

MINUTES
of the
SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION
of the
WEST COAST ASSOCIATION
of
FREEWILL BAPTISTS



Held With the
SANTA PAULA FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH
OJAI ST., SANTA PAULA, CALIF.

May 31, June 1, 2, 1956

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OFFICERS

Moderator	Rev. Joe Blair 14814 Avis St., Lawndale, Calif. Ph. OS 5-5715
Assistant Moderator	Rev. Lloyd Reddick 182 Ventura Ave., Ventura, Calif.
Clerk	Bro. Chester S. Burgess 11755 Garetal St., Norwalk, Calif. TO. 3-9757
Assistant Clerk	Sis. Ruth Holmesley Box 36, Ripley, Calif. Ph. 5F32
Treasurer	Rev. Wiley Gregory 605½ N. 5th St., Blythe, Calif. Ph. 1705
Assistant Treasurer	Rev. Jack Craven 533 S. Derby, Arvin, Calif. SP 4-2401
Progressive Bldg. Fund Treasurer.....	Bro. Robert Riddle 3918 E. 52nd St., Maywood, Calif.
Parliamentarian	Rev. Frances Boyle 508 E. D St., Ontario, Calif. YU 63-6476

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. John Reel	5 years 9545 Flower Ave., Bellflower, Calif., TO. 6-4824
Rev. Jack Craven	4 years 533 S. Derby, Arvin, Calif., SP. 4-2401
Rev. M. A. Bryant	3 years 11541 E. Florence Ave., Norwalk, Calif., TO. 4-7316
Rev. Don Bias	2 years 11703 E. 21st St., Artesia, Calif., TO. 5-2039
Rev. H. E. Dixon	1 year 22423 Seine St., Artesia, Calif., GA. 1-6856

PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY EVENING

Singing led by Bro. Cleo Suggs. No. 164, Altar of Prayer. Special songs: "My God is Real" by Shirley and Delma Wright. "I Need The Prayers," by Rev. & Mrs. Lloyd Reddick. Devotional Service led by Rev. Joe Blair. "He Set Me Free" by Shirley and Delma Wright. Two wonderful sermons delivered by Rev. Frances Boyle and Rev. Claudie Hames on "Examine Yourself," from Cor. 13:1,5. Visitors assigned homes for the night by the Host Pastor, Rev. B. M. Brakebill. Dismissed with song and handshake.

FRIDAY MORNING

Song service led by Rev. Billy J. Hood, No. 51. Prayer by Rev. Joe Blair. Scripture reading by Bro. J. B. Ledbetter, II Cor. 4. Prayer by Rev. Billy J. Hood. Welcome by Rev. Beryl Brakebill. Response by Rev. Joe Blair. Letters read and accepted from Artesia, Arvin, Bell Gardens, Blythe, Huntington Park, North Long Beach, Norwalk, Ontario, Oxnard, Santa Paula and Ventura. Hand of Fellowship given the delegates. Petitionary letter from South Whittier read and accepted. Hand of Fellowship given their delegates by the Assistant Moderator. Visiting Brethren invited to seat in council as advisory members. Election of officers were as follows: Moderator-Rev. Joe Blair, Ass't. Moderator-Rev. Lloyd Reddick, Clerk-Bro. Chester S. Burgess, Ass't. Clerk-Sis. Ruth Holmesley, Treasurer-Rev. Wiley Gregory, Ass't. Treasurer-Rev. Jack Craven, Prog. Bldg. Fund Treasurer-Bro. Robert Riddle. Five year man on the Executive Board, Rev. John Reel.

Motion the Moderator appoint all Committee. Appointed as follows (Chairman of each Committee listed first):

PULPIT

Rev. B. M. Brakebill
Bro. O. H. Ellis
Bro. Andrew Roberts

FINANCE

Rev. Frances Boyle
Sis. Delores Reddick
Sis. Louise Riddle

RESOLUTION

Rev. Wiley Gregory
Rev. Jack Craven
Rev. John Reel

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sis. Clifford Wright
Sis. Jewel Matthews
Bro. Eugene Rial

OBITUARY

Sis. Sophia Garman
Sis. Daisy Stacks
Sis. Joan Rial
Bro. J. B. Ledbetter
Sis. Pat Pennington
Sis. Maxine Martin
Sis. Mary Hammer

PROGRAM

Bro. Tom Smith
Bro. Charles Duckworth
Bro. Herb Bartlett
Sis. Gertrude Tanner
Sis. Arlene Franks

Motion to adjourn until 1:30. Prayer by Rev. Orval Thurman.

11:00 O'CLOCK SERVICES

Song service led by Sis. Delores Reddick. No. 102, No. 128, No. 18. Pianist, Sis. Maxine Martin. Prayer by Rev F. A. McGage. Songs, "Precious Memories" by the Quartet and "After the Shadows" by Bro. Chester S. Burgess. Accompanied by Sis. Maxine Martin on the piano.

Memorial Sermon delivered by Rev. Wiley Gregory. Morning Service conducted by Rev. Lloyd Reddick. Dismissal Prayer and Thanks for the noon meal offered.

1:30 FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Song service led by Rev. Jack Craven, No. 90. Scripture reading by Rev. F. A. McGage, II Tim. 2. Prayer by Rev John Reel. Pulpit report read. (See Committee reports.)

Sunday School Committee Report read and accepted. (See Committee reports.)

Finance Committee Report read and accepted (See Committee reports.)

Obituary Committee Report read and accepted (See Committee reports.)

Settings of the Quarterly Meetings and Introductory Speakers as follows:

1st Quarter: Aug. 31, Sept. 1, 1956 at Ventura—Rev. Jack Craven, Speaker. Rev. F. A. McGage, Alternate.

2nd Quarter: Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 1956 at Blythe—Rev. R. A. McGage, Speaker. Rev. F. W. Boyle, Alternate.

3rd Quarter: Mar. 1, 2, 1957 at Arvin—Rev. Joe Blair, Speaker. Rev. B. M. Brakebill, Alternate.

7th Annual Meeting: May 30, 31, June 1, 1957 at Artesia—Rev. Lloyd Reddick, Speaker. Rev. F. W. Boyle, Alternate.

Motion to use the Association's oldest Minister present that day, in years and in God's Service to preach the Memorial Message.

Delegates were elected to the Calif. State Association as follows: Sisters Daisy Stacks, Gertude Tanner, Ruth Holmesley, Betty Durham, Shirley Wright, and Brethren J. D. Ledbetter and Gene Rial. Alternates: Brethren Charles Duckworth, Robert Riddle, Edsel Boyle, and Sisters Joan Rial, Darlene Franks, Sophia Garman and Delores Reddick.

Motion to appoint one member to the Executive Board to assist the two present ones in the examination of Ministers and Deacons. Rev. F. A. McCage appointed. Motion to retain Rev. F. W. Boyle as Parliamentarian.

Motion to retain the Association paper and F. W. Boyle as Editor and John Reel as co-editor and the Association pay the publishing costs. Program Committee report read and accepted.

Finance Committee Report No. 2 read and accepted. (See Committee Reports.)

Executive Report No. 1 read and accepted (See Committees Reports.)

Motion to delete Resolution No. 9 of the 1955 minutes. Motion to adjourn until 9:00 Saturday morning.

3:00 P.M. FRIDAY

Song service led by Bro. Gene Rial. No. 122, No. 203, No. 307. Sermon delivered by Rev. Joe Blair. Text Ezekial 22:29,30. "Stand in the Gap." Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Tom Smith.

7:30 P.M. FRIDAY

Song Service led by Bro. Chester S. Burgess. No. 205, No. 164, No. 144. Alter of Prayer with all the Ordained in the Altar. Special songs: "I Just Steal Away And Pray" by the Wright Sisters. "All Because of His Grace" by Bro. and Sis. Cleo Suggs. Devotional led by Rev. F. W. Boyle. Two special songs by the Reddick Trio. Love offering taken for Rev. H. E. Dixon. Received \$35.00. Song "Standing on the Promises." A wonderful sermon on "Immortality" brought by Rev. F. A. McGage. Visitors assigned homes for the night by the Host Pastor. Dismissed by singing "Amazing Grace."

9:00 SATURDAY MORNING

Song service led by Sis. Ruth Holmsley No. 180, No. 172. Scripture reading and prayer by Rev. Wiley Gregory who chose I John 3:1,23. Letter from National City read and accepted. Executive Board Report No. 2 read and accepted. (See Committee Reports.) Treasury Report read and accepted. (See reports.)

Letter from the West Coast Association to the California State Association read and approved. Resolution No. 2 read and accepted. Motion to amend Resolution No. 12 of the 1955 minutes to read Association instead of Conference. Motion to table Resolution No. 1 until the 1st Quarterly Meeting. (See Committee Reports.) Resolution No. 3 read and accepted. (See Committee Reports.) Resolution No. 4 read and accepted. (See Committee Reports.)

Motion to ask for the State Association to be held at the Bell Gardens church. Motion to send \$95.00 to the State Association as requested by the State.

Motion to pay expenses of the delegates to the State. (Amendment) Pay delegates 4 cents per mile.

Motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of this setting. Standing vote of thanks given the Host Church. Motion to adjourn. Dismissed in prayer by Rev. F. A. McGage.

11:00 A.M. SERVICE

Song service led by Sis. Ruth Holmesly. No. 90, No. 68. Prayer by Rev. F. A. McGage. Special songs, "Home of the Soul" by the Wright Sisters. "Did You Think to Pray" by Bro. Chester S. Burgess. "When the Morning Comes" by Rev. Lloyd Reddick and daughter. Sermon delivered by Rev. C. R. Harrison "On This Rock I Will Build My Church." Matt. 16:18. Dismissed by singing

No. 209, "God Be With You Till We Meet Again."

Rev. Joe Blair, Moderator

Bro. Chester S. Burgess, Clerk

COMMITTEE REPORT

PULPIT — Rev. Joe Blair to preach Friday, 3:00 p.m. Rev. F. A. McGage to preach Friday, 7:30 p.m. Rev. C. R. Harrison to preach Saturday 11:00 a.m.

Signed Chairman of Committee

SUNDAY SCHOOL — We recommend that each Pastor of each Church make a survey of their Sunday School and improve any conditions that will help the Sunday School.

That all officers and teachers meet with their Pastor at least once a month to improve their Sunday School.

Signed Chairman of Committee

FINANCE — No. 1: We retain the 40 cent per active member to finance our minute publication.

We retain the \$10.00 from each church for the feeding of the delegates.

We pay our clerk \$25.00 per year and moderator \$10.00 for each setting of the Quarterly Meeting and Association.

No. 2: We recommend that the Assistant Clerk be paid \$15.00 per year and recommend this office be responsible for printing of the programs to be paid for out of the Association Treasury.

Signed Chairman of Committee

OBITUARY — We, the Obituary Committee, wish to report that God in His infinite wisdom, has called from our number the following members: Bro. Raymond Bice and Bro. Linyard from the Oxnard Church; Sis. Eula Kirkpatrick and Sis. Alice Anderson from the Bell Gardens Church; Bro. Marvin A. Cunningham from the Arvin Church; and Bro. Clifton Hartwell.

Signed Chairman of Committee

EXECUTIVE BOARD — No. 1: We have examined Bro. Edsel Boyle and Bro. Charles Duckworth and recommend them to be licensed to preach the Gospel.

No. 2: We have examined the following brethren and recommend them for ordination as Deacons: Willard Bartholomew, S. P. Dexter, Columbus Howard and Cleo Suggs.

RESOLUTIONS —

No. 1: Be it resolved that we amend Article VII to read as follows: "The West Coast Association shall hold its meetings annually." (tabled until Sept., 1956.)

No. 2 Be it resolved that we keep the following resolutions from the 1955 minutes: Nos. 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12 and 13.

No. 3 Be it resolved that the officers be elected annually and hold office at least one year in accordance with Article V of our Constitution

No. 4 Be it resolved that we have 500 minutes printed.

(The following resolutions from the 1955 minutes.)

No. 5 Be it resolved that the Association pay for the publishing of the "West Coast Reporter" each month.

No. 6 Be it resolved that the Host Church be given a standing vote of thanks.

No. 7 Be it resolved the West Coast Association will not recognize any minister advocating pre-millenarian doctrine, and will not fellowship any Church in the West Coast Association calling a Pastor that believes, teaches or preaches pre-millenarian doctrine. The minutes of Ministers and Deacons Conference to be printed in Association minutes.

No. 8 Be it resolved that we print our League minutes from our annual meeting in with the minutes of our Association and Ministers and Deacons Conference.

No. 9 Be it resolved that every Pastor of a church study the laws that have been set forth for taking in member to our local churches, such as explaining to those wishing to unite what we believe and what we won't tolerate in our churches.

No. 10 Be it resolved that the address of the church where the meeting takes place be put in the program.

No. 11 Be it resolved that our Articles of Faith be printed in our minutes with the Scriptures added to them.

No. 12 Be it resolved that our Quarterly Association convene on Friday Evening and run through Saturday.

No. 13 Be it resolved that our Treasurer's report be printed in full, that is, total receipts and disbursements.

WEST COAST ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST'S TREASURY REPORT—

Balance brought forward: \$ 607.70

Received:

Annual Meeting, Bell Gardens, May 2-5, 1955	171.60
1st quarter, Artesia, September 3, 1955	175.20
2nd quarter, Ontario, December 3, 1955	182.20
3rd quarter, Arvin, March 3, 1956	182.20

1,318.90

Received from Bro. Dixon for minutes

11.20

Received for Association Paper

20.00

TOTAL RECEIVED:

1,350.10

PAID OUTS:

Annual Meeting:

Moderator	10.00
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Clerk	25.00
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State Association	70.00
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Justus Printing (Ass'n. Paper)	72.10
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Treatise	56.25
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Village Printers (Minutes)	129.05	362.40
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Sept. 3, Artesia - 1st Quarter

Moderator	10.00
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Treatise	18.75
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Church Signs	72.00
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Tom Justus (Ass'n. Paper)	36.05
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Executive Board	11.55
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Bulletins	7.54	155.89
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Dec. 3, Ontario - 2nd Quarter

Executive Board	26.55
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Bulletins	7.54
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Justus Printers (W-C Paper)	72.10
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Moderator	10.00
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Mewtens Printers	76.96	193.15
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March 3, Arvin - 3rd Quarter

Moderator	10.00
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Mewtens Printer	117.00
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Free Will Baptist Gem	4.80	131.80
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TOTAL RECEIVED:

1,350.10

TOTAL PAID OUT:

843.24

Balance on Hand:

\$506.86

STATISTICAL REPORT

of the West Coast Association Churches

Total Membership	627
Members received this year	255
Members dismissed	58
Members died	8
Members baptized	65
Number of Churches	13
Number of Sunday Schools	13
Average Attendance	596
Number of Leagues	7
League Membership	216
Number of Auxiliaries	4
Auxiliary Membership	52
Number of Ministers	33
Number of Deacons	43
Paid Pastors	\$22,220.26
Paid Evangelists	\$1,657.11
Co-operative Plan and Missions	\$1,70.39
Building and Repairs	\$23,103.37
Value of Church Property	\$171,000.00

Church and Pastor	Address
Artesia	22110 Pioneer Blvd.
Pastor, Rev. Don Bias	
Arvin	782 Orange St.
Pastor, Rev. J. R. Hall	
Bell Gardens	7216 Garfield Ave.
Pastor, Rev. F. A. McCage	
Blythe	13339 Cottonwood Lane, E. Blythe
Pastor, Rev. Wiley Gregory	
Huntington Park	6312 Santa Fe Ave.
Pastor, Rev. H. E. Dixon	
National City	3335 Olive St.
Pastor, Rev. Gerald Casey	
North Long Beach	Georgia & Madison, Paramount
Pastor, Rev. John Reel	
Norwalk	14619 Gridley Rd.
Pastor, Rev. M. A. Bryant	
Ontario	143 N. Vine St.
Pastor, Rev. F. W. Boyle	
Oxnard	Princeton & Occidental, College Park
Pastor, Rev. Claude Hames	
Santa Paula	Ojai Street
Pastor, Rev. B. M. Brakebill	
South Whittier	Leffingwell & Carmenita Rd.
Pastor, Rev. Billy J. Hood	
Ventura	280 S. Ventura Ave.
Pastor, Rev. Lloyd Reddick	
Camarillo	-----
Pastor, Rev. Fletcher Adcock	
N. Redondo Beach	2447½ W. 90th St.
Pastor, Rev. Joe Blair	

MINISTER'S ROLL

ORDAINED

Fletcher Adcock - Route 2, Box 452,Oxnard, Calif.
 F. C. Berry - 334 E. 8th St.,National City, Calif.
 Don Bias - 11703 E. 216th St., Artesia, Calif.....TOrrrey 5-2039
 Arthur Billows -
 Joe Blair -
 Frances W. Boyle - 508 E. D. St., Ontario, Calif....YUkon 63-6476
 Beryl M. Brakebill - 1415 Ojai St., Santa Paula, Calif.....424-M
 Marvin A. Bryant - 11541 Florence Ave, Norwalk, Calif. TO. 4-7316
 W. H. Callison - Rt. 1, Box 657.....Camarillo, Calif.
 Jack Craven, Jr. - 533 S. Derby, Arvin, Calif.....SPring 4-2401
 Leroy Cupit - 9504 Van Reuten, Bellflower, Calif...TOrrrey 7-4766
 H. E. Dixon - 22423 Siene, Artesia, Calif.....GARfield 1-6856
 H. H. EasterwoodOxnard, Calif.
 C. R. Fassio - 1120 E. A St.....Ontario, Calif.
 M. J. Gibbons - 426 N. Virginia, Ontario, Calif....YUkon 6-6569
 Wiley Gregory
 Claudie Hames - 2183 Cloyne St., Oxnard, Calif.....HU. 3-4819
 C. R. Harrison - 632 S. K St., San Bernardino, Calif.....6-3101
 C. E. Hensley Bell Gardens, Calif.
 Raymond Hinesley
 Billy J. Hood - 12237 Aegean St., Norwalk, Calif....TOrrrey 3-7529
 Albert Jacoe - 865 Peters Ave.....Arvin, Calif.
 F. A. McCage - 5963 Gage Ave.,Bell Gardens, Calif.
 Lloyd Reddick - 182 N. Ventura Ave.....Ventura, Calif.
 John Reel - 9545 Flower Ave.Bellflower, Calif.
 Wilburn RobertsArtesia, Calif.
 Gene RogersBell Gardens, Calif.
 Lonnie L. Rolen - P.O. Box 138.....Kerman, Calif.
 Henry Scroggins - 21818 Devlin St., Artesia, Calif...GARfield 1-7251

LICENSED

Jerry Best - U. S. Navy.....National City, Calif.
 Edsel Boyle - P.O. Box 456.....Santa Paula, Calif.
 Chester S. Burgess - 11755 Garetal St., Norwalk, Calif...TO. 3-9757
 Gerald Casey - 11512 Laurel Ave.....South Whittier, Calif.
 Charles Duckworth - 15502 Le Floss.....Norwalk, Calif.
 J. B. Ledbetter - 20703 Norwalk Blvd.....Artesia, Calif.
 Eddie MealorArtesia, Calif.
 Eugene Rial - 911½ W. 55th St.....Los Angeles 37, Calif.
 Grover Rose - 12233 Hibbing, Artesia, Calif.....TOrrrey 5-2036
 Jesse L. Williamson - 7435 Scout Ave., Bell Gardens, Calif.
TOpaz 9-1720

DEACONS ROLL

Bro. A. J. Bailey - 207 Hughes Dr.,
 Oxnard, Calif.HU. 3-0084
 Bro. Willard Bartholomew - 11531 Cheshire.....Norwalk, Calif.
 Bro. H. H. Bennett - 778 Laurel St.....Arvin, Calif.
 Bro. Gus BerryNational City, Calif.
 Bro. Chester Bonds - Roseland Trailer Court, E. Garvey Blvd.,
 S. San Gabriel, Calif.
 Bro. Chester S. Burgess - 11755 Garetal St.,Norwalk, Calif.
 Bro. Kenneth R. Carpenter - 5649 Rocket St.,
 Lakewood, Calif.TOrrrey 6-1757
 Bro. Carl Cravens - 695 E. Grand Ave.,
 Pomona, Calif.LY. 2-0461
 Bro. John Cross - 426 N. Gertrude.....Redondo Beach, Calif.
 Bro. George Davis - 928 Franklin St.....Arvin, Calif.
 Bro. S. P. Dexter - 18426 Ibex Ave.,
 Artesia, Calif.TOrrrey 5-3076
 Bro. Al Durham - 254 Piedmont, Claremont, Calif....LY. 5-6961
 Bro. O. H. Ellis - 1715 Sunshine Ave.,
 Bakersfield, Calif.FA. 5-6736

Bro. Ed Gilliam - 5520 Pacific Blvd.....Huntington Park, Calif.
 Bro. Lyman Hall - 1185 W. 10th St., Pomona, Calif,....LY. 9-6579
 Bro. Pat Henthorne - P.O. Box 332,Santa Paula, Calif.
 Bro. W. F. Holliday - S. A St.....Arvin, Calif.
 Bro. Henry Horton - Rt. 5.....Bakersfield, Calif.
 Bro. Columbus Howard - S. 4th St.....Santa Paula, Calif.
 Bro. Leonard King - 335 Acacia Rd.....Santa Paula, Calif.
 Bro. Everett Lewis - Rt. 1, Box 216.....Santa Paula, Calif.
 Bro. Tom Matthews - 22027 Devlin St.....Artesia, Calif.
 Bro. Dave McCormack - 6621 Ira Ave.,
 Bell Gardens, Calif.LO. 5-2837
 Bro. J. H. McDadeBell Gardens, Calif.
 Bro. Ed Metcalf - 2218 E. 32nd St.,
 National City, Calif.GR. 7-8873
 Bro. Charlie T. Mims - 151 St. Mary's Dr.,
 Oxnard, Calif.HU. 3-2047
 Bro. Estel Newport - Rt. 2, Box 255.....Santa Paula, Calif.
 Bro. Andrew RobertsBell Gardens, Calif.
 Bro. Carl Rodden - 2633 Hill St.,
 Huntington Park, Calif.LU. 1-9679
 Bro. Lewis Scott - 512 W. Ramona.....Rialto, Calif.
 Bro. Troy Seely - 12157 Alondra Blvd.,
 Norwalk, Calif.TOrrrey 3-7296
 Bro. Bill ShumateNorwalk, Calif.
 Bro. Carl SmithS. Whittier, Calif.
 Bro. J. B. Smith - 457 Hood St.....Arvin, Calif.
 Bro. Carl Smithen - 25019 Cypress Ave.....Lomita, Calif.
 Bro. J. J. Sparks - 12229 Fidel,
 Norwalk, Calif.OXford 6-3754
 Bro. Cleo Suggs - 14th St.....Santa Paula, Calif.
 Bro. Bob Vandivort - 9072 Marylee Dr.,
 Garden Grove, Calif.LE. 9-8926
 Bro. Barney Van Winkle - 1305 Uffert St.Bakersfield, Calif.
 Bro. Walter Whitehead - 7732 Polk Ave.....Anaheim, Calif.

MINUTES OF THE MINISTERS AND DEACONS CONFERENCE OF THE WEST COAST ASSOCIATION OF FREEWILL BAPTISTS, WHEN CONVENED AT THE PARAMOUNT FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH,

JULY 27, 1956.
FRIDAY EVENING

Singing directed by Bro. William Bartholomew. Altar of prayer with all the ordained in the altar. Special singing directed by Rev. Gilbert Pixley. Devotional Service led by Rev. H. H. Easterwood.

Introductory message brought by Rev. F. C. Berry, Subject: "What Price Salvation." Text: Isaiah 52:1,3. Assignment of homes to the visitors by Host Pastor, Rev. John Reel. Dismissed in Prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING

Song Service led by Rev. Lloyd Reddick. Scripture reading by Rev. Joe Blair. Psa. 1. Prayer by Rev. J. R. Hall. Letters from the following churches read and accepted: National City, Arvin; Santa Paula, Artesia, Oxnard, Ventura, Bell Gardens, South Whittier, Ontario, Norwalk and North Long Beach.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President	Rev. Lloyd Reddick
Vice-President	Rev. Don Bias
Clerk and Treasurer.....	Rev. Joe Blair
Assistant Clerk and Treasurer.....	Rev. F. C. Berry

Motion made and carried that Credential Board examine those wishing membership in Conference.

Placing of meeting and election of introductory speakers were as follows:

September 28-29, 1956—Oxnard, Rev. F. A. McCage
Alternate—Rev. Billy Hood.

December 27-29, 1956—Bell Gardens, Rev J. R. Hall
Alternate—Rev. Joe Blair.

March 29-30, 1957—Ventura, Rev. Claudie Hames
Alternate—Rev. Harrison

June 28-29, 1957—Ontario, Rev. John Reel
Alternate—Rev. Don Bias.

Chair empowered to appoint Pulpit Committee. Those appointed were: Rev. John Reel, Bros. King, Smithen, Harrison and Bennett.

Pulpit Committee Report: Rev. Gilbert Pixley to bring the morning message.

Report of Credential Board read and accepted, cards were issued to following members: Rev. F. A. McCage, Rev. J. R. Hall, Rev. Claudie Hames, Rev. Raymond Hinesley, Bros Vandivort, Howard W. Bartholomew and S. P. Dexter.

Motion made that Chair appoint Committee during recess.

Motion made to adjourn. Dismissed in prayer by Bro. J. B. Ledbetter.

11:00 O'CLOCK SERVICE

Singing led by Bro. Willard Bartholomew. Rev. Lloyd Reddick received an urgent message from Oklahoma to come to his mother's bedside. The conference took a love offering of \$40.00 for Rev. Reddick. The offering prayer by Rev. J. R. Hall.

A quartet number was rendered by Rev. Pixley, Sister Gale Bartholomew, Bro. Willard Bartholomew and Rev. Hinesley.

Message delivered by Rev. Gilbert Pixley from II Timothy 4:1-2.

An old fashioned hand shake was given by everyone and dismissed by prayer for lunch.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Song service led by Bro. Willard Bartholomew. Scripture Reading by Rev. Leroy Cupit. Prayer by Rev. Sanders.

Motion the Moderator appoint Assistant in absence of President. Rev. F. A. McCage appointed. Program Committee appointed as follows: Rev. John Reel, Rev. Claudie Hames, and Rev. Beryl Brakebill.

Resolution Committee report read and accepted.

Finance Committee report read and accepted.

Nominations opened to fill vacancies on the Credential Board. Rev. Beryl Brakebill elected as five year man and Rev. Hall elected as three year man.

Program Committee report read and accepted.

The Credential Board organized with Rev. F. W. Boyle, chairman and Rev. Beryl Brakebill, clerk.

Huntington Park letter read and accepted.

Motion to adjourn until the next quarterly meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

RESOLUTION:

1. Be it resolved that no member hold more than one office or serve on more than one permanent board.
2. Be it resolved that this body give the North Long Beach Church a standing vote of thanks for their hospitality during this session of our Conference.

Signed . . . Resolutions Committee

FINANCE:

1. We, the Finance Committee recommend that we retain the \$6.25 from each church. (\$5.00 going to the Host Church and \$1.25 going into the Ministers and Deacons Conference.)
2. We recommend each Church send \$10.00 to the meeting at Oxnard to be sent by Treasurer to the State Ministers and Deacons Conference.

Signed . . . Finance Committee

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL LEAGUE RALLY WHEN
CONVENED WITH THE SANTA PAULA FREEWILL
BAPTIST CHURCH THIS 7TH AND 8TH DAY OF
APRIL, 1956.**

Services opened with singing led by Sis. Marjorie Tuggle, 1:30 p.m. Saturday. Altar of prayer by all the Leaguers. Special singing by Oxnard, Bell Gardens, Ventura, Huntington Park and Santa Paula. Devotional by Sis. Shirley Wright. Bro. Curtiss Rial took charge of the services in the absence of the President. Motion to read the Ventura letter and receive their league into the West Coast League Rally.

Committees appointed by the President as follows:

PULPIT

Rev. Beryl Brakebill
Cecil Spurlock
Cleo Bush
Shirley Wright
Leatrice Reddick
Gerald Henthorne

OBITUARY

Clara Hicks
Margaret Spurlock
Coe Rushon
Jim Kelly
Margie Reddick
Rose Clegg

RESOLUTION

Bentrena Eoff
Marjorie Tuggle
Gene Rial
Cloe Norman
Harvey Newman
Rebecca Suggs

FINANCE

Mary McDaniel
Clyde Piland
Joan Rial
Thelma Kelly
Beryl Brakebill
Bette McCurry

Business adjourned until 7:00 p.m. Saturday.

Saturday afternoon everyone enjoyed listening to preaching from some of our young Ministers. Dismissed at 5:00 for the evening meal.

Services opened at 7:00 p.m. with singing led by Loretta Suggs. Motion to elect Recording and Corresponding Secretaries. Elected were Lucille Boyle as Rec. Sec'y. and Bentrena Eoff, Corr. Sec'y.

Letters from the following Churches read and accepted: Artesia, Ontario, Huntington Park, Bell Gardens, North Long Beach, Oxnard, Santa Paula, Norwalk and Arvin. All the minutes for the past year read and accepted.

Election of officers: President—Harvey Newman, Vice President—Bill Johnson, Song Leader—Shirley Wright, Assistant Song Leader—Curtiss Rial, Pianist—Barbara Spurlock, Assistant Pianist—Delma Wright, Treasurer—Margie Tuggle, Assistant Treasurer—Clara Hicks, Sword Drill Leader—Oscar Wright.

Motion to separate the offices of the Sponsor and Evangelist. Bro. and Sis. Estel Newport elected as Sponsors. Motion to elect one Evangelist from the North and one from the South. Elected were Zane Martin from the North and Gene Rial from the South.

Motion to elect someone to install the officers. Rev. Beryl Brakebill elected.

Motion to pay Sponsors only. Motion to pay Sponsors \$25.00 every three months if they visit as many Leagues as possible. Motion to accept Treasury Report and pay \$1.00 per member to the State League Rally. Finance report read and accepted. Leave the Finance as is. Obituary Committee report: Clifton Hartwell, Oxnard; Raymond Bice, Ontario.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

No. 1. Be it resolved that we use Ordained Ministers to judge our plays.

No. 2. Be it resolved that we give the League who represents the West Coast in the State League Rally a banner (program) to keep with date inscribed on it.

No. 3. Be it resolved that we have all business on Saturday night.

Motion we have Police Committee to see that the Ministers and anyone else are inside while plays and business are going on.

Those elected on Police Committee: Coe Rushon, Kathy Howard, Cecil Spurlock, Olan Jones, J. H. Lewis and Mary McDaniels.

Motion to have a recreation committee. Motion that each league President serve on the committee.

PULPIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Saturday night at next League Rally: Zane Martin to bring message and Harvey Newman, alternate.

Sunday morning: Bro. Fassio, and Bro. McCage, alternate.

Motion to give the attendance banner to the League with the most Leaguers present.

Setting of the League Rallies as follows:

1st, July 8, 1956.....14619 Gridley Rd., Norwalk, Calif.
2nd, Oct. 14, 1956.....Ojai St., Santa Paula, Calif.
3rd, Jan. 13, 1957.....22110 Pioneer Blvd., Artesia, Calif.
Annual, April 13, 1957.....7216 Garfield Ave., Bell Gardens, Calif.

Motion to adjourn Conference.

Assignment to homes by Host Pastor. Dismissed by Bro. Oscar Wright.

Sunday morning services opened with singing led by Joe Harrison. Welcome by J. H. Lewis. Response by Margie Tuggle. Scripture by Bro. Casey. Judges were appointed. Ontario presented "The Prodigal Son." Recess. Special songs from various Churches. Piano solo by Darlene Drake. Devotional led by Edsel Boyle. Message by Rev. Brakebill. Benediction on noon meal asked by Bro. Jesse Williamson.

Sunday afternoon 1:30—Opened with singing. Prayer by Bro. Shumate. Welcome given to the Ventura League. Huntington Park presented "Shall We Gather At The River." Oxnard Quartet "Empty Mansion." Arvin play "Tommy's Little Prayer." Special by North Long Beach. Oxnard play "Come Unto Me." Ventura play "Power of Prayer." Altar call given. Eight souls were saved. Santa Paula play "Breaking of the Bread." Installation of officers by Rev. Beryl Brakebill. Handshake for all new officers, new converts, and outgoing officers. Ventura League won Program and attendance banner. Ontario will represent the West Coast with a play at the State League Rally. Dalma Wright as the Sword Driller. Dismissed in prayer.

Bentrena Eoff, Corresponding Secretary

Lucille Boyle, Recording Secretary

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY WEST COAST ASSOCIATION

The women from the various churches met in Ventura Freewill Baptist Church Sept. 1st, 1956 to organize a Women's Auxiliary.

Officers elected as follows:

President—Ruth Holmesley	Treasurer—Opal McGuire
Vice-Pres.—Roberta Hall	Asst. Secy.—Elizabeth Brakebill
Rec. Secy.—Lucille Brakebill	Field Secy.—Sis. Wright
Study Course Chairman—Lucille Boyle.	Assistant—Grace King.

Finance Committee appointed: Sue Burgess, Sis. Wright, Sis. Rogers, Sis. Hall and Max Crosswhite. Motion we have our meeting at the Quarterly Meeting setting and each Auxiliary send 25c per member to the Association. Motion to have our minutes printed with our West Coast Association Annual Meeting.

Dismissed in prayer by Sis. Blair.

Lucille Brakebill, Recording Secretary

CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE: From long experiences, we the members of the Free Will Baptist Denomination, being regularly baptized upon the profession of our faith in Christ and realizing the necessity of a bond of union and fellowship among us as an association of churches and to preserve and maintain correspondence and co-ordination with us, do therefore ordain this constitution for our better denominational government.

Article I

This organization shall be known as the West Coast Association of Free Will Baptists of the State of California.

Article II

The object and purpose of this organization shall be to unify the work of our churches and associated bodies of this Association and to devise and execute measures of expanding our work in the cause of Christ in broader fields.

Article III

Representation to the West Coast association is to be by subordinate church. Each subordinate church shall be entitled to three delegates to be selected from the laity.

Article IV

The West Coast Association shall have the right to settle any and all questions of discipline doctrine or practice, that may properly come before it from any of the bodies composing this organization or act upon an appeal that may be made by any church or individual which is a component part of this body. Said appeal shall have been written and properly signed by the constituent body or bodies making such appeal from the lower to the next higher body.

Article V

Officers: The officers of this West Coast Association shall consist of a moderator, assistant moderator, clerk, assistant clerk, and treasurer, each of whom shall be elected at the opening of each setting of the annual association.

Section 2. Committees as necessary shall be appointed by the Moderator unless otherwise provided for and shall hold office until work is completed or their successors are appointed.

Article VI

The executive board shall be composed of five members. Each member shall be an ordained minister in good standing in the West Coast Association and their terms of tenure shall be as follows:

- (1) one for one year.
- (1) one for two years.
- (1) one for three years.
- (1) one for four years.
- (1) one for five years.

Succession to office thereafter shall be determined as order requires.

Article VII

The West Coast Association shall hold its meetings quarterly. The date and place to be decided upon at each annual meeting of said West Coast Association.

Article VIII

Should necessity arise which call and requires immediate action, the West Coast Executive Board shall convene upon call of its chairman and shall take whatever action it deems necessary in the best interests of the cause of Christ. The action however shall not conflict with the purpose and edicts of the Constitution as set forth in the preceding articles.

Article IX

This constitution may be altered or amended at any regular session of the West Coast Association by a two-thirds vote of members present and voting. All proposed alterations or amendments shall be presented in writing to the body one day in advance.

Article X

No minister will be received into this association who cannot obtain a recommendation from the church from which he comes, and that said church be a member of this association, and that he obtain a recommendation from the West Coast Minister's Conference before he is allowed to pastor a church in the West Coast Association.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant. We promise by His Grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearances of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unto conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scripture, secret prayer, family devotion, and social worship, and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work. We agreed to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace," to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and to seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring and, as far as we are able, to promote the success of the church and the Gospel. We will everywhere uphold Christian principles sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme, counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christian Society.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday School, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of souls and the conversion of the world.

ARTICLES OF FAITH
of the
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Article I
THE BIBLE

We believe the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by the inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

Matt. 22:29; Mark 15:28; John 2:22; John 1:39; John 7:38; Acts 1:16; Acts 8:35; Acts 18:28; Rom. 15:40; Gal. 1:8; II Tim. 3:16-17; II Peter 1:12, 20, 21.

Article II

GOD

We believe there are three persons in the God head, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and that all things were created by them.

First John 5:7 Gen. 1st and 2nd Chapters; Exo. 20:9-11; Psa 33:6; Jer. 51:15; John 1:1-3; Acts 14:14-17; I. Cor. 8:5, 6; Eph. 3:8-10; Col. 1:9-17; Rev. 4:9-11.

Article III

MAN

We believe that God created Man innocent, but by disobedience he fell into a state of sin and death. His posterity therefore inherited a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to the years of accountability sin and become guilty before God.

Gen. 2:15-17; Gen. 3:14-19; Isa. 53:6; Rom. 3:9-26; Rom. 5:12-15; I Cor. 15:21,22; Gal. 3:22; I John 1:10.

Article IV

CHIDREN SAVED

We believe that children are born in a saved state and we must become like unto them if we enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.

Matt. 18:2,3; Luke 18:16,17.

Article V

GENERAL ATONEMENT

We believe that Christ died for all and whosoever will may be saved.

Matt. 28:19,20; Luke 24:45-37; John 3:16; I Tim. 2:1-6; Titus 2:11; Heb. 2:9; II Peter 3:9; I John 2:1,2; Rev. 22:17.

Article VI

TERMS OF SALVATION

We believe the terms of Salvation are:

1st. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and a hearty denunciation of it.

2nd. Faith, or the unreserved committal of one's self to God through faith in Christ with purpose to love and obey him in all things.

Luke 13:3-5; Luke 14:25-27; Luke 24:45-37; John 3:16; Acts 10:43; Acts 15:8,9; Acts 16:31; Rom. 5:1,2; Rom. 10:8-13; Gal. 3:26; Eph. 2:8,9; Heb. 11:6.

Article VII

DIVINE CALL TO THE MINISTRY

We believe that God in His wisdom and goodness displays His power of Grace in a great degree in calling and qualifying His servants by the teaching of the Holy Spirit to go forth and proclaim life and salvation. Yet those who are called are commanded to study to show themselves approved unto God, etc.

John 5:39; John 1:16,17; Acts 3:22; Acts 13:14; Acts 18:27,28; Acts 20:28; Acts 22:14,15; Rom. 10:14,15; Gal. 1:11-23; II Tim. 2:15; Titus 1:7-9.

Article VIII

THE CHURCH

We believe that the Church of God, or Christ, is the whole body of Christians throughout the world. Matt. 16:18.

Acts 2:46,47; I Cor. 12:13-20; Eph. 1:22,23; Eph. 4:4-6; Col. 1:18-24; I Tim. 3:14,15; Heb. 3:6.

Article IX

A CHURCH OF GOD

We believe that a Church of God is an organized body of believers in Christ who stately assemble to worship God and keep the Ordinances of the Gospel according to the Scriptures. Matt. 18:15-17.

Matt. 28:18,20; Acts 8:1; Acts 13:1-3; Acts 14:23; Rom. 16:1-5; I Cor. 11:12; I Cor. 11:23-28; I Cor. 16:19; Col. 4:15,16; Titus 1:5; I Peter 5:13; Rev. 1:11.

Article X

ORDINANCES

We believe that Baptism, Communion and feet washing are Gospel Ordinances and should be observed by the people of God.

Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:18,20; John 13:4-17; Matt. 28:18,20; Acts 2:41; Acts 8:12; Acts 8:35-38; Acts 9:18; Acts 10:47,48; Acts 16:33; I Cor. 11:23-26; I Tim. 5:9,19.

Article XI

BAPTISM

We believe that immersion is the Scriptural mode of baptism.

Matt. 3:5,6; Matt. 3:13-17; Mark 1:5-11; John 3:22,23; Acts 8:36-39; Rom. 6:3,4.

Article XII

OPEN COMMUNION

We believe that the Lord's people are one in Him, therefore should be one at His table.

John 15:5; John 17:11-21; I Cor. 11:23-29; I Cor. 12:13-21; Gal. 3:26-29.

Article XIII

THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH

be set apart for the worship of God and that no work of worldly nature should be done on that day. Work of piety, mercy and necessity excepted.

Mark 16:1,2; John 20:1,19,26; Acts 13:27; Acts 16:13; Acts 20:7; I Cor. 16:1,2; Rev. 1:10,11.

Article XIV

APOSTASY

We believe that only those Christians who through grace and patience endure unto the end have promise of Eternal Salvation.

Ezek. 18:24-26; Matt. 10:22; Matt. 24:12,13; Matt. 24:48-51; Matt. 25:14-30; Mark 13:13; Luke 12:45,46; John 15:1-6; Rom. 11:21; I Cor. 10:11,12; I Cor. 15:12; I Thes. 3:4,5; Heb. 3:1-6; Heb. 6:4-6; Heb. 10:24-30; II Peter 1:9-11; II Peter 2:12-16; II Peter 2:20-22; Rev. 2:10; Rev. 3:5.

Article XV

RESURRECTION

We believe in the resurrection of all men — they that have done good unto the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation.

John 5:28,29; Acts 4:1,2; Acts 17:18; Acts 23:6; Acts 24:14,15; Acts 26:6-8; I Cor. 15:12,22; I Thes. 4:15-17; Rev. 20:12-15.

Article XVI

GENERAL JUDGMENT

We believe that there will be a general or universal judgment when all nations will be gathered before the Judgment Seat of Christ, to be judged according to their works. The wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal.

Eccl. 11:9; Eccl. 12:14; Matt. 12:36,37; Matt. 13:37-43; Matt. 25:31-46; Mark 9:43-48; John 5:28,29; Acts 10:42; Acts 17:30,31; Rom. 14:10-12; II Cor. 5:10; Heb. 9:27,28; Rev. 20:12-15; Rev. 21:7,8.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. House called to order by the Moderator.
3. Letters called for, read, and received.
4. Right hand of fellowship and seating of Delegates.
5. Election of Officers.
6. Appointment of Committees.
7. Unfinished Business.
8. New Business.
9. Report of Committees.
10. Miscellaneous Business.

RULES OF ORDER

1. The Moderator or Assistant Moderator or, in their absence the oldest minister present, shall call the Association to conference.
2. Each session shall be opened and closed by prayer.
3. Five members from two or more churches shall constitute a quorum. A lesser number may adjourn until such time as a quorum is present.
4. Visiting brethren are invited to seat as advisory members.
5. Those who speak shall rise and address the Moderator. Personal reflection shall be avoided in all debates.
6. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member and a vote taken.
7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.
8. No one shall speak more than twice on the same subject without special leave of the Moderator.
9. The Moderator shall not allow discussion when not carried on in a Christian spirit.
10. The ruling of the Moderator may be overruled by a two-thirds majority of the membership voting.
11. No question from any church shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it has first been discussed at its own church.
12. At each Association arrangement shall be made to insure two or more sermons or their equivalent devotional services each day.
13. The West Coast Association shall have no power to fill vacancies in the delegation from any composite body.