

M I N U T E S
OF THE
Ninety-Ninth Annual Session
OF THE
PEE DEE ASSOCIATION
OF
Original Free Will Baptists

Met in Session with
OAK GROVE CHURCH
Bladen County, N. C.
October 19, 1968

The next session will be held with Beaver Dam Church
in Columbus County, North Carolina, on Saturday
before the third Sunday in October, 1969.

MINUTES

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CHURCH CLERK'S AND PASTOR'S NAMES AND ADDRESSES AS STOOD IN 1968

MT. CALVARY CHURCH, COLUMBUS COUNTY, N. C.

Willard Brown, Route 2, Box 79, Clarkton, N. C. Church Clerk
Rev. J. W. Byrd, Route 1, Box 298, Whiteville, N. C. Pastor

✓ WHITE OAK CHURCH, BLADEN COUNTY, N. C.

No letter received as to clerk and pastor.

BEAVER DAM CHURCH, COLUMBUS COUNTY, N. C.

Cleveland Hughes, Route 1, Chadbourn, N. C. Church Clerk
Rev. J. A. Hucks, Route 3, Conway, S. C. Pastor

PLEASANT MEADOW CHURCH, COLUMBUS COUNTY, N. C.

C. A. Hardee, Route 1, Box 483, Hallsboro, N. C. Church Clerk
Rev. Jarome Jennerette, Ocean Drive Beach, S. C. Pastor

PINE LEVEL CHURCH, COLUMBUS COUNTY, N. C.

Mrs. Esther Ward, Route 1, Box 66, Nakina, N. C. Church Clerk
Rev. Claude Housand Pastor

MT. OLIVE CHURCH, COLUMBUS COUNTY, N. C.

Robert Benton, Route 2, Box 283, Whiteville, N. C. Church Clerk
Rev. James B. Hardee, P. O. Box 43, Elizabethtown, N. C. Pastor

EMERSON CHURCH, COLUMBUS COUNTY, N. C.

Dallas Byrd, Route 1, Box 213-A, Hallsboro, N. C. Church Clerk
Rev. Robert Sellers, Route 1, Box 6-A, Tabor City, N. C. Pastor

MT. BEULAH, CHURCH, HORREY COUNTY, S. C.

No report.

✓ OAK GROVE CHURCH, BLADEN COUNTY, N. C.

E. Hayes Pait, Route 2, Box 82, Bladenboro, N. C. Church Clerk
Rev. James B. Hardee, P. O. Box 43, Elizabethtown, N. C. Pastor

CYPRESS CREEK CHURCH, COLUMBUS COUNTY, N. C.

F. J. Lee, Route 1, Nakina, N. C. Church Clerk
Rev. A. L. Duncan, Route 1, Nakina, N. C. Pastor

LITTLE BETHEL CHURCH, HORREY COUNTY, S. C.

Jerry Hodges, 112 Jones Street, Tabor City, N. C. Church Clerk
Rev. William J. Godwin, Clarendon, N. C. Pastor

CEDAR BRANCH CHURCH, COLUMBUS COUNTY, N. C.

Letha M. Williamson, Route 2, Box 12-A, Tabor City, N. C. Church Clerk
Rev. Harvey Cribb, Route 1, Box 94, Tabor City, N. C. Pastor

MISSION VALLEY CHURCH, COLUMBUS COUNTY, N. C.

Brooks Sykes, Box 147-A, Clarendon, N. C. Church Clerk
Rev. A. L. Buncan, Nakina, N. C. Pastor

THOMASBORO CHURCH, BRUNSWICK COUNTY, N. C.

Grant Gore, Route 1, Box 100, Shallotte, N. C. Church Clerk
Rev. Jarome Jennerette, Ocean Drive Beach, S. C. Pastor

PROCEEDINGS

The ninety-ninth annual session of the Pee Dee Association of Original Free Will Baptists met in session with Oak Grove Church in Bladen County, North Carolina, on Saturday morning, October 19, 1968.

The services opened with the congregation singing "Glory to His Name," followed with prayer by Rev. J. A. Hucks. The introductory sermon was delivered by Rev. A. L. Duncan, reading for his Scripture the Twenty-Third Psalm, using for his text, "The Lord Is Our Leader."

The moderator's address was given by Rev. J. B. Hardee. He also announced the house in order for business and invited visiting brethren and sisters to sit with us.

The welcome to Oak Grove Church was given by Bro. Hayes Pait, with the response by Bro. Mayo Brown.

The various committees were appointed by the moderator as follows:

DEVOTIONAL—Bros. Jake Godwin, Larry Ward, and James Nobles.

PERIODICAL—Bros. Leo McPherson, Jettie Hester, and Bill Sarvis.

EDUCATIONAL—Bros. Mayo Strickland, Jesse Cribb, and Lonza Godwin.

MINISTERIAL—Revs. A. L. Duncan, W. J. Godwin, and Harvey Cribb.

OBITUARY—Sisters Clara Leonard, Clyde Mercer, and Letha McDaniels.

RESOLUTIONS—Bros. Elwood Bryant, David Pait, and C. M. Cartrette.

FINANCE—Bros. Cleveland Hughes, Grant Gore, and Devon Cartrette.

The Home Mission Committee is a standing committee composed of Bros. E. Hayes Pait, C. A. Hardee, and Larry Ward.

The Investigation Committee is also a standing committee composed of Bros. Jake Godwin, Homer Mercer, and Thomas Rhodes.

The minutes of the last association were read by the clerk and received by motion of Bro. Jake Godwin.

Visitors that were recognized were: Rev. Joe Ingram, director-treasurer of the State Missions Board; Rev. Joe Barrow, missionary candidate to Africa, leaving by the end of the year; Rev. Francis Garner, Children's Home, Middlesex, North Carolina; and Rev. J. A. Hucks, Conway, South Carolina.

The ministers' roll was called with the following present: Revs. A. L. Duncan, J. W. Byrd, I. G. Ward, Jarome Jennerette, James B. Hardee, Robert Sellers, William Jackie Godwin, and Harvey Cribb.

Ministers absent were Revs. Coy Housand and L. J. Ward.

Rev. Jasper Pernell of Baldenboro, North Carolina, a licensed minister, was present.

The Devotional Committee was excused at this time for deliberation of business.

Rev. Joe Ingram brought greetings and an interesting report from the North Carolina State Convention Missions Board. His report showed that

the board has received the following from the association: Pee Dee Association, \$33.55; Emerson Church, \$12.00; White Oak Church, \$58.98; Beaver Dam Church, \$341.98, making a total of \$419.51. Upon the recommendation of Bro. Ingram, there was a motion by Rev. W. J. Godwin that we receive this report as part of the minutes of the Pee Dee Association.

There was also a recommendation by Rev. J. B. Hardee that we all take a look at our past record and that he wished we would then dedicate ourselves to the mission purpose according to the teachings of the Bible.

Rev. Frances Garner brought greetings from the Children's Home at Middlesex, North Carolina. He stated that there were 93 children at the Home (51 boys and 42 girls). He also stated that the new cottage for girls was now completed and this would help much to relieve the present crowded conditions and will also make it possible to admit four more girls that are on the waiting list. He reminded us that November was Children's Home Month and urged all our churches to make our gifts and offering as generous as possible. He also invited all that could to attend the Thanksgiving services at the Home, beginning at 10:30 a. m. in the Memorial Chapel, followed with a picnic lunch on the campus at the noon hour.

Bro. Garner's report showed donations from the churches of the Pee Dee Association as follows: White Oak Church, \$131.31; Oak Grove Church, \$124.84; Beaver Dam Church, \$100.00; Thomasboro Church, \$94.91; Little Bethel Church, \$56.29; Mt. Calvary Church, \$50.00; Mt. Olive Church, \$50.00; Pine Level Church, \$46.27; Emerson Church, \$25.00; Cypress Creek Church, \$25.00; miscellaneous, \$95.25; making a total of \$798.87.

There was a motion by Bro. Hayes Pait to receive this report as a part of our minutes.

At this time, as the congregation stood and sang "Take the Name of Jesus with You," an offering was received for the Children's Home in the amount of \$57.00.

DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT

We, your Devotional Committee, beg leave to report that we recommend that Rev. Joe Barrow bring the message for the day.

Respectfully submitted,

Jake Godwin

Larry Ward

James Nobles

This report was received by a motion by Bro. Paxton Price and the committee dismissed.

The church letters were called for and read as follows:

MT. CALVARY—Reported by letter and delegates as follows: Bros. Mayo Brown, Vance Pait, and Lonnie Ranson. Rev. J. W. Byrd, pastor. Funds \$15.

WHITE OAK—Reported by delegates as follows: Bros. Jettie Hester and David James Pait. Received a check for funds but no letter.

BEAVER DAM—Reported by letter and delegates as follows: Bros. C. M. Cartrette, Jake Godwin, Devon Cartrette, Lonza Godwin, Cleveland Hughes, and Leo McPherson. Rev. J. A. Hucks, pastor. Funds \$27.

PLEASANT MEADOW—Reported by letter and delegate as follows: Bro. C. A. Hardee. Rev. Jarome Jennerette, pastor. Funds \$10.

PINE LEVEL—Reported by letter and delegates as follows: Bros. Jesse Cribb, Martha Ward, and Ralph Reynolds. Rev. Claude Housand, pastor. Funds \$14.

MT. OLIVE—Reported by letter and delegate as follows: Bro. Floyd Batten. Rev. James B. Hardee, pastor. Funds \$10.

EMERSON—Reported by letter and delegates as follows: Bros. Lacy Nealy, James Nobles, and Dallas Byrd. Rev. Robert Sellers, pastor. Funds \$15.

MT. BEULAH—No report.

OAK GROVE—Reported by letter and delegates as follows: Bros. G. C. Bryan, Paxton Price, Elwood Bryan, Bryan Davis, Paul Davis, and Carson Bryan. Rev. James B. Hardee, pastor. Funds \$10.

CYPRESS CREEK—Reported by letter and delegates as follows: Bros. Willie Jones, Tom Rhodes, Joe Watts, and Lawson Ward. Rev. A. L. Duncan, pastor. Funds \$10.

LITTLE BETHEL—Reported by letter and delegates as followed: Bros. Mayo Strickland, Donny Sarvis, and Bill Sarvis. Rev. William Jackie Godwin, pastor. Funds \$15.

CEDAR BRANCH—Reported by letter and delegates as follows: Sisters Letha Williamson and Rose Nealy. Rev. Harvey Cribb, pastor. Funds \$5.

THOMASBORO—Reported by letter and delegates as follows: Bros. Larry Ward, Joe Smith, and Grant Gore. Rev. Jarome Jennerette, pastor. Funds \$5.

MISSION VALLEY—Reported by letter and delegates as follows: Bro. Thomas McDaniels and Sis. Letha McDaniels. Rev. A. L. Duncan, pastor. Funds \$5.

The moderator called for old business at this time. Bro. E. D. McPherson stated that the Executive Committee appointed by the last association had met for the purpose of discussing the merger of Unions No. 1 and No. 2. The committee decided that with due respect to all the churches that each church would have the chance to vote on this at this session of the association.

A letter was then read by the clerk as follows: "To the Pee Dee Association of Original Free Will Baptists. Dear Brethren and Sisters: This is to inform you of the decision on the Pee Dee Union No. 2 in regards to combining Unions No. 1 and No. 2. The motion was placed before the union and carried by unanimous vote that the unions remain as they

are except that any church that so desires may join Union 2, subject to the rules and resolutions of Union No. 2. Respectfully submitted, I. G. Ward, moderator; Donald Mercer, Clerk."

There was then a motion by Bro. Hayes Pait to put this to a vote of the body. A vote was taken with the majority voting in favor of Unions No. 1 and No. 2 staying as they are. The merger was ruled out.

The congregation stood and sang "More About Jesus." The body was then dismissed for a ten-minute recess by Rev. W. J. Godwin.

The body reconvened with the singing of "The Kingdom Is Coming." Rev. Joe Barrow requested the moderator to read the words of the song, "The Church's One Foundation." Then Bro. Barrow brought an inspiring message, basing his five-point text on the first chapter of First Thessalonians. The service closed with the singing of "Amazing Grace."

The body was dismissed by Rev. Joe Ingram to meet back at 1:15 p. m.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The body reassembled with the singing of "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms."

The devotional service was conducted by Rev. William Jackie Godwin, reading from the tenth chapter of Matthew.

The house was then announced in order for business by the moderator, and he called for reports of the committees.

PERIODICAL

We, your committee, beg leave to report that we recommend that all our churches, and Sunday schools use literature that is printed by the Free Will Baptist Press in Ayden, and that we read "The Free Will Baptist" in order that we may be better informed of our denominational work. We also recommend that all our churches adopt weekly prayer services and that we use Christian teachers of our own denomination so that our churches might grow stronger in Christ and His work.

Respectfully submitted,

Jettie Hester

Leo McPherson

Bill Sarvis

There was a motion by Bro. Willie Jones to receive the report and dismiss the committee.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We, your committee, beg leave to report that we recommend that all our churches use every means possible that is granted by God's grace to promote an efficient and effective Sunday school in every church. Extreme care

should be used in selecting Christian officers and teachers; also that we use literature that is printed by the Free Will Baptist Press in Ayden.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas McDaniels

Paxton Price

Joseph K. Smith

There was a motion by Bro. Jake Godwin to receive the report and dismiss the committee.

EDUCATION

We, your committee, beg leave to report that we recommend that all our churches support our educational institutions, and that we encourage our high school students to attend our Free Will Baptist colleges.

Respectfully submitted,

Lonza Godwin

Mayo Strickland

Jesse Cribb

There was a motion by Bro. Cleveland Hughes to receive the report and dismiss the committee.

MINISTERIAL

We, your committee, beg leave to report that as far as we know all our ministers are in good standing except the delinquency of Revs. Coy Housand and L. J. Ward. We recommend that the Investigation Committee investigate their absence.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Godwin

Harvey Cribb

A. L. Duncan

There was a motion by Bro Wade Hodges to receive the report and dismiss the committee.

OBITUARY

We, your committee, beg leave to report that God in His divine providence has seen fit to call from this earthly life to their eternal reward fifteen of our members since our last association. We recommend that we stand for a moment of silent prayer in their remembrance and bow our heads in humble submission to Him, our heavenly Father, who doeth all things well.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce C. Mercer

Clara Leonard

Letha McDaniels

There was a motion by Bro. Hayes Pait to receive the report and dismiss the committee.

At this time the congregation stood for a moment of silent prayer in remembrance of the ones that have gone on.

RESOLUTIONS

We, your committee, beg leave to report that we recommend the use of literature that is printed by the Free Will Baptist Press; that we encourage the importance of our children furthering their education and recommend that they attend Mount Olive College; that our denomination continue to pray for and help to support the Children's Home at Middlesex, North Carolina, and also support the foreign mission board.

Respectfully submitted,

C. M. Cartrette

Elwood Bryan

David Pait

There was a motion by Rev. W. J. Godwin that we receive the report and dismiss the committee.

FINANCE

We, your committee, beg leave to report that we find the following:

Old Fund	\$ 4.34
New Fund	166.00
Total in Treasury	<u>\$170.34</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Cleveland Hughes

Grant Gore

Devon Cartrette

There was a motion by Bro. Lonza Godwin that we receive the report and dismiss the committee.

INVESTIGATION

We, your committee, beg leave to report that we have not had any investigation to do since the last association.

Respectfully submitted,

E. Hayes Pait

Wade Hodges

C. A. Hardee

The report was received by motion of Bro. Willie Jones.

HOME MISSIONS

We, your committee, beg leave to report the following:

Old Funds in Saving and Loan Association	\$ 92.84
Cash on Hand	100.00

New Funds Received October 19, 1968 33.20

Total in Home Missions Treasury \$226.04

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. Byrd

G. C. Bryan

Lonine Ranson

The report was received by motion of Rev. A. L. Duncan.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Old Funds from 1967 Association \$ 14.94

New Funds 175.50

Total to Account For \$190.44

PAID OUT

Home Missions \$ 43.75

Clerk 20.00

Treasurer 7.00

Minutes 105.20

Total Paid Out 175.95

Balance in Treasury \$ 14.49

Respectfully submitted,

Howard McPherson

This report received by motion of Bro. Jake Godwin.

Bro. Hayes Pait at this time addressed the moderator and reminded the body that in the last session of the association there was a motion carried to give Bro. C. V. Ward \$40 from the home missions treasury. However, the home missions report showed that Bro. Ward was paid only \$20 instead of the \$40 that was due him.

There was a motion by Bro. Matha Ward that the Investigation Committee check into this and find out what happened to the \$20 not accounted for.

There was a motion by Bro. Hayes Pait that we pay Bro. C. V. Ward \$40 from the home missions treasury, and that this money be turned over to Rev. A. L. Duncan to be used in the amount of \$10 per month for the benefit of Bro. Ward.

Under new business the clerk read a letter as follows: "To the ninety-ninth session of the Pee Dee Association: We the Original Free Will Baptist Church at Beaver Dam wish to respectfully petition to this association now in session with Oak Grove Church in Bladen County, North Carolina, that we are asking this body to give our Custodian Committee the authority to sign the title of the property (which at present is deeded to the Pee Dee Association) back to us, the Beaver Dam Free Will Baptist Church."

This request was granted by order of the association on Saturday night before the first Sunday in October, 1968.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. Hucks, *Moderator*

Cleveland Hughs, *Clerk*

Before making any decision on this letter, Bro. E. D. McPherson told the body of a decision made by the members of Beaver Dam Church to make the much needed improvement to the church for the growing population of the Beaver Dam community. The church went far enough to make financial conditions available to complete the job with the signatures of the association's Custodian Committee which at this time consisted of Bros. W. L. McPherson, D. F. Hester, Vance Pait, Grant Gore, and Leo McPherson. After going far enough to turn the job over to the contractor all the Custodian Committee members gave their consent except Bro. Leo McPherson. When he was contacted he refused to give his consent, thus blocking all plans to begin the work.

Bro. E. D. McPherson then read the following report: The Pee Dee Association's Executive Committee consisting of Revs. James B. Hardee, J. W. Byrd, Bros. E. D. McPherson, Howard McPherson and Hayes Pait (with the exception of Bro. Pait who could not be contacted until two days later), met at the home of Rev. James B. Hardee on the night of June 25, 1968, for the purpose of discussing the work hold-up on the Beaver Dam Church for approval of the next association. After much discussion and consideration, we, your undersigned, acting in good faith of the Pee Dee Association, made a decision and agreement that for the best interest of the members of Beaver Dam Church that we give our Custodian Committee, or anyone else that might feel involved, our sincere and wholehearted permission and authority (our signatures if necessary) in order that this work might not be delayed. This being signed to the best of our ability and judgment by your Pee Dee Association's Executive Committee.

J. B. Hardee

J. W. Byrd

E. D. McPherson

Howard McPherson

E. Hayes Pait

Bro. E. D. McPherson then reported to the body that this report of the Executive Committee was presented and read to Bro. Leo McPherson on June 28, 1968, but he still refused to have any part of this until the association gave him the authority to do so, of which does not convene until four months later. Then on the evening of June 29, 1968, Bro. Leo McPherson was at the home of Bro. E. D. McPherson. They contacted Rev. J. B. Hardee by telephone, and from this conversation a called session of the Pee Dee Association was arraigned for Friday night, July 12, 1968, at Mt. Calvary Church in Columbus County, North Carolina. The results of this meeting is recorded on Pages 261, 262 of the Pee Dee Association book as follows:

On Friday night, July 12, 1968, a called conference of the Pee Dee Association met at Mt. Calvary Church in Columbus County, North Carolina. The service opened with the congregation singing "Precious Name," followed with prayer by Rev. William Jackie Godwin. The congregation then stood and sang "When We All Get to Heaven" while a brotherly love of welcome and handshake was performed throughout the audience. Rev. J. B. Hardee then made some very inspiring remarks taken from the reading of Psalm 100. He afterwards announced the house in order for business. The church roll was called with all churches represented with the exception of Mt. Beulah Church in Horrey County, South Carolina.

Bro. E. D. McPherson then presented before the body the purpose of this called conference, explaining the problem that was now confronting the building and improvements of the Beaver Dam Church; also of the above mentioned efforts of the Pee Dee Association's Executive Committee, which was read to the body which as yet has been to no avail.

There was then a motion by Bro. Mayo Brown that we stand firmly with what the Executive Committee had done, and that we, in this called session, again give our Custodian Committee the authority to sign for the improvements to the church to go ahead as planned.

This motion was carried by the body with no one opposing it.

Bro. Leo McPherson then addressed the moderator and resigned from his position on the Custodian Committee of the Pee Dee Association, his resignation taking effect as of now. There was a motion by Bro. Hayes Pait that we accept the resignation of Bro. McPherson. This motion was carried by the body.

There was then a motion by Bro. Mayo Brown that we appoint Bro. F. J. Lee to fill the vacancy on the Custodian Committee left by the resignation of Bro. Leo McPherson. This motion was carried by the body.

There was a motion by Rev. A. L. Duncan that we adjourn until our regular session of the association in October, 1968.

The congregation then stood and sang a song. The body was then dismissed by Rev. J. W. Byrd, thus ending the called session.

There was a motion by Rev. A. L. Duncan that we accept the reading of the minutes of the called session of the association.

There was then a motion by Bro. Willie Jones that this body request the members of the Custodian Committee to sign the Beaver Dam Church property back to them from this association. This motion was carried by the body.

There was another motion by Bro. Willie Jones that the Pee Dee Association's Executive Committee be given the authority to give the Custodian Committee the right to sign deeds of transfer or to transact any business of the Pee Dee Association except buying land or selling property. This motion was carried by the body.

Rev. J. W. Byrd requested his removal from the Home Missions Committee. This request was granted by motion of Rev. I. G. Ward.

There was then a nomination by Rev. I. G. Ward that Bros. Hayes Pait, C. A. Hardee, and Larry Ward be the members of the Home Missions Committee.

There was a motion by Rev. William J. Godwin that the nominations be closed. This motion was carried by the body.

There was a motion by Rev. I. G. Ward to nominate Bro. Jake Godwin to fill the vacancy on the Investigation Committee left by the death of Bro. Willie Bowen. There were no other nominations made and the motion was carried by the body.

Bro. Wade Hodges requested to be relieved from the Investigation Committee.

There was a motion by Rev. I. G. Ward that Bro. Wade Hodges' request be granted, and that Bro. Homer Mercer be nominated to replace him. With no other nominations, this motion was carried by the body.

Bro. E. Hayes Pait, since he was already on another committee, asked that he be relieved from the Investigation Committee, and he nominated Bro. Tom Rhodes to take his place. This request was granted by the body with no other nominations being made.

There was a motion by Rev. I. G. Ward that we find a home for our next association.

There was a request from Bro. Jake Godwin that our next session meet with the Beaver Dam Church.

There was a motion by Rev. A. L. Duncan that our next session be held with the Beaver Dam Church in Columbus County, North Carolina, on Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 1969, beginning at 9 a.m.

There was a motion by Rev. Robert Sellers to pay the clerk and treasurer the same as usual.

There was a motion by Bro. Hayes Pait to have 400 minutes printed.

There was a motion by Rev. A. L. Duncan that we give the good people of Oak Grove Church a standing vote of thanks for their love and friendship they have shown us, also for a very good dinner served us throughout this day.

At this time Bro. Jasper Pernell, Route 2, Box 88, Bladenboro, North Carolina, presented himself before the body and requested a twelve-month license to preach the gospel. After granting Bro. Pernell license and giving him the welcome handshake, the body was dismissed with prayer by Rev. J. A. Hucks.

Rev. James B. Hardee, *Moderator*
E. D. McPherson, *Clerk*

(CLERK'S NOTE: As the saying goes, "A friend in need is a friend indeed," of which applies to Bro. Leamon Murray for his patience and assistance that I feel was so gladly given me throughout this association; I sincerely hope that I can enjoy the brotherly love of not only Bro. Leamon in 1969, but each and everyone that attended this association that have past and gone of which I have enjoyed so much. Thanks to each and everyone of you.—E. D. McPherson.)

STATISTICAL TABLE

MT. CALVARY CHURCH—Male members, 12; female members, 27; dismissed by letter, 1; died, 2; total membership, 39; paid pastor, \$900; visiting preachers, \$200; charity, \$400; Children's Home, \$50; unions, \$44; association, \$15; Sunday school offerings, \$5,640; buildings, repairs, and upkeep, \$10,580; miscellaneous, \$150; total, \$5,640.

WHITE OAK CHURCH—No letter presented.

BEAVER DAM CHURCH—Male members, 207; female members, 369; received on confession, 2; joined other churches, 3; dismissed by letter, 1; restored, 4; baptized, 37; dropped, 2; died, 4; total membership, 576; paid pastor, \$2,000; visiting preachers, \$1,203.22; charity, \$1,249.18; Children's Home, \$100; foreign missions, \$402.51; Christian education, \$469.95; unions, \$89.75; association, \$27; Sunday school offerings, \$19,212.82; buildings, repairs, and upkeep, \$29,648.51; miscellaneous, \$548.48; total, \$35,738.60.

PLEASANT MEADOW CHURCH—Male members, 5; female members, 10; baptized, 6; total membership, 15; paid pastor, \$195.45; visiting preachers, \$209.18; unions, \$16; association, \$10; Sunday school offerings, \$961.22; buildings, repairs, and upkeep, \$388.36; total, \$1,166.91.

PINE LEVEL CHURCH—Male members, 21; female members, 15; dismissed by letter, 2; dropped, 3; total membership, 36; paid pastor, \$549; visiting preachers, \$70; charity, \$33.54; Children's Home, \$36; unions, \$38.43; association, \$14; Sunday school offerings, \$632.81; church offerings, \$147; buildings, repairs, and upkeep, \$142.31; total, \$1,663.09.

MT. OLIVE CHURCH—Male members, 24; female members, 49; received on confession, 2; baptized, 2; died, 1; total membership, 74; paid pastor, \$1,205; visiting preachers, \$150; charity, \$153; Children's Home, \$25; unions, \$24; association, \$10; Sunday school offerings, \$1,382.05; church offerings, \$48.80; buildings, repairs, and upkeep, \$171.43; miscellaneous, \$208.66; total, \$3,377.94.

EMERSON CHURCH—Male members, 36; female members, 86; received on confession, 3; received by letter, 2; baptized, 3; died, 2; total membership, 122; paid pastor, \$295.98; visiting preachers, \$92.15; charity, \$98.28; foreign missions, \$19; unions, \$45; association, \$15; Sunday school offerings, \$621.38; total, \$1,186.79.

MT. BEULAH CHURCH—No report.

OAK GROVE CHURCH—Male members, 54; female members, 80; dismissed by letter, 3; restored, 5; baptized, 4; total membership, 135; paid pastor, \$1,250; visiting preachers, \$100; charity, \$140.83; Children's Home, \$130.83; Christian education, \$40.20; superannuation, \$11.80; unions, \$73; association, \$10; Sunday school offerings, \$3,148.34; church offerings, \$16,139.18; buildings, repairs, and upkeep, \$16,139.18; miscellaneous, \$533.57; total, \$19,821.06.

CYPRESS CREEK CHURCH—Male members, 25; female members, 35; died, 1; total membership, 59; paid pastor, \$517; visiting preachers, \$60;

charity, \$173.03; Children's Home, \$25; unions, \$24; association, \$10; Sunday school offerings, \$1,218.86; buildings, repairs, and upkeep, \$199.39; miscellaneous, \$226.32; total, \$425.71.

LITTLE BETHEL CHURCH—Male members, 20; female members, 37; received on confession, 10; received by letter, 1; baptized, 10; died, 1; total membership, 57; paid pastor, \$571.46; visiting preachers, \$14.87; Children's Home, \$21.79; unions, \$40; association, \$15; Sunday school offerings, \$666.42; church offerings, \$200.41; buildings, repairs, and upkeep \$33; miscellaneous, \$20.30; total, \$716.42.

THOMASBORO CHURCH—Male members, 9; female members, 15; received on confession, 4; baptized, 3; died, 1; total membership, 23; paid pastor, \$369.03; visiting preachers, \$277.47; charity, \$150; Children's Home, \$88.37; unions, \$24; association, \$5; Sunday school offerings, \$489.38; church offerings, \$1,939.05; miscellaneous, \$346.50; total, \$3,074.93.

CEDAR BRANCH CHURCH—Male members, 6; female members, 14; died, 2; total membership, 20; paid pastor, \$25; unions, \$23.50; association, \$5; Sunday school offerings, \$16; buildings, repairs, and upkeep, \$40; total, \$109.50.

MISSION VALLEY CHURCH—Male members, 13; female members, 22; total membership, 35; paid pastor, \$65.75; visiting preachers, \$20; charity, \$5; unions, \$24; association, \$5; Sunday school offerings, \$43.74; church offerings, \$22.79; buildings, repairs, and upkeep, \$91.80; miscellaneous, \$98.49; total, \$376.57.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE

The special committee appointed twelve years ago by the association on gathering old resolutions that had been accepted, recommended that the following resolutions be put in the minutes as rules and bylaws of our association:

In October, 1938, at Pine Level Church this resolution was made. Be it resolved that we as ministers, members, or messengers use our influence against worthless criticism and gossip, and that ministers or members found guilty of such will answer for same to their church or association.

This being adopted by motion of Brother D. F. Hester.

A protest resolution: Be it resolved that we do protest the two or three works of grace being preached in our churches. This protest was adopted by motion of Brother C. V. Ward.

At Oak Grove Church in October, 1951, a resolutions committee recommended that we use our resolutions that we are using at the present time. There was a resolution passed to take a freewill offering for creating a budget for all retired ministers in the Pee Dee Association.

At Mission Valley Church in October, 1952, a motion was made by Rev. A. L. Duncan as follows: Be it resolved, that from this the eighteenth day of October, 1952, that if any preacher walks disorderly or goes contrary to the Free Will Baptist Discipline, to call in his credentials and turn

them over to the clerk to be recorded in the association record book and then burn his credentials.

At White Oak Church in October, 1953, new business was called for. There was a motion by Brother W. F. Cartrette that each church enrolled in our Pee Dee Association be required to be present at forthcoming associations either by letter, or delegate, or both. Any church failing to report in some way in the future may be subject to committee investigation.

On October 19, 1957, at White Oak Church, there was a motion by Brother D. J. Walton that each church use their choice as to the number of delegates they send to the association.

We, your committee, recommend that the above resolutions go down in the minutes continually throughout the years as rules and bylaws of our Pee Dee Association.

Respectfully submitted,

A. L. Duncan

R. C. Rhodes

Grover McPherson

Free Will Baptist Church Covenant

Having give 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 all 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 faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and public worship and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel; nor fail to give according to our ability for the support of the church and all its benevolent work.

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 bond 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 to promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principles and obligations supreme, esteem it our chief business to make Christ known to the world, and constantly pray and toil that the Kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

To this end we agree to cooperate in the promotion of denominational institutions and enterprises, the support of the work of the local church, and the evangelization of the world.

May the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

PEE DEE ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

MODERATOR—Rev. James B. Hardee, P. O. Box 43, Elizabethtown, N. C.

MODERATOR PRO TEM—Rev. J. W. Byrd, Route 1, Box 298, Whiteville, N. C.

CLERK—Bro. E. D. McPherson, Clarendon, N. C.

TREASURER—Bro. Howard McPherson, Clarendon, N. C.

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. A. L. Duncan, Route 1, Nakina, N. C.

Rev. William Jackie Godwin, Clarendon, N. C.

Rev. Robert Sellers, Route 1, Box 6-A, Tabor City, N. C.

Bro. Mayo Brown, Route 2, Clarkton, N. C.

Rev. I. G. Ward, Route 1, Nakina, N. C.

CUSTODIANS

Bro. W. L. McPherson, Route 1, Chadbourn, N. C.

Bro. D. F. Hester, Bladenboro, N. C.

Bro. Vance Pait, Route 2, Clarkton, N. C.

Bro. Grant Gore, Route 1, Box 194, Shallotte, N. C.

Bro. F. J. Lee, Route 1, Nakina, N. C.

HOME MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Bro. E. Hayes Pait, Route 2, Bladenboro, N. C.

Bro. C. A. Hardee, Route 1, Hallsboro, N. C.

Bro. Larry Ward, Route 1, Shallotte, N. C.

INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE

Bro. Jake Godwin, Route 1, Chadbourn, N. C.

Bro. Homer Mercer, Route 1, Chadbourn, N. C.

Bro. Thomas Rhodes, Tabor City, N. C.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. James B. Hardee, Elizabethtown, N. C.

Rev. J. W. Byrd, Route 1, Whiteville, N. C.

Bro. E. D. McPherson, Route 1, Clarendon, N. C.

Bro. Howard McPherson, Route 1, Clarendon, N. C.

Bro. E. Hayes Pait, Route 2, Bladenboro, N. C.

