

# MINUTES

Of The

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

Of The

## *General Conference*

Of The

Original Free Will Baptist Of The United States

Which Convened With

## *Open Pond Church*

JAKIN, GA.

June 13, 14, 15—1934.

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Next Session will convene with Black Jack Church near Greenville, N. C., on Tuesday Evening following the Second Sunday in June, 1935.

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AYDEN, N. C.  
FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS  
1934

1934



## OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

For years 1933—1935.

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Rev. J. R. Davidson, Moderator	Glennville, Ga.
Rev. Henry Melvin, Vice-Moderator	Durham, N. C.
Rev. T. B. Mellette, Recording Secretary	Blakely, Ga.
Jas. Cheshire, Treasurer	Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. J. L. Welch, Field Secretary	Nashville, Tenn.
Rev. T. B. Mellette, Gen. Sec. S. S. Work	Blakely, Ga.
Mrs. Fannie Polston, Gen. Sec. Women's Work	Nashville, Tenn.
Rev. J. C. Griffin, Statistician	New Bern, N. C.
Rev. E. C. Morris, Publicity Director	Waco, Tex.
Rev. M. L. Hollis, Ass. Pub. Director	Red Bay, Ala.
Rev. Henry Melvin, Gen. Sec. Young People's Work	Durham, N. C.
Rev. J. L. Welch, Sec. of Education	Nashville, Tenn.
Rev. I. J. Blackwelder, Sec. Foreign Missions,	Bryan Tex.

## BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR ESTABLISHING BIBLE COLLEGE

Rev. J. L. Welch, Rev. J. W. Alford; Rev. T. B. Mellette,  
Program Committee, Rev. J. R. Davidson; Rev. T. B. Mellette.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. M. L. Hollis—Alabama—Term expires 1935.  
Rev. M. H. Mellette—South Carolina—Term expires 1936.  
Bro. W. A. Jackson—North Carolina—Term expires 1937.  
Rev. Geo. Dunbar—Tennessee—Term Expires 1938.  
Bro. Geo. Owens—Florida—Term expires 1939.



## ASSOCIATION AND CONFERENCE CLERKS AND THEIR POSOFFICE ADDRESS

Salem Association of West Florida	-----	E. S. Haddock, Alford, Fla.
Union Association of Georgia	-----	W. L. Lee, Moultrie, Ga.
South Georgia Association	-----	T. L. Tanner, Alma, Ga.
Midway Association	-----	W. B. Griffin, Milford, Ga.
Georgia Union Association	--	C. J. Harvey, Cordele, Ga.
Martin Association	-----	John E. Drake, Bainbridge, Ga.
Liberty Association of West Florida	-----	N. E. Chesnut, Bonifay, Fla.
Cumberland Association	L. O. Burroughs 4020 Colorado St, Nashville, Tenn.	
Union Association of Tennessee	-----	Geo. D. Dunbar, Chuckey, Tenn.
Nebraska and Northern Kansas	-----	M. L. Morse, Kenesaw, Nebr.
Eastern N. C. Conference	-----	M. C. Presscott, New Bern, N. C., R. 1
Cape Fear N. C. Conference	-----	W. A. Jackson, Godwin, N. C.
Alabama State Convention	-----	M. L. Hollis, Red Bay, Ala.
Central N. C. Conference	-----	Edward C. Hines, Winterville, N. C.
South Carolina	-----	R. M. Mellette, Turbeville, S. C.
N. C. State Convention	-----	Rev. E. T. Phillips, Ayden, N. C.
Alabama-Florida State Line Association	-----	Coy Green, Bascom, Fla.
South Eastern of Alabama	-----	J. S. Vickers, Baker Hill, Ala.
Texas State Convention	-----	I. J. Blackwelder, Bryan, Texas
Ohio River Association	-----	Olin Gould, Wellston, Ohio

## PROCEEDINGS

According to previous appointment the Fourteenth Annual Session of the General Conference of the Original Free Will Baptist met with Open Pond Church, Jakin, Ga., on Wednesday, June 13, 14, 15—1934. The session was held in the High School Auditorium.

Note. Prior to the opening session Rev. W. L. Jernigan of Elizabeth City, N. C. held service, together with the pastor, on Tuesday evening.

The Fourteenth Session was impressively opened by Rev. M. L. Hollis of Red Bay, Ala., using as the basis of his remarks the 116 Psalm. Song service was conducted by Rev. S. T. Shutes of Blakely, Ga.

The Introductory, or Conference sermon was delivered by Rev. J. L. Welch of Nashville, Tenn., from Rom. 16:22. Rev. Welch handled his subject in an able and impressive way, which was soul lifting and inspiring to the members and visitors composing the General Conference.

### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Conference re-assembled at 1:45 o'clock.

Devotions conducted by Rev. J. M. Barnes of Blakely, Ga. Scripture lesson Matthew, sixth chapter, ninth to thirteenth verses. Rev. Barnes confined his remarks to God's will as embraced in the prayer commonly known as the Lord's Prayer.

As special music, a base solo "Sailing Over the Ocean Blue" was rendered by Mr. D. C. Morgan of Blakely, Ga.

In accordance with the conference program the welcome address was delivered by the pastor, Rev. K. V. Shutes, of the local church. The response was rendered by Prof. George Dunbar from the Union Association of east Tennessee. Both, the welcome address and response, were well put.

### CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE—Appointed by the Moderator.

Alabama—Rev. A. H. Godfrey.

Florida—Bro. Geo. Owens.

Georgia—Bro. Willie Wiley.

North Carolina—Rev. M. A. Woodard.

South Carolina—Rev. E. P. Kirby.

Tennessee—Rev. J. L. Welch.

Texas—Rev. I. J. Blackwelder.

Nebraska—Bro. M. L. Morse.

Finance Committee—Rev. J. C. Griffin, Rev. C. J. Harvey; Prof. Geo. D. Dunbar.

Resolution Committee—Rev. J. W. Alford, Rev. E. C. Morris; Rev. A. J. Williams.

### OTHER COMMITTEES, OR SPECIAL

1. To confer with sister Fannie Polston relative to the women's work, namely: Mrs. M. A. Woodard, N. C., Mrs. Henry Melvin, N. C., Mrs.



I. L. Stanly, Ala., Mrs. J. E. Simpson, Tenn.; Mrs. E. C. Morris, Tex., Miss Dot Harvey, Ga.

2. To confer with Rev. Henry Melvin relative to F. W. B. League work, namely: Mrs. J. E. Frasier, Tenn.; Rev. E. C. Morris, Tex.; Rev. I. J. Blackwelder, Tex.

Moved and sustained to suspend the program until the credential Committee makes its report; thereupon the moderator's message was suspended until the close of the session, which was delivered in sermon form. Which, see later.

While waiting upon the Credential Committee several songs were conducted by the music director, and several special numbers, including some gospel quartets, were rendered to the spiritual delight of the congregation.

Amendments to section IV and VI of the Constitution and Bylaws were offered by Rev. T. B. Mellette as follows, namely: Section IV be amended as to read-but the right to vote shall be restricted to all lawful delegates seated in the body, and the secretary officers, treasurer, and the executive committee; but no one shall vote more than once even though he or she may hold two offices

Section VI be amended as to read-convening on Tuesday evening following the second Sunday in June, and before the third Sunday, in each year at such place as may be designated by the General Conference in its regular session, or at its discretion.

Amendments laid on the table until Thursday business, which see.

By motion the conference recessed until Thursday Morning 9:30 A. M.

Devotions conducted by Rev. J. R. Bennett, Middlesex, N. C. Rev. Bennett read for the lesson the second of Ephesians, and ably defended the great truths contained therein. Prayer was offered for the services by the devotional speaker, which was rendered with spiritual zeal and divine petitions.

The sermon was delivered in the person of Rev. R. B. Spencer of Goldsboro, N. C. formerly president of Eureka College. Rev. Spencer used as his subject "The Chief Corner Stone", using as his basis Isa. 28:14, 15; 16. The subject was well presented in a logical and spiritual manner to the soul benefit and edifying of all.

### THURSDAY MORNING

Conference opened with praise and prayer. Singing conducted by Prof. I. L. Stanly. The familiar hymns "My Faith Looks Up to Thee," and "At The Cross" were used.

Devotions by Rev. Daniel F. Pelt of Dothan, Ala. Prayer by Rev. T. B. Mellette. Scripture used by leader Matthew 20:20-28 Theme, your ministry. The thoughts presented were placed, and a spiritual service was enjoyed by those present.

### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

*Field Secretary.*—In accordance with the program the Field Secretary

made report which was accepted and made part of the conference proceedings. See report.

*Report of Statistician.*—By motion the report of the statistician was accepted. See Report.

*Free Will Baptist League Secretary.*—The report was read and discussed. Upon proper motion the report of said secretary was accepted. See Report.

*General Secretary of Sunday School Work.*—After the report of the S. S. Secretary was made and briefly and credibly discussed, the report was adopted by vote of conference. See report.

*Secretary of Women's Work.*—Sister Fannie Polston made her report which covered her field of activity for the conference year. Upon its presenting, the report was heartedly indorsed by Rev. T. B. Mellette, and Rev. J. R. Davidson, after which a motion was made and sustained to accept same. See report.

### MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

The amendments offered on Wednesday were brought before the conference for consideration and after careful consideration the amendments to section IV and VI of the Constitution and By-laws were adopted. See Wednesday's business and amended sections.

By motion conference recessed for preaching and refreshments until 1:45 P. M.

### DAY SERVICES

Song services by the congregation, special music during services by two different quartets.

Sermon delivered by Rev. Winfred Davis from Monett, Mo., and of the Indian Creek Association. Scripture lesson—the third chapter of I John—Theme—Love. The sermon was delivered in an impressive manner and enjoyed by a large congregation.

### THURSDAY AFTERNOON

Conference convened according to appointment.

*Song for opening.*—"I am Bound for the Promised Land," led by Prof. I. L. Stanly.

Devotions conducted by Rev. Linton Johnson, Alma, Ga. Scripture lesson Matt. 28:16-20. Brother Johnson's remarks were timely and appropriate.

Prayer was offered by Bro. W. A. Jackson.

At this point Rev. Ott of Damascus, Ga., a new-comer among our people, was presented to the body.

By special request special music was rendered by Messrs, Melvin, Shutes Bros. and Rennols.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED

*Report of Merger of the Two National Bodies.*—By motion the report



was accepted and request granted to appoint a committee of five to meet the General Cooperative Association at Denison, Tex., in November 1934. See report.

*Credential Committee's Report.*—The Credential Committee made report which was deferred until Friday morning. It was accepted on Friday's session. See report.

*Report of Sec. of Foreign Mission.*—Moved and sustained to accept the report of the Foreign Mission Secretary. See report.

*Note.*—A sepecial collection was taken for foreign mission which amounted to \$24.27.

*Special Committee.*—The special committee appointed to counsel with Sister Fannie Polston made a favorable report relative to MSS for publication on Women's Work. The report was indorsed and accepted by the General Conference. It will appear in separate form to the minute.

*Inspirational Address.*—At 3:00 Rev. E. L. Hughes, Field Secretary for Florida—Alabama League Convention brought the General Conference a message of the Challenge of Youth. The message was delivered in a beautiful and soul stirring manner: it being both uplifting and beneficial. At the close of the address the congregation was led in singing one verse of "All Hail The Power of Jesus Name."

*Committee on Finance.*—The committee on finance made a favorable report which was accepted. See report.

By motion the moderator be empowered to confer with the League Secretary and appoint editors for the League Quartelies. Motion carried. See appointment in other section.

By motion the conference adjourned until 8:30 o'clock Friday morning. Praise and prayer by the moderator.

### FRIDAY MORNING

Conference convened according to adjournment.

Song service conducted by Rev. E. C. Morris of Texas.

Devotions conducted by Rev. Thos. Bowen of South Carolina.

*Scripture lesson Hebrews second chapter.*—Theme—How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation?

Special song services rendered by members of the Orphanage Concert Class.

Correspondence read from Rev. R. F. Pittman, Rev. W. B. Everett, and Rev. J. B. Bloss by the moderator.

### REPORTS CONTINUED FROM THURSDAY

*Treasure Report.*—By motion the report of the conference treasurer was accepted. See report.

*Credential Committee's Report.*—Moved and sustained that the Credential Committee's report be accepted. See report.

*Report of Secretary of Education.*—Moved and sustained that the Secretary of Education report be accepted in its entirety. Since the report carried a recommendation for an educational board of three, the report was

ably read and cleverly debated. The report was carried, and the Board of Education appears separate to this. See report.

### MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

Moved and sustained that the Secretary of The Young People's Work be empowered to contract for the printing of League Litearture with the Ayden F. W. B. Printing Company, and, if possible, receive part of the revenue from same for the paying of expense in having MSS prepared and other expense of the secretary.

A motion was offered to have the Secretary of The Young People's work secure credible advertising matter for the league quartelies at his discretion for the maintenance and support of the work. After considerable debate it was deemed best in the wisdom of the General Conference to indorse the movement. Motion carried without a dissenting vote.

Moved and sustained that the Recording Secretary at His discretion have printed on a competitive basis 1500 minutes and mailed to the different association and conference clerks on a ratio basis. The treasurer was ordered by the conference to settle with the Recording Secretary for his service.

Upon motion, the treasurer was ordered to pay the moderator \$12.50 at this session, the same being half what has been previously paid at the moderator's expiring term.

Motion the treasurer pay the different standing secretaries a fee of \$10.00 for their service and other expense. Motion carried.

Moved and sustained that the moderator appoint the necessary executive committee. See Committee in another section.

A motion was made to have the committee on merger's expense be paid to the General Cooperative association at Denison, Texas at it's session in November, said Committee using all economy possible, meeting together at Nashville and traveling from there as a party together.

The motion was debated and after due consideration was carried by vote of the body. See Committee in another place.

Moved and carried by rising vote to return thanks to Open Pond Church and Jakin, Ga., community for their splendid hospitality and entertainment during the 1934 Session.

Moved to consider invitations for the next session.

An invitation was extended for the next session by Piney Grove Church of the Liberty Association of West Florida; also, an invitation came from Rev. J. C. Griffin to meet with the North Carolina brethren.

By motion the conference voted to accept the invitation from Rev. J. C. Griffin to meet with the North Carolina brethren, the place to be selected by Rev. J. C. Griffin and Rev. M. A. Woodard. See place and time elsewhere.

A vote of appreciation for the service of Rev. Henry Melvin was taken as the out-going editor of the F. W. B. League Quarterlies, Brother Melvin having resigned, and the places to be filled by appointment. See elsewhere in this minute.



The General Conference by rising vote voted to extend the eleventh hour service to the moderator, Rev. J. R. Davidson.

A motion was made for final adjournment. Motion carried to meet as per announcement.

J. R. DAVIDSON, Moderator.  
T. B. MELLETTE, Secretary.

### FRIDAY MID-DAY SERVICE

Singing by the congregation.

Prayer by Rev. E. P. Kirby.

Sermon by Rev. J. R. Davidson from Joshua 3:5, 6, 7.

Rev. Davidson rendered his sermon in a soul stirring and impressive manner.

Final announcements made by Rev. K. V. Shutes, and prayer of dismission by Brother Morse from Nebraska.

*Note.*—The Resolution Committee made no report.

The General Conference recognized the following as delegates from the General Cooperative Association for the purpose of consultation relative to the proposed merger of the two national bodies. These are namely: From Missouri, Revs. Selph Jones, Geo. W. Scott Jr., O. L. Allen, James F. Miller, D. R. Royster, J. E. Burney, Cecil Campbell, Noel Turner, Winfred Davis; and laymen Emmet Jones, John Pryor Jr., Tom Edwards. From Oklahoma Revs. Melvin Bingham, John Waltman and Bert Rogers. From Arkansas Rev. Ralph Staten. From the Tri-State Association of Ohio, Kentucky and West Virginia, Revs. H. B. Conley, Mildred Vanhouse, John E. Conley and F. S. Vanhouse.

### APPOINTMENTS OF THE MODERATOR

*By The Authority Of*  
THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

*Field Evangelists to work with the Field Secretary.*—Rev. J. C. Griffin, New Bern, N. C., Rev. E. C. Morris, Waco, Texas.

*Committee on Merger to meet with The Gen. Cop. Asso. at Dennison, Texas, in November. (11-6 to 9-34).*—Rev. J. L. Welch, Nashville, Tenn., Rev. J. W. Alford, Kenly, N. C., Rev. Henry Melvin, Durham, N. C., Rev. K. V. Shutes, Blakely, Ga., Bro. A. D. Ivy, Jakin, Ga.

*Board of Education for investigation of sight and location of Bible College.*—Rev. J. L. Welch, Nashville, Tenn., Rev. J. W. Alford, Kenly, N. C., Rev. T. B. Mellette, Blakely, Ga.

### EDITORS FOR F. W. B. LEAGUE LITERATURE FOR 1935

*Senior Quarterly.*—Rev. I. J. Blackwelder, Bryan, Texas.

*Junior Quarterly.*—Miss Bertha Lee Rose, Goldsboro, N. C.

*Intermediate Quarterly.*—Miss Anna C. Zorn, Glennville, Ga.

### REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

We your Committee on finance find that the fees of the following Associations, Conferences, and State Conventions have been paid, or properly vouched for, as follows, namely:

Central N. C. Conference	\$ 10.00
N. C. State Convention	10.00
Cape Fear N. C. Conference	10.00
Eastern N. C. Conference (1933-1934)	20.00
S. C. Conference	10.00
Midway Association of Georgia	10.00
South Georgia Association	10.00
Martin Association of Georgia	10.00
Alabama-Florida State Line	10.00
Cumberland Association of Tennessee	10.00
Union Association of Tennessee	10.00
Nebraska-Kansas Yearly Meeting	10.00
Liberty Association of West Florida	10.00
Salem Association of West Florida	6.00

The following properly vouched for by their respective delegates.

Georgia Union Association	\$ 10.00
Union Association of Georgia	10.00
Alabama State Conference	10.00
South Eastern Association of Alabama	10.00
State Convention of Texas	10.00
Ohio River Association (Conditioned)	10.00
Salem Association of West Florida	4.00
Total pledges	\$ 64.00
Total Cash	146.00

*Respectively submitted- the Committee*

J. C. GRIFFIN.

GEO. D. DUNBAR.

C. J. HARVEY.

### REPORT OF CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

We your Credential Committee are pleased to report the following delegates eligible for seats in this conference, namely:

N. C. Eastern Conference—Rev. J. W. Alford	fee \$10.00
N. C. Central Conference—Rev. M. A. Woodard	fee \$10.00
N. C. State Convention—Rev. J. C. Griffin	fee \$10.00
S. C. Conference—Rev. E. P. Kirby	fee \$10.00

*Georgia Associations*

Midway Association—Bros. Willie Wiley and J. B. Hodges	fee \$10.00
South Georgia Association—Rev. A. J. Williams and P. B. Copeland	fee \$10.00



Georgia Union Association—Rev. C. J. Harvey .....	fee	\$10.00
Martin Association—Rev. E. A. Drake and Bro. J. E. Drake .....	fee	\$10.00
Union Association—Rev. A. L. Sellers and Rev. J. C. Weathers ..	fee	\$10.00

*Alabama Associations*

Alabama-Florida State Line—Rev. A. H. Godfrey and Rev. Floyd Cherry .....	fee	\$10.00
Alabama State Conference vouched for by it's moderator—Rev. M. L. Hollis .....	fee	\$10.00
South Eastern—Bro. J. Long Stokes .....	fee	\$10.00

*Tennessee Associations*

Cumberland Association—Rev. G. T. Harris and Mrs. Fannie Polston .....	fee	\$10.00
Union Association—Rev. P. H. Woolsey and Rev. Geo. D. Dunbar .....	fee	\$10.00
Texas State Convention—Rev. I. J. Blackwelder and Rev. E. C. Morris .....	fee	\$10.00
Kansas and Nebraska Yearly Meeting—Bro. M. L. Morse .....	fee	\$10.00

*Florida Associations*

Salem Association—Bro. E. S. Haddock .....	paid	\$ 6.00
Vouched for .....		\$ 4.00
Liberty Association—Bro. G. W. Owens and Bro. N. E. Chesnut ..	fee	\$10.00
Ohio River Association—Rev. O. L. Gould .....	fee conditionally	
Vouched for .....		\$10.00

Concerning the Progressive Association of Alabama we propose to keep this association under the watchcare of the General Conference for another year, trusting that the differences between the said Association and State Conference of Alabama be settled during this period.

*Respectively Submitted*

THE CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE.

## REPORT OF EDUCATIONAL SECRETARY

My report, which was adopted at the last session of the General Conference, carried a recommendation for a centralized educational institution to be made conditional upon the merging of the General Conference and the Cooperative General Association into one national body. The adoption of that recommendation seemed to have the hearty approval of all our people present at that time.

The question of an adequate educational institution seems to be uppermost in the minds of our people everywhere even at this time. The need of such an institution or school is very apparent to all.

My recommendation at this time is, that we establish, as early as possible, a school for the training of our ministers, missionaries and other workers, at some point most easily accessible for all our people; and that we launch a campaign in our denomination for funds to build and maintain such a

work. I would recommend further that a commission be appointed at this time to select a location for the school, arrange for its management and direct the campaign for funds.

I would further recommend that our ministers and laymen take this matter of a school before our people in the different states and create a strong sentiment and support for the school, and that all of us shall do our best to support the institution to the very best of our ability.

J. L. WELCH Secretary.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

*Receipts*

Balance on hand at last Report .....	\$ 17.05
Received from Finance Committee .....	91.50
Received from R. E. Thomson, Wilson Mills, N. C. ....	10.00
Received from South Carolina Original Free Will Baptist Conference ..	10.00
Received from Georgia Union Association .....	10.00
Received from Salem Association of Florida .....	5.00
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	\$143.55

*Disbursements*

To amount paid to Treasurer on account of failure of Colquitt Exchange Bank, Colquitt, Ga., O. K. by Conference .....	\$ 12.00
Paid to I. J. Blackwelder .....	10.00
Paid to J. R. Davidson .....	25.00
Paid F. W. B. Press for Minutes and Mailing .....	38.00
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	\$ 85.00
Balance on hand .....	58.55
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	\$143.55

## FOREIGN MISSIONS REPORT

June 1, 1933 to June 1, 1934

*Cash Receipts*

Balance brought forward .....	\$161.44
Midway Association of Ca., by A. D. Ivey .....	10.90
F. W. B. League, by Rev. Henry Melvin .....	8.55
Geo. Webster, Washington, N. C. ....	13.00
Ladies Aid of Bladenboro, N. C., by Mrs. D. J. Pait .....	9.25
Bryan Church, Bryan, Texas .....	24.77
Central Conference of N. C., by S. J. Vincent .....	25.00
Union of Cape Fear Conference of N. C., by Rev. Milton Johnson ..	3.00
North Zulch Church, North Zulch, Texas, by Rev. E. C. Morris .....	10.36
Woodlawn Church, Texas, by Rev. E. C. Morris .....	2.42
Waco Church, Waco, Texas, by Rev. E. C. Morris .....	1.88
Cape Fear Conference of N. C., by Rev. Milton Johnson .....	3.25



Sunday School Class, by Miss Mildred Anderson of Macomb, Mo. --	1.50
Junior and Intermediate Leagues, Glennville, Ga., by J. R. Davidson --	2.50
Progressive Association of Ala., by W. H. Ryland -----	8.50
Ladies Aid and League, Durham, N. C., by Rev. Henry Melvin ----	14.88
Sunday Schools, by Olen Gould, Wellston, Ohio -----	4.06
Ebenezer Church, Glennville, Ga., by Rev. J. R. Davidson -----	1.64

Total receipts and balance brought forward -----\$306.40

#### Disbursements

To the Ceylon and India General Mission for our missionary, Mr. R. Paul -----	\$120.00
For Paul's cut -----	3.38
For a record book -----	.65.
Taxes on four checks -----	.08

Total disbursements -----\$124.11, 124.11

Balance in treasury -----\$182.29

I. J. BLACKWELDER, Sec. & Tres.

### REPORT OF FIELD SECRETARY

During the fourteen years since the beginning of our General Conference work, we have been striving to bring together the forces of the Free Will Baptist denomination into one general or national body. At first the outlook for this undertaking seemed a very difficult task, but under the leadership of the Lord and with the cooperation of a number of our best workers, we have succeeded in bringing together the greater portion of our people into this organization. The uniting of the General Conference and the Cooperative General Association will be the last major step in that direction so far as organization is concerned. We trust this will be accomplished at this session.

So far as my contacts with our people show, there is a better feeling among them toward each other and toward the things for which we all are striving. The task before us has not been finished and I am recommending that we continue our efforts along all lines possible for a greater brotherhood.

Inasmuch as we are handicapped by lack of funds, I recommend that we elect at this time at least two national evangelists to assist in the work of uniting our people.

Since our last meeting, I have visited the Union Association in East Tennessee and made contact with the Stone Association for the purpose of organizing a state convention. We hope to realize that ambition soon.

J. L. WELCH, Secretary.

### ANNUAL REPORT OF GENERAL SECRETARY FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 1, 1934

To the 14th Annual Session of the General Conference of Free Will Baptist in session June 13-15, 1934, at Jakin, Ga. Greetings:

My report this year carries a very optimistic note throughout, of which I am proud, for certainly we should be proud of the youth of our Church. On a whole, the work has made considerable progress through the past year, new fields have been entered, old fields strengthened and much accomplished along all lines.

Some of the outstanding things that should interest this honorable body are: At the 1933 session of the North Carolina State F. W. B. L. Convention, convened in the city of New Bern, three (3) fine young people declared themselves for the foreign field. Two of these have already entered definite training for service, the other is waiting for the way to be opened. To me, this presents a mighty challenge. They are ready with their lives, are we ready with our prayers and money to send them? This Convention as a whole is doing a progressive work.

The Tri-state F. W. B. L. Convention in its 1933 session in Glennville, Ga. died in order to give birth to three Conventions. For some time the leaders of this Convention had felt the time was ripe for an expansion of the work in that territory. The Tri-State Convention was divided geographically as follows: Ga. and N. Fla. Convention, South Ala. and West Fla., and North Ala. and Mississippi. The South Ala. and West Fla. Convention has already been set up, the Ga. and North Fla. Convention is in progress of being perfected.

District Conventions are being organized in a great many Conferences and Associations which are a great help in sustaining and expanding the work in that immediate territory. May we have more of them.

We offer you the following statistics: Total number organizations: 250, in fifteen states. Organizations divided among the states as follows: N. C. 40; Tennessee 28; Okla. 18; Missouri 24; Texas 12; Arkansas 18; Va. 4; Florida 18; Alabama 30; South Carolina 10; Georgia 35. Mississippi 6; Ill. 3. W. Va. 3; Kansas 1.

Total number Leaguers, approximately 10,000.

Total sale of literature:	
Senior Quarterlies -----	8,035
Intermediate Quarterlies -----	2,535
Junior Quarterlies -----	4,120
Grand total -----	14,690

The following is my financial report for the year:	
Received from Leagues (10% of dues) -----	\$31.26
Union Association, Tennessee -----	\$ 5.00
Paid out for stationery, postage, sundry supplies, -----	\$30.26
Balance on hand as of June 1, 1934 -----	\$ 6.00



The fact that we have enrolled nearly 1,500 more of our youth in training, sold nearly 3,000 more quarterlies, and gained two state Conventions during the year is the warrant for many statement that I am optimistic over the outlook. That optimism is not just for today, but I realize that as a church we shall reap the harvest in the years to come. May God help us to gird ourselves for the fray and leave for our youth a more glorious Church. I believe they deserve it. Do you agree?

*Yours for the Kingdom,*

HENRY MELVIN, General Secretary.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1934

As secretary of the Sunday School work for the General Conference I am glad to state that we have made some progress during the past two or three years. But the progress is not as satisfactory as it should be. But the work gives us a clue in that we can hinge on and carry Sunday School activity to a greater degree and have better results.

In some of the conferences and associations, I find that there is not any special feature projects, or even Sunday School conventions. According to the information I have, we have many churches in conferences and associations without any Sunday School. Thus a lack of interest prevails and we are forced to believe no vision accompany these people where lack of Sunday School interest prevails.

I am not able to report the exact number of Conventions operating within the bounds of our denomination as I have failed to be able to receive a response to my activities as your secretary.

I have learned that the South East Missouri S. S. Convention has some feature projects such as unity of work. The First Mission S. S. Convention of Oklahoma reports looking forward to the establishment of a home for worn and retired ministers.

The Central North Carolina Conference has a S. S. and League Convention combined. Thus there is an over-laping of the work in this section and particular head. Their work is evangelizing their territory. The Union Association of Tennessee has no convention but they have special supervision under the jurisdiction of the Association S. S. worker. They claim this work is very effective.

In some states there is a state convention especially for Sunday School work, and all Sunday Schools delegate to this body. In other states there are two or more Sunday School conventions which are doing some effective work.

I am of the opinion that we need field workers, capable of holding Church School Institutes, and conducting Sunday School training courses. In fact, we have such a call from a field in Oklahoma and a similar report reaches me from Missouri. Thus, the call is for a better organization, capable of doing a vast work.

According to Business Manager's statement of the Ayden Free Will

Baptist Press they are now serving approximately 900 Schools with literature, and 32,500 or more scholars. This does not include that selling of 9,000 picture card sets each quarter. However we have schools which does not purchase their supplies from our press in Ayden, N. C., but by persistent efforts I am saying there is movement which is working slowly to have every Sunday School within the bounds of this body patronize their own literature, and I believe within a few years this will be very near accomplished.

Pastors, it depends on us to get the program to working for the better and more efficient Sunday School activity. I believe if the moral courage could be found in a willing worker who is willing to go out and evangelize the Sunday School field that much added interest would be momentarily fostered. Too, we need to encourage the spirit of giving and church supporting in our Sunday School Activity.

While we have no funds available to carry on a new feature project, I am of the opinion we can foster some movement that will richly increase our interest in the Kingdom of God. Until we launch a new enterprise with an educational program, we shall not see the desired progress which I believe God demands of us, a sovereign people enjoying His rich grace and most choice blessings.

*Respectively submitted,*

T. B. MELLETTTE.

### REPORT OF SECRETARY OF WOMEN'S WORK

The annual report on Women's Work is submitted to this Conference in humble recognition of the goodness of our heavenly Father who has so blessed the work of our women's auxiliaries throughout all these years.

The call to do the difficult has led to greater dependence on Him for whom there is nothing too hard. The summons to accomplish the impossible has challenged greater faith in God with whom "all things are possible." Therefore, there has been a marked increase in those spiritual values, we believe, in an enlarged capacity for service in the Master's work. For this growth we thank God and pray that because of it, the women of our beloved church may prove even more serviceable in all movements which will result in the extending of Christ's kingdom.

From the very beginning, the purpose of this organization has been to lead the women of the Free Will Baptist Church into a larger share in the winning of the world to Christ. This is made possible by providing a place of service for every woman in the church. The program of the auxiliary tends to develop the spiritual life of the membership, to increase the interest of all in the mission task of the church, to unite in a spirit of fellowship those of kindred minds in God's service, and to train each in systematic and proportionate giving to the support of the work of the church. It is helpful always to keep our purpose before us and examine the fruits of



service often to see how we measure up to the standard of Christ whom we serve as an auxiliary arm of his church.

Since prayer must precede and undergird all our service, let us begin there. The women's auxiliary was born in prayer and its plans were shaped through prayer, so by observing the Week of Prayer we seek to focus the power of prayer upon a world task, believing that prayer can do anything that God can do, and remembering the prayer of Jesus "that the world may know."

There has been a notable increase in the special study of stewardship and it has helped our people to more thoroughly understand God's plan not only for financing his work but his plan for our lives as they are given to him.

The study of missions, or missionary education, is a very essential part of our work and we feel that it cannot be omitted from any church program that makes any pretense of being complete. In the heart of every Christian there should burn the passion for a lost world, but in most cases the fire of zeal feeds on definite, accurate, concrete knowledge; so we recommend for study two books: "Prayer and Missions," by Helen Barrett Montgomery and for the stewardship class "A Call to Stewardship," by Julius Earl Crawford. We trust that no church will let this period pass without study, prayer and self-denial giving for the great and pressing needs.

The Year Book of devotional programs was prepared by some of our representative women in the various states, presenting the objectives so vital to our people. Fifteen hundred copies were printed and distributed. In addition to this, several hundred letters have been written to local and convention presidents. Six hundred circular letters written to local and convention presidents. Six hundred letters were sent out and approximately one hundred copies of the study class books on stewardship and prayer and missions, making an estimate of something like forty thousand pages of literature distributed.

I have reports from scattered work over several states, all of which seems to be working for better organization. They report doing splendid work in their local church and community.

The report of organized conventions is as follows:

North Carolina State Auxiliary Convention reports four district conventions with ninety societies with a total membership of 1,554. Their work is divided into five departments namely, Missions, Orphanage, Education, Superannuation and Publication, each one reporting much constructive work. They report 25 children in the orphanage at Middlesex being clothed entirely by this group of women. Several Mission and Stewardship classes were held. The Week of Prayer was quite generally observed. They raised during the year \$5,962.75 which was used in carrying out this program of work outlined. They send \$37.15 for national dues.

Alabama has one district convention of which I have been unable to

get a complete report. Owing to the bad weather the day their convention met only three societies represented. However they report some good work done. They are trying to carry out the program and promising a better report next time. They have held several study classes and send \$4.10 national dues.

Georgia reports one district convention composed of nine ladies aid and missionary societies. Their report is incomplete. They have conducted a few study classes and have tried to follow the outlined program. This convention reports most of the money raised used in local work. They send \$1.50 national dues. The ladies aid at Glennville, Ga. is located outside the District Convention territory and they send a very interesting report. They report 17 members and \$37.39 raised which was used in local work; held some stewardship classes; observed the Week of Prayer; send \$1.70 national dues.

Ebenezer Church at Glennville, Ga. reports 23 members. They raised during the year \$60.58 which was used in their local work. They held the regular stewardship class; observed the Week of Prayer; carried out the work of the Personal Service Department in helping the unfortunate and needy of their church; they send \$2.30 for national work.

Received from Mrs. Sam Womack, Cottonwood, Ala., \$2.00; Mrs. J. B. McLawhorn, Winterville, N. C., \$ .50; from Mrs. M. A. Woodard, \$1.40, the national dues of the Ladies Aid of Little Creek Church at Snow Hill, N. C. These amounts added to the above report makes a total of \$79.20.

South Carolina reports one district convention with 10 societies carrying out the program of work in a very satisfactory way. They have held a few study classes, observed the Week of Prayer in part. Report does not state the amount of money raised. They send \$7.35 national dues.

Tennessee. The Auxiliary to the Cumberland Association reports 11 societies representing at their last convention with a total membership of 117. Their plan of work has been carried out quite generally. They have four departments,—Education, Personal Service, Stewardship and Missions, with a superintendent appointed by the convention for each department, whose duty it is to see that the work is encouraged and carried on in the local society. They collected during the year \$1,280.19 most of which was used for local and convention purposes. They gave \$10.00 extra for national women's work; \$25.00 to Zion Bible School; they send \$17.70 for national dues.

The Auxiliary of the Union Association in Tennessee met in regular session August 18, 1933 with 11 societies representing 186 members. They report a net gain of 18 members; collected \$318.05 which was used in local work; they send \$2.50 for national work.

Texas. The report of the auxiliary work of the Bryan Church is very good. They are divided into two circles doing personal service work and assisting the local church. They report mission study; observance of the Week of Prayer; a total membership of 32.



*Financial Report*

Received at last session of General Conference \$57.25, special offering from Tennessee Auxiliary Convention \$10.00, a total of \$67.25.

Paid out for stamps and stationery .....	\$19.14
Paid out to Ayden F. W. B. Press for Year Book .....	40.00
Paid out to Express Company for Year Book .....	5.63
Paid out for Telegram to Publishing Company .....	.63
Paid out Deficit to last year's account .....	1.93

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\$67.33

Received Dec. 1933, Mrs. John D. Burrow, Hamilton, Ala. ....	\$ .60
Received May 1934, Mrs. M. H. Mellette, S. C. Convention .....	7.35
Received May 1934, Mrs. J. M. Mitchell, Treas. N. C. Convention .....	36.15
Received May 1934, Mrs. Mary Belle Pait, Bladenboro, N. C. ....	1.00
Received May 1934, Mrs. M. L. Hollis, Ala. Aux. dues .....	3.50
Received June 1934, Mrs. Joe Fort, Milford, Ga. ....	1.00
Received June 1934, Mrs. J. D. Vann, Blackshear, Ga. ....	1.50
Received June 1934, Mrs. Stella Knight, Glennville, Ga. ....	1.70
Received June 1934, Mrs. J. C. Howington, Aux. Convention to Union Association .....	2.50
Received June 1934, Aux. Conv. to Cumberland Association .....	17.70
Received June 1934, Ebenezer Ladies Aid, Glennville, Ga. ....	2.30

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\$75.30

A summary of the work shows 1,968 women represented in this report with approximately \$9,000.00 raised and spent in local and convention work. As the work of our women has been tested by the three-fold purpose of our auxiliary organization, praying, studying, giving, we are reminded of the consecrated lives of unnamed heroines all of whom have made possible this report. Included in this number are women from large and small churches, each contributing her share in her appointed place. To all these we would pay a tribute of praise and especially would we remember that band of faithful women who prepared the manuscript for the Year Book of Programs as well as all others who have served in places of leadership.

Reviewing the story of the year's work, seeing both the things accomplished in our Master's service and the things we have failed to do, brings us to our knees, first, to thank Him for whatever he has done through us, then to ask his forgiveness for the failures along the way; and finally to promise him that in his strength we shall go bravely forward to build upon the structure of the past a building unto his honor and praise.

Figures in a report may not reveal the full story. We believe there are results of this year's work which never could be recorded on earth. God knows of every work of love done in his name. He knows by name the host of women in our auxiliaries who have had a share in the kingdom growth during these years.

That faith that led his followers in the past is available to all his children who would claim his promise today. Wherefore, the facts of this report challenge us to go forward to more believing Prayer and to more earnest Work. Because he commands, because the needs of the world call, and because in his strength we can meet these needs even in the face of difficulties, let us go forward looking unto Jesus, the same yesterday, today and forever.

*Respectively submitted,*

MRS. FANNIE POLSTON, Sec. of Women's Work.

**REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE**

We, the Special Committee appointed at Bryan, Texas, in the 1932 session, to work in cooperation with the Executive Committee of the General Cooperative Association reports as follows:

1. While at Nashville, Tenn., in 1933, we worked out what we thought was a satisfactory basis for the merging of the two (2) bodies into one "National" body or organization. At this, the 1934 session, we met with the Executive Committee of the General Cooperative Association and found that for reasons stated below, by the above named committee, that the merger could not be perfected at this time. However, assurances were given by the brethren that they would continue to work for the merger until the General Cooperative Association meets in Denison, Texas in November, 1934.

Below are the reasons that prohibit the merger at this time:

We, the Executive Board of the Cooperative General Association, together with members in council, beg to submit the following report:

Owing to existing conditions we feel that we cannot proceed further with merger at this time; so we ask that the matter be deferred for at least one year at which time we hope to be able to settle the matter definitely.

This decision was unanimously and harmoniously agreed upon by all persons concerned, and we wish to add further that we highly appreciate the friendly spirit which is existing between the two bodies at the present time, and our prayer is that it may continue until we can experience even greater things."

*Signed,*

MELVIN BINGHAM, Chm. of Board.  
WINFORD DAVIS, Moderator.

2. We, therefore, recommend that the General Conference appoint a special committee of five, (5) to meet with the Cooperative General Association in November, in Denison, Texas; with instructions to complete the merging of the two (2) bodies, if possible, on the basis of the 1933 agreement.

*Signed,*

HENRY MELVIN, Secretary of Committee.



## REPORT OF STATISCIAN

States	Churches	Value	Ministers	Members	Net Gain 1933
N. C.	248	\$337,000	146	27,646	609
S. C.	41	41,000	25	2,311	111
Tenn.	29	96,000	26	3,262	141
Va. & W. Va.	44	23,945	62	1,990	
Ga.	53	29,000	54	4,151	275
Fla.	24	24,000	27	2,031	128
Ala.	125	125,000	101	9,167	464
Ark.	134	134,000	156	5,376	224
Texas	63	64,250	63	3,857	329
Miss.	14	12,000	9	900	
Total	775	\$882,195	671	60,291	2,281

These figures are estimates in some parts because the minutes were so incomplete that a definite figure could not be obtained.

*Signed,*

J. C. GRIFFIN, Statistician.

## CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

## PREAMBLE.

In a meeting called to meet with Cofer's Chapel Free Will Baptist church, in which meeting was represented the Original Free Will Baptist of the following states: Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, Ohio and Tennessee. In this meeting a committee of five was appointed to draft a Constitution and By-Laws, by which this organization shall be governed.

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

Section II. The object of the organization shall be to bring together our people throughout the United States, for the purpose of counseling for the general interest of our denomination.

Section III. This organization shall be composed of the various Associations, Conferences and Conventions of the above named states, together with other like bodies of the same faith and practice, which may hereafter be admitted.

Section IV. Each Association or Conference shall be allowed two representatives, and the State Convention of the states shall be allowed one representative each. However, a minister in good standing in his Conference or Association, shall have full right to counsel with us in all our discussions, but the right to vote shall be restricted to all lawful delegates seated in the body, the secretary officers, treasure, and the executive committee; but no officer shall vote more than once even though the officer hold two or more offices.

Section V.—Article 1. The officers of this organization shall consist of a Moderator, Vice-Moderator, a Secretary and Treasurer, which shall be elected for a term of years. There shall be elected also, an Executive Committee of five, who shall serve a term except the first four mentioned, who shall serve for a term of one, two, three and four years respectively.

Article 2. This organization shall have a credential committee composed of one representative from each state. The moderator exercising authority to appoint said committee, and such other committees as the body may deem proper.

Article 3. Each Association, Conference or Convention belonging to this body shall be requested to donate the sum of ten dollars (\$10.00) annually for the promotion of the interest of this organization.

Article 4. Each representative shall be required to present credentials together with a report from the body represented.



Article 5. The members of this organization shall be governed by the usual parliamentary rules and usages of deliberative bodies.

Section VI.—This body shall hold its sessions annually, convening on Tuesday evening following the second Sunday and before the third Sunday in June of each year at such place as may be designated by the General Conference in its regular session, or at its discretion.

Section VII. This Constitution may be amended by a vote of two-thirds majority of the members present in any regular session; but vote on the amendment shall not be taken until the day following the offering of said amendment.

## LETTER TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

To the General Conference of Free Will Baptist of the United States,

to be held at \_\_\_\_\_

convening on Tuesday evening following the Second Sunday in June 1935:  
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 \_\_\_\_\_