

MINUTES
OF THE
Fourth Annual Session
OF THE
MINISTER'S MEETING,

AND OF THE
Eighth Annual Session
OF THE
UNION CONFERENCE
OF THE
ORIGINAL
FREE WILL BAPTIST,

HELD WITH THE CHURCH AT
SPRING BRANCH, PITT COUNTY, N. C.,

Sept. 30th, and Oct. 1st, and 2nd, 1897.

BAPTIST JOB PRINT, AYDEN, N. C.

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PROCEEDINGS.
OF THE
MINISTERS' MEETING.

According to previous announcement, ministers from the Eastern, Western, and Central Conferences, of the Original Free Will Baptist met with the church at Spring Branch, Pitt Co, N. C. Sept. 30th, 1897.

Eld. P. T. Lucas, who was appointed to preach the introductory, not being present it was preached by Eld. E. T. Phillips—Text: Joshua 5: 13-14. "And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, art thou for us, or for our adversaries, and he said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the Lord am I now come."

On motion, Eld. D. Davis was elected President, and Eld. E. T. Phillips Sec.

The following ministers being present were enrolled:

Western Conference—D. Davis, G. W. Davis, E. T. Phillips, P. T. Lucas.

Central—J. M. Barfield, T. F. Harrison, W. H. Laughinghouse, Q. A. Burroughs, T. N. Manning, T. H. Barnhill, C. L. Little.

Eastern—W. H. Slaughter, W. W. Lewis.

The Pres. appointed Elds. J. M. Barfield and T. F. Harrison a committee on Devotional Exercises.

Eld. D. Davis urged upon the ministers the great importance of showing up the sins of the people while preaching.

On motion, of Eld. T. F. Harrison, we discuss the proper time for holding communion and feet washing—That is—should it be held at night, or in the day, or at the option of the minister and church?

It was disposed of by Elds. W. W. Lewis, T. F. Harrison, W. H. Laughinghouse, W. H. Slaughter, T. H. Barnhill, C. L. Little, T. N. Manning, G. W. Davis, and, D. Davis.

Committee on Devotional Exercises report Eld. Burroughs open, and Eld. G. W. Davis preach to night.

On motion, the meeting close to meet Friday morning at 9 o'clock. Prayer by Eld. G. W. Davis.

FRIDAY MORNING.

Ministers meeting opened with prayer by Eld. W. H. Laughinghouse.

Elds. J. M. Barfield and T. F. Harrison Devotional committee for the Ministers Meeting was continued through the Union Conference.

On motion, of Eld. D. Davis, Eld. W. W. Lewis address the Union on the subject of education.

Elds. Lewis and D. Davis spoke of the great importance of education and in behalf of the F. W. B. College followed by T. F. Harrison, J. J. Jones, E. T. Phillips, E. E. Dail and W. H. Slaughter.

Eld. Lewis subscribed \$10 for the college.

On motion, of A. Garris, the ministers be requested to lay the college matter before their churches and solicit their aid.

Devotional committee report. Eld. Laughinghouse preach tonight.

On motion, we call off until 9 o'clock Saturday Morning.

SATURDAY MORNING.

Conference opened with prayer by Eld. Laughinghouse.

Minutes of yesterday read and approved.

On motion, of Eld. D. Davis, we discuss the better plan for representing in the Union Conference.

The following resolution by Eld. D. Davis was adopted—

Resolved. That each Union District in the different conferences delegates to the Union Conference by sending not over five delegates, and that all the churches be represented through these delegates.

On motion, the Treasurer pay into the hands of the moderator the amount that he has received at this conference.

Treasurer paid over \$11,45.

On motion, we receive the report of the Treasurer of the Union Conference.

Treasurer reports he has on hand \$3,76.

Petitions for the next Union Conference was taken up.

On motion of Elder T. H. Barnhill, we send the next U. C, to Hickory Grove church, Pitt Co, near Grindool Station.

On motion of Elder Barnhill, Eld. P. T. Lucas preach the introductory sermon and Eld. J. H. Worly be his alternate.

On motion of Eld. D. Davis, the secretary prepare the minutes for the press, distribute the same, and be allowed six dollars for his services.

On motion, we have 500 minutes printed and distributed.

On motion, all the ministers and delegates, be requested, to use their influence to advance the cause of Union Conference.

On motion of E. T. Phillips, thanks be extended to the community for their liberal manner in which they have entertained this conference.

On motion conference close to meet with the church at Hickory Grove, on Thursday after the fourth Sunday in September 1898.

Conference closed with prayer by Elder D. Davis.

Eld. J. M. BARFIELD, Moderator,

Eld. E. T. PHILLIPS, Secretary.

CONSTITUTION OF THE MINISTERS' MEETING.

Article 1, A ministers' meeting of the "Original Free Will Baptist" of North Carolina, shall meet at least, once every year, Thursday after the fourth Sunday in September, at the appointed place for the Union Conference.

Art. 2. An introductory sermon shall be preached at the sitting of the ministers' meeting each year.

Art. 3. The minister who preaches the introductory shall preside over said meeting until a President is appointed.

Art. 4. Each meeting shall have power to elect such officers as may be needful.

Art. 5. The meeting shall be to devise plans for the advancement of the Gospel of Christ.

Art. 6. It shall be the duty of the meeting to keep unity between the brother ministers, and to understand each other's work's so our preaching will not conflict with each other in preached the Gospel.

Art. 7. All ministers who wish to become members of the "Ministers' Meeting," shall make application at the regular sitting of said meeting, and shall be received by the regular vote of that meeting.

Art. 8. All members composing said meeting shall be required to attend annually, unless providentially hindered.

Art. 9. The meeting shall have the power to exclude any member of said meeting, for any disorderly walk.

Art. 10. This meeting shall have the power to make or amend any rule or by-law they may think necessary, in carrying out its benevolent purpose.

Art. 11. All members composing this meeting shall be required to vote pro or con, unless excused by the President.

Art. 12. The President shall have supreme power to call any person to a point of order during the sitting of the meeting.

Art. 13. No person shall speak over ten minutes on any subject with the consent of the President, and shall be allowed to speak twice if necessary.

Art. 14. The proceedings of the Ministers' Meeting shall be published in connection with her minutes of the Union Conference.

UNION CONFERENCE.

According to previous announcement, the ministers and delegates composing the Union Conference, from the Western, Eastern, Central, and Cape Fear Conferences of the Original Free-Will

Baptist of N. C. met with the church at Spring Branch, near Ayden, Pitt Co., N. C., Oct. 1 1897.

Eld. E. T. Phillips, who was chosen to preach the introductory, attended and preached—Text Ps. 92:12.

On motion, J. M. Barfield was chosen Moderator for the Conference.

On motion, R. W. Smith was make Treasurer.

The following were enrolled:

Officers—J. M. Barfield Mod., E. T. Phillips Sec., R. W. Smith Treas.

Ministers from the Western Conference—D. Davis, G. W. Davis, E. T. Phillips, P. T. Lucas.

Central—J. M. Barfield, T. F. Harrison.

On motion, Elds. W. H. Lathinghouse, Q. A. Burroughs, T. N. Manning and T. H. Barnhill were received into the Union Conference from the Central.

On motion, Elds. W. W. Lewis and W. H. Slaughter, were received from the Eastern Conference.

The following churches were received: Little Creek and Sts, Delight Greene Co., Watery Branch Wayne Co., Pleasant Hill and Elm Grove Pitt Co., from the Central Conference, Antioch and Vanceboro, from the Eastern Conference.

On motion, we discuss the following query offered by E. C. Lewis—Is baptism for regeneration, or is it a Christian Duty?

The question was discussed by Elds. W. W.

Lewis, E. T. Phillips, W. H. Slaughter, G. W. Davis and T. N. Manning.

It was generally held that regeneration takes place before baptism, and that baptism follows as a Christian duty.

On motion, we discuss the importance of "laying on of hands." The question was debated by Elds. W. W. Lewis, D. Davis, T. H. Barnhill, G. W. Davis and W. H. Slaughter—That it was proper, and in accord with the Bible seemed to be admitted.

On motion of Eld. W. H. Slaughter, we request the different Conferences to consider the question of "laying on of hands."

On motion of E. T. Phillips, Eld. W. W. Lewis preach the introductory at the Ministers meeting, and Eld. T. H. Barnhill be the alternate.

On motion, the meeting close. Prayer by president.

D. DAVIS—President,

E. T. PHILLIPS—Secretary.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF DISCIPLINE.

We the committee appointed by the different conferences, beg leave to submit the following report—

We met at Spring Brance church, on Sept. 29 1897

The following were present—

Western Con.	E. T. Phillips P. T. Lucas by p. ox.
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Central.	T. H. Barnhill J. M. Barfield.
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Eastern.	W. W. Lewis, W. H. Slaughter, J. B. Russell—by prox.
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W. H. Slaughter was elected chairman and E. T. Phillips Secretary.

After careful consideration we recommended the following changes in our book of Discipline.

Section 5—Art. 1. The Minister or Elder for disorder or transgression shall be dealt with by the church where his name is enrolled or by any church, over which he presides. It shall be the duty, of the church, to appoint three of her own members, and call to their aid, the Examining board of the General Conference.

The committee thus formed shall try the offender.

If satisfaction is given they may restore him to fellowship and office; but, if after a full investigation of the charges, preferred, the committee shall deem him unworthy of his office, they may silence him and demand his license and credentials.

Section 6—Art 2 After which if the church in her judgment shall think proper to have the licenticts ordained that he may serve, in all the ministerial duties.

The church may report and recomend the aplicant, to

the next General Conference. There he shall go before the Examining board; and if the board are satisfied, with his qualification and standing, they may ordain him and give him credentials, sending him forth with full power as a ministers. And it shall be the duty of the board to have his name enrolled on the list of ordained ministers.

Section 1—6, Art. 3. Every church belonging to our connection, shall have a Board of Trustees whose business it shall be, to have the oversight of their respective church property, and see that it is not trespassed upon.

If the church in her judgment should see proper, for any lawful reason, to dispose of any of her church property,—that is the house or land or both she may make a title signed by the Pastor and Clerk; and endorsed by the Moderator and Secretary of the General Conference.

CONSTITUTION OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

EXAMINING BOARD.

1st. Each General Conference shall have an Examining Board of five ministers, elected by the General Conference the term not to exceed from years,

In case of death, or for any lawful reason, there may be changes made.

It shall be the duty of said Board, to examine all applicants for the ministry.

And if qualifications and character are good they shall ordain, and set him apart for the work of the Ministry.

They shall report the same, to the Conference before the close of the session, and his name enrolled on the list of ministers.

2nd It shall be the duty of said Board, to look after the Christian Conduct, of the ministers, belonging to the conference, during the past year, and make report of the same to the conference.

CONSTITUTION.

Article 1. This body shall be known as the "Original Free-Will Baptist General Union Conference."

Art. 2. The object of this conference shall be to promote Christ's kingdom among men by means in strict conformity to the Holy Scriptures, in our co-operation together in having the doctrine of Christ preached for the salvation of souls.

Art. 3. The officers of this body shall be a Moderator, Treasurer, Corresponding and Recording Secretary, who shall be elected for a term of two years, who shall hold their office until their successors are elected which election shall take place one year previous to their entering upon the duties of their office.

Art. 4. This Conference shall be composed of the ministers who are members of churches belonging to the body, and of delegates from these churches, each church being entitled to one delegate.

Art. 5. The delegate from each church, shall bear to the Conference, a letter certifying his appointment, showing the amount of contribution raised for benevolent purposes during the year, and total number of members, and nothing more.

Art. 6. This Conference may, at each regular meeting, elect as many boards of standing committees as may be necessary in carrying out its benevolent purposes. These shall keep a record of their proceedings and make a report at each regular meeting of this Conference.

Art. 7. Any minister, conference or church, desiring to become a member of this body shall present his or her petition at a regular session of Conference through delegates appointed for that purpose. If he or she be

received, the Moderator shall extend to her delegare, the right hand of fellowship-

Art. 8. The Moderator may extend to visiting brethren all the privileges of the body save that of voting.

Art. 9. Each annual Conference is a distinct and independent organization with full authority to manage its own internal affairs, elect its own officers, etc.

Art. 10. This Constitution may be amended at any regular session by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

Wednesday night—T. H. Barnhill preached—Text 1st Cor. 13: 13. "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three: but the greatest of these is charity."

Thursday Night—G. W. Davis preached—Text Rom. 6: 1. "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?"

Friday night—W. H. Lothinghouse preached—Text Rev. 19 7. "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready."

Saturday Night—E. T. Phillips preached—Text Isaiah 28:40. "For a bed is shorter than that a man can stretch himself on it: and the covering narrower than that he can wrp himself in it."

Sunday 11 o'clock—W. H. Lothinghouse preached—Text 1st John 2:1 "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father Jesus Christ the righteous."

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Introductory sermon.
2. Enrollment of those entitled to membership.
3. Organization.
4. Appointment of Committees.
5. Call for petitionary letters.
6. Hand of fellowship to visiting brethren.
7. Reports from churches.
8. Reports from Committees.
9. Resolutions.
10. Miscellaneous business.
11. Adjournment.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	DELEGATES	No. MEMBERS	CONTRI- BUTION.
Hopewell.....	Johnson	By letter.....	36	\$ 75
Casey's Chapel.....	Wayne.....	By letter.....	79	50

WESTERN CONFERENCE.

Pleasant Grove.....	Wayne.....	D. Davis.....	213	50
Union Grove.....	"	By letter.....	116	50
Little Rock.....	Wilson.....	"	108	50
Jerusalem.....	"	"	12	20
St. May.....	"	"	124	
Peoplesl Chapel.....	"	R. Winstead..	44	50
Kenly.....	Johnston	By letter.....	74	
Free Union.....	Wake.....	By letter.....	39	50
Cool spring.....	"	By Pastor.....	60	50

CENTRAL.

Bethany.....	Pitt.....	L. McGlohon	120	50
Ham Grove.....	"	A. Garris.....	142	50
Pleasant Hill.....	"	J. F. Heath...	95	25
Spring Branch.....	"	W. T. Hart...	124	
Ft. Run.....	Greene.....	"	56	
Little Creek.....	"	I. J. Jackson..	89	1,00
Sts. Delight.....	"	O. W. Dail....	175	1,00
Watery Branch.....	Wayne.....	J. I. Jones....	260	1,50

EASTERN.

Macedonia.....	Craven	R. W. Smith...	100	1,00
Antioch.....	"	"	108	1,00
Vanceboro.....	"	D. McGlohon..	50	25

LIST OF MINISTERS.

WESTERN CONFERENCE.

1.	D. Davis,	-	-	Pikeville, N. C.
2.	Ray Phillips,	-	-	Pine Level, "
3.	T. J. D. Pate,	-	-	- Apex, "
4.	C. R. Pearce,	-	-	Princeton, "
5.	J. H. Sasser,	-	-	" "
6.	J. H. Worley,	-	-	Pine Level, "
7.	C. C. Mills,	-	-	- Apex, "
8.	J. W. Valentine,	-	-	Stallings "
9.	T. H. Matthews,	-	-	Nasville "
10.	W. M. Lovett,	-	-	Princeton, "
11.	P. T. Lucas,	-	-	Lucama, "
12.	J. R. Davis,	-	-	Goldsboro, "
13.	G. W. Davis,	-	-	Eureka, "
14.	J. R. Wasson,	-	-	Kenly, "
15.	B. H. Boykin,	-	-	Wilson, "
16.	L. T. Phillips,	-	-	Greenleaf, "
17.	W. T. Johnson,	-	-	Walter, "
18.	L. M. Mitchell,	-	-	Princeton "
19.	E. T. Philips,	-	-	New Light, "
20.	J. W. Cox,	-	-	Method, "
21.	B. W. Tippett,	-	-	Eagle Rock, "
22.	Sidney Harris,	-	-	Black Creek, "
23.	J. L. Strickland,	-	-	Spring Hope, "
24.	J. R. Morris,	-	-	Taylor, "
25.	W. E. Anderson,	-	-	Eagle Rock, "
26.	A. R. Flowers,	-	-	Taylor, "
27.	W. A. Benson,	-	-	Walter, "
28.	B. B. Deans,	-	-	Find, "
29.	F. M. Hinton,	-	-	Hare's Store, "

LIST OF MINISTERS CONTINUED.

LICENSED MINISTERS.

- | | | | | |
|----|----------------|-------|-------------|---|
| 1. | H. H. Gillum, | - - - | Cedar Rock, | " |
| 2. | W. F. Rowe | - - - | Poyett, | " |
| 3. | W. H. Collins, | - - - | Stallings, | " |
| 4. | W. B. Overman, | - - - | Baglev, | " |
| 5. | B. A. Ellis, | - - - | Merry Oak, | " |
| 6. | Wm. Broughton, | - - - | Method, | " |

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-------|-----------------------|---|
| 1. | S. B. Thain, | - - - | Glenmore, N. C. | " |
| 2. | R. Strickland, | - - - | " | " |
| 3. | J. F. Hill, | - - - | Goldsboro, | " |
| 4. | Lunda Lee, | - - - | Dunn, | " |
| 5. | J. E. Smith, | - - - | Mvatts Mills, | " |
| 6. | K. Reynor, | - - - | Little River Academy, | " |
| 7. | J. S. Ellis, | - - - | Clayton, | " |
| 8. | W. L. Godwin, | - - - | Bass, | " |
| 9. | R. C. Jackson, | - - - | Giles Mills, | " |
| 10. | J. A. Hodges, | - - - | Benson, | " |
| 11. | J. W. More, | - - - | Four Oaks, | " |
| 12. | W. B. Hare, | - - - | Marchester, | " |
| 13. | Henry Trip, | - - - | " | " |
| 14. | Wm. Byrd, | - - - | " | " |
| 15. | D. Faircloth, | - - - | " | " |
| 16. | C. A. Jackson, | - - - | " | " |

EASTERN CONFERENCE.

- | | | | | |
|----|------------------|-------|-----------|---|
| 1. | J. M. Barfield, | - - - | Ayden, | " |
| 2. | T. F. Harrison, | - - - | Ayden, | " |
| 3. | W. W. Lewis, | - - - | Beaufort, | " |
| 4. | W. H. Slaughter, | - - - | Wildwood, | " |

CENTRIAL CONFERENCE.

- | | | | | |
|----|---------------------|-------|-------------|---|
| 1. | W. H. Lathinghouse, | - - - | Black Jack, | " |
| 2. | Q. A. Burroughs, | - - - | Black Jack | " |
| 3. | T. N. Manning, | - - - | Ayden, | " |
| 4. | T. H. Barnhill, | - - - | Grindool | . |

