

Mount Vernon
Baptist Association

Fifty-First Annual Session

HELD AT

Brinkley, Arkansas,
August 29th to September 1st,
1907

The next Session will be held with the
First Baptist Church, Helena, Thursday
before the First Sunday in September,
1908, at 7:30 p.m.

Association Sermon, J. G. Harris.



PROCEEDINGS



Thursday Evening. August 29th.

The Mt. Vernon Missionary Baptist Association met this day at 7:30 p. m. with the First Baptist Church, Brinkley, and was called to order by former Moderator, W. H. Paslay, and Ben M. Bogart led in prayer. A. Flora and L. P. Anderson were appointed to read the letters from the churches. During the session the following churches reported by letter and messengers:

Ash Grove—W. T. Evans, D. F. Anderson, D. W. Simpson.

Brinkley—J. G. Harris, A. Flora, D. S. Coleman, Bud Wallace.

Big Creek—John Sherman, M. L. Howton.

Colt—J. T. Arrington, G. W. Matthews, E. Smith, T. G. Hewlett.

Clarendon—G. W. Emerson, M. J. Manning, H. A. McGill.

Christian Valley—By Letter.

Forrest City—W. H. Paslay, J. B. Sanders, W. T. Sanders, A. N. Brantley.

Hebron—J. R. Sorrels, Jesse Butler.

Helena—J. W. Porter, Mrs. M. E. Wells, L. J. Wilkes, G. H. Vineyard.

Hugues—Lee James

Hunter—W. H. Freeman.

Marianna—N. B. Graves, Lon Slaughter.

Murrell—L. K. Obenchain, C. F. Thompson, C. S. Belsia.

Moss Hill—By letter.

Monroe—B. F. Scott, J. W. Grimes, Anna Red.

Oak Grove—F. L. Gustavus, W. L. Ligon.

Poplar Grove—J. B. Hodges.

Park Grove—John Harris, Mrs. J. A. Coburn, Jake Breeding.

Philadelphia—J. L. Wilson, S. D. Sawyer, S. E. Fitchugh, S. A.

Hallum.

Richaboth—J. B. Lowe, T. W. Gillam, Mrs. J. W. Brinkley, W.

P. Sallas.

Mount Vernon Baptist Association

Salem—J. W. Turner, Mrs. Alice Oliphant, J. A. Turner.

Tualum—H. Q. Cary, J. W. Bean, L. P. Anderson.

Wentley—By letter.

A petitionary letter was then read from Riverside and by motion was received and messengers enrolled as follows:

Riverside—Kelly McDonald, Geo. Hamney, J. A. Stark.

Election of Officers

After preaching by J. W. Mount, text John 14: 2, 3, the Association went into the election of officers which resulted as follows:

W. H. Paslay, Moderator; J. G. Harris, Clerk; J. B. Sanders, Treasurer.

Upon invitation the following visiting brethren responded:

Eld. Ben M. Boyard, Agent, Buckner College.

Eld. H. E. Antrobus, Fraternal Messenger, Grand Prairie Association.

Eld. J. W. Mount, Oregon.

Eld. Chas. Kean, England.

Dr. J. B. Searcy, of Baptist Advance.

Eld. R. G. Bowers, Missionary Secretary, Baptist State Convention.

Eld. H. L. Winburne, Fraternal Messenger, Red River Association.

Mrs. Hannah Hyatt Gardner was also welcomed as a visitor from the Orphans' Home, Monticello.

Association adjourned by prayer until Friday morning 10 o'clock.

Second Day--Friday, August 30th.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator who led in devotional exercises, using the 23rd psalm. J. L. Willson led in prayer.

Committees.

The following committees were announced by the Moderator:
Discipline—A. Flora, H. A. McGill and Deacons of Brinkley church.

Associational Missions—M. J. Manning, W. L. Ligon, J. L. Turner.

Pastor—C. F. Thompson, J. W. Bean, A. Flora.

State Missions—E. Smith, S. D. Sawyer, T. F. Spivy.

Education—J. G. Harris, J. W. Porter, C. S. Belsha.
Nominations—G. W. Emerson, J. B. Lowe, John Sherman.
Publications—J. B. Sanders, Lee James, T. F. Spivy.
Orphans Home—L. K. Obenchain, D. S. Coleman, J. F. Dover.
Hymnaries—J. B. Hodges, B. Q. Cary, G. W. Matthews.
Foreign Missions—N. B. Graves, J. T. Arrington, J. C. Coburn.
Temperance—C. S. Belsha, L. P. Anderson, John Harris.
Sunday Schools—J. C. Heard, T. G. Hewlett, J. A. Coburn.
Ministerial Education—S. D. Sawyer, H. Bickerstaff, A. L. Taylor.

The treasurer, J. B. Sanders, then read his report and it was adopted as follows:

TREASURER'S REPORT

'Report of the Treasurer of Mt. Vernon Baptist Association' from October 22, 1906 to September 1, 1907.

DEBIT

1906

Cash on hand from last year.....	\$ 69 16
Oct. 22. Cash from Helena church for Ministerial Education	25 00
Oct. 22. Cash collected, same.....	5 00
Oct. 22. Cash received from Finance Committee	217 07
Oct. 22. Collections for Orphans Home.....	11 45
Oct. 31. Association Missions, Haynes church.....	10 00
Oct. 31. Minute Fund, Haynes church	1 00
Nov. 6. Association Missions. T. M. Taylor.....	1 00
Nov. 11. Amount collected by J. R. Cason, Missionary, Monroe church	2 30
From Mission Field.....	4 78
Sale of One Bible.....	2 00
Nov. 18. Cash, Miss Fannie Partridge.....	50
Dec. 12. Received from J. W. Harris, Brinkley church.....	10 50
Dec. 30. Cash Collections, 5th Sunday meeting, Marianna.	10 20
1907.	
Jan. 24. Sale of Books.....	2 00
Mar. 20. Dr. Bean, on pledge.....	10 00
May 15. From Thos. H. Knight and church.....	7 50
June 30. Collections, 5th Sunday, Marvell.....	11 40
Aug. 29. Pledge, Forrest City church.....	30 00
Aug. 29. From W. H. Heustes on Pledges of Haynes church	5 00
Aug. 29. Amount received from M. J. Manning, interest on \$300.00	24 00

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Aug. 30.	Amount received, interest on \$200.00	16 00
Aug. 30.	Amount received, A. F. Cagle. Missionary from the Field, over and above Expenses.	28 48
	Same from Otto Mathis.	26 40
Total		\$530 82

CREDIT

1896

Oct. 22.	Amount paid J. G. Harris, agent of Ouachita Col- lege, Ministerial Education	\$ 30 00
Oct. 22.	Amount paid Dr. Bean, Treasurer, Mt. Vernon High School	10 00
Oct. 22.	Amount paid O. T. Finch, Ag't Orphans Home	11 45
Oct. 22.	Amount paid J. R. Cason on salary	5 00
Oct. 22.	Amount paid J. G. Harris, Home Mission	7 50
Oct. 22.	Amount paid J. G. Harris, Ministerial Education	2 50
Oct. 24.	Amount paid J. R. Cason, Salary	10 00
Nov. 4.	Amounts paid at State Association	
	Orphans Home	6 50
	State Missions	7 50
	Foreign Missions	9 65
Nov. 10.	Amount paid J. R. Cason, on Salary	35 00
Nov. 10.	Expense account for October and November	7 79
Nov. 10.	Amount paid J. R. Cason, on Salary	1 29
Nov. 11.	Amount paid J. R. Cason, on Salary	20 00
Dec. 5.	Amount paid J. R. Cason, on Salary	10 00
Dec. 10.	Amount paid J. G. Harris, for Clerk's Salary and Minutes	46 90

1897

June 30.	Amount paid Cagle and Mathis, Missionaries	11 40
July 13.	Amount paid A. F. Cagle, Missionary	40 00
Aug. 6.	Amount paid Otto Mathis, Missionary	75 00
Aug. 30.	Credit amount to A. F. Cagle	28 48
	By amount Otto Mathis.	26 46
Total		\$402 42
Balance in Cash		\$128 40

J. B. SANDERS, Treasurer.

M. J. Manning then read the report of the Trustees of the Association Fund, which was adopted as follows:

REPORT OF TRUSTEES

Amount on hand \$500, loaned at 8 per cent per annum on real estate security.

Amount of interest due Nov. 1, 1907, \$40, which is herewith paid by M. J. Manning \$24 and by W. H. Paslay \$16 to J. B. Sanders, treasurer.

W. H. PASLAY,
J. B. SANDERS,
M. J. MANNING.

Eld. Ben. M. Bogard then addressed the Association in the interest of Buckner College, at Witcherville, Arkansas.

Eld. N. B. Graves then preached the Association sermon, using as his text I. Cor. 11:24, "The Lord's Supper."

Adjourned until 2 p. m.

Afternoon Session

The Association was called to order by the Moderator and led in prayer by Brother J. T. Arrington.

The report on Foreign Missions was read by N. B. Graves and after discussion was adopted as follows:

FOREIGN MISSIONS

The spirit of Christianity is Evangelization. The churches blessed with the spirits are active and aggressive, enjoying the consolations of the Gospel and the advancing Kingdom. God is blessing the work on the foreign field now as never before. The cry for help is great and persistent. There are more missionaries on the foreign field today than ever before and the need is as great as ever in the past.

The spirit of Missions is greater today than in the past history of the work. Young men and young women are preparing for this work. Our churches are awaking to this great interest and their contributions approximate a half million dollars the past year and the work demands twice as much more. We therefore commend this noble work to the confidence and liberality of the churches. In obedience to the will of the Great Commander let each Baptist realize that the Lord blesses the liberal giver. Let Mt. Vernon Association unfurl the banner with this inscription, "Go ye therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I commanded you: and lo I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Amen.

N. B. GRAVES.
J. T. ARRINGTON.

Brother M. J. Manning then read the report on Associational Missions. By motion the report was carried over for consideration Saturday morning.

Association adjourned until 7:30 p. m. Prayer by R. G. Bowers.

Evening Session

Association was called to order by the Moderator and Elder H. L. Winburne, of Arkadelphia, preached, using as a text H. Tim., 1:12.

Mrs. H. H. Gardner then presented the work of the Orphans Home at Monticello, and a collection was taken for the Home by R. G. Bowers, which amounted to \$53.50.

By motion Association adjourned until 8 o'clock Saturday morning.

Prayer by W. H. Paslay.

Third Day--Saturday, August 31.

Association was called to order by the Moderator and brother J. B. Swanner led in devotional exercises.

J. B. Sanders then read the report on publications, which was adopted as follows:

PUBLICATIONS

There is hardly a greater work than inducing the people to read good literature. We recommend the careful study of God's Word, since Baptists recognize it as being the only and all-sufficient rule of faith and practice. We recognize the Bible as the rule for our practice as well as for our faith.

We also recommend the Arkansas Baptist and all other orthodox Baptist papers. We further recommend the work of the Landmark Baptist Publishing Company, Little Rock, and all other concerns that are publishing orthodox Baptist literature.

J. B. SANDERS,

L. V. JAMES, JR.

The report on Associational Missions was then taken up and after discussion by M. J. Manning, W. H. Paslay and others, it was adopted as follows:

ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS

There is a field for much labor within our bounds, for the salvation of souls. The work is pressing itself upon us and we should respond to the call cheerfully, by the giving of our means and do-

field \$109.21 Their traveling expenses \$53.27. For all of which we are and ought to be profoundly thankful to our Heavenly Father. Let us take courage and redouble our efforts in this great and good work. We have sufficient funds to settle with our missionaries in full with perhaps a small balance in the treasury

W. H. PASLAY, Chairman.
J. G. HARRIS, Secretary

MISSIONARIES REPORT

The report of Missionaries Otto Mathis and A. F. Cagle is as follows:

Days of Labor	30
Miles traveled	1348
Sermons preached	98
Other religious services held	21
Homes visited	204
Religious services in homes	15
Conversions	84
Baptisms	45
By letter	17
By restoration	5
Total additions	67
Churches organized	2
Raised for Associational Missions	\$ 109 21
Expenses in the field	53 27
Amount raised for church building at Hunter	1000 00
Amount raised for repairing building at Wheatley	200 00
OTTO MATHIS, A. F. CAGLE, Missionaries.	

Brother W. H. Paslay then took pledges for Associational Missions as follows:

Brinkley	\$30 00
Forrest City	30 00
Marianna	70 00
Clarendon	30 00
Haynes	15 00
Oak Grove	10 00
Colt	25 00
Hunter	10 00
Trenton	10 00
Poplar Grove	15 00

Relioboth.....	20 00
Hebron	10 00
Park Grove.....	10 00
Philadelphia.....	10 00
Monroe	10 00
Helena.....	50 00
Riverside	10 00
Big Creek.....	5 00
Marvell.....	10 00
Salem.....	25 00
Bud Wallace	10 00
C. F. Thompson	pd 5 00
W. H. Allison.....	pd 5 00
L. P. Anderson	pd 5 00
Mars Hill.....	5 00
Wiville.....	10 00
New Castle (Mission).....	10 00
M. J. Manning.....	10 00
Total.....	\$ 465 00

The report on Obituaries was then read by G. W. Matthews and adopted as follows:

OBITUARIES

We find but few of our members have died during the past year. Among this number we note our beloved brothers, T. M. Oldham of Helena, and J. P. Farror of Marianna. We recommend that the word prominent as has been used heretofore in making this report be dropped and that the church letters to the Association give the names of all their members who die during the Association year.

G. W. MATTHEWS,
B. Q. CARY,
J. B. HODGES.

The report on Ministerial Education was then read, and after discussion by Eld. H. L. Winburne, it was carried over until the afternoon session, and Eld. R. G. Bowers preached on "Gifts, Wages and Rewards".

Association adjourned until 2 o'clock.

Afternoon Session

The Association was called to order by the Moderator and led in prayer by N. B. Graves.

The report on Ministerial Education was taken up and adopted, as follows:

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION

Ministerial Education primarily means a knowledge of God's Word. The ministry is a calling that derives its power and efficiency largely from a knowledge of the Holy Scriptures. In order to attain this knowledge our young ministers must have literary training. The writers of the Bible were mostly men of literature. Paul, a man possessed with wonderful reasoning powers and ability as a servant of his Master, was for several years a student under the great teacher, Gamaliel.

The many evils of the present day and the demands upon the ministers of Jesus Christ are a mighty call for trained and efficient preachers of the Word.

We recommend that our churches support our young preachers who are struggling for an education, that they may be better fitted for service.

S. D. SAWYER,

A. L. TAYLOR.

The report on State Missions was read and after discussion by W. H. Paslay and others was adopted as follows:

STATE MISSIONS

The field of State Missions is all of Arkansas. There is no more important part of our work than the Evangelization of our own State. We rejoice at the great harvest of souls as a result of our labors during the past year. But the need is still great and the fields are white for harvesting.

We recommend that our pastors urge this work upon the churches and that we give more liberally in the future to this important cause.

E. SMITH,

S. D. SAWYER,

JOHN L. TURNER.

ORPHANS HOME,

The report on Orphans Home was then read and adopted as follows:

We are glad to report that the past year has been one of the most prosperous in the history of our Orphans Home. There are now 72 children in the Home, dependent upon the Baptists of Arkansas for support.

Therefore, we recommend that the pastors of our Association devote at least one service during the year to this blessed work and that the churches respond with liberal contributions for its support.

L. K. OBENCHAIN

D. S. COLEMAN

The report on Education was read by J. G. Harris and adopted as follows:

EDUCATION

Education means more in the commercial world to-day than ever before. Conditions have changed and education is a necessity. But to think of an education from a commercial standpoint only is narrow. God has given us the power of mental development; the power to reason and think—the greatest distinction in the animal kingdom. If this power is not developed God is not pleased. Ignorance is not only a disadvantage but a sin where it can be avoided. Education properly acquired broadens the view, strengthens the character, increases the enjoyments of life, and better fits men and women for the service of God and their duty toward their fellow-beings.

We have some excellent colleges in our State—Ouachita at Arkadelphia, for young men and young women; Central at Conway, for young women only; and Buckner at Witcherville, for young men and young women.

We urge our people to send their sons and daughters to these institutions for college training.

We heartily commend our own School—The Baptist Collegiate Institute—now being planned to be built at Brinkley.

J. G. HARRIS.

J. W. PORTER.

C. S. BEISHA.

The report of the Board of Trustees of Mt. Vernon High School was then read by J. O. Harris, and after discussion, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF TRUSTEES

According to your instruction at the last Association, last October we advertised for a location for rebuilding the school. At our meeting some three weeks afterwards, for the consideration of \$5,000 from Brinkley, and because of the advantages offered, morally and otherwise, it was decided to locate the school at that place.

Since that time we have been laying plans for bulking as fast as practicable.

We recommend, that on account of Brinkley being centrally located, this Association invite White River Valley Association and Grand Prairie Association to co-operate with us in establishing and maintaining this school.

We have approved the following Constitution, and submit same to you for your consideration:

CONSTITUTION

of the Baptist Collegiate Institute, formerly designated
Mount Vernon High School.

The conditions of the establishment, maintenance and perpetuation of which shall be as follows:

I. We, the Baptist and others, acknowledging, contributing to and fostering the same, propose that said school shall be established and incorporated in the town of Brinkley, Monroe county, Arkansas, to be known and denominated the Baptist Collegiate Institute.

II. That the same shall be controlled and supervised by a Board of Trustees, selected by the Associations, as follows: Each Association shall select one Trustee for every three hundred members or fraction thereof, to the number of one hundred.

✓ III. That said Trustees hold office three years, alternately, as designated by their respective Associations.

IV. At all meetings of the Board of Trustees a vote of a majority of the members present shall govern in all questions, provided that not less than three members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

V. The teacher or teachers of said school shall be members of a Missionary Baptist church or churches, the same to be selected by the Board of Trustees.

VI. As its name designates, it shall be the purpose of said school to give our boys and girls a thorough Christian education, fitting them for the ordinary duties and responsibilities of life. The curriculum of said school to be such as to prepare them for graduation with the A. B. degree in two years from any high class college.

VII. All property obtained by or for said school shall be deeded to the Board of Trustees and their successors in office, to be held in trust for and in the interest of said school, and is not transferable.

ble without the consent of all Associations in co-operation with said school.

VIII. In case of abandonment or final dissolution of said school, the Board of Trustees shall legally dispose of the property belonging thereto, and apply or disburse the proceeds as the vote of said Board may direct, after discharging all obligations of indebtedness, provided the same is in the interest of Baptist denominational education.

IX. It is understood that this shall go into effect immediately upon its adoption by one or more Associations and they appoint Trustees.

C. F. THOMPSON.
J. W. BEAN,
J. T. SANDERS,
J. B. LOWE,
F. L. GUSTAVUS,
J. L. TURNER.
J. G. HARRIS,
W. H. ALLITON,
G. H. VINEYARD.

The report of the Treasurer was read and adopted as part of this report, which is as follows:

REPORT OF TREASURER

(October 17th my last report was made.

At that time was due me.....	\$ 868 37	
Interest for one year.....	86 83	
		\$ 955 20
By Amounts received from Churches.....	\$ 40 00	
By Insurance.....	1445 25	
		\$1485 25
Balance in Treasury.....		\$ 530 05

J. W. BEAN, Treasurer.

By motion J. G. Harris was appointed a Corresponding Messenger to the above named Associations in the interest of said school.

The report on Temperance was read, and after discussion was adopted as follows:

TEMPERANCE

The temperance cause is rapidly gaining ground, both in our State and nation. There are more dry counties in Arkansas and

more dry States in our Union than ever before. This is compatible with sound political economy and an advancing Christian civilization. Intemperance is the hydra-headed monster, whose bite means death—death and damnation. Realizing the evils of the liquor traffic, we urge the churches to take a strong stand on this question and to see that they do not have on their church rolls members who are addicted to drink. We recommend that at all times we work to put down the liquor traffic, by our vote and by example; that we give the officers of the law our ardent support in suppressing "blind tigers," and in prosecuting all violations of the prohibition and local option laws.

C. S. BELSHA,
L. P. ANDERSON,
JOHN HARRIS.

The following resolution was offered by J. B. Sanders, and adopted as a part of the above report:

RESOLVED, That it is the sense of the Mount Vernon Association that no church should retain any member who votes for the sale of liquors in any form, or who lends his influence to the establishment or maintenance of the saloon.

Therefore, be it resolved by this Association, that all churches are requested to withdraw fellowship from all members guilty of such practice, that God's name may be honored and His Kingdom advanced in our land.

J. B. SANDERS.

G. W. Anderson read the report on Nominations, and it was adopted as follows:

NOMINATIONS

We, your Committee on Nominations, recommend as members of the Executive Board, C. E. Thompson, F. L. Gustavus, M. J. Manning and G. H. Vineyard.

We recommend as Trustees of the Forrest Chapel Fund, W. H. Paslay, J. B. Sanders and M. J. Manning.

As members of the Board of Trustees of Mount Vernon High School, C. E. Thompson, W. H. Allison and G. H. Vineyard.

For Trustees for the Baptist Collegiate Institute, successors to the Trustees of Mount Vernon High School, when it shall have been adopted by one or more Associations, and they appoint Trustees, W. L. Freeman, G. H. Vineyard, J. L. Turner, J. T. Sanders, A. Flora and J. G. Harris.

We further recommend, that the next session of this Association be held with the First Baptist Church, Helena, Arkansas, and that Elder J. G. Harris preach the Association Sermon.

G. W. EMERSON,
J. B. LOWE,
JOHN SHERMAN.

The report on Sunday Schools was then read and adopted as follows:

SUNDAY SCHOOLS

The Sunday School is one of the best agencies for disseminating the Gospel truth and bringing the lost to Christ. It is a necessity in every church for accomplishing that which God has intended for us to do in making disciples of all nations.

We, therefore, urge that a greater effort be made by our pastors and churches to maintain a Bible School in their respective churches. And that they urge all the members of the church, as well as the children, to attend and take an active part in this important work.

We further recommend, that Sunday Schools be established in communities where there are no churches, as a means of doing effective Mission work.

J. C. HEARD,
T. G. HEWLETT.

Association adjourned until 7:30.

Evening Session.

Association was called to order by the Moderator.

By motion G. W. Emerson was placed on the Executive Board, to take the place of M. J. Manning.

Eld. Ben M. Bogard then preached, using as a text I Tim., 6:12, "Fight the Good Fight of Faith."

A collection was then taken up for Ministerial Education by Ben M. Bogard, to be divided between Ouachita and Buckner Colleges. Amount of collection: Ouachita \$12.81, Buckner College \$12.81, plus \$1 to Buckner alone, \$13.81.

By motion the Clerk was instructed to have 500 Minutes printed, and that he be allowed \$15.00 and expense of mailing.

By motion the Clerk was instructed to look after selling the church house at Raymond, and J. L. Turner to look after selling the one near Turner, Ark., as they are no longer being used for worship.

The Committee on Divine Service made the following report for preaching on Sunday:

At the Baptist Church—11 a.m., Dr. J. B. Searcy; 8 p.m., J. T. Arrington. At the Methodist Church—11 a.m., J. T. Arrington; 8 p.m., A. F. Cagle. At the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A.—8 p.m., O. M. Mathis. At Mount Zion Baptist Church (Colored.)—11 a.m., O. M. Mathis; 3 p.m., Dr. J. B. Searcy.

Association adjourned by prayer until Sunday morning 11 o'clock

Fourth Day--Sunday, September 1.

The Association convened by singing and prayer.

Dr. J. B. Searcy preached, using as a text, I Cor., 15:58.

A collection was then taken for Associational Missions, which amounted to \$9.85.

Adjourned until 8 p.m.

Evening Session.

Association convened by singing and prayer, conducted by the pastor. Elder J. T. Arrington preached—text, I Pet., 1:9-10-11-12, "The Sufferings of Christ."

By motion Lon Slaughter was added to the Executive Committee.

The following resolution was read and adopted:

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that this Association hereby expresses its hearty thanks to the First Baptist Church, of Brinkley, and the good people of the community, for their generous hospitality during the sitting of this body.

J. T. ARRINGTON.

The Finance Committee made their report, which was adopted as follows:

FINANCE

For Associational Missions.....	\$233 85
For Minute Fund.....	30 10
For State Missions.....	5 80
For Foreign Missions.....	3 50
For Ministerial Education.....	6 00
Public Collections during the Association:	
For Orphans' Home.....	53 50
For Ministerial Education.....	26 62
For Associational Missions.....	9 85
For Associational Missions, on pledges.....	15 00
Total.....	\$385 22

After touching remarks by the Moderator, Brother W. H. Paslay, and the extension of the parting hand, the Association adjourned to meet with the First Baptist Church, Helena, Ark., on Thursday evening, 7:30 before the First Lord's Day in September, 1908.

W. H. PASLAY, Moderator.

J. G. HARRIS, Clerk.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

Arrington, J. T.....	Colt
Billingsley, Z T.....	Gill
Burr, W. M.....	Helena
Day, M. J.....	Turner
Graves, N. B.....	Marianna
Heard, J. C.....	Brinkley
Harris, J. G.....	Brinkley
Knight, T. E.....	Clarendon
Murphy, A. J.....	Caldwell
Newman, J. E.....	Forrest City
Obenghain, L. K.....	Marvell
Paslay, W. H.....	Forrest City
Sawyer, S. D.....	Brinkley
Simpson, D. W.....	Cotton Plant
Swanner, J. B.....	Trenton
Willson, J. L.....	Brinkley

Rules of Decorum.

ARTICLE 1. The Association shall be opened by singing and prayer.

ARTICLE 2. The Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer shall be elected by ballot by the members present.

ARTICLE 3. The Moderator shall be considered the judge of order, but any member not satisfied with his decision may appeal.

ARTICLE 4. The Moderator shall be entitled to the privilege of speaking as other members, but not to vote, unless a tie.

ARTICLE 5. All questions shall be introduced by motion, and if seconded shall be opened for discussion, unless withdrawn by the mover or his second. When a subject has been discussed for a reasonable time the Moderator shall, when the question is called for, proceed to take it by calling for the yeas and nays, and if a call for a division is made, he shall call for a standing vote.

ARTICLE 6. Any member wishing to speak shall rise and address the Moderator. Only one shall speak at the same time, and shall not be interrupted while speaking, unless he departs from the subject to make personal reflections.

ARTICLE 7. No person shall speak more than once upon any subject until all who wish to speak have had an opportunity, nor more than twice without permission.

ARTICLE 8. Every subject introduced for discussion shall be decided before another is offered, unless it be laid over by motion with the consent of the mover and the Association.

ARTICLE 9. The names of the Messengers shall be called whenever the Association shall direct, and absentees marked. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission from the Moderator.

ARTICLE 10. The appellation "Brother" shall be used in addressing each other.

ARTICLE 11. Any member violating the rules shall be subject to reproof by the Moderator.

ARTICLE 12. Amendments or alterations shall be made to these rules when a majority may deem it necessary.

ARTICLE 13. Any case coming before the Association not provided for in these rules shall be governed by the general parliamentary rules.

Constitution.

1. The Confederation of Churches shall be called by the name of "Mount Vernon Baptist Association."

2. The object of the Association shall be to promote the glory of God on earth by preaching the gospel of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, the universal spread of the Bible, the word of the true and living God, and by other appropriate means.

3. This Association shall consist of Messengers from the Churches now forming this union, and such other Baptist Churches as may hereafter be received as constituent members thereof.

4. Every Church shall be entitled to three representatives without regard to the number of their members, respectively, and to an additional one for every fifty members exceeding fifty, provided that no Church shall ever be entitled to more than five. A certificate of appointment or letter from their respective Churches shall be evidence that they shall be so delegated.

5. The officers of the Association shall be a Moderator, a Clerk or Clerks, a Corresponding Secretary and a Treasurer, who shall be elected annually by ballot by a majority of the members present, immediately after the names of the delegates are enrolled, which officers shall perform all duties, respectively, usually devolved on such officers, and continue to exercise their respective functions until they shall be superseded by a subsequent election.

6. The Clerk shall preserve a regular record of the Association and have it present at the meeting of the body, and when they vacate their offices deliver the same, with all other books and papers relative to said office, to their successors.

7. The Association shall regard the Churches as independent bodies in all their internal affairs and exercise no ecclesiastical jurisdiction or claim any legislative or judicial prerogative over them; nevertheless the Association may exercise authority over its

own members, the representatives of the Churches, and power to withdraw from all Churches which may depart from the gospel as understood and held by this body by becoming either heterodox in faith or disorderly in practice, and should therefore regard the Churches united in this Association with a vigilant eye for good, and may give at its own discretion, and in its own way, advice or information when sought, to any church connected with it.

8. It shall be the duty of the Association to ascertain the general condition of its constituent Churches, devise means to promote their harmony and increase their spirituality and efficiency to promote the cause of truth and righteousness.

9. The Association shall hold annual sessions to convene on Thursday before the first Lord's Day in September in each year, and not adjourn until all of the business shall have been regularly finished; except when circumstances imperiously demand. The place of meeting shall be determined at each previous session and published in the Minutes.

10. Baptist Churches not before united in the Association, or those dismissed from other Associations, may be admitted as members of this union on application by a written petition or letter presented by one or more messengers duly appointed by some Church or Churches, provided they give satisfactory evidence that they are orthodox in faith and correct in the practice of the gospel ordinances.

11. Every minister of the gospel (either ordained or licentiate) whose membership is in, or who may be a pastor of any Church belonging to this body, shall be ex-officio a member of this Association, with the privilege of offering resolutions and speaking, but not of voting unless specially delegated by some Church.

12. When in session the Association will be governed by such rules of decorum as it may adopt for itself.

13. It shall be the duty of the Churches, respectively, annually to report to the Association their general condition, the number of members in fellowship, the number baptized, received by letter, dismissed, excluded, restored and dead during the year, and the names and postoffice addresses of all ministers (whether ordained or licensed,) designating each, and also the name and address of their clerks. They shall also report on any special matter required, and send up such contributions as they may willingly contribute to aid the body to disseminate more widely the truth as contained in the Holy Scriptures and the establishment of the Redeemer's kingdom on earth.

14. The neglect or failure of a Church to be represented by a Messenger or Messengers, in the Association for three consecutive years, shall be cause to withdraw from such Church at the discretion of the Association.

15. This Association may correspond by letter or Messenger with any other religious body of the same faith or order.

16. A Board, consisting of five members, any three of whom shall constitute a quorum, shall be elected at each annual meeting, whose duty it shall be to devise means to carry forward the benevolent objects of the Association, and the officers of this Association shall be ex-officio members of the Board.

17. The Minutes of the Board shall be publicly read, and corrected, if necessary, and then signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association adjourn.

18. Any amendment may be made to this Constitution at any meeting of the Association by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, provided the same shall have been published in the Association's Minutes of the preceding year.





FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, BRINKLEY, ARK.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS.	POSTOFFICE	DAY OF MEETING	MEMBERSHIP				Number In Sunday School...	CONTRIBUTIONS				Value of Church Property...																						
					Inc.		Dec.			Missions			To Other Purposes																							
					Baptism	Letter	Excluded	Present		Associa-	State	Home	Foreign		Ministerial Education	Orphan's Home	Pastor's Salary	Minutes	Sunday School Work	Other Purposes	Total Con- tributions.															
Ark Grove	D W Simpson	G J Hamilton	Cotton Plant	Second	1	1	2	7	45	30	\$ 2 50	\$ 5 00	\$ 47 05	\$ 40 25	\$ 28 35	\$ 35 00	\$ 800 00	2 00	20 00	130 00	\$ 10 50	\$ 500 00														
Brinkley	J G Harris	John Westby	Brinkley	Every Sun	12	5	13	12	145	90	25 00	56 15	47 05	40 25	28 35	35 00	800 00	2 00	20 00	130 00	1183 80	3000 00														
Creek	Z T Billingsly	H W Howton	Goodwin	Fourth	1	2	1	1	30		1 00							50			1 50	600 00														
Colt	J T Arrington	S P Walters	Colt		30	1	11	1	132	100	17 60						40 00	2 00	5 00	8 50	67 10	800 00														
Clarendon	W F King	Clarendon	Clarendon		2	2	2	5	55	47	53 80		20 00	20 00	37 50		125 00	2 00	25 00		283 30	2500 00														
Christian Valley	Z T Billingsly	P W Long	Gill						40		1 00				1 00					1 00	2 00	400 00														
Forrest City	J E Newman	W T Sanders	Forrest City	Every Sun	13	6	3	3	4	134	84	30 00	55 00	20 00		66 55	700 00	2 50	50 00	375 00	1290 05	7500 00														
Helena	S D Sawyer	W P Taylor	Wheatley			1	1		33	40	7 50			2 50	1 00			1 10	2 50	15 39	30 19	600 00														
Helena	W M Burr	W R Miller	Helena	Every Sun	1	7	4	2	5	18	223	139	50 00	164 53	111 00	200 00	73 80	1200 00	2 00	25 00	930 60	2248 36	15000 00													
Hunter	W H Paslay	Katie Curtis	Haynes	Third	2	3		1	2	66	52	10 00	10 00				150 00	1 00	10 00	115 00	296 00	1000 00														
Marion	J H Freeman	J H Freeman	Hunter		5	10	4		4	38		15 42						1 00		1 00	16 42															
Marianna	N B Graves	D R Myers	Marianna	Every Sun	5	2		2	3	119	122	30 25		52 45	42 45		54 75	325 00	2 50	64 00		571 40	4000 00													
Marvell	L K Obenchain	B L Belsha	Marvell						24	46	5 00	23 00					150 00	1 00	10 00	170 00	350 00	1500 00														
Marvell	Z T Billingsly	G H Jones	Gill	Second					35		1 00							1 00			2 00															
Monroe	L K Obenchain	J W Grimes	Monroe	Third					25	55	7 30						45 00	1 00	5 00		54 30	500 00														
Oak Grove	L K Obenchain	T F Spivey	Moro		6	2	1		66	70	32 00	2 85		1 00			100 00	1 00		4 50	141 35	800 00														
Park Grove	M J Day	J A Coburn	Clarendon	Second			2	4	2	61		7 50					53 00	50			61 00	1500 00														
Park Grove	W H Paslay	John Cox, Jr	Forrest City	First	12	1		2	1	91		10 00		10 00			150 00	1 50			171 50	350 00														
Philadelphia	S D Sawyer	S A Hallum	Brinkley	Second		2		3	2	87	21	10 00						1 00	4 00		15 00	350 00														
Shiloh	J B Swanner	C L Langston	Vineyard	Fourth	3			1	92	62	10 00						150 00	2 00			162 00	500 00														
River Side		Mrs G Ramsey	Mouth of St. Francis River		19	4	1		25	25	26 02								5 80		32 72	500 00														
Trenton	J B Swanner	J L Turner	Cypert					1	50	62	10 00	5 00					200 00	1 00	23 31	33 85	273 16	850 00														
Trenton	J B Swanner	Fannie Porter	Trenton			2		4	44	44	10 00	2 00		5 00			225 00	1 50	20 00	30 35	300 85	1500 00														
Wattle	J M Osburn	Wattle	Wattle	First	2	4	4		15			10 00						1 00			11 00															
Totals					114	53	33	20	25	67	1675	1089	8324	79	8333	53	8240	50	8286	20	874	35	8231	10	84422	00	830	10	8192	11	81821	19	87073	70	845050	00

* Not represented - Statistics 1905.

N. B.—Bible Union, Level Valley, Shiloh and Valley Grove not represented since 1905.