

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.