

11-1896

Arkansas Baptist State Convention: 1896

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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Arkansas Baptist State Convention, "Arkansas Baptist State Convention: 1896" (1896). *Arkansas Baptist State Convention Annuals*. 8.
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Arkansas **B**aptist
State **C**onvention



48th **A**nnual
Session

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

FORTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION

HELD AT

HOT SPRINGS

NOVEMBER, 1896.

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1928

ELDER J. P. EAGLE, President, Little Rock, Ark.
JOHN G. B. SIMMS, Secretary, Conway.

LITTLE ROCK :
GAZETTE PUBLISHING COMPANY
1896.

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OUACHITA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY



JAMES P. EAGLE,
Ex-Governor of Arkansas, and
President of Baptist State Convention.

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1896-1901

STATE DIRECTORY.

PERMANENT OFFICERS.

J. P. EAGLE, *President*.....Little Rock
W. E. ATKINSON, *First Vice-President*Little Rock
J. M. HART, *Second Vice-President*El Dorado
JOHN G. B. SIMMS, *Secretary*.....Conway
W. A. CLARK, *Treasurer*.....Little Rock

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

J. P. Eagle, B. C. Black, A. W. Files, Frank White,
J. H. Grumbles, M. T. Webb, W. E. Atkinson,
Dr. J. T. Kitchens, Dr. J. C. Jelks, H. C. Fox, C. W. Walker.
A. G. McManaway, J. N. Hartley.

BOARD OF MINISTERIAL EDUCATION

E. B. Miller, F. D. Baars, J. J. Haynes, W. A. Forbes,
J. W. Conger, A. G. McManaway, H. J. C. Horne.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD.

O. L. Hailey, John Ayres, P. A. Ball, J. G. Jackson,
Harvey Beauchamp, R. A. Clarkson, R. A. Rowe,
Geo. T. Williams, J. C. Stalcup.

TRUSTEES ORPHANS' HOME.

Hogan Allen, W. W. Gardner, R. D. Wilson.

POSSIBLE TRUSTEES CENTRAL COLLEGE.

J. G. B. Simms, Giles C. Taylor, W. T. Box,
W. H. Paslay, F. P. Turner.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE LADIES' AID SOCIETY.

Mrs. James P. Eagle, Mrs. E. Longley, Mrs. C. R. Schaer,
Mrs. Charles Davidson, Mrs. J. L. Hawkins,
Mrs. Fannie Neelly, Mrs. Carroll D. Wood.

DELEGATES AMERICAN BAPTIST EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY.

J. W. Conger, J. G. Lile, J. W. Howell, S. H. Allen,
M. Shelby Kennard.

DELEGATES SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION.

W. F. Mack, W. E. Atkinson, J. H. Peay, W. T. Box,
J. T. Kirby, A. G. McManaway, E. B. Miller,
Harvey Beauchamp, C. W. Strickland, W. A. Jarrell,
E. C. Faulkner, Francis Bozeman, J. G. Doyle,
E. J. A. McKinney, A. W. Files, W. E. Stevens.

W. A. CLARK, Statistical and Historical Secretary, Little Rock.
E. B. MILLER, Secretary Board of Ministerial Education, Arkadelphia.
A. G. McMANAWAY, Agent for Home Missions, Arkadelphia.

39340

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I. This body shall be styled the "ARKANSAS BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION."

ART. II. The Baptist State Convention shall be composed of Messengers from Baptist Associations and Baptist Churches, on presentation of proper credentials or satisfactory evidence of their appointment.

ART. III. Associations shall be entitled to five messengers and Churches to three, and the State Central Committee of the Ladies' Aid Society shall be ex-officio members of the Convention.

ART. IV. It is distinctly understood that this Convention shall have no ecclesiastical jurisdiction nor in any way interfere with the Constitution of any Church or Association.

ART. V. The object of this Convention shall be to supply the destitute regions within its bounds with the unadulterated Word of Life, and a living ministry, and to aid by appropriate and Scriptural means all destitute and feeble Churches, and also supply communities with such books as may be approved by this body, and as may be thought best calculated to communicate information as to the distinctive doctrines and ordinances of the gospel of Christ as received by our denomination, and to aid and encourage Ministerial and Gospel and general Education, Missions and Sunday school work, and to gather denominational statistics.

ART. VI. The Convention shall elect by ballot annually a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer. Also appoint one brother from each Association and thirteen other brethren who shall compose the Executive Board, seven of whom shall constitute a quorum; said Board to hold office until their successors shall be appointed.

ART. VII. The Convention shall convene on the Friday before the third Sunday in November, each year.

ART. VIII. This Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the Convention, two-thirds of the members present concurring in the measure, except the fourth article, which shall forever remain unaltered.

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MINUTES
OF THE
BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION.
1896.

FRIDAY'S SESSION.

HOT SPRINGS, ARK., Nov. 13, 1896.

Arkansas Baptist State Convention was called to order by James P. Eagle, former President, at 10 o'clock a. m. this day, in the building prepared for its use.

After singing and prayer, the chair announced as a Committee on Credentials, E. B. Miller, A. Andrus and P. C. Barton, who retired to prepare their report.

During which time Brother J. M. Hart was asked to lead devotional exercises. An hour was then spent in song, prayer and reminiscence.

The Committee reported the following delegates as entitled to seats in the body:

ASSOCIATIONS.

Bartholomew—J. S. Wood, N. C. Denson, J. P. Henry.

Concord—O. L. Hailey, L. Quinn, D. M. Jetton.

Caroline—J. G. Doyle.

Fayetteville—I. Z. Kimbrough.

Friendship—S. O. Whitten, D. E. Gambrell.

Greenbriar—J. G. B. Simms.

Grand Prairie—H. H. Street.

- Howard County*—J. G. Rodgers, A. J. Robins, C. W. Strickland,
L. M. Webb, E. Merrell.
- Judson*—W. L. Daniel, R. D. Wilson.
- Little Red River*—R. G. Lafferty.
- Liberty*—J. M. Hart, W. F. Dorris.
- Mt. Vernon*—W. H. Pasley, F. G. Bozman, J. B. Wise, S. A.
Stearns, Lon Slaughter.
- Mt. Zion*—P. C. Barton, Dr. J. H. Kitchens, Jr., D. D. Morse, Sister
W. A. Maywood.
- Pine Bluff*—J. H. Donham, H. P. Haley, E. J. Rushing, Joshua
Halbert, W. B. McCool.
- Russel*—W. V. Walls.
- Red River*—J. J. Haynes, J. P. Copeland, I. F. Welch, J. P. Bour-
land, J. W. Conger.
- Rocky Bayou*—Eld. W. M. Duren, J. E. Felts.
- Spring River*—G. W. Williams.
- Trace Ridge*—John Kimbell.
- White River Valley*—A. A. Andrus.
- Salem*—R. F. Russell.
- Saline*—M. P. Thomas.
- Southwestern*—C. Wardlaw.

CHURCHES.

- Arkadelphia*—E. B. Miller, Prof. J. C. C. Dunford, H. J. P. Hearn.
- Antioch*—G. W. McCarty, J. N. Durrett.
- Beebe*—M. T. Webb, R. E. Sutton, Mrs. R. C. Walker.
- Brinkley*—J. A. Smith, Laura Lipsey.
- Berryville*—J. B. Swanner, S. W. McClure.
- Bethlehem*—Lee Mead.
- Corinth*—P. H. Jett.
- Conway*—W. B. Peeples, J. L. Randell, L. E. Beard.
- Coal Hill*—H. J. Smith.
- Cabot*—Sisters W. M. Patton, Mabel Patton, Eva Bowers.
- Salem*—Geo. F. Rowe.
- DeRoche*—O. C. Miller, J. M. Caldwell, I. H. Phillips.
- Dardanelle*—A. H. Autry, J. A. Jackson, J. W. Lancaster.
- Eureka Springs*—Eld. H. Beauchamp.
- Friendship*—C. Wardlaw, G. S. Provence.
- Fair Play*—W. R. Johnson.
- Fort Smith, First*—John Ayers.
- Grape Vine*—J. W. Lybrand, J. W. Worthington, U. W. Poss.
- Hope Well*—W. A. Freeman.
- Hickory Grove*—W. J. Harden, W. R. Thornton, John Efir.

- Hope*—T. C. Swafford, J. H. Black, T. N. Battle.
Hot Springs—E. C. Ellis, J. W. McDonald, W. A. Jarrell.
Harvey Chapel—Jeff Huddleston, Joseph Phillips.
Immanuel—Frank White.
Judsonia—J. S. Thomas, Rev. E. C. Lile.
Jonesboro, First—J. L. Pace, Sisters Kate Pace, Eltha Kitchens.
Judsonia, First—R. J. Winn.
Knoxville—W. S. Jett.
Lonoke—W. H. Eagle, Miss Alice Monroe, Miss May Monroe.
Little Rock, First—W. E. Stevens, W. A. Clark, W. E. Atkinson.
Little Rock, Second—A. W. Files, Dr. W. H. Buckley, Jas. P. Eagle.
Liberty—S. R. Cobb, W. A. Davenport, A. Y. Cobb.
Monticello—W. W. Gardener, L. E. Morgan, Z. T. Wood.
Malvern—J. H. Howard, R. C. Rhoden.
Morrilton—G. C. Taylor, Mrs. W. T. Box, Miss Jennie Box.
Magazine—F. P. Turner, Mrs. Florence Powell, Mrs. S. P. Turner.
Mountain Home—J. W. Hiatt.
Mine Creek—J. H. Grumbles, A. M. McClary, D. B. Sain.
Marianna—G. W. Slaughter, N. J. Williams, Sophia Vaulkna.
Magnet Cove—J. W. Power, G. W. Pearson, L. J. Curl.
New Lewisville—W. A. Forbes, Mary Forbes.
New Edinburgh—J. W. Haskins, T. W. Mosley, A. Franklin.
Paragould—J. H. Peay.
Preston—C. H. Cheek.
Poplar Grove—J. B. Hodges and wife and O. W. Lambert.
Philadelphia, Craighead Co.—A. Pagon.
Promise Land—R. T. Mosley.
Prescott—A. G. McManaway, J. W. Adams.
Piney Grove—W. P. Allen.
Pine Bluff—H. C. Fox, S. H. Campbell, A. Perdue.
Rayborn—J. W. Cox.
Salem—B. B. Hawkins.
Star City—A. B. Little.
Sulphur Springs—J. A. Williams.
Sweet Home—Chas. A. Cullum, Jr.
Van Buren—M. O. Kellar.
Wilton—C. M. Powell.
Waldo—J. F. McClung.
Warren—C. C. Ganaway, H. A. Munn, W. F. Mack.
Central Committee—Mrs. J. P. Eagle, Mrs. E. Longley, Mrs. C. R. Schear, Mrs. C. B. Davidson.

Ordered that the report be accepted as correct, and the committee authorized to report further as they may

see fit. By unanimous consent the Secretary was ordered to cast the ballot of the Convention for James P. Eagle for President. Brother Eagle returned thanks and assumed the duties of the chair.

On motion Brother E. B. Miller was directed to cast the ballot of the Convention for John G. B. Simms for Secretary, which was done, and he was declared elected. Recess. Prayer by Brother Paslay.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

After prayer by Elder McManaway, nominations for Vice-President being in order, W. E. Atkinson, J. M. Hart, were nominated and the Secretary was ordered to cast the ballot of the Convention for them as such, which was done, and they were declared duly elected as such. J. H. Peay was nominated for and duly elected Assistant Secretary. W. A. Clark was elected Treasurer.

A. G. McManaway offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That a committee of seven be appointed to be known as the Committee on Resolutions, to which shall be referred without previous debate all resolutions offered in the Convention, and whose duty it shall be to report back to the Convention all resolutions so referred, with such charges and recommendations as they may see fit.

On motion of Brother Peay such Committee were named as follows :

A. H. Autrey, O. L. Hailey, T. O. Swafford, H. Beauchamp, P. C. Barton, J. W. Conger, J. G. Doyle.

Brother Thomas offered the Chapel Car Evangel for use of all committees.

Visitors were invited to seats, and following responded:

J. B. Cranfell, Texas; W. P. Harvey, E. C. Dargan, Louisville; S. H. Ford, St. Louis; W. C. Luther, S. A. Hayden, Texas; A. J. Barton,

Richmond; M. D. Early, Texas; Boston W. Smith, Ohio; all making pleasing talks.

Order of business adopted at last session as found on page ten of last year's minutes, adopted as the order for current year.

Miss Hannah Hyatt, representing Baptist Orphans' Home at Monticello, was accorded the privileges of the floor.

Brother E. B. Miller, by invitation of the chair, led in brief devotional exercises.

The chair announced the following

COMMITTEES:

Plans and Recommendations—W. E. Atkinson, W. A. Clark, W. H. Paslay, J. H. Kitchens, F. P. Turner, R. I. Lafferty, P. H. Jett.

Nominations—J. M. Hart, C. W. Strickland, Frank White, J. H. Black, L. E. Beard, R. E. Sutton, John Kimbell.

State Missions—A. W. Files, N. C. Denson, M. G. Webb, J. F. McClung, J. J. Haynes, J. M. Caldwell, J. H. Phillips.

Publications—W. B. Peeples, A. A. Andrus, L. Quinn, I. Z. Kimbrough, J. A. Jackson, W. R. Thornton, J. H. Grumbles.

Home Missions—A. G. McManaway, D. E. Gambrell, Z. T. Wood, J. D. Rodgers, J. S. Wood, H. A. Munn, John E. E. E. E.

Foreign Missions—E. B. Miller, W. E. Stevens, G. C. Taylor, J. B. Swanner, J. H. Donham, J. P. Henry, C. H. Cheek.

Sunday Schools—J. S. Thomas, S. W. McClure, O. C. Miller, C. C. Ganaway, I. F. Welch, H. J. Smith, D. W. Lambert.

Total Abstinence and Prohibition—W. B. Walls, W. A. Freeman, W. H. Buckley, W. L. Daniel, J. T. Pace, W. M. Duren, W. R. Johnson.

Obituaries—H. C. Fox, G. W. Williams, J. A. Smith, W. I. Hardin, W. F. Mack, A. Pagon, A. M. Craig.

Education—E. C. Faulkner, J. C. C. Dunsford, W. A. Forbes, J. W. Hiett, H. H. Street, W. F. Davis, J. A. Williams.

Orphans' Home—W. W. Gardner, F. Bozeman, B. B. Hawkins, John Ayers, J. B. Rogers, J. B. Wise, R. D. Wilson.

Finance—Lon Slaughter, W. S. Jett, I. W. Lybrand, W. H. Eagle, G. W. McCarthy.

Devotional Exercises—Pastors and Delegates of this Church.

Following was offered by Brother Stevens:

Resolved, That the sessions of the conventions shall begin at 9 o'clock a. m., adjourn at 12 m., meet at 2 p. m., adjourn at 5 p. m., meet at 7:30 p. m., adjourn at will.

A communication was read from the students at S. B. T. Seminary, sending Christian greetings.

Brother Hart in the chair. On motion adjourned.
Prayer by Brother Early.

EVENING SESSION.

The president called the body together, after singing and prayer, when the convention sermon was preached by Elder A. H. Autry from 2 Kings, 2d chap. 6th verse.

The report of the Board of Ministerial Education was then read, by consent, and after discussion of same, was adopted as follows:

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

AT OUACHITA COLLEGE.

Brethren of the Convention:

Your Board of Ministerial Education are gratified to be able to report a most successful session. Twenty-four ministerial students were in college last year; and of these, eighteen received financial aid. They were a fine body of men, and all stood high in class work.

Bible study has been made a regular department in the college curriculum, and many preachers and others are enjoying the benefits of instructions in the scriptures. Dr. A. G. McManaway is at the head of this department.

BRIEF FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Received from all sources.....	\$1,115 76
Paid out to beneficiaries.....	1,098 33
Cash on hand June 1, 1896.....	17 43
Scholastic benefits.....	1,200 00
Total for Ministerial Education.....	<u>\$2,315 76</u>

The present session opened with twenty students for the ministry. Twelve to fifteen must receive material aid in order to prosecute their studies at college. There will be required for this object not less than \$1,250.

Our resources are the Lord and His people, and upon these we have relied; and so doing, we have never failed. We earnestly request that the subject of Ministerial Education be discussed and collections be taken at all the meetings of district associations for our young preachers at Ouachita. We are pleased to note that our pastors throughout the state are willing, at any time, to render good service in this matter.

We earnestly pray this convention for a collection in cash and pledges for our needy young ministers. E. B. MILLER, *Chairman*.

Pending consideration of same the following pledges were taken for the aid of young ministers :

Fort Smith Church.....	\$ 100 00
Arkadelphia Church	100 00
Dr. Jelks (Hot Springs).....	100 00
Gov. and Mrs. Eagle.....	100 00
Bartholomew Association.....	50 00
Hot Springs Church.....	50 00
Liberty Association	50 00
Mt. Vernon Association.....	100 00
Lonoke Church (W. H. Eagle).....	50 00
Ladies' Aid Society (Pine Bluff).....	25 00
Pine Bluff Church.....	25 00
W. A. Forbes	50 00
Monticello Church (Gardner) \$5.00 paid.....	25 00
First Church, Little Rock.....	25 00
Bro. H. T. Munger, Judsonia, for self and school.....	10 00
J. H. Black (Hope).....	10 00
J. G. B. Simms.....	10 00
R. D. Wilson, Fordyce.....	15 00
H. Beauchamp, Eureka.....	5 00
C. W. Strickland, Nashville.....	5 00
L. A. S., Hope Church (Swofford).....	5 00
Giles C. Taylor.....	5 00
Paragould Church (Peay).....	10 00
J. H. Peay.....	5 00
Pat Henry (Hamburg).	5 00
Judsonia Church	5 00
L. M. S., Searcy.....	5 00
L. A. S., Marianna.....	5 00
Trace Ridge Association (John Kimball), Marshall....	10 00
L. A. S., Hot Springs.....	5 00
Forrest City, (Bozeman).....	10 00
L. Bozeman	5 00

Corinth Church, Saline Association.....	\$....
G. H. Rowe, Hot Springs.....	5 00
Forrest City B. Y. P. U.....	5 00
Pine Bluff Y. P. U., F. H. Campbell.....	5 00
B. Y. P. U., Judsonia.....	5 00
Salem Church (Hawkins), Mt. Holly.....	5 00
Willing Workers, Pine Bluff, (F. H. Campbell).....	5 00
Promise Land Church, (R. A. Wallace), Hamburg	5 00
Hot Springs Sunday School (Dr. Ellis).....	5 00
A. H. Autry (for Dardanelle)	25 00
Cash.....	25 95
A. J. Barton.....	5 00
Total.....	<u>\$1,075 95</u>

Rev. E. E. Falk, of Nashville, ordered enrolled as visiting brother. Adjourned. Prayer by Brother Gambrell.

SATURDAY'S SESSION.

Called to order by the President. Opening prayer by W. P. Harvey. Minutes of yesterday read and adopted. Consideration of claims of S. B. T. Seminary was made special order for 11 o'clock.

✓ J. H. Peay then offered a resolution relating to the Whitsitt matter, which was referred to Committee on Resolutions.

✓ Another resolution on same subject was offered by E. B. Miller, which was also referred to same committee.

Devotional exercises were held for a short time, led by M. D. Early.

Report of Committee on Orphans' Home made special order for to-night at 7:30 under suspension of rules, and ordered that the report on Home Missions follow same immediately.

✓ A communication in Secretary's hands from H. Price, President American Anti-Saloon League of Wash-

ngton, D. C., was referred without reading to the Committee on Prohibition.

W. E. Atkinson presented and the clerk read the report of Committee on Plans and Recommendations, as follows :

PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. *Resolved*, That the State Mission Board be authorized to adopt such methods, and employ such agencies in the general management of its mission work, as it may deem best.

2. *Resolved further*, That the State Board co-operate with each association in their method of mission work as far as they think best, and that the State Board endeavor, through each of its associational members, to keep in touch with the pastors and churches of each association, and in this way keep constant and systematic work in progress.

3. *Resolved further*, That each association in our bounds be and is hereby urgently requested to select some suitable place and build a camp ground, with a suitable tabernacle, and hold a regular camp meeting at least once each year, and that the Board of State Missions and each employee thereof be instructed to press this suggestion for adoption and practice.

4. *Resolved further*, That this convention appoint a separate board for the prosecution of Sunday School colportage work.

5. *Resolved further*, That no member of the State Board shall apply for an appointment under the board.

6. *Resolved further*, That the question of the continuance of the Chapel Car, be left to the discretion of the board.

7. *Resolved further*, That each association be requested to pay the expenses of its member of the board in attending the State Board meetings.

8. *Resolved further*, That, if practicable, the board organize a system of evangelistic work by the pastors in the State.

9. *Resolved further*, That the convention request that our State paper publish these resolutions, give them a conspicuous place therein one issue in each month.

W. E. ATKINSON, *Chairman*.

It was considered *seriatim* and adopted.

J. W. Conger read the report of the Committee on Resolutions, and submitted a series of resolutions on the Whitsitt matter, in lieu of the resolutions referred to them on that subject, as follows:

Whereas, Dr. W. H. Whitsitt, president of the S. B. T. Seminary, Louisville, Ky., and professor of Church History in said institution, has given utterance in the New York *Independent*, (an undenominational paper, unfriendly to Baptists) in Johnson's Cyclopaedia and finally in a book, which he has recently published, to teachings contrary to sound Baptist views. And,

2. *Whereas*, The method of advocating such teachings seems to us to violate the fundamental principles of ethics; and

3. *Whereas*, These things have served to alienate sympathy and support from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Therefore be it resolved,

First, That while we love the Seminary, we not only deplore, but repudiate such teaching and method, and

Second, That we appeal to the Board of Trustees, with earnest solicitude, having confidence in their fidelity to Baptist teaching and interests to remove the existing difficulties or secure Dr. Whitsitt's resignation or removal.

A. H. AUTRY, *Chairman*.

O. L. HAILEY,

J. W. CONGER,

P. C. BARTON,

T. C. SWOFFORD,

J. G. DOYLE.

Which were accepted in lieu of the original resolutions, and the previous question being called for and sustained, the question was put, and the resolutions adopted.

The State Board made its report through W. A. Clark, and on motion, it was ordered printed in the minutes, as follows:

REPORT OF STATE BOARD.

Dear Brethren:

That you may know of the work performed and the expenses attached, we submit a tabulation of the reports of the twenty men who have been in your employ during a part, or all of the convention year. (See Appendix.) Of these, the following have been associational missionaries:

J. P. Henry, Bartholomew Association.....	52 weeks
J. S. Spires, Benton County Association.....	45 weeks
J. W. Marchant, Rocky Bayou Association.....	26 weeks
C. B. Hunton, Mt. Zion Association.....	20 weeks

Brother Doyle has spent the entire year with the Chapel Car and your secretary has at frequent sacrifice of his business affairs visited mission points and places likely to apply for help.

Of local mission churches, we have aided thirteen. At South Hot Springs, Brother McDonald gave up the work after four months of toil and with the conviction that the appropriations should be discontinued. Brother Berry remained but a month at Harrison and accomplished nothing. At Argenta, L. S. Pine resigned at the end of six months, and W. A. Tippet began August 9th. This mission is flourishing. Brother Medaris resigned at Van Buren at the close of six months service, and after several weeks without a pastor, Brother Kellar was called and began his labors October 1st. Some progress has been made. At Mammoth Spring the church was the victim of an imposter and lost several months in consequence, but Brother Mayfield is trustworthy and doing good work. The field is hard, yet deserves help and the patience of the helpers. Sherrill failed in getting the brother to whom the appropriation was first made and in the meantime their house burned down. Brother Fletcher has served them since April 1, and is doing solid work. Brother Walls has resigned at Clarksville, but the little band struggles nobly on. At Berryville, the church debt has so worried the brethren and pastor, that little else has been attempted than paying for their house. At Junction City, Siloam Springs and Salem the work has been uninterrupted and steady growth has resulted. The work of Brother Andrus has been that of a traveling missionary, largely; though he has made special points of Tupelo and Cotton Plant. He reports progress at the latter and recommends that Tupelo be dropped from the roll unless they do more to help themselves. When we consider the fact that this has been a year of drought as to season, and deluge as to politics, our work has been a success.

Bibles and Testaments.—Our Secretary applied to the A. B. P. Society for a donation of Bibles and Testaments and was refused—some party in our State having advised them otherwise.

Our applications to the Southern Sunday School Board brought one hundred Bibles and one hundred Testaments. Of these, fifty-five Testaments have been issued for distribution and also thirty Bibles; leaving on hand, forty-five Testaments and seventy Bibles.

In amount of work done, the visible results in additions to the churches and in contributions to the work, compare favorably with the results of past years. The change of plan has not been proven a mistake, as the Treasurer's report will show.

Respectfully submitted,

A. W. FILES.

39340

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OUACHITA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

The report of the Statistical Secretary was presented and adopted as found in the appendix hereto. (See appendix.)

The report of Committee on Foreign Missions made special order for 3 p. m. this day.

Dr. E. C. Dargan was invited to address the Convention at 9 o'clock to-night.

The Committee on Sunday Schools, through J. S. Thomas, submitted its report, as follows :

There is a great demand for Sunday School work, as witnessed by the fact that we have only 293 reported schools in the State. This shows that only about one-fourth of our Churches have schools, and less than one-sixth of our people attend these schools, therefore, we recommend :

1. That this Convention, through its Board, co-operate with the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention and encourage any work it may undertake in the State under its present methods and plans of operation.

2. That this Convention refer to the State Sunday School Board the question of co-operation with and encouragement of the Sunday School Mission and colportage work of the A. B. P. Society.

J. S. THOMAS,
S. W. McCLURE,
I. F. WELCH,
O. W. LAMBERT,
O. L. HAILEY.

It was read, and pending consideration of same, an adjournment was had until 2 p. m. Prayer by E. E. Falk.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Prayer by Brother Barton. The report of Committee on Sunday Schools being the unfinished business, the question was put and the report having been amended, was adopted.

Ordered that Brother E. E. Falk be invited to speak at 4 o'clock on the work of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The Committee on Total Abstinence and Prohibition reported, and the report was amended and recommitted for further action.

The report of Committee on Publication was made, and being read by the Secretary, was discussed and adopted as follows:

REPORT OF PUBLICATIONS.

The press is perhaps the most potent agency of the times for good or evil. It does more to mould public opinion and shape the policies of parties and denominations than all other means combined employed for these ends. In fact, success in any public enterprise based on the co-orporation of the masses is impossible without a strong representative organ through which the principles and policies of the movement are kept before the people.

Hence it is clear that the work of this Convention cannot attain the highest success unless we maintain a strong aggressive paper that clearly and constantly keeps our principles and policies before the people. It is the sense of this Committee that our State paper, the Arkansas Baptist, does not fully meet the demands of our great and important work. Our editor doubtless feels the same way. The paper ought to be in the truest sense the leader of our people in every great work, and the exponent of the best thought in the denomination.

Arkansas Baptists need and are able to support as good a paper as the brethren of any other State, and why should they not have it? Surely a work of such magnitude and importance as is ours should have the full time of a strong man in the editorial rooms. It may be that the support given the paper would not justify this. But it is the sense of your committee that the best way to enlarge the subscription list is to improve the paper, and we believe with this improvement the needed support will be given.

We, your committee, would therefore recommend that the convention urge our editor to give more attention to editorial work, and to the securing of a corps of able and representative contributors.

We would further recommend that the convention urge our people to rally to the support of the paper, and render such assistance as will justify the editor in this forward step.

As the representatives of our colleges we recommend *Ouachita Ripples* and *Central College Magazine*. ✓

To those who wish additional papers we cordially recommend the

Foreign Mission Journal and the Sunday school literature of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Respectfully submitted,

W. B. PEEPLES, *Chairman.*

A telegram from Brother Joseph A. Booker was read, and ordered noted of record.

The Committee on Foreign Missions, as a special order, reported as follows:

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

We are aware, that the separation of missionary effort, into the customary divisions, called Foreign and Home Missions, often causes a misapprehension in the minds of many as to the true relation that these branches of work bear to one another. It is to this misapprehension, at least in part, that we look for the cause of such remarks as "Let us first attend to the heathen at our door," "Charity begins at home," "I do not believe in foreign missions," etc.

In principle there can be no difference. Missionary work is a unit. Your brother in China, India and Africa, has not one whit less claim on you than your brother in Kentucky, Texas and Arkansas. The true spirit of Christian effort knows no national boundary, no dividing line, no racial distinction. "One is your Master even Christ, and ye are brethren." Any division made is necessarily an arbitrary one and made solely on the ground of expediency, and for the saving of time, money and energy.

Brethren, we speak for your brother across the sea, but none the less your brother, because of any geographical difference. Keep this thought in mind when you consider this question.

Never so plain as today has been the fact that Almighty God has opened a door that no man may shut. Barriers, seemingly insurmountable, have been broken down most wondrously in China, Japan, Mexico and South America. Men have been raised up and trained for certain specific branches of work in ways almost miraculous. Prayers which would seem to stretch the faith of the most trustful have been answered. It is the hand of God in missions. Brethren, the Lord has opened the way—the fields are white and ready for the harvest. The cry comes, oh! so pitifully, from many a field, "Send us the light!" "Send us the light!" Men and women are rising up every day and saying, "Here am I; send me." Some of the best men, who have served on foreign fields, who are now in this country, have besought

the board to send them back. Our board cannot answer these prayers nor send these volunteers, because of a lack of funds.

Our board relying on our support, and that of other Southern Baptists—a reliance perfectly justifiable, has pushed the work to its utmost ability. They find, resting over them like a dark and threatening cloud, a debt of about \$40,000. Oh, Baptists! where is our loyalty? Loyalty to the Master, to principle, and these our brethren. It requires nearly \$11,500 a month to carry on this work, a ridiculously small sum, when you consider the strength, numerical and financial, of Southern Baptists. The board asks but for \$140,000 this year from the entire constituency of the Southern Baptist Convention. All that is asked of Arkansas is \$2,200. Seventy thousand Baptists in the State; not quite four cents apiece. Who can be excused from contributing at least four cents a year to the cause of Jesus Christ in foreign lands? We leave the answer with you. We believe that many of our brethren could and ought to give \$100 a piece to this work.

Let last year's success speak for itself—86 missionaries at work, 110 native helpers, 98 churches, 735 baptisms, 3,801 members, and yet some say, "nothing is being done, it is'nt worth while."

Brother A. J. Barton, formerly of our own State, has been appointed as assistant corresponding secretary—a fact that increases our obligation in many ways.

Your committee recommends a thorough course of education on missions, on the part of each pastor, both for himself and the flock under his care. Also we urge and recommend the inauguration of a well defined plan of systematic giving in every church and association.

The pastors are urged to take the *Foreign Mission Journal*, and to push its circulation. It is the organ of the Board.

We, as a convention, wish to assure our brethren of the Foreign Mission Board, of our entire confidence in them, and also to pledge to them our earnest and prayerful support.

E. B. MILLER,
W. E. STEVENS,
GILES C. TAYLOR,
J. P. DUNHAM,
J. SWANNER,
W. CHEEK.

The report was discussed by Brother Barton, Assistant Secretary Foreign Mission Board, and adopted.

Brother E. E. Falk then addressed the Convention in the interests of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

At 4:30 the Convention adjourned to accept an invitation from the management of the street railway to take a ride over the city on its cars.

Prayer by O. L. Hailey.

EVENING SESSION.

Prayer by Brother Wood.

Brother Falk, by invitation of the chair, then concluded his remarks, which had been interrupted before recess.

Brother Gardner presented the report of the Committee on the Arkansas Baptist Orphans' Home, coupled with a report of the Executive Board and Treasurer of same, which is given below, as follows:

THE SECRETARY'S FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ARKANSAS BAPTIST ORPHANS HOME.

At the first meeting after the State Baptist Convention of 1895, the elected Board of Directors met and went into a permanent organization, which resulted as follows:

Brother W. W. Gardner was elected President; R. F. Hyatt, Treasurer; D. T. Hyatt, Secretary, and Miss Hannah Hyatt, Matron or Manager.

A committee was appointed to draft Constitution and By-laws for the government of said Home, which was reported and adopted by said Board of Directors.

The building that was in process of construction at the last meeting of the State Convention at Monticello, has been completed, except the painting of the wood work. We have no out houses erected yet; no garden or lots or fencing around the house. We progress with the work as the money is collected; and have not gone in debt nor do we expect to. It will require some \$300 to build out houses, such as barns, stables, etc., and to do the necessary fencing, before we can begin to be self-sustaining to any extent whatever. We have four orphans in the Home and six or eight other applications for admission. The children are being taught by the Matron at the Home, and attend Sunday School and preaching every Sunday.

The people of Monticello have a kind and charitable feeling towards the Home. There are several Churches and Ladies' Aid Socie-

ties who have very kindly responded to the call for aid of the orphans. God bless the ladies. And with the Master's aid and guidance and a liberal contribution annually from the Churches, the Arkansas Baptist Orphans' Home will be a success. Brethren, pray for the Home.

Respectfully submitted,

D. T. HYATT,

Secretary of the Arkansas Baptist Orphans' Home.

In addition to the report of the Secretary, we make several recommendations. We recommend:

1. That an immediate cash collection be taken for our Orphans' Home.
2. That you as pastors and delegates go home and take as many collections during the year for the Orphans' Home as you may think best.
3. That you agitate the interest of the Home at your Associations and district meetings and when it is wise take a collection for it.
4. That every Church be urged to pray for and give to the Orphans' Home.

W. W. GARDNER,
R. D. WILSON,
FRANCIS BOZEMAN,
B. B. HAWKINS.

TREASURER'S REPORT ARKANSAS BAPTIST ORPHANS'
HOME TO NOVEMBER 10, 1896.

RECEIPTS.

Amount received by former Treasurer	\$ 784 01
Amount received by present Treasurer	1,120 74
Total receipts.....	<u>\$1,904 75</u>

CREDITS.

Amount paid out by former Treasurer on material and buildings	\$ 413 08
Amount paid out by present Treasurer on material and building	1,504 34
Total credits.....	<u>\$1,917 42</u>
Amount due Treasurer to balance	\$ 12 67
	<u>\$1,904 75</u>

Respectfully Submitted,

R. F. HYATT, *Treasurer.*

Pending consideration of the report a collection was taken in pledges and cash, as follows, payable by March 1, 1897:

W. A. Freeman, Portland.....	\$ 25 00
W. H. Pasley (before October 15, 1897).....	25 00
Mrs. Dr. Jelks, Hot Springs.....	25 00
Judson Association, per R. D. Wilson	25 00
J. P. Henry, Hamburg.....	25 00
First Church, Pine Bluff, C. F. J. Tate.....	25 00
Columbia Association, J. F. McClung.....	25 00
Baptist Church at Waldo.....	5 00
Ladies' Aid Society, Waldo.....	5 00
Mrs. J. F. McClung.....	10 00
Southwestern Association, Wardlaw, Chapel Hill.....	25 00
Ladies' Aid Society, Mt. Home Church, J. W. Hiatt.....	5 00
Mt. Home Church, J. W. Hiatt.....	5 00
Independence Association, J. L. Brown.....	25 00
Ladies' Aid Society, Second Church, Little Rock	10 00
C. W. Strickland.....	15 00
Ladies' Aid Society, Conway.....	10 00
Miss Jennie Box.....	5 00
W. H. Eagle.....	25 00
Ladies' Aid Society, Plummerville.....	5 00
Hot Springs Church, Dr. Ellis.....	10 00
The Arkansas Baptist.....	10 00
Miss Josie Lile.....	5 00
Judsonia Church, E. C. Lile.....	10 00
Mrs. Munger.....	25 00
Gov. and Mrs. Eagle.....	10 00
Rison Church.....	10 00
Camden Church.....	15 00
J. J. Haynes.....	25 00
Saline Association, Drs. Ellis and McDonald.....	25 00
Corinth Church.....	5 00
Antioch Church, Little Rock.....	10 00
Reno Church.....	5 00
Spring River Association, B. W. Williams.....	2 50
A. B. Little.....	5 00
Ladies' Aid Society, H. S., Dr. Ellis, quilts, clothing.....
Red River Association, I. F. Welch, Dr. J. P. Bourland..	10 00
Lon Slaughter (paid).....	5 00
Cash.....	18 35
W. P. Kime.....	1 00
Mrs. Julia Younger (paid).....	10 00
Total.....	\$541 85

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported the following services for tomorrow:

Central Methodist—Morning, Revs. Tate and Giles Taylor; evening, Revs. Faulkner and Beachamp.

Presbyterian—Morning, Revs. Hayden and Luther; evening, Revs. Dargan and Miller.

South Hot Springs, Methodist—Morning, Revs. Falk and Wall; evening, Revs. Peay and Andrus.

Christian—Morning, Revs. Barton and Quinn; evening, Revs. Munn and Baars.

Glenn Street, Methodist—Morning, Revs. Bozeman and Swofford; evening, Revs. Giles Taylor and Dorris.

First Baptist—Morning, Rev. Freeman; evening, Rev. Stevens; 3 p. m., Bible meeting, led by Rev. Luther.

First Methodist—Morning, Revs. Harvey and Kellar; evening, Revs. McManaway and Lile.

Malvern Hill, Methodist—Morning, Revs. Hart and Davis; evening, Revs. Hailey and Clark.

Sunday School mass meeting at Central Methodist Church at 9:45 in the morning.

The report on Home Missions was read by A. G. McManaway, and after having been discussed, was adopted as follows:

HOME MISSIONS.

There is no more important work before our denomination than the one in charge of the Home Mission Board. The population of the States in which Baptists are weakest is being rapidly increased by foreign immigration, and all can see the necessity for making an effort to Christianize these people immediately after their arrival. Not only in our own country, but also in Cuba, do the interests of our denominational work demand attention at the hands of this board. Increased appropriations and renewed activity will be required on that unhappy island as soon as the clouds of war are dissipated from her stormy sky.

We desire to express to the Home Board our appreciation of the liberal aid extended in the past to the Baptists of Arkansas, and we hereby pledge to that board increasing contributions for the future.

A. G. MCMANAWAY,
J. S. WOOD,
H. A. MUNN,
J. W. EFIRD,
D. E. GAMBRELL,
Committee.

Brother E. C. Dargan, of S. B. T. Seminary, addressed the Convention, concerning the Seminary.

The Committee on Nominations reported as follows:

We, your Committee on Nominations, beg to submit this, our report, with the following recommendations: As to the location of the next Convention, Pine Bluff. Brother O. L. Hailey, of Fort Smith, to preach the Convention sermon, with Brother Dorris, of Camden, as alternate.

We recommend the following Brethren as members at large of the State Executive Board: J. P. Eagle, A. W. Files, Frank White, W. E. Atkinson, of Little Rock; B. C. Black, Searcy; J. N. Hartley, El Dorado; J. H. Grumbles, Nashville; M. T. Webb, Beebe; A. G. McManaway, Arkadelphia; H. C. Fox, Pine Bluff; Dr. J. T. Kitchens, Jonesboro; Dr. J. C. Jelks, Hot Springs; C. W. Walker, Fayetteville.

The following Associations having elected the brethren, as mentioned below, they are also recommended as members of the board:

ASSOCIATIONAL NOMINATIONS.

- Rocky Bayou—W. M. Duren.
- Current River—O. H. Cunningham.
- Trace Ridge—John Kimbell, Marshall.
- Little Red River—W. A. Crutchfield.
- Mt. Zion—P. C. Barton.
- Bartholomew—N. C. Denson.
- Red River—J. J. Haynes.
- Concord—O. L. Hailey.
- State Line—E. T. Lincoln.
- Caroline—J. S. Thomas.
- Union—J. H. Black.
- Greenbriar—J. G. B. Simms.
- Southwestern—M. M. Cochran.
- Columbia—H. E. Harris.
- Friendship—D. E. Gambrell.
- Buckville—S. D. Taylor.
- White River Valley—Dr. A. D. Holland, Newport, Jackson county.
- Fayetteville—I. Z. Kimbrough.
- Pine Bluff—W. C. C. Dorrrough.
- Liberty—J. M. Hart.
- Judson—W. L. Daniel.
- Spring River—R. P. Baine.
- Saline—W. A. Clark.
- Mt. Vernon—W. H. Paslay.
- Howard County—C. W. Strickland.

We further recommend Prof. J. W. Conger, J. G. Lile, J. W. Howell, S. H. Allen and M. Shelby Kennard as delegates to the American Baptist Educational Society.

Possible Trustees of Central College for the ensuing year: J. G. B. Simms, Giles C. Taylor, W. T. Box, W. H. Paslay and F. P. Turner.

Trustees for the Baptist Orphans' Home: R. D. Wilson, Hogan Allen and W. W. Gardner.

Board of Ministerial Education: J. W. Conger, W. A. Forbes, F. D. Baars, A. G. McManaway, J. J. Haynes, H. J. C. Horne and E. B. Miller.

We further recommend as delegates to the Southern Baptist Convention, the following brethren: W. F. Mack, W. E. Atkinson, J. H. Peay, W. T. Box, J. T. Kirby, A. G. McManaway, Harvey Beauchamp, E. B. Miller, C. W. Strickland, W. A. Jarrell, E. C. Faulkner, Brother Francis Bozeman, J. G. Doyle, E. J. A. McKinney, A. W. Files, W. E. Stevens.

We further recommend that the State Sunday School Board be located at Fort Smith, and O. L. Hailey, John Ayres, P. A. Ball, of Fort Smith; Harvey Beauchamp, Eureka Springs; J. G. Jackson, Dardanelle; R. A. Clarkson, Geo. T. Williams, J. C. Stalcup, R. A. Rowe, constitute said Board.

As members of the Central Committee of the Ladies' Aid Society: Mrs. J. P. Eagle, Mrs. E. Longley, Mrs. Charles Davidson, Mrs. C. R. Schaer, Mrs. J. L. Hawkins, Mrs. Fannie Neelly and Mrs. Carroll D. Wood. All of which we respectfully submit.

Signed by THE COMMITTEE.

Which was amended and adopted.

Brother W. L. Munger, bearing fraternal greetings from the Baptists of Michigan, was introduced and spoke pleasantly.

Adjourned until Monday morning. Prayer by Brother Swafford.

MONDAY'S SESSION.

The Convention was called to order by the President. After song and prayer, by Brother McManaway, the minutes of Saturday were read and adopted.

The Committee on Credentials made an additional report, as follows:

- Junction City Church*—E. J. A. McKinney, J. Q. Hardison.
Red River Association—W. J. Walls.
Current River Association—Elder O. H. L. Cunningham.
Russellville Church—W. V. Walls.
Halty Springs Church (Mt. Pisgah Association)—Elder J. A. Pate.
Independence Association—J. L. Brown.
Promise Land Church—R. E. Wallace and S. W. Wallace.
State Line Association—E. T. Lincoln.
Searcy—E. C. Faulkner and Henry Patterson.
Harvey's Chapel (Little Red River Association)—W. A. Crutchfield.
Sugar Loaf Springs Church—L. F. Taylor.
Centreville Church (Spring River Association)—F. E. Winfrer.
Atkins Church—W. T. Box.
Forrest City Church—Francis Bozeman.
New Marble Church—C. T. Glum.
Augusta Church—F. D. Baars.
Greenwood Church—R. A. Rowe.

W. A. Clark, Historical Secretary, read a report, which was ordered printed:

BAPTIST HISTORY.

During the year I have diligently sought for an authentic record of Baptist beginnings in Arkansas. While material has accumulated, it is too fragmentary as yet, to make any definite statements, farther than Arkansas Baptists have never practiced sprinkling, neither was "immersion invented" in this State. It was imported as early as 1818. Elder George Gill, a missionary Baptist from Tennessee, in that year preached to a few families who had settled on Miller's Creek, about twelve miles northeast of Batesville. I have the evidence that a Baptist Church was worshipping at Vancel's School-house, in the Miller Creek settlement, as early as 1829, and that Elder Gill was its pastor. It is now Rehobeth Church. In 1833 Elder David Orr and Elder John Woodrum, from Illinois, assisted by Elder John Gardner, organized the Reed's Creek Church, afterward known as Bold Spring Church. On the 4th of July, 1824, a Baptist Church was organized in Little Rock; but in 1830 it adopted the Campbellite confession, only two or three members dissenting. In 1836 another Baptist organization was effected and the Capitol has had a Baptist organization ever since. Between 1834 and 1836 the Baptist banner was planted in territory now within Phillips, Clark, Saline, Washington and Clay counties.

The oldest Association in Arkansas, now in existence, is Saline, in whose borders this Convention is now sitting. It was organized in

a grove near Benton in 1839. But there was a Spring River Association four or five years earlier, and Rocky Bayou Association is its lineal descendant, it having been organized in 1842.

Until 1840 there were but few Baptists south of the Arkansas river, but they were active and were the first to agitate the question of a State Convention, and in 1847 at Mountain Spring Church, in Dallas county, the State Convention was organized. The only survivor of that noble band of pioneers is Elder Robert J. Coleman, of Cabot, and "He is only waiting till the shadows are a little longer grown."

In 1847 the Convention represented less than 4,000 Baptists—it now represents over 69,000. Then there were less than 2,000 in South Arkansas; now there are 32,000 and 33,500 north of the Arkansas river.

All this growth has Brother Coleman witnessed. Who of this company will live until 1947, and what will their eyes behold?

W. A. CLARK, *Historian.*

W. A. Clark then presented the Treasurer's Report, which was ordered printed, as follows:

TREASURER'S REPORT.

RECEIPTS.		DISBURSEMENTS.	
Cash on hand.....	\$ 269 21	J. G. Doyle.....	\$ 700 00
December Receipts	41 18	J. B. Swanner.....	95 83
January ".....	58 30	E. J. A. McKinney	143 75
February ".....	79 90	J. P. Henry.....	80 50
March ".....	161 55	J. M. Berry.....	25 00
April ".....	368 64	J. N. Edmonson	115 00
May ".....	372 83	S. L. Pine.....	60 00
June ".....	26 34	W. A. Tippet.....	32 50
July ".....	27 45	Benton County Asso'n..	100 00
August ".....	85 78	W. V. Walls.....	166 67
September ".....	170 25	J. W. McDonald.....	100 00
October ".....	313 27	R. C. Medaris.....	125 00
November ".....	413 74	M. O. Kellar.....	20 00
		A. A. Andrews.....	125 00
Total	\$2,388 44	W. H. Bowling.....	47 85
		J. W. Marchant.....	50 00
		J. D. Fletcher.....	49 00
		W. H. Mayfield.....	50 00
		C. B. Hunton.....	37 50
		W. A. Clark.....	150 00
		Incidentals.....	23 32
		Total	\$2,296 92
		To balance	91 52
			\$2,388 44
November 16—Cash.....	\$91 52		

Brother Clark presented also a corrected list of our Ministry, which was ordered printed.

Brother Clark then introduced Brother F. Sievers, a German Baptist minister, lately became a resident of the State, who spoke to the body.

Consideration of the needs of Berryville Church was made special order for 11:15 o'clock.

Chapel Car work reported on, and same was referred to the Executive Board.

Brother McManaway read the report of Trustees of Ouachita College, as follows:

DECENNIAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF OUACHITA
COLLEGE.

We are indebted to our fathers for the ideas that underlie the denominational college. Of these there are at least three :

1. The importance of a wholesome religious and Christian atmosphere in which to receive intellectual training. State and secular schools may in some instances furnish such an atmosphere, but they are under no obligations to do so, and cannot in the nature of the case make a deliberate effort in that direction. The denominational school is the only one that can stand for a liberal and thorough scholarship, and at the same time stand for an elevated religious and spiritual tone under which the youth of our land may receive their impressions and aspirations for life. As much importance attaches to this idea now as ever did in the past.

2. The necessity of effort to secure the attendance of those who would never seek the open doors of state and secular schools, but who must be sought at their homes and urged by the tactful canvasser with all the force of personal and persuasive appeal to give up their unwise haste to enter the battle of life unequipped, and to spend a time in needful preparation.

3. The necessity for schools favorable to the preparation of our young men for the ministry. In the great multitude of schools there is no other institution that can discharge this high trust for the Lord's people. Drill and discipline may be found elsewhere, but the congenial atmosphere for the man preparing to preach can be found only in the denominational college. It not only helps to prepare those already decided as to their life work, but also presents lofty ideals to the undecided, and thus leads them in many cases to heed the divine call they might otherwise have resisted. For these reasons, Ouachita was founded, and nobly is she accomplishing her mission.

We are glad to report to you that the current session of the college is one of her most successful. The seventeen able and accomplished teachers now on the ground, of whom seven are males and ten females, will soon be reinforced by a military officer of the government who has been detailed for that purpose, according to the army regulations of the United States. The number of students for the session now bids fair to go beyond 300. In health, harmony, enthusiasm, disposition to work, and good prospects generally, we have all we could reasonably hope for.

Our indebtedness is still a problem to us, and we earnestly ask your assistance in solving it. \$11,000 of that indebtedness is in bonds that will not mature for eighteen years. \$4,200 more of it is due to the Eagle brothers, who have been most generous and liberal to us in waiting patiently our ability to pay. Our most pressing obligation is the Botsford debt, the principal and interest of which amounts to \$6,667, all of which will be due on the fifteenth of next month. We had hoped to sell bonds enough to put all our indebtedness into that form, but the panic has prevented. If you can assist us to raise within a short time \$1,750 to pay on the Botsford debt, and \$100 to pay to Brother Pelt, now due him, we believe we can carry the remaining indebtedness until more prosperous times shall come.

At our annual meeting the old officers of our board were all re-elected, and Rev. John D. Jordan and Judge J. B. Moore were added as members of the board.

We congratulate ourselves and you on the inauguration of a theological department in the college. For this new departure we are indebted to the liberality of the efficient president, J. W. Conger. We hope it will be your pleasure to encourage him to go still further in this direction.

Respectfully submitted,

W. E. ATKINSON, *Chairman.*

A. G. MCMANAWAY, *Secretary.*

And the same was ordered published with the proceedings of this session.

J. G. B. Simms offered the report on Central Baptist College, which was as follows:

To Arkansas Baptist State Convention:

The Trustees of Central Baptist College are glad to report that everything has moved forward in our college work in a manner pleasing alike to us and to the President of the Faculty.

The second story of our building has been filled with boarding pupils, and a number of rooms have been completed in the third story and are now occupied; the large dining room has been brought into

use; the Art department has been removed into a room in the third story especially designed for it, and a large number of casts have been purchased for use of pupils in the department; the Library has found larger and more comfortable quarters, and many needed books have been added; the building has been lighted throughout, as also the campus, by electricity, and a telephone in the building connects us with all important points along the railway.

The faculty was enlarged at the beginning of this session by the addition of two ladies, but it has since been reduced temporarily by the death of Miss M. M. O'Neill, lady principal, which event is to be greatly deplored by the Baptists of Arkansas. A most polished and cultured woman, she exemplified in her daily life every Christian grace. Miss Bettie P. Cleveland now fills the position of lady principal, and has caught hold of the duties with admirable energy, and gives general satisfaction.

The curriculum of studies has been extended. Diplomas were given four young ladies at our last commencement.

We feel to have suffered somewhat in patronage from a lack of sympathy on the part of many good Baptists, owing largely, we believe, to the fact that they have had no opportunity to invest any money in our property. This trouble we wish to obviate by giving just now to all our brethren the privilege of helping us to pay off a small debt on our furniture. This was purchased for the Institution by Brother G. W. Bruce, at a cost of nearly \$2,000, and of this sum there is past due and unpaid about \$600. The title to all the furniture is reserved in the vendors to secure this balance. We have a town lot and a forty-acre tract of land, neither of which can now be sold, worth, say, \$200, which are held in trust to secure part of this amount. We are threatened with immediate legal action unless we raise this money. We ask the Convention to come to our rescue, ally themselves pecuniarily with Central College and save our \$2,000 worth of furniture, thus benefiting us in several ways. Brother Bruce has lost his home and all he has trying to meet these and other obligations, but he is utterly unable to protect this paper.

The class of Trustees composed of Giles C. Taylor, John G. B. Simms and W. T. Box will go out of office in February next. We ask the Convention to name the usual number of possibilities, from among whom we may select their successors.

W. T. BOX, *President.*

JNO. G. B. SIMMS, *Secretary.*

The report having been discussed, was adopted, when a collection was taken in cash and pledges, as follows:

J. W. McDonald (check).....	\$ 10 00
J. H. Peay (in 90 days).....	50 00
W. T. Box	25 00
J. P. Eagle	25 00
Conway Church (Peeples and Simms).....	25 00
G. C. Taylor.....	25 00
E. B. Miller.....	25 00
W. B. Walls	25 00
F. Bozeman, Forrest City	25 00
O. L. Hailey (will try for).....	25 00
Dr. Williams (for Hot Springs Church).....	25 00
Autry (for Dardanelle).....	25 00
Arkansas Baptist.....	25 00
C. J. F. Tate (for Pine Bluff Church).....	25 00
Dr. Williams (individually).....	25 00
J. B. Swanner.....	25 00
Marianna Church (Lon Slaughter—\$10 paid).....	25 00
Little Red River Association (W. J. Walls, Sidon).....	25 00
W. E. Stevens.....	15 00
Board Trustees Orphans' Home.....	10 00
Star City and Bethlehem Churches (Gambrell).....	10 00
Judsonia Church (R. J. Wynn).....	15 00
H. C. Munger.....	5 00
L. F. Landreth Tottie.....	25 00
Immanuel Church (white).....	25 00
W. H. Paslay (paid).....	10 00
Turner.....	5 00
Black (Hope, \$2.50 paid).....	5 00
Corinth Church (Rowe, paid).....	5 00
A. J. Barton (F. M. Board, paid).....	5 00
G. W. Williams (paid).....	2 00
Camden Church	10 00
B. C. Barton	5 00
Hiett (paid, check).....	5 00
Dr. Ellis.....	5 00
W. S. Jett.....	3 00
Total.....	<u>\$660 00</u>

The Berryville Church matter was postponed and made special order for 2:30 o'clock.

Adjourned until 1:30 o'clock. Prayer by Brother Box.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

After the meeting was called to order, prayer was offered by Brother E. B. Miller.

J. W. Hiatt read the report of the Trustees of Mountain Home College, which, after having been discussed, was ordered printed in our minutes:

To the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, Greeting:

The fourth year of Mountain Home Baptist College is now in progress, and the best work in the history of the institution is being done.

Prof. W. S. Johnson, who was president for the first three years, resigned at the close of last year's work. The Board of Trustees then determined to stop the ownership of personal property in the college, and to carry on the work in a different and better way. After much solicitation Elder J. W. Hill was prevailed upon to take charge of the institution as *financial and business manager*, with M. Shelby Kennard, A. M., President, a man who stands without a peer as an educator in the State. Under their management and direction the present session is moving along in perfect peace and harmony.

The faculty consists of nine ladies and gentlemen from the best colleges and universities in the land. We have the best faculty in the history of the institution.

We call attention to the catalogue issued this year, which gives the number and the names of the faculty, the curricula of studies, the number of students enrolled the past year, and many other important facts which may be of interest to all.

The enrollment for the present session is all that could be expected, being equal in number to the preceding years, and in many other respects surpassing them. Six of the present number are ministerial students. Others would come if we were able to render them assistance. The board has received but little aid, and therefore can render but little help. We solicit a share of your contributions for ministerial education.

We have succeeded in raising a subscription sufficient to pay off the \$6,500 debt, and have reduced it to less than \$2,000. Several

brethren are indebted to us on subscription, and now all we ask is that they turn in the amount to us, that settlement may be made.

J. W. Hiatt was elected to the presidency of the Board of Trustees made vacant by the death of Elder Wm. Denton, December 9, 1895.

A deep spiritual atmosphere surrounds us, and several students have already been converted. We ask an interest in the prayers of the brethren of the Convention for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

ELDER J. W. HIATT, *President.*

M. N. DYER, *Secretary.*

The Secretary read the report of the Committee on Total Abstinence and Prohibition, which, after discussion, was adopted, as follows:

Your Committee regards the use of intoxicants as a beverage, as one of the most deplorable sins affecting humanity today, and one of the greatest evils threatening our churches, our homes and our entire social welfare, and is one of Satan's greatest agencies for the destruction of the souls of men; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, Baptists of Arkansas, exert our influence against the use and sale of intoxicants as a beverage, and earnestly recommend that Church members abstain from its use as such, and further, we believe that any member of a Baptist Church, who sells or rents his property for the purpose of carrying on the liquor traffic, or who drinks for beverage purposes intoxicants, or votes for license, is in league with satan and against righteousness and purity and, should be dealt with as for other offenses.

W. V. WALLS,
J. A. PATE,
W. A. FREEMAN,
W. M. DUREN,
W. K. JOHNSON,
W. L. DANIEL,
W. H. BUCKLEY.

Resolution of W. A. Clark, as follows, was adopted, under suspension of rules:

Whereas, The Orphan Homes in other States are greatly aided by the generosity of railroad companies in giving free transportation to donations for these homes; therefore,

Resolved, That the Baptists of Arkansas, in convention assembled, respectfully and urgently request the railroad and express companies operating in Arkansas to issue instructions to their agents to forward such donations to the Baptist Orphans' Home free of charge.

W. A. CLARK.

J. H. Peay offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Whereas, Dispatches have been sent abroad which misrepresent the spirit of the resolutions on Publications adopted by this body; therefore

Resolved, That this Convention most heartily commend the editorial and business management of the *Arkansas Baptist*, in the past, and while we have asked its self-sacrificing editor to devote all possible energy and time to make it the peer of any other paper of like constituency, we do pledge our co-operation in the increase of its patronage, so that he can do the service we ask without additional sacrifice.

J. W. CONGER,

J. W. HIETT,

J. H. PEAY.

J. H. Peay offered following resolution, which was also adopted:

Ordered that W. A. Clark be allowed \$25 for his labors during the last year as Historical and Statistical Secretary.

The Committee on Education, through J. W. Hiett, reported as follows, which was adopted:

EDUCATION.

We are impressed with that which seems to us to be a fact, that we, as Baptists, have never appreciated the richness of our inheritance, and that we never will until we have learned to esteem mental and moral culture as vastly more important than physical. If the truths which Baptists hold theoretically were the living principles by which their lives were controlled, and if their multitudes were an army drilled in mind and heart, what other agency would the Holy Spirit need to convince the people of America, if not of the world, of the exceeding richness of God's grace? But until we have shown our appreciation of this priceless legacy, we cannot hope to make it manifest to others. Therefore, let us educate our sons and daughters in our schools and colleges. We have a sufficient number of colleges; let us make them larger and better by our patronage and fostering care.

E. C. FAULKNER, *Chairman*,

J. W. HIETT,

J. C. C. DUNSFORD,

W. A. FORBES.

Mrs. J. P. Eagle read the report from the Ladies' Central Committee, which is as follows, and was adopted:

WOMAN'S WORK.

In submitting a report of the important work committed to their hands by the action of the last Convention your State Central Committee on Woman's Work would make mention of the following gratifying facts for which they feel thankful to God:

First of all it should be noticed that there is at this time very little opposition from pastors to hinder the work. Second, the Woman's Missionary Union—auxiliary to the State Convention—has grown into a large, intelligent and zealous body of Christian workers. We feel assured that the influence of this body will be continually recognized, as it is exerted in the interest of every phase of mission work in our State.

The Central Committee has been hindered and hampered, as you must know, for lack of funds.

This work might have been pushed and enlarged with even a small fund, but we have had no means at all, except small voluntary contributions. The receipts of the Central Committee, for committee work, for the year have been \$24.13. The expenses, which have of necessity been kept within bounds, amount to \$24.41. With the small sum of \$100 we might be able to do four times as much work during the coming year, as has been done in the past.

The minute fund which is, in the main, contributed at the sessions of the Missionary Union amounts in round numbers to about \$20.

In observing the recommendations of the several boards of the S. B. C., the societies of the State have raised for the self-denial fund \$118.17. The Christmas offerings amounted to \$70.89. Sixteen boxes for frontier missionaries were valued at \$713.50.

The reports along other lines are so incomplete that we do not feel justified in presenting them. Discouragements have seemed to visit every department of Christian work during the trying year that has just passed. The Central Committee has had many; sometimes causing us to almost lose heart entirely. We have reflected on the vigorous and constant growth of the State Board work through times of despondency, and times of hope, and renewed our energy and faith in the final result and continued the struggle.

We have reason to believe the real work has not fallen so far short as the reports in hand would indicate. Hitherto the cordial co-operation of your Financial Secretary greatly assisted the Central Committee in disseminating information and in organizing societies as he

traveled over the State. We have felt the loss of his valuable help since he was taken from the field. We appeal to the pastors of all churches still without womens' societies for their co-operation in this line of work.

The recommendations of the Home, Foreign and Sunday School Boards, and also those of the Executive Committee of the Missionary Union Auxillary to the S. B. C., have been adopted by the Central Committee and our State Missionary Union. It shall be the further purpose of your committee to encourage and assist in all the noble work undertaken by the State Convention and our churches.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. JAMES P. EAGLE, *Chairman.*

MRS. E. LONGLEY, *Secretary.*

MRS. C. B. DAVIDSON,

MRS. C. R. SCHAEER,

MRS. CARROLL D. WOOD.

The clerk was ordered to have 1500 copies of minutes printed, and be allowed \$50 for his services.

The minutes of today were read and approved.

Brother Autry reported from the Committee on Resolutions, as follows:

Resolved, That the Arkansas Baptist Convention suggest the advisability of an attempt by the Church and proper authorities of Hot Springs to secure the session of the Southern Baptist Convention of 1898, and that our cordial support be pledged to such effort.

Which was adopted.

They also reported the following, which was adopted.

THANKS.

There are those who deserve the hearty thanks of this body for kindness and courtesies extended to us as members of this convention, viz: This church and community, and the hotels who have given us such delightful entertainment, the street railway for the most pleasurable excursion over the city, the bath houses for courtesies extended, and the various railroads throughout the State for their reduced rates to and from this convention and for the hauling without cost of the Chapel Car Evangel to whatever point it was desired to go.

With sincere appreciation of these kindnesses we desire here and now to express our thanks to each and all who have thus shown kindness to the Lord's people.