

*Henry Rivers*

**MINUTES**

**OF THE**

**EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION**

**OF THE**

**GENERAL CONFERENCE**

**OF THE**

**ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST OF THE UNITED STATES**

**HELD WITH**

**EUREKA COLLEGE, AYDEN, N. C.**

**June 13 - 14 - 15, 1928**

---

Ayden, N. C.  
Free Will Baptist Press  
1928



# **MINUTES**

**OF THE**

**EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION**

**OF THE**

**GENERAL CONFERENCE**

**OF THE**

**ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST OF THE UNITED STATES**

**HELD WITH**

**EUREKA COLLEGE, AYDEN, N. C.**

**June 13 - 14 - 15, 1928**

---

## **OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE:**

---

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| REV. M. H. MELLETTE, Moderator         | Turbeville, S. C. |
| REV. J. R. HUNT, Vice-Moderator        | Macon, Ga.        |
| REV. E. C. MORRIS, Recording Secretary | Durham, N. C.     |
| JAS. CHESHIRE, Treasurer               | Colquitt, Ga.     |
| REV. J. L. WELCH, Field Secretary      | Nashville, Tenn.  |

Next session to be held with Glennville Church, at Glennville Ga., June 12, 13  
and 14, 1929.

# PROCEEDINGS

The Eighth Annual Session of the General Conference of the Original Free Will Baptist Church of the United States met with Eureka College, Ayden, N. C., June 13, 1928, at 11 o'clock A. M.

The Conference was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. M. H. Melleite. Rev. R. F. Pittman was asked to conduct a devotional service, and after praise and prayer and special music the Moderator introduced Rev. Henry Melvin, of Blountstown, Fla., to the Conference, who brought to the Conference the opening sermon which was greatly appreciated by all present. After the sermon the Eureka College Quartet Band rendered another special selection and then the Conference was adjourned for lunch.

## WEDNESDAY 1:30 P. M.

The Conference reassembled for business and after praise and prayer, Hon. M. B. Prescott, a local attorney, who is a very prominent citizen and layman of the Ayden Church, delivered the address of welcome to the delegates and visitors from the various states. The response to the address of welcome was made by Bro. Jas. Cheshire of Colquitt, Ga., the Treasurer of the Conference.

At this time the Moderator announced the appointment of the Committee on Credentials which was composed of Henry Melvin of Florida; J. L. Welch, of Tennessee; W. T. Wiley, of Georgia; Geo. W. Owens, of Florida; G. W. Cherry, of Alabama; S. H. Styron, of North Carolina; and H. V. Oliver, of South Carolina.

The Credentials Committee requested that all credentials be presented immediately while the Committee held a session for this purpose and their report was made to the Conference, and the following states were received and their delegates seated:

ALABAMA.—State Line Association—Delegates, Rev. G. W. Cherry, Dothan, and Rev. Ottis O. Sellars, Cottonwood.

FLORIDA.—Liberty Association—Delegates, Rev. A. B. Nelson, Bonifay, G. W. Owens, Chipley. Salem Association—Delegates, Rev. Henry Melvin, Blountstown, and E. S. Haddock, Alford.

GEORGIA.—Midway Association—Delegates, Willie Wiley, Damascus, and T. G. Harvey, Jakin. Benjamin Randall Conference—Delegat'e, Rev. J. R. Hunt, 157 Jeff Davis St., Macon. South Georgia Association—Delegates, Rev. J. A. Blanton, Surrency, and J. L. Johnson, Alma.

NORTH CAROLINA.—Western Conference—Delegates, Revs. E. C. Morris, Durham, and W. A. Hales, Kenly. Pee Dee Conference—Delegate, I. L. Russ, Bladenboro.

OHIO.—Ohio River Association—Delegate, Rev. E. T. Phillips, Ayden, N. C., proxy for M. B. Hutchinson, of Zaleski, Ohio.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—South Carolina Conference—Delegates, Revs. H. V. Oliver, Timmons ville, and G. C. Vause, Oianta.



TENNESSEE.—Cumberland Association—Delegates, Rev. J. H. Oliver, Clarksville, and L. O. Burroughs, Merchants Hotel, Broad St., Nashville.

The following visitors and officers of the Conference were present and made welcome:

From the State Line Association of Alabama; J. C. Howell, Dothan, and Geo. W. Nobles, Dothan.

From the Salem Association of Florida, Revs. S. T. and K. V. Shutes, Kynesville.

From the Midway Association of Georgia, Rev. W. T. Wiley, Hilton; Rev. Rufus Hyman, Damascus; Jas. Cheshire, Colquitt.

From the South Georgia Association, Rev. I. J. Blackwelder, Lake Butler, Fla.; and Mrs. J. A. Blanton, Surrency, Ga.

From Benjamin Randall Conference of Georgia, Mrs. J. R. Hunt, Macon; and Rev. H. A. Drake, Herndon.

From Georgia Union of Georgia, Rev. Robt. Davidson, Vienna, Ga.

From the Eastern Conference of North Carolina, Rev. E. C. Gaskill, Sea Level; J. W. Alford, Kenly; Mrs. Alice E. Lupton, Secretary of Free Will Baptist League.

From the Central Conference, Rev. R. H. Mason, Ayden; Rev. R. E. Tripp, Goldsboro; Rev. N. D. Wiggs, New Bern; Rev. J. C. Moye, Snow Hill; Rev. Thos. E. Beaman, Greenville; Rev. R. F. Pittman, Ayden; Rev. D. W. Alexander, Bethel; Rev. A. H. Outlaw, Elizabeth City; Rev. M. A. Woodard, Winterville; Rev. C. J. Harris, Greenville; and Rev. J. E. Wooten, Hookerton.

From the Western Conference, Rev. G. C. Joyner, Durham; Rev. W. M. Ferrell, Selma; Rev. W. G. Boykin, Kenly, Rev. S. H. Syron, Pine Level; Rev. W. R. Williams, Prince on; Rev. Cyrus M. Johnson, Goldsboro; and Rev. W. B. Batts, Rocky Mount.

From the Pee Dee Conference, Rev. E. H. Russ, Bladenboro; and Rev. W. L. Jernigan, Ayden.

From the Cape Fear Conference, Rev. J. C. Griffin, Goldsboro; and Rev. Hermon Wooten, Ayden.

Mrs. Katy Sawyer Jackson, delegate from the Woman's Auxiliary Convention of North Carolina.

From the Cumberland Association of Tennessee, Rev. J. L. Welch, Nashville, Field Secretary; Mrs. Fred Polston, Secretary of Women's Work; Rev. Wm. Henry Oliver, Ayden, N. C.; and Miss Ruth Stewart, Washington, D. C.

From South Carolina Conference, Rev. M. H. Mellette, Turbeville, Moderator of the Conference; and Rev. T. B. Mellette, Ayden, N. C.

NOTE.—There were other visitors in attendance at the Conference but their names were not given to the Secretary, hence they are not enrolled.

After the enrollment of delegates and visitors the various committees were appointed as follows:

RESOLUTIONS:—J. L. Welch, W. A. Hale, and T. B. Mellette.

FINANCE:—Geo. W. Owens, L. O. Burroughs, and Willie Wiley.

EDUCATION:—Wm. Henry Oliver, J. R. Hunt, and Ottis O. Sellars.

MISSIONS:—J. A. Blanton, A. B. Nelson, and H. V. Oliver.

LITERATURE:—M. B. Prescott, J. C. Howell, and T. G. Harvey.

TEMPERANCE:—E. H. Russ, J. R. Davidson, and G. W. Cherry.

OBITUARY:—J. L. Welch, Jas. Cheshire, and M. A. Woodard.

On motion, we adjourn the session until 9:30 Thursday morning.

The following ministers were appointed to preach during this session of the Conference:

Rev. J. L. Welch, Wednesday, 8:00 P. M.

Rev. J. R. Hunt, Thursday, 11:00 A. M.

Rev. G. C. Vause, Thursday, 8:00 P. M.

Rev. C. J. Harris, Friday 11:00 A. M.

#### THURSDAY, 9:30 A. M., JUNE 14.

Conference came together at the appointed hour and after praise and prayer the business was resumed.

The various officers and committees were asked to make report.

#### REPORT OF THE TREASURER FOR THE YEAR 1927.

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Amount on hand at last report            | \$ 5.59         |
| Received from Finance Committee          | 110.00          |
| Received from Mrs. Fred Polston          | 25.00           |
| Received from C. H. Martin               | 1.00            |
| <b>Total receipts</b>                    | <b>\$141.59</b> |
| <b>Disbursements:</b>                    |                 |
| Paid Recording Secretary                 | \$ 15.00        |
| Paid J. L. Welch                         | 25.00           |
| Paid Mrs. Fred Polston                   | 20.00           |
| Paid Free Will Baptist Press for minutes | 57.50           |
| <b>Total paid out</b>                    | <b>\$117.50</b> |
| <b>Balance on hand</b>                   | <b>24.09</b>    |
|  | <b>\$141.59</b> |

Report adopted.

#### REPORT OF FIELD SECRETARY.

As your Field Secretary I wish to submit to you the following report:

During the entire year my work has been done almost entirely through correspondence with individuals throughout States represented in the Conference, and the reports we have had from the field have not been very gratifying. However, we have been assured by many that plans are being made to co-operate more fully with the General Conference in all of its activities.



Inasmuch as we feel that correspondence work alone will never accomplish what we really want done, I am recommending that this Conference elect one or more National Evangelists who are to act as Field men for this Conference. The work to be done by these Evangelists to be outlined by the Moderator.

We recommend further that special emphasis be placed by the Field men on our institutions, namely, College at Ayden, North Carolina; also the Printing establishment, as well as all other work sponsored by the General Conference.

We also urge our Ministers to become more interested in our general work and assist us in the great undertaking which was started eight years ago.

Respectfully submitted,  
J. L. WELCH, Field Secretary.

Report adopted.

#### FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF S. S. ADMINISTRATION TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES.

In making this, the first annual report of the Department of Sunday School administration to the General Conference, we beg to say, that we cannot make a report to show a lot of accumulative results, for our work is in its infancy, and we must first "set alone" before we can even crawl.

##### Brief Summary.

1. We appointed an advisory Board consisting of R. F. Pittman, M. H. Mellette, Jas. Cheshire, J. C. Howell, Henry Melvin, Wm. H. Oliver and M. B. Hutchinson. These men have rendered valuable assistance in the way of advice and suggestions as to the future of our work.

2. We have made a survey of the field with a view of ascertaining our needs and devising ways and means as to how we can best meet the needs.

3. We have arranged with the W. A. Rayfield Co., Architects, Birmingham, Alabama, to give valuable assistance to our churches in remodeling our present buildings and in the construction of new edifices.

##### Need and Recommendation.

1. We need money and plenty of it. It is impossible to meet any need without money to finance it. Therefore, we recommend that every Sunday School contribute annually for the support of this department.

2. We recommend the confirmation of the appointment of Miss Mattie Parkerson, Greenville, N. C., as Secretary and Treasurer for this Department.

3. We need money now to take care of the financing of the appeal for contributions and other incidental expenses. Therefore, we recommend

the appropriating of the sum of \$25.00 of the General Fund of the Conference to meet this need.

4. We need whole-time Secretaries in each state, but this cannot be hoped for. However, we recommend that we work to that end.

5. We need more literature, such as tracts, quarterlies, Sunday School papers, etc., and we recommend that as soon as practicable these needs be met.

Respectfully submitted,  
THOS. E. BEAMAN, General Secretary.

The report was adopted.

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF SECRETARY OF WOMEN'S WORK, GENERAL CONFERENCE, FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH. Conference Year 1927-28.

To the General Conference:

For two years I have been Secretary of the Women's Department, and have tried to direct the work as best I could. As to just what success we have attained through my efforts it will take the rank and file to tell.

Early in this present year together with Rev. J. L. Welch we mapped out a program for the year, which program I have endeavored to carry out as best I could.

We had printed one thousand copies of a booklet containing constitutions and by-laws for local Ladies' Aid Societies and Missionary Societies, district and state Auxiliary Conventions, together with instructions on how to organize. About five hundred copies have been distributed, leaving five hundred on hand. The cost of the printing was paid as follows: L. A. Convention of Tennessee, \$10.00; Eastern Convention of North Carolina, \$5.00; Central Conference of North Carolina, \$5.00.

I have been trying to organize societies, and seeking co-operation wherever I could get the name of one who was likely to be interested. We have been working in the states of Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Ohio, and Tennessee. Some of these have very good reports of local work, and in some the work is not as good as they would like. There has, however, been a note of hopefulness running through my correspondence that has gladdened my heart. Many have said, "We will do better next year."

I am able to make the following reports regarding the work in the various states:

In North Carolina there are three conventions, viz., Central, Eastern, and Western Auxiliary Conventions. The Central Convention comprises about twenty-five societies. On an average \$50.00 is received at each semi-annual session. Three new societies have been recently organized. The Eastern Convention has around twenty societies, two of which have been organized this year. About two-thirds represent in the meetings, and around \$100.00 is raised annually. There are sixteen societies in the Wes-



tern Convention, which was organized with the help of the Central Convention last September. These societies raised locally last year \$933.04.

Thirty-five of the North Carolina Societies represented in the State Auxiliary in March, with contributions amounting to \$86.05.

Tennessee has about twenty-two L. A. Societies, twelve of which represented at the last convention with reports of about \$3,000.00 raised during the year and used in local work. The societies turned in to the convention during the year \$73.60 for the convention fund, and \$601.26 on a special orphanage fund sponsored by the convention. This added to former receipts makes this special fund, which is in the bank on interest, \$4,275.53. Through their departmental work the societies are studying stewardship and missions, and making special efforts to encourage league and Sunday school work. The twelve societies attending the last convention report a membership of 233. They are sending \$10.00 for general work.

We have been able to secure the names and addresses of officers of eleven societies in South Carolina, and we are assured that some at least are hopeful of the organization of a State Convention soon.

An effort is now being made to organize the ladies of the Mid-way Association of Georgia into a convention. There are several good societies in this association.

I have had some scattered correspondence with people in the other states, but not enough to enable me to make an accurate report on conditions in these states.

We have been working on a plan for financing our department. At the present time this plan is not complete, as only North Carolina and Tennessee have as yet organized district or state conventions. Part of my work has been to get this program before our women. This I have tried to do through correspondence, through a few letters to church papers and state and district conventions, and hundreds to individuals. I have also spoken to a number of societies, Sunday schools, Bible classes, and church congregations, as I have had opportunity, trying to stress the importance of co-operation in our General Conference work.

Now, I have tried to tell you some of the things that we have done this year. More must be done. If you will allow me to make suggestions as to what I think would be helpful, I submit the following:

First. That the individual churches assume the responsibility of these departments, and that they call upon their women to exercise their great privilege of sharing in the Master's work.

Second. That we publish through the pulpit, the press, and in every possible way, the help and blessings that come to our churches through these organizations.

Third. That we make a special appeal to all pastors to organize either a Ladies' Aid Society or a Missionary Society, or both, in each of their churches. If there are no women who can or will act as president at first, we suggest that the pastors themselves act as the leader, until some one can be trained for the place.

In this great work much depends upon the individual. If each in his or her place does well their part the whole is strengthened. It is hard for the same ones to keep on the firing-line alone. Others must come to their assistance. Let us pray that every woman in our Free Will Baptist churches will enlist in this great service for our Lord, and for the church we love so well.

MRS. F. K. POLSTON,

General Secretary of Woman's Work.

The report was adopted.

#### REPORT OF GENERAL SECRETARY OF FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 15, 1928.

In the beginning, I will say that I am far from satisfied with the year's work, but we have realized that we cannot attain any great heights of achievement until our people are more united and more interested in this, to my mind, the most important issue before us as a denomination.

I am glad to report that the work is growing and interest is increasing, although progress is somewhat slow.

The literature we are getting out is taking reasonably well with the Senior Leagues, and some of the Junior's are using it satisfactorily, however we have been greatly handi-capped regarding programs for the Primary Leagues.

Plans have been discussed from time to time to furnish them with proper material for their work, but so far we have no definite arrangement for them, although we hope this feature of the work can be provided for during the ensuing year.

Our funds have not been sufficient to justify us in launching out in any elaborate effort, and until we could be assured of full patronage by the Junior and Primary Departments, we cannot ask our Printing Co., to become responsible to furnish the proper literature.

We have made no special effort to secure contributions for the advancement of the work: 1. Because our people, or some of them, at least, are already overburdened. 2. Because we did not want our people to think that "money" was the key-note to our success. Believing that we had enough to see us through with the necessary expenses this year, we decided to avoid any definite campaign for funds, trusting that with the beginning of this new year in our work, we would be able to arouse a keener interest among our people, and that they would realize something of the needs before us, and rally to the cause, thereby insuring us a better opportunity to advance interest in the coming year.

We sold Literature during the year as follows:

|                            |      |
|----------------------------|------|
| Third Quarter, 1927 .....  | 849  |
| Fourth Quarter, 1927 ..... | 823  |
| First Quarter, 1928 .....  | 944  |
| Second Quarter, 1928 ..... | 1186 |
| Total .....                | 3802 |



The money derived from the sale of Literature has been used by the Printing Press to defray expenses of printing and mailing same. It is claimed that so far, there has been no dividends, that it has taken every penny to pay expenses.

This literature is used almost exclusively by the Senior Leagues, although we know of a few organizations of young people who are using our quarterlies. We are doing our best to overcome this condition, and hope to succeed after awhile.

During the year we have organized a Free Will Baptist League Convention in North Carolina—it held its initial meeting in Durham, N. C., July 4th, 1927.

Interest in the work at large has grown within their borders. I have mailed out forty-two quarterlies as samples during the year, also written, with my own hand one hundred and thirty-two letters. I have sent out more than one hundred Booklets on "How to Organize a Free Will Baptist League."

I have mailed out Report Blanks to the number of one hundred and thirty-five, besides visiting a few churches in the interest of the work.

Number of Leagues on mailing list:

|                |    |
|----------------|----|
| North Carolina | 17 |
| Georgia        | 12 |
| Tennessee      | 6  |
| Oklahoma       | 3  |
| Florida        | 4  |
| Arkansas       | 2  |
| Missouri       | 4  |
| Alabama        | 8  |
| South Carolina | 4  |
| Mississippi    | 4  |
| Texas          | 1  |

Total Senior Leagues 65

We have about sixteen Primary Leagues and twelve Juniors, making a grand total of Ninety-three Leagues.

Financial report:

|                                 |          |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Brought forward from June, 1927 | \$108.06 |
| Received from donations         | 17.00    |
| Received for League dues        | 18.89    |

Total \$143.95

Disbursements:

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| To Rev. Thos. E. Beaman for expense of preparing manuscript for League Quarterlies | \$63.25 |
| Free Will Baptist Press for letters and report blanks                              | 7.25    |
| Dunn Printing Co., for letters and Constitutions                                   | 10.50   |
| Alice E. Lupton, Gen. Secretary, traveling expenses                                | 9.25    |

Alice E. Lupton, Gen. Secretary, postage and stationery 7.20

Total disbursements \$97.45

Balance in Treasury 46.50

We have no definite plans for the work another year, except that literature is provided for the next Quarter, beginning July 1st.

The matter now lies in the hands of this honorable body. We feel that we have done our best, under very conflicting conditions, although we failed to reach the goal we had hoped for at the beginning, however, we have met with loyal support and co-operation from a goodly number of our people, both among our preachers and the laity, for which we desire to express our sincere appreciation, and assure you, one and all, that we are indeed grateful.

We are appealing to our preachers everywhere, as well as to our Christian leaders, to rally to the support of this great movement, and do not on any occasion turn a deaf ear to the needs as they shall come before you from time to time.

"The field is white unto harvest, and laborers are few—let us untie the hands of those who are willing to be used of the master in this vital cause, and help save the youth of our denomination and of our land, thereby enabling us to extend our borders and grow into a strong, stalwart organization that we will all be proud of.

With grateful acknowledgement for every favor shown me during the year, I am

Respectfully yours,

ALICE E. LUPTON, Gen. Sec.

National Free Will Baptist League.

Report adopted.

At this time, Rev. R. F. Pittman introduced Mrs. R. B. Spencer, of Ayden, N. C., to the Conference, who gave an account of a victorious campaign waged by the women in behalf of Eureka College. The earnestness of the speaker and the well planned thoughts presented brought an expression of gratitude and praise from the entire assembly.

The next speaker presented to the Conference was Bro. C. K. Dunn, Manager of the Free Will Baptist Press. He related the his ory, in brief, of the establishment and spoke earnestly for the future development of the Press and the necessity of a large circulation of the Baptist paper in order for us to make our publishing establishment what it can and should be.

The time for Divine service having arrived the Moderator called for a few minutes recess, after which Rev. J. R. Hunt brought the message of the hour. Then the Conference adjourned for lunch.

The Conference reassembled and after being favored with special music by the Eureka Quartet and prayer, business was resumed.

According to the program, at this time, Rev. J. C. Moye, of Snow Hill, N. C., delivered an address on "Our Greatest Needs." The message was very forcefully presented. The speaker revealed the fact that he is intense-



ly interested in our Institutions and a note of optimism for the future welfare of the cause was sounded by him.

Rev. J. A. Blanton, of Surrency, Ga., asked to be excused from the Conference and begged leave to present a petition for the next session of the Conference to be held in Georgia.

A verbal report of the Committee on Constitution was heard and their recommendation to run under the same constitution indefinitely was received.

On motion, the report of Committee on Treatise and Discipline be received and that their work be referred to a committee of three appointed by the Moderator, for their inspection, correction and revision, and that mimeograph copies be made and distributed through the various conferences and associations.

The Moderator appointed Revs. E. T. Phillips, J. W. Alford, and J. C. Moye.

On motion, the Conference adjourn its business until 9:30 A. M., Friday.

#### FRIDAY 9:30 A. M., JUNE 15:

Conference assembled as per adjournment after the usual devotions the moderator called for the routine of business.

#### REPORT OF BOARD OF FINANCE.

We, your Board of Finance, make the following report:

I. That each conference and association continue to pay the annual fee of \$10.00.

II. That the Conferences and associations endeavor to pay the 3c per capita into the General Conference Treasury.

III. That all conferences and associations put before their local churches the need of Eureka College.

M. H. MELLETTE, Chairman.

Report adopted.

Petitions for the next session of the Conference were taken up at this time. Horse Branch Church of the South Carolina Conference and Glennville Church of the South Georgia Association, petitioned for the next session. After some discussion and vote it was finally made unanimous for the next session to be held with the Glennville Church of Glennville, Ga.

#### REPORT OF MISSION COMMITTEE.

We, the Mission Committee beg to make the following report:

Seeing the great need of an able evangelist actively engaged in spreading the gospel for our denomination we recommend:

1. That each member of the churches of the General Conference pay annually two cents into the treasury of the Conference for the purpose of aiding an evangelist in doing mission work.

2. That the Executive Board shall employ such an evangelist when sufficient funds shall be raised to warrant such movement.

3. That the evangelist shall work under the supervision of the Executive Board of the Conference, and shall make report of his work to them as often as the Board requires.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. BLANTON, Chairman.

A. B. NELSON,

J. H. OLIVER.

The report was adopted.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Western Conference of North Carolina .....                  | \$ 10.00 |
| Benjamin Randall Conference, Georgia .....                  | 10.00    |
| Pee Dee Conference, North Carolina and South Carolina ..... | 11.42    |
| Salem Association, Florida .....                            | 10.00    |
| Midway Association, Georgia .....                           | 10.00    |
| Liberty Association, Florida .....                          | 10.00    |
| State Line Association, Alabama .....                       | 10.00    |
| Sweet Gum Grove Church, North Carolina .....                | 3.00     |
| Cumberland Association, Tennessee .....                     | 10.00    |
| Central Conference, North Carolina .....                    | 10.00    |
| South Carolina Conference, South Carolina .....             | 10.00    |
| Eastern Conference, North Carolina .....                    | 10.00    |
| Women's Work of Tennessee .....                             | 10.00    |

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Total .....                                | \$124.42 |
| Brought over from last year's report ..... | 24.09    |

|                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| Grand total ..... | \$148.51 |
|-------------------|----------|

Report received.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LITERATURE.

The Committee on Literature reports a growing necessity for Free Will Baptist Literature.

We, therefore, recommend that the pastors of our churches assume the work of putting the Free Will Baptist paper in every Free Will Baptist home as a means of information and education.

We further recommend the use of Free Will Baptist Sunday School literature in all our churches.

And we further urge a careful study of the paper and all other literature now being published with a view to improving the same.

T. G. HARVEY, Chairman.

J. C. HOWELL,

M. B. PRESCOTT.

The report was adopted.



## REPORT OF TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE.

We, the Committee on Temperance submit the following report:

Realizing that there is much intemperance practiced among our folk, we recommend:

1. That we examine ourselves and see wherein we are intemperate and endeavor to remedy such conditions; also that our ministers abstain from those things that hinder their success in the great work of the Master.

2. That this Conference go on record as opposing any movement that tends to abolish the Eighteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

3. We further recommend that our pastors and church officials put forth strenuous efforts to have our Discipline enforced in regard to the use and handling of intoxicating liquors.

Prayerfully submitted by the committee.

E. H. RUSS, Chairman.

G. W. CHERRY.

J. R. DAVIDSON.

Report adopted.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OBITUARY.

Whereas, God in His wise providence has seen fit to call Rev. D. T. Armstrong, one of our strongest ministers, from labor to reward, and

Whereas, Bro. Armstrong was faithful to the General Conference, serving in the capacity of Vice-Moderator, and was loyal to the Cause of Christ during a period of many years,

Therefore, be it Resolved:

First. That we go on record as being willing to bow in humble submission to the will of our Father, and

Second, that we show our appreciation for Bro. Armstrong's connection with our church and his labors therein, by sending a copy of these resolutions to Sister Armstrong, and also by having them printed in the minutes of the Conference.

J. L. WELCH, Chairman.

M. A. WOODARD.

JAS. CHESHIRE.

Report of committee adopted.

On motion, we authorize the Recording Secretary to prepare manuscript of the minutes for the press and that there be one thousand printed and distributed in the usual way, and that the Secretary be allowed \$20.00 for his services.

At this time, to the great surprise of the Conference, Hon. M. B. Prescott conducted the Free Will Baptist Orphanage Concert Class to the stage and the audience was favored with several musical selections from them. At the close of their short program, the Conference expressed their appreciation to the class with an offering amounting to \$40.13.

The hour of Divine worship having arrived, Rev. C. J. Harris of Greenville, N. C., delivered the closing sermon of the Conference, after which a recess was announced for lunch.

## FRIDAY 1:30 P. M.

The Conference was called to order at the appointed time, and after being favored with special music by the Eureka Quartet Band, the business was resumed.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

We, your Committee on Education, submit the following report:

1. We wish to thank every individual and every organization who has at any time in the past contributed to Eureka College.

2. We endorse the educational work being carried on at Eureka College at the present time, and solicit every Free Will Baptist to make some contribution to this institution between now and January 1, 1929.

3. We wish to urge that every conscientious Free Will Baptist solicit students for the college, especially prospective ministerial students.

4. We recommend that Eureka College offer, as soon as possible ministerial courses that may be taken by correspondence.

5. We understand that the Board of Trustees for Eureka College is planning a campaign for the future to relieve the school of its present indebtedness. We recommend and urge that our entire denomination stand in whole-hearted unity behind the campaign.

6. We recommend that a committee on education be appointed now to serve until the next session of the General Conference.

Wm. HENRY OLIVER, Chairman.

Report adopted.

The Moderator appointed the Committee on Education to serve one year as follows: J. L. Welch, Nashville, Tenn.; G. C. Vause, Olan'a, S. C.; Jas. Cheshire, Colquitt, Ga.; G. W. Owens, Chipley, Fla.; J. W. Alford, Kenly, N. C.; and M. B. Hutchinson, Zaleski, Ohio.

The Committee on Resolutions recommended the adoption of the following resolutions:

Realizing that through the efforts of the church combined with the various temperance organizations that the legal sale of intoxicating liquors have been driven from the South and finally from the nation by the enactment of the Eighteenth Amendment, therefore, be it resolved:

That the General Conference of Free Will Baptist in session at Ay'en, N. C., do this day, June 5, 1928, go on record as being opposed to any office in the State or nation being filled by any person who has not and is not showing a whole hearted support of said Eighteenth Amendment, and that we



do further agree that we will not support such a person by ballot, or in any way to obtain office.

J. C. GRIFFIN.

N. D. WIGGS.

Resolution adopted.

On motion, that we furnish the Associated Press with the above resolution.

### RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION.

Be it resolved by this Conference that we express our thanks and appreciation to Eureka College and the people of this community for the hospitality and entertainment we have enjoyed during the session of the Conference.

M. H. MELLETTE.

Resolution adopted.

### RESOLUTIONS PERTAINING TO THE MINISTRY.

Realizing that we can improve the quality and increase the quantity of results in our work in general by increasing our ministerial interest and activity, and a full consecration to the work, therefore, be it resolved:

1st. That we urge the ministers of the various states composing this General Conference, to maintain in their daily lives the high ideals of the ministry of Christ, so that in truth they may be leaders of men.

2nd. That the ministers fail not to take an active part in all activities of the church, keeping every phase of the work before our people, encouraging and exhorting them to a full and hearty response to every call or obligation.

T. G. HARVEY.

The resolution was adopted.

On motion, that this Conference appropriate \$10.00 for Mrs. Polston's use in executing the Women's Work and that the Field Secretary be allowed \$15.00 for his department.

On motion, that the Committee on Treatise and Discipline be permitted to draw on the Treasury for their expense in carrying out the orders of the Conference.

On motion, that this session of the Conference adjourn to meet with the Glennville Church, Glennville, Ga., at the stated time next year.

The Moderator asked Rev. W. H. Laughinghouse of North Carolina, the senior minister present to close the Conference with such remarks and praise as he deemed proper.

M. H. MELLETTE, Moderator.

E. C. MORRIS, Recording Secretary.

## FORM OF CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF WOMAN'S HOME MISSION CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA

### Preamble.

Realizing the need and opportunity of doing a great work for the up-building of the kingdom of God through the Free Will Baptist church. We hope and shall endeavor to accomplish more in this field than we have in the past by uniting the societies herein mentioned, having one aim in common that of bettering conditions along the lines of Christian education, missions and church building. The funds collected from these organizations shall be used for the above named purposes.

### CONSTITUTION.

Article 1. This organization shall be known as the Woman's Home Mission Convention, and shall be established within the bounds of any conference or association.

Art. 2. The officers of this Convention shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Executive Committee. These officers shall be elected at each regular session of the Convention. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the president, secretary and treasurer.

Art. 3. It shall be the duty of the president to preside over all conventions; to state and put all questions properly before the Convention; to preserve decorum, to fill vacancies in office; to appoint all committees and to perform all duties usually pertaining to such an office.

Art. 4. The Vice-President shall occupy the chair in the absence of the president, or at the option of that office, and in this capacity shall perform all duties pertaining to that office.

Art. 5. It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep a full and true record of all the proceedings of the convention in a book provided by the convention for that purpose.

Art. 6. The treasurer shall have charge of all funds belonging to this convention, and shall use the same according to the conditions of the said convention, and shall produce a written report at each annual meeting of the convention of all money received and paid out. All orders for money during the year must be signed by the chairman of the Executive Committee.

Art. 7. It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to look after the local welfare in its respective district in organizing all Ladies Aid Societies, and Woman's Home Mission Societies and arranging a program for each convention, and such other duties as may evolve upon it.

Art. 8. The members of the convention shall consist of delegates appointed by various local societies of this convention. All ministers shall have the privilege as officers and delegates.

Art. 9. This Constitution may be amended only by a two-thirds vote of delegates present at any regular session of the General Conference or a board appointed by the same for the promulgation of women's work.



Art. 10. The Convention may receive reports from the auxiliaries unless they are organized into separate conventions. But in every instance where there is such an organization, auxiliaries not mentioned in this constitution, shall represent in their respective conventions.

# PROPOSED CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF THE UNITED STATES.

In a meeting called to convene with Cofer's Chapel Free Will Baptist church, Nashville, Tenn., May 26-28, 1921, delegates from Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina and Tennessee met for the purpose of reorganizing the General Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists of the United States and appointed a committee of five to draft a constitution and by-laws by which this organization should be governed. The following constitution and by-laws were adopted:

## CONSTITUTION.

### Article I.

Section 1. This organization shall be known as the General Conference of the Original Free Will Baptist Church of the United States.

Section 2. The object of this organization shall be to bring together our people throughout the United States for the purpose of counseling for the general interests of our denomination.

Section 3. The Conference shall be composed of the various Associations, Conferences, Yearly Meetings, and State Conventions, together with other like bodies of the same faith and practice, which may hereafter be admitted. Also members of various standing boards.

Section 4. Officers: Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer and Executive Committee composed of the foregoing officers. Also, Secretaries of such lines of denominational work as time and conditions suggest their expediency, with boards of five each.

## BY-LAWS.

### Article I.

Section 1. The Moderator shall preside over all meetings and appoint such temporary committees as the Conference may deem necessary. He shall call the Executive Committee together when necessary and perform such other duties as parliamentary usage demands of him.

Section 2. The Vice-Moderator shall preside in the absence of the Moderator.

Section 3. The Recording Secretary shall record and keep all proceedings of the Conference and Executive Committee, hold all valuable papers belonging to the Conference, and turn same over to his successor in office.

Section 4. The Corresponding Secretary shall serve as statistician, have charge of advertising and seek to bring other organizations mentioned in the Constitution, into the General Conference.

Section 5. The Executive Committee shall have authority to call extra sessions of the Conference when it becomes necessary, and act as the Conference when it is not in session, such actions to be subject to the Conference.

Section 6. The Treasurer shall hold all monies sent in for sundry purposes and pay out same only as it is apportioned by the Conference or upon receipt of vouchers properly signed by the Moderator and Recording Secretary. He shall give bond as the Conference may demand.

Section 7. Field Secretaries of the different departments shall appoint Field Secretaries in each organization represented in the General Conference, except State Conventions and such other helpers as may be needed to promote their work, and make detailed reports of their accomplishments at each annual session of the General Conference. General Field Secretaries shall be appointed by the boards either in or out of its membership and in case they go out of their board membership to secure a Field Secretary, the Field Secretary shall have the same authority in the General Conference as a member of the board.

Section 8. Each organization represented in the Conference shall be required to donate not less than \$10.00 annually for the promotion of the general interest of the Conference.

## Article II.

Section 1. The Conference shall meet annually on Wednesday before the third Sunday in June at such place as may be designated by the Conference.

Section 2. Each organization belonging to the Conference shall be entitled to two representatives for every 1000 church members or a fraction thereof except State Conventions which shall be entitled to only one representative.

Section 3. The representatives shall present credentials to the Credentials Committee and be governed during business sessions by parliamentary law.

Section 4. All officers and Boards shall serve for a term of two years and shall report annually to the Conference.

## Amendments.

This Constitution and these By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of all the members present in any regular session, provided, the amendment shall not be voted on until the day following the offering of the same.

(The above Constitution and By-Laws are to be adopted or rejected at the next session of the General Conference.)



## LETTER TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

To the General Conference of Free Will Baptist of the United States,  
to be held at -----  
on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday between the Second and Third Sun-  
days in June 1929: GREETINGS:

We send as delegates to represent the -----  
-----

(Name of Convention, Conference or Association)

(Name of delegates and address)

Praying that much and lasting good may be accomplished through  
the General Conference.

The statistics of our body are as follows:

Number of Churches-----Number of Ministers-----Number  
of Members-----Number of Sunday School organizations-----

Number of Free Will Baptist Leagues-----Number of Ladies' Aid  
or Missionary Societies-----Name and number of any other Aux-  
iliary organizations -----

Our Annual fee is \$-----

Name and address to whom minutes are to be sent-----  
-----

----- Moderator.

Address -----

----- Clerk.

Address -----