

1983

REV. ANSEL SMITH, PASTOR
SOUTH AVE. FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
78 BROOKLYN AVE. LANCASTER, S. C. 29720

MINUTES

OF THE

Eleventh Annual Session

OF THE

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE ASSOCIATION

Of Original Free Will Baptist Churches

1953

HELD WITH

Little Bethel Church

Johnsonville, S. C.

NOVEMBER 12 - 13, 1953



The next Session to be held with New Town Church, Route 1,
Lake City, S. C. (in the South Carolina Conference) November
18, 19, 1954. Reverend Sterling Tucker to bring the keynote
message.



**ASSOCIATIONAL DIRECTORY
OFFICERS OF THE S. C. STATE ASSOCIATION**

President _____ Rev. L. A. Holliday, Manning, S. C.
 Vice President _____ Rev. A. F. Lawter, Lockhart, S. C.
 Secretary-Treasurer _____ Rev. Seldon Bullard, Darlington, S. C.

Executive Board

Mr. F. A. Sawyer, Box 144, Arcadia, S. C. _____ 1954
 Rev. J. A. Hucks, Conway, S. C. _____ 1955
 Rev. M. S. Todd, Lake City, S. C. _____ 1956
 Rev. Fred S. Powers, Route 3, Timmons ville, S. C. _____ 1957
 Rev. T. A. Williams, Hemingway, S. C. _____ 1958

Home Mission Advisory Board

Rev. Fred S. Powers, Timmons ville, S. C. _____ 1954
 Rev. T. A. Williams, Hemingway, S. C. _____ 1955
 Rev. J. A. Hucks, Conway, S. C. _____ 1956
 Rev. R. F. Lawter, Lockhart, S. C. _____ 1957
 Rev. Seldon Bullard, Darlington, S. C. Director

Board Of Trustees

Mr. C. V. Ward, Hemingway, S. C. _____ 1953
 Mr. J. G. Williams, Hemingway, S. C. _____ 1954
 Mr. Julius Vause, Turbeville, S. C. _____ 1955
 Mr. J. E. Thigpen _____ 1956
 Rev. A. F. Lawter, Lockheart, S. C. _____ 1957

(Note: This is for the State Association rather than for the Orphanage)

Field Secretaries

Christian Education _____ Rev. Sterling Tucker, Timmons ville, S. C.
 Director of Home Missions _____ Rev. Seldon Bullard, Darlington, S. C.
 Director of Foreign Missions _____ Rev. L. A. Holliday, Manning, S. C.

Committees

The following Committees were appointed to serve during this Session of the State Association:

Resolutions: Rev. M. H. Mellette, Rev. F. G. Ard, Rev. H. E. Powell.
 Temperance: Rev. W. L. Jernigan, Auti Lee, Rev. J. A. Hucks.
 Sunday School and Literature: Rev. Seldon Bullard, J. B. Brewer, and Dr. Floyd Cherry.
 Free Will Baptist League: Rev. R. Luthers Sanders.
 Finance Committee: Rev. Ed Tyner, A. Williams, Rev. E. P. Kirby.
 Christian Education: Rev. M. H. Mellette, Dr. Floyd Cherry.
 Obituary: Rev. W. L. Jernigan.
 Children's Home: Rev. J. B. Vause, R. C. Baggett, and Jessie Williams.

ASSOCIATIONAL PROCEEDINGS

Thursday Morning, November 18, 1953

The Association was opened by the host pastor, Rev. J. A. Hucks, with proper devotions.

The congregation stood and sang "The Kingdom is Coming." Prayer was then offered by Rev. Paul J. Ketteman of Pamplico, and Rev. Hucks gave the Welcome address. Rev. A. F. Lawter of Lockhart gave the response.

The Association was then called to order by the President, Rev. L. A. Holliday.

A Motion was then made that the program be adopted with whatever changes necessary to be made by the President.

Brother Lavern Hanna was then elected as pianist for this session. The President then called for a song, and we sang, "Trust and Obey", then he read the 1st Chapter of 1st Cor., and spoke from the third verse of the second chapter, where Paul said, "I am determined to know nothing among you save Jesus Christ and Him Crucified". Rev. Holliday pointed out that, the answer, the solution, and the secret of the success of this great apostle was found in the words of the Text above, and called upon the Ministry of the Free Will Baptist church in South Carolina to never depart from the "Great Determination of the Apostle Paul." Truly, this was a great message, which was enjoyed by all.

We then recessed for fifteen minutes.

We then re-assembled for the introductory message which was brought by Rev. Irvin Hyman of Charleston, S. C.

Rev. Fred S. Powers the Choirster led the congregation in singing, "Marching On."

The Moderator led in prayer and introduced the speaker, who called upon Rev. Reedy Saverance who sang as a Solo, "Rescue the Perishing".

Rev. Hyman read for his Scripture lesson and Text Matt. 28:19, and James 5:20 and used as a subject, "The Sin That The Christian Seems to Forget."

Rev. Hyman brought a very forceful and powerful message declaring that the greatest need for the Free Will Baptist Church in these dark days of sin is to heed the commandment of Christ and go forth and convert the world for Christ. Pointing out also that if we fail to take a stand in these days we shall be ultimately swallowed up in the Satanic forces of Modernism.

In the opinion of the clerk who is also Rev. Hyman's pastor, this was one of the great messages brought during the Association.

Following the keynote message we then recessed for the noon hour to re-assemble for the afternoon session at 1:30.

Thursday Afternoon Session, November 12th

The Devotions was led by Rev. Julius Vause. We sang "Heavenly Sunlight". Prayer was offered by Rev. Arthur Williams of Hemingway.

Rev. Vause spoke briefly on Matt. 5:1, and brought an interesting message.

At this time the Delegates and Ministers was seated.

South Carolina Conferene

Ministers Present _____	12
Conference Delegates _____	2
Delegates appointed by Churches _____	18
Total _____	32

Beaver Creek Association

Delegates from the Association _____	3
Delegates appointed by Churches _____	3
Ministers Present _____	6
Total _____	12

Central Association

Ministers Present _____	8
Associational Delegates _____	2
Delegates appointed by Churches _____	5
Total _____	15

Eastern Conference

Ministers Present _____	3
Conference Delegate _____	1
Delegates appointed by Churches _____	4
Total _____	8

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE REPORT

Statistical Report

Membership at beginning of year _____	3288
Received during year _____	85
Total membership at close of year _____	3373

Financial Report

Cash on hand at beginning of year _____	\$ 7,727.87
Total receipts for the year _____	84,334.67
Grand Total for the year _____	\$92,062.54

Disbursements

Building and Repairs _____	\$29,520.58
Children's Home _____	3,387.10

Christian Education _____	1,857.19
Charity _____	2,062.03
Convention Dues _____	1,709.33
Foreign Missions _____	1,537.34
Home Missions _____	841.29
Operating Expenses _____	9,670.81
Pastor's Salaries _____	17,684.19
Radio Ministry _____	884.00
Revivals _____	2,451.92
Superanuation _____	124.30
Total _____	\$82,830.01

Balance in all Church Treas. _____ \$ 8,348.53

Church Property Report

Value of Churches and Equipment _____	\$233,250.00
Value of Parsonages and Equipment _____	52,000.00
Total value of all property and equipment _____	\$285,250.00

Condition of Auxiliaries

Number of Prayer Meetings _____	21
Sunday Schools _____	25
Free Will Baptist Leagues _____	20
Woman's Auxiliaries _____	20
Number of Churches Organized this year _____	4
Number of Churches on Full-time _____	11
Number of Churches on half-time _____	7
Number of Churches on Quarter-time _____	3

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. M. H. Mellette, Moderator
Turbeville, S. C.

Rev. Edison Kirby, Clerk
Route 1, Box 96,
Lake City, S. C.

LETTER OF THE EASTERN CONFERENCE

Statistical Report

Membership at the beginning of the year _____	316
Received by letter _____	7
Received by Baptism _____	24
By Restoration _____	4

Total received during year _____ **351**

Dismissed by letter _____	8
Died _____	2

Total lost _____ **10**

Total on Roll at close of year _____ **341**

Summary Report of Church Finances

Cash on hand at beginning of year _____	\$1,457.87
Total Receipts for the year _____	4,432.98
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Grand Total for the year _____	\$5,809.85

Church Property Report

Total value of all Church property and equipment _____	\$20,331.17
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Condition of Auxiliaries

Number of Prayer Meetings _____	5
Number of Sunday Schools _____	5
Number of Free Will Baptist Leagues _____	4
Number of Women's Auxiliaries _____	4

We have 5 Churches on half-time, and 8 Ministers belonging to our Conference.

Rev. T. A. Williams, Moderator
Route 2,
Hemingway, S. C.

J. M. Williams, Clerk
Route 2,
Hemingway, S. C.

LETTER FROM CENTRAL ASSOCIATION

Statistical Report

Members on Roll at beginning of year _____	381
Received by Baptism _____	34
Received by Statement _____	23

Total received during year _____	57
Dismissed _____	15

Total gained _____	42
Total on Roll at close of year _____	423

Report of Church Finance

Total Cash Expenditures for the year _____	\$ 5,732.80
Value of Churches and Equipment _____	\$60,000.00

Condition of Auxiliaries

Number of Prayer Meetings _____	7
Number of Sunday Schools _____	9
Number of Free Will Baptist Leagues _____	4
Number of Woman's Auxiliaries _____	2
Number of Churches Organized this year _____	1

We have 4 churches on half-time and 5 on quarter-time.
Number of Ministers belonging to our Association: Ordained 11; Licensed 11.

Rev. J. A. Hucks, Moderator
Route 3,
Conway, S. C.

M. C. Todd, Clerk
Route 2,
Johnsonville, S. C.

LETTER FROM THE BEAVER CREEK ASSOCIATION

Statistical Report

Total on Roll at beginning of year _____	1018
Received by Letter _____	58
Received by Baptism _____	123
Received by Statement _____	69

Total received _____	250
Total dismissed _____	86
Total on Roll at end of year _____	1182
Total increase for the year _____	164

Summary Report of Church Finance

Total Receipts for the year _____	\$56,441.07
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Disbursements:

Building and Repairs _____	\$20,160.17
Children's Home _____	399.55
Quarterly Dues _____	100.00
Foreign Missions _____	76.00
Home Missions _____	317.98
Pastor's Salaries _____	27,114.27
Revivals _____	1,363.04

Total expenditures for the year _____	\$49,531.01
Balance in all Church Treasuries _____	\$ 6,910.06

Church Property Report

Total value of all Church property and equipment _____	\$158,400.00
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Condition of Auxiliaries

Number of Prayer Meetings _____	
Number of Sunday Schools _____	13
Number of Free Will Baptist Leagues _____	3
Number of Womens Auxiliaries _____	9
Number of Fellowship Clubs _____	1

We have 14 Ordained Ministers and 8 Licensed to preach.

Respectfully Submitted,
Beaver Creek Association
Rev. L. S. Gray, Moderator
680 Saxton Ave.,
Spartanburg, S. C.

James Haynes, Clerk
106 W. Confederate Street
Lancaster, S. C.

Note: The reports of the various Conferences and Associations are incomplete as much of the information asked for on the letter blank was not given to the Clerk).

Brother D. J. Granger of Charleston was seated as a delegate from the New Mission in Charleston.

Motion: That Section Three of the Constitution and By-Laws be changed to read as follows:

"Any local Church that desires may send an additional delegate, provided said church sends a contribution of not less than \$10.00."

Motion tabled for a period of twenty-four hours.

At this time Rev. M. H. Mellette introduced Dr. Floyd Cherry, Editor of The Free Will Baptist, and also Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tenn., who brought a report on the Bible College and on the Press in Ayden, N. C.

Report On Christian Education

By Rev. M. H. Mellette

Rev. M. H. Mellette made the report on Christian Education and made a special appeal to our people to support the Bible College in Nashville, Tenn., and also the Baggett-Poston Memorial Fund (student-loan-fund) in order that our boys and girls will be able to attend our College as the Lords directs them to prepare for the work of the church.

Report of National Association

By Rev. P. J. Ketteman

Rev. Paul Ketteman of Pamplico, S. C., who is Clerk of the National Association brought a very good report on the National Association and the work of the National body, encouraging everyone who possibly could make arrangements to attend the National meeting in order that we may have a better informed people.

Motion: That a Special Committee be appointed to see about planning for the National Association to convene in Spartanburg next July.

Those appointed to this Committee was: Rev. Paul Ketteman, and Rev. A. F. Lawter.

Motion: That we adjourn until Friday morning at 9:30, with the regular Evangelistic Service to be conducted tonight at 7:30 by Rev. Ed. Tyner of Lancaster, S. C.

Friday Morning Session, Nov. 13, 1953, 9:30 A. M.

The Friday morning session of the State Association was opened

by singing "All Hail The Power of Jesus Name", led by the Associational Choir Director, Rev. Fred Powers, with Mr. Laverne Hanna at the piano.

Mr. Jessie Williams conducted the devotional and led the congregation in the opening Prayer.

Motion: That to increase the committee on planning the National Association at Spartanburg to three and that Rev. Seldon Bullard be elected to serve as the third member of the committee.

Adopted.

Motion: To move up the Report of Superaunation to the Morning Session.

Adopted.

Home Mission Report

By Rev. Seldon Bullard, Director

The past year brought a Revival in the field of Home Missions, for which we Praise the Lord.

For many years we have recognized the need of a workable plan for Home Missions in our state, and from the past years report it would seem that we have begun to do something about it.

The total receipts for the entire year was as follows:

Cash on hand at the beginning of the year	\$ 566.00
Total receipts during the year	801.39
Total	\$1,368.39
Disbursements	594.00
Balance left in Treasury	\$ 774.39

Churches Organized This Year Receiving Assistance From Home Mission Board

Calvary, Kershaw, S. C., with 27 Charter Members.

South Side, Darlington, S. C., with 32 Charter Members.

East Side, Florence, S. C., with 17 Charter Members.

First, Columbia, S. C., with 23 Charter Members

Antioch, Andrews, S. C., with 26 Charter Members.

Free Will Baptist Mission, Charleston, S. C., with 51 enrollment.

First, Lancaster, S. C., with 31 Charter Members.

Pine Grove Church near Lancaster, S. C., with an enrollment of nearly 250 members was brought into the S. C. Conference from the Piedmont Association of N. C.

We also run our National Radio Broadcast known as the Voice of Original Free Will Baptist over Radio Station WJMX of Florence throughout the month of April in the interest of Home Missions.

Recommendations:

1. That a Home Mission Board be set up to raise funds and promote the work of H. M. in S. C. (lost)
2. That we endeavor to raise \$2,000.00, \$1,000.00 to be kept in our State for promotional work, and \$1,000.00 for National H. M. work.
3. That we recommend a H. M. Director to the National Home Mission Board which meets in Spartanburg, S. C., in July of 1954, said Director to serve from July 1954 until July, 1955.

Motion: That the Home Mission Board be empowered with authority to set up and promote a Church Finance System if possible to assist in building or providing for suitable facilities of worship for new Churches that might be organized.—Passed.

Motion: That an advisory board be elected, consisting of one member from each Conference or Association, composing the S. C. State Association to labor with the Director of Home Missions, each members term of office to be staggered as indicated in the Directory; it is to be understood that the Director is to be ex-officio member and also Chairman of the Board. (This Motion takes the place of Recommendation number one).

At this time the Motion pertaining to a constitutional change placed on the table yesterday was lifted and placed before the house and voted upon.—Passed.

Motion: To adjourn until 1:30 P. M.

Rev. A. J. Hucks, Moderator of the Central Association brought the Morning message. This truly was a great message and enjoyed by many.

Afternoon Session, Friday, Nov. 13

Devotions was opened by singing "We'll Work 'Til Jesus Comes."

Rev. Sterling Tucker, Pastor of Bay Branch Church near Timmons-ville led the devotions; he read the first four verses of the third Chapter of Col. and led in prayer.

The first business taken up was the Superintendent report of the Orphanage Home at Turbeville, S. C., this report is by Conferences and Associations and includes cash and commodities.

ORPHANAGE REPORT
By Rev. J. B. Vause, Supt.

Central Association
Little Bethel Church

Cash	_____	\$214.05
Donated Commodities	_____	90.70
Paid on stove	_____	10.00
Sunday School Convention	_____	10.00
Total	_____	\$324.75

White Savannah Church

Cash	_____	\$11.32
Commodities	_____	39.50
Total	_____	\$50.82

Happy Home

Cash	_____	\$52.19
Commodities	_____	29.70
Total	_____	\$81.89

Mt. Ariel

Cash	_____	\$24.90
Commodities	_____	37.90
Total	_____	\$61.90

Evergreen

Commodities	_____	\$69.50
Central Associational Quarterly Meeting	_____	\$143.49
Making a grand total for Central Association	_____	\$732.35

South Carolina Conference
Beulah Church

Cash	_____	\$101.96
Commodities	_____	74.61
Clothing	_____	20.00
Paid on stove	_____	15.75
Total	_____	\$ 212.32
Calvary	_____	15.00
Bethel Church	_____	20.00
Manning Church	_____	5.00
Gilead	_____	77.91
Bethany, Cash and Commodities	_____	1,214.38
Bay Branch	_____	115.00
Mt. Elem, Cash, Commodities, paid on stove	_____	460.73

Horse Branch, Cash, Commodities, paid on stove _____	859.11
Liberty, Cash, Commodities _____	104.21
Sand Hill, Cash, Commodities, paid on stove _____	251.80
Camp Branch, Cash, Commodities _____	443.24
First Darlington, Cash, Commodities _____	187.31
Sumter, Cash _____	55.56
New Town, Cash, Commodities, clothing _____	463.41
Haven, Cash, Commodities _____	82.00
High Hill, Cash, Commodities _____	603.80
Lebanon Cash _____	86.77
Poplar Hill, Cash, Commodities _____	171.05
Salem, Cash, Commodities _____	423.50
Tabernacle, Cash _____	248.47
Pine Grove, Cash _____	65.95
Hebron Community _____	55.00
Pee Dee _____	10.35
Total _____	\$6,231.87
South Carolina Conference _____	86.50
Grand Total _____	\$6,318.37

Eastern Conference

Sunday School Convention, Cash _____	\$ 146.45
Williams Hill, Cash, Commodities _____	399.26
New Prospect, Cash, Commodities _____	181.26
Black River, Cash, Commodities _____	247.07
Total _____	\$ 827.59

Beaver Creek Association

Lockhart, Cash, Commodities, paid on stove _____	\$140.60
Saxton Ave. Cash, Commodities _____	60.08
Clover, Cash Commodities _____	47.66
Mt. Carmel, Commodities _____	12.90
Chester, Cash, Commodities _____	42.30
High Point, Cash, Commodities, Stove _____	38.60
Una, Cash _____	65.34
Total _____	\$407.48

Report of National Home Missions Work

By Rev. Damond Dodd, Promotional Secretary

Rev. Dodd brought some valuable information in regards to the National Home Mission Board and their work, the needs of the financial support by our people in order that we will be able to reclaim much of our work in the North and West that was captured by the Northern Baptist in the years of 1910 and 1912. It was interesting to

learn that much of this work has already been taken care of, and many of our Churches that we lost have already been reclaimed.

National Home Missions is comparatively a new work, and for the last three or four years it has become one of the most important phases of our work, as a result, the National Home Mission Department has enjoyed the greatest increase of any department of our work.

Last year the National Home Mission Board matched the financial assistance of the State Home Mission Boards in organizing 16 new Churches, this does not include many churches organized by the State Board alone, or those organized by individuals.

It will be interesting to note that the National Home Mission quota for this year is \$25,000.00, if this amount is raised, then we plan to ear-mark \$10,000.00 to go into a fund to be loaned to Churches to build with.

We are trusting that every state will be able to meet their quota during this year in order to promote this work. May God bless you as you pray and work to this end. Rev. Dodd, spoke of going up to Nebraska some weeks ago, where we at one time had a thriving work. There he contacted Brother Wolf, who introduced him to several churches in that State of which we plan to bring back into our work.

Resolutions Committee's Report

Number 1

We understand there is a difference of opinion prevailing among our Brethern relative to the essentiality of Baptism.

Be it resolved that we believe, that Baptism as taught in the New Testament is essential to our Righteousness or Justification, Christ told John "suffer it to be so now, for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness." Matt. 3:15.

Therefore, we recommend that no Minister be allowed to do Pastoral work in none of our Free Will Baptist Churches who have not been Baptized by emersion, or, who do not believe in Baptism by emersion.

Number 2

That any Church who knowingly excepts a Minister as Pastor, who do not believe in the Doctrine of Baptism as taught in the Scriptures be liable to censure.

Rev. J. A. Hucks,

We recommend that the same be passed.

Rev. M. H. Mellette,

Rev. H. E. Powell,

Rev. F. G. Ard, Resolution Committee

Adopted.

Resolution Number 2

Conscious of the danger of strong drink prevailing in the midst of our young people, we want to voice our opinion against it.

Therefore, we urge that each Church in the State petition the Ways

and Means Committee in each County for local option giving our full strength and support against all alcoholic beverages. Isa. 28:1-8; Habakkuk 2:15.

Rev. M. H. Mellette,
Rev. H. E. Powell,
Rev. F. G. Ard, Resolution Committee

Temperance Report

We your committee on temperance wish to submit the following report:

1. That we congratulate our faithful ministers, and laymen who have taken a stand against intemperance in any form, and advise that you keep up the fight.

2. That we pledge ourselves to use our influence in our respective places of labor to keep those with whom we come in contact warned of the danger of living intemperate lives. That we point out the advantages of consistent Christian living so effectively until our people will seek to do no other than the will of our God as it relates to their lives.

A. R. Lee,
Rev. J. A. Hucks,
Rev. W. L. Jernigan,
Temperance Committee

Adopted.

An Obituary of Rev. G. C. Vause

Another church year has passed and we have observed our blessings to be many. We have also observed that there has been a note of sadness sounded in our midst. We find that it was the pleasure of our Lord to remove from our number one of our brethren, namely Rev. G. C. Vause. Those of us who knew him best readily say that he was a loving husband, a dutiful father, a devout Christian, and a faithful minister. We do not believe that the little mound of earth where his body lies marks the destiny of his life. We believe that his faithful ministry among us will live on, and only eternity may reveal the extent, and force of his life. We ask that this congregation stand for a moment in silent prayer quietly saying in our hearts good night Brother Vause, we will see you in the morning.

W. L. Jernigan, Committee

Adopted.

**Auditing Committee's Report of Free Will Baptist Children's Home,
Turbeville, S. C.**

October 15, 1952 to October 15, 1953

Cash Receipts:		
Churches of S. C. Conference _____		\$4,403.80
Churches of Beaver Creek Conference _____		308.86
Churches of Central Conference _____		479.30
Churches of Eastern Conference _____		483.95

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Individual Donations _____		1,585.63
In Memorium _____		118.50
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Total Churches and Individuals _____		\$7,380.04
Commodities, cows and hogs sold _____	\$2,088.75	
Less, purchases _____	424.42	
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Net Commodities, etc. _____		1,664.33
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Total receipts and commodities _____		\$9,044.37
Deduct operating expenses _____		7,928.77
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Donations received over operating expense _____		\$1,115.60
Add other income:		
Farm sales _____	\$4,474.67	
Less, farm expenses _____	1,001.38	
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Net farm receipts _____	\$3,473.29	
Wages from children's labor outside _____	238.10	
Refund on fire insurance _____	2.80	
<hr/>		
Total other income _____		3,714.19
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Net receipts over operation expense _____		\$4,829.79
Deduct Other Expenditures:		
Truck body _____	\$ 206.91	
Barn and cow shed _____	98.60	
Water pump _____	139.75	
Building No. 2 _____	205.80	
Stairway _____	68.13	
Dairy barn, incomplete _____	243.52	
Tractor harrow _____	200.00	
Deposit on Cooperative telephone _____	40.00	
Corn barn sheds _____	153.13	
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Total other expenditures _____		1,355.84
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Total net increase in cash _____		\$3,473.95

Respectfully submitted,
R. C. Baggette,
N. P. Coker,
Auditing Committee.

Treasurer's Report For Board of Superannuation, November 13, 1953

Balance brought forward November 15, 1952 _____	\$ 332.80
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