

MINUTES

of the

JOHN WHEELER ASSOCIATION

of

Free Will Baptists

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1962

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PROCEEDINGS

of the

EIGHTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

Convened with

Shiloh Church, Route 2, Bristol, Virginia

Friday and Saturday, January 5, 6, 1962

MINUTES

of the

JOHN WHEELER ASSOCIATION

of

Free Will Baptists

Held with

SHILOH CHURCH

Bristol, Virginia

The next session of the John Wheeler Association will convene with the Rooty Branch Church, Friday and Saturday before the first Sunday in January, 1963.

OFFICERS

Moderator, Rev. Kyle French, Box 87, Chilhowie, Va.

Assistant Moderator, Rev. J. W. Chesnutt, 520 Page St., Bristol, Va.

Clerk and Treasurer, Mrs. M. C. Foran, 321 Boone St., Bristol, Va.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. D. K. OffieldRoute 4, Bristol, Tenn.

Isaac Blaylock26 Elkton Lane, Bristol, Va.

W. C. Brannan1813 King Mill Pike, Bristol, Va.

Milford WarrenRoute 2, Abingdon, Va.

Rev. C. F. SprinkleRoute 1, Bristol, Va.

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. Jennings WilsonRoute 2, Saltville, Va.

Rev. Walter StatzerHansonville, Va.

Rev. Frazier BootheRoute 3, Saltsville, Va.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mrs. Cordelia Holbrook, ChairmanKeys St., Bristol, Va.

Mrs. Joab ProfitSaltsville, Va.

Mrs. Effie TrivetteRoute 3, Box 555, Bristol, Tenn.

SUNDAY SCHOOL EVANGELIST

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Rhymer, Route 4, Bristol, Tenn.

Proceedings

The John Wheeler Eighty-Third Annual Association of Free Will Baptists convened with Shiloh Church, Bristol, Virginia, January 5, 6, 1962.

The conference was called to order by the assistant moderator, Rev. J. W. Chesnutt at 9:00 a. m.

Opening song, "I Cannot Find the Way Alone." The Scripture reading, eleventh chapter of First Corinthians, was read by the clerk, Mrs. M. C. Foran. Rev. L. E. Powers offered prayer.

Fellowship was taken. All were in fellowship.

The church covenant and various articles in the treatise was read by Rev. J. W. Chesnutt. Motion was made and carried that the conference be in order to transact any legal business that may come before the body.

COMMITTEES

Executive Board: Rev. D. K. Offield, term expires in January, 1963; Isaac Blaylock, term expires in January, 1964; W. C. Brannan, term expires in January, 1965; Milford Warren, term expires January, 1966; Rev. C. F. Sprinkle, term expires January, 1966.

Finance: Mrs. Cordelia Holbrook, chairman, Mrs. Joab Profitt, and Mrs. Effie Trivette.

Sunday School Evangelists: Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Rhymer.

DELEGATES ENROLLED

Rooty Branch Church: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Shaver, Mr. and Mrs. Fleenor South, Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Trivette, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hopkins, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Brown, Dewey Osborne, Joan South, Susie Johnson, Mrs. Margie Rhymer, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Newman, Mrs. Dealie Gross, Chester Brown, Roby Johnson and T. H. McCullough.

Heavenly Rest: Rev. Cecil Clifton, Bobby Goodson, Mr. and Mrs. William Bott, Mr. and Mrs. Milford Warren, Gardy Parrot, Rev. and Mrs. L. E. Powers.

Free Zion: Mr. and Mrs. Irby Sullins and Mrs. L. F. Henley.

East Bristol: James H. Doss, James White, June Hosey, Mr. and Mrs. Warren White, Jerry White, Ailene Terry, and Francis Sykes.

Friendship No. 1: Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Rogers, Katherine Buchanan, Pauline Hinkle, and Joe Buchanan.

Macedonia: Rev. Jennings Wilson, H. G. Hogston, Joab Profitt, Thomas J. Colley, Robert Evans, Hubert Smith, Thelma Smith and Brown Frye.

Shiloh: Mary Cantrell, Frank Hanger, James H. Nash, Alta Poe, Carlene Cantrell, Isaac Blaylock, M. C. Foran, Mary Lou Hanger, and Mrs. M. C. Foran.

Cardwell Town: Mrs. Charles Burgess, Lottie Cardwell, Mary Cardwell, Mrs. Jack Brinkley, Mrs. Opal Allison, Easley Allison, Donald Holmes, and Rev. Claybourne C. Olinger.

Clay Hill: Rev. Joe Tolliver and Jimmy Blair.
Mt. Olive: None.
Greggs Chapel: None.
Valley View: None.
Greenwood: None.
Revival Center: None.
Spoon Gap: None.
Pine Hill: Mr. and Mrs. Austin Eads.

MINISTERS RECORDED

Rev. Homer Goodson, Route 4, Bristol, Va.
Rev. Frazier Boothe, Route 2, Saltsville, Va.
Rev. Douglas K. Offield, Route 4, Bristol, Tenn.
Rev. C. F. Sprinkle, Route 1, Bristol, Va.
Rev. C. C. Olinger, P. O. Box 274, Saltsville, Va.
Rev. Cecil Clifton, Route 1, Meadow View, Va.
Rev. H. M. Whittaker, Route 2, Bristol, Va.
Rev. Herbert Adams, Route 4, Bristol, Va.
Rev. Dan Jackson, 20 Jackson Lane, Bristol, Va.
Rev. Jennings Wilson, Route 2, Saltsville, Va.
Rev. Keith Wilson, 10 Newport Avenue, Bristol, Va.
Rev. Kyle French, Box 87, Chilhowie, Va.
Rev. Joe E. Tolliver, Route 2, Bristol, Tenn.
Rev. J. W. Chesnutt, 520 Page Street, Bristol, Va.
Rev. L. E. Powers, Route 2, Bristol, Va.
Rev. Walter Statzer, Hansonville, Va.
Rev. Edd Pendergrass, Route 1, Box 291, Bristol, Tenn.
Rev. L. F. Henley, 264 Lowland Street, Abingdon, Va.
Rev. Elmer Adkins, Indian Springs, Tenn.
Rev. L. S. Chapman, 1401 Texas Avenue, Bristol, Va.
Rev. E. A. Wagner, 148 Lee Highway, Bristol, Tenn.
Rev. G. W. Slaughter, Route 4, Kingsport, Tenn.
Rev. David N. Warren, P. O. Box 886, Bristol, Va.
Rev. Virginia Brannan, 1318 King Mill Pike, Bristol, Va.
Rev. W. G. Henley, 264 Lowland Street, Abingdon, Va.
Rev. Louise Gilreath, 331 W. Princeton Avenue, Orlando, Fla.
Rev. T. A. Ingram, Address unknown.
Rev. Sheldon Norris, Saltville, Va.
Rev. A. L. Pope, Route 3, Bristol, Tenn.

LICENTIATES

Rev. Winton Blaylock, Route 2, Bristol, Va.
Rev. Carita Rogers, Route 4, Bristol, Tenn.
Rev. Sheldon Norris, Saltville, Va.

Motion was made and carried that this conference adjourn for the

eleven o'clock preaching service, to meet back at 1:00 p. m. for business session.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Opened with the singing of song, "Mansion Over the Hilltop." Rev. Jennings Wilson offered prayer. Rev. L. E. Powers brought the message, reading from Revelation 17:7 and 1 Peter 3:12. "Closing song, "Amazing Grace." Closing prayer by Rev. Keith Wilson.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Began by singing song, "Heaven Will Surely Be Worth It All." Scripture 1st Psalm, read by the clerk. Prayer was offered by Rev. Joe Tolliver.

Motion was made and carried that this conference enter back in session to transact any legal business that may come before the body.

Motion carried that the church letters be received as read.

By vote of the conference and agreed upon that ladies be licensed each year only, and will not be ordained by this association.

Motion was made and carried that the clerk notify the ministers in the churches that have left this association that if they choose to remain in this association they must unite with one of the churches in this association.

Motion was made and carried that the expense of the Virginia State Association be paid out of our association treasury, when it convenes with the Shiloh Church in June, 1962. It was also agreed upon that each church donate five dollars or more to help finance this association.

Motion was made and carried that a program committee be elected to arrange the programs for the conferences.

Motion was made and carried that the clerk contact the Friendship Church No. 2, at Neva, Tennessee, and request a statement why they joined another association while they still belonged to this one.

By vote of the conference, the ladies auxiliary report was read and approved as read.

Motion was made and carried that the clerk contact Brother Wilton Dale at Norfolk, Virginia, and request a statement of the balance on the donations of the John Wheeler Association for the expense of the National Association that convened in Norfolk, Va., last July.

Motion was made and carried that this conference adjourn until 9:00 a. m., Saturday. Closed with prayer by Rev. J. W. Chesnutt

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Began by singing song, "Standing on the Promises." Scripture, the 90th Psalm, was read by the clerk. Rev. Keith Wilson offered prayer. Rev. Kyle French, the moderator, has charge of today's session. Fellowship was taken. All in fellowship.

Motion was carried that this conference be in session to transact any legal business that may come before the body.

BUSINESS PROCEEDINGS

By vote of the conference, Brother Milford Warren and Brother Jack Sprinkle were elected to serve on the executive board for the next five years.

By vote, Sister Zella Chesnutt was elected chairman of the program committee.

By vote, Sister Effie Trivette and Sister Lottie Cardwell were elected to serve on the program committee with Sister Chesnutt.

By vote of the conference, Brother Winton Blaylock was granted licenses to preach the gospel for one year.

By vote of the conference, Sister Carita Rogers was granted licenses to preach the gospel for one year.

The Sunday school evangelist's report was read and received as read by vote of the body.

Sister L. F. Henley was chosen to preach in the absence of Brother Henley who was to bring the morning message.

By vote of the conference, the ministers were passed on.

By vote, the reports of the executive board were received as read.

By vote, the treasurer's report was received as read.

The finance report was received by the body.

All these reports will be found elsewhere in the minute.

Motion was made and carried that this conference session adjourn for eleven o'clock preaching service, to meet back for business session at 1:00 p. m.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Opened by the singing of song, "Love Lifted Me." Prayer was made by Brother Jennings Wilson. Sister L. F. Henley brought the message reading from the 3rd chapter of Acts. Closing song, "Victory In Jesus." Closing prayer by Mrs. M. C. Foran.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Opened with the trio from the Macedonia Church at Saltville, singing special numbers.

Mrs. Mary Cardwell sang a beautiful solo, and accompanied it with the piano. Scripture lesson, twenty-fifth chapter of St. Matthew, 13 verses, was read by the clerk, Mrs. M. C. Foran. Prayer was made by Rev. Herbert Adams.

Motion made and carried that we enter back into business session.

It is with regret and broken hearts that Rev. John C. Sherfey is being dismissed from this association. May God have mercy on him and bring him back into the fold is our prayer.

Motion was made and carried that we retain the same ordaining council.

Motion was made and carried that Brother C. C. Olinger be ordained to preach the gospel.

Motion was made and carried that Brother James Nash and Brother Frank Hanger be ordained as deacons in the Shiloh Church, at this session.

Motion was made and carried that any church uniting with this association should bring a copy of their deed.

It is with regret that the First Free Will Church is being dismissed from this association. Using bylaws No. 3, It shall be the duty of every body belonging to this association to send a letter to every annual session of this association, reporting in the same its spiritual condition, benevolent work, and its statistics. Any body belonging to this association, which shall fail to report itself for two successive sessions, may be dismissed from the association by a two-thirds vote of all members present.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEES

Finance: The committee reports the sum of \$146.81, and \$18.00 received to help finance the state association when it convenes with the Shiloh Church in June, 1962.

Cordelia Holbrook, *Chairman*
Effie Trivette
Mrs. Joab Profit

Sunday School Evangelist: We wish to make our report as follows: We have enjoyed visiting the various Sunday schools. In our survey we found 896 pupils present, 78 officers and teachers, collections totaling, \$258.67. Pay received for our expense, \$36.16.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Rhymer
Route 4
Bristol, Tennessee

Executive Board: We, the board, accept the letter from Cardwell Town Church, recommending Brother C. C. Olinger for ordination to preach the gospel.

We recommend Sister Carita Rogers to be licensed to preach.

We recommend that any church joining this association should bring a copy of their deed.

We accept the letter from Shiloh Church recommending Brother Frank Hanger and Brother James H. Nash be ordained for deacons in the Shiloh Church.

We recommend that Brother A. L. Pope and Brother L. S. Chapman be notified that if they desire to stay in this association they must report by letter or in person to the next quarterly meeting.

We regret to have to recommend that Brother John Sherfey be dismissed from this association on account of disorderly conduct, and that the secretary write him and request him to send his ordination papers in to the association.

We, the executive board, recommend that the clerk and treasurer's pay be increased to \$100.00 per year.

Auxiliary Report: The Ladies Auxiliary of the Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church was organized in August, 1961, with 13 ladies present. We now have 18 members. Our first project was to make quilts for the Free Will Baptist Home for Children. We sent to the home 16 quilts, 6 pairs of pillow cases, 2 sheets, 1 blanket, and 21 garments for girls. Beginning the first of the year we are sending an individual gift to each of the children.

Mrs. J. W. Chesnutt, *President*
 Mrs. J. H. Nash, *Vice-President*
 Mrs. Frank Hanger, *Secretary*
 Mrs. J. W. Malcolm, *Treasurer*

Obituary Report:

Rooty Branch Church: Mrs. Wilma Baumgardener, Age 32, departed this life December 30, 1961.

Greenwood Church: Mrs. Florence Parks, Age 95, departed this life January 3, 1962.

Free Zion Church: Mrs. Elizabeth Baumgardener departed this life January 6, 1962.

TREASURER'S REPORT

September 2, 1960—January 5, 1962

Cash on hand	\$307.62
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Receipts

Annual Association	127.52
December Quarterly, 1960	58.75
April Quarterly, 1961	53.55
July Quarterly, 1961	54.00
September Quarterly, 1961	73.90

Total to Account For	\$675.34
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Disbursements

September to December Paid Out	\$111.43
December to April, 1961, Paid Out	21.56
April, 1961 to July, 1961, Paid Out	180.70
July, 1961 to September, 1961, Paid Out	17.19
September, 1961 to January, 1962, Paid Out	22.56

Total Disbursements	353.44
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Balance in Treasury	\$321.90
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Received for the National Association Fund:

Heavenly Rest Church	\$9.00
Valley View Church	4.00
Rooty Branch Church	20.00
Shiloh Church	75.00

John Wheeler Association

100.00

Total Received

\$208.00

Received for Home Missions from the Shiloh Church

\$15.00

ELECTIONS

For moderator for 1963 annual association, Rev. Jennings Wilson.

For moderator for the first quarterly, Rev. Homer Goodson.

Ordaining Council

Rev. Walter Statzer, Rev. Frazier Boothe, Rev. J. W. Chesnutt.

By vote, the Rooty Branch Church was chosen to have the annual association in 1963.

By vote, the Macedonia Church was chosen to accept the first quarterly March 31, 1962.

By vote, the second quarterly will convene with Heavenly Rest Church, June 30, 1962.

The third quarterly will convene with Pine Hill Church, October 6, 1962.

Rev. Winton Blaylock was chosen to bring the message at the first quarterly, when convened with the Macedonia Church, March 31.

Motion was made and carried, that the clerk and treasurer's pay be raised to one hundred dollars per year.

MINISTERS' REPORTS

Rev. Cecil Clifton: Churches pastored, 1; sermons preached, 67; revivals conducted, 1; professions witnessed, 13; baptized, 2; sick visits, several; miles traveled, many; money received, \$420.78.

Rev. Homer Goodson: Churches pastored, 1; sermons preached, several; revivals conducted, 7; professions witnessed, 45; baptized, 10; additions to the church, 4; funerals conducted, 4; marriages solemnized, 1; miles traveled, many; money received, \$200.00.

Rev. Walter Statzer: Sermons preached, 190; churches pastored, 2; revivals conducted, 3, assisted in, 2, professions witnessed, 31, baptized, 2; additions to the church, 8; funerals conducted, 3; money received, \$762.72.

Rev. J. W. Chesnutt: Churches pastored, 1; sermons preached, 76; professions witnessed, 54; baptized, 31; funerals conducted, 11; marriages solemnized, 9; revivals conducted, 1; assisted in, 2; money received, \$1,063.01.

Rev. C. F. Sprinkle: Churches pastored, 1; sermons preached, 66; professions witnessed, 57; baptized, 19; additions to the church, 18; funerals conducted, 4; marriages solemnized, 4; money received, \$480.00.

Rev. Keith Wilson: Churches pastored, 1; sermons preached, 48; revivals conducted, 1; professions witnessed, 1; miles traveled, 1,568; money received, \$42.55.

Rev. C. C. Olinger: Assistant pastor 1 church; sermons preached, 25;

assisted in 5 funerals; professions witnessed, 19; assisted in baptisms, 15; miles traveled, many; money received, \$100.50.

Rev. L. F. Henley: Assistant pastor 1 church; sermons preached, 21; revivals assisted in, 2; professions witnessed, several; funerals, assisted in, 1; conducted a number of prayer meetings, visited several sick homes, amount received, unknown.

Rev. W. G. Henley: Churches pastored, 2; sermons preached, 62; revivals conducted, assisted in several; professions witnessed, several; number baptized, 1; funerals conducted, 4; marriages solemnized, 25; money received, \$25.00.

Rev. Jennings Wilson: Churches pastored, 1; revivals conducted, 3; professions witnessed, 50; baptized, 2; funerals conducted and assisted in, 27; money received, \$3,915.60; Marriages solemnized, 9.

Rev. D. K. Offield: Churches pastored, 1; sermons preached, 102; professions witnessed, many; number baptized, 5; funerals conducted, 3; marriages solemnized, 3; miles traveled, many; money received, \$212.00.

Rev. Elmer Adkins: Churches pastored, 1; sermons preached, 55; professions witnessed, 4; number baptized, 8; additions to church, 5; funerals conducted, 1; miles traveled, many; money received, \$26.00.

Rev. L. E. Powers: Churches pastored, 1; sermons preached, 77; revivals conducted, 1; professions witnessed, 29; additions to church, 1; miles traveled, many; money received, \$306.63.

Rev. Edd Pendergrass: Churches pastored, 1; sermons preached, several; revivals conducted, 1; professions witnessed, 12; number baptized, 6; additions to church, 6; funerals preached, 2; marriages solemnized, 7; miles traveled, many; money received, \$561.00.

Rev. Kyle French: Churches pastored, assisted in 1; sermons preached, 193; revivals conducted, 12; professions witnessed, 239; number baptized, 53; funerals conducted, 7; marriages solemnized, 5; money received, \$1,281.28.

Rev. Frazier Boothe: Churches pastored, 1; sermons preached, 35; professions witnessed, 17; number baptized, 3; additions to the church, 2; money received, \$185.56.

Rev. Herbert Adams: Churches pastored, 1; sermons preached, 78; revivals conducted, 1; professions witnessed, 41; additions to church, 6; funerals preached, 4; marriages solemnized, 1; miles traveled, 4,714; money received, \$169.63.

Rev. E. A. Wagner: Sermons preached, 12; made many sick visits to homes and hospitals; made a number of contributions to needy families; taught the Men's Bible Class at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Bristol, Virginia; witnessed to numbers of people and testified to the Saviour's power to save here in my Bible bookstore; funerals conducted, 2; due to my illness I am unable to attend services as I would like to.

CHURCH LETTERS

Cardwell Town Church: State of religion, good; members received, 15;

baptized, 8; number dismissed, 3; total membership, 104; condition of prayer meeting, good; condition of Sunday school, good; average number of pupils, 100; number of officers, 4; number of teachers, 6; number of deacons, 3; paid pastor, \$210.00; paid evangelist, \$100.00; paid home missions, \$75.09; for building and repairs, \$660.67; publication, \$26.95; amount enclosed for minutes, \$5.00.

Cardwell Town Church recommends Rev. C. C. Olinger, who has been our assistant pastor for the last year, to be ordained as a minister of the gospel by the ordaining council of the John Wheeler Association at this meeting, January 6, 1962. We believe that Rev. Olinger has fulfilled all requirements needed to set him apart for the work of the ministry.

Pastor, Rev. Cecil Clifton, Meadowview, Va.
Clerk, Mrs. Jack Brinkley, Saltville, Va.

Rooty Branch Church: State of religion, good; members received, 11; baptized, 5; dismissed, 1; died, 1; total membership, 133; condition of Sunday school, good; condition of prayer meeting, good; average number of pupils, 115; number of officers, 5; number of teachers, 4; paid pastor, \$769.18; paid Evangelist, \$293.41; building and repairs, \$376.50; enclosed for finance, \$10.00.

Rev. Frazier Boothe, Pastor, Route 2, Saltville, Va.
Mrs. Dewey Osborne, Clerk, Route 4, Bristol, Tenn.

Friendship Church: State of religion, good; condition of prayer meeting, good; condition of Sunday school, good; average number of pupils, 64; number of officers, 3; number of teachers, 4; paid evangelist, \$50.00; building and repairs, \$230.36; enclosed for minutes, \$10.00.

Remarks: We, the members of the Friendship Church No. 1, recommend to you our Sister in Christ, Carita Rogers, for licenses to preach the gospel.

Rev. W. G. Henley, Pastor, 264 Lowland St., Abingdon, Va.
Mrs. Cora Clark, Clerk, Route 4, Bristol, Tenn.

East Bristol Church: State of religion, good; members received, 8; dismissed, 2; baptized, 6; died, 1; total membership, 47; condition of Prayer meeting, good; condition of Sunday school, good; average number of pupils, 59; number of officers, 8; number of teachers, 5; conversions, 12; paid pastor, \$561.00; paid janitor, \$240.00; paid evangelist, \$44.25; visitation, \$91.00; building and repairs, \$317.81; church expenses, \$104.83; enclosed for finance, \$10.00.

Rev. Edd Pendergrass, Moderator, Route 3, Box 291, Bristol, Tenn.
Mrs. Mattie Pendergrass, Clerk, Route 3, Box 291, Bristol, Tenn.

Free Zion Church: State of religion, good; condition of prayer meeting, good; paid pastor, \$25.00; enclosed for finance, \$5.00.

Rev. W. G. Henley, Pastor, 264 Lowland Street, Abingdon, Va.
Rev. L. F. Henley, Assistant Pastor, Same Address
Mrs. Irby Sullins, Clerk, Route 1, Abingdon, Va.

Valley View Church: State of religion, good; total membership, 13; condition of Sunday school, good; average number of pupils, 39; number of officers, 4; number of teachers, 6; paid pastor, \$100.05; building and repairs, \$64.50; enclosed for finances, \$5.00.

Rev. Keith Wilson, Pastor, 10 Newport Avenue, Bristol, Va.
Mrs. Rosa Miller, Clerk, Route 1, Abingdon, Va.

Clay Hill Church: State of religion, good; members received, 9; baptized, 4; total membership, 30; condition of Sunday school, good; average number of pupils, 40; number officers, 5; number of teachers, 3; building and repairs, \$25.32; for finance, \$4.50.

Pastor, Rev.. Joe Tolliver, Route 2, Bristol, Tenn.
Clerk, Cornelius Rodefer

Heavenly Rest Church: State of religion, good; members received, 2; baptized, 1; total membership, 21; condition of prayer meeting, good; condition of Sunday school, good; average number of pupils, 59; number officers, 5; number of teachers, 3; paid pastor, \$412.57; paid Evangelist, \$169.36; building and repairs, \$220.60; Home for Children, \$35.66; for finance, \$25.

Rev. L. E. Powers, Pastor, Route 2, Bristol, Va.
Mrs. William Bott, Clerk, Route 2, Bristol, Va.

Greenwood Church: State of religion, good; died, 2; dismissed, 1; total membership, 32; condition of prayer meeting, good; condition of Sunday school, good; average number of pupils, 75; number of officers, 7; number of teachers, 6; number of deacons, 5; paid pastor, \$232.02; building and repairs, \$1,000.00; Children's Home, \$26.30; for finance, \$25.00.

Pastor, Rev. Walter Statzer, Hansonville, Va.
Clerk, Mrs. Myrtle Parks, Route 1, Alvarado, Va.

Pine Hill Church: State of religion, good; members received, 6; dismissed, 2; total membership, 55; condition of Sunday school, good; average number of pupils, 50; number of officers, 2; number teachers, 3; paid pastor, \$176.53; paid to Home for Children, \$16.34; building and repairs, \$85.60; for finance, \$25.00.

Rev. Herbert Adams, Pastor, Route 4, Bristol, Va.
Mrs. Charlie Bowman, Clerk, Route 4, Bristol, Va.

Macedonia Church: State of religion, good; members received, 14; baptized, 17; died, 1; total membership, 106; condition of prayer meeting, good; condition of Sunday school, good; average number of pupils, 130; number of officers, 7; number teachers, 6; paid pastor, \$3,611.60; paid evangelist, \$188.50; home missions, \$299.25; building and repairs, \$1,536.02; for publication, \$128.42; for finance, \$10.00.

Pastor, Rev. Jennings Wilson, Route 2, Saltville, Va.
Clerk, Mrs. Stella Gilbert, Glade Springs, Va.

Shiloh Church: State of religion, good; members received, 15; baptized, 15; dismissed, 1; died, 1; total membership, 152; condition of prayer meet-

ing, good; condition of Sunday school, good; average number pupils, 189; number officers, 6; number of teachers, 8; paid pastor, \$1,222.93; paid evangelist, \$338.72; home mission, \$25.00; building and repairs, \$1,456.18; for finance, \$25.00.

We, the Shiloh Class, recommend Brother J. H. Nash and Brother Frank Hanger to this conference to be ordained for deacons in the Shiloh Church.

Pastor, Rev. J. W. Chesnutt, 520 Page Street, Bristol, Va.
Clerk, Mrs. Blanche Blaylock, 26 Elkton Lane, Bristol, Va.

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with the Shiloh Church, January 5, 6, 1962.

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

May God's riches blessings be upon every effort you put forth today in carrying on the greatest business on earth, and the most serious business. Truly sorry I can't be with you all in these services.

I have found a Free Will Baptist church down here, where they worship like we do. Pray for us as we have our sacrament and feet washing service next Sunday night.

I have been doing what seems like missionary work. I have talked to Moslems, Catholics, and Unity School. When I tell the Moslems about Christ, they ask, "Who is He." Pray for me that I may be able to win them to Christ. May the God of peace sanctify us wholly as we occupy till He comes. Enclosed is \$1.00 for finance.

Mrs. Louise Gilreath, 331 W. Princeton Avenue, Orlando, Fla.

Motion was made and carried that this conference adjourn. Closed with prayer by Rev. J. W. Chesnutt.

We, the delegates of the represented classes and visiting brothers and sisters, offer our sincere and heartfelt thanks to the people of the churches and communities that have taken care of the conferences, and for their kind hospitality shown us during our stay in their localities.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Kyle French, *Moderator*

Rev. J. W. Chesnutt, *Assistant Moderator*

Mrs. M. C. Foran, *Clerk-Treasurer*

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

The Ministers' Conference convened with the Shiloh Church January 4, 1962. Opening song, "Higher Ground." Scripture reading, 29th Psalm was read by the clerk. Prayer was made by Rev. Walter Statzer.

Moved and second and motion carried that this conference be in session to transact any legal business that may come before the body. Fellowship was taken. All were in fellowship.

Rev. J. W. Chesnutt, assistant moderator, presiding. Rev. Chesnutt read the ruling of the Ministers' Conference, Section 11 of the Treatise.

Motion carried that we use the same committee as that of the association. Brother C. C. Olinger and Brother Dan Jackson were chosen to serve on the board in the absence of some of the members.

Ministers were passed on. Motion was made and carried that any minister being dismissed from this association for any reason, that the clerk be given the authority to notify the courts that they have been dismissed from this association.

Motion made and carried that any person desiring to be licensed to preach, should be a member of the church at least six months before they are recommended for licenses. Or a person who is to be ordained for a deacon, should also be a member of the church six months before being ordained.

Moved and second and motion carried that this conference adjourn at this time to convene again Thursday before the first Sunday in January. Closed with prayer by Brother Milford Warren.

THE QUARTERLY CONFERENCES

The first quarterly conference convened with East Bristol Church, December 31, 1960. Opened with song, "Farther Along." Prayer by Rev. Elmer Adkins. Rev. C. F. Sprinkle, moderator. Scripture 13th chapter of John. Fellowship was taken. All in fellowship.

Proceedings

Delegates were enrolled; letter were received.

The Cardwell Town Church was received into the association at this meeting. Frank Helton, Bill Workman and Jack Brinkley were ordained for deacons in the Cardwell Town Church.

Dewey Osborne was ordained for a deacon in the Rooty Branch Church.

C. C. Olinger was licensed to preach the gospel.

Warren White and James White were ordained for deacons in the East Bristol Church.

Rev. C. C. Olinger brought the message at the eleven o'clock service. He read Acts 8:4-8.

Sister Louise Gilreath was elected moderator for the next quarterly, and Brother D. K. Offield assistant. Brother Jennings Wilson was chosen to bring the message at the next quarterly.

By vote, the Rooty Branch Church was chosen to have the next quarterly.

By vote, a Ministers' Conference is to be held at East Bristol Church, March 17, 1961.

By vote, this conference stands adjourned until we meet in the next conference. Closed with prayer.

The second quarterly conference met with the Rooty Branch Church, April 1, 1961. Song, "Are You Washed in the Blood." Prayer by Rev. D.

K. Offield. Scripture, 3rd Chapter of Titus. Rev. Louise Gilreath was moderator. Fellowship was taken. All in fellowship.

Delegates were enrolled and letters received.

Proceedings

Mack Crowell, was dismissed from the board on account of failure to attend the meetings. M. C. Foran was chosen to fill out his unexpired term.

W. D. Jackson, Sylvester Shaver and W. A. Skeens, ministers, were dismissed by their request.

Delegates were chosen for the Virginia State Association. Fifty dollars was voted out of the treasury to be entered with the report to the Virginia State Association.

Each pastor was asked to encourage the member of his church to donate \$1.00 to the expense of the National Association when it convenes in Norfolk, Virginia, in July. Authority was given to the clerk to contact all pastors that were not present on the same subject. One hundred dollars was voted out of the treasury and sent to the committee at Norfolk to help finance the National.

Preaching Service

Rev. Jennings Wilson brought the message, reading from Isaiah 30:8-11, Subject, "Woe Be unto the Man that Puts Evil for Good and Good for Evil."

Conference closed with prayer.

The third quarterly meeting, convened with Valley View Church, July 1, 1961. Song, "When I See the Blood." First Psalm was read by the moderator, Rev. Jennings Wilson. Prayer was made by Rev. Kyle French.

Delegates were enrolled, and church letters were received.

Brother Frazier Boothe brought the message at the eleven o'clock service. Rev. Boothe read from the 6th chapter of Ephesians, 13 verses.

Subject, "Having on the whole Armor of God." Closing song, "After Death, What Then?"

Afternoon Session

Clay Hill Church was received into the association at this meeting. They were given the right hand of fellowship.

Deacons were ordained for the following: Brother Henry Shaffer for Rooty Branch Church. Brother Carl Harr, Brother Jimmy Blair and Brother Phonzah Harr, for Clay Hill Church.

Brother Keith Wilson was licensed to preach the gospel for one year.

Rev. Walter Statzer was chosen to moderate the next quarterly. Sister Henley was chosen to bring the message at the eleven o'clock hour, at the next quarterly.

Motion was made and carried that no operator will receive any pay for their services. Closed with prayer. Conference stands adjourned.

The 4th quarterly conference convened with Pine Hill Church, September 30, 1961. Song, "In the Sweet Bye and Bye." Prayer was offered by Brother Isaac Blaylock. Scripture was read, Jude 1-10, by the moderator, Rev. Walter Statzer.

Delegates were enrolled and letters were received.

Sister Lula Henley brought the message at the eleven o'clock hour.

Reading Scripture Luke 5:1-14.

Business Proceedings

Motion was made and carried that the clerk order church covenants for each of the churches.

By vote, Brother Norris Shelton was licensed to preach the gospel. By vote, Brother Walter Fender was licensed to preach the gospel for one year.

Brother Keith Wilson was chosen to bring the message on Friday at the annual association, and Brother Henley to preach on Saturday at the eleven o'clock hour. Motion made and carried to adjourn. Chosen with prayer.

YEARLY MEETING OR ANNUAL ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

Article 1. This yearly meeting or association shall be called the John Wheeler Association of Free Will Baptists, and shall be composed of such regularly organized and well-disciplined Free Will Baptist quarterly meetings, conveniently located, as may embody themselves under this constitution.

Article 2. The conference of this yearly meeting or association shall consist of delegates from the several quarterly meetings of which it is composed; every quarterly meeting being entitled to one delegate, every quarterly meeting containing five hundred members to two delegates, and one additional delegate for every additional five hundred members.

Article 3. The officers of this yearly meeting or association shall be a standing clerk, treasurer and a moderator who shall be chosen at every session of the yearly meeting or association, with assistants as may be found necessary.

Article 4. Any well-organized and well-regulated Free Will Baptist quarterly meeting, composed of such churches as conform to the practices and adopt the doctrines of the Free Will Baptist denomination as published in the Treatise of their faith and in the minutes of the National Association and are in favor of all the benevolent enterprises of the denomination, may at any time, on application and by vote of this body, become a member thereof.

Article 5. This yearly meeting or association shall have power to discipline the quarterly meetings of which it is composed, and to exclude them for disorderly walks if labor proves unsuccessful, but in no case to reverse their decisions nor to interfere with any of their internal regulations.

Article 6. The sessions of this yearly meeting or association shall be held on _____, at which time it shall be the duty of the quarterly meetings of which this yearly meeting or association is composed to represent themselves by letter and delegate, and

report their standings, prospects and statistics; at which time the association shall act upon such questions and topics as may be referred to it by its respective quarterly meetings, and transact such other business not repugnant to this constitution nor to the practices of the denomination, or in its judgment may promote the cause of Christ and the interests of the church and quarterly meetings within the limits of this yearly meeting or association.

Article 7. This yearly meeting or association shall have power to adopt any regulations or bylaws, not inconsistent with this constitution, which may be deemed essential to the further regulation of its sessions.

Article 8. This constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of the yearly meeting or association as any regular session, notice of such intended alteration having been given in writing and recorded at the next previous session.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. *The Bible.* The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. *God.* There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver and Righteous Governor of the universe; and in the Scriptures as Father, Son and Holy Ghost, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are to supremely love, adore and obey.

3. *Christ.* Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The Mediator between God and man, once crucified, He is now risen and glorified, and is our ever present Saviour and Lord.

4. *The Holy Spirit.* The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God.

5. *The Government of God.* God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of men requires.

6. *The Sinfulness of Man.* Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherit a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability sin and become guilty before God.

7. *The Word of Christ.* The Son of God, by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection, effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.

8. *The Terms of Salvation.* The conditions of salvation are: 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Saviour and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith, the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and disobedience until death.

9. *Election:* God determined from the beginning to save all who should

comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.

10. *Freedom of the Will.* The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.

11. *Salvation Free.* God desires the salvation of all, the gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all and whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely.

12. *Perseverance.* All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation.

13. *Gospel Ordinances.* Baptism, or the immersion of believers in water, and the Lord's Supper, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the gospel. Feet washing, or ordinance teaching humility or universal obligation, and is to be ministered to all true believers.

14. *Tithing.* God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament, Jesus Christ endorsed it in the gospel (Matthew 23:23), and the apostle, Paul, said, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, . . ." (1 Corinthians 16:2).

15. *The Christian Sabbath.* The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements; for rest, worship, holy works and activities, and for personal communion with God.

16. *Resurrection, Judgment and Final Retribution.* The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant.

We promise, by His grace, to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions and social worship; and by self-denial, faith and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship and the observance of the ordinances of the gospel; nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor and all its benevolent work.

• We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bonds of peace. To be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, to promote the success of the church and of the gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principles sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society, constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of education and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday schools and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

