

**MINUTES**  
Of The  
**Second Session**  
Of The  
**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION**  
Of The  
**Original Free Will Baptists**  
**Of The United States**

Held With  
**EAST NASHVILLE CHURCH,**  
**NASHVILLE TENNESSEE,**

**November 15 - 18, 1938**

The next Session will be held with Bryan Church, Bryan,  
Texas, beginning Tuesday evening after the Second Sunday  
in July 1939.



AYDEN, N. C.  
FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS  
1938

## OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE YEAR 1938-1939

Rev. James F. Miller, *Moderator* -----Flat River, Missouri  
 Rev. J. R. Davidson, *Assistant Moderator*-----Bryan, Texas  
 Rev. E. C. Morris, *Clerk*,-----201 W. Cypress Street, Elizabeth City, N. C.  
 Rev. Clarence Bowen, *Assistant Clerk*-----2513 Club Blvd., Durham, N. C.  
 Rev. F. S. Van Hoose, *Treasurer*-----Paintsville, Kentucky

## CHAIRMEN OF BOARDS

*Executive*—Rev. I. J. Blackwelder, 1115 E. Douglas Ave., Nashville, Tenn.  
*For. Missions*—Rev. I. J. Blackwelder, 1115 E. Doug. Ave., Nashville, Tenn.  
*Home Missions*—Rev. M. L. Hollis -----Tupelo, Mississippi  
*Sunday School*—G. W. Cloud, 1167 Wolfe Street-----Jacksonville, Florida  
*F. W. B. League*—Rev. Henry Melvin, 1211 E. Main St., Durham, N. C.  
*Women's Aux.*—Mrs. Fannie Polston, 318 Woodland St., Nashville, Tenn.  
*Superannuation*—Mrs. J. E. Simpson, 310 Fatherland St., Nashville, Tenn.  
*Education*—Rev. J. R. Davidson -----Bryan, Texas

## Proceedings

The Second Session of the National Association of the Original Free Will Baptists of the United States convened with the East Nashville Church, Nashville, Tennessee on Tuesday evening, November 15, 1938. The song service was conducted by Rev. W. H. Oliver, Nashville, Tennessee. The local pastor, Rev. I. J. Blackwelder, introduced Rev. George Dunbar, Chuckey, Tennessee, who delivered the opening sermon from the subject, "Mountain Top Experiences and the Valley of Human Needs". The message was a source of inspiration to the large congregation assembled.

At the close of the service the local pastor assigned the homes for the delegates and visitors.

## WEDNESDAY MORNING

The Association met at the appointed time with Brother I. L. Stanley, Tupelo, Mississippi in charge of the music. Rev. E. C. Morris, Elizabeth City, North Carolina, conducted the devotions. Prayer was offered by Rev. M. L. Hollis, Tupelo, Mississippi.

The welcome address was delivered by Rev. J. E. Hudgens, Ashland City, Tennessee, and the response was given by Rev. C. B. Thompson, Goldsboro, North Carolina. At this time the delegates were enrolled.

**WESTERN GENERAL ASSOCIATION**—*Oklahoma*: Miss Alveto Bingham, T. A. Priest, Homer Willis; *Missouri*: Mrs. Eunice Miller and Mrs. Belva Zinn; *Kentucky*: P. H. Bordus, Frank Rice; *Ohio*: Mrs. J. A. Kemper.

**EASTERN GENERAL ASSOCIATION**—*Mississippi*: Miss Hilmon Stone, I. L. Stone and Mrs. M. L. Hollis; *North Carolina*: Mrs. Clarence Bowen and Mrs. J. R. Bennet; *Tennessee*: Mrs. J. E. Simpson and W. E. Coville; *Florida*: G. W. Cloud; *Georgia*: A. D. Ivey.

A motion was made to receive the delegation from Virginia under the watch-care of the Association until they can be received in full fellowship. The motion was carried and the delegates seated.

## LIST OF MINISTERS ATTENDING THE ASSOCIATION

Floyd Cherry, -----	Ashford, Alabama	G. C. Joyner -----	Smithfield, N. C.
T. E. Conyer -----	Banburen, Alabama	L. B. Manning -----	Fountain, N. C.
C. J. Pitts -----	Jacksonville, Florida	S. H. Smith -----	Beulaville, N. C.
D. F. Pelt -----	Marianna, Florida	C. B. Thompson -----	Goldsboro, N. C.
B. C. Williams -----	Jakin, Georgia	W. H. Lancaster -----	Smithfield, N. C.
T. B. Mellette -----	Blakely, Georgia	J. A. Kemper -----	Wheelersburg, Ohio
Marsh Harpole -----	Mt. Vernon Illinois	G. McLain -----	Ada, Oklahoma
W. R. Spurlock -----	Bonnie, Illinois	E. E. Morris -----	Ada, Oklahoma
Monroe Hubbard -----	Jenkins, Kentucky	R. G. Lane -----	Ada, Oklahoma
F. S. Van Hoose -----	Paintsville, Kentucky	W. E. Dearmore -----	Wewoka, Oklahoma
M. F. Van Hoose -----	Paintsville, Kentucky	Melvin Bingham -----	Tulsa, Oklahoma
Winford Davis -----	Monette, Missouri	George Dunbar -----	Chuckey, Tennessee
W. K. Weston -----	Monette, Missouri	J. C. Howington, -----	Elizabethton, Tennessee
D. Self Jones -----	Mansfield, Missouri	J. L. Welch -----	Nashville, Tennessee
Miss Tommie Franklin, -----	Desloge, Missouri	C. A. Craft -----	Nashville, Tennessee
James F. Miller -----	Flat River, Missouri	George Trotter -----	Nashville, Tennessee
F. C. Zinn -----	Pierce City, Missouri	J. L. Sanders -----	Nashville, Tennessee
Albert Halbrook -----	Flat River, Missouri	W. H. Oliver -----	Nashville, Tennessee
Alvin Halbrook -----	Flat River, Missouri	I. J. Blackwelder -----	Nashville, Tennessee
C. B. Deese -----	Flat River, Missouri	G. E. Gower -----	Cedarhill, Tennessee
M. L. Hollis -----	Tupelo, Mississippi	J. E. Hudgens -----	Ashland City, Tennessee
J. R. Bennett -----	Bridgeton, North Carolina	J. R. Davidson -----	Bryan, Texas
E. C. Morris -----	Elizabeth City, N. C.	R. C. Wiggs -----	North Zulch, Texas
J. W. Alford -----	Kenly, North Carolina	J. K. Warkentin -----	Fort Worth, Texas
W. R. Williams -----	Princeton, N. C.	Mrs. Lizzie McAdams -----	Huntsville, Texas
Clarence Bowen -----	Durham, N. C.	J. A. Boatright -----	Verdi, Virginia
M. E. Tyson -----	Middlesex, N. C.	J. W. Addington -----	Clinchco, Virginia
W. L. Hart -----	Snow Hill, N. C.		

*Officers of the Association were elected as follows:*

Moderator—Rev. James F. Miller, Flat River, Missouri.

Assistant Moderator—J. R. Davidson, Bryan, Texas.

Secretary—Rev. E. C. Morris, Elizabeth City, North Carolina.

Assistant Secretary—Rev. Clarence Bowen, Durham, North Carolina.

Treasurer—Rev. F. S. Van Hoose, Paintsville, Kentucky.

A motion was made to adjourn the business session until the afternoon.

At the eleven o'clock hour, there was a brief song service after which the Moderator, Rev. James F. Miller, brought a very impressive and instructive message. At the noon hour, the ladies of the church served a very sumptuous meal in the basement of the church.

### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

The Association met according to the program and engaged in a devotional service led by Rev. R. C. Wiggs, North Zulch, Texas, after which the business was resumed.

The election of officers was finished by electing the Executive Committee as

follows: Revs. I. J. Blackwelder, M. E. Tyson, Melvin Bingham, M. F. Van Hoose and J. K. Warkentin.

Rev. J. R. Bennett submitted the Statistical Report for Rev. J. C. Griffin, which was adopted. (See Reports.)

Rev. Bennett gave a report of the physical condition of our much esteemed Brother Griffin and the report was followed by a motion that the Association stand in silent prayer in Brother Griffin's behalf, and that he be remembered with a telegram from the body. J. R. Bennett. J. E. Hudgens and I. L. Stanley were appointed as a committee to draft the telegram and send it to Brother Griffin. An offering was also taken to the amount of \$14.28 and sent to Brother Griffin. At this time a solo was rendered by Rev. J. K. Warkentin which was greatly enjoyed by all.

Rev. Winford Davis made a verbal report of the Sunday School work and the same was accepted.

*Motion:* That we, the National Association of Free Will Baptists approve and accept the proposed reorganization plan presented by Mr. W. E. Coville. (See Minutes of Eastern General Association, page 9, for the proposal.) The motion was unanimously carried.

Upon suggestion, the congregation united in singing "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" and during the singing all engaged in an old time hand-shake, after which a motion was made to adjourn the business until tomorrow morning 9:00 o'clock.

#### WEDNESDAY EVENING

At 7:30 p. m. a lively song service was conducted by I. J. Stanley, after which the devotions were led by Rev. S. F. Van Hoose. Next, the assembly was favored with a presentation of our Missionary, Rev. T. H. Willey and family, and other scenes of his work in Central America, in pictures. After the showing of the pictures, an offering for foreign missions was taken which amounted to \$38.58.

The sermon of the evening was delivered by Rev. J. W. Alford, Kenly, N. C., from Mark 2:12. The message was very logical and instructive. At the close of the service, the local pastor administered baptism to one candidate.

#### THURSDAY MORNING

Rev. M. E. Tyson, Superintendent of the Free Will Baptist Orphanage at Middlesex, North Carolina, conducted the morning devotions after which the business was resumed.

*Motion:* We hear the Educational Report and that discussion be postponed until some other period.

Rev. J. L. Welch, Chairman of the Board of Education, made a verbal report of the Board and asked that other members make some statements of the work. The verbal reports were accepted.

Rev. T. B. Mellette, Principal of Zion Bible School at Blakely, Georgia spoke briefly of the work there and his remarks were followed by some information on the work by Rev. Floyd Cherry, Field Secretary of the School.

At this time, Rev. Clarence Bowen read the Report of League work, submitted by Rev. Henry Melvin, General Secretary. The Report was adopted. (See Reports.)

*Motion:* We call off the business for devotions and worship, and that discussion of education be taken up immediately in the afternoon session. The time having arrived for the morning sermon, Rev. M. L. Hollis, Tupelo, Mississippi, entered the

pulpit and stirred the hearts of those present with his usual enthusiastic style of preaching. The message was preceded and followed by song service conducted by I. L. Stanley, of Tupelo, Mississippi. At the close of the service, the congregation was invited to the dining room in the basement of the church for another bounteous spread by the ladies of the church.

#### THURSDAY AFTERNOON

The afternoon devotions were led by Rev. Purcell of Wewoka, Oklahoma, after which the business of the Association was resumed.

The Moderator appointed a resolutions committee composed of Revs. R. C. Wiggs, Clarence Bowen and Melvin Bingham.

In the absence of Mrs. Alice E. Lupton, Mrs. Fannie Polston was asked to make a report of the Women's work, which she did and same adopted. (See Reports)

The Report of the Foreign Mission Secretary-Treasurer was heard and received. (See Reports.)

At this time, Miss Bessie Yeley of Sciotsville, Ohio, a Missionary from South America, favored the Association with a solo, entitled, "Here Am I, Send Me," which was sung in Spanish and in English.

The next item was a discussion on Home Missions led by Mrs. McAdams, our Home Mission worker. After this discussion a very effective duet was rendered by Rev. and Mrs. F. C. Zinn of Pierce City, Missouri.

The Resolutions Committee made their report and same adopted. (See Resolutions.)

*Motion:* The Association adjourned its business until Friday 9 a. m.

#### THURSDAY EVENING

After two opening songs, Rev. J. A. Kemper, Wheelersburg, Ohio, led the devotions, after which a solo was rendered by Rev. Bert Rodgers, entitled, "Alone."

The Moderator explained that the report of the Constitution and By-laws committee should be read because many had to leave the Association early Friday morning. Rev. Winford Davis read the report.

At this time, a quartet composed of Revs. I. J. Blackwelder, M. E. Tyson, F. C. Zinn and Henry Oliver rendered a special number.

Under the direction of Brother Zinn, the pageant, "The Challenge of the Cross," was given by a group of Missouri leaguers. The Moderator led in a special prayer for the pageant. At the conclusion of the pageant, Rev. Winford Davis rendered a solo which was very touching.

Rev. J. K. Warkentin of Fort Worth, Texas, delivered the evening sermon, using as a text, Rev. 22:16 and the subject was "The Bright and Morning Star." The Speaker forcefully portrayed the great power of Jesus' blood to save from sin.

Rev. L. B. Manning of Fountain, North Carolina pronounced the benediction.

#### FRIDAY MORNING

Rev. Melvin Bingham opened the devotional Scripture reading and timely remarks centered around the question of a denominational school.

Prayer was offered by the Moderator.

*Motion:* to decide where Association will go next year.

Invitations were received from Bryan, Texas, and from the state of Oklahoma.

After some discussion on the place where the next session should be held, it was unanimously agreed and voted to go to Bryan, Texas.

Motion to accept the report of committee on Constitution and By-laws in its entirety was unanimously received. (See report.)

A delegate from the State Convention of Virginia read a statistical report of the Virginia work.

Motion to accept the Virginia application for membership in the Association, was received, and the hand of fellowship was extended to the Virginia delegation in which all took an enthusiastic part.

Motion to reject the resolution regarding a registration fee of fifty cents for all ministers, delegates and visitors at the Association in its sessions.

Six dollars were received from the Virginia delegation and eleven dollars from the Oklahoma Association.

*Motion to elect all boards of the Association*

*Executive Board*—Revs. I. J. Blackwelder, Nashville, Tennessee, M. E. Tyson, Middlesex, North Carolina, Melvin Bingham, Tulsa, Oklahoma, M. F. Van Hoose, Paintsville, Kentucky, and J. K. Warkentin, Fort Worth, Texas.

*Foreign Mission*—Revs. I. J. Blackwelder, Nashville, Tennessee, Winford Davis, Monette, Missouri, B. F. Rogers, Wewoka, Oklahoma, Layman C. F. Goen, Bryan Texas, and Mrs. J. R. Bennett, Bridgeton, North Carolina.

*Home Missions*—Revs. M. L. Hollis, Tupelo, Mississippi, J. K. Warkentin, Fort Worth, Texas, Mrs. J. E. Frazier, Nashville, Tennessee, Revs. Mrs. Lizzie McAdams Huntsville, Texas, and George Dunbar, Chuckey, Tennessee.

*Sunday School*—G. W. Cloud, 1167 Wolfe Street, Jacksonville, Florida, L. E. Duncan, Rev. R. P. Harris, Kinston, North Carolina, Rev. Paul Purcell, Wewoka, Oklahoma, and Aston Pegues, North Zulch, Texas.

*Free Will Baptist League*—Rev. Henry Melvin, 1211 E. Main Street, Durham, North Carolina, Rev. R. C. Wiggs, North Zulch, Texas, Esther Apple, Aurora, Missouri, Everett Kieffer, Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Allene Reed, Ashland City, Tenn.

*Women's Missionary Society*—Mrs. L. J. Lawlis, Midway, Texas, Mrs. Fannie Polston, Nashville, Tennessee, Mrs. J. L. Welch, Nashville, Tennessee, Mrs. Eugene Miller, Flat River, Missouri, and Mrs. J. C. Griffin, New Bern, North Carolina.

*Superannuation*—Mrs. M. A. Woodard, Winterville, N. C., Mrs. J. E. Simpson, 1310 Fatherland Street, Nashville, Tennessee, E. J. Kilgoure, Coeburn, Virginia, J. I. Harris, Ashland City, Tennessee, and E. C. Davidson, Glennville, Georgia.

*Education*—Revs. J. R. Davidson, Bryan, Texas, George Dunbar, Chuckey, Tennessee, J. R. Bennett, Bridgeton, North Carolina, Melvin Bingham, Tulsa, Oklahoma, and D. S. Jones, Mansfield, Missouri.

*Program Committee*—Revs. J. R. Davidson, I. J. Blackwelder and E. C. Morris. The Program Committee was appointed by the Moderator by a motion of the body.

Motion to accept Brother Griffin's resignation as statistician, due to his illness, was accepted, and Rev. Clarence Bowen, Durham, North Carolina was elected as statistician.

Motion to have \$100.00 worth of minutes printed was carried.

Motion that the Executive Board raise all needed funds to make out the \$100.00 for the minutes was adopted.

Motion that Moderator and Clerk prepare church letters was adopted.

The Association adjourned to meet in Bryan, Texas, Tuesday evening after the Second Sunday in July, 1939.

Benediction by Rev. J. R. Davidson.

At the close of the Association lunch was served as usual and parting words were spoken, thus ended the second session of the National Association, which was wonderfully blessed by the presence of the Holy Spirit and greatly enjoyed by all.

## R E P O R T S

### *Statistical Report*

To the National Association of Free Will Baptists in session November 15-18, 1938, in Nashville, Tennessee: Greeting—

1937	1938
Churches 1,142 -----	Churches 1,143
Members 80,344 -----	Members 82,752
Ministers 1,090 -----	Ministers 1,095
Value of Church	Value of Church
Property, \$1,211,736 -----	Property, \$1,214,700
School and Orphanage \$87,000 -----	School and Orphanage \$95,000
Total Value of all Property, -----	Total Value of all Property, -----
\$1,298,736 -----	\$1,309,700

(There is no way to get an accurate statistical report of our denomination as the various state and district association clerks keep their records at this time. The only solution to the problem is to get all associations to use our report blanks. We have offered this time after time but we are slow to take hold of the work.)

I recommend that the Association have the letter form, which is presented with this report printed in the minutes, and that each state and district have the same printed in their minutes, and that all clerks of churches in making their annual reports fill out all blanks.

I further recommend that a small sum, possibly \$50.00 be raised, or set aside for this work to pay printing and postage expenses. It will take an activity that has been absent in the past, as well as some cash to get results. As heretofore your statistician has had to wait until the various clerks and interested parties would send reports, but if we are to succeed we must go after the reports, by writing each and every clerk and secretary that can be located.

Please urge that every church and association use one-for report blanks, and that the one given with these statistics be used unless something better can be arranged.

Yours in Christ,  
J. C. Griffin, *Statistician*

240 North Pastuer Street,  
New Bern, North Carolina

### *Free Will Baptist League Report*

To the National Association of Free Will Baptists: Greetings—

As the National Secretary of the Free Will Baptist League, it gives me a great

deal of pleasure to make this first report to the National Body of People called Free Will Baptists.

As I have surveyed the field for the past three years, I can report that our work among the youth of our church is on a firm basis and intensely interested in the program and progress of the church of which they are a part.

I find our leaguers to be a group of some 25,000 for the most part spiritually minded and desirous of being used of Christ in and through the church and to put the Kingdom of God first in their lives. We could report numerous instances where the Free Will Baptist League has sent forth ministers, field workers, material for foreign fields as well as the filling of important places in the local churches. I can say with no apology, that the Free Will Baptist church is safe for tomorrow for this vast group of leaguers are ready to "carry on."

I desire to ask this body to authorize the setting up, under the National Secretary, an organization among the college groups of our leaguers. At the present time we only reach them while in the home church and for some time there has been a growing conviction on my part that we need to branch out and reach, or at least hold contact with our youth while in college.

I also present below a memorial from the State League Convention of North Carolina as follows:

"We, the committee appointed by the Free Will Baptist League Convention of North Carolina, do earnestly petition this honorable body to authorize the National Secretary of Free Will Baptist Leagues to call a National gathering of our youth looking to the setting up of a National League Convention."

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Georgie Frost Barnes,

W. L. Gibbs,

Henry Melvin,

*Committee for State Convention of N. C.*

Our literature is being adequately edited by a splendid group of writers and the Free Will Baptist Press continues to give satisfactory service as the publishers. At the present time, we are issuing three quarterlies: senior, junior and intermediate. If my recommendation for college group is approved, we will then need a publication for this group.

We have a very satisfactory manual published which was written by Rev. Clarence Bowen and issued with my authorization. Further supplies such as secretary's registers and report slips are published and sold by the Free Will Baptist Press. These are issued under the authorization of this department.

In conclusion, permit me to say that, after these twelve years of association with the Free Will Baptist League, I am more convinced than ever, that our church stands at the threshold of its largest opportunity. Through the years, it has been our aim to reach our youth with the doctrine of our church, the Word of God, the developing of prayer life, the encouragement of stewardship, the broadening of vision for missions. This has been accomplished in a far greater measure than many of us are aware or dream of, and these leaguers await the word of their church to serve. Will you command them?

Yours for the Kingdom,

Henry Melvin, *National Secretary F. W. B. League*

# Report of the Women's National Convention

*Auxiliary to the National Association of Free Will Baptists  
When Convened at Nashville, Tennessee,  
November, 1938*

(For Three Years 1936-38)

In 1936, we had six states representing. Tennessee, two district conventions; Georgia, two districts; South Carolina, one district; Alabama, one district; North Carolina, four districts composing the state auxiliary convention, and Texas reported twenty local societies but no district or state organization. The approximate number of women engaged in the work, 2,000. They paid \$509.55 for missions; \$425.90 for benevolences, and \$75.00 for education. An estimate of 1,000 observed the Week of Prayer, thirty classes were held in stewardship and missions, and \$146.88 was received for dues.

In 1937, four states representing with eleven districts as follows: Tennessee, two; Georgia, 2; South Carolina, one; North Carolina, six districts composing their state auxiliary convention. Approximately 1,200 observed the Week of Prayer; 273 subscriptions were secured for the papers; \$495.18 paid for missions; \$240.64 for education; \$1,285.91 for orphanage work; and \$159.21 was received for dues.

In 1938, eight states representing with 19 districts and three state organizations; North Carolina State composed of six districts; Georgia State composed of two districts; Missouri State composed of five districts; Tennessee, two; South Carolina, one; and Alabama, Texas, Florida, one each. There are 3,069 women engaged in this work in these states. There were 30 stewardship and mission classes held; 19 declamation contests, 87 societies observed the Week of Prayer; 886 subscriptions secured to our papers; \$1,055.04 paid for missions; \$575.39 for education; and \$2,168.89 for orphanage. We have received into the National Auxiliary Convention eight new districts; namely, Texas, Florida, Alabama and Missouri. The women's work of Missouri is reporting a state organization composed of five districts, or Mission Associations. Within these five districts, they report twenty-two local circles or auxiliaries; raised \$446.82 which has been given for home and foreign missions; publishing house and local benevolent needs; and received in dues \$226.40.

*A summary of the three year's work follows:*

Number Stewardship and Mission study classes	58
Number observing the Week of Prayer	4,000
Paid for missions	\$ 2,059.77
Paid for education	891.03
Paid for benevolences	825.90
Paid for orphanage work	3,380.70
Paid in dues	1,019.31
Subscriptions for denominational papers	1,139

Total amount of money raised \$8,176.91

Respectfully submitted,

X Fannie Polson, Secretary of Women's Work

Note:—Special recognition is given Sister McAdams as chairman of the missions department, for the new conventions and a substantial increase in finances.—F. P.

## Report of Foreign Mission Board

After having carefully reviewed and discussed our past efforts, our future possibilities, and our present opportunities and responsibilities in the cause of foreign missions, we the Eastern and Western foreign mission boards, together with the National Secretary-Treasurer in a joint meeting, sincerely and prayerfully offer the following report and recommendations:

1. That the report and recommendations approved by the Eastern General and the Western General Associations in their recent sessions be accepted by the National Association. The report and recommendations are as follows:

### REPORT OF FOREIGN MISSION BOARD

Realizing something of the importance of the work our missionaries are doing on their respective fields, of the sacrifices these servants of God are making, of the great opportunities that are presenting themselves to us as a church on the foreign fields, especially among the native Indians in the interior of Panama, and of the financial needs of our missionaries in order that they may accomplish the work for which they have gone to their respective fields of service, we the Foreign Mission Board of the Eastern General Association, together with the National Secretary-Treasurer of Foreign Missions, sincerely and prayerfully make the following recommendations:

- a. That Brother Willey be paid \$100.00 per month for living expenses.
- b. That Brother Willey be given \$50.00 per month with which to carry on the work among the Indians of the interior of Panama.
- c. That all material rights of financial consequence granted Brother Willey, whether they concern land or property be legally made to and in the name of the National Association of Free Will Baptists of the United States.
- d. That recommendation c of this report apply to all of our foreign missionaries.
- e. That Miss Laura Belle Barnard be given \$50.00 per month as a personal salary.
- f. That Miss Laura Belle Barnard be given \$50.00, or more if it is needed, with which to help meet the expense of her recent illness.
- g. That the National Treasurer be privileged to supply any financial emergency of our foreign missionaries at his personal direction.

*Signed,*

Elder Chester Pelt, *Secretary*,  
Elder J. R. Davidson,

W. E. Coville, *Treasurer*,  
Elder I. J. Blackwelder, *National Secy.*

2. That Miss Bessie Yeley, Sciotoville, Ohio, who has spent approximately two years in Venezuela as a missionary, hitherto supported by the Ohio Free Will Baptists independent of the National Association, be accepted and supported by the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

3. That Miss Yeley be paid the sum of \$50.00 a month while she is in service on the respective field.

Prayerfully submitted,

I. J. Blackwelder,  
Mrs. J. E. Simpson, *proxy*,  
J. K. Warkentin, *proxy*,  
C. F. Goen,

Winford Davis,  
Melvin Bingham,  
F. S. Van Hoose

# REPORT OF FOREIGN MISSION TREASURER

June 1, 1935, to November 1, 1938

## Receipts

June 1, 1935, to June 1, 1936	
Balance brought forward -----	\$ 344.22
Total receipts for year -----	\$1,300.69
Grand total -----	\$1,644.91
June 1, 1936, to June 1, 1937	
Total receipts for year -----	\$2,100.14
Grand total for two years -----	\$3,745.05
June 1, 1937, to June 1, 1938	
Total receipts for year -----	\$2,351.15
Grand total for three years -----	\$6,096.20
June 1, 1938, to November 1, 1938	
Total receipts for five months -----	\$1,131.83
Grand total for the entire period -----	\$7,228.03

## Disbursements

June the 1, 1935, to November 1, 1938	
To Rev. T. H. Willey for salary and all other expenses -----	\$4,631.79
To Miss Laura Belle Barnard for salary and all other expenses -----	\$1,555.60
To Rev. R. Paul as salary -----	\$ 390.00
Miscellaneous expenses -----	\$ 72.78
Total disbursements for the entire period -----	\$6,650.18
Balance on hand November 1, 1938 -----	\$ 577.85

Respectfully submitted,

I. J. Blackwelder, *Natl. Sec.-Treas.*

## REPORT OF TREATISE REVISION COMMITTEE

Thursday morning, Nov. 17, 1938, during the second session of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, the Treatise Revision Committee, which was appointed by the Moderator, met in a side room of the East Nashville Free Will Baptist church for the purpose of ascertaining the necessary changes to be made in the usage department of the Free Will Baptist Treatise. Chairman W. E. Coville in charge, prayer was by Eld. J. W. Alford. The usage department of the treatise was read and considered carefully item by item, and changes, some of major and some of minor importance, were recommended in the following places: page 39, item 3 and 5; page 45, item 2; page 46, item 3; page 48, paragraph 2 of item 4; page 55

heading under chapter 5; page 56 item under section 1, also paragraph 2 of section 1; page 57 article 1 and article 3 of the constitution; page 58 remainder of article 3, and also article 4 of constitution; page 59 article 5 and article 6 of constitution; page 60 remainder of article 6 and also article 7 of constitution; page 61 remainder of article 7, also article 8, 9, 10 of the constitution; page 62 article 11 of the constitution; page 63 by-law number 3; page 64 by-law number 14; page 75 item 1 and 3; and page 79 article 4.

The work and session of this committee was very pleasant and harmonious throughout its entire sitting. We hereby submit our report to the honorable body for your prayerful consideration, trusting that you may see fit to adopt the same.

Sincerely,

Layman W. E. Coville, *Chairman,*

Eld. J. W. Alford,

Elder M. L. Hollis,

Eld. D. S. Jones,

Eld. Bert Rogers,

Eld. Millard Vanhooose,

Eld. Winford Davis, *secretary*

Elder J. F. Miller, *advisory member*

*Committee*

## RESOLUTIONS

### *Obituary*

Whereas, God, in His infinite wisdom deemed it necessary to call from this world the souls of several ministers of our Association since last we met, be it therefore resolved:

First, That we humbly bow our heads in sincere submission to the sovereign will of Almighty God;

Second, That this Association stand in silence for one minute in respect for those who are dearest to the deceased; and

Third, That a copy of these resolutions be placed in the minutes of this Association, and a copy be printed in the "Free Will Baptist" and the "Gem."

Respectfully submitted,

R. C. Wiggs,

C. F. Bowen,

Melvin Bingham,

*Committee*

### *Appreciation*

After observing the splendid manner in which this Association has been entertained, with reference not only to the sumptuously and deliciously prepared meals, but also to the royal hospitality and friendliness in the homes of this church, community and friends, be it therefore resolved that this delegation extend a rising vote of appreciation to all who had a part in entertaining.

*By Committee.*

## STATISTICAL LETTER OF THE VIRGINIA STATE ASSOCIATION

Organized in the Mary's Chapel Church at Coeburn, Virginia, September 26, 1938.

*Officers:* Rev. James A. Boatright, *Moderator*; Rev. J. W. Addington, *Clerk*, and E. J. Kilgore, *Treasurer*.

*District Associations:* Clinch Valley, Sandy Valley, John Wheeler and the Southwestern Virginia.

Total number of churches 103; total membership 5,527; number of Sunday Schools 84; total Sunday School enrollment 6,145; number of ordained ministers 105; and total value of property \$70,500.00. Next annual session of the Association will convene with the Cherry Grove near Coeburn, Virginia.

*Delegates to National Association:* Rev. J. A. Boatright, Verdi, Virginia J. W. Addington, Clinchco, Virginia. *Visitors:* Rev. B. R. Powers, Wise, Virginia; Rev. Monroe Hubbard, Jenkins, Kentucky; and Brother E. J. Kilgore, Coeburn, Virginia.

## THE OKLAHOMA STATE ASSOCIATION

The State of Oklahoma sends greetings to the National Association of Free Will Baptists when convened with the East Nashville Church in Nashville, Tennessee, November 15, 1938.

### *Statistics*

Number of District Associations 14; total membership (approximately 20,000; number of churches 200; number of ministers 200; number of Home Missions 40; value of church property, \$100,000; paid pastors for the year \$10,317.61; and paid evangelists \$920.24.

*The following delegates are sent to represent us:* Sister Shay Richey, Sister Melvin Bingham, Sister Winnie McLain, Brother Tom Priest, Brother C. L. Hudson, Brother Russell Wells, Sister O. T. Gibson, Brother Claud Purcell, Sister Alveta Bingham, and Brother Saulie Reger.

We send \$11.00 for minute fund.

Elder W. E. Dearnore, *Moderator*, Wanette, Oklahoma,  
Winnie McLain, 420 Ash, Ada, Oklahoma



## CONSTITUTION

*Preamble.* From long experience we, the members of the Free Will Baptist denomination, being regularly baptised upon a profession of our faith in Jesus Christ, and realizing the necessity of a bond of union and fellowship among us as a church; and to preserve and maintain correspondence and co-ordination with us, do therefore ordain this Constitution for our better denominational government.

### ARTICLE I.

*Name.* This organization shall be known as the *National Association of Free Will Baptists of the United States of America.*

## ARTICLE II.

*Purpose.* The object or purpose of this organization shall be to unify the work of the various bodies composing this National Association, and to devise and execute measures for the extension of the Kingdom of God in connection with the various bodies in the Association, or that may hereafter be represented therein.

## ARTICLE III.

*Composition.* This National Association shall be composed of state associations, and district associations in states that have no state association.

## ARTICLE IV.

*Representation.* Representation to the National Association to be by states. Each state association shall be entitled to five delegates to be elected from the laity regardless of the number of district associations in the state; but in addition to the five delegates each state shall be entitled to one delegate for each district association within the state association. Said additional delegates to be elected by their respective associations.

District associations in states having no state association shall elect and send their delegate direct to the National Association.

*Section 2.* This National Association shall have no Power to fill vacancies in the delegation from any composite body.

## ARTICLE V.

*Finance.* Each state association shall send the sum of ten dollars with an additional five dollars from each district association within the bounds of the state association. District associations representing direct, as provided for in article 3, section 1., shall send five dollars.

*Section 2.* The moderator and clerk shall be paid the sum of fifteen dollars each annually. All other expenditures not specified herein shall be made at the direction of the body.

## ARTICLE VI.

*Discipline.* This National Association shall have the right to settle any question of discipline, doctrine or usage that may properly come before it from any of the bodies composing said organization of the National Association of the Free Will Baptist Church, or act upon any appeal that may be made by any body belonging to this National Association. Said appeal shall have been written and properly signed by the constituent body or bodies, and its decision shall be final. Such appeals are to come before the National Association after having been appealed from the lower body to the next higher body.

*Section 2.* All appeals coming before the National Association may be settled in either of the following ways: (1) By the National Association when sitting in a Committee as a whole. (2) By a special committee whose report shall be voted on without discussion.

## ARTICLE VII.

*Officers.* The officers of this National Association shall consist of a Moderator, an Assistant Moderator, a Clerk, an Assistant Clerk, and a Treasurer, each of which shall be elected at the beginning of each regular session.

*Section 2.* Committees as necessary shall be appointed by the Chair unless otherwise provided for, and shall hold office until work is completed, or until their successors are elected.

## ARTICLE VIII.

*Boards:* All boards shall be composed of five members. The following boards, namely: Executive, foreign mission, home mission, Sunday School, Free Will Baptist league, women's auxiliary, education and superannuation shall be elected as follows: The first named for a term of one year, the second, for a term of two years, the third for a term of three years, the fourth for a term of four years and the fifth for a term of five years. Thereafter, one member to be elected each year for a term of five years to fill the vacancy of the retiring member.

*Section 2.* The Executive Board shall have power to act in behalf of and for the National Association from one regular session to another, and shall have power to elect such officers as may be necessary for its own government, and to carry out the plans and undertakings of the National Association.

*Section 3.* This Executive Board shall have power to fill irregular vacancies that may occur in its own body, and shall also have power to fill any irregular vacancies that may occur in any department of the work. It shall be the duty of this Board to make written reports of all its work to the next regular session of the National Association.

*Section 4.* The duties of the various boards shall be to plan a program and supervise its operation in their respective fields. They shall organize themselves, and such regulations for their work may become necessary for the successful accomplishment of the same; such to be in harmony with the principles and tenets of the National Association.

## ARTICLE IX.

*Meetings.* This National Association shall hold its regular meetings annually. The place of meeting to be alternated each year: east of the Mississippi River one year and west of the Mississippi the next year; and place of meeting to be decided by a vote of the body. The time of meeting to be on Tuesday following the Second Sunday in July, and to remain in session until its work is completed.

## ARTICLE X.

This constitution may be amended or altered at any regular session of the National Association by a two-thirds vote provided proposed amendment or alteration be presented in writing to the body one day in advance.

1. The clerk or assistant, or in their absence, the senior minister in years shall call the Association into conference, and if a quorum is present the moderator, or in his absence, the assistant moderator shall take charge; and if neither of them is present, the senior minister in years shall act as moderator.

2. All persons declared by a Committee on Credentials to be duly entitled to a seat in the Association are hereby made and constituted members of this body, and are authorized to act in all respects according to the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws under which this Association is organized.

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.

4. Each meeting shall be opened by reading a portion of the Bible and with prayer, and shall be closed with prayer.

5. By a two-thirds vote of all members present a ruling of the moderator can be overruled.

6. The Association may correspond by messenger or otherwise with other religious bodies.

7. This Association shall sit with open doors except when it shall go into a committee of the whole.

8. Any person not a member of this Association may be allowed to take part in its discussions by obtaining permission of the moderator.

9. It shall be the duty of all members of this Association to be present at the time appointed for each meeting, and any one wishing to retire shall first obtain leave of the moderator.

10. No member shall absent himself from the Association during its meetings without first obtaining permission from the moderator.

11. No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of any committee, provided the person nominated be elected.

12. The moderator shall not allow discussions when not carried on in a Christian spirit or when he thinks it will cause discord or division.

13. Any one desiring to speak shall rise to his feet and address the moderator by the appellation, "Brother Moderator," but shall not speak further until recognized by the moderator.

14. The "yeas" and "nays" may be counted on any question by request of one-fifth of the members present.

15. No member of this Association shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes nor twice on the same subject without permission of the moderator.

16. It shall be the duty of the moderator to seat the delegates in a body in a designated section of the assembly room at the beginning of each business session.

17. These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any regular or adjourned session of this Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

## ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT BLANK

For the year ending \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_

*N. B. Pastor and Clerk:*—Please see that this statistical report blank is properly filled out and sent to your Annual Conference, or Association. This is necessary that a true status of the denomination may be reported to the General Statistician for the purpose of compiling a Denominational Year Book. This report to be sent *with regular letter.*

Name of church \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Conference, or Association \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

*Financial Statement*

Value of church \$\_\_\_\_\_. Value of parsonage \$\_\_\_\_\_. Indebtedness on church \$\_\_\_\_\_. Indebtedness on parsonage \$\_\_\_\_\_. Paid pastor \$\_\_\_\_\_. Evangelist \$\_\_\_\_\_. On building and repairs \$\_\_\_\_\_. Orphanage \$\_\_\_\_\_. Christian Education \$\_\_\_\_\_. Home Missions \$\_\_\_\_\_. Foreign Missions \$\_\_\_\_\_. For Disabled Ministers \$\_\_\_\_\_. All other purposes \$\_\_\_\_\_.  
 Total \$\_\_\_\_\_.

*Membership*

Received by Baptism\_\_\_\_\_ by letter\_\_\_\_\_ by restoration\_\_\_\_\_ from other denominations\_\_\_\_\_. Total increase\_\_\_\_\_. Lost by death\_\_\_\_\_ by letter\_\_\_\_\_ by expulsion\_\_\_\_\_. Total decrease\_\_\_\_\_. Net gain\_\_\_\_\_ or net loss\_\_\_\_\_. Number male members\_\_\_\_\_. Female members\_\_\_\_\_. Number members under thirteen years of age\_\_\_\_\_. Total membership\_\_\_\_\_. Number of Ordained Ministers on roll.

*Auxiliary Work*

S. S. Enrollment\_\_\_\_\_. F. W. B. L. Enrollment\_\_\_\_\_. L. A. Society, or Mission Circle Enrollment\_\_\_\_\_. Name of any other auxiliary\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ and enrollment\_\_\_\_\_.  
 Pastor's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address\_\_\_\_\_  
 Clerk's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address\_\_\_\_\_