

**The
Southern Illinois
Association
of
Free Will Baptist**

1945

**Proceedings of the
26th. Annual Session**

**Convened at
Liberty Church**

MINUTES

OF THE

26TH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION

OF

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

HELD WITH

Liberty Churrh, Sept. 6th, 1945

OFFICERS

Mod., Rev. W. R. Burton
Ass't. Mod., Rev. Everett Albright
Clerk, Rev. Tracy W. Dees
Treasurer, Sis. Lucille Willhite

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

MINISTERS CONFERENCE

Southern Illinois Free Will Baptist Ministers Conference when convened with Liberty (6 miles) church, Johnston City September 6, 1945.

Opened with song. Prayer by Rev. Schrum. Devotional by Rev. Schrum, Rev. William Buster elected Moderator. Rev. Wallace Malone Assistant Moderator. Business Committee, Rev. Everett Albright, Rev. Charles Osborne and Rev. Houston Curry. Motion made and seconded that this committee be used for examining committee also.

At this time, according to the program, were brief talks and discussions led by Rev. Scott Harris, followed by Rev. Charles Osborne, Rev. J. M. Smith, Rev. William Buster and Rev. Jack Edens.

Topic presented by Rev. James Fite and followed by Rev. Scott Harris and Rev. J. M. Smith, and others. Dismissed for preaching hour.

Afternoon Session began promptly at 1:30 o'clock with good singing. Rev. Charles R. Porter led Devotionals. Prayer by Rev. Emma Moore and Rev. Schockley followed with testimonial service which was enjoyed by all present. Business Hour.

A great deal was said at this time about reports of Ministers at Ministers Conference and Yearly Meeting, also about our churches hiring Pastors out of the Free Will Baptist Organization. Motion made and seconded that this business committee be retained. Carried.

Topic according to program opened by Rev. Charles R. Porter.

At this time Clerk W. E. Gullledge asked leave of absence. Motion and second to full vote. Motion and second to adjourn Ministers Conference.

Rev. William Buster, Moderator
W. E. Gullledge, Clerk

Ministers Present at Ministers Conference.

Rev. William Buster
Rev. Charles Osborne
Rev. Everett Albright

Rev. James Fite
Rev. Jack Edens
Rev. Houston Curry
Rev. J. M. Smith
Rev. Wallace Malone
Rev. Scott Harris
Rev. L. L. Schrum
Rev. W. W. Overstreet
Rev. Opal McClerren
Rev. Jasper Armstrong
Rev. W. H. Schöckley
Rev. Emma Moore
Rev. Sherman Sullivan
Rev. Charles Porter
Rev. W. R. Burton

PROCEEDINGS

The 26th Annual Conference of the Free Will Baptist State Association. (Yearly Meeting) September 7, 1945

FRIDAY MORNING

Opened with hymn "I'd Rather Be An Old Time Christian" and "Anywhere is Home." Prayer by Bro. John Collier. Assistant Clerk opened service and Rev. W. R. Burton duly elected moderator and proceeded to take office. Minutes of previous session read by Assistant Clerk. Motion made and seconded that minutes be accepted with this amendment "The names of our trustees be brought up to date on our present minutes as follows:

Rev. C. A. McBride, Bro. A. R. Jones, Rev. C. A. Curry, Rev. J. C. Ladd, Rev. W. R. Spurlock, Rev. Charles R. Porter and Rev. W. R. Burton.

Reading of by laws and constitution were next before the body. Moderator appointed Rev. Everett Albright as Assistant Moderator. Business committee appointed, Rev. Austin Curry, Rev. Wallace Malone, Rev. Marsh Harpole, Rev. Scott Harris and Bro. Edgar Bain.

Motion made and seconded that we be allowed to defer from program as needed to carry on business, carried.

Topic "To Whom Should our Tithes be Given?" by Rev. Charles R. Porter. Very inspiring and was Spirit led.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn until 1:30 P. M. A wonderful message at the 11:00 o'clock hour by Rev. Marsh Harpole and one soul saved.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Session called into business by Moderator.

Report of trustees from Johnstonville F. W. B. Church stating they wish to be left on their own.

Motion and seconded that W. R. Burton be paid his expense on the trip. Carried.

A motion made and seconded that the Wayne County Quarterly be severed from our Yearly Conference and

be notified of the action. Carried.

Rev. Houston Curry gave an inspirational report on the National Association reporting a profitable session and that some needful changes were made in the new treatise as follows: the phrase "Contained the Word of God" now reads "Are the Word of God" and feet washing was "a privilege and duty" now reads "is a duty."

Motion made and seconded to accept report. Carried.

Motion made and seconded that the Yearly Conference pay Rev. W. R. Burton \$40.00 for his expense to the National Association. Carried.

Motion and second for a vote of "Thanks" to both Rev. W. R. Burton and Rev. Houston Curry for their faithfulness and our support to the National Association. Carried.

Motion and second that Trustees of the Yearly be empowered to have the Freedom Quarterly recorded. Carried.

Motion and second for reading of Quarterly Meeting letters. Carried. Motion and second to accept the reading. Carried.

Motion to elect Minister to preach the introductory sermon to Ministers Conference. Rev. W. H. Schockley was nominated and duly elected.

Motion and second to adjourn conference until 9:30 Saturday morning. Carried.

SATURDAY MORNING

Conference called to order by Assistant Moderator. Song, "Gethsemane." Prayer by Rev. Charles Osborne. Song, "I'll Fly Away."

Individual letters from two churches read.

Motion and second to place Rev. J. M. Smith on business committee in absence of Bro. Edgar Bain. Carried.

Topic "Judgment of Righteous and Unrighteous when and where?" by Rev. Emma Moore, Rev. Wallace Malone, Rev. J. M. Smith and Rev. James Fite.

Motion and second the program committee be empowered to fill vacancy on program (absence of Rev. Lepton Harpole) for 11:00 o'clock service. Carried. Rev. William Buster chosen.

Rev. Oran Kersh read from 2nd Peter 2:1-10. Rev. William Buster delivered a message from 2nd Peter 2:9. "The Lord Knoweth How."

Motion and second to adjourn until 1:30 P. M.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Session opened by singing "Ready" and "I'll Fly Away."

Assistant Moderator called conference into session. Prayer by Rev. Wallace Malone. Song "An Empty Mansion." Rev. C. H. Curry read a short scripture lesson from Hebrews 11:1-11.

Memorial sermon by Rev. W. R. Burton. Very inspiring and filled with the Spirit.

Motion and second to take free will offering for foreign Mission. Carried. Collection \$55.00 which was given to correct channels to National Treasure.

Rev. Opal McClerren gave Treasurers report. Reporting \$62.22 on hand.

Motion and second to accept report. Carried.

Business Committee, Rev. C. H. Curry, Rev. Charles Osborne, and Rev. Everett Albright having examined the Ministers reports and find them all worthy and recommend the renewal of their cards.

Motion and second to have minutes of this yearly session published. Carried.

Motion and second to elect someone to preach introductory message to Yearly Meeting. Carried. Rev. Delbert Hall and Rev. Everett Albright were nominated. Rev. Albright was duly elected.

Auditing Committee composed of Rev. James Fite, Rev. Jake McAnnaly and Rev. C. A. McBride made report on Treasurers book finding same correct.

Motion and second to accept report. Carried.

Motion and second to elect officers for coming year.

Rev. Tracy W. Dees was nominated for clerk and elected by acclamation. Carried.

Sister Lucille Willhite duly elected Treasurer.

Business Committee recommend we appoint or elect a committee for Superannuation board to investigate the insurance policies for aged ministers. Committee appointed Rev. J. C. Kettelman, Rev. Jake McAnnaly,

Rev. Wallace Malone, Rev. C. H. Curry and Bro. Arthur Jones.

Report of Resolution committee given and accepted. Committee composed of Rev. C. H. Curry, Rev. Wallace Malone and Rev. Opal McClerren.

Motion and second to retain the program committee. Carried. Namely Rev. Opal Wells, Rev. Emma Moore, Bro. Floyd Mifflin and Rev. Tracy W. Dees, replacing W. E. Gullledge.

Motion and second a committee be appointed to fill the pulpit. Carried. (Programs do not have the names of preachers, except introductory sermons.)

Motion and second our newly elected Clerk send W. E. Gullledge a letter of Thanks. Carried.

Motion and second we extend to Rev. Opal McClerren a standing vote of Thanks. Carried.

Motion and second for standing of Thanks to our Moderator of this Yearly Conference. Carried.

Motion and second we extend to the good women of Liberty Church a standing vote of Thanks. Carried.

Motion and second to adjourn conference until 8:00 P. M. Carried.

Songs by choir, Moderator called conference into session.

Motion and second, as all business well taken care of, to adjourn until next Yearly Meeting. Carried.

Rev. W. R. Burton, Moderator
• Rev. Tracy W. Dees, Clerk

MINISTERS REPORTED TO YEARLY MEETING.

Rev. Lepton Harpole
Rev. B. A. Merkel
Rev. Oran Kersh
Rev. Marsh Harpole
Rev. W. H. Schockley
Rev. William Buster
Rev. Orley Robinson
Rev. Jack Kettelman
Rev. Paul J. Kettelman
Rev. C. H. Curry
Rev. Sherman Sullivan
Rev. Wallace Malone

Rev. Opal Hiltibidal
Rev. W. R. Burton
Rev. Emma Moore
Rev. J. S. Harris
Rev. Opal E. McClerren
Rev. Louis S. Schrum
Rev. Pauline Osborne
Rev. J. M. Smith
Rev. Jasper Armstrong
Rev. James Fite
Rev. Charles R. Porter
Rev. Everett Albright
Rev. Delbert Hall
Rev. Tracy W. Dees
Rev. A. J. Edens
Rev. Paul Sulcer
Rev. Robert Maddox.
Rev. Jake McAnnaly
Rev. C. A. McBride
Rev. George Wagoner
Rev. Dewey Merritt
Rev. Harold Whitsell
Rev. Charles Osborne
Rev. C. A. Curry