

**MINUTES OF THE
FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
Gainseville Missionary
Baptist Association**

**HELD WITH RECTOR MISSIONARY BAP-
TIST CHURCH**

**Rector, Clay County, Ark.,
October 18th to 20th, 1916**

OFFICERS:

J. D. J. FAULKNER, Paragould,	-	Moderator
R. L. LEWIS, Piggott,	- -	Clerk
J. B. WALDEN, Paragould,	- -	Treasurer

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Minutes of the Forty-seventh Annual Session of GAINESVILLE MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, held with the Rector Baptist Church, at Rector, Clay County, Arkansas, October 18, 19, 20, 1916.

The Association met at 10 A. M. and had singing by the Association, and prayer by Eld. H. E. Peters.

The Moderator being absent, the Clerk called the Association to order and Eld. R. C. Rogers read the 6th Chapter of Isaiah, after which the Association was led in prayer by Eld. J. D. J. Faulkner.

Bro. G. O. Light was appointed temporary Secretary and Eld. A. F. Crittenden assistant secretary. Eld. E. D. Cooper, who had been selected to preach the introductory sermon, was not present, whereupon Eld. W. R. McEwin, State Missionary for N. E. Arkansas, was chosen to preach the introductory sermon. His text was from Mat. 5-4: Ye are the light of the world. Subject: "Baptist Opportunity." His sermon was impressive. Eld. H. E. Peters and Bro. Elmer Robertson were selected as reading clerks, who read the letters presented by the following churches, and the following messengers were enrolled:

Beach Grove—R. M. Lamb, J. H. Lamb, Thos. Hogland.

Bethel—Sam Boyd, Ben Wagster.
 Bethlehem—W. Y. Smith, J. T. Ladyman.
 Big Creek—Jeff Gardner, Revie Bishop, W. J. Bishop.
 Black River—Willa Garrett, Jennie Brown, Dee Gar-
 rett, Jr.
 Blooming Grove—E. R. Crews, Olie Hooks, Geo. Mc-
 Neal.
 Brown's Chapel—Grace McHale, J. F. Sain, C. E.
 Waddell.
 Center Hill—Roy Emmert, Elsie Gay, Mabel Grooms.
 Epsaby—W. J. Stanford, John Cole.
 Fairview—Avy Russell, J. P. Weaver.
 Friendship—Wesley Walker, W. F. Walden, Alley
 Valentine.
 Gainesville—Francis Dunn, Elmer Robertson, Clara
 Robertson.
 Greenway—Sadie Thomas, S. M. Mathis.
 Hopewell—R. D. Cooper, J. M. Womble, L. M. Clarida.
 Main Shore—G. W. Howard, Mrs. G. W. Howard, Jas.
 Maddox.
 Marmaduke—J. B. Walden, J. E. Sonney, J. R. Hall.
 Mt. Tabor—O. E. Vancil, Lizzie Vancil.
 New Haven—Vernice Jones, John Baker.
 New Home—W. N. Stairs, W. W. Cary, W. E. Brewer.
 New Hope—Sam Forrest, John Latta, C. E. Grider.
 New Light—O. T. Carpenter, T. D. Lawrence.
 Paragould—W. H. Merideth, J. J. Bone, Eliza Remley.
 Peach Orchard—Elizabeth Essary, Ethel Morris.
 Piggott—R. L. Lewis, Lura Brown.
 Pleasant Grove—W. D. Hester, Oma Gramling.
 Pleasant Hill—J. R. Stanfield, O. H. Payn.
 Post Oak—Will Jackson, Minnie Jackson.
 Providence—W. N. Wright.
 Rector—Mrs. J. B. Winchester, Dr. G. Claude Jerni-
 gan, Levi Cooper.
 Rock Hill—J. L. Craig, J. T. Rogers, Gertie Rogers.
 Salem—John Dodd.
 Spring Grove—Mabel Burton, Clara Rogers.
 St. Francis—John Jones, R. Palsgrove, F. G. Evans.
 Unity—By letter.

Union Grove—Hardy Rowe, L. L. Faulkner, Earnest Henry.

Wanders Home—John Roschell.

After reading letters from part of the aforesaid churches the Association adjourned to meet at 2:00 P. M. with benediction by G. A. Crocker.

2:00 P. M.—Reading of the letters was resumed, after which the Association elected officers as follows:

J. D. J. Faulkner, Moderator; R. L. Lewis, Clerk, and J. B. Walden, Treasurer.

After the permanent organization, Bro. Faulkner, in his usual impressive manner, spoke of the importance of the work; and after prayer by R. C. Rogers the body resumed business.

The following visitors were seated: Eld. Robt. Liddell, Black River Assn., Clarkton, Mo.; W. R. McEwin, Missionary N. E. Arkansas, Jonesboro, Ark.; G. R. Tyler, New Madrid Assn., Portageville, Mo.; W. F. Dorris, Monticello Orphans' Home; Mrs. J. G. Jackson, State Worker W. M. U.; Mrs. J. L. Burns, Mt. Zion Association; Bro. V. A. Phillips, Mt. Zion Assn.; Eld. W. C. Woods, Mt. Zion Assn.; Eld. John L. Ray, Black River Assn. (Mo.); Mrs. Newt Ashbold, Fairfield Assn. (Ill.); Dr. M. L. Bearden, Memphis, Tenn.; Mrs. M. L. Bearden, Memphis, Tenn.; Eld. J. D. Faughn, Black River Assn. (Mo.)

After motion, and second, duly carried, the Moderator appointed the following committees:

Committee on Divine Services—Pastor and Deacons Rector Baptist Church.

On Arrangements—J. T. Rogers, J. F. Sain, Jeff Gardner.

On Finance—Geo. Light, Elmer Robertson.

On Associational Missions—J. R. Hall, R. C. Rogers, W. J. Bishop, John Latta, Forrest Evans.

On State Missions—W. R. McEwin, J. B. Walden, W. D. Hester, John Roschell, Levi Cooper.

On Publications—A. F. Crittenden, Jennie Brown, Willa Garrett, Wesley Walker, J. F. Sain.

On Orphans' Home—J. E. Sonney, Avy Russell, Mabel

Grooms, W. F. Dorris.

On Prayer Meeting—W. H. Meridith, J. J. Bone, Roy Emmert, Gertie Rogers.

On Sunday Schools—Jeff Gardner, J. P. Weaver, J. M. Wamble.

On Temperance—G. R. Tyler, Vernie Jones, Olie Hooks, W. F. Walden.

On Ministers and Post Offices—L. L. Faulkner, R. D. Cooper, E. R. Crews.

On Infirm Ministers—A. G. Cagle, Oma Gramling, Minnie Jackson, Hardy Rowe, R. Palsgrove.

On Home Missions—H. E. Peters, John Baker, Will Jackson, Jas. Meddocks.

On Foreign Missions—Robert Liddell, W. N. Stairs, W. W. Cary, Mrs. J. B. Winchester.

On Ministerial and Christian Education—Dr. G. Claud Jernigan, Dee Garrett, Jr.

On Obituaries—G. A. Crocker, Elizabeth Essary, Ethel Morris.

On Hospital Work—A Floyd Crittenden, Revie Bishop, Sadie Thomas, Elsie Gay, Eliza Remley.

On Bible Schools—J. T. Rogers, J. L. Craig, Geo. W. Howard.

Woman's Work—Mrs. J. G. Jackson, Rella Dudley, Lura Brown, Susie Rogers, Nora Fitzgerald, J. L. Burns.

Committee on Arrangements made the following report, which was adopted:

1. Roll Call.

2. Presenting petitionary letters.

3. Inviting visiting brethren.

4. Report of Executive Board.

5. Committees report as follows: Associated Missions, State Missions, Publications, Orphans' Home, Prayer Meetings, Sunday Schools, Temperance, Ministers and Post Offices, Infirm Ministers, Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Ministerial and Christian Education, Obituaries, Hospital Work, Bible Schools, Woman's Work, Finance.

6. Unfinished Business.

7. Report of Treasurer.

8. Miscellaneous .

9. Queries and Resolutions.

—Committee.

Executive Board made its report as follows, which was received:

We, your Executive Committee, beg leave to submit the following as its report:

We were confronted at the commencement of the year by a small debt coming over from the previous year, which had its effect and influence with us in our deliberations and actions.

We met shortly after the adjournment of the Association, and after much earnest deliberation decided that any propaganda involving the outlay of much money, when it was not in sight, would be unwise, but that it was our duty to select the most needful field, and arrange to care for it and at the same time not involve our people in the throes of a great debt. This could only be done by using the most scrupulous care and the means at hand at the time, so we employed Eld. J. R. Hall as associational missionary at \$350 per year, with the distinct understanding that "in no event was the Association to be liable for more than \$250 of this sum and that he should raise it all, if possible, on the field, but in all events he was to raise all sums due him in excess of the \$250."

Your committee would have been pleased to have planned our work on a larger scale but we had to deal as we saw it with conditions and not theories.

We report further that there is now seemingly a new day dawning in the matter of our work in the Association, that more good men and women are "coming up boldly to the help of the Lord against the mighty" and that the spirit of doing something for Jesus is more nearly upon the entire membership now than in former years.

We append our financial statement herewith and will ask that this statement be read in connection with the financial reports of the churches and our missionary to this association in order to get a view of what our peo-

ple are doing and are willing to do. Respectfully submitted,

G. O. LIGHT, Secretary.

To C. A. Meridith.....	\$5.50	By bal. on hand.....	\$4.59
To J. R. Hall	65.00	By Bethlehem	3.00
To R. C. Rogers.....	15.00	By J. B. Walden	55.43
To A. G. Cagle	20.00	By R. L. Lewis	5.00
To bal. on hand.....	25.27	By Pleasant Grove.....	1.75
		By Friendship	22.15
		By L. M. Clarida	2.50
		By Brown's Chapel	5.00
		By New Haven75
		By St. Francis	5.00
		By Rock Hill	20.00
		By Union Grove	3.60
		By Blooming Grove	2.00

\$130.77

\$130.77

Committee on Divine Service reported that Eld. Robt. Liddell would preach at 7:30 P. M.

The Association then adjourned till 9:30 A. M. Benediction by A. G. Cagle.

7:00 P. M.—After singing by the Association, and prayer by R. L. Lewis, the Moderator introduced Eld. Robt. Liddell, of Clarkton, Mo., who preached an excellent sermon from John 8:12. Subject: "Jesus, the Light of the World."

After the sermon we had the benediction by Eld. G. R. Tyler.

THURSDAY.

9:30 A.M.—After singing by the Association and prayer by Eld. Robt. Liddell, the Association resumed work.

Committee on Association Missions' report read by R. C. Rogers, who moved its adoption, and was talked to by R. C. Rogers, J. R. Hall, Mrs. J. G. Jackson, A. Floyd Crittenden, G. R. Tyler, G. O. Light, J. T. Rogers, W. C. Wood, Dr. Jernigan. Carried.

The following pledges were made for Associational Missions:

Rector	\$100.00	Marmaduke W. M. U.	5.00
Paragould	75.00	Rock Hill	50.00
Friendship	50.00	Black River	25.00
Piggott	25.00	Blooming Grove	10.00
Brown's Chapel	10.00	Center Hill	10.00
New Hope	10.00	Spring Grove	10.00
St. Francis	10.00	Union Grove	10.00
New Haven	5.00	Peach Orchard	5.00
Pleasant Grove	5.00	Post Oak	5.00
Paragould W. M. U.	5.00	Hopewell	10.00
Mt. Tabor	5.00	Bethlehem	10.00
Marmaduke	50.00	Pleasant Hill	5.00

If Jesus had not said, "Go," we might be satisfied with being indifferent to the great needs of our Association. In the commission we find the reason for our existence as a church. Therefore if we would answer the purpose of our calling we must make haste in the preaching of the whole gospel to our neighbor.

We commend our board for its faithful work in endeavoring to answer the needs of our Association.

Bro. J. R. Hall was employed and has labored faithfully on an extremely hard field. His services have been blessed with the salvation of many souls.

With the passing of the years, the importance of Associational Missions has been growing. The field is greater than in all our history. The needs are distressingly great. Therefore we urge this Association to consider carefully and prayerfully this all-important question of giving the gospel to the thousands at our door who have it not.

It seems to us that we have just been playing at this business. We have not increased our efforts and efficiency with the increasing of the field. God is calling us to awake and put on the strength of Zion. The committee recommends that this Association instruct its next board to put a strong man on the field for all time.

—Committee.

Motion duly seconded and carried to have preaching at this hour; thereon the Divine Services Committee reported that W. R. McEwin would preach on State Mis-

sions. Eld. McEwin came forward and preached an excellent sermon on the subject assigned. The body then adjourned till 2 P. M. Benediction by Bro. Dorris.

2:00 P. M.—Song and prayer, led by G. R. Tyler.

State Missions report read by W. R. McEwin. Motion and second to adopt. Talked to by W. C. Wood, Mrs. J. G. Jackson, W. R. McEwin. Carried.

STATE MISSIONS.

We, your committee on State Missions, beg leave to submit the following report:

All New Testament churches find their origin and end in missions. Missions believed in and practiced is just as much a mark of true Baptists as is a belief in immersion, the preservation of the saints, and a restricted Lord's Supper. Missions is not only the reason for their existence but is the law of life to the churches.

As a belief in Foreign Missions is a key to a belief in all missions, so activity in State Missions is a key to activity in all missions. In many ways State Missions is the very heart of all our denominational work. State Missions is the constant friend and promoter of Associational Missions, the conservator of Home Missions, and the base of supplies for Foreign Missions. Can any MISSIONARY Baptist church afford to neglect State Missions and not make an offering year, perhaps the greatest in our history?

State Missions include the holding of revival meetings, or evangelism, baptizing, reviving and enlisting laggard churches, colportage work, helping to build church houses, aiding weak churches in the support of pastors, raising church debts, promoting Sunday schools, Bible schools, Young Peoples' Unions and Women's Work in general.

In 1915 the churches co-operating with the Arkansas Baptist State Convention did the following amount of State Mission work:

Missionaries and other workers	60
Conversions	2,301
Baptisms	2,035
Additions	3,085

Amount raised for State Missions.....	\$18,762.00
Bible Schools held	11
Bible Institutes held.....	132

This year the number of our employes in State Mission work is 56; conversions reported up to September 1 2,511; the number of baptisms to same date 1,802; total additions 2,518.

To put our State Mission work entirely out of debt, we Baptists of the state need to raise by November 30, \$29,000.00. Of this amount this entire Association will be asked to give about \$350.

We, your committee, make the following recommendations:

1. That all our people pray earnestly and devoutly for our State Missions cause.

2. That every pastor by special sermons, liberal gifts, and many visits do his utmost to get every church to make an offering to State Missions right away.

3. That it be the sense of this body that all our churches open wide their doors to brethren who wish to present the matter of State Missions and take free will offerings for the work. Signed by the committee.

W. R. McEwin,
J. B. Walden,
W. D. Hester,
J. W. Rochell.

Collections for Associational Missions \$25.01.

By consent of the Association the Committee on Woman's Work was read by Mrs. J. G. Jackson, who moved its adoption. It was discussed by Mrs. J. G. Jackson. Carried.

When we realize that the aim of the W. M. U. is systematic Bible and Mission study, united prayer, systematic and proportionate giving, and definite personal service, we wish most heartily to commend their work, and feel profoundly grateful for their faithfulness and consecration. So far as your committee has been able to learn, there are five woman's societies in Gainesville Association, one at each of the following places: Rector, Piggott, Gainesville, Marmaduke and Paragould, giving

last year to all purposes \$1,471.47.

We feel that the pastors are the mainspring of all activities in church; we therefore urge the pastors to aid in organizing the women of their churches in aids and missionary societies, and give them their help and encouragement at all times.

We urge each woman present that on her return home to organize an active working society in her church and by her prayers and attendance to do all she can to further the Master's cause.

—Committee.

Committee on divine service reported that Eld. Dorris would take up the work of the Orphan's Home. Adjournment was had till 7:00 P. M. Benediction by G. A. Crocker.

7:00 P. M.—After singing by the Association and prayer by Eld. Peters, the Association resumed work.

Committee on Publications report was read by A. F. Crittenden. Motion and second to adopt the report and was talked to by A. F. Crittenden, W. F. Dorris, G. R. Tyler, and adopted.

REPORT ON PUBLICATIONS.

The infinite wisdom of our Heavenly Father has given emphasis to the all-importance of the printed page by the fact that He has chosen it as the main plan or method of communicating His thoughts to man. The wisest and best men of all ages have used written or printed language as the one great means of collecting, preserving and transmitting their thoughts, words and acts to posterity. All religious cults depend in a very great measure upon the written or printed page as their main agency for the propagation of their peculiar theories. The world's thought of today is to be found in books, tracts and papers. It is, therefore, impossible for the finite mind to over-estimate the importance of religious literature, as it affects every nation, kindred and tribe.

As Baptists stand for the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, it may be well considered more important for them and for the world at large that their doctrines

and practices shall be given to the race in printed form as well as by living tongue. We do, therefore, heartily recommend that there be renewed emphasis placed by all Baptists on the importance of careful study of the Word of God and of all safe, sound books, tracts and periodicals.

We would especially recommend that the Baptists of this Association subscribe for and read such papers and periodicals as The Baptist Advance, the Baptist Standard, the Home and Foreign Fields, and any and all others that will strengthen the faith and encourage the efforts and endeavors of all our churches, and individual members to be more aggressive, both in the defense and propagation of our blood-bought Baptist principles.

We further recommend that our pastors secure and distribute among their members the tracts for free distribution setting forth the work done by and the needs of our Home, Foreign and State Mission Boards respectively, our orphanage, hospital and denominational schools. We also urge the use of our evangelistic and doctrinal tracts published by the Sunday School Board and our different mission boards, which may be had for the asking.

We also recommend the Sunday school literature published by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention as being the very best and urge its use by all our churches.

—Committee.

Report on Orphan's Home was read by W. F. Dorris. Motion and second to adopt. Bro. W. F. Dorris talked to us about the orphanage and took a collection for the Monticello Orphan's Home; amount \$13.72. Report adopted.

ORPHANS' HOME REPORT.

Orphans' Home work is grounded, not on human sympathy alone, but on the Supreme authority of the Word of God. Jesus said: "The poor ye have with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good." The Apostle James expresses our duty to the fatherless: "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this: To visit the fatherless and widows in their af-

fiction, etc., etc." God commanded the Jews to provide for the Levite, the Stranger, the Fatherless and the Widow in a systematic way, so that these should come and eat and be satisfied. Deut. 14:28-29.

At our last convention there was a resolution passed requiring the board to place the children in good homes. In obedience to this resolution we have placed between 85 and 90 children in good homes. We have received 14 into the home since January 1, 1916. We have now about 112 in the home.

We have done our best to reduce current expenses, by placing children in good homes; by declining to take at least 42 children who have applied for admittance, arranging either with the communities or county judge to care for them; and by doing on as little as we could so as to give the children food sufficient to keep them healthy and growing. We are glad to report that the pellagra children are doing well, and under the wise and skillful treatment of our physician, Dr. B. P. Kimbro, they seem to be making progress toward permanent recovery.

Our \$17,000 debt is a heavy burden, and our beloved brethren of Monticello who have been under this load for so many years are begging us to give them relief. This is your debt as much as theirs, for Drew county has, perhaps, fewer inmates in the home than most of the counties represented in it. The Baptists of Arkansas can pay this debt any day, if they can only come to realize that is is their debt. We are planning and working to get all this debt provided for by the meeting of the convention in December. We have now, in cash and good pledges, about \$8,000 of this amount. So far our churches and W. M. S. and individuals have pledged the full amount asked of them. This is good, but your field man cannot visit every church in the state. Our task from now to the convention is to provide for the other \$9,000, and at the same time provide for current expenses, for our orphans must eat three times a day just like your children.

Your committee therefore recommends:

1. That every pastor in this Association lay the matters of this great work on the hearts of his people, and take the lead in caring for our orphans as God commands.

2. That our Sunday schools be requested to continue their regular monthly offerings for current expenses, and that we urge Sunday schools not making monthly offerings to adopt the plan and join with the other Sunday schools that have done such noble work for our dear orphans.

3. That our ladies' societies be requested to join in with this debt-raising campaign, pledging each a definite amount, taking care of all they possibly can now, and the balance not later than December 25, 1916.

4. That we do now take a collection in cash and pledges to relieve the heavy demands; pledges to be paid at the earliest date possible, certainly not later than December 25, 1916.

J. E. Sonney,
Mrs. Avey Russell,
Miss Mabel Grooms,

Pledges to Orphans' Home to be paid by Dec. 6, 1916:

Beach Grove	\$20.00	Rector W. M. U.....	5.00
Black River	5.00	Big Creek	10.00
Friendship	10.00	Browns Chapel	5.00
New Haven	5.00	Main Shore	5.00
Rector	20.00	Paragould W. M. U.....	15.00

Paragould Second Church pledged \$100 to be paid next year.

We then adjourned to meet at 9 A. M. Benediction by G. A. Crocker.

FRIDAY.

9:00 A. M.—After singing, the Moderator called J. D. Faughn to lead in prayer.

The report on Sunday schools was read by Jeff Gardner, who moved its adoption. It was discussed by him and Elds. Dorris, Faughn, Hall, Crittenden, Peters and Faulkner. Adopted.

We feel that there is no work of the churches that is of as great importance as the Sunday school work.

In looking over the reports of the churches we find that out of thirty-six churches that thirty report Sunday schools. There seems to be a falling off in this great work.

The Sunday school is a great means of winning souls and of training the young members for future work in the Lord's vineyard.

It affords great opportunities for the teaching of Baptist doctrine. We note that a large percent of our converts come from the Sunday schools. In view of this fact we would urge every church to strive to maintain an ever-green Sunday school. We would recommend the use of good sound Baptist literature.

—Committee.

Report on temperance was read by G. R. Tyler. After motion and second for its adoption, it was talked to by G. R. Tyler, R. L. Lewis, G. O. Light, G. C. Jernigan, A. F. Crittenden, the Moderator called R. L. Lewis to lead in a special prayer for the defeat of Act No. 2. The report was unanimously carried.

As an evil in our land and a curse to mankind, strong drink needs no introduction. Alcoholic drinks are the bane of the human race. We have only to remind ourselves of the past to be convinced that it is the most damning and withering curse of the greater portion of mankind than any other evil known to humanity.

You may search all history and will not find one good thing to its credit, but you will find that it has caused greater calamities throughout the ages than all the plagues, famines and wars. It is the advance agent of the devil to recruit colonies, to populate the desolate regions of hell. Without alcohol in some form or other, the tartarean shores with their infernal horrors would not be so densely populated with immigrants from this globe.

Mankind has been warned against its use by both the precepts of the good and wise, and the awful tragic example of the bad in every civilized country. Maledictions of its victims are incessantly being hurled against it, but the unthinking man does not see that there is

nothing but moral and physical ruin in its use. The blood it has caused to flow would make a crimson Niagara. The money it has caused to be expended for criminal prosecutions, divorces, pauper houses, insane asylums, penitentiaries, jails, reform schools and gallows, if properly applied would long since have carried the gospel to every unsaved man in the world.

We recommend that the pastors of this association strive to inform their membership on temperance movements and urge them to vote for strict temperance men for public office.

We further recommend that we as a religious body put ourselves on public record as condemning in unmistakable terms proposed Act No. 2 to be voted on Nov. 7.

We further recommend that the churches see that their members be strictly disciplined for intemperance and that if any member of any church in this Association be known to have signed the petition favoring, or voted for Act No. 2, that charges be preferred against such member.

We also urge that each messenger, visitor and pastor act as a committee of one in working for the defeat of Act No. 2 on Nov. 7.

—Committee.

The report on prayer meeting was read by W. H. Meredith, who moved its adoption and talked to the report. Carried.

We recommend that each church maintain a regular prayer meeting. With prayers in both church and home, in public and private, we will get greater vision of the work of our Lord. The spirit will help our infirmities, for we know not what we should pray for as we ought, but the spirit himself maketh intercessions for us with groanings which cannot be uttered, and He that searcheth the hearts, knoweth what is the mind of the spirit, because He maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

Let us yield ourselves fully so the spirit can direct us in prayer.

—Committee.

Report of Ministers and Post Offices was read by E. G. Crews. Report was adopted.

J. A. Stairs, Marmaduke,	E. D. Cooper, Paragould,
W. L. Walker, Halliday,	J. R. Stanfield, Paragould,
J. T. Nowel, Marmaduke,	G. H. Faulkner, Paragould,
J. R. Hall, Marmaduke,	P. J. Henry, Paragould,
R. L. Lewis, Piggott,	Aubrey Remley, Paragould,
I. K. Joiner, Piggott,	W. H. Merideth, Paragould
A. G. Cagle, Piggott,	F. B. Emmons, Paragould
J. W. Hollis, Piggott,	T. R. Allen, Paragould,
Everett Hollis, Piggott,	H. E. Peters, Paragould,
A. F. Crittenden, Rector,	R. C. Rogers, Paragould,
W. F. Alexander, Pollard,	Ben Cooper, Paragould,
R. C. Estes, Peach Orchard,	J. D. J. Faulkner, Par'gould
P. P. Green, St. Francis,	Andy Kirk, Paragould,
R. L. Kirkland, B'ch Grove,	G. A. Crocker, Paragould,
W. H. Gossett, Marmaduke,	Committee.

Report on Infirm Ministers was read by H. T. Rowe. Adopted.

We gladly report that our Association has none among our aged ministers save those who are graciously blest with means of support. God has not only blessed their labors spiritually but has also blessed them financially.

Your committee would respectfully recommend that the Association keep a standing committee for the purpose of locating all such brethren who may need our assistance, and in the event that they find any who are infirm and in need that they proceed to raise funds among the churches for their support and place in the hands of the executive board to be distributed where same is needed.

Committee.

Report on Home Mission Board was read by H. E. Peters. Was talked on by H. E. Peters, Mrs. J. G. Jackson, W. R. McEwin. It was adopted.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

The Home Mission Board, located at Atlanta, Ga., is the agency through which Southern Baptists, as a single body, address themselves to the task of saving the lost

and building up the churches in the whole south.

The task of Home Mission is immense. The territory served by the Home Board embraces 1,000,000 square miles and has in it about 36,000,000 people. After counting out 4,000,000 as infants or other irresponsible persons, 18,000,000 persons in the south make no profession of religion.

To meet this immense need last year our Board maintained wholly or in part 1,409 missionaries. These reported 43,782 baptisms and brought into the churches 71,386 persons. They organized 167 Baptist churches and 321 Sunday schools. They held up before the eyes and hearts of men in more than 5,000 communities the Light of the World, the Savior of mankind. No Mission Board in America was ever blessed with such large success or such marked evidences of the favor of God in its workers.

In the highlands and on the plains, in the cities and the countryside, among white and black, natives and foreigner, in Cuba and the Canal Zone, messengers of Christ have brought light for darkness, and driven out sin with divine love.

This year the Convention has apportioned \$438,750 for Home Missions, to be raised by Baptist churches in seventeen states. This is less than \$18 for each church. Nearly every one of the smaller and weaker churches are able to raise this amount for so great a cause, and thousands of stronger ones should do far more than that.

We recommend:

1. That our churches be encouraged to order and use the instructive free tracts of the Board, which tell of each phase of its work, and that classes be formed to study its admirable book, "Baptist Missions in the South," and its other Missionary Study books.

2. That earnest prayer be made in all the churches for the Board and for its work, and that at least one sermon yearly be preached in every church on Home Missions.

3. That this Association take proper steps to appor-

tion its Home Mission apportionment among the churches and publish the list in the minutes of our body, also that the matter be pressed upon the churches throughout the year.

—Committee.

Report on Foreign Missions was read by Eld. Liddell, and after being discussed by Elds. Liddell and Tyler, adopted.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, located at Richmond, Va., in its last report tells of a year of triumphant success, both at home and abroad. The total contributions for the year, including the amount raised on the debt and on the Judson Centennial Fund, were \$806,729. The only drawback on the year's work was the fact that the contributions for the current support amounting to \$518,323, left a deficit which, combined with the old debt, made a total indebtedness of \$180,000. During the meeting of the Convention in Asheville a great movement was started for the purpose of paying off this heavy indebtedness, and many of our brethren and sisters have made beautiful and joyful responses to this appeal.

The campaign to raise the Judson Centennial Fund of \$1,250,000 has been successful. Our foreign missionaries now number 315, of whom 133 are men and 182 women. The membership of our mission churches is now 42,632 organized into 459 churches, 95 of which are self-supporting. The native Christians contributed \$129,561 to the work in their midst. We have 462 Sunday schools which report 10,490 scholars. There are 453 mission schools with 13,531 students. Of these mission schools six are Women's Bible Training Schools, with 200 students, ten are Theological Training Schools, with 191 students. We have now 19 medical missionaries, 9 hospitals, and 10 dispensaries. Our medical missionaries treated 74,866 patients last year.

Attention should be called to the great strides which the native churches are taking toward self-support, self-government and self-propagation. One field will serve

to illustrate this. In Brazil the per capita gifts for all objects is \$5.72. Our Brazilian Baptists have their own Home and Foreign Mission Boards. Amongst our members in foreign lands there are many tithers. There are indeed churches which make tithing a test of fellowship. Many churches in the foreign fields are building their own houses of worship, paying the salaries of their pastors, and contributing to the support of missionary work in their own lands and elsewhere. Native workers are being trained, and as we look into the near and far future the outlook is indeed bright.

Like everything that grows, our Foreign Mission work has increasing necessities. Our success has carried us into a situation from which there is no turning back and which lays new claims upon us. We have tasks which we can neither turn loose nor turn over to others. We ought not to do either. Perhaps there is nothing connected with foreign missions so imperfectly understood by the masses of our people as this of the unescapable necessities of the work. Conditions at home may be pieced out by other means, and in emergencies matters can be deferred for the time being, but such is not the case on the foreign fields where foreign missionary salaries and other items have to be met.

We would urge that our churches make use of the many free tracts which can be secured from the Foreign Mission Board.

The Convention at Asheville ordered the consolidation of the Foreign Mission Journal and the Home Field into one Magazine to be published by the Sunday School Board at Nashville. The consolidated magazine will be the organ through which the Board and its missionaries will be able to speak most effectively to the churches at home. It is of very great importance that all the churches take steps immediately looking to a large circulation of this magazine.

In addition to the mass of material in tract form, the Educational Department of the Foreign Mission Board calls special attention to the mission study class method. We would urge that a larger number of classes be or-

ganized to study the latest Foreign Mission Board Report which will be put into text-book form, and can be secured from the Educational Department of the Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va. This report is a valuable study on our own foreign mission work. We wish that a large number of our men and young people would study the report in mission study classes or discussion groups, and that the women would see to it that special classes are organized for the men and young people, or that these be invited to the sessions of the women's classes.

In view of the imperative need of re-enforcement on all our foreign fields and the very great importance of meeting the current support of this work this year and avoiding another debt, we recommend that this Association divide among the churches on an equitable basis the apportionment for this year, and earnestly urge the churches to undertake to raise the amounts asked of them before April 30, 1917.

In order to save the large amount of interest paid out on borrowed money, we earnestly suggest that our churches send in their contributions regularly each month through the regular channels. We recommend that Every Member Canvass and Systematic Giving as the Biblical plan for contributing to foreign missions.

In a thousand ways God is calling upon Southern Baptists to make a great advance in Foreign Mission work. We would plead that sacrificial effort and constant prayer for the success of this year be practiced in all the churches.

Committee.

By motion and second the Association adjourned till 2:00 P. M.

Bro. W. F. Dorris called for a song, after which he conducted a short service. Benediction by G. R. Tyler.

2:00 P. M.—Motion duly seconded that J. B. Walden, C. E. Waddell, L. L. Faulkner, A. Floyd Critten be chosen as a committee on nominations. Carried.

Report of Ministerial and Christian Education was read by Dee Garrett, who moved its adoption, and it was

discussed by W. R. McEwin, W. F. Dorris. Carried.

REPORT ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION.

We, your committee on Christian Education submit the following:

The Bible is definitely in favor of Christian Education. Matthew 28-20; Ephesians 4-18; Hosea 4-6. Indeed, every word in God's Book that speaks against ignorance is for Christian education. Jesus was a great teacher as well as a great preacher. Christ and his Apostles everywhere emphasized the importance of knowledge touching religious work. We, as Baptists, and followers of Christ and his Apostles, must believe in and practice Christian education as thoroughly as we do missions.

The education of preachers is especially important for Baptists. We will be woefully undone in time, if we neglect this fundamental matter. We urge all possible emphasis that every young preacher in this Association do his utmost to get a good education. Preachers are given free tuition in all our Baptist schools in the state. At Ouchita College other financial help is given when needed.

Arkansas Baptists have two great Baptist colleges: Ouchita College at Arkadelphia, for boys and girls, C. E. Dicken, D. D., president, and Central College at Conway, for girls, J. W. Conger, LL. D., president. The attendance at Ouchita last year was about 300, and at Central about 200. We also have Mountain Home College (a mountain school academy), at Mountain Grove, Rev. H. F. Vermillion, president, and Maynard Academy, at Maynard, Rev. W. A. Cummings, president. Both of these schools are mountain schools of the Home Mission Board of Atlanta, Ga., for boys and girls, and are doing well.

It is hoped that our Baptist people will patronize our Baptist schools. They are as good as the best. The atmosphere in all these schools is religious and Baptist. The study of the Bible is given a large place in each of them.

Your committee earnestly recommends that all our

preachers preach often each year on the needs and benefits of our Baptist schools, and that they urge our folks to send their children to them. We further emphasize the great importance of every church in this Association making a worthy offering to our schools each year.

The churches co-operating through the Baptist State Convention are giving about \$20,000 this year to Christian education. Send all money to J. S. Rogers, general secretary, Little Rock, Ark.

G. C. Jernigan,
D. L. Garrett, Jr.,
Committee.

Report on Obituaries was read by G. A. Crocker, who moved its adoption. Carried.

Lawson Houston, W. B. McCain, J. M. Rasberry, Eliza Rasberry, Sam Hamilton, Marmaduke; Sam J. Brown, Mary Dodd, Piggott; Allie Smith, New Haven; S. H. Weatherly, Roena Burns, Friendship; Nora Burks, Greenway; J. T. Carpenter, New Light; Jeff Fletcher, Main Shore; B. A. Johnson, Union Grove; Nora Pruitt, Wm. Abney, Bethel; J. M. Brown, O. J. Justice, Jane Pollard, Ollie Johnson, Willl Pollard, New Hope; G. W. Fry, Jennie Martin, Greek Ross, St. Francis; T. R. Childers, Center Hill; Bertha Oldham, Peach Orchard; M. J. Stairs, New Home; Eugene Thomas, Bethlehem; J. R. Starnes, Providence; J. M. Pruett, Mary Johnson, Hopewell; D. F. Batton, Post Oak.

—Committee.

Report on Bible Schools was read by the clerk, who moved its adoption. It was discussed by W. R. McEfin, Mrs. J. G. Jackson. Carried.

The object of this report is to call your most earnest attention to the fifteen Bible schools to be held in our state, January 15-20, 1917, and particularly to call attention to the one at Jonesboro on that date. Eleven schools were held last January, attended by two hundred preachers and four hundred laymen and women. This year the attendance should reach five hundred preachers in the state and twice as many others. Churches would do well to pay their pastor's railroad fare to one of these

schools Free entertainment is furnished all who attend, both preachers and laymen. The school at Jonesboro will be a real Bible and mission school, and a broad invitation and an urgent appeal is extended to brethren over all N. E. Arkansas to attend. These schools add information and inspiration that only eternity can measure, for "knowledge is power." Let us go up to the school to learn to be better workers for the Master.

Committee.

Report on Baptist Memorial Hospital was read by A. F. Crittenden, who talked to the report. Carried.

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

The Baptist Memorial Hospital, located at Memphis, Tenn., is the property of the Baptist of Arkansas, Tennessee and Mississippi. The hospital is as good as the best, and is an institution of which we should be justly proud. The hospital building is fire-proof and thoroughly sanitary, and the rooms are so arranged that each gets sunshine at some time during the day. The surgeons and nurses employed in the hospital are the very best to be found anywhere. The hospital has expended this year on improvements, debts and charity donations, \$38,150, and the churches have sent \$750 as a contribution to the running expenses of the institution.

There has been collected for the new wing this year about \$3,000, and there is still due on old subscriptions to the building something over \$65,000.

There have been admitted since the first of January, 1916, 2,793 patients, of which number 925 were from Mississippi, 212 from Arkansas and 1,104 from Tennessee, 547 from other states. Religiously these patients were as follows: Baptists, 805; Methodists, 658; Presbyterians, 246; Episcopalians, 158; Catholics, 90; Jewish, 123; Disciples, 116; other religions, 19; no religion, 467; not recorded, 96; total, 2,793.

The hospital has admitted during this time 357 charity patients, who have received the same surgical attention as pay patients.

We recommend that this hospital be given the hearty support and patronage of Baptist pastors, physicians

and members.

The hospital is in every way worthy of our support and patronage.

A. F. Crittenden,
Miss Eliza Remley,
Miss Elsie Gay.

Report of the Finance Committee was read by Elmer Robertson, who moved its adoption. Carried.

	Minutes	Orphanage	Christian Education	Foreign	Home	State	Associational
Black River	1.00	\$10.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$4.50
Beech Grove	1.00	12.00					4.00
Bethel	1.20	1.00					
Bethlehem	1.50	5.00		1.50	.50	.50	3.00
Big Creek	1.00			7.00			5.00
Blooming Grove	2.00						
Browns Chapel	1.50					10.00	
Center Hill	1.90	11.26		1.00		1.00	
Epsaby	1.25						
Fairview	1.00						
Friendship	3.00					8.25	4.00
Gainessville	.95	.95					2.85
Greenway	1.00					1.50	
Hopewell	2.00						
Main Shore	1.00	3.50		1.00		1.00	
Marmaduke	4.00						
Mt. Tabor	1.00	1.55					
New Haven	1.00	1.25			1.00		1.00
New Home	1.00						
New Hope	2.00	5.00					
New Light	1.00	2.00					
Paragould	2.75			.50		.50	25.50
Piggott	3.00						
Pleasant Grove	1.00			1.00	1.90	1.00	1.00
Pleasant Hill	.50	1.50		.50	.50		1.50
Post Oak	1.50	2.25					
Providence	1.50	2.00					
Rector	2.00						7.50
Rock Hill	2.35					21.25	
Salem	1.50						2.70
St. Francis	2.05						8.50
Spring Grove	1.00			.95	.40	1.90	
Union Grove	1.15	2.25					
Wanders Home	1.50						