

MINUTES
of the
FIFTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION
of the
TEXAS STATE ASSOCIATION
of
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
when convened with
NORTH-WEST BRAZOS DISTRICT ASSOCIATION
AMARILLO, TEXAS
July 27 - 29, 1971

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The next session will be held with the East
Texas District Association.

TEXAS STATE ASSOCIATION

of

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

1971 - 72

OFFICERS

MODERATOR:

Rev. Allen Moore, 1131 West Owings, Denison, Texas

ASSISTANT MODERATOR:

Rev. H. Z. Cox, 918 Highfall, Dallas, Texas

CLERK:

Rev. Eugene Richards, P. O. Box 20, Bacliff, Texas

ASSISTANT CLERK:

Rev. Raymond Getz, 7420 Ashville Avenue, Ft. Worth, Texas

PARLIAMENTARIAN:

Rev. E. M. Kennedy, 835 Center Street, Bryan, Texas

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

Rev. Bobby Ferguson, 7731 Schneider Road, Houston, Texas

BOARDS

Missions-Church Extension

Rev. H. Ray Berry (Chairman)	1972
Rev. J. E. Marecle	1974
Bro. Bob Harless	1973
Rev. Herbert Richards	1973
Bro. Charles Denman	1974
Bro. A. V. Jennische	1974

Christian Education

Rev. Bobby Joe Davis	1974
Bro. I. C. Ferguson	1972
Rev. Glen Hood	1974
Rev. Maurice Hampton	1972
Rev. Thomas Marberry	1973

Retirement and Insurance

Rev. Elvis Fielding (Chairman)	1973
Rev. Dean Burpo	1973
Rev. Homer Tumbleson	1972
Rev. L. C. Lynch	1972
Rev. Leroy Cutler	1974

M I N U T E S
of
TEXAS STATE ASSOCIATION
of
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
when meeting with
NORTH-WEST BRAZOS DISTRICT ASSOCIATION
July 27 - 29, 1971

Proceedings

Tuesday Evening, July 27, 1971

The fifty-seventh annual session of the Texas Association of Free Will Baptists opened with Rev. Kenneth Brandon leading the congregation in singing "Revive Us Again." The assistant clerk, Rev. Raymond Getz introduced the moderator, Rev. Allen Moore. Rev. Moore brought a short message of welcome and challenge.

Rev. Mack Humble brought a welcome message from the host district.

Bro. Kenneth Brandon led the congregation in singing "I Know Whom I Have Believed." Rev. E. M. Kennedy led in prayer. A special offering of \$54.73 for the promotional work of the 1972 National Convention to be hosted by this association was taken. The offertory prayer was led by Rev. Bobby Ferguson. A time of special music was enjoyed in which the Roy Thomas family sang two songs and the Happy Hearts Quartet sang three songs. Rev. Rufus Coffey, the Executive Secretary of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, brought the message of the hour from First Corinthians 14:1-17. The congregation then sang "This Is My Father's World" led by Rev. Kenneth Brandon.

Bro. Moore appointed the following committees:

Nominating Committee

Rev. Leroy Cutler (Chairman)
Rev. Dean Burpo
Mr. Bob Harless

Committee on Committees

Rev. Herbert Richards (Chr.)
Rev. Lionel Cooksey
Rev. Mack Humble

Rev. Paul Kettelman brought greetings and a short report from Free Will Baptist Bible College.

Mr. Samuel Johnson brought greetings and a short report from the National Association Church Training Service Department.

The body was dismissed by prayer.

Wednesday Morning, July 28, 1971

The association was called to order by the moderator. Rev. Kenneth Brandon led the congregation in singing. Rev. M. L. Crosby brought the morning devotion "A Warning Against Pride." Rev. Jerry Rhoades, trustee of Hillsdale College spoke concerning the new plans for the college.

The Credentials Committee report (see reports no. 1) was given and the delegates were seated as the report was adopted. The ministers, deacons, and delegates were asked to stand and were charged with voting responsibilities. A petitionary letter from the Texas High Plains association was read. A motion was made to seat this new district association and to accept them into this body. The motion carried and the delegates were seated.

The report of the Committee on Committees (see reports no. 2) report was presented and adopted.

Rev. N. R. Smith brought greetings from the National Association Sunday School Department. He also explained the literature that is available through that department.

The State Women's Auxiliary report (see reports no. 3) was given by Mrs. Charlene Denman. Motion carried to accept this report.

The State Executive Secretary gave his report (see reports no. 4) and also included a summary of reports in the "Digest of Reports" on Missions and Christian Education.

A motion carried accepting these reports. The Board of Christian Education presented the following recommendation (see reports no. 5). Since the National Association is to meet within our state in 1972 this board recommends that each district sponsor its state CTS winners to Fort Worth. Rather than send \$3.00 per month to the state board, we recommend that it be sent to the districts for this year only. This recommendation was adopted.

A report from the state CTS director was received as information.

The Executive Secretary's annual report was given from the "Digest of Reports." The body accepted the report.

Bro. Henry Van Kluyve, director of deputation for Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions brought information and challenged our hearts concerning lost millions of the world.

The General Board report (see reports no. 6) was given and accepted to be acted upon item by item.

We were dismissed by prayer for a short recess.

Rev. Brandon led the congregation in singing as the 11:00 worship began.

Rev. Roy Thomas led in prayer and Rev. Moore made some announcements. Rev. Brandon continued leading the congregation in singing. A ministers quartet of Rev. E. M. Kennedy, Rev. Lionel Cooksey, Rev. Bobby Ferguson, and Rev. Kenneth Brandon brought a special number in song. Rev. Moore introduced Rev. Rufus Coffey to bring the message of the hour. We were dismissed in prayer and had the blessing on the food by Rev. Glen Hood.

The afternoon session opened with Rev. Brandon leading the congregation in singing "Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus." Rev. N. R. Smith led in prayer. Rev. Maurice Hampton brought our afternoon devotion from Isaiah 50:40.

The Nominating Committee gave its report and the following officers were elected. Moderator, Rev. Allen Moore; Assistant Moderator, Rev. H. Z. Cox; Clerk, Rev. Eugene Richards; Assistant Clerk, Rev. Raymond Getz; Parliamentarian, Rev. E. M. Kennedy; Mission Church Extension Board, (see page 2); Christian Education Board, (see page 2); Superannuation, Rev. Leroy Cutler and Rev. Dean Burpo. The latter to fill the unexpired term of Rev. Larry Hampton.

Bro. Coffey spoke to the body concerning the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

The General Board report (see reports no. 6) was received earlier. It was now acted upon item by item. Item 1 was tabled. Items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 were carried and item 8 was tabled.

The Obituary report (see reports no. 7) was given as a matter of information. The clerk was asked to include a place for deceased members on the church letters. The association paused for a moment of prayer in memory of those who had passed on.

The Resolutions Committee gave it's report (see reports no. 8) which was acted on item by item. Both resolutions passed.

The Temperance Committee report was accepted. (See reports no. 9)*

A motion that we change the name of the Superannuation Board to the Board of Retirement and Insurance was tabled.

Motion carried to adjourn. We were dismissed in prayer by Rev. Moore.

Wednesday Evening

The service opened with Rev. Kenneth Brandon leading the congregation in singing "Rescue the Perishing." Rev. Dean Burpo led us in prayer. Rev. Eugene Richards presented the plaques to the minister and layman of the year, Rev. Glen Hood, and layman, Weldon Huston.

Rev. Moore turned the program over to Rev. Herbert Richards representing the state mission board. A verbal report was given as to what had been accomplished. Bro. Roy Thomas was introduced to present the national home missions work. Bro. Thomas pointed out the things that the Home Missions Department does.

The ministers quartet sang "The Way That He Loves." Rev. Roy Thomas and family sang and Bro. Junior Harless sang "Fill My Cup." Rev. Roy Thomas then brought the message from Ezekial 37:1-10. An invitation was sung by the congregation "Have Thine Own Way Lord." Rev. Moore concluded the service. We received an offering. We were dismissed in prayer by Rev. Allen Moore.

Thursday Morning, July 29, 1971

Rev. Dean Burpo led the congregation in singing "Saved, Saved." Bro. Bob Field brought our morning devotion from Hebrews chapter 5.

A motion was made to take the item dealing with the state meeting time off the table. Motion carried. The item was defeated.

A motion was made that the state executive committee study and recommend a day change for the time of the state meeting. The motion carried.

A motion was made to take all tabled items from the table. The motion carried.

The second tabled motion concerning change in wording of constitution item 8, General Board report. This motion carried.

The third tabled motion changing the name of the Superannuation Board to the Board of Retirement and Insurance was carried.

A motion that the executive secretary mail the National Association qualifications for ministers to the districts with the recommendation that the districts use them was made and carried.

A motion was made that this body go on record as appreciating the national men who visited with us in this session and to the host district for the way they entertained this meeting. The motion was carried.

A motion was made that the clerk write the management of the Quality Motel expressing the appreciation of this body for the way we were accommodated. The motion carried.

Rev. Roy Thomas spoke on a joint project between state and national home missions.

A motion was carried to adjourn for a short recess. Bro. Bob Harless dismissed in prayer.

The 11:00 service began with Rev. Dean Burpo leading the congregation in singing "On Jordan's Stormy Banks." Bro. Wilson led in prayer. The congregation sang "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms." Mrs. Raymond Getz sang "Follow Me." Rev. Roy Thomas and family sang.

Rev. Mack Humble brought the message from Mark 16:15.

Rev. Moore closed out the meeting with announcements. We were dismissed in prayer by Rev. Moore.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT (NO. 1)

Midessa District, Letter and \$10.00 Dues, Six Delegates

West Fork District, Letter and \$25.00 Dues, Eight Delegates Listed

East Texas District, Letter and \$15.00 Dues, No Delegates Listed

Central Texas District, Letter and \$20.00 Dues, No Delegates Listed

Northwest Brazos District, Letter and \$10.00 Dues, Two Delegates

Texas High Plains District, Petitionary Letter, No Dues, One Delegate

East Texas invited the State Meeting and it will be their turn according to the list.

There were thirty five churches reporting in with a letter and dues. These churches listed thirty seven delegates.

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES REPORT (NO. 2)

Temperance

Rev. Bob Duvall
Bro. Bob Field
Mrs. Ila North

Resolutions

Rev. M.L. Crosby
Rev. Charles Reeves
Rev. Roy Norie, Jr.

Obituary

Mrs. Mae Rogers
Mrs. Gaston Clary
Mrs. Pat Cates

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY REPORT (NO. 3)

In our meeting we had an attendance of 22, and a total giving of \$2,547.11 for the year 1970. Our 1970 project was the Austin Mission and we received \$861.57. Our 1971 project will be a goal of \$1,000.00 to be divided equally between the Mack Owens and our expense for entertaining the National Association.

Our new officers elected are; President - Mrs. Asa Berry, Vice - President - Mrs. Ava Hellard, Clerk - Mrs. Lela Clary, Treasurer - Mrs. Charlene Denman, Field Worker - Mrs. Everyl Getz.

STATISTICAL WOMAN'S AUXILIARY REPORT FOR 1970

Total Membership - 209; National Dues Paid - \$156.75; Four districts reporting and the Northwest Brazos District petitioned for membership and was graciously received; 179 members engaged in personal service; 109 members making soul - winning efforts; 48 - number of souls won; 160 reported titheers.

ANNUAL EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

August 1 - 1970 - July 31 - 1971

GIVING THROUGH THE STATE OFFICE

FOREIGN MISSIONS

West Fork District	\$2,920.79
Central District	2,619.35
Midessa District	82.61
East Texas District	420.00
N.W. Brazos District	<u>66.02</u>
Total	\$6,108.77

CO - OP PLAN

West Fork District	\$1,349.51
Central District	1,756.85
Midessa District	1,133.71
East Texas District	381.43
N.W. Brazos District	<u>262.84</u>
Total	\$4,884.34

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

West Fork District	\$ 309.59
Central District	89.60
Midessa District	0
East Texas District	60.00
N.W. Brazos District	<u>0</u>
Total	\$ 459.19

BIBLE COLLEGE

West Fork District	\$ 384.00
Central District	1,045.18
Midessa District	10.00
East Texas District	0
N.W. Brazos District	<u>0</u>
Total	\$1,439.18

O. B. C.

West Fork District	\$1,698.90
Central District	125.35
Midessa District	625.00
East Texas District	0
N.W. Brazos District	<u>9.07</u>
Total	\$2,458.32

OTHER

West Fork District	\$ 163.00
Central District	6.58
Midessa District	36.00
East Texas District	0
N.W. Brazos District	<u>33.12</u>
Total	\$ 238.70

NATIONAL EXPENSE

West Fork District	\$ 180.00
Central District	530.00
Midessa District	41.00
East Texas District	170.00
N.W. Brazos District	<u>0</u>
Total	\$ 921.00

TOTAL GIVING

West Fork District	\$7,005.79
Central District	6,172.91
Midessa District	1,928.32
East Texas District	1,031.43
N.W. Brazos District	<u>371.05</u>
Total	\$16,509.50

STATE OFFICE FINANCIAL REPORT

August 1, 1970 - July 22, 1971

Balance on Hand August 1, 1970	\$ 198.81
Deposits for the Year	<u>6,908.58</u>
Total to Account For:	\$7,107.39

Disbursed During the Year	
Channelled Funds	\$ 612.97
National Office	1,318.25
Texas Missions	1,102.18
Christian Education	439.41
Superannuation	219.75
Challenge	325.49
Travel	669.45
Secretary's Salary	600.00
Office Supplies	44.75
Camera	27.10
Youth Activities	46.42
Clerk's Honorarium	50.00
Assistant Clerk's Honorarium	10.00
Song Books	47.26
National Dues	50.00
State Minutes	178.30

Total Disbursed	\$5,741.33
Plus July Balance	1,366.06

Total Accounted For	\$7,107.39
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NOTE: Of this \$1,366.06 balance, \$921.00 has been designated for National Meeting expense.

Rev. Bobby Ferguson
Executive Secretary

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During the past year, I have represented Texas Free Will Baptists on the following boards and committee. (1) Trustee Board, O.B.C., (2) General Board, National, (3) Executive Committee, State.

I have edited, printed and mailed five issues of our State Paper, received and disbursed all monies handled through the state office, printed and distributed the state minutes, corresponded with district clerks, board chairmen and national work representatives.

I have promoted our work in all of our five districts. Worked with the State Executive Committee in planning the state meeting and promoting the national meeting in Fort Worth in 1972. In doing this, I traveled approximately 6,000 miles. And for your convenience, prepared and printed a digest of reports to be used during this state meeting.

As my term as secretary comes to a close, all I can say is, thank you for letting me try.

Rev. Bobby Ferguson, Secretary

TEXAS STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 7 - 1 - 70 THROUGH 6-30-71

(NO. 5)

On Hand 7-1-70		\$ 10.76
Receipts During Year		\$ 947.13
Designated for Youth Travel	\$408.50	
State CTS Rally Offering	25.02	
State Co-op	513.61	
Total To Account For		\$ 957.89

Expenditures:		
Postage		\$ 6.00
Telephone		5.53
State CTS Rally Expense, Incl. Troph.		182.01
Nat'l. Youth Conf. Team Registration		30.00
State CTS Director - Travel to Nat'l.		108.00
Youth Travel to Nat'l. 11 @ \$37.50		<u>412.50</u>
Total Expenditures		\$ 744.04

Balance on Hand 6-30-71		
Youth Travel Fund	\$ 1.27	
General Fund	212.85	
Total		\$ 213.85

Since the National Association is to meet within our state in 1972, this board recommends that each district sponsor its state CTS winners to Ft. Worth. Rather than send \$3.00 per month to the state board, we recommend that it be sent to the districts for this year only.

B. J. Davis, Secretary, Treasurer

GENERAL BOARD REPORT (NO. 6)

1. We the General Board recommend that the time of the state meeting be changed to Thursday and Friday before the third Sunday in June.
2. We recommend that Rev. Raymond Getz be delegated authority to spend necessary state funds for publicity of the National Association.
3. We recommend that the moderator appoint a committee to take care of the National Association.
4. We recommend that Rev. Clyde Guillentine serve on the board of trustees of Hillsdale College for a 6 year term beginning Aug. 1, 1971.
5. We recommend the adding of telephone numbers with the ministers names to the digest of reports and the minutes.
6. We recommend that we accept the invitation of the East Texas District to convene with them next year.
7. We recommend that we continue the same breakdown on co-op funds received by state office.
8. We recommend that this body ammend Article XII page 28 to add "and voting" on the second line after all members present and also section 9 of the by-laws. Also all other similar places.

OBITUARY COMMITTEE REPORT (NO. 7)

Only one district letter have their deceased listed. The Northwest Brazos district listed four, with names of each.

We recommend that we stand in a moment of silent prayer for all those deceased in all the district associations.

We recommend that a place be made on the district letter forms to list each deceased person's name.

Mrs. Mae Rogers (Chairman)
Mrs. Gaston Clary
Mrs. Pat Cates

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT (NO. 8)

1. Be it resolved that our executive secretary write a letter to our Post Master General in protest of lewd material coming throuth the mail.
2. Be it resolved that we as Free Will Baptists take a firm stand against this hippie life style and encourage our people to show the transformed life.

Rev. M.L. Crosby, Rev. Charles Reeves,
Rev. Roy Norie, Jr. (Chairman)

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT (NO. 9)

The Bible teaches temperance and moderation in all things, and in certain areas complete abstinence. We, the Temperance Committee beseech complete and total abstinence from dangerous drugs, immorality, pleasures of this world, alcoholic beverages according to II Corinthians 6:17 "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing: and I will receive you."

Let us make a war upon these unclean temptations and human lust by placing on the whole armour of God according to Ephesians 6:11, and finally brethren hold out faithful until the end, for there is layed up a crown of righteousness for each one that overcomes.

Bro. Bob DuVall, Bro. Bob Field,
11a North

TEXAS FWB MISSION-CHURCH EXTENTION BOARD

TREASURER'S REPORT (NO. 10)

Balance on Hand January 1, 1970		\$ 806.48
Receipts During 1970		
Co-operative	\$1,387.16	
Woman's Auxiliary	104.28	
Northwest Brazos	35.89	
W.N.A.C. (Aguirre)	48.39	
Missions Offering, State Meeting	389.62	
Faith Church (Austin)	60.00	
Rev. H. Ray Berry	40.00	
Midessa District	8.15	
Fellowship Church (Austin)	15.00	
1st Dallas Church (Austin)	81.96	
1st Dallas Woman's Aux.	20.00	
Central Texas District	94.59	
Faith Church	70.00	
Mt. Union Church	10.00	
WNAC	13.70	
N. Amarillo Church	10.00	
Denison Church	12.93	
Total Received		\$2,401.67
Balance Plus Amount Received		\$3,208.15
Disbursements During 1970		
Ken Eagleton	\$310.00	Paul Meyers (moving) \$404.00
Wesley Calvery	135.00	Wesley Calvery, travel
Sammy Wilkerson	125.00	to State Meeting 35.00
Austin Church	342.80	Nat'l. F. Missions, 50%
Rev. Harvey Aguirre	53.39	State Offering 184.81
Houston Spanish Mission		Nat'l. H. Missions, 25%
Building Rent	640.00	State Offering 92.41
Travel & Telephone	121.24	Tom Willey, Jr. 10.00
Amarillo Church	600.00	Rev. Allen Moore, travel
		to Amarillo 55.20
Total Disbursements	\$3,108.85,	Balance Dec. 31, 1970 \$99.30

Submitted by, Charles Denman

ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT OF WEST FORK DISTRICT - 1970

MODERATOR: Rev. Tiff Covington, Route 2, Bellevue, Texas 76228

CLERK - TREASURER: Rev. Raymond D. Getz, 7420, Ashville Avenue, Ft. Worth, Texas 76116

Number of District Associations	1
Number of Churches	22
Church Membership	1506
Number of Parsonages	4
Number of Ordained Ministers	36
Number of Licensed Ministers	7
Number of Ordained Deacons	60
Enrolment of Sunday Schools	1276
Average Attendance of Sun. S.	901
Enrolment of CTS	353
Average Attendance of CTS	279
Enrolment of Woman's Aux.	123
Average Attendance of W.A.	90
Enrolment of Master's Men	27
Mid-week Service Average Attn.	491

Disbursement of District Co-op - 1970

West Fork District Mission Bd.	\$6,454.27
Texas State Co-op	1,383.07
Oklahoma Bible College	922.04
District Youth Camp	461.02

Total Disbursed	\$9,220.40
Amount Enclosed for Fees	\$ 25.00

Financial Report

Spent for Local Causes:	
Pastor's Salaries	\$ 56,829.00
Evangelistic Work	2,216.00
Building and Repair	121,025.00
Literature	3,326.00
Other	4,281.00
Total Spent for Local Causes	\$187,677.00

Spent for Outside Causes:	
Cooperative Plan	\$ 9,220.40
Foreign Missions	3,057.40
Home Missions	623.38
Education	2,199.13
Associational, State and National Projects	116.00
Other	280.32
Total Spent for Outside Causes	\$ 15,496.00

Total Expenditures	\$203,173.63
Value of Associational Property	\$ 12,000.00
Value of Church Property	\$488,600.00
Value of Parsonage Prop.	\$ 33,500.00

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ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT OF CENTRAL TEXAS DISTRICT - 1970

MODERATOR: Rev. Herbert Richards, Box 476, Fulton, Texas 78358

CLERK - TREASURER: Mrs. Charlene Denman, 6507 Texas Avenue, Houston, Texas 77011

Delegates to be appointed at the convention (13) Dues \$20.00

Number of Quarterly Conferences	2
Number of District Associations	1
Number of Churches	20
Church Membership	1,369
Number of Parsonages	6
Number of Ordained Ministers	19
Number of Licensed Ministers	2
Enrolment of Sunday Schools	904
Average Attendance of Sun. Schools	607
Enrolment of CTS	355
Average Attendance of CTS	233
Enrolment of Woman's Aux.	104
Enrolment of Master's Men	19
Mid-week Service Held	762
Value of Church Property and Parsonage	\$455,684.00

Financial Report

Spent for Local Causes:	
Pastor's Salaries	\$ 50,786.90
Evangelistic Work	3,073.86
Building and Repair	8,760.13
Literature	4,421.25
Other	28,095.52
Total Spent for Local Causes	\$ 96,300.03
Spent for Outside Causes:	
Cooperative Plan	\$ 3,251.59
Foreign Missions	2,489.74
Home Missions	1,825.14
Superannuation	138.00
Total Spent for Outside Causes	8,704.47
Total Expenditures	\$105,004.50

ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT OF MIDESSA DISTRICT ASSOCIATION - 1970

MODERATOR: Rev. Glen Hood, 4726 Seisure Drive, Midland, Texas 79701

CLERK - TREASURER: Mr. & Mrs. Sherman North, Box 903, Ft. Stockton, Texas 79735

Total Membership	407	Paid to Evangelist	\$ 631.30
Number of Churches	6	Building and Repairs	8,853.69
Number of Ordained Ministers	7	Literature	1,463.08
Number of Ordained Deacons	16	Miscellaneous Expense	5,550.08
Enrollment of Sunday Schools	309	Incidentals	2,280.79
Average S. S. Attendance	235	Total Spent for Local Causes	35,228.50
Enrollment of CTS	107	Foreign Missions	45.90
Average CTS Attendance	34	Home Missions	20.00
Number of Woman's Auxiliaries	2	CTS Youth Fund (Channeled)	36.00
Average W. A. Attendance	35	CTS Youth Fund	45.00
Value of Church Properties	\$171,000.00	Okla. Bible College	350.00
Value of Parsonages	23,000.00	Okla. B. C. (Channeled)	300.00
Paid to Coop	1,266.50	Bible College (Nashville)	10.00
Pastor's Salaries	21,645.54		

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ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT OF EAST TEXAS DISTRICT - 1970

MODERATOR: Rev. Harold Teague, 501 Russell Street, Henderson, Texas 75652

CLERK - TREASURER: Mrs. Gladys Berry, Rt. 1, Laneville, Texas 75667

PROMOTIONAL SECRETARY: Mr. Elbert Nations, Carthage, Texas 75633

Delegates to be appointed by moderator at meeting.

Number of District Associations	1	Financial Report:	
Number of Churches	8	Spent for Local Causes:	
Church Membership	545	Pastor's Salaries	\$10,835.54
Number of Parsonages	2	Evangelistic Work	777.75
Number of Ordained Ministers	7	Building and Repair	3,571.87
Number of Licensed Ministers	1	Literature	1,335.04
Number of Ordained Deacons	29	Other	3,050.87
Enrolment of Sunday Schools	306	Youth Camp Fund	1,336.45
Average Attendance of Sun. S.	25	Total Spent for Local Causes	\$20,907.52
Enrolment of CTS	143	Spent for Outside Causes:	
Average Attendance of CTS	20	Cooperative Plan	\$ 882.13
Enrolment of Woman's Auxiliaries	31	Foreign Missions	367.64
Mid-week Service Avg. Attn.	20	Home Missions	175.00
Statistics		Education	576.46
Value of Associational (Youth Camp)		Associational, State and	
Property	\$15,000.00	National Projects	270.00
Value of Church Property	\$68,500.00	Total Spent for Outside Causes	\$ 2,771.23
Value of Parsonage "	\$12,500.00	Total Expenditures	\$23,678.75
Amount Enclosed for Fees	\$ 15.00		

ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT OF NORTHWEST BRAZOS DISTRICT - 1970

MODERATOR: Rev. Alton B. Hickey, Sr., 2320 Violet St., Vernon, Texas 76384

CLERK: Mrs. Mae Rogers, P. O. Box 343, Vernon, Texas 76384

PROMOTIONAL SECRETARY: Same as Clerk

DELEGATES: Mrs. Oneta Brandon, Mrs. Mae Rogers

Number of District Associations	1	FINANCIAL REPORT	
Number of Churches	3	Spent for Local Causes:	
Church Membership	204	Pastor's Salaries	\$ 4,083.00
Number of Parsonages	1	Evangelistic Work	291.59
Number of Ordained Ministers	7	Building and Repair	2,978.38
Number of Ordained Deacons	6	Literature	653.43
Enrolment of Sunday Schools	149	Other	804.77
Average Attendance of S.S.	87	Utilities	1,240.30
Enrolment of CTS	59	Flowers	87.75
Average Attendance of CTS	50	Total Spent for Local Causes	10,139.22
Enrolment of Woman's Auxiliaries	18	Spent for Outside Causes:	
Average Attendance of Woman's Aux.	13	Cooperative Plan	\$ 211.71
Enrolment of Master's Men	6	Foreign Missions	132.92
Average Attendance of Master's Men	5	Home Missions	178.89
Mid-Week Service Average Attendance	65	Nat'l Home Missions	10.00
No. Members Received	40	Okl. Bible College	78.49
No. Members Dismissed	6	Total Spent for Outside C.	\$ 612.02
No. Members Died	3	Total Expenditures	\$10,751.24
		Value of Church Property	\$55,000.00
		Value of Parsonage "	\$ 5,000.00
		Amount Enclosed for Fees	10.00

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Obituary List: Bro. Roy Pierce, Bro. E. O. Boren, Sis. Lula Cox

Ordained Ministers Names and Addresses:

Brandon, Kenneth, 2209 S. Grand, Lot 505, Amarillo, Texas 79103
 Crosby, M. L., P.O. Box 224, Crowell, Texas 79227
 Garrett, G.C., Sr., 1300 Gordon St. Vernon, Texas 76384
 Haston, H.H., Guthrie Rt., Box 48, Paducah, Texas 79248
 Hickey, Alton B., Sr., 2320 Violet St., Vernon, Texas 76384
 Humbles, Mack, Rt. 2, Box 83, Amarillo, Texas 79105
 Witt, Robert W., Plainview, Texas 79072

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HIGH PLAINS DISTRICT

Oak Dell, Rev. M.R. Hampton, 1017 Inman St., Amarillo, Tex. 79104
 Tampa, Rev. L.C. Lynch, 821 N. Dwight, Pampa, Texas 79065

WEST FORK DISTRICT

CHURCH	CLERK	PASTOR
Arlington First 421 Truman St. Arlington, Texas	Major Followwill 907 Wabash Ct. Arlington, Texas	Rev. Major Followwill 907 Wabash Ct. Arlington, Tex. 76010
Bowie First 505 Strong St. Bowie, Texas	Mrs. Doris Lawson 1100 Sanders Bowie, Texas	Rev. Wayne Polk Montague Highway Bowie, Texas 76238
Comanche First 208 E. Oak St. Comanche, Texas	Mrs. Kenneth Steele 703 E. Oak St. Comanche, Texas	Rev. Kenneth Steele 703 E. Oak Comanche, Texas 76442
Concord 829 W. Daniieldale Rd. Dallas, Texas	Mrs. S.D. Hale 7839 Olusta Dr. Dallas, Texas 75217	Rev. Fred King Ben Wheeler, Texas
Dallas First 1711 Reynoldston Dallas, Texas	Mrs. Juanita Adams 755 Goldwood Dallas, Texas 76232	Rev. H.Z. Cox 918 Highfall Dallas, Texas 75232
Denison First 416 W. Hull Denison, Texas	Mrs. Bob Wilson 416 W. Hull Denison, Texas	Rev. Allen Moore 1131 W. Owings Denison, Texas 75020
Faith 1202 36th St. Wichita Falls, Texas	Mrs. Murel Ford 1622 Best Blvd. Wichita Falls, Texas	Rev. Roy Norie, Jr. 4114 Alpine Wichita Falls, Tex. 763
Friendship 3054 Schadt. St. Ft. Worth, Texas	Mrs. Leota Barger 7432 Mohawk Ft. Worth, Texas	Rev. Owen Barger 7432 Mohawk Ft. Worth, Tex. 76116
Easley Chapel Comanche, Texas	Mrs. Edward Isham Route 3 Comanche, Texas	Rev. J.E. Jean Route 1 Comanche, Texas 76442
Gainesville 1937 Rice Gainesville, Texas		Rev. Frank Medart 707 E. Garrett St. Gainesville, Tex. 76240
Garland 2317 W. Kingsley Garland, Texas	Mrs. JoAnn George 11128 Staffordshire Dr. Garland, Texas	Rev. Bob Thornburgh 1426 Homestead Place Garland, Texas 75040
Grace 7800 Corina White Settlement, Tex.	Mrs. Francis Jenkins 810 Meadowpark Dr. Ft. Worth, Texas 76108	Rev. W.H. Bostic 7408 Willis Ft. Worth, Tex. 76116
Liberty 504 E. College Comanche, Texas	Mrs. Dorothy Abbey Rt. 3, Box 213 Comanche, Texas 76442	

WEST FORK DISTRICT CONTINUED

CHURCH	CLERK	PASTOR
New Salem Rt. 1 Decatur, Texas	Mr. George M. Burns Rt. 1 Decatur, Texas	Rev. J. T. Horner 201 South Trenchard Decatur, Texas 76234
Philadelphia 1408 Lexington St. Weatherford, Texas	Mrs. Sue Hamilton 319 N. Brazos Weatherford, Texas	Rev. Glenn Hubbard 1543 Hwy. 80 West Weatherford, Tex. 76086
Pleasant Mound Buffalo Springs, Texas	Mrs. Marie Perkins Rt. 2 Bellvue, Texas	Rev. Tiff Covington Rt. 2 Bellvue, Texas 76228
Rayenell 608 Rayenell Dallas, Texas	Mrs. Betty Morrison 6925 Antler Ave. Dallas, Texas	Rev. Bob Morrison 6925 Antler Ave. Dallas, Texas 76217
Rock of Ages 7413 Calmont Ave. Ft. Worth, Texas	Mrs. Leota Turner 103 Mildred Dr. Ft. Worth, Texas	Rev. Raymond Getz 7420 Ashville Ave. Ft. Worth, Tex. 76116
Trinity 3715 Flory St. Ft. Worth, Texas	Mrs. Helen Wilkes 904 Gregory Bedford, Tex. 76700	Rev. Bob DuVall 6816 Hardisty Ft. Worth, Tex. 76118
Waco First 1901 S. 12th St. Waco, Texas	Mrs. Leroy Rancher 3513 Ferndale Dr. Waco, Texas 76706	Rev. J. E. Marecle 217 Ave. G Waco, Texas 76705
Weatherford First 109 Line St. Weatherford, Texas	Niamo Francis Weatherford, Texas	Rev. Alton Kirkland 712 S. Lamar Weatherford, Tex. 76086
Wichita Falls First 3615 Arthur Wichita Falls, Texas	Mrs. Lillian White Wichita Falls, Tex.	Rev. Dean Burpo 3613 Arthur Wichita Falls, Tex. 76301
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CENTRAL TEXAS DISTRICT FRIENDSHIP QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

CHURCH	CLERK	PASTOR
Bayshore Grand Avenue Bacliff, Texas 77518	Mrs. Jeff Steed Box 190 Bacliff, Texas	Rev. Eugene Richards P. O. Box 20 Bacliff, Texas 77518
Blue Lake	W. K. O'Brien Route 1 Anderson, Tex. 77830	Rev. Leroy Cutler 312 Laurel Street Bryan, Texas 77801
Bonami	Mrs. Barbara Brown Route 2, Box 250 Kirbyville, Tex. 75956	Rev. R. E. Sheffield Box 173 Roganville, Tex. 75971

FRIENDSHIP QUARTERLY CONFERENCE CONT.

CHURCH	CLERK	PASTOR
Bright Light Bryan, Texas	Mrs. Glen Hyden Rt. 3, Box 250A Bryan, Texas 77801	Rev. A. J. Keech Rt. 3, Box 250 Bryan, Tex. 77801
Calvary 815 Count Street Houston, Texas	Mrs. Jack Nimmo 2823 Bennington Houston, Tex. 77016	Rev. Ned Graham 1412 N Market St. Loop Baytown, Tex. 77520
Cedros Del Libano 1220 Beck Bryan, Texas 77801	Mrs. Olga Cortinas 404 Dunn Bryan, Texas	Rev. Bill Zamora 1210 Beck Street Bryan, Texas
Conroe Conroe, Texas	Mrs. Jewell Gregory 113 Chambers Conroe, Texas 77301	Rev. Everett Hellard P. O. Box 1472 Conroe, Tex. 77301
Cross Iola, Texas 77861	Mrs. Melvin Nevill Route 1 Iola, Texas	Rev. Gaston Clary Route 1 Iola, Texas 77861
Evergreen Iola, Texas 77861	Mrs. C. E. Dudley Route 2 Iola, Texas	Rev. Keith Phipps Route 2 Iola, Texas 77861
Fellowship 1406 Ursuline Avenue Bryan, Texas	Mrs. Lyndel Beene 1212 Garden Lane Bryan, Texas	Rev. E. M. Kennedy 103 N Coulter Bryan, Texas 77801
First Bryan 30th and Parker Bryan, Texas 77801	Mrs. N. T. Kinne P. O. Box 667 Bryan, Texas	Rev. Leroy Cutler 312 Laurel Bryan, Texas
First Houston 7719 Schneider Rd. Houston, Texas 77016	Mr. Charles Denman 6507 Texas Avenue Houston, Texas 77011	Rev. Bobby Ferguson 7731 Schneider Road Houston, Tex. 77016
Huntsville Huntsville, Texas	Mrs. Georgie L. Akin 428 Avenue K. Huntsville, Tex. 77340	Rev. Henry Hall
North Zulch North Zulch, Texas	Mrs. Carrie Casey North Zulch, Tex 77872	Rev. Alvin Halbrook 810 Gordon Bryan, Texas 77801
Pine Prairie Huntsville, Texas	Mrs. Linda Clements Route 3, Box 331A Huntsville, Texas	Rev. Paul Morris Route 3 Huntsville, Tex. 77340

CENTRAL TEXAS DISTRICT
MISSION QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

CHURCH	CLERK	PASTOR
Austin First Eberhart Lane Austin, Texas	Deborah L. Engler 4601 Goliad Lane Austin, Texas 78745	Rev. Paul C. Meyer 8002 B Forestwood Dr. Austin, Texas 78745
Christ's 3126 Gollihar Road Corpus Christi, Tex.	Mrs. Lorene Millard 917 Ronald Corpus Christi, Tex.	Rev. Herbert Richards Box 476 Fulton, Tex. 78358
Faith 704 W. Gerald San Antonio, Tex. 78221	Mrs. Gordon Godshall 824 Brooks Avenue Schertz, Tex. 78154	Rev. Lester Smith 704 W. Gerald San Antonio, Texas
Northcrest Church Glasgow & Kelly Crick Victoria, Texas 77901	Mrs. Jackie Lehr 402 Dover Victoria, Texas 77901	
Zion 1126 Stone Street Corpus Christi, Texas	Mrs. Elaine Martin 1851 Waldron Corpus Christi, Texas 78418	

OTHER MINISTERS

Rev. H. Ray Berry Sr., 6918 Tallahassee, San Antonio, Texas 78227
 Rev. Jimmy Brown, San Antonio, Texas (Armed Forces)
 Rev. Sanford Davis Jr., 2501 Lone Tree Road, Victoria, Texas 77901
 Rev. Charles Reeves, 1205 Stone Street, Corpus Christi, Texas 78418
 Rev. W. A. Gray, Route 4, Box 796, Fayetteville, North Carolina 28304
 Rev. J. L. Bounds, 307 Laurel Street, Bryan, Texas 77801 (Deceased)
 Rev. Bobby Joe Davis, 7210 Dearborn, Houston, Texas 77055
 Miss Tommie Franklin, 807 E. 26th Street, Bryan, Texas 77801
 Rev. Don Lombard, out of state
 Rev. Larry McKay, 1807 Deams, Houston, Texas 77016
 Rev. R.E. Smith, out of state
 Rev. C. B. Thompson, 1206 Pinewood, Pasadena, Texas
 Rev. E. J. Vaughn, Route 2, Box 251, Kirbyville, Texas 75956

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MIDESSA DISTRICT

CHURCH	CLERK	PASTOR
First Odessa Odessa, Texas	Ruby Stout 2021 West 8th St. Odessa, Texas 79760	Rev. Lionel Cooksey 2205 West 7th St. Odessa, Texas
Bible Odessa, Texas	Neva Woody 1419 Lauderdale Odessa, Tex. 79760	Rev. Keith Woody 1419 Lauderdale Odessa, Texas

MIDESSA DISTRICT CONTINUED

CHURCH	CLERK	PASTOR
First Kermit Kermit, Texas	Marjorie Costello 1018 Altman Kermit, Tex. 79745	Rev. Dean Thompson 1015 West Campbell Kermit, Texas
First Seminole Seminole, Texas	Eugene McCown Rt. 3 Seminole, Tex. 79360	Rev. H. D. Baker 504 N.W. Ave. "F" Seminole, Texas
Faith Andrews, Texas	Wilma Rogers 710 N.W. 5th St. Andrews, Tex. 79714	Rev. Floyd Brawley 809 N.E. Mustang Dr. Andrews, Texas
Westside Midland, Texas	Geraldine Harmon Rt. 4 Keenland Midland, Tex. 79701	Rev. Glen Hood 4726 Leisure Dr. Midland, Texas
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EAST TEXAS DISTRICT

CHURCH	CLERK	PASTOR
Good Hope Henderson, Texas	Mrs. Bill Burns Rt. 5 Henderson, Texas	Rev. Jerry McArthur 308 Margaret St. Henderson, Tex. 75652
Youngblood Beckville, Texas	Mrs. Claude Tompkins Rt. 1 Beckville, Tex. 75631	Rev. Leroy Anderson Rt. 3 Carthage, Tex. 75633
Mt. Union Garrison, Texas	Mrs. Gladys Lunsford Rt. 2 Garrison, Texas 75946	Rev. Leroy Anderson
First Carthage Carthage, Texas	Mrs. J. M. Goode 707 W. Holly St. Carthage, Texas	Rev. J. M. Goode 707 W. Holly St. Carthage, Texas 75633
Mt. Olive Laneville, Texas	Mrs. Joe Fergerson Rt. 1, Box 137 Laneville, Texas	Rev. Don Bradshaw Rt. 1 Laneville, Texas 75667
First Henderson Henderson, Texas	Miss Mary Brown 307 W. Elk St. Henderson, Texas	Rev. Harold Teague 501 Russell St. Henderson, Texas 75652
Stewart Rt. 4 Henderson, Texas	Mrs. Elmer Hampton Rt. 4 Henderson, Texas	Rev. William Housely 1337 Traffic Bossier City, La.

EAST TEXAS DISTRICT CONTINUED

CHURCH	CLERK	PASTOR
Buncombe Rt. 1 Carthage, Texas	Mr. L. D. Ritter Rt. 1 Carthage, Tex. 75633	Rev. L. K. Brashier Rt. 4 Henderson, Tex. 75652

OTHER MINISTERS (Inactive):

Rev. Ivan Godwin, Rt. 1, Carthage, Texas 75633
 Rev. Lee Fears, Rt. 1, Laneville, Texas 75667

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THE CONSTITUTION OF THE TEXAS STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

ARTICLE I. Name

This organization shall be known as the Texas State Association of Free Will Baptists.

ARTICLE II. Purpose

The purpose of this Association shall be to enlist the co-operation of all Free Will Baptists in Texas in sending the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all quarters, both near and far, in winning the lost through the preaching of the Gospel, and in teaching and training those who are saved to be ho -
 lier and more efficient members of the body of Christ, thus advancing the interests of the Kingdom of God.

This Association shall produce literature, and establish and maintain such educational and benevolent institutions as needed to accomplish its purpose of winning this world to Christ.

ARTICLE III. Membership

Section 1. This association shall be composed of the District Associations and the churches of Texas which are known to be orderly, duly organized, and conforming to the faith and usages of the Free Will Baptist Denomination as set forth in the treatise of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, "A Treatise of the Faith and Practice of Free Will Baptists." All churches belonging to this State Association must be members in good standing of some regularly organized District Association. And church or Association conforming to the above regulations make proper application for membership in this Association, and, after satisfactory examination and recommendation by the Credentials Committee, be elected to membership in this State Association by a two-thirds majority vote of the body.

Section 2. All regularly ordained ministers and deacons, who are members in good standing of a local church belonging to this Association, are members of this Association.

ARTICLE IV. Representation

Section 1. Each District Association shall be entitled to one delegate for each one hundred members, or fractional part thereof.

Section 2. Each church shall be entitled to two delegates regardless of the number of its membership.

Section 3. Regularly ordained ministers and deacons who are qualified members of this Association shall be entitled to vote in all sessions of the Association.

Section 4. Elected delegates to the State Association shall be retained as standing delegates for special called meetings.

ARTICLE V. Finances and Statistics

Section 1. It shall be required of all District Associations that they represent themselves by delegates, and communicate by letter their standing, prospects, and statistics at each annual convention of this Association. Any District Association belonging to this Association, which shall fail to report itself for two successive sessions, may be dismissed from the Association by two-thirds majority vote of the members present in a regularly constituted session.

Section 2. It shall be required of all churches belonging to this Association that they communicate by letter of greeting, naming their delegates. It is strongly urged of each church that it represent itself by delegates.

Section 3., The letter of each District Association shall be accompanied by a registration fee of ten dollars for the first five hundred members, or fractional part thereof, and five dollars for each additional five hundred members, or fractional part thereof.

Section 4. The letter of each church shall be accompanied by a registration fee of five dollars.

ARTICLE VI. Discipline

Section 1. The State Association shall investigate any question of descepline, doctrine, or practice that may come before it from any of the bodies comprising this Association and make recommendations to correct such erroneous views.

Section 2. In the event of any question of discipline, doctrine, or practice on the part of an associate Association, delegates of that Association or church shall not be seated until such error or erroneous views have been corrected.

Section 3. Decisions of the Credentials Committee may be appealed:
(1) to the State Association sitting as a committee of the whole, or
(2) to a special committee.

Section 4. The State Association cannot discipline a local church, churches, or members of a local church except to discipline the District of which they are members. The Association does have the right to refuse to seat ministers or churches against whom charges are pending.

Section 5. This Association reserves the right to withdraw fellowship from any member District until such time as this Association is satisfied that discipline, doctrine, and practices are in conformity with the doctrine and practices of this Association; but in no case shall the Association assume authority to reverse the decisions or abrogate the autonomy of local churches or District Associations.

ARTICLE VII. Date and Location of the Annual Convention

Section 1. This Association shall convene at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday night before the first Sunday in August, and continue through noon on Thursday.

Section 2. Each District shall have the privilege of entertaining the State Association according to the length of time since it last entertained it, according to the orderly revolving list of all the Districts. Any new Association becoming a member of this State Association shall automatically be placed at the bottom of the list. If the District next in turn to entertain this Association does not desire to exercise its privilege, it may voluntarily forfeit its privilege until its next regular turn to entertain.

ARTICLE VIII. Officers

Section 1. The officers of this State Association shall consist of a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Parliamentarian, and Executive Secretary.

Section 2. These officers shall be elected at each regular annual session of the Association except the Executive Secretary, who shall be elected every two years.

Section 3. The election of officers shall become the first item of business of the afternoon session of the second day.

ARTICLE IX. Duties of Officers

Section 1. The Moderator shall preside over all sessions of the State Association, the Executive Board, and the General Board. He shall work to promote the general welfare of the Association. The Moderator shall appoint committees as provided for in this constitution.

Section 2. The Assistant Moderator shall serve in all capacities of the Moderator in his absence, or upon the request of the Moderator.

Section 3. The Clerk shall make a legible, complete, and accurate record of all proceedings of the Association, and prepare a manuscript of the same for printing of the minutes. He shall make and keep on file minutes of all regular or called sessions of the Association, the Executive Board, and the General Board. He shall proof-read any minutes recorded by himself prior to relinquishing this responsibility to any duly elected successor.

Section 4. The Assistant Clerk shall work with the Clerk in every capacity when called upon to do so by the Clerk or Moderator.

Section 5. The Executive Secretary shall assist in the co-ordinating of the work of the various boards of the State Association and shall serve as State Treasurer. He shall promote, through his office, both the State and National denominational programs, and arrange or assist in the arranging of itineraries for State and National workers. He shall also assist, as far as is practical, in the establishing of new churches and missions within the State. Furthermore, it shall be his duty to edit and publish our State paper, The Texas Challenge.

He shall receive, hold, and disburse money as is made available by the State Association to the various boards, offices, and departments as directed by the State Association.

He shall present a complete written report of all work done to each annual session of this Association with a financial statement of all monies received and disbursed to each board, National programs, etc.

The work of the Executive Secretary shall be under the supervision of the State Executive Board.

Section 6. It shall be the duty of the parliamentarian to thoroughly acquaint himself with good and accepted parliamentary rules that he may be prepared to rule on the order of any business procedure being transacted at any session of the Association. It shall be the privilege of the Chair to call for ruling from the Parliamentarian when he deems it necessary.

ARTICLE X. Standing Boards

Section 1. The standing boards of the State Association shall include the Executive Board, General Board, Missions-Church Extension Board, Superannuation Board, and Christian Education Board.

Section 2. Unless provided for elsewhere, all standing boards shall be composed of five (5) members each, who shall be elected to serve for terms of three (3) years.

Each board shall elect a chairman and clerk-treasurer to act for one year, and to be elected at the close of each annual State Convention.

The election of board members shall be the next item of business following the election of the State officers, and by the same procedure.

Section 3. It shall be the duty of all boards to receive, disburse, and account for all monies allocated to them from the State, or provided from any other sources. Each board shall keep a record of all meetings, all activities, and all work done under its jurisdiction, and shall make a full and complete report in writing to the annual convention of the State Association. No board shall purchase or sell any real estate property without the approval of the State Association, or except by approval of Executive Committee.

Section 4. The Executive Board shall consist of the Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Parliamentarian, Assistant Clerk, and Executive Secretary. It shall act in behalf of the Association when not in session, and shall have power to receive funds, to report and superintend such work for the State as may seem best and the means at hand may warrant, in order to fulfill the plans and undertakings of the State Association.

The Moderator and Executive Secretary of said Executive Board shall sign all deeds, bonds, notes, etc., and any other papers by which the State Association is to become legally responsible.

The Executive Board shall have the power to call the Association into conference by notifying each Associate District Association at least ten (10) days prior to conference.

Minutes of all meetings are to be recorded and reported to the Association in the next regular convention, and the report of the Executive Board shall be printed in the minutes of the Association.

Section 5. The General Board shall consist of each duly elected Moderator and one member from each Associate District Association; the chairman of each State standing board, and the State officers. The Moderator shall moderate at all meetings of this board.

It shall be the duty of this board to meet on Tuesday morning preceding the State Convention to hear reports of the standing boards and to make recommendations to the State Association. This board shall also serve as the Credentials Committee, and shall recommend a budget for adoption by the State Association.

Section 6. The Mission-Church Extension Board shall promote an active home and foreign missions program in and for the State of Texas. It shall correlate the work of the National Association for the extension of the Gospel. It shall arrange itineraries for missionaries, missions conferences, etc.

Section 7. Christian Education Board shall promote any phases of Christian Education through the Sunday school, Church Training Service, workshops, institutes, and Free Will Baptist related schools and colleges.

Section 8. The Superannuation Board shall, in co-operation with our National Superannuation Board, and our Associate District Associations, provide and execute a definite program of superannuation for qualified Free Will Baptist ministers.

ARTICLE XI. Committees

Section 1. The Moderator shall appoint a Committee on Committees and a Nominating Committee during the first business session of the first day of each annual convention.

Section 2. The Committee on Committees shall nominate the following committees, consisting of three members each: Resolutions, Temperance, and Obituary.

Section 3. The Nominating Committee shall present nominations for the State officers, standing boards, and the Texas representative to the General Board of the National Association by the provisions of this constitution; but the Association shall in no wise prevent members from exercising their democratic privilege of nominating candidates from the floor.

Section 4. The Moderator shall appoint other committees as necessary, or unless otherwise provided for, which shall hold office until their assigned work is completed, or until their successors are appointed.

ARTICLE XII. Alterations and Amendments

This constitution may be altered or amended at any regular session of the Association by a two-thirds vote of all members present, provided the proposed alteration or amendment has been read before the body and has been placed on the table one day in advance of the time the vote is to be taken.

BY-LAWS

Section 1. The Moderator or Assistant Moderator, 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 an adopted program.

Section 2. Each meeting of each session shall be opened by reading a portion of the Bible and praying and shall be closed with prayer.

Section 3. 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.

Section 4. Delegates from corresponding bodies, and brethren invited to seats in the Association, shall be entitled to all privileges of the Association except voting.

Section 5. 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 anyone be permitted to speak without first facing and addressing the chair by the appellation, "Brother Moderator", and shall not proceed with discussion or statement until recognized by the Chair.

Section 6. The business of the Association shall be governed by good parliamentary regulations at all times.

Section 7. No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of any office, board, or committee, provided the person nominated be elected. No person shall hold more than one office in the State at any time.

Section 8. This Association shall sit with open doors, except when it shall go into a committee of the whole.

Section 9. By a two-thirds vote of all members present, a ruling of the Moderator may be overruled.

Section 10. Minutes of each session shall be carefully read and corrected before final adjournment by the Clerk, Moderator, and the Executive Secretary.

Section 11. These by-laws may be amended at any regular session of the Association by a 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.

ORDINATION TO THE MINISTRY IN THE FREE WILL BAPTIST DENOMINATION

Preface

This little booklet has been prepared by the Executive Committee of the General Board of the National Association, and has been approved by the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

It must be clearly understood that this booklet is intended to be descriptive, and not legislative. Nobody can set ordination requirements for the denomination as a whole; each ordaining body across the denomination has full liberty to follow whatever practices it chooses.

From time to time, however, various persons engaged in exercising ordaining responsibilities are desirous of knowing what is being practiced abroad in the denomination. For that reason this booklet has been prepared. The Executive Committee trusts that the suggestions and descriptions will be helpful for those who wish to help.

Part I: General Observations

The Authority to Ordain

Free Will Baptists, committed to the doctrine of congregational church government, understand that the authority to ordain ministers lies in the local church. In practice, however, local Free Will Baptist churches work together in the matter of ordination by delegating the authority for ordination to the association of churches in which the local church holds membership. The true source of this authority should never be lost sight of.

The Procedure For Ordination

In most areas of the denomination, ordination follows a procedure at least similar to the following outline.

1. The individual, acknowledging his call from God, makes known his calling and desire for ordination to the local church of which he is a member.
2. The local church, led by the Holy Spirit to recognize that the individual does, indeed, appear to possess the gift, proceeds to have the candidate "licensed."
 - a. In many areas, the local church grants this "license" directly.
 - b. In other areas, the local church files a petition with the association that this "license" be granted.

Generally, there is no formal examination of a candidate involved for licensing. The request or action of the local church is all that is necessary at this stage. (For this reason, local churches should "license" or request license only after being firmly convinced the candidate has been called by God.)

3. The license issued in the preceding step is in force for a period of one year, and may be annually renewed if the licentiate is not ready for ordination. This renewal must be made by action or request of the local church.

4. Near the end of the licensing year, if the candidate feels he is ready for ordination, he again approaches his local church and signifies this. The local church, if it also feels the candidate may be ready, now files a petition with the association that the candidate be examined for ordination.

5. Having received petition from the local church, the association's ordaining committee proceeds to "examine" the candidate. In reference to this step in the procedure, it should be noted that the details of the practice differ considerably from one place to another. But the basic practice is the same. Each association has some level of organization (a presbytery, ordination council or committee, etc.) which conducts the examination. And many groups require that a candidate fill out a formal "application" at this stage. This application should cover basic information on the candidate. The national bookstore has application forms for sale.

6. The ordination committee reports the results of its examination to the association as a whole, and makes recommendations to be acted upon by the association as a body. If a recommendation is made and approved that the candidate be ordained, the actual service of ordination soon follows. (In some cases, the committee for examination will recommend some further studies for the candidate before he should be ordained, in which case his license will be renewed until the suggestions are followed and another examination made, or, in some cases, the committee should recommend that the candidate completely withdraw for consideration as an ordained minister, in which case his license should not continue to be renewed).

It should be noted here that in at least one or two areas, a recommendation for ordination does not have to be approved by the associational body as a whole. Such a practice tends to forget that ordination, after all, is done by the churches, not the ministry.

7. The procedure for setting up the ordination service varies considerably.

- a. In many associations the same committee that made the examination arranges and conducts the ordination service.
- b. In some areas, the associational recommendation is directed back to the local church and the local church arranges and conducts the ordination service.
- c. In some areas, the candidate is permitted to choose some or all of a committee of ministers to arrange and conduct the ordination service.

In all areas, the service is conducted by ministers as the ordained representatives of the churches, and includes the "laying on of hands" as signifying the candidate's ordination to the gospel ministry.

The Meaning of Ordination

There are some groups that do not practice any kind of official "ordination." Free Will Baptists are not among these, but it should not be inferred that Free Will Baptists believe the "church" gives a man authority to preach. The authority for a man to preach lies solely with God. Free Will Baptists believe in a divinely-called ministry, and "whom God calls, He qualifies."

Yet the visible church always finds itself called on to pass judgement on the exercise of all spiritual gifts, the ministry included. The injunction of the BIBLE is everywhere: "Try the spirits." It is not sufficient that a man gain hearing simply because he says he is called by God and is bringing God's message.

Ordination then, is simply the church's official recognition that a man does indeed possess the gift and calling of God to the ministry and is therefore entitled to be heard as such. As indicated in the previous discussion of ordination procedure, there are really two levels of direct responsibility in ordination: the local church, primary; the associational ordination apparatus, secondary. Both levels should be thoroughly convinced, based on the evidence seen in life, ministry and knowledge, that the candidate has the required gift. And the general public should always be able to rely upon the fact of ordination as a clear sign that many Christians of mature judgment have recognized that the one ordained is gifted and capable to minister.

No group responsible for ordination would presume to imply that it is infallible. Candidates genuinely possessing the gift may on occasion be rejected, but although this is true the ordaining councils must not simply decide to ordain anyone just because he desires it.

The Responsibilities of Ordination

The candidate who has been ordained continues to have certain responsibilities relating to those who have ordained him, in addition to his obvious responsibilities to the Lord who has called him.

First, he should report regularly to the body with which he holds ordination.

Second, he should submit to any call issued by the body for disciplinary purposes. If he shows himself, by conduct or doctrine, to be unworthy of continuing as ordained, he should willingly relinquish his ordination certificate to those who have the authority and having followed the correct procedures--request it.

The Transfer of Ordination

Moving about from one place to another in the denomination often involves transferring ordination from one association to another. A minister in good standing in one association is usually granted confirmation of his ordained status in another association with a minimum of procedural requirements. But caution should be followed so that two definite responsibilities are observed.

(1) The association from which a minister is transferring has the shared responsibility to inform the new association if there were any questions at all about the minister's standing, conduct, or doctrine.

(2) The association to which the minister is transferring should make sure, by whatever means is necessary, that the minister has left his former association in good standing, and is worthy by conduct and doctrine, of ordination.

Part II: Standards For Ordination

Obviously, there is considerable variety within the Free Will Baptist denomination in reference to requirements for ordination. The following outlines will deal with the areas generally agreed to be most important.

1. General Qualifications of Character and Conduct.

The earlier portion of this booklet has made clear that the primary requirement is that the evidence given in the candidate's life be such as to convince those who observe--both in the candidate's local church and in a broader area that he possesses the gift and calling of God.

More specifically, the character and conduct of the candidate should be above reproach. To begin with, the Bible itself furnishes a list of standards in this area, and this list should be carefully checked. (1 Timothy 3: 1-7; Titus 1: 5-9). All persons responsible for examining candidates should make sure, either by their own personal knowledge, or by interviewing enough persons with direct knowledge, that the candidate meets the standards of these Biblical passages.

Obviously, the official recommendation of the local church should not be given to a candidate unless that recommendation can be fully relied on to mean that the candidate, by sufficient length of time, has given full assurance to the members of the church that he meets the standards of these Biblical lists.

In one way or another, the remainder of this section on standards will reflect specific applications of the general standards stated in the Biblical lists.

2. The Candidate's Business Relationships

One of Paul's specific requirements is that the ministers "have a good report of them which are without" (1 Timothy 3:7). In reference to this, a matter of great importance is the candidate's financial reputation. The "ministry" has been blighted by men who do not pay their bills. Every effort should be made to make sure the candidate is scrupulously careful to keep his finances in order.

To aid in achieving this assurance, several Free Will Baptist ordaining groups are now requiring the candidate to submit several credit references, and these--perhaps even the credit bureau are closely checked.

3. The Candidate's Ministerial Activities

There have been far too many Free Will Baptist persons ordained as "preachers" who almost never "preach" or perform any real ministry for which ordination is required. Every effort should be made to be sure the candidate is actually going to be involved in ministerial duties. Indeed, he should already be manifesting ministerial abilities in some degree.

This need has brought more and more of our ordaining groups to follow the practice of only renewing license and not actually ordaining until a candidate actually gets involved in a specific "ministry" like pastoring, regular evangelistic work, missionary labor, or other types of church employment needing ordination. Perhaps this reflects Paul's requirement that the individual to be ordained not be a "novice"--neither immature as a Christian nor in Christian service.

4. The Candidate's Marital Status

Perhaps one of the touchiest areas in connection with ordination requirements concerns divorce and remarriage. Paul says "the husband of one wife." Most groups do not take this to mean a single man cannot be ordained, but only that he is married, he must not be a polygamist.

In a few areas, a person divorced and remarried might be ordained, although this is not true in most places. Whether this is right and good is a matter that needs a great deal of careful study across the whole denomination.

5. The Candidate's Sex

Throughout the years, a few women have been ordained to the ministry in the denomination, and a very few are currently active. The general trend, however, has been in the opposite direction; and most areas will not now ordain women.

6. The Candidate's Education

To our knowledge, there are no specific educational requirements connected with ordination that are generally followed across the denomination, and probably there never should be. In order to raise the level of Biblical knowledge (see the next section), however, there are a few areas now requiring the completion of certain Bible correspondence courses as a minimum before ordination.

7. The Candidate's Biblical Knowledge

It is absolutely necessary that a minister have a good general knowledge of the Word. Therefore, procedures are always in order among ordaining councils that will help them determine the level of Biblical knowledge possessed by the candidate. This is, indeed, one of the main purposes of the "examination".

When administered well, oral examinations along this line can certainly be sufficient, but the trend now in many areas is to go to some type of written examination covering Biblical knowledge. Such examinations, whether written or oral, should cover both; (1) knowledge of general Biblical facts and (2) ability to explain basic Biblical concepts. In order to cover these matters well, such examinations have to be carefully planned. And the ordainers should have recommendations about specific studies the candidate can get involved in to prepare him for these examinations--both before his first examination, and in preparation for second examination if he fails to satisfy them the first time.

Please note that there has been included as Appendix I of this booklet, a sample examination covering this area (and the next). This examination is much like one in actual use by one ordaining group in the Free Will Baptist denomination.

8. The Candidate's Doctrinal Position

Closely related to the previous area (Biblical knowledge) is the matter of the candidate's doctrinal position and understanding. By actual examination (again, either orally or, perhaps better, in writing) the ordainers should be completely satisfied on three counts:

- (1) that the candidate is doctrinally sound and holds a clear-cut position in agreement with basic fundamentals of Christianity;
- (2) that the candidate is denominationally sound and holds a clear-cut position in agreement with the distinctive doctrines of the Free Will Baptist denomination;
- (3) that the candidate not only knows the right words, but understands and can satisfactorily explain the doctrines involved in the two areas just mentioned.

Again, please note that Appendix I of this booklet contains a sample examination covering this area and the previous one. The examination is much like one in actual use by one ordaining group in the denomination.

APPENDIX I

A SAMPLE ORDINATION EXAMINATION

Examination practices vary widely within the denomination, but all candidates for ordination should be examined carefully. Following are some suggested questions that may be used by ordaining groups as a means for determining the candidate's sincerity, conviction of call, and knowledge in the basic areas of Biblical and denominational teaching.

The questions may be used for oral or written examination; other questions, offered by the members of the particular ordaining council, may be added or substituted as felt needful.

GENERAL

Briefly tell of your conversion and give reasons for your assurance of salvation.

How long have you been a Free Will Baptist?

Why do you want to be ordained?

Give a short account of your call to preach?

Do you meet the qualifications of 1 Timothy 3:1-7?

Do you have a family? _____ Number of children _____

Have you ever been divorced? _____

What is the extent of your education? Elementary grades _____

High School _____ College _____ Other _____

What is your attitude toward intoxicating beverages, tobacco, drugs or worldly amusements?

DOCTRINE

Do you believe without reservation that the Bible is the verbally inspired, infallible Word of God and that it is the only rule of faith and practice?

What do you believe about evolution and the Genesis account of Creation?

What is the gospel?

What is salvation?

How would you proceed to explain the way of salvation to a lost soul?

Explain your views on baptism.

What is the meaning of the Lord's Supper?

Should feet washing be observed? Explain.

What do you believe about apostasy and the perseverance of the believer?

Give your interpretation of the following doctrines.

God

Diet of Christ

The Virgin Birth of Christ

The Work of the Holy Spirit

Repentance

Regeneration

Faith

Justification

Atonement

Sanctification

Final Judgment

Heaven

Hell

Satan

Second Coming

Resurrection

What is the church?
Who is eligible for membership?
How should the church discipline a member?
How should the work of the church be financed?
What are the duties of a minister?
What is the mission of the church in the light of Matt. 28:19,20?

DENOMINATION

Who is a Free Will Baptist?
What is meant by the term "free moral agent"?
Have you read the Treatise completely and do you subscribe to the doctrines and practices that are outlined in it?
Is there anything in the treatise that you do not believe or would not teach?
If you ever changed your views on any of these doctrines what would you do?
What are the grounds for relinquishing your ordination credentials?
What is the relationship of the local church to the denomination?

Give three credit references?

Do you solemnly pledge to earnestly contend for the faith once delivered to the saints and to faithfully uphold the Free Will Baptist doctrines outlined in the Treatise?

