

J. H. Hays
Minutes 1915-16

Minutes
of the Forty-eighth Annual Session of the
Ouachita Association
of
Missionary Baptist
Churches of Christ

**Held With Mena Baptist Church, Mena, Polk
County, Arkansas, September 24 to 27, 1915**

Officers

Moderator, W. E. Holt.....Mena, Ark.
Clerk, Edgar Peters.....Board Camp, Ark.
Treasurer, W. I. Green.....Mena, Ark.

The next session of this body will be held with the Smithville Baptist Church, at Smithville, Oklahoma, commencing on Friday night before the Fourth Sunday in September, 1916. Edgar Peters will preach the commencement sermon.

PROCEEDINGS OF OUACHITA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION AT MENA, ARKANSAS, SEPTEMBER 24, 1915.

On Friday night before the Fourth Sunday in September the Ouachita Missionary Baptist Association of Christ met in its Forty-Seventh Annual Session with the Mena Baptist church. Charles Burnett, the previous appointee, preached the opening sermon at 7:30. His text was John 4:34; his theme, "How to Do Personal Work." The association then adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock Saturday morning.

Saturday Morning Session.

The body was called to order by Moderator Holt promptly at 9 a. m. Devotional exercises were conducted by Dr. Conger of Conway. Rev. J. S. Rogers led the opening prayer.

The letters of the churches were then called for, and Bro. J. T. Bowling and Bro. Ed Mershon were appointed to read them. Letters were read from the following churches: Rock Springs, Two-Mile, Cove, Smithville, Mt. Herman, Corinth, Mena, Concord, Buffalo, Janssen, Hatfield, Board Camp, Mt. Olive, Sulphur Springs No. 2, Yocana, Welcome Home and New Hope.

A motion then prevailed that messengers from Brushy Ridge church be seated as messengers, pending the arrival of their letter.

Petitionary letters were then called for and the following were submitted:

A petitionary letter from Liberty church was read, and by a prevailing motion the church was admitted to fellowship, and the delegates were given the right hand of fellowship by the moderator.

Visiting brethren were then seated in counsel with us.

The body then proceeded to go into the election of officers for the coming year.

A motion prevailed that the clerk cast the ballot for W. E. Holt as moderator.

By motion the moderator cast the ballot for Bro. Edgar Peters for clerk.

A motion also prevailed that Bro. Edgar Peters cast the ballot of the body for Bro. W. I. Green as treasurer.

The Committee on Education was then appointed, and were as follows: Dr. J. W. Conger, Bro. J. T. Bowling and Bro. Gip Southern. The report was immediately read.

Christian Education.

Your committee on Christian Education would report as below:

Without well equipped Baptist schools all our Baptist work would suffer and come to a standstill. We look to our Baptist schools for most of our trained workers in pulpit and pew, as well as on mission fields. Ninety-five out of every hundred of our foreign missionaries come from Baptist schools. The Bible is definitely in favor of Christian education. See Hosea 4:6, Matthew 28:20, Ephesians 4:18. So Christian education and its support must be put on the same basis with missions.

Arkansas Baptists have two great Christian Colleges—Ouachita, for boys and girls, at Arkadelphia, S. Y. Jameson, D. D., president; Central, for girls, at Conway, J. W. Conger, LL. D., president. Last year Ouachita had about 325 students; and Central had about 200. These schools have rendered a service to the Baptist cause in Arkansas, the value of which can never be estimated. The atmosphere of the schools are religious and reverent, and many students who have gone to them strangers to God, have gone forth from them consecrated to God.

We are planning to have three mountain schools soon. One of these, the Ouachita-Maynard Academy, at Maynard, W. A. Cummings, A. B., president, is running this year. We must help save North Arkansas by establishing good mountain schools.

The education of preachers is one great object in Christian education. The denomination that fails to provide for the education of its preachers will die as a denomination. Last year there were 39 young preachers in Ouachita College. They receive free tuition and some help on other expenses when it is necessary. The Bible Department is arranged with special reference to the preachers, but the classes are open to all, and Bible is required of all who graduate.

Ouachita College has been freed from debt. Central has considerable indebtedness yet. We need annually at least \$10,000 to help take care of running expenses at Ouachita, and to pay on the indebtedness of Central. So every Baptist church in this association is asked to make an offering this year for Christian Education.

This committee hopes that all of our preachers will preach often each year on the needs and benefits of Baptist schools, and that our people will send their children to these Baptist schools. Especially do we emphasize the importance of educating our young preachers.

J. W. Conger, Chairman.

The report was discussed by Dr. J. W. Conger and Bro. Haynes.

Committees Appointed.

The following committees were then appointed:

Nominations—Bro. Charles Burnett, W. A. Butler and C. Crane.

Ministers—Bros. Mayo, Hollinsworth, Robbins and Whitehead.

Obituaries—Bros. J. T. Law, N. R. Cook and W. J. Wright.

State Missions—Bros. J. S. Rogers, E. G. Embry and H. H. Fortner.

Orphans' Home—Bros. Benson, Lance and S. A. Neighbors.

Foreign Missions—Bros. J. J. Haynes, Fred Hollinsworth and T. J. Hicks.

Sunday Schools—Bros. Ed Mershon, W. I. Green and I. Ross Silvey.

Temperance—Bros. T. W. Anderson, George Corley and T. M. Anderson.

Home Missions—Bros. J. T. Bowling, Self and Will Lawrence

Associational Missions—Bros. J. H. Patterson, I. Ross Silvey and L. L. Brown.

Woman's Work—Sisters J. G. Jackson, Effie Sanford, Watkins, Claypool and A. H. Scoggin.

Family Worship—Bros. William Shelton, Ridling and Bogle.

The body then adjourned to meet at 2:30 p. m.

Saturday Evening Session.

The session was opened by singing "At the Cross." We were led in prayer by Bro. E. G. Embry.

Report on Woman's Work.

We, your committee, realizing that the organizing of Women's Missionaries and Aid Societies is a means of increased spirituality and larger usefulness in the Master's kingdom, therefore, we ask the pastors and brethren to assist by giving their aid and influence by organizing these societies in every church within the bounds of this association.

Mrs. J. G. Jackson, Chairman.

Mrs. Jackson and Bro. J. S. Rogers gave us a helpful discussion on this topic.

Report on Prayer Meeting.

We, your committee on Prayer Meeting, beg leave to report that inasmuch as our Lord has commanded us to pray without ceasing, and in everything to give thanks, therefore, we recommend that each church in this association organize and maintain a regular weekly prayer meeting.

J. T. Bowling Chairman.

Family Worship.

We, your committee on Family Worship, respectfully submit the following:

We believe it is the duty of parents to bring up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. We do not believe there is a better way than to erect a family altar in each home and there gather the children and read God's word, and ask Him for the things we need. Therefore, we recommend that a family altar be erected in each home in this association.

William Shelton, Chairman.

A motion prevailed to adjourn to 7:30 p. m.

Saturday Night Session.

Bro. W. L. Smith conducted the devotional service.

Bro. J. W. Edwards then preached for us. His subject was, "God's Plan of Redemption."

The body then adjourned until 9:30 Sunday morning.

Sunday Morning Session.

The association first took part in the regular Sunday school work of the Mena church, after which Bro. J. S. Rogers gave us a fine talk on Sunday School Work.

Bro. J. T. Bowling preached at the 11 o'clock hour at the Baptist church. His theme was, "World-Wide Missions;" his text Acts 1:8.

Bro. J. S. Rogers occupied the pulpit at the Presbyterian church at the same hour. His theme was, "Be a Man;" his text, "Quit Ye Like Men," is found in the 16th chapter of I. Cor.

The association then adjourned to meet at 2:30 p. m.

Sunday Evening Session.

Opening song, "I Love to Tell the Story." Bro. J. T. Law then led us in prayer, after which Bro. Henry Patterson read the Fifth chapter of Galatians.

Sunday School Report.

Believing as we do, that the Sunday school is one of the church's greatest auxiliaries, we earnestly urge more zeal in this great work among the churches, as we find from church statistics that 75 per cent of the baptisms and accessions to the church come through the Sunday school. Parents, take your children to Sunday School—do not send them—thereby making God-fearing and God-loving men and women of them. We feel encouraged from the reports of the Sunday School work in the association and

sincerely pray that the great work may be increased many fold in efficiency the coming year.

I. Ross Silvey, Chairman.

The report was then adopted, after a helpful discussion by the brethren.

Bro. W. L. Smith made a motion that speeches on the other reports to come before the association to be limited to five minutes each. Bro. J. T. Bowling seconded the motion, and it was adopted by a unanimous vote.

Report on Temperance.

The whiskey traffic is the greatest evil in all this land, and all other evils are largely due to it. It seeks to debase character, destroy the home and corrupt politics, and as long as the government licenses the saloon it is a partner to all crimes due to the traffic. Every man who votes for licenses is accessor to every crime caused by the saloon. If all who claim to be Christians would vote as they pray, the liquor traffic would be throttled and forced out of existence.

We recommend that each church withdraw from those who persist in voting for or patronizing the saloon, or drinking liquor as a beverage.

T. W. Anderson, Chairman.

The report was discussed by Bros. Smith, W. E. Holt, Chas. Burnett, Minor Pipkin and J. S. Rogers.. The association then adjourned until 7:30 p. m.

Sunday Night Session.

Bro. Burnett led in prayer after which we had a beautiful song service.

Bro. J. S. Rogers then preached for us. His subject was "Why I am a Baptist."

State Missions.

Your committee on State Missions would report as follows:

As the days go by the great importance of State Missions grows on the student of missions. If the Baptist denomination would become weak and lame and lose its power at home and abroad, let us cease to emphasize State Missions.

State Missions by the churches co-operating in the Baptist State Convention includes revival meetings in destitute places and in weak churches, baptizing, reviving and enlisting laggard churches, colportage, projecting and helping to build church houses, and aiding weak churches in supporting pastors, raising church debts, Sunday School and Baptist Young People's work, en-

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	PASTOR	POSTOFFICE	CLERKS	OFFICE	Membership Last Year	Rec'd. by Baptism	Rec'd. by Letter of Statement	Rec'd. by Restoration	Decrease by Letter	Decrease by Expulsion of Erasure	By Death	Total Membership This Year	S. S. Superintendents	Kind of Literature Used	Number of Teachers	Number of Pupils
Mt. Olive	Simon McCarrell	Antimony	H. F. Gann	Route 1	70	7	3		1			73	W. A. Butler		50	4
Liberty	J. T. Bowling	Smithville	J. A. Chapman	Id	13		8				21	J. A. Chapman		32	4	
Corinth	W. L. Smith	Mena	J. T. Law		15			1		2	12	J. T. Law		28	2	
Sulphur Springs	S. A. Neighbors	Potter	A. L. Webb		69	3	10	7			73	T. M. Hollinsworth		60	4	
Welcome Home	T. M. Hollinsworth	Watson	J. E. Wise		14		1				15			46	3	
Rock Springs	Wm. Shelton	Ink	G. L. Rose		20		1	2		2	21	G. L. Rose		75	4	
Mt. Herman	W. L. Smith	Mena	Pearl Dehart		31					2	29	J. C. Whitaker		42	4	
Smithville	J. T. Bowling	Smithville	J. J. Weaver	Id	45	1	7	3			50	P. I. Dillingham		120	6	
Two-Mile	Chas. Burnett	Board Camp	J. E. Beavers	Route 1	33	1	1	2	2	2	44	Bro. Taylor		75	4	
Cove	S. A. Neighbors	Potter	M. F. Gray		20			1			21	I. Ross Silvey		4	3	
Buffalo	S. A. Neighbors	Potter	Robt. Fortner		27	1	1			1	26			60	4	
Board Camp	H. T. Howell	Opal	J. B. Hilton	Camp	120	3	4	3	2	2	120	Edgar Peters		75	5	
Hatfield	J. T. Benson	Hatfield	W. E. Mershon	Id	79		8	10		2	77	W. E. Mershon		69	5	
Yocana			G. W. Corley		48		2				48	Gip Southern		35	3	
Concord	J. J. Haynes	Mena	J. W. Bogle		16					1	33	N. A. Yankey		45	3	
New Hope			J. S. Lawrence		57	3	6	2		3	64			35	3	
Janssen	J. T. Benson	Hatfield	J. R. Crain	Id	31	1	4			2	33	J. R. Crain		35	3	
Mena	W. L. Smith	Mena	Mrs. B. Hildebrand	Id	369	16	28	18	6	2	387	W. I. Green		217	10	

CHURCHES	Pastor's Salary	Building and Repairing	Incidentals	Visiting Ministers	S. S. Expenses	State Missions	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Other Objects	Orphans Home	Colleges and Schools	Ministerial Education	Minutes and Clerk	Value of Church Property	TOTAL
Mt. Olive	\$ 30.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 4.62	\$ 18.00	\$ 1.50								\$ 1.50	\$ 3.00	\$ 52.60
Liberty			2.00										.50	3.00	2.45
Corinth														3.00	
Sulphur Springs	30.00														30.00
Welcome Home	10.00														10.00
Rock Springs															
Mt. Herman	14.50											5.00	1.00		25.50
Smithville	25.00	350.00			28.00		2.50	2.50					1.50	500.00	78.00
Two-Mile	75.00			12.50									2.00		94.75
Cove	16.75	50.00	8.00		15.00		2.00					2.25	1.25		113.00
Buffalo	13.60												.75		19.40
Board Camp	42.00				3.17								2.00	700.00	132.67
Hatfield	118.35		11.73	5.00	40.13	3.32						3.00	2.50	2000.00	186.53
Yocana	7.00												1.05		26.05
Concord	4.70					5.50	2.50	2.50		2.50			1.00		23.70
New Hope		75.00	8.67			9.60	1.62						1.50		32.75
Janssen	54.50					110.29	63.00	63.00	70.00	27.63			1.05	250.00	149.39
Mena	900.00	38.75	224.81	70.00	142.90								5.00	10271.50	1790.91

1341.50

129.24

116.2

1013

1013

1251

CHURCHES

	Pastor's Salary	Building and Repairing	Incidentals	Visiting Ministers	S. S. Expenses	State Missions	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Other Objects	Orphans' Home	Colleges and Schools	Ministerial Education	Minutes and Clerk	Value of Church Property	TOTAL
Mt. Olive	\$ 30.00		\$ 4.62	\$18.00									\$ 1.50	\$	\$ 52.60
Liberty		200.00	2.00		1.50								.50	3.00	2.45
Corinth														3.00	30.00
Sulphur Springs	30.00														10.00
Welcome Home	10.00														
Rock Springs															
Mt. Herman	14.50											5.00	1.00		25.50
Smithville	25.00	350.00			28.00		2.50	2.50					1.50	500.00	78.00
Two-Mile	75.00			12.50									2.00		94.75
Cove	16.75	50.00	8.00		15.00		2.00					2.25	1.25		113.00
Buffalo	13.60												.75		19.40
Board Camp	42.00				3.17								2.00	700.00	132.67
Hatfield	118.35		11.73	5.00	40.13	3.32						8.00	2.50	2000.00	186.53
Yocana	7.00												1.05		26.05
Concord	4.70					5.50	2.50	2.50		2.50			1.00		23.70
New Hope													1.50		32.75
Janssen	54.50	75.00	8.67			9.60	1.62						1.05	250.00	149.39
Mena	900.00	38.75	224.81	70.00	142.90	110.20	63.00	63.00	70.00	27.63			5.00	10271.50	1720.91

1344.50

129.24

21.62

30.13

1525

couraging Woman's work, and whatever else will send far and wide the purse gospel of Christ and upbuild the Baptist cause in this great state.

In 1914 the churches co-operating through the convention served the Kingdom as follows:

Missionaries employed	47
Days labored	10,123
Miles traveled	65,827
Appointments	74
Sermons	5,490
Other addresses	898
Total sermons and addresses	6,388
Service in homes	1,812
Conversions	1,458
Baptisms	1,270
Additions by letter	804
Total additions	2,074
Amount raised for State Missions.....	\$12,262.75

The amount of money needed to put the Executive Board of the Baptist State Convention out of debt for missions at the State Convention at Conway, November 18, 1915, is approximately \$30,000.00.

So your committee would make the following recommendations:

First—That agonizing prayer be made daily by all our people for God to lead us out of debt.

Second—That every pastor get all possible information about State Missions and give it out in burning messages to his people.

Third—That he tried to give his people a larger vision of State Missions, and faithfully endeavor to secure an offering from every one of his members, and from every organization in the churches.

Fourth—That the pastors and the active laymen during the meeting of this body get together and make plans to reach every church in the association for an offering to State Missions by the middle of November. It is the time for a great, strong, self-sacrificing, heroic pull all over the state.

Send all money to J. S. Rogers, Little Rock, Ark.,

E. G. Embry, Chairman.

Discussed by Bro. J. S. Rogers.

Nominations.

We, your committee on nominations, beg leave to report as follows:

That the next session of this body convene with Smithville

Church in 1916, beginning on Friday night before the fourth Sunday in September, and that Brother Edgar Peters preach the introductory sermon.

We further recommend that four brethren be appointed by the association as an executive committee as follows:

J. C. Whitaker, Mena, Ark.; T. J. Hicks, Route 1, Mena, Ark.; Chas. Burnett, Board Camp, Ark., and W. E. Holt, Mena, Ark.

We recommend that the next fifth Sunday meeting be held with Sulphur Springs Church No. 2, and Brother J. J. Haynes preach the opening sermon.

We recommend that each church elect one of their members as a member of the Associational Mission Committee.

Crad Crain, Chairman.

The association then adjourned to meet at 9:30 Monday morning.

Monday Morning Session.

Opening song, "How Firm a Foundation."

Bro. S. A. Neighbors conducted the devotional service.

Ministerial Report.

The ordained ministers of the association are as follows:

✓Elder W. L. Smith.....	Mena, Ark.
✓Elder J. E. Smail.....	Houston, Tex.
✓Elder J. H. Patterson.....	Mena, Ark.
✓Elder J. J. Haynes.....	Mena, Ark.
✓Elder Wm. Shelton.....	Ink, Ark.
✓Elder Ed Posey.....	Quito, Ark.
✓Elder S. A. Neighbors.....	Potter, Ark.
✓Elder Chas. Burnett.....	Board Camp, Ark.
✓Elder Edgar Peters.....	Board Camp, Ark.
✓Elder J. T. Bowling.....	Smithville, Okla.
✓Elder F. Y. Hensly.....	Smithville, Okla.
✓Elder T. M. Hollinsworth.....	Watson, Okla.
✓Elder M. L. Ridling.....	Vandervoort, Ark.
✓Elder B. F. Cannon.....	Hatton, Ark.
✓Elder Daniel Nation.....	Vandervoort, Ark.
✓Elder I. N. Lawrence.....	Watson, Okla.

Licensed Ministers.

Bro. Fred Lewis.....	Mena, Ark.
Bro. Willis Taylor.....	Mena, Ark.
Bro. W. E. Tibbs.....	Watson, Okla.
Bro. B. F. Brook.....	Smithville, Okla.

Respectfully submitted,

J. T. Whitehead, Chairman.

Obituaries.

We, your committee on obituaries, beg leave to report that since our last association the unsparing hand of death has visited the following churches and homes:

Yocana Church.

J. R. Farris

Board Camp Church.

Sister Ethel Thompson

Sister M. J. Kennett

Rock Springs Church.

Sister Mary Ross

Mena Church.

Sister M. A. Thornton

Sister Irvin Garrett

New Hope Church.

Bro. J. B. Lawrence

Bro. Ben Hatfield

Sister Ada Lawrence

Resolved, That we tender our sympathy and assistance to the friends and relatives of our departed dead.

W. J. Wright, Chairman.

Publication.

We, your committee on publication, would report as follows:

First of all, our people should read the Bible and make it the means of their counsel.

Second, we recommend the reading of good sound books and papers, especially "The Baptist Advance," "The Baptist Standard," "The Orphan's Gem," and as many other good papers as you are able to take. We further recommend the literature of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Chas. Burnett, Chairman.

Discussed by Brothers Chas. Burnett, E. G. Embry, and W. L. Smith.

Foreign Missions.

Shall we argue to this association the necessity when Jesus with divine authority gave His church the command "Go preach the Gospel to every creature." And again, "Ye shall be witnesses of me in Jerusalem, in Judea, in Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth."

If the churches of this association disobey these plain commands of Jesus Christ they will simply withhold the truth from the lost.

Foreign missions means a missionary with the message that Jesus Christ is the Saviour of the world.

The Southern Baptist Convention is doing mission work in

six foreign countries—in China, Africa, Italy, Brazil, Japan, and Argentine. They began this work in 1845.

Statistics for China in the Last 21 Years.

	In 1893.	In 1914.
Missionaries	92.....	300
Native helpers	86.....	635
Churches	75.....	380
Members	2,923.....	30,000
Baptisms	383.....	5,252
Schools	16.....	339
Scholars	593.....	9,376
Sunday School scholars	2,271.....	22,022

We now have Theological Seminaries and day and night schools to teach the Bible.

Medical missionaries treated 74,839 patients last year. The amount given for this work in 1893 was \$154,687, and in 1914 the collection was \$5,587,458.

One more word, the per capita gift of our foreign Baptist for all the Christian work was \$5.05 each.

J. J. Haynes, Chairman.

Home Missions.

The Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention has 1,551 missionaries; it has 27 evangelists. They reported 38,310 baptisms, additions to the church 63,970, and that 1,301 volunteered to enter the ministry. They organized 216 churches and built and repaired 220 houses. They organized 641 Sunday schools. They gave away 20,237 Bibles and Testaments.

The Home Mission Board is pressing its work among the negroes, Mexicans, Indians and foreigners as well as among our native-born whites.

Our Home Board is in great need of money to push our home mission work. Your committee recommends that the churches of this association contribute liberally to home missions.

J. T. Bowling, Chairman.

Discussed by Bros. J. T. Bowling and J. J. Haynes.

Associational Missions.

Your committee reports the following:

First, we call your attention to the destitution of our association. In the Southeast part of our association there is a strip 22 miles south, from 12 to 15 miles wide, where there is but one church. In this district is a large settlement of people and we

need at least three or four churches. East of Wickes we need a church at at least two places. There are only two churches west of the Kansas City road. A great deal of missionary work should be done in that territory. We also have twelve pastorless churches in our association. These churches are weak and need help. We advise the Associational Board to help them. We recommend that our Associational Mission Board put a missionary in this field for full time, and that the churches pray earnestly for this work.

J. H. Patterson, Chairman.

A motion was then made by Bro. S. A. Neighbors to appoint J. W. Edwards as associational missionary. Bro. Wright seconded the motion, but it was voted down.

Report on Finance.

We, your committee on finance, beg leave to report as follows:

For minutes	\$19.40
For Associational Missions	\$33.70

Chas. Burnett, Chairman.

Report on Resolutions.

First—We hereby declare that Mr. F. O. Forbes is not a Missionary Baptist, though for a time fellowshiped as one. He was admitted into a church in Kansas on Freewill Baptism, which we hold to be invalid because of the lack of a proper administrator, who must be a member of the church Christ set up and also authorized by it to baptize the candidate.

Mr. Forbes obtained entrance into the churches of this association through a letter from this church in Kansas. We hereby disavow any connection with him whatever.

RESOLUTION.

Be it Resolved, That the Ouachita Missionary Baptist Association condemns the free use of the pardoning power vested in the governor of the state of Arkansas, as exercised during the past few years, and especially do we condemn the indiscriminate pardoning of persons convicted by the courts of violations of the liquor laws. Be it further

Resolved, That we request our present chief executive to withhold the exercise of such power in all cases of violations of the laws against the sale of intoxicants except in such cases where the very exceptional circumstances of the case justifies clemency. Be it further

Resolved, That we especially commend our present local officers for their diligent efforts and the success of these efforts

in the suppression of the clandestine sale of intoxicating liquors.

Resolved, further, That the clerk of this association be instructed to furnish a copy of these resolutions to Governor George W. Hays and copies to the local papers for publication.

Chas. Burnett, Chairman.

Third—We, the members of this association, wish to tender our heart-felt thanks and appreciation for the courtesy and kind treatment received at the hands of the Mena Baptist Church and the citizens of this town.

J. T. Bowling, Chairman.

