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MINUTES

OF THE

SEVENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

SANTA FE RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH THE

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ALACHUA, FLORIDA

OCTOBER 25-26, 1927

Next Session to be held with the First Baptist Church, High Springs, Florida, Beginning on Tuesday after the Fourth Sunday in October, 1928, at Ten O'clock A. M.

2/6/28

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ASSOCIATION DIRECTORY

Officer's

E. R. Simmons, Moderator	Gainesville, Fla.
E. B. Perry, Clerk	Hawthorne, Fla., R. F. D., No. 2
E. E. Stokes, Treasurer	Campville, Fla.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A. B. C. Goode	Alachua, Fla.
M. W. Lindsey	Archer, Fla.
J. W. Craber	Campville, Fla.
G. A. Wiggins	Hawthorne, Fla., R. F. D.
L. Price	Hawthorne, Fla., R. F. D. No. 2
Wm. Hawkins	Gainesville, Fla.
S. F. Hardee	Hague, Fla.
Mrs. W. B. Alexander	Hampton, Fla.
R. J. Osteen	
J. O. Whitcomb	High Springs, Fla.
	Hawthorne, Fla. Island Grove, Fla.
O. C. Gay	
	Lacrosse; Fla.
H. L. Fowler D. E. Jones	
	Micanopy, Fla.
W. G. Merriman	Hawthorne, Fla., R. F. D. No. 2
W. B. Roe	Lacoochee, Fla.
H. E. Ridenour, Jr.	Gainesville, Fla. R. F. D.
H. C. Peeples	Lake Butler, Fla. R. B.
Mrs. C. A. Strickland	Waldo, Fla.
L. R. Nichols	Gainesville, Fla., R. D.
Mrs. E. J. Meyers	Rochelle, Fla.

List of Chairmen to Report at Next Meeting

Spiritual Condition of the Churches—Dr. Thos. V. Mc-Caul, Gainesville.

State Missions—Rev. H. L. Chapin, High Springs. Home Missions—Rev. J. B. Webb, Hawthorne. Foreign Missions—Rev. T. D. Denman, Melrose. Baptist Children's Home—Mrs. J. B. Webb, Hawthorne. Christian Education—Prof. O. K. Armstrong, Gainesville.

Nominations—E. L. Johnson, Hawthorne.
Obituaries—Rev. J. N. Haymans, Orange Heights.
Publications—Rev. E. A. McDowell, Lake Butler.
Sunday School—Rev. Grady Herndon, Alachua.
B. Y. P. U.—Fuller Warren, Gainesville.
W. M. U.—Mrs. J. F. Moon, Gainesville.
Evangelistic Brotherhood—H. C. Peeples, Sardis.
Stewardship—Dr. A. A. Murphree, Gainesville.
Temperance—Dr. C. L. Pridgeon, Waldo.
Resolutions—Rev. R. D. Bevis, Archer.

Budget Committee—William Hawkins, Sr., chairman; J. W. Craber, M. W. Lindsey, H. C. Peeples, L. Price, Rev. R. D. Bevis, Thos. V. McCaul.

OFFICERS OF ASSOCIATION AUXILIARIES

Annual Sunday School Convention

President-Rev. G. Herndo	n		Alachua,	Fla.
Secretary-Treasurer—Rev.	H. E.	Ridenour,	Gainesville,	Fla.
R.	F. D.	No. 5.		

W. M. U. President—Mrs. J. F. Moon, 372 W. Court, Gainesville, Fla.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	
Vice President-Mrs. E. R. Sim	monGainesville, Fla.
Secretary-Treasurer-Mrs. L. B.	Alexander Waldo, Fla.
Evangelistic Br	otherhood
President—Dr. A. A. Murphree	Gainesville, Fla.
Vice President-W. M. Bullard	Gainesville, Fla.
Secretary-Treasurer-G. H. Black	kman Gainesville, Fla.

B. Y. P. U. Federation

President—Dr. Thos. V. McCaul ____ Gainesville, Fla.

Ministers Appointed to Preach at Next Session

Introductory. Sermon—Rev. J. M. Lewis, Waldo. Missionary Sermon—Dr. Thos. V. McCaul, Gainesville.

THE CHURCH DIRECTORIES OF THE SANTA FE RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, FLORIDA

Ordained Ministers

Bevis, R. D., Pastor	Archer, Fla.
Bugg, R. W., Member	High Springs, Fla.
Corr, J. W., Member	Alachua, Fla.
Denman, T. D., Pastor	McIntosh, Fla.
Dicks, Jno., Pastor	Lake City, Fla.
Hayman, J. N., Pastor	Orange Heights, Fla.
Hemingway, L. G., Member	Waldo, Fla.
Herndon, G., Pastor	Alachua, Fla.
Hicks, W. B., Member	Waldo, Fla.
Hinson, Wm., Pastor	Hawthorne, Fla.
Lewis, J. M., Pastor	Waldo, Fla.
McCaul, T. V., Pastor	Gainesville, Fla.
McDowell, E. A., Pastor	
McMichen, W. A., Member	
Norris, J. L., Pastor	Waldo, Fla.
	Lacrosse, Fla.
Proctor, A. L., Member	Alachua, Fla.
Ridenour, H. E., Member	Orange Heights, Fla.
Smith, J. M., Pastor	Waldo, Fla.
Stout, E. G., Member	Gainesville, Fla.
Taylor, F. M., Member	Hampton, Fla.
Ware, G. W. S., Member	Worthington, Fla.
Webb, J. B., Pastor	Hawthorne, Fla.

Sunday School Superintendents

Alachua	C. A. Williams, Alachua, Fla.
Archer	H. H. Simmons, Archer, Fla.
Campville	E. E. Stokes, Campville, Fla.
Eliam	E. B. Perry, Hawthorne, Fla.
Gainesville	E. R. Simmons, Gainesville, Fla.
High Springs	B. J. Meadows, High Springs, Fla.
Hampton	C. T. Lawhorn, Hampton, Fla.
Hawthorne	M. C. Beck, Hawthorne, Fla.
I land Grove	C. L. Ergle, Island Grove, Fla.

Lacrosse	O. C. Gay, Lacrosse, Fla.
Lake Butler	F. M. Rivers, Lake Butler, Fla.
	B. F. Matthews, Micanopy, Fla.
	A. W. Atkinson, Orange Heights, Fla.
	J. T. Seegar, Dukes, Fla.
	I. W. Wesley, Waldo, Fla.
	W. G. Merriman, Hawthorne, Fla.
Hague	T. J. Hamm, Hague, Fla.

B. Y. P. U. Presidents

Alachua	Miss Eula Sealey, Alachua, Fla
Archer	Laurine Lindsey, Archer, Fla.
	James Baker, Campville, Fla.
	Albert Hinnant, Melrose, Fla.
Gainesville Re	x Lee, W. E. Easton, S. C. Kierce, Gainesville,
	Fla.
Hampton	Nathan Keene, Hampton, Fla.
Hawthorne	G. B. Tompkins, Hawthorne, Fla.
Lacrosse	Mrs. F. R. May, Lacrosse, Fla.
Lake Butler	Mrs. L. O. Rivers, Lake Butler, Fla.
Sardis	Ernest Hewitt, Lake Butler, Fla. Rt. B.
Waldo	Miss Helen McCauley, Waldo, Fla.

W. M. U. Presidents

Alachua	Mrs. C. W. Stephens, Alachua, Fla.
Archer	Mrs. O. F. Cummings, Archer, Fla.
Eliam	Mrs. S. W. Coward, Melrose, Fla.
Gainesville Mrs	s. J. F. Moon, 372 W. Court, Gainesville, Fla.
Hampton,	Mrs. Ada Alexander, Hampton, Fla.
Hawthorne	Mrs. T. J. Hammond, Hawthorne, Fla.
	Mrs. L. E. McCall, High Springs, Fla.
Lake Butler	Mrs. J. H. Scarbough, Lake Butler, Fla.
Micanopy	Mrs. J. J. Jones, Micanopy, Fla.
Ochwilla	Mrs. Ida Barrington, Hawthorne, Fla. Rt. 2
Sardis	Mrs. H. C. Peeples, Lake Butler, Fla. Rt. B.
Waldo	Mrs. L. B. Alexander, Waldo, Fla.

Y. W. A. Counselors

Gainesville, Miss Sue Simpson, 332 W. Masonic, Gainesville, Fla.

Hawthorne, Mrs. F. W. Tyson	Hawthorne, Fla.
Sardis, Mrs. D. E. Roberts	Worthington, Fla.
Waldo, Mrs. C. A. Strickland	Waldo, Fla.

G. A. Leaders

Archer, Mrs. M. W. Lindsey	Archer, Fla.
Eliam, Mrs. H. F. Preston	Melrose, Fla.
Gainesville, Mrs. Harlan	Gainesville, Fla.
Hawthorne, Mrs. J. B. Webb	Hawthorne, Fla.

R. A. Leaders

Eliam, Mrs. Roy Julian	Melrose, Fla.
Gainesville, Mrs. J. F. Vaghts	Gainesville, Fla.
Hawthorne, George Johnson	Hawthorne, Fla.
Waldo, Mrs. R. E. Rountree	Waldo, Fla.

Sunbeam Leaders

Alachua, Mrs. F. M. Stephens	Alachua, Fla.
Eliam, Mrs. Jas. Dann	Melrose, Fla.
Gainesville, Mrs. Walter Parrish	Gainesville, Fla.
Hawthorne, Mrs. J. H. Tidwell	Hawthorne, Fla.
Island Grove, Mrs. Sally Myers	Island Grove, Fla.
Lake Butler, Miss Vivian Fowler	Lake Butler, Fla.
Waldo, Mrs. J. F. DeSha	Waldo, Fla.

CONSTITUTION

- 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 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 members of that church as Messengers 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 to be composed of one member from each church in the Association, the officers of the Association being ex-officio members. These members, aside from the ex-officio members, shall be elected annually by the churches and their names inserted in the Church letter sent to this Association. The Executive Committee shall elect its own chairman and secretary, and shall have the oversight of the Association work in the period between the annual meetings, and shall have power to fill vacancies on failure of Churches to appoint.

- 9. The Association 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-five members, and one additional Messenger for each twenty-five additional members after the first and for the major fraction thereof. All pastors of churches of this Association shall be members of this Association by virtue of their office.
- 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 Words of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.
 - Art. 3. We believe in the doctrine of the 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 the 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 espistles to Timothy and Titus.
- Art. 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, unity and doctrine.
- Art. 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 in 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.

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 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 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 wordly lust, and to walk circumspectly in the world that we may win the souls of men; that we will chearfully 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 into His marvelous light.

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-Education.
 - d-State Missions.
 - e-Home Missions.
 - f-Foreign Missions.
 - g-Publications.
 - h-Nominations.
 - i-Spiritual Condition of Churches.
 - j-Orphanage.
 - k-Deceased Ministers and Deacons.
 - 1-Sunday Schools.
 - m-B. Y. P. U.
 - n-W. M. U.
 - o-Finance.
 - p-Resolutions.
 - q-Tithing.
- 8. Miscellaneous Business,
- 9. Adjournment.

Memorial

This page is dedicated to the memory of our comrades who have been called to their final reward since October, 1926.

ALACHUA-Mr. R. E. Aiken, Mr. E. E. Bell, Mr. C. J. Rivers, Mrs. Irma Witt, Mr. J. B. Strickland.

ARCHER-Mr. E. R. Lassiter, Mr. J. P. Graham.

EDEN-Mr. John Townsend.

ELIAM—Mr. J. S. Griner, Mrs. S. R. Lane, Mrs. Catherine Suggs.

GAINESVILLE—Mrs. Robert Brodie, Mrs. H. L. Beville, Marvin Bruton, Mrs. J. E. Robinson, Mrs. E. G. Stout.

HAGUE-Mrs. James Cox.

HAMPTON--Mrs. M. E. Rafuse, Mrs. Hester Jones, Miss Mary Nimmo, Mrs. Lizzie Hicks.

HIGH SPRINGS—J. N. Fussell.

LACROSSE-Mr. Marcus Feagle, Mrs. R. H. Tipton.

LAKE BUTLER-W. E. Loadholtz.

MICANOPY—Mrs. Mary E. English, Mrs. L. J. Montgomery.

ORANGE HEIGHTS-Mrs. Georgian Hall.

SARDIS-Mr. A. L. Shuman.

Committee, W. R. DuBose, Mrs. T. E. Johnson.

LIST OF MESSENGERS 1927 SESSION

Alachua—A. B. C. Goode, C. A. Williams, S. T. Fowler, I. S. Futch, W. H. Sealey, A. L. Proctor, E. C. Pearson.

Archer—G. W. Parker, J. R. Duke, J. P. Simmons, M. W. Lindsey, L. P. Mills, J. B. Canard, A. D. Lindsey.

Campville—J. W. Craber, B. C. Johnson.

Eden-Horace Baxley, Albert Terrell.

Eliam—L. Price, Mrs. L. Price, Miss Cava Jernigan, E. B. Perry, H. G. Alderman, Rev. T. D. Denman.

Gainesville—Wm. Hawkins, Mrs. Wm. Hawkins, Dr. A. A. Murphree, Walter Crown, Mrs. Walter Crown, Mrs. W. P. Carter, Mrs. J. R. Emerson, W. M. Bullard, E. R. Simmons, Mrs. E. R. Simmons, Dr. T. V. McCaul, Mrs. T. V. McCaul, Mrs. Walter Matthews, Mrs. J. F. Moon, Mrs. I. N. Parrish, Marguerite Butler, Mrs. Margaret Gross, Mrs. J. F. Vaghts, Miss Rafalia Wilson, Robt. McClellan, Mrs.. Robt. McClellan, Dr. J. W. Norman, J. E. Turlington, I. N. Parrish, J. M. Tison, S. M. Mixon, W. D. Wynn, D. M. Tompkies, B. C. Fryer, J. M. Ogilvie, Mrs. J. M. Ogilvie, Miss Constance Bishop, Miss Catherine McClellan, G. B. Tison, J. C. Prevatt, S. W. Williams, J. F. Vaghts, Mrs. J. W. Norman, Mrs. L. A. Lyle, A. D. Williams.

Hague-S. F. Hardee, Mrs. S. F. Hardee.

Hampton—Rev. F. M. Taylor, E. J. King, Mrs. E. J. King, Mrs. Ada Alexander, V. B. Wheeler, Mrs. V. B. Wheeler, Mrs. Idella Priest.

High Springs—E. B. Godwin, Mrs. E. B. Godwin, Mrs. J. D. Logan, Mrs. J. T. Price.

Hawthorne—J. O. Whitcomb, J. B. Webb, Mrs. J. B. Webb, Mrs. R. E. Johnson, Mrs. F. W. Tyson, Mrs. F. J. Hammond, F. F. Paulling, M. C. Beck.

Island Grove—Mrs. Emma Lou Brice, Mrs. T. E. Johnson, Mrs. Celia Prince, Mr. S. C. Hayman.

Lacrosse-T. R. Parker, Mrs. T. R. Parker, Mrs. O. C. Gay.

Lake Butler—H. L. Fowler, Mrs. H. L. Fowler, A. C. Strickland, Mrs. A. C. Strickland, Dr. E. A. McDowell.

Micanopy—M. J. Ward, D. E. Jones, Mrs. E. D. Rosenberg.

Ochwilla-Rev. W. A. Hinson.

Orange Park-W. B. Roe.

Orange Heights—Rev. H. E. Ridenour, Mrs. H. E. Ridenour.

Sardis—W. R. DuBose, H. C. Peeples, J. T. Seegar, J. I. DuBose.

Waldo—Mrs. I. W. Wesley, J. F. DeSha, Mrs. M. L. Triest, F. B. Oxley, Rev. W. B. Hicks, Mrs. F. B. Oxley, Mrs. J. F. DeSha,

RECORD OF PROCCEDINGS

of the

SEVENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

of the

SANTA FE RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Held With The

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ALACHUA, FLORIDA

FIRST DAY

Tuesday, October 25th, 1927, 10:00 A. M.

- 1. The Seventy-first Annual Session of the Santa Fe River Baptist Association convened with the First Baptist Church, Alachua, Florida, Tuesday, October 25th, 1927 at 10:00 A. M.
- 2. H. E.. Ridenour led the Association in worship of song, after which H. L. Chapin of High Springs, conducted a brief devotional, using Col. 3:1-7. Dr. C. M. Brittain, Rev. J. L. Norris and Rev. H. L. Chapin led in prayer.
- 3. The Moderator, E. R. Simmons called the Association to the transaction of business.
- 4. Rev. G. Herndon, pastor of the Alachua church, gave the address of welcome to which Rev. T. D. Denman of Mc-Intosh responded briefly.
- 5. The Moderator called for the church letters and eighteen of the twenty churches presented letters to the Clerk.
- 6. The delegates were requested to stand as the name of their church was called, and were as follows: Alachua, 3; Archer, 5; Campville, 2; Eliam, 4; Gainesville, 13; High Springs, 9; Hampton, 5; Hawthorne, 5; Hague, 2; Island Grove, 4; Lacrosse, 2; Lake Butler, 7; Micanopy, 4; Orange Heights, 1; Ochwilla,0; Orange Creek, 1; Waldo, 5; Sardis, 4.

- 7. By motion those present representing the various churches were accepted as a basis for organizing for the business of this session.
- 8. The Moderator called for petitionary letters, but none were presented.
- 9. A motion that the chair appoint a committee on the digest of church letters was made and carried.
- 10. The chair appointed the following: J. B. Webb, chairman; H. L. Chapin and H. C. Peeples, associates.
- 11. The Association then went into the election of officers. On motion of Dr. A. A. Murphree the Clerk was instructed to cast the ballot for E. R. Simmons as Moderator.
- 12. On motion of H. E. Ridenour, Dr. A. A. Murphree was instructed to cast the ballot for E. B. Perry as Clerk. On motion the Clerk was instructed to cast the ballot for E. E. Stokes, as Treasurer.
- 14. A motion that the printed programs be adopted as the order of business for the present session prevailed.
- 15. The annual sermon was preached by Dr. E. A. Mc-Dowell, pastor of the Lake Butler church, using as his theme "The Angel of the Lord that Stand In Our Pathway." Dr. C. M. Brittain led in prayer.
- 16. The following new pastors of the Association were introduced and given the hand of fellowship by the Moderator: J. B. Webb, pastor at Hawthorne; T. D. Denman, pastor at Melrose; G. Herndon, pastor at Alachua; and E. A. McDowell, pastor at Lake Butler.
- 17. Visitors were presented as follows: Dr. A. I Candi representing state paper, Mrs. H. C. Peelman, state secretary of the W. M. U., S. S. Proctor from the New River Association, Rev. W. C. Armstrong from the St. Johns Association, Dr. C. M. Brittain, State Mission Secretary, K. A. Damingo, Tampa, F. M. Taylor, Hampton, Dr. Stamps, returned missionary from China.

- 18. On motion of T. V. McCaul, Dr. Brittain was given the hour from 2:00 to 2:45 p. m. on the afternoon program.
- 19. The chair appointed W. C. Armstrong as chairman of the committee on Home Missions with J. B. Webb and I. N. Parrish as associates.
- 20. The Moderator then intrdouced Dr. A. I. Candle, who made a brief but carnest appeal in the interest of The Witness.
 - 21. Recessed until 1:45 P. M.
- 22. The Association reassembled at 1:45 P. M., and T. D. Denman conducted the devotional service.
- 23. On account of Dr. Brittain not being able to be present when the State Mission Report was to be read on Wednesday the Moderator asked that the report be read just prior to his address. Dr. T. V. McCaul read the report and the time for discussion was given to Dr. Brittain, who spoke in behalf of the co-operative program and State Missions in particular.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS

Santa Fe River Association. Alachua, Florida

State Missions is fundamental in all Kingdom enterprises. Our first tack is always to create a strong home base before we can undertake outside work of much importance. We must keep the home fires burning if we want the light to shine afar. It is at least as much the part of wisdom to conserve what we have as to try to win that which we have not. And we cannot hope to save the world unless we save our own state and nation.

Now there is no state in the Union which is a greater mission field opportunity than our own. There are vast sections which are sparsely populated, and about the only religious care they receive is from our State Board Mission workers. These fine sons of the soil who live in the outlying districts, quite isolated from the town and cities, are Floridans born and bred. Surely no state can be Christianized whose own natives are neglected. Then there are those fast growing communities and towns which have sprung up like mushrooms all over our state. These places furnish a great State Missions opportunity and necessity. This is obvious. Again, the rapid growth of our great cities present obligations that must be assumed in part by State Missions. The ever increasing tourist element furnishes a State Mission problem

far-reaching and of supreme import. And we must not forget the thousands of foreigners in our state, nor the great need in respect to remodeled and new church plants rendered necessary because of the tremendous growth of our state in recent years.

Our State Missions work includes enlistment, evangelists, missionary pastors. W. M. U., Sunday School and B. Y. P. U. workers. Summer Assemblies, and Associational Missions. In these various departments last year we spent about \$60,000.00. The following statistics will indicate some of the work that was done in the past year:

4 full-time enlistment evangelists visited 223 churches, reported 650 additions, assisted churches in putting on the every-member canvass, mission institutes, and other special services.

84 missionary pastors employed for whole or part time service preached to 150 churches, reported 2,572 additions.

Missionary pastors and enlistment men together collected \$12,037.18 for missions, and for church buildings on their fields of labor \$56,347.70.

Florida Baptists contributed through the Co-operative Program \$204,366.72: to Foreign Missions through the Program and designated funds \$121.882.06: to Home Board \$24,359.24.

But there is much to be done. We have not covered our state, we have not met our opportunities, we have not measured up to our responsibilities, we have not reached the goal. Let us realize that the best possible way to take Florida for Christ is for every member of every church to do his part in attaining the objectives of the Co-operative Program. Let us remember that in a Baptist church everybody is somebody: that everybody ought to do his part in the cause of our Master.

And so your committee earnestly recommends that the churches of this Association consecrate their efforts the coming year to reaching the goal of our Co-operative Program, for by this method we will not only conserve the interests of State Missions, but all departments of our great denomination, at home and abroad.

THOS. V. McCAUL

Pastor, First Baptist Church, Gainesville, Fla.

Report adopted.

24. Mrs. H. C. Peelman State W. M. U. Secretary addressed the body in the interest of the W. M. U.

25. Foreign Missions being next on the program. R. D.

Bevis read the report, after which Dr. Stamps, a returned missionary from China, delivered a soul-stirring message on the work in China. Report adopted.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS

Strong in confidence that God is interested in Foreign Missions, we, your committee presents to this Association the following report:

We gratefully acknowledge the goodness of the Lord which has been manifested in the work during the last year, however, a state of indifference exists among many of our people, but in spite of disappointments and discouragements in the work, glorious things have been accomplished in the name of the Lord.

The greatest grief of the year was that caused by the defalcation of the Foreign Mission Board's Treasurer, in which the Board suffered the loss of \$103,772.38 of which sum about \$57,-000 has been refunded by the defaulter.

Another discouraging feature is that so many of our Missionaries at home on furlough could not be returned on account of the falling off of receipts by the Board.

Our Foreign Board reports an indebtedness of thousands and hundreds of thousands of dollars with retrenchments at every possible place, and at the same time begging the Baptists of the Southland to come to the rescue.

Your Committee wonders if the declining interest in receipts of the Foreign Board could be attributed to a COOLING Missionary Ardor, among God's people, or to defective plans and ways, in gathering gifts which Southern Baptists should make to the Lord?

Surely our leaders will find a solution, and lead us out of the embarrassing conditions and we will yet carry out the GREAT COMMISSION of our Lord and take the world for our CHRIST.

Respectfully submitted.
R. D. BEVIS
T. V. McCAUL
G. W. PARKER

26. The body adjourned until 7:30 P. M. Bro. Brown led the closing prayer.

NIGHT SESSION, 7:30 P. M.

- 27. The session opened by singing, "Revive Us Again." J. B. Webb led in prayer.
 - 28. The next thirty (30) minutes was devoted to wor-

ship in song. The Evangelistic Brotherhood assisted by the Gainesville choir under the leadership of Jas. H. Parrish, gave a most inspirational song service during which vocal solos were rendered by Mrs. C. A. Lyle and Dr. T. V. McCaul and a piano solo by Mr. Claude Murphree.

- 29. Gainesville was represented by approximately seventy-five delegates at this service.
- 30. Professors Ezell and Garwood of Stetson University, were recognized and welcomed.
- 31. The report on the Evangelistic Brotherhood was read by Wm. Hawkins. Discussed by J. T. Seegar, Dr. A. A. Murphree and Mrs. Peelman. Report adopted.

REPORT ON THE EVANGELISTIC BROTHERHOOD

Of First Baptist Church, Gainesville, Florida

As the name indicates the aim and purpose of the organization is to lead souls to a saving knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and to hold and maintain evangelistic services at missions, part time churches and other preaching stations.

During the year just closing the Brotherhood has been very active and has held meetings and conducted services in many places throughout the Association. It has also assisted the Jacksonville Brotherhood in field day meetings in other Associations, as well as holding individual services outside of the Santa Fe River Association. It is the practice of the Brotherhood to send out gospel teams composed of three or four men each, and it has sent out on an average four teams a month during the year.

A Brotherhood was organized at Sardis Church, postoffice Worthington Springs, Florida, and doubtless that Brotherhood will make its report at this session of the Association.

A prayer meeting was organized at "Sun Crest". north Gainesville, and services are held Thursday evenings by members of the Brotherhood. Much interest is manifested in these meetings. Many of the people of Sun Crest have been attracted to the First Church of Gainesville and some additions to the Brotherhood have come through these prayer services.

The month of December was designated and set apart by the Brotherhood as evangelistic month when special effort was made to reach the unaffiliated Baptists and the unsaved in Gainesville.

During the year two field day meetings were held by the

state organization in this Association—our Brotherhood taking an active part. One of the field days was Sunday, January 9th. Meetings were held at Micanopy, Island Grove, Campville. Hampton, Lacrosse, Alachua, High Springs, Sardis, Archer and Starke; attendance, 747; re-consecrations, 74; requests for prayer, 47; confessions, 16; and collection, \$49.17. The other field day was June 12th, and meetings were held at Orange Heights, Campville, Hawthorne, Island Grove, Fairbanks, Micanopy, Rochelle and Lacrosse; these meetings were also well attended: there were several requests for prayer and there was one conversion by profession of faith.

A Sunday School was organized at Rochelle on or about the 17th of April. It has been progressing splendidly from that date with an average attendance of 34. Every Sabbath day since the organization of the Sunday School the Brotherhood has held Evangelistic services at Rochelle. Through the special efforts of Brothers Simmons and Walter Crown a series of meetings were held at Rochelle, engaging Dr. W. L. Harmick, an Evangelist of Atlanta, Georgia, to do the preaching. Great interest was manifested by all the people of the community and there were fourteen additions to the church; one by letter and thirteen by baptism.

This is but a brief summary of the work: it would make this report entirely too long to go further into details. Your committee hoped only to give you an idea of the wonderful opportunities for service through an organization of this kind.

The laymen identified with this work testify to the great joy in witnessing for the Master, and we call upon all laymen in this Association to manifest an earnest and active interest in extending the Kingdom of Christ at home and abroad—Yea! it is the obligation, the duty of every professed Christian to serve and to serve faithfully in promoting the Kingdom and witnessing for Christ.

Respectfully submitted
G. H. BLACKMAN
S. W. WILLIAMS
WALTER CROWN
Wm. HAWKINS, Committee.

32. Sunday Schools being next on the program the report was read and discussed by W. B. Hicks. Report adopted.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS

In reporting on the work of the Sunday Schools in the Santa Fe River Association for the year ending. September 30th, 1927, your committee, after due investigation takes special care in informing you that they find the organized work in the best condition it has ever been known to be in the history of the Association. Most of the churches, especially in the towns, having long felt the need of class rooms for the different departments, in order that the schools might be properly graded and classified, have recently enlarged their buildings, providing the separating of classes for recitation, which is increasing the interest especially among the older people, thus adding noticeably to the attendance, as well as to the progress in Bible study.

The report of the schools to the Sunday School Convention held at Alachua, Fla. Tuesday, May 17th, 1927, showed a healthly state in most of the activities of the 14 schools reporting.

Baptisms for the year reached a total of 72 reported in the letters sent in. Offerings by the schools reporting, for Missions including special causes, amounted to \$392.08.

Only two schools in the Association reported as having reached the Standard of Excellence, viz.: Gainesville and Waldo. Others are striving hard to reach that goal. The general average attendance of all schools reporting to the convention was 65, this not counting Gainesville. whose report we failed to get. Only 3 schools reported as having Cradle Rolls with 45 babies enrolled in all.

Six schools reported as having pursued the course of study in the graded S. S. Manual, with 43 teachers receiving diplomas.

This does not include those having taken the course of studies in the Gainesville school.

While the time for the convention was limited to one day only, the interest was at high tide. All subjects were handled by workers well prepared for intelligent discussion, and many points of interest were brought out which will no doubt be greatly helpful to all who attended. Dr. William was present, and presented many interesting features of the work in which he stressed the various points of interest in the Standard of Excellence.

T. V. McCaul. D. D.. in a brief but pointed speech told the Convention of the value of the Worker's Council.

The Six Points Record System, Sunday School Census, Evangelism and Organized Class received due notice.

The balance of this report has to do with a request by the Baptist Sunday School Board of Nashville, Tenn. The Board is offering some suggestions for reports this year, and your committee, believing that the leaders are inspired by the Holy Spirit to

stress these important facts at this critical period in the church's history, we take pleasure in making these truths known in this, our report.

The Bible is a Missionary Book from cover to cover. The Old Testament was given to the Jews, but its message from Genesis to Malachi is a revelation of the will of God and the love of God for all nations. The twenty-seven books of the New Testament were, without exception, written for missionary purposes, and their message from Matthew to Revelation is that of the Good News of Salvation for all men everywhere in the saving name of Jesus.

The business of the Sunday School is to teach, interpret, apply, make effective, this missionary Book. It has been well said that the mission of the Sunday School is missions. No Sunday school is true to its mission unless it is a missionary Sunday School.

But we cannot understand and interpret the missionary message of the Bible all right if we do not know what God through His servants is doing in our day to win the lost nations to himself. It is sadly true that multitudes of our Sunday School teachers and pupils know next to nothing about our great missionary achievements, needs, opportunities, difficulties, in this the greatest day of wide-open doors throughout the world.

No wonder our Boards are in debt and our missionaries discouraged by our failing to support them adequately when so many of our people are uninformed of the facts.

We have a missionary magazine, which brings all of this information and inspiration month by month. It is beautifully printed, is full of pictures and stories from the missionaries, and gives a wealth of information and inspiration about the work at home and abroad. We refer to our great mission journal, Home and Foreign Fields, published by the Sunday School Board.

The Sunday School Board has now made it possible for this magazine to be ordered just as any other supplies, and paid for quarterly by the Sunday School. No greater investment for the Kingdom nor for the building of a great missionary Sunday School and church, could be made than for the Sunday School to provide enough copies of this magazine to be placed in the hands of its officers and teachers, and B. Y. P. U. leaders.

We your committee urgently recommend that every Sunday School in this Association immediately place its order with the Sunday School Board for a supply of Home and Foreign Fields to be sent for distribution monthly to teachers and officers, that our 26

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Sunday Schools may be kept in vital touch with the great missionary program of Southern Baptists, and that we may raise up a generation of church members who are genuinely missionary in spirit and in deed.

Respectfully submitted,

W. B. HICKS, Chairman MRS. R. J. OSTEEN B. C. FRYER, Committee.

33. The report on B. Y. P. U.'s was read by O. K. Armstrong, who spoke to the report. Report adopted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON B. Y. P. U. WORK

The work of the Baptist Young People's Union in churches of our Association has had satisfactory progress during the year just closed. We find that there are 21 Unions in 19 churches, and the approximate membership is about 600. Of this number 152 are systematic contributors to the work of the local churches, and 86 are daily Bible readers. Four of the B. Y. P. U.'s of this Association are standard, A-1. Six of the Unions have held study courses during the year.

An Associational B. Y. P. U. has been organized, with Rev. Thos. V. McCaul, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Gainesville, as president, and Mrs. L. C. Rivers of Lake Butler as secretary. This Associational group has pledged itself to develop young people's work among our churches, and is an organization to which any church desirous of aid in organizing or stimulating B. Y. P. U. work may look. The Associational B. Y. P. U. will hold quarterly meetings during the year at various points in the Association.

It is apparent that notwithstanding the progress made during the year, a large number of young people, members of our churches, are denied the privilege of Christian training which the B. Y. P. U. could and should give them. At least twice the number of young people should be in the Baptist Young People's Unions, for the total membership of the churches of this Association is approximately 2.900. Nearly half of these are children and young people to whom the B. Y. P. U. can mean much in aiding their growth in grace and Christian usefulness.

The committee desires to recommend specifically the following:

1. That the aims set forth in the report of the committee on B. Y. P. U. work for last year be carried out during the coming year, namely, the canvassing of every church to enlist B. Y. P. U. possibilities, the adoption of a general B. Y. P. U. organization in the churches under church control, and establishing classes for training leaders and officials for B. Y. P. U. Work.

2. That the Associational B. Y. P. U. be asked to assist pastors and local leaders in the organization of a B. Y. P. U. in every church where one does not now exist.

3. That each B. Y. P. U. be urged to hold at least one study course during the year, and that they emphasize the importance of the daily Bible reading and systematic giving.

Respectfully submitted.

COMMITTEE

34. Session adjourned with prayer by Dr. Stamps.

SECOND DAY, WEDNESDAY

Morning Session, 9:15 A. M.

- 35.. The devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. Paul King of Tampa.
- 36. The report on the Baptist Children's Home was called for and in the absence of the committee chairman the report was read by the clerk and adopted without discussion.

REPORT ON FLORIDA BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME ARCADIA, FLORIDA

To love and support orphan children, is given as one of the evidences of pure and undefiled religion in the first chapter of James, thus the support of the Florida Baptist Children's Home at Arcadia, in which there are at present one hundred and fifty-eight boys and girls is scriptural. All real needs necessary to make this a real home and provide our children with the necessities of life and opportunities for the development and preparation for usefulness, is a just and righteous obligation. This obligation rests upon every individual Baptist and every organization of Baptists entered into for the advancement of God's work in the State of Florida.

The Home is under the wise management of a Board of Trustees of fifteen efficient and capable men who are directing the policy of the work through the superintendent with the best interest of the children permitted to their care at heart. The health of the children continues good. The work for their education, improvement and development has been the best and what we have in the way buildings and equipment is being taken care of in a perfectly satisfactory way.

We have room for only two or three more children with our present equipment. A new building is under construction which will be used for school purposes when completed and will relieve the crowded condition in some departments of the work, but will not provide more dormitory room. Florida Baptists should not be satisfied with the number of children they now have in the

Home but should make provision for a larger family so that all of the appeals for a Home on the part of worthy applicants might be met and all children really needing the protection of our Home could be cared for.

The receipts during the past year have not been sufficient to meet the current needs of the Home. As a result we have fallen behind in our current support fund. The Unified Program from which it was planned to furnish the Home \$3,000.00 a month was behind with the Home the first of September \$12.815.18, and while independent contributions were allowed by our State Convention, they have been very small this year and not sufficient to supplement the receipts from the Unified Program so that all expenses might be met. Our Home was in debt the first of September \$8,000.00 in their current support fund and owing to the present financial conditions over the State and the impossibility of borrowing sufficient money to meet all bills the management has been placed in an embarrassing position.

The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees, knowing this condition, secured the consent of the Executive Committee of the Convention to put on a campaign in all of the churches in the State the last Sunday in September to raise \$8.000.00 for the relief of the Home. The result of this campaign is not known yet but it is to be hoped that the full amount or more might be realized.

Your Committee would urge on the part of all churches a larger financial support of the Home that the proper enlargement of the work might be made to meet all of the needs of our present work and all of the appeals from orphan children who need a home. We further recommend a prayerful interest and the more general giving of donations, clothing and food supplies to the Home.

Respectfully submitted, J. O. WHITCOMB.

- 37. A motion that the standing committees be composed of one person instead of three, as formerly, was made and carried.
- 38. The report on Obituaries was read by S. W. DuBose. Report adopted.

(This report appears on page 14 in the minutes under the heading, "Our Dead.")

39. Publications Report was read by H. C. Peeples. Discussion by H. C. Peeples, J. B. Weeb and E. A. McDowell. Report adopted.

REPORT ON PUBLICATION

We are living in a day when the printed pages come to us in all manner of forms and upon almost every kind of subjects.

Often we are given free of charge printed matter of various kinds: knowing these facts and how prone our children are to read everything exciting they can get their hands on, how very, very careful we should be as to what kind of literature comes into our homes to stay.

As Baptist people we should take pride in our Baptist publications and emphasize the use of these. We should not forget that the Greatest of all literary productions is the Bible. We should give it more faithful study because it shows plainly to all alike the way of life and makes Baptists out of those who read it with open unprejudiced minds.

We, your committee especially commend our Southern Batist denominational papers such as Home Field and Foreign Mission Journal. The Southern Baptist Convention series of the Sunday School, B. Y. P. U. and W. M. U. periodicals; in fact be 100 per cent loyal to our Southern Baptist work.

Now when we come to our Florida Baptist Witness our very own State paper, words fail us. How can we live religiously without it. It's like a letter from our best friends, Drs. Mitchell, Brittain, Willian and Mrs. Peelman weekly, and then from the others greats of the State and their work: O, how we enjoy reading the post card and telegraphic column and compare ourselves, that is our work. We consider the Witness an absolute necessity to the development of our Baptist work in Florida.

Then we do insist that our people read and study our associational and State Minutes for our own information that we may be able to tell others what our people are doing.

Respectfully submitted,

H. C. PEEPLES, Chairman.

40. Mrs. M. L. Triest read the report on W. M. U. Discussion followed by Mrs. Triest, Mrs. J. F. Moon and H. C. Peeples. Report adopted with the understanding that certain corrections were necessary.

REPORT OF W. M. U.

We are right proud of our work this year under our retiring able president. Mrs. Wesley, to whom we give all due thanks and wish to express our appreciation of her varied and valued services.

For the coming year, which is our Ruby Anniversary, since

just forty years ago our missionary society was organized, we plan greater things than we have ever done before. We plan 40 percent increase in organizations, both W. M. S. and Young People's. We plan 40 percent increase in membership. 40 percent increase in gifts or over, since we plan to give \$4,000,000 or the price of 4000 I carat rubies. Of course Florida and Santa Fe Association will meet their obligations.

To you of the Associational Churches, who have lent a helping hand to us during the year just past, we extend our heartfelt thanks. Truly you have helped, more than you will ever know, in the accomplishment of our tasks; but to you who do not realize what your co-operation means to us and to God's cause we extend our pleading hands. Our President, Mrs. J. F. Moon, of Gainesville, is one of the most sweetly, spiritually, consecrated women I have ever known. We thank the Master for the divine direction which placed her at the head of our organization for the coming BIG year. We know she will give her very life to His service for the year. But it is very hard for us to co-operate without your cordial assistance; therefore we ask the invitation to your churches to help as we may. We beg that you put the subject of missions often before your churches. Also the paying of God's tenth, and pray with us "Thy Kingdom Come.

. Respectfully submitted.

MRS. M. L. TRIEST

41. The report on Christian Education was read by H. E. Ridenour. Discussion by Professors Garwood and Ezell. G. Herndon spoke of the Baptist Junior College at Sebring. Report adopted.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Education has ever had an important place in the advancement of the Kingdom of Christ. In every instance of marked progress we find it has been characterized with a deep study of God's word and acceptance of its teaching. Therefore, we can truly say that a knowledge of God's word and obedience to the same is a sure precursor of Christian advancement.

While education ever had a prominent place in the Kingdom of God, it received a marked impetus in the establishment of the Kingdom of Christ by its founder. Jesus personally gave the best of his earthly labors to the instilling of the principles of his Kingdom into the lives and hearts of His disciples. We find that as the great founder of Christianity set forth the teachings of His Kingdom he did it without fear or favor. He did not compromise with other teachings or curry favor of other religions. We also learn that the immediate followers of Christ went about teaching the world and that great success attended their efforts.

While it may mean death to them they were loyal to the word and the Lord blessed their labors. The same old world needs the same old truths with the same old fearlessness of heart as has characterized the work of the teachers in Israel when God so signally blessed their efforts. Today we have as general channels for Christian Education our denominational schools, our denominational publications, our churches with their auxiliaries, and the sacred influence of the home.

We wish especially to commend the work being done by our great Christian Baptist College, Stetson University.

The words of Dr. Joseph Roemer of the State University. Gainesville. Florida, are worthy of note. While his work is in a state institution he has warm words of praise for the denominational college, and rejoices at the prospect of the establishment of some three denominational colleges in Florida in the next year or two. One of these Junior Colleges is being fostered by Florida Baptists, and should receive our heartiest support.

We have only words of praise and rejocing at the distinctively Christian work being done in our three great Florida Baptist Summer Assemblies. A veritable army of Baptist people, young and old, are being trained in these assemblies for all places of church endeavor. All honor to Dr. W. W. Willian and his staff of co-workers in the Lord.

Respectfully submitted.

H. E. RIDENOUR. GRADY HERNDON MRS. J. F. VAGHTS.

- 42. Dr. M. Jamerson and Rev. John Dicks and wife of Lake City, were recognized and welcomed at this time.
- 43. The report on Temperance was read by Dr. A. A. Murphree. After discussion by Dr. Murphree and E. B. Godwin the report was adopted.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE

"The Eighteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States was adopted by the necessary three-fourths of the states by, or before, January 16, 1919, and went into force a year from that date. It was the first amendment on which a time limit for its adoption was set. If the amendment had not passed within seven years after it was proposed by Congress, it would have been automatically nullified. But it was adopted within one year and twenty-nine days.

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It has been ratified by forty-six states—all but Rhode Island and Connecticut, which have only 1.8 per cent of our total population. The legislative vote for ratification was 3,782 against 1,035 in the lower houses of State Legislatures, or by a vote of nearly 4 to 1: and it was ratified by 1,310 against 237 in the State Senates, or a majority of more than 5 to 1. When the Eighteenth Amendment became effective 33 states had adopted state prohibition, nineteen having already put it into their constitutions. Ninety-five and four-tenths (95.4) per cent of the area of the United States and sixty-eight and three-tenths, (68.3) per cent of the population were living under prohibition laws.

The Amendment forbids the manufacture, sale, transportation, exportation, or importation of intoxicating liquor; and Congress, in the Volstead Act, has defined an intoxicating liquor to be one containing more than one-half of one per cent of alcohol by volume. This definition had been for many years in use by the United States Government for the enforcement of Internal Revenue Laws, and had been suggested by the liquor dealers themselves. Thirty-four states had adopted this standard.

Wine and beer are intoxicating, and can never be sold legally under the Eighteenth Amendment. What the advocates of the return to wine and beer want is intoxication and the saloons, and everybody knows it. Repeatedly, by great majorities, the people of various states have vetoed the proposition to amend the Volstead Act, so that wine and beer may be sold. Ohio defeated the proposition by 189,000 majority: Michigan by more than 200,000 majority. If any state should attempt to bring back beer and wine the Supreme Court, in harmony with its former decisions, would doubtless rule such a law unconstitutional."—Peloubet's Notes.

The fight is still going on. The enemy is astute and his methods insidious. Some of the states have repealed the law compelling the teachings of the effect of alcohol upon the human system. Others are acquiescing in a nullification of the law concerning such instruction. While still others are not co-operating with the United States government in the enforcement of the liquor laws. It is daily more apparent that the Christian churches face the imminence of a battle for preservation of the prohibition laws. The country is flooded with vicious attacks upon the law and many people are being deceived. A vast mass of propaganda against the law is being poured out through the press in many sections of the country. It is a propaganda of suggestion, which by imperceptible pulls and pushes, it is hoped to shake the opinions of our youth and of uninstructed men and women. The opponents of the law well know the impossibility of winning a majority of support necessary for a repeal, but they are attempting by their sneers and jeers and misrepresentations to induce the lightminded to violate the law and to create an unfavorable psychology towards its observance.

The only proper attitude of Christians towards the liquor traffic is one of unqualified opposition. "It is so pernicious in all of its bearings, so inimical to the interests of honest trade and so repugnant to the moral sense, so injurious to the homes, to the church and to the body politic, and so utterly antagonistic to all that is precious in life that the only proper attitude towards it is that of relentless hostility." Are we, as church members, meeting our obligation in this emergency? Our prohibition laws must be kept in our hearts or they will not be observed in our action. Enforcement will be difficult where homes make their own wine, ridicule prohibition officers and go as close to law infraction as they can and avoid fines and jail.

We recommend:

1. That our churches persistently advocate total abstinence and strict law observance in their respective communities.

2. That they urge active and faithful co-operation with officers in their efforts to enforce the prohibition laws of our state and country.

3. That our churches should take part in the organization, in their respective communities, of a committee of citizens, which will make co-operation with officers of the law its specific task.

4. That the membership of our churches be requested to oppose for public office any candidate whose record for law observance and law enfrocement does not stand out clear and above suspicion.

In the words of one of the prophets of old, "Be not afraid of the: remember the Lord who is great and terrible and fight for your brethren, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your houses."

Respectfully submitted,
A. A. MURPHREE
I. S. FUTCH
H. L. CHAPIN.

Committee on Temperance.

44. On motion of E. A. McDowell, Dr. Murphree was requested to furnish the Witness a copy of the report on Temperance for publication.

45. Recessed until 1:45 P. M., with prayer by Jno. Dicks.

Afternoon Session, 1:45 P. M.

46. Association was called to order by the Moderator and J. B. Webb of Hawthorne, led the devotional.

47. At this time a vocal duet was rendered by Mrs. C. A. Lyle and Miss Catherine McClellan of Gainesville.

48. W. C. Armstrong read and discussed the report on Home Missions. Report adopted.

ASSOCIATIONAL REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS

At the Southern Baptist Convention in Louisville. Ky., last May, the Home Mission Board presented its eighty-second annual report. The workers of the Board, independent and co-operative, during the year delivered 109,419 sermons and addresses; conducted 19,966 prayer meetings; made 171,239 religious visits; added to churches by baptism 20,686 members; total additions 36,233 won 840 volunteers for Christian Service; constituted 168 churches; built or improved 278 church houses; organized 406 Sunday Schools; distributed 11,847 Bibles and Testaments; circulated 1,651,204 pages of religious tracts.

This fine record is worthy of all praise and calls for grateful thanksgiving to God for His wonderful favor. But for the lack of means many new fields white unto harvest would have been entered.

The Convention in Louisville instructed the Board in laying out its work for the new year not to go beyond the receipts of last year in its appropriations. This called for drastic retrenchment at the annual meeting of the Board the first of June. In one department, that of Independent and Direct Missions, twenty-five missionaries were dropped and similar cuts were made in all departments. It is enough to stir stony hearts—these open doors in ripe fields and no laborers to enter in to reap the harvest. Let us pray the Lord of the harvest to send more laborers into His harvest through the liberality of our people.

The heavy debt on the Board must be lifted as soon as possible in order that this great task of saving our beloved Southland for Christ may be carried on in a way worthy of our people, so numerous and well able to accomplish it and for the glory of God.

The Board has a fresh supply of tracts and leaflets on all phases of its work, which can be had without charge on request of the Home Mission Board, 804 Wynne-Claughton Buildindg, Atlanta, Georgia.

Let us pray constantly for the Lord's blessings upon our Home Mission Board and its work. This Board has been the great unifying, co-ordinating agency of Southern Baptists, and probably more than any other agency has been the greatest force for unifying Southern Baptists.

W. C. ARMSTRONG, Chairman.
I. N. PARRISH E. B. GODWIN
J. B. WEBB, Committee.

49. The report on Tithing was read and discussed by Dr. J. W. Norman. Adopted.

THE TITHE IS MIGHTIER THAN THE DRIVE

(By J. W. Norman, Gainesville, Florida.)

In the Sunday School room of the Gainesville Baptist Church there hangs the slogan: "The Tithe is Mightier than the Drive." The purpose of the drive is the same as that of the tithe: namely, to raise funds with which to carry on the work of the Kingdom. In other respects, the drive is different from the tithe. The word drive, when it refers to the raising of funds, carries with it a connotation of extreme emergency. The situation is desperate; something must be done for immediate relief. The drive is hit upon as an expedient. Everyone rushes about madly. One community goes over the top, and this is heralded wildly. Another goes over the top, and finally, if the drive is a success, nearly all of the communities go over the top. There is then a let-up until the next crisis arises. The tithe, on the other hand, is the "ounce of prevention that is worth the pound of cure." The church that tithes never has a crisis, never has an emergency, never has the fluster that accompanies the drive. It always has sufficient funds with which to carry on its work. In truth, the tithe is a more effective method than the drive.

Does Tithing Pay? There are four possibilities in answering this question: (1) Tithing may pay both the church and the tither: (2) it may pay the church and not the tither: (3) it may pay the tither and not the church: (4) it may do neither.

Does it pay the church? If what is said in the introduction to this paper is true, then tithing certainly pays the church, because by this means the church is relieved of all worry in financial matters and can devote its entire energies to the spread of the Gospel and the extension of the Master's Kingdom—the supreme purposes for which the church was established. It certainly, therefore, pays the church.

Does it pay the tither? There are two considerations here. First, does it pay the tither in material prosperity, and second, does it pay him in spiritual prosperity? As to material prosperity, we will quote from "God's Tenth," by Rev. A. J. Gardon, D. D.:

"Temporal Prosperity Follows Consecrated Giving

"That faithful and proportionate giving will be rewarded with abundant temporal prosperity. This is a saying hard to be received, but it has the emphatic support of Scripture. 'Honor the Lord with thy substance and with the first fruits of all thine

increase: so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst with new wine.' (Prov. 3:9 10). This is but one specimen of many from the Old Testament. 'Give, and it shall be given unto you: good measure, pressed down and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom.' (Luke 6:38). We believe these words of our Lord? Can we question that they refer to abundant temporal returns in recompense for abundant giving?''

This pelief is based upon the following:

Bring ye the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house, and prove me now herewith, saith Jehovah of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." (Mal. 3:10).

In commenting on this verse, Dr. Gordon has the following to say:

"If any Christian who has never tried it will make the experiment, conscientiously following it through to the end, in prosperity and adversity, we predict for him two surprises: First, he will be astonished at the increased amount which he is enabled by this method to give to the Lord: and secondly, he will be astonished at the increased spiritual and temporal prosperity which the Lord will give to him. You will note that there is an instance where the Lord actually makes a challenge to His people, and sets up a test case, saying, 'Prove Me Now.' Taking this Scripture in connection with others, we find that there are two points to be demonstrated.'

In support of this belief, Dr. Gordon gives the following illustration:

"There is a Christian League in this country banded together to promote systematic giving. It brings every member into covenant to keep a strict account with the Lord, and to render Him one-tenth of the income. An annual report is made by each member, giving a statement of his business and spiritual prosperity. The secretary recently told us that the results have been surprising, even to the most sanguine advocates of the tithing system; that not only has the income of the missionary societies receiving the funds been greatly increased, but that, out of thousands entering into this league, all but two or three have reported greatly increased prosperity. Are there not some things to be proved which we have not yet dreamed of, either in our philosophy or our mathematics?"

There are many other Biblical statements that support the belief that tithing brings material prosperity.

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon the earth, where

moth and rust consume, and where thieves break through and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth consume, and where thieves do not break through nor steal." (Matt. 6:19 20.)

"Honor Jehovah with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase: so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy vats shall overflow with new wine." (Prov. 3:9 10.)

Does Tithing Pay Spiritually? There are those who deny that the tither may expect material prosperity, but admit that it brings spiritual prosperity. If better churches, better equipment, better paid and more contented pastors, a better trained corps of church workers mean spiritual prosperity, then we may expect a greater spiritual prosperity from tithing. One man writing under the pseudonym of "Layman" says that if he could choose only one time in life for tithing he would choose the age from fourteen to eighteen, because this is the age of greatest spiritual awakening. "Layman" began the study and practice of tithing in 1876 and gives an enthusiastic endorsement of tithing in every way. What ever else tithing may mean to one who practices it, it certainly means spiritual blessings.

How Should People Tithe?

- (1.) Through the church. "Bring ye the whole tithe into the storehouse."
 - (2.) Cheerfully. "God loveth a cheerful giver."
- (3.) Not for gain, for "It is more blessed to give than to receive." If there is one thing that differentiates the Christian religion from all others better than anything else, it is the doctrine that "It it more blessed to give than to receive." Perhaps it would not be wrong to say that this IS the Christian Religion.
- (4.) Liberally. "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, shall they give into your bosom. For what measure ye mete it shall be measured to you again." (Luke 6:38.)
- (5.) Systematically. This is a very important point. The business of the church has daily and weekly needs, as well as monthly and annual needs. Nothing causes respect for an organization so much as system. A church that is systematic in its business affairs holds the respect of everyone. "Upon the first day of the week let each one of you lay by him in store, as he may prosper, that so collections be made when I come." (I Cor. 16:2.)

Conditions in the Churches in this Association. Before preparing this paper a letter was written to the pastors of the various churches in the Association inquiring as to the conditions of tithing in their churches. Seven replies were received. All told, they reported approximately 158 tithers in all of the seven churches. This, of course, is only a small fraction of the total membership.

Pastor McCaul of the First Baptist Church of Gainesville, had the following to say: "My firm conviction is that tithing is the Bible plan of financing the Kingdom of God, and if our church members would practice it systematically, all of our financial problems would be solved.

Pastor Hicks of Waldo, says: "A strong effort has been made during the past year to enlist the entire membership in stewardship, and I believe there is a deep laid impression in the hearts of the people which will bear fruit in a great way in the near future."

Pastor Webb of Hawthorne, has this to say: "I am a firm believer in tithing, and practice it and preach on the subject, but you know how such things work with some people."

It seems from the information that I received from the questionnaire that very few church members are willing to accept the challenge, "Prove Me Now," of the Lord. It seems also from the illustration given by Dr. Gordon that this challenge can be safely accepted and that it will mean in the long run both material and spiritual prosperity.

50. The report on Spiritual Condition of churches was read by the Clerk and adopted without discussion.

REPORT ON SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF CHURCHES

The spiritual condition of the early churches was indicated by the increases daily, of its membership. "There were added to the church daily, such as should be saved."

Judging from the ingatherings during the past year in most of our churches, a very healthy spiritual condition is indicated.

With but two or three exceptions the churches have pastors, who are using their best efforts to promote the spiritual welfare of the membership. All departments of the work is better organized, and the work that they are doing denotes a spirit of increased activity over previous years.

Your committee finds no dissention or strife among the churches or the membership of any of them, but on the contrary, there seems to be a fine feeling of good fellowship and good will which is as it should be according to the Gospel of Christ.

Committee.

J. M. SMITH, Chairman

51. The committee on Nominations failed to bring in a report but the Clerk was instructed to obtain and have same printed. Report is as follows:

NOMINATIONS

Your Committee on Nominations submits the following report:

For Representative to State Board of Missions—T. V. McCaul. For Delegates to State Convention:

H. C. Peeples Rev. R. D. Bevis G. W. Parker Rev. J. N. Hayman Dr. C. L. Pridgen J. Mason Tison Dr. J. W. Norman Mrs. M. L. Triest Mrs. J. F. Vaghts E. B. Perry D. E. Jones E. E. Stokes Rev. H. L. Chapin B. W. Cato Rev. H. E. Ridenour Mrs. W. J. Evans J. T. Price Dr. Maines B. A. Barrington Mrs. G. W. McCall Mrs. E. J. Myers Rev. J. B. Webb Mrs. F. J. Hammond Walter Crown Rev. T. D. Denman Rev. J. B. Hicks

For Southern Baptist Convention—Rev. B. D. Bevis and Rev. Grady Herndon.

ANGELLO D. WILLIAMS, Chairman

- 52. On motion of T. V. McCaul an Associational budget of ten thousand seventeen dollars and fifty five cents (\$10,-017.55) was adopted.
- 53. J. B. Webb read the report of the committee on the Digest of Church Letters. Report adopted. (This report appears in summary table.)
- 54. The Committee on Resolutions failed to bring in a report, but the following were offered and adopted.

Resolution Number One, offered by J. B. Webb—Resolved that we express our appreciation of the splendid hospitality shown the Association this year by the pastor and members of the Alachua church.

Number Two offered by H. E. Ridenour—Resolved, that the chair of this convention appoint a committee of one to supervise the organization in each community of this Association, a Prohibition Enforcement Committee to carry out the recommendation of the report on Temperance adopted by this convention, and we recommend for this position, Bro. Wm. Hawkins, of Gainesville.

We further recommend that this convention approve the erection of a suitable monument to the memory of the departed and beloved B. R. Moseley and that E. B. Perry be appointed to the fulfillment of this resolution.

Resolution Number Three was offered by T. V. McCaul.

Resolved that the Executive Committee be authorized to seek the co-operation of one or more adjoining Associations in securing the services of an experienced worker or Associational Missionary and that the Executive Committee have power to act.

55. The following financial statement was presented by the Treasurer E. E. Stokes:

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1926 Received from W. M. U Received from the churches at the 1927 Cost of printing 1927 Minutes	session 116.65	\$108.05
Total receipts	\$175.49 \$108.00	\$108.00
Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1927	\$ 67.44	
•	(Signed) E. E. STOR	KES

- 56. The Moderator asked for invitations to entertain the Association in 1928, and the High Springs church responded. On motion of L. Price the Association accepted the invitation and will meet with the High Springs Church on Tuesday after the fourth Sunday in October, 1928, at 10 o'clock A. M.
- 57. On motion of W. B. Hicks, G. Herndon was elected as president of the annua! Sunday School Convention.
- 58. On request M. Jamerson of Lake City told of the organization and work of the Executive Committee of the Beulah Association.
- 59. On motion of H. C. Peeples this Association will be divided into districts and a member of the Executive Committee appointed for each district to supervise all work in that

district coming under the jurisdiction of the Executive Committee.

60. On motion the body adjourned. Dr. Jamerson led the closing prayer.

> E. R. SIMMONS, Moderator E. B. PERRY, Clerk.

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MINUTES OF W. M. U. OF SANTA FE RIVER

ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting of the W. M. U. of Santa Fe River Association was held at Waldo Baptist Church, October 11, 1927.

Meeting was called to order by President, Mrs. I. W. Wesley. Opened by Miss Lucile Brown.

Devotional conducted by Mrs. W. N. Fielding, Alachua who chose as her subject "The Bible."

Prayer by Reverend Webb of Hawthorne.

Welcome address was made by Mrs. L. B. Alexander of Waldo.

Response was given by Mrs. H. F. Preston, Melrose. President's message on "Co-operation" was enjoyed. Solo by Mrs. W. E. Kite, accompanied by Mrs. T. J. DeSha. Address by Miss Lucile Brown, Field Work on "Service" was an inspiration.

Report of Societies was given from blackboard by Secretary and Messengers were recognized as their report was read.

Associational officers reports were given and accepted. President appointed the following committee to report after noon:

Nominating Committee-Mrs. J. E. Maines, Mrs. S. Coward, Mrs. C. A. Williams.

Time and Place-Mrs. C. F. Stevens, Mrs. J. F. Hammond. Resolutions-Mrs. W. B. Alexander, Mrs. O. F. Cummings.

Obituary-Mrs. E. R. Simmons, Mrs. W. N. Fielding. Announcements.

Dismissed for lunch with prayer by Reverend Bevis.

Afternoon

Afternoon session opened by singing "From Greenland's Icy Mountains."

Devotional led by Mrs. Cummings of Archer.

President called for reports from committees.

1. Resolutions read by Mrs. W. B. Alexander of Hampton, as follows:

SANTA FE RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT Most sincerely do we thank the President and her committees

and Waldo church for their lovely entertainment. We are appreciative of the splendid program rendered, also the musical numbers so sweetly given, we would express our appreciation for the cordial welcome and hospitality extended to this body.

MRS. O. F. CUMMINGS MRS. W. B. ALEXANDER

Committee, Resolutions of Respect.

2. Report on Obituaries was read by Mrs. W. N. Fielding, Alachua.

REPORT ON OBITUARIES

We pause in our deliberations to do honor to the memory of our members who have passed to their reward since last we met.

It is with great sorrow that we have to report the loss of the following members:

Mrs. Mola Thigpen_____ Mrs. J. W. Wise_____

Waldo Hawthorne Mrs. Sherouse Gainesville Mrs. Bevil

Mrs. D. C. Witt ___ Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord from henceforth:

Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their works do follow them." Revelations 14:13.

Respectfully submitted.

MRS. E. R. SIMMONS MRS. W. N. FIELDING

Committee on Obituary

Waldo

3. Time and place: Mrs. C. F. Stevens reported next annual meeting to be held with Hawthorne church, second Tuesday in October, 1928.

On motion, reports were adopted as read.

Nominating Committee, Mrs. J. E. Maines recommended the following officers for the ensuing year.

President-Mrs. J. F. Moon, Gainesville.

Vice President-Mrs. E. R. Simmons, Gainesville.

Secretary and Treasurer-Mrs. L. B. Alexander, Waldo. Superintendent District No. 1-A. C. Strickland, Lake

Butler.

Superintendent District No. 2-J. B. Webb, Hawthorne. Superintendent District No. 3-G. W. McCall, High Springs.

Young People's Leader—Miss Ruth Roberts, Worthington Springs.

Stewardship Chairman—Mrs. M. L. Triest, Waldo.

Mission Study Librarian-J. T. Vaghts, Gainesville.

Publicity Chairman-Miss Wilma Alexander, Hampton.

Personal Service-Mrs. H. F. Preston, Melrose.

Margaret Fund-Mrs. A. A. Durden, Hampton.

Training School Chairman—E. A. McDowell, Lake Butler.

Two members at large—Mrs. F. N. Tyson, Hawthorn and Mrs. J. H. Martin, Island Grove.

On motion this report was accepted and all officers were elected.

Special Music—Instrumental Solo by Mrs. T. J. DeSha, Waldo.

Reading-Baptist Hospital, Mrs. C. A. Strickland, Waldo.

Play—"Possibilities", put on by Hawthorne W. M. S., was enjoyed by all.

Collection taken for Association expense amounting to \$12.31.

Special song by Mrs. W. E. Kite, Mrs. A. G. McDonald and Mrs. T. J. DeSha.

Talk by Reverend Beyis of Archer.

Meeting closed with prayer by Mrs. I. W. Wesley.

MRS. I. W. WESLEY, President MRS. L. B. ALEXANDER, Secretary.

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Report of W. M. U., of Santa Fe River Association for Year Ending September 30, 1927

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Mrs. C. F. Stevens, Alachua Mrs. O. F. Cummings, Archer Mrs. W. B. Alexander, Hampton Mrs. F. J. Hammond, Hawthorne Mrs. S. Coward, Melrose Mrs. S. Coward, Melrose Mrs. J. H. Scarborough, Lake Butler Mrs. J. H. Scarborough, Lake Butler Mrs. L. E. Alexander, Waldo Mrs. L. E. MeCall, High Springs Mrs. L. E. MeCall, High Springs	Name and Addresses of Presidents

HISTORICAL TABLE COVERING A PERIOD OF SIX YEARS

W. B. Hicks W. G. Doyle F. W. Bugg W. B. Hicks E. D. Bevis E. A. McDowell

E. R. Simmons
E. R. Simmons
W. B. Hicks
E. B. Perry
E. B. Perry
E. B. Perry

Orange Heights, Fla. Dr. A. A. Murphree Island Grove, Fla. Dr. A. A. Murphree Lacrosse, Fla. O. T. Moncrief Galnesville, Fla. O. T. Moncrief Lake Butler, Fla. D. R. Simmons Alachua, Fla. D. R. Simmons

Date

Clerk

Telegraph Print Starke, Fla.