

MINUTES
OF THE
Thirty-Third Annual Session
OF THE
FOURCHE VALLEY
MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH
Perryville Baptist Church
September 24, 25, 26, 1920

The next session will be held with the Houston Baptist Church
at Houston, Ark., Friday, 10 a. m. before the last
Sunday in September, 1921.

REV. C. F. MEDLIN, Moderator
JOHN L. HILL, Clerk

MINUTES

The Thirty-third Annual Session of the Fourche Valley Baptist Association convened with the Perryville Baptist Church on Friday, Sept. 24, 1920 at 10 a. m. The Moderator being absent the Association was called to order by the Clerk, John L. Hill.

On motion of Rev. C. F. Medlin, Rev. A. H. Autry was elected to conduct the Devotional Exercise.

11 O'clock

Sermon by Rev. A. H. Autry, text Matt. 13-3, "Theme The Sower" After the sermon on motion the Association adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m.

Friday Afternoon 2 p. m.

The Association was called to order by the Clerk, John L. Hill. Devotional exercises conducted by Rev. C. F. Medlin, after which Rev. Medlin was elected temporary Moderator and Reading Clerks were appointed viz: R. C. Cumby and Rev. A. H. Autry and the following churches presented letters which were read: Pleasant Grove with Messengers present as follows: Mrs. Laura Black, Ida Cox, C. A. Black and Chris Nooner.

Cherry Hill: James Creasy, William Tarvin and Thomas Tillery.

Perryville: J. M. Wallace, G. E. Smith, R. C. Cumby and Mrs. C. F. Medlin and Mrs. Mary Bland.

Adona: J. Norton.

Thornburg: Rev. N. H. Camp.

Houston: J. A. Lovelace, Mrs. J. A. Lovelace, Mrs. J. D. Lovelace, Miss Gussie Caldwell, and Dr. R. A. Jones.

Calvary: W. A. Price and W. R. Hurlocker.

Bigelow: E. S. Turner, H. B. Lipscomb, Rev. F. A. Whitely, Mrs. H. B. Lipscomb and Mrs. Susan Brannon.

After the completion of the reading of letters, Rev. C. F. Medlin was nominated and elected Moderator and John L. Hill was nominated and elected Clerk, and on motion it was voted that Thornburg Church be admitted as a member of this Association, and Rev. A. H. Autry was seated as enlistment man from the home board as from the Pulaski County Association. The following committees were appointed:

Committee on Divine Service: The Deacons of the Perryville Church with its pastor and J. Norton and Jim Creasy.

Report of Committee on Divine Service as follows:

That they had selected Rev. A. H. Autry to preach at 7:30 p. m. after which talks were made by the following: J. Norton, W. A. Paul, Rev. Camp and Rev. Medlin. On motion the Association adjourned until 7:30 p. m.

Friday Evening 7:30 p. m.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator and the following committees were appointed:

Home Missions: F. H. Scott and J. S. Greasy.
 Christian Education: R. C. Cumby.
 Sunday Schools: Rev. N. H. Camp.
 Womans Work: Lilian May.
 State Missions: G. E. Smith.
 Religious Literature: J. Norton.
 Orphans Home: Miss Ida Cox and Mrs. Mary Bland.
 Foreign Missions: W. A. Paul.
 Prohibition: Rev. F. A. Whitely and R. C. Cumby.
 Ministerial Relief: Thomas Tillery.
 B. Y. P. U. Work: Mrs. C. Forest Medlin.
 Seventy-Five Million: Mrs. J. E. Brazil.
 Resolutions: F. A. Whitely and N. H. Camp.

Sermon by Rev. A. H. Autry, after which the Association adjourned until Saturday morning 9 a. m.

Saturday Morning 9 a. m.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator. Devotional exercises conducted by J. Norton.

Committee on Divine Service reported that they had selected A. H. Autry to preach at 11:00 o'clock.

The report on Foreign Missions was offered, discussed and adopted as follows: We find in May 1920, we had 542 churches in foreign lands, $\frac{1}{4}$ of which was self supporting, $\frac{1}{2}$ of which worship in houses owned either by the board or these churches, there was 6834 baptisms during 1919, total membership 57438, these native churches gave last year \$242460.00 or \$4.22 per member. The Sunday Schools now number 836 with an enrollment of 47672 scholars or 83 per cent enrollment in our Sunday Schools abroad or 70 per cent enrolled in our Southern Baptist Convention, our fourteen Medical Missionaries gave 205098 treatments during 1919. The Foreign Missionary Force during the year rose to 341 but there was a gain of 208 in number of native missionaries who now number 799. The 75 million campaign has helped or inspired our foreign field and caused them to raise more than a million pledged in foreign lands. There has been sixty-five missionaries sent out this year. We urge churches to pay up on the 75 million campaign. Respectfully submitted by your Committee.

W. A. Paul.

Report on State Missions was read and adopted as follows:

With the Arkansas Baptist the expression of their Missionary faith is found in State Missions. Our purpose in this work is to get everybody saved for Christ, and into the Baptist Churches, the work of the State Missions should be carried on by the churches through the executive board of the Baptist State Convention.

G. E. Smith.

11:00 a. m. Sermon by Sev. E. Baldwin text Ist. John 3-9 after which the association adjourned until 2 p. m.

Saturday Afternoon

Association was called to order by the Moderator. Devotional exercise conducted by Rev. N. H. Camp.

Report on Home Missions is offered and adopted as follows:

Every loyal Baptist will rejoice in the admirable efforts of our Board to meet the crucial needs of these times of Reconstruction problems, thousands of our people have made a new dedication of themselves to this Christian Americanism by enlarging its work. At its Annual Meeting in Atlanta in June, the brethren of the Board found that \$2,875,000.00 was necessary for work of the present year.

We urge the churches to pay up on the 75 million campaign.

F. H. Scott,
J. D. Greasy,

Report on Womans Work was offered, discussed and adopted as follows:

The Southern W. M. U. in session at Washington, D. C., in May, 1920, adopted the watchword "That in all things He might have pre-eminence." That the fundamentals of the W. M. U. be "Prayer, Bible and Mission Study, Soul-Winning, Personal Service and Systematic and proportionate giving." Thus we see the great host of Southern Baptist women moving steadily onward in carrying out the Great Commission.

The total number of Woman's Missionary Societies, is 9,967, of Graded W. M. U. or Junior Organization 6,997 making a grand total of 16964. With cash and box contributions amounting to \$1,324,734.60. With these inspiring facts before us, we recommend that the women of Fourche Valley Association distribute Missionary information, encourage the organization of Woman's Missionary and Aid Societies and Young Peoples Organizations, that our women and young people be thoroughly furnished unto every good work.

Lillian May,
Committee.

Report on B. Y. P. U. work was presented, discussed and adopted as follows:

It is gratifying to report a large increase in B. Y. P. U. membership during the past year.

We recommend:

1. That a Senior and Junior B. Y. P. U. be organized in every church in our Association where possible.
2. That B. Y. P. U. Extension Week be observed October 10th to 17th.
3. That representatives be sent to the Summer Assembly, July 5th to 12th.
4. That we call upon our B. Y. P. U. workers to assist in Institutes and Training Schools.

Mrs. C. Forrest Medlin,
Committee.

Report on Orphans Home was submitted and approved as follows:

Since the establishment of our Orphants Home at Monticello, approximately one thousand children have been cared for.

We recommend that our Sunday Schools continue to contribute one Sunday's collection each month to the Orphans Home, not only because of the need but for the educational value to our Sunday School pupils in systematic giving.

We urge all the churches to pay their pledges to the 75 million campaign promptly that our orphans may be cared for properly.

Miss Ida Cox,

Mrs. Mary Bland,

Committee.

Report on the 75 Million Campaign was presented and discussed by J. Norton and Rev. C. F. Medlin and approved as follows:

The Southern Baptist Convention which met in Atlanta, Ga., in May, 1919, inaugurated the greatest forward movement ever undertaken in an organized way by Southern Baptist, known as the 75 Million Campaign. This effort to raise a subscription of 75 million dollars to be paid in one fifth of each year for five years was eminently successful, reaching in its grand total nearly ninety-three million dollars throughout the Southern Churches.

This Campaign was the response of Southern Baptist to the universal need so accurately emphasized by the new world conditions since the great war. It was a plan to take care of all our missionary and benevolent causes; Providing for Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Christian Education, Ministerial Relief, Orphanages, State Missions and Hospitals.

One chief thing remains to be done that is, to try to get all of the Fourche Valley Association to adopt this plan of giving and then Perry County will have the pastors it so badly needs and a missionary in the field.

We recommend that all the churches organize a plan to collect all the money that is pledged by them, so the work will be carried out as planned and the other churches in this Association will realize that there is really something to this great 75 Million Campaign, and Fourche Valley Association will then be on the same level as the adjoining Association.

Mrs. J. E. Brazil,

Committee.

Report on Sunday Schools were submitted and adopted as follows:

That every Church in the Association maintain a Sunday School twelve months in the year.

2. That only Baptist literature be used and that we connect ourselves with and encourage only Baptist Sunday School Organizations.

3. That all possible effort be made to make every Sunday School in the Association a Standard School and our Sunday School workers attend our School Conferences and Institutes, that they can in order that they may be efficient workers. Organize a class in the Convention Manual right away.

N. H. Camp,
Committee.

The report on Hospitals was presented and adopted from which the following is gleaned:

The Roman Catholics number 23000 in Arkansas, white and colored; while the white Baptist alone number 126000, the colored Baptist 96000 total colored and white in state 222000.

The Catholics have six hospitals in Arkansas managed by seventy-five sisters, and last year these hospitals treated ten thousand patients. St. Vincent's Infirmary has two hundred and twenty-five beds and treated last year 4685 private patients among which were about six hundred and fifty Baptists. The Baptists of the Arkansas State Convention now own and operate the Davis Hospital at Pine Bluff, and have an interest in the Baptist Tri-State Hospital at Memphis. The Little Rock Hospital will probably be erected before many more months. The Association would urge our churches to pay our pledges to the 75 million campaign so this great hospital work may go on.

J. M. Wallace.

The report on Religious Literature was submitted, discussed and approved as follows:

In as much as reading matter determine the character of those who read, we therefore recommend the best books and periodicals. We advise that all our Sunday Schools use Southern Baptist Convention literature, and that every home take the Advance or some other Baptist paper. In addition to the study of the Bible we recommend our Book House, 405, Donaghey Building, Little Rock, Ark.

J. Norton

After which the Association adjourned until 7:30 p. m.

Saturday Evening, 7:30

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, prayer by Rev. E. Baldwin, new Messengers called for and the Bigelow church responded with letter and Messengers. After which the session of the W. M. U. was held by Miss Lillian May, constitution was read and adopted and the following officers elected: Supt. Mrs. C. F. Medlin, followed by a sermon by Rev. A. H. Autry, text: Isaiah 54-2, Theme, "Enlarge the Tent of the Lord." After which the Association adjourned until 9 a. m. Sunday morning.

Sunday Morning, 9 a. m.

The Association called to order by Moderator, song service led by Rev. G. E. Smith, and Devotional services by Rev. C. F. Medlin, scripture lesson, Isaiah 55.

Report of Ministerial Relief was discussed and adopted. Your committee on ministerial relief beg to submit the following: We be-

lieve that the minister who has come to his day of retirement is worthy of our sympathy and prayer and financial support, the same is true of his widow and orphan children. These men and women were faithful to God in laying the foundation for the work of Christ in this state, and in their declining years should have our hearty support.

Thomas Tillery.

Report on Christian Education was offered and discussed by R. C. Cumby, Rev. E. Baldwin, John L. Hill, J. Norton and C. F. Medlin and adopted as follows:

Every good Baptist in Arkansas rejoiced over the prosperity of our institutions.

Ouachita, Central and Mountain Home Colleges together with our Academies have in property worth \$446,000.00.

The most hopeful sign of progress in all our work is the prosperity of our Baptist Schools and Colleges, and the ever increasing interest of our brotherhood in this work, manifested by the enlarged patronage and the liberal contributions through the 75 million campaign.

Let us pray for and support our schools.

R. C. Cumby,
Committee.

At this time the question of electing a delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention came up and Rev. C. F. Medlin was nominated and elected, also came the election of a member of the State Executive Board and J. E. Brazil was elected. Note (The State Convention meeting at Fort Smith for some reason failed to confirm the appointment of J. E. Brazil and instead appointed John L. Hill who is now serving.

At this time came the question as to where the Association should meet next year and by vote of the Association it was voted that the Association meet next year with the Baptist Church at Houston, Arkansas, after which the Association ordered that the Clerk make such corrections in the minutes and reports that may seem proper.

11 a. m. Sermon by Rev. E. Baldwin, text, Ephesians 4-19, after which the Association adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m.

Sunday Afternoon, 2 p. m.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, Devotional exercises conducted by Rev. F. A. Whitely, after which the following business was transacted:

The report on Prohibition was submitted and discussed by Rev. E. Baldwin and adopted as follows:

We, the Fourche Valley Baptist Association, go on record as opposing the making or sale of liquor in Perry county and therefore pledge our support to the county officials to put it down through the enforcement of the Volsted Act. We further request our officers to see that our Sunday laws are obeyed.

F. A. Whitely
R. C. Cumby,
Committee.

Election of Members of the Executive Board.

The following were elected as members of the Associational Executive Board:

R. S. Williams, J. S. Wright, J. A. Lovelace and E. S. Turner.

And upon the election of said board arose the question as to the number of members of said board. The Constitution being indefinite upon that question and John L. Hill offered the following amendment to Art. 7 of the Constitution:

Amendment: That Art. 7 of the Constitution of the Fourche Valley Missionary Baptist Association be and is amended to read as follows:

Art. 7. The officers of this Association shall be as follows: A Moderator, a Clerk, who shall also be Treasurer and a member of the Executive Board. The Executive Board to be composed of five members, which amendment was properly adopted by the Association.

The report on Resolutions was offered and unanimously adopted as follows: We, your Committee on Resolutions, beg leave to submit the following:

Resolved that we tender our heartfelt thanks to the church and pastor of the Perryville church for their hospitality to us as delegates and visitors.

Be it further resolved that our Clerk supervise the printing of our Minutes and that we pay him \$10.00 for his work.

F. A. Whitely,
N. H. Camp.
Committee.

Report of Committee on Devine Service.

We, your committee, beg to submit that we have selected F. A. Whitely to preach tonight 7:30 p. m. There being no further business and the hour of 4 o'clock having arrived, on motion the Association adjourned to meet with the Houston Missionary Baptist Church of Houston, Arkansas, at 10 o'clock a. m., on Friday before the last Saturday in September, 1921.

Rev. C. S. Medlin, Moderator
John L. Hill, Clerk