

MINUTES
OF THE
Thirty-Ninth Session
OF THE
CURRENT RIVER
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Held with Independence
Baptist Church

September 18-20, 1919

ELDER R. L. POWELL, MODERATOR
G. N. JONES, CLERK

Next Session to Be Held With
Datto Church, Datto, Ark.

Minutes of the Thirty-Ninth Session OF THE Current River Baptist Association 1919

PROCEEDINGS.

Current River Baptist Association met with Independence Baptist Church September 18 to 20, 1919, at ten a. m. The meeting was called to order by Eld. R. L. Powell, Moderator. After singing, the meeting was led in prayer by Bro. G. N. Jones after which the regular order of business was taken up. Bro. G. N. Jones was appointed as Clerk pro tem. Bro. H. W. Johnson and Bro. Marion Houston were appointed as reading clerks.

The Association then proceeded to hear and receive the letters from the churches composing the Association.

The Messengers were enrolled as follows:

Landmark—Messengers, Eld. R. L. Powell, Bro. G. N. Jones.

Datto—Messengers, H. W. Johnson, Albert Powers.

Shiloh—Messengers, C. C. Richardson, T. J. Henderson, Villia Smith.

Union—Messengers, Edward Ivy, Marion Houston, J. A. Asher.

Pleasant Grove—Messengers, Bennie Thompson, Frank Smith, Mattie Tedrow.

New Home—Messengers, J. M. Redwine, T. A. Fowler, J. R. Ingram.

Mount Pleasant West—Messengers, A. L. Sharp, J. F. McCutchen, Jeff Shemwell.

Hopewell—Messengers, R. M. Hawkins, G. W. Watson, W. J. Dowdy, Alice Hawkins.

Independence—Messengers, E. L. Bullis, L. L. Townsend, J. P. McKinney, J. H. Tate.

Mount Pleasant East—Messengers, Ben Gibbs, Mona Gambill, Marie Kammerman.

Moark—Messengers, Wm. Penrose, E. W. Richardson, Wm. Meredith.

Black River—Messengers, Chesley Clemons, Geo. Nixon, Alex Alliway.

Black River—Messengers, Chas. Clemons, George Nixon, Alex Alliway.

Reyno—Messengers, P. H. Booth, G. A. Crawford.

11 a. m.—The introductory sermon was preached by Eld. D. H. Sharp. Text: Math. 28:6-7, after which meeting adjourned to 2 o'clock p. m.

2 p. m. Thursday—Meeting called to order by Moderator. Song, "Jesus Lover of My Soul." Reading, 133 Psalm by Eld. R. L. Powell. Led in prayer by Eld. G. R. Tyler, pastor Second Baptist Church of Paragould, after which the body proceeded to

adopt a permanent organization.

Eld. R. L. Powell was elected as Moderator and G. N. Jones as Clerk of the Association.

Call for visiting brethren responded to by the following: Eld. G. R. Tyler, pastor Second Baptist Church, Paragould; Eld. T. B. Rouse of Paragould; Eld. E. L. Stovall, pastor Baptist Church at Piggott.

The meeting was then addressed by Eld. T. B. Rouse of Paragould.

Committee on Committees appointed by the Moderator as follows: Brethren E. L. Bullis, W. T. Caldwell, M. L. Houston, Albert Powers, Hubert Johnson.

Recess of ten minutes announced by Moderator. Called to order by singing, after which the report of the Committee on Committees was read and adopted. The following Brothers and Sisters were appointed on the different committees:

Women's Work—Mona Gambill, Mattie Tedrow, Wm. Penrose.

Education—Villia Smith, Alice Hawkins, R. M. Hawkins, J. A. Asher.

Orphans' Home—R. M. Hawkins, C. C. Richardson, E. G. Ivy.

District Missions—Ben Gibbs, T. J. Henderson, J. P. McKinney.

State Missions—Eld. R. L. Powell, Eld. W. T. Caldwell, R. M. Hawkins, J. C. Grider.

Foreign Missions—Eld. R. L. Powell, Eld. W. T. Caldwell, R. M. Hawkins, E. W. Richardson.

Publication—Eld. R. L. Powell, W. T. Caldwell, R. M. Hawkins.

Home Missions—Ben Gibbs, Thos. Henderson, J. M. Redwine.

Sunday Schools—R. M. Hawkins, Thos. Henderson, Frank Smith, Cora Miller.

Resolutions—G. W. Watson, Lewis Townsend, Ben Gibbs.

Obituaries—C. H. Clemons, Ethel Fowler.

Ordained and Licensed Ministers—Lee Sharp, J. C. Grider, Thomas Fowler.

Finance—Frank Smith, Wm. Meredith, Geo. Nixon.

Divine Service—E. L. Bullis, Albert Powers, M. L. Houston, W. T. Caldwell, Hubert Johnston

Meeting adjourned to meet at 8 p. m.

Thursday, 8 p. m.—Meeting opened by singing, "Trust and Obey," after which a testimony meeting was led by Eld. D. H. Sharp in which a large number took part. Prayer by Eld. T. B. Rouse.

Sermon by Eld. G. R. Tyler of Paragould. Text: Math. 23: 19-20. After sermon meeting adjourned to meet Friday at 9 a. m. Benediction by Eld. E. L. Stovall.

Friday, Sept. 19, 1919, 9 a. m.—Meeting called to order by Moderator Eld. R. L. Powell. Song, "Bringing in the Sheaves." Reading of the 40th Psalm by Eld. R. L. Powell. Prayer by Eld. E. L. Stovall of Piggott. Song, "Power in the Blood."

Moderator appointed committee on District Missions as follows: P. H. Booth, Ben Gibbs, Thos. Henderson. Talks were made in regard to the work by all of the members of the committee.

Friday, 11 a. m.—Song, "Higher Ground." Reading of 14th chapter of John by Eld. D. H. Sharp. Prayer by Eld. G. R. Tyler. Song, "Let the Lower Lights Be Burning." Sermon by

Eld. D. H. Sharp. Text: 2 Tim. 4:7. Meeting adjourned to meet at 2 p. m. Benediction by Eld. G. R. Tyler.

Friday, 2 p. m.—Meeting called to order by the Moderator R. L. Powell. Song, "When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder." Prayer by Bro. J. C. Grider. The Moderator then called for reports from committees.

Report on Women's Work was read by Sister Mona Gambill who moved its adoption. After some remarks the report was adopted as read.

Report—Women have always had a prominent part in carrying out the Lord's work. It was women who first carried the news of the resurrection and proclaimed man's freedom from the second death. We would recommend that each of our churches if they have no Ladies' Aid Society or Woman's Missionary Union, to organize, as these are a great aid to our churches in carrying out the command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." Women's work in the Sunday School is one of the greatest works in carrying out the command of our Lord.

Signed,
MONA GAMBILL,
MATTIE TEDROW,
WM. PENROSE, Committee.

Report of Committee on Education was read by Sister Villia Smith who moved its adoption. After talks on the work by Eld. R. L. Powell and Eld. G. R. Tyler the report was adopted as read.

Report—The teaching in our Baptist schools is not the only thing to be recommended in itself for our consideration. The boys and girls of our land and country who know God in the free pardon of their sins have a duty to do, and should be educated in their effort to prepare for their great work. However little they may do for Christ it is a great work. Baptists now have colleges in various places in Arkansas and others under way of construction, and we feel it to be the duty of every church in this Association to try and get every young preacher in this Association to attend a Baptist college. We have now in our Association three young men who we believe are called to preach the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour, and have been licensed by their church to preach. We need the support of every church in our Association to assist financially.

Signed,
VILLIA SMITH,
ALICE HAWKINS,
J. A. ASHER, Committee.

The report on Orphans' Home was read by Bro. R. M. Hawkins who moved its adoption. After addresses were made by Eld. G. R. Tyler and Eld. R. L. Powell the report was adopted as read.

Report—Believing that the work of caring for the orphans is God's work entrusted to the church and is the duty of each and every member of the church to do what they can. We are taught in the scripture to show our faith by our works. They teach us to take care of the orphans and the first church elected seven men whose duty it was to look after this work. We believe it to be the duty of every church to contribute to this work, and recommend that the pastor preach it and encourage his membership to give liberally to this work. We feel that the membership of each church need to be taught the blessedness of giving, when to give and how to give. There are now something over

one hundred children in the Baptist Orphans' Homes in the State of Arkansas. Sixty or more at Monticello and forty or more at Texarkana. In the days of the Apostles they were continually collecting money for the poor. Brethren, how important is this work of caring for the orphans. We as Baptists should get busy in this great work.

Signed,

R. M. HAWKINS,

C. C. RICHARDSON,

E. C. IVY, Committee.

Report on District Missions was read by J. P. McKinney who moved its adoption.

Report—There is much destitution in the borders of our Association. There are many places where the people have no preaching of the gospel. And inasmuch as the Gospel is the power of God unto salvation, we recommend that our Moderator appoint three brethren whose duty it shall be to employ some one whose duty it shall be to visit places and hold meetings where needed under the direction of the committee. We also urge that this work be presented to the churches and collections taken to defray the expenses of this work. The missionary is to keep a record of the work done, the amount collected on the field and report same to the committee, and the committee to report same to the Association. After talks by several of the brethren the report was adopted as read.

Signed,

BEN GIBBS,

THOS. HENDERSON,

J. P. McKINNEY, Committee.

Report on State Missions was read by R. M. Hawkins who moved its adoption. Eld. R. L. Powell made a talk on the work.

Report—Inasmuch as Christ delivered the charge to the church to preach the Gospel, we the committee, recommend the preaching of the word in our state and full support of our missionaries. We understand we have fifteen missionaries in the field. That they are doing excellent work we are sure. Let us pray God that He will send more laborers into the vineyard, for the harvest indeed is ripe. Report adopted as read.

Signed,

ELD. R. L. POWELL,

ELD. W. T. CALDWELL,

ELD. J. C. GRIDER,

R. M. HAWKINS, Committee.

The report on Foreign Missions was read by Bro. R. M. Hawkins who moved it be adopted.

Report—On account of the great world war our work on the field has been greatly hindered. We now have eight consecrated missionaries of the Pauline type located on the foreign fields preaching the truth of God as contained in the New Testament. Through the influence of Gospel preached and the operation of the Holy Spirit many are being led to Christ and gloriously saved. We therefore urge the churches of the Current River Association to take collections for Foreign Missions and send same to C. C. Winter, missionary treasurer at Texarkana, Ark. Report adopted as read.

Signed,

ELD. R. L. POWELL,

ELD. W. T. CALDWELL,

R. M. HAWKINS,

E. W. RICHARDSON, Com.

Report on Publications was read and adopted without comment.

Report—We recommend, first, a careful study of the Bible. Second, the reading of good denominational books. Third, we would recommend that all our people take and read some good denominational paper. We especially recommend the Baptist and Commoner.

Signed,

ELD. R. L. POWELL,
ELD. W. T. CALDWELL,
R. M. HAWKINS, Committee.

Report on Sunday School work was read by Sister Cora Miller, who moved its adoption. After talks on the work by Eld. G. R. Tyler and G. N. Jones, the report was adopted as read.

Report—We believe the Sunday School work is the most important work of the church for the religious training of the young, except the preaching of the Gospel by a regular Baptist preacher. The Sunday School is a part of the church work, under the control of the church and not an independent institution. The officers and teachers of the Sunday school should be Christians and members of the Baptist church. We feel that there is a lack of interest for the Sunday School on the part of the members of our churches as a whole, and that the work is left for a few of those who are willing to work. Though we are not able to give statistics we feel sure that the work is making progress and doing good in our churches. We recommend that our pastors say more about this work, both in the homes of the members and from the pulpit. We believe that every Baptist Sunday School should use Baptist literature. May the Lord help us brethren to be more in earnest about the salvation of our children,

Signed,

CORA MILLER,
FRANK SMITH,
R. M. HAWKINS,
THOS. HENDERSON, Com.

Meeting adjourned in regular order to meet at 8 p. m. Benediction by Eld. G. R. Tyler.

Friday, 8 p. m.—Meeting called to order by singing. Prayer by Bro. Hubert Johnson. Song, "We'll Work Till Jesus Comes." Testimony meeting led by Eld. R. L. Powell, after which the report on Orphans' Home was taken up, and talks were made by Eld. D. H. Sharp, Eld. W. T. Caldwell, Bro. Ben Gibbs and G. N. Jones. A collection for the Orphans' Home was then taken which amounted to \$25.08. Sermon by Eld. R. L. Powell. Text: 1 Samuel 15:22. Meeting then adjourned to meet Saturday at 9 a. m. Benediction by D. H. Sharp.

Saturday, 9 a. m.—Meeting called to order by singing. "When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder." The meeting was led in prayer by Bro. Thos. Henderson. Report on Home Missions was read and adopted as read.

Report—As Christ delivered the charge to the church to preach the Gospel, we as the committee on Home Missions of this Association of Baptist Churches, do recommend the preaching of the Gospel in our Home Mission field. We have ten missionaries on the field. That they are doing excellent work to the upbuilding of God's cause and kingdom we are sure. We urge that the churches of this Association give them their full sup-

port, and earnestly pray for them in their labor. Signed,

BEN GIBBS,

THOS. HENDERSON,

JOE REDWINE, Committee.

Report on Obituaries was read by Sister Ethel Fowler and adopted as read.

Report—We find the following number deceased.

Datto, 2; Pittman, 1; Pleasant Grove, 1; Hopewell, 11; Shiloh, 4; Current River, 2; Moark, 2; Total, 23. We regret this separation here on earth but are glad to know there will be a happy reunion in that home which God has prepared for the redeemed.

ETHEL FOWLER,

C. H. CLEMONS, Committee.

The Committee on Resolutions offered the following report which was adopted: First, That we offer our heartfelt thanks to Independence Church, especially the Sisters, for their kind hospitality during our stay with them. Second, We also extend our gratitude to our Moderator and Clerk for their services, and we recommend that the Clerk have the supervision of printing and distributing the minutes, and that he receive \$10.00 for his service. A good talk expressing the joy of Independence Church was made by the pastor, Eld. W. T. Caldwell. Signed,

G. W. WATSON,

LEWIS TOWNSEND,

BEN GIBBS, Committee.

The Committee on Ordained and Licensed Ministers made the following report: Ministers—W. T. Caldwell, Neelyville, Mo.; Geo. Lafferty, Moark, Ark.; D. H. Sharp, Pittman, Ark.; C. A. Fowler, Supply, Ark.; T. J. Watson, Datto, Ark.; W. F. Bridges, Walnut Ridge, Ark.; R. L. Powell, Corning, Ark.; Wm. Shively, Palatka, Ark.; Thos. Wilson, Datto, Ark.; J. C. Grider, Harviell, Mo.; S. N. Dickerson, Corning, Ark.; H. Rodgers, Okean, Ark.; J. M. Stephens, Biggers, Ark.; D. A. Lemmons, Boydsville, Ark.; J. W. Harvey, Reno, Ark.; W. A. Cummings, Reno, Ark. Licensed Ministers—Hubert Johnson, Datto, Ark.; W. J. Mock, Datto, Ark.; Sular Cowden, Datto, Ark.

On ballot the Association decided to hold the next Annual meeting with Datto Church at Datto, Ark., Eld. D. H. Sharp to preach introductory sermon. The Finance Committee report the following sums sent in by the churches for printing the Minutes:

Churches—New Hope, \$2.25; Mt. Pleasant East, \$2.50; Pleasant Grove, \$1.55; Black River, \$1.00; Datto, \$3.50; Independence, \$3.00; Moark, \$1.50; Mt. Pleasant West, \$1.00; Shiloh, \$1.00; Land Mark, \$2.00; Hopewell, \$1.50; Union, \$2.00; Reno, \$3.00.

Saturday, 11 a. m.—Meeting called to order by singing, "Only Trust Him." Scripture reading by Eld. D. H. Sharp, 17th chapter John. Prayer by Bro. Ben Gibbs. Sermon by Eld. D. H. Sharp. Text: John 3-16. After sermon some remarks by Eld. R. L. Powell. Motion to adjourn prevailed to meet at Datto Church on Thursday before the third Sunday in September, 1920, at 10 a. m. The body then arose and while we sang that grand old hymn, "How Firm a Foundation," we all shook hands and tears of joy in the Lord were in many eyes as we wished each other Godspeed.

ELD. R. L. POWELL, Moderator.

G. N. JONES, Clerk.

STATISTICAL TABLE

| CHURCHES | Pastor | Clerk | Address | Membership | | | | | Paid Pastor | Sunday School | Orphans Home | Missions | Incidentals | Membership | Value of Church Property | Days of Meeting |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|------------|--------------------|--------|------|----------|-------------|---------------|--------------|----------|-------------|------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| | | | | Baptism | Letter Restoration | Letter | Dead | Excluded | | | | | | | | |
| Pleasant West | D. H. Sharp | Florence Shemwell | Supply, Ark. | 1 | | | 3 | 1 | \$100.00 | \$ | \$ 10.00 | \$ 15.00 | \$ | 132 | | 3rd |
| Pleasant East | R. L. Powell | Mona Gambill | Palatka, " | | | 4 | 1 | 4 | 58 35 | 10.50 | 20.00 | 6 00 | | 93 | | 4th |
| on | W. H. Davis | Mary Snow | Walnut Ridge " | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | | 300.00 | | 16 06 | 3.50 | 9.30 | 239 | \$1000 | 4th |
| to | R. L. Powell | Bettie Cheek | Datto, " | 2 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 134 60 | 22.22 | 76 57 | 63 15 | 88 41 | 208 | | 1 3 |
| no | W. A. Cummings | H. F. Pickett | Reynolds, " | 5 | 10 | 6 | | | 198.75 | 41.50 | | 104.28 | 60.00 | 141 | | 4th |
| dependence | W. T. Caldwell | Roy Hines | Necleyville, Mo. | 6 | 1 | | 2 | | 83 50 | 8.01 | 13.16 | 2 15 | | 109 | 1500 | |
| mark | | Rosie Wertheberger | Corning, Ark. | | | | | | | | | | | 59 | | |
| oh | Knox Belew | Nora Richardson | Datto, " | 3 | 2 | | 4 | 2 | 95.00 | | 10.00 | 15.45 | | 50 | 1000 | |
| ark | | Wm. Meredith | Moark, " | 3 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 70 10 | 19.49 | 7 75 | 8.00 | | 86 | 500 | |
| owell | S. N. Dickinson | Levi Nelson | Datto, " | 7 | 2 | | 8 | 1 | 50 00 | | 8 00 | | | 60 | | 4th |
| e Home | C. A. Fowler | H. R. Brown | Supply, " | 1 | | | | | 85.00 | 15.00 | 23.00 | 51 00 | | 56 | 1000 | 1st |
| ck River | | Fannie Lemons | | 1 | 2 | | | 3 | 10.00 | | | 2 00 | 2 00 | 28 | | |
| asant Grove | R. L. Powell | Addie Smith | Naylor, Mo. | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 | | 18 00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 4.50 | 3.00 | 50 | | 2nd |

Following are the Amounts raised by the different Churches since the Association last year for Missions and Orphan's Home.

| Churches | Home and Foreign Mis. | State Mis. | District Mis. | Orphan's Home. |
|---------------|-----------------------|------------|---------------|----------------|
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| ion | 3 50 | | | 16 06 |
| ito | | 51 00 | 12 15 | 76 57 |
| yno | 85 28 | 19 00 | | |
| ark | | | 8 00 | 7 75 |
| dependence | | 2 15 | | 13 16 |
| loh | | 15 45 | | 10 00 |