

MINUTES
OF THE
ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
OKLAHOMA STATE ASSOCIATION
OF
FREEWILL BAPTISTS

Which Convened with the Ada Chureh
at Ada, Oklahoma,
from Oct. 23rd to 26th, 1934.



OFFICERS

Moderator, Elder Elza Yandell, Red Oak, Okla.
Ass't. Mod. Eld. H. E. Staires. Drumright, Okla.
Clerk, Eld. Bert F. Rogers, Denison, Texas
Ass't. Clk. E.E. Bristow Wanette, Oklahoma

PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the annual session the Oklahoma State Association of Free Will Baptists, which met with the Ada Church, at Ada, Okla. beginning on Tuesday night before the fourth Sunday in October, 1934.

TUESDAY NIGHT SESSION

Services began with singing. Brother Quince Moore led in a prayer. The devotional service was led by Brother Bill Huddleston, after which Elder Lonnie Ward brought the introductory message; text: John 2: 5. This was a great message. The service were concluded with a dismissal prayer by Elder Elza Yandell.

WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSION

After singing, Elder W.H. Carter read for a Scripture lesson Galatians 6. Brother Talbert led prayer. Letters were called for, read and, by motion, were received and delegates seated and the right hand of fellowship was given. Letters from the following Associations were read: Dibble, Hopewell No 2, Center, Canadian, Gaines Creek, First Mission, Hopewell, and First Okla.

Election of Officers Moderator: Elder J E Yandell. Assistant Moberator: Elder Harry E. Staires, Clerk-Treasurer: Elder Bert F. Rogers. Ass't. Clerk, Elder E E Bristow. Executive Board: Olin Dunn, H.E Staires, E E Bristow, J T Champion, and W.E Dearmore. Committees were appointed as follows:—

Resolution. Melvin Bingham, E E Morris, L E Ward; E A. O'Donnell, and W.D. McCready,

Pulpit. Quince Moore, Bro. J; Ragland, and Frank Purser.

Ministerial Standing. A B Talbert, J.W Reddick, L Hudson.

Finance. G Priest, Clay Ritchey, and Aaron Deighton.

Obituary. Sisters Drennan, Chism, and Moore.

Missions. Pete Colfman, E.F. Hooper, and Mother Taylor.

Sunday School. Ed Chism, George McClain, and J.A Russell.

Temperance. Sisters Newman, Sweatmore, and Dearmore.

Education. W G Fields, W.E Dearmore, and W.H. Carter.

Publication. T Maynard, W L Bean, and T.J. Knight.

Motion carried to retain bounbary-line committee a year.

Motion carried to make the Clerk the Associational Treasurer.

A partial report of the Resolution Committee was accepted,

The Pulpit Committee reported for Elder J. Bean to preach at 11. We recommend that each local church of the State Association send Bro W.M. Coggins \$ 1.00 each month as a token of appreciation. By motion Conference adjourned until 1 o'clock; dismissed by E. A. O'Donnell.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Service began with singing and prayer. Elder John Bean preached a fine sermon on JONAH. Dismissed by prayer.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

After singing and prayer, Resolution No. 1 was read and adopted. Bro. J.L. Waltman read the Home Mission By-Laws. He with A.B. Talbert, H.E. Staires, and Melvin Bingham compose a group to formulate rules and by-laws for Home Mission work and to submit them to the General Co-operative Association for approval.

Motion carried to accept report of Evangelistic Treasurer, and the money in the treasury, \$31.80 was paid to Elder E.A. O'Donnell.

E.E. Bristow, Aaron Deighton, and M.L. Bonds were appointed to audit the books of the Treasurer.

By motion the report of the committee which went to the Eastern Conference at Jakin, Georgia, was received and they discharged.

Motion carried that all Associations that paid on the expenses of the trip to Georgia be exempted from further payment on same.

Motion carried that the Clerk write to each Association which has not yet paid on said expense and tell it is past due.

Pulpit Committee reported that Elder Melvin Bingham would fill the stand Wednesday night. Adjourned until 8 a. m. Thursday.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Opened by singing. Prayer by Sister Fincher. Devotional service led by Sister Newman. Elder Melvin Bingham takes stand, Text: Rom. 11: 22, Behold the Goodness of the Lord. Two precious souls were saved. Dismissed by Sister Newman.

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

Opened by singing. Scripture reading by moderator, Psalm 78. Prayer by W.M. Coggins. By motion the following Delegates were elected for the General Co-operative Association at Denison Church Denison Texas, I.W. Yandell, Will Bean, W.D. McCreedy, A.B. Talbert Earlin Haskins, E.E. Morris, George McClain, Quince Moore, J.E. Bean

Bert F. Rogers, T. Maynard, W. H. Carter, E. E. Bristow, Sister Dearmore, Pete Coffman, J. L. Waltman, W. T. Waldon.

By motion time was given A. B. Talbert to give an outline of what we want to do at the General Co operative Association.

Pulpit Committee reports for Elder Elza Yandell to preach at 11.

By motion conference adjourned until 1 o'clock. Dismissed by Earl-an Haskins.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Came together by singing. Prayer by Brother Will Bean. Elder Elza Yandell takes stand; Subject: Office Work of the Holy Spirit. A wonderful message was delivered by him. Dismissed by H. E. Stairs.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Came together by singing, prayer by Bert F Rogers.

Discussion: Establishment of the Church Affirmative, John E. Bean. Negative: I. W. Yandell. By motion Brother Talbert was given some time on the church question.

Pulpit committee reported that I. W. Yandell would fill the stand.

By motion conference adjourned until 8 o'clock Friday morning. Dismissed by W. D. McCready.

THURSDAY NIGHT SERVICE

After singing Prayer was led by Brother Chapman. Testimonial service conducted by W. H. Carter I. W. Yandell was called away and committee appointed E. E. Morris to fill the stand, His subject was Repentance. Dismissed by J. L. Tatum.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Opened by singing, Scripture reading by moderator 2 Psalm. Prayer by W. G. Fields

By motion reports of committees were received and committee discharged See reports. The following resolutions were adopted, No. 2, 4 and 6. By motion resolution No. 3 of 1933 be rescinded and that Association and Bible school be separate. By motion the first Monday in December after the association, was set as the time for the school and that body is to elect teachers for the school The next session of the State Association will meet with the Drumright Church, Drumright Oklahoma

Elder J. L. Waltman was elected State Superintendent of Mission work. Sister Birdie Drennan was elected secretary treasurer of State

Mission work Sister Graham was given a standing vote of thanks for her work as Secretary-Treasurer.

E A O'Donnell was elected to preach Introductory Sermon at next Association By motion Conference adjourned for the preaching hour. Committee on Divine Service reports that I.W. Yandell preach at 11. Dismissed by W H. Carter.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Came together by singing; prayer by I W. Yandell. He also took stand, subject: The Origin and Perpetuity of the Church. An offering of appreciation was given him \$26.40 in cash also a gold watch and chain. Dismissed by W E. Dearmore

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Came together by singing, prayer by Brother Hemmingway.

By motion clerk was given power to have minutes printed where he desires and that he would have as many printed as finances would permit. By motion Clerk was allowed \$5.00 for his service. By motion moderator and assistant moderator were given a vote of thanks for their service. Committee on divine service report that W.M. Coggins will bring message Friday night. By motion conference adjourned until next session in the year 1935 at Drumright Okla. Dismissed by moderator.

Elder Elza Yandell Moderator. Elder Bert F Rogers Clerk.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Resolutions We your Committee on Resolutions, beg to submit our report That we extend our thanks to this Church and community for their kind hospitality to us while in their midst.

Res No 1 Resolved that 2 hours be allowed Elders I W. Yandell and J.E Bean for discussion of the establishment of the Church.

Res. No 2 That whereas there are many different views on the church question, and some of our ministers are doctrinally uninformed, we therefore recommend that competent preachers be elected by the body to preach on these controverted subjects, and that no subjects be debated while the Association is in session.

Res. No 4 Resolved that the Treasurer be instructed to not pay out any money for services or materials engaged, until said services or materials are performed or delivered, also that all monies collected by the Association be paid to Treasurer and

not to be paid out other than through him.

Res. No 6 Resolved that each association that pays in minute money receive minutes according to the amount paid in, and if any association fails to pay in, they shall not be sent any minutes.

Obituary. We find that God in his infinite wisdom has called from our midst the following loved ones:—

Center Association. Imogene Brians, Sisters Bettie Meeks, Allie Hughes, Goldie Chism, and Mary Dame.

First Mission Association. Bros. Carl Ward, C.C. Brew, F.N. Masre, Clint Robertson, and Reece Renfro; Sisters Rosa Bacon, Sue Copp, Palton, and Kate Light; Elders A.G. Morgan, and E.J. Matthews; and infants of Bro. and Sisters Thomas, Lyson, Earl Murry Edie Hart, Loyd Gamon, Albert Thomason, and of Sisters Clyde Wilson, and O.B. Mullins.

Gaines Creek Association. Bros. H.F. Heskett and Henry Evans, Elder Charles Wilkerson, and Sister Susie Kelton.

Dibble Association. Sisters W.H. Caldwell and Mollie Bingham

First Oklahoma Association. Brother G.L. Foombs, Sister Alice Bodine, Mother Epperson, and the little son of Brother and Sister Willie Blevins and Mrs. May Henry

Canadian Association. J.H. Vanzant.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the bereaved ones. Yet we know that our loss is Heaven's gain. We ask that this body stand for a moment in silent prayer in memory of those gone on.

Auditing. We find the records of the Treasurer, Brother Luther Hudson, correct and are hereby approved.

Evangelistic Treasurer's report. Total, \$47.30. Paid out, to E. A. O'Donnell for song books, \$8.00; for printing, \$6.50; for postage for mailing same, \$1.00. Balance in treasury, \$31.80

Finance. Paid in: First Mission, \$5; Gaines Creek, \$3; Hopewell, \$3 50; Dibble, \$5; Canadian, \$4; Hopewell No. 2, \$3; Center, \$3. Total \$26 50

Mission. We find in the last State minutes only 24 churches that report Missions Circles, and it seems to be just the Mission Association that they are in. We recommend that every pastor urge his church to organize a Mission Circle in his church.

Education. Whereas the State Association has adopted a reso-

lution to continue the Bible School in connection with the State Association, be it further resolved that we recommend that each association have a similar school sometime during the year.

Temperance. We should be temperate in all things, as the Bible teaches. Intoxicating drink is one of the worst curses in our land in that it robs temporally and spiritually, causing many souls to be lost in hell. May we, as God's people, encourage others to be temperate in this life, and begin in our homes.

Sunday School. We retain the last year's report.

ASSOCIATION REPORTS

Center State of religion, fair; 18 churches; received 37 members, dismissed 18; have 783 members. Minute money, \$3

Elder Earlin Haskins, Moderator, Aaron Deighton, Clerk

Hopewell State of religion, good; have 386 members, 11 ministers and 6 churches; paid pastors \$1000. Value of church property about \$4600. Minute money, \$2.50 Sunday School and League work good.

Elder Bert F. Rogers, Moderator M.L. Bonds, Clerk

Hopewell No. 2 State of religion, good; 8 churches; minute money \$3. Eld. G.W. Hanks, Moderator Opal Adair, Clerk

Canadian State of religion, good; members 746; have 17 churches, 3 houses, value \$2,750; have 14 ordained minister, 7 licentiates. minute money \$4 Gained 7 churches, 327 members this year.

Eld. J. T. Champion, Moderator Geo. W. Rogers, Clerk

First Oklahoma State of religion, good; have 8 churches and 1000 members, 15 ordained ministers, 5 licentiates. Good League and S.S. W.E. Dearmore, Mod. Alice B. Clark, Clerk

Dibble State of religion, good. Members 954. Paid pastors \$380.73; evangelists \$118.85 Value of church property \$2530. Minute money \$5. Eld. L.E. Ward, Mod. Birdie Drennan, Clerk

First Mission S.S. and Mission, good. 22 churches, 1750 members; property, \$17,800; paid pastors \$2503.28; evangelist \$224.53; have 49 ministers. Minute money \$5

Elder J.L. Waltman, Moderator Elder J.H. West, Clerk

Gaines Creek Members 550; have 11 churches; property \$1000. Minute money \$3 State of religion, good.

Elder Jim Skinner, Moderator Willie Hughes, Clerk

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant. We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid the appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world; from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

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

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

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conference, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

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

ARTICLES OF FAITH

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

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

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

4. The Holy Spirit. The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God. He is the Reprover, Comforter, Guide, and Sanctifier of men

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

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

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

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

9. Election. God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the terms of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.

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

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

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

13. Gospel Ordinances. Baptism, or the immersion of believers in water, and the Lord's Supper are ordinances to be perpetuated.

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

15. War. War destroys the lives of the innocent and is contrary to the teaching of the New Testament. Therefore we are opposed to war

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

BY-LAWS

1. The moderator or assistant moderator, or in their absence, the oldest minister present shall call the Association into conference.
2. Each session shall be opened and closed with prayer.
3. Five members from two or more churches shall constitute a quorum. A less number may adjourn until such quorum is present.
4. Visiting brethren are invited to seats as advisory members.
5. Those who speak shall arise and address the moderator. Personal reflections shall be avoided in all debates.
6. If any proposition or motion under debate contain two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member and a vote taken separately.
7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.
8. No one shall speak more than twice on the same subject without special leave of the moderator.
9. The moderator shall not allow discussion when not carried on in a Christian spirit.
10. The ruling of the moderator may be overruled by a twothirds vote of the members voting.
11. Any minister opposed to any of the enterprises endorsed by the Association will not be entitled to a seat in conference, and we will not seat any minister in this Association who teaches the baptism of the Holy Ghost separate from regeneration or the birth of the Spirit.
12. No question from any church shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it has first been discussed in its own church.
13. At each Association arrangements shall be made to insure two or more sermons or their equivalent devotional exercises each day.

