

MINUTES

SIXTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

WEST FORK ASSOCIATION

OF

Free Will Baptist Churches

Convening With The

EASLEYS CHAPEL, GARTMANS VIEW

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

COMMANCHE, TEXAS

AUGUST 27, 28, 29, 1957

**The Association will meet with the Pleasant Mound
Free Will Baptist Church, Buffalo Springs**

August 26, 27, 28, 1958

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION — 1957-58

Moderator	Denison, Texas	Rev. Roy Norie, Jr.
Assistant	Odessa, Texas	Rev. J. A. Brooks
Clerk	Midland, Texas	Rev. E. E. Zoellers
Treasurer	Wichita Falls, Texas	Rev. R. E. Conner
Parliamentarian	Bowie, Texas	Rev. Tiff Covington

BOARDS

HOME MISSION

E. E. Zoellers	Chairman & Treasurer	Midland, Texas
Fred C. King		Bowie, Texas
Wesley Broom		Buffalo Springs, Texas
H. Z. Cox		Dallas, Texas
Leroy Dickson		Wichita Falls, Texas

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Bill Jones	Denison, Texas
"Bud" Parr	Bowie, Texas
Frank Lovelady	

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Elvis Fielding	Decatur, Texas
A. J. St. John	Bowie, Texas
Eddie Anderson	

LEAGUE

Freddie Farmer	
Forrest Walling, Jr.	Dallas, Texas
Stanley Fuller	

LADIES AUXILIARY

Mrs. S. R. North	Midland, Texas
Mrs. E. E. Zoellers	Midland, Texas
Mrs. Lanelle St. John	Bowie, Texas

TRUSTEES OF CAMP SITE PROPERTY

Wesley Broom	Buffalo Springs, Texas
Wilburn Covington	Bowie, Texas
W. D. Phillips	Decatur, Texas

CAMP GROUND PLANNING BOARD

Elvis Fielding	Decatur, Texas
Roy Norie, Jr.	Denison, Texas
Wesley Broom	Buffalo Springs, Texas

COMMITTEES

EXECUTIVE

Tiff Covington	Bowie, Texas
R. E. Conner	Wichita Falls, Texas
J. E. Marecle	Waco, Texas

CREDENTIALS

H. Z. Cox	Dallas, Texas
Bill Wilson	Dallas, Texas
A. J. Fielding	Dallas, Texas

PROGRAM

Pastor of Host Church Chairman	Buffalo Springs, Texas
Wesley Broom	Buffalo Springs, Texas
Mr. Reeder	
J. C. King	Bowie, Texas

RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Thomas	
John Newberry	
Mr. Mayhew	

OBITUARY

Mrs. Elvis Fielding	Decatur, Texas
Mrs. Roy Norie, Jr.	Denison, Texas
Mrs. A. J. Fielding	Dallas, Texas

TEMPERANCE

Mrs. H. Z. Cox	Dallas, Texas
Mrs. R. E. Conner	Wichita Falls, Texas
Mrs. J. A. Brooks	Comanche, Texas

PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings of the 68th Annual Session of the West Fork Association of Free Will Baptist Churches when convened with the Gartman's View Free Will Baptist Church at Comanche, Texas, August 27, 28, and 29, 1957.

TUESDAY EVENING

Bro. Ted Patton started the 68th Annual Session by leading the congregation in singing that grand old song, "When I See The Blood." This was followed by further congregational singing. We then stood together while Bro. J. C. Brooks led us in our opening prayer. Our Moderator, Bro. Covington led us again in prayer after we had sung that glorious song, "Amazing Grace".

Words of welcome were extended by Bro. Covington as we officially got under way. He then read the 23rd Psalm to us. The host pastor, Bro. Norie also gave this session a welcome to his local church. Further congregational singing was enjoyed. A special song was given by a quartette from the host church. Bro. E. E. Zoellers was elected to bring the introductory message in the absence of those who had been previously elected.

Early letters were called for by the Moderator. The closing hymn was sung and we were dismissed for the night by Bro. Brawley leading us in prayer.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 28

Congregational singing led by Bro. Zoellers started our services this morning. The Moderator called on Bro. Jack Fielding to lead us in prayer. After reading a verse in Psalms to us, the Moderator called on Bro. Alek Maracle to bring the early morning devotional. He spoke briefly to us from II Corinthians 4:2.

The Credentials Committee was appointed. Sis. Chaffee led us in singing. Bro. Elvis Fielding and a group of his young folks sang a special song for us at this time.

A wonderful time of personal testimony was enjoyed by all of us. Bro. Norie gave a wonderful testimony that blessed our hearts, and then several others testified. Among them were Srs. Zoellers and Sis. Brooks.

Motion passed to receive the partial report of the Credentials Committee and seat the delegates. The delegates stood together as the right hand of fellowship was given and they were officially seated. Bro. Ferguson then led the congregation in prayer.

Visitors were called for by the Moderator but none were present to be recognized. A further partial report of the Credentials Committee was given at this time. In this report the Faith Free Will Baptist Church had a petitionary letter requesting membership in this body. Motion passed to accept this church into full fellowship, so they were officially seated.

The Moderator now called for the election of officers. Rev. Roy Norie, Jr., was elected as Moderator with Rev. J. A. Brooks as Assistant. Rev. E. E. Zoellers was re-elected as clerk and Rev. R. E. Conner re-elected as Treasurer. Motion passed that the chair appoint a Committee on Committees. Motion passed to elect Bro. Elvis Fielding as Parliamentarian for this session.

The Moderator appointed Rev. A. F. Ferguson, Sis. A. J. Fielding and Bro. Freddie Thomas to serve on the Committee on Committees.

Motion passed that a board be elected to further the plans for the new camp grounds. Members elected were Bro. Elvis Fielding, Bro. Roy Norie, Jr., and Bro. Wesley Broom. Motion passed that we recess for a few moments. Bro. Covington dismissed us with prayer.

Bro. Covington resumed our services by leading us in song. Bro. Conner led us in prayer. After having his young folks sing a special for us, Bro. Elvis Fielding spoke to us from Acts 2:42-47 and the Book of Philemon. After a wonderful message that thrilled our hearts and fed our souls, an invitation was given. The host pastor made the necessary announcements and Bro. Covington dismissed us for lunch.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

After a wonderful lunch Bro. Elvis Fielding called us together by leading us in singing some grand old hymns. The congregation stood while Bro. Brooks led us in prayer. Bro. Brawley brought us the afternoon devotional from Romans 6:4 His subject was the "New Man" and we all enjoyed it. Sis. Hack Thompson was appointed to serve on the Temperance Committee. Bro. Maracle and Bro. Roy Norie, Jr. were appointed to serve on the Resolutions Committee.

Nominations were taken at this time for the introductory speaker for the next session. Bro. Norie was elected with Bro. Ferguson as alternate. The report of the Committee on Committees was given at this time. Report was accepted in its entirety.

Further reports were called for and Bro. Ferguson, treasurer of the Home Mission Board gave his report. Report was accepted. Bro. Ferguson then resigned as a member of this board. Resignation was accepted.

By note the next session will convene with the Pleasant Mound Free Will Baptist Church at Buffalo Springs, Texas. Bro. Norie, Jr., reported for the Resolutions Committee. Report was accepted. The Ministers knelt together at the altar as they prayed for the ability to carry out their duties as members of the various Boards and Committees.

The Ladies Auxiliary report was given now by Sis. North. The very fine report was accepted as given. Motion was passed to organize a District Ladies Auxiliary. Sis. North and Sis. Zoelers gave a playlet for us emphasizing "Tithing" that was a blessing to all of us. Report of the Foreign Mission Board was given and accepted. Treasurer's Report was given and accepted. An offering of \$15.10 was taken to help defray the cost of printing of the minutes of this meeting.

Sis. R. E. Conner reported for the Obituary Committee and then requested that we stand together and offer a special prayer for the loved ones of the deceased of our number. Rev. A. F. Ferguson led us in this prayer.

Sis Hack Thompson gave a report at this time for the Temperance Committee. Report was accepted. Rev A. F. Ferguson sang a special for us that was enjoyed by all. After the host pastor made announcements concerning the evening meal, Bro. Nelms dismissed us until the night services.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Congregational singing led by Bro. Ted Patton once again got ourselves underway. Sis. Cathey led us in prayer followed by more singing. The congregation was blessed by several specials in song. A ladies quartette sang for us. The Assistant Moderator, Bro. Maracle, called on Bro. Covington to bring the evening message. He read to us from John 14:1-4. His subject was "Christ, The Great Comforter." An invitation was at the close of his soul stirring message. The announcement by the host pastor was made and then Bro. Brauley dismissed us for the night.

THURSDAY MORNING

Our Moderator, Bro. Covington, read a few verses to us on Christian influence. He then called on Bro. Rodgers to lead us in prayer. This was followed by Bro. Ted Patton leading us in song. Bro. Roy Norie, Jr., host pastor brought us a devotional from Luke 12:42 on "Christian Stewardship."

Further new business was called for at this time. The Moderator appointed the members to the various boards. Bro. Tiff Covington was elected Parliamentarian for the ensuing year. A quartette now sang for us. A very wonderful time of Christian fellowship by giving our personal testimonies was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Bro. Roy Norie sang a very moving solo for us, "When I Make My Last Move." The Moderator named delegates to the State Convention. He then declared a brief recess before the morning message.

We were called together by the reading of the minutes of this session. The minutes were accepted as read. A rising vote of thanks was given the host church for the splendid way they entertained the Association. Motion was passed to adjourn. Closing prayer given by the out-going Moderator, Bro. Covington. Rev. J. A. Brooks delivered the final message from John 15:1-8 and the last verse of the 14th Chapter of John.

Rev. Tiff Covington, Moderator
Rev. E. E. Zoellers, Clerk

CHURCH LETTERS

Liberty Church, Commanche — Delegates: Sis. Vera Cathey, Sis. Jewell Kerley, Sis. Ina Abbey, Sis. Jean Jones, Sis. Darlene Nelms. Membership 61, members received 7, letters 2, statement 4, baptism 1, dismissed 7. Services held 154, revivals 2, prayer meetings 50. Total collections \$1,216.71. Paid pastor \$807.15, evangelist \$177.24, building and repairs \$540.01, incidentals \$51.96, stationery and supplies \$26.22, miscellaneous \$156.39. Balance on hand \$125.79. Value of church property \$5,000.00

Sunday School: Enrolled 80, new members 5, added to church from Sunday school 3, baptism 1, statement 4, departments 4, classes 4, officers 6, teachers 4, average attendance 50, offerings \$1,246.97, phone calls 25.

Womens Auxiliary: Members 16, circles 1, meetings 12, dues \$48.00, paid out \$52.00, balance \$8.65, visits 67, phone calls 15, cards and letters 30.

Pastor: Rev. J. A. Brooks Granbury Texas
S. S. Supt. Robert Harbour
Womens Aux. Pres. Mrs. Dorothy Abbey
Church Clerk: Mrs. Lorraine Isham
Treasurer: Edward Isham
Deacons: Jessey Abbey, Robert Harbour, Edward Isham

First Church, Dallas—Delegates: Rev. A. J. Fielding and Mrs. A. J. Fielding. Membership 168, members received 18, letters 5; statement 2; baptism 11; dismissed 9; deaths 1; name H. C. Pannel; services held 104; revivals 1; prayer meetings 52; total collections \$11,986.00; paid pastor \$6,500.00; evangelist \$100.00; building and repairs \$40.00; home missions \$400.00; balance on hand \$2,785.00; value of church property \$100,000.00.

Sunday School: Enrollment 200; new members 30; added to church from Sunday school 15; departments 5; classes 9; officers 9; teachers 9; average attendance 93; offerings \$8,989.00.

League: Enrollment 40; leagues 3; officers 4; average attendance 30; offerings \$60.00.

Womens Auxiliary: Enrollment 21; active members 15; circles 1; meetings held 12; dues collected \$90.00; other \$300.00; paid out \$250.00.

Pastor: H. Z. Cox, 3312 Michigan, Dallas, Texas
S. S. Supt: F. E. Walling, Jr.
League Dir: E. A. Walton
Aux. President: Mrs. H. Z. Cox
Clerk: Mrs. Betty Morrison
Treasurer: O. H. Simmons

Ministers: Rev. Bob Morrison, 2327 Stovall, Dallas, Texas

Rev. A. J. Fielding, 1650 Vilbig, Dallas, Texas

Deacons: O. H. Simmons, F. E. Walling, Ed Atwood, E. A. Walton

On trial: L. L. Walling, Joe Fielding, J. M. Spikes, Charley Edwards.

New Salem Church, Decatur—Delegates: Sis. Damon Sampler, Sis. Janice Prince, Bro. Ed. G. Anderson; members received 9; letter 2; statement 3; baptism 4; services held 104; revivals 1; prayer meetings 52; total collections \$2,916.09; paid pastor \$1,652.00; property value \$15,000.00.

Sunday School: Enrollment 75; new members 19; departments 4; classes 5; average attendance 40.

Pastor: Rev. E. H. Fielding, Decatur, Texas

Pleasant Mound Church, Buffalo Springs—Delegates: Bro. and Sis. Moore and Sis. Cora Cozart; membership 75; received 3; baptism 3; dismissed 3; total income \$3,605.39; paid pastor \$1,822.50; evangelist \$146.99; foreign missions \$90.00; building and repairs \$748.00; education \$55.00; childrens home \$10.00; misc. \$516.06; total expenses \$3,399.12; balance on hand \$206.27.

Sunday School: Enrollment 90; average attendance 70; officers 4; teachers 6.

Womens Auxiliary: Enrollment 20; circles 1; meetings 18; collected \$202.80; paid to Home Missions \$25.28; Foreign Missions \$27.38; others \$131.51; total paid out \$184.17; balance \$18.63.

Pastor: Rev. A. F. Ferguson

S. S. Supt.: Bert Moore

Clerk: Ruth Barnett

Treasurer: Bud Fuller

Minister: Mrs. A. F. Ferguson

Womens Auxiliary President: Maggie Cox

Deacons: J. W. Broom, Ben White, J. M. Inman, Arnold Reeder, J. S. Treadwell, L. J. White.

West Side Church, Midland—Delegates: Sis. Odeal Butler, Sis. S. R. North, Sis. E. E. Zoellers, Sis. H. Thompson, Sis. Bill Jones. Membership 112, members received 67, baptism 36, statement 20, letter 11. Dropped from rolls 12, services 104, revivals 0, prayer meetings 52. Total collections \$8,327.04; incidentals \$531.72, misc. \$465.96, paid pastor \$3,015.96, sinking fund \$1,248, utilities \$519.17, literature \$419.35, piano service \$251.00, future building fund \$951.05, cooperative plan \$832.70, total expenses \$8,233.94.

Sunday School: Enrollment 110, new members 33, departments 1, classes 8, officers 2, average attendance 116, offering \$2,118.48.

League: Enrollment 60, leagues 7, officers 2, average attendance 68, income \$461.44.

Womens Auxiliary: Enrollment 35, active 30, circles 1, meetings 52, visits 1,975, sick calls 680, income \$1,182.86, paid out \$1,168.97, balance \$13.89, average attendance 18.

Brotherhood: Enrollment 22, active 18, meetings 24, total income \$670.55, paid out \$653.55, balance \$17.00.

Total income from all sources:

1. Church	\$ 5,747.12
2. Sunday School	\$ 2,118.48
3. League	\$ 461.44
4. Womens Auxiliary	\$ 1,182.86
5. Brotherhood	\$ 670.55

Grand Total\$10,180.45

Pastor: Rev. E. E. Zoellers, 803 S. Mineola, Midland, Texas

S. S. Supt: S. R. North

League Dir: B. J. Davis

Brotherhood Pres.: B. J. Davis

Womens Aux. Pres.: Mrs. S. R. North

Clerk: Mrs. Leo Jones

Treasurer: W. H. Johnson

Deacons: H. L. Cates, Pervis Williams, Leo Jones

Faith Church, Wichita Falls—Delegates: Bro. Freddie Thomas, Sis. John Newberry and Sis. R. E. Conner. Membership 74, members received 77, statement and letter 69, baptism 8, dismissed 2, death 1. Services 156, revivals 1, prayer meetings 52, total income \$10,508.84, paid evangelist \$66.75, buildings and repair \$4,290.01, home missions \$10.00, foreign missions \$12.33, literature \$64.16, paid on lots \$2,500.00, paid pastor \$1,385.00, total expenses \$10,321.37, balance in general fund \$187.47, misc. expenses \$1,968.63, balance in building fund \$889.60, value of church property \$8,500.00.

Sunday School: Enrollment 94, classes 4, officers 4, average attendance 90.

Womens Auxiliary: Enrolled 15, meetings 8, collections \$101.64, paid out \$87.60, balance \$24.04.

Pastor: Rev. R. E. Conner

Clerk: Vera Hutson

Treasurer: Claud Ford

S. S. Supt.: Freddie Thomas

Aux. Pres.: Mrs. John Newberry

Ministers: R. E. Conner, John Newberry (ordained)

Freddie Thomas (licensed)

Deacons: Bob Hutson, C. H. Ford, Leroy Dixon, Bill Brooks,
Jim Jones, Charlie Thombs.

First Church, Comanche—Delegates: Sis. A. Steele, Sis. Nancy Cloud, and Sis. Wanda Steele. Enrollment 71, members received 26, total income \$276.06, paid pastor \$150.21, evangelist \$90.31, other expenses \$14.22, total paid out \$254.74, balance on hand \$21.32, value of church property \$7,500.00.

Pastor: Rev. C. C. Almond

Clerk: Anthey Steele

Easleys Chapel, Comanche—Delegates: Bro. Sherman Elliott, Bro. Clifford Wilson, and Sis. Rita Taylor. Membership 155, members received 8, statement 1, baptisms 7, deaths 2, I. M. Williams and S. M. Elliott. Services held 127, revivals 1, prayer meetings 20, total collections \$1,948.08, paid pastor \$1,493.80, evangelist \$119.00, building and repair \$304.45, incidentals \$154.04, supplies \$31.50, foreign missions \$5.00, home missions \$38.69, misc. \$34.10, literature \$77.49, total expenses \$1,963.58, balance \$25.82, value of church property \$11,000.00

Sunday School: Enrollment 105, new members 12, added to church from Sunday school 16, departments 5, classes 5, officers 9, teachers 5, average attendance 50, offerings \$1,948.08, visits 842, phone calls 42, cards and letters 177.

Womens Auxiliary: Enrolled 17, active 7, circles 1, meetings 6, dues \$7.74, collected from other enterprises \$66.15, paid out \$55.25, balance \$32.99, visits 366, phone calls 80, cards and letters 42, quilted 16 quilts.

Pastor: Rev. Roy Norie, Jr.

S. S. Supt.: Gathern Elliott

Clerk: Mrs. Montie Brinson

Treasurer: Mr. Garland Collins

Aux. Pres.: Mrs. Nona McGuire

Deacons: W. A. Irby, C. B. McGuire, W. B. McGuire, Homer Williams, P. J. Easley, Ted Patton.

First Church, Wichita Falls—Delegates: Jerry Covington. Members received 21, baptism 3, dismissed 34, deaths 1, total enrollment 79. Paid pastor \$1,385.00, evangelist \$135.00, home missions \$30.00.

Sunday School—Average attendance 40, officers 2, teachers 4.

Pastor: Rev. Tiff Covington

Clerk: Lillian White

Dott Church, Dott, Texas—Delegates: Bro. Parton, Sis. Parton. and Miss J. D. Haddock. Membership 64, received none.

Sunday School—Average attendance 23, officers 2, teachers 3, paid pastor \$540.00, evangelist \$85.00, building and repairs \$81.09, education \$11.72.

Pastor: Rev. L. M. Parton

Ministers: Joe Haney

Clerk: Mrs. Alton Rothe

Treasurer: Mr. Alton Rothe

Deacons: B. B. Phelps, Alton Rothe, Jim Maracle.

First Church, Denison, Texas—Delegates none. Membership 31, members received 7, letter 5, statement none, baptism 2, services held 158, revivals 1, prayer meetings 4. Total collection \$2,089.95, paid pastor \$1,219.50, evangelist 60.00, building & repairs \$121.04, incidentals \$290.75, stationery & supplies \$4.23, misc. \$115.03, literature \$26.81, total expenses \$1,826.36, balance on hand \$239.58, value of church property \$8,000.00.

Sunday School—Enrollment 25, new members 7, added to church from Sunday school by letter 3, departments 4, officers 4, classes 4, teachers 4, average attendance 25, amount offering \$413.86.

Women's Auxiliary—Enrolled 5, circles 1, paid out \$35.82, balance \$26.51.

Pastor: Rev. Bill Jones

S. S. Supt.: Bill Ray

Clerk: Mrs. Mary Feath

Treasurer: Mrs. Faye Fulce

Deacons: Bill Ray

First Church, Waco, Texas—Delegates: H. R. Conaway, Sis. Estelle Pederson, Edwain & Louise Murphy, membership 137, received 9, letter 5, baptism 4, dismissed 5, deaths 3, Mrs. A. Sul-lins, Mrs. D. D. Taylor, Mrs. Tennie Atkinson. Service held 104, revivals 1, prayer meetings 50, total collections \$1,982.45, paid pastor \$3,115.00, evangelist \$125.00, building & repairs \$122.64, incidentals \$112.43, stationery & supplies \$11.50, foreign missions \$96.71, misc. \$543.10, literature \$59.05, total expenses \$4,230.63, balance on hand \$370.34, value of church property \$6,500.00.

Sunday School—Enrolled 78, new members 31, added to church from Sunday school 7, baptism 4, letter 3, departments 7, classes 6, officers 2, teachers 6, average attendance 82, offerings \$2,205.76, average class grade 62, visits 773, phone calls 738, cards and letters 640.

Womens Auxiliary—Enrolled 20, active 15, circles 1, meetings 10, dues \$41.70, others \$45, paid out \$54.05 balance \$32.86 visits 31, phone calls 53, cards and letters 8.

Pastor: Rev. J. E. Maracle

Clerk: Mrs. LeRoy Rancher

Treasurer: Mr. Miburn Crosby

Aux. Pres.: Mrs. J. E. Maracle

S. S. Supt.: Mr. Layton Maracle

Ministers: Rev. E. J. Vaughn

Deacons: I. M. Maracle, Ellis Calvery, O. M. Martin, B. L. Conaway, Albert Fisher, Edwain Murphy, Layton Maracle, F. F. Phillips.

REPORTS

FOREIGN MISSIONS:

Total amount \$201.71. Some churches are supporting foreign missions through the cooperative plan.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY:

Auxiliaries 8, enrollment 149, active 123, circles 8, meetings 118, dues \$187.44, other income \$1,934.48, total paid out \$1,852.91, visits 2,439, sick calls 680, phone calls 148, paid home missions \$27.38.

OBITUARY:

We submit the following reports of deaths, Faith Church, Wichita Falls, Texas, 1; Gartmans View, Comanche, 2; First Church Wichita Falls, 1; First Church, Waco, 3; First Church, Dallas, 1.

May the Lord bless and comfort each of these families.

We recommend the body reverently stand in a moment of silent prayer in remembrance of those gone on, and in behalf of those bereaved.

RESOLUTIONS:

Be it resolved that we carry out our duties to our churches, to the association, and to the different committees that we may be placed on, so that next year we can see the results of this resolution.

Be it resolved we extend a rising vote of thanks to the host church for the wonderful way they have entertained this association.

CREDENTIALS:

We find the following churches in order: First Church, Comanche, 3 delegates and \$10.00; Gartsman View, Comanche,

3 delegates \$10.00; West Side Midland, 5 delegates, \$10.00; First Church, Denison, 0 delegates, \$5.00; Pleasant Mound, Buffalo Springs, 3 delegates \$10.00; New Salem, Decatur, 3 delegates \$10.00; First Church, Waco, 4 delegates \$10.00; First Church, Dallas, 2 delegates \$10.00; First Church, Wichita Falls, 1 delegate \$10.00; Liberty Church, Comanche, 5 delegates \$10.00; Faith Church, Wichita Falls, 3 delegates \$10.00.

TEMPERANCE:

We, your Temperance Committee wish to submit the following report. The Bible teaches us in Titus 2;2 "That the aged men be sober, grave, temperant, sound in faith, in charity, in patience."

We recommend that the churches association refrain from patronizing any establishment that sells intoxicating beverages.

TREASURER:

Received associational dues 1956 \$63.00, received from Bro. Brooks \$31.55, total received \$94.55. Paid associational dues to State Meeting \$20.00, paid to Gwyn Office Supply for Minutes \$74.55. Total paid out \$94.55. Received associational dues 1957 \$115.00, balance on hand \$115.00.

CONSTITUTION OF THE WEST FORK ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES

Revised by order of the Association, August 29, 1951.

PREAMBLE:

From long experience we, the members of the Church of God, denominated Free Will Baptist, being regularly baptized upon a profession of our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and being convinced of the expedience of an association of churches to better perpetuate our union, and to preserve and maintain correspondence with each other, do, therefore ordain this constitution for our better government.

Article 1—Name

The name of this organization shall be, The West Fork Association of Free Will Baptist Churches.

Article 2—Membership

This association shall be composed of delegates duly elected, or appointed by, and from the membership of the various

churches in Texas which have entered into, and which shall hereafter enter into, the agreements set forth in the constitution.

1. Each church shall have equal representation, the number of delegates not exceeding five.

2. Each church shall have the right to refrain from participating in any part of the associational program which it deems detrimental to its work and welfare.

3. Each church shall have the right to withdraw its membership from the association, but shall not have the right to reenter the association without examination.

4. The association shall have the right to discipline any church holding membership in it for unsound doctrine or disorderly conduct; and may, when reasoning and persuasion fails, withdraw the hand of fellowship, but in no case shall it have the right to reverse the decisions of any church.

5. No questions of dispute from any church shall be considered in this association except to council and then only when the church extends an invitation in writing signed by the moderator and church clerk.

6. All regularly ordained ministers who are members in good standing of the churches of this association are by virtue of their office, members of this association. Visiting ministers may be made honorary members and accorded every privilege of the association except making motions and voting.

7. Each delegation shall be qualified upon presenting to the association, through the credentials committee, an authorized statistical letter signed by the pastor (or moderator) and church clerk, together with the stipulated associational dues. Failure to present the proper credentials shall disqualify the delegation.

8. New churches wishing to become members of this association shall present such petitionary letters as shall be authorized by this body.

9. Upon the adoption of the report of the credentials committee the moderator shall extend the right hand of fellowship in the name of the association to the delegates, and new and honorary members, and invite them to sit with us.

Article 3—Officers

The officers of the association shall be: Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, and Parliamentarian.

1. It shall be the duty of the moderator to call the association to order and to preside over all sessions thereof. In the absence of the moderator, the assistant moderator shall preside, or in his absence the clerk or the senior minister shall preside until the election of a moderator pro tempore. Between sessions the moderator is chairman of the executive committee.

2. It shall be the duty of the assist moderator to assist the moderator in maintaining order and preside over the association in his absence, or at his request. Between sessions he is a member of the executive committee.

3. It shall be the duty of the clerk to make and keep accurate records of all sessions of the association, to have copies of the minutes printed and distributed to the churches comprising this association, to make and keep good and accurate records of all meetings of the executive committee, and to enter the same in the minutes of the next meeting of this association. Between sessions the clerk is secretary of the executive committee.

4. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive all funds paid or donated to the association and to make duly authorized disbursements; to make and keep a good and accurate record of all funds received and disbursed, and to report the same to the association at the annual session. Between sessions he is a member of the executive committee.

5. It shall be the duty of the parliamentarian to familiarize himself with the parliamentary law recognized by the association, and be ready to dispose of any point of order that may be referred to him. Between sessions he is a member of the executive committee.

6. The officers of the association shall be elected by ballot at the beginning of each annual session and shall assume office at the close of the session at which they were elected. No person may be elected to succeed himself more than once.

Article 4—Meetings

This association shall meet in regular session on Tuesday night before the first Sunday in September each year. The place of meeting shall be selected by majority vote of all members present; however, no invitations will be accepted by the association unless written into the church letter by authority of the church. The delegation from three member churches shall constitute a quorum. All meetings of the boards and committees must be called by their respective chairmen.

Article 5—Finance

Each church shall send with its letter \$5.00 for each hundred members or fractional part thereof. In case of emergency the association may assess each church proportionately to meet the emergency. The association may also, when it is deemed expedient, ask the churches for a special free will offering.

Article 6—Committees and Boards

1. The session committees of the association are Committee on Committees, Temperance, Obituary, and Resolution. There may also be need for special session committees.

2. The standing committees are Executive, Credential, Program, and Children's Home. Other standing committees may be added as necessity arises.

3. The boards of the association are Home Mission, Foreign Mission, Sunday School, Free Will Baptist League, and Women's Auxiliary, or any other that may become needful.

4. All committees shall be composed of three members each except the executive committee which shall be composed of the general officers of the association and three additional members elected by the body. The moderator shall appoint the committee on committees.

5. All boards shall consist of three members each except the Home Mission Board which shall consist of five members, two of whom shall be laymen. The moderator shall appoint all board members and present his appointment to the body before end of the session for confirmation.

6. It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to act for and in behalf of the association between sessions in matters of business that cannot be held over till the next regular session. It shall be the duty of the standing committees to make a thorough study of the department of work assigned to them and make such recommendations to the association as they deem expedient. It shall be the duty of the session committees to perform the work assigned to them before session adjourns.

7. The Boards of the association are charged with the promotion and oversight of the work of their departments. If, and when the work of two or more boards overlap they shall work together in this particular.

Article 7—Parliamentary Authority

Roberts' Rules of Order, Revised, shall serve as parliamentary authority for this association unless otherwise ordered by a two-thirds majority vote of all members present. The parliamentarian shall be furnished with a copy of the work which he shall hold as property of the association.

Article 8—Amendments and Revisions

This constitution may be amended or revised at any regular session of the association provided, however, that notice has been put in writing, along with the proposed amendment or revision, and placed on the table at the last previous session. The rules of order may be amended or revised at any regular session of the association by a two-thirds majority vote of all the members present.

