

43rd Annual Convention Minutes as copied from The Ambassador Magazine

On June 26, 1981, at 9:35 a.m. the 43rd Annual Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists opened at Heritage Temple Free Will Baptist Church, Columbus, Ohio. The State Association was opened by congregational singing of "Love Lifted Me," followed by Scripture reading of John 15:1-14 by state clerk, James Henderson. This was followed by prayer by Rev. Robert Prichard.

Rev. Paul Thompson, pastor of Heritage Temple Church welcomed the State Association to Columbus. This was followed by singing, "Amazing Grace" led by Brother Sherman Dixon.

Rev. Franklyn Harness, State Moderator, read Ephesians 5:1-8, Galatians 6, giving the moderator's message, "Walking as Children of God."

Report of General Board given by Rev. James Blair, seconded and passed. John King was appointed to serve on the nominating committee in absence of one of the regular members.

Committees appointed. Business: Howard Kimble, Chairman, Pine Creek Conference; Clifford Ball, South Central; Jim Jewell, Cuyahoga-Lorain. Resolution: Billy McCarty, Chairman, Great Lakes Conference; Ernest Phillips, Jackson; W. F. Curfman, Meigs. Obituary: Bobby Blackburn, Chairman, Franklin Conference; Marvin Swain, Little Miami; Elmer Church, Porter. Appreciation: Whitt England, Chairman, Trinity Conference; Paul Oppy, Pine Creek; Arnold Pollard, Jackson.

Welcome of the following visitors, Dr. Charles Thigpen, President of the Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee, Dr. Malcolm Fry, Randall House Publications, Dr. Melvin Worthington, Executive Secretary, Don Robirds, Department of Foreign Missions, Don Pegrum, Department of Home Missions.

Report of State Promotional Director, Rev. Alton Loveless. See report #1. Motion to accept report by Brother Loveless, seconded by Ernest Phillips, passed.

Motion to adjourn for morning worship by Homer Brooks, seconded by Elmer Sizemore, passed.

Morning worship.

Offering of \$97.38 received, blessing given by Rev. Homer Brooks.

Special music by the Williams family, Dr. Malcolm Fry, Jack Born and Alton Loveless.

Morning message by Rev. Robert Prichard taken from 1 Peter 1:3, "A Lively Hope." This was followed by testimonies from Elmer Sizemore, Carrie Sparks, Scripture reading by Franklyn Harness, song by Lowell King, "Beulah Land." Dismissed in prayer by Andrew Workman.

Adjourned until afternoon.

Afternoon session opened by singing "Joy Unspeakable" followed by prayer around the altar. Rev. Arnold Pollard gave a devotion taken from Luke 9:35 called "The Voice of Jesus."

Rev. Hobart Ashby, of the Board of Directors, gave their report. Motion to accept by Elmer Sizemore, seconded by Andrew Workman, passed. See report #2.

Dr. Charles Thigpen gave the Bible College report. Motion to accept, Wendell Combs, seconded by Ernie Phillips, passed. See report #3.

Paul Collins gave the State Missions report, reporting on the state projects at Canton under Arnold Shrewsbury, at Hamilton under Steve Stidham. James Blair gave the financial report of the State Home Missions. See report #4. Moved to accept by Paul Collins, seconded by Clarence Newman, passed.

Dr. Malcolm Fry of Randall House Publications gave their report. See report #5. Motion to accept by Homer Brooks, seconded by Wendell Combs, passed.

Dr. Melvin Worthington gave the report of the Executive Office. See report #6. Motion to accept by Clarence Newman, seconded by Ernest Phillips, passed.

Appointed Brother W.F. Curfman to attend next year's West Virginia State meeting, and Brother Clarence Newman and Wendell Combs to attend Kentucky State meeting.

Billy Samms, West Virginia State Promotional Director, gave their report. Brother W. F. Curfman moved to accept, seconded by Elmer Church, passed.

Yvonne Wolfenbarger gave report of Ohio State Woman's Auxiliary. (See Woman's Page.) Motion to accept by Wendell Combs, seconded by Clarence Workman, passed.

Don Robirds, from the Foreign Missions Department, gave their report. See report #7. Moved to accept by John King, seconded by Elmer Church, passed.

Floyd Wolfenbarger gave report of the National Association of Free Will Baptists meeting last year in California. Moved to accept by Billy McCarty, seconded by Elmer Sizemore, passed.

Carl Dunn gave the report of the State CTS activities. See report #8 and State Youth Rally article. Moved to accept by Pobby Blackburn, seconded by Wendell Combs, passed.

Appointed delegates to attend the National Association of Free Will Baptists meeting in Louisville, Kentucky. Delegates were George Beal, Ally K. Dooley, John Hayes, Jim Salyers, and Roy Pressnell.

Afternoon concluded with prayer by Clarence Newman, song by Jack Born and wife, "I Have Jesus," followed by testimonies. Two ministers, Andrew Workman and John Easterly were present who had been in the ministry over 40 years, 7 present who had over 30 years, 22 over 20, and 23 over 10 years. Adjourned for the day by singing, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."

The Saturday morning session was opened by devotions with Jim Cox, pastor of Miamisburg Church, teaching from the Beatitudes, followed by singing, "Sunshine in the Soul."

Don Pegram gave the National Home Missions report. See report #9. Jim Jewell moved to accept, seconded by James Plair, passed.

Report of committees: Obituary, congregation stood in silent prayer in memory of Melvin Dunn and James Conkey who passed away during the year.

No business from the Business committee.

Appreciation committee praised Alton Loveless, Carl Dunn, Franklyn Harness, and Heritage Temple Church. Motion by Bobby Blackburn, seconded, passed.

Resolution committee recommended a letter be sent to Proctor and Gamble commending them for not sponsoring bad programs. Motion by Howard Kimble, seconded by Jim Jewell, passed.

Alternate delegates to National Association appointed, Jean Blair, Ollie Newman, Debby Beal, Anna Lee Sparks.

Report of nominating committee: Moderator: Clarence Workman, nominated from the floor Floyd Wolfenbarger, Ferrell Rood. Clarence Workman elected a next year's moderator. Nomination cease by Clifford Ball, seconded by Elmer Church, passed.

Assistant Moderator: Wendell Combs, none from the floor. Wendell Combs was elected. Motion nominations cease from Jim Jewell, second by John King, passed.

Clerk: Wayne Frost, none from the floor. Nominations cease by Clarence Newman, second by Wendell Combs.

Assistant Clerk: Jack Born, none from the floor. Nominations cease by Jim Jewell, second and passed.

General Board: Glen Webb, Central; Oziel Jeffries, Cuyahoga-Lorain; Ken Frisbee, Great Lakes; Arnold Pollard, Jackson; W. F. Curfman, Meigs; John Easterly, Northeastern; Howard Kimble, Pine Creek.

CTS Board: Carl Dunn, Bobby Blackburn, Tom Dooley, Ferrell Rood, Lester McMahan, Jerry Newman, Ron Henthorne, elected to this board. This board is to appoint State CTS Director. Motion by Paul Thomson, second by Roger Childers, passed.

Mission Board: Jim Henderson, Billy McCarty, from the floor
Garland Roberts. Jim Henderson elected to term expiring 1988,
McCarty to term expiring 1985.

Board of Directors: Rev. William Naves elected.

Nominating Committee: John King, 1984; Alan Williams Jr., elected
1983.

Discussion on Co-operative Plan by Alton Loveless.

Adjourned from business, motion by Billy McCarty, Jim Jewell, passed.

Special singing by Bussa Trio, message by Howard Kimble, "AaLiving
Stone" taken from 1Peter 2:1-4, followed by singing "Have Thine Own
Way."

Meeting adjourned.