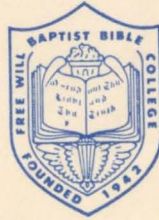


The
Texas State Association
of
Free Will Baptists

1941

Proceedings of the
27th Annual Session

Convened at
Bryan Church
Bryan, Texas



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

Rev. Jim Williams

MINUTES
OF THE
TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
TEXAS STATE ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

HELD WITH
Bryan Church, Bryan, Texas,
October 28-29-30, 1941

1941-42 session to be held with Pleasant Mound Church, Bellevue, Texas, meeting Tuesday night before the first Sunday in November, 1942.

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

PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Twenty-Seventh Annual Session of Texas State Association of Free Will Baptists when convened with the First Free Will Baptist Church at Bryan, Texas, October 28-30, 1941.

TUESDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Tuesday night a splendid service was held.

Song service led by Rev. J. R. Davidson of Bryan.

Sermon by Rev. T. W. Smith of Kirbyville; scripture Proverbs 2:1, 13 and Isaiah 2:5, theme: "Walking With God".

WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSION

10:30 a. m. — Called to order by Rev. Tiff Covington, Vice President, of Buffalo Springs.

Song, "The Lilly of the Valley" led by Rev. J. R. Davidson.

Prayer by Rev. J. L. Bounds of Waco.

Devotion led by Rev. Covington, with scripture lesson from the 34th Psalm.

10:50 — Secretary being absent, T. A. Cloud was elected secretary pro tem.

At this time the credentials were called for and the committee retired to prepare a list of delegates. Rev. J. L. Bounds and Rev. J. K. Warkentin were added to credentials committee.

11:00 — Recess, 15 minutes.

11:20 — Called to order by President, Rev. M. L. Sutton of Fort Worth, who led in singing "Somebody Else Needs A Blessing".

The following churches and associations were reported and delegates seated as follows:

First Church, Comanche, Texas — Delegates: Mrs. Burks and Mrs. Rogers. (\$2.00)

Long Branch Church — Pauline Johnson. (\$1.00)

Pleasant Mound Church, Bellevue, Texas — C. C. Lamb and Collie Harrison. (\$2.00)

Bryan First Church, Bryan, Texas — (\$2.00).

New Hope (Parker County) — Mrs. J. A. Brooks. (\$1.)

New Hope (Henderson County)—Helen Young and Mrs. Gus Smith.

North Zulch Church, North Zulch, Texas—One delegate. (\$2.00)

Dott Church, Eddy, Texas—Bessie Maricle and W. H. Calvery. (\$2.00)

Kieth Church, Kieth, Texas—One delegate. (\$1.00)

Waco First Church, Waco, Texas—Mrs. L. A. Mullen and Mrs. W. T. Smith. (\$2.00)

First Church, Ft. Worth, Texas—Two delegates. (\$2.)

Blue Lane Church, Piedmont, Texas—Two delegates. (\$2.00)

Denison First Church, Denison, Texas—H. S. Lamb and Rev. A. D. Marchant. (\$2.00)

Trinity Church, Ft. Worth, Texas—Mrs. M. L. Sutton and A. L. Gardner. (\$2.00)

Pine Prairie, Huntsville, Texas—Miss Fleta Wood and Mrs. Phil Wood. (\$2.00)

Central Texas Association—Clyde Goen, Mrs. R. E. Connor, Emmett Holland, Mrs. Clarence Parker and J. W. Rice. (\$10.00)

Southeast Texas Association—Rev. T. W. Smith. (\$1.)

West Fork Association—(\$10.00).

Committee { C. F. Goen,
Rev. J. R. Davidson,
Rev. J. K. Warkentin.

Program as submitted by committee adopted.

11:30—Devotional led by C. B. Weir.

Prayer by Rev. T. W. Smith.

11:40—Associational sermon delivered by Rev. Tiff Covington of Bellevue, Texas; subject "God's Call". Text, Rev. 18:4, "Come out of her my people that ye be not partakers of her sins". An earnest plea was made for a complete separation from the world and consecration to God's service.

Song, "Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross" was led by C. B. Weir, and a handshake was extended to Rev. Covington commending his work and pledging support to the principles advocated.

12:00—Dismissed with prayer led by Rev. Morris of Ada, Oklahoma.

Lunch.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

1:45 p.m. — Called together with song service, led by Oren Harris, Anderson, Texas.

Prayer by Rev. J. L. Bounds; devotional from Luke 19.

Call for petitionary letters. (None).

A report on orphanage work in Texas by Rev. T. W. Smith, treasurer, showed a balance on hand from 1939-1940 of \$112.38, with \$45.62 collected during 1940-41 making a total of \$158.00 on hand. A collection was taken in which \$16.40 was added making a total of \$174.40. Rev. J. R. Davidson offered a prayer of thanksgiving and asking God's blessings on orphanage work.

3:00 — The following names were selected to fill vacancies caused by absence of supply directors: Rev. M. L. Sutton, Sunday Schools; Rev. J. K. Warkentin, Christian Education; Rev. Eucl Connor, Home Missions.

A partial report was made by committee on resolutions which was adopted. (See reports.)

3:20 — A special song was rendered by Rev. J. K. Warkentin with Miss Icy Goen at the piano.

3:20 — The report on foreign missions, as made by Rev. J. R. Davidson, was adopted. (See reports.)

4:00 — adjourned.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE

7:00 p. m. — Song service conducted by Rev. Marchant of Denison, Texas.

Prayer by Rev. Morris.

Devotional service led by Rev. Marchant which was turned into a testimony meeting participated in by almost every one present.

Rev. J. K. Warkentin of Ft. Worth delivered the message of the evening, reading the lesson from 2nd chapter of 2nd Thessalonians; subject, "Today's Progress of Apostasy".

8:00 — Obituary Committee appointed by chair as follows: Mrs. T. W. Smith, Mrs. T. A. Cloud, and Mrs. J. Brooks.

Dismissed by Rev. M. L. Sutton.

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

9:30 a.m. — Song and devotional led by Rev. John Newberry of Longview.

Opening Hymn, "Take It to the Lord in Prayer".

Prayer, scripture lesson from Romans 5.

Prayer by Rev. Marchant.

Song, "Count Your Blessings".

Prayer by Rev. M. L. Sutton.

10:00 — Two committees being absent, president appointed C. F. Goen on layman's work; Sylvia Burks, Rev. Tommie Franklin and Lucile Cozart as committee on temperance.

Report of committee on education read and adopted. (See reports.)

Report of committee on Sunday schools made by Rev. M. L. Sutton, who recommended that the same report as made last year be again endorsed and adopted and to also include the national standard as adopted by the National Association. (Adopted)

11:00 — Special music by quartette, "In the Shadow of the Cross".

11:30 — Sermon by Rev. E. E. Morris of Ada, Oklahoma; text, Proverbs 29:18, subject theme, "A Vision". The message was well delivered and graciously and attentively received.

Song, "Come Thou Fount".

12:00 — Dismissed for lunch.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

1:30 p.m. — Called to order with devotional led by Rev. Tommie Franklin of Henderson, Texas.

Song, "Have Thine Own Way".

Sentence prayers, followed with scripture lesson from Romans 5:1-2.

1:40 — Motion and second that this body extend thanks to Eagle Printing Co. for kindness and publicity given the association, and clerk was instructed to send the publishers and staff a card of thanks.

Report of Ladies' Auxiliary work made by Mrs. J. R. Davidson and adopted. (See reports.)

2:45 — Special music arranged by Mrs. Rull Conner. Two songs were rendered.

A rising vote of thanks was extended the Bryan and surrounding churches for their hospitality and entertainment.

3:00—Committee on Committees appointed as follows: Rev. Ruel E. Conner, Rev. T. W. Smith and Rev. J. L. Bounds.

Peasant Mound Church of Bellevue extended an invitation for 1942 session of association which was unanimously accepted.

Election of directors and officers for ensuing year resulted in selection of the following:

Directors

Home Missions	Mrs. M. L. Sutton
Foreign Missions	C. F. Goen
Young Peoples' Work	Mrs. Wendell Withers
Christian Education	C. B. Weir
Layman's Work	W. J. O'Brien
Sunday Schools	Rev. M. L. Sutton
Ladies' Auxiliary	Mrs. J. R. Davidson
Orphanage	Rev. T. W. Smith

Officers of State Association

President	Rev. J. R. Davidson
Vice President	Rev. J. L. Bounds
Recording Secretary	Thomas A. Cloud
Treasurer	Rev. Ruel Conner
Publicity	Rev. Tommie Franklin
Statistician	Rev. John Newberry
Parliamentarian	Rev. M. L. Sutton

Treasurer was authorized by vote of the association to pay all outstanding indebtedness.

A motion prevailed that the president appoint delegates to the National Association which convenes with the church at Columbus, Mississippi, June, 1942.

Delegates to the National Association

Miss Velma Moody, Novasota, Texas; C. B. Weir, Fort Worth, Texas; Mrs. C. B. Weir, Fort Worth, Texas; Mrs. Gus Smith, Henderson, Texas; Mrs. C. H. Moehlman, Bryan, Texas. Alternates: Miss Ozelle Moody, Novasota, Texas; Mrs. M. L. Sutton, Fort Worth, Texas; Mrs. J. K. Warkentin, Ft. Worth, Texas; Mrs. Ira Harper, Tatum, Texas; Jackie Hansarling, Bryan, Texas.

Clerk authorized to have 1,000 copies of minutes printed and was also instructed to include the printing of the by-laws and constitution in the minutes.

Thus ended the work of one of the most beneficial and harmonious sessions of the State Association, which will meet in 1942 with the Pleasant Mound church Tuesday night before the first Sunday in November, 1942.

Rev. M. L. Sutton, President,
T. A. Cloud, Recording Secretary.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

RESOLUTIONS—In as much as in our list of directors of several causes, there does not appear the name of a director of orphanage work, Be it Resolved, That an orphanage director be listed along with our other several directors and that this director be elected along with other directors.

Be it further Resolved, That the director of orphanage work be authorized to direct such financial campaigns as may be deemed wise to create an orphanage fund and that he be required to furnish a bond sufficient to cover all funds in hand.

TEMPERANCE—We, your Committee on Temperance, submit the following report:

Realizing the progress of the kingdom work has been hindered to a great extent because of intemperate living among our people, be it therefore resolved that all Free Will Baptists adhere to the teachings of the scriptures in abstaining from the use and sale of intoxicating beverages and narcotics, to discourage the use of tobacco in all forms and to keep them selves unspotted from the world.

Committee { Lucile Cozart,
 { Sylvia Burks,
 { Tommie Franklin.

SUNDAY SCHOOL—We, your Committee on Sunday School, beg to submit the following report:

Because we have found that where there is a live working Sunday school there is a steady flow of conversions and additions to the church, and, because we find the Sunday school work of our denomination in Texas is far behind what it could be, we submit to you the following Sunday school pro-

gram for your consideration, and if you find it to be sound we urge the adoption.

1. We recommend that Sunday schools be re-organized according to the plan of the modern Sunday schools, to wit: That classes be organized according to ages as follows: Cradle Roll: Birth to 3 years; Beginners, 4-5 years; Primaries, 6-8 years; Juniors, 9-12 years; Intermediates, 13-16 years; Young People, 17-24 years; Adults, 25 years and over.

2. We recommend that each school have a competent Superintendent and General Secretary appointed by the church; that the Superintendent be a member of the church and that shall have authority to appoint teachers of the classes who are members of the church.

3. We recommend the use of the Six Point System in our schools and that a yearly school for one week be established to train teachers and class secretaries and that this school be held in some central locality of the state. That this association appoint the teachers and provide some method of compensation for their work.

4. We recommend and urge those Sunday Schools that are using literature to use only Free Will Baptist literature.

5. We recommend that each church be urged to start a building program to provide class rooms for each class in their schools. We believe that every church in our state can provide separate rooms for their Sunday school classes, but if there are those which are not able to provide rooms we urge that they hang curtains around their classes in the auditorium.

—Rev. M. L. Sutton, Chairman.

OBITUARY—We, your committee, beg leave to submit the following partial report of our beloved brothers and sisters who have departed this earthly life to join those in the heavenly abode since our last state association:

Bryan Church—J. L. Edge, M. F. Sowarby.

Friendship Church, Jasper County—J. J. Sheffield.

Bonimi Church, Jasper County—Mrs. A. W. West.

Gartman View Church, Comanche County—Mr. and Mrs. Gaines,

Mr. Brenson, and Rev. Burnice Easley.

New Hope Church, Parker County—J. M. Hemphill.

New Hope Church, Rusk County—Mrs. George Young.

Weatherford Church—Ed Newsome.

Pleasant Mound Church—Mrs. J. M. Lawler.

Plain View Church—Mr. King.

Cross Church—W. S. Shannon.

Bright Light Church—J. B. Graham.

We extend our sympathy to all the loved ones left behind and urge that we all work and live to meet them in the great home in the sky..

We recommend that a specially marked space in our minutes be dedicated to the memory of Bro. J. L. Edge with suitable obituary because of his outstanding service rendered through this association.

Committee { Mrs. T. W. Smith,
Mrs. J. A. Brooks,
Mrs. T. A. Cloud.

COMMITTEE OF COMMITTEES—Committees for 1941-42.
Temperance—Rev. Tommie Franklin, Rev. John Newberry,
and Mrs. Gus Smith.

Resolutions—Rev. M. L. Sutton, C. B. Weir, and Rev. Tiff
Covington.

Credentials—Rev. J. R. Davidson, Mrs. C. H. Moeheman,
and Mrs. J. L. Edge.

OBITUARY—Mrs. R. E. Conner, Mrs. Velma Moody, and
Mrs. J. R. Davidson.

Program—Rev. J. K. Warkentin, Rev. J. A. Brooks, and Rev.
J. L. Bounds.

—Rev. R. E. Conner, Chairman.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Deposited November 2, 1940\$50.02

Disbursements

April, 1941, Printing\$35.00

June, 1941, National Association 10.00

October, 1941, Postage75

Total\$45.75

Balance\$ 4.27

MINISTERS' ENROLLMENT

M. R. Gaines Comanche, Texas

J. A. Brooks Chilton, Texas

Henry Measures Weatherford, Texas

J. C. Turrentine	Ft. Worth, Texas
J. L. Bounds	Waco, Texas
J. K. Warkentin	Ft. Worth, Texas
J. C. Hodges	Ft. Worth, Texas
M. L. Sutton	Ft. Worth, Texas
A. F. Ferguson	Ft. Worth, Texas
H. C. St. John	Ft. Worth, Texas
John Lucas	Ft. Worth, Texas
Tiff Covington	Bellevue, Texas
R. E. Conner	North Zulch, Texas
J. H. Dowell	North Zulch, Texas
E. J. Vaughn	College Station, Texas
Carl Wyche	Huntsville, Texas
B. A. Rhodes	Huntsville, Texas
J. L. Payne	Houston, Texas
J. R. Davidson	Bryan, Texas
A. D. Marchant	Denison, Texas
John Newberry	Longview, Texas
E. S. Jimmerson	Tatum, Texas
Ira Harper	Tatum, Texas
Tommie Franklin	Henderson, Texas
R. H. Berry	Houston, Texas
T. W. Smith	Kirbyville, Texas
Clyde Shultz	
C. C. Lamb	
C. H. Perry	
R. H. Rogers	
F. Burks	

Report of Foreign Mission Director

Reports from churches and individuals in two of our associations during the year show that the financial support is inadequate to express our true concern for the lost in heathen lands, however it is encouraging to note the fact that there has been an increase in the offerings. Due to the fact that our Foreign Missions cause is in its infancy as a national enterprise, and the fact that offerings are larger and spreaded over a broader area shows progress. \$375.00 has been reported which represents an increase of approximately \$175.00.

A challenging field in India is calling to the Free Will Baptist denomination in which there are several millions of people with no chance to hear of Christ as Saviour which calls for a

minimum number of six to go with Miss Barnard, beside the opportunity with the Willeys in Cuba and with Miss Yeley in Venezuela. Surely this is the day for our people to "redeem the time, for the days are evil." What will our denomination do with the entrustment? This should be a question of concern to all of us. We earnestly call upon Texas Free Will Baptists to rally to this call of dying millions.

J. R. Davidson, Director

Report of Special Appointee for Christian Education

The tendency to progress in the field of Christian Education among the Free Will Baptists of Texas is encouraging to some degree. It is clear that there is greater interest toward standardization in the Sunday School, Free Will Baptist League and Woman's Auxiliary, which are outstanding agencies for Christian Education for our people. The study of the word of God, training for service and good stewardship are emphasized in these auxiliaries.

As to the progress in Christian Education as a National enterprise it should be noted that interest manifested in the cash offerings made toward the opening of a Bible School are quite in advance of that reported a year ago, also that new donors have been added to the list. During this year approximately \$700.00 have been turned into the National Treasurer. Fifty dollars having been turned in from churches and individuals outside the Central Texas Association, approximately one hundred and fifty from different churches in the Central Texas and approximately five hundred from the Bryan Church.

The National Board of Education is offering to sponsor institute work in any state during this year, having already started the program. The National Association approved an appropriation of \$1000.00 to carry on this work during this year, and the Board of Education is anxious to use this money where it will be worth the most to the cause.

The twenty fifth of September 1941 a deal was completed for a fine piece of property in one of the finest sections of the city of Nashville, Tennessee, for the purpose of opening and operating a Bible School. The sum of \$5000.00 was paid down, leaving a debt of 10,000.00, hence the opportunity to have a greater share in such a noble enterprise comes to Texas Free Will Baptists as co-operative effort with fellow-laborers of like faith over our

nation. We urge a wider concerted effort during this coming year.

J. R. Warkentin, Director

BY-LAWS

Article I. The President or Vice President, or in their absence, the senior minister in years shall call the association into conference, and if a quorum is known to be present the body may proceed with business according to outlined program.

Article II. All persons declared by the credentials committee to be eligible to represent in the association are hereby made and constituted members of this body, and are authorized to act in all respects according to the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws under which this association is governed.

Article III. Delegates from corresponding bodies and brethren invited to seats in the association shall be entitled to all privileges of the association except voting.

Article IV. No person shall speak more than twice on the same question, nor over ten minutes at the time, without special permission of the association; neither shall any one be recognized by the presiding officer without first rising and addressing the chair; and shall not proceed with discussion or statement until recognized by the chair.

Article V. It shall not be considered regular for any member of the body to leave its sessions without special permission of the presiding officer, and those who do such lay themselves liable to public censure. No member shall take final leave from any regular or called session without special permission from the association.

Article VI. The business of this association shall be governed by good parliamentary regulations at all times.

Article VII. No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of any committee, provided the person nominated be elected.

Article VIII. The program of each annual meeting shall be prepared by the regularly elected, or appointed, Program Committee, programs to be distributed thirty days in advance of date of sitting of the association.

Article IX. The following committees shall be appointed at each setting of the association: Temperance, Resolutions, Program, Credentials, Obituary, and Committee on Committees;

and the following directors shall be elected: Christian Education. Free Will Baptist League, Woman's Auxilliary, Orphanage. Superannuation, Home Missions, Layman's Work and Denom-
national Literature, Sunday Schools, and Foreign Missions.

Article X. Each session shall be opened by reading a portion of the Bible and prayer, and shall be closed with prayer.

Article XI. Minutes of each session shall be carefully read and corrected before final adjournment.

Article XII. The associational year shall be from November first to November first of the following year.

Article XIII. These By-Laws may be amended at any regular session of the association by a two-thirds majority vote of the body, provided proposed amendmen has been read before the body and placed on the table one day in advance of the time the vote is to be taken.

J. R. Davidson, Chairman

CONSTITUTION

Article I. This organization shall be known as the Texas State Association of Free Will Baptists, and shall be composed of all regularly appointed delegates from well organized, and well disciplined, associations; with all regular, and orderly, ordained and licensed ministers and ordained deacons who hold membership in some regular church and district association of the state of Texas.

Article II. The purpose of this association shall be to edify and mutually uplift the Free Will Baptist denomination, the spreading of the gospel to the end of saving the lost and the general advancement of the Kingdom of Christ in the earth.

Article III. This association shall consist of the various associations and churches which are known to be orothodox and orderly, and shall have representation on the following basis to wit: each association shall be represented on the basis of one delegate per each one hundred members or fractional part thereof, and each church shall be allowed two delegates regardless to number of members. Each association shall send with its representatives and letter one dollar for each delegate it is allowed, and each church shall send the minimum of two dollars.

Article IV. The officers of this association shall consist of a president, vice president, recording secretary, treasurer,

publicity director, statistician and parliamentary; all of which shall be elected by the body at the close of the annual session in which their term expires. One year shall be considered a term for all officers and standing committees.

Article V. It shall be the duty of the president to preside at all meetings of the association, to appoint committees not otherwise provided for, and to strive to promote the general interests of the association. It shall be the duty of the vice president to serve in all capacities of the president in his absence, and to associate with him all the duties of the office upon the call of the president. It shall be the duty of the recording secretary to make a record of all proceedings of the association, to prepare manuscript for having minutes printed and negotiate deal for the same, to keep files of minutes of all previous sessions and to carry on all necessary correspondence for the body. He shall be allowed \$10.00 annually for his services. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to be custodian of all funds of the association and disburse same, only on authority of the body; and he shall be required to make a full report at each annual session. His books must be kept in balance with those of the recording secretary at all times. It shall be the duty of the publicity director to have charge of all advertising matters correlated with the work of the association. It shall be the duty of the statistician to endeavor to compile the statistics of all work done by Free Will Baptists in the state, and to report on the general status of the work over the state at each annual session of the association; also to communicate such statistics as he shall be able to assemble to the National Statistician annually. It shall be the duty of the parliamentary to keep before him at all times during an assembly of this body good rules of parliamentary usage, and when it is deemed necessary he shall call attention to any irregular procedure. It shall be the privilege of the presiding officer to call upon the parliamentary for rules of order at any time he finds it necessary.

Article VI. Representation from a majority of the District Associations of the state of Texas shall be declared a quorum at any regular or called meeting of the association.

Article VII. Any well organized and well disciplined Free Will Baptist Association within the state of Texas, composed of such churches as have adopted the doctrines, and as conform to the usages of the Free Will Baptist denomination as set forth in the Treatise of Faith of the National Association.

