

MINUTES

of the

Thirty-first Annual Session

of the

Texas State Free Will Baptist Association

held with the

Fellowship F. W. B. Church

HENDERSON, TEXAS

OCTOBER 30—NOVEMBER 2, 1945



The Thirty-second Annual Session of the Association will be held with the North Zulch Free Will Baptist Church in North Zulch, Texas, beginning Tuesday night before the first Sunday in November, 1946.

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FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS AYDEN, N. C.

OFFICERS FOR 1946 SESSION

Rev. M. L. Sutton ----- Moderator
Rev. B. A. Grant ----- Assistant Moderator
Rev. Alvin F. Halbrook ----- Clerk
Rev. C. B. Thompson ----- Treasurer
Rev. Allie Ferguson ----- Publicity Director
Rev. J. B. Lovering ----- Statistician
Rev. J. O. Fort ----- Parliamentarian

COMMITTEES FOR 1946

TEMPERANCE—Rev. E. J. Vaughn, Rev. A. J. Fielding, Rev. J. B. Lovering.

OBITUARY—Mrs. H. Ray Berry, Mrs. W. H. Hays, Mrs. L. A. Norris, Mrs. Belle Easely, Mrs. J. H. Measures.

RESOLUTIONS—Rev. E. S. Jameson, Bro. C. F. Goen, Rev. S. M. Zieg-

CREDENTIALS—Rev. J. H. Measures, Bro. P. H. Graves, Rev. M. L. Sutton.

PROGRAM—Rev. T. W. Smith, Rev. J. O. Fort, Rev. Alvin F. Halbrook and deacons of entertaining church.

STATE BOARDS

Home Missions—

Rev. T. W. Smith, 1946; Bro. C. F. Goen, 1946; Bro. B. F. Payne, 1947; Rev. Tiff Covington, 1947; Rev. J. O. Fort, 1948.

Orphanage—

Mrs. T. W. Smith, 1946; Rev. J. A. Brooks, 1946; Rev. J. H. Measures, 1947; Rev. B. A. Grant, 1947; Rev. Ira Harper, 1948.

Superannuation—

Rev. Bert F. Rogers, 1946; Rev. L. A. Norris, 1946; Rev. Alvin F. Halbrook, 1947; Rev. Miss Tommie Franklin, 1947; Rev. C. B. Thompson, 1948.

STATE DIRECTORS

Rev. A. D. Marchant	Christian Education
Mrs. H. R. Berry	Woman's Auxiliary
Rev. B. A. Grant	Denominational Literature
Rev. L. A. Norris	Free Will Baptist League
Rev. J. B. Lovering	Sunday School

PROCEEDINGS

The Thirty-First Annual Session of the Texas State Free Will Baptist Association was held with the Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church, Henderson, Texas, October 30 - November 2, 1945.

TUESDAY NIGHT SERVICE

The opening service of the Association was begun with singing, led by Bro. L. D. Hardy.

Devotional—Rev. L. A. Norris. Scripture, Phil. 2: 5.

Introductory sermon—Rev. J. B. Lovering. Subject: "Deep Waters." Text: Luke 5: 4.

Benediction.

WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSION

Services opened with singing led by Rev. Ira Harper.

Prayer—Rev. A. D. Marchant.

Devotional—Rev. Alvin F. Halbrook. Scripture: 1 Cor. 3: 1-9. Text: "For we are laborers together with God."

Enrollment of ministers, deacons, and delegates.

Prayer—Rev. Egbert S. Jameson.

Reading of By-Laws by the Moderator, Rev. M. L. Sutton.

Moderator's message—Rev. M. L. Sutton. Scripture: II Cor. 6: 1. Text: "We then, as workers together with him."

Dismissed for lunch by Rev. M. L. Sutton.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Services began with singing.

Devotional—Rev. A. F. Ferguson. Scripture: Eph. 6: 10-20. Subject: "Put on the Whole Armour."

Prayer—Rev. C. B. Thompson.

Report of Credentials Committee.

Motion carried the report be received and delegates seated. (See reports.)

The right hand of fellowship was extended to delegates, ordained ministers, and deacons.

Corresponding delegates—Rev. E. E. Morris, Ada, Okla.; Rev. Robert B. Crawford, Nashville, Tenn.; Rev. R. H. Kaufman; Rev. L. A. Norris, Kirbyville, Texas, came forward and the right hand of Christian fellowship was extended to them.

Report on Christian Education by Rev. J. B. Lovering.

Motion carried to accept the report. (See report.)

Rev. Robert B. Crawford, National Executive Secretary, reported on the F. W. B. Bible College, at Nashville, Tenn.

Motion carried the report be accepted.

Motion carried the present moderator appoint a Parliamentary protem. Rev. C. B. Thompson was appointed.

Miscellaneous business.

Motion carried Rev. E. E. Morris give a report on Orphanage work in the State of Oklahoma.

Motion carried the partial report of the Resolutions Committee be received.

Motion carried that Article 9 of the By-Laws be amended as follows:

1. That the word "Orphanage" be stricken out where it appears in the article;

2. And that the last sentence be amended so as to read: "The body shall elect boards of five members each for Superannuation, Home Missions, and Orphanage."

Motion carried to adjourn.

Benediction by Rev. Pete Kaufman.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SESSION

Services opened with a good song service and several quartet numbers.

Motion carried to have the devotional at this time.

Devotional—Sister Jessie Ferguson.

A special prayer was held by Rev. M. L. Sutton, for the service men of our armed forces who have not returned as yet to their homes.

Solo—"What Boundless Love," Sister Belle Easley.

Sermon—Rev. E. E. Morris, visiting minister from Ada, Okla. Text: Zech. 13: 1.

A special offering was taken at the close of the service for the Orphanage work in the State of Oklahoma.

Total cash offering including \$100.00 on deposit with Trinity Church \$178.52

Pledges ----- 150.00

\$328.52

Motion that Article 3 of Constitution be amended so that the last sentence will read as follows: Each Association with a membership of 500 or less shall send with its representatives and letter a minimum of \$10.00, each Association with more than 500 members shall send an additional \$5.00 for each additional 500 members or fractional part thereof, and that each church send a minimum of \$5.00.

Dismissed until 10:15 A. M., Thursday.

Benediction—Rev. Sister Tommie Franklin.

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

Session opened with singing led by Rev. E. J. Vaughn.

Devotional—Rev. R. E. Conner. Text: Heb. 2: 9, "Wee See Jesus."

Rev. Robert B. Crawford, Executive Secretary of the National Association, gave his report on finance.

Motion carried to accept the report.

Motion carried we proceed with the report of the Home Mission Board. Rev. T. W. Smith reported, Rev. J. O. Fort also discussed resolutions of the Board. (See Resolutions.)

Motion carried we accept the report of the Home Mission Board, Partial report of Credential Committee.

Motion carried the partial report of the Credential Committee be accepted and the right hand of Christian fellowship extended to the delegates.

Motion carried the resolutions be voted upon separately.

Motion carried Resolution No. 1 be adopted.

Motion carried Resolution No. 2 be adopted.

Election of members of the State Home Mission Board.

Board elected—Rev. T. W. Smith, 1946; Rev. C. F. Goen, 1946; Bro. B. F. Payne, 1947; Rev. Tiff Covington, 1947; Rev. J. O. Fort, 1948.

Motion carried nominations cease.

Sermon—Rev. J. O. Fort. Scripture, Isaiah 63: 1-3.

Benediction—Rev. E. S. Jameson.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Session opened with a fine song service led by Rev. Ira Harper.

Devotional—Rev. Henry Measures. Scripture: Philippians 2: 1-9.

Report on Woman's Auxiliary by Rev. Sister Tommie Franklin.

Motion carried to accept the Woman's Auxiliary report.

The moderator recognized Rev. J. O. Fort as moderator pro-tem, so that he could meet with the Credentials Committee.

Final report of Credentials Committee.

Motion carried the report be accepted as read.

Motion carried the moderator be endowed with the power to appoint a Committee of Investigation to investigate the disturbance in the Northwest Brazos Association.

Committee—Chairman, Rev. J. A. Brooks; Bro. B. A. Grant, Rev. J. O. Fort.

Motion carried to grant permission to all who cannot remain with the body until closing time, that they may take final leave.

Motion carried to adjourn business session until 6:15 P. M., to consider at that time the remainder of business of the day.

THURSDAY EVENING—6:15

Business session convened at 6:15 P. M., with singing led by Rev. Ira Harper.

Prayer—Rev. J. B. Lovering.

In the absence of the regular clerk, Rev. Alvin F. Halbrook was nominated and duly elected clerk pro-tem.

Motion carried Bros. B. F. Payne and J. F. Johnson be seated as delegates.

Motion carried the final report on Resolutions be read and acted upon item by item.

Final report on Resolutions. (See Reports.)

Motion carried Resolution No. 1 be adopted with an amendment.

Motion carried Resolution No. 2 be adopted.

Motion carried the amendment to Article No. 3 of Constitution be adopted.

Be it resolved that the Amendment to Article No. 9 of the By-Laws be adopted.

Motion carried to elect the members of the Board on Orphanage with two members to serve a term of one year; two members for a term of two years; and a fifth member for a term of three years, after which all members shall be elected for terms of 3 years.

Nominations for 1 year term: Rev. T. W. Smith, Rev. J. A. Brooks and Bro. J. F. Johnson.

Elected—Rev. T. W. Smith and Rev. J. A. Brooks.

Nominations for 2 year term: Bro. B. F. Payne, Rev. Ira Harper, Rev. B. A. Grant and Bro. F. W. Dollar. Elected—Bro. B. F. Payne and Rev. B. A. Grant.

Nominations for 3 year term—Rev. Bert F. Rogers, Rev. Ira Harper, Rev. Alvin F. Halbrook, Rev. J. B. Lovering. Elected—Rev. Ira Harper.

Motion carried the brethren who are serving on two boards be granted permission to resign from one board, and members be elected in their stead.

Motion carried to convene at 9 A. M., Friday.

Motion carried to adjourn.

Benediction—Rev. M. L. Sutton.

THURSDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Service began with singing led by Bro. L. D. Hardy.

Devotional—Rev. S. M. Ziegler.

Sermon—Rev. R. B. Crawford. Subject: "The Vision for Service."

Scripture: Isaiah 6: 1-8. Text: Isaiah 6: 1.

Benediction.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Business session convened at 9 A. M., with singing.

Devotional—by the moderator. Scripture: Romans 8.

Prayer—Mrs. Alvin F. Halbrook.

Motion carried the moderator appoint a Committee on Temperance.

Committee on Temperance—Rev. R. B. Crawford, Mrs. Alvin F. Halbrook, and Mrs. H. Ray Berry.

Report on Obituary. (See Reports.)

Motion carried to accept the report, and stand a moment in silent prayer.

Partial report of State Statistician.

Motion carried to accept the partial report of the State Statistician. (See Reports.)

Motion carried to elect officers of the State Association.

Rev. M. L. Sutton was nominated for the office of moderator, and while Rev. J. B. Lovering served as moderator pro-tem, was elected by acclamation.

Rev. Ira Harper and Rev. B. A. Grant were nominated for the office of vice-moderator.

Motion carried nominations cease.

Rev. B. A. Grant was elected vice-moderator by a majority vote.

Bro. Elias B. Wier and Rev. Alvin F. Halbrook were nominated for the office of clerk.

Motion carried nominations cease.

Rev. Alvin F. Halbrook was elected clerk by a majority vote.

Rev. C. B. Thompson was nominated for the office of treasurer.

Motion carried nominations cease.

Rev. C. B. Thompson was elected treasurer by acclamation.

Rev. Allie Ferguson was nominated for the office of Publicity Director.

Motion carried nominations cease.

Rev. Allie Ferguson elected Publicity Director by acclamation.

Rev. J. B. Lovering was nominated as State Statistician.

Motion carried nominations cease.

Rev. J. B. Lovering was elected State Statistician by acclamation.

The moderator gave the hand of fellowship to a delegate just arriving.

Rev. H. Ray Berry, Rev. L. A. Norris and Rev. J. O. Fort were nominated for office of Parliamentarian.

Motion carried nominations cease.

Rev. J. O. Fort was elected Parliamentarian by majority vote.

Nominations for a member to serve for one year on the State Orphanage Board. Mrs. T. W. Smith was nominated.

Motion carried nominations cease.

Mrs. T. W. Smith was elected by acclamation.

Rev. J. H. Measures and Rev. L. A. Norris were nominated to serve for a term of two years on the State Orphanage Board.

Motion carried nominations cease.

Rev. J. H. Measures was elected by a majority vote.

Motion carried to elect a Board of Superannuation on the basis of two members to serve a term of one year; two members to serve a term of two years; and one member to serve a term of three years; after which all members shall be elected to serve terms of three years.

Nominations to serve a term of one year—Rev. Bert F. Rogers, Rev. L. A. Norris, and Rev. Alvin F. Halbrook.

Motion carried nominations cease.

Rev. Bert F. Rogers and Rev. L. A. Norris were elected to serve a term of one year.

Nominations to serve a term of two years—Rev. Alvin F. Halbrook and Rev. Miss Tommie Franklin.

Motion carried nominations cease, and proceed to elect by acclamation.

Nominations to serve a term of three years—Rev. C. B. Thompson.

Motion carried nominations cease and elect by acclamation.

Motion carried the moderator recommend State Directors to the body.

Motion carried the moderator be invested with the authority to appoint a committee to make arrangements to entertain the Texas State Association at its next session.

Committee appointed—Chairman, Rev. Alvin F. Halbrook; Rev. T. W. Smith and Rev. J. O. Fort.

Motion carried to adjourn for preaching service and convene at 1 P. M.

Benediction—Mrs. H. Ray Berry.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Singing led by Bro. L. D. Hardy.

Prayer—Bro. A. P. Reece.

Sermon—Rev. L. A. Norris. Subject: "The Future Challenge of a People Who Are Known as Free Will Baptists."

The right hand of Christian greeting was given to Bro. Norris.

The moderator appointed a committee on Committees.

Committee on Committees: Rev. Ira Harper, Bro. W. H. Hayes, Bro. A. J. Williams.

The moderator, in behalf of the State Association extended thanks to the Texas Association for its splendid entertaining of the Texas State Association.

Motion carried to give a rising vote of thanks to the Texas Association for so graciously entertaining the Texas State Association.

Benediction—Rev. T. W. Smith.

FR DAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Business session convene with singing led by Bro. L. D. Hardy.

Devotional by the moderator, reading Psalm 1.

Prayer—Rev. Samuel Goldberg.

Moderator read the names of State Directors. (See Directors.)

Motion carried to elect by acclamation the recommended Directors.

Report of Committee on Committees. (See Committees.)

Motion carried the report of Committee on Committees be accepted.

Motion carried the body accept the invitation of the Central Texas Association to have the Texas State Association meet there at its next sitting.

Report of Treasurer. (See Reports.)

Motion carried to accept the report of the Treasurer.

Motion carried that \$35.00 be allocated as fees to the National Association; \$10.00 be given the Clerk in the preparation of the manuscript of the minutes for printing; and the clerk use his own discretion as to the publishing house printing the minutes.

An offering of \$44.65 was received toward the printing of the minutes.

Report of Committee on Temperance. (See Reports.)

Motion carried to accept the report of the Committee on Temperance.

Report of Chairman-Treasurer of State Superannuation Board.

Motion carried to accept the report of the Board of Superannuation.

By-Laws of Texas State Home Mission Board were read.

Motion carried to accept the policy of the Home Mission Board as outlined in its report.

Report of Foreign Mission Board.

Motion carried to accept the report of the Foreign Mission Board.

Motion carried the body elect, upon the recommendation of the moderator, the 5 delegates to the National Association meeting at the Alabama Orphanage near Eldridge, Alabama, following the Second Sunday in July, 1946, and the District Associations appoint one delegate each to the National Association.

Delegates—Mrs. H. Ray Berry, Mrs. Charles Moehlman, Mr. J. A. Alford, Mr. E. E. Eagleton, Sr., Mrs. M. L. Sutton.

Motion carried to accept the recommendation of the moderator as to the delegates to the National Association.

Texas Association Delegate—Bro. B. F. Payne.

Motion carried to grant Bro. A. P. Reece ten minutes to lecture on the subject: "Shall Catholicism Rule This Country?"

Motion carried to adjourn.

Closing hymn—"God Be With You 'Till We Meet Again."

Benediction.

REPORT ON RESOLUTIONS

1. Be it resolved that the Texas State Association cooperate with the

Oklahoma Orphanage program, inasmuch as Texas has discontinued its Orphanage work and Oklahoma will take our children.

Rev. A. D. Marchant

2. Whereas a few of our people met at Fellowship Church on October 28, 1945, and organized a State S. S. Convention: Be it resolved that we, the members of the State Association, make every effort to promote said Convention for the benefit of Christian education through our church schools and that the State Association have printed at its own expense the minutes of the State S. S. Convention.

3. Whereas the National Board of Education has launched an extension program, asking for the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars for building purposes. Whereas the said Board is asking the State of Texas to raise Five Thousand Dollars in the next three years over and above regular contributions to the maintenance of the college. Be it resolved that we accept the challenge by the following allocations: Central Texas Association, \$3,000.00; West Fork Association, \$2,000.00; Texas Association, \$1,000.00; Southeast Texas Association, \$100.00; Northwest Brazos Association, \$100.00.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT

We find the following churches and Associations qualified:

First F. W. B. Church, Ft. Worth, Texas—Delegates: Bro. Roy Renfro, Mrs. J. L. Young. Amount sent, \$5.00.

Good Hope Church, Henderson, Texas—Delegates: Mr. J. L. Anderson. Amount sent, \$2.00.

Weatherford Church, Weatherford, Texas—Amount sent, \$2.00.

Mt. Olive Church, Henderson, Texas—Delegates: Mrs. Lester Harris, Mr. G. O. Parker. Amount sent, \$2.00.

14th and Park Church, Waco Texas—Delegates: Mr. J. R. White, Mrs. Engram. Amount sent, \$3.00.

Fellowship Church, Henderson, Texas—Delegates: Mr. J. A. Alford, Mrs. Ruban Hayes. Amount sent, \$2.00.

Cross Church—Delegate: Mrs. T. W. Smith. Amount sent, \$2.00.

Gartmen View Church—Delegate: Mrs. J. A. Brooks. Amount sent, \$5.00.

Trinity Church, Ft. Worth, Texas—Delegates: Mrs. M. L. Sutton, Mrs. Ethel Brady. Amount sent, \$2.00.

Friendship Church, Clayton, Texas—Delegate: Mrs. Barney Duke. Amount sent, \$2.00.

Dott Church—Delegates: Mrs. O. M. Martin, Miss Margaret Maricle. Amount sent, \$3.00.

F. W. B. Church, Dallas, Texas—Delegate: Mrs. Annie Alderman. Amount sent, \$2.00.

Memphis Church—Delegate: E. E. Luster. Amount sent, \$2.00.

Bright Light Church—Delegates: Mr. Noah C. Cole, Mrs. K. Kelly.
Amount sent, \$2.00.

Bryan Church—Amount sent, \$10.00.

Central Texas Association—Amount sent, \$15.00.

Southeast Texas Association—Amount sent, \$2.00.

Texas Association—Amount sent, \$11.00. Amount sent to National Association, \$5.00.

North West Brazos Association—Amount sent, \$5.00.

West Fork Association—Amount sent, \$13.00.

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We the Committee on Temperance, submit the following report:

Whereas the problem of intemperance has become more complex since the repeal of the 18th Amendment; and whereas it is the root of many major ills of the day we hereby resolve:

First: That a campaign of prayer be carried from the home through every organization to those in authority even to Washington, D. C.,

Second: That we exert our influence against every person and place, cafes, grocery stores, etc., who deal in intemperate practices.

Third: That we abstain from all appearance of evil, and do those things that we know to be good, exerting faith in our Creator and keeping our personal habits clean.

Robert B. Crawford, Chairman,
Mrs. Alvin F. Halbrook,
Mrs. H. Ray Berry.

OBITUARY REPORT

We, your Committee on Obituaries, report the following number who have won the crown of eternal life: West Fork Association, 7; Central Texas Association, 2; North West Brazos Association, 1; South East Texas Association, 1; Texas Association, 5.

Although their memory lingers on and we miss their cheerful presence and Christian example and admonition let us not mourn as those who have no hope, but rather strive to live in such a way that we will be privileged to take part in that great and final reunion with God and our loved ones.

We wish to extend our heart-felt sympathy to the bereaved: May God the Comforter comfort their hearts in their dark hours is our prayer.

Committee:

Mrs. Jessie Ferguson,
Mrs. M. L. Sutton.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY REPORT

From October 30, 1944 to October 30, 1945

Number of Auxiliaries reporting	5
Number of members	68
Number Stewardship classes conducted	1
Number Mission study classes conducted	2
Number Auxiliaries observing Week of Prayer	2
Number members subscribing for church papers	28
Number of titheers	22

Money Expended for:

Foreign Missions	\$ 48.00
Building repairs	15.00
Pastors	150.00
Unified Program Fund	314.54
Other purposes	41.00

TREASURER'S REPORT

Texas State Association Fund—1945

Amount received at close of 1944 session from my predecessor,

Rev. M. L. Suttotn\$114.25

Disbursements

J. O. Fort	\$ 4.25
C. B. Weir — Minutes	75.00
Mrs. McAdams— Reg. fee to Nat'l Assn.	35.00

Total\$114.25

Respectfully,

C. B. Thompson, Treasurer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

Being unable to contact all of our schools we are not able to give a full report. However, we find most of our Sunday Schools have made progress although they can be made much better. We urge the pastors to put more stress on the need of a greater interest in Sunday School work as a greater part of people who are saved come from or through the Sunday School. Some few of our churches have provided class rooms and some are planning to in the near future. We insist that every pastor and Sunday School superintendent urge the use of the 6-Point Record System.

Rev. J. H. Measures, S. S. Director.

REPORT ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

We all believe in Education. We send our children to school and then to college; to study what? Well, it depends on what school or college they attend. We need them in Christian institutions:

1. Because non-Christian schools teach everything except the Bible.
2. The Bible keeps the mind pure, and through a pure mind the body is kept healthy and Christ keeps the soul clean.
3. The Bible teaches men how to live. The world has made great progress in every other field. The air, water, land and even the atom has been conquered, but man's soul remains the same. In the Bible we learn of the Christ who saves and of His standard for human life and conduct.

In Jesus' name, let us make the Free Will Baptist Bible College an accredited institution to shelter our youth from the storms of false teaching.

J. B. Lovering, Director.

STATISTICAL REPORT Membership

Association	Membership	Received	Dismissed	Died	S. School	F. W. B. League	Woman's Aux.	No. Churches
Texas - - - - -	946	19	7	5	400	---	---	16
Central Texas - - - - -	719	59	16	2	222	87	63	10
S. E. Texas - - - - -	125	---	---	---	50	---	---	4
West Fork - - - - -	1,018	118	34	8	430	26	---	13
West Brazos - - - - -	177	10	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total - - - - -	2,985	206	57	15	1,102	113	63	43

Association	Paid Pastor	Evangelist	Repairs	Incidentals	Charity	Value Prop.
Texas - - - - -	\$ 1,009.94	\$ 214.45	\$ 307.39	\$-----	\$-----	\$-----
C. Texas - - - - -	4,452.60	636.79	2,623.36	766.30	13.60	37,600.00
S. E. Texas - - - - -	325.00	-----	-----	150.00	-----	2,000.00
W. Fork - - - - -	7,241.02	1,075.68	5,783.18	2,332.44	-----	40,800.00
W. Brazos - - - - -	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total - - - - -	\$13,028.56	\$1,926.92	\$8,713.93	\$3,248.74	\$13.60	\$80,400.00

Association	Education	F. Missions	H. Missions	Superannuation
Texas - - - - -	\$ 95.00	\$ 7.40	\$ 4.93	\$-----
C. Texas - - - - -	381.60	286.20	190.80	95.40
S. E. Texas - - - - -	-----	-----	-----	-----
W. Fork - - - - -	-----	566.02	65.00	-----
W. Brazos - - - - -	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total - - - - -	\$476.60	\$859.62	\$259.73	\$95.40

BL-LAWS

Article 1. 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 2. 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 3. Delegates from corresponding bodies and brethren invited to seats in the association shall be entitled to all privileges of the association except voting.

Article 4. 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 5. It shall not be considered regular for any member of the body to leave its session 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 6. The business of this association shall be governed by good parliamentary regulations at all times.

Article 7. No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of any committee, provided the person nominated be elected.

Article 8. 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 9. The following committees shall be appointed at each sitting of the association: Temperance, Resolutions, Program, Credentials, Obituary and Committee of Committees; and the following directors shall be elected: Christian Education, Free Will Baptist League, Woman's Auxiliary, Layman's Work, and Denominational Literature, Sunday Schools, and Foreign Missions. The body shall elect boards of five members each for Superannuation, Home Missions and Orphanage.

Article 10. Each session shall be opened by reading a portion of the Bible and prayer, and shall be closed with prayer.

Article 11. Minutes of each session shall be carefully read and corrected before final adjournment.

Article 12. The associational year shall be from November first to November first of the following year.

Article 13. These By-Laws may be amended at any regular session of the association by a two-thirds majority vote of the body, provided proposed amendment has been read before the body and placed on the table one day in advance of the time the vote is to be taken.

CONSTITUTION

Article 1. 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 2. 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 3. This association shall consist of the various associations and churches which are known to be orthodox 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 of number of members replaced by amendment. Each Association with a membership of 500 or less shall send with its representatives and letter a minimum of \$10.00; each Association with more than 500 members shall send an additional \$5.00 for each additional 500 members or fractional part thereof, and that each church send a minimum of \$5.00.

Article 4. The officers of this association shall consist of a president, vice-president, recording secretary, treasurer, publicity director, statistician and parliamentarian; 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 5. 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 interest 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 manuscripts 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 parliamentarian to keep before him at all times during an assembly of the 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 parliamentarian for rules of order at any time he finds it necessary.

Article 6. 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 7. 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, may upon proper application become a member of this Association. Any church conforming to such regulations as above set forth may also become a member of this body even though the local Association of which it is a member is not a regular member of the State body.

Article 8. It shall be required of all District Associations and churches composing this Association to represent themselves by delegates and communicate by letter, their standing, prospects and statistics.

Article 9. At each session of this assembly it shall act on all questions and matters referred to it, and transact such business as tends to promote the interests of our denomination and the cause of Christ, in the bounds of this association.

Article 10. This Association shall have the authority to discipline any Association or church holding membership herewith, for disorderly walk and to exclude same if efforts prove unavailing; but in no case shall it have a right to reverse decisions.

Article 11. This Association shall have an executive committee composed of all the officers designated in Article 4.

Article 12. The functions of the executive committee shall be to have supervision of all associational work and shall act for the Association between sessions, minutes of all transactions to be read before the annual session of the Association and printed in the Minutes should the body deem it wise.

Article 13. The Constitution may be altered or amended in any regular session of the Association by a vote of two-thirds majority of the body, provided proposed amendment has been read before the body and placed on the table one day in advance of the time the vote is to be taken.

ENROLLMENT OF MINISTERS

- Rev. A. J. Fielding, 2206 Vilbig Road, Dallas 8, Texas.
- Rev. L. A. Norris, Box 356, Kirbyville, Texas.
- Rev. B. A. Grant, Box 962, Henderson, Texas.
- Rev. J. B. Lovering, Route 1, Henderson, Texas.
- Rev. Allie F. Ferguson, Route 2, Box 203-A, Fort Worth, Texas.
- Rev. S. M. Ziegler, Box 271, Memphis, Texas.
- Rev. Robert B. Crawford, Executive Secretary, 3609 Richland Avenue,
Nashville, Tennessee.
- Rev. E. E. Morris, 420 Ash, Ada, Oklahoma. (First F. W. B. Church)
- Rev. A. D. Marchant, 724 W. Day St., Denison, Texas. (New Hope
Church)
- Rev. J. H. Measures, 304 York Ave., Weatherford, Texas. Gartman's
View Church.
- Rev. J. A. Brooks, Route 1, Comanche, Texas. First F. W. B. Church.
- Rev. C. B. Thompson, 2001 Prairie, Fort Worth, Texas.
- Rev. T. W. Smith, Iola, Texas. (Cross Church)
- Rev. E. J. Vaughn, 1908 So. 12th Waco, (14th and Park Church).
- Rev. J. O. Fort, 808 W. 27th St., Bryan, Texas. (Bryan F. W. B. Church)
- Rev. M. L. Sutton, Rt. 3, Box 48, Arlington, Texas. (Trinity)
- Rev. Ira Harper, Box 545, Tatum, Texas. (Union Arbor Church)
- Rev. Alvin F. Halbrook, Box 115, North Zulch, Texas. (North Zulch F.
W. B. Church)
- Rev. R. E. Conner, 1412 Beaumont St., Dallas, Texas. (First F. W. B.
Church)

CHURCH LETTER

Greetings from.....Church to the

(Please state whether Quarterly meeting, Yearly meeting or Association)
when convened with.....church at

We send as delegates, our beloved:

Delegates

Alternates

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whom we pray you will receive to sit with you, to aid you in your Godly deliberations.

Pastor's name and address.....

NAMES OF MINISTERS AND DEACONS

Ministers and Addresses

Deacons

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Done by order of the church assembled in conference, this _____ day
of _____ 19____.

Moderator

Clerk

DELEGATES

- Rev. E. S. Jameson, Tatum, Texas. Dirgin Church.
- Mrs. Lester Harris, Rt. 1, Laneville, Texas. Mount Olive Church at Compton.
- Mr. J. R. White, Bellmead, Texas. 14th and Part St. Church.
- Mr. Ellis Calvery, Deacon, 1800 South 11th St., Waco, Texas. 14th and Park St. Church.
- Mrs. Nora Conaway, Rt. 1, Chilton, Texas. Dott Church.
- Mr. J. B. Duke, Rt. 1, Carthage, Texas. Clayton Friendship F. W. B. Church.
- Mr. Ernest Conaway, Rt. 1, Chilton, Texas. Dott Church.
- Mrs. Barney Duke, Clayton, Texas. Friendship Church.
- Mr. J. A. Alford, Fellowship Church, Rt. 1, Box 255, Henderson, Texas.
- Mrs. Belle Easley, Rt. 1, Comanche, Texas, Gartman's View Church.
- Mrs. J. A. Brooks, Rt. 1, Comanche, Texas, Gartman's View Church.
- Mrs. M. L. Sutton, Rt. 3, Box 48, Arlington, Texas, Trinity Church.
- Mr. C. M. Maxwell, 2129 Browder St., Dallas, Texas, First F. W. B.
- Mrs. Alvin F. Halbrook, No. Zulch, Texas, N. Zulch F. W. B. Church.
- Mrs. Annie Alderman, 706 Lancaster, Dallas, Texas, F. F. W. B. Church.
- Mrs. I. M. Martin, Rt. 2, Eddy, Texas, Dott Church.
- Miss Margaret Maricle, Rt. 2, Eddy, Texas, Dott Church.
- Mr. J. L. Anderson, Rt. 2, Henderson, Texas, Good Hope Church.
- Mr. Roy M. Renfro, 2605 Decatur Ave., Ft. Worth, F. F. W. Baptist Church.
- Mr. H. H. Killough, 2217 Azle Ave., Ft. Worth, F. F. W. Bap. Church.
- Mr. J. D. Eudy, Deacon, 2012 Loving Ave., Ft. Worth, F. F. W. Baptist Church
- Mr. Clarence Bennett, Rt. 4, Henderson, Texas, Campbell Hill Church.
- Mrs. Jessie Ferguson, Rt. 2, Box 203-a, Ft. Worth, Texas. Membership F. F. W. Bap. Church.
- Mrs. Maud Wier, 2701 N. W. 24th. St., Ft. Worth, Texas, Trinity F. W. B. Church.
- Mrs. Ethel Brady, 2615 Prairie Ave., Ft. Worth, Texas, Trinity F. W. B. Church.
- Mr. G. O. Parker, Rt. 1, Laneville, Texas, Mt. Olive F. W. B. Church.
- Mr. E. O. Walters, 1904 McFerrin Ave., Waco, Texas, 14th and Park F. W. B. Church.
- Mrs. T. W. Smith, Iola, Texas, Cross Church.
- William S. McFairen, Rt. 4, Box 179, Henderson, Texas, Campbell Hill Church.
- Mr. E. E. Luster, Gen. Del., Paducah, Texas, First F. W. B. Church.
- Mrs. A. E. Stokes, Rt. 4, Henderson, Texas, New Hope F. W. B. Church.
- Mrs. Gus Smith, Rt. 4, Henderson, Texas, New Hope F. W. B. Church.
- Mrs. H. R. Berry, 1031 East 14th St., Houston, Texas, First F. W. B. Church of Houston.

MINUTES

of the

First Annual Session

of the

Texas State

FREE WILL BAPTIST SUNDAY
SCHOOL CONVENTION

MINUTES OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE FREE WILL BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION OF TEXAS OCTOBER 29-30, 1945

On October 29, 1945 a group of delegates representing various Free Will Baptist Sunday schools met with the Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church of Henderson, Texas, for the purpose of perfecting the organization of a State Sunday School Convention. After a fine song service, Rev. E. O. Walters of Waco, preached the opening sermon which was enjoyed and appreciated by all in attendance. At the close of the sermon it was still early in the evening and the host pastor, Rev. B. A. Grant, asked Rev. M. L. Sutton of Fort Worth to make a talk on the Sunday school and the purpose of the gathering. The meeting was then adjourned to meet at 9:30 a. m. Tuesday.

TUESDAY MORNING

At the appointed hour the group met and proceeded with the organization of the convention. Rev. J. B. Lovering was elected President pro-tem, and Mr. J. R. White was elected Secretary pro-tem.

At this time a devotional was led by Mrs. J. B. Lovering. She read the sixteenth psalm which was a blessing to all.

The president then called for the delegates to present their credentials. The delegations reported as follows:

Good Hope Sunday School—Mr. J. L. Anderson.

Fellowship Sunday School—Mr. L. D. Hardy, Mr. J. A. Alford, Mrs. W. O. Stokes.

Mt. Olive Sunday School—Mr. G. O. Parker.

Harper's Union Sunday School—Mrs. Geo. A. Birdwell, Mrs. R. F. Birdwell.

14th and Park St. Sunday School, Waco—Rev. E. O. Walters, Mr. J. R. White.

Trinity Sunday School, Fort Worth—Miss Bettie Jo Davis, Mrs. Eudora Newman, Mr. E. E. Eagleton, Sr.

First Church Sunday School, Fort Worth—Rev. C. B. Thompson.

On motion a committee on divine services was appointed by the chair, as follows: Rev. B. A. Grant, Mrs. Nancy Stokes, Mr. G. O. Parker.

Rev. E. J. Vaughn was selected to preach the eleven o'clock sermon, after which a bountiful dinner was served by the ladies of the church and the community.

At 1:30 p. m., the meeting was called to order by the president who read the 14th Psalm. Rev. M. L. Sutton led in prayer.

On motion all licensed and ordained ministers were seated as permanent members of the convention.

Motion that the chair appoint a committee to write a constitution and by-laws for the convention to be presented to the next regular session for adoption. Rev. M. L. Sutton, Rev. Tiff Covington and Rev. A. F. Halbrook were appointed.

Motion that we write nothing into our constitution which is in any way repugnant to the constitution of the State Association of Free Will Baptist churches of Texas, and that we give our guarantee to this effect to the State Association.

Motion that the next regular session of the convention meet on Thursday night before the 2nd Sunday in July, 1946, at the West Fork Association Tabernacle if the tabernacle grounds are purchased and the tabernacle constructed by that time. If not, the convention will meet with the Trinity Church of Fort Worth, Texas.

Motion that the chair appoint a committee to work out a standard of excellence for our Sunday School work in Texas. The following were appointed: Rev. J. O. Fort, Bryan; Rev. A. F. Ferguson, Weatherford; Rev. B. A. Grant, Henderson; Rev. H. H. Haston, Paducah.

The convention then proceeded to elect permanent officers. Those elected were: Rev. J. B. Lovering, President; Mrs. Helen Lowery, Secretary-Treasurer.

Motion that the chair appoint the following as Field Workers for the convention for the ensuing year: Mrs. Will Hayes, Texas Association; Mrs. M. L. Sutton, West Fork Association; Mrs. L. A. Norris, Southeast Texas Association; Mr. Tatum Trant, Central Texas Association; Rev. M. T. Holly, Northwest Brazos Association.

Motion that the secretary receive five dollars for each years service.

On motion the chair appointed the following on the Program Committee: Mr. E. E. Eagleton, Sr., Fort Worth; Miss Betty Joe Davis, Fort Worth; Rev. C. B. Thompson, Fort Worth.

At this time the congregation gave an offering of \$9.95 which was placed in the treasury to be used as the convention may direct.

Motion that we ask the State Association for permission to publish these minutes under the cover of their minutes. This convention to bear the expense of the publication.

On motion a standing vote of thanks was given to the Fellowship Church and community for the royal way they entertained this convention.

Motion to adjourn to meet Thursday night before the Second Sunday in July, 1946.

Signed:

J. B. Lovering, President,
Helen Lowery, Secretary.

