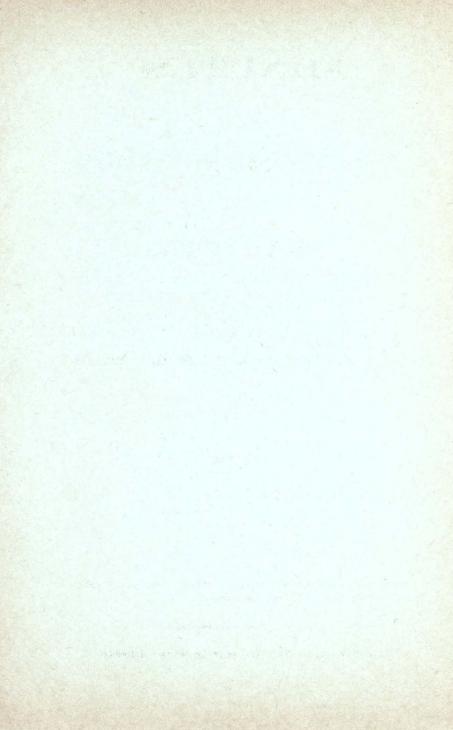
The
Southeast Missouri
Yearly Meeting
of
Free Will Baptist

1945

Proceedings of the Annual Session

Convened at

3rd. F. W. B. Church
St. Louis, Mo.



MINUTES

OF THE

SOUTH EAST MISSOURI YEARLY MEETING

of

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

HELD WITH

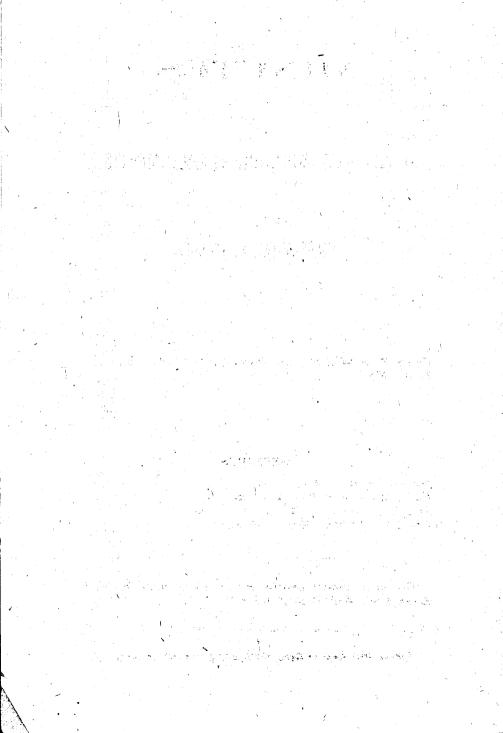
Third Free Will Baptist Church, 1330 Geyer Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

OFFICERS

Moderator, Rev. Mark Lewis. Ass't. Moderator, Rev. Wm. Reeves. Sec. and Treasurer, Bro. O. B. Womack. Ass't. Clerk, Mrs. Eunice Edwards.

The next annual session will convene with the Flat River Free Will Baptist Church.

Free Will Baptist Gem. 211 Bond St. Monett, Missouri



PROCEEDINGS

The Southeast Missouri Ministers' Conference met in its fifth annual session, Aug. 21, 22, 1945, at the Third Free Will Baptist Church, 1330 Geyer Ave. St. Louis, Mo.

7:45 P. M.

Service opened with prayer led by Rev. Melvin Bingham.

Song service led by Rev. D. C. Dodd, opened by singing, "At The Cross," "Stand Up For Jesus," and "When I See The Blood." Prayer, Rev. Chas. Moyer.

Rev. Mark Lewis read Isa. 62:10 with appropriate comments on the theme of the program. Special number in song was rendered by Rev and Mrs. D. C. Dodd, "I Know Somebody's Listening."

Sermon, Rev. F. C. Zinn Subject: "Setting up The Standard of Good Christian Character in the Ministry" "Amazing Grace" was sung by the congregation. Rev. Zinn delivered a great message.

President called all the ministers present to the platform, 19 present, and they sang, "I'll Be a Friend to Jesus," led by Brother Cleo Black. Benediction ,Rev J. F. Miller

WEDNESDAY MORNING

9:30 A. M. Devotional led by Rev. L. Hampton as follows: opened with singing "I'm Not Ashamed," and "When Morning Comes." Prayer, Rev. J. F. Miller. Hymn, "Some Day." Scripture read: Eph. 6:10-20. Prayer, Rev. Wm. Reeves. Brother Hampton read, "The Preachers Beatitudes" and "The Laymans Beatitudes." Special number in song by F. C. Zinn, "Lift Him Up."

President, Rev. Mark Lewis, took charge at this time and read the constitution and by-laws of the Southeast Missouri Ministers' Conference.

Invitation extended for membership.

Rev. J. Johnson, Rev. J. F. Miller, Rev. O. T. Allred, and Rev. L. Hampton came forward and pledged their acceptance of the constitution and by-laws and were

accepted by vote.

Visiting brethren were seated, at this time among whom were several visiting ministers.

Roll call answered by eight ministers.

Reading of last years minute.

President declared time for election of officers. Led in prayer by Rev. Damon C. Dodd after which the following officers were elected:

President—Rev. Mark Lewis

Vice President-Rev. O. T. Allred

Secretary-Treasurer-Mrs. Eunice Edwards

Motion carried that Rev. Wm. Reeves be given a standing vote of thanks in recognition of his services in the Ministers Conference during the past year.

President appointed the following as a Business Committee: Rev. O. T. Allred, chairman, Rev. Wm. Reeves, and Rev. L. Hampton.

Five minute recess declared.

11 o'clock Service

Mir. Note:

Singing led by Rev. F. C. Zinn "Just Over in the Glory Land." Prayer, Mrs. Melvin Bingham, Hymn, "Beautiful Garden of Prayer." Prayer led by Mrs. J. F. Miller. Special number in song by Mrs. Helen Allred.

Sermon, Rev. Mrs. Thursie Woods. Subject, "Setting Up The Standard of the Ministers Prayer Life." Text, Isa. 62:10. The message challenged us; to ask what ye will and I will do it."

Hymn, "Sweet Hour of Prayer."

Benediction, Bro. John Rogers.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

Service opened by singing "To The Work" led by Rev. F. C. Zinn, also "There'll Be Shouting."

Rev. Lewis read Psa. 37.

Prayer, Rev. Woodrow Matthews. Hymn "Praise Him, Praise Him." Prayer, Rev. J. L. Yancey. Special number in song by Mrs. Helen Allred, "Something Got Hold of Me." A praise service was enjoyed by all with the presence of the Holy Spirit manifested in our midst. Another song by Mrs. Allred, "I'd Like to Talk It Over" Hymn, "You Never Mentioned Him To Me." Prayer and sermon by Rev. J. F. Miller. "Setting Up the Stan-

dard of Preparation for the Ministry." A truly great. message was delivered. Business was resumed at this time with the president in charge.

Report of Business Committee read and received by vote to be discussed item by item. (See Reports.)

Item No. 1— Adopted by vote.

Item No. 2— Adopted by vote.

Item, No. 3-Adopted by vote.

Item No. 4—Adopted by vote.

Motion carried to recommit Item No. 5 to Business Committee for their further consideration.

Item No. 6 read and adopted by vote.

Item No. 7 read and adopted by vote.

Item No. 8 read and adopted by vote.

Item No. 9 read and adopted by standing vote.

After their having heard the reading of the Constitution and by-laws, Rev. Albert Tucker and Rev. Chas. Moyers were accepted as members in the Conference by legal vote.

Motion carried that clerk make report to Yearly Meeting. Business suspended.

Friday Aug. 24, 1945

Business resumed.

Rev. Melvin Bingham accepted as a Minister in good standing and into full fellowship of this Conference by a legal vote.

Minute read and approved.

Motion carried to adjourn until the next regular session in 1946.

Report of Business Committee

Item No. 1—We recommend the officers of this Ministers Conference prepare the program for the next meeting.

Item No. 2 — We recommend that Item No. 1 be made permanent.

Item No. 3 — We recommend that those who are found to be in violation to the rules of our church and Association as to moral conduct be dropped from membership in this Ministers Conference.

Item No. 4 — We recommend that members of this Conference who fail to report or otherwise support the Conference for a period of two (2) years, after being admonished and then fail to report within thirty days be dropped from the roll.

Item. No. 6 — We recommend that we have our minutes printed with the Yearly Meeting minutes and pay our proportionate part.

Item No. 7 — We recommend that Item No. 6 be made permanent.

Item No. 8 — We recommend that we give \$15.00 to the State Unified Program Fund.

Item No. 9 — We recommend that we give a standing vote of thanks to this church and community for their hospitality.

Signed: Rev. O. T. Allred, Ch. Rev. Luther Hampton Rev. Wm. Reeves

PROCEEDINGS

The South East Mo. Yearly Meeting of Free Will Baptist met in regular session with the Third Free Will Baptist Church located at 1330 Geyer Ave, St. Louis, Mo. at 7:45 P. M.

Services called to order by the Moderator, Rev. Mark Lewis.

The welcome address was given by Mrs. Opal Hughes Response by Rev. Mrs. Effie Matthews.

At this time a temporary pulpit committee was appointed by the Moderator as follows.

Rev. F. C. Zinn, Ch. Mrs. Willard Lackey Mrs. Gussie Hamblin

The song service was led by Bro. Cleo Black. Hymns sung were "Love Lifted Me" and "Leaning on The Everlasting Arms." Prayer was led by Rev. Albert Tucker. Singing again, "I Am Thine O Lord."

Special numbers in song by the South Side Quartett, The Flat River Girls, Mrs. Helen Allred and a piano solo by Anna Mae Tucker.

Introductory sermon by Rev. Woodrow Matthews, Scripture read from Acts 26th chapter, Subject, "Christ Liveth in Me." An Evangelistic Message was delivered. An altar service with singing "Take The Name of Jesus With You." Benediction by Bro. John Schrum.

THURSDAY 9:30 A.M. AUG. 23

Services called to order by Moderator; Rev. F. C. Zinn led the congregation in singing "I am Thine O Lord" and "We're Marching to Zion". Devotional service led by Bro. Willard Lackey. Prayer by Mrs. Erma Berry.

Scripture read from 2nd John 10:20, prayer by Rev. Eunice Edwards. The congregation repeated Psalms 19:14.

The Moderator read the Constitution and By-Laws and Order of Business of South East Mo. Yearly Meeting and declared a sufficient delegation present to compose a quorum.

Letters from St. Francois and Madison Co. Quarter-

ly Meetings were read and received by legal vote.

Delegates were seated and instructed as to their duties in this setting of the Yearly Meeting.

Visiting Brethern were envited to seats in council.

Report of Executive Board by Rev. Wm. Reeves.

Moderator declared time for election of officers, after being led in prayer by Rev. Kermit Esther.

The following officers were elected: Moderator, Rev. Mark M. Lewis; Ass't. Moderator, Rev. Wm. Reeves; Clerk-Treas. Dea. O. B. Womack; Ass't. Clerk, Rev. Mrs. Eunice Edwards.

The following was appointed as a committee on committees:

Rev. F. C. Zinn, Ch.; Mrs. Erma Berry; Rev. James F. Miller.

THURSDAY MORNING

11 o'clock A. M. Service

Opened with singing "Amazing Grace" "This World is Not My Home" led by Rev. Wm. Reeves. Prayer by Bro. Albert Hughes. Hymn "I'll Fly Away." Sermon by Rev. O. T. Allred. Text James 3:18. Hymn "When the Saints Go Marching In" sung while the congregation enjoyed an old fashioned handshake. The Spirit of the Lord Blessed our hearts.

Moderator declared nominations in order for a Board member. Rev. O. T. Allred elected to the Board for a term of 3 years to expire in 1948.

Report of committee on committees read and adopted. Adjourned until 1:30 P. M.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

1:30 P. M.

Services called to order with singing "Victory Ahead," "Joy Unspeakable" and "When The Roll is Called Up Yonder led by Rev. Luther Hampton, Devotional led by Rev. Chas. Moyer. Scripture read Matt. 15:5. Prayer by Bro. John Rogers.

Report read from Executive Board of Yearly Meeting by Rev. Mark Lewis to the effect that Rev. Melvin Bingham be accepted in full fellowship of the Yearly Meeting. The report was adopted by a standing vote.

The report reads as follows: The Executive Board of the Yearly Meeting met in session, this the 23rd day of Aug., 1945 and on recommendation from the St. Francois County Quarterly Meeting Executive Board, accepted Rev. Melvin Bingham as a member in full fellowship in the South East Missouri Yearly Meeting and further recommend that the Yearly Meeting sustain this action.

Signed: F. C. Zinn, Chairman
O. T. Allred
Woodrow Matthews

The right hand of fellowship was given Rev. and Mrs. Melvin Bingham at this time.

The report of the Statistician was read and included in a word of commendation for the statistician for his work. Motion carried to adopt the report.

Dea. O. B. Womack elected statistician to succeed himself by acclamation.

Newly arrived delegates were seated at this time.

Mrs. Melvin Bingham reported on the Womens National Auxiliary Convention.

Prayer at the altar for our Mission work was led by Sister Ethel Dackey.

Reports read from St. Francois and Madison County Sunday School Conventions and received.

Motion carried to adopt the reports.

Rev. Mark Lewis gave an oral report of Triumphant Sunday School Convention.

At this time the Ass't. Moderator took charge and gave a talk on the facts of our Foreign Missions Program and was joined in by a number of delegates present which was very interesting to all. Discussion by Rev. O. T. Allred, Chairman of the State Unified Plan Fund. Motion carried to adopt the report. At this time the Moderator appointed a nomination committee to nominate delegates to the Missouri State Association.

Committee: Mrs. Gussie Hamblin, Ch. Mrs. Thursie Woods Mrs. Martha Clayton

Annual Ministerial reports were read and motion carried to receive them and refer them to the committee on Credentials.

Rev. Melvin Bingham gave a partial verbal report of

THURSDAY EVENING

Services called to order with singing "There is a Fountain Filled With Blood" "Camping in Canaans Land" and "Since Jesus came into my Heart" led by Rev. F. C. Zinn. Prayer by Rev. J. L. Yancey, special numbers in song were rendered by the following, The Bassell Sisters, F. C. Zinn and Anna Mae Tucker, Cleo Black, South Side Quartett, Piano Solo by Anna Mae Tucker. Prayer by Bro. Chester Martin.

Rev. Bingham's subject, "The Bible Charter and The Big Three Meeting "Text Jno. 5:1-15. Altar service and song, "When the Roll is Called up Yonder I'll be There." Benediction by Rev. Jas. F. Miller.

FRIDAY MORNING

Services opened with singing "Jesus Saves", "Theres Power in The Blood" led by Rev. Albert Tucker. Prayer by Rev. Mrs. Effie Matthews, Rev. Woodrow Matthews, and Rev. O. T. Allred. Scripture read from 1 John 3:1-11. A general testimony meeting was enjoyed at this time. The hymn "I'll Fly Away" was sung. Minutes of the previous days session were read and approved.

The report of the Yearly Meeting Treasurer was read and received.

Report of Obituary Committee received and is as follows: We, your committee on Obituary beg leave to submit the following; Whereas God in His infinite wisdom called from our midst some of our Brothers and Sisters in Christ, be it resolved that we bow our heads in humble submission to His will. The deceased are as follows: Grandma Harrin, Wortham, Mo.

Rev. J. M. Henderson, Fredricktown, Missouri

Rev. J. M. Henderson, Fredricktown, Missouri Bro. W. J. Murray, Fredericktown, Missouri S-Sgt. G. T. Willard Hovis, Copper Mines, Missouri Sister Katie Copher, Mine La Motte, Missouri Sister Cora Miller, Mine La Motte, Missouri Bro. G. N. Smith, Patton, Missouri Bro. Arch Mills, Patton, Missouri Sister Sarah Bollinger, Patton Missouri Dea. George Halbrook, Leadington, Missouri Rev. Willard Halbrook, Leadington, Mo.

Dea. Allen Schafer, Flat River, Missouri

Sister Eunice Hovis, Flat River, Missouri Sister Isabel Wilfong, Flat River, Missouri Sister Eunice Cleaver, St. Louis, Missouri Sister Richardson, Bonne Terre, Missouri Rt. 1 Dea. Mart Hughes, Wortham, Missouri Bro. Paul Stevens, Flat River, Missouri

It has been brought to our attention that God in His infinite wisdom has saw fit to remove from our midst Rev. J.M. Henderson and Rev. Willard Halbrook, be it resolved that this honorable mention of their Ministerial labors in the bounds of the South East Missouri Yearly Meeting and be included in the Yearly Meeting Minutes.

\ Business declared suspended until Ministers Conference have finished their Meeting.

Business resumed. Report read from Denominational Enterprise Committee received by vote for discussion item by item.

Item No. 1 — We recommend that we support our School as it is now, and co-operate with the Board of Incorperators in whatsoever program they may see fit to offer in the building and expansion of the School Program. Motion carried to adopt the recommendation.

Item No. 2 — We recommend that we support our Publishing House. Motion carried to adopt Item No. 2.

Item No. 3 — We recommend that we use our Unified Program as our way of State financial support.

Motion carried to adopt Item No. 3

Motion carried to adopt Item No. 3.

Signed: Rev. Wm. Reeves, Ch. J. W. Rogers Rev. Melvin Bingham

Rev. O. T. Allred appointed to take subscriptions for the Church Papers. Five minute recess declared. 11 o'clock A. M. Service

Service opened by singing "Where He Leads I Will Follow" and "Praise Him, Praise Him" led by Rev. F. C. Zinn. Prayer by Rev. Chas. Moyer, then an offering was taken for the general expense of the Yearly Meeting. Amount given \$21.00. Sermon by Rev. Kermit Esther. Scripture Text, Matt. 28:19. "Love and Neighbor." A Missionary message was delivered. Hymn "The Glory Land Way. Special prayer for Mrs. Wm. Reeves mother led by Rev. Jas. F. Miller. Adjournment

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Services called to order by singing "We're Marchin To Zion" "I'll Live in Glory" led by Rev. Wm. Reeves Prayer by Sister Blanch Matthews. Scripture lesson Heb. 2:1-5. Final report of Obituary committee read and adopted.

Report from Ministers Conference read and received by vote with adoption of request.

We, the Business Committee of the Yearly Meeting beg leave to submit the following report.

Item No. 1 — Be it resolved that this Yearly Meeting accept the request of the South East Missouri Ministers Conference, that their minutes be printed, together with the Yearly Meeting Minutes, and that they pay the proportionate part of the printing cost, and be it further resolved that this action be made permanent. Motion carried to adopt Item No. 1.

Item No. 2 — We recommend now to this body now in session, to draw on the Treasury of this Yearly Meeting in the amount of \$5.00 to be paid to Mrs. Eunice Edwards for her service as assistant clerk of this Yearly Meeting.

Item No. 3 — Whereas the attention of this Business Committee has been called to the fact that the Flat River Church has been compelled to deal with the former Pastor, Rev. C. H. Campbell for conduct unbecoming a Minister, and whereas The St. Francois County Quarterly Meeting has voted unanimously to sustain the said Church, be it therefore resolved that this Yearly Meeting sustain the St. Francois County Quarterly Meeting in their action in sustaining the action of the Flat River Church. Motion carried to adopt Item No. 3.

Item No. 4 — Whereas Rev. Claud Lincoln by his own action or free choice has violated the teaching of the scripture and the general accepted rule of this Yearly Meeting in marrying a divorcee, be it therefore resolved that this Yearly Meeting now in session withdraw fellowship from him as a minister, and ask him to surrender his Certificate of Ordination to the Yearly Meeting Executive Board. Motion carried to adopt Item No. 4.

Item No. 5 — Be it resolved that this Yearly Meeting Board be charged with the responsibility of supervising the printing of the Yearly Meeting Minutes of the Yearly Meeting, until otherwise directed by the Yearly Meeting. Motion carried to adopt Item No. 5.

Item No. 6 — Resolved that we extend our thanks to the Third F. W. B. Church and all others who have helped to entertain so royally this Yearly Meeting. Motion carried to adopt Item No. 6.

Item No. 7 — Be it further resolved that a special vote of thanks be extended to Ellsworth Wilson for his efficient service faithfully rendered as chief cook.

Motion carried to adopt Item No. 7.

Item No. 8 — Resolved that we extend a vote of thanks to the officers of the Yearly Meeting for faithful and impartial service nendered. Motion carried to adopt Item No. 8.

Signed: Rev. Jas. F. Miller, Ch. Rev. O. T. Allred Rev. F. C. Zinn Rev. Woodrow Matthews

Report of Nominating Committee — Delegates chosen to attend the Missouri State Association are as follows: Mrs. Hazel Barton, Mrs. Ozella Wilson, Mrs. Opal Hughes Mrs. Thelma Brooks, Mrs. Gussie Hamblin, Mrs. Erma Berry, Mrs. John Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. McFarland, Mrs. and Mrs. Cleo Black, Miss Jessie Lee Esther, Mrs. Jane Schafer, Mr. and Mrs. Willard Lackey, Mr. and Mrs. Beabout, Mr. Percy Henson, Mr. Ben LaBrot, Miss Berniece Ragsdale, Mrs. Edith Keeney, Mrs. Martha Clayton, Mrs. Bertha Sowden, Mrs. Minnie Hunt, Mrs. Marie Sherrils, Mrs. Beaulah Henson, Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Pettus, Miss Martha Burcham, and Mrs. Velma Holman.

Signed: Mrs. Gussie Hamblin, Ch. Rev. Thursie Woods Mrs. Martha Clayton

The Executive Board of the South East Missouri Yearly Meeting met in session this 23rd. day of August 1945, and on recommendation from the St. Francois County Quarterly Meeting Executive Board accepted Bro. Melvin Bingham as a member in full fellowship in the South East Missouri Yearly Meeting, and further recommend that the Yearly Meeting sustain this action

Signed: F. C. Zinn, Ch. O. T. Allred Woodrow Matthews

Report of committee on Credentials upon the examination of the annual reports of our Ministers, we reccomend that certificates of standing be granted to the following:

Rev. D. Selph Jones, Aldrich, Missouri Rev. Kermit Esther, St. Louis, Missouri

Rev. Albert Halbrook, Leadington, Missouri

Rev. O. T. Allred, St. Louis, Missouri

Rev. Woodrow Matthews, Mine La Motte, Missouri

Rev. Mrs. Effie Matthews, Desloge, Missouri

Rev. James F. Miller, Desloge, Missouri Rev. Chas. Moyer, Flat River, Missouri

Rev. F. C. Zinn, Fredericktown, Missouri

Rev. John Long, Patton, Missouri Rev. Wm. Reeves, Irondale, Missouri

Rev. Mark L'ewis, St. Louis, Missouri Rev. Harvey Hill, Lemay Ferry, Missouri -

Rev. Chas. Miller, St. Louis, Missouri

Rev. Mrs. Eunice Edwards, Desloge, Missouri Rev. Albert Tucker, River Mines, Missouri

Rev. Melvin Bingham, Flat River, Missouri

We further recommend that Certificate of Standing be granted to our Ministers in the Armed Forces. Mot-

ion carried to adopt the Credential Committee's report. Signed: Eunice E. Miller. Ch. Magdalène McFarland Erma Berry

To the South East Missouri Yearly Meeting of Free Will Baptist Churches, and all whom it may concern, I the undersigned do hereby of my own violation surrender to the said Yearly Meeting all my relations and connections and fellowship in the Gospel Ministry of The Free Will Baptist Denomination. This instrument given in view of the fact that my Certificate of Ordination has been destroyed, or misplaced henceforth I shall not consider that I hold any fellowship in Gospel Ministry of the F. W. B. churches. By me signed in the committee room of the F. W. B. Church at 1330 Geyer Ave., St. Louis, Mo. this 23rd. day of August 1945. Signed, Joe Deweese arentre a la son de jamaja la son kelandi jaja dine akti la seliki ja dista de seliki la ja ja la seliki la j Han di kanan

Motion carried that the next session of the South East Missouri Yearly Meeting meet with the Flat River Church at Flat River, Mo. in 1946.

Rev. O. T. Allred to preach the introductory sermon. Voted by acclamation. Benediction and adjournment of the business session.

FRIDAY EVENING

The service was called to order by the Moderator with singing led by Deacon Wm. Hughes of the Host Church. Songs sung were numbers 78-121-19 from hymn book. Prayer led by Bro. John Ackerson.

A wonderful praise service was enjoyed by all. Special songs were rendered by the Berkly City Juniors, South Side Quartett and Helen Allred; led in prayer by Erma Berry.

At this time Rev. Harvey Hill was presented to the congregation by the Moderator, Scripture lesson read from Matt. 6:11-14, a truely great message was delivered and enjoyed by all.

After the message the cheif cook of the Yearly Meeting was presented with a watch awarded for his faithful service in the preparation of meals served to the delegation during this session of the Yearly Meeting. Benediction, all standing in silent prayer in thanksgiving to the Lord for His wonderful blessings during this session of the Yearly Meeting.

Rev. Mark Lewis, Moderator Dea. O. B. Womack, Clerk-Treas. Rev. Mrs. Eunice Edwards, Ass't. Clerk

The following is the financial report of all money received and disbursed from closing of last Yearly Meeting in 1944 up to and including this 1945 session of Yearly Meeting.

From Ministerial Conference 1944	\$5.30
Desloge Church	2.00
Mine La Motte Church	2.00
Fredricktown Church	2.00
Richwoods Church	2.00
Flat River Church	2.00
Golden Oak (Mill Creek)	2.00
Berkley City Church	
Union Light Church	

Leadington Church 2.00
Leadington Church2.00South Side Church2.00
Third F. W. B. Church
Twin Oak Church 2.00
Special offering at Yearly Meeting 21.00
Total\$50.00
1944 Balance brought forward
Grand Total \$70.32
Disbursements:
Postage and mailing
Budget
Budget
Printing Yearly Meeting Programs
Envelopes
Clerk-Treas, salary
Envelopes .20 Clerk-Treas. salary 5.00 Ass't. Clerk salary 5.00
Total Disbursements \$33.62
Present balance to date, Sept. 4th, 1945 \$32.70
Dea. O. B. Womack, Clerk-Treas.

