

MINUTES

—OF THE—

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

Unicoi Free Baptist Association

And Minister's Conference,

—HELD WITH—

Vann Hill Church, Vann Hill,
Hawkins County, Tenn.,

September 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th, 1918.



GREENEVILLE, TENN.:

L. R. RICE & Co., Commercial Job Printers.

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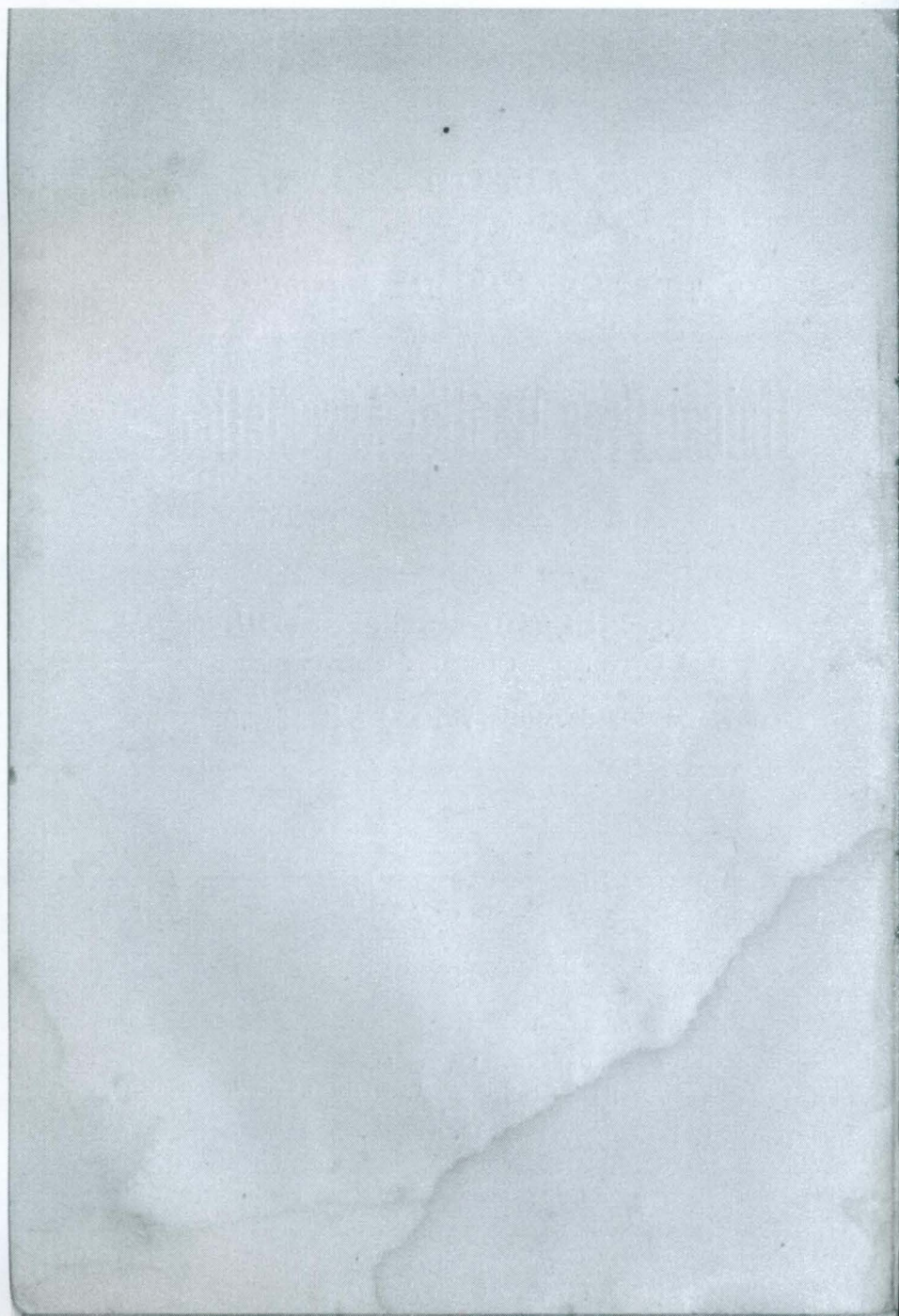
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Minister's Conference.

Conference convened Saturday, September 7th, at 3 o'clock P. M. Devotional exercises by Rev. W. M. Howell. The meeting was called to order by the Clerk, and the following officers were elected:

President—Rev. John Campbell.

Vice President—Rev. W. P. Knowling.

Clerk and Treasurer—Rev. J. W. Peters.

Ordaining Council report J. E. Elenburg licensed to the Ministry for one year. Report adopted.

W. P. Knowling, W. M. Howell, S. G. Street, J. W. Peters, John Campbell were elected as Ordaining Council for this year.

Rev. W. P. Knowling was appointed to arrange Program for the Quarterly Sessions.

Minister's Reports.

W. P. Knowling—Sermons, 110; miles traveled, 1334; funerals, 5; received into the church, 25; organized 1 church; Sunday School addresses, 15; received for work, \$78.05; Red Cross addresses, 9; assisted in organizing 3 Red Cross Auxillaries with 265 members; married 2; total sermons and addresses 139.

Report adopted and character passed.

John Campbell—Sermons 58; funerals 5; Sunday School addresses, 6; married, 2; miles traveled, 421; received \$17.29.

Report adopted and character passed.

J. W. Peters—Sermons 30; married 4; funerals, 3; miles traveled, 145; received \$11.50.

Report adopted and character passed.

W. M. Howell—Sermons, 145; funerals, 11; baptised, 6; married, 1; miles traveled, 1290; received \$192.89.

Report adopted and character passed.

G. A. Freeman—Verbal report

S. G. Street—No report.

The first Quarterly Session convenes at Unicoi, Tennessee, on Friday before the second Sunday in December, 1918. Sermon at 11 o'clock A. M., by G. A. Freeman.

Minute Fund, \$1.50.

MINISTERIAL DIRECTORY.

John Campbell.....	Unicoi, Tenn.
G. A. Freeman.....	Route 3, Jonesboro, Tenn.
W. M. Howell.....	Route 3, Jonesboro, Tenn.
W. P. Knowling.....	Route 3, Jeraldstown, Tenn.
J. W. Peters.....	Route 3, Jonesboro, Tenn.
S. G. Street.....	Unicoi, Tenn.

Licentiates.

J. C. Coleman.
S. P. Tipton.
J. E. Elenburg.

Adourned to meet with next Association.

JOHN CAMPBELL, President.

J. W. PETERS, Clerk.

Association Proceedings.

The sermon introducing the Thirteenth Annual Session of the Unicoi Free Baptist Association, held with the Van Hill Church, Hawkins County, Tennessee, September 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th, 1918, was preached Thursday morning at 11 A. M., by Rev. W. M. Howell, from Exodus 4:16.

Thursday Afternoon.

The regular Clerk being absent, W. P. Knowling, Moderator of the previous Session, took the chair and conducted the devotional exercises by reading the 133 Psalm. The consecrating prayer was offered by Rev. W. M. Howell.

Sister Nancy Jones was appointed Clerk *pro tem*.

The following were enrolled as members:

DELEGATES.

Van Hill—N. G. Gardner, Luke, Luke McLain, Nancy Jones.

Morning Star—William Vance, Mrs. W. L. Freeman.

Christian Bend—Van Caldwell.

Ministers—W. P. Knowling, John Campbell, W. M. Howell, G. A. Freeman, J. W. Peters.

On motion, Rev. W. P. Knowling was elected Moderator, and Nancy Jones Clerk.

The Church Extension Board report West Main Street Church, Greeneville, Tenn., organized. Report adopted. The Church was received and delegates seated—Mrs. W. G. Willet and Mrs. Lucinda Humbird.

On motion, Revs. H. J. Bailey, of the Union, and J. A. Jones, of the Watauga Associations were invited to seats as advisory council.

On motion, all Christians presents were invited to seats in this body.

On motion, a Constitution and Rules of Decorum was presented and read. It was discussed by Revs. Howell, Campbell, Jones, Benfield, Knowling, and on motion was tabled.

Voted to adopt last years' Order of Business.

On motion, the Moderator was empowered to appoint all the committees.

Appointment of Committees.

Pulpit—N. G. Gardner, Luke McLain, Nancy Jones.
Temperance—W. M. Howell, J. A. Jones, Wm. Vance.
Sunday Schools—J. W. Peters, H. J. Bailey, Mrs. W. G. Willet.
Education—John Campbell, A. N. Benfield, Mrs. Freeman.
Home Missions—G. A. Freeman, Mrs. Humbird, Luke McLain.
Denomination—J. W. Peters, Wm. Vance, Mrs. W. G. Willet.
Literature—John Campbell, J. A. Jones, Mrs. G. A. Freeman.
Ministerial Support—W. M. Howell, H. J. Bailey, G. A. Freeman.
Obituaries—J. W. Peters, N. G. Gardner, Wm. Vance.
Resolutions—W. M. Howell, Wm. Vance, Mrs. Humbird.
Finance—Mrs. W. G. Willet, Mrs. G. A. Freeman.
Next Session—N. G. Gardner, Wm. Vance, Mrs. Humbird.

On motion, Rev. A. N. Benfield and W. C. Waycaster was seated as Corresponding Delegates from the Watauga Association.

Pulpit committee report that Rev. J. W. Peters will preach to-night at 7:30. Adjourned untill 8:30 Friday morning.

At 7:30 P. M. Rev. J. W. Peters preached from Heb. 9:28.

Friday Morning, September 6th.

Devotional exercises conducted by Rev. W. M. Howell. Roll call and minutes read and adopted.

On motion, the Constitution tabled yesterday was taken up and adopted.

The Rules of Decorum read and adopted.

Voted to have the Constitution and Rules of Decorum printed in the Minutes.

Report of Churches.

Van Hill report read and adopted.

Spring Creek, no report.

Chiney Top, no report.

Christian Bend, report read and adopted.

Bumpus Cove, no report.

Fall Gap, no report.

West Main Street Church, Greeneville, report read and adopted.

Unicoi, verbal report by the pastor. Report adopted.

Revs. W. P. Knowling, W. M. Howell, J. W. Peters were appoint-

ed a committee to confer with the Jack's Creek Association on boundary lines.

Adjourned until 2:00 o'clock P. M.

Sermon at 11:00 by Rev. John Campbell. Text Daniel 3:29.

Friday Afternoon.

Devotional exercises conducted by Rev. J. W. Peters. Roll call. Reading of minutes deferred till morning.

Morning Star Church, report read and adopted.

Report of Committee on Ministerial Support.

We recommend the support of the ministry. We favor a stipulated salary. We recommend that each church appoint three Stewards, and that these Stewards make a canvass of the membership and let each member obligate him or herself for the amount they can pay. Every member should pay something. If any are too poor the church should aid them. The Stewards should collect and pay over to the pastor. We also recommend that a fund be created for old and retired ministers.

Discussed by Revs. Howell and J. W. Peters, and adopted.

Report of Committee on Sunday Schools.

We note with pleasure the progress made in Sunday School work among us, and while there is a growing interest among our people in Sunday School; and as the Sunday School is a nursery for the Church, where the young people are prepared for usefulness in the Church; and as the Sunday School is a safeguard to character as well as one of the greatest means of soul saving we urge that our pastors and people keep the Sunday School cause constantly before the parents and children. We recommend the use of our own literature published at Ayden, North Carolina.

Discussed by Howell and Knowling, and adopted.

Report of Committee on Resolutions.

Resolved, That we require all the preachers and delegates of this Association to remain until the close of the Sunday morning service unless they can show a just cause for being excused; and that we hold a communion service on Sunday morning of each session of the Association, and the preparations be made for same by the church where the Association convenes.

Discussed by Howell and Knowling, and adopted.

Resolved, That we require each Church to send at least one delegate to the Association. Adopted.

Resolved, That we appoint a Historian to get up the history of this Association, making a record of the proceedings of the Associations as well as the principal events that occurred between the Annual Meetings, such as licensing and ordaining ministers, deaths of ministers or other members of this body.

Resolution adopted and Rev. W. P. Knowling was appointed as Historian.

Adjourned until 8:30 Saturday morning.

Preaching at 7:30 by Rev. W. M. Howell. Text Isaiah 9:15.

Saturday Morning, September 7th.

Devotional exercised conducted by W. P. Knowling. Roll called and minutes of yesterday read and adopted.

Rev. J. A. Jones reported on the Gaston Valley property. Report discussed by Knowling, Jones, Howell, Campbell and adopted.

Revs. W. P. Knowling, John Campbell, W. M. Howell were appointed to look after the property.

W. P. Knowling, W. M. Howell, J. W. Peters, John Campbell, G. A. Freeman were appointed as Church Extension Board.

On motion, the Church Extension Board were made the Home Mission Board. Rev. W. M. Howell was made Treasurer of the Home Mission Funds, and John Campbell and J. W. Peters was to authorize payments of funds.

On motion, Revs. W. P. Knowling, W. M. Howell, J. W. Peters were elected Delegates to the Co-Operative Association, which convenes at Demascus, Virginia, on Thursday before the first Sunday in November.

On motion, the Moderator appointed the following Corresponding Delegates to the Union Association, W. M. Howell; Toe River Association, John Campbell; Watauga Association, G. A. Freeman, John Wheeler, J. W. Peters; French Broad Association, W. P. Knowling; Jack's Creek Association, W. M. Howell; Clinch Valley Yearly Meeting, S. G. Street.

Report of Committee on Home Missions.

Whereas, In order to succeed in making a healthy growth in

Christian work it is necessary that we adopt a systematic method of raising money; therefore we recommend

1st. That our Moderator take pledges here from individuals for Home Mission work, to be paid quarterly.

2nd. That he see how many will pledge for their church.

3rd. That each church pay at least one dollar to Home Mission work during the year.

4th. That the pastors take Home Mission collections in each church every three weeks. Discussed by J. W. Peters and adopted.

The following pledges was taken for Home Missions: G. A. Freeman, \$2.00; J. W. Peters, \$2.50; W. P. Knowling, \$4.00; W. M. Howell, \$2.50; John Campbell, \$1.00; N. G. Gardner, \$1.00; Joe McLain, \$2.00; W. M. Vance, \$1.00; Mrs. G. A. Freeman, \$2.00; Van Caldwell, \$1.00; V. C. McLain, \$1.00; Mrs. W. G. Willet, \$1.00; Nancy Jones, \$2.00; Luke McLain, \$5.00; Vann Hill Church, \$5.00; Morning Star Church, \$2.00; Christian Bend Church, \$4.00; West Main Street Greeneville, \$2.00. Total pledged, \$41.00. Amount paid on pledges, \$6.35.

On resolution, presented by the Clerk, Rev. W. P. Knowling was employed as a Home Missionary to visit and build up run-down churches, and organize new churches, and receive pay-out of Home Missionary funds.

Report of Committee on Denomination.

Whereas, The Free Baptist of the South have failed to a great extent in denominational work, for want of unity of purpose in plans, and for better organization; therefore be it

Resolved, That we stay with the Co-Operative Association, and assist in every way we can to unify our work. Report adopted.

Report of Committee on Education.

Whereas, From time to time efforts have been made for educational enterprises among us here in this mountain section, and as these efforts have failed for want of better organization and system, and seeing that this section of the country is making rapid advancement on the line of education, and as no people can expect to grow and exert an influence for the upbuilding of society, without being in the front ranks of Christian intelligence; therefore be it

Resolved, That we encourage the establishment of a school of advanced grade among us. We favor raising the standard of the

Christian ministry, and we urge our young ministers to prepare themselves for the ministry. We recommend that something be done to assist them. We also recommend to our people the school at Tecumseh, Oklahoma and the Seminary at Ayden, North Carolina, until something can be done for them near home. Discussed by W. P. Knowling and adopted.

Report of Committee on Literature.

We recommend that our people make a more thorough study of the Bible, and that every member become better acquainted with the doctrines and rules of our church, and inform themselves as to the requirements of our Christian work. We believe that our people ought to read more. We recommend good clean religious literature in every home. We have two church papers, "The New Morning Star," published at Tecumseh, Oklahoma, and "The Free Baptist," published at Aden, North Carolina. We request the people to subscribe for them and to read them. Report adopted.

Report of Committee on Temperance.

Whereas, The Free Baptist have placed themselves on record as being in favor of the temperance cause, and have stood in the front rank together with other Christian denominations, where the battle has been the fiercest. We rejoice at the victories achieved in securing temperance legislation, and we wish to reassert our interest in the cause and declare that we take no backward steps but let the watch word be onward march to greater victories, till our Master's kingdom comes and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven; and we pledge ourselves to pray for the same and to do all we can for the enforcement of all temperance laws, and to use all honorable means in our power to discourage the use of tobacco in all forms. Discussed by Knowling and Howell and adopted.

Adjourned till 2 p. m. Preaching at 11 a. m. by Rev. W. P. Knowling, text Isaiah 54:2-3.

Saturday Afternoon.

Devotional exercises conducted by Rev. W. M. Howell. Roll called.

On motion, W. P. Knowling, W. M. Howell, John Campbell, J. W. Peters, S. G. Street were appointed as an Executive Board to act for and in behalf of the Association during the year.

Finance Committee report \$10.00 on hands. Report adopted.

Report of Committee on Next Session.

The Committee on Next Session report that the next session will meet with the Morning Star Church near Garbers, Tenn., on Thursday before the second Sunday in September 1919, the opening sermon to be preached by W. P. Knowling at 11 A. M.

Voted to invite Rev. Joshua Linebaugh to a seat in the body.

Report of Committee on Resolutions.

Resolved, That we express our heartfelt thanks to the good people of this community for the kind and hospitable manner in which they have entertained this Association; and also to the good Methodist people for the use of their house in holding this session. Discussed by Rev. W. P. Knowling and adopted.

Minutes of today's session read and adopted. The Association then adjourned.

W. P. KNOWLING, Moderator.

NANCY JONES, Clerk.