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Minutes

Sixtieth Annual Session
Santa Fe River Baptist
Association



HELD WITH ELIAM BAPTIST CHURCH
NEAR MELROSE, FLORIDA
OCT. 17, 18 AND 19
1916.

MINUTES

OF THE

Sixtieth Annual Session

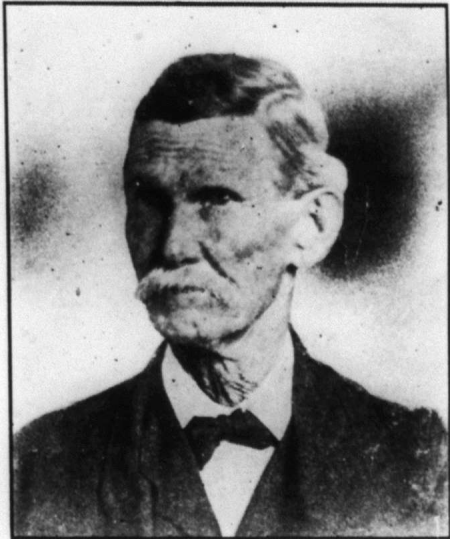
OF THE

**Santa Fe River Baptist
Association**

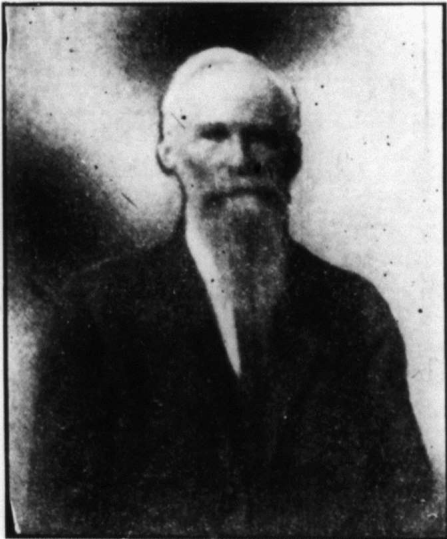
HELD WITH THE

Eliam Baptist Church, Near Melrose, Florida
October 17, 18 and 19, 1916.

Next session will be held with the First Baptist Church
at Alachua, Fla., on Tuesday, Wednesday and
Thursday, before the Fourth Sunday
in October, 1917.



R. B. WEEKS.
Moderator Santa Fe Association.



H. C. SEALEY
Clerk Santa Fe Association.

OFFICERS

Moderator.....R. B. Weeks.....Hawthorne, Fla.
Clerk.....H. C. Sealey.....Alachua, Fla.
Treasurer.....E. E. Stokes.....Campville, Fla.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

Skinner, S. R.Alachua, Fla.
Moseley, B. R.Hawthorne, Fla.
O'Kelley, N. B.Gainesville, Fla.
Hundley, W. T.Rome, Ga.
Adams, B. L.Hampton, Fla.
Riles, G. W.Hawthorne, Fla.
Henderson, E. M.Waldo, Fla.
Ridenour, H. E.Waldo, Fla.

LICENSED MINISTERS

McClellon, Robt.Gainesville, Fla.
Fisher, H. A.Gainesville, Fla.
Barry, G. C.Gainesville, Fla.

CONSTITUTION

1. This Association shall be called the Santa Fe River Baptist Association.

2. This Association shall be composed of Messengers of Baptist churches of this Association, maintaining the Gospel discipline. Such messengers are to be elected by their respective churches. Also all pastors of churches in the Association shall be members by virtue of their office. In case any of the messengers, or their alternates so elected, fail to attend, Association at its own discretion can seat any other member of that church as Messenger until the pro rata share of messengers of that church has been supplied.

3. The object of this Association shall be the reunion of the Churches, the promotion of the true Gospel, and the dissemination of Bible truth.

4. This Association shall meet annually, on the first day of which meeting it shall elect, by ballot, a Moderator, a Clerk and a Treasurer.

5. Any Baptist Church newly organized may become a member of this Association by letter petitioning for membership and giving information concerning organization and presbytery, and by whom organized. Any Church coming from another Association may become a member of this Association by presenting petitionary letter, accompanied by a letter of dismission from the Association from whence it comes.

6. This Association admits the right of any of the churches comprising it to withdraw by application for a letter without assigning any reason for so doing. At the same time, this Association claims the right to withdraw from any church which departs from the principles of this compact by becoming heterodox in faith or disorderly in practice.

7. This Association shall be deemed an advisory council, and shall treat the Churches composing it as independent bodies in all matters of self government, and shall at no time interfere with their rights.

8. This Association shall have an Executive Committee of five, of which the Treasurer shall be a member ex-officio. The other four members shall be elected annually by the Association, no two members being from the same Church.

Three shall constitute a quorum for business. The Executive Committee shall elect its own chairman and secretary and have power to fill vacancies.

9. The Associational mission work shall be under the control and supervision of the Executive Committee and all Missionaries shall make quarterly reports to them when called upon to do so.

10. All churches shall be entitled to two Messengers for the first fifty members, and one additional Messenger for each twenty-five additional members after the first and for the major fraction thereof.

11. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive and disburse all funds of the Association, but only by order of the Association or Executive Committee.

12. This Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the Association by a two-thirds vote of the Messengers present.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

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

Art. 2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament are the inspired Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

Art. 3. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

Art. 4. We believe that man is elected to salvation through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and is justified in the sight of God by the imputed righteousness of Christ.

Art. 5. We believe in man's inability to save himself from the fallen state from which he is, either by nature or by his own free will.

Art. 6. We believe that man must repent to God alone for the sins he has committed.

Art. 7. We believe in the doctrine of regeneration by the Holy Spirit.

Art. 8. We believe that sanctification is the progressive work of the Holy Spirit, according to the will of God, whereby we are made partakers of His Holiness, through continued use of the appointed means, the Word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness, prayer, and the practice of all godly exercises and prayer.

Art. 9. We believe that all saints shall persevere in grace and never finally fall away.

Art. 10. We believe that a Gospel church is a company of Christ's baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by His laws and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by His word; that only spiritual officers are bishops or pastors and deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the epistles to Timothy and Titus.

Ara. 11. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of a believer in Christ, by one duly qualified to administer the ordinance.

Art. 12. We believe that the Lord's Supper is a provision of bread and wine, representing Christ's body and blood, partaken of by the members of the Church assembled for that purpose, and that the Scriptural qualifications for partaking of same are regeneration, baptism, fellowship and unity and doctrine.

13. We believe that no minister has the right to administer the ordinances only such as are called, and have come under the imposition of hands of the presbytery.

Art. 14. We believe in the general resurrection of the dead, and a general judgment.

Art. 15. We believe the punishment of the wicked everlasting, and the joys of the righteous eternal.

Art. 16. We believe the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, is a memorial of Christ's resurrection, and should be kept holy, by the observance of all means of grace, both private and public, and by abstaining from all secular labor, except works of mercy and necessity.

Art. 17. We believe in the second coming of Christ, and that when He comes He will raise the dead from their graves and judge the world righteously, appointing to the wicked endless sorrow, and to the righteous endless joy.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Association Called to Order at 10:00 A. M.
2. Reading Letters and Enrolling Delegates.
3. Election of Officers.
4. Introductory Sermon.
5. Inviting Visiting Brethren to Seats.
6. Appointment of Committees.
7. Call for reports of Standing Committees.
 - a—Divine Service.
 - b—Temperance.
 - c—Sunday Schools.
 - d—Education.
 - e—State Missions.
 - f—Home Missions.
 - g—Foreign Missions.
 - h—Publication.
 - i—Nominations.
 - j—Spiritual Condition of Churches.
 - k—Orphanage.
 - l—Deceased Ministers and Deacons.
 - m—B. Y. P. U.
 - n—Finance.
8. Miscellaneous Business.
9. Adjournment.

Church Covenant

Having been as we trust brought by Divine Grace to embrace the Lord, Jesus Christ, and to give ourselves wholly unto Him, we do now solemnly and joyfully covenant with each other to walk together in Him with brotherly love to His glory as our common Lord. We do, therefore, in His strength, engage that we will exercise a Christian care and watchfulness over each other and faithfully warn, exhort and admonish each other as occasions may require. That we will not forsake the assembly of ourselves together. But will uphold the worship of God and the ordinances of His house. That we will not omit closet and family religion at home nor neglect the great duty of religiously training of our children and those under our call for the service of Christ and the enjoyment of Heaven. That as we are the light of the world and the salt of the earth, we will seek Divine aid to enable us to deny ungodliness and every worldly lust and to walk circumspectly in the world that we may win the souls of men That will cheerfully contribute of our property according as God has prospered us for the maintenance of a faithful evangelical ministry among us for the support of the poor and to the spread of the gospel over the earth. That we will in all conditions, even till death, strive to live to the glory of Him, who hath called us out of darkness and His marvelous light.

MINUTES

Near Melrose, Fla., Oct. 17, 1916.

The Santa Fe River Baptist Association met in its Sixtieth Annual Session with the Eliam Baptist Church on Oct. 17, 18, and 19 at 10:30 A. M. After Devotional Exercises led by Rev. G. W. Riles, the Association was called to order by R. B. Weeks, Moderator, and Rev. S. R. Skinner as Clerk. Call for Letter from the Churches.

Alachua—Letter and Delegates to wit: Pastor S. R. Skinner, Mrs. S. R. Skinner, H. J. McCallum, H. C. Sealey, Mrs. M. Strickland and Mrs. B. W. Cato.

Campville—Letter and Delegates Bro. J. W. Craber, John Parker; Sisters John Parker, Lula Mathews and Sister Fannie Craber.

Eliam—Letter and Delegates, Bros. T. L. Roberson, G. T. Torley, L. Price, Rev. B. R. Moseley, E. B. Perry, and H. R. Alderman.

Hawthorne—By Letter and Delegates, Rev. G. W. Riles, and Mrs. Riles, Bro. R. B. Weeks and Sister Weeks, R. R. Johnson and wife and Z. M. Sanders.

Ochwilla—Letter and Delegates, Bros. F. F. Jerkine, M. A. Fowler and W. G. Weeks.

Orange Creek—Letter, no Delegates. (I. C. Cochran and J. Abastine not present.)

Adjourn for Introductory Sermon by Rev. S. R. Skinner, from Matt. 5:47. Association recess for dinner until 1:30. Called to order at appointed time by Moderator. After Devotional exercises call for Letters, responding:

Hampton—Letter, Delegates, Sisters A. M. Williams, W. B. Alexander, Emma Hicks, Lula Wynn and Bro. Lacy Wynn.

Gainesville—Letter and Delegates, Rev. N. B. O'Kelley, Robt. McClellan, A. A. Murphree, Sisters R. E. Lee and Emma G. Burk.

Waldo—Letter and Delegates, Rev. H. E. Ridenour, Sister Laura DeSha, Mr. and Mrs. G. DeSha, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Sparkman.

Moved that the Delegates enrolled constitute the working body of this Association.

Election of Officers—There being only one nomination

for Moderator, the Clerk was instructed to cast the ballot of the body for Bro. R. B. Weeks as Moderator. Under similar conditions the Moderator cast the vote for H. C. Sealey for Clerk. One nomination for Treasurer, the Clerk asked to cast the ballot for E. E. Stokes.

Visiting Brethren and Sisters who were welcomed: Rev. A. F. O'Kelley, Pastor of First Baptist Church, Cocoa, Ga.; Rev. L. A. Rawls, of Central Association.

Moderator announced that the several committees would be read out to night and delivered to the chairman of same. Adjourned until 7 P. M.

7 P. M. Association called to order by Moderator. Committees read and give to chairman of same.

Report of Committee on Divine Service—Rev. H. E. Ridenour, 7:30 p. m.; S. B. Rogers at 11 A. M. Wednesday, and Rev. E. M. Henderson alternate.

Recess for preaching by Rev. Ridenour to an attentive audience. Text John 12:24.

Committee appointed on Resolutions—Com. Revs. Rawls Riles and Ridenour.

A strong appeal by H. C. Sealey for plan to raise means to provide for our worn out ministers and their families as other Denominations do, why not us. Let some effort be made by the Denomination to raise a sufficient fund to amply care for them as one of our first duties to take care of those that have given their life to the Lord's cause that help build the foundation that we stand on and that without price.

Adjourned until 9 A. M. Wednesday.

Wednesday 9:30 A. M. Oct. 18, 1916.

After Devotional Exercises the Association was called to order by Moderator. Minutes of yesterday read by Clerk and adopted.

Call for Letters—A Petitionary Letter from Grove Park Church. Letter read and referred to Committee, Rev. L. A. Rawls, Rev. S. R. Skinner and Rev. G. W. Riles, Com. Report favorable. The Grove Park Church received into this Association and the right hand of fellowship extended to Delegates Bros. W. N. Townsend and S. F. Silcox by Moderator.

LaCrosse Church—Letter and Delegates, Sisters Jesse Parker and Sister Mamie Gainey.

Moved by the Association that the Ladies have the House in the afternoon to hold their meeting, giving them sufficient

time to transact their business. After which the Association adjourned until 3:30 P. M.

The Ladies meeting called to order by President at 1:30 P. M. after Devotional Exercises, and held a very interesting as well as a profitable meeting. Find report on same.

3:30 P. M. Wednesday.

After Devotional Exercise, Association was called to order by Moderator.

The Report on Temperance was read by Rev. S. R. Skinner. Discussed by Revs. Skinner, B. R. Moseley, Ridenour and G. W. Riles.

Report on Education, read by Rev. G. W. Riles, spoken to by Rev. Riles and Rev. Rawles.

Report on Home Missions, read by Rev. E. M. Henderson and spoken to by Rev. E. M. Henderson and Rev. N. B. O'Kelley.

Recess for 11 o'clock service by Rev. E. M. Henderson to an attentive audience.

Association adjourned until 3:30 P. M.

1:30 P. M. Wednesday.

After Song and Prayer. Report of Committee on preaching. Rev. B. L. Adams to preach at 7:30 P. M. and Rev. N. B. O'Kelley at 11 o'clock A. M. The Missionary Sermon. Recess until 7 P. M.

7 P. M. Wednesday

Association called to order by Moderator after Devotional exercises.

Report of Committee on Education and Columbia College. Report adopted as read and ably spoken to by Chairman, Bro. E. R. Simmons, Rev. S. R. Skinner, Rev. L. A. Rawls and Rev. B. R. Moseley.

Recess for preaching by B. L. Adams.

Association adjourned until 9 A. M., Thursday, 19, 1916.

R. B. WEEKS, Moderator.

H. C. SEALEY, Clerk.

A request by the Clerk of this Association that we meet promptly with Letters and Delegates on the first day of the Association. Some reports not complete, please fill out all

blanks properly and it will show up much better. Delayed some on waiting for some information. H. C. SEALEY
Clerk

9:30 A. M. Thursday.

Association called to order by Moderator after devotional exercises. Called for Report of Committees.

Report on Sunday Schools read by H. J. McCallum, report was spoken to by H. J. McCallum and others.

Report on Orphanage read by H. C. Sealey, adopted. Report was spoken to by H. C. Sealey and Rev. S. R. Skinner and others.

Report on Deceased Ministers and Deacons.

Committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons reported two deaths of our Beloved Deacons: Bros. John F. Perry, of Rochelle, and R. M. Williams of Waldo. Robt McClellan, chairman of committee.

The report on Spiritual condition of Churches read and spoken to by Chairman Robt. McClellan.

Report on Nominations read and adopted, E. B. Perry, Chairman.

Report on Foreign Missions read and discussed by Rev. N. B. O'Kelley. Spoken to by Rev. N. B. O'Kelley and others and adopted.

A resolution by Rev. L. A. Rawles: That in view of the long service for God and this Association that there be a page set aside in our minutes for the purpose and that our esteemed Moderator R. B. Weeks and Clerk H. C. Sealey have their pictures printed in our next minutes. Adopted.

Moved and carried that the Clerk be paid \$15.00 for his service.

After singing an appropriate song the parting hand was given to the Brother Ministers, Moderator and Clerk, the Association adjourned to meet with First Baptist church at Alachua, Fla., on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday before the Fourth Sunday in October, 1917. Good Railroad service to this place.

Post Office Hawthorne, R. B. WEFKS Moderator.

Post Office, Alachua, H. C. SEALEY, Clerk.

RESOLUTIONS.

Be it resolved, that division two of the Constitution of this, the Santa Fe River Association, be enlarged so as to contain all the pastors of Baptist churches of this Association as delegates, by virtue of their office.

Resolved: That a complete certified copy of the proceedings of this Association be arranged by the Moderator and Clerk and printed in State Baptist Paper thirty days prior to convening of same.

Resolved: that in view of perpetuating the high regard and confidence in and for our beloved Bros. R. B. Weeks, now Moderator, and H. C. Sealey, now Clerk, for their long and faithful service in their respective office. That we set a precedent among all Associations by electing them to their respective offices as Honorary Members for their life, and that we give one page in our Minutes for pictures of same, Moderator and Clerk, as a memorial to them for untiring service to us and God.

Resolved: that for the sake of Christian development, and service to God; this Association recommends the adoption of the Budget plan and every member canvas, and this body appoint a committee of one in each church where not in operation to acquaint themselves with this plan, present it to his church, and report success of same at next regular meeting of this body.

Resolved: that the resolution Committee may be made a regular committee of this Association.

Be it resolved by this the Santa Fe River Association that we instruct the delegates from this body to our State Baptist Convention to insist that the Convention ask a more loyal support of the trustees of Columbia College to the College, and that each and every trustee who insists on sending their children to other Colleges in other States, which teach same, be asked by our State Convention to resign as trustees so that no reflections be cast on Columbia College.

Resolved, that the W. M. U. be recognized a part of this Association, and awarded a place on program.

Resolved, that the thanks of this Association be tendered this the Eliam Church, and all the good people of this community for their kind hospitality and generous treatment of this Association.

L. A. RAWLES,

G. W. RILES,

H. E. RIDENOUR, Committee.

REPORT ON THE SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF THE CHURCHES

Your Committee would report that we have no data, from the church letters, that would enable us to correctly de-

termine the Spiritual condition of the churches comprising Santa Fe River Association.

But from our general information of the churches at large, we fear that from the spirit of the age in which we are living, when many of our good people are tainted with Commercialism and self interests, there seems to be a regrettable falling away from our Spiritual interests and loyalty to the church.

We would recommend that our pastors and deacons be requested to see that Prayer Meetings, Revivals, Sunday schools and Young People's Unions be instituted, equipped and maintained in all our churches.

We would also recommend that our churches give our Woman's Misisonary and other Societies a more emphatic recognition in their work believing that by so doing, their devotion and deep Spirituality, will materially advance the Christ life in the church and among our Brethren.

We heartily approve of the program given before our Association yesterday, by the Woman's Misisonary Society and hope that such a program will be rendered at each recurring Association.

Respectfully submitted,
ROBT. McCLELLAN,
H. E. RIDENOUR, ;
L. PRICE.. Committee.

Report on Nominations

We your Committee on Nominations, recommend Bros. R. B. Weeks, E. E. Stokes, G. M. Desha, E. R. Simmons and A. F. Torley as Executive Sommittee.

For delegate to S. B. C., L. A. Rawls.

For delegates to State Convention, N. B. O'Kelley, E. M. Henderson, L. A. Rawls, Bros. W. H. Lee, H. J. McCallum, R. E. McColsky, W. E. Waites, Miss Susie Price, H. C. Parker, Rev. B. L. Adams, A. F. Torley, E. R. Simmons.

For Member State Board of Missions, Rev. S. R. Skinner.

We recommend that this Association meet with Alachua Baptist Church, Alachua, Fla., Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, before the Fourth Sunday in October, 1917. And that Rev. E. M. Henderson preach the Introductory ser-

mon. Rev. N. B. O'Kelley, to preach Missionary Sermon.
mon.

Respectfully submitted,
E. B. PERRY,
GEORGE WIGGINS,
MRS. B. W. CATO, Committee.

Report on State Missions.

State Missions is only a part of Christ's Commission to preach the Gospel to all the world, but it is the beginning of the World-wide movement. "Beginning at Jerusalem," is the **Seed** from which the world harvest is to be reaped. If we sow sparingly in State Missions we will reap sparingly in State, Home and Foreign Missions.

It has only been 91 years ago since the first Baptist church was organized in Florida, today we have more than 674 Baptist churches in Florida, a membership then of probably 25, but today, 91 years later, we have about 55,000 members of Baptist churches. Our State Board of Missions is only 35 years old, the first year after it was organized it raised for all purposes \$15,000 and employed 2 missionaries, last year we raised \$101,005.21 and commissioned 80 missionaries, and received 7,968 members into our churches.

From the above facts no one would for a moment think of asking: "Does State Missions Pay?"

Our need for this year is great and our aim none too high. We are undertaking this year to raise \$105,100, which can be easily done if only our people will do what they can and ought to do.

Our Equipment—It would be unfair to State Missions not to mention our own splendid equipment in Florida for carrying out our master's plans and meeting our obligations first. Our splend'd and efficient Secretary, Dr. Rogers, whose whole life is on the altar of service and whose heart yearns for the glory of God in our own Florida, and who as Secretary of Missions is not surpassed, by any State Secretary in the whole South. Second, "The Baptist Witness," published at Arcadia, coming into our homes every week bringing Tidings of Joy, and sorrow and need, keeping us face to face with facts and conditions, with its great and splendid Editor making strong appeals to the Soldiers of the Christ to take up the weapons of truth and to do battle for him in Florida, and to all the world. Third. Our own Columbia College at Lake City, training and equipping young men and women for real service

in Florida and to the world for The Christ. This institution is perhaps the greatest factor in Florida for Evangelizing and developing our people. It should be patronized by every Baptist in this State, and especially by its **trustees**. Brethren let us hope, and pray that its trustees who will not patronize it will resign that no reflections may be cast on the institution by their action.

With this equipment and leadership let us rally to the call of our Master and supply every need, wipe out every debt and ease the load of our honored and beloved Secretary that has been placed upon him by us. Christ needs individual service. Will you respond to His Call. Florida's need is our need. So let us do our best, and strengthen every effort and institution that will help to develop Christ's cause in our own Fair Land of Flowers, Florida.

Respectfully submitted,

F. F. JERKINS,
C. R. SPARKMAN,
L. A. RAWLES, Chm. Committee.

Report on Home Missions.

Home Missions should be very close to the heart of every true Baptist, for we might say that home mission work is giving us greater strength for our other mission work.

The territory of our Home Mission work embraces the country within the bounds of the Southern Baptist Convention including Cuba. This territory which is developing so rapidly offers great inducements to people of other states and countries to make this their home. It, therefore behooves Baptists to be awake to the opportunity that is theirs in making this the Baptist strong-hold. To meet these opportunities our Home Board is sending out as many workers as it has funds with which to do work.

But the work of the Home Board does not stop there. This board is also working in the Mountain districts of our Southland through schools, thus developing both intellectually and spiritually our people who have not had such opportunities as we.

Therefore, realizing the importance of Home Missions, we recommend that our churches do their best for Home Missions, meeting the apportionment made to our State. We further recommend that our people be enlightened as much

as possible on the importance of this part of our mission work.

Respectfully submitted,

E. H. HENDERSON,
M. A. FOWLER,
MISS EMMA HICKS, Committee.

Report on Foreign Missions

Foreign Missions exercises our faith more than ordinary benevolence. We trust our Boards, our Missionaries, and the unknown heathen; the first for proper management of funds, the latter for proper reception. This work brings the ever sure reward of faith in the blessing of others and ourselves, as we obey our Lord's gracious command: "Go ye into all the world and make disciples of all nations."

In spite of wars and rumors of war, for more than three years, Southern Baptists have many things in general and two things in particular, for which we are profoundly grateful to our Foreign Mission Board. First, the Board through the Cooperation of Southern Baptists and the wise leadership of our State Mission Secretaries, was a great victory, by paying the heavy debt of \$180,000 that had accumulated on the Board through several years. Second. The Judson Centennial fund for better equipment on the Foreign field, has been completed.

These two things alone, should cause every Baptist to thank God and take courage. Our fields are Africa, Argentina, Brazil, China, Japan, Italy and Mexico.

We have 459 churches on these fields, 95 of which are self-supporting, and these churches contributed the splendid sum of \$129,054.81 last year.

There was never a more important period in our Foreign Mission work. The Empire of China is forming new ideals, breaking away from Old. In South America the growth of religious liberty goes on, making the opportunity and responsibility still greater. With the increasing prosperity of our country we should greatly increase our offerings to Foreign Missions.

Respectfully submitted,
N. B. O'KELLEY,
B. R. MOSELEY,
J. W. CRABER, Committee.

Report on Education.

We, your committee on education submit the following report: Believing that knowledge is power, that a man's usefulness is measured by his ability and determination to push forward the things that are helpful and that true education makes better citizens and prepares men and women for more efficient service in the cause of the Master: We recommend that our people do all in their power to give our boys and girls the best training possible. We believe in educating head, heart and hand. The hand is the principal organ of sensation and upon its use depends largely the development of the brain. Train the mind and heart. Educate to make life easier and the child better. It is necessary to master scientific subjects and problems in mathematics but the greatest accomplishment is the mastering of self. We are taught that "if thy right eye offend thee pluck it out for it is better that one of thy members perish than that the whole body should be cast into hell. Again if thine eye be single the whole body is full of light."

Every profession and every line of business, demand trained men and women. The same is true of every branch of the church work. We endorse the Sunday school teacher's training movement, the work of our denominational institutions and the reading of the Bible in our public schools. We suggest that our libraries be supplied with wholesome literature containing the principles of our peculiar faith and doctrines. "Continue steadfast for the faith once delivered to the saints."

We wish to recommend Columbia College, our exponent of Baptist faith and principles. Said college, comprising eight buildings and a campus of about twenty acres is now owned and controlled by Florida Baptist. It is a high class institution in every respect. number of graduates last year, twenty, number students at the opening of present session 116. Number ministerial students, ten, Number of Mission students, three, Number normal students fifteen.

This institution is training our people for the great work of evangelizing our state and we trust that the time is near when every trustee, of the college, every minister in the Florida Baptist convention, and every Baptist in the state will

support and as far as consistent partitionize our school. If it is not what it ought to be let us make it so.

Respectfully submitted,

E. R. SIMMONS,

H. E. RIDENOUR,

N. B. O'KELLEY,

Committee.

Woman's Missionary Union.

The Woman's Missionary Union of the Santa Fe River Association met with the Eliam Church, at Melrose, Fla., Wednesday Afternoon, Oct. 18, 1916. Mrs. S. R. Skinner, Associational Superintendent, in the chair.

Devotional services were led by Mrs. L. Price, of Eliam.

A cordial Address of Welcome was given by Mrs. Chamberlin, president of the Union at Melrose and responded to by Mrs. Lee, of Gainesville. After an address by Mrs. Skinner, reports were read from the unions of Alachua, Eliam, Gainesville and LaCrosse.

The Superintendent recommended the apportionment plan.

A rising vote of thanks was given to the Association for giving a regular place on the program for the meeting of the Union.

A talk was given by Mrs. Burt, of Gainesville, on the Circle plan. Mrs. Cato, of Alachua, read a paper on "Florida for Christ." Mrs. Lee of Gainesville spoke on "The work among the children and young people."

A memorial prayer was offered by Rev. N. B. O'Kelley in memory of two deceased members, Mrs. L. W. Jackson, and Mrs. L. L. Palmer.

The nominating committee recommended the following officers for the ensuing year:

Associational Superintendent—Mrs. S. R. Skinner, of Alachua, Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. B. A. Chamberlin, of Melrose. Report adopted.

During the program we were favored with a solo and male quartet.

Offering \$7.00 Closed with prayer by Rev. G. W. Riles.

MRS. N. ALDERMAN, Sec. Pro Tem.

Associational Superintendent—Mrs. S. R. Skinner, Alachua.

Assistant Superintendent—Mrs. B. A. Chamberlin, Melrose.

W. M. S.

Alachua—Mrs. F. M. Stephens, President.

Gainesville—Mrs. J. R. Emerson, President.

Hampton—Mrs. W. B. Alexander, President.

Melrose—Mrs. B. A. Chamberlin, President.

LaCrosse—Mrs. Mamie Gainey, President.

Sunbeams—Gainesville—Dorothy Bullard, President**Royal Ambassadors**—Gainesville—Mrs. N. B. O'Kelley,
Leader.**Report on B. Y. P. U.**

It has been well said that the B. Y. P. U. is the Training School of the church; that is where our young members are taught to lead in prayer, to testify, to talk intelligently on religious subjects, and to carry on the business of the church when the older ones are forced to lay it down. Best of all the knowledge of the Bible which they acquire through the "Bible Quiz" and Devotional meetings cannot be estimated. Even the most careless member is forced to study the Word in order to lead or take part in the "Quiz." Then aside from the religious advantages the B. Y. P. U. offers an opportunity for self-culture. Fortunate indeed is the young Christian who is in a position to enjoy the privileges of a young people's society, scarcely any other agency offers such strong opportunities for self-culture. Here may be developed self-confidence, tact, memory, poise, will-power and in fact every quality which goes to make a strong well-rounded personality. We read that "there were giants in those days," and we feel that the B. Y. P. U., is producing another race of giants, not in physical stature, but in Christian character, in a knowledge of spiritual things, and in religious activity. The Junior Union for the children is the first stepping stone towards the whole. We lay the foundation with them and they are doing fine work. It would astonish many older Christians who have not had the training of a B. Y. P. U. to see how these children conduct their meetings, and what they are learning about the Bible and Christian living. At the present we only have three Junior unions; at Gainesville, Hawthorne, and Alachua. Out of the fourteen churches of our Association we now have six Senior Unions each of them with a good attendance and doing fine work. We hope next year to be able to report both a Junior and a Senior Union in every church. We are fortunate this year in having a worker of our own Mr. W. W. William who is ready and anxious to come to our assistance

at any time either to help organize, or to train us in better methods of work. He recommends an Associational Training school therefore your committee offers the following resolution: "Resolved that the executive committee of this Association provide that a Training school for B. Y. P. U. workers be held within the bounds of this Association for the period of five days, the date of said Training school to be determined in co-operation with the State Sec., of S. S. and B. Y. P. U. work.

MRS. S. R. SKINNER,

MRS. R. E. LEE,

MRS. G. W. RILES, Committee

Report on Temperance.

Temperance as commonly accepted at this time not only means the abstinence from the use of alcoholic liquors as a beverage but the prohibition of the sale of the same. We deem it the duty of every professing Christian not only to abstain from the use of liquor but to use every honorable means for its suppression. Many schemes have been tried to bring this about in our country with only a mediocre amount of success. Advocates of temperance are practically united on this truism that the only sure way for the final settlement of the question is by absolute National prohibition of both the manufacture and sale of liquor. Our nation has prided itself on leading other nations in matters of reform but in this we have lost our place. It remained for Russia to take the first stride in advance of any other nation, by a decree for absolute nation-wide prohibition which decree is being absolutely enforced with most gratifying results; Other warring nations have greatly restricted the sale of liquor. We rejoice that our nation is making some progress along this line. Nineteen states, through the ballot, now have State-wide prohibition while in many more local option has made more than half of the commonwealth "dry." We feel the time is at hand when we should have nation-wide prohibition. Therefore we urge everyone to do all in his power to bring this about. We as Baptists will only be following the precedent set by our illustrious sires by leading in this righteous movement.

Your committee therefore recommend a continued activity on the part of all our people not only for better temperance

laws but for the strict enforcement of existing laws.

Respectfully submitted,

S. R. SKINNER,
L. A. RAWLES,
H. R. ALDERMAN, Committee.

Report on Deceased Ministers and Deacons

Your Committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons report the following:

After a careful perusal of the letters from the churches, we find that there were two Deacons who departed this life. One of which was Deacon Jno. F. Perry, of Rochelle, and the other R. M. Williams, Waldo.

We are glad to know that all the others, have been spared to continue the great work of our Father's Kingdom, for the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBT. McCLELLAN,
R. H. ALDERMAN,
MRS. M. N. STRICKLAND,
Comimttee.

OUR HONORED DEAD

Brother John Burnett—Alachua Church.
Brother C. P. Huffman—Eliam Church.
Brother O. A. Wiggins—Eden Church.
Sister L. W. Jackson, Sister L. L. Palmer, Bro. J. S. Good,
Gainesville Church.
Sister Florence Rowe—Hampton Church.
Brother J. W. Sheffield—Hawthorne Church.
Sister Nellie Weeks—Ochwilla Church.
Bro. John Knight—Orange Heights Church.
Sister M. A. Morris, Deacon R. M. Williams, Bro. James
Bryant, Archie Godwin—Waldo Church.
Two deaths in Grove Park Church; did not get names.

Report on Publications

Your Committee begs leave to submit the following: We have published at Arcadia, Fla., The Florida Baptist Witness, edited by Dr. A. J. Holt, one of the leading factors of the Baptist denomination in the State for the disseminating of knowledge and Religious Information, which we earnestly recommend its support and patronage to all Baptists of the

state, and all the world. We also endorse and recommend Home and Foreign Field and Royal Service; Also for the Sunday school work the series of literature published by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention at Nashville, Tennessee.

Respectfully submitted,
G. W. RILES.

Comimttee.

Report on the Orphanage.

Your committee beg to submit the following:

The Baptists are to be congratulated in having a plant that is well equipped and admirably situated and with buildings not only substantial, but buildings that present a creditable appearance and adequate equipment for the needs and comfort of the inmates, about 90 or more unfortunate orphaned children. The children are here surrounded by influences that tend to the upbuilding of Christian Character, and are not only taught the tenets of Christian faith, but are instructed in the arts that will enable them to become useful members of society and be able to earn their own livelihood when they leave the institution. The boys are given industrial training while the girls are instructed in the arts that will fit them to take care of the home.

For some time past the Orphanage has been hard pressed for funds to meet current expenses. In fact they have been operating at a loss.

Lately however the good people have been responding to the call for help and it is gratifying to note a marked improvement in the financial condition of the institution. The needs however are still pressing and we recommend that the membership of this Association rally to the assistance of the cause by sending personal contributions, in order that the demands may be met.

We further recommend that all moneys intended for the Orphanage whether personal contributions, or coming from our Sunday Schools or Churches, be sent direct to Rev. S. B. Rogers, D. D., of Jacksonville, in order that all objects sustained by us shall be on equal footing and to receive equal credit.

Respectfully submitted,
H. C. SEALEY,
REV. S. R. SKINNER,
Z. M. SANDERS.

Comimttee.

Financial Report

Alachua	\$5.00
Campville	2.00
Eliam	5.75
Gainesville	5.00
Grove Park	2.31
Hawthorne	5.00
Hampton	2.35
Hague	2.00
La Crosse	5.00
Orange Heights	1.50
Orange Creek	2.00
Ochwilla	2.00
Waldo	1.75
Eden	2.75

Public Collection	44.41
	17.28

TOTAL.....	\$61.69
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Respectfully submitted,
L. PRICE,
E. E. STOKES,

Comimntee.

Report on Sunday Sch^h

It is not the intention of your committee to make a long report on the subject in as much as the matter will no doubt be discussed at length; but there are a few remarks that we feel ought to be made.

We note with pleasure that practically every church in reporting, is maintaining a Sunday School. While this gratifying, we regret to note that there is very little attention being paid to the training class. The importance of this phase of the work cannot be over emphasized.

If special training is necessary for the secular teacher, where matters pertaining to the temporal are taught, surely the teacher who is entrusted with the training of a child along spiritual lines where the influence of the training reaches out into the beyond, needs to give special care to her or his preparation.

Officers and teachers should be selected with great care and only those whose lives inspire confidence and trust should be entrusted with this department of the Church work.

We cannot emphasize too strongly the value of the graded lessons for the primary classes and we recommend their adoption by the Sunday Schools of this Association.

In these graded lessons, the child is taught how to find out for himself what is taught in the Bible. The child using the graded lessons is not only made familiar with the books of the Bible, but when they are required, as they are, to hunt up a particular passage, the truths taught are indelably fixed in the mind.

We therefore recommend that each school have a training class, regular teachers meetings, and the adoption of the graded lessons for the Junior classes in the Sunday schools of this Association.

Respectfully submitted,
H. J. McCALLUM,
G. TORLEY,
G. L. WHITCOME.

Comimntee.

List of Different Committees.

Committee on Divine Service—Bros G. T. Torley, E. B. Perry, Rev. L. A. Rawles.

Temperance—Rev. S. R. Skinner, L. A. Rawls, H. R. Alderman.

Sunday School—Bros. H. J. McCallum, G. L. Whitcomb and G. T. Torley.

Education and Columbia College—E. M. Henderson, Rev. Ridenour, Rev. N. B. O'Kelley.

State Missions—Rev. L. A. Rawls, G. M. DeSha, F. F. Jerkins.

Home Missions—Rev. E. M. Henderson, M. A. Fowler, Mrs. Emma Hicks.

Foreign Missions—Rev. N. B. O'Kelley, Rev. B. R. Moseley, J. W. Craber.

Publications—Rev. G. W. Riles, R. E. Johnson.

Nomination—George Wiggins, E. B. Perry, Mrs. B. W. Cato.

Spiritual Condition of Churches—Bro. Robt. McClellan, L. Price and Rev. Ridenour.

Orphanage—H. C. Sealey, Rev. S. R. Skinner, and Z. M. Sanders.

Deceased Ministers and Deacons—Robt. McClellon, H. R. Alderman and L. Price.

Finance—Bros. L. Price, E. E. Stokes, Robt. McClellan.

B. Y. P. U.—Sisters S. R. Skinner, G. W. Riles and R. F. Lee.

Chairmen of the Several Committees to Report at Next Session of this Association.

- Temperance—Rev. N. B. O'Kelley.
- Sunday School—H. C. Parker.
- Education and Columbia College—Rev. S. R. Skinner.
- State Missions—Rev. E. M. Henderson.
- Home Missions—Rev. G. W. Riles.
- Foreign Missions—Rev. L. A. Rawles.
- Publication—Bro. H. J. McCallum.
- Nomination—C. A. Williams.
- Spiritual Condition of Churches—Bro. George Wiggins.
- Orphanage—Robt. McClellan.
- Deceased Ministers and Deacons—E. B. Perry.
- Finance—Bro. L. Price.
- B. Y. P. U.—Mrs. C. W. Stephens.
- On Resolutions—L. A. Rawles.

Financial Statement

Oct. 24, 1915 Received from Association	\$ 53.40
Oct. 31, 1915, received from Con. at Hampton..	20.31
Jan. 29, 1916, Received from Con. at Campville	30.67
April 30, 1916, Received from Con. at Eden	35.00
July 30, 1916. Received from Con. Ochwilla.....	21.77
Total	\$161.15

Disbursements.

Oct. 24, 1915, Paid H. C. Sealey, Clerk.....	\$15.00
Oca. 28, 1915, Paid S. B. Rogers	8.40
Nov. 2, 1915. Paid S. B. Rogers	20.31
Dec. 31, 1915. Paid H. H. McCreary, Minutes.....	30.00
Feb. 2, 1916. Paid S. B. Rogers	30.67
May 1, 1916. Paid S. B. Rogers	35.00
Aug. 1, 1916. Paid S. B. Rogers	21.77
Total	\$161.15

Respectfully submitted,
E. E. STOKES, Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,
Committee.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Name of Church	Superintendent and P. O. Address	Number of Schools	Number of Pupils	Number of Teachers	Sunday School Expenses	Missions and Benevolence	Total for All Purposes
Alachua	A. Williams, Alachua.....	1	109	11	67 85	55 77	121 62
Campville	O. Parker, Campville.....	1	37	2	15 60		
Eden	A. Wiggins, Hawthorne.....	1	73	8	31 36	47 40	78 76
Eliam	A. F. Torlay, Melrose.....	1	27	3	199 30	144 60	343 90
Gainesville	A. A. Murphree, Gainesville.....	1	25	4			
Grove Park	Steve Carter, Grove Park.....	1	40	1	60 00		60 00
Hague	A. O. McCloskey, Hague.....	1	67	10	35 99		35 99
Hampton	J. King, Hampton.....	1	75	2	44 00	10 00	54 00
Hawthorne	L. Whitcomb, Hawthorne.....	1	30	1			
LaCrosse	H. C. Parker, LaCrosse.....	1	35	2			
Ochwilla	W. G. Weeks, Hawthorne.....	1	21	2	40 00		
Orange Creek	W. B. Roe, Hawthorne.....	1	35	2			
Orange Heights	Mrs. J. N. Hyman, Orange Heig.....	1	71	8			
Waldo	G. M. DeSha, Waldo.....	1					

W. M. U., SUNBEAMS AND Y. W. A.

Name of W. M. U.	Foreign Missions	Christmas Offering	Home Missions	Thank Offering	State Missions	Chapley Memorial	Aged Ministers	Orphanage	Training School	Columbia College	Other Purposes	TOTAL
Alachua	17 55	10 75	25 60	1 00	3 00	1 00	1 00	7 50	170 40	240 30		
Melrose	4 50	2 90	6 10	8 70			1 95				19 15	
Gainesville	36 00	34 60	1 50	42 00		6 00	38 00		10 00	10 00	168 10	
Hampton										4 50	4 50	

Sunbeams—Gainesville Contributed \$1.00 to Columbia College.
Royal Embassadors—Gainesville Contributed \$6.50 to State Missions.

SOCIETIES AND OFFICERS.

Name of Society	President	President's P. O.
B. Y. P. U.	R. N. Wells	Alachua
B. Y. P. U.	E. E. Stokes	Campville
B. Y. P. U.	C. Ode Ogelvie	Gainesville
B. Y. P. U.	Miss Ella Riles	Hawthorne
B. Y. P. U.	Miss Mary Hall	Orange Heights
B. Y. P. U.	Elmer Crosby	Waldo
Junior B. Y. P. U.	Lucius Rivers	Gainesville
Junior B. Y. P. U.	Fal. Johnson	Hawthorne
Junior B. Y. P. U.	Marv Wells	Alachua

STATISTICAL

NAME OF CHURCH	PASTOR AND POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CLERK AND ADDRESS	NUMERICAL										Preaching Sunday	
			Church Organized	Increase		Decrease		Membership	Net Decrease	Net Increase	Preaching Sunday			
				By Baptism	By Letter of Statement	Restoration	Total					By Letter		Expulsion or Erasure
Alachua	S. R. Skinner, Alachua	C. A. Williams, Alachua	1894	2	3	1	1	2	130	3	3	All		
Campville	R. C. Moore, Lake City	J. H. Parker, Campville	1892	2	3	1	1	40	3	3	1st.			
Eden	H. E. Ridenour, Waldo	A. J. Shaw, Hawthorne	1902	7	3	1	11	11	3	3	2nd.			
Ellam	L. A. Rawls, Lake Butler	A. F. Torlay, Melrose	1858	10	5	1	15	6	1	7	2nd & 4th.			
Gainesville	N. B. O'Kelley, Gainesville	D. M. Tomkies, Gainesville	1870	10	34	1	45	33	1	33	All			
Grove Park	B. L. Adams, Hampton	G. L. Sileox, Grove Park	1916	1	1	1	2	1	1	24	1			
Hague	Dock Tomas, Bell	Nat. Minchin, Hague	1911	1	1	2	4	2	2	43	2			
Hampton	H. E. Ridenour, Gainesville	G. W. Hicks, Hampton	1891	1	4	2	2	12	1	13	2nd.			
Hawthorne	E. M. Henderson, Waldo	W. B. Adkins, Hawthorne	1853	2	2	2	2	6	1	7	2nd & 4th.			
LaCrosse	A. J. Pinholster, Brooker	T. R. Parker, LaCrosse	1885	1	1	1	1	3	3	68	3			
Ochwilla	B. L. Adams, Hampton	W. E. Hammtree, Hawthorne	1873	1	1	1	2	2	2	4	2nd.			
Orange Creek	J. H. Martin	W. B. Roe, Hawthorne, R. No. 1	1897	4	1	1	2	2	2	46	4th.			
Orange Heights	B. L. Adams, Hampton	R. A. Thigpin, Orange Heights	1897	4	1	1	2	2	2	70	5 2nd & 4th.			
Waldo	E. M. Henderson, Waldo	J. F. DeSha, Waldo	1853	9	20	3	29	4	4	8	150	21 1st & 3rd.		
Total			40	77	3	120	70	6	14	90	1565	22	52

FINANCIAL

Name of Church	FINANCIAL														Value of Pastor's Home	Value of Church Property	Total Value of Property
	Pastor's Salary	For Building	Incidental and Improving	For Visiting Ministers	Associational Missions	State Missions	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Columbia College	S. B. T. Seminary	Ministerial Education	Aged Ministers	Orphans' Home	Minutes and Clerk			
Alachua	600 00	368 05	35 00	6 73	120 67	41 52	56 25	58 50	1 70	3 10	6 41	31 20	5 00	1334 44	2500 00	1500 00	4000 00
Campville	120 00	8 00	13 00	1 16	5 89	5 00	11 35	2000 00	2000 00	2000 00	11 35	11 35	151 15	1000 00	1000 00	1000 00	1000 00
Eden	120 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00
Ellam	300 00	50 50	59 65	11 00	58 60	35 50	35 60	263 70	6 00	67 55	4257 50	10000 00	25000 00	35000 00	1000 00	1000 00	1000 00
Gainesville	1500 00	1000 00	768 32	163 06	287 39	91 93	106 94	263 70	6 00	67 55	4257 50	10000 00	25000 00	35000 00	1000 00	1000 00	1000 00
Grove Park	60 00	50 00	60 00	50 00	60 00	50 00	60 00	50 00	60 00	50 00	60 00	50 00	60 00	50 00	60 00	50 00	60 00
Hague	50 00	50 00	50 00	50 00	50 00	50 00	50 00	50 00	50 00	50 00	50 00	50 00	50 00	50 00	50 00	50 00	50 00
Hampton	180 00	33 18	12 30	12 76	8 04	8 04	16 98	67 1 34	1 34	25 71	5 00	931 33	2600 00	2600 00	1000 00	1000 00	
Hawthorne	400 00	403 69	62 78	8 04	8 04	16 98	67 1 34	1 34	25 71	5 00	931 33	2600 00	2600 00	1000 00	1000 00	1000 00	
LaCrosse	75 00	16 00	5 11	10 00	8 51	20 00	21 13	2 00	10 00	800 00	800 00	300 00	300 00	800 00	800 00	800 00	
Ochwilla	50 00	100 00	100 00	100 00	100 00	100 00	100 00	100 00	100 00	100 00	100 00	100 00	100 00	100 00	100 00	100 00	100 00
Orange Creek	100 00	125 00	110 00	50 00	5 00	3 75	3 00	10 58	1 75	669 08	700 00	2350 00	3050 00	865 00	865 00	865 00	
Orange Heights	390 00	125 00	110 00	50 00	5 00	3 75	3 00	10 58	1 75	669 08	700 00	2350 00	3050 00	865 00	865 00	865 00	
Waldo	390 00	125 00	110 00	50 00	5 00	3 75	3 00	10 58	1 75	669 08	700 00	2350 00	3050 00	865 00	865 00	865 00	
TOTALS																	
	3795 00	1125 00	1749 74	315 71	22 84	569 63	203 17	229 79	343 28	2 37	5 75	13 75	173 82	41 66	13200 00	37415 00	50315 00