

MINUTES

1955

State Association

of

(Original)

FREE WILL BAPTIST


13th ANNUAL MEETING

CHESTER, S. C.

November 17, 18

A. F. LAWTER, Presiding

RUFUS COFFEY, Clerk




**Minutes of the Thirteenth Annual Session of the
South Carolina State Association of Original
FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

1955

Held With

**Chester F. W. B. Church
CHESTER, S. C.**

November 17, 18, 1955



After a study was made by this committee, we found that the Children's Home did not have a Constitution and By-Laws. We do hereby submit to you a new Preamble, Constitution and By-Laws for the Children's Home.

(The Constitution was read. See Appendix - I)

We as a Committee make a motion that the Preamble, Constitution, and By-Laws be adopted in this session of the State Association.

Signed:

M. H. Mellette
Ed Miles
J. G. Williams

In accord with the Constitution a motion was made to lay this matter on the table until Friday morning, when it would be discussed for action.

The morning session was then recessed for the morning preaching service. The afternoon session was to begin at 1:30.

Rev. B. L. Shook of Kenly, N. C. brought the morning message. His subject was "The Spirit of the Cross," based upon the Scripture Luke 23:14; Acts 7:59-60.

The meeting adjourned for lunch.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

The afternoon session was opened by singing "Revive Us Again." Rev. Eugene Waddell conducted the devotion based upon 1 Sam. 12:23.

Rev. Eugene Waddell was appointed temporary clerk, and the following committees were appointed:

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Rev. W. L. Jernigan, S. J. Jones, R. B. Jones, Rev. S. A. Branch

FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE:

Judson Osborne, Lewis Hanna, T. B. Williams, Rev. Carl Shook

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

Rev. Edison Kirby, Mrs. C. V. Ward, Rev. C. J. Poston, Connie Lawter

OBITUARY:

Rev. E. P. Kirby, Carl Evans, T. B. Williams, T. G. Hawkins

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY:

Mrs. Clarence Lambert, Mrs. C. V. Ward, Mrs. T. B. Williams, Mrs. Bobby Childers

NOMINATING:

Rev. Fred Powers, Rev. Hoyt Powell, Rev. Edison Kirby (R. S. Gibson replaced Rev. Jernigan on the Finance Committee)

The Letters from the churches were presented at this time to the Clerk without being read. (c/f: Statistical Reports)

Rev. R. N. Hinnant, delegate from N. C. State Association, spoke in behalf of his association and asked that a delegate be sent to their State Association next year. He spoke concerning the F. W. B. Press and extended an invitation to each to visit the press at Ayden, N. C.

Rev. Fred S. Powers, on motion by Rev. M. H. Mellette, was elected as delegate to the N. C. State Association next year.

Rev. S. A. Smith of Mt. Olive, N. C. gave a report from Mt. Olive Junior College, of which he is Business Manager.

Rev. M. H. Melette spoke and took an offering for the Mt. Olive Junior College. (Amount of offering, \$41.55.)

Rev. R. N. Hinnant spoke again on the aims and objectives of the college to become accredited academically.

It was moved by R. C. Baggett and adopted that the State Foreign Mission Director send a written report to the clerk to be recorded in the minutes. (c/f: Appendix - II)

Rev. S. A. Smith spoke briefly on Orphanage work. Rev. Edward Corn, Children's Home Superintendent, then gave the following report: (c/f Appendix - III)

Further Reports given were:

STATE PROMOTIONAL SECRETARY:

This report was mailed to Rev. Rufus Coffey from Rev. W. A. Hales. It was read by the clerk and on motion it was received as corrected. (c/f: Appendix - IV)

SUPERANNUATION:

This report was mailed to Rev. Rufus Coffey from Rev. Paul Ketterman. It was read by the clerk and on motion it was received. (c/f: Appendix - V)

HOME MISSIONS:

This report was given by the State Director, Rev. Fred Powers, and upon motion it was received. (c/f Appendix - VI)

TREASURER'S REPORT:

This report was mailed to Rev. L. A. Holliday by Rev. Thomas Mellette and relayed to the Conference. It was read by the clerk and upon motion it was received. (c/f: Appendix - VII)

It was moved that we adjourn the business until 9 o'clock Friday morning.

The Devotional Committee announced that Rufus Coffey was to bring the evening message at 7:30.

THURSDAY NIGHT

Following the song service led by the host pastor, Rev. S. A. Branch, Rufus Coffey spoke from the ninth chapter of 1 Corinthians. His subject was "Castaway" from 1 Cor. 9:27.

FRIDAY MORNING

This session began by singing "Bringing in the Sheaves." Rev. Ronald Creech conducted the Devotion. He used as a basis for his message Titus 2:11-15.

Minutes were read from the Thursday sessions by the Clerk, and they were adopted.

The churches who did not report Thursday submitted their reports.

It was moved by Rufus Coffey that a committee be appointed to make new report blanks. This committee was appointed as follows:

Rev. W. L. Jernigan, Rev. Eugene Waddell, Rev. S. A. Branch.

A letter from Rev. Raymond Riggs, National Promotional Secretary for Foreign Missions, was read in which he sent greetings to our association.

Proposed recommendations were submitted for the Home Mission Department by the committee appointed in the S. C. Conference. Upon proper motion these were adopted. (c/f: Appendix - VIII)

Rev. Eugene Waddell spoke concerning the National League Convention to be held in Greenville, N. C. next June. He encouraged pastors and delegates to encourage the young people from their separate churches to make plans to attend this convention.

The following committees reported.

OBITUARY:

A verbal report was given stating that no information had been received relating to any deaths in the state.

TEMPERANCE:

This report was given verbally and accepted.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

This report was read and accepted. (c/f: Appendix - IX)

FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE:

This report was read and received. (c/f: Appendix - X)

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

This report was read and received. (c/f: Appendix - XI)

The Conference recessed for fifteen minutes so that the rest of the committees could complete their reports.

The Conference reassembled at 10:30 and upon motion the Children's Home Constitution (c/f: Appendix - I) was taken from the table for discussion. Mr. Mellette spoke in behalf of this constitution. Discussion ensued. Rev. W. L. Jernigan moved that the constitution be referred back to the committee who originated it for further consideration. This motion was seconded by Brother T. B. Williams. Rev. M. H. Mellette spoke against such a proposal and offered an alternate motion that question and privilege of discussion be left to the body for debate. Further discussion ensued. Finally a third alternate motion was submitted to table the discussion until 1:30. This motion was adopted.

A motion was made that we recess briefly before the morning preaching service and that Rev. Julius Vause would speak.

Rev. Julius Vause brought a very stirring message on the subject "Fight a Good Fight," from the Scripture 1 Tim. 4:1-8.

The session was adjourned for lunch.

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Revivals | 4,160.98 |
| Pastor's Salaries | 38,117.01 |
| Building & Repair | 19,294.14 |
| Operating Expense | 11,576.68 |
| Convention Fees | 1,572.16 |

Church Property: Number of churches 27
(17 full time, 9 half time, 1 quarter time)
Number of parsonages 6

| | |
|---|---|
| Value of churches & equipment | \$380,395.00 |
| Total Value of all property & equipment | \$443,726.50 |
| Value of parsonages & equipment | 63,331.50 |
| Rev. Fred S. Powers, Moderator Timmonsville, S. C. | Rev. Edison Kirby, Clerk Rt. 1, Lake City, S. C. |

EASTERN CONFERENCE

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Membership: At beginning of year | 373 |
| Total increase for the year | 13 |
| Present Membership | 386 |
| Total ministers | 9 |

Finance

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Balance on hand | 1,091.26 |
| Total receipts for year | 10,184.23 |
| Total paid out | 6,776.67 |
| Balance in all treasuries | 3,407.56 |

Church Property: Number churches 5
Value of church property 15,750.00

| | |
|--|---|
| Rev. T. A. Williams, Moderator R. F. D. 2, Hemingway, S. C. | J. M. Williams, Clerk R. F. D. 2, Hemingway, S. C. |
|--|---|

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Membership: At beginning of year | 400 |
| Total increase for the year | 49 |
| Present Membership | 449 |
| Number of Ministers | 15 |
| (Ordained, 14: Licensed, 1) | |

Finance:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Balance on hand | \$ 2,925.52 |
| Total receipts for the year | 13,075.41 |
| Balance in all treasuries | 3,177.30 |

Disbursements:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Building and repairs | \$10,522.58 |
| Charity | 407.56 |
| Children's Home | 426.56 |
| Christian Education | 184.92 |
| Foreign Missions | 236.60 |
| Home Missions | 96.50 |
| Operating Expense (Fuel, Lights, etc) | 535.89 |
| Pastor's Salaries | 2,631.70 |
| Revivals | 1,088.88 |
| Superannuation | |

Church Property:

Number of churches
(3 full time, 8 half time
Value of church property

11

\$60,000.00

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

Rev. Seldon Bullard, Clerk
Kannapolis, N. C.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

The afternoon session began by singing "We'll Work Till Jesus Comes". Devotions were conducted by Rev. A. F. Lawter using Prov. 2:18-21 for his Scripture. Ed Miles led in prayer.

Business was called for and a motion was made to resume debate on the Children's Home Constitution. Brother Williams withdrew his second from the motion Mr. Jernigan had made in the morning session. Rev. M. H. Mellette withdrew his motion of the morning session.

The motion was then made by Rev. Fred Powers that the Constitution be adopted in its entirety as submitted by the committee. This motion was carried. This Constitution is to become effective November 25, 1955.

(Rev. Hardy Richburg was substituted for Rev. Fred Powers on the Nominating Committee.)

A motion was made and sustained that a committee of three be appointed to work with the Mt. Olive Junior College in carrying out the plan suggested by their representative to this body.

Rev. Fred Powers, Rev. W. L. Jernigan, Mr. Walker Miles were named to serve.

A committee for defining the duties and formulating By-Laws of the State Home Mission Board was appointed.

Rev. Rufus Coffey, Rev. Julius Vause, Rev. Fred Powers

The Woman's Auxiliary Committee made their report and it was received. (c/f: Appendix - XII)

A motion was made that the minutes of the Woman's Auxiliary work for the year be included in the minutes. Motion sustained. (c/f: Appendix - XV)

A special committee appointed at this session to make recommendations for new report blanks submitted their report. (c/f: Appendix - XIII). This report was adopted except for section two. This, of necessity, must lay on the table until next year, because it is a Constitutional change.

The report of the resolution committee was received and adopted. (c/f: Appendix - XIV)

A motion was made that a committee be appointed to work out a program for the State Association next year. The committee included: (c/f: Directory)

The nominating committee reported. Each nominee was voted upon separately and elected as listed in the directory.

The finance committee reported that \$233 had been received at this session: \$145, S. C. Conference; \$10 Eastern Conference; \$40 Beaver Creek Conference; \$30 Central Conference; \$8 Misc. This report was accepted.

A motion was made and sustained that a Publicity Committee be elected with Rev. Bev Ballard as chairman and a Publicity man from each conference to be elected who will in turn relay the news to Brother Ballard.

The delegation for the National Association was discussed. It was moved and sustained that the delegation be made up of those present at the National Association in Huntington, W. Va., July 10-12, 1956. A further motion was sustained that the Moderator, W. L. Jernigan, should be in charge of enrolling the delegates and in his absence, Rufus Coffey will assume this responsibility.

It was moved that a telegram be sent to Rev. Paul Shehan to express our best wishes during his illness.

It was moved and sustained that the Conference should meet in the Central Conference next year, November 15, 16. The Conference will meet the first day at Little Bethel Church and the second day at Little Star Church.

Upon motion the Conference was adjourned.

STATISTICAL REPORTS

BEAVER CREEK CONFERENCE

Membership:

Membership at beginning of year: 946
 Total Increase for the year: 111
 Present Membership: 1057
 Number of Ministers: 22
 (15 ordained, 7 licensed)

Finances: Cash on hand at beginning of year: \$ 1,837.92
 Total receipts for the year: 34,281.80
 Disbursements for the year: 34,372.22
 Balance in all treasuries \$ 1,747.50

Disbursements:
 Children's Home 841.56
 Foreign Missions 354.06
 Pastor's Salaries 18,171.78
 Revivals 1,147.45
 Operating Expense 13,857.37

Church Property: Number of churches 10
 Value of churches & equipment \$150,000.00

Rev. Carl Shook, Moderator Mrs. A. F. Lawter, Clerk
 Rt. 4, Lancaster, S. C. Box 308, Lockhart, S. C.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE

Membership: At beginning of year 3,237
 Total increase for the year 200
 Present Membership 3,437
 Finance: Cash on hand at beginning of year \$ 6,535.46
 Total receipts for the year 88,538.60
 Disbursements for the year 87,359.17
 Balance in all Treasuries 9,154.24

Disbursements: Children's Home 5,849.45
 Christian Education 1,209.18
 Charity 1,791.47
 Foreign Missions 2,108.89
 Home Missions 1,448.58
 Supeannuation 230.63

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I

CHILDREN'S HOME CONSTITUTION

For the management and control of the Free Will Baptist Orphanage of South Carolina operating as the Free Will Baptist Home for Children, Turbeville, South Carolina.

PREAMBLE

This institution shall be known and designated as the Free Will Baptist Home for Children, and shall be maintained for white children only, and shall be governed and controlled by the original Free Will Baptist Churches of South Carolina, operated under a charter of the state of South Carolina and will ever be governed by the constitution and By-Laws adopted by the original Free Will Baptist State Association of South Carolina. The said constitution may be altered or changed by two thirds vote of the state association in conference. Any change offered shall have a twenty-four hour period before any action.

ARTICLE I

The management and control of the Free Will Baptist Home For Children, Inc., shall be vested in a board of nine trustees, two of which shall be members of the Eastern Conference and two of which shall be members of the Central Conference and two of which shall be members of the Beaver Creek Association and three of which shall be members of the S. C. Conference in good standing of churches within their respective conference or association.

ARTICLE II

The board of trustees shall be elected by the South Carolina State Association of Original Free Will Baptist while in regular session upon recommendation of their respective conference or association. The said board shall have the power to remove any of their number for improper conduct, of which they shall be the judges; provided further, the accused shall have thirty days notice of such procedure, and a majority of two thirds of the members of the board shall be necessary to effect such removal. The said board shall elect their chairman, vice chairman, secretary and treasurer, and all other officers of the Home. The secretary and treasurer shall be a member of the Original Free Will Baptist Church, but not necessarily a member of the board of trustees.

The members of the board of trustees shall be elected for a four year term with the following exceptions:

1. The Eastern Conference members elected at the 1955 session of the South Carolina State Association to serve for one year.

2. The Central Conference members elected at the 1955 session of the South Carolina State Association to serve for two years.

3. The Beaver Creek Association members elected at the 1955 session of the South Carolina State Association to serve for three years.

4. The South Carolina Conference members elected at the 1955 session of the South Carolina State Association to serve for four years.

ARTICLE III

The board of trustees shall meet quarterly at times specified by the board, at the Home, and also at the place of the state association. The Chairman shall call special meetings when requested to do so by two members of the Board or by the superintendent.

The board of Trustees shall have the power to adopt such By-Laws, rules and regulations as may be necessary to properly carry out its objects, and may make, alter, amend or rescind such By-Laws by a vote of a majority of all the Trustees.

ARTICLE IV

The board of Trustees shall annually report to the state association at each regular session, their proceedings, the number of inmates, expenses, condition of property and inmates and furnish with said report an inventory of all property belonging to the Home together with any recommendation they may deem necessary or advisable to make to the State Association.

ARTICLE V

A majority of the board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE VI

The Trustees shall elect a Superintendent and an assistant Superintendent and such other officials as they deem necessary, all of whom may reside on the campus. Said Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and other officials shall hold their office during the pleasure of the board of Trustees and shall be responsible for all property of every description that may come into their hands or into any building controlled by the Institution.

ARTICLE VII

All salaries shall be fixed by the board of Trustees.

ARTICLE VIII

Each Trustee shall be entitled to receive six cents per mile traveling expense when attending board meetings or upon committee assignments, with the exception of an annual meeting held in connection with the State Association.

ARTICLE IX

The secretary shall keep a correct record of all the proceedings of the board and shall furnish the Chairman of the board and the Superintendent of the Home with copies and shall perform all other duties connected with the office.

ARTICLE X

The treasurer shall receive and be responsible for all funds of the institution and pay all salaries and all bills. He shall make a full financial report at each regular meeting of the board and mail copies of the report to all pastors and church clerks in the state of South Carolina. The Treasurer shall be bonded at all times for the sum of not less than \$10,000 for which sum the chairman of the board shall be custodian. He shall implicitly obey all orders and instructions of the board of Trustees and carry in good faith any system of operations which they direct.

ARTICLE XI

Section 1

The management of the Home in all its departments is committed into the hands of the Superintendent. Subordinate officers shall report to the Superintendent any negligence of persons employed in the Home, or disobedience of inmates.

Section 2

The Superintendent shall direct the intellectual, moral and religious instructions of the pupils, and shall visit the classes in all the departments, and shall give attention to the health and comfort of the pupils. He shall require the pupils to respect and obey the different instructors when in the exercise of their respective duties, and to pay to them on all occasions the respect and attention that is indispensable for successful training. Should any difficulty arise between instructor and pupil which cannot be settled by him or her, it shall be his or her duty to bring it to the notice of the Superintendent, who, if further action is needed, shall report to the board of Trustees in quarterly session.

Section 3

He shall frequently inspect the buildings and grounds and enforce neatness, and from time to time examine the stores and meals of the pupils, see that they are supplied with wholesome food, and that same is properly prepared and in purchases for the Home the most rigid economy consistent with the comfort of the pupils and property of the Home shall be observed.

Section 4

He shall keep or have kept a register of the names, ages and parents if any; residence and date of admission of each child with their history as far as practicable. He shall also keep or have kept a record in book form all contributions given directly to the Home, with the name of the donor; and shall publish same monthly in Free Will Baptist paper. The assistant Superintendent shall assist the Superintendent in the performance of his duties, under his supervision and in his absence shall assume full responsibility of the Superintendent.

ARTICLE XII

No plays or games having a tendency toward gambling or other immorality shall be permitted, nor will the use of tobacco or spirituous liquors in any form be allowed to the children.

ARTICLE XIII

No one connected with the Home shall entertain company at the expense of the institution nor dispose of any of its supplies without accounting for same. This section however does not prevent relatives of the inmates from visiting the Home for such length of time as may be determined by the Superintendent and Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE XIV

The treatment of the children in the Home shall be uniform, gentle and kind. No employee or subordinate officer shall inflict corporal punishment except by permission of the Superintendent, but shall report extreme cases of disobedience to him.

ARTICLE XV

Kindness and politeness among employees and children is strictly enjoined. No rudeness or violent language shall be tolerated from any person under any circumstance.

Section 1

Persons admitted to the Home not complying with the rules established for its government or whose personal habits and conduct may be such as to disturb the peace and comfort of other occupants and endanger the discipline of the Institution must be discharged and if such person be an inmate of the Home, they shall be returned to the local church or person from whom they came.

ARTICLE XVI

There shall be prayer and devotions held daily in the buildings where the children sleep, the same to be arranged in time by person in charge of said building.

ARTICLE XVII

Any person desiring to secure the admission of a child into the Home will address the Superintendent asking for a form of application which must be carefully filled out. Applications will be examined by the Board of Trustees and, if approved, filed for admission of applicant.

ARTICLE XVIII

No child shall be admitted to the Home who has within reach adequate means of support, or whose father or mother if living, is able to support and educate said child. Under no circumstances shall any person be admitted who is suffering from any contagious or infectious disease. No child shall be admitted into the Home who has not been approved by some church in conference, and signed by pastor and clerk of said church.

ARTICLE XIX

The Superintendent shall have discretionary power at any time to place any child out of the Home in keeping with the State laws governing child care in Institutions.

ARTICLE XX

Boys and girls must occupy separate sleeping apartments, one responsible adult person must reside in each building where the children sleep.

Home also. I have received no salary, and made no charge for postage for the few letters I have sent out.

Our report is as follows:

RECEIPTS

| | |
|--|----------|
| Received from the State Treasurer (Brother Mellette) | \$ 40.00 |
| Received from Rev. Fred S. Powers | 200.00 |
| Received from the First District Quarterly Meeting | 25.00 |
| Total Receipts | \$265.00 |

EXPENDITURES

| | |
|---|----------|
| One trip to the Executive Committee Meeting in Nashville, Tenn | \$ 43.90 |
| Two trips to the Beaver Creek Association | 30.00 |
| Five trips to the Childrens Home (Board and Committee Meetings) | 20.00 |
| Total Expenditures | \$93.90 |

Respectfully submitted,
W. A. Hales

APPENDIX V

SUPERANNUATION REPORT

South Carolina State Association
In Session November 17-18, 1955

Please find enclosed my report as Treasurer of the State Association of Free Will Baptist Superannuation Board for your State:

| | |
|--|----------|
| Balance on hand at the beginning of the year | \$522.00 |
| Receipts from Southside Church, Darlington for premium on their pastor's insurance | 33.08 |
| Total Money to be accounted for | \$690.95 |

DISBURSEMENTS

| | |
|--|----------|
| To Rev. J. O. Fort, Treasurer of Nat'l Board for premium on Clarence Lambert's Insurance | \$33.08 |
| To Rev. K. V. Shutes, Pro Sect. of Nat'l Board for 25% of State Income to National | 42.47 |
| Total Disbursements | 75.55 |
| Balance in Treasury (Mailed by Check to Rev. Coffey) | \$615.40 |
| Balance herewith submitted | \$171.10 |

Respectfully Submitted,

| | |
|--|----------|
| By undeposited checks (to Rev. Coffey) | 71.10 |
| Total Monies sent to Rev. Rufus Coffey Nov. 12, 1955 | \$686.50 |

Respectfully submitted,
Paul J. Ketteman, Treasurer
