

MINUTES

WILMINGTON PRESBYTERY

STATED SESSIONS

171st, Beulaville, North Carolina
January 11, 1950

172nd, Hopewell Church, R. F. D.
Burgaw, North Carolina
October 10, 1950

ADJOURNED MEETINGS

Kenansville, North Carolina
July 25, 1950

Kenansville, North Carolina
August 1, 1950

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MINUTES OF WILMINGTON PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1—J. E. L. Winecoff | 22—J. M. Smith |
| 2—P. L. Clark | 23—B. F. Brown |
| 3—J. L. Fairly | 24—W. B. Hood |
| 4—C. C. Myers | 25—J. D. Withrow |
| 5—H. C. Hammond | 26—J. M. Waggett |
| 6—D. L. Williamson | 27—G. F. Miller |
| 7—J. W. Miller | 28—F. W. Lewis |
| 8—J. S. Crowley | 29—H. R. Newland |
| 9—M. C. MacQueen | 30—W. H. Goodman |
| 10—E. B. Carr | 31—J. M. Newbold |
| 11—C. B. Craig | 32—D. A. Bowles |
| 12—William Crowe, Jr. | 33—B. F. Hall |
| 13—A. K. Dudley | 34—M. G. Stimpson |
| 14—B. E. Dotson | 35—W. L. Foley |
| 15—F. M. Bain | 36—Priestley Conyers III |
| 16—N. P. Farrior | 37—J. W. Mann |
| 17—W. H. Allison | 38—N. G. Stevens |
| 18—J. V. Axtell | 39—R. L. McBath |
| 19—F. M. Thompson | 40—C. R. Stegall |
| 20—E. D. Witherspoon | 41—W. F. F. Little |
| 21—L. A. Taylor | |

CHURCHES

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|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1—Acme | 26—Faison | 51—Pink Hill |
| 2—Antioch | 27—Graves Memorial | 52—Pleasant View |
| 3—Ashwood | 28—Grove | 53—Pollocksville |
| 4—Baker | 29—Hallsville | 54—Potts Memorial |
| 5—Bethany | 30—Harmony | 55—Rockfish |
| 6—Beth Car | 31—Harper-Southerland | 56—Rocky Point |
| 7—Bethel | 32—Hebron | 57—St. Andrews-Covenant |
| 8—Beulaville | 33—Holly Grove | 58—Smiths |
| 9—Black River | 34—Hopewell | 59—Southport |
| 10—Bladenboro | 35—Immanuel | 60—South River |
| 11—Bowden | 36—Jacksonville | 61—Stanford |
| 12—Brunswick | 37—Lake Waccamaw | 62—Tabor City |
| 13—Burgaw | 38—Maple Hill | 63—Teachey |
| 14—Calypso | 39—McClure Memorial | 64—Topsail |
| 15—Cape Fear | 40—Mt. Horeb | 65—Wallace |
| 16—Carolina Beach | 41—Mt. Olive | 66—Warsaw |
| 17—Caswell | 42—Mt. Williams | 67—Webb Memorial |
| 18—Chadbourn | 43—Mt. Zion | 68—Westminster |
| 19—Chinquapin | 44—Myrtle Grove | 69—White Plains |
| 20—Clarkton | 45—New Hope | 70—Whiteville First |
| 21—Croatan | 46—Oakdale | 71—Wildwood |
| 22—Currie | 47—Oak Plains | 72—Willard |
| 23—Delgado | 48—Page's Mill | 73—Wilmington First |
| 24—Elizabethtown | 49—Pearsall Memorial | 74—Winter Park |
| 25—Elkton | 50—Pike | 75—Woodburn |

CANDIDATES FOR THE MINISTRY

Scott York Pharr, Samuel Norman Thomas, Preston Cumming Oliver, Henry Faison Chestnut, James B. Sherwood, George M. Powell, Burriss M. Bender.

MINUTES OF WILMINGTON PRESBYTERY

STATED MEETING

The Presbytery of Wilmington met in its 171st Stated Session at the Presbyterian Church in Beulaville, N. C., Tuesday, July 11, 1950, at 10:00 a. m. A worship service was conducted by the retiring Moderator, Rev. J. D. Withrow. The sermon on "The Holy Spirit and the Elder" was based on I Corinthians 12:1-17. This was followed by a communion service conducted by Rev. J. W. Mann and Rev. Neill G. Stevens. Four Ruling Elders of the Presbytery assisted.

After the roll was called and a quorum found present, Presbytery was called to order and constituted with prayer led by the Moderator.

The following were enrolled:

Ministers: P. L. Clark, C. B. Craig, A. K. Dudley, B. E. Dotson, F. M. Bain, N. P. Farrior, W. H. Allison, E. D. Witherspoon, L. A. Taylor, J. M. Smith, B. F. Brown, W. B. Hood, J. D. Withrow, J. A. Marrow, Jr., H. R. Newland, W. H. Goodman, B. F. Hall, M. G. Stimpson, W. L. Foley, Priestley Conyers III, J. W. Mann, N. G. Stevens, R. L. McBath. (23)

Ruling Elders: H. B. Rivenbark, Bethany; P. H. Myers, Beth Car; A. W. Gresham, Beulaville; Robert R. Walker, Black River; Cleveland Bowden, Burgaw; M. P. Jones, Caswell; John Hollingsworth, Chinquapin; C. S. Clark, Clarkton; G. W. Fisher, Elizabethtown; M. C. Bowden, Faison; P. S. Carr, Graves Memorial; R. V. Wells, Grove; J. J. Grady, Hallsville; A. H. Kerr, Harmony; J. B. Rivenbark, Hopewell; Dan Bright, Jacksonville; G. T. Sutton, Lake Waccamaw; Rex M. Kern, McClure Memorial; T. R. Thigpen, Mt. Olive; H. E. Latham, Mt. Zion; Earl A. Bender, Myrtle Grove; J. Mercer Taylor, Pearsall Memorial; J. H. Worrell, Pike; H. A. Parker, Pollocksville; J. L. Willoughby, Potts Memorial; E. D. Wells, Rockfish; E. F. Langston, Rocky Point; C. B. Case, St. Andrews-Covenant; J. R. Miller, Smiths; H. M. Wells, Teachey; J. D. Turner, Wallace; L. B. Huie, Warsaw; H. L. Joslyn, Webb Memorial; W. M. Boice, Westminster; H. McN. Johnson, Willard; A. T. Summey, Wilmington First. (36)

Rev. Priestley Conyers was elected Moderator by acclamation. The proposed docket was adopted.

Communications were read and referred to the appropriate committees. The Commissions to install Rev. J. W. Mann and Rev. R. L. McBath reported and their minutes were ordered printed in the minutes of Presbytery.

COMMISSION TO INSTALL THE REV. J. W. MANN, CASWELL CHURCH

The Commission of Wilmington Presbytery to install Rev. J. W. Mann as pastor of Caswell Church, Atkinson, N. C., met at the church at 7:15 p. m., April 23, and was opened with prayer.

MINUTES OF WILMINGTON PRESBYTERY

Present: Ministers P. L. Clark and M. G. Stimpson, Ruling Elders H. M. Corbett and C. D. Murphy.

Mr. C. D. Murphy was requested to serve as clerk of the Commission.

At the worship service in the church sanctuary Rev. P. L. Clark presided and Rev. M. G. Stimpson preached the sermon.

At the installation Rev. P. L. Clark propounded the constitutional questions to the pastor-elect and to the congregation, following which, Rev. Mr. Mann was declared duly elected and installed pastor of the church. Appropriate charges were then delivered to the pastor and the congregation by Rev. P. L. Clark and Ruling Elder H. M. Corbett.

At the conclusion of the services in the sanctuary the Commission reconvened. The minutes were read and approved and the Commission adjourned with prayer.

C. D. MURPHY, Clerk

COMMISSION TO INSTALL THE REV. J. W. MANN, HARMONY CHURCH

The Commission appointed by Presbytery to install Rev. J. W. Mann as pastor of the Harmony Church met at the church on Sunday, April 30, at 7:20 p. m. The Commission was convened with prayer and the parts assigned as follows: To Preside, Propound the Constitutional Questions, and Preach the Sermon, Rev. W. B. Hood; To Read the Scriptures and Charge the Pastor, Rev. L. A. Taylor; To Charge the Congregation, Rev. P. L. Clark; To Lead the Prayer after the Installation, Ruling Elder Melvin Cording. This order was carried out. At the conclusion of the services of installation, the Commission reconvened, approved the minutes of the meeting and adjourned with prayer, led by the Rev. W. B. Hood.

L. A. TAYLOR, Clerk

COMMISSION TO INSTALL THE REV. J. W. MANN, BLACK RIVER CHURCH

The Commission of Wilmington Presbytery to install Rev. J. W. Mann as pastor of the Black River Presbyterian Church of Ivanhoe, N. C., met at the church on Sunday, May 7, at 2:00 p. m. The meeting was opened with prayer. Present: Rev. W. B. Hood, Chairman; Rev. F. M. Bain, Rev. Ben F. Brown, and Elder A. E. Gibson. Mr. Brown was appointed clerk. A worship service was conducted with the chairman, Mr. Hood, presiding. Rev. F. M. Bain preached from the text Ephesians 1:22-23, "The Church — The Body of Christ." The chairman propounded the constitutional questions and made the customary declaration. The entire membership came forward and gave the new pastor the right hand of fellowship. Rev. Ben F. Brown charged the pastor and Elder A. E. Gibson charged the congregation. The benediction was pronounced by the new pastor, Mr. Mann. The Commission reassembled and after the reading of the minutes was adjourned with prayer.

BEN F. BROWN, Clerk

MINUTES OF WILMINGTON PRESBYTERY

COMMISSION TO INSTALL THE REV. J. W. MANN, SOUTH RIVER CHURCH

The Commission appointed by Presbytery to install the Rev. J. W. Mann as pastor of the South River Presbyterian Church, Garland, N. C., RFD, assembled at 7:30 p. m., Sunday, May 7, 1950, at the church. The Commission was convened with prayer. Those present were: Rev. M. C. McQueen, Rev. R. L. McBath, Ruling Elders James H. Clark and R. R. Walker. A quorum was declared present and the Commission organized. The Rev. M. C. McQueen was elected Chairman and James H. Clark, Clerk.

During the service Rev. M. C. McQueen presided and propounded the constitutional questions. The sermon was preached by Rev. R. L. McBath, on the text Rev. 2:1-11. Mr. R. R. Walker led in the evening prayer. Mr. McQueen charged the pastor and Mr. James H. Clark charged the congregation. Thereupon the Chairman declared Mr. Mann duly elected and installed as pastor of the South River Church. The benediction was pronounced by the new pastor. The Commission reassembled. The minutes were read and approved. The Commission was formally adjourned with prayer.

JAMES H. CLARK, Clerk

COMMISSION TO INSTALL THE REV. R. L. McBATH, ELIZABETHTOWN CHURCH

The Commission appointed by Wilmington Presbytery to install the Reverend Robert McBath as pastor of the Elizabethtown Presbyterian Church met in the pastor's study Sunday, April 30, 1950, at 7:30 p. m. Those present were: The Rev. M. G. Stimpson, chairman, the Rev. M. C. McQueen, and Elder E. L. Derrick of Chadbourne. Mr. McQueen led in prayer. Elder E. L. Derrick was appointed clerk, and the assignment of parts was completed.

The Commission recessed to the sanctuary. The sermon was preached by the Rev. M. C. McQueen on the subject, "The Three R's in the Gospel: Repentance, Remission, Receiving the Holy Spirit." The Rev. M. G. Stimpson propounded the constitutional questions, and the Rev. M. C. McQueen led in prayer. The Rev. M. G. Stimpson then charged the pastor, and Elder E. L. Derrick charged the congregation.

Following the service the Commission reassembled in the choir room and read and approved the minutes. The Commission was adjourned with prayer by Elder E. L. Derrick.

E. L. DERRICK, Clerk

A letter of dismissal was granted to Rev. J. E. Murray to Potomac Presbytery.

Grants of \$1,000 for the Chapel on the Boardwalk, at Wrightsville Beach, and \$600 for Webb Memorial Church, were accepted by Presbytery from the Program of Progress funds, from the Department of Church Extension of the General Assembly. This was done by passing the necessary resolutions.

MINUTES OF WILMINGTON PRESBYTERY

The churches of Presbytery were reminded again of the necessity of meeting the quotas for the Wm. Black Home.

The following guests were introduced Rev. C. R. Steagall, of Atlanta Presbytery, and Rev. W. F. F. Little, of Granville Presbytery, who were invited to sit as visiting brethren pending their reception into Presbytery; Dr. Marshall Woodson, President of Flora Macdonald College; Rev. J. W. Ware, of Jersey City Presbytery, of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.; F. T. Read, Jr., Student Supply at Lake Waccamaw; and Elders J. B. Huntington, of St. Andrews-Covenant, and A. E. Gibson, of Wilmington First churches. Several new Elders and visiting deacons were recognized.

The host pastor, Rev. W. H. Goodman, gave a message of welcome.

In connection with his oral report for the Permanent Committee on Educational Institutions, Rev. A. K. Dudley presented Dr. Marshall Woodson, who spoke on and in behalf of Christian Education. Presbytery received the report as information and adopted the following resolutions:

1. That a greater effort be made to enroll our Presbyterian youth in our own schools. To that end local churches are urged to send the Director of Educational Institutions in the Synod the names of High School Juniors and Seniors so that information may be sent them on our colleges.
2. That prayer be made for these Educational Institutions, the administrators, and the Faculty from time to time, especially on the days designated by Synod; and that Presbytery be led in prayer at this time for this purpose by the Moderator.
3. That the Presbytery and each local church include this cause in the Benevolent budget for as large an amount as possible.

The report of the Permanent Committee on Christian Education and Ministerial Relief was presented by the chairman, Rev. Wade H. Allison, and was adopted as follows:

REPORT ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND MINISTERIAL RELIEF

Your Committee on Christian Education and Ministerial Relief presents the following facts about the work of the Committee in our Assembly and in our Presbytery:

1. On March 31, 1950, all functions "having to do with schools and colleges, student work, candidates for the ministry and mission service" together with "such funds as were used for educational and student loan purposes" were, in accordance with the instructions of the 1949 General Assembly, transferred to the Board of

MINUTES OF WILMINGTON PRESBYTERY

Education in Richmond, Va. The division of this work resulted in a reduction of the benevolence percentage askings for the work of the Board of Annuities and Relief from 13.25% to 7.75%. All of this askings will go for relief, but it is urgent that all churches contribute the full amount requested if beneficiaries of Relief are not to be greatly disappointed. Four ministers and one widow in Wilmington Presbytery are beneficiaries of this fund.

2. The Church can be encouraged by the scholastic rating and financial condition of most of the Church's institutions of higher learning. Much remains to be done in the matter of endowing our colleges and seminaries for the essential Christian service they alone can render.

3. The Ministers' Annuity Fund has now completed ten years of service, and the actuaries report the Fund in excellent condition with assets adequate to meet all obligations guaranteed in the Official Plan.

4. It is encouraging to know that the number of candidates for the Ministry and Mission Service during 1949-50 rose to a peak in the Church's history, namely 753. On the other hand we note with regret that a large number of former candidates have abandoned their plans for the ministry for various reasons. At present there are seven candidates on the roll in Wilmington Presbytery.

5. The Board is glad to report that the financial receipts from all sources for "Christian Education and Ministerial Relief" for the year amounted to \$530,115.32, an increase of \$1,737.73. Wilmington Presbytery contributed \$6,735.37, an increase of \$1,837.53.

Rev. B. E. Dotson, Chairman of Presbytery's Committee on Evangelism, gave a brief resume of a special meeting held in Wallace and stressed again the urgency of evangelistic emphasis in each church. He presented Elder A. E. Gibson of the Wilmington First Church, who had been selected as Chairman of a special Committee to head up the Presbytery-wide evangelistic plans and efforts. Mr. Gibson delivered a very stirring and thought-provoking talk on Evangelism. He called for cooperation, encouragement, and help from minister and layman alike. He offered, on behalf of the Committee, all necessary help for putting on an evangelistic campaign in any local church. Rev. L. A. Taylor briefly summed up the two main plans suggested for the churches, the Laymen's Christian Mission and the 12 or 8 day plan as proposed by James M. Carr, Secretary of the Town and Country Department of the General Assembly.

The ministers present gave a unanimous pledge of support and cooperation in the evangelistic work.

The Moderator appointed the following Standing Committees:

Time and Place of Next Meeting—Rev. N. P. Farrior, Rev. W. B. Hood, Elder M. C. Bowden.

MINUTES OF WILMINGTON PRESBYTERY

Resolutions of Thanks—Rev. J. M. Smith, Elders H. M. Wells and H. A. Parker.

Leave of Absence—Rev. Ben F. Brown, Elders T. R. Thigpen and P. S. Carr.

Committee on Bills and Overtures—Rev. J. D. Withrow, Rev. E. D. Witherspoon, Rev. Ben F. Brown, Elders Earl Bender and H. L. Joslyn.

After prayer by the Moderator, Presbytery recessed for lunch at 1:00 p. m.

Afternoon Session

Presbytery reconvened at 2:00 p. m. with the singing of a hymn and a prayer led by Rev. A. K. Dudley.

At this time the report of the Standing Committee on Resolutions of Thanks was adopted by Presbytery as follows:

RESOLUTIONS OF THANKS

The Presbytery hereby expresses its gratitude to the pastor and members of the Beulaville Presbyterian Church for the kind hospitality shown us in entertaining Presbytery. Your sacrifices, courtesies, and Christian spirit have been noted and appreciated. We rejoice in the growth and ministry of your church and pray the Lord's further blessing upon it.

The report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures rejecting the resolution from the Mt. Zion Church was submitted by the Chairman, Rev. J. D. Withrow. After full discussion it was not adopted, the vote being 24 for and 25 against. Presbytery voted to send the following resolution to the Mountain Retreat Association:

RESOLUTION

The Presbytery of Wilmington hereby resolves:

1. That it deploras the action of the Mountain Retreat Association, of Montreat, N. C., through its Board of Directors, in abolishing racial segregation at Montreat.

2. That it, in its considered judgment, believes that this injudicious measure will actually serve to alienate the races and destroy the progress which has been made toward Christian fellowship.

3. That it earnestly recommends that the whole question of intrachurch race relations at Montreat be reconsidered on more realistic grounds in the interest of Christian good will between the races.

The following asked that their names be recorded as opposed to this action of Presbytery: Rev. E. D. Withers-

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spoon, Rev. B. F. Hall, Rev. J. D. Withrow, Rev. H. Reid Newland, Rev. Ben F. Brown, Rev. Wm. B. Hood, Rev. J. M. Smith, Rev. Priestley Conyers III, Rev. L. A. Taylor.

Rev. E. D. Witherspoon reported on behalf of Dr. W. C. Mebane for the Program of Progress. The report was received as information.

The Commissioners to the General Assembly reported orally on interesting items at the Assembly. Their reports were received as information.

Rev. A. K. Dudley reported, on behalf of the Commission on the Minister and His Work, that all papers and calls for Rev. C. R. Stegall and Rev. W. F. F. Little were found in order and approved. They were examined on Experimental Religion by Rev. J. M. Smith, on their views on Theology by Rev. B. F. Hall, and on their views on the Sacraments and Church Government by Rev. P. L. Clark. Their calls were approved, the examinations sustained as a whole, and they were received into the Presbytery pending their signing of the obligations.

A call from the Mt. Horeb Church to Rev. R. L. McBath was presented and approved.

Presbytery appointed the following commissions:

To install Rev. W. F. F. Little at Pollocksville—Rev. F. M. Bain, Rev. J. M. Smith, Rev. L. A. Taylor, Elder R. P. Bender. The parts and the date to be decided by the Commission.

To install Rev. C. R. Stegall at St. Andrews-Covenant—Rev. L. A. Taylor, Rev. W. H. Allison, Rev. E. D. Witherspoon, Elders J. Kyle Bannerman and Lewis Marks. The parts to be decided by the Commission, the date to be set by the Commission, and Rev. E. D. Witherspoon to act as chairman.

To install Rev. R. L. McBath at Mt. Horeb—Rev. J. W. Miller to preach and to preside, Rev. Neill G. Stevens to charge the pastor, Elder C. S. Clark to charge the congregation, Rev. M. G. Stimpson and Elder D. M. Calhoun as alternates, July 30, at 8:00 p. m.

Messrs. Geo. M. Powell, of the Mt. Olive Church, and Burriss M. Bender, of the Myrtle Grove Church, were presented to Presbytery as Candidates for the Gospel Ministry asking to be received under the care of Presbytery.

MINUTES OF WILMINGTON PRESBYTERY

They were examined on Experimental Religion and Motives for Seeking the Ministry by Rev. J. M. Smith. The examinations were sustained. Rev. Wade H. Allison, Chairman of the Committee on Christian Education and Ministerial Relief, reported favorably on their references and the investigation of their characters.

Presbytery voted to receive them under its care following their answering in the affirmative to the constitutional questions. The charge was delivered by Rev. Wm. B. Hood and the prayer was led by Rev. L. A. Taylor.

The report of the Committee on Leave of Absence was adopted.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Your Committee recommends that the following ministers be excused from this session of Presbytery: Rev. C. C. Myers, Rev. Wm. Crowe, Jr., Rev. M. C. McQueen, Rev. J. W. Miller.

That the following be permitted to leave before the end of the session: Rev. W. H. Goodman, Rev. W. L. Foley, Rev. J. D. Withrow, Rev. B. F. Hall, Elders W. M. Boice, C. S. Clark, A. H. Kerr, J. M. Taylor.

BEN F. BROWN, Chairman

The Committee on Time and Place of Next Meeting reported through its chairman, Rev. N. P. Farrior. The report was adopted.

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee recommends that Presbytery accept the invitation of the Hopewell Church for the meeting to be held October 10, 1950, at 10:00 a. m. This invitation was accompanied by the statement that this will be the 150th anniversary of this church. It seems especially fitting for Presbytery to meet in this church.

Elder F. S. Wilson, of the Jacksonville Church, was nominated as Moderator for the next meeting of Presbytery.

Rev. J. A. Marrow requested that the pastoral relationship existing between him and the Currie, Pike, and Rocky Point churches be dissolved and that he be granted a letter of dismissal to East Hanover Presbytery, effective August 1. Elders from the churches reported that the congregations concurred in the request, but only with great regret. After expressions of esteem and regret Presbytery voted to dissolve the relationship and to grant the letter of dismissal. The Stated Clerk was instructed to send a letter of commendation with the letter of dismissal.

MINUTES OF WILMINGTON PRESBYTERY

Presbytery voted to postpone the reading of the minutes until the Adjourned Meeting.

Presbytery voted to adjourn to meet at the Grove Church, Kenansville, July 25, at 10:00 a. m.

Presbytery was adjourned with prayer and the benediction.

H. REID NEWLAND, Permanent Clerk
L. A. TAYLOR, Stated Clerk

MINUTES OF WILMINGTON PRESBYTERY

ADJOURNED MEETING

Wilmington Presbytery met in an adjourned session at the Grove Church, Kenansville, July 25, at 10:00 a. m.

After a quorum had been declared present, Presbytery was opened with prayer by Rev. Ben F. Brown. The following were enrolled:

Ministers: Priestley Conyers III, Ben F. Brown, Wade H. Allison, H. Reid Newland, J. M. Smith, J. M. Newbold. (6)

Ruling Elder: R. V. Wells. (1)

The minutes of the previous part of the meeting held at Beulaville, July 11, were read, corrected, and approved.

Rev. Wade H. Allison, Chairman of the Committee on Christian Education and Ministerial Relief, reported on the current status of Mr. J. T. Hayter, Jr., now supplying the Grove Church. Abingdon Presbytery refused to dismiss him to Wilmington Presbytery as he had not finished his seminary work, so no action was possible. However, the Stated Clerk of Abingdon Presbytery sent word that a petition was being circulated in that Presbytery to rescind the action of Presbytery in this matter and that a called meeting in that Presbytery had been set for August 1.

In view of this information, Presbytery voted to hold another adjourned meeting at Grove Church, Kenansville, July 8, at 10:00 a. m.

The Commission to install Rev. C. R. Stegall as Associate Pastor of the St. Andrews-Covenant Church was dissolved upon the recommendation of the session of this church since Rev. Stegall is entitled to one more year under the Board of World Missions, a fact which will materially affect his eventual retirement pay. At the end of the year the way will be open for his installation.

The minutes were read, corrected, and adopted.

Presbytery adjourned after prayer and the benediction.

H. REID NEWLAND, Permanent Clerk

MINUTES OF WILMINGTON PRESBYTERY

ADJOURNED MEETING

Wilmington Presbytery met in adjourned session at the Grove Church, Kenansville, N. C., August 1, 1950. The following members were enrolled:

Ministers: Priestley Conyers III, Ben F. Brown, J. M. Newbold, J. M. Smith, J. W. Miller, L. A. Taylor.

Ruling Elder: R. V. Wells.

A quorum was declared present and Presbytery was constituted with prayer, led by the Moderator, the Reverend Mr. Priestley Conyers.

The Stated Clerk reported that the status of Mr. J. T. Hayter had not changed since the Adjourned Meeting held July 25, 1950. The Presbytery of Abingdon declined again to grant a letter of transfer to Candidate J. T. Hayter, and ordered him to return to Union Seminary and complete the requirements for graduation.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Presbytery adjourned after the reading of the minutes.

L. A. TAYLOR, Stated Clerk

MINUTES OF WILMINGTON PRESBYTERY

STATED MEETING

The Presbytery of Wilmington met in its 172nd Stated Session at the Hopewell Presbyterian Church, Burgaw, N. C., October 10, 1950, at 10:00 a. m. A service of worship and of celebration of the Sesquicentennial of this church was conducted by the host pastor, Rev. Millard G. Stimpson, assisted by two former pastors, Rev. P. L. Clark and Rev. D. P. McGeachey. The Scripture lesson was read by the Rev. P. L. Clark. D. P. McGeachey led in prayer. Special music was provided by the Burgaw Presbyterian Church.

The Rev. M. G. Stimpson gave a short address of welcome and appreciation on the occasion of the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Hopewell church, and introduced the guest speakers. The Rev. Mr. Clark spoke on "The History of Hopewell Presbyterian Church," and the Rev. Mr. McGeachey spoke on "Memories of Hopewell."

After the singing of a hymn, the retiring Moderator, Rev. Priestley Conyers, preached a sermon on "The Aim of the Christian," based on the third chapter of Philipians.

After the roll was called and a quorum declared present, Presbytery was called to order and constituted with prayer. The following were enrolled:

Ministers: P. L. Clark, C. C. Myers, J. W. Miller, J. S. Crowley, M. C. MacQueen, C. B. Craig, William Crowe, Jr., A. K. Dudley, B. E. Dotson, F. M. Bain, N. P. Farrior, W. H. Allison, E. D. Witherspoon, L. A. Taylor, J. M. Smith, B. F. Brown, W. B. Hood, J. M. Waggett, H. R. Newland, J. M. Newbold, Jr., D. A. Bowles, B. F. Hall, M. G. Stimpson, W. L. Foley, Priestley Conyers III, J. W. Mann, Neill G. Stevens, R. L. McBath, C. R. Stegall. (29)

Elders: F. T. Petteway, Antioch; Jordan A. Sloan, Bethany; W. A. Ferguson, Beth Car; Geo. S. Beatty, Black River; J. F. Davis, Bladenboro; D. N. Lucas, Burgaw; H. B. Kornegay, Calypso; W. G. Bell, Caswell; Snowden Singletary, Clarkton; H. C. Walker, Currie; W. C. Scoggin, Delgado; J. N. Clark, Elizabethtown; L. B. Johnson, Graves Memorial; J. L. Williams, Grove; A. H. Miller, Hallsville; R. E. Pendergrass, Harmony; W. T. Bannerman, Hopewell; Howard W. Littleton, Immanuel; G. E. Maultsby, Jacksonville; J. S. Cameron, McClure Memorial; R. A. Thigpen, Mt. Williams; S. M. Davis, Mt. Olive; B. V. Byrd, Oak Plains; E. Dan James, Pearsall Memorial; J. H. Worrell, Pike; D. G. Murphy, Potts Memorial; Paul E. Smith, Rockfish; H. L. Webb, Rocky Point; J. R. Benson, St. Andrews-Covenant; P. S. Cromartie, South River; E. J. Wells, Teachey; Ray Thomas, Topsail; S. C. Carr, Wallace; M. V. Orr, Warsaw; J. W. Kellog, Webb Memorial; W. E. Miller, Westminster; G. O. Rogers, Whiteville First; J. G. Mur-

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dock, Sr., Wildwood; E. L. English, Willard; W. M. Dickson, Wilmington First; G. G. Murray, Winter Park. (41)

Ruling Elder Frank S. Wilson, of the Jacksonville Church, was elected Moderator by acclamation.

The docket, as proposed, was adopted without change.

Communications were read and referred to the proper Committees. Candidates John F. Fisler and Edward J. Humphrey were transferred to the East Alabama and East Hanover Presbyteries respectively. The reports of the Commissions to install Rev. W. F. F. Little and Rev. R. L. McBath were approved and ordered included in the minutes of Presbytery as follows:

COMMISSION TO INSTALL REV. W. F. F. LITTLE PASTOR OF THE POLLOCKSVILLE AND CROATAN CHURCHES

The Commission appointed by Wilmington Presbytery July 11, 1950, was composed of the following: Rev. F. M. Bain, Rev. Murphy Smith, and Elder R. P. Bender.

Pursuant to the order of Presbytery the Commission met in the manse in Pollocksville July 30, the date fixed by Presbytery. At this time the Commission organized and Rev. Frank M. Bain was named Chairman and Elder R. P. Bender was named Clerk. The Commission opened its meeting with prayer led by Rev. Frank M. Bain, and at the eleven o'clock hour in the Pollocksville Church the Rev. Mr. Bain preached the sermon.

Rev. Murphy Smith propounded the Constitutional Questions. The charge to the pastor was made by the Rev. Mr. Bain and the charge to the congregation by the Rev. Mr. Smith. Prayer was led by Elder R. P. Bender. The service was closed with the benediction by the Rev. Mr. Little, Pastor.

The Commission also met in the Sunday School room in the Croatan Church at the eight o'clock hour the same day. The meeting was opened with prayer led by Elder R. P. Bender. The Rev. Mr. Smith preached the sermon. The Rev. Mr. Bain propounded the Constitutional Questions and led the prayer. Rev. Murphy Smith charged the pastor and Elder R. P. Bender charged the congregation. The service closed with the benediction pronounced by the Rev. Mr. Little, Pastor.

I certify that the installation services were conducted in strict accordance with the Book of Church Order.

R. P. BENDER, Clerk

COMMISSION TO INSTALL REV. R. L. McBATH PASTOR OF THE MT. HOREB CHURCH

The Commission appointed to install Rev. R. L. McBath as pastor of the Mt. Horeb Presbyterian Church met at the church Sunday, July 30, 1950, at 7:50 p. m. Members present were: Rev. Neill G. Stevens, Chairman; Rev. M. G. Stimpson, and Elder C. S. Clark. The meeting was opened with prayer and the parts assigned as

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follows: To Preside, Propound the Constitutional Questions and Charge the Pastor, Rev. Neill G. Stevens; to Preach the Sermon, Rev. M. G. Stimpson; to Charge the Congregation, Elder C. S. Clark. This order being carried out, Rev. R. L. McBath was duly installed. The Commission re-assembled, read and approved the minutes and adjourned with prayer.

M. G. STIMPSON, Clerk

The following guests were introduced and welcomed: Rev. D. P. McGeachey, Candidate J. T. Hayter, and Elder J. B. Huntington.

Rev. B. E. Dotson, Chairman, brought in the report of the Permanent Committee on Evangelism. It was adopted as follows:

REPORT OF THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE ON EVANGELISM

We thank God for the increased interest in Evangelism in our denomination and in our Presbytery. We thank God for the gains made last year through the Visitation Campaigns, for the many souls who accepted Christ as their Savior during the last church year, and for those who renewed their contact with His work. We also thank Him for our privilege to help in this work and the blessing it gives to all who witness in Christ's name.

We confess the failures, as individuals and a denomination, in Evangelism. In asking God's forgiveness for wasted opportunities to present our Savior to the lost, we dedicate ourselves to this task in the future.

The prospects for Evangelism lead us to say "the fields are still white unto the harvest." About 50% of the people within the bounds of our Presbytery make no profession of their faith in Christ as Savior. About 50% of those people within the bounds of our Presbytery who have at some time in life joined a church are not now actively associated with any of the Lord's organized work through the Church. Thus we see that about 75% of the people around us are prospects for active church membership. "The fields are white unto harvest."

Therefore we recommend:

1. That each minister and Session have a prospect list. This may be compiled by getting the names of each member in the families represented on our Sunday School and Church rolls and by giving the members an opportunity to hand in names.
2. That each church train at least 5% of its membership in the fundamentals of visiting prospects and inviting them to "come, follow" Jesus or transfer their membership to the local church.
3. That each church in the Presbytery participate in an Evangelistic Meeting and Visitation Campaign in a spirit of prayer and expectancy.
4. That on each Sunday prayer for and invitation to the lost be given.

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5. That Sunday School teachers present the claims of our Lord to their class members and invite the unchurched to "come".

6. That we thank the Program of Progress committee and all those who have given of their time for the program of Evangelism in our Presbytery this church year.

7. That all our churches covenant to pray, as has Rockfish, for the lost.

B. E. DOTSON, Chairman

An oral report on the Barium Springs Orphanage was given by Rev. Ben F. Brown. It was received as information.

An oral report for the Permanent Committee on the Bible Cause was presented by Rev. Priestley Conyers. The report was received as information and the following recommendations adopted:

REPORT OF THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE ON THE BIBLE CAUSE

Recommendations:

1. That the churches participate in the World Wide Bible Reading from Thanksgiving to Christmas.

2. That the Bible Cause be presented on Universal Bible Sunday, December 3.

3. That all ministers strive to hold before their members the Word of God as the supreme authority for the Christian.

PRIESTLEY CONYERS, Chairman

The report of the Special Committee on the Program of Progress was presented by the Chairman, Dr. W. C. Mebane. In connection with this report, Mr. John Diefell was invited to speak. The report was received as information.

The following Standing Committees were appointed by the Moderator:

Committee on Leave of Absence: Rev. C. B. Craig, Chairman; Rev. B. E. Dotson, Elder G. G. Murray.

Committee on Resolutions of Thanks: Rev. Ben F. Brown, Chairman; Elders G. E. Maultsby and J. R. Benson.

Committee on Time and Place of Next Meeting: Rev. D. A. Bowles, Chairman; Rev. J. M. Newbold, Jr., Elder J. W. Kellog.

Committee on Bills and Overtures: Rev. Priestley Conyers, Chairman; Rev. Wm. Crowe, Jr., Elder Dr. W. H. Miller.

After prayer Presbytery recessed for lunch.

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Afternoon Session

Presbytery reconvened after lunch with the singing of a hymn and a prayer.

Rev. L. A. Taylor spoke briefly on the nature and functions of the office of Presbytery's Central Treasurer, especially in regard to the Program of Progress funds.

The Chairman of the Finance Committee, Rev. W. B. Hood, reported on the William Black Home Campaign Fund. He pointed out that the goal for each church amounted to approximately 50c per member. The churches were urged to respond 100%.

The Nominating Committee brought in the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Since Presbytery has instructed its Committee on Nominations to act upon the following motion, "That Presbytery appoint a reporter or Publicity Committee who will furnish news releases to all the newspapers within the bounds of Presbytery, from time to time, and to the daily papers generally read in this sector, and to the Church papers," your Committee submits the following names for a Publicity Committee of Presbytery: Rev. Wm. Crowe, Jr., Chairman, and Mr. Walter Webb, of the Wilmington First Church.

J. M. SMITH, Chairman

Presbytery passed a motion to revise Presbytery's Manual to permit the report of the Finance Committee to be presented at the Fall Meeting after this year.

Presbytery passed a motion to have the Moderator appoint an Ad Interim Committee to work out a reorganization plan for Presbytery and a revision of the Manual.

In order to act upon the above, Presbytery voted to adjourn at the close of this present meeting to meet Monday, November 20, 1950, at the Wilmington First Church.

Rev. B. F. Hall stressed the importance of an impressive observance of Reformation Sunday, October 29. He pointed out that a union meeting would be held in the First Baptist Church, Wilmington, the night of Reformation Sunday.

The Committee on Resolutions of Thanks brought in the following report which was adopted as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS OF THANKS

The Presbytery wishes to express its appreciation to the Pastor, Officers, and members of the Hopewell Presbyterian Church for

MINUTES OF WILMINGTON PRESBYTERY

the opportunity to have a part in its Sesquicentennial being celebrated at this time.

This historic spot is made more personal to us by the reminiscences of former pastors, which also greatly enriched the spiritual atmosphere of this session of Presbytery.

The Presbytery also wishes to express its thanks to Mrs. C. F. Mallard, Jr., to Mrs. M. G. Stimpson, to the Rev. O. P. McGeachey, and to the Rev. P. L. Clark for their contributions to the program.

Especially do the members of Presbytery express their sincere appreciation for the bountiful and delicious food provided for their physical needs.

Presbytery requests that a copy of this resolution of thanks be read at the next meeting of the Session of Hopewell church.

B. F. BROWN, Chairman

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported as follows on the amendments to the Book of Church Order sent down to the Presbyteries:

We recommend that Wilmington Presbytery approve the following amendments to the Book of Church Order:

1. Amendment to Paragraph 74 on Reception of Ministers, found on page 59 of the Minutes of the General Assembly, 1950.
2. Amendment to Paragraph 96 on Temporary Supply, on page 61 of Minutes of the General Assembly.
3. Amendment to Paragraph 126 adding "Mission Pastor and Minister of Education" found on page 126 of the Minutes of the General Assembly.
4. Amendment to Paragraph 140 on Ordination of Minister, on page 49 of the Minutes of the General Assembly.
5. Amendment to Paragraph 362 on Receiving Members on Profession of Faith, on page 49 of Minutes of the General Assembly.

PRIESTLEY CONYERS, Chairman

In each case the Amendment was approved by the vote of 43 to 0.

Presbytery accepted the report brought in by the Committee on Time and Place of the Next Meeting which extended, on behalf of Flora Macdonald College, an invitation to meet in Red Springs, N. C., January 16, 1951.

Rev. C. B. Craig, Chairman, reported that no excuses for absence had been presented to the Committee on Leave of Absence. Again the roll of Ministers and Churches was called and Presbytery noted the unexcused absences. No record was made but Presbytery instructed the Stated Clerk to notify church sessions of such delinquencies henceforth.

The Moderator appointed the following Ad Interim Committee to draw up a Plan of Reorganization for Pres-

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bytery and a revision of Presbytery's Manuel: Rev. W. B. Hood, Chairman; Rev. W. H. Allison, Rev. M. G. Stimpson, Rev. Wm. Crowe, Jr., Rev. E. D. Witherspoon, Mr. John Diefell and Mrs. Walter P. Sprunt.

Rev. J. M. Newbold, Jr., was nominated for Moderator for the next Stated Session of Presbytery.

The minutes were read, amended, and approved.

After the singing of a hymn and a prayer Presbytery adjourned to meet at 10:00 a. m., November 20, 1950, at the Wilmington First Church.

H. REID NEWLAND, Permanent Clerk
L. A. TAYLOR, Stated Clerk

MINUTES OF WILMINGTON PRESBYTERY

DIRECTORY

Moderator—Frank S. Wilson, Jacksonville, N. C.

Executive Secretary, Stated Clerk, Central Treasurer of Benevolences, Treasurer of Presbytery—Rev. L. A. Taylor, Wilmington, N. C.

Permanent Clerk—Rev. H. R. Newland, Wilmington, N. C.

TRUSTEES OF PRESBYTERY

Exit 1955

Joshua S. James, Walter P. Sprunt, James H. Clark.

TRUSTEES OF DAVIDSON COLLEGE

Rev. E. D. Witherspoon, Exit 1952, Rev. M. C. MacQueen, Exit 1953

TRUSTEES OF FLORA MACDONALD COLLEGE

Exit 1951

Rev. William Crowe, Jr., Rev. L. A. Taylor, Mr. James H. Clark, Mrs. G. O. Rogers.

Exit 1952

Rev. D. A. Bowles, Mrs. O. L. Parker, Mr. E. L. Derrick, Mrs. George Currie.

Exit 1953

Rev. B. E. Dotson, Mr. W. D. McCaig, Mr. J. A. Love, Jr., Dr. W. C. Mebane.

TRUSTEES OF PEACE COLLEGE

Rev. William Crowe, Jr., Exit 1952, Rev. W. B. Hood, Exit 1953

PERMANENT COMMITTEES

Assembly's Causes—Rev. C. B. Craig, Chairman, Exit 1953.

World Missions—Rev. H. R. Newland, Exit 1952, Rev. B. E. Dotson, Rev. N. P. Farrior, Ruling Elders L. N. Boney, S. A. Haines.

Church Extension—Rev. Walter Goodman, Exit 1951, Rev. J. M. Smith.

Annuities and Relief—Rev. W. H. Allison, Exit 1952, Rev. William Crowe, Jr., Rev. W. B. Hood, Ruling Elder F. B. Johnson.

American Bible Society—Rev. Priestley Conyers III, Exit 1953, Rev. J. S. Crowley, Ruling Elder H. M. Corbett.

Christian Relations—Rev. J. M. Waggett, Exit 1951, Rev. H. R. Newland, Rev. C. C. Myers, Ruling Elder L. N. Wells.

Sabbath and Family Religion—Rev. N. P. Farrior, Exit 1951, Rev. A. K. Dudley, Ruling Elders C. S. Clark, R. C. Carson.

SYNOD'S CAUSES

Home Missions—Rev. J. M. Smith, Exit 1952, Rev. J. W. Mann, Ruling Elders, E. F. Davis, J. R. Marks.

Educational Institutions—Rev. A. K. Dudley, Exit 1951, Rev. M. C. MacQueen, Rev. L. A. Taylor, Ruling Elders James H. Clark, E. F. Davis, Glasgow Hicks.

Orphan's Home—Rev. J. D. Withrow, Exit 1952, Rev. B. F. Brown, Rev. N. G. Stevens, Ruling Elders, John Hall, Dr. Wilbert Jackson, C. O. Bollinger, C. S. Clark, James H. Clark.

MINUTES OF WILMINGTON PRESBYTERY

PRESBYTERY'S CAUSES

Home Missions—Rev. William Crowe, Jr., Exit 1952, Rev. M. C. MacQueen, Rev. P. L. Clark, Rev. J. W. Miller, E. D. Witherspoon, Rev. D. A. Bowles, Ruling Elders E. Norfleet, Dr. Wilbert Jackson, W. D. Jones, A. E. Gibson, Deacons F. E. Little, W. M. Boice; Representing Women of the Church of Wilmington Presbytery, Mrs. E. M. Farrior.

Religious Education—Rev. E. D. Witherspoon, Exit 1952, Chairman; Rev. W. H. Allison, Secretary; L. A. Taylor, Treasurer.
Children's Division—Rev. B. F. Brown, Rev. M. G. Stimpson, Rev. C. B. Craig, Rev. L. A. Taylor, Rev. J. M. Newbold, Mrs. George H. Currie (Representing Women of the Church of Wilmington Presbytery).

Youth Division—Rev. J. M. Smith, Rev. M. C. MacQueen, Rev. B. E. Dotson, Rev. W. H. Allison, Rev. L. A. Taylor, Rev. A. K. Dudley, Miss Eleanor Southerland.

Adult Division—Mr. John Diefell, Rev. William Crowe, Jr., Rev. W. B. Hood, Rev. J. W. Miller, Rev. P. L. Clark.

Finance—Rev. W. B. Hood, Exit 1951, Rev. A. K. Dudley, Rev. M. G. Stimpson, Rev. William Crowe, Jr., Ruling Elder E. L. Derrick, Deacons John Diefell, W. M. Boice, T. D. Love, Miss Mary Hannis Whitted (Representing Women of the Church of Wilmington Presbytery).

Evangelism—Rev. B. E. Dotson, Exit 1951, Rev. A. K. Dudley, Rev. M. G. Stimpson, Rev. H. R. Newland, Rev. J. M. Waggett, Rev. C. B. Craig, Ruling Elders: Dr. W. C. Mebane, J. B. Huntington, W. G. Prevatt; Mrs. Carter Mebane (Representing Women of the Church of Wilmington Presbytery)

Women's Work—Rev. B. F. Brown, Rev. L. A. Taylor, Rev. E. D. Witherspoon, Ruling Elder: J. R. Maxwell; Mrs. Walter Sprunt (Representing Women of the Church of Wilmington Presbytery).

History of Presbytery—Ruling Elder J. B. Huntington.

Auditing—Ruling Elders James H. Clark, J. R. Benson, J. B. Huntington.

Sessional Records—Rev. D. A. Bowles, Exit 1952, Rev. C. C. Myers, Rev. W. H. Goodman, Rev. C. B. Craig, Rev. A. K. Dudley, Rev. W. H. Allison, Rev. J. M. Smith.

Minutes of the General Assembly—Rev. C. B. Craig, Exit 1953, Rev. A. K. Dudley, Rev. W. B. Hood, Ruling Elder: J. R. Marks.

Minutes of Synod—Rev. F. M. Bain, Exit 1952, Rev. W. B. Hood.

Nominations—Exit each spring meeting of Presbytery, Rev. J. M. Smith, Rev. W. L. Foley, Rev. W. H. Allison, Ruling Elders: R. P. Bender, E. W. Faires.

Divorce and Remarriage—Rev. B. F. Hall, Exit 1952, Chairman.
Area No. 1—Rev. J. W. Miller, Rev. R. L. McBath, Rev. D. A. Bowles.

Area No. 2—Rev. B. F. Hall, Rev. W. H. Allison, Rev. William Crowe, Jr.

Area No. 3—Rev. C. B. Craig, Rev. N. P. Farrior, Rev. W. H. Goodman.

Area No. 4—Rev. P. L. Clark, Rev. W. B. Hood, Rev. F. M. Bain.

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EXAMINATIONS

Rev. B. F. Hall, Chairman, Exit 1953

Experimental Religion—Rev. M. C. MacQueen, Rev. J. M. Smith.

Academic Studies—Rev. B. E. Dotson, Rev. J. W. Miller.

Languages—Rev. J. W. Miller, Rev. H. R. Newland.

Theology—Rev. Wm. Crowe, Jr., Rev. B. F. Hall, Rev. N. P. Farrior.

Church History—Rev. J. A. Marrow, Jr., Rev. W. B. Hood.

Church Government—Rev. P. L. Clark, Rev. B. E. Dotson, Rev. C. B. Craig.

English Bible—Rev. B. F. Ormand, Rev. J. D. Withrow, Rev. L. A. Taylor.

COMMISSION ON THE MINISTER AND HIS WORK

Rev. J. W. Miller, Chairman

Exit Fall 1951—Rev. J. W. Miller, Ruling Elder E. W. Faires.

Exit Fall 1952—Rev. A. K. Dudley, Rev. P. L. Clark.

Exit Fall 1953—Rev. B. E. Dotson, Ruling Elder George Mitchell.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Rev. William Crowe, Jr., Rev. Eugene Witherspoon, Rev. William Hood, Ruling Elders: J. B. Stroud, W. G. Prevatte, E. L. Derick, Deacons: John Diefell, J. N. Brand (Moderator Nominee).

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