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OF THE

OF

WHEN CONVENED WITH

RICHTON, MISSISSIPPI

THE NEXT SESSION WILL BE HELD

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST OF BOONEVILLE

**FRIDAY AFTERNOON AND NIGHT AND SATURDAY
BEFORE THE FIRST SUNDAY
IN NOVEMBER, 1979**



MINUTES

OF THE

Fourteenth Annual Session

OF THE

MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION

OF

FREE WILL BAPTIST

WHEN CONVENED WITH

Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church

RICHTON, MISSISSIPPI

November 3 & 4, 1978

THE NEXT SESSION WILL BE HELD

WITH THE

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST OF BOONEVILLE

BOONEVILLE, MISSISSIPPI

FRIDAY AFTERNOON AND NIGHT AND SATURDAY
BEFORE THE FIRST SUNDAY
IN NOVEMBER, 1979

Mississippi State Association

Of Free Will Baptists

1978-79

MODERATORREV. WILLIAM E. ATKINSON
Route 1, Smithville, Mississippi 38870

ASSISTANT MODERATORREV. LUTHER GIBSON
134 North Lake, Booneville, Mississippi 38829

CLERKREV. GLEN E. SHELBY
P. O. Box 353, Richton, Mississippi 39476

ASSISTANT CLERK.....REV. GLEN E. SHELBY
Route 3, Box 793, Waynesboro, Mississippi 39367

TREASURERMR. A. V. ARMSTRONG
Route 1, Box 278, Smithville, Mississippi 38870

EDITOR MISSISSIPPI MESSENGERREV. GLEN E. SHELBY
P. O. Box 353, Richton, Mississippi 39476

+Due to the death of Rev. Daniel Gaskins, Rev. Glen E. Shelby, Assistant Clerk,
was acting clerk.

BOARD OF MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION—

Rev. Bill Robinson-1978; Bro. Berry Van Nowell-1979; Rev. Wendell Walley-1980;
Rev. Bill Smith-1981; Rev. Dwight Fletcher-1982.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION—

Rev. Luther Gibson-1978; Rev. Glen Shelby-1979; Rev. Paul Long-1980; Bro. Larry
Gunnore-1981; Rev. Mike Mutchelor-1982.

BOARD OF CONFERENCE AND ITINERATE MINISTRIES—

Rev. Danny Dwyer-1978; Rev. Jack Jones-1979; Rev. Mark Daniels-1980.

BOARD OF HISTORICAL COMMISSION—

Rev. Russell Clouse-1978; Rev. J. K. Walley-1979; Rev. Floyd C. Barber-1980.

BOARD OF CHILDREN'S HOME—

Bro. Charles Walden

GENERAL BOARD MEMBER TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION—

Rev. Wendell Walley

AUDITING COMMITTEE—

Bro. Jimmie Walley-1978; Rev. Don Taggart-1979; Rev. Wayne Yarbrough-1980.

**DIGEST REPORT OF THE CHURCHES AND ASSOCIATIONS REPRESENTED
AT THE MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS,
CONVENING AT THE FELLOWSHIP FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF
RICHTON, MISSISSIPPI, NOVEMBER 3 AND 4th, 1978.**

NAMES OF CHURCHES:

Antioch, Bethel, Buckatunna, Burgess Creek, Corinth, County Line, Fellowship, First-Booneville, First-Columbus, First-Iuka, First-Philadelphia, Jones Chapel, Lee's Chapel-Jones County, Lee's Chapel-Wayne Co., Little Brown, Lovewell, Martin Hill, McGregor's Chapel, New Gauley, Pascagoula, Pearce Chapel, Pine Grove-Waynesboro, Pine Grove-West Point, Richton, Smith's Chapel, Tupelo, Victory, White Hill.

NAMES OF ASSOCIATION:

South Mississippi; Little Brown Creek; Northeast.

TOTAL FINANCES RECEIVED WITH CHURCH AND ASSOCIATIONAL LETTERS:

State General Fund-\$249.20; Missions-\$93.00; Representative fees-\$545.00.

STATISTICS AND FINANCIAL REPORT

STATISTICS—

Number of Churches Reporting	28
Church Membership	5095
Number of Parsonages	15
Number of Ordained Ministers	58
Number of Licensed Ministers	10
Number of Deacons and Quarterly Meetings	117
Sunday School Enrollment	3040
C.T.S. Enrollment	1064
Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment	302
Master's Men Enrollment	28
Mid-Week Average Attendance	1085

FINANCIAL REPORT—

Total Income of all Member Churches	\$741,150.26
Total Local Expenditures	\$490,063.89
Co-operative Plan	
National Executive Office	\$180.00
Foreign Missions	\$13,265.68
Laymen's Board	
Church Training Service	\$593.05
Free Will Baptist Bible College	\$11,176.70
Retirement and Insurance Board	\$470.67
Home Mission and Church Extension	\$10,531.37
Other National Ministries	\$1,735.18
District and-or State Ministries	\$7,029.51
Other Causes	\$8,729.77
Total Outside Giving	\$25,190.93

**PROCEEDINGS
BIBLE CONFERENCE
BOARD OF CONFERENCE AND ITINERATE MINISTRIES
AND
OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
COVENING AT FELLOWSHIP FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
RICHTON, MISSISSIPPI
BIBLE CONFERENCE PROGRAM
November 3, 1978**

**Rev. Jack Jones, Presiding
Bro. Randy Sawyer, Song Leader**

9:30 a.m. Welcome and IntroductionRev. Andy Hoeflich
Hymn and Prayer
10:00 a.m. MessageRev. Larry Reynolds
"Does God Cry?" Psalm 106:15
Hymn
10:40 a.m. MessageRev. Danny Dwyer
"Quitting Time" John 9:4
11:20 a.m. Recess
11:30 a.m. MessageRev. Al Hamm
"The Christian and Sin" I John 1:5-2:6
(Joint Service with Woman's Auxiliary)
12:30 p.m. Lunch
1:30 p.m. Hymn and Prayer
1:35 p.m. MessageRev. Glen Shelby
2:10 p.m. Recess

**MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION MEETING
FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION**

The Fourteenth Annual Session of Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptists met at the Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church, Richton, Mississippi, on Friday afternoon, Nov. 3 and 4th, 1978.

The session was opened with congregational singing led by Bro. Sam Postlewaite. The meeting was called to order by the Assistant Clerk, who introduced the Moderator, Rev. William E. Atkinson.

The clerk gave the Digest Report of churches and Associational letters. Motion was made and carried to receive the report and seat the delegates.

The Executive Committee report was given by the Assistant Clerk. Motion was made and carried to receive report and vote them item by item. (See Report).

The Committee on Committees was appointed as follows: Rev. Billy Bevan, Bro. Sam Postlewaite, and Rev. Andy Hoeflich.

Dismissed by prayer.

FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION

Congregation sang "Stand Up for Jesus" and "The Lily of the Valley," led by Bro. Sam Postlewaite. The Welcome address was given by the host pastor, Rev. Dwight Fletcher. Prayer was led by Rev. Billy Bevan.

The report of Committee on Committees was given by Rev. Billy Bevan. Motion

was made and carried that the report be accepted. (See Report).

The report of the Woman's Auxiliary was given by Mrs. Carolyn Dwyer. Motion was made and carried that the report be accepted. (See Report).

Congregational singing "He Keeps Me Singing." Special singing by Bro. Sam Postlewaite, Rev. Dwight Fletcher, Bro. Larry Gunnoe, and Bro. Danny Dwyer, "Worthy is the Lamb" and "Love Grew Where the Blood Fell," by Larry Gunnoe.

Evening offering for State Missions was taken and amounted to \$85.10.

Message by Rev. Luther Gibson "Is There Any Hope?" 1 Thess. 4:13.

Rev. Steve Nichols and Rev. Terry Booker were appointed to the Auditing Committee for this session only.

Dismissed by prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The meeting began with congregation singing "When the Roll is Called up Yonder" led by Bro. Sam Postlewaite. Prayer by Bro. Jim Lauthren.

The meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. William E. Atkinson, announcements made. Prayer meeting was led by Rev. Hollis Warren, who took his text from 2 Cor. 7:11. Prayers led by Rev. Luther Gibson and Rev. Leander McAdams.

BUSINESS SESSION

The Sunday School Report was given by Bro. Jim Lauthren, also the C.T.S. Report and the Foreign Missions Report. Motions made and carried to accept reports as information.

The Treasurer's Report was presented. Motion was made and carried to accept report. (See Report).

The Report of the Board of Conference and Itinerate Ministries was given by Rev. Danny Dwyer. Motion was made and carried to adopt report. (See Report).

Partial Report of the Nominating Committee was given. Motion was made and carried to accept report and elect by acclamation. (See Report).

The Christian Education Report was given by Bro. Larry Gunnoe. Motion was made and carried to accept report. (See Report).

The Resolutions Committee Report was given by Rev. Jack Jones. Motion was made and carried. A rising vote of thanks was expressed to the host church. (See Report).

The Bible College Report was given by Rev. Paul Ketteleman. Motion was made and carried to accept as information.

Recess to make pictures and present checks to Rev. J. L. Gore and Rev. Steve Nichols for their respective Missions.

Congregational singing "I Know in Whom I Have Believed."

The Auditing Committee Report was given by Bro. Jimmy Walley. Motion made and carried to accept. (See Report).

The Final Report of the Nominating Committee was given. Motion was made and carried to elect by acclamation. (Moderated by Rev. J. L. Gore). (See Report).

The Report of the Laymen's Board was given by Bro. Lloyd Olson. Motion was made and carried to accept as information.

The report of the Home Mission Board was given by Rev. Wendell Walley. Motion made and carried to accept report. (See Report).

The Registration Committee Report was given by the Moderator. (See Report).

The Moderator recognized the older ministers present who were: Rev. L. E.

Winter, Rev. Leander McAdams, Rev. O. L. Fields, and Rev. C. C. Brewer.

Rev. Steve Nichols expressed thanks to the people for the \$10,000.00 gift.

The Roll Call of Ministers was taken. (See Report).

Congregational singing "O, How I Love Jesus." Special singing by the choir, "If that Isn't Love."

Recognition by the moderator of Bro. Larry Gunnoe, Bro. Sam Postlewaite, and Bro. Randy Sawyer for their part in presenting the music for the Association.

Message by Rev. J. L. Gore. Bro. Gore presented Mr. and Mrs. Steve Johnson and son who presented a special in song. A testimony and song "When I Stand in the Presence of the Lord" were given by Bro. Steve Johnson. A testimony was given by Bro. Jerry Nicholson.

Bro. Gore's message was taken from the text in Acts 26:13.

Offertory—Congregation singing "Amazing Grace." Offering received for the day was \$134.23.

Rev. Luther Gibson expressed appreciation for two of our deceased members—Mrs. Dixie Atkinson and Rev. Daniel Gaskins. A moment of silent prayer was observed in their memory and prayer was led by Rev. Bill Smith.

Rev. Dwight Fletcher recommended a vote of appreciation for our Moderator, Rev. William E. Atkinson, and other officers. Carried and a rising vote of appreciation given.

Adjourned by prayer.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Executive Committee and the Board of Conference and Itinerate Ministries of the Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptists met at the First Free Will Baptist Church Amory, Mississippi, on September 9, 1978, at 10:00 a.m. to plan the program for the annual Bible Conference and the Mississippi State Association. Members present were: Rev. William E. Atkinson, Moderator; Rev. Luther Gibson, Asst. Moderator; Rev. Glen Shelby, Asst. Clerk; Bro. A. V. Armstrong, Treasurer; and members of the Board of Conference and Itinerate Ministries, Rev. Danny Dwyer and Rev. Jack Jones. Moderator opened the meeting with a devotional and prayer.

We submit the following recommendations:

1. We planned the Annual Bible Conference and State Association programs.
2. The Executive Committee voted to designate Friday nights offering to State Missions and Saturday Mornings offering to Greenwood land.

At the Associational meeting we made the following recommendations:

1. We recommend that Bro. Glen Shelby receive the regular clerk's salary for work done in replacing Bro. Daniel Gaskins.

2. We recommend that the clerk purchase letter head stationery and matching envelopes for Mississippi State Association.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. William E. Atkinson
Rev. Luther Gibson
Bro. A. V. Armstrong
Rev. Danny Dwyer
Rev. Jack Jones
Rev. Glen E. Shelby

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

- 1. Nominating Committee
 - 1. J. L. Gore, Chairman (South Miss.)
 - 2. Al Hamm (North-east)
 - 3. Harold Wiggington (Little Brown)
- 11. Resolutions Committee
 - 1. Jack D. Jones, Chairman (Little Brown)
 - 2. Charles Henderson (South Miss.)
 - 3. Letcher Fields (North-east)

Submitted by,
Billy Bevan
Sam Postlewaite
Andy Hoeflich

**REPORT OF THE
MISSISSIPPI STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY**

1977-78

We praise the Lord for the work that has been accomplished through the Mississippi State Woman's Auxiliary this year.

We submit the following report:

Active Members	309
Disbursements:	
Membership Fees	\$ 309.00
Home Missions Offering and Project	1856.68
Foreign Missions	2680.44
Bible College	562.45
Co-Laborer Offering & WNAC Travel Fund	819.60
Children's Home	86.63
Youth Camp & Projects	146.33
Local Church Activities	3130.73
Auxiliary Literature & Supplies	458.46
Other Special Offerings	135.46
Non-Cash Gifts to:	
Children's Home	
Missionary Provision Closet	
Retired Ministers	1310.27
Total Disbursements	\$11,496.05
The 1978 Project "A Room in Pearl to Help Change the World"	
Goal—\$2500.00	
Total Received—\$4,126.08	
1978-79 Project—\$4,000.00 "Return the Herseys to Japan to Spread the Gospel Throughout the Land."	

Respectfully Submitted,
Carolyn Dwyer, President
Eloise Crossley, Treasurer

THE BOARD OF CONFERENCE AND ITINERATE MINISTRIES SUBMITS THIS REPORT TO THE MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS FOR THE YEAR 1977-78.

I. Pastor's Retreat

After initial attempts to schedule the Pastor's Retreat failed, the Board decided to postpone the Retreat until a later time. It is our hope to plan a Retreat sometime during the Spring of 1979.

II. Executive Committee Meeting

The Board met on September 9, 1978 at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Amory along with the members of the Executive Committee to plan the program for the State Associational meeting. After much discussion, the program was agreed upon and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully,
Jack Jones
Danny Dwyer

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your Nominating Committee submit the following names for nomination:

Moderator-William E. Atkinson; Asst. Moderator-Luther Gibson; Clerk-Glen Shelby; Asst. Clerk-Carter Brewer; Treasurer-A. V. Armstrong; Editor-Mississippi Messenger-Glen Shelby.

Board of Missions and Church Extension to fill the expired term of Rev. Bill Robinson-Bill Robinson.

Board of Christian Education to fill the expired term of Rev. Luther Gibson-Sam Postlewaite.

Board of Conference and Itinerate Ministries to fill the expired term of Rev. Danny Dwyer-Al Hamm, and the unexpired term of Rev. Mark Daniel (moved from the state)-Andy Hoeflich.

Board of Historical Commission to fill the expired term of Rev. Russell Clouse-Russell Clouse.

Member of Board of Children's Home to fill the expired term of Bro. Charles Walden-Charles Walden.

General Board Member to the National Association-Wendell Walley.

Auditing Committee Member to fill the expired term of Bro. Jimmie Walley-Steve Nichols, and the unexpired term of Rev. Don Taggart-1979 (moved out of state)-Terry Booker.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The state Music and Arts Festival was held at First Free Will Baptist Church in Amory on June 3, 1978. Each of the three Associations were represented. We appreciate the pastors who support this program for the benefit of their young people.

If any pastor would like information or help concerning this, please contact any of the board members.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Gunnoe
Luther Gibson
Mike Mutchelor
Paul Long
Glen Shelby

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Whereas, the Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church of Richton has most graciously provided their facilities and services to host this State Association, "Be it therefore resolved that we give a rising vote of thanks to Bro. Dwight Fletcher and the congregation of the Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church of Richton, and other churches in South Mississippi Association for their gracious hospitality during the State meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bro. Jack Jones (Little Brown)
Bro. Charles Henderson (South Miss.)
Bro. Letcher Fields (Northeast)

AUDITING COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Auditing Committee, after meeting and examining the records of the State Home Missions Treasurer find all the records correct and in order. Due to the absence of the State Association Treasurer we were unable to examine these records.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jimmy Walley
Terry Booker
Steve Nichols

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Ministers Present	32
Delegates and Deacons Present	49
Visitors	76
Total Present	157
Ladies Auxiliary Registration	46

ROLL CALL OF MINISTERS

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI:

Rev. Milton Fields, Rev. C. C. Brewer, Rev. Bobby Martin, Rev. Andy Hoeflich, Rev. Johnny Aricer, Rev. Truman Freeman, Rev. Frank Henderson, Rev. Wayne Walley, Rev. Dwight Fletcher, Rev. Carter Brewer, Rev. Glen Shelby.

LITTLE BROWN CREEK:

Rev. Curtis Briley, Rev. Terry Booker, Rev. Bill Smith, Rev. Jack Jones, Rev. Luther Gibson.

NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI:

Rev. Al Hamm, Rev. Billy Beaven, Rev. O. L. Fields, Rev. Danny Dwyer, Rev. Wendell Walley, Rev. Leander McAdams, Rev. L. E. Winter.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

**MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST
FOR YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 1977,
AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1978.**

GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS:

Beech Springs F.W.B. Church	\$ 87.04
Bethel F.W.B. Church	48.99
County Line F.W.B. Church	120.00

Damascus F.W.B. Church	15.00
Fawn Grove F.W.B. Church	63.27
Fellowship F.W.B. Church	107.13
First F.W.B. Church-Amory	80.53
First F.W.B. Church-Booneville	15.00
First F.W.B. Church-Iuka	40.00
First F.W.B. Church-Philadelphia	25.00
First F.W.B. Church-Columbus	340.00
First F.W.B. Church-Greenville	30.00
Lovewell F.W.B. Church	249.88
Little Brown F.W.B. Church	95.00
Little Brown Creek Association	70.00
Lees Chapel F.W.B. Church-Jones County	95.54
Macedonia F.W.B. Church	15.00
Mississippi State Association-Offering	83.33
MS. State Association-District Fees	90.00
MS. State Association-Delegate Fees	600.00
MS. State Association-Church Gifts General Fund	345.00
MS. State Association-Church Gifts Mission Fund	199.00
MS. State Association-Offering Mission Fund	105.00
New Gauley F.W.B. Church	402.67
Pearce Chapel F.W.B. Church	679.85
Pine Grove F.W.B. Church-Waynesboro	155.60
Tupelo F.W.B. Church	966.71
North East Mississippi Association of Free Will Baptist	110.00
South Mississippi Association of Free Will Baptists	10.00
Hudson Bible and Church Supplies	14.26
Transfer of Mission Funds	475.93
Mississippi Mission Board	132.03
Victory F.W.B. Church	148.00
Miscellaneous	11.96
Total Receipts	\$6,026.72
Balance Brought Forward	179.92
Total Available Cash	\$6,206.64

DISBURSEMENTS:

Treasurer-Postage-Expense Allowance	\$ 114.03
State Moderator	123.45
State C.T.S. Competition Fees	145.50
Phone-Travel	65.55
Mississippi Mission Board-Transfer of Acct. to Treasurer	475.93
Mississippi Mission Board-Receipts from Churches	697.91
Pastors Retreat	75.00
Clerk Expense Allowance	375.00
Mississippi Messenger-Printing	1,799.75
Mississippi Messenger-Postage and Supplies	574.81
Delegate Fees to National Association of Free Will Baptists	110.00
Designated to Mississippi Missions	254.03

Designated to Out of State Ministries	479.10
Total Disbursements	\$5,290.06
Total Available Cash	\$6,206.64
Less Disbursements	5,290.06
General Fund Balance 9-30-78	\$ 916.58

Submitted By:
A. V. Armstrong
Treasurer

**MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
BOARD OF MISSIONS & CH. EXT.
FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

OCTOBER 1, 1977 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 1978

March for Mississippi Missions	\$8,703.29
G.F.G. through November 4	\$8,481.28

RECEIPTS:

Amory F.W.B. Church	\$ 991.29
Antioch F.W.B. Church-Burnsville	205.50
Beech Springs F.W.B. Church	1,716.76
Bethel F.W.B. Church	233.49
Bethlehem F.W.B. Church	329.29
Buckatunna F.W.B. Church	281.20
Burgess Creek F.W.B. Church	125.00
Community F.W.B. Church	125.00
Corinth F.W.B. Church	559.12
County Line F.W.B. Church	30.00
Damascus F.W.B. Church	90.00
Eggville F.W.B. Church	303.40
Fawn Grove F.W.B. Church	442.71
Fellowship F.W.B. Church	1,283.41
First F.W.B. Church-Booneville	277.80
First F.W.B. Church-Columbus	1,763.60
First F.W.B. Church-Greenville	685.18
First F.W.B. Church-Iuka	411.00
First F.W.B. Church-Pascagoula	56.00
First F.W.B. Church-Pearl	196.87
First F.W.B. Church-Philadelphia	300.00
First F.W.B. Church-Richton	40.00
Fulton F.W.B. Church	220.00
Greenwood F.W.B. Mission	283.17
Jones Chapel F.W.B. Church	325.26
Lee's Chapel F.W.B. Church-Jones Co.	165.25
Lee's Chapel F.W.B. Church-Wayne Co.	822.62
Little Brown F.W.B. Church	459.40
Lovewell F.W.B. Church	65.00
Main Street F.W.B. Church	76.25

Macedonia F.W.B. Church	130.00
Martin Hill F.W.B. Church	1,191.34
McGregor's Chapel F.W.B. Church	402.76
Mobile F.W.B. Church (Mobile, Ala.)	20.00
Mount Pisgah F.W.B. Church	893.07
New Gauley F.W.B. Church	53.60
New Lebanon F.W.B. Church	94.00
North Side F.W.B. Church	220.00
Pearce Chapel F.W.B. Church	2,815.41
Pine Grove F.W.B. Church	125.85
Pleasant Grove F.W.B. Church	10.00
Smith Chapel F.W.B. Church	25.00
Smithville First F.W.B. Church	334.00
Springdale F.W.B. Church	60.87
Tupelo F.W.B. Church	5,152.21
Victory F.W.B. Church	408.00
White Hill F.W.B. Church	125.00
Gifts from Individuals	453.00
Church Gifts Sent to the St. Assoc.	199.00
St. Assoc. Offering	105.00
Interest from Amory Fed. Savings & Loan	271.89
Little Brown Creek Association	231.20
North East MS. Assoc.	425.00
Loan Payments from the Steve Nichols	550.00
Little Brown F.W.B. Ch. Sun. Sch.	102.12
N.E. MS. F.W.B. Sun. Sch. Convention	100.00
Fellowship F.W.B. Church-Ladies Auxiliary	100.00
Lee's Chapel F.W.B. Ch.-Jones Co.-Ladies Auxiliary	25.00
Miss. St. Assoc. (Receiving Back Money Mistakenly Forwarded)	77.00
Total Receipts	27,643.89
Checking Acct. Balance For APPED	475.93
Total Re Money Excluding Savings	28,119.82

DISBURSEMENTS:

National Home Mission Board-Bro. Gore's Acct.	5,170.00
National Home Mission Board-Bro. Nichols's Acct.	6,650.00
J. L. Gore-Travel Expense	253.72
½ 1977 Social Security	208.74
Steve Nichols-Travel Expense	191.70
Phone	143.25
National Assoc. Expense	410.00
½ 1977 Social Security	190.00
Pulpit Supply	50.00
Designated to Pearl Bldg. Fund	85.00
Designated to The Greenwood Bldg. Fund	16.50
Trymon Messer (Spent a week working with the missionaries)	250.00
To Mission Board Members-Travel & Food	520.43
Supplies & Postage	47.99
Phone	36.00

Richton Bank & Trust Co.-Golden Savings	5,000.00
Richton Bank & Trust Co.-Passbook Savings	3,000.00
Christmas Gifts to Missionaries-\$150.00 each	300.00
Miscellaneous (Supplies, Printing, Postage, Etc.)	99.61
Mississippi St. Assoc.	77.00
Total Disbursements	22,699.94
Int. for rec'd from Amory Fed. deposited in golden savings	
At Richton Park rather than checking	90.63
Total money to account for	22,790.57
Receipts	\$23,119.82
Disbursements	22,790.57
Checking Acct. balance	
September 30, 1978	5,329.25

SAVINGS ACCT. INFORMATION

Amory Federal Savings & Loan	\$5,000.,00
Richton Bank & Trust Co.-Golden Savings	\$5,000.00
Int. paid 6-30-78	50.42
Deposit 9-6-78	90.63
Int. Paid 9-30-78	69.76
	5,210.81
Richton Bank & Trust Co.-Passbook Savings	\$3,000.00
Int. paid 6-30-78	22.50
	3,022.50
Total Savings Accounts	13,233.31

Submitted By
E. Dwight Fletcher
Treasurer

**CONSTITUTION OF THE MISSISSIPPI
STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST**

Article I—Name

This body shall be known henceforth as the Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptist.

Article II—Purpose

The object of this organization shall be to more thoroughly unify the work of the various Associations and Churches of Mississippi and to devise and execute measures for the extension of Christ’s Kingdom in connection with the various Associations and Churches comprising this organization.

Article III—Treatise of Faith and Practice

This body adopts the Treatise of Faith and Practice of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

Article IV—Membership

Section 1. The membership of this Association shall consist of all Associations and

Churches that from time to time, upon arrival of the State Association shall become members of this body.

Section 2. Representation: Each district association holding membership in the State Association shall be entitled to five (5) representatives elected from the laity, with an additional representative from each church comprising the District Association. Furthermore, all Ordained Ministers and Deacons and all Missionaries under the auspices of the State Mission Board holding membership in churches within this State Association shall be entitled to membership in this body.

Section 3. Any local church whose Association is not a member of the State Association, may be represented with one lay delegate and the ordained ministers and deacons of that church.

Section 4. It is understood that the Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptists and the area associations comprising its memberships have no judicial authority over any local church.

Section 5. The Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptists, the yearly associations comprising its membership and their local churches do not grant any judicial authority to any representative body to which they may belong.

Article V—Officers

The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, and Assistant Moderator, a Clerk, an Assistant Clerk, and Treasurer, each of whom shall be nominated and elected by a standing vote from the floor at each regular meeting.

Election shall be determined by a majority vote of those present and voting. Officers thus elected shall hold their positions until their successors are elected and installed.

Article VI—Board and Committees

Section 1. The Executive Committee is a standing committee, composed of Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Assistant Clerk, and Treasurer.

Section 2. This Association shall elect whatever boards and committees it deems necessary for its operation and shall state whether they are standing or temporary.

Section 3. Board of Missions and Church Extension:

A. The Board of Missions and Church Extension is a standing Board composed of Five (5) members with terms up to five (5) years, with a board member going off each year.

B. Policy:

(1) This board will have the authority to approve:

(a) The organization of the Mission into a church.

(b) Purchase date, location, and price of property purchased by the church or mission until all financial support be terminated.

(2) This Board shall have the authority to approve or disapprove the removal of a mission or church pastor, and to approve or disapprove the selection of a new pastor until all financial support be terminated.

(3) This Board will have the right and authority for five (5) years after financial support has terminated, in the event the work fails, or the church disbands or ceases to function, to recover any equity from the work in the form of property, securities, cash, or any other assets, and such recovered equity is to be used in future mission projects at the discretion of the Board. However, this does not mean that the Board will assume

any liabilities of the church for any direct indebtedness at any time.

- (4) This Board shall have the authority to select its treasurer from among its members.

Section 4. The Board of Christian Education is a standing board composed of five (5) members with terms up to five (5) years, with a member going off each year.

Section 5. The Board of Conference and Itinerate Ministries is a standing board composed of three (3) members with terms up to three (3) years, with a member going off each year.

Section 6. The Board of Historical Commission is a standing board composed of 3 members with terms up to three years, with a member going off each year.

Section 7. The Auditing Committee is a standing committee composed of 3 members with terms up to three years, with a member going off each year. It shall be the duty of this Board to meet with the treasurer for the purpose of auditing treasurer's books prior to the State Association and give annual report to the State Association.

Article VII—Meeting

This Association shall hold its regular meetings annually at a time and place fixed by the last regular session and made known before adjournment. Special meetings may be called by the Executive Committee when extreme necessity demands, providing that the Clerk of the Association has been properly notified at least fifteen (15) days before the date set for the meeting. Fifteen (15) legal representatives shall constitute a quorum for any special meetings of this Association.

Article VIII—Representative Fees

This body requests that each Association holding membership in this Association give a representative fee of thirty (\$30.00) per year and each local church give a representative fee of fifteen (\$15.00) per year.

Article IX—Amendments

This Constitution may be amended at any regular session of the State Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided the change is recommended in writing and tabled in the morning session and voted during the afternoon session.

BY-LAWS OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

1. The Moderator or the Assistant Moderator shall call the Association to order at the hour designated by the program committee. When either the Moderator or the Assistant Moderator is present, the Executive Committee shall elect a Moderator Pro-tem, who shall call the association to order.

2. (a) It shall be the duty of the clerk to record and have printed annually the minutes of the Association.

(b) To enroll the delegates to this Association who shall present themselves with the proper evidence of their rights to seats therein, and those enrolled by the Clerk shall compose the Association. In case of questionable representation however, the case under question shall be referred to a credential committee.

- (c) The Clerk shall be given seventy-five dollars*(\$75.00) per year for his time, effort, and personal expenses in preparation of the State minutes.
- 3. (a) It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to hold all Associational funds and disburse same as authorized by the Association.
- (b) The Treasurer shall be paid seventy-five dollars*(\$75.00) per year to cover his time and effort and personal expenses in preparing monthly and yearly reports.
- 4. The Executive Committee shall act on behalf of the Association when the Association is not in session. Any action taken by this committee shall be submitted in report to the Association.
- 5. Board of Missions and Church Extension: It shall be the duty of this Board to:
 - (a) Receive and disburse money allocated them by the State and other money.
 - (b) To promote the organization of new churches.
 - (c) To give complete report of all funds received, disbursements and progress made to the State Association.
- 6. Board of Conference and Itinerate Ministries: It shall be the duty of the board to:
 - (a) Work in conjunction with our National Departments in planning Itinerates and Conference speakers for the benefit of the local churches.
 - (b) To plan programs for Bible Conference on a State level.
- 7. Board of Christian Education. It shall be the duty of this Board to:
 - (a) Promote all phases of educational work in the State Association.
 - (b) To be a link from the local church to the National level.
 - (c) Promote teaching materials and personnel for educational programs in the church.
 - (d) Plan and promote Sunday School and CTS Rallys on the State level. Expenses of promotional literature, such as correspondence, special promotions, etc., to be paid out of General Fund.
- 8. Board of Historical Commission: It shall be the duty of this Board to:
 - (a) Obtain all possible information about the history of Free Will Baptists in Mississippi.
 - (b) Maintain a current record of progress.
 - (c) Give a progress report annually at each session of the State Association.
- 9. Travel shall be paid by this Association at the rate of fifteen (15) cents per mile plus compensation for food and lodging for all members of standing boards while transacting business authorized by, or in behalf of the Association, or promotional work over the State. The Treasurer shall pay such expenses when written claim is presented by each individual involved.
- 10. The Moderator when serving this Association in promotional services shall be paid \$4.00 for each service conducted in addition to mileage.
- 11. The Moderator shall appoint a committee on committees which shall present to the body nominations for such committees as necessary.
- 12. That we receive the letters and seat the delegates on the strength of the Credentials Committee report and omit public reading of the letters; all letters to be mailed with the representative fee to the State Association Clerk by the first of the month in which meetings are to be held.
- 13. A Parliamentarian shall be appointed by the Moderator if he deems it

* See Report of The Executive Committee in 1977 minutes.

necessary, and any questions as to Parliamentary procedure, Robert's Rules of Order shall be final authority on the subject.

14. The Editor of the Mississippi Messenger shall be paid \$30.00 per issue for his labor and personal expenses in preparing Messenger.

15. These By-laws may be amended at any regular session of the State Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided the change is recommended in writing and tabled in the morning session and voted on during the afternoon session.

16. The Mississippi State Associational Year will begin on October 1 and end on September 30.