

MINUTES

OF THE

Twenty-Fourth Annual Session

OF THE

MIDDLE FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH

Brewer Lake Baptist Church

Day, Florida, October 23-24, 1923

OFFICERS

REV. S. B. COLE, Moderator.....Madison, Fla.
CARL W. BURNETT, Clerk.....Madison, Fla.
F. B. WILLIAMS, Treasurer.....Lee, Fla.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

J. R. Mullis, G. F. Andrews, W. B. Davis, R. R. Ware,
W. C. Wells

The Twenty-fifth Session of The Middle Florida Baptist
Association Will Convene with Central Baptist
Church at Aucilla, Florida, on Tuesday After
the Third Sunday in October, 1924
At Ten O'clock

T. J. APPEYARD, PRINTER, TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

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CONSTITUTION OF THE MIDDLE FLORIDA
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

ARTICLES OF FAITH

Article 1. We believe in only one true living God, and there are three in the God-head, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

Article 2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God and the only rule of faith and practice.

Article 3. We believe the doctrine of particular and eternal election.

Article 4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

Article 5. We believe in man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state in which he is, by nature, by his own free will and ability.

Article 6. We believe that we are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ.

Article 7. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated and sanctioned by the Holy Ghost.

Article 8. We believe that the saints shall preserve in grace and never finally fall away.

Article 9. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are the only ordinances of Jesus Christ that nothing is Baptism except immersion, and that believers are the only subjects of this ordinance, and that none but baptised believers are entitled to partake of the Lord's Supper.

Article 10. We believe in a general resurrection of the dead and a general judgment.

Article 11. We believe the punishment of the wicked shall be everlasting and the joy of the righteous eternal.

Article 12. We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinances only of such as are regularly called and have come under the imposition of hands of the Presbytery.

Article 1. This Association shall be known by the name of the Middle Florida Baptist Association. The object of this Association shall be to conduct the work of missions, colportage, Sunday School enterprises and other work that will tend to the spread of the Gospel.

Article 2. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the respective churches in this union in the proportion of two members for each church of fifty members or less, and one additional delegate for every twenty-five members of over fifty and all ordained ministers of this Association in good standing. No church, however, shall have over four delegates.

Article 3. The letters sent by the churches at each session of the Association shall designate their respective members in full fellowship, those baptised, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated, and dead since last session.

Article 4. Believing it to be proper, on account of the diversity of opinion among men as to the import of the Scriptures contained in the Old and New Testaments, to declare our belief and understanding thereof, we therefore append our belief in twelve articles, and present them with our minutes to the Baptist denomination.

Article 5. The Association, when convened, shall be governed by a regular and proper decorum. A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by votes of the members present, who shall hold their office until the next session of the body, and until their successors are elected. The Moderator shall preside at the meetings of the Association. The Clerk shall record the proceedings thereof and prepare them for the press.

Article 6. The Association thus organized shall be no power to lord over God's heritage nor infringe upon the eternal rights of any church.

Article 7. Newly constituted churches may be admitted to this union on application by letter and delegates, and if, upon examination, found to be orthodox, shall be received by the Association and the hand of fellowship extended to the delegates by the Moderator.

Article 8. The Association shall furnish the minutes of the proceedings in proportion to the funds set up for that purpose by the churches.

Article 9. Any amendment or alteration of this Constitution may be made by the votes of two-thirds of the members present at any two successive regular meetings of the Association. All questions coming before the Association shall be decided by a majority vote of the delegates present.

Article 10. The Association shall have power:

First. To provide for the general union of the churches.

Second. To give the churches advice in matters of difficulty.

Third. To inquire into the cause of any church failing to be represented at the meeting of the Association.

Fourth. To withdraw all connection with any church or churches in the union that shall violate the rules of this Association, or shall deviate from the orthodox principles of the revealed word of God.

Fifth. To appropriate the money contributed and sent to the Association, as specified by the churches, and when not specified it shall be appropriated to promote the best interest of the Master's cause.

Sixth. To adjourn to any future time and place they may deem most convenient to the churches in the union.

MINUTES

After devotional services, led by the Moderator, the Twenty-fourth Session of the Middle Florida Baptist Association was declared open for the transaction of business.

On motion made and carried, Carl W. Burnett was elected Clerk pro tem.

Motion made and carried that a Committee on Digest of Letters be appointed.

Committee: W. L. Tooke, W. B. Davis and A. N. Woodard.

A. M. Parker and G. F. Andrews asked to collect letters.

Motion made and carried that the messengers enrolled in these letters constitute the working body of the Association.

The following messengers were enrolled:

- Antioch—S. M. Morgan.
- Athens—M. J. Howell, F. M. Whitfield.
- Bethel—N. W. West.
- Brewer Lake—W. N. Barrs, Joel J. Farnell, F. P. Parker.
- Benlab—B. C. Bell, J. A. Johnson.
- Central—J. H. Sparks.
- Elizabeth—Jessie Kersey, J. R. Lewis, J. A. Lewis, Charles Walker.
- Friendship—W. O. Roberts.
- Greenville—C. Bush, G. I. English, J. B. Bird, M. W. Marshall.
- Hopewell—By letter.
- Harmony—No letter.
- Lamont—T. P. Williams.
- Lee—Mrs. Geo. L. Brown, A. B. Humphries.
- Live Oak—No letter.
- Macedonia—F. B. Williams, J. T. Woodard, Carl W. Burnette, Lawton McCullough.
- Madison—S. B. Cole, W. L. Tooke, J. B. Hardee, W. P. Knight, J. O. Johnson.
- Midway—E. M. Hicks, J. T. Jones.
- Mayo—Mrs. N. L. White, Mrs. R. G. Ware, Mr. and Mrs. B. R. Ware.
- Mosley Hall—L. C. Crace, I. D. Oquenn.
- Mt. Giload—J. R. Vaun, J. W. Watts.

New Hopeful—W. L. Humphrey, Mrs. W. C. Smith.
 New Prospect—P. N. Tooten.
 New Macedonia—J. H. Smith, J. F. Andrews.
 Oakland—Dolton Wilson.
 Oak Grove—Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Wethington, Willie Ranew.
 Perry—C. P. Diamond, W. B. Davis.
 Pine Grove—Mr. and Mrs. J. F. D. Hughey, Josie Warren.
 Penetta—T. J. Blair, E. W. Kinsey.
 Pleasant Grove (Lay Co.)—H. L. Winderweedle, Lee Webb, Abbie Folsom, A. D. Townsend.
 Pleasant Grove (Taylor Co.)—J. C. Williams, A. J. Tedder.
 Pisgah—Not represented.
 River Side—A. U. Mills, Walter Allen, L. M. Frier.
 Salem—Josh Strickland.
 San Pedro—F. E. Carrin.
 Sirmons—Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Vickers, Hattie Reams, Alvis Reams.
 Motion made and carried S. B. Cole be elected Moderator and Carl W. Burnette elected Clerk.
 Motion made and carried that tentative program prepared by the Moderator be adopted.
 Report of Executive Committee read and adopted after discussion by G. F. Andrews, J. H. Poteet, A. N. Woodard, S. B. Cole.
 Following committees were appointed by the Moderator:
 Foreign Missions—S. L. Loudermilk, G. I. English, A. N. Woodard, A. D. Townsend.
 Seventy-five Million Campaign—G. C. Jackson, R. R. Ware, J. T. Woodard.
 Orphanage—A. M. Parker, Joel J. Farnell, W. N. West, J. B. Bird.
 Education—W. T. Weaver, F. J. Blair, W. L. Tooke.
 State Missions—C. P. Diamond, W. N. Barrs, J. F. D. Hughey, F. P. Parker.
 Home Missions—C. W. Burnette, E. W. Kinsey, C. Bush.
 Introductory sermon was preached by J. H. Poteet.
 Motion to adjourn until 2:30 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Devotional Services—By S. B. Cole.
 Report on Orphanage read and adopted after discussion by A. M. Parker, J. H. Poteet, C. M. Brittian.
 Following committees appointed by Moderator:
 Ministerial Support—G. I. English, H. S. Winderweedle, A. U. Mills.
 Laymans Movements—W. C. Wells, C. Bush, W. B. Davis.
 Sunday Schools—S. G. Ward, F. E. Carrin, F. B. Williams.
 Temperance—J. H. Poteet, F. P. Parker, J. C. Williams.
 B. Y. P. U.—R. R. Ware, A. M. Parker, F. E. Carrin.
 Deceased Ministers—A. A. Wetherington, J. A. Lewis, J. F. Andrews.
 Nominations—Fred Parker, J. T. Woodard, C. P. Diamond.
 Periodicals—C. L. Legett, J. A. Tedder, Charles Walker, J. A. Sparks.
 Miss Cecelia Nolan, representing the W. M. U. Society, was recognized.
 Layman's Report was given by W. C. Wells and discussed by Brother Willian and Dr. Brittian.
 W. C. Wells, W. B. Davis, G. F. Andrews were elected by the Association as a Layman's Committee.
 Brother Willian made a splendid talk on Sunday Schools and B. Y. P. U.
 Motion made and carried to table motion on resolution offered by J. H. Poteet until Wednesday p. m.
 Motion to adjourn until tomorrow at 10 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY A. M.—SECOND DAY

Devotional services were conducted by A. N. Woodard.
 Brother Mitchell, editor of the Baptist Witness, was recognized.
 Report on State Missions read by C. P. Diamond.
 Report on Home Missions read by C. W. Burnette.
 Report on Foreign Missions read by G. I. English.
 Report on Seventy-five Million Campaign read by G. C. Jackson.

The above reports were discussed as a whole by C. P. Diamond, G. C. Jackson, Dr. Brittan.
Motion to adjourn until 2 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Devotional services conducted by S. B. Cole.

Motion made and carried to give Brother Poteet thirty minutes to finish discussion on Home, State and Foreign Missions and Seventy-five Millions Campaign. Brother Poteet's time being up, he was given twenty minutes more.

Motion made and carried that the above reports be adopted.

Motion made and carried that J. H. Poteet's resolution be taken up and read again.

Motion made and carried to table J. H. Poteet's resolution.

Motion made and carried the next Association convene with Central Church on Tuesday after the third Sunday in October, 1924, at 10 o'clock.

Report on B. Y. P. U. read by R. R. Ware and adopted.

Report on Sunday Schools read by Brother Willian and adopted.

Report on Periodicals read by Moderator and adopted.

Report on Nomination read by Fred Parker and adopted.

Report on Deceased Ministers read and adopted.

Report on Ministerial Support read and adopted.

Report on Temperance read and adopted.

Report on Digest of Letters read and adopted.

Treasurer's report read and adopted.

Motion made and carried to pay Clerk \$26.00 for his services.

Motion made and carried to extend to Brewer Lake Church the thanks of the Association for their hospitality and entertainment during our stay with them.

Motion to rescind action on Layman Committee and appoint the following committee: Joel J. Farnell, W. L. Weaver, J. B. Bird.

Minutes read by Clerk and, on motion made and carried, they were adopted.

The Moderator appointed chairmen of standing committees, as follows:

State Missions—A. N. Woodard.

Home Missions—A. D. Townsend.

Foreign Missions—J. L. Odom.

Seventy-five Million Campaign—W. B. Davis.

Orphanage—S. G. Ward.

Education—J. M. Conor.

Nominations—W. P. Knight.

Temperance—W. L. Weaver.

Sunday Schools—J. F. Russell.

B. Y. P. U.—J. O. Johnson.

Deceased Ministers—S. G. Ward.

Ministerial Support—J. H. Poteet.

Periodicals—A. M. Parker.

Layman's Movement—J. O. Culpepper.

Motion made and carried to adjourn.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS

The influence of the Christian people of the United States and especially Baptist Christians, in shaping world ideals is being felt today more than ever before, but our task is only begun, for we have a great field in the bounds of the Southern Baptist Convention. Statistics show that less than one-half of the people in the United States are members of any church. There are sixteen million unsaved persons within the bounds of the Southern Baptist Convention, but we Baptists of the South have in the Home Mission Board an agency that can and is bringing in many souls to the church and Christ.

The Seventy-five Million campaign ought to and will take care of this work if we Baptists will pay our pledges as we have promised God and man that we would. But many churches and states are lagging in this line, as only a little more than half the amount promised has been paid. Below are some of last year's results:

One thousand one hundred twenty workers maintained; 3,564 churches and missions served; 38,770 baptisms; 59,597 persons received into the churches; 31 Mt. mission schools operated in the South; 13 mission schools in Cuba; 218 mission teachers employed, and 6,299 pupils enrolled; 2,249 volunteers for Christian service; 176

churches organized; 465 church houses built or improved and 622 Sunday Schools organized.

'We are doing wonderful, but our task is just begun, and your committee urges the membership of the Association to work earnestly to continue this wonderful progress and keep Baptist work in a sound financial and spiritual condition.

Respectfully submitted,
 CARL W. BURNETT, Chm.,
 C. BUSH,
 E. W. KINSEY,
 C. FOWLER.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS

Jesus Christ was the first and greatest foreign missionary. He was sent from heaven by the Father to this earth to seek and to save the lost, which had become "foreigners and strangers" to God through sin. John 8:16; Eph. 2:19.

Jesus sent his disciples and church into all the world to preach the gospel to every intelligent creature, and every country was foreign then, except Judea. Matt. 28:19; Mark 16:15. Paul was sent by the churches and the Holy Spirit, and preached only in foreign countries. The Paulician Baptists did a great foreign mission work in Syria, Asia Minor, Armenia, Thrace and Bulgaria from A. D. 500 to A. D. 1200.

The early Christians carried the gospel from Rome through Italy and France into Britain (England) before A. D. 170—all foreign mission work. The British or Celtic Baptists carried the gospel to Ireland, and Scotland, as foreign mission work, and converted these heathen peoples to Christianity, establishing churches and theological schools, all before the Catholic church existed or spread—A. D. 150 to A. D. 500. Later these Celtic or British Baptist churches carried on extensive foreign mission work in France, Switzerland, Italy, and among the heathen Tutons in Aermay and Austria, A. D. 500 to A. D. 900.

Arnold of Brescia in Italy was a great Baptist foreign missionary from Italy to France, Switzerland, Austria and Monravia, around A. D. 1200. The Albigensian-Lollard Baptists carried on very extensive foreign mission work from France into Holland, England and Moravia from A. D. 1300-1400.

During the Sixteenth Century the Ana-Baptists of Switzerland carried on a vigorous and extensive foreign mission work in Germany, Austria, Moravia, Southern Russia, and through Holland into England.

From A. D. 1630 Dr. John Clarke and Roger Williams and many other Baptists came to America doing foreign mission work, and thus the Baptists and the cause of Christ were established in America. Christianity has had to do foreign mission work nearly altogether, and so it is 'til today, for most of the world is heathen yet.

About A. D. 1800 William Carey stirred all England to foreign mission work in India where we have some hundred thousand Baptists in India as a result.

About A. D. 1812-1820 Adoniram Judson and Luther Rice enlisted the American Baptists in foreign missions in Burmah, and later in China, Africa, Italy, Japan, etc.

Our own Southern Baptist convention established foreign mission work since A. D. 1850 in China, Italy, Africa, Brazil, Mexico, Japan, Argentina, Chili, and since the World War in Spain, Jugo-Slavia, Austria, Roumania, Russia, etc. Thus the 75-million campaign fund enabled our foreign mission board to extensively increase its work and to enter many new fields. Many thousands are being converted and baptised by our foreign missionaries every year. Thus, following Christ, we have been carrying on world-wide foreign mission work "from the days of John the Baptist until now."

At the beginnin g of the World War we had about one hundred thousand Baptists in Russia—now there are about two million Baptists in Russia. The spread of communistic democracy and religious liberty in Russia gives favorable opportunity for Baptist growth. No country has ever developed so many Baptists in so short a time.

Let us all be loyal to Christ and pay up all our 75-million and enable our foreign mission board to carry forward the foreign mission work still more effectively and extensively.

In 1832 there was a division among American Baptists over the mission question. Those opposed to missions—the so-called Primitives—numbered about 70,000, and the Missionary Baptists numbered about 80,000. Now the Primitives number about 60,000, while the Missionary Baptists

number near 10,000,000, because they follow Christ in foreign mission work.

Let all anti-missionaries and all o-missionaries take warning.

S. L. LOUDERMILK, Chm.
G. I. ENGLISH,
A. N. WOODARD,
A. D. TOWNSEND.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS

The term "State Missions" in its general sense comprehends all the work of the denomination as fostered and carried on by our State Mission Board, which includes all the organized work of the Baptist denomination in Florida.

State Missions in Florida has much to its credit. It has planted and assisted more than four hundred churches in the State. It has organized, and assisted more than three-fifths of all Sunday Schools established in the State. Many Missionary Societies and B. Y. P. U.'s exist today as a result of State Mission activity. The development of State Missions made it possible for Florida Baptists to establish an Orphans' Home. In the past twenty years it has increased Florida's contribution to Foreign Missions from \$3,000.00 to \$40,000.00 per year. Every project and department of the denominational program looks to State Missions for help.

But the raising and distribution of funds is not the only concern of State Missions. It has carried the Gospel to the unsaved. Last year there were 5,579 baptisms in Florida, and of this number 919 were baptized by missionaries of the State Board. The total number received into the churches on our mission fields last year were 1,843. The State Board employed in whole or in part eighty-one missionary pastors and evangelists. For church building last year the Board paid \$14,539.94, and assisted in purchasing several valuable pieces of real estate for church sites.

The task of State Missions is a growing one. From the standpoint of evangelization, it is now the duty of State missions to carry the gospel to 400,000 unsaved, many of whom can be reached only through missionary enterprises. The situation is a challenge to Florida Baptists to do their

utmost for the spread of the Kingdom within our State. May we in this Association do our part.

W. M. BARRS,
F. P. PARKER,
C. P. DIAMOND,
J. F. D. HUGHEY,
Committee.

THE 75-MILLION CAMPAIGN

Four years of the period of the 75-Million Campaign have passed. These have been the most eventful years of our history. The seven causes included in this campaign have received a total sum of \$44,003,005.70. During these years the Southern Baptists have gained 3,068 churches; 3,287 Sunday Schools, with 458,223 new pupils; 8,688 Baptist Young People's Unions with 233,917 new members; 7,094 W. M. U. organizations, baptized 762,880 persons and put \$45,405,118.00 in local church property. As compared with the four years immediately preceding the period of the 75-Million Campaign, Missions, Christian Education and Benevolences have received forty-four million dollars against sixteen million, a gain of twenty-eight million.

But great as the results have been, our task is only begun. In the field occupied by the missionaries of our Foreign Mission Board, there are 900,000,000 lost people and in the territory occupied by our Home Missionaries there are 16,000,000 lost people old enough to be saved. "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few."

By a vote of the Southern Baptist Convention, the period of the 75-Million Campaign will close December 1, 1924. To complete the task we set out to do, we must pay \$31,000,000.00 more. This is more money than Southern Baptists have ever raised in so short a period of time, but we have made our pledges and our Boards have formed their programs on the basis of these pledges. We should be loyal to ourselves, to our fellow subscribers, to our missionaries, and to the Christ. To be truly loyal, we are honor bound to pay these pledges. Florida promised \$1,000,000.00 to this campaign. We lack about two hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars of reaching this goal. Let every true servant of Christ determine that WE SHALL

NOT FAIL. THE EYES OF THE WORLD ARE UPON US and the Lord expects us to do our best.

We recommend that every church make an Every-Member Canvass before our State Convention meets in December. Some have paid all they pledged, and have been so blessed of the Lord that they can pay more. Those who made no pledges or who have united with the churches since the beginning of the campaign should make an annual pledge to be paid weekly or monthly. We urge all subscribers to pay either weekly or monthly and all church Treasurers to send the money to Dr. Rogers' office on the first of each month.

G. C. JACKSON,
R. R. WARE,
J. T. WOODARD.

(Prepared by C. M. Brittain.)

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE

Temperance means "moderation; particularly, habitual moderation in regard to the indulgence of the natural appetites and passions; restrained or moderate indulgence." —Webster.

As "temperance" is the restraining or controlling of nature's appetites and passions which reside in the flesh of mankind by nature, it is therefore impossible for any man-made law to provide any man with the necessary qualifications to control the lusts or desires of the flesh which is evil by nature.

We can therefore understand the necessity for "temperance" being the fruit of the Spirit of God as taught in Gal. 5:23. Because if the lust or desires of the flesh are evil, we cannot hope to overcome evil desires with an evil heart, for it is out of the heart these things come. Mark, 7:20-23.

When any man or woman is born of the Spirit of God and "the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us," then our hearts' desires and wills are changed and we have the Holy Spirit and His wisdom, power and leadership to help us control or restrain the evils in our flesh.

Thus "temperance" or self-control becomes a Christian virtue that every Christian should possess and will be

manifested when they yield to the leadership of the Holy Spirit and let Him bring forth His fruit in them.

We recommend that every Christian yield to the leadership of the Holy Spirit in all things that we may have the testimony of the reality of our Christianity for our own joy and the witness to work of grace to the world about us, and to the edification of the churches and the exaltation of Christ among men and to the glory of God the Father.

J. H. POTEET,
F. P. PARKER.

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL SUPPORT

As your committee looks over the minutes of past associations and note that in many cases the churches are not giving their pastors enough financial aid to pay their traveling expenses, much less to support their families with those things that are needful, we wonder how they live and why they ever go back to their churches.

We hear a great deal about poor preaching among the churches. We would like to know how a church could expect a preacher to do anything but poor preaching when they have to go to the swamps, log woods, sawmills and farms to earn a living for their families.

Brethren, why do we accept the Bible as our rule of faith and practice and then completely ignore the Bible teaching in regard to the support of our preachers? The Bible tells us plainly that the churches should support their pastors liberally. We have no way of proving that we are New Testament churches except we obey the injunction of the scriptures.

Brethren, let us resolve in our hearts now that we as messengers will go home to our churches and start a movement for a more adequate and liberal support for our pastors and try to make them believe that we appreciate them by lifting their load of anxious cares by providing for their loved ones, that they love as well as we love our loved and departed ones.

G. I. ENGLISH,
H. L. WINDERWEEDLE,
A. N. MILLER.

REPORT ON B. Y. P. U.

This committee has to report about the least understood phase of church activity in Middle Florida Association. In fact we have, according to reports, practically no activity in B. Y. P. U. work in the association. However, we all know that unless our young folks are trained in church activities, when they come to take our places in church work the work will not progress beyond its present stage. Our only hope for church improvement is better training for our young people and there is no better place for this training than in a well conducted B. Y. P. U.

We would suggest that every church if necessary by publically raising the money send a committee of their young people to one of the summer Assemblies each summer in order that they may be trained in B. Y. P. U. work and taught how to operate these unions in their own churches. In fact, we believe that the training and help our young folks get in these assemblies will be more helpful in developing these young people than the usual revival meetings held each year at more expense to the churches than the expenses of these young people would be to the assemblies.

We are not suggesting that you dispense with revivals, as we know their importance in filling the ranks of the church, but the inspiration and outlook these young people get in these assemblies is of great importance and we feel sure will be the cause of greater church activities in those churches in years to come.

Respectfully,
R. R. MAY,
F. E. CARIN,
A. M. PARKER.

REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS

We, your Committee on Deceased Ministers, beg to report:

We find that God has been graciously good and spared all of our ministers in this Association, for which we are grateful beyond expression.

Feeling assured that God in His goodness and mercy has permitted them to remain on the stage of action to labor for His honor and glory and the uplift of humanity, and

hope if in accordance with the will of the Father of all that they may be spared to continue in the Master's work, breaking the bread of life; showing themselves to be workmen that needeth not to be ashamed; rightly dividing the word of truth; giving each one their portion in due season. To this end we pray.

Respectfully submitted,

A. A. WETHERINGTON,
J. E. LEWIS,
J. F. ANDREWS.

REPORT ON BAPTIST ORPHANAGE

We, your committee, report as follows:

The Baptist Orphanage at Arcadia, Florida, like other phases of our work, is neglected by withholding our prayers and money, groceries and dry goods. At present we have one hundred and five children, eighty acres of land with six permanent buildings. The majority of these buildings are two stories high. Besides these there are a number of out buildings, such as barns and poultry houses, etc.

The Seventy-five Million campaign only gave them twenty thousand dollars per year when they need several thousand dollars more without any enlargements. To take care of all the orphan children of the State we must have more buildings, and this requires more money. Therefore, we ask our churches, W. M. U.'s, Sunday Schools, individuals who are giving, if possible to continue their gifts and make them larger, and we earnestly appeal to the churches, W. M. U.'s, Sunday Schools and individuals who are not contributing to this institution to start at once. A monthly contribution, if no oftener. James in his Epistle said, "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, to visit the fatherless in their affliction." James 1:27. In the name of Jesus Christ let us do these things.

Respectfully submitted,

A. M. PARKER,
N. W. WEST,
J. B. BIRD,
JOEL J. FARNELL.

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS

We, your Committee on Nominations, submit the following report:

To preach introductory sermon—Rev. J. F. Russell.
Alternate—A. M. Parker.

To preach missionary sermon—A. N. Woodard.
State Board member—S. B. Cole.

Executive Committee—J. R. Mullis, G. F. Andrews, W. B. Davis, R. R. Ware and W. C. Wells.

Treasurer—F. B. Williams.

To go to Southern Baptist Convention—J. H. Poteet.
Alternate—S. B. Cole.

To go to State Convention—J. H. Poteet, J. L. Odom, S. G. Ward, G. C. Jackson and J. F. Russell.

Respectfully submitted,
F. P. PARKER,
C. P. DIAMOND,
J. T. WOODARD.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS

The Baptist Sunday School work in each State of the Southern Baptist Convention is so closely related to the Baptist Sunday School Board at Nashville, that, in justice to the Sunday School Board, we give a few facts of recent progress:

Two new buildings just completed have cost the Board a total of \$395,380. There are 20,935 Sunday Schools with an enrollment of 2,220,033; one-half of this enrollment is in schools of less than 200 pupils; more than \$32,000 was spent in rural Sunday School work in the various states; during the past year 16,997 normal course diplomas were awarded; spent out of earnings for denominational work \$273,931; and total receipts for last year were \$1,398,300; there are eighty-eight paid Sunday School and B. Y. P. U. workers on the field; the Architectural Department has given aid and suggestions to 79— new churches.

There is steady increase being recorded in the Teacher Training work in Florida. The awards for this work in 1922, last year, were 2,214, but the promise for 1923 is 3,000. If there is any one solution of our Sunday School problems, both city and rural, it lies in Teacher Training. Yet, we have to admit, that out of the 570 Sunday Schools,

not more than 40 per cent have done regular Teacher Training work. Herein lies our greatest opportunity.

There are four factors that make for progress on the Field: The active, wide-awake pastor with a Sunday School vision; the well-informed, energetic superintendent, the Associational Sunday School Convention, and the two Baptist Assemblies. May the influence of these factors increase.

Next to Teacher Training, one of the most notable items of progress in Florida Baptist Sunday Schools is the Organized class. Once engage the interest of the senior and adult pupil in every phase of the Sunday School work and many of the problems are solved. Among these is the most of the Teacher Training work done, and these make the Sunday School Missionaries that go to other churches rendering help.

In regard to the data as found in the letters of the churches reporting to the Association we find there are sixteen Sunday Schools from the thirty-eight churches. There are 1,112 pupils enrolled, 115 officers and teachers. There are reported only nine diplomas among the officers and teachers. There were thirty-nine baptisms among these sixteen Sunday Schools. The Home expenses reported by these sixteen schools was \$954.91. The gifts to missions and benevolences was \$863.62.

S. G. WARD,
F. E. CANIN,
F. B. WILLIAMS.

REPORT ON PERIODICALS

We, your committee, beg leave to make the following report:

From our observation we find that Baptists as a whole use good literature, and we would recommend that they continue to use only the most appropriate literature, especially that advocating a liberal contribution to the work of the kingdom.

We further recommend the use of our papers, namely, The Witness, Royal Science, Home and Foreign Field, and Kind Words for the boys and girls. Also good magazines

and books gotten out by Sunday School Board, and especially the use of the Bible, the book of all books.

Get the best literature and avoid undoctrine stuff.

Respectfully submitted,

C. L. WALKER, Chairman.
J. A. TEDDER,
J. A. SPARKS.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Your Executive Committee has not been as active during this year as we should have been; hence we have little to report.

Owing to the weather and the bad roads there were only three general meetings held. One at San Pedro, one at Pisgah, and one at Pine Grove. Neither of these meetings were largely attended; but we felt that those who did attend were greatly benefited.

The spiritual condition of the churches does not seem to be very good. Though several good meetings were held, in which the churches were revived, yet there seems to be a lagging in the work and a falling behind, especially with collections made to the 75-Million campaign fund.

In these days of critical importance, we feel that this is a great mistake and earnestly request that both pastors and people rally to the work in our midst.

After much discussion, and mature deliberation, we have decided to make the following recommendations for the work for the following year:

First. That four Bible Institutes be held during the coming year, the Executive Committee, acting with the churches, select four central places and put on a program that will be helpful, securing the best outside help that can be obtained to aid our local pastors. The matter of the expense of these meetings to be worked out by the next Executive Committee.

Second. That our regular union meetings be held next year, and that we make a greater effort to get our churches and pastors to co-operate in these meetings. We lay especial emphasis on the importance of the laymen of our churches to help our pastors make these meetings a success.

We doubt the wisdom of having Sunday School conventions take the place of the Union, and suggest that instead

of alternating as we have the past year, that the Sunday School interests be met by holding such meetings with the churches that desire them at a different time than on our fifth Sundays.

Third. That we get actively behind the layman's movement in the association and that the association be requested to elect a suitable man to head this work in our association, this man to work with the executive committee, consulting them as to the work to be done and calling on them for any assistance they may be able to give him.

Feeling the importance of this work, we urge the hearty co-operation of both pastors and people with the man selected.

Respectfully submitted,

J. VICKERS, Sec.

TREASURER'S REPORT

F. B. Williams, in Account with Middle Fla. Association.
Nov. 7, 1923. Bal. on hand.....\$ 1.10
Oct. 11, 1923. Received of J. Vickers... 128.56

Total receipts	\$129.66
Paid T. J. Appleyard, printing minutes..\$ 80.00	
Paid C. W. Burnett, for postage..... 1.50	
Paid Florida Baptist Witness Balance on last Minutes. 14.00	

Total amount paid out.....	\$123.24
Oct. 21, 1923. Bal on hand.....	\$ 6.42

F. B. WILLIAMS, Treas.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. M. J. Howell, Carbur, Fla.
 Rev. J. V. Wilcox, Perry, Fla.
 Rev. M. J. Fowler, Day, Fla.
 Rev. A. M. Parker, Pinetta, Fla.
 Rev. J. T. Farnell, Day, Fla.
 Rev. E. D. Floyd, Live Oak, Fla.
 Rev. S. G. Ward, Day, Fla.
 Rev. J. T. Montgomery, Aucilla, Fla.
 Rev. I. L. Laudermilk, Aucilla, Fla.
 Rev. J. H. Poteet, Greenville, Fla.
 Rev. S. W. Scott, Greenville, Fla.
 Rev. A. M. Rowe, Ebb, Fla.
 Rev. J. L. Odom, Perry, Fla.
 Rev. J. L. Rutherford, Lee, Fla.
 Rev. A. N. Woodard, Lee, Fla.
 Rev. S. B. Cole, Madison, Fla.
 Rev. J. F. Russell, Mayo, Fla.
 Rev. W. M. Tampling, Lee, Fla.
 Rev. J. E. Vaun, Vero, Fla.
 Rev. G. C. Jackson, Perry, Fla.
 Rev. S. C. Warren, Madison, Fla.
 Rev. M. J. Frier, Mayo, Fla.

LICENSED MINISTERS

Rev. N. W. West, Day, Fla.
 Rev. J. Singletary, Dowling Park, Fla.
 Rev. W. L. Blanton, Lamont, Fla.
 Rev. James Roberts, Quay, Fla.
 Rev. W. H. Cowart, Perry, Fla.
 Rev. W. A. Godwin, Perry, Fla.

OUR HONORED DEAD

Sister Mattie Bass, Pinetta, Fla.
 Sister Synthia Sutton, Madison, Fla.
 Sister Arrie T. Armstrong, Lamont, Fla.
 Brother James Quinn, Ebb, Fla.
 Brother Burly Quinn, Ebb, Fla.
 Brother Edward Sanders, Ebb, Florida.
 Sister Jessie M. Powell, Perry, Fla.
 Brother T. P. Rogers, Fort Myers, Fla.
 Brother J. C. Clemons, Madison, Fla.
 Sister Nettie Sheffield, Perry, Fla.
 Brother Levy Webb, Lee, Fla.
 Sister R. J. Womack, Pinetta, Fla.
 Sister Nora R. Seals, Madison, Fla.
 Sister J. W. Kiser, Madison, Fla.
 Sister S. F. Buchanan, Day, Fla.
 Sister Lydia Seally, Lee, Fla.
 Bro. J. S. Frier, Mayo, Fla.
 Brother Jno. T. Walker, Aucilla, Fla.
 Bro. S. P. Vann, Ebb, Fla.
 Sister W. H. Shortridge, Greenville, Fla.
 Sister Mamie Floyd, Wankeenah, Fla.
 Bro. R. B. Frier, Jasper, Fla.
 Brother R. M. Horne, Jasper, Fla.
 Sister Emma Horne, Jasper, Fla.
 Sister Lizzie Brown, Alton, Fla.
 Sister D. W. McLeod, Greenville, Fla.

W. M. U.

Churches	President and P. O. Address	Number of Organizations	Number Enrolled	Special Benevolences	75 Million Campaign	Total
Bethel.....	Mrs. Bendy, Dowling Park, Fla..	1	10	.....	.....	.....
Central.....	Mrs. Marie Scruggs, Aucilla, Fla.	1	* 20	.....	.....	.....
Greenville.....	Mrs. C. L. Leggett, Greenville, Fla.	1	.....	\$ 233.67	.....	\$ 233.67
Madison.....	Mrs. G. E. Billson.....	49	.....	1,102.38	502.30	1,604.68
Perry.....	Mrs. J. O. Culpepper, Perry, Fla.	5	688	870.41	303.25	1,173.66
Pinetta.....	Mrs. A. M. Parker, Pinetta, Fla..	2	20	31.60	37.50	69.10
Total.....		15	737	\$2,224.31	\$ 848.05	\$2,967.26

* All ladies of church.

NUMERICAL TABLE

CHURCH	PASTOR'S NAME AND POSTOFFICE ADDRESS	CLERK'S NAME AND POSTOFFICE ADDRESS	Expenses					Receipts			Prof. Decreases	Net Decrease	Number of Members	Day of Meeting	Value of Church Property	Value of Pastors' Homes	Total	Date Completed	
			Salaries	Light	Utilities	Materials	Total	Worship	Donations	Total									
Archie	Rev. M. J. Fowler, Day, Fla.	L. M. Moran, Jasper, Fla.												81	First Sunday	\$200.00		\$200.00	1927
Archie	Rev. J. D. Wilson, Perry, Fla.	W. J. Howard, Gaston, Fla.												81	Third Sunday	\$50.00		\$50.00	1928
Archie	Rev. J. T. Farrell, Day, Fla.	J. M. Swain, Jasper, Fla.												82	Second Sunday	\$50.00		\$50.00	1928
Archie	Rev. A. M. Parker, Florida, Fla.	J. M. Swain, Day, Fla.												82	Third Sunday	\$50.00		\$50.00	1927
Archie	Rev. A. M. Parker, Florida, Fla.	J. A. Johnson, Lee, Fla.												83	Second Sunday	1,000.00		1,000.00	1927
Archie	Rev. J. H. Parker, Greenville, Fla.	A. F. Harfield, Amelia, Fla.												83	Third Sunday	1,000.00		1,000.00	1928
Archie	Rev. A. W. Scott, Greenville, Fla.	J. Wilson, Greenville, Fla.												83	First Sunday	14,574.00	2,000.00	17,574.00	1928
Archie	Rev. A. W. Scott, Greenville, Fla.	C. F. McLean, Leeward, Fla.												84	Third Sunday	150.00		150.00	1928
Archie	Rev. J. L. Odom, Perry, Fla.	D. H. Walker, Leeward, Fla.												84	First Sunday	\$50.00		\$50.00	1928
Archie	Rev. J. L. Odom, Perry, Fla.	T. M. Dixon, Lee, Fla.												104	Second Sunday	1,250.00		1,250.00	1928
Archie	Rev. A. M. Parker, Florida, Fla.	Carl W. Barrett, Madison, Fla.												105	Fourth Sunday	\$50.00		\$50.00	1928
Archie	Rev. J. F. Smith, May, Fla.	J. J. Conway, Madison, Fla.												105	Every Sunday	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	1928
Archie	Rev. C. H. Wood, Day, Fla.	Wm. V. L. White, May, Fla.												105	1st and 3rd Sunday	2,000.00		2,000.00	1928
Archie	Rev. A. M. Parker, Florida, Fla.	Leola Hall, Madison, Fla.												110	Second Sunday	\$50.00		\$50.00	1928
Archie	Rev. A. M. Parker, Florida, Fla.	Henry Sapp, Day, Fla.												110	First Sunday	\$50.00		\$50.00	1928
Archie	Rev. J. L. Odom, Perry, Fla.	A. J. Adams, Sandy Grove, Fla.												84	Fourth Sunday	\$50.00		\$50.00	1928
Archie	Rev. A. M. Parker, Florida, Fla.	W. L. Humphrey, Madison, Fla.												85	1st and 4th Sunday	\$50.00		\$50.00	1928
Archie	Rev. J. L. Odom, Perry, Fla.	Edward Anderson, Greenville, Fla.												85	Fourth Sunday	\$50.00		\$50.00	1927
Archie	Rev. A. M. Parker, Florida, Fla.	Lawrence Tabor, Day, Fla.												85	Second Sunday				1927
Archie	Rev. A. M. Parker, Florida, Fla.	W. H. Wilson, Leeward, Fla.												85	First Sunday	100.00		100.00	1927
Archie	Rev. A. M. Parker, Florida, Fla.	W. H. Wilson, Leeward, Fla.												85	Second Sunday	\$50.00		\$50.00	1927
Archie	Rev. A. M. Parker, Florida, Fla.	W. H. Wilson, Leeward, Fla.												85	Every Sunday	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	1927
Archie	Rev. A. M. Parker, Florida, Fla.	W. H. Wilson, Leeward, Fla.												85	1st Sunday	\$50.00		\$50.00	1928
Archie	Rev. A. M. Parker, Florida, Fla.	W. H. Wilson, Leeward, Fla.												85	Third Sunday	\$50.00		\$50.00	1928
Archie	Rev. J. D. Wilson, Perry, Fla.	W. A. Chase, Florida, Fla.												105	Third Sunday	100.00		100.00	1927
Archie	Rev. J. D. Wilson, Perry, Fla.	J. A. Todd, Sandy Grove, Fla.												84	Third Sunday	\$50.00		\$50.00	1928
Archie	Rev. J. F. Russell, May, Fla.	Barney McCall, May, Fla.												108	Second Sunday	1,000.00		1,000.00	1928
Archie	Rev. J. T. Farrell, Day, Fla.	Mrs. T. M. Allison, Corcoran, Fla.												87	Fourth Sunday	\$5.00		\$5.00	1924
Archie	Rev. J. M. Cannon, Lee, Fla.	C. M. Parker, Perry, Fla.												87	First Sunday	\$50.00		\$50.00	1928
Archie	Rev. J. M. Cannon, Lee, Fla.	E. M. Vickard, Day, Fla.												88	Second Sunday	\$50.00		\$50.00	1928
Archie	Rev. J. D. Wilson, Perry, Fla.	W. G. Roberts, Perry, Fla.												88	Second Sunday	1,500.00		1,500.00	1927

Total 128 118 18 9278 107 24 12 121 148 94,754.00 148,074.00 148,074.00

FINANCIAL TABLE

CHURCHES	Pastor's Salary	Other Salaries	Incidentals	Building and Repairs	S. S. and R. Y. P. U. Expenses	Minister's Help	Poor	Other Items	Total Local Expenses	Orphanage	Campaign Funds	Minutes and Clerk	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	State Missions	Printing and Publicity	Total
Antioch	75.40							10.00	85.40			1.50					172.90
Ancilla								2.50	50.20	15.00							67.70
Athens	47.70											2.50					50.20
Bethel	28.30				7.10	15.00			40.40	2.48							96.28
Brewer Lake	100.00		40.00		22.90	26.86	35.00										226.85
Beulah	30.00		1.50			8.06	4.20										90.08
Central	250.00	12.00	87.33			35.00			22.72								527.78
Elizabeth	150.00					22.72											707.05
Greenville	1,500.00		118.48		55.06	244.25	14.45	582.23	2,505.02	293.25						5.00	5,322.72
Hopewell																	
Harmony						11.86											11.86
Lamont	200.00		17.75			40.00		15.00		5.00	125.00						405.25
Lee	100.00		18.75			25.00			25.00								202.25
Live Oak																	
Macedonia	150.00		2.00	6.50	10.00	38.58		9.00	221.08								448.96
Madison	1,800.00	180.00	11.39	759.80	175.55		81.50	423.08	3,436.32	377.83	1,542.00				0.25		8,798.60
Mayo	408.00			2.75	46.70		10.00	303.20			435.00						1,208.15
Midway	50.00		2.50			10.50											131.85
Mosley Hall	35.00					25.00											121.15
Mt. Gilead	125.00			100.00	7.00	31.00	.50						3.05				680.15
Mt. Moriah																	810.47
New Hopeful	150.00					17.86		1.25	169.36		477.00						844.74
New Macedonia	113.00			6.00			20.00	.50	142.00								284.00
New Prospect	23.00					8.00			31.00								63.00
Oakland																	1.00
Oak Grove	125.00		6.50			16.00											381.76
Perry	2,000.00	144.25	106.28		245.00	344.95		940.45	3,856.83	96.73					85.88	15.90	8,542.28
Pine Grove	60.00																79.75
Pinetta	150.00		1.43			84.36		27.00	277.89								613.23
Pleasant Grove (L. Co.)	85.71	08.00					6.90										180.96
Pleasant Grove (T. Co.)	35.00																2.00
Pisgah																	152.00
Riverside	150.00																15.00
Salem	10.00												1.00	1.00	1.00		253.05
San Pedro	90.08					13.50			106.06	20.83	26.00						313.00
Sirmans	240.00					8.00											248.00
Triumph																	67.85
Friendship	31.80					32.00											63.80
Grand Total	\$ 8,642.77	\$ 366.25	\$ 423.91	\$ 875.05	\$ 620.17	\$ 1,098.34	\$ 172.61	\$ 2,322.82	\$ 11,748.64	\$ 811.12	\$ 3,878.81	\$ 94.71	\$ 4.05	\$ 1.00	\$ 92.13	\$ 20.90	\$ 31,338.16