson, and Mrs. Ber-  
 nice Purvice (alternate).

NORTHEAST FLORIDA ASSOCIATION .....Fee \$10.00  
 Delegates: Donald A. Dingman, Mrs. G. W. Cloud.

#### Ministers Registered

Rev. Robert L. Wilfong—1005 E. Ida St., Tampa, Fla.  
 Rev. W. A. Hansley—5856 Timuquana Rd., Jacksonville, Fla.  
 Rev. H. A. Grubbs—Rt. 2, Perry, Fla.  
 Rev. D. F. Pelt—Rt. 5, Marianna, Fla.  
 Rev. A. B. Cook—R.F.D., Bonifay, Fla.  
 Rev. Q. Hansley—5856 Timuquana Rd., Jacksonville, Fla.  
 Rev. C. A. Huckaby—Rt. 2, Chipley, Fla.  
 Rev. John M. Rich—Rt. 2, Chipley, Fla.  
 Rev. G. W. Burkett—675 S. Waukenah St., Monticello, Fla.  
 Rev. Elvie H. Johnston—509 Pine Rd., Auburndale, Fla.  
 Rev. Walter Elderidge—Box 145 Cottondale, Fla.  
 Rev. W. B. Hughes—Chipley, Fla.  
 Rev. Raymond Roberts—Rt. 2, Box 326-H, Plant City, Fla.  
 Rev. Fred L. Bradshaw—Rt. 4, Box 26, Plant City, Fla.  
 Rev. Calvin Williams—General Delivery, Emory University, Ga.

Rev. W. S. Tomley—304 E., Pensacola, Fla.  
 Rev. Dennis E. Bias—3480 Commonwealth Ave., Jacksonville, Fla.  
 Rev. D. W. Poole—Rt. 1, Atmore, Ala.  
 Rev. J. F. Guinn—Plant City, Fla.  
 Rev. Wayne Hicks—3307 2nd Place, Panama City, Fla.  
**FEES RECEIVED FROM MINISTERS** ..... \$36.00

#### **Deacons Registered**

J. L. McDaniel—Rt. 1, Perry, Fla.  
 Lanzy Grubbs—Rt. 1, Perry, Fla.  
 W. E. Holley—3505 W. Avery St., Pensacola, Fla.  
 C. E. Day—Rt. 1, Box 27, Marianna, Fla.  
 W. W. Eiland—Rt. 1, Box 14 A, Marianna, Fla.  
 Walter F. Rice—2302 36th St., Tampa, Fla.  
 Walter Fulford—Monticello, Fla.  
 W. C. Pettis—Box 44, Cottondale, Fla.  
 Alande L. Davis—614 Leon St., Perry, Fla.  
 T. C. Mitchell—2819 N. W. 90th St., Miami, Fla.  
 G. W. Cloud—1167 Wolfe St., Jacksonville, Fla.  
 C. L. Cook—Rt. 2, Altha, Fla.  
 Fred Kight—Miami, Fla.  
 Aaron Burch—612 Main Ave., Panama City, Fla.  
 L. V. Pinson—Rt. 7, Box 52, Pensacola, Fla.  
 H. L. Henderson—Rt. 6, Box 421, Pensacola, Fla.

#### **Churches and Delegates That Registered**

First Church of Tampa—Mrs. Vida Mae Rice  
 Piney Grove—Mrs. Thelma Owens and Mrs. Vera Owens  
 Marvin Chapel—C. E. Day  
 Capital City—David L. Hale, Mrs. Lucene Williams  
 Salem Church—  
 Cottondale—Walter Prattin  
 Tallahassee—Betty Coxwell  
 Macedonia—  
 Traveler's Rest—Mattie Bell Suggs  
 Christian Home—

**FEES RECEIVED FROM CHURCHES** ..... \$56.00

Submitted by  
 C. A. Huckaby  
 E. H. Johnston  
 Q. Hansley  
 C. L. Cook

#### **REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES**

We your Committee on Committees wish to submit the following report:

##### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE:**

Bro. John M. Rich



Bro. Walter Rice  
 Rev. Harvey L. Henderson  
 (Bro. C. E. Day to take Rev. Henderson's place until he arrives.)  
**PROGRAM COMMITTEE:**  
 Rev. Robert Wilfong  
 Rev. Raymond Roberts  
 Mrs. Vera Owens

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Committee on Committees

### REPORT OF LEAGUE BOARD

We, your Florida State Free Will Baptist League Board, make and recommend the following suggestions:

- (1) We urge every adult of every church to feel a greater responsibility toward the training of our youth through our leagues.
- (2) We recommend that each District Association sponsor a study course on our League Manual—making such plans that will include the various churches of that association.
- (3) We suggest that there be a letter drawn up on which the individual leagues can report to the State League Board in order that they will be able to include statistics in their annual report and that such a letter be based on 7 point system now being used in our leagues.
- (4) We ask that all Leagues make a special effort to attend the State League Convention at Youth Camp in Cottondale on Saturday before the 1st Sunday in September each year.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Mrs. Thelma Holley  
 Q. Hansley  
 Aaron Burch

### TREASURY REPORT FOR ASSOCIATIONAL YEAR 1954 AND 1955

Balance Brought Forward General Funds .....	\$83.50
Receipts from Dues .....	\$315.00
Special Offering for Press .....	85.00
Special from Various Chs. on Press .....	45.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS .....</b>	<b>\$445.00</b>
<b>Disbursements—General Fund:</b>	
Clerk .....	\$ 25.00
Moderator .....	25.00
Salem Church .....	10.00
Minutes .....	154.33
Printing Press .....	200.00

Envelopes & Postage .....	1.25
National Association Dues .....	40.00
<hr/>	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS .....	\$455.58
BALANCE OF GENERAL FUNDS .....	\$72.92

### COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

	Bal. Forward	Bgt.	Suggested Budget	Receipts	Deficit	Pd. Out	Balance
Youth Camp	17%	\$ 7.83	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 434.94	\$1,565.06	\$ 207.62	\$235.15
Promotional Department	30%	13.81	3,720.00	1,062.53	2,657.47	1,076.34	----
Foreign Missions	10%	4.61	1,200.00	347.86	852.14	352.47	----
Superannuation	5%	2.30	600.00	163.58	436.42	161.47	4.41
Church Extension	8%	3.68	1,000.00	194.46	805.54	-----	198.14
National Home Missions	12%	5.53	1,500.00	829.35	670.65	834.88	----
Children's Home	8%	3.68	1,000.00	202.46	797.54	206.14	----
Bible College	10%	4.61	1,200.00	253.23	946.77	257.84	----
TOTALS	100%	46.05	12,220.00	3,488.41	8,731.59	3,096.74	437.70
GRAND TOTALS		\$129.55		3,933.41		3,552.34	510.62

Respectively submitted,  
W. W. Eiland, Treasurer

### PROMOTIONAL SECRETARY'S REPORT TO THE FLORIDA STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS NOVEMBER 4, 1955

Brethren:

As we come to the close of another year of work for the Master we can look back to some mistakes, heartaches, and disappointments, but as we count our blessings we find that in the whole it has been a good year after all.

We have seen some accomplishments that we, and many of you, have prayed for: Among which was the organization of the Central Florida Association in the Auburndale-Lakeland area, the organization of the North East Florida Association in the Jacksonville area, and the organization of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Quincy, beside several churches that have adopted the budget system.

We made one itineration covering the Auburndale-Tampa area, the Miami area, and the Jacksonville area. A couple of trips to Tampa, Lakeland, and Auburndale. One trip to Jacksonville, one itineration in most of the churches in the West Florida Association besides many calls on the churches nearer by. We also made a trip to Nashville attending a planning meeting with Executive Board of the National Association and Promotional Secretaries of other states.

We have driven approximately twenty thousand miles and had about seventy services directly connected with the promotional work and served as supply pastor of the First Church at Quincy for four months.

I would like here to acknowledge the wonderful cooperation and active assistance of Brothers Rufus Hyman, Herman Grubbs, Daniel Pelt, Calvin Williams and others who have travelled many miles with me and been of much help in so many services. We are humbly grateful for their able assistance.

It has been a real blessing and privilege to serve you for the past two years as your Promotional Secretary. Your prayers and cooperation have held us up many times when the going was not too easy, and now as we leave this department and accept the call to pastor Shiloh church in the West Florida Association we beg of you to keep us on your prayer list.

Our earnest prayer is that God's kingdom may continue to advance in our great state, and that the vision of our people may ever be brighter and broader.

Humbly submitted,  
D. W. Poole

### **REPORT OF BOARD OF EDUCATION**

We your Board of Education make the following report:

A one week session was held at Youth Camp, with approximately 46 children attending.

The State Board of Health has said that we need to construct a kitchen that would meet the State Board of Health Sanitary requirement for cooking at camp before holding another camp session requiring cooking on the premises.

We request 15% of state fund for youth camp activities, operation, and building program.

C. E. Day, Chairman

### **REPORT OF SUPERANNUATION BOARD**

Meeting was held at State Youth Camp October 2, 1955, and also November 4, 1955, at State Association.

Motion carried to sponsor Rev. K. V. Shutes, National Promotional Secretary of Superannuation on an itinerary in the State of Florida, and that Rev. Walter Eldridge with the assistance of Rev. C. A. Huckaby arrange the itinerary.

Motion carried to elect Officers, which was elected as follows: Rev. Walter Eldridge, Chairman, Mr. W. D. Bell, Vice Chairman, Mr. Chester L. Cook, Secretary and Treasurer.

Motion carried that all funds coming into the State Treasure for Superannuation be turned over to the Board and then the State Board pay out all funds through its Treasurer.

We have one retired minister drawing benefits from the State Superannuation Board, which is \$10.00 monthly.

We urge all full time Ministers, Missionaries, and full time Chris-

tian workers to make application for the Superannuation Policy through the National Association.

We urge all Churches where their Pastors are insured or seeking to be insured to pay as much direct to the National Superannuation Treasure, 3801 Richland Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee, as his premiums cost the National Board.

Since we are trying to enlarge and increase our coverage, for Free Will Baptist Ministers, to equal that of other denominations, we recommend that any one in the State knowing a retired minister or ministers widow needing assistance from the Superannuation Board, notify the board.

We report the finances of this board for the past Associational Year as follows:

Balance Brought forward		\$ 2.30
Receipts		\$163.58
		<hr/>
Total Funds		165.88
Disbursements:		
Paid Superannuated Ministers	\$120.00	
Paid National Board	41.47	
	<hr/>	
Total Disbursements	161.47	161.47
		<hr/>
Balance		4.41

Walter Eldridge  
A. B. Cook

### REPORT OF SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD

We, your Sunday School Board, make the following report:

(1) That we organize a State Sunday School Convention to be supervised by this board.

(2) That all Sunday Schools adopt the six point record system as recommended by the National Sunday School Board and that material be purchased from our board.

(3) That we set up district rallies in each district association with training programs such as the Institute type, with speakers on various phases of Sunday School work. We suggest that each rally write the National Sunday School Board, 3801 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tennessee, for information.

(4) That the chairman of the Sunday School Board serve as State Sunday School Director.

Respectfully submitted,  
Your Sunday School Board

### MISSION BOARD REPORT

(1) That every minister lead in the missionary education of our



people. We suggest a missionary message at least every six months.

(2) That each church feel its responsibility toward meeting the budget of the State Association, so that the Mission budget will be raised.

(3) That each local minister receive a special Thanksgiving, Easter and Christmas offering for missions.

(4) The name and address of the State Treasurer is listed below:  
Mr. G. W. Cloud, 1167 Wolf St., Jacksonville, Florida.

Robert L. Wilfong

C. L. Cook

Donald A. Dingman

Calvin Williams

### **MINISTER'S AND DEACON'S REPORT**

We, your committee on Minister's and Deacon's Institute, and Camp Meeting make the following report:

We had a very good session of the Minister's and Deacon's Institute with the following courses of instructions.

(1) Doctrine

(2) Church Organization

(3) Grammar and Homeletics

We recommend that our Minister's and Deacon's take advantage of the good instructions and inspiration received in these courses.

Our Camp Meeting which was conducted by Rev. Henry Melvin was a season of great spiritual fellowship and deep Biblical enlightenment.

We do not have the financial figures in hand but the needs were amply met.

We urge our people to attend and support their old time camp meeting.

Prayerfully submitted,

Rev. John M. Rich

Rev. D. W. Poole

### **REPORT OF WOMAN'S STATE AUXILIARY CONVENTION**

The Sixth Annual Session of Woman's State Auxiliary Convention of Florida met October 22, 1955, at Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Chipley, Florida.

There were 11 Delegates, 6 State Officers, 8 District Officers, 22 Local Officers, from four Districts; namely: West Florida, Liberty, Salem, and our newly organized North Florida District. These officers and delegates represent a total of 208 Auxiliary members. Six ministers registered. Several deacons and a large number of visitors, both women and men were also present.

The theme of the Program was "Here Am I, Send Me." Those



appearing on the program were Mrs. Bertie Baxter, Mrs. Vera Owens, Mrs. Oma Owens, Mrs. Thelma Grondin, Mrs. Corrine George, Mrs. Etha Mae Owen. Rev. Chester Pelt brought a very inspiring message from the text Luke 18:15, 16, at the eleven o'clock hour.

Monies received and paid out were as follows:

Total Received .....	\$88.19
Total Paid Out .....	86.33
Balance in Treasury .....	\$1.86

The first session of Woman's Auxiliary Camp proved inspirational and profitable to all who attended. There were a good number of women registered, with a good daily attendance and quite a few remained overnight. Courses were offered in Missions, Evangelism, Stewardship, and Methods.

We feel that we had the best reports, attendance, and program in the history of the convention.

The next session meets with Traveler's Rest near Clarksville, on October 27, 1956.

Directions for reaching Traveler's Rest Church, leave Tallahassee on Road #20, go to Clarksville, turn right on Road #73, drive 1½ miles, and the Church is on the right.

## STATISTICAL REPORT OF ASSOCIATIONS

### WEST FLORIDA ASSOCIATION

No. of churches	10
No. New Churches	0
No. Churches Dismissed	2
Total No. Churches	10
Total Membership	512
No. Ordained Ministers	15
No. Licensed Ministers	0
No. Sunday Schools	9
No. Free Will Baptist Leagues	5
No. Woman's Auxiliaries	4
Paid to Foreign Missions	\$43.70
Paid to Home Missions	\$3,402.95
Paid to Pastors	\$4,158.05
Paid to Bible College	0
Paid to Superannuation	0
Paid for Revivals	\$414.90
Paid to State Budget Program	\$828.02

TOTAL .....\$8,847.62

Moderator: Rev. H. L. Henderson, Rt. 6, Box 421, Pensacola, Fla.  
Clerk: Millie Donaldson, Rt. 2, Box 97, Pensacola, Fla.

### **SOUTH FLORIDA ASSOCIATION**

No. Churches 3  
Total Membership 160  
No. Ministers 8  
No. Sunday Schools 3  
No. Leagues 2  
No. Auxiliaries 1  
Paid Foreign Missions \$ 43.30  
Paid Home Missions 100.00  
Paid Pastors 3,747.00  
Paid for Revivals 200.00

TOTAL .....\$4,090.30

Clerk: Alma Mitchell

### **NORTH FLORIDA ASSOCIATION**

No. Churches 9  
No. New Churches 1  
No. Churches dismissed 2  
Total No. Churches 9  
Total Membership 349  
No. Ordained Ministers 12  
No. Sunday Schools 9  
No. Free Will Baptist Leagues 5  
No. Woman's Auxiliaries 4  
Paid to Foreign Missions \$ 33.44  
Paid to Home Missions 110.00  
Paid to Pastors 4,300.75  
Paid for Revivals 212.62

TOTAL .....\$4,656.71

Moderator: Rev. Herman A. Grubbs, Perry, Fla.

Clerk: Mrs. Vida Mae Rice, 2302 36 St., Tampa, Fla.

### **SALEM ASSOCIATION**

No. Churches 20  
No. New Churches 0  
Dismissed 1  
Total Membership 1327  
No. Ordained Ministers 12  
No. Licensed Ministers 3  
No. Sunday Schools 15  
No. Free Will Baptist Leagues 8  
No. Woman's Auxiliaries 7  
Paid to Pastors \$7,531.44  
Paid for Revivals 1,583.90  
Paid to State Budget Program 1,392.73

TOTAL .....\$10,508.07

Moderator: Rev. Walter Eldrige, Cottondale, Fla.  
Clerk: Chester L. Cook, Rt. 2, Altha, Fla.

#### **LIBERTY ASSOCIATION**

No. Churches 11  
No. New Churches 1  
No. Churches Dismissed 0  
Total No. Churches 12  
Total Membership 686  
No. Ordained Ministers 9  
No. Licensed Ministers 0  
No. Sunday Schools 10  
No. Free Will Baptist Leagues 6  
No. Woman's Auxiliaries 8  
Paid to Foreign Missions \$ 202.05  
Paid to Home Missions 15.03  
Paid to Pastors 9,552.84  
Paid to Bible College 45.00  
Paid to Superannuation 2.00  
Paid for Revivals 1,143.48  
Paid to State Budget Program 1,266.02

**TOTAL** .....\$12,226.42

Moderator: Rev. C. A. Huckaby, Rt. 2, Chipley, Fla.  
Clerk: Rev. Wayne Hicks, 3307 2nd Place,  
Panama City, Fla.

#### **NORTHEAST FLORIDA ASSOCIATION**

No. of Churches 4  
No. of Missions 1  
Total Churches 4  
Total Membership 277  
No. Ordained Ministers 7  
No. Licensed Ministers 2  
No. Sunday Schools 5  
No. Free Will Baptist Leagues 2  
No. Woman's Auxiliaries 2

**No report of amount paid out.**

Moderator: Rev. W. A. Hansley, 5856 Timuquana Rd.,  
Jacksonville, Fla.

Clerk: Mr. Harley Andreu, Jacksonville, Fla.

#### **CENTRAL FLORIDA ASSOCIATION**

No Statistical Report enclosed.

Moderator: Rev. Fred L. Bradshaw  
Clerk: Rev. Raymond Roberts

## **MINUTES OF THE FLORIDA STATE MINISTERS AND DEACONS CONFERENCE**

Conference met at 11 A.M. Thursday, November 3, 1955. Rev.

Dennis E. Bias brought the morning message.

After the lunch and social hour was enjoyed by all, Conference was called to order at 1:40 P.M. by consent. In the absence of the Moderator and Clerk, Rev. Bob Wilfong agreed to act as Moderator and Rev. Herman Grubbs as Clerk until pro-tems could be elected.

Rev. Bob Wilfong was elected as Moderator pro-tem by acclamation.

This session was then called to order in regular form and members seated.

Rev. Herman Grubbs was elected Clerk Pro-tem by the acclamation.

A song, "What A Friend" was sung with Rev. Hansley at the piano.

Motion by Rev. D. F. Pelt was passed that Article III of the Constitution be revised to read: Section 1- This Ministers and Deacons Conference shall consist of all Licensed and Ordained Ministers and Deacons who are members of Florida Churches.

At this time the Moderator's Chair was given over to Rev. W. B. Hughes, Assistant Moderator.

A motion was made and carried to seat Ministers and Deacons from Central Florida and Northeast Florida Associations.

Motion was carried that the Moderator give Right Hand of Fellowship to these new members, welcoming them into this Body.

Several members of both Associations expressed their appreciation for membership and committed themselves to all possible aid of the State Body.

A motion was carried to seat the visitors.

Motion carried that Committees be appointed by the Moderator.

They are as follows:

Examining Committee: Bro. Walter Rice, Rev. H. A. Grubbs, and Rev. J. M. Rich.

Ministerial Ethics & Education: Rev. H. E. Johnston, Bro. Ed Holley, and Rev. Walter Eldridge.

Report of Ministerial Ethics & Education Committee was accepted as follows: Motion made and carried that report be adopted per item or article. Each item was adopted by a standing vote.

A motion was carried that the arrangement for extension school be left to the Camp Meeting Arrangement Committee.

Camp Meeting Arrangement Committee report was accepted.

Report of Special Committee to Study the Constitution was accepted.

A motion was made and carried that Article II of the Constitution be revised as recommended.

Motion by Rev. Raymond Roberts and seconded by Rev. Bob Wilfong that each Minister of this Body report on a written form annually.

A motion to amend above motion that a committee be appointed to draw up a report form to be used by ministers was carried.

Committee: Bro. W. W. Eiland, Rev. R. Roberts, and Rev. D. F. Pelt.

A motion was carried that a Constitutional Revision Committee be appointed by the Moderator.

This committee: Rev. Bob Wilfong, Bro. Walter Rice, Rev. D. W. Poole, and Rev. Herman Grubbs.

Carried that committee be appointed to arrange Services for Thursday night.

This committee: Rev. H. A. Grubbs, Rev. C. A. Huckaby, and Rev. Q. Hansley.

Motion carried that officers of this Conference serve as Arrangement and Program Committee.

A motion was carried to have a 30 minute recess.

Back in session at 4 P.M.

Report of Committee on Forms for Ministers was received and adopted.

Motion carried that this Report Form be printed in State Minutes.

Camp Meeting Arrangement Committee appointed as follows: Rev. Walter Eldridge, Chairman, Rev. John M. Rich, and Bro. Ernest Owen.

Officers were elected as follows: Moderator-Rev. W. B. Hughes; Vice Moderator-Rev. F. L. Bradshaw; Secretary & Treasurer-Rev. H. A. Grubbs.

Motion carried to adjourn until 7:30 P.M.



## REPORTS

We, your committee on Ministerial Ethics & Education, recommend the following:

1. That every minister adopt Matt. 7:12, "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." As his standards of Ministerial Ethics, remembering that our lives must set a standard of unselfishness, love, and consideration for others.

2. On entering a new field, a minister should give prayerful and careful consideration to the plans, program, and practices of his predecessor, remember that it is unchristian and unethical to speak ill of the character or work of another minister.

3. There are duties that a minister should perform in relation to his successor. He should survey the field, the church roll, the various boards and agencies of the church, with plans and programs that are in action.

4. When ready to leave the field, the minister should leave.

5. There should be no feeling of rivalry or competition against brother ministers. Professional jealousy has no place in the life of a Christian Minister.

6. We further recommend that this Conference send a petition to the Board of Publications & Literature of the National Association of Free Will Baptists requesting the publications of a Code of Ministerial Ethics for Free Will Baptist Ministers.

7. Realizing a need for Ministerial Education, we recommend that this Conference sponsor an Extension School thru the Extension Dept. of the Free Will Baptist Bible College in conjunction with our Camp Meeting.

We, your Special Committee to Study the Constitution, recommend that Article II be changed to read: The purpose of this organization shall be;

1. To promote fellowship and harmony among our Ministers and Deacons.

2. To serve as an auxiliary of Florida State Association of Free Will Baptists in its program of devising and executing measures for the advancement of the Cause of Christ.

- and 3. To disseminate information pertaining to the Free Will Baptist Demonination.

We, your committee to arrange Thursday Night Services, recommend the following: To Preach-Rev. K. V. Shutes

To introduce speaker-Rev. Walter Eldridge  
To lead Prayer and Song Service-Rev. W. B. Hughes  
Pianist-Sister Doris McDaniel

Rev. H. A. Grubbs, Clerk  
Rev. W. B. Hughes, Moderator

THOSE REGISTERING & PAYING MEMBERSHIP FEE OF \$1.00  
are as follows:

#### MINISTERS

J. F. Guinn, Plant City  
Walter Eldridge, Cottondale  
Bob Wilfong, Tampa  
H. E. Johnston, Auburndale  
Q. Hansley, Jacksonville  
J. A. Sikes, Branford  
Raymond Roberts, Lakeland  
Fred L. Bradshaw, Plant City  
W. A. Hansley, Jacksonville  
C. A. Huckaby, Chipley  
John M. Rich, Bonifay  
W. B. Hughes, Chipley  
A. B. Cook, Bonifay  
H. A. Grubbs, Perry  
D. F. Pelt, Marianna

#### DEACONS

Walter Rice, Tampa  
Ed Holley, Pensacola  
W. W. Eiland, Marianna  
C. E. Day, Marianna

#### MINISTERS YEARLY REPORT TO THE FLORIDA STATE MINISTERS AND DEACONS CONFERENCE

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

1. Name of churches pastored \_\_\_\_\_
2. Number sermons preached \_\_\_\_\_
3. Number Revivals held \_\_\_\_\_
4. Number Conversions witnessed \_\_\_\_\_
5. Number Baptised \_\_\_\_\_
6. Received into Church \_\_\_\_\_
7. Sick calls made \_\_\_\_\_
8. Couples married \_\_\_\_\_
9. Funerals conducted \_\_\_\_\_
10. Prayer Meetings held \_\_\_\_\_
11. Associations attended— National— State— Local—
12. Quarterly Meetings attended \_\_\_\_\_
13. Remarks \_\_\_\_\_

# Constitution and By-Laws

## of the FLORIDA FREE WILL BAPTIST STATE MINISTERS AND DEACONS CONFERENCE

### Constitution Preamble:

In order to promote fellowship and broaden understanding among the Ministers and Deacons of The Florida Free Will Baptist State Association and for the purpose of advancing the cause of Christ as represented by the Free Will Baptist Denomination.

We propose to set up this organization and keep the rules according to this Constitution and By-Laws.

ARTICLE I.—Name. This Organization shall be known as The Florida State Free Will Baptist Ministers and Deacons Conference.

ARTICLE II.—The purpose of this organization shall be:

Section 1.—To promote fellowship and harmony among our Ministers and Deacons.

Section 2.—To serve as an auxiliary of Florida State Association of Free Will Baptists in its program of divising and executing measures for the advancement of the Cause of Christ.

Section 3.—To disseminate information pertaining to the Free Will Baptist Denomination.

ARTICLE III.—The composition of the Ministers and Deacons Conference:

Section 1.—This Ministers and Deacons Conference shall consist of all Licensed and Ordained Ministers and Deacons who are members of Florida Churches.

ARTICLE IV.—Finance: Each Minister and Deacon holding membership in this Conference shall contribute the sum of one dollar (\$1.00) annually for general expense.

ARTICLE V.—Officers and Committees.

Section 1.—Officers of this Conference shall be: A Moderator, a Vice-Moderator, Secretary-Treasurer—all whom shall be elected annually at the close of each session.

General Officers shall be The Executive Committee of this Conference.

Section 2.—The following Committees shall be designated Standing Committees of this Conference, consisting of 3 persons for each committee.

(1)—Examining Committee. (2)—Ministerial Ethics and Education. (3)—Camp Meeting Arrangement Committee.

Other standing Committees may be authorized and elected by this Conference as the needs may arise. All Committees shall be elected annually.

ARTICLE VI.—Time of Meeting. This Conference shall hold its regular meeting annually in conjunction with The Florida State Association of Free Will Baptists on Thursday and Thursday night.

ARTICLE VII.—This Constitution may be altered or amended at any regular meeting of this Conference by a two-thirds majority vote of all members present.

## **CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE FLORIDA FREE WILL BAPTIST STATE ASSOCIATION**

### **Preamble:**

We, the Free Will Baptists of Florida, for the sake of power that comes of unity and oneness of purpose; for the advancement of the cause of Christ; for the Glory of God and the good of mankind do ordain and establish this constitution and By-Laws:

### **ARTICLE I. NAME OF ASSEMBLY**

Section 1. This assembly shall be known as "The Florida State Association of Free Will Baptists."

### **ARTICLE II. OFFICERS AND BOARDS**

Boards, Delegates and Fees and time of Meeting.

Section 1. The Officers of this Association shall be: A Moderator, and Assistant Moderator, a Secretary, a Treasurer, an Executive Board, Planning Board, Board, of Missions (Home and Foreign), an Educational Board, Board of Superannuation, Sunday School Board, League Board and Board of Trustees and any other officers and Boards that this Association may decide while in session to add because of changes of necessity. This Association shall convene annually on Friday and Saturday before the First Sunday in November.

Section 2. This Association shall be composed of delegates elected from the local associations, belonging to this body, delegates

elected from the local churches embraced by the various associations and churches.

The delegates shall be elected as follows: One delegate from each local church composed of one hundred members or fraction thereof, and one delegate for each additional hundred members, or fraction, thereof; five delegates from each local Association composed of fifteen churches, or a fraction thereof, and one additional delegate for each additional four churches or fraction thereof. The additional delegates cannot be used unless the churches are active and are represented in the session in which they are appointed.

Fees are \$10.00 for an Association with five (5) churches. Associations with more than 5 churches, fees are \$20.00; and for churches \$4.00 per delegate. All deacons and ministers are standing delegates. Fees are \$2.00 for deacons and ministers.

Section 3. Ministers cannot be appointed as delegates from the local associations or churches. All visitors and ministers who do not belong to or pastor for this body can only be seated as honorary members.

Section 4. All churches and associations representing in this body shall pay entrance fee annually. The amount of this fee shall be determined by the body while in session and may be changed by a two-thirds vote in any session.

Section 5. All funds coming into this body shall be spent under a budget plan. This budget must be approved by the body while in session and no funds may be used in any way except as budgeted.

Section 6. It shall be the duty and power of the delegates of this body to make all laws which shall be necessary for the carrying on of the work of this Association, and these laws must be in keeping with this constitution and must be kept on records so conflicting regulations may be avoided.

Section 7. Fifty (50) per cent of the delegates elect shall constitute a quorum.

Section 8. All officers except board members shall be elected to serve a term of two years.

Section 9. Any officer may be re-elected as the body shall see fit, but officers, or nominees, must give his consent to serve willingly.

Section 10. When vacancies occur either by death or removal from office, or by resignation the body shall fill vacancy either by proxy or by election of officer to the vacancy at any regular session of the body and the proxy may be appointed by the body to fill any



absentee's place who does not attend the session.

Section 11. Election years shall be odd years. Thus the regular elections shall take place on odd years of the calendar.

Section 12. All standing boards shall be composed of one (1) member from each association and their term of office shall be four years. Two being elected at each election year. The first two named shall be elected for only a term of two years. Thereafter all shall be elected as specified herein.

Section 13. This body shall have and does reserve the right to deal with any officer or board member who does not conduct his or her office in a Christian and business-like manner according to the rules of Christian conduct laid down in the teachings of the New Testament. Thus the right to discipline in this body is confined to this body, but a charge against a member of this body and the members of local churches shall constitute a charge against said member in this body and the body shall abide accordingly thereby.

### ARTICLE III. DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND BOARDS

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the moderator to preside over all the deliberations of this body while in session.

Section 2. The moderator shall have the power to rule measures out of order providing this ruling is sustained by one-third of the delegates present.

Section 3. The Vice-Moderator shall assume the duties, rights and privileges of the Moderator in his absence.

Section 4. The Vice-Moderator shall be ex-officio member of all boards and committees.

Section 5. It shall be the duty of the clerk to make and keep records of all the business proceedings and activities of this body.

Section 6. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive all funds, pay all bills and keep records of receipts and disbursements.

Section 7. All officers and board members must be Free Will Baptist who are in good standing in their respective churches and associations, must belong to this body and must, when elected, live within bounds of the Association. The treasurer must give bond.

Section 8. It shall be the duty of the planning board to provide general plans for this Association, make the budget and regulate fees.

Section 9. The Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, Reading Clerk and Statistician shall act as the Executive Board.

This Board shall have full authority to do all acts for and in the name of the Association when the Association is not in session.

Section 10. It shall be the duty of the Mission Board to make plans for church extension and operate any state mission work and also work in the interest of the foreign mission program of the National Association. It shall be the duty of Mission Board to help make our people missionary minded.

Section 11. It shall be the duty of the educational board to make plans for operating the Florida Training Camp and Christian education for Christian workers. This board shall keep our National and State educational work before our people. It shall be their duty to create interest in Christian education.

Section 12. Board of Trustees shall be 5 in number, to be selected by the association. Their duties shall be to take and hold all real property of the association.

They shall further have full charge and responsibility for the maintenance of the Training Camp and Tabernacle.

Section 13. It shall be the duty of the superannuation board to make general plans for superannuation for aged ministers, and to cooperate with the National Association in providing insurance protection for our younger ministers.

#### **BY-LAWS TO SECTION 13**

##### **PURPOSE—**

The purpose of the program is to make possible for active Free Will Baptist Ministers and full-time Christian Workers the following benefits:

1. Protection for loved-ones in case of untimely death. (Face value of insurance policy with accumulated dividends.)
2. A regular income in case of total and permanent disability.
3. Income from retirement age to death.
4. The above benefits shall be provided through and by the provisions of the State and National Superannuation program.

##### **PLAN—**

The National board finances this program with funds sent from the State Superannuation boards. The State Treasurer keeps 75 per cent of these funds for the operation of the State program, and will send 25 per cent to the National Treasurer.

## AMOUNTS OF BENEFITS FROM STATE TREASURER

The amount of monthly benefits shall be governed by the following rules:

1. The amount shall be \$10 per month to the disabled Minister or Christian Worker, and to be increased (not to exceed \$25) if the total amount in the State treasurer permits, but in no case shall this be done if it will prevent all payments to be made for the Associational year to all those receiving benefits.

## ELIGIBILITY—

The above benefits shall be paid monthly to the following:

1. To any Free Will Baptist Minister or full-time Christian Worker who is a member in good standing of a church in the Florida State Association who has a total or permanent disability or upon reaching the age of 70 years.
2. The titles given above Free Will Baptist Minister or full-time Christian Worker shall be as follows to Free Will Baptist Ministers who have either pastored or done full-time Evangelistic or Teaching work for 10 years. Christian Workers shall have done full-time Christian work as teachers or Missionaries (Home and Foreign) or Evangelistic work for 10 years for the Free Will Baptist Church.
3. Applications must be made to and approved by the Florida State Superannuation Board, while in private session.
4. That the traveling expense of Board members shall be paid for all Board meetings by the board.

## ARTICLE IV. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments to this constitution must be put before the body while in session one day before voted on, and must be read at least twice and passed by two-thirds of the delegates present. All amendments must be ratified by three of the associations, now belonging to the body and by a majority of the associations belonging to same, should other associations join us in the future.

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