

MINUTES

of the

Thirty-Second Annual Session

of the

State Association of Churches

of the (Original)

Free Will Baptists of North Carolina

Held With

Reedy Branch Church

Pitt County, North Carolina

September, 1944

And the Minutes

of the

Women's State Auxiliary Convention

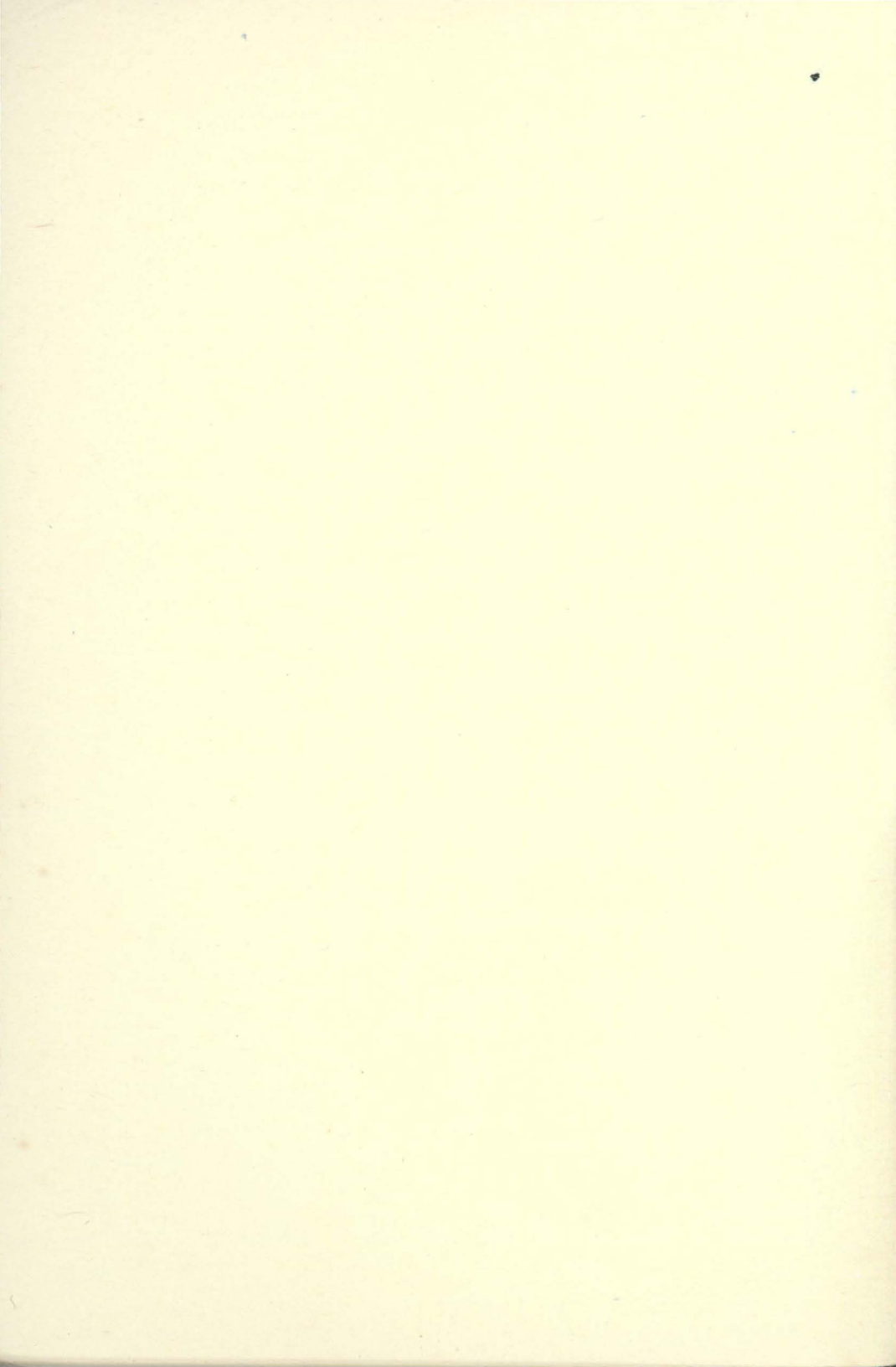
and the

State Sunday School Convention



1944

FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS
AYDEN, N. C.



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MINUTES
of the
SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION
of the
WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION
OF NORTH CAROLINA
held with
STONY CREEK CHURCH
WAYNE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

MAY 25, 1944

OFFICERS

President ----- Mrs. Clarence Bowen, 911 Green St., Durham
First Vice-President -- Mrs. Raymond Sasserr, 305 E. Walnut St., Goldsboro
Second Vice-President ---- Mrs. J. C. Griffin, 240 N. Pasteur St., New Bern
Third Vice-President ----- Mrs. Robert Wiggs, Ayden
Fourth Vice-President ----- Mrs. Paul Thigpen, Stantonsburg
Fifth Vice-President ----- Mrs. J. C. Moye, Snow Hill
Sixth Vice-President ----- Mrs. T. E. Beamon, Simmons St., Goldsboro
Secretary ----- Mrs. Oliver Smith, Rt. 2, Goldsboro
Treasurer ----- Mrs. Herman Noble, Greenville
Field Secretary ----- Mrs. L. E. Ballard, Middlesex

PROCEEDINGS

The seventeenth annual Auxiliary Convention of North Carolina met with Stony Creek Church, Wayne County, Thursday, May 25, 1944.

The opening hymn for the Convention was "How Firm a Foundation," followed by a period of meditation led by Mrs. Bagley Morris. Speaking from the 12th chapter of Daniel, Mrs. Morris used as her subject "Stewardship of the Gospel."

Words of welcome were spoken by Mrs. Joseph Lancaster, with response by Mrs. R. C. Wiggs.

MORNING SESSION

After the reading of minutes and roll call of officers, the following ministers were recognized: J. R. Forrest, E. G. Holland, D. W. Alexander, W. K. Jordan, T. E. Beaman, L. R. Ennis, R. C. Wiggs, Clarence Bowen, J. C. Griffin, M. L. Johnson, J. A. Evans, and Mrs. Lizzie McAdams.

"Cooperation" was the keynote of the president's message for the Convention. She said in part: "Our combined efforts are needed that the program of Christ may be extended through the medium of this Auxiliary Convention."

The following committees were appointed:

Finance and Apportionment—Mrs. Herman Nobles, Mrs. Louise Bedsworth, Mrs. Bagley Morris, Mrs. Buck Sasser.

Resolution—Mrs. Frank Edmundson, Mrs. Cedric Boyd, Mrs. Correna Williams.

Nominating—Mrs. J. C. Sasser, Mrs. J. R. Bennett, Miss Alice Webster.

Reports—Mrs. L. E. Ballard, Mrs. M. L. Johnson, Mrs. Luther Kirby.

Rev. James A. Evans, superintendent of the Orphanage, brought some news from the Home at this time. He emphasized the need for a greater support with the rising cost of living, and at the same time commended the Auxiliary for the splendid help given in the past year. Mr. Evans announced that he had fruit jars to be distributed for those who wished to can produce for the Home.

Rev. J. C. Griffin, field secretary for the State Association, was presented by the president. Mr. Griffin outlined some of the work of our state and national bodies, with special emphasis on the Five-Point Program in North Carolina.

Specially requested prayer, led by Rev. L. R. Ennis, was offered in behalf of the Revs. Henry Melvin and L. H. Wetherington who were unable physically to attend the Convention.

Preparatory to the convention message, Mrs. J. C. Moye and Mrs. Ruth Moye Clark sang "Holy Spirit, Breathe on Me."

Using the subject "Steadfastness in the Go Ye," Mrs. L. E. Ballard brought an impressive convention message. The speaker stressed three things in which we should be steadfast: (1) prayer, (2) study, and (3) love.

The president instructed the secretary to send Mrs. L. H. Wetherington a letter of appreciation for her past services and an expression of sympathy for the physical condition of her husband.

The convention was dismissed for lunch. Rev. M. L. Johnson pronounced the benediction.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Mrs. Marie Gaskins led the devotions in the afternoon session. She read passages from Matthew 28. The hymn, "Saviour Like a Shepherd Lead us," was sung, followed by prayer by Mrs. McAdams.

REPORTS OF THE VICE-PRESIDENTS

(See reports)

First. Mrs. Clarence Bowen urged the use of the Year Book of Programs. She suggested more work with our youth.

Second. Mrs. J. C. Griffin spoke concerning the assembly ground and the importance of training youth. Vacation Bible Schools stressed.

Third. Mrs. J. H. Oglesby read a letter from Mrs. Willey, our missionary in Cuba. She urged prayer for the Willeys and our other missionaries.

Fourth. Mrs. Paul Thigpen enthusiastically reported our stewardship endeavors and encouraged further achievements.

Fifth. Mrs. J. C. Moye insisted that we continue our canning for the Orphanage. A song was rendered by the Orphanage children present and an offering of \$52.02 was taken for the Home.

Sixth. Mrs. T. E. Beaman suggested we do something special for our superannuated ministers next Christmas. Rev. M. L. Johnson, chairman-treasurer of the North Carolina Board of Superannuation, spoke encouragingly about his work and the program of the Board in future weeks.

It was moved that all disbursement of monies be made according to previous plan—from the local auxiliaries to the district vice-presidents and then to the state treasurer, Mrs. Herman Nobles, Greenville, N. C.

The report of the field worker was received.

The reports of the secretary and the treasurer were received.

The committee on reports awarded the banner to the Albemarle District.

One petition for next year's session was reported: St. Mary, Wilson county. This invitation was accepted.

The finance and apportionment committee made its report and it was received. (See report.)

Mrs. L. E. Ballard and Mrs. J. C. Griffin urged the auxiliaries to use Miss Alethia Etheridge of Columbia, N. C., in their Vacation Bible School as much as possible.

The Camp Committee, with the appointment of Mrs. J. C. Moye, now consists of Mrs. Elizabeth Pollard, Mrs. N. E. Harris, and Mrs. J. C. Moye.

Mrs. J. C. Griffin was designated as our delegate to the National Woman's Auxiliary. Twenty-five dollars was given to her for expenses.

A question was asked: Should our young girls be in an organization of their own or should they become a circle in the local auxiliaries? The answer: They should be a circle of the local auxiliary.

Mrs. M. A. Woodard presided over a very impressive memorial service. Prayer was led by Rev. R. C. Wiggs. Mrs. Elbert Davidson and Mrs. Woodard sang.

C. T. Kitrin, a young man from our Orphanage, was presented to the convention. They young man sang a solo.

The President dismissed the Convention with prayer following a motion to adjourn.

Mrs. Clarence Bowen, President,
Mrs. Oliver Smith, Secretary.

REPORT OF FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

To the Woman's Auxiliary Convention of North Carolina in session May 25, 1944, at Stoney Creek:

Number members -----	1,024
Average attendance -----	717
Number temperance programs given -----	22
Number subscribers to the Gem -----	29
Number subscribers to the Baptist -----	494
Number religious tracts given -----	5,685

Mrs. Clarence Bowen,
First Vice-President.

REPORT OF SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

Amount of donations to the National Educational program -----	\$432.17
Amount of donations to students -----	\$ 23.50
Amount sent to Anna Phillips Loan Fund -----	\$232.65
Amount sent to Bible College for room furnishings -----	\$178.00
Amount raised for library books for Bible College -----	\$264.95
Number planning programs in advance -----	58
Number vacation Bible Schools conducted -----	23
Number young people's organizations and activities directed -----	9
Number study classes for youth -----	26
Number daily Bible readers -----	1158

Number special studies of Manual conducted	28
Appropriated by State Auxiliary Convention for Assembly Ground Fund	\$ 10.00

Respectfully,
 Mrs. J. C. Griffin,
 Second Vice-President.

REPORT OF THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT

Mission programs conducted	55
Number holding week of prayer	28
Contributed to Home Missions	\$283.46
Contributed to Foreign Missions	\$298.51
Contributed to Cuban School campaign	\$102.03

Sent one box to Mr. Willey containing supplies.

Mrs. J. H. Oglesby,
 Third Vice-President.

REPORT OF FOURTH VICE-PRESIDENT

Number of auxiliaries reporting	93
Number stewardship talks given	157
Number stewardship programs given	112
Number tithers	256
Number stewardship classes conducted	87
Number attending classes	497
Stewardship offering	\$101.00
Stewardship tracts distributed	1,000
Stewardship books studied	11

Respectfully submitted,
 Mrs. Paul Thigpen,
 Fourth Vice-President.

REPORT OF FIFTH VICE-PRESIDENT

Number children clothed by societies	42
Value of commodities donated	\$ 998.88
Cash given to Orphanage	\$2,600.89
War bond bought	\$ 25.00
Coupons	1358

Mrs. J. C. Moye,
 Fifth Vice-President.

REPORT OF SIXTH VICE-PRESIDENT

Association	Superannuation	Trays, etc.
Central - - - - -	\$155.65	570
Eastern - - - - -	184.81	651

Cape Fear - - - - -	131.36	435
Western - - - - -	154.34	
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Totals - - - - -	\$626.16	1656

Of the grand total for superannuation and ministerial relief, \$225.40 of the \$626.16 was sent directly to the State Office for distribution through the regular channel.

We are confident that much more than the above report shows has been done, but due to lack of proper records and reports we cannot report it.

SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That all local auxiliaries keep proper records, and that all reports be sent in as required so that our state records may reveal fully what we have done during the year.

2. That we continue to advocate the cause of the aged, infirmed and retired ministers, and raise as much money for their relief as possible during the coming year, doubling last year's amounts, if possible.

3. That we cooperate fully with the State Office of Superannuation and distribute all our funds through that office, except where the local auxiliary desires to contribute something in a special way to some minister directly.

4. That each auxiliary plan to do something in a special way next Christmas for our ministers.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. T. E. Beamon,
Sixth Vice-President.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

Number of auxiliaries in State reporting to secretary -----	132
Number of active members reported -----	2,297
Number auxiliaries reporting to this convention -----	64
Received reports from the secretaries of the Eastern, Western, Central and Albemarle districts.	
Number of report blanks mailed to auxiliaries -----	150
Number report blanks mailed to district secretaries -----	6
Letters written in interest of the work -----	2
Cards mailed -----	13
Expenses for this office -----	\$5.11

Mrs. Oliver Smith, Secretary.

REPORT OF ANNA PHILLIPS EDUCATIONAL LOAN FUND

Balance on hand at close of last convention -----	\$ 983.87
Total received for the year -----	409.33
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Total receipts -----	\$1,393.20

Total disbursements ----- 818.25

Balance in the bank ----- \$ 574.95

Mrs. Herman Nobles, Treasurer.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Receipts by departments for year:		Disbursements by departments for year:	
General -----	\$1,174.05	General -----	\$ 613.37
Orphanage -----	89.75	Orphanage -----	74.75
Stewardship -----		Stewardship -----	
Publications and literature --		Publication and literature --	
Superannuation -----	205.97	Superannuation -----	205.97
Christian Education -----	170.54	Christian Education -----	40.90
Home and Foreign Missions_	774.36	Home and Foreign Missions_	413.00
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	\$2,414.67		\$1,347.99

Balance in treasury by departments:

General -----	\$560.68	Superannuation -----	
Orphanage -----	15.00	Christian Education -----	129.64
Stewardship -----		Home Missions -----	361.36
Publications and literature --			

Balance in treasury: \$1,066.68. (Part of this was received with reports for this convention.)

Mrs. Herman Nobles, Treasurer.

REPORT OF APPORTIONMENT COMMITTEE

Rev. J. A. Evans, daily vacation Bible school at Orphanage -----	\$ 25.00
Mrs. Fannie Polston, national dues -----	89.70
Mrs. Fannie Polston, Foreign Missions -----	4.50
Mrs. Fannie Polston, donation to National Convention -----	10.00
Mrs. Fannie Polston, National Bible School -----	100.00
Mr. Rom Mallard, Smithfield School debt -----	10.00
Rev. J. A. Evans, donation to Orphanage -----	50.00
Burkette Raper -----	50.00
Mrs. L. E. Ballard -----	25.00
Mrs. Lizzie McAdams -----	25.00
Mrs. J. C. Griffin, delegate to National Convention -----	25.00
Mrs. Clarence Bowen, President for services -----	5.00
Mrs. Oliver Smith, Secretary -----	10.00
Mrs. Oliver Smith, for expenses -----	5.11
Mrs. Alice Lupton, for expenses -----	4.90
Mrs. Alice Lupton, for services -----	10.00
Mrs. Herman Nobles, Treasurer -----	10.00

Mrs. J. C. Griffin, for expenses -----	8.20
Mrs. L. E. Ballard, for expenses -----	4.70

\$472.11

Special offering taken at the convention for the Orphanage -----\$52.02

The Committee.

REPORT OF THE FIELD SECRETARY

To the Woman's Auxiliary Convention of Free Will Baptists of North Carolina:

Greetings:

It has been a pleasure to labor as your representative in the capacity of Field Secretary in the State of North Carolina. As this convention year comes to a close, we again feel that in comparison to the great need of this office, we have been able to do so little. There are approximately one-third of the churches of North Carolina who do not have women's auxiliaries. This within itself is a challenge to us to be "steadfast in extending God's Kingdom in the realm of Womanhood."

I humbly submit the following report:

I have visited 22 churches; attended 5 sessions of district auxiliary conventions; attended 1 association; delivered 93 inspirational messages; taught 3 study courses; directed 1 vacation Bible school; traveled 5,862 miles; received \$484.64 plus \$30.00 from the treasurer, Mrs. Nobles. My traveling expenses have been \$175.86, and expenses for postage, etc., have been \$4.65, making a total expenditures of \$180.51. This makes my net receipts \$334.13.

Respectfully,

Mrs. L. E. Ballard,
Field Secretary.

REPORT OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

We, the Resolutions Committee, submit the following report:

1. That this convention use the services of Alethia Etheridge, a student from our National Bible College, in daily vacation Bible schools throughout the State of North Carolina, and we further recommend that the churches pay her \$25.00 plus her expenses.

2. Seeing the great need of a more definite system of Christian training among the youth of our denomination and knowing that it is high time that we aroused ourselves to the fact that if we would save them we must act at once, therefore, be it resolved; that the Second Vice-President in each local church put forth every possible effort to provide a vacation Bible school in every church. That we solicit from each association, conference, and convention in the State, an annual contribution for the maintenance of this work, and urge a more united effort in behalf of our young people.

3. We further resolve that the delegates go home and urge our people to join in the 9:00 A. M. prayer band.

—4— We extend our heartfelt gratitude and a rising vote of thanks to the local church for their kind hospitality during this convention.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Cedric Boyd

Mrs. Frank Edmondson

Mrs. Corinna Williams

