

MINUTES
OF THE
VIRGINIA STATE
ASSOCIATION
OF ORIGINAL
FREEWILL BAPTISTS

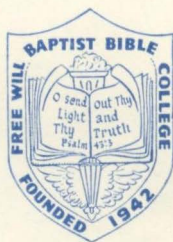
Fourth Session

Held With The

Cherry Grove Church

Coeburn, Va.

June 19 - 20, 1942



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented by

Rev. E. M. French

PROCEEDINGS

The fourth annual session of the Virginia State Association of Freewill Baptists met with the Cherry Grove Church, Coeburn, Va., Friday morning, June 19, 1942, at 10:30. The introductory sermon was delivered by Rev. Sam Taylor and Rev. C. E. Spencer, using as a text, "My peace I leave with you." Scripture lesson, St. John: 14th chapter. Prayer by Rev. James A. Boatright. Conference was adjourned until 2:00 P. M.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

The Conference was called together again at 2:00 P. M. The clerk, Rev. B. W. Presley, read for scripture lesson, 1st Thessalonians, fifth chapter. Prayer by Rev. R. A. Dingus.

Rev. James A. Boatright, assistant moderator, took charge and gave the introductory address and proceeded with business as follows:

Enrollment of ministers, deacons and delegates:

Ministers: James A. Boatright, R. A. Dingus, C. E. Spencer, W. T. Large, H. A. Hess, B. W. Presley, S. M. McFall, Henry Simpkins, R. E. Hilton, J. B. Carter, S. E. Brooks, Della Sallyers, B. R. Powers, Andrew Stidham, Cleve Robinette. Visiting ministers, Paul Woolsey, Vernon Kiser,

Kenneth Baldwin, Rand Deleman, Sam Taylor, of Primitive Baptist of Eastern District.

Deacons: Ballard Robinet, G. W. Presley, H. D. Hess, Paris Deskins, Melton Stallard, E. H. Preston, Loyd Laningham, John Bowman.

Southwestern Association Delegates: Sallie E. Smith, Grace Davis, Blanche Berry, Pearl Smith, Mrs. D. C. Stergel.

Clinch Valley Association Delegates: Walter Glover, James Cassel.

Sandy Valley Association Delegates: G. W. Presley, M. R. Oquim, Cecil Presley, J. F. Jesse, Coy McGlothlin and Mary N. Presley.

Executive Board: R. A. Dingus, W. T. Large, S. M. McFall.

Reports from District Associations were called for and received as follows:

Clinch Valley: A report with two delegates.

Sandy Valley: A report and six delegates.

Southwestern: A report and five delegates.

All reports were accepted and are printed elsewhere in these minutes.

Executive Board reported H. A. Hess and Paul Woolsey would preach the night sermon.

The Conference then adjourned until nine o'clock the next day.

The night service was opened by singing.

Paul Woolsey, superintendent of the Free-will Baptist Orphanage, gave a short program with the four Hall children from Cherry Grove Church, and one other girl from the Home, which was enjoyed by all present. Prayer by Henry Simpkins. Preaching by H. A. Hess. Text, "What are we doing here?" followed by Paul Woolsey.

SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 20th

The Conference met according to schedule. Scripture lesson, 50th Psalm, by clerk. Prayer by R. E. Hilton. Then moderator took charge and proceeded with business as follows:

Called roll of ministers, deacons and delegates and noted those present. The minutes of the previous afternoon's session were read and approved. Blanche Berry gave a verbal report of Lee County Quarterly Meeting.

Sallie E. Smith, field worker, was called on to make her report. She reported number of Auxiliaries organized, three; Ladies Auxiliaries, nine; Young People's Leagues, seven; number of Auxiliaries visited, eight; number of membership of Auxiliaries, one hundred and thirty. She gave a wonderful talk on her work which was enjoyed by all. The Conference accepted the work and endorsed the same. Then conference adjourned until 2:00 P. M.

Executive Board reported that Rev. James A. Boatright and Rev. S. E. Brooks would preach the morning sermon. Then

Paul Woolsey, superintendent of the Orphanage, gave another program with the children from the Home, which was very impressive. S. M. McFall called for a collection and received forty dollars. Rev. S. E. Brooks delivered a wonderful sermon from First Corinthians, fifteenth chapter, 51st and 52nd verses.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, 2:00 O'CLOCK

The Conference met according to schedule. Reading, first chapter of First John, by clerk. Prayer by J. B. Carter. Then moderator took charge and proceeded with business as follows:

Called James Cassel from the Sunbright Quarterly Meeting, who gave a verbal report of the work of that Quarterly Meeting.

The Executive Board was called to report, and they reported the next session would be held with Russell Fork Church, Buchanan County, near Council, Va. Offered two resolutions:

First, Be it resolved that the Freewill Baptist State Association of Virginia, in regular session seeing the need of closer unity and cooperation with our sister states, appoint through the moderator, a committee of three to confer with the Tennessee Freewill Baptist State Association and possibly the Association of Western North Carolina with the view of framing a Tri-State Association or framing the State Association to better furtherance of

our mutual interest. This resolution was presented and adopted by the Conference.

Second, Be it resolved that we endorse our national Christian educational program, and that we encourage all of our churches and people to support our Bible School at Nashville, Tenn., with their prayers, contributions and patronage, with the view and hope that under the leadership of God's Holy Spirit the school will be opened this fall. This resolution was also adopted by the Conference.

W. T. Large was called to give report on Young People's work, and he gave a good report of the work and the much success he has had with it. Then S. M. McFall reported on Orphanage work, reporting about four hundred and twenty dollars turned in on the Orphanage work.

Election of field workers: W. T. Large reelected for Young People's work, S. M. McFall reelected for Orphanage work and E. J. Kilgore reelected treasurer.

Appointment of delegates for the National Association, which will be held at Columbus, Miss.: Sallie E. Smith, Grace Davis, Coy McGlothlin, J. F. Jesse, James Cassel.

R. E. Hilton was elected to the Executive Board for a three-year term.

James A. Boatright was elected as moderator for next session.

Orders drawn on the treasury for ten dollars to National Association and for three dollars and thirty-four cents to re-

imburse clerk for shortages for last year.

Conference voted to have five hundred minutes printed and that each District Association send ten dollars with their reports to the State Association.

R. A. Dingus called for a public collection for the clerk and received five dollars and seventy-five cents.

Executive Board reported. Be it resolved that this State Association elect a field secretary to work with all Conferences for the betterment of the work. W. T. Large was elected as secretary. Executive Board reported that James A. Boatright would preach the night sermon.

Conference was then adjourned to meet with Russell Fork Church, Friday at 10:30 A. M., before the third Sunday in June 1943, at Council, Va.

Rev. James A. Boatright, Moderator,
Rev. B. W. Presley, Clerk.

STATEMENT

Balance on hand from last year	\$19.00
Turned in this session	30.00
	\$49.00
Orders drawn on treasury:	
To National Association	\$10.00
To reimburse clerk for last year	3.34
For 500 Minutes	21.50
	\$34.84
Balance on hand at present	\$14.16

REPORTS FROM DISTRICTS

To the Virginia State Association of Free-will Baptist:

We send our beloved brother Walter Glover, as delegate, whom we pray you to receive to sit with you in your deliberations.

State of religion, good; members received this year, 36; number baptized, 22; number of meetings, 3; total membership, 669; condition of Sunday School, good; average number of pupils, 436; officers and teachers, 36; paid orphanage, \$15.51; superannuation, \$10.00; building and repair, \$153.61; for revival work, \$294.00; valuation of church property, \$10,500. Amount enclosed for State Association, \$10.00.

Names and addresses of ministers belonging to the Clinch Valley Association: Rev. James A. Boatright, Verdi, Va.; Rev. R. A. Dingus, Dante, Va.; Rev. Emory Cook, Dante, Va.; Rev. W. L. Heaton, Dante, Va.; Rev. Wayland Owens, Mabe, Va.; Rev. W. P. Owens, R. F. D., Dungan- non, Va.; Rev. Charlie Thompson, Fort Blackmore, Va.; Rev. W. E. Compton, Chuckey, Tenn.; Rev. R. F. Greear, R. F. D., Dungan- non, Va.; Rev. W. H. Patrick, Hensonville, Va.; Rev. W. W. Hillman, Clinchco, Va.; Rev. L. E. Sexton, Kings- port, Tenn.; Rev. Tom Hall, R. F. D., Clinchport, Va.; Rev. R. E. Bowen, Sun- bright, Va.; Rev. R. N. Begley, Norton, Va.; Rev. Daniel Begley, Norton, Va.; Rev. Willie Vicars, Fort Blackmore, Va.

Done by order of the Clinch Valley Association of Freewill Baptist while in session with the Pine Grove Church, Fort Blackmore, Va., August 8 to 11, 1941.

Rev. James A. Boatright, Moderator,
Rev. L. E. Sexton, Clerk.

Squire, W. Va.,
Aug. 21, 22, 23, 1941.

To the Virginia State Association of Freewill Baptist when convened with Cherry Grove Freewill Baptist Church, June 19 and 20, 1942.

Greetings:

We, the Sandy Valley Association of Freewill Baptist, now in session with Squire Church, Squire, W. Va., do send as delegates our beloved brothers, J. F. Jesse, G. W. Presley, John Sanders, Paris Deskin, Cecil Presley, to represent us in Conference, whom we pray you will receive to sit with you in your Godly deliberations.

Our standing is as follows: Three Quarterly Meetings:

Buchanan County Quarterly Meeting: Reports 3 churches with a membership of 159 and 6 ordained ministers, 2 Sunday Schools with enrollment of 167, expenses for Sunday School, \$18.64; to orphanage, \$4.76; superannuation, \$7.52; repair on building, \$114.70; value of church property, \$2,700.00.

Russell County Quarterly Meeting: Reported 10 churches with a membership of 309, 15 ordained ministers, 3 licentiates, 4

Sunday Schools with about 300 enrollment, value of church property, \$6,750.00; repair, \$44.19; orphanage, \$18.50; superannuation, .50.

McDowell County Quarterly Meeting: Reported 10 churches with a membership of 332, 16 ordained ministers, 9 Sunday Schools with an enrollment of 406, to orphanage, \$10.00; to superannuation, \$5.00; repair and building, \$2,197.80; value of church property, \$10,500.00.

Twenty-three churches with a total of 800 members, 37 ordained ministers, 3 licentiates, 15 Sunday Schools with enrollment of 873, expenses for Sunday School, 1 Q. M., \$18.64; paid to orphanage, \$33.26; superannuation, \$13.02; repair and building, \$2,356.69; value of church property, \$19,950.00.

Delegates from Russell County Quarterly Meeting, Coy McGlothlin; Buchanan County Quarterly Meeting, Mary N. Presley; McDowell County Quarterly Meeting, none.

We are sending \$10.00 for expenses.

Rev. S. E. Brooks, Moderator,

Rev. B. W. Presley, Clerk.

To the Virginia State Association of Free-will Baptist which convened with the Cherry Grove Church June 19 to 21, 1942:

We send as delegates, our beloved brethren and sisters, Mrs. Grace Davis, Mrs. Dan Sturgill, Mrs. E. H. Preston, Mrs.

Sallie Smith, Mrs. Blanch Berry, Mrs. Pearl Smith, Robert Dixon, Cassie Meade, Larry Hensley, Mrs. E. C. Sturgill, whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your Godly deliberations.

State of religion, fair; total membership, 1418; number of Sunday Schools, 18; average number of pupils, 1464; number of officers, 60; number of Leagues, 6; number of Home Missions, 8; Home Mission membership, 140; amount paid pastors, \$1,368.58; value of church property, \$24,150.00; amount of publication, \$398.76; amount of budget money paid, \$42.50.

Names and addresses of ministers who reported to yearly meeting: W. T. Large, Coeburn, Va.; S. J. Jackson, Dorchester, Va.; Leonard Fields, Route 1, Norton, Va.; Ben R. Powers, Wise, Va.; Mack Butler, Dungannon, Va.; Riley Caldwell, Pound, Va.; Mack Fisher, Calvin, Va.; C. A. Robinette, Route 3, Dungannon, Va.; J. B. Carter, Route 1, Norton, Va.; Della Salyers, Dorchester, Va.; V. B. Thacker, Ft. Blackmore, Va.; Henry Flannery, Keokee, Va.; Roy Gardner, Esserville, Va.; Wade Powers, Wise Va.; Clarence Turner, Norton, Va.; Andrew Stidham, Norton, Va.; Hubert Martin, Jonesville, Va.; S. M. McFall, Georges Fork, Va.; Mott Reynolds, Banner, Va.; Curtis Arney, Banner, Va.; J. L. Meade, Herald, Va.

We recognize all ordained ministers and deacons as standing delegates. Enclosed herewith is \$10.00.

Done by order of Southwest Virginia

Association assembled in conference this
16th day of May 1942.

Rev. W. T. Large, Moderator,
E. H. Preston, Clerk.

CONSTITUTION

Preamble

We the ~~FREEWILL BAPTIST~~ of the
State of Virginia, realizing the importance
of a higher degree of co-operation and a
geater spirit of unity do ordain and con-
stitute this Constitution and By-Laws for
the Government of the State Association
of Virginia.

ARTICLE I

Name: The name of this Association
shall be known as the ~~VIRGINIA STATE~~
ASSOCIATION OF FREEWILL BAPTIST.

ARTICLE II

Purpose: The object or purpose of this
organization shall be to unify the efforts of
various local Associations of this State and
adjacent territory.

ARTICLE III

Section 1

Representation: All ministers in good
standing in the denomination in the State
shall upon application become members in
full standing.

Section 2

Cooperative Ans.

Each Association within the State shall be entitled to five (5) representatives to be chosen from the laity of the local Association and additional delegate for each Quarterly Meeting to be chosen by the respective Quarterly Meeting.

ARTICLE IV

Section 1

Cooperative

Discipline: The State Association shall have the right to settle any question of discipline, doctrine or usage that may properly come before it from any Association Quarterly Meeting or Church composing said State Association of the Freewill Baptist Church, or act upon any appeal that may be made by anybody belonging to said State Association. Said appeal shall have been written and properly signed by the constituent Body or Bodies. Such appeals are to come before the State Association after having been appealed from the lower body to the next higher body.

ARTICLE # V

Section 1

Cooperative

Officers: The officers of this State Association shall consist of a Moderator, an Assistant Moderator, a Recording Secretary, an Assistant Recording Clerk, a ~~Treasurer~~ and an Executive Board, each of which shall be nominated from the floor and elected by a standing vote of the body at the close of each regular session excepting the Clerk which shall be for a

~~period of four (4) years or during good behavior and the Executive Board which shall be elected as hereinafter provided.~~

that Joint Committee

Section 2

Hand to Joint Committee
The ~~State~~ Executive Secretaries of Departmental Work shall be as follows: Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Young Peoples Work, Women's Work, Sunday Schools and Education, and shall be nominated from the floor and elected by a standing vote of the body at each regular session.

as outline by

not work

Section 3

Committees as necessary shall be appointed by the Chair unless otherwise provided for, and shall hold office until work is complete or until their successors are elected and installed.

ARTICLE VI

Section 1

Executive Board: An Executive Board of three ~~34~~ members shall be nominated from the floor and elected by a standing vote of the body at each regular session of the State Association. They shall hold office for a period of three (3) years.

The mod. of Clerk in addition

Section 2

This Executive Board shall have power to act in behalf of and for the State Association from one regular session of the Association to another, and shall have power to elect such officers as may be necessary for its own government, and to carry out

the plans and undertakings of the State Association.

alternate and shall meet
the members in person with
Section 39
This Executive Board shall have power to fill vacancies that may occur in its body, and shall also have power to fill any vacancies that occur in any department of work. It shall be the duty of this Board to make written reports of all its work to the next regular session of the State Association.

ARTICLE VII

Signature
Time of Meeting: This State Association shall hold its regular meetings annually. *the time of the meeting shall be* ~~Friday before the third~~ *Oct* ~~Sunday in June~~ *1914* ~~in each year and shall continue in session until its work is completed providing notice shall have been served to the Clerk of each Association composing the State Association—said notice to have been given ten (10) days previous to the time of the meeting stating the time and place of meeting. Adjourned sessions may be called when conditions demand.~~

ARTICLE VIII

Denominational Enterprises: It shall be the right and purpose of this State Association to establish and maintain Home Missions, ~~Publishing Houses,~~ *Pub. House* Orphanages and Aged Ministers Home, and Summer Camps for Young People.

ARTICLE IX

This Constitution may be altered or

amended at any regular session of this State Association of Freewill Baptist by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present, provided a specific notice has been given at the last previous session. *of*

Executive —

BY-LAWS OF THE

State Association of Freewill Baptist

ARTICLE ONE

The Moderator, or in his absence the Assistant Moderator, shall call the Association to order and if a quorum is present shall proceed with the business.

ARTICLE TWO

Any minister in good standing from any Association composing the State Association shall be eligible for membership upon application, and any delegate legally appointed or elected by any Association and Quarterly Meeting of that Association composed of State Association shall be eligible to membership in this Association.

ARTICLE THREE

It shall be the duty of each body belonging to this Association to send a letter to every annual session of this Association, reporting in the same its spiritual condition, benevolent work, and its statistics. Any local Association which fails to report itself for two successive sessions, will be considered dropped from this association.

ARTICLE FOUR

Each meeting shall be opened by read-

ing a portion of the Bible and with prayer, and shall be closed with prayer.

ARTICLE FIVE

By a two-thirds vote of all members present a ruling of a Moderator can be overruled.

ARTICLE SIX

This Association may correspond by messenger or otherwise with other religious bodies.

ARTICLE SEVEN

This Association shall sit with open doors except when it shall go into a committee as a whole.

ARTICLE EIGHT

Any person not a member of this Association may be allowed to take part in its discussions by obtaining permission of the Moderator.

ARTICLE NINE

It shall be the duty of all members of this Association to be present at the time appointed for each meeting and any one wishing to retire shall first obtain leave of the Moderator.

ARTICLE TEN

No member shall absent himself from the Association during its meeting without first obtaining permission from the Moderator.

ARTICLE ELEVEN

No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of any committee,

provided the person nominated be elected.

ARTICLE TWELVE

The Moderator shall not allow discussions when not carried on in a Christian spirit or when he thinks it will cause discord or division.

ARTICLE THIRTEEN

Any one desiring to speak shall rise to his feet and address the Moderator by the appellation, "Brother Moderator," but shall not speak further until recognized by the Moderator.

ARTICLE FOURTEEN

The "yeas" and "nays" may be taken on any question by request of one-fifth of the members present.

ARTICLE FIFTEEN

~~No member of this Association will be allowed to speak more than ten minutes nor twice on the same subject without permission of the Moderator.~~

ARTICLE SIXTEEN

~~It shall be the duty of the Moderator to seat the delegates in a body in a designated section of the assembly room at the beginning of each business session.~~

ARTICLE SEVENTEEN

These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any regular or adjourned session of this State Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

VIRGINIA ODD FELLOW PRINT

BROOKNEAL, VIRGINIA
