

MINUTES  
OF THE  
FORTIETH SESSION  
OF THE  
GRAND PRAIRIE  
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH THE  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
DEWITT, ARK.

October 2, 3 and 4  
1914

**PROCEEDINGS**  
OF THE  
**FORTIETH ANNUAL SESSION**  
OF THE  
**Grand Prairie  
Baptist Association**

HELD WITH THE  
**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, DEWITT, ARK.**

**October 2, 3, 4, 1914**

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**OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.**

H. B. DUDLEY, Moderator.....	DeWitt, Ark.
W. J. JOHNSON, Vice Moderator.....	Hazen, Ark.
O. A. GREENLEAF, Clerk.....	Stuttgart, Ark.
H. G. MILLER, Treasurer.....	Hazen, Ark.

**Note.**—For Executive Board see Appendix A.

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The next session of the Association will be held with the  
First Baptist Church, Stuttgart, Ark.

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**ANNUAL SERMONS FOR THE NEXT SESSION.**

Introductory Sermon, Friday, 7:30 p. m., Rev. O. A. Greenleaf, with Rev. W. J. Johnson alternate.

Missionary Sermon, Sunday, 11 a. m., Rev. B. F. House, with Rev. H. M. Long alternate.

After a short session of prayer and praise service, the Grand Prairie Baptist Association met in its fortieth annual session with DeWitt Baptist Church, DeWitt, Clark County, Arkansas, and was called to order at 8 p. m. by former Moderator Elder Joe Johnson. O. A. Greenleaf was elected Clerk pro tem.

A motion was made and carried that Dr. R. M. Inlow preach the introductory sermon. After the preaching of the sermon a motion was made and carried to adjourn until 8:30 a. m., Saturday.

### SATURDAY FORENOON.

8:45 A. M.

The Association opened by singing "He Is So Precious to Me," after which Brother James led in prayer.

The church letters were placed on the Secretary's table and the Moderator appointed Brother Jean and Brother Dodson as reading clerks, and the letters were read and the messengers enrolled. For names see Appendix B.

The Association then went into the election of officers and the following were elected:

H. B. Dudley, Moderator.

By motion the Clerk (pro tem) was authorized to cast the vote of the Association for Brother Joe Johnson for Vice Moderator.

By motion the Vice Moderator was instructed to cast the vote of the Association for O. A. Greenleaf for Clerk.

By motion the former Treasurer, H. G. Miller, was re-elected without opposition.

The Committee on Divine Services reported as follows:

Preaching—Saturday, 11 a. m., B. F. House; 7:30 p. m., H. W. Jean; Sunday, 11 a. m., W. H. Gregory, 7:30 p. m., O. A. Greenleaf.

The hour for the morning sermon having arrived, further business was postponed and the Association listened to a very able and forceful sermon by Brother



B. F. House, on "The Church of God." At the close of the preaching hour the Association adjourned to meet at 1:30 p. m.

### SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

1:30 P. M.

We enjoyed a very inspiring devotional service led by Brother H. M. Long. Then the reading of the church letters and seating of the delegates were taken up and completed. Two churches were admitted to the Association, namely Lone Hickory and Abbingdon.

The Associational Mission Board's report was read and adopted. There were present only three of the twenty-two that compose this committee. Motion carried that we take up and discuss Associational Missions at 7 p. m. By common consent the time was set for Orphans' Home work to come at the close of the evening preaching hour.

The preachers for the annual sermons were then duly elected. See page one.

Motion made and carried that we have a meeting of the Associational Mission Board every fifth Sunday.

By motion and second the following churches were dropped: Ulm, Forks Lagrue, St. Charles and New Home.

The Moderator appointed the following committees:

Committee on Education—H. M. Long, H. E. Adams, M. Culp.

Committee on Sunday School Work—O. A. Greenleaf, Mrs. H. G. Miller, Mrs. M. Culp.

Committee on Foreign Missions—M. Culp, R. A. Henderson, C. W. Fox.

Committee on Temperance—W. H. Gregory, R. H. Parker, W. C. Luckett.

Committee on Orphanages—L. H. Dodson, H. W. Jean, J. N. Henderson. (See Appendix M.)

Committee on State Missions—H. M. Long, S. E. Thigpen, Wm. Freeman.

Committee on Finance—W. L. Cole, W. C. Luckett.

Committee on Publications—L. H. Dodson, Arthur Cole, Bryant Adams.

The Foreign Mission report was read and adopted. (See Appendix C.)

By motion and second the Temperance report was given the time immediately following the evening preaching service, and the Orphans' Home to follow said Temperance report. (For report see Appendix D.)

By motion the Association adjourned, to meet at 7 p. m.

### SATURDAY NIGHT.

7:00 P. M.

After the devotional service led by the Moderator, the meeting was called to order, and the report of the Associational Missionary was read and discussed by the following brethren: H. W. Jean, M. Culp, B. F. House, Joe Johnson. Adopted. (See Appendix E.)

The Clerk was ordered to issue an order on the Treasurer for the amount due the Missionary for his services.

The place of the next Association meeting was voted on, New Hope and Stuttgart being the contestants for it. The vote stood: New Hope, 16; Stuttgart, 19.

Motion made and seconded that we meet Friday night before the third Sunday in October. Motion carried unanimously.

The hour having come for the preaching service, further business was postponed, and Brother H. W. Jean preached a very helpful sermon on "God's Call to Man," at the close of which an offering was taken for the two Orphans' Homes. The following amounts were received: Monticello, \$6.50; Texarkana, \$8.99.

The Temperance report was read, and after being spoken to by W. H. Gregory and L. H. Dodson, was adopted. (For report see Appendix D.)

### SUNDAY FORENOON.

Brother Long led the devotional service, after which the Sunday School report was read and discussed



by O. A. Greenleaf. By motion and second the report was adopted as read. (See Appendix P.)

At the 11 o'clock preaching hour Brother W. H. Gregory preached the annual missionary sermon on the "Law of Missions," from Matt. 28:18-20. An offering was taken for Associational Missions amounting to \$11.65.

2:00 P. M.

The Sunbeams were addressed in a very helpful manner by Miss Perle Harrison, who is one of our foreign missionaries, and is supported by the Sunbeams of the State of Arkansas.

The report on Woman's Work was spoken to by representatives from Almyra, DeWitt and Stuttgart.

The report on State Missions was read and spoken to by Brother H. M. Long. The report was adopted. (For report see Appendix F.)

The report on Publications was read and adopted. (For report see Appendix G.)

The report on Education was read and adopted. (See Appendix H.)

## SUNDAY NIGHT.

7:00 P. M.

After song and prayer, the report on Obituaries was read and adopted. (For report see Appendix I.)

Report of the Finance Committee received and adopted. (For report see Appendix J.)

The Executive Committee reported that they would meet at Stuttgart the Saturday before the fifth Sunday in November.

8:00 P. M.

Sermon by O. A. Greenleaf on "Why I Believe the Bible."

By a motion and second the Association voted to pay the Clerk ten dollars for his services, and the rest of the money sent in for minutes and Clerk's fund be used in printing and mailing out the minutes, the same to contain the articles of faith.

The report on Home Missions was read and adopted. (See Appendix K.)

The report on Ministerial Education was received and adopted as read. (See Appendix L.)

The Clerk read the minutes and they were adopted.

The Committee on Resolutions made their report and it was adopted. (See Appendix M.)

Motion and second that we adjourn to meet Friday night before the third Sunday in November, 1915, with the Stuttgart Baptist Church.

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## APPENDIX

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### EXECUTIVE BOARD—Appendix A.

The Moderator appointed the following brethren (one from each church) to act on the Executive Board for the coming year:

Almyra Church.....	Bert Jackson
Abbingtion Church.....	W. H. Wyatt
Big Lagrue Church.....	B. K. Adams
Center Point Church.....	B. F. Holmes
Cross Roads.....	Jim Ricks
DeWitt Church.....	C. W. Fox
DeValls Bluff Church.....	Geo. Westrope
Hazen Church.....	H. G. Miller
Harmony Church.....	L. W. Carson
Hebren Church.....	S. E. Thigpen
Corinth Church.....	P. W. Alcorn
Pleasant Ridge Church.....	Jim Ricks
New Bethel Church.....	Ben Richmond
New Salem Church.....	W. P. Jones
New Hope Church.....	Wm. Freeman
Lone Hickory Church.....	H. E. Adams
Prairie Chapel Church.....	J. S. Owens
Roe Church.....	J. H. Crutchfield
Stuttgart Church.....	R. A. Henderson
Belview Church.....	W. E. Noble
New Zion.....	Oscar Jackson
Sweet Home Church.....	G. W. Wittis
Macedonia Church.....	J. A. Addison

H. B. DUDLEY, Moderator.



**MESSENGERS—Appendix B.**

- Almyra—Mrs. J. H. Bracewell, Mrs. Earl Gear.  
 Abington\*.  
 Big Lagrue—Miss Daisy Parker, Maud Miller, Elmer Adams.  
 Center Point—J. T. Cullum, Mattie Cowley.  
 Cross Roads—W. H. Highful, Arthur Mask.  
 DeWitt—H. B. Dudley, C. W. Fox, J. W. Henderson.  
 DeValls Bluff—Mrs. Fannie Russon.  
 Hazen—Mrs. Hattie Saunders, Mrs. H. G. Miller, Miss L.  
 Ash.  
 Harmony—W. W. Lancaster.  
 Hebron—A. J. Williams, S. E. Thigpen.  
 Corinth\*.  
 Pleasant Ridge\*.  
 New Bethel, B. F. House.  
 New Salem—W. H. Blankenship, W. P. Jones, T. G. Shelton.  
 New Hope—T. J. Walters, Emma Walters, William Freeman.  
 Lone Hickory—Florence Lafogge, Clara McGahey, H. E.  
 Adams.  
 Prairie Chapel\*.  
 Roe\*.  
 Stuttgart—R. A. Henderson, — Webb, Melissa Powers.  
 Bellview—W. E. Noble, R. F. Underwood, H. J. Turner.  
 New Zion\*.  
 Sweet Home—Allie Jones, R. A. Jackson.  
 Macedonia\*.  
 Rising Sun—W. C. Luckett, Lizzie Fly, Oscar Jackson.  
 Oak Grove—Arthur Cole, Sallie Cole, W. L. Cole.

\*No Messenger present.

**FOREIGN MISSION REPORT—Appendix C.**

Your Committee on Foreign Mission desires to submit the following report:

The Foreign Mission Board is located at Richmond, Va., and is composed of nineteen local members and eighteen members at large, representing each State, in co-operation with the Southern Baptist Convention. Through this Board work is carried on in Italy, Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Japan, China and Africa. In these countries we have 380 churches, with 833 out stations, 30,000 church members, and 542 Sunday Schools with 22,000 scholars enrolled. We have also 9,376 students in mission schools, 420 of whom are in theological seminaries and training schools. We baptized last year 5,252. The present force of workers embraces just 300, and in addition to these Home-sent missionaries we have 635 native workers.

A score of consecrated young men and women are offering themselves to the Board for the needed work, and untouched fields invite us to harvest. Shall we prove ourselves worthy of so signal a favor as God is ready to bestow upon us? We can meet the challenge if we will.

Gifts to the work last year were \$44,000 over the previous year, but what a vast number of our people had no part in that giving, and consequently had no part in the glorious work accomplished, and will have no share in the reward to be bestowed.



The task for the Southern Baptist Convention this year is: (1) The completion of the Judson Memorial Fund; (2) the enlistment of more than one-half of our church members who are not contributing to Foreign Missions; (3) the developing of present givers to more liberal giving, and (4) the inauguration in our churches of a plan of systematic monthly giving and remitting, so as to avoid as much as possible the necessity of paying interest on borrowed money.

We commend the above to the thoughtful consideration of the pastors and churches of this Association.

M. CULP.

R. A. HENDERSON.

C. W. FOX.

### TEMPERANCE REPORT—Appendix D.

We, your committee, beg leave to report:

1. With great pleasure we note the increase in temperance sentiment throughout the entire country, especially in the State of Arkansas and in the bounds of this Association.

2. We heartily endorse all laws enacted by our State Legislature which have for their object the destruction of the liquor traffic in the State of Arkansas; most especially do we endorse the law passed by our last legislature known as the "Going Act," in as far as it restricts the liquor traffic. We further endorse the resolution pending before the United States Congress known as the "Hobson Resolution," which has for its object the destruction of the liquor traffic in the United States.

3. We recommend to every member of this Association that they use all their influence to have a law enacted that will entirely free the State of Arkansas from the sale of intoxicating liquors.

4. We believe that every member of this Association should be a total abstainer. No Christian gentleman has a right to drink liquor as a beverage.

5. We believe the licensed saloon breeds more evil than any other institution in this country.

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. GREGORY.

R. H. PARKER.

W. C. LUCKETT.

### REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONARY, REV. H. W. JEAN—Appendix E.

Days labored .....	69
Religious visits .....	89
Sermons preached .....	78
Conversions .....	24
Sunday Schools organized.....	2
Women's Missionary Unions organized.....	3
Churches organized .....	1
Collected on salary.....	\$126.65
Balance due Missionary on salary.....	\$ 47.33

Your Missionary recommends that this Association employ a strong man for full time; to begin work the first of January

(1915), and that the churches and pastors in the Association co-operate with the Missionary and help him reach all of the churches.

(Signed) H. W. JEAN, Missionary.

#### STATE MISSIONS—Appendix F.

Just before his ascension to the Father our Lord gave His last great command to his disciples to evangelize the world, and this is the authority of the churches for what is usually termed Missions. According to this command as recorded by Luke, there are four departments of mission work. First, in the home surroundings, which we are pleased to term Associational Missions; second, in the State, called State Missions; third, in the State and other States, termed among Baptists Home Missions; fourth, in the foreign lands, Foreign Missions.

Such we find in the terms given by Luke, "Ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth." To witness in Judea is to preach the gospel in the destitute parts of the State. This is our Lord's command, and we cannot ignore it or neglect without sinning against the King.

We recommend, first, that the pastors of the churches composing this body preach occasionally at least upon the subject of State Missions, and take a liberal collection for the same, at least once a year.

Respectfully submitted,

H. M. LONG.  
W. M. FREEMAN.  
S. E. THIGPEN.

#### REPORT ON PUBLICATIONS—Appendix G.

We, your Committee on Publications, beg to submit the following:

First, we recommend the reading and studying of God's word. "Search the scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal life, and they are they which testify of me," thus sayeth the Lord.

Second, we recommend the reading of Baptist literature, such as the Arkansas Baptist and the Baptist Advance, also the Liberator.

Third, we also recommend earnest prayer to God for guidance in our reading matters.

Respectfully submitted,  
(Signed)

L. H. DODSON.  
A. W. COLE.  
B. K. ADAMS.

#### REPORT OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE—Appendix H.

By education we mean of course the training of the mind—the development of the mental faculties. That this training is of prime importance is a fact that goes without saying. Not only so, but it is a duty incumbent upon parents, the neglect of



which is a sin that will bear fruit in due time. Too much stress cannot be placed upon the education of our children.

In selecting a school for a child special reference should be had to the moral and religious training, as well as the mental development of the child. Hence, we cannot urge upon parents too strenuously the matter of prayerful caution and care in this regard. In this connection we would recommend that our Baptist schools have their appropriate place in the hearts and prayers of our people, and that we patronize these schools for the education of our people.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed)

H. M. LONG.  
M. CULP.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OBITUARIES—

##### Appendix I.

We, your committee find that there was sixteen deaths in the bounds of our Association. These have gone home to be with Jesus:

Almyra—

Big Lagrue—Brother R. F. Parker, Sister Mary Wagoner.

DeWitt—Deacon J. B. Wafford, Sister J. B. Wafford.

DeValls Bluff—Emma Doley, Mattie Clay.

Harmony—Sister Nola Allen.

Hazen—J. M. Kenyon, Roselene Edge.

Hickory Plains—Dr. J. W. Smith.

New Hope—Brother Claude Cummings.

Oak Grove—Brother and Sister Birson.

Stuttgart—Sisters T. R. Story, W. A. Craiggs.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed)

J. R. DAVENPORT.  
C. W. COX.  
W. L. COLE.



**REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE—Appendix J.**

We, your Committee on Finance, beg to submit the following report of money received by us during the session of the Association:

For minutes and clerk funds.....	\$35.36
For Associational Missions.....	34.00
*Monticello Orphans' Home.....	6.50
Texarkana Orphans' Home.....	9.74

\*Rev. Gardner also collected \$19.50 that we were instructed to embody in this report.

(Signed)

W. L. COLE.  
W. C. LUCKETT.  
ELMER ADAMS.

**REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS—Appendix K.**

The Home Mission field is North America. Our motto is "North America for Christ." The importance of Home Missions when properly considered should appeal to every Baptist, as it affects almost every home in the land, either directly or indirectly. The teeming millions of foreigners that are landing on our shores from every country in the eastern hemisphere makes the question of Home Missions an important one, not only to Baptists but to every true American citizen. We must Christianize them or our liberties as well as the progress of the Master's Kingdom will be in peril.

In addition to this the Home Board is helping every State within its borders. The State of Arkansas is getting more money for State Missions than we have been giving to the Home Board. We would therefore recommend that all of our churches give liberally and systematically to this work.

(Signed)

M. CULP.  
W. K. GREGORY.

**MINISTERIAL EDUCATION—Appendix L.**

The subject of Ministerial Education is one of vast and far-reaching importance. The great Apostle to the Gentiles, writing to Timothy, a young preacher, said: "Study to show thyself approved unto God a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Every man called to God to preach the gospel doubtless feels the importance of preparation for the great work. However, nature may have favored him with a good mind, he needs to equip himself for the ministry of the gospel by storing that mind with a knowledge of divine things. "If the iron be blunt then must he put the more strength, but wisdom is profitable to direct," says Solomon.

Respectfully submitted,

H. M. LONG.  
W. J. JOHNSON.

**COMMITTEE ON ORPHANS' HOME—Appendix M.**

We, your committee, beg to report as follows:

Caring for those who are fatherless and homeless is a work that should appeal to every man that loves God and humanity. Especially should Baptist people of Arkansas take a delight in this great work being done by those having charge of the Orphans' Homes. For the Lord hath well said, "In as much as ye have done it unto the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me." "Pure religion and undefiled before men and the father is this. To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep yourself unspotted from the world."

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed)

L. H. DODSON.

**RESOLUTION OF THANKS—Appendix N.**

Your committee begs leave to submit the following report:

First, we extend our heartfelt thanks to the DeWitt Church and the town of DeWitt for their hospitality and kind attention to our comfort while in their midst, and we pray God's richest blessing upon them.

Second, we extend our heartfelt thanks to our Moderator, Brother Dudley, for the fair and impartial way he has presided over this Association; and to our Clerk, Brother Greenleaf, for the faithful performance of his duties.

Third, may God's richest blessing rest upon all, and may all be spared to many years of service.

W. H. GREGORY.

W. J. JOHNSON.

L. H. DODSON.

**TREASURER'S REPORT—Appendix O.**

October 20, 1913—

To amount received for minutes and clerk's fund.....	\$ 25.82
To amount received for Orphans' Home, Texarkana.....	10.71
To amount received for Orphans' Home, Monticello.....	4.85
To amount received for Associational Missions.....	66.85
From W. Fox, former Treasurer.....	120.69
Total amount received.....	\$228.92

October 21, 1913—

By paid Clerk, including minutes.....	\$ 25.82
By paid W. F. Dorris, Orphans' Home.....	4.85
By paid J. W. Sims, Orphans' Home.....	10.71
August 7, 1914—By paid H. W. Jean, Missionary.....	14.00
September 2, 1914—By paid H. W. Jean, Missionary.....	40.00

Total paid out.....	\$ 95.58
To balance on hand.....	\$133.34

(Signed) H. G. MILLER, Treasurer.



## COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOL WORK—Appendix P.

We, your committee, beg to submit the following report:

First, we find only eight churches report a Sunday School. This seems to your committee to be an appalling condition to be existing in our midst, when we consider that 87% of the church membership comes from the Sunday School age.

Second, we recommend that the pastors in the Association do all in their power to put a Sunday School in every church in our bounds. We believe that the pastors and deacons are the ones to man the Sunday School work.

Third, we urge that every member of our churches not only join the Sunday School, but do what they can to advance its interests.

Respectfully submitted,

O. A. GREENLEAF.

H. G. MILLER.

M. CULP.

## CHURCHES, PASTORS AND CLERKS—Appendix Q.

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS AND THEIR P. O.
Almyra.....	J. H. Bracewell.....	Bessie Gere, Almyra
Abbingtion.....	W. A. James.....	Parilee Wyatt, Abbingtion
Bib Lagrue.....	L. H. Dodson.....	Elazar Russom, Hazen
Center Point.....	Joe Johnson.....	Elazor Russom, Hazen
Cross Roads.....	L. H. Dodson.....	M. Miles, Hickory Plains
Bellview.....		W. C. McSwain, Ethel
Crooked Creek.....		
Corinth.....		
DeWitt.....	M. Culp.....	J. W. Burnett, DeWitt
DeValls Bluff.....		Edith Cook, DeValls Bluff
Fairmount.....		
Gum Woods.....		
Hazen.....	W. H. Gregory.....	R. H. Hazen, Hazen
Harmony.....	C. C. Kerr.....	W. A. Lancaster, Carlisle
Hebron.....		A. J. Simpson, not on letter
Mill Bayou.....		
Macedonia.....	L. H. Dodson.....	
Lone Hickory.....		H. E. Adams, Lone Hickory
New Bethel.....	B. F. House.....	Geo. Gerren, Carlisle
New Salem.....	L. H. Dodson.....	Gertie Appleby, Casscoe
New Hope.....	L. Pendergraft.....	Emma Walters, not on letter
New Zion.....		
Oak Grove.....	C. C. Kerr.....	W. D. Carter, Carlisle
Prairie Chapel.....		
Pleasant Ridge.....	L. H. Dodson.....	W. A. Mason, DeWitt
Point Duluce.....		
Risen Sun.....	L. H. Dodson.....	W. C. Henderson, Almyra
Stuttgart.....	O. A. Greenleaf.....	W. J. Stillwell, Stuttgart
Sweet Home.....	W. H. Andrews.....	J. H. Roach, DeValls Bluff



**ORDAINED PREACHERS—Appendix R.**

Rev. J. R. Davenport, Hagler, Ark.  
 Rev. H. L. Dodson, DeValls Bluff, Ark.  
 Rev. B. F. House, Hazen, Ark.  
 Rev. M. Culp, DeWitt, Ark.  
 Rev. O. A. Greenleaf, Stuttgart, Ark.  
 Rev. J. W. Johnson, Hazen, Ark.  
 Rev. C. C. Kerr, Hazen, Ark.  
 Rev. J. H. Bracewell, Almyra, Ark.  
 Rev. A. G. Frost, Hickory Plains, Ark.  
 Rev. W. A. James, Des Arc, Ark.  
 Rev. W. H. Gregory, Hazen, Ark.  
 Rev. J. E. Bogard, Hazen, Ark.

**Licensed Preachers.**

Shannon Cook, Hagler, Ark.  
 H. W. Birdsong, Carlisle, Ark.  
 T. W. Barton, Stuttgart, Ark.

**DECLARATION OF FAITH—Appendix S.**

1. The Old and New Testament Scriptures were written by men divinely inspired, and are the only sufficient and perfect rule of faith and practice.

2. There is one God, and only one, who is self-existent, eternal, and infinite in every excellence, and who has revealed himself as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the same in essence, though distinct in personality.

3. Man was created innocent. By disobedience of the command of God he fell, thereby losing his innocence, becoming subject to death and to the eternal displeasure of God.

4. Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the Son of Man, came into the world to save men from the guilt and condemnation of sin, offering his blood as an atonement, and making it available to all who exercise faith in him.

5. The result of the heart acceptance of Jesus Christ is justification, whereby pardon is secured and we are brought into a state of peace and favor with God.

6. The human means by which this result is secured is repentance and faith whereby we turn unto God in sincere contrition and accept Jesus Christ as an all-sufficient Savior.

7. God has his purposes of grace in the salvation of men. These purposes are made effectual by the giving of his Son, and in the constraining and regenerating influence of the Holy Ghost upon all who sincerely believe on Christ. But these purposes do not contravene the freedom of man's will, nor render inoperative the proclamation of the gospel to all.

8. Nothing can separate true believers from the love of God; but they are "kept by the power of God, through faith, unto salvation," the sure proof of this being their patient continuance and progress in righteousness and true holiness.

9. The ordinances of the gospel are Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Baptism is the immersion in water of a believer in Christ, "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost," and symbolizes the fact of regeneration. The

Lord's Supper is a commemoration of his dying love, and symbolizes the fact that the believer is continuously fed and nourished by Christ; in its observance it is to be placed after baptism, according to its symbolic and historic order and as required by the teaching of the New Testament.

10. The Church Spiritual includes the whole company of believers of whatever name, age or country, and is known only to the eye of God. The Church Formal is a company of believers baptized in the name of the Triune God, and observing the forms, ordinances, and principles laid down in the New Testament.

11. The first day of the week is to be observed as the Lord's Day or Christian Sabbath.

12. Civil government is of divine appointment for the interests and good order of human society; and 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.

13. Jesus Christ is to come again, judge the nations and fill the earth with his glory and power.

14. There will be a resurrection of the just and the unjust; the just for blessedness and reward, the unjust for judgment and eternal doom.

**DIGEST OF LETTERS—Appendix T.**

Twenty churches reported this year 1,554 members. They reported for all purposes \$5,401.78, an average of nearly \$3.41 per member.

We gave last year to all mission \$625.53, making an average of \$31.27 per church; per member 40 cents.

Seven churches gave during the year to Associational Missions, \$174.03.

Thirteen of the churches that reported did not report anything given to this work.

Sixteen churches did not report anything given to State Missions. Four churches reported \$232.50 paid to work in our own fair State, an average of 35 cents per member in the four churches contributing.

Four churches reported \$123.00 for Home Missions, an average of 21 cents to each member in the four churches. The other sixteen did not report anything paid to this work.

Only three churches reported anything paid to Foreign Missions. They paid \$93.00 to this particular work, an average of a little more than 21 cents per member in the three churches contributing.

Two churches (DeWitt and Hazen) gave \$236.50 to Christian Education. We (the other 18 churches, one of which the clerk is pastor,) ought to have very little trouble in doing as well this year as we did the last.

One church gave to Ministerial Education, a cause that vitally touches every other cause that the Baptists hold dear.

Eight churches reported a Sunday School, and \$210.65 paid to this work.

Seven churches reported having paid \$2,734.52 to their pastors. Nine churches reported that they had a pastor, but nothing paid him for his work. Read Luke 10:7 and 1 Cor. 9:13, 14.

Seven churches reported \$264.94 given to the orphans of the State. This is an average of 33 cents per member in the seven churches contributing to this work. Thirteen of the churches that reported to the Association did not give anything to these fatherless and motherless, homeless and helpless little ones. Read Matt. 18:5 and 25:31-46.

For further extension of these comparisons, the Clerk would refer the reader to the published tables in these minutes.



## FINANCIAL EXHIBIT.

CHURCHES	Missions																		
	Baptisms	Letters	Registration	Deaths	Expulsion	Letters	Present Membership	Associational	State	Home	Foreign	Ministerial Education	Schools and Colleges	Sunday School Work	Pastor's Salary	Building and Repairing	Orphans' Home	Printing Minutes	Value of Church Property
Almyra .....	6	7	1	...	...	4	44	\$ 55.00	\$ .....	\$ .....	\$ .....	\$ .....	\$ .....	\$ 14.00	\$ .....	\$ 200.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 1.25	\$ 1600.00
Abbington .....	5	14	...	...	...	...	119	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.25	\$ 30.00
Big Lagrue .....	3	...	...	2	...	...	78	5.00	...	...	...	...	...	3.00	...	...	...	2.00	1000.00
Center Point .....	17	6	2	...	4	5	215	6.15	6.00	...	...	...	...	...	200.00	...	.75	1000.00	10.00
Cross Roads .....	3	2	...	1	...	3	65	7.28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60.00	...	...	600.00
Bellview .....	...	...	...	2	...	3	63	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.30	67.28
Crooked Creek*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.30
Corinth*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.30
DeWitt .....	1	8	...	1	3	2	114	...	...	38.50	38.50	...	192.00	...	850.00	76.60	...	2.68	3000.00
DeValls Bluff .....	16	4	3	2	7	7	138	...	51.90	30.00	...	...	...	52.12	362.90	...	5.25	2.50	4000.00
Fairmount* .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25.00
Gum Woods*	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18.50
Hazen .....	1	8	...	2	2	6	136	...	13.60	6.25	6.25	...	44.50	36.95	322.00	...	48.50	1.00	1550.00
Harmony .....	1	...	...	1	...	...	48	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50.00	...	...	1.00	49.00
Hebron .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	67	20.50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.00	33.10
Mill Bayou*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	571.15
Macedonia*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21.50
Lone Hickory .....	1	...	...	...	...	...	15	10.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
New Bethel .....	...	...	...	...	...	1	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.00	11.00
New Salem .....	4	...	...	...	...	...	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.00	...	1.76	.80	400.00	6.56
New Hope .....	1	1	1	1	...	...	81	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29.00	...	...	1.00	80.00
New Zion*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.00	2.00
Oak Grove .....	2	2	...	...	...	2	53	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.00	...
Prairie Chapel*	...	...	...	...	...	...	32	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.00	450.00
Pleasant Ridge .....	14	8	...	...	...	...	52	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1000.00
Point De Luce*	...	...	...	...	...	...	48	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rising Sun .....	...	1	...	1	...	...	67	2.20	...	...	...	15.00	...	...	...	...	2.15	1.00	...
Stuttgart .....	12	12	...	2	3	19	174	70.90	161.00	48.25	48.25	...	...	101.58	920.42	123.25	206.53	5.00	3200.00
Sweet Home .....	3	2	3	...	...	...	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.32	287.29
Total .....	89	91	10	15	22	52	1646	\$177.03	\$232.50	\$123.00	\$93.00	\$15.00	\$236.50	\$210.65	\$2734.52	\$459.85	\$264.94	\$27.10	\$18100.00
																			\$392.29
																			\$420.82
																			\$5401.78

\*No report.

## CONSTITUTION.

Article 1. This body shall be known by the name of the Grand Prairie Baptist Association, and composed of members chosen by the different churches in the union, who, on producing letters, shall be entitled to seats; also the ordained ministers in good standing, retiring Moderator and all committees appointed at one session to report the next.

Art. 2. The motto of this Association shall be: "The truth in its purity, preached in every section of our bounds."

Art. 3. The letters from the churches must state the number of members baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed by letter, excluded, the name and postoffice of pastor and clerk.

Art. 4. The members thus chosen and convened shall have no power to infringe on any of the rights of the churches, but may act as an advisory counsel for the common good of all the churches and advancement of the Redeemer's Kingdom, and have power to exclude any church from her fellowship which may depart from the gospel of Christ, either in faith or practice.

Art. 5. Every church composing this Association shall be entitled to three delegates.

Art. 6. Should any church fail to represent herself for two consecutive years, she may be dropped from the list of churches, should a satisfactory reason be not given.

Art. 7. New churches may be admitted into this body who petition by letter and delegates, if found to be sound in faith and in good order, the reception to be manifested by the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship to the messengers.

Art. 8. This Association shall annually elect a Moderator from among themselves whose duty it shall be to see that the Rules of Decorum are observed, and take the voice of the Association on all questions properly brought before it; also, a Vice Moderator, and a Clerk, whose duty it shall be to keep a correct record of all the business of the Association; also a Treasurer, to receive and disburse the funds sent up to the Association, as directed by the body, or churches sending the same.

Art. 9. It shall be the duty of the Clerk of this Association to retain on the minutes the names of all churches admitted to membership, until such are dropped by action of the Association; and in cases of non-representation, it shall be his duty to write: "Not represented," in the proper place opposite their names in the statistical table.

Art. 10. This Association shall in all cases be governed by a majority of the members present, except in the reception and dismission of a church, which shall be unanimous.

Art. 11. This Association may correspond with other Associations and Conventions as may be agreed upon while in session.

Art. 12. It shall be the duty of the Association to appoint a minister to preach an introductory sermon, with an alternate; also one with an alternate to preach a missionary sermon at each succeeding session; and to fix the time and place for the next meeting of the body.

Art. 13. The Moderator shall appoint, at each annual session, an Executive Board, consisting of at least one member from each church, whose duty it shall be to elect and employ a missionary or missionaries in our bounds; to solicit and collect money, or issue orders on the Treasurer of the Association to pay



the same, which orders the Treasurer is hereby authorized to pay out of any money that he may have for this purpose; also to change, during vacation, the time or place, or both, for the next meeting of the Association, whenever in the providence of God, it may be necessary. The officers of the Association shall be considered members of the board.

Art. 14. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any time, by a two-thirds vote of the members present, except that clause in the fourth article which prohibits interference with the internal rights of the churches, which shall forever remain in tact.

Art. 15. The minutes shall be signed by the Moderator and Clerk.

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### RULES OF DECORUM.

Art. 1. The Association shall be opened by singing and prayer.

Art. 2. The Moderator, Vice Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer shall be elected by ballot by the members present.

Art. 3. The Moderator shall be considered the judge of order, but any member not satisfied with his decision may appeal to the body.

Art. 4. The Moderator shall be entitled to the privilege of speaking as other members, but not to vote, unless it is a tie.

Art. 5. All questions shall be introduced by motion, and if seconded, shall be open for discussion, unless withdrawn by the mover or his second. When a subject has been discussed a reasonable time, the Moderator shall, when the question is called for, proceed to take it by calling for the yeas and nays, and if a call for a division is made, he shall call for a standing vote.

Art. 6. Any member wishing to speak shall rise and address the Moderator. Only one shall speak at the same time, and shall not be interrupted while speaking unless he depart from the subject or make personal reflections.

Art. 7. No person shall speak more than once upon any subject, until all who wish to speak have had an opportunity, nor more than twice without permission.

Art. 8. Every subject introduced for discussion shall be decided before another is offered, unless it be laid over by motion, with the consent of the mover and the Association.

Art. 9. The names of messengers shall be called whenever the Association shall direct, and absentees marked. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission from the Moderator.

Art. 10. The appellation of "brother" shall be used in addressing each other.

Art. 11. Any member violating the rules shall be subject to reproof by the Moderator.

Art. 12. Amendments or alterations may be made to these rules when a majority may deem it necessary.

Art. 13. Any case coming before the Association not provided for in these rules shall be governed by general parliamentary rules.