

Minutes of the

Forty-eighth Annual

Session of the

GAINSVILLE

Missionary Baptist

Association.

October 24, 25 and 26,

Nineteen Seventeen

MINUTES

of the Forty-Eighth Annual Session of the Gainsville Missionary Baptist Association.

The Gainsville Missionary Baptist Association convened in its 48th annual session with Rock Hill Baptist church, Paragould, R. F. D., 10 o'clock a. m., Oct. 24, 25 and 26th, 1917. The moderator of the last session, Bro. J. D. J. Faulkner, and clerk, Bro. R. L. Lewis and pastor of Rock Hill church being absent, the association was called to order by Bro. W. R. McEwen, who entertained a motion for nominations for temporary moderator and clerk. Bro. L. J. Covington was elected moderator and W. O. Heath clerk. After singing by the association, Bro. W. R. McEwen conducted devotional exercise. The moderator then called for the church letters and appointed Brothers W. R. McEwen and G. R. Tyler to read them. The letters were presented and the messengers enrolled.

CHURCHES	MESSENGERS	ALTERNATES
Beach Grove	W. F. Robertson E. S. Gauldin I. S. Horn	J. H. Lamb R. M. Lamb Charlie Bohanom
Bethel	J. T. Maherg E. W. Woodard M. J. Woodard	
Bethlehem	J. A. Smith J. W. Vowell D. P. Johnson	James Thomas C. H. Dortch J. N. Smith
Big Creek	Mrs. C. H. Bishop Luther Bishop Jeff Gardner	
Black River		By Letter
Blooming Grove	E. R. Crews Vergie Hooks	
Brown's Chapel	Elbert Williams J. T. McDaniel J. L. Rogers	H. J. McDaniel J. F. Sain

Center Hill	Mabel Clines Johnnie Hamil Edw. E. Errington	
Epsaby	Thomas Harvil Lawrence Cole Ollie Green	Bessie Green Will Holland
Fairview	L. Sammons J. W. Ware Blanche Weaver	W. M. Russell Avy Russell Lou Duncan
Friendship	W. C. Hoskins Marrice Waldin C. E. Burns	J. D. Baldrige D. McHanev
Gainsville	Lemuel Dunn Francis Dunn Sam Drake	Mrs. Hammonds Mrs. Hathcock Mrs. J. R. Stanfield
Greenway	Sadie Thomas W. E. Harris Lillian Bell	Walter Boden Mrs. Mitchem Mrs. Harris
Hopewell	L. M. Clarada R. D. Cooper Mollie Cooper	J. W. Wamble R. A. Coffee Cassie Terry
Mainshore	G. W. Howard Francis Howard J. E. Maddox	Pollie Maddock Ab Fletcher
Marmaduke	J. R. Hall J. C. Hoskins A. M. Hall	Emma Hoskins Dora Walten W. A. Jones
Mt. Tabor	William Mayo Ella Thompson Audra Seals	
New Home	W. N. Stairs Tom Ray W. E. Brewer	W. E. Brewer
New Haven	W. P. Jones Abe Gates Eugene Bonham	
New Hope	H. C. Nettles T. A. Hoggard W. J. Johnson	J. A. Stairs J. H. Latta C. E. Grider
New Light	J. J. Barnson T. F. Whitlock W. H. Wimberly	W. N. Smith J. L. Crockett John Vineyard
Paragould	G. O. Light Frank Adams Ethel Lucas	

Peach Orchard	No Report	
Piggott	R. L. Lewis Mrs. R. L. Lewis W. O. Heath	E. G. Ward A. G. Cagle
Pleasant Grove	No Report	
Pleasant Hill	O. H. Payne C. B. Gibson Ervin Ellington	
Post Oak	C. D. Holcomb A. J. Holcomb Rebecca Bennett	E. Bennett B. Pendergrass Bell Jackson
Providence	J. T. Newell C. C. Belew W. J. Hill	
Rector	L. J. Covington W. K. Neeley Mrs. Ollie Bearden	Vala Snowden Ivan Massengill
Rock Hill	Ernest Howell J. J. Kelly J. T. Rogers	Jim Rainwater W. W. Yoppe Tennie Loyd
Salem	J. A. Dodd B. S. Graves Claud Cate	
Spring Grove	E. D. Cooper Jo M. Rogers Flora Swindle	J. B. Cooper J. C. Swindle
St. Francis	Ed Henderson F. H. McDonald John R. Jones	J. P. Cooper Lula Evans
Union Grove	T. N. Barr H. J. Rowe L. L. Faulkner	
Wanders Home	Austin Brady Louis Winton M. J. Gossett	Ed Helton Sam Brown Jesse Gossett

CHURCHES RECEIVED INTO THE ASSOCIATION:

Bomer	Tim Hinson Will Deering J. W. Griffith
Mounds	J. C. McDonald J. C. Fletcher Mrs. J. C. Fletcher

The next item on the program was the preaching of the annual sermon, Bro. A. Floyd Crittenden, selected for that purpose being absent, and also the alternate, Bro. H. E. Peters, Bro. L. D. Summers, of Blytheville, was selected, and he announced his text Matthew, 28:19-20. It was grand,—delivered with power and the lesson found a home in the hearts of many.

A committee on the order of business was appointed composed of Brothers Walden, Bishop and Standfield. After announcements were made, the body adjourned to 1:30 p. m.

FIRST DAY—afternoon session.

The association re-assembled at 1:30 p. m.

After singing by the association, motion made by Brother G. C. Jernigan that the association dispense with the regular order of business and elect a permanent moderator and clerk. Motion carried, and G. O. Light, of Paragould, and L. G. Covington, of Rector, were placed in nomination, and on a standing vote, the clerk announced: G. O. Light, 22 votes; L. J. Covington, 27 votes. Whereupon Brother Covington was declared elected moderator.

Motion that W. O. Heath, of Piggott, be elected clerk, by acclamation. Carried, and the said Heath declared elected.

Brother J. B. Walden was elected treasurer by acclamation.

The following petitionary letters were presented for membership in the Gainsville Missionary Baptist Association:—Bomer, of near Greenway; Mounds and Mt. Pleasant. Motion that same be received into the association with full fellowship. Carried.

CORRESPONDING MESSENGERS.

Bro. John L. Ray, Black River Association, Malden, Mo.

Bro. G. R. Tyler, with New Madrid Association;

Bros. L. D. Summers W. K. Brunson and Bro. W. R. McEwen, with Mt. Zion Association;

Bro. Dallas Faulkner, with Dardenelle Association

Bro. W. F. Dorris, Bartholomew Association, & with the Baptist Orphans' Home.

Bro. J. S. Rogers, state secretary, Little Rock.

Bro. W. F. Dorris was extended an hour's time to present the conditions, work and other matters relating to the Orphans' Home, and at the same time a collection was taken up for the Home.

The following committees were appointed by the moderator:

On Finance—C. H. Bishop and E. D. Cooper.

Associational Missions:—E. G. Ward, L. J. Covington and J. T. Maherg.

State Missions:—W. R. McEwen, W. K. Neeley and M. J. Gossett.

Publications:—R. C. Rogers, H. C. Nettles and A. M. Hall.

Orphans' Home:—Luther Bishop, Marrice Waldin and E. R. Crews.

Prayer Meeting:—J. R. Stanfield, W. N. Stairs and Thomas Harvel.

Sunday Schools:—G. O. Light, J. T. Rogers and W. C. Hoskins.

Temperance:—R. F. Liddell, J. A. Dodd and Claud Cate.

Infirm Ministers:—C. D. Holcomb, A. G. Cagle and Frank Adams.

Home Missions:—L. D. Summers, J. J. Kelley and Riley Bond.
Foreign Missions:—G. R. Tyler, Ernest Howell and Sam Drake.
Ministerial and Christian Education:—T. B. Emmons, J. C. Hoskins and J. L. Rogers.

Obituaries:—G. A. Crocker, Francis Dunn and Sadie Thomas.

Hospital Work:—J. S. Rogers, T. A. Hoggard and Elbert Williams.

Bible Schools:—G. D. Faulkner, J. A. Smith and I. S. Horn.

Woman's Work:—Mrs. Olie Bearden, Millie Cooper and Francis Dunn.

Motion made and adopted that a committee be appointed to make a report on stewardship, and Bros. W. R. McEwen and W. K. Neeley were selected.

Report on associational mission duty read by Bro. G. C. Jernigan, secretary and treasurer of the associational missions, and approved.

ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS.

We, your Executive Board, beg leave to make the following report:

After having studied very carefully the situation of the Gainsville Association, we found that to do our Master's duty, a missionary must be employed for full time. This decision having been prayerfully made, Bro. L. J. Covington, of Mayfield, Ky., was elected on Dec. 31st, 1916, at a salary of \$75.00 per month, beginning Feb. 1st, 1917, and to continue until the meeting of the association.

In doing this, we fully realize that we have in some ways at least transgressed from the proceedings of the past, but we have at all times put the salvation of lost men and women as our first duty, remembering our Savior's words in Matthew 28: 19-20, when He said: "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things what-so-ever I have commanded you; and lo I am with you allways even to the end of the world."

So strongly did your board believe this promise that the expenditure of money, which in so many instances retards the Lord's work, has not been in our way, and in doing what we felt He would have us do, we believed that He, through the Gainsville Association and the State Convention would stand squarely behind us in this work, and I am glad to say that He has, in that we can come to you to day and report the conversion of 60 lost souls, established one church, fifty baptisms, five additions by letter, over \$2000.00 having been collected for various purposes and the gospel having been preached in places where it was never preached before.

In saying that we have not let finances hinder us, I do not mean to say that we have had in our possession all the money that we needed, but whenever Bro. Covington came to us for help, we made a note immediately and borrowed the money, and in this way the cause has not been hindered.

The Baptist State Convention has, indeed, been very kind to the Gainsville Association, in that it allowed \$30.00 per month on Bro. Covington's salary, for which this association should feel duty grateful.

It would be unkind of the board, perhaps, not to mention the

fact that some of the churches have not only stood behind us with their prayers, but their money as well, while others, I presume, have only remembered us with their prayers, if at all.

Bro. Covington, has, indeed, labored hard and in many instances and places, having met with almost every opposition that could confront a missionary on such a field, still he has driven constantly and patiently on until the dawn of a brighter day for this work is clearly seen.

Before closing this report, there is a matter relative to some claims which were presented to the board, to which I wish to call your attention.

The first claim was from Bro. J. R. Hall, for \$85.17; the next was from Bro. Merridith for \$25.00, and the last was from Bro. W. L. Pinkston for \$50.00, making a total of \$160.17. This was a matter that gave the board no little worry from at least three reasons. First, we took the work with not one penny in the treasury; second, that the report of the association showed that the association was free of debt and these claims were all for work done previous to the meeting of the association, third, we had all on our hands that we were able to carry to keep the work going with Bro. Covington.

From the fact that Bro. Hall had labored as a missionary on this field last year, and that his age would also demand our attention, we allowed his claim, and are glad to say that Marmaduke church paid \$55.00 of this amt.

The other claims were not allowed, and it was unanimously agreed that they should be presented to the association at its next regular meeting.

To the new board we could not do otherwise than to commend our present missionary to you in the very highest terms, and feel safe in saying that so long as he is on the field as a missionary our association will be carefully looked after.

Respectfully Submitted,
G. C. JERNIGAN, Sec & Treas.

After announcements, a motion prevailed to adjourn until 9 o'clock tomorrow morning. Benediction.

Brother W. R. McEwen preached at night a very interesting sermon "ON BAPTIST OPPORTUNITIES."

SECOND DAY—Morning Session:

October 25th, 1917

After song service, devotional exercises were conducted by Bro. L. J. Covington, and prayer lead by Bro. Robt. F. Liddell.

The Minutes of yesterday's session was read, corrected and adopted.

The Roll of the Messengers was called and revised.

The Report on Stewardship was presented by Bro. W. R. McEwen.

REPORT ON STEWARDSHIP

Every human being of sound mind is a steward. The things that we possess are not our own. They belong to God; they are to be used according to God's will and for his glory; and to God each one must give an account of his stewardship. Whether the accounting shall be joyous or filled with disappointment depends on whether or not we have been good stewards. We are born into the

world as stewards. We may deny that we are stewards, but that does not change the fact just as it would not change the fact for us to deny that we are children of our parents.

This doctrine is as old as the human race, and the Bible is full of it. It applies to every single thing that we possess and to everything that we do. "What hast thou that thou didst not receive?" "A man can receive nothing except it has been given him from heaven."—1 Cor. 4:7 & John 3:27. We are to administer all that we have "as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."—1 Peter 4:10.

We recommend and urge

1 That pastors preach often on stewardship, taking pains to teach the people what the Bible says on this subject.

2. That classes be organized in all our churches to study this vitally important doctrine. Books can be had for such classes free of cost, from J. S. Compere, 410 Donaghey Bldg., Little Rock, Ark.

3. That literature on stewardship and tithing be circulated and read everywhere.

4. That every member of every church in this association strive to be a "good steward of the manifold grace of God."

Respectfully submitted,

W. R. McEWEN

W. K. NEELEY

The report was discussed by Brethren W. R. McEwen, L. D. Summers, W. O. Heath, J. S. Rogers Dallas Fualkner, and adopted.

The Moderator appointed Bro. W. K. Brunson, on committee on Foreign Missions, and Sister G. L. Burns, of Jonesboro, on Committee on Woman's work.

Report on State Mission was presented by Bro. W. R. McEwen,
STATE MISSIONS

Belief in missions is fundamental to Christianity. No organization can be a true church of Jesus Christ and not have the missionary spirit and not be engaged in the missionary effort. Just as a belief in Foreign Missions is the key to a belief in all missions, so activity in State Missions is the key to activity in all missions. The way for a Baptist church to become, "glorious, not having spot or wrinkle, or any such thing," is for it to be intensely missionary in both doctrine and practice.

State Missions is the united effort of Arkansas Baptists to win the people of Arkansas to Christ, and into Baptist churches. Both these things are fundamental and necessary: The first, to salvation; the second, to well rounded Christian life. In Arkansas the worth of a church to the Kingdom is very largely expressed in attitude toward, and activity in State Missions.

It is a trite saying, but there is great destitution in all parts of the state. Just how great this destitution is, none but those best informed know, even approximately. It is safe to say that sixteen thousand souls go from Arkansas to hell every year. Thousands of these may be saved if we will but do our duty by State Missions. Many of them will never be reached through any other channel.

Reports for last year show the following interesting items.

Workers engaged, 65; conversions, 3,134; baptisms, 2,281; additions, 3,010; raised for State Mission, \$25,598. About seven hundred churches co-operated with our State Convention last year, and the total contributions were \$87,786.96, which about 6 per cent was used in expenses.

For this year there are more workers and the prospects are for a great increase along all lines of state work. To go to the Convention out of debt we must raise not less than \$30 000.00, and to meet some most pressing needs we want to raise not less than \$40,000.00 by the first of next December.

In order that Gainsville Association come up to all expectations, your committee urges the adoption of the following recommendations:

-1- That every preacher and other Christian worker get, and be sure to disseminate all possible information on State Missions.

-2- That a strong committee be appointed to plan and put on and every church canvass on State Missions between now and the first of December 1917.

-3- That all the churches be asked to co-operate with this committee most heartily, and if at all expedient, put on an every member canvass, and thus make a determined effort to raise the amounts asked.

W. R. McEWEN

W. K. NEELY Committee

The report was discussed by Brethren W. R. McEwen, L. D. Summers, and Dallas Faulkner, and a request was made by the Moderator that every pastor, messenger, and member do all they can to raise the amount asked for in the report, by Dec. 5th, at which time the State Association will convene at Jonesboro, Ark. Report adopted.

Motion made that the moderator of this association appoint others to assist him in the collection of state missions. Motion adopted, and the moderator appointed Bros. J. R. Stanfield and A. M. Hall.

The sermon at 11 o'clock was delivered by Bro. J. S. Rogers, of Little Rock, state secretary. Song, Reading of the 1st chapter of Paul's letter to the Phillipians. Prayer, by Bro. Crocker. Song: "There is a Fountain." Text: Phillipian, 1,—1-27. The sermon was very instructive and inspiring. At the close of the sermon an offering was taken for state missions, and \$261.90 cash was raised, beside pledges that were made to be paid later. The association adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION—second day

Song service, by the association. Prayer, by Bro. Hunter. Short talk by Bro. L. D. Summers on the Liberty Loan question.

Report on associational missions presented by Bro. E. G. Ward. Bro. L. J. Covington, as associational missionary, presented his report, together with report on associational missions.

REPORT ON ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS.

In as much as Jesus Christ said: "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," we believe that included Gainsville Association. Your committee is glad to report the good work on this field, but we realize that there is still a great work to

be done. Your committee would offer the following recommendations: First: that each church and pastor co-operate with the associational board in their gifts and prayers. Second: that these gifts be sent to the treasurer of the board each month. Third: that each church have a workers institute some time during the year. Fourth: that the churches and pastors pray for and assist the missionary, whoever he may be, in all of his work.

We want to commend the board for its noble work, in that it has reported the board free of debt.

E. G. Ward.
Committee J. T. Maherg,
L. J. Covington.

REPORTS.

Following is the report of Bro. L. J. Covington, of the Gainsville Association:

Number churches visited.....	28
“ of other places preached to in the bounds of the association.....	7
“ of pastorless churches supplied.....	6
“ of conversions	60
“ received by letter.....	5
“ of homes visited	300
“ of miles traveled	2000
“ sermons and addresses delivered.....	170
“ of classes taught in Normal Manual.....	1
“ of diplomas awarded Sunday school normal manuals.....	7
“ of bibles sold.....	15
“ of new testaments sold.....	10
“ of other religious book sold	161
“ of song books sold	200
“ of bibles given away.....	2
“ of new testaments given away.....	3
“ of other tracts given away	7000
Collected for associational missions.....	\$325.75
Collected for home and foreign missions.....	108.00
Collected for state missions.....	15.40
Pastor's salary.....	100.00
Collected on church debts.....	107.56
For church buildings in subscriptions and collections.....	1,600.00
Total.....	\$2,256.71

L. J. Covington, Associational Missionary. Discussion by E. G. Ward, L. J. Covington, R. F. Lidell, John L. Ray and G. R. Tyler.
Report adopted.

ASSOCIATIONAL MISSION BOARD:

Report of the associational board, by Bro. W. K. Neeley. Reported that the board had recently held a meeting and elected Bro. L. J. Covington as associational missionary for twelve months, at a salary of one hundred dollars per month. A vote was taken on the action of the associational board, and their report adopted.

Report of Missions presented by Bro. L. D. Summers, which is as follows:

Our Home Mission Board at Atlanta, Georgia, has the distinction of reporting yearly more converts and baptisms through the work of its missionaries

than have ever been reported by another Home Mission Board in America, though several of these expend more money than our Board does.

Our Board last year reported 37,724 baptisms, 22,945 of which were creditable directly to Home Missions, while the rest were creditable to co-operative agencies. Last year the total receipts of the Board for all objects were \$474,792, while the administrative costs were \$22,638, or only 4.7 percent. This suggests great economy in administration. While we applaud a wise economy, we must not forget that efficiency in secular business has nearly always required considerably larger administrative costs than this.

Our Board must not only wisely expend money; it must aid in nurturing and instructing the sources of its supply, which are among nearly 3,000,000 Baptists, most of whom belong to churches with only once a month preaching by absentee pastors. To do this service with any real effectiveness will necessitate some expense. We would encourage our Board in incurring expenses required for efficiency.

The great world war is a challenge to every moral and spiritual resource in America. Hundreds of thousands of homes will experience a new soul-hunger, a new sense of need, in the giving of their sons to fight in the nation's armies for justice and democracy. The American farmer must feed the world. The farmer's church, already in need of inspiration and new methods that it may serve a new rural world, must be the center from which the farmer shall gain added understanding and courage to do his part for God and for country. Southern Baptists must do their full share to save and to serve the religious needs of our American boys in the camps, and to protect them from the foul birds of prey that gather in the wake of every army.

Realizing that new and heavier burdens must in this crisis be borne by Baptists of the South in the Home Mission Field, the Southern Baptist Convention at New Orleans instructed the Board to pursue its work on the basis of an apportionment of \$505,193, and the annual meeting of the Board in June planned the year's work on that basis. It is the first time Southern Baptists have undertaken to raise half a million for Home Missions, but the abounding needs and opportunities call for it. Our Baptist people are prosperous. They can enjoy their prosperity without moral deterioration only by serving God and country and men with their substance. Patriotism and true religion call us to a large support of Home Missions.

In Evangelism and Church Building and Enlistment, in Cuba and Panama and the Southern Highlands, among Foreigners and Negroes and Indians, through co-operative missions in such needy States as New Mexico and Arkansas and Oklahoma and Louisiana and Florida, in cities and towns and countryside, our Board has a great work, and the pressing needs which grow out of the war are in addition.

We recommend—

1. That earnest prayer be made for the work of the Home Mission Board and that our pastors be asked to preach at least once during the year upon Home Missions.

2. That this Association approve of the action of the Southern Baptist Convention, which increases the apportionment for Home Missions by approximately 25 per cent, and put our apportionment at \$200.00 for the present fiscal year.

3. That we apportion this amount among our churches and publish the apportionment in our minutes.

4. That our churches be encouraged to form mission study classes in "Baptist Missions in the South" and "Country Church in the South," the two unusually popular mission study books of the Home Board. Also that our churches order and make a larger use of the full and interesting lot of tracts about each phase of the work of the Board. The tracts are free on application. The books are, each, cloth 60 cents, paper 40 cents. All orders for literature or books should be directed to Publicity Department, Baptist Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Georgia.

Respectfully submitted. L. D. SUMMERS and J. J. KELLEY

Discussion by Bros. L. D. Summers and G. R. Tyler. Report adopted.

Report on Womans Work Presented by Mrs. Olie Bearden.

REPORT OF WOMEN'S WORK.

Your committee finds great lack of interest among the women in organizing Missionary Societies in their churches. At the

Association last year at Rector the Women met and organized an Associational Union with Mrs. R. H. Dudley of Piggott, as President and Mrs. A. F. Crittenden of Rector, Secretary, but neither are present this year, so we request the Association to give us a few minutes to elect our officers for the coming year.

We have been unable to find but eight Woman's Societies in the Association an increase of two since last year.

We recommend that the pastors encourage their women to organize societies in their Churches and let our aim be a Woman's Missionary Society in each church in this Association.

Mrs. Ollie Bearden
Mrs. J. L. Burns,
Mrs. J. T. Rogers,
Miss Francis Dunn.

Discussion by Mrs. J. L. Burns. Report adopted.

Motion that Mrs. Lura Brown, of Piggott, be elected as President of the Woman's Missionary Union. Motion carried.

Motion that Mrs. Ollie Bearden of Rector, be elected as Secretary of said Association. Motion carried.

Motion that we adjourn until 7 P. M. Motion adopted.

Benediction.

SECOND DAY EVENING SESSION.

Song Service lead by Bro. Loyd, Prayer by Brother L. D. Summers, Report of Committee on Orphan's Home presented by Bro. Marrice Walden.

REPORT OF ORPHANS' HOMES.

Report adopted

The Pledges secured by Bro. W. T. Dorris the first day of the Association is hereto show in connection with the report of the Committee on Orphans' Home, as follows.

REPORT ON ORPHANS' HOME.

God, who is a "Father to the fatherless", has provided for the orphans. Visiting the widows and orphans in their affliction is declared to be "pure and undefiled religion." In accord with God's plan we have been caring for the orphans at the Monticello Home for 22 years. More than 600 of these unfortunate children have shared a place in our Home.

Since January 1, 1916, we have secured homes in good families for more than 150 of these children. We now have 65 children in the Home. We are hoping to reduce the number to 50 by the Convention in December.

The debt on the Home July 1, 1917, was \$12,500. Our campaign to pay the debt by the Convention gives good promise of success. All of the current expenses of the Home amount to about \$750 a month.

The present management of the Home is entirely satisfactory; the farm has been well worked and a fine crop has been produced; the premises are clean and sanitary; and the children are, with probably the fewest exceptions in the history of the Home, well and happy. A strong religious sentiment prevails. Most of the children are Christians, a number of them having been received into the church the past year. We recommend:

(1) Regular monthly offerings in every Sunday School, and the amount forwarded promptly to J. S. Rogers, General Secretary, 410 Donaghey Building, Little Rock.

(2) That every church take as large an offering as possible and forward it to Brother Rogers.

(3) That every Woman's Missionary Society join in this debt-paying campaign and send their offerings in promptly to the general office.

Respectfully submitted,

Luther Bishop

E. R. Crews

M. D. Walden, Committee.

PLEDGES FOR ORPHANS' HOME

Beech Grove	\$15.00	New Haven	5.00
Bethel	10.00	New Hope	10.00
Big Creek	10.00	Paragould	50.00
Blooming Grove	5.00	Piggott	50.00
Browns Chapel	20.00	Providence	5.00
Center Hill Collections		Rector	35.00
Fair View		Rock Hill	10.00
Friendship	15 00	St. Francis Collections	
Gainsville Collections		Union Grove	5.00
Marmaduke	60 00	Mount Pleasant	5.00
Mt. Tabor	5.00	Cash Collection	\$34.15

Reports of committee on Bible Schools, Bro. Dallas Faulkner not being present his report was submitted by Bro. W. R. McEwen.

REPORT OF BIBLE SCHOOLS

Your Committee on Bible Schools herewith report the following: 1st, last year there were 15 Bible Schools held in the State, there were enrolled in these schools about 280 ministers and 450 laymen and women, valuable books were distributed among these 700 people to the extent of \$700.00 worth.

2nd, great results have already been realized from this work: a large number of churches have been effectively touched: the preachers and laymen and women have gone back home with new information and new zeal, with great uplift in all phases of the Church work.

3rd, we recommend that the pastors and messengers earnestly urge that every church in our association be represented in the next Bible School in January and the Churches see their pastors are permitted and enabled to go.

G. D. Faulkner,
J. A. Smith,
J. S. Horn.

Discussion by Bro. W. R. McEwen, motion adopted.

REPORT ON PUBLICATIONS

God through his infinite wisdom has given emphasis to printed page in that he has chosen it as a means 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, presenting and transmitting their thoughts, words, and actions to posterity.

All religious bodies depend in a great measure upon the written

or printed page as their main agency for the propogation of their particular doctrines. The Worlds thought of today is to be found in the books, tracts and papers. We can hardly ever estimate the printed page. As Baptists stand for the truth the whole truth, it may be well considered more important to them to use the printed page than any one else, your committee recommends therefore the bible, the word of God be read prayerfully, carefully and constantly: we futher recommend that our Baptists read good sound Baptist literature, such as books, tracts and papers.

We futher recommend that the Baptists, of this association subscribe for and read the following: The Baptist Advance, printed at Little Rock, The Home and Foreign Field or any good sound Baptist papers. We futher recommend that the pastors of this Association get and distribute among their membership the free tracts furnished by the Sunday School and Mission Boards.

Respectfully summitted.

Committee
A. M. Hall,
H. C. Nettles,
R. C. Rogers.

Motion that we adopt the report: discussion by Brethern G. R. Tyler and L. D. Summers. Motion adopted.

Preaching hour,

Song, the evening lesson, a few verses from the 6th Chapter of Isiah, Prayer by Bro. L. J. Covington, Text John 11-28: sermon delivered by Bro. R. F. Lidell. The Sermon was instructive and enjoyed by all.

Motion that the Association continue with the regular Associational Work on tomorrow and dispense with the Sermon at the Eleven O'clock hour and use the same for Associational Work. Motion adopted.

Motion adopted that we adjourn until 9 a. m. tomorrow morning. Benediction by Brother G. R. Tyler.

MORNING SESSION FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1917.

Association called together by singing "There is a Fountain Filled with Blood, "Prayer by W. K. Brunson.

REPORT ON PRAYER MEETING

We, your committee on prayer meeting, make the following report: we recommend each pastor in this association will urge his people at least to have one prayer meeting each week either at church or at some home in the community, and that each pastor or church will appoint some one as leader of these services: we futher recommend that at these meetings there will be one earnest and honest prayer prayed for our young men that have gone to the front to save our country: we futher recommend that each prayer meeting make a full report of their years work at our next annual Assocation.

Committee
J. R. Stanfield,
W. N. Stairs

Motion to receive report. Discussion, J. R. Stanfield, G. R. Tyler, W. K. Brunson. Report adopted.

Report on Temperance presented by Bro. R. F. Lidell.

Motion to adopt the report. Discussion, Brethren R. F. Lidell, G. R. Tyler, J. T. Nowell, L. D. Summers and W. R. McEwen. Motion adopted.

TEMPERANCE:—

Your committee on temperance submits this report. Realizing the importance of temperance we earnestly urge our people to give it a more careful study. During the last few decades we have been gaining victories over the liquor traffic. We have studied it out, prayed it out and voted it out, and knocked it out in a thousand places, until to-day 75 per cent of the population is in dry territory. Arkansas Baptists have always been in the front rank of battle. When we put our money in churches and schools and put our children in training for better citizenship, we will have a better and happier people. September 8th, 1917, was a great day for our cause,—liquor being outlawed in the nation. The way was thus paved for a complete victory. The abolition of liquor may come out of the war that is now being waged by people of the earth. We recommend that this association put itself on record against tobacco, and the undertaking of discouraging its use. We thank God for the victories of the past, and earnestly pray that the day may speedily come when we can have peace and happiness, prohibition and plenty.

R. S. Lidell, for the Committee.

Report on Foreign Missions presented by Bro. G. R. Tyler.

REPORT OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

Motion to receive the report, Discussion, W. R. McEwen, L. D. Summers, W. K. Brunson, L. J. Covington. Report adopted.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

We your committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to report as follows:—Last year was the greatest year in Southern Baptist history of Foreign Mission achievement. A total of \$961,970.48 was raised, which included \$180,000 debt, amount contributed to Judson Centennial and to current support. This is the greatest advance ever made by any denomination in the South in contributions to Foreign Missions in a single year.

The expenses of the work was reduced by nearly \$10,000. 90.7 per cent of the money given was applied to the foreign field and only 9.3 per cent was required to meet all home expenditures. This should be satisfactory and gratifying.

6,347 converts were baptized, 12,930 students were enrolled in our schools, and missionary doctors treated 67,556 patients. We have at present 458 churches with 47,161 members. 115 of the churches are self-supporting. The members contributed last year \$132,371.05.

There is immediate and urgent need of a large number of missionaries for evangelistic, medical, school and other mental work. To meet this need the Board was able to send out but twelve missionaries at its Annual Meeting. This number is not one-fourth of the number needed. Of the 458 churches most of them have inadequate houses of worship, and more than one-half of these have no houses at all.

Some devoted friends are giving the Board Liberty Bonds which they purchased to help their country, and others are investing in the Board's Annuity Bonds which pay good dividends. Such examples are recommended to all our people.

Truly all cannot make great contributions of money or buy Liberty Bonds, but every one can do as his or her bit by giving according as the Lord has prospered.

So brethern and sisters of this Association: let us rise from our knees of devotion with our hearts full of love and our hands full of blessings with our souls aflame with an undying passion for lost souls, and go forth presenting the great commission to carry the gospel to all the world from which obligation no follower of Christ is excused.

G. R. Tyler

Committee

W. K. Bunson

Report on Sunday School presented by W. D. Kelley.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS

Insert report attached

Motion to receive report, discussion, L. J. Covington, G. R. Tyler, and W. R. McEwen, Motion adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We, your committee on Sunday school desire to submit the following report. We recognize the great importance of the Sunday School in the evangelical life of our churches and cannot place too much stress upon the necessity of working up the great body of our Baptist people to the prime importance of the Sunday school in our church life.

When we realize that about 90 per cent of the conversions in our revivals come from the Sunday schools, we will then begin to "come into our Kingdom" as evangelical churches. The greatest hindrance to the growth and usefulness of our Sunday schools is the indifference of so many of our old people.

We earnestly hope that some influence shall be brought to bear upon the membership of our churches who are now indifferent to the importance of the Sunday schools, that they are as much responsible for the success of their church through the Sunday schools as any member. The matter of individual responsibility must be stressed tremendously in order to achieve the greatest efficiency as Christian workers.

We recommend that every Sunday school in our association establish a course in their school.

The great commission was to make disciples and "Teach them all things" and we earnestly recommend to every church that they support in heroic fashion their Sunday school and make it truly a teaching force in their church.

G. O. Light,

J. T. Rogers

W. C. Hawkins.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

We the Finace committee report as follows amounts turned over to us from the churches.

Minutes and Clerk Fund	\$71.70
Associational Missions	64.75
State Missions	8.60
Home Missions	7.80
Foreign Missions	33.55
Orphans' Homes	61.66
Collection by the Association for Orphans' Home,	34.15
Total	\$282.21

E. D. Cooper,

Committee

C. H. Bishop.

The Next meeting of the Gainsville Association will be held at Beech Grove church near Beech Grove, Ark, on Wednesday, after the Third Sunday in Oct. 1918.

TREASURER REPORT

Balance on hand and brought forward from our last report \$4.33 and by order of the Association was paid out through the Ministerial Relief fund to Bro. J. R. Hall.

RECEIVED FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE:

By cash from Foreign Missions	\$15.45
Home Missions	6.30
State Missions	48.90
Associational Missions	101.56
Orphan Homes	72.73
Ministerial Aid	2.00
Minutes and Clerk fund	53.20
Total	\$300.14
By Credit	
To R. L. Lewis, Minutes and Clerk Fund	\$53.20
" G. O. Light, Associational Missions	101.56
" W. F. Dorris, with Orphans' Homes	72.73
" J. S. Rogers, Foreign Missions	15.45
" " " " Home Missions	6.30
" " " " State Missions	48.90
Ministerial Aid,	2.00
Total paid out	\$300.14
Report Adopted.	J. B. Walden, Treasurer.

Motion made and adopted instructing the clerk to receive and publish the reports on obituaries, christian educations and hospitals as matters of information though they were not read and adopted by the Association.

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 blest their labor spiritually, but financially.

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

Frank Adams
C. D. Holcomb
A. G. Cagle.

Motion that the clerk be allowed fifteen dollars for his services, and have printed as many minutes as he can with balance on hand of the minute and clerk fund. Motion adopted. Collection taken for minutes and clerk fund, \$9.01 was collected.

CORRESPONDING MESSENGERS:

Mt. Zion Association, L. J. Covington, E. D. Cooper and R. F. Lidell.

Black River Association, L. J. Covington and W. K. Neeley.

New Madrid Association, Robert F. Lidell.

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION.

We the committee on ministerial and christian education, submit the following report. The welfare and prosperity of a state

requires large amount of virtue and intelligence in the mass of the people, and our youth should be properly instructed in the principles of science and literature, and they should receive sound instructions in morals and religious duties. The Good of our country and prosperity of our denomination calls us to endow and equip a suitable place. The work of our institutions of learning must provide education which is accessible to all, the poor as well as the rich. Christian education is scriptural, and no new testament church ought to fail to contribute annually to these three interests namely: christian missions, christian education, and christian benevolence. We further recommend that all our people and churches give our Baptist schools their right place in their hearts and prayers, and that each pastor in the association preach regularly on christian ministerial education.

That the people patronize our Baptist Schools for the educations of our young people, and take collections for the support of such schools.

J. C. Hoskins
Committee T. B. Emmons
J. L. Rogers.

A bible was given to Rock Hill church by a member of said church.

Nomination to preach introductory sermon, Bro. R. C. Rogers, and Bro. R. F. Lidell, alternate.

Messenger to Southern Baptist convention, R. F. Lidell, Paragould and M. H. Potter, Piggott, associational member of the state board.

RESOLUTIONS:

In view of the apparent need of improvement in Sunday school work in northeast Arkansas, be it resolved, 1st: that Gainsville Association expresses its approval of the plan to organize a Sunday school association, said association to have for its aim the general improvement of Sunday school work and the holding of annual conventions.

2. That the state board be requested to give us a Sunday and B. Y. P. U. man for this territory. In the event the board can not give us another man, we ask that this work be assigned to the general missionary, W. R. McEwen, for 6 months.

L. J. Covington.

Whereas, this association has been in session with Rock Hill church and has been royally entertained, be it resolved that we extend to them our appreciation of their kindness, fellowship and untiring efforts to make us feel welcome,—and for the bounteous meals which have been served each day.

Robert F. Liddell.

PETITIONARY LETTERS.

Mounds Missionary Baptist church to the Gainsville Association, greeting: Brethren: we met at Mounds school house October 14th, 1917, and organized a church with 14 members. We adopted the church covenant and declaration of faith and rules of the order, as printed in the church record and indorsed by Pendleton's manual. It being a matter of impossibility to send messengers to the association, we send this letter and ask for membership in your association.

L. J. Covington, moderator.
Robert Phillips, clerk.

Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist church was organized Sept. 8th, 1917, and entered the covenant and adopted the Pendleton manual. We desire to be reconized as a church at work, and ask for membership into the Gainsville Association.

F. B. Emmons, moderator.

J. B. McDonald, clerk.

To the Gainsville Association:—We respectfully state that there is a body of brethren and sisters who have recently organized a Missionary Baptist church, whose postoffice is Greenway, Clay county, and who desire to become identified with and become a part of your association, and they petition for recognition and ask that the messengers of the church be seated.

A. G. Cagle, moderator.

J. W. Griffith, clerk.

Tim Henson

Messengers: Will Dering

J. W. Griffith

SOCIETY AND CHURCH OFFICERS:

A. A. Ryan, pastor, Walcott

Mrs. Owens, clerk, Beech Grove

E. S. Gauldin, S. S. Supt., Beech Grove

Flora Norman, S. S. Secretary, Beech Grove.

Beech Grove

E. C. Cooper, pastor, Paragould

B. F. Wagister, clerk, Rector, R. 5

J. D. Wagister, S. S. Supt., Rector, R. 5

R. F. Robinson, S. S. Secty., Rector, R. 5

Mrs. Boyd, pres. W. M. U., Leonard

Mrs. J. Waddle, pres. W. M. U., Rector, R. 5

Bethel

R. L. Lewis, pastor, Piggott

J. A. Smith, clerk and S. S. Supt., Rector, R. 2

Gladys Fuller, S. S. Secty., Rector

Bethlehem

C. H. Bishop, clerk, S. S. Supt. and secty., Gainsville Big Creek

E. R. Crews, clerk, Rector, R. 1

Geo A. McNeil, S. S. Supt., Rector

Edna Hooks, S. S. secty., Rector, R. F. D.

Blooming Grove

Knocks Belew, pastor,

Mrs. W. J. Brown, S. S. supt.

Henry Overby, clerk

S. L. Garrett, S. S. secty

Black River

Paragould officers: J. D. J. Faulkner, pastor; J. F. Sain, clerk; W.

A. Branch, S. S. Supt; Drace Rogers, S. S. sect. Brown's Chapel

J. W. Seay, pastor, Walcott

N. R. Coal, clerk, Gainsville

W. J. Standford, S. S. supt., Gainsville

Luay Green, S. S. secty., Gainsville

Paragould officers: F. B. Emmons, pastor: Fanny Russell, clerk;

Epsaby

J. P. Weaver, S. S. supt; Fanny Russell, S. S. secty

Fairview

Paragould officers: R. C. Rogers, pastor; D. McHaney, clerk; W.

E. Waldin, S. S. supt; D. McHaney, S. S. secty

Friendship

T. R. Stroup

Sadie Thomas, clerk, Greenway

Greenway

G. A. Crocker, pastor, Marmaduke

R. A. Fletcher, clerk, Paragould

Gertrude Miller, S. S. secty., Paragould

Mainshare

J. Windbigler, pastor, Jonesboro

and pastor of Marmaduke

Officers of the Marmaduke church: A. M. Hall, clerk; E. J. Cook S. S. supt; J. E. Sonny, S. S. secty; Mrs. Ella Hamilton, secty of W. M. U; Mrs. E. F. Corbett, Ladies Aid; E. J. Cook, pres. B. Y. P. U.; Ione Lively, secty B. Y. P. U.

Mt. Tabor officers, postoffice Piggott; William Mayo, Ella Seals Ministers who hold membership: John and Everett Hollis, Piggott W. R. Underwood, pastor, O. E. Vancill, clerk, Piggott. New Home officers, Paragould: W. N. Stairs, Tom Ray, W. E. Brewer J. R. Stanfield, Paragould

Officers Marmaduke church: W. E. Brewer, clerk and supt; J. D. Morgan, S. S. supt.

New Haven, Paragould: W. P. Jones, Abe Gates and Eugene Banham

Obe Ryan, pastor, R. 2, Walcott

Officers, Paragould, all of R. 1,—Eugene Bonham, clerk; T. R. Loyd, S. S. supt; Inie Cook, secty; pres. of W. M. U, Inie Cook; secty of W. M. U, Francis Elliott

Officers of New Hope, postoffice, Piggott: H. C. Nettles, T. A. Hoggard, W. J. Johnson, J. H. Latta, C. E. Grider, J. H. Stairs Ministers who hold membership with us: W. F. Alexander, and J. A. Stairs, of Pollard

~~Officers of the Pollard church~~ J. A. Stairs, pastor; C. E. Grider, clerk; Henry Brown, Ernest Forest, S. S. supt

New Light: Pastor, ; Clerk and S. S. supt., W. H. Winberly, Boydsville; S. S. secty, O. T. Carpenter

Paragonld, 2nd.—Officers of the church: pastor, R. F. Lidell; clerk, Lurline Light; S. S. supt., G. O. Light; president Woman's Aid, Mrs. W. C. Fitzgerald

Peach Orchard,—no report

Piggott church officers; Pastor, L. D. Sumners; clerk, M. H. Potter; S. S. supt., J. F. Ellis; S. S. secty., A. Osman; pres. W. M. U., Mrs. Lura Brown; secty. M. W. U., Mrs. Rella Dudley

Pleasant Grove,—no report

Pleasant Hill officers: Pastor, J. R. Standfield, Paragould; clerk and S. S. supt., O. H. Payne, Paragould; S. S. supt., J. E. Thompson, Paragould

Post Oak officers: pastor, W. F. Alexander; clerk, C. D. Holcomb; S. S. supt., C. D. Holcomb; S. S. secty., B. B. Batton, postoffice Pollard

Providence officers: pastor, J. R. Standfield, Paragould; clerk, E. J. Nowell, Marmaduke

Officers of the Rector church: pastor. none; clerk, J. B. Winchester, S. S. supt., J. L. Dodd; S. S. secty., Vala Snowden; pres. W. M. U., Mrs. E. J. Teague; secty, W. M. U., Mrs. J. B. Winchester; pres. B. Y. P. U., G. C. Jernigan;

Rock Hill, Paragould: F. P. Turner, Lake City, pastor; clerk, F. P. Turner; S. S. supt., J. L. Craig; S. S. secty., Mable Yopp, of Paragould

Salem officers: pastor, J. R. Hall; clerk, T. L. Tate

Spring Grove: pastor, E. D. Cooper; clerk, J. L. Cooper; S. S. supt., J. B. Cooper; S. S. Supt., Ludie Cooper

St. Francis officers: pastor, R. C. Rodgers, Paragould; clerk, John R. Jones; S. S. supt., Forest Evans; S. S. secty., A. Crain, St. Francis

Union Grove officers: pastor, J. D. J. Faulkner; clerk, L. L.

Faulkner; S. S. sypt., Forest Evans; S. S. secty., A. Crain, of St. Francis

Wanders Home officers: pastor, J. A. Stairs, Pollard; clerk, M. J. Gosett; S. S. supt., M. J. Gossett; S. S. supt., Jo Brady, Piggott
Bomer church, at Greenway: A. G. Cagle, pastor Piggott; clerk, J. W. Griffith; S. S. supt., J. W. Griffith; S. S. secty., Cozie Bonnett, Greenway

Mounds,—no report

Mt. Pleasant: pastor, F. B. Emmons; clerk, Clyde Johnson; S. S. supt., Mr. Bawger; S. S. secty., Marion Beck, Paragould

We desire to extend our heartfelt thanks to each pastor, layman, messenger and individual that attended the Association, for the kind and courteous treatment received at their hands, and for effort they put forth to make the Association a success,—an honor to God and a blessing to all. May God bless each church in the bounds of the Association, and may all put forth renewed efforts to advance His Kingdom.

L. J. Covington, moderator
W. O. Heath, secretary.