

The 35th Annual Ministerial Association of Free Will Baptists of Southern Illinois, when convened with the Free Will Baptist Tabernacle on June 3, 1954.

Song, "Standing on the promises." - Prayer by Miss Joyce Mc Clarren and followed in prayer by Rev. George Haggoner.

Rev. Willie Huffman, Moderator of the previous session, took charge for the election of Moderator for this session. Rev. George Haggoner and Rev. Everett Hedges were nominated. There being no other nominations we proceeded to elect. Rev. Everett Hedges duly elected. Rev. Huffman was

Assistant.

Mrs. Earl Bailor was nominated for Clerk for the Ministers Conference. There being no other nominations, Mrs. Earl Bailor was duly elected.

Minutes of previous session were read and approved. There being no corrections or objections the minutes were approved as read.

Bro. Byford Campbell was nominated by Rev. George Haggoner to bring the 11:00 message. Motion made by Rev. C. A. Curry that nominations cease and Bro. Byford Campbell duly elected.

The Moderator appointed the business Committee, namely: Rev. George Mc Cluskey, Rev. Berlin Scarbrough, and Rev. George Haggoner.

Rev. C. A. Curry suggested that the Ministers gather for an altar prayer before entering the discussion of topics.

Topic for discussion: "What is the Free Will Baptist stand on the new version of the Bible?" Discussion was opened by Rev. George Haggoner and Rev. Riley Burton.

Topic for discussion: "What is the Pastor's duty toward the Sunday School and other organizations of the church?" Discussion was opened by Rev. Geraldine Lewis and Rev. Skillee Huffman.

Business session was adjourned with prayer by Rev. Jagger Armstrong.

The Morning Starship Hour was opened by singing "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms" and "There is a fountain". Prayer by Rev. C. A. Curry. Bro. Byford Campbell delivered the morning message, using Acts 16: 19-33 as his Scripture text with the 26th verse as his theme, "And everyone's bands were loosed."

"When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder" was sung and everyone shook hands. Bro. Edgar Bain dismissed the service with prayer.

The afternoon service was opened by singing, "The Key Of The Brass Leads Home". Prayer by Rev. Berlin Scarbrough. Devotional by Eugene Norris. Special song, "Columbia, Cried Hallelujah" by Rev. & Mrs. Carl Williams and followed by a short praise service.

Rev. Floyd Hartley was nominated by Rev. Carl Williams to bring the introductory Message in 1955. Motion was made by Rev. C. A. Curry that nominations cease and elect by acclamation. Rev. Hartley duly elected.

Rev. George Haggan presented business to the Association stating that the Minister's Association had no Constitution and By-laws; therefore no action could not be taken without authority of the Yearly Conference. Motion was made by Rev. Carl Williams and seconded by Rev. Jesse

V. Smith to appoint a committee to represent the Ministers at the yearly Conference stating that they desire to legally become a part of the yearly Conference. Rev. Carl Williams, Rev. Willie Huffman, and Berlin Scarbrough were appointed on this Committee. Rev. Carl Williams asked permission to ask other Ministers to help in this. Permission granted.

Rev. Huffman took charge while Rev. Hedges presented some business to the Association. He suggested that we get our Church Covenant printed ~~and~~ so each Church could place it on the wall. Rev. George Haggoner stated that action was being taken now in the National Association, and that we could buy these soon.

Roll Call of Ministers present:

Jasper Armstrong	Lester Breeze	W. R. Burton
Byford Campbell	C. A. Curry	Claude Hamplman
Floyd Hartley	Opal Vittitadial	Everett Hedges
Willie W. Huffman	Arthur Kern	Lee Le Vault
Geraldine Lewis	George McClaskey	Joyce McClarren
Richard McNeil	Robert Norman	Eugene Harris
Berlin Scarbrough	Lucille Scarbrough	Wesley Smith
John M. Smith	Erene Sullivan	Sherman Sullivan
George Haggoner	Carl V. Williams	

Motion was made by Rev. George Haggoner that we depart from printed program and have the Topic Discussion at 3:00 and Adjourn at 3:30. Seconded by Rev. W. R. Burton.

Topic for discussion: "What is the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, and when and ^{how} ~~where~~ do we receive the Holy Ghost?" Discussion was opened by Rev. C. A. Curry and Bro. Robert Norman.

Motion made by Rev. Floyd Hartley and seconded by Rev. Geo. Haggoner to Adjourn.

Moderator: Everett Hedges
Clerk: Pat Bailor

The 35th Annual Session of the Free Will Baptist Association of Southern Illinois when convened with the Free Will Baptist Tabernacle, June 3-5, 1954.

Services were opened by singing, "In The Brass." Prayer by Bro. J. B. Jones.

Rev. George Haggner was nominated as Moderator for this yearly session. Motion was made by Rev. Willie Huffman and seconded by Rev. Geraldine Lewis that nominations cease and elect by acclamation. Motion carried and George Haggner duly elected. Rev. Floyd Hartley was appointed as assistant Moderator.

Minutes of the previous session were read and approved. Letters from various Churches were read by clerk.

Motion was made by Rev. Willie Huffman and seconded by Rev. Geraldine Lewis that corrected letter from Wayne County, ^{Quarterly} be accepted and delegates seated. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Rev. Wm Buster and seconded by Rev. Willie Huffman that letter from Franklin County Quarterly be accepted, ^{as read} and delegates seated.

There being no letter from the Freedom Quarterly Conference the delegates from that Conference could not be seated. Motion was made by Rev. A. A. White and seconded by Bro. Herbert Pierce that Ordained Deacons as well as ordained Ministers have a right to vote in this Conference. Discussion. Vote taken and motion carried.

A motion was made by Rev. Wm Buster and seconded by Rev. Floyd Hartley that Sunday services be eliminated from the program. Motion carried.

Pulpit Committee appointed by the Moderator were Bro. Howard Clappet, Chairman, Mrs. Edith Smith, Wayne County, and Deacon Arthur Jones, Freedom Quarterly.

Business Committee appointed by the Moderator were Rev. Wm Buster, Rev. A. A. White, and Rev. Berlin Scarbraugh.

Auditing Committee appointed by the Moderator were Rev. Clay Meyers, Rev. C. A. Curry, and Rev. Claude Childers.

Bro. Lester Lewis gave the report of the National Association which was at Mt. Vernon, Illinois, in 1953. Motion made by Rev. A. A. White and seconded by Rev. W. R. Burton that we accept report and reimburse expenses of \$50.00. Motion carried.

Pulpit Committee gave report as follows: "Rev. Wm Buster 11:00 Friday, Rev. Claude Childers 11:00 Saturday. of Howard Langston, A. R. Jones, and Edith Smith. Motion was made by Rev. W. R. Burton and seconded by Rev. Floyd Hartley that report be accepted and committee be released. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Rev. W. R. Burton and seconded by Rev. C. A. Curry that we depart from the program and stand adjourned from business until 1:15 this afternoon. Motion carried.

Song, "Standing On The Promises." Dismissal prayer by Rev. Floyd Hartley.

Morning Worship service

Service was opened by singing, "Power In The Blood." Prayer by Rev. Lemmy Merritt. Song, "My Redeemer." Rev. Wm Buster delivered the morning message using as his Scripture, Psalms 1:1-3. Song, "When We All Get To Heaven" and handshake. Rev. Marsh Harpole prayed the dismissal prayer.

Afternoon Session

Services were opened by singing "Love Lifted Me." Prayer by Rev. Willie Huffman. Devotional by Rev. Clay Meyers, reading John 14. Prayer by Bro. Lemmit Childers.

The Freedom Quarterly Meeting letter was read. A motion was made by Rev. Marsh Hayple and seconded by Rev. W. R. Burton that the letter be accepted as read and delegates seated. Motion carried.

Topic for discussion: "The need for a better understanding between the laity and the Ministers". Discussion was opened by Rev. O. C. McClarren, Sis. Irene Sullivan, Rev. C. A. Curry and others.

"The, the Business Committee, of the Annual Conference recommend that the annual conference request the Franklin County Quarterly Meeting to require the Rescue Free Will Baptist Church clear up the matter of Mr. Frank Burton's standing with said Quarterly Meeting or that the Quarterly Meeting withdraw the hand of fellowship from said Church. s/ Committee." A motion was made by Rev. Willie Shiffman and seconded by Rev. C. A. Curry that recommendation be accepted and matter referred to the Franklin County Quarterly. Motion Carried.

"The, the Business Committee, recommend that whereas Deacons are to be recognized as standing delegates to the Annual Conference, that they be required to report either by letter or in person to the Annual Conference each year. That non-active Deacons forfeit their standing on recommendation of the local Church. s/ Committee." A substitute motion was made Rev. W^m Buster and seconded by Rev. Floyd Hartley that this business be tabled until new articles of Constitution and By-Laws are voted upon by the Conference. Motion Carried.

"The, the Business Committee, recommend that the Ministers Annual Institute be brought under the Constitution and By-laws of the Illinois Annual Conference. That hereafter the annual State Association begin on Wednesday Night and that Thursday be used for devotions and fellowship s/ Committee." A motion was made by Rev. W. R. Burton and seconded by Rev. Floyd Hartley that this recommendation

be accepted. Motion carried. Consent was given that Rev. Hartley still preach the Wednesday Evening message in 1955 as previously planned in the Ministers Institute.

Rev. Claude Shillers presented revisions of the Constitution and By-laws. Motion was made by Rev. A. A. White and seconded by Rev. W. R. Burton that revisions be accepted and tabled until next Yearly Conference. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Rev. A. A. White and seconded by W. R. Burton that 2,000 copies of the revisions be printed and distributed among our churches. Motion carried.

Woman's Auxiliary program and report was presented. Thanks were given for the splendid work the Woman's Auxiliary have done.

Motion was made by Rev. Floyd Hartley and seconded by Rev. Clevey Merritt the renewing of the Ministers cards be postponed until Saturday morning at 9:30. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Howard Clamget and seconded by Rev. Clevey Merritt that we adjourn business until 9:30 Saturday morning. Motion carried.

Song, "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms".
Prayer by Rev. Robert Norman

Saturday June 5, 1954

Services were opened by singing "Blessed Assurance". Prayer by Bro. Arthur Harris. Devotional by Rev. C. A. Curry.

Topic for discussion: "Discussion of Church Ordinances". Discussion was opened by Sis. Irene Sullivan, Rev. C. A. Curry and Rev. W. R. Buster.

Because of the absence of the delegates from Wayne County Quarterly meeting delegates, business could not be transacted at this time.

~~Topic for discussion: "Discussion of Church Ordinances."~~ Reports and letters from Superannuation and Co-operative Plan were presented by Rev. George Wagoner. Letters were distributed to each delegate.

A motion was made by Rev. Jasper Armstrong and seconded by Rev. Lester Breeze that Article 4 of the By-laws be temporarily set aside and we proceed to transact business. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Rev. William Buster and seconded by Rev. L. A. Curry that the reading of the minutes of yesterday's session be omitted. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Rev. Wallace Malone and seconded by Rev. Claude Childers that the Clerk issue a card to every minister who has made a report. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Rev. C. J. Ketteman to withhold the renewing of Ministers cards until an investigating Committee investigate each Minister to see whether or not they have fulfilled the By-laws and Constitution. Motion declined by Moderator.

A motion was made by Rev. C. J. Ketteman and Leon Mc Bride that if any charges are to be made against any Minister that they be brought before the business Committee and the business Committee is to act upon these Ministers. These charges must be made before 1:30. Motion seconded by Rev. Wallace Malone, vote taken and Motion Carried.

Rev. Aram Kerch and Rev. Claude Childers were appointed to act on the business Committee in the presence of Rev. A. A. White and Rev. Berlin Scarborough.

Motion was made by Rev. H. R. Burton and seconded by Rev. Floyd Hartley that business be adjourned until 1:15 this afternoon. Motion carried. Rev. Everett Beatty prayed the dismissal prayer.

Morning worship services were opened by singing, "He Keeps Me Singing". Prayer by Rev. George Litter Long, "When I See The Blood." Charles, "Shall We Have A Great Revival?"

Remarks on the Free Will Baptist Bible College by Miss Evelyn Lawrence, Pittsburg Church.

Morning message was delivered by Rev. Claude Childers. Rev. L. E. Abel dismissed us with prayer.

Afternoon Session

Services were opened by singing "When I See The Blood", and "Love Lifted Me". Jesus included me, and "Trust & Obey." Prayer by Rev. Leon McBride.

Report of the business committee was as follows: "We, the business committee, recommend that the cards of the following be withheld until such time as they can meet with business committee and make their real position known. Then we can notify the clerk whether or not to grant the cards. The board will meet at Bro. Childers' church at 2:30 in the afternoon of Saturday, June 12, 1954. Those to meet with the board are as follows: Rev. John Smith, Rev. C. A. Curry, and Rev. Tracey W. Dees. signed Committee."

Motion was made by Rev. Carl V. Williams and seconded by Rev. L. E. Abel that that we accept the report of the business committee and act according to their recommendation. Motion carried.

The report of the Auditing Committee was as follows: "We, the auditing committee, have duly examined the treasurer's books and found them correct with \$135.14 on hand. signed Committee: Claude Childers, Cloy Meyers and C. A. Curry." Motion was made by Rev. W. R. Burton and seconded by Rev. C. J. Hetteman that report be accepted and the committee be released. Motion carried.

The next Yearly Conference will meet in the Wayne County Quarterly in June, 1955.

Rev. Carl V. Williams, Bro. Earl Willard, and Rev. George Ritter were nominated to service on the program committee to plan the program for the next Yearly Conference which is to be the first Wednesday night in June, 1955. A motion was made by Rev. Oran Kersh and seconded by Rev. W. R. Burton that nominations cease and proceed to elect by acclamation. Motion carried.

Rev. Howard Flota was nominated to preach in introductory message for the next Yearly Conference which will be on Thursday evening. Motion made by Rev. Dewey Merritt and seconded by Rev. Carl V. Williams that nominations cease and proceed to elect by acclamation. Motion carried.

Rev. Leray Parlines gave some statistical facts regarding the work being done at the Free Will Baptist Bible College.

Rev. W. R. Burton made the motion that the clerk have 2,000 revisions of the By-laws and Constitution printed and she authorized to ask the treasurer to pay for them. Motion seconded by

Rev. Oran Kersh. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Rev. Carl V. Williams and seconded by Rev. Henry Merritt that we send Mrs. J. B. Jones, Johnston City, Illinois, as delegate to the National Association which is to be held in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Rev. W. R. Burton and seconded by Rev. Henry Merritt that the Clerk have 500 minutes printed and the treasurer be authorized to pay for them. Motion carried.

Rev. George Ritter, State Home Missions Director, gave a report of work that has been done.

Motion was made by Rev. Henry Merritt and seconded by Rev. Howard Hata that we recommend to the National Association Rev. George Ritter as our State Home Missions Director and Rev. Apol Hiltibidil as our State Foreign Missions Director. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Rev. W. R. Burton and seconded by Rev. Oran Kersh that Patricia Bailor be reelected as clerk and Joyce M. Clemen be reelected as treasurer of our Yearly Conference. Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report was given by Miss Joyce M. Clemen. Motion was made by Rev. Henry Merritt and seconded by Rev. W. R. Burton that report be accepted. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Rev. Willie Huffman and seconded by Rev.

C. A. Curry that a standing vote of thanks be given to the ladies of the various churches who helped serve the meals during the Yearly Conference. Motion carried and vote of thanks given.

A song was sung and an offering was taken up for the Yearly Meeting which amounted to \$33.01.

Rev. Carl V. Williams made a report from the Sunday School Alliance. Motion was made by ^{Rev.} C. A. Curry and seconded by Rev. Oran Tersch that we accept the King James version as the authentic version in Southern Illinois. Motion carried.

Motion made by Rev. Oran Tersch and seconded by Rev. W. A. Burton that we adjourn. Motion carried.

Rev. George Waggoner, Moderator

Rev. Floyd Hartley, Asst. Moderator

Mrs. Patricia Bailor, Clerk