



MINUTES

OF THE

Thirty-third Annual Session

OF THE

OUACHITA

Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

MENA CHURCH,

Polk County, Ark., September 22, 23 and 24, 1900.

LINDGAY PRINTING CO., MENA, ARK.

MINUTES.

The Ouachita Baptist Association met with Mena Church, Saturday, September 22, 1900. The introductory sermon was preached by Bro J. O. Butler, at 11 a. m.

In the afternoon the body was called to order, after reading the 4th chapter of Hebrew and prayer by Moderator J. J. Holland. Letters from fifteen churches were read. Two petitions were received, and the messengers given the hand of fellowship by the Moderator.

A preaching committee was appointed, consisting of the pastor and deacons of Mena church, with Bro. Joe Neighbors and Bro. Robins. Bro. Clark and Bro. Green, visitors, and Bro. Brumbly were selected to take the vote for officers, resulting as follows: J. J. Holland, moderator; J. J. Mershon, clerk and treasurer. Bro. J. J. Holland's election was made unanimous by motion.

On motion Bro. W. A. Clark was enrolled as a visitor, representing the Arkansas Baptist. On motion Bro. J. M. Green was enrolled a corresponding messenger from Enon Association. On motion a committee of three was appointed to investigate the ministerial character of J. McCrary, and authorize Bro. Clark to publish him. On motion Bro. Compere was released from preaching the missionary sermon at 11. m., Sunday. and Bro. Clark put in his place. On motion the same committees were to be appointed that we had last year.

The preaching committee appointed Bro. R. J. Hall to preach at the Mena church, on Saturday night.

On motion messengers were appointed by Moderator to all corresponding bodies. First, Southern Baptist Convention, at New Orleans; May, 1901, Eld. J. J. Holland; W. L. Compere, alternate. Second, State Convention, Friday before third Sunday in November, Bros. I. C. Walker, W. L. Compere, E. S. James, S. A. Neighbors and D. B. Lawrence. Third, Howard County Association, Mineral Springs, Bros. Isaac Lewis and Lem Ridling. Fourth, Southwestern Association, Ashdown, Bros. E. S. James and J. J. Holland. Fifth, Buckville Association, Bro. W. A. Brumbly. In case of failure to go to write a letter. Sixth, Buckner Association, W. L. Compere; in case of failure to go to write a letter.

On motion the query, "Is it right for a church of this Association to grant a letter to a member desiring to join a church in Caddo River Association?" was taken up and discussed. After a free discussion on the subject a motion was made to vote "yes," which was lost. On motion the Association adjourned till Monday morning, September 24, at 8 o'clock.

The collection taken after the missionary sermon, by Bro.

Clark, Sunday morning, amounted to \$11.26, collection to be divided equally between Foreign, State and Associational Missions.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24.

The Association assembled with singing. The Moderator read the 12th chapter of Romans, and Bro. B. Duke led in prayer, after which three other letters were read. The roll of messengers was then called. A motion that the Moderator explain the province and power of an association was carried, and the Moderator explained. On motion the following resolution was adopted: "Resolved, That we hereby rescind the action of this Association in, 1893, which refuses to recognize the work of the churches which composed Big Fork Association, and that this question be left for each church to decide for itself."

Eleven o'clock, adjourned for preaching, by Bro. Jesse Green.

AFTERNOON.

Report on Eld. J. A. McCrary was received and adopted as follows:

Your special committee to report on the ministerial character of Eld. J. A. McCrary, recommend that he be advertised as unworthy of the confidence of the brotherhood as a preacher.—W. L. Compere, Chairman, E. S. James, S. A. Neighbors.

REPORT ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

We recommend Arkansas Baptist, Little Rock, Arkansas, The Baptist Gleaner, Paragould, Arkansas, and the S. S. literature published by the S. S. Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, also the Foreign Mission Journal, Richmond, Va., and the Home Field, Atlanta, Ga.—W. L. Compere, Chairman.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

We believe that the use and sale of intoxicating drinks as a beverage is wrong in the sight of God, and is degrading to humanity, and would recommend, therefore, that our brethren abstain from its use, and to use their God given influence to drive the saloon with its many evils—and not a single good—from our land and country.—J. O. Butler, Chairman, M. F. Edwards, W. S. Andrews.

REPORT ON ORPHANS' HOME.

We are rejoiced to know that we have in Arkansas a Christian Home, where orphan children can be brought up under Baptist influence and raised in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Let us help to sustain the Baptist Orphans' Home at Monticello.—S. A. Neighbors, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE MISSION BOARD.

The Board employed Bro. J. R. Chapman as missionary, at \$75.00 for eleven months; he served only nine months. The State Mission Board paid \$31.08 of his salary. The Board then employed several brethren, but they have been hindered except two or three meetings. The Board has received from all sources \$125.82, and now has on hand \$51.45. One church has been reorganized. Sermons preached 164, baptisms 2.—W. L. Compere, Chairman; J. J. Mershon, secretary.

REPORT ON ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS.

We find destitution in the bounds of the Association, notwithstanding there has been a great work done on this line. We request that the churches take up a collection quarterly for the supply of the destitution of this Associ-

ation.—R. J. Hall, Chairman.

REPORT ON ORDAINED MINISTERS.

J. O. Butler, Dallas; W. L. Compere, Mena; R. J. Hall, Gillham; B. Duke, Vandervoort; J. J. Holland, Big Fork; T. M. Hollingsworth, Cove; E. S. James, Potter; M. McMillan, Mountain Fork; S. A. Neighbors, Potter; R. R. Pace, Grannis; H. C. Ridling, Dallas; M. L. Ridling, Hartly; Wm. Shelton, Ink; E. B. Williams, Hatfield; J. M. Widner, Cove; W. S. Byrd, Duckett; C. A. King, Hatton; J. E. Smail, Mena; C. I. Walker, Dallas.

The report on nominations was tabled by a vote of the house. On motion a new committee was appointed, composed of five: E. S. James, J. O. Butler, I. D. Jones, M. McMillan, W. A. Brumbly.

REPORT ON OBITUARIES.

Your committee feel that we have great reason to thank God that during the year only five of our brethren and sisters have been taken from us by the hand of Death. Elder L. C. Burnham, of Yocana, died August 6, 1900; Sister Ida Deaton, of Yocana, died April 25, 1900; Sister Ervin, of Mt. Gilead, date not known; Sister Elizabeth Whitehead, of Mt. Olive, date not known; Bro. D. T. Lawrence of New Hope, No. 2, died April 3, 1900, aged 74 years, and 11 months. These all died in the triumph of the faith, and we trust are gone to that rest that remains to the people of God. God bless and comfort the bereaved ones.—Henry Deaton, Chairman.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The committee report that in our judgment the subject is one of the greatest importance. The Savior said preach the Gospel to every creature. The church is the only authorized agent to do this work. The majority of the world are unsaved. Brethren, in God's name, let us arise and do all in our power to execute the Divine command.—H. C. Ridling, Chairman.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

We as a body stand for and believe in both literary and christian education, realizing the fact that education expels superstition and heathen customs, furthers the better understanding of His word, and thereby enables us the better to teach others. We would recommend our home schools first, such as Ouachita and Central colleges, as these are sound Baptist schools. For a complete Bible course of education we would recommend the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, of Louisville, Kentucky.—J. E. Smail, Chairman.

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your committee on Sabbath Schools submit the following: Number of Sunday Schools in the Association, as far as we could learn, 6. This being a very unsatisfactory report we would recommend that more Sunday Schools be organized, and fostered, as we believe the Sabbath School is a great pillar to our churches and through it many are brought to Christ.—I. D. Jones, Chairman.

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

We would recommend as Associational Mission Board, Bro. J. O. Butler, W. M. Pipkin, W. A. Brumbly, C. I. Walker and W. L. Compere. We would further recommend that the Association meet with Yocana Baptist church at the next session. We further recommend that Elder R. J. Hall preach the introductory sermon, Elder S. A. Neighbors, alternate; Elder J. J. Holland to preach the missionary sermon, Elder E. S. James, alternate. We recommend W. M. Pipkin as member of the State Mission Board.—Elder E. S. James, Chairman.

REPORT ON CONDITION OF CHURCHES.

We, your committee on condition of the churches, beg leave to say that one condition of the churches is much improved to what it was last year. Brethren, let us come up to the help of the Lord and pray more and do more

towards the paying of the pastors and towards the spreading of the Gospel in the bounds of our Association, than we have done in the past year.—B. Duke, Chairman.

The following resolution was adopted: Resolved that it is the sense of this body that a mistake was made at our last session in refusing Hopewell church a letter of dismission without any investigation of the charges made by Hickory Creek church.

REPORT ON FAMILY WORSHIP.

We, your committee on Family Worship, would subject that the subject is so important that we feel our inability to do it justice. Our families are nearer and dearer than any earthly tie. Then why not lead that Christ-like life, and how can we better do this than by calling them around our family circles and there from the depth of our souls thank and ask the blessing of Jehovah. Brethren, can we not set it down in our hearts this morning that when we go home from this Association we will not neglect so important a duty, but that our house shall be made a house of prayer.—W. E. McMillen, Chairman.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

We rejoice in the prosperity of the State Mission work. Dr. A. J. Barton is doing a grand work as secretary of the Board. We feel assured that the careful co-operation of the brethren will enable him to lead us on to victory. Our Association is under obligation to the Board for assistance to the church at Mena, and for paying a large part of the salary of our associational missionary, Bro. Chapman. Let us assist the Board by our prayers and contributions.—W. L. Compere, Chairman.

A motion to reconsider the question previously voted "no," in regard to granting letters from churches in this Association to join churches in Caddo River Association was changed and the vote made "yes."

A motion to turn the report on finance over to the Board, was carried.

A motion was carried to authorize the Board to pay for printing of minutes, and pay the clerk five dollars for his services out of any funds on hand.

On motion a resolution of thanks was voted the good people of Mena, for their kind hospitality in entertaining the Association.

Minutes corrected and approved.

On motion the arrangement for fifth Sunday meeting was turned over to the Board.

On motion the Association adjourned to meet with Yocana church, Saturday before fourth Sabbath in September, 1901.

A song, and prayer by H. C. Ridling. Then the parting hand was taken while singing.

J. J. HOLLAND, Moderator.

J. J. MERSHON, Clerk.

PLEDGES FOR ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS.

W. L. Compere, \$10; Salem Church, \$10; Pleasant Hill, \$5; Bro. Bolin, \$1; J. J. Mershon, \$10; W. M. Pipkin, \$25; H. A. Byrd, \$5; Yocana Church, \$5; J. E. Smail, \$5; Russell Thomas, \$1; I. D. Jones, \$5; New Home Church, \$5; Bro. Stilson, \$5; F. H. Gortemiller, \$2; total \$94.

Collection for Orphans' Home, \$4.58.

Constitution.

ARTICLE 1. This union of churches shall be known and distinguished by the name and title of "Ouachita Baptist Association."

2. This Association shall be composed of churches in union. Each church shall be entitled to three delegates, who shall be required to furnish satisfactory evidence of their appointment by the several churches before taking their seats.

3. The delegates, when convened, shall organize themselves into a deliberate body by appointment of moderator and clerk, who shall be chosen by ballot at each annual session and to continue in office until their successors are chosen.

4. This Association shall not interfere with the rights of the churches of which it is composed, and shall only act as an advisory council, assuming no authority except what is expressly delegated to it by the churches, or is evidently implied by the compact. It nevertheless claims authority over its own members and delegates from the churches, and in justice and propriety must have power to withdraw from, and disown, all churches which depart from the principles of this compact, by becoming heretodox in faith, or disorderly in practice; it should therefore regard all churches under this constitution with a vigilant eye for good. Its principle business shall be to promote the declarative glory of God by extending the kingdom of grace on earth through the medium of preaching the Gospel, and the means in accordance with the Gospel; to union and fellowship with all the churches of Christ, especially those united under this constitution.

5. Newly constituted churches, or churches dismissed from other associations, of the same faith and order, may be admitted into this union through representation of three delegates at the annual session of this association with a petition for admission, and upon their agreeing to the abstract of principles herein published.

6. The churches in this union shall transmit to every annual session of the Association, written statistics, giving names of delegates, number in fellowship, baptised, received by letter, dismissed, expelled, restored or died, since the last session, and all information that the churches deem important, which shall be read and minuted.

7. This Association may have a fund supplied by a voluntary contribution of the churches, and all money thus contributed shall be transmitted from the churches and paid over through the committee on Finance to the treasurer, who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office during the pleasure of the Association, and present annually, for insertion in the minutes, a clear and succinct statement of all the receipts and expenditures.

8. The Association shall furnish the churches with the minutes of every session.

9. This Association shall take no cognizance of any query sent up from the churches unless they have endeavored to solve the same and have failed; nor any difficulty between churches unless they have pursued the direction in the 18th chapter of Matthew, and have failed to settle it; then this Association shall take such matters into consideration and act on them at its discretion.

10. The clerk of this Association shall keep a file of the Minutes of this body and deliver the same to his successor in office.

11. This constitution may be altered, or amended, at regular meetings of the Association, by the concurring voices of two-thirds of its members present; provided, such alterations or amendments be approved by the churches composing this Association.

12. At each annual meeting there shall be an introductory and a missionary sermon, and the body shall adjourn each day, at 11 a. m., for preaching.

Rules of Decorum.

1. This Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

2. A moderator and clerk shall be chosen by suffrages of members present.

3. The moderator shall be deemed a judge of order, and shall have power to call to order at any time.

4. Any member dissatisfied with his decision may appeal to the Associ-

ation on the same day, but not thereafter.

5. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet, and obtaining permission, proceed.

6. The moderator, when addressed by a member for permission to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person or otherwise.

7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking unless he departs from the subject, or is guilty of personal reflection. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, unless withdrawn by him who made it.

8. Every case taken up by this Association shall be decided, or withdrawn, before another is offered.

9. When a question is taken up, after allowing time for debate, the moderator shall take the voice of the Association, and the members in affirmative shall signify their position by rising from their seats, and those in the negative shall retain theirs. The moderator shall announce the decision before the affirmative resume their seats.

10. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission from the moderator.

11. No member shall speak more than twice on the same subject, without permission of the Association, nor more than once until every member wishing to speak shall have spoken, nor shall any proposition be made to close the debate until the subject has been fairly discussed.

12. Members shall address each other under appellation of brother.

13. The roll may be called as often as the Association may direct.

14. No member shall be tolerated in any practice which tends to interrupt public speaking.

15. The moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other member, provided, he appoint another to his seat during the time, but shall not vote on any subject unless the Association be equally divided.

16. Any member violating these rules may be reproved by the moderator at discretion, but only the day the breach be done.

Articles of Faith.

1. We believe in one only true and living God; and that there is a trinity of persons in the God-Head—Father, Son and Holy Ghost—and these three in one.

2. We believe the scripture of the Old and New Testaments is the word of God and the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the fall of Adam, and that the depravity of his fallen nature was entailed upon his posterity; and in the impotency of man to recover himself by his own free will and ability.

4. We believe in election through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth.

5. We believe in the final preservation of the Saints, and that they will never finally fall away and be lost.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the righteousness of Christ imputed unto them, and that it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believed.

7. We believe that good works are fruits of faith and follow after justification, and are evidences of our own gracious state.

8. We believe there will be a general resurrection of the dead and a general judgment, and that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

9. We believe that the visible church of Christ is a congregation of faithful baptised persons, who are in christian fellowship and are agreed to keep up a Godly discipline agreeable to the rules of the Gospel.

10. We believe that Jesus Christ is the great head of the Church, and the only law giver, and the disciple is with the body, and should be faithfully kept up for the glory of God and the prosperity of his people.

11. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of the Gospel, and none but true believers have a right thereto, and should be administered by regular ordained ministers, and that immersion is the only apostolic mode of baptism.

Statistic Table.

CHURCHES	MESSENGERS	PASTORS	CLERKS or postoffices.	Day of Meeting	Baptised	Received by letter	Restored	Died	Dismissed	Excluded	Males	Total Membership	Association missions	Foreign missions	Paid pastor	Value church prop- erty.	For minutes
Bothany	L. C. Lewis, F. H. Gortemiller, R. R. Clark	S.A. Neighbors	F.H. Miller, Board Camp	1	3	4			1	3		15	\$ 2 25		\$ 2 80	\$30 00	\$1 00
Buffalo	Sam Green	E. B. Williams	Joseph, Dove			1						20					50
Concord	H. C. Ridling, C. J. Embry	J. O. Butler	T. Hy, Ink	3								25		\$ 2 30			75
Corinth	S. A. Neighbors, W. A. Brumbly, J. B. Neighbors	S.A. Neighbors	W. A. Mena	3		2			6	6	19	52			16 10		1 05
Crook Creek	W. H. Weeks, B. Duke	E. S. James	B. Dutton	2								28	5 10		14 00	150 00	50
Long Valley	A. M. Bruce	E. B. Williams	W. Ar, Hatfield	3	2						5	14					50
Mena	W. L. Compere, W. E. Ham, W. E. McMillen	W. L. Compere	J. J. Mena	all	25	20	5	7	246	134	35	55	23 53	254 41	675 00		5 00
Mill Creek	J. C. Whitaker	E. S. James	W. Out, Rocky	2	2	3		3	226	45	1	35			9 05		1 00
Mt. Gilead		J. J. Holland	J. F. s, Black Springs	2	1	1	1	1	2			21					50
New Home	M. McMillen, W. W. Roberts, V. S. Andrews		V.S.A, Mountain Fork	4	2	1			2	4	8	1 50					1 00
Mt. Olive	E. S. James, J. A. Beaver	J. O. Butler	R. Mason, Gann	1	7	1	1	2				49	2 10	2 55			1 15
Mt. Vernon	A. J. Byrd, G. R. Thomas	W. S. Byrd	H. Has	2		7	2					17	11 85	30	13 00		50
New Hope	J. W. Lawrence	S.A. Neighbors	J. S. ce, Shady	2	11		1	1	3			53		20	14 30		1 05
Blue Grove	J. G. Crawford, Morgan Coffman, A. J. Robins	S.A. Neighbors	J. G. d, Rocky	3	3	3		3				15					75
Pleasant Hill	C. A. King, B. T. Buchanan	C. A. King	S. L. n	2			1				5	11		25	8 00		60
Rock Spring	W. M. Shelton	W. M. Shelton	Matil Quito	2	1	1	1					9					75
Salem	C. I. Walker, J. O. Butler						2					8	1 50	1 50			1 50
Shady Grove	Fred Andres	J. O. Butler	G. W														
Union Grove	R. J. Hall, J. F. Bunis, M. S. Almond	R. J. Hall	P. Lr, Gillham	2	2	2	1		5		65	3 05		5 20	200 00		1 50
Yocana	J. J. Holland, Henry Deaton, M. F. Edwards	W. M. Shelton	G. W	1	2			5	4	1	47	2 05		7 50			1 10

County Line, Dallas and Mt. Pleasant, not represented....Hopewell dissolved. Total expenses of Mena church \$159.63....Church improvement of Mena church \$180....State mission from Mena church \$63 61.