

From Mrs. G. W. Harper

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1915

MINUTES.

A goodly number of the Ministers, Deacons and Messengers of that part of the church of God, commonly known as Social Band Association met with Richwoods church, Richwoods, Ark., Sept. 18th, 1915.

The annual sermon was preached by Elders G. W. Million and W. T. Shoffit from Acts 15:6-22 and Heb. 6:1, after which proceeded to regular business.

1. A call for church letters showed sixteen represented, viz: Reform, Zion Hill, Warm Springs, Stony Point, New Hope, Grandview, Union Ridge, Richwoods, Old Jackson, Pleasant Valley, Eureka, New Covenant, Lonoke, Clear Lake, Sugar Tree Grove and Elnora.

2. Called for petitionary letters, received one, Liberty. (This church was organized by G. W. Million.)

3. Called for corresponding letters, received one, Fairdealing Association of General Baptists.

4. Proceeded to elect a moderator and clerk, which resulted in choice of Eld. D. M. Holder, Moderator, and Eld G. W. Million, Clerk.

Took a recess until 2 o'clock, p. m.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

Met about 2:20 o'clock. Prayer by W. P. Brooks.

5. The appointment of several committees was the first thing taken up in afternoon which was as follows: On Arrangement of Business—J. F. Gates, J. R. English, J. R. Hancock, W. P. Brooks and Nin Carroll.

On Finance—J. M. Cavenar, T. W. Elliot and W. Hicks.

On Divine Service—J. P. Kincaid, D. Bates and S. S. Motherman.

On Obituary—J. C. Carter, D. Pursfull and N. Y. Gary.

On Literature—Retained the old committee.

6. Call for tardy letters, received none, but permitted Eld. J. R. English to represent Denman church and Bro. — Rickey, Union church, at O'Kean, Ark.

7. Moved that a new committee of five be appointed to be styled "Committee on Credentials." J. D. Poyner, G. P. Johnson, G. B. Blalock, J. M. Cavenar and J. W. Tharp were appointed to constitute same.

8. Read Rules of Decorum.

9. Spent some 30 or 40 minutes in devotional services, which was enjoyed by all present.

10. Moved that each minister of the Association make a full written report at each annual meeting of the Association, of all the work done by him during the year preceeding each annual meeting, and that each church clerk be required to make a record of all the work done by each minister in service of said church.

Adjourned until Monday morning at 8 o'clock.

A great revival was going on at Richwoods church when the Association convened and a great service was had Friday night, Saturday night, Sunday and Sunday night.

Eld _____ preached Friday night.

Revival broke out Saturday night during testimony services and no one could preach.

The Moderator filled the stand Sunday at 11 o'clock on "Love."

Preaching and ordinance services Sunday night conducted by Elds. D. M. Holder and W. T. Sharp.

Late in the afternoon Sunday 1000 or 1200 people came together on Clear Lake and witnessed the baptism of 26 candidates by the Methodists, Missionaries and "Freewills."

MONDAY MORNING.

Came together about 8 o'clock, prayer by Eld. J. C. Carter.

11. Took up the quarterly meeting item first thing and decided to have none for next year.

12. Moved that each church in the Association ask each member of said church to assess themselves to such an amount as the Lord has prospered him and that said church require said member to pay the amount assessed. And resolved further that three financial agents be appointed to assist the churches in this work.

The Association was divided into three districts, viz: All that part of Association east of Black River, District No. 1, agent W. P. Brooks. All that part west of Black River and north of Fourchee, District No. 2, J. D. Poynor, agent. All that part west of Black River and south of Fourchee, District No. 3, J. P. Kincaid, agent.

13. Decided to have no evangelist in field during next year.

14. Brethren G. B. Blalock of Old Jackson church and Wm. Tippet of Elnora church were ordained to the deaconship. Presbytery: Elds. H. T. Newberry, J. W. Tharp and J. C. Carter. Deacons, G. P. Johnson and Dave Seamons.

15. Moved to correspond with Fairdealing and Hopewell Associations of General Baptists. Bro. Newton Gates was selected as messenger to Fairdealing, held three miles south of Grandin on Thursday night before 2nd Sunday in September.

Elder D. M. Holder and G. P. Johnson were selected as messengers to Hopewell, held Wednesday before

2nd Sunday in October, 1915.

16. Moved to hold the next annual meeting with Stony Point church, seven miles northwest of Pocahontas.

17. Elders D. M. Holder and W. T. Sharp were selected to preach the annual sermon at next meeting.

18. The several committees reported and were discharged.

19. Resolved that we tender our heartfelt thanks to the good people of Richwoods for the kind hospitality shown us while in their midst.

Adjourned to meet at Stony Point, at 10 o'clock, on Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in September.

ELDER D. M. HOLDER, Moderator.
Maynard, Ark.

ELDER G. W. MILLION, CLERK.
Pocahontas, Ark.

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OBITUARY.

We, your committee on Obituary, find that our kind and generous Heavenly Father has seen fit in his Divine Wisdom to remove from our midst by death five of our worthy members.

Eureka 2, Old Jackson 1, Warm Springs 1 and Grandview 1.

We are glad our loss is their gain and we tender our heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved ones.

N. Y. GARY, Chairman.

PETITIONARY LETTER.

We, the General Freewill Baptist church, called.....
.....do pray for admission into your honorable body by letter and delegates. After examining the Articles of Faith and Rules of Order of the Social Band Association of General Freewill Baptists, we were covenanted together by Elds.....and

..... Dear Brethren, after examination, if you find us orthodox, we pray you receive us. We send our beloved brothers to sit with you in Godly council, with authority to transact such business as may come before you. The state of church is as follows: Organized with.....members since that time received.....Bro.....Clerk; Eld....., Moderator. We have chosen Eld.....to take care of our church next year. Contributions \$..... (Add more below if desired.)

CHURCH LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

We, the General Freewill Baptist church, called.....
send greetings to the ministers, deacons and messengers composing Social Band Association of General Freewill Baptists, when convened with.....
church. Very dear brethren, we anticipate with great joy the time when we shall meet you again by letter and delegates. We send our beloved brothers to sit with you in your Godly deliberations, whom we pray you receive as worthy brothers, with full power and authority to transact all business that may come before your honorable body, for the good of our church and Christianity in general, to-wit: Brothers.....and..... We give our pastor \$..... The statistics of our church are as follows: Received by experience.....; by letter.....; by recommendation.....; restored.....; dismissed by letter.....; excluded.....; died.....; total membership.....; contribution \$..... We have elected Elder.....to the pastoral care of our church for the ensuing year.
Church Clerk.
(P. O. Address)
Moderator. (P. O. Address.)

CONSTITUTION.

1. This Association, when properly organized, shall consist of a Moderator and a Clerk, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present. The duty of the Moderator shall be to keep the Association in order, state questions fairly and take the vote thereon; to have the liberty of speech as other members, providing his seat be filled, to have no vote unless the Association be equally divided in which case he shall have the casting vote. The duty of the clerk shall be to keep a fair record of all the proceedings of the Association.

2. This Association shall be composed of ordained ministers, deacons, licentiates, together with delegates duly chosen by the several churches in our union and sent to represent them in this Association, said delegates being members of some church within this Association, whom the members judge best qualified for that purpose, who, on producing letters certifying to their appointment, shall be entitled to seats.

3. In the letters from the several churches shall be expressed their respective number of members in fellowship, and the number received, dismissed, excluded, and died since the sitting of the last Association and day of church meeting.

4. No query shall be received by the Association from any church unless it has been acted on in said church and cannot be settled, in which case the Association shall take up the same and act on it.

5. Every church in the Association shall be entitled to a representation of delegates not exceeding three.

6. Every motion made and seconded shall be acted on unless withdrawn by the mover.

7. The Association shall not have the power to lord it over God's heritage so as to infringe on any of the internal rights of the churches; nevertheless we agree that the churches composing this Association shall stand in the same relation to each other in this association that individuals do to each other in the

churches: that is to say, if a church trespass against a sister church, the church injured shall try to reclaim them by Gospel steps; if they cannot be reclaimed they shall be dropped from our union.

8. We agree to do all business by a majority of the members present.

9. Any church may be admitted into this Association by letter and delegate. If upon proper examination it is found to be orthodox and orderly such admission shall be manifested by the moderator giving the right hand of fellowship to the delegates thereof.

10. This Association shall have power to sit as an advisory council; to give churches all necessary advice in matters of difficulty; to inquire into the cause why churches neglect to represent themselves in this Association; to appoint any members, by and with his or their consent, to transact any business they may deem necessary; to invite any brethren in the ministry to a seat with the Association; to adjourn the Association to any time and place that may be thought necessary; to exclude from his seat any member who shall not conform to the Rules of Decorum, and shall report his or their conduct to the church or churches from which he or they were delegates.

11. This Association possesses appellate jurisdiction in all cases of difficulty that may arise in the churches.

12. The Lord's Supper shall be administered at each annual association.

13. Each annual association shall be held on the 3rd Sunday in September.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the infallible word of God, and the only safe rule of faith and practice.—II. Tim. 3:16-17. II Peter 1:20-21.

2. That there is but one living and true God, and in the Godhead or divine essence, Father, Son and Holy Ghost.—St. John 1:1; I John 5:7.

3. That we are fallen and depraved creatures, and cannot extricate ourselves from our fallen situation by any ability we possess by nature.—Romans 8:7-20.

4. Salvation, Regeneration, Sanctification, Justification and Redemption are by the life, death, resurrection, ascension and intercession of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.—Heb 9:24. Eph. 4:9. Rev. 1:18.

5. We believe that he that shall endure to the end, the same shall be saved.—Matt. 24:13. Rev. 2:10.

6. That the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked shall be eternal.—Matt. 25:46.

7. We believe that baptism, the Lord's Supper and the washing of the saint's feet are ordinances of Jesus Christ appointed in the church and none but true believers are proper subjects, and that the only true mode of baptism is immersion.—On Baptism. Matt. 3:16. Rom. 6:4. Acts 8:38. Col. 2:12. The Supper. Matt. 26:27. Mark 14:22. Luke 22:19. I Cor. 11:23-24. Washing of feet. St. John 13:14-17. I Tim. 5:10. I Peter 2:24.

8. We believe in the sanctity of the first day of the week—or Lord's day—and it ought to be observed and spent in public or private worship of God, and on it we should abstain from our worldly concerns, except in case of necessity or mercy.—Ex 31:15-17. Deut. 5:12. Matt. 12:12.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the body, both the just and the unjust, but every one in his own order—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life; and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of damnation; and that God hath appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus Christ.—St. John 5:28:29. I Tes. 4:16. Dan. 12:2.

10. That it is our duty to be tender and affectionate to one another and to study the happiness of the people of God in general, and to be singly engaged to promote the honor and glory of God—Galatians 6:10; I John 2:9.

11. We believe that Jesus Christ, by the grace of

God; tasted death for every man, and that none can partake of his divine benefits only by repentance towards God, and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (Infants and idiots excepted, they being included in the covenant of God's grace.) Acts 4:11; 10:43; Tim. 2:5-6; St. John 3:14-17; I. Cor. 12:20-22; Rom. 5:13.

12. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is the door into the church, and that baptism is a duty in answer to a good conscience.—St. John 10:7.

13. We believe that the Lord's people are one in him, therefore should be one at his table.—I. Cor. 12:13. St. John 15:11-21-22. Matt. 16:26-28.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The association, when convened, shall be opened and closed by singing and prayer.

2. Only one person shall speak at a time; who shall rise to his feet and address the moderator.

3. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in speech, except by the moderator, until he gets through; nor shall the moderator interrupt him unless he break order.

4. The person speaking shall adhere to the question, and shall in no wise cast personal reflections on any person who may have spoken before him.

5. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject without leave of the association.

6. No member shall laugh or whisper in time of public speech.

7. Members shall address each other by the appellations of brother or brethren.

8. No member of this association shall absent himself when the association is sitting in conference without leave of the moderator.

9. The names of the members of the association shall be enrolled and called over as often as the association thinks necessary.

10. No member shall speak longer than fifteen minutes at any one time without leave of the association.

11. Any member who shall knowingly break any of these rules shall be reprov'd by the moderator according to the direction of the association.

MINISTERIAL LIST.

D. N. King.....	Warm Springs, Ark.
D. M. Holder.....	Maynard, Ark.
W. T. Shoffit.....	O'Kean, Ark.
J. F. Gates.....	O'Kean, Ark.
J. H. Welker.....	
W. T. Sharp.....	Frisbee, Ark.
G. W. Million,.....	Pocahontas, Ark.
H. F. Newberry.....	Richwood, Ark.
D. C. Ring.....	Portia, Ark.
Geo. U. Weeks.....	Elnora, Ark.
L. M. Buckner.....	Elnora, Ark.
C. M. Kildow.....	Ravenden Springs, Ark.
J. R. English.....	Pocahontas, Ark.
J. W. Tharp.....	Elnora, Ark.
N. Y. Gary.....	Ponder, Mo.
J. R. Rosson.....	Ponder, Mo.
T. B. Hilton.....	Poplar Bluff, Mo.

LICENTIATES.

J. D. Poynor..... Maynard, Ark.

MESSENGER ENROLLMENT

Sugar Tree Grove—Harvey Spires.
Liberty—A. P. Johnson, Will Hicks and A. H. Haynes.
New Covenant—Bro. Zack Minton.
Elnora—Wm. Tippet and Sister Crosson.
Clear Lake—R. R. Williams.
Lonoke—Will Tyler, Sisters Willie Lewis and M. A. Austin.
Richwoods—Jno. Webb, Lafe Arman and Marvin Williams.
Reform—O. P. Toles.

Zion Hill—Wm. Stevens and S. Smotherman.
Grandview—A. R. Pride, G. P. Johnson and Hallie Jolley.
Union Ridge—A. J. Gimlin.
Warm Springs—John Pain, Chester Holt, Jas. Cado
New Hope—Dave Pursfull.
Old Jackson—Warn Hullinger, W. Eliot and F. Brooks.
Pleasant Valley—Eld. J. C. Carter
Eureka—J. M. Campbell, W. P. Brooks and Willie Maxwell.
Stony Point—J. M. Cavenar, Olen Thomson and Henry Graham.
Denman—Eld J. R. English.
Reform—O. P. Toles.
Union— ———Rickey.
Pleasant Hill—Andrew Stratton.
Mt. Pleasant—Not represented.
Union Grove— “ “
Mt. Olive—Not represented.

CHURCH DIRECTORY.

CHURCH	PASTOR	CHURCH CLERK AND P. O.
Stony Point.....	D. M. Holder.....	A. C. Pendergrass, Cavenar, Ark....
Grandview.....	" ".....	A. R. Pride, Supply, Ark.....
Sugar Tree Grove.....	" ".....	Mattie Hopper, Poynor, Mo.....
Union Ridge.....	" ".....	G. L. Agin, Ponder, Mo.....
Warm Springs.....	Elba Bellah, Warm Springs, Ark....
New Hope.....	B. H. Bates, Pocahontas, Ark.....
Eureka.....	W. T. Shoffit.....	J. F. Gates, O'Kean, Ark.....
Liberty.....	" ".....	R. M. Johnson, Sharum, Ark.....
New Covenant.....	" ".....	Zack Minton, Walnut Ridge, Ark....
Union.....	C. W. Cupp, O'Kean, Ark.....
Old Jackson.....	W. T. Tharp.....	Warren Hullinger, Imboden, Ark....
Clear Lake.....	" ".....	O. C. Smith, Portia, Ark.....
Pleasant Valley.....	" ".....	Marcus Anderson, Ravenden Springs
Reform.....	" ".....	Ben Stewart, Williford, Ark.....
Richwoods.....	G. W. Million.....	J. M. Webb, Richwoods, Ark.....
Loneoak.....	" ".....	Will Tyler, Elnora, Ark.....
Elnora.....	J. W. Tharp.....	J. A. Buckner, Elnora, Ark.....
Zion Hill.....	J. R. English.....	S. Smotherman, Pocahontas, Ark....
Denman.....	" ".....	A. J. Russell, Sharum, Ark.....
Mt. Pleasant.....	J. M. Baker, Williford, Ark.....

STATISTICAL TABLE

NAME OF CHURCH	FINANCES			MEMBERSHIP						
	Local Minutes	State Minutes	O. & M.	Increase			Decrease			Total
				Conversion	By Recommendation	By Restoration	Death	Excluded	Letter	
Pirtle	2.00	2 00	1 50	2	6	1				18
Old Jackson	1.60			15	3					25
Stony Point	2 00	1.00			2					109
Eureka	2.05						2			70
Pleasant Grove	2.00	2.30	10.95					11	2	25
Hopewell	1 00	1.00	1.50				1		1	30
Evening Star	1.60	2 00	12.00							17
Sugar Tree Grove	1 00	1.00	1.95	9	8		1			39
Cedar Ridge	1 00	1.00	1.05	3	4	1		1	1	24
Grandview	2.25	1 00	1.75	7	3		1	2	1	58
Pleasant Valley	1.00									25
Clear Lake	1.00	1.00	1.40	3		12	2	3		40
Lone Oak				1	1	1				63
Oak Grove	1.50	2 00	2.25			1	1			21
Union	2 00		3.05			2	1	8		35
Pruetts Chapel	1 50	2 00	7.25		1		2	7		28
New Hope	1 25	1.00								49
Denman							2			19
New Covenant										60
Love Devine										46
Liberty	1.50									51
Friendship	2 25									26
Warm Springs										70

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