

Minutes of the
Twentieth Annual Session of the
Benton County Baptist Association

Held with the
Baptist Church at Rogers, Ark.
Aug. 31, Sept. 1 and 2, 1906.
Next Session to be held with
the Baptist Church at Siloam
Springs, Ark., Beginning on Fri-
day before the first Sunday in
September, 1907.



OFFICERS
Rev. L. Tomme, Moderator
B. S. Beach, Clerk

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PROCEEDINGS.

The Benton County Baptist Association met with the church at Rogers on Aug. 31, 1906. Rev. O. T. Flinch conducted the devotional service.

Moderator, Rev. L. Tomme, called the meeting to order and appointed W. E. Kimbrough and Sam Eaton as reading clerks.

Eleven church letters were received.

Messengers were enrolled as follows:

Bentonville, W. E. Kimbrough, S. L. Holloway, W. D. Joyner, I. R. Hall, E. E. Bagwell and Miss Nellie Rockhold.

Gravette, A. F. Keith and T. J. Perfater.

Gentry, Sam Eaton, Mrs. Sam Eaton, T. F. George and B. S. Stafford.

Garfield, Mrs. Clara Haswell and Mrs. Icy Payne.

Twelve Corner, J. W. Harris, W. L. Cardin and J. A. Buttry.

Temperance Hill, A. K. Kirby, B. E. Gambill and J. W. Pugh.

Pilgrim Home, Jessie Mason and L. J. Whittfield.

Rogers, A. L. Jordan, J. F. Little, F. Z. Meek, H. B. Livingston and Mrs. W. R. Felker.

Siloam Springs, L. Tomme, Miss Mary Killingsworth, Mrs. Tennessee Shumate and Ned Tate.

Logan, Albert Guthry and E. V. Howard.

Decatur, John Noblet, S. M. Denton and John Buckner.

Permanent organization followed. Rev. L. Tomme was elected Moderator and B. S. Beach, Clerk.

The order of business:

The Moderator appointed the following committees:

Divine Service A. L. Jordan, J. F. Little, F. Z. Meeks and W. W. Thomason.

Finance—H. B. Livingston, W. W. Thomason and T. F. George.

Visiting Brethren—R. S. Bowers, State Mission Secretary; H. Beauchamp, S. S. Field Secretary; O. T. Flinch, Financial Agent for Orphans' Home; H. B. Church, Missionary and Colporter; J. L. Brown, Missionary and Colporter; Z. T. Eatton, Agent for Baptist Advance, and J. N. B. Hettel from Washington county.

On motion, the Association voted to meet at 9:30 instead of 10 a. m.

Recess until 2 o'clock p. m.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- 9:30 Devotional service.
- 10:00 Reading letters and enrollment of messengers.
- Organization and election of officers.
- 10:45 Adjournment.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

- 2:00 Devotional Service.
- 2:30 Announcement of committees.
- 2:45 Miscellaneous business.

Adjourn at pleasure.

8:00 Introductory sermon.

9:30 Devotional service.

10:00 Reports of committees:

A Associational Missions.

B State Missions.

C Home Missions.

D Foreign Missions.

E Sunday Schools and Colportage.

F Education.

G Religious Literature.

H Orphans' Home.

I Temperance.

J Obituaries.

K Finance.

L Resolutions.

M W. M. U.

N B. Y. P. U.

O Nominations.

P Sabbath Observance and Law Enforcement.

Miscellaneous business.

Final adjournment.

Afternoon Session.

Devotional service conducted by Rev. H. P. Church.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator.

After some announcements the following committees were appointed:

Associational Missions—W. E. Kimbrough, W. L. Cardin and E. V. Howard.

State Missions—J. F. Little, W. D. Joyner and Albert Guthry.

Home Missions—Sam Eaton, J. W. Harris and A. K. Kirby.

Foreign Missions—A. L. Jordan, B. S. Stafford and B. E. Gambill.

Sunday School and Colportage—S. L. Holloway and F. Z. Meeks.

Christian Education—E. E. Bagwell and J. F. Little.

Religious Literature—W. D. Joyner and S. L. Holloway.

Orphans' Home—T. J. Perfater, J. S. Herod and T. F. George.

Temperance—W. E. Kimbrough, A. F. Keith and J. A. Buttry.

Obituaries—B. S. Stafford and I. R. Hall.

Resolutions—Sam Eaton and W. W. Thomason.

B. Y. P. U.—Mrs. W. E. Kimbrough and Mrs. Tennessee Shumate.

Woman's Missionary Union—Mrs. Sam Eaton and Mrs. B. S. Beach.

Nominations—J. F. Little, S. L. Holloway and J. T. Perfater.

Sabbath Observance and Law Enforcement—H. B. Livingston and E. V. Howard.

The following missionaries made reports of their work, which were very encouraging:

C. P. Dean, Associational Missionary; J. L. Brown, State Missionary; H. P. Church, State Missionary and Colporter.

On motion, it was ordered that this evening just after the introductory sermon the regular order of business be dispensed with, and the report of committee on Orphans' Home be taken up.

A motion that the W. M. U. and B. Y. P. U. work be added to the work of the Association and that committees be appointed on each was adopted.

A motion was adopted that there be committees appointed on Nominations and on Sabbath Observance and Law Enforcement.

A motion that the clerk have 500 copies of the minutes printed and that he be allowed \$10 for his services was adopted.

The committee on nominations reported as follows:

First: That this Association meet at 9:30 o'clock a. m. on Friday before the first Sunday in September, 1907, and that we meet with the church at Siloam Springs.

Second: That the Benton County Baptist S. S. Convention meet at the same place on the day before (Thursday) at 10 o'clock a. m.

Third: That Bro. S. L. Holloway preach the annual sermon on Friday night at 8 o'clock p. m. Alternate, Bro. W. E. Kimbrough.

Fourth: That the executive board of this Association for the ensuing year consist of the following named five brethren: L. Tomme, chairman; F. Z. Meeks, B. S. Beach, L. F. George, Luke Buttry.—J. F. Little, S. L. Holloway, T. J. Perfater.

Adjourned until 8 p. m.

Evening Session.

Introductory sermon by Bro. Sam Eaton at 8 o'clock p. m.

The Association was then called to order by the moderator.

Report on Orphans' Home was read by Bro. T. J. Perfater. We, your Committee on Orphans' Home at Monticello, beg to submit the following:

The Orphans' Home work suffered on account of the continued illness of Bro. Gardner, who was finally compelled to resign on account of sickness. After some months Bro. O. T. Finch took charge of the work and through the splendid co-operation of the churches, Sunday schools, ladies aid societies, B. Y. P. U. and our beloved pastors, all indebtedness has been paid, the home has been improved as follows: floors painted, electric lights and bath rooms added and newly furnished from top to bottom and other improvements too numerous to mention. We have nearly seventy children looking to us for their daily bread and raiment. We recommend this glorious work to every Baptist in the Association and urge that every pastor in our Association give the Orphans' Home more attention than ever before and that our collections be increased in keeping with the demands upon us; we further recommend that a collection be taken up now for this great work.—T. J. Perfater, T. F. George.

The report was discussed by Bro. O. T. Finch, financial agent for the Orphans' Home. A collection of \$43.25 and pledges for next year amounting to \$80 were taken.

On motion, it was decided that the reports on Sunday schools and colportage and state missions be taken up at the Saturday evening session.

Adjourned until 9:30 a. m. Saturday.

Saturday Morning Session.

At 9:30 a. m. devotional service was led by W. D. Joyner.

The Association was called to order by the moderator.

The committee on Civic Righteousness reported as follows:

Realizing the great evil of Sabbath desecration and its demor-

alizing influence on the moral growth of the young people of our country, we most earnestly urge upon Baptist parents and church members to re-consecrate themselves to the all-important duty of making greater efforts along this line during the next year than ever before, and to use every effort to aid our officials in the enforcement of the law in regard to the use of profanity and immoral language. God grant that we Baptists of Arkansas may ever be found leading the fight for Civic Righteousness and the elevation of the world to a higher plane of Christian life.—H. B. Livingston, E. V. Howard.

The committee on Associational Missions made their report as follows:

In view of the destitution existing in our county and the demand for mission work arising therefrom, also the fact that this is the work to which we as an association are especially connected, it being, in fact, the chief matter of business which has called us together, we therefore urge that it be very seriously and thoroughly considered and discussed at this time, and also commend it to all our people as worthy of their most liberal and prayerful support. The success of this work is, in a large measure, essential to the success of all our work in general, including our missionary, educational and benevolent enterprises, and of course is necessary in order to the salvation of the people and the upbuilding of churches within our own territory. We note with pleasure the work accomplished during the past year through the labors of our missionary; whose report appears elsewhere in these minutes. The results apparent from this report justify us, we think, in recommending that the missionary be re-employed and his work continued upon such terms as may be agreed upon by him and our executive board.—W. E. Kimbrough, W. L. Cardin, E. V. Howard.

EXECUTIVE BOARD'S REPORT.

We, your Executive Board, appointed at last meeting of the Association, submit the following:

The board meet at Gravette soon after adjournment of last Association meeting and in keeping with the instructions of the Association, decided to put a man on the field for full time as Associational Missionary and Colporter. Inasmuch as Bro. C. P. Dean was familiar with the field, therefore in our judgment adapted to the work, we employed him as your missionary on a guaranteed salary of \$500, with the understanding that we would add to

this amount \$100 worth of books, provided they could be secured as a donation from the American Baptist Publication Society. As a result of this arrangement we are glad to be able to make the following report of the work of our missionary, beginning Oct. 1, 1905, and ending Oct. 1, 1906. Report of C. P. Dean, Associational Missionary and Colporter for eleven months:

Days of service.....	330
Miles traveled.....	1427
Religious visits in homes.....	275
Services held in homes.....	63
Sermons preached.....	103
Religious addresses.....	60
Sunday school addresses.....	21
Conversions.....	37
Received for baptism.....	32
Received by letter.....	4

We rejoice in the report of the efficient work of our missionary, and feel gratified with the results when we take into consideration the many difficulties to be encountered on the field, and we congratulate the Association upon the fact that for the first in thirteen years we have had an efficient missionary upon the field constantly. The financial condition of the board is as follows:

RECEIPTS.

From the churches.....	\$ 99.75
Collected by missionary.....	79.88
From state board.....	100.00
Books from American Baptist Publication Society...	100.00
Commission on books sold.....	89.05
Miscellaneous collection.....	25.95
Total.....	\$494.63

EXPENSES.

Salary to missionary.....	\$550.00
Express on books.....	7.40
For supply for missionary.....	1.00
Interest on borrowed money.....	3.00
Total.....	\$561.40

While our report shows a deficiency of \$66.77, we should not feel discouraged in view of the fact that we have raised \$494.63, whereas we did practically nothing the previous year. But while we

congratulate ourselves, we would not forget to acknowledge the generous appropriation of \$100 from our State Mission Board, and \$100 in books donated by the American Baptist Publication Society. The board also acknowledges the courtesy of the free use of telephone lines of the different companies in our county, which has been a great help to the work, and for which we express our thanks.

Respectfully submitted,

L. TOMME, Chairman.

B. S. BEACH, Secretary.

On motion, the discussion on adoption of the above two reports was made special order of business for the afternoon session.

On motion, Rev. L. Tomme was elected as messenger to the Southern Baptist Convention, and this Association to pay his railroad fare.

Twelve Corner church asked for the next Fifth Sunday meeting, which was accepted and the following program committee was appointed:

L. Tomme, C. P. Dean and W. L. Cardin.

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION.

The committee on W. M. U. work reported as follows:

We, your committee, find that there are eleven churches represented in our Association, and that five of those churches have societies. We find that these societies are doing much good for the cause of our Master, and recommend that the messengers from the other six churches encourage the organization of societies in their own churches; and further recommend that the Association give a place in the order of business to the discussion of woman's work.—Mrs. Sam Eaton, Mrs. B. S. Beach.

The report was discussed by several and adopted.

The committee on Divine Service asked to report, which report was received.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The committee on Foreign Missions made their report to-wit:

John Milton says that when God saw satan approaching the Garden of Eden, he said, "Who will go for us and whom shall we send?" The Son made answer, "Behold me, send me for him; life for life I offer; on me let thine anger fall; count me man. I for his sake now will leave thy bosom, and this glory next to thee put off." He was at once accepted in heaven as the first Foreign Missionary. He left Heaven as the first Foreign Missionary. He

went about doing good, which is the work of the Missionary, to the disciples whom He had gathered around Him. He said, "As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you," and they were endowed with the Foreign Mission spirit. He that hath not the spirit of Christ is none of His. The work of Foreign Missions thus began, and every friend of Christ from that day to this has been deeply interested in Foreign Missions.—A. L. Jordan, B. S. Stafford, B. E. Gambill.

Afternoon Session.

At 2 o'clock p. m. devotional service was led by T. J. Perfater. The Association was called to order by the moderator.

The reports of committees on Associational Missions and Executive Board were taken up as appointed and discussed at length and adopted, after which a collection was taken, amounting to \$66.77, the balance due on salary of Associational Missionary.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn to 7:30 o'clock this evening.

Evening Session.

The Association came together at 7:30 o'clock p. m. by singing, with the moderator in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Bro. J. N. B. Hettel.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS AND COLPORTAGE.

The committee on Sunday Schools and Colportage made their report as follows:

The Sunday school or Bible school is the teaching school of the church, and the Bible lays much emphasis upon teaching. By example our Lord shows the importance of the teaching service. Matt. 4:23, "And Jesus went about all Galilee teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom." His commandment in Matt. 28:19, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations," etc. Again, He placed teachers in the churches, see Acts 13:1 and 1 Cor. 12:28. The holy Bible is the text book, and the faithful teacher stands by the side of the minister and receives the same orders, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations," etc. The divine calling of teachers is as clearly set forth in the Scriptures as that of the preacher, and His great work is emphasized both by precept and example. The end to be reached in all this teaching

is the winning of souls for Jesus Christ. So let Sunday school teachers magnify their office, for to them is committed the winning and training of souls in the most impressionable period of life. We are glad that the churches are coming back to the teaching service, and that they are beginning to regard it as the apostles and early Christian fathers did. We recommend that all the churches heartily and actively co-operate in the great work which our Benton County Sunday School Association is undertaking; that we devote a large part of the time in our Fifth Sunday meeting to this work, and that every church have at least one Sunday school institute for her teachers, and that every church strive to reach that point of efficiency that every teacher and worker in its membership shall become a soulwinner for our Master.—S. L. Holloway, F. Z. Meeks.

After being ably discussed by Bro. H. Beauchamp, S. L. Holloway and others the report was adopted.

STATE MISSIONS.

The committee on State Missions offered their report as follows:

The work of State Missions in Arkansas was never more prosperous and encouraging than it is at present. The work for this year has been laid out on a basis of \$25,000. This is an increase of 33 1-3 per cent over last year. There remains to be raised by the meeting of our state convention \$15,000, to meet all indebtedness of the work. This amount we must raise. We can do it, and we will do it. The Lord is richly blessing our efforts. The immediate results of the labors of our Missionaries are very encouraging. The demands upon us are increasing every hour. Our board cannot begin to supply the places of destitution even with an enlarged appropriation. Our responsibility is great under existing circumstances. Our debt to our state is measured by the needs of the field and our opportunities to supply the needs. Arkansas is at present a great open field for Baptists. Shall we take it for our Master?

1. We recommend that the action of the Missionary and Sunday School Board of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention in enlarging the work be fully endorsed.

2. That State Missions have the right-of-way in the Association from now until the meeting of the convention.

3. That our pastors be urged to preach on State Missions and otherwise give information concerning this work.

4. That our churches be urged to increase their contributions in proportion to the increase in the work.

5. That an earnest effort be made to reach every member of the churches in this Association for an offering to State Missions.

J. F. Little,

W. D. Joyner,

Albert Guthry.

On being discussed by Bro. Bowers, our state financial secretary, Bro. Little, our state missionary, and others, the report was adopted.

BAPTIST YOUNG PEOPLE'S UNION.

The committee on B. Y. P. U. work made their report as follows:

We, your committee on B. Y. P. U. work, make the following report: We find that only three churches in the Association have unions; however, the excellent reports from these three should serve as an incentive to the young people throughout the bounds of this Association, and we recommend that the messengers from the different churches represented here present this matter to the young people of their churches and urge them to enlist in this work. Literature pertaining to organizing and conducting these unions may be had of the B. Y. P. U. Publishing House in Chicago.—Mrs. W. E. Kimbrough, Mrs. Tennessee Shumate.

The report was adopted.

HOME MISSIONS.

The committee on Home Missions asked to make their report, which was as follows:

We, your committee on Home Missions, find great reason for much rejoicing over the achievements of our Home Mission Board during the past year, and the blessings of God upon the work. By reference to the minutes of the Southern Baptist Convention we find that during the past convention year there were 15,436 baptisms reported as the result of the work of the Home Mission Board, an increase of 4885 over the previous year. We also find from the same authority that the total contributions to the work

for the same year were \$176,411.24, a gain over the previous year of \$30,705.92. Let us thank God and renew our efforts. Among the different departments of work fostered by our Home Mission Board are the aid of weak churches in supporting pastors, the employment and aid of missionaries, both in cities and in country, work among negroes, all in the bounds of the convention, and in Panama, Cuba and other islands of our southern coast. In addition to these lines of activity, the Board is doing special work among foreigners in our midst, who are coming in throngs, aggregating over 1,000,000 annually, from every nation and clime in the wide, wide world. These people come to us with religious and political ideas antagonistic to Christianity and American government, and it behooves us to neutralize these influences in self-defense, and much more it is our obligation to our Lord, who places so great opportunities at our doors to preach the gospel to the heathen. The Board is also doing a great educational work, founding and fostering schools in the mountain regions of the southeast. The church building and loan fund is also an important feature of the work, which has made it possible to erect good Baptist church houses where we would otherwise have had none. In conclusion, we regard this work as fundamental and very important, and commend it to the hearty support of the churches and refer every Baptist to the Home Field and Home Mission Monthly for information with regard to the work.—Sam Eaton, A. K. Kirby, J. W. Harris.

After being discussed by the brethren, the report was adopted.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

The committee on Religious Education made their report as follows:

Believing that the future progress of our churches and the work of our Lord and Master depends greatly upon the training of our young men and women, we recommend that every church in this Association do all in their power to enlarge the enrollment of our Academy at Bentonville. We recommend that every pastor hold one or more services in their respective churches on Christian education, holding up before their people the importance of Christian surroundings for the education of our boys and girls. Our academy closed a very successful year's work last May. The enrollment was 164 in the different departments. There were six graduates from the literary department. The present session

opened Aug. 27th with an enrollment of seventy students and seven in faculty. There are thirty in the dormitory and the room will not be sufficient for the demand. The indebtedness of \$2800 on the dormitory has been paid and \$200 spent for granitoid walks since our last Association and the property is free of all indebtedness. We your committee further recommend that this Association see that whenever the demands are created for more room, that a dormitory for boys be built on the campus.—E. E. Bagwell, J. F. Little.

The report was adopted.

RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

The committee on Religious Literature asked to report as follows:

We regard the Bible as the book of all books. We recommend the careful and prayful study of this book by all, to the end that we may become better informed as to our doctrines and practices, as it is the only true and sufficient guide, a lamp to our feet and a light to our pathway. We would further recommend the reading of good wholesome Baptist books, such as are sold by our Colporters and publishing companies. We recommend the Baptist Advance as being pre-eminently the safest for Arkansas Baptists, and that it should be in every Baptist home in the state. We also recommend the Foreign Mission Journal and the Home Field, that we may be informed in our mission work.—W. D. Joyner, S. L. Holloway.

There being no objection, the report was adopted as read.

On motion the moderator appointed the following named brethren a committee to advise with the messengers from Gravette church in regard to their troubles and report to this body, to-wit: T. J. Perfater, W. D. Joyner, Sam Eaton.

A motion was made to adjourn until Sunday at 3:30 o'clock p. m., at which time the committee on Obituaries would make their report and one hour be spent in a memorial service.

Sunday Afternoon Session.

After the morning and the 2 o'clock p. m. service the Association again was called to order by the moderator, and as this hour had been appointed a for memorial service, the committee on Obituaries made their report as follows:

OBITUARIES.

In the providence of God He has seen it good to take from us a number of our brethren and sisters whose faces were familiar to us in our annual gatherings. We miss them here and are perplexed to know who shall fill their places. It is not clear to us on whom their mantle has fallen, but we have the assurance that He doeth all things well, and that all things work together for good to them that love Him. We bow in submission to His will; we know that they are far better off to be present with the Lord than to abide with us. The names of those who have gone to their reward are as follows:

Bentonville church, Mary Bartle, Nancy Wilson, George B. Hinman, June Mason, Lewis Luck, L. F. Deshong and Matthew Kelley; Garfield, Sister Ollie Summers; Gentry, Deacons L. T. Kerns and W. G. Brown; Rogers, Sister Elizabeth Meeks and Bros. F. M. Ireland, W. A. Hall, J. P. Duckworth and Bro. Craft; Twelve Corner, Bro. John Buttry; Temperance Hill, Sisters C. C. Bright and Mary Gambill and Bro. S. Whitaker; Decatur, Zeno Davis and J. M. Peck; Siloam Springs, Sister Margaret Chesney and Bros. A. J. Estes, Joseph Smith and Tom Cravens.

It was not the privilege of your committee to know all these brethren and sisters personally, but we were well acquainted with some. We recommend that the Association give an hour for memorial service in honor of them.—B. S. Stafford, I. R. Hall.

The report was adopted after many beautiful things were said in remembrance of our dead.

A motion was made to adjourn to 8 o'clock p. m.

Sunday Evening Session.

At 8 o'clock p. m. the service was conducted by Bro. H. Beauchamp by reading a lesson from the book of Habakkuk 2:9-15 and then leading in prayer.

The Association was then called to order by the moderator, who then called the attention of the Association to the fact that the Association owed Bro. C. P. Dean \$26 for railroad fare to the Southern Baptist Convention, for which they agreed to pay when he was elected to go. A collection was taken, and promptly raised the amount due.

TEMPERANCE.

The committee on Temperance asked to report as follows:

We hereby record our most emphatic condemnation of the sin of intemperance, especially that form of it commonly involved in the habitual use of intoxicants, pledging ourselves to abstain from all indulgence in drink and to labor in every proper way to prevent both the establishment and upbuilding of the liquor business. We stand for the enforcement of all laws directed against the illicit distilling and the illegal selling of spirits, and are also unqualifiedly opposed to the wine shop and the saloon; and we especially urge all Christian voters to join us in supporting the "no license" ticket in our general election.—W. E. Kimbrough, A. F. Keith.

A number of brethren made some able speeches on this report, after which it was adopted.

GRAVETTE REPORT.

The committee that was appointed to advise with the messengers from Gravette church made a report as follows:

We recommend that this Association express deep regret for the unfortunate conditions that exist at Gravette, and pray God to guide his people in this time of distress. We are forced to say to the brethren asking our help that it is entirely outside of our prerogative to take any action concerning this matter.—Sam Eaton, W. D. Joyner, T. J. Perfater.

The report was received and committee discharged.

FINANCE.

The committee on Finance reported the following:

We beg leave to report money received from the hands of the messengers.

For printing minutes and clerk	\$30.00
For Associational Missions	18.10
For State Missions.....	6.75
Total.....	<u>\$54.85</u>

—H. B. Livingston, T. F. George.

The report was adopted.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved that we, as a body and as individuals, hereby express our sincere thanks to the brethren and friends whose unstinted

and generous hospitality we have enjoyed during the meeting of this Association.—Sam Eaton, W. W. Thomason.

The report was adopted.

The Association then adjourned to meet with the church at Siloam Springs on Friday before the first Sunday in September, 1907.

L. TOMME, Moderator.

B. S. BEACH, Clerk.

CHURCHES	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POSTOFFICES.	ORDAINED MINISTERS.
Bentonville	W. E. Kimbrough	W. W. Thomason	Bentonville, Ark.	I. R. Hall, W. D. Joyner, S. L. Holloway, W. E. Kimbrough
Garfield	J. S. Herod	F. M. Haswell	Garfield, Ark.	J. S. Herod.
Gentry		B. S. Stafford	Gentry, Ark.	Sam Eaton, J. L. Brown, T. J. Chastain.
Decatur		S. M. Denton	Decatur, Ark.	
Logan	Shepard Luper	A. J. Crone	Gentry, Ark., R. F. D. 3	
Pilgrim Home	C. P. Dean	John Watkins	Rogers, Ark.	A. L. Jordan, J. F. Little.
Rogers	A. L. Jordan	W. R. Daily	Rogers, Ark.	L. Tomme, F. J. Ries, Richard Meigs.
Siloam Springs	L. Tomme	O. T. Moore	Siloam Springs, Ark.	
Twelve Corner	W. D. Joyner	W. B. Warren	Garfield, Ark., R. F. D. 2	
Temperance Hill	J. S. Herod	J. A. Murray	Vaughn, Ark.	C. P. Dean
Gravette	T. J. Perfater	A. F. Keith	Gravette, Ark.	

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION.

The Benton County Baptist Sunday School Convention met in the Baptist Church at Rogers, Ark., Thursday evening, Aug. 30, 1906, and organized by electing Rev. L. Tomme President, and Sam Eaton, Recording Secretary.

As a means of promoting the work for the coming year, Rev. S. L. Holloway was elected County Secretary, and an Executive Committee was appointed consisting of Elders L. Tomme, S. L. Holloway, W. E. Kimbrough, J. F. Little and C. P. Dean, to whom was committed the direction of the work of the year.

A collection amounting to \$3.25 was taken to defray the incidental expenses of the Convention.

After a general discussion of the Sunday School—its importance and methods of work—a motion prevailed to hold the next meeting of the Convention on the day preceding the Benton County Baptist Association, and at the same place, assembling at 10 a. m. The churches were requested to send messengers, bearing annual reports of the work of their respective schools.

L. TOMME, President.

SAM EATON, Secretary.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

I. We believe that the Holy Bible was divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter, that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us, and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.

II. We believe that there is one, and only one, living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, whose name is Jehovah the Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness and worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love; that in the unity of Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

III. We believe that man was created in holiness, under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state; in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint, but choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, positively inclined to evil, and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defense or excuse.

IV. We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial offices of the son of God, who by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon him our nature, yet without sin; honored the divine law by his personal obedience, by his death made a full atonement for our sins; thus having risen from the dead he is now enthroned in heaven; and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections, he is in every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and all sufficient Savior.

V. We believe that the great Gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in him is justification; that justification includes the pardon of sin and the promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood; by virtue of which faith his perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God, that it brings us in to a state of most blessed peace and favor with God and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

VI. We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial, penitent and obedient faith, and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the Gospel, which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation.

VII. We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind; that it is effected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit in connection with divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel; and that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance and faith and newness of life.

VIII. We believe that repentance and faith are sacred duties and also inseparable graces wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God; whereby, being deeply convicted of our guilt, danger and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession and supplication for mercy; at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest and King, and relying on him alone as the only and all sufficient Savior.

IX. We believe that election is the eternal purpose of God, according to which he graciously regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners, that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely free, wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting and promotes love, humility, prayer, praise, trust in God and active imitation of his free mercy; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree, that it may be ascertained by its effect in all who truly believe the Gospel; that it is the foundation of Christian assurance, and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves demands and deserves the utmost diligence.

X. We believe that sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of holiness; that it is a progressive work; that it is begun in regeneration, and that it is carried on in the heart of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the seal and comforter, in the continued use of the appointed means, especially the Word of God, self examination, self-denial, watchfulness and prayer.

XI. We believe that such only are real believers as endure unto the end, that their preserving attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors, that a special providence watches over their welfare, and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

XII. We believe that the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government; that it is holy, just and good; and that the disabilities which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts arise entirely from their love of sin, to deliver them from which and to restore them through a mediator to an unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the Gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.

XIII. We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel, observing the ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws, and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by His word; that its only spiritual officers are bishops, or pastors and deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the epistles of Timothy and Titus.

XIV. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of a believer, unto the name of the Father, and Son, and Holy Ghost; to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem our faith in the crucified, buried and risen Savior, with its effect in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it is prerequisite to the privileges of a church relation, and to the Lord's Supper in which the members of the church by the sacred use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ, preceded always by solemn self-examination.

XV. We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day or Christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor and sinful recreations, by the devout observance of all means of grace, both private and public, and by preparation for that rest that remaineth for the people of God.

XVI. We believe that civil government is of divine appointment, for the interest and good order of human society; and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the Prince of the kings of the earth.

XVII. We believe that there is a radical essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and sanctified by the Spirit of our God, are truly righteous in his esteem; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in

His sight wicked and under the curse; and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.

XVIII. We believe that the end of this world is approaching, that the last day Christ will descend from heaven and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.

CONSTITUTION.

Article I. This Association shall be composed of messengers, who shall be members of the churches they represent (except such as may be invited to a seat by consent of the body) and shall be styled, "The Benton County Baptist Association."

Article II. This Association shall meet annually on Friday before the first Sabbath in September, at the place previously appointed; and after public worship, reading the letters from the churches and acting upon those soliciting membership, a moderator and clerk shall be chosen from the messengers by ballot, both of whom shall hold their offices until others shall be elected.

Article III. It shall be the duty of the clerk to make an accurate record of the proceedings of each meeting of the Association, in a book provided for the purpose. He shall also act as treasurer.

Article IV. Each church of fifty members or less, may send two messengers, and one messenger, and one member for each fractional part of fifty over. The messengers shall present letters certifying their appointment and briefly expressing the state of the churches, their increase and decrease, and their aggregate number. Each church shall send with the letter money for printing the minutes.

Article V. Churches wishing to unite with this Association may apply by letters and messengers, and giving satisfactory information of their being sound in doctrine and correct in practice, they may be received by a unanimous vote, in token of which the moderator shall give to their messengers the hand of fellowship in behalf of the Association. Churches may be dismissed upon application.

Article VI. We acknowledge the independence of the particular churches, and that no authority or jurisdiction is to be exercised over them by this Association, nor will the Association decide in any controversy that may arise in any church. Nevertheless they deem it their duty to disown any church belonging to this body which may have essentially departed from the faith.

Article VII. When a church shall neglect making any communication to the Association for three years successively, it shall be considered as having withdrawn from us, and shall be dropped from the minutes of the Association, unless at least two members request their continuance, who shall engage to inquire into their standing and report at the next meeting of the Association.

Article VIII. This Association shall have the right to open and hold correspondence with other associations, as may be deemed expedient.

Article IX. It shall be the duty of the Association, from time to time, to suggest to the several churches such measures as may be wise and proper to promote the interest of the Messiah's kingdom, and spread the Gospel throughout the world.

Article X. This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the Association by a two-thirds vote of all members present.