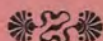


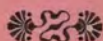
PROCEEDINGS

—OF—

*Grand Prairie Baptist
Association,*



SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH,



Arkansas County, Arkansas,

September 22nd. to 25th, 1897.

R. H. PARKER, MODERATOR,	- - - -	DeWitt, Ark.
B. F. HOUSE, VICE-MODERATOR,	- - - -	Hazen, Ark.
E. A. ALLEN, SECRETARY,	- - - -	Almyra, Ark.
J. F. SWANSON, TREASURER,	- - - -	Stuttgart, Ark.



PROCEEDINGS


—OF—

GRAND PRAIRIE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH,

ARKANSAS COUNTY, ARK.

September 22 to 25. A. D. 1897.



The Twenty-Third Annual session of the Grand Prairie Baptist Association met at the above time and place, and was called to order by the Moderator, Bro. A. H. Soekland, and after the congregation had sung, "Come Thou Fount," prayer was offered by the Moderator.

The Introductory Sermon was then preached by Eld. H. Y. Morris, from Luke 10:22. After which Eld. House led in prayer, and the pastor and deacons of the church, Salem, were all appointed a committee on Religious Worship. The committee announced that Elder Tanner would preach at 11 a. m. Thursday.

Dismissed by Elder Routh, to meet 9 a. m. Thursday.

THURSDAY MORNING.

The Moderator called the body to order at 9 a. m. and after Singing, "Rock of Ages," by the congregation, Bro. Morrill led in a word of prayer. The Moderator then appointed Bro. C. F. Edwards and W. T. Smith, Reading Clerks, and called for letters from the various churches. Whereupon

the following were presented, naming those following as messengers:

Almyra, C. F. Edwards, Bart Allen, and sister Grace Fuller Bethel, W. B. Harvell, and H. H. Willis.

Center Point, Jas. Saunders, Jas. Minton and D. B. Scott.

Cash Prairie, A. J. Barker, D. B. Wells and sister Downs.

DeWitt, J. H. Merritt, S. Coffey and sister Mary Hanks.

Hazen, S. E. Parrish, H. G. Miller and sister Saunders.

Macedonia, Wm. Ross, J. H. Percival and Jno. Gave.

New Bethel, J. S. Wood, S. Wilson and S. Harrison.

New Hope, Thos. Waters, and W. G. R. Hampton.

Pleasant Ridge, T. L. Ricks, M. A. Barrett and T. J. Rowe.

Salem, F. M. Lockett, Lee Gibson, and Sister E. Gray.

Stuttgart, J. F. Swanson and sister M. L. Wilson.

St. Charles, J. W. Worthy, W. L. Jarrow, and sister L. Ruby

Cross Roads, W. H. Highfell and R. F. Ballard.

Oak Grove, W. L. Cole, J. C. Rice and J. E. Herring.

Big LaGrue, J. P. Allen, sisters Julia Allen and C. Parker.

Hurricane, J. T. Lewis.

New Zion, Pat Donivan.

Bellview, sisters R. Turner, M. McSwain and T. McSwain.

The Cross Road delegation not being present, a motion was made that W. H. Highfell and R. F. Ballard (members of that church) be chosen to represent same. Motion was discussed at length and carried by vote standing; 27 for and 7 against.

Motion to postpone the election of officers 'till 2. p. m. was lost and it was ordered that the Association proceed to the election of officers for the ensuing year. W. Theo. Smith and Bart Allen were appointed tellers. Upon canvas of vote it was found that Bro. R. H. Parker was duly elected Moderator, and E. A. Allen, Secretary. There being no choice for Vice Moderator and Treasurer.

The Moderator appointed Bros. W. Theo. Smith and E. A. Allen to escort the Moderator elect to the chair.

Moderator Parker after thanking the Association for the honor conferred announced that the hour for preaching had arrived and further business would be postponed until the afternoon session.

Congregation sang, "Am I a Soldier of the Cross," Bro. Tanner read 137 Psalm, prayer by Elder Routh, and sermon by Elder Tanner from subject, "Christian Courage," Heb. 13: 6. After benediction by Elder Cannon a recess was taken 'till 1:30 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Called together at 1:30 p. m. by song, "There is a Fountain," prayer by W. Theo. Smith and upon motion Bro. Roe was authorize to cast the vote of the Association for B. F. House for Vice Moderator, which was done in form.

There being several candidates for office of Treasurer, the Moderator ordered a vote, which resulted in the election of Bro. J. F. Swanson.

The moderator called for messengers from neighboring Associations and the following reported:

Elder L. H. Fowler, McVernon; Bro. W. Theo. Smith, Caroline; J. A. Phillips, R. Mayo (colored) White River, and they were provided seats in the body.

The following standing committees were appointed:

State Missions—W. C. Luckett, J. H. Merritt, S. Coffee.

Foreign Missions—B. F. House, A. L. Tanner, Wm. Ross.

Educational—A. H. Soekland, E. A. Allen, H. B. Dudley.

Sabbath Schools—D. S. Cannon, F. Luckett, J. P. Allen.

Temperance—R. F. Routh, M. D. L. Webb, S. K. Downs.

Publications—B. F. Coburn, J. W. Highfell, T. K. Flynn.

Obituaries—N. G. Williams, Harry Powell, J. N. Worthy,

Home Missions—H. Y. Morris, H. G. Miller, T. L. Ricks,

The following committees reported and reports adopted, after which a recess was taken 'till 7:30.

EVENING SESSION.

Called together at 7:30 p. m. by singing, "Jesus Lover of My Soul," prayer by Elder Morris, Elder B. F. House read the 16 Chap. John, commencing with 19 verse, and preached from theme "Dives and Lazarus," prayer by Elder Cannon

The committee on Religious Exercises announced that Elder R. F. Routh would preach the Temperance sermon at 11 a. m. on the morrow.

Place of holding the next Association was discussed and upon vote it was decided in favor of Pleasant Ridge Church, Prairie Co., Ark. Adjournment was taken 'till 9 a. m. Friday. Benediction by Bro. Routh.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Appeals so often have been made to this body in our annual reports that it seems almost useless to say more on this subject but as we believe much depends upon the early training of the young mind to fit it for usefulness in after life, we ask our brethren to pardon us once more for urging our churches to organize Sabbath schools. And not only do we urge our brethren to organize a Sabbath school but we earnestly urge their prompt attendance. Oh! brethren here lies the secret of all our failures, a want of promptness to do our duty to our children, our neighbor and above all, our God. It is here we may obtain an important knowledge from the blessed Book that may ripen for heaven and immortal glory. Shall we stay at home unconcerned about the cause of our heavenly Master while our churches languish through our neglect? We believe if we would all engage earnestly in every good work there would be less complaint of coldness when the Father permits this body to meet again. To the pastors we would say, urge the importance of a Sabbath School in all your churches, and to the members we would appeal to you to encourage Sabbath School work. Awake to duty. Come and bring your children. Say to your neighbor "come, go with us, we will do you good." Hoping that all our churches will send up a better report in this work next year, and our desire and prayer to God is, that you may have peace of conscience, applaudits of your brethren, and finally the sanction of our Lord and Master, "well done thou faithful servant, enter ye into the joys of thy Lord."

SALLIE CULLEY.

REPORT ON PUBLICATIONS.

The Bible, from which alone we can learn our Master's will and his plan of salvation, is the book of books We

therefore recommend that all Baptists carefully study it. We further recommend that the Baptist Review edited by Bro. W. Theo. Smith, of Little Rock, and the Arkansas Baptist, be taken by every Baptist family, and read by every Baptist in the Association. We recommend for our Sabbath Schools the Southern Baptist Conventional Series.

B. F. COBURN,
SMITH WILSON.

—O—
FOREIGN MISSIONS.

We deem it useless to speak of the necessity of this God-given mission but will confine the report to the work now being done by the Southern Baptist Convention. China Canton mission begun in 1845, Shanghai mission in 1847, African mission begun in 1850, Italian mission in 1870, Brazilian mission begun in 1882, Rio and vicinity began in 1884, Permambuco that is in Brazeil in 1889, Mexico mission begun in 1880, Japan mission in 1889, North China mission begun in 1860. All of which stand in need of more workers and more support from our churches, and that a collection be taken for same.

Respectfully submitted,
MARCUS D. L. WEBB.

—O—
OBITUARIES.

Your committee on obituaries beg leave to report as follows: That there are a number of brethren and sisters having departed this life since your last communication whose names cannot be obtained from the letters submitted to your body among whom our beloved brother and co-laborer, Eld. W. L. Rowland, who like Paul, "fought a good fight," and one whom we feel could at departure say: "For me to live is Christ, but to die is gain." While we as humble instruments are fighting the battles here below and receiving our scars, they look in the ocean of belief. Trusting that we all lean completely on the Great Arm.

D. S. CANNON.

—O—
EDUCATION.

Realizing that an education is essential to mental as well

as moral improvement, we your committee wish to say, that there is a marked improvement in the progress of this work, though the interest taken is not as great as it should be, and we respectfully urge that the Baptists of this Association use their utmost influence in the advancement of this cause. We urge that all work to secure better attendance in the public schools for the purpose of common education. While we are glad to announce that our home colleges, Ouachita, Mountain Home and Central are aptly fitted to fill the demand for higher education. But above all let us endeavor to learn of the Great Teacher of all teachers the truths that gives the knowledge that "maketh us wise unto salvation."

A. L. TANNER,
W. L. COLE.

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RESOLUTIONS.

Elder L. H. Fowler presented the following:

Whereas, We find that Eld. Triple was a pastor of a Missionary Baptist church in 1766 and that Dr Tuey and J. J. Dermont, of the reformed church of the Netherlands, testified that the Baptist may be considered the only christian church that has kept pure the doctrines of the Apostles through all ages, and

Whereas, Dr. Whitsitt has given utterance to words which nullify and make void existance of the Baptist church which is so amply reported by history, also baptism by immersion, which is supported by so many pedobaptists, therefore,

Be it resolved, That we withdraw all support from the Southern Baptist Seminary until we see an article of faith drawn up and signed by the faculty and,

Whereas, The fifty lexicons that were examined in the Carlton debate gave "dip" to immerse, or "merse," as the primary or literal meaning to the Greek word "baptizo," and

Whereas, Dr. Geo. Campbell, President of Morischal College, Scotland, a Presbyterian, said the word baptism both in sacred and classical signifies to dip, to plunge, to immerse and was so rendered by Tertullian, and be it further

Resolved, That no candid mind will take the aid of falsehood in support of the truth and

Whereas, We find Mosheine, Neauder, Millman, Schaff and Alzog (Catholic) with all other historians agree that immersion was practised in all churches up to the 3rd century.

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Elder Fowler also offered the following:

Whereas, As we believe in a line of unbroken succession both of church and baptism and as that belief is supported by the Bible and all eminent authority, and believing it our duty to keep the bride of Christ pure and free from heresy and to stand firm in the faith once for all delivered to the saints, and not to be blown about by every wind of doctrine, therefore be it

Resolved, That we withdraw all support from the Southern Baptist Seminary, until a president and such teachers are installed therein as will disseminate the truths that are so necessary to the well being and advancement of our church.

Resolved 2nd, That the clerk of this Association be hereby instructed to forward a copy of these resolutions to the Baptist Review and the Arkansas Baptists for publication. Also a copy be sent to Hon. Joshua Levering, chairman of the board of trustees S. B. T. S., with the request that they be laid before the trustees at their next meeting.

A. L. TANNER, Chairman.

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TEMPERANCE.

When we consider the vast importance of the subject of temperance in all things we at once realize its worth and what it brings us, and how much depends upon our efforts as christians in regard to putting it down. The prince of darkness would have no better or greater power to invade our state and government, home and fireside, and at last even the church of the living God. The use of intoxicating liquors does not only degrade but uncivilizes. Intemperance sows to the flesh, therefore it reaps corruption, and generally brings sorrow and poverty to every home where it is used. Statistics

show us that three fourths of the crimes committed in our country grow out of intemperance. It does not only disturb peace in this life, but destroys peace with God.

W. THEO. SMITH.

—O—
FINANCE.

Your committee reports as follows:

Home missions,	-	-	-	\$	75
Associational missions,	-	-	-		1 60
State	"	-	-		1 55
Foreign	"	-	-		25
Clerk fees,	-	-	-		2 40
Associational minutes,	-	-	-		20 46

J. F. SWANSON, Chairman Committee.

—O—
HOME MISSIONS.

Home Mission is preaching the gospel in the South and West and in Cuba, and is doing great things for Christ. Let us with our money as well as our prayers assist in this grand work.

The Home Board is located at Atlanta, Ga.

Respectfully submitted, ROB'T F. ROUTH.

—O—
STATE MISSIONS.

No. of churches in state of Arkansas,	1,372.
No. of church members,	72,560.
No. of baptisms during the year,	6,534.
No. of Sabbath Schools,	388.
No. of Sabbath School Scholars,	19,190.
Amount of Contributions, home use,	\$61,301.73.
Missions and Education	8,000.00.

E. A. ALLEN.

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FRIDAY, 9. A. M.

Devotional Exercises, led by Eld. Tanner, after which the Secretary announced that Moderator Parker had been compelled to go home on account of sickness. Also, that Vice-

Moderator House had received message during night that his wife, (Sister House) was very sick and had also gone home, and upon motion Bro. Soekland was called to the Chair. Prayer by Eld. Coburn, short address by Moderator. Recess of 5 minutes. Song, "Jesus Lover of my Soul," after which the Moderator read list of Standing Committees.

Committee on Temperance reported and report adopted.

Elder Routh then preached the Temperance Sermon, taking the 5, 6 and 7th verses I Peter, 2 chap. The congregation sang "There is a Fountain," and a general hand-shake was had. Eld. Fowler pronounced the benediction and a recess was taken for dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Called together at 2 p. m. by singing, "I Once was Blind But now I Can See." The Moderator called up Unfinished Business, and the time of holding the next Association was discussed, and upon motion it was decided to convene at 10 o'clock on Saturday before the 2nd Sunday in Oct. 1898.

Committee on Obituaries reported and report adopted.

Committee on Foreign Missions reported and it was accepted after adding these words—"that a collection be taken for same," and a collection was taken by way of subscriptions to Foreign Mission Journal amounting to \$5.00.

The Moderator appointed E. A. Allen, M. D. L. Webb and Clarence Bergher, as Committee on Printing.

Report of Committee on State Missions adopted.

Report of Committee on Obituaries accepted.

The Committee on Religious Exercise, reported that Bro. Coburn would preach Missionary Sermon at 7 p. m.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

From Sec. Smith,	\$37 69.
For Foreign Mission Journal,	5 00.
Stuttgart Board Meeting,	4 00.
Almyra " "	4 56.
Treasurer Downs,	2 66.
New Hope Board Meeting,	3 41.
Stuttgart Church by J. F. Swanson,	2 00.
Disbursements,	<hr/> \$59 32.

Foreign Mission Journal,	\$ 5 00.
Printing Associational Minutes,	28 00.
Clerk fees,	2 00.
Eld. House, Macedonia Church	8 00.
Eld. Morris, Hurrican “	9 00.
Eld. Cannon, Crooked “	4 00.
Total,	\$56 00
Balance on hand,	\$3 32.

—O—

E. A. ALLEN, Treas.

The following Delegates were elected to State Association to convene at Pine Bluff, Elds. R. F. Routh, A. L. Tanner and Bros. Merritt, Downs and J. F. Swanson.

Bro. Soekland and Swanson were elected Delegates to attend the White River Association, (colored) which meets at Stuttgart, September 1898.

Bros. J. S. Wood, Smith Wilson, and Sisters Wood and Wilson were elected Messengers to the Caroline Association.

A Resolution was unanimously carried thanking the church and people of Salem for the kind and courteous treatment shown during Association.

The Moderator announced that the hour having arrived for the meeting of the Executive Body, a recess would be taken until 7:30 p. m.

The Moderator then called the Board together and the following business was transacted:

Motion that a membership of three constitute a quorum. (correct.)

Upon motion it was decided to hold the next meeting of the Board at Stuttgart on Friday before the 5th Sunday in Oct., 10 o'clock a. m.

Motion to adjourn to above named time and place prevailed.

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EVENING SESSION.

Commenced at 7:30 p. m. with devotional exercises. Clerk called meeting to order and Eld. Routh was chosen Moderator. Congregation sang, “Come Thou Fount,” Eld.

Coburn read the 22 chap. Matthew and congregation sang, "Must Jesue bear the Cross Alone." After which Eld. Coburn preached Missionary Sermon from text, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel," Mat. 28 chap., 19 verse. After which a collection was taken amounting in cash and pledges to \$6.65. The Clerk read the minutes and same adopted.

Motion to adjourn to time and place chosen by the Association carried. Congregation sang, "God be With you Until we meet Again," and Eld. Routh pronounced the benediction.

E. A. ALLEN,

Secretary.



STATISTICAL TABLE.

Churches, Pastors and Post Offices.	Clerks and Post Offices.	Received by Relation.	Received by Letter.	Received by Baptisms.	Died.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Present Membership.	Sunday School Pupils.	For Minutes.	Pastor's Salary.	Missions.	Value of church Property.
Almyra, B. F. Coburn, Almyra.....	Bart Allen, Almyra.....							29		\$.50	\$ 1.89	\$	
Bayou Meto,.....													
Bellview, N. G. Williams, Pt. Deluce.....	G. D. Cunningham, Ethel..				2		2	60		.40		2.50	
Bethel, T. K. Flynn, Fairmount.....	W. B. Harvill, Fairmount...	1	10	5		21	15	36		1.00			
Big LaGrue, R. F. Routh, Hazen.....	R. H. Parker, DeWitt.....		1	3	3		3	71		1.10		2.50	800.
Cash Prairie.....	J. H. Tomlinson, Stuttgart...							15		.50			
Center Point, R. F. Routh, Hazen.....	D. B. Scott, Hazen.....		1	2		7	3	71		1.25			600.
Crooked Creek.....													
Cross Roads, H. Y. Morris, Barrettsville....	J. T. Hammond, Tellala....				2	1	2	4	49	.75			800.
DeWitt, M. M. Craine, DeWitt.....	J. B. Wofford, DeWitt.....	1	1			1	2	64	55	2.00	350	20.81	3000.
Hurrican, H. Y. Morris, Barrettsville.....	Annah Slaughter, Barrettsville					2	1	11		.50			
Hazen O. N. Owen, Lonoke.....	Hattie Saunders, Hazen.....		3			4		51		1.00	155		800.
Macedonia, B. F. House, Hazen.....	S. R. Ross, Hazen.....	8			1	5		33		1.00			
New Bethel, O. N. Owen, Lonoke.....	Ona Honea, Barrettsville....	4	4			1		28		.55	35	.50	
New Zion, N. G. Williams, Pt. Deluce....	W. L. Bennett, Tichnor.....	3		1		1	1	43		.50		4.00	500.
New Hope, D. S. Cannon, DeWitt.....	Jno. W. Scott, Hagler.....	3	1		10	2		84		1.50			
Oak Grove, B. F. House, Hazen.....	Wm. L. Cole, Hamilton.....	10			2	5	1	43		1.25		1.60	
Pleasant Ridge, H. Y. Morris, Barrettsville	Hattie Simpkin, Barrettsville	4		2		5		70		1.00			
Pt. Deluce, R. F. Routh, Hazen.....	Abbott Powell, DeWitt.....				1	11	11	1	84	1.00			
Rising Sun, B. F. Coburn, Almyra.....	H. H. Spiller, Sassafras....	18	3	1	4			66		1.31			500.
Salem, B. F. Coburn, Almyra.....	W. S. Apply, Casco.....									1.25			
St. Charles.....	A. B. Cullipher, St. Charles.							23	34	.70			
Stuttgart, B. F. Routh, Hazen.....	H. B. Dudley, Stuttgart....		3		1	3		34	25	1.50	50		600.
TOTAL.		52	27	17	38	70	30	965	114	\$20.56		\$33.80	\$7600.