

MINUTES
OF THE
SOUTHEAST MISSOURI
MINISTERS' CONFERENCE & YEARLY MEETING
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
1948

When Convened With
FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
Flat River, Mo.

The next annual session of this Association will convene with Madison County Quarterly Meeting with place of meeting to be selected.

The Introductory Sermon to be preached by Rev. Damon Dodd with Rev. O. D. Matthews Alternate.

PROCEEDINGS

of the MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

The Southeast Missouri Ministers' Conference met in its eighth annual session on August 17, 18, 1948 with the First F. W. B. Church, Flat River, Mo.

Tuesday Evening 7:30

Services opened by the Vice President, Rev. Wm. Reeves, with singing, conducted by Rev. F. C. Zinn, of hymns No. 56, "Draw Me Nearer", and No. 61, "Make Me a Channel of Blessing".

Prayer by Rev. Damon Dodd followed by hymn No. 54, "Is Your All on the Altar".

The Welcome Address was given by Rev. Albert Tucker.

Response by Rev. Harold Dunlap.

Hymn No. 119, "Heavenly Sunlight".

The Introductory Message was delivered by Rev. Albert Halbrook with the subject: "Paul, a Pattern". Text: I Tim. 1:16 and scripture reading, II Cor. 11:24-33.

Wednesday 9:30 A. M.

The morning devotion was conducted by Rev. Harry Beatty with Rev. Damon Dodd conducting the singing of hymn No. 31, "Stand Up for Jesus", and No. 39, "Trust and Obey".

Prayer by Rev. Wm. Reeves.

Scripture reading and Comments from Eph. 4:1-19 by Rev. Harry Beatty.

The President, Rev. Harvey Hill assumed charge of the service and opening remarks, read the Constitution and By-Laws.

The roll call was given with seven members present.

Invitation was given for new members with 6 ministers responding; namely: Rev. Damon Dodd, Rev. Harold Dunlap, Rev. George Hibbitts, Rev. Harry Beatty, Rev. John Rogers, and Paul Wood.

The time for election of officers was declared and after prayer by Rev. Woodrow Matthews, the following

officers were elected:

President—Rev. Harvey Hill.

Vice President—Rev. Wm. Reeves.

Secy. and Treas.—Rev. Albert Halbrook.

The President appointed the following Business Committee: Rev. John Long, Rev. George Hibbitts, and Rev. Noel Greenway.

While singing "Blest Be the Tie" the hand of fellowship was given the new members.

Recess declared until the 11 o'clock service.

Benediction by Rev. Paul Wood.

11:00 O'clock Service

Service called to order by Rev. Woodrow Matthews in charge with singing of hymns No. 120, Blessed Assurance, and No. 267, Leaning on the Everlasting Arm.

Prayer by Rev. John Long followed by hymn No. 97, There Shall Be Showers of Blessing.

The speaker of the morning, Rev. Harold Dunlap, was introduced by Rev. Harvey Hill.

Rev. Dunlap read for his scripture, Mk. 13:24-30 and delivered an inspiring message on the subject: "Deception, Satan's Masterpiece of the Age".

Benediction and expression of thanks for the food by Rev. D. C. Dodd.

Wednesday Afternoon

Services opened by singing of hymns No. 56, I Am Thine, O Lord, and No. 26, When I Get to the End of the Way, led by Rev. F. C. Zinn.

Prayer by Sis. Marie Wright.

An hour of devotion was conducted among the lay members with Sis. Wright while the ministers met simultaneously by themselves for an hour of fellowship and conference.

Motion carried that a Resolution Committee be appointed. They were as follows: Rev. Harry Beatty, Rev. Damon Dodd, and Rev. Woodrow Matthews.

After the devotional hour the regular service reconvened with singing of hymns No. 172, Jesus, Lover of my Soul, and No. 70, When I See the Blood.

The report of the Business Committee was read and

received to be adopted item by item.

Item No. 1. That Invitation Cards, Absentee Cards, and Membership Cards be printed and the officers of the Ministers' Conference be responsible for the printing—Adopted.

Item No. 2. That at the time of death of any of its members the Ministers' Conference send flowers with the set price of the flowers being five dollars. —Adopted.

Item No. 3 That the Sec.-Treas. receive the price of five dollars annually for his labor and service.—Adopted.

Item No. 4. That an Annual Fellowship Meeting for ministers be considered.—Adopted.

Item No. 5. That a standing vote of thanks be given to this church for their kindness and hospitality during this session of the Ministers' Conference.—Adopted.

Signed:

Rev. John Long

Rev. Noel Greenway

Rev. George Hibbits

Motion carried that the Annual Fellowship Meeting convene at the Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church.

The Resolution Committee's recommendations were read and received to be adopted item by item.

Item No. 1. Be it resolved that this Ministers' Conference go on record as forbidding the ministers of this Southeast Mo. Yearly Meeting to knowingly solemnize marriages in which either of the contracting parties have been divorced and have living companions.—Adopted.

Item No. 2. We recommend that this resolution be forwarded to the yearly Meeting for its official action.—Adopted.

Minutes of the present session read and approved.

Financial report read and approved.

Motion made and sustained that we adjourn.

Benediction.

President, Rev. Harvey Hill

Clerk, Rev. Albert Halbrook

PROCEEDINGS

of the

YEARLY MEETING

The Southeast Mo. Yearly Meeting of F. W. B. met at the Flat River Church.

The meeting was called to order by the Clerk who presided until the Response to the Welcome was given.

Song No. 352 was sung followed by prayer by Rev. John Long.

Welcome Address by Rev. F. C. Zinn.

Response by Bro. Beatty of Fredericktown Church.

At this time the Ass't. Moderator, Rev. Harvey Hill assumed charge.

The following Divine Service Committee was appointed: Sis. Hazel Scott, Myrtle Love, and Marie Wright.

Devotional service led by Rev. James Barker.

Singing by congregation songs No. 56 and No. 160: What a Friend We Have in Jesus, and I am Thine O Lord.

Prayer was offered by Bro. Walter Pirtle.

Song No. 31, Stand Up for Jesus.

Special number, Keep My Heart Right, by a trio.

Piano solo by Sis. Tucker.

The Moderator conducted a praise service. There were many ringing testimonies.

Prayer for those who are stricken by Bro. F. C. Zinn.

Moderator presented the speaker, Bro. John Rogers who proceeded to bring the message. Scripture I Cor. 3; also St. John 9. Subject: Building for God.

Altar Call.

Song No. 197, Come Every Soul by Sin Oppressed.

Bro. Harry Beatty to bring the message Thursday 11 a.m.

Benediction by Bro. O. D. Matthews.

Thursday 9:30 A. M.

Called to order by Moderator with singing Praise Him and Love Lifted Me.

Moderator read for scripture lesson II Cor. 1:1-13.

Moderator called all to the altar for prayer led by Bro. Jas. F. Miller.

At this time the Moderator read Constitution and By-

Laws of this Yearly Meeting.

Letters from Quarterly Meetings read and absentees noted and the places of those absent were partly filled where possible.

Visiting Sisters and Brethren were welcomed.

The Executive Board reports they had no work to report.

Election of officers as follows:

Rev. Woodrow Matthews—Moderator

Rev. Harvey Hill—Ass't. Moderator

Bro. O. B. Womack—Clerk-Treas.

Bro. Albert Halbrook elected Board member for 3yrs.

Motion carried that we adopt this pre-arranged program as it is and make any changes as become necessary.

A letter was read by a member of the Ladies' Auxiliary and was received as information.

Moderator declared recess for 11 o'clock service.

11:00 O'clock Service

Bro. Dodd in charge of Devotional Service began with singing. Onward Christian Soldiers and Send the Light. Special number, The Light of the World is Jesus.

Bro. Beatty delivered a powerful message. It was an inspiration.

Closed with benediction.

Motion carried to accept Committee on Cimmittee's report.

Thursday Afternoon

Called to order by Moderator with singing Heavenly Sunlight.

Devotional led by Rev. Thursie Wood.

Song, Down at the Cross.

At this time prayer was offered by Sis. Effie Matthews.

Scripture reading in Book of Psalms.

Report of Committee on Divine Service reports that Rev. Dodd is to bring the message at 7:30 p.m. Thursday. That Bro. Woodrow Matthews will preach at 11:00 a.m. Friday; and that Bro. Harvey Hill will preach at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

A praise service was held at this time.

Special song by Bro. and Sis. Beatty.

Moderator declared a few minutes recess.

Resumed business.

Partial report of Business Committee.

Motion carried to adopt this report for discussion Item by item.

Motion carried to adopt Item No. 1 of Business Committee. (See Reports).

Moderator ordered Committee on Committees to name the Committee for Revision of our By-Laws.

Item No. 2 read and adopted for discussion.

Motion carried to adopt Item No. 2.

Motion carried to elect Home Mission Board at this time.

Elected were:

Bro. C. B. Dees.

Bro. Harry Beatty.

Bro. Jas. Miller.

Item No. 3 adopted for discussion. (Business Com.).

Motion carried to adopt Item No. 3.

Motion carried to adopt Item No. 4.

Report of Denominational Enterprises Committee.

Motion carried to accept this report for discussion.

Motion carried to adopt Item No. 1.

At this time an offering of \$39.26 was taken for our Bible College.

Motion carried to extend time for the raising of \$100.00 fund for Bible College until Friday's session.

Motion carried to adopt Item 2A for discussion.

Motion carried to table this phase of the report until tomorrow.

Motion carried to receive report of Committee on Committees on the Revision Committee of Constitution and By-Laws.

Revision Committee: Rev. Jas. F. Miller, Damon Dodd, and C. B. Dees.

Benediction by Bro. Hibbits.

Total amount of offerings for Bible College \$64.25.

Thursday Evening

Devotional Rev. Harvey Hill.

Song No. 56, I Am Thine Oh Lord, and No. 115, Standing on the Promises.

Prayer, Rev. W. F. Cravens.

Song No. 117, Send the Light.

Prayer, Rev Thursie Woods.

Song No. 276, Leaning on the Everlasting Arm.

Special song, Rev. and Mrs. Greenway, Cleo Black, and Albert Lee McFarland, Halleluah, I'm Heaven Bound.

Duet, Albert Lee and Anna May, Oh, What a Saviour.

Evening message by Rev. Damon C. Dodd. Scripture II Cron. 1:1-9.

Duet, Rev. and Mrs. Cravens, He's My Jesus.

Subject, "If you had but one wish." Text, V. 7, "Ask what I shall give thee."

Rev. Dodd delivered a spiritual and soul-stirring message. Many hearts were blessed and shouts were heard from many. At the close of the service one came forward for consecration.

A united prayer was led by Rev. F. C. Zinn and Rev. Cecil Campbell.

Dismissed by Rev. Edgar Mercer.

Friday 9:30 A. M.

The meeting was called to order by the Ass't. Moderator.

Singing by congregation, I Love to Tell the Story, and Showers of Blessing.

Rev. C. B. Dees read for scripture lesson from I John 5.

Prayer was offered by Bro. Alex Wampler.

At this time the ministerial reports were read.

Motion carried to accept the reports of committees given them consideration.

Thursday's minutes read and approved by vote.

At this time Item No. 2A of Denominational Enterprise Committee was read and on motion it was adopted for discussion.

Motion carried to adopt Item A.

Item B. read and adopted.

Item C. read and adopted.

Item No. 3 adopted.

Motion carried to table Item No. 4.

Recess declared for preaching service.

Benediction.

11:00 O'clock Service

Services opened with Rev. Dodd in charge of Devotion-
al.

Singing by congregation.

Prayer was offered at this time.

We were priveleged to hear a very old brother sing for
us. He was Bro. Alex Wampler.

Bro. Woodrow Matthews was the messenger using
Matt. 16 as scripture.

The subject, The Church, a wonderful message.

Closed with benediction.

Friday Afternoon

Called to order by Moderator with singing.

Motion carried to resume business.

Item No. 2 adopted for discussion.

Motion carried to adopt Item no 4.

Motion carried to adopt Item No. 5.

Motion carried to adopt Credential Committee Report.
(See Report).

Motion carried to adopt Obituary report. (See reports).

Meeting stood in silent prayer for departed ones. Con-
cluding prayer by Bro. Beatty.

Motion carried to adopt the Temperance Committee
report. (See Reports).

Motion carried to adopt Nominating Committee re-
port. (See Reports).

Motion carried to accept the report of the Woman's
Auxiliary.

Report of statistical work from July 1, 1947 to July
1, 1948 by Statistician. (See Reports).

Motion carried to accept the report.

Bro. Womack elected Statistician for 1948-49 to suc-
ceed himself.

Motion carried to go to Madison County Quarterly
Meeting for next year. Meeting place to be selected.

Bro. Damon Dodd to preach Introductory Sermon at
next session of S. E. Mo. Yearly Meeting.

Bro. O. D. Matthews to act as Alternáte.

Motion carried to receive and adopt the report of the
Committee on the Revision of Constitution and By-Laws.

Motion carried to adopt petitionary letter of Woman's
Auxiliary. (See letter in Reports).

Motion carried to receive Financial Report.
 Item No. 5 Business Committee's report.
 Motion carried to discuss this item.
 Motion carried to adopt item.
 Motion carried to adopt Item No. 6.
 Motion carried to adopt Item No. 7.
 Motion carried to take up an offering at the night service for the expense of the Yearly Meeting.
 Closed with song No. 239 and handshake.

REPORTS

Financial Report

Balance August 31, 1947	\$50.90
Receipts from the churches	32.00
From Ministers' Conference	10.00
Total	\$92.90
Disbursements—	
Postage and mailing	\$ 7.01
Printing minutes	26.50
Printing Program	6.09
Clerk's Salary	5.00
Total disbursements	\$44.60
Balance August 17, 1948	\$48.30
Signed Dea. O. B. Womack, Clerk-Treas.	

Petitionary Letter—

The women of the Woman's Auxiliaries in the bounds of this Yearly Meeting realizing the importance of coordinating their work and having met and organized into a District Convention and upon a unanimous vote of its members request that this District Auxiliary Convention become an auxiliary of the Yearly Meeting.

Mrs. Harry Beatty, President
 Mrs. Albert Halbrook, Secy.-Treas.

Adopted by vote.

Committee on Committees—

Business Committee

Rev. James Miller, Chairman
 Rev. Damon Dodd
 Rev. Harvey Hill
 Rev. John Long

Bro. Blaine Matthews

Credential Committee

Sis. Gussie Hamblen

Sis. Edna Archambo

Sis. Bertha Souden

Divine Service Committee

Rev. F. C. Zinn

Sis. Lucille Beatty

Sis. Ethel Lackey

Temperance Committee

Rev. Harold Dunlap

Sis. Melvin Schaffer

Sis. Myrtle Long

Obituary Committee

Sis. Blanche Matthews

Sis. Minnie Hunt

Bro. Edwin Hill

Denominational Enterprise Committee

Rev. Wm. Reeves

Sis. Wright

Rev. C. B. Dees

Bro. Harold Baldwin

Rev. Albert Halbrook

Special Music Committee

Rev. F. C. Zinn

Rev. George Hibbitts

Sis. Christina Halbrook

Committee:

Christina Halbrook

Gussie Hamblen

F. C. Zinn, Chairman

George Hibbitt

Edna Archambo

Business Committee

We, your Business Committee of this S. E. Mo. Yearly Meeting, submit the following for your consideration and official action:

Item No. 1.—We recommend that a committee be appointed for the revising and reconstructing the constitution and By-Laws of the S. E. Yearly Meeting, said committee to submit a complete and final report of any

and all revisions and reconstructions at this present sitting of the Yearly Meeting.

Item No. 2.—In as much as the Great Commission as given by our Lord involves the Church in a world wide ministry, and whereas we are under obligations to carry on a Home Mission Program, and whereas a Home Mission Board of 3 members as elected by St. Francois Quarterly Meeting for the promotion of a Home Mission Program has met with outstanding success and promises to be the present answer to our needs in the Home Mission Dept.:

We, therefore, recommend that this body elect a Home Mission Board consisting of 3 members whose duty it shall be to plan, promote, and co-ordinate the Home Mission cause in the bounds of the Yearly Meeting.

Item No. 3.—Pursuant to a resolution adopted by the S. E. Mo. Ministers' Conference and passed on to this body for its official action, we recommend to this S. E. Mo. Yearly Meeting that it forbid the ministers of said Yearly Meeting to knowingly solemnize marriages in which either of the contracting parties have been divorced and have living companions, this ruling to become effective, on and after Sept. 1, 1948.

Item No. 4.—We further recommend that the Secretary of the S. E. Mo. Yearly Meeting be instructed by the body to send each of the ministers in the Yearly Meeting an official notice of the above action.

Item No. 5.—We recommend that each Quarterly Meeting comprising the Yearly Meeting send the said Yearly Meeting an amount equivalent to \$4.00 per church comprising the Quarterly Meeting said amount to accompany the Quarterly Meeting letter to the Yearly Meeting.

Item No. 6.—Whereas the duties evolving upon the Clerk of this Yearly Meeting have been increased, and whereas the expenses of carrying on the office are greater, we recommend that the Clerk's honorarium be increased from \$5.00 to \$10.00 per session.

Item No. 7.—Be it resolved that this body extend to the Flat River Free Will Baptist Church and its pastor, along with all others who have had any part in assisting the above named church and pastor, a standing vote of thanks for their hospitality and efficient handling of this session of the S. E. Mo. Yearly Meeting, and be it further resolved that all who have rendered special

music or otherwise contributed to the spiritual success of this session be included in the standing vote of thanks.

Denominational Enterprises Committee—

We recommend

Item No. 1A.—That this Yearly Meeting make an offering of \$100.00 to our Free Will Baptist Bible College now.

B. That as many as possible of our people adopt our Endorsement check book plan of supporting our school.

Item No. 2A.— That this body adopt the plan recommended to the National Association by the Home Mission Board that a special Tent Fund be raised to purchase and equip a tent to be used in the Home Mission work.

B.—And further recommend that we follow the plan of the National Association as using October for special Home Mission offerings.

C.—Since new missionaries have gone to the Foreign Fields, we recommend the continued, and if possible increased, support to our Foreign Mission work.

Item No. 3.—That we support the National Executive Department financially and all the other phases of our national work.

Item No. 4.—That after the glorious session of our Youth Encampment, which we have just closed, and realizing that the need is so great for completion of our camp, we recommend the whole hearted support of the \$10,000.00 campaign which the children launched while in session.

Item No. 5.—That we support our Gem and State Entertainment Funds, etc.

Signed

Wm. Reeves

Harold Baldwin

Marie Wright

Albert Halbrook

C. B. Dees

Credential Committee—

We, your Committee on Credentials, having examined the ministerial reports, recommend that ministerial cards of standing for 1 year be granted to the following ministers: George Miller, Chas. Miller, Harry Beatty, Chas. Moyer, Jas. F. Miller, Damon C. Dodd, Albert Tucker, Wm. Reeves, James Barker, Mrs. Effie Matthews, Harvey Hill, Mrs. Eunice Edwards, F. C. Zinn, John Rogers, C.

B. Dees, O. D. Matthews, Harold Dunlap, Albert Halbrook, S. A. Hand, Noel Greenway, John Long, Geo. Hibbitts, and Woodrow Matthews.

Signed: Gussie Hamblen
Bertha Souden Edna Archambo

Temperance Committee:

We, your Committee on Temperance, submit the following report: We recommend that we adhere strictly to the first paragraph of the Church Covenant, to avoid the appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world. That this body re-affirm its objection against the manufacture, sale, and use of all intoxicating beverages, also discourage the use of tobacco among the laity as well as the ministry.

Signed: Rev. Harry Beatty
Nellie Steagall Esther Havis

Obituary Committee—

We, your Committee on Obituary, beg leave to submit the following report:

Whereas God in His infinite wisdom has called from our midst our brothers and sisters in Christ, be it resolved that we bow our heads in silent prayers in humble submission to His will.

The deceased are: Deacon James LaBrot, Ellen Francis, and Florence King.

Signed: Blanch Matthews
Murine E. Hunt Edwin Hill

Temporary Committee on Divine Service—

Rev. Harry Beatty to preach Thursday 11:00 a.m.

Committee: Hazel Scott
Myrtle Long Marie Wright

Permanent Committee on Divine Service—

Report that Rev. Dodd will preach at 7:30 p.m. Thursday.

That Rev. Woodrow Matthews will preach at 11:00 a.m. Friday.

That Rev. Harvey Hill Will preach at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

Committee: Rev. F. C. Zinn

Lucille Beatty Sis. Ethel Lackey

Nominating Committee—

We, your Nominating Committee beg to submit the following names as delegates to the State Meeting which is to convene at Kirksville, Mo. Sept. 14, 1948: Clifford McGraw, Helen McGraw, Minnie Hunt, Jane Shafer, Hazel Scott, Gussie Hamblen, Bertha Souden, Emma Bebout, Ozella Wilson, Mary McFarland, Mrs. Rose Sharp, Mrs. Melvin Shafer, Mrs. Alene Wright, Harold Baldwin, Bessie Baldwin, Mrs. Mildred Dobkins, Mrs. Paul Stone, Forrest Smith, Goldie Smith, Willard Lackey, Ethel Lackey, Clell Pruitt, Bob Hill, Geo. Hill, Mary Reigh, Mrs. M. M. Sherril, Marie McFarland, and Belle Coffey.

Committee:

Mrs. Melvin Shafer

Myrtle Long

Harold Dunlap







