

Minutes of the 15th session of the Ministers and
Laymans Institute of the Nebraska Yearly
Meeting convened with the Centerville Aug.
17th to the 20th 1897.

Tuesday evening was devoted to a Bible
Lesson by Rev. J. H. Wolfe, followed by a
sermon and devotional by Bro. Jackson.

Wednesday morning 9.30 A.M.

Institute opened by devotional led by
H. C. Holcott.

Business meeting called to order by the
clerk at 10. A.M.

Rev. H. P. Van Horner was elected as
moderator, Rev. Jackson assistant, Bro. Wolfe
assistant clerk.

Rev. M. W. Dodge gave the opening address
after which the moderator called the
meeting to order.

The program as prepared by the program
com. was adopted with such alterations
as might be necessary.

Minutes of ^{previous} Minister and Laymans of Institute
previous meeting read ~~and~~ approved.

A discussion having arisen as to the
existence of Constitution and By-Laws for
the Minister and Laymans Institute, it
was voted that a com. of investigation
be appointed to ascertain if there be any
record of the Y. M. previous to the 10th
session. Com. appointed as follows;

H. C. Holcott.

J. H. Wolfe.

Bros E. S. Branch.

Com. on credentials appointed as follows;

Bros M. W. Dodge

E. S. Branch.

W. H. H. Castle.

Opening
Devotionals.

Section of
Officers.

Minutes of
previous meeting.

Com. to
find B. L.
and Cons.

10.30 A.M. - Paper by E. S. Branch.

Subject - How can we improve the present condition of our Sunday School.

Discussion on paper was followed by remarks on Junior Endeavor Work.

Sister D. S. Wolfe was appointed by the Conference, ~~Bro~~ to supply vacancy caused by the absence of Sister Manwaring.

Conference adjourned until 2 o'clock P.M.
2 o'clock P.M. - Bro. Reeves not having arrived Bro. Wolfe spoke a few words in regard to Free Baptist Literature and Publications.

Voted that Bro. Reeves be given until 2.30 for his sermon and that the class in Theology class be put off until later.

Sermon by Rev. A. S. Reeves; Subject; Grow in Grace.

3.10 P.M. - Class in Theology by Rev. E. S. Branch, taken from Butler & Dunn's Theology Sec. 2 No. 8. Church, its government and discipline.

Clerk was instructed by a vote of Conference to change the name of Y. M. in last years records to Ministers and Laymans Institute.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Moved that the Young People be given 2 o'clock on Friday afternoon for a Junior Rally.

Carried.

Moved that the program Com. be instructed to prepare subjects for sermons, addresses and etc. for next yearly meeting excepting Institute sermon.

The following resolution was then adopted.
Resolved; - That in order that all department of Y. M. work be properly represented in our annual meeting the program Com. be chosen from each of the departments.

Minutes of last meeting approved

Junior Rally

Moved that each participant in the next Ministers and Laymans Institute be given three months notice. Motion Carried.

Motion to elect one member of program Com. from Ministers and Laymans Institute was carried and Rev. C. S. Branch was elected.

Moderator appointed Sister Jackson to lead devotional in the evening.

Meeting adjourned 8 o'clock Sister Jackson led a half hour devotional meeting after which was a sermon by Sister D. S. Wolfe, subject, - Christ lifted up.

Thursday night 9 A. M. Devotional service led by Sister Reeves

Minutes of previous meetings read and approved with few corrections.

Motion that the Ministers and Laymans Institute hereafter commence at 2 o'clock on Wed. was amended to read, - that the Institute commence with a sermon on Wed. evening. Motion as amended. Carried.

Objections being offered to the Ministers and Laymans Institute appointing the Com. on credentials, the Moderator declared the Com. out of order and ordered the L. M. Letters turned over to the Y. M. clerk.

Bro. Summerlin of Kansas Y. M. was introduced to Institute and spoke a few words of greeting.

10.30 A. M. - Paper by Rev. John H. Wolfe intitled; How to reach the unsaved or personal work.

11 o'clock. Sermon by Rev. Lucy Dodge. Text: - Phil. 2:15 Subject, - Harmless.

She said that we had lowered the meaning of the word to that of weakness. No life but a Christian life is harmless.

Be careful not to set in motion influences that are harmful even though thoughtlessly done.

2 o'clock P.M. — Devotional meeting

2.15 Second class in Theology led by John H. Wolfe of Lincoln. Subject — The Lords Supper, Baptism, Sabbath, and Prayer, from Butler & Dunns Theology Lecture 8 sec. 6-9 inclusive.

3.30 Paper by Rev. Jackson of Kanesaw Subject — Some lessons from the life of Paul Some thoughts were — Singleness of purpose, self lost sight of, absolute obedience to God, intense burdens for souls and sinners may answer you arguments but never your earnestness.

3.45 Paper by Rev. W. P. Van Wormer, Subject — Birdseye view of the essentials to the growth of Free Baptists in Kansas and Nebraska.

Moderator appointed Bro. Summerlin to fill vacancy, caused by W. M. Society, in evening.

Com. on ministerial standing elected as follows; A. A. Taylor
J. J. Murphy
B. F. Allen.

Institute adjourned.

9.15 A. M. Friday. Devotional led by H. E. Wolcott.

9.30 — Institute called to order by Mod.

By a vote of the Institute a doctrinal sermon for the Ins. was set for Thurs evening at 8 o'clock.

Moved that ~~the~~ when the Ins. adjourned it adjourned at the call of the chair.
Motion carried.

9.50 - Paper by Rev. A. S. Rewes, Subject -
The Christians need of the Holy Spirit.
The Institute adjourned.

10. A.M. Y. M. Conf. called to order by Bro.
Van Vorster as Moderator.

Com. on credentials appointed as follows;

Rev. J. S. Dinsmore
Bro. Wm Fuller
Bro. Paul Marshall.

Com. on revision of program

Rev. E. S. Branch
Sister Nellie Williams.

Com. on program reported, adopting the
change made by Ministers and Laymans
Institute for Friday afternoon and evening.

Com. on credentials reported the follow-
ing persons entitled to seats as delegates.

Nemaha River L. M. Mrs. H. D. Root

Blanche Duncan W. L. King

Lola Canger A. H. H. Castle

Wm. Fuller B. F. Allen

G. W. Carmine Rev. E. Root

A. Vanlaningham M. Walby

Hattie Blakely P. Marshall

J. M. Beckley J. J. Murphy

Mrs. J. J. Murphy.
Hasting L. M.

G. W. Wolcott Mrs. G. W. Wolcott

Verne Wilcox Ella F. Jackson

Sam'l Peck

Gosper Co. L. M.

O. Vitten

Nellie Brand.

Credential Com. { J. S. Dinsmore
Wm Fuller
P. J. Marshall

Bro. and Sister Skinner, Bro. Neighburt
and Sister Rishel were named as delegates
in place of absentees from Nem. River L. M.

Report of Com. adopted with the named changes.

The following Comrs. were appointed by Mod. Com. on publication,

Rev. J. H. Wolfe
Rev. E. S. Branch
Ella Jackson.

Com. on missions

Sisters Delia S. Wolfe
J. J. Murphy
H. D. Root.

Com. on state of denomination

Rev. E. S. Branch
Lucy C. Dodge
J. A. Jackson.

Com. on necrology.

Rev. E. Root
I. Stone
M. J. Reeves.

Com. on temperance

Rev. M. V. Dodge
Sister Rishel
Bro. Waltz.

Rev. Heckley of the Dunkard church of Okabash was introduced to Institute.

11 o'clock - Sermon by Sister M. J. Reeves.

Subject, - The Irreparable past and the avoidable future. "As drawn from the Garden of Gethsemane.

2.15 P. M. - Conference called to order by Moderator.

I. M. letters called for, read and placed on file.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved with one correction.

Motion to proceed to the election of a member of the executive Com. to fill vacancy caused by the expiration of Bro. Dodge's term. Carried.

Election of 1
member of Ex
Com.

Moved to instruct to cast unanimous ballot for Bro. Dodge.

Motion Carried

Com. on compilation and publication appointed at last Y. M. Conference reported.

Report received.

Bro. B. T. Allen was appointed auditor, Com. on publication reported as follows:

on. on Pub.

Whereas the publications of the Free Baptist Church are taking a front rank among the publications of the various religious denominations of this country and we believe they are in every way worthy of our hearty support:

And whereas: we notice that our publication house is constantly adding new books of special value to our denomination and that each of our papers (The Star and F. Bapt) have been greatly improved in both their appearance and the matter contained therein. And also: as our pub. house has been compelled to sell large quantities of the books of the earlier editions at a large discount, sometimes amounting to 50% in order to get them in the hands of our people.

And whereas: believing it to be the duty of every Free Baptist and especially every Free Baptist family to place our publications in the home and to insist on their being read by every member of the family who is old enough to read.

Therefore be it resolved that we will strive to carry out these provisions by giving our Pub. house a hearty support so far as it is possible so to do.

Resolved that we believe it the duty of every Free Baptist to take either the Morning Star or Free Baptist or both and that our Sabbath Schools be supplied with the

Star publications.

Com. { John H. Hoffe
E. S. Branch
Ella T. Jackson.

Moderator declared a recess of five minutes and called a meeting of the Ministers and Laymans Institute.

Report of Com. on ministerial standing was adopted and recommended to the Y. M. Conference. Motion to adjourn. Carried.

Y. M. Conference again called to order.

Moved that we adopt the recommendation of Ministers and Laymans Institute, to adopt the report of the Com. on ministerial standing.

Moved we amend the report by excepting the name of Bro. Huntly. Carried.

Report adopted as follows;

Your Com. on Ministerial Standing beg leave to report that they have found the following Ministers in good standing and recommend that they receive certificates.

J. S. Dinsmore.

J. H. Hoffe.

E. Root.

D. S. Hoffe.

I. Stone.

E. S. Branch.

M. H. Dodge.

A. P. Van Hornes

A. S. Reeves.

Joseph Parkins

J. A. Jackson.

M. J. Reeves

E. T. Jackson.

L. E. Dodge.

Standing of the following Ministers passed.

Peter Lansing

O. J. Hastys

J. L. Parkins.

Com. { A. A. Taylor.
B. F. Allen.
J. J. Murphy.

William Huntly referred back to Com.
Treasurer's report read and referred
back to auditor.

Moved to receive report of state agent
Motion Carried.

Report read - in brief - as follows;
Miles travelled 2435. Expenses \$48.50
Received salary from Treas. and balance
from collections \$103.54. Leaving a
balance due from the Y.M. of \$96.46
Conference adjourned.

8. P. M. - Devotional services led by J. A.
Jackson.

Paper by Sister Blanche Duncan. Subject.
Trust in Gods word. Simple faith in what
God says is what is needed to-day.

Collection taken for State C. C.

~~Subject~~ Address of the evening by Rev.
J. A. Jackson was one full of good thoughts
Subject: - I thought on my ways. Ps. 119: 59
Following the address the Young People
held their annual business meeting.

No Secretaries or Treas. reports being on
hand election of officers was held.

The following officers were elected;

President - H. C. Holcott.

Secretary - Delia S. Wolfe.

Treasurer - Miss Nellie Williams.

Voted that the Sec. furnish H. C. Holcott
credentials showing his relation to the
societies here and that he had been
elected as delegate to the Fairport Convention.

Voted to request at the Conference here-
after set apart the whole of Sunday after-
noon and evening for the Young People.

Voted that we adopt the recommendation
of the Ministers and Laymans Institute
as to appointing one member of program
com. H. C. Holcott was then elected

young people's
business meet.

as a member of said Com.

Meeting adjourned
Saturday 9.20 A. M. Praise Meeting
9.30 Business meeting called to order
by Moderator.

The following resolution was presented
by the clerk of the executive Com. and
voted to be considered item by item.

Resolution was considered and adopted
accordingly: Whereas there are now some
debts due from the Nebr. Y. M. for work
long since done and there are now several
churches in pressing need of help both
financially and ministerially, therefore
Resolved 1st. that we will raise in the
Y. M. a sum of \$250. this year.

Resolved 2nd that this sum shall be
apportioned among the churches and paid
quarterly, to be paid into the Treasury

Resolved 3rd. that we recommend that
the money be raised by means of the
2 cent tax. that is to say each church
pay an amount equal to 2 cents per wk.

Resolved 4th. that the money so raised
shall be used to pay debts help needy
churches and furnish Evangelistic help.

Resolved 5th. that each pastor be
requested to keep this matter before
their churches until the object is
attained. Respectfully submitted by
the Executive Com.

J. S. Dinsmore Clerk.
Voted that we adopt the resolutions
as a whole.

The report of the auditing Com. reported
as follows;

Your Com. appointed to audit
the account of the Y. M. treasures begs
leave to report that he has made

a careful and thorough examination of an account compared the same with Vouchers and Exhibits and find that he has received from all sources the sum of \$131.63 and that disbursements amount to the sum of \$134.67 leaving a balance to his credit of \$3.04^x

Respectfully Submitted -

B. F. Allen

Auditing Com.

Noted that the item relative to the Geneva church be laid over next session of Y. M.

The business Com. reported request from Gen. Conference brought through Bro. Van Hornes for the transfer of security from the Grove Free Baptist Church & Central City church, or otherwise secure general Conference.

Dear Bros and Sisters of the Nebr. Y. Conference in session at Centerville
In view of the fact that the Free Baptist Home Missions society in cooperated under the laws of the State of New Hampshire on the second day of Aug. loaned to the executive Com. of the Nebr. Y. M. the sum of \$300. in behalf of the Grove Free Baptist Church for a period of 3 years without interest; and that said Home Missions society holds note against said Executive Com. for \$300. due Aug. 2. 1891, secured by a mortgage upon the Grove F. B. Ch. and further, that the Grove F. B. Ch. has been sold and moved off the foundations. The mortgage has not been paid or transferred, no new security

		Treasurer Report with Nebraska Y. M. ^{Aug.} 1897	
Aug 12 th		By Elm Island on r ct. tax	\$ 7 00
"		General Cononforance dues Elm Island	14
"		" " " Kenesaw Ch,	23
" 14		For State work by Return	60
" 15		" " " " Isamson for Aurora Ch.	5 00
" 16		" " " Y. M. Collection	6 30
"		" " " Homerville Ch.	2 00
Sept. 20		Education. L Branch Ch.	3 00
" 26	2 nd Mrs. W. M.	For State work. W. M. Society	2 50
"		Grand View Ch. r ct. tax	2 75
"		Centerville " " " "	9 50
"		" " " " Genl Cong. tax	60
"		Long Branch " " " "	80
"		L. M. Collection at Long Branch	19 45
Dec, 20		Collection for Foreign Missions Long Branch	3 83
March 3		Long Branch Church on r ct. tax	10 50
" 24 th		" " " Home Missions	3 15
" 1 st		Grand View r ct. tax	5 36
"		On pledge of M. B. Dodge	5 00
" 22		Geneva Ch. r ct tax	2 50
June 2 nd		L Branch W. M. Mission	3 40
" 20		L. M. Col. Centerville	7 50
"		" " W. M.	3 75
"		Centerville Ch, on assessment	10 00
July 11		Collection for State work (L Branch)	3 10
" 18		Elm Island Ch, State work	8 00
"		Kenesaw " " "	2 65
Aug 3		Long Branch " assessment	3 00
			131.63
			133.90

1896

Treas. takes credits as follows.

Aug.	14	To paid order of J. S. Dinsmore	✓	\$ 5 00
"	16	" " " " Wm Huntley	✓	5 00
"	16	" " " " J. H. Reeves	✓	5 00
"	17	" " J. H. Reeves	✓	4 50
Sept.	27	" " W. P. Van Wormer		33 47
1897				
March	1 st	" " " " " "		5 38
"	11 th	" " " " " "	✓	10 00
"	22 nd	" " " " " "	✓	2 30
June	20 th	" " " " " "	✓	25 00
July	18	" " " " " "	✓	10 60
Aug	3	" " " " " "	✓	16 00
Nov.	27 th 1996	" " A. Given	✓	4 79
Jan.	2 nd 1997	" " " " "	✓	3 83
April	1997	" " " " "	✓	3 13
Receipts above				134.67
				\$ 134.57

has ever been furnished to the Home Mission society, therefore, we ask your honorable body to instruct the said Executive Com. or its successors to convey to said Home Mission society by deed, the Central City Free Baptist Church, as payment in full for said Mortgage or otherwise satisfactorily secure payment.

Done for and in behalf of Gen. Con. Board. H. P. Van Horner.

Voted to adopt the above by 13 to 9.

The following request was received from the Gen. Conference Board of Free Baptists in session in Boston in 1895-

In view of the large sum of money the Board has put into the Lincoln church to sustain the work, we ask the Neb. executive Com. to take steps to secure us the said property. It was also voted that the field Sec. should see that this request was presented at the most opportune time, hence he presents it at this time through Sec. Van Horner.

Yours most truly
In behalf of Gen. Conference. H. M. Ford Field Sec.

The following request from the Lincoln Free Baptist Church.

Whereas, the first Free Baptist church of Lincoln, Neb., desires to express our approval of the policy and plans of the Gen. Conference in the placing of the titles of all churches property in said Conference Board; and believing that it will be for the strengthening of our denominational work that all titles of Church property rest in

said Board, and also to show our hearty cooperation and to express our gratitude and appreciation for aid so cheerfully given to the interest in Lincoln, be it, therefore, ~~held~~ resolved, that we request this Yearly Meeting, held at the Centerville Church to instruct their Executive Comm. to deed said property belonging to the First Free Baptist Church of Lincoln, Nebraska to the Gen. Conf.

Done for and in

behalf of the First Free Baptist Church of Lincoln, Nebr.

Aug. 12. 1897.

Pastors { E. S. Branch
John H. Wolfe.

Trustees {

N. S. Palmer
H. D. Root
T. C. Root
E. S. Branch
John Taylor.

Voted that Bro. E. Root preached this afternoon instead of J. H. Wolfe, ^{who} resigned in favor of Father Root.

Voted that in as much as the license granted to Bro. H. E. Wolcott came from the D. M. that the request for certificate ~~be~~ referred to the D. M.

The above vote reconsidered and voted that Bro. H. E. Wolcott be granted a certificate in as much as his name had been over looked by Com. on credentials.

Com. on credentials reported that in as much, as there were no definite charges brought forward against Bro. W^m Huntly and that as he was active in the work they recommend that he be given a certificate.

Conference voted so.

Com. on State of Denomination beg leave to report as follows;

Whereas, during the past year our denomination at large has made good progress in every department of Christian work—From the eastern states and more especially in New England where our main denominational strength is located, reports that come to us as read in *The Morning Star*, and *Free Baptist* are very encouraging, showing growth and general prosperity. Revivals have been reported from various quarters and the work of the master seems to be advancing.

We cannot fail to notice the very rapid growth of the Young Peoples Societies and the healthy conditions of our Sunday Schools, both east and west.

Our denomination which always took an advanced position on every line of moral reform is still in advance and we believe it still leads all others which have to do with general morality, temperance and good government—

Resolved—that Free Baptists have great reason to be encouraged by the outlook before the denomination

Resolved— we are hopeful that the churches of the West will follow those of the east in all of those things which will secure to us a more general diffusion of our principals.

Com. { E. S. Branch.
Lucy C. Dodge.
J. A. Jackson.

Voted to adopt the above report.

Your Com on missions beg leave to submit the following:

As the Free Will Baptists of the state of Nebr. have not forgotten the Missionary work either home or foreign ~~and~~ of our fathers and have assisted so far as they have felt they were able to so do to advance this work by money or labor or both be it therefore resolved

As a yearly meeting we will not retrench but with the help of God go forward and do all possible to continue to raise such funds and give such labor as are in their power to advance the kingdom

Com { Delia S. Wolfe
Sarah Murphy
Mrs. E. J. Root

Voted to accept the above report.

2.30 P. M. - Sermon by Father Root.

5.00 P. M. - Yearly Meeting called to order by assistant Moderator J. A. Jackson.

Voted to accept recommend from Ministers and Laymans Institute and elect a member of program Com.

Program Com.

J. H. Wolfe was elected a member of said Com.

Report. Aud. Com.

The following report of the Auditing Com. was received and accepted.

Your auditing Com. would respectfully report that he has carefully examined Dist. Agt Jan Normer's financial report and find that he has received on salary from A. A. Taylor \$7.89 and from Grandview and Geneva Churches \$7.86 Total receipts on salary \$15.75

He has also received collections for travelling expenses amounting to \$56.29

and has paid out for travelling
hotel bills and stationary \$48.50
Leaving a balance of \$7.79. This
amount has been applied towards
salary, making total payment on
salary of \$103.54

Respectfully submitted
B. T. Allen.

It not being decided that the Ag'ts
travelling expenses were to be paid
by the Y. M. the Conference voted to
pay them.

Voted that Bro. Jackson be appointed
to take pledges or raise the balance
due Bro. Van Horners. Bro. Jackson
was so appointed. and money was so raised

W. M. S.
Electing officers

At the Business Meeting of the
Woman's Mission Society the following
Officers were elected.

President - Delia S. Wolfe.

Sec. and Treas. - Ella T. Jackson.

Voted to comply with the request of
Mex. I. B. Institute and so elected
Delia S. Wolfe as a member of program
Comm.

Voted to request the Y. M. to give the
Woman's Mission Society, Saturday
evening for their programs.

Voted to use collections to extend
their work in the state.

A. S. S. Dept.

Voted to inaugurate a Sunday School
Dept. in the Y. M.

Delia S. Wolfe was elected Supt.
and member of program Comm.

8.50 P. M. - Program by Woman's Mission
Society.

Sunday 10. A. M. - Sunday School
11. A. M. - Sermon by Rev. H. P. Van
Hornes - Text Math. 6: 9 -

Subject - The universal Fatherhood of God.
2 o'clock P.M. - Sermon by Rev. J. H. Wolfe.
Subject the walk of Life as drawn
from Gen. 5:24 - and Christs walk to
Omeus.

Following the sermon was the covenant
meeting led by Rev. J. H. Wolfe.

7.15 P.M. - Young Peoples Local Prayer-
Meeting.

8. P.M. - Sermon by Sister Lucy Dodge.

After the sermon the Executive Com.
appointed reported on church appointments.
Closing resolutions were then read by
the assistant clerk.

Closing Resolutions

It hereas the Present session of the
Nebr. Y. M. of Free Baptists has come
to a close and we are about to seper-
ate and engage in another year of toil,
struggles and victory we do now lift
our hearts in gratitude to our Heavenly
Father for the privileges of these Christian
associations.

Therefore, resolved 1st - that we the
visiting delegates and friends hereby
tender to the Pastor, Rev. M. H. Dodge
and the Centerville church and con-
gregation our sincere and hearty
felt thanks for their Christian care
and courtesy towards us.

Second - that their bountiful and cheer-
ful entertainment during our stay has
placed us under lasting obligations
to them which we will ever cherish
in our memory with pleasure.

Third - that we will take to our homes
with us feelings of gratitude and ever
pray for Gods blessing to abide
with ^{of their dear} Gods people.

In behalf of the Neb. Y. M. Aug. 21, 1897.
Voted to adjourn ~~and~~ sine die.