

MINUTES
OF THE
FIFTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
WEST FLORIDA
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH THE
Bascom Baptist Church

Jackson Co., Fla.

October 19, 20, and 21, 1900

OFFICERS

Moderator, W. A. BRYAN

Clerk, W. M. FARRIOR

Treasurer, M. L. DEKLE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

W. B. GAINER E. N. DEKLE M. F. BOONE
M. L. DEKLE E. Z. TAYLOR

Next session meets with the Bethel Baptist Church, Holmes
County, Florida, twelve miles northwest of
Chipley, on Friday before the
third Sunday in October
1901

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MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

WEST FLORIDA

Baptist Association

HELD WITH

BASCOM BAPTIST CHURCH,

Jackson Co., Florida,

October 19, 20, and 21, 1900.

OFFICERS:

Moderator, W. A. BRYAN, Chipley, Fla.
Clerk, W. M. FARRIOR, Chipley, Fla.
Treasurer, M. L. DEKLE, Marianna, Fla.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

W. B. GAINER, E. N. DEKLE, M. F. BOONE, M. L. DEKLE,
E. Z. TAYLOR.

Next session meets with the Bethel Baptist Church, Holmes County, Florida, 12 miles north-west of Chipley, on Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1901.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

- 1 Call for petitionary letters.
- 2 Inviting visiting brethren to seats.
- 3 Call for correspondents.
- 4 Appointment of Committees on Preaching, Nominations, Aged Ministers, Publications, Deceased Ministers, Sunday-Schools, Missions, Documents, Temperance, Finance, Education, Ministers' Assurance Association, Woman's Work.
- 5 Arrange for meeting and adjourning.
- 6 Appoint correspondents.
- 7 Elect Executive Committee and Treasurer.
- 8 Elect Delegates to State Convention.
- 9 Call for Reports of Committees: 1, Executive Committee; 2, Missions; 3, Finance; 4, Temperance; 5, Sunday-Schools; 6, Education.
- 10 Call for report of Missionaries.
- 11 Call for report of Treasurer.
- 12 Call for report on Documents.
- 13 Call for report on Publication.
- 14 Call for report on Deceased Ministers.
- 15 Call for report on Nominations.
- 16 Call for report on Ministerial Education.
- 17 Call for report on Ministers' Assurance Association.
- 18 Call for report on Woman's Work.
- 19 Call for report on Aged Ministers.
- 20 Appoint General Meeting.
- 21 Appoint time and place for next meeting.
- 22 Read and adopt minutes.
- 23 Adjournment.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

Z. W. PETTUS, Clarkson.	J. H. CRUTCHFIELD, Graceville.
W. P. RICHARDSON, Chipley.	WILLIAM SAPP, Campbellton.
ROBT. HARRIS, Ft. Washington.	T. N. KNOWLES, St. Andrews.
J. W. JOHNSON, Graceville.	W. A. BRYAN, Chipley.
GEO. CROFTON, Caryville.	T. S. SCOTT, Bonifay.
S. B. WILLIFORD, Campbellton.	BENJ. URTON, Wilmore, Ky.
C. S. LOCK, Kynesville.	E. D. NELSON, Orange Hill.
J. E. NIXON, Nixon.	J. F. RICHARDSON, Econfina.
R. C. B. LAWRENCE, Dellwood.	JNO. LONG, Campbellton.
A. T. POSEY, Wausau.	S. W. LOCK, Bonifay.
W. H. MCINTOSH, Graceville.	S. B. ROGERS, Marianna.
S. L. LOUDERMILK, Nixon.	R. W. LEWIS, Chipley.
J. A. CLARK, Apalachicola.	H. A. GUINN, St. Andrews.
M. F. BURK, Sneads.	

LICENSED MINISTERS.

R. E. Jordan, Bonifay.	Ell English, Graceville.
H. K. Shirley, Kynesville.	J. P. O'Connor, Wright.
J. J. E. W. Taylor, Allie.	R. C. Helms, Granger, Ala.
J. M. Land, Kynesville.	J. L. Alridge, Wright.

Bascom, Fla., Oct. 19, 1900.

The West Florida Baptist Association met this day in the Bascom Baptist Church. Divine services began by singing, "I Want to be a Worker for the Lord." Rev. W. A. Bryan leading in prayer.

The Introductory sermon was preached by Rev. Benj. Urton; Text: Acts 16:9, "Come over into Macedonia and help us." Rev. S. B. Rogers closed with prayer. It was announced that dinner was on the grounds, and everybody was invited to partake.

The delegates were requested by the Moderator to assemble in the church at 1:30 P. M. for business. Adjourned.

AFTERNOON.

Promptly at 1:30 P. M. the messengers re-assembled. Divine exercises were conducted by the Moderator. "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" was sung. Psalm 103 was read, and prayer was offered by Rev. J. A. Clark.

At the request of the Moderator, Brethren M. L. Dekle and M. F. Boone collected the letters and read them to the body. The following churches and delegates were enrolled:

Apalachicola—Rev. J. A. Clark.
Bethlehem—W. A. Swearingin, Elbert Whitehurst, J. M. Folds, L. A. Rawls.
Bascom—E. B. Smith, A. N. Bevis, H. C. Neel.
Bethel—E. English.
Bethany—Jno. B. O'Connor, J. A. Ethrige, W. Y. Tyler.
Bonifay—A. M. Mathews, Henry Britt.
Campbellton—J. W. Carter, Walter C. Carter.
Caryville—Not represented.
Chipley—W. M. Farrior, E. A. McColskey.
(romanton ---Not represented.
Cotondale " "
Damascus—Henry Crutchfield, N. J. Phillips, W. I. Parker.
Ebenezer—O. L. Pippins, Mrs. Virginia Pippins.
Econfina—By letter.
Ephesus—W. A. Christmas, T. J. Pilcher, J. O. Bruner.
Friendship—A. J. Stevens, J. M. Stevens, W. A. Avery.
E. V. McDaniel, N. L. Hart.
Graceville—Meredith Crutchfield.
Grassy Point—By letter.
Greenwood—T. J. Boone, J. H. Stephens, M. F. Boone.
Hickory Level—R. J. Foxworth.
Love Dale—Samuel Hand, E. Z. Hatton, John Weston.

Marianna—M. L. Dekle, W. J. Wynn, B. T. Morgan, J. Y. Folsom.

Mt. Ida—Not represented.

Mt. Olive—By letter.

Macedonia—John Nelson, Henry Scott.

Mt. Zion—By letter.

New Salem—M. J. Coley.

New Orange—Joel Sapp.

Orange Hill—C. S. Mercer, J. A. Vickers.

Oaky Ridge—E. D. Nelson, W. T. Brock, B. V. Lee.

Pilgrim's Rest—Jno. A. Shouppe, Robt. Lambert.

Piney Grove—J. D. Tharp.

Pleasant Hill—J. E. Nixon.

St. Andrews—Rev. S. L. Loudermilk.

Sneads—W. B. Bryan, D. R. Lockler, Rev. M. F. Burk.

Unity—Not represented.

Vernon—

Wewathichka—N. L. Connell, Mrs. Eliza Connell.

White Pond—J. H. Hovey, J. S. Stephens.

West Bay—By letter.

Upon motion the messengers enrolled were made the body of the Association. The Moderator appointed the following as a Preaching Committee: W. B. Bryan, A. M. Mathews, and delegates of Bascom Baptist church.

The Moderator announced that the body was now ready for organization.

Upon motion the messengers went into the election of officers by ballot.

After counting the votes Rev. W. A. Bryan was declared Moderator and W. M. Farrior, Clerk. After fitting remarks by the Moderator for continued confidence of the brethren, he announced that the body was ready for business.

The committee on Preaching announced that Rev. J. A. Clark preach at 7 P. M. Upon motion the body adjourned until 7 P. M.

NIGHT SESSION.

At the appointed hour divine exercises began by singing, "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing." After reading John 3rd Chapter, Brother Helms offered prayer. The text was John 3:16. "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, etc." After the sermon Rev. S. L. Loudermilk concluded with prayer.

While singing "Am I a Soldier of the Cross" the congregation gave Brother Clark a welcome hand-shaking.

The Moderator then announced the committees to report during the session

Upon motion the body adjourned to meet at 9 P. M.

MORNING SESSION.

Promptly at the appointed hour the messengers re-assembled for business. Divine exercises were conducted by Rev. W. H. McIntosh.

After singing, "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord," Rev. John Stewart led the body in prayer.

Call for correspondents.

Rocky Creek—Jno. McCranie, J. P. Coonrod, Jno. Stewart.

Columbia—Jno. J. White

Fort Worth, Texas—J. T. Mann.

Call for petitionary letters—Bonifay, Millville and North Bay presented letters. They were received and the Moderator extended a welcome to the delegates.

Upon motion the body would proceed with the business deferring preaching at this hour.

Resolved, That this body adjourn at 12 o'clock and meet at 1:00 P. M. and adjourn at will.

Resolved, That any member of this body visiting Associations with which it corresponds, to be a correspondent to the same.

The report on Deceased Ministers was read by Rev. Benj. Urton. After remarks by J. T. Mann, he was asked to offer a prayer of praise to God for the preservation of the lives of the ministers.

REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS.

The Lord has been gracious in sparing the lives of all our ministers during the past year. While some of us were near unto death, yet the Lord spared us and restored us to health. So let us be more zealous and do more for God and His cause for his gracious blessings toward us.

ROBERT LAMBERT.
BENJ. URTON,
D. R. LOCKLER,
M. J. COLEY,
C. S. MERCER.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be elected immediately after the report on missions.

Resolved, That the report on Nominations be set for 1:30 P. M.

Resolved, That the report on Sunday-schools be special object for 9 A. M. tomorrow.

The report on Ministers' Assurance Association read, and after remarks by Brethren Benj. Urton, J. T. Mann, S. B. Rogers and A. M. Mathews, it was adopted.

REPORT.

We, your committee, submit the following: Although unable to fully understand the workings of the Association, we believe it to be a great help to those who become members; and we urge our ministers to take advantage of this assurance since so many of us are giving our time to the service of the Lord, preaching for the churches and receiving so little that we have nothing to leave our wives and children. Therefore, we earnestly call upon our brethren to take advantage of this in order that when we are called from time to eternity we may leave for our families that much needed help. May the Lord bless this work.

J. D. COURTNEY,
J. Y. FOLSOM,
HENRY SCOTT,
T. H. HOVEY.

The report on Temperance was read by Rev. J. A. Clark, and after remarks by Brethren J. A. Clark, J. T. Mann, Jno. Stuart, W. A. Bryan, S. L. Loudermilk, Benj. Urton, it was adopted.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Intemperance is a great curse, if not the greatest of the age. Alcohol is a standing menace to the health, happiness and salvation of our boys, young men and young women. It is the wrecker of many happy homes in this as well as other lands. The thousands of saloon-keepers in our land are a greater source of danger than the army of an enemy within our borders. The reign of King Alcohol is worse than imperialism. The money spent for distilled and malt liquors would feed and clothe the world. The lives taken directly and indirectly by this same monster are more than those lost in war. The souls that people hell through and by this same demon, eternity alone will reveal. The hungry mouths, the hungry hearts, the hungry souls that alcohol is still starving will never be known. In view of these appalling results, we stand unalterably opposed to the traffic in spiritous and malt liquors, and propose to keep up the fight against it until it is banished, not only from the army, but from the counties, the state and the nation as well. We heartily endorse and approve the former acts and recommendations of this body looking to the abolition of the whiskey traffic, and trust that our churches and members will not fail to observe these suggestions.

W. A. SWEARINGIN,
ELBERT WHITEHURST,
Jno. B. O'CONNOR,
J. A. ETHRIGE,
J. A. CLARK.

The report on Aged Ministers was read by E. D. Nelson, and after remarks by E. D. Nelson, W. B. Bryan, S. B. Rogers, J. C. Porter, a cash collection was taken for them — \$16.80 — to be sent to Bro. Chaudoin.

REPORT ON AGED MINISTERS.

We, your committee on Aged Ministers, find upon investigation the names of R. C. B. Lawrence, T. S. Scott, M. F. Burke and — Osborn as needing our brotherly assistance. We recommend that this body do all it can for these, who have labored so faithfully in the Master's cause, knowing that it is both a duty and a privilege to assist them in their declining years.

M. CRUTCHFIELD,
J. W. JOHNSON,
JOHN WESTON,
E. D. NELSON,
BEN LEE.

Upon motion the body adjourned for dinner. Everybody was invited to partake.

EVENING SESSION.

Promptly at 1:30 P. M. the messengers re-assembled. After singing, prayer was offered by J. E. Nixon.

The report on Missions was read by Rev. S. L. Loudermilk, and after remarks by S. L. Loudermilk, M. F. Burke, J. C. Porter, S. B. Rogers, J. T. Mann, it was adopted.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

"GO."

This is the command of Him "Who loved us and gave His life for us." — of Him whom we love. The command is imperative. There are no modifications as to distance or danger or other circumstances. "Go into ALL the world," into Asia Minor, where they will stone you and cast you out for dead; into Philippi where they will beat you and cast you into prison; into Rome where they will kill you. When they have killed you the work must not, will not cease. Continue to "go"—into Europe and the dark ages where they will kill you by the millions; into the light, liberty and opportunity of the nineteenth century; into India, into Africa, into America—the "light of liberty"—the asylum from persecution, the land of opportunity and obligations—our land, our blessings, our day, our responsibilities; into China—yes, into superstition, hatred, persecution and death; into all the world, into every age "Till He Come." If the church at Antioch, where they heard of Paul being beat to death at Pisidia, had said we will not send out more missionaries, nor give more money for missions, would we have ever heard or received the gospel? Or if the persecutions of the dark ages had stopped the mission work, would we have

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ever enjoyed the blessings we now have?

But Paul and the churches continued the mission work until death—so must we. Jesus says, "If ye love me keep my commandments." We seriously doubt the love of a professed Christian who does not desire to obey Christ in all things whatsoever he commands; and who, when informed, will not give during each year for missions—all missions. But our people need information, and it is especially the duty of the preachers—our religious teachers—to rightfully inform themselves, and then rightfully instruct the people.

The mission work is carried on now by the Baptists just like it was by the Apostolic churches—a strict duplicate. First, we find local missions—the church at Jerusalem doing missionary work in the surrounding localities; like Greenwood church this year and also like Wewahatchka church this year. This is the limited hobby of the "gospel missionaries." Second, the churches co-operating or associating themselves together to do mission work in the surrounding country. This is now represented by Associational Missions, such as this body is doing every year. Third, we find that as the missionary work broadened and extended, that there were larger and broader combinations of churches to maintain the work, and that an Executive Committee or Board was selected by the churches, and this board was charged with the duty of collecting and receiving and disbursing money in the prosecution of mission work in foreign fields. See 2 Cor. 8th Chapter.

The churches nominated or selected the missionaries, and they were employed and directed by the board. This is precisely the way our State, Home and Foreign mission work is done now.

Our Associational work seems to be prosperous and successful, although the Association gave but little the past year, and much that the missionaries have done has been without pay. Thus the committee has been hampered.

The state work has been more prosperous and successful this year than for several years. We note the State Board is helping to sustain Brother J. A. Clark.

Home Missions is not the mission work here at home in the Association as some people think, but it is the work of the Home Board of the Southern Baptist Convention in the destitute places and cities of the South and Cuba, among the negroes, Indians, foreigners and Cubans. All money for Home Missions should be sent by postoffice money order to F. H. Kerfoot, Atlanta, Ga.

The Foreign Mission work has had very great difficulties and dangers in China, and yet they are having great success in many places and respects.

Brethren, we will never do our duty until every church and every member gives liberally for all the departments of mission work. No member of a Baptist church should rest for a moment until he has prayed and worked for the means to give something for Foreign, then for Home, then for State missions during the year; and then send up a liberal contribution

for Associational Missions with your messengers.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. LOUDERMILK,
O. L. PIPPIN,
W. A. CHRISTMAS,
W. C. CARTER,
ELI ENGLISH,
Committee.

Report on Nomination read and adopted.

REPORT ON NOMINATION.

We, your committee, nominate Bro. S. L. Loudermilk to preach the Introductory sermon at the next Association, Bro. W. A. Bryan, alternate; Bro. J. A. Clark to preach the Missionary sermon, Bro. S. B. Rogers, alternate; Bro. M. L. Dekle delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention, Bro. M. F. Boone, alternate. Delegates to the Florida Baptist Convention: Brethren S. B. Rogers, W. B. Bryan, E. N. Dekle, W. A. Bryan, J. A. Clark, S. L. Loudermilk, J. H. Stephens, A. M. Mathews, W. C. Locke, W. H. McIntosh. Executive Committee: M. F. Boone, W. B. Gainer, E. Z. Taylor, E. N. Dekle, M. L. Dekle.

We suggest that any brother visiting the Florida Baptist Convention be recognized as a delegate in the absence of any other appointed from this body.

R. J. FOXWORTH.

Received report of Executive Committee and Associational Missionaries.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Your committee held its first business meeting and entered upon its duties immediately after the adjournment of your last session held one year ago with the church at Cottondale, as directed by that body.

We deliberated fully upon the subject of Missions, as it related to your Association, and after considering the very small amount of money at our disposal we employed Bro. S. L. Loudermilk at ten dollars per month for the last seven months of the Associational year, and afterwards employed Bro. H. A. Guinn at seven dollars per month for the last five months of the Associational year. They, as missionaries, will render to your body a full report of their work on the field, and the Treasurer will also render to your body a detailed financial statement, showing all receipts and expenditures. Your committee desires to make the following recommendations: 1st, that each and every church in the bounds of this Association adopt some method whereby to raise and forward to the Executive Committee funds for Associational Missions at regular intervals. 2nd, that your newly elected committee meet at once, organize and proceed to devise ways and means for work on the mission field.

M. F. BOONE, Chairman.

REPORT OF MISSIONARIES--1900.

No. 1.

The Executive Committee was not able to employ a missionary for the first four and a half months of the Associational year. This fact threatened seriously to hurt or break the Mission work and interest. It so happened that I was located within the most needy part of our mission field, and that the churches I was serving as pastor gave me sufficient help to enable me to do some mission work, and I kept up the work at the following places: Sinclair, Millville, Cromaton, Britton's still and Buckhorn until the first of March without any help from the Committee, which I present as a gift to the Association.

The Executive Committee then employed me to do all the Mission work that I could for seven months, beginning the first of March at \$10.00 per month. Under the direction of the Committee I preached regularly at the above named places and considerably at West Bay, Grassy Point, North Bay, Bayhead, The Deadening, Honeyville, Dalkeith and Saunder's still (13), besides preaching to six churches as pastor. Preached at mission points, 69 sermons. Bro. J. P. Graham also preached nine sermons. Received by baptism, 11; by letter, 7. Constituted a church at Millville with 16 members—now has 32. Millville is a self-sustaining church and does not ask the Association for any help; so is Lovedale, and Bonifay, both of which I reported last year, and they have built good houses of worship. I assisted Bro. H. A. Guinn in holding two protracted meetings—one each at West Bay and Grassy Point, and helping to constitute a church at North Bay.

Bro. Graham received from Millville church \$12.00. Wawahitchka offers to maintain the mission work at Dalkeith and Buckhorn for the coming year. Britton, West Bay, North Bay, Sinclair and The Deadening are promising points and still need help.

Truly, etc..

S. L. LOUDERMILK.

No. 2.

I was employed by the Executive Committee the first of last May to labor for the last six months of the Associational year. Services began May 1st, 1900. Weeks of labor actually performed, 23; number of places preached at, 16; average number of sermons per month, 16; total number sermons, 106; churches preached to, 4; viz: St. Andrews, West Bay, Cromaton and Grassy Point; also preached at Millville and Tompkins. Number miles traveled, 484; protracted meetings held, 3; re-

ceived by letter, 15; by baptism, 16; by restoration, 4; churches organized, 2; church houses built, 1; Sunday-schools organized, 1. The following churches still need the help of the Association: West Bay and North Bay.

Collections on the field: West Bay, \$11.45; Grassy Point, \$9.75; Cromaton, \$12.00; Millville, \$6.25; St. Andrews, \$2.97. Received for holding meetings for Bro. Loudermilk as follows: Econfin, \$2.65; Lovedale, \$5.25; Pleasant Hill, \$5.80. Received from the board, \$35.00; total received, \$91.12. All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. A. GUINN.

St. Andrews Bay, Fla.

The report on Finance read by M. F. Boone and adopted. (See Table elsewhere)

The Preaching Committee announced that Rev. Geo. W. McRae preach at 6:30 P. M. Adjourned until 6:30 P. M.

NIGHT SESSION.

After singing and reading the Psalm 91, Bro. Porter led in prayer. Bro. McRae then preached an expository sermon from 1 Pet. 1. S. B. Rogers concluded with prayer.

The report on Publications was then called for. After discussion by S. B. Rogers, J. C. Porter, J. A. Clark, it was adopted as amended.

REPORT ON PUBLICATIONS.

We, your committee, after considering the subject of Publications, recommend the following: "Florida Baptist Witness," Ocala, Fla.; "BAPTIST HERALD," Milligan, Fla.; "The Foreign Mission Journal," Richmond, Va.; "The Home Field," Atlanta, Ga. Also the publications of the American Baptist Publication Society and the Southern Baptist Convention for Sunday-schools.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. CRUTCHFIELD,
N. J. PHILLIPS,
JOHN NELSON,
J. M. STEPHENS,
J. T. SAPP.

Committee.

The report on Documents was read by J. E. Nixon and adopted as amended. (See next page.)

Resolved, That the Association meet with Bethel church at its next session.

Adjourned until 9 A. M. tomorrow.

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TREASURER'S REPORT.

WEST FLORIDA ASSOCIATION.

IN ACCOUNT WITH M. L. DEKLE, TREAS.

1899		CREDITS		
Oct.	14	By amount from last report		
		" Association.		20
		DEBITS.		15
	21	To paid Wm. M. Farrior, clerk.	20 00	243
		" sent Bro. Chaudoin, Foreign Missions.	11 40	
		" Home	28 00	
		" State	5 80	
		" Aged Ministers	6 00	
		" Ministerial Education.	1 00	
		" paid printing minutes, Farrior.	23 00	
Apr.	12	" order S. L. Loudermilk	21 00	
	28	" paid church at Bonifay.	25 00	
May.	21	" S. L. Loudermilk.	10 00	
		" H. A. Guinn.	15 00	
July.	4	" S. L. Loudermilk.	10 00	
		" H. A. Guinn.	10 00	
Aug.	9	" S. L. Loudermilk.	10 00	
		" H. A. Guinn.	5 00	
Sept.	5	" S. L. Loudermilk.	10 00	
	27	" S. L. Loudermilk.	10 00	
		" H. A. Guinn.	5 00	
		To cash on hand,	18 15	
			243 35	243 35

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

We, your Committee, find three new churches, Millville, Bonifay and North Bay, asking admission into this Association. Three churches, Bethel, Ephesus and Greenwood, asking for the next session of the Association to be held with them. Lovedale church sends a standing invitation for the Association at any time. Wewahitchka church has established two mission stations, at Buckhorn and Dalkeith.

The following questions were asked: By Mt. Olive,—"Shall a member under the watchcare of the church be ordained to the office of Deacon?" By Damascus,—What shall be done with a member who refuses to partake of the Lord's Supper?" Respectfully submitted,

M. F. BURKE.
J. A. SHOUPPE,
W. T. BROCK,
J. E. NIXON,
J. D. THARPE.

SUNDAY MORNING.

Promptly at 9 A. M. the body re-assembled. Divine exercises conducted by the Moderator. A lesson from Psalm 56 was read, Bro. Cornell lead in prayer.

Resolved, That the centennial movement be a special order for 10:30 A. M.

The report on Sunday-schools was read by S. B. Rogers, and after remarks by Brethren J. A. Clark, Benj. Urton, R. C. Helms, A. M. Mathews, W. B. Bryan, W. M. Farrior and Geo. W. McRae, it was adopted.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Perhaps of all modern ideas for fostering and advancing the Master's work on earth among men, none has been greater than that of the Sunday-school. This is the great nursery of the church. From it is gathered the active material of to-day out of which the strong churches are being built. We may gather members from the grown up untaught, but experience and observation has taught us they never live long enough to make us active members, but the living vital strength of the churches has been transplanted from the Sunday-school, and that the active church workers of to-day are enthusiastic Sunday-school supporters, and constitute the liberal givers of the age. We are sorry there doesn't appear that activity among our churches that should be, and which we confidently hoped for. Last year 34 churches reported 19 Sunday-schools with 639 students. Now only 13 Sunday-schools are reported to this body, though they show much life—675 students, 87 officers and teachers, contributing for all purposes \$232.71. These facts, brethren, are very gratifying to those interested in this great work; but this Association should report a Sunday-school for each church and not less than 3,000 students. How to stimulate this body to that activity we don't feel called upon to dictate, but would recommend, 1st, that each pastor use their best efforts to establish and maintain an active Sunday-school in each church, where they are pastors respectively. 2nd, that each school established be distinctly a Baptist Sunday-school. 3rd, that each representative to this body and all Christian workers making a part of this Association exercise their good judgment and Christian privileges in aiding in this great work of saving the Baptist children of this country for Baptist and Christ.

Respectfully submitted,

S. B. ROGERS,
A. J. STEVENS,
J. O. BRUNER,
T. J. PITCHER,
N. L. HART,

Committee.

The report on Woman's Work was read by Sister E. Connell and adopted, after remarks by N. L. Connell, S. L. Loudermilk, J. T. Clark, A. M. Mathews and W. H. McIntosh.

REPORT ON WOMAN'S WORK.

Year by year the wisdom of this organization of our Southern women is made clearer and clearer. Never was more disinterested, self-sacrificing work performed. Steadily have they increased each year in efficiency as well as in actual amount of contributions collected, nor has their limit of

ability to help yet been reached. Not for America for America's sake alone, but for the world and for Christ's sake, is the keynote which inspires us to the work. God grant the time may soon come when the women of every church in the West Florida Association will be engaged in this work.

MRS. ELIZA CONNELL,
MRS. VIRGINIA PIPPIN, •
E. V. MCDANIEL,
N. L. CONNELL,
W. A. AVERY.

The report on Education was read by Prof. W. J. Wynn and adopted, after remarks by Brethren Wynn, J. C. Porter, S. L. Loudermilk, as amended.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

It is the opinion of your committee that no question appeals more forcibly to the members of our Association than this subject of education. In it we all have a common interest; for upon the care and zeal with which we foster the education of the coming generation, will depend the stability and prosperity, not only of our Baptist denomination, but of this entire commonwealth.

Realizing that the education of the youth is the only foundation for a strong and just government, this State has followed the example of the older States of our union in establishing a system of public schools that puts education in the easy reach of every citizen within her borders. This system, like all others, has its defects, but no one can fail to see the rapid decrease in the per cent. of illiterate boys and girls during the past decade.

We, as Baptists, feel the greatest interest in the schools of our State and county. We know that religious and moral development go hand in hand with intellectual education in the progress of advancement and higher culture. We urge our brethren as Christian citizens to correct the defects of our school system by guarding with greater vigilance our educational interests. We should expect and demand purity of character and a faithful discharge of duty of all school officers, both county and state. This and even more should we demand of our teachers who are to play so important a part in moulding the minds and characters of our children. And to make our schools what they should be we beg every Baptist to give to his school his hearty support and co-operation, that the system which is now in its infancy may soon reach that glorious state of perfection when it shall shed a still brighter light throughout our land and shall lift our people to a higher plane of scientific thought and Christian life.

As an institution of higher education, Stetson University, at DeLand, Fla., is one in which every Baptist may justly feel a great pride. This school has been heavily endowed by Mr. John B. Stetson and others, and is thoroughly equipped to do most efficient work along the lines of higher education. To those seeking a college education for their children we can

not too heartily recommend the above mentioned university.

We have long realized that ministerial education is one of the most urgent needs of our denomination. And we recommend the Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky., as an important factor in supplying this need. It is with pleasure that we point to the "Ministers' and Deacons' Institute," which was organized last year at Damascus church for the better training and development of our ministers and deacons. This is a step in the right direction and should receive the sympathy and support of every Baptist. It is the earnest prayer of this committee that the time may soon come when there can not be found within the ministerial ranks one who is not thoroughly prepared both mentally and spiritually for the grand and noble work he has chosen,

Respectfully submitted,

W. J. WYNN,
J. M. STEPHENS,
W. J. PARKER,
W. Y. TYLER,
E. Z. HATTON,

The Moderator appointed Brethren M. F. Boone and Benj. Urton to collect funds for our brother, H. K. Shirley, to buy books. The amount of \$7.75 was collected and the same forwarded to him.

Resolved, That the clerk be paid \$15.00 for his services, that he have 800 copies of the minutes printed and draw on the Treasurer for money to pay for same.

Resolved, That this body extend to the good people of Bascom and vicinity for their abundant hospitality to us during our stay among them our sincere thanks; that we heartily appreciate the kindness of our Methodist brethren for the use of their house.

Adjourned for preaching by Rev. J. C. Porter in the Baptist church. Text, Mark 6: "Feeding the five thousand with five loaves and two fishes.

Rev. S. L. Loudermilk in the M. E. church. Text, John 1:29: "Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world." After preaching a collection of \$54.81 was taken up for missions.

While a hymn was being sung the parting hand was given. The closing prayer was made by Rev. S. B. Rogers.

The Moderator announced that dinner was on the ground and everybody invited to partake.

The body then adjourned to meet with Bethel Baptist church, Friday, before the third Sunday in October, 1901.

REV. W. A. BRYAN, Moderator.

W. M. FARRIOR, Clerk.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	Pastors.	Clerks.	Post-offices.	Baptized.					Male members.	Female members.	Total membership.	Date of Organization.
				Received	Restored	Dismissed	Erased	Excluded.				
				by letter		by letter						
Apalachicola	J. A. Clark	T. Jordan	Apalachicola	5	12	1	1	1	12	34	51	1898
Bethlehem	E. D. Nelson	W. A. Spearwater	Greenwood	5	2	2	1	1	15	21	36	1898
Bethlehem	W. P. Richardson	W. A. Hardy	Hardy	5	2	2	1	1	15	21	36	1898
Bassom	Jno. J. White	H. C. Neel	Bassom	5	2	2	1	1	15	21	36	1898
Bethany	W. H. McIntosh	W. V. Tyler	Wright	5	2	2	1	1	15	21	36	1898
Bonifay	S. F. Scott	H. J. Britt	Bonifay	5	19	3	1	1	27	18	45	1900
Campbellton	Benj. T. Tron	R. A. Benfroee	Campbellton	2	3	3	1	1	9	6	15	1900
Chilkey	S. B. Rogers	V. E. Coleman	Chilkey	2	3	3	1	1	9	6	15	1900
Cottondale	W. P. Richardson	A. J. Critchfield	Greenwood	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
Dannacus	J. D. Courtney	J. M. Simmons	Vermon	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
Edenizer	S. L. Loudermilk	W. R. Galtner	Edenizer	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
Epiphania	J. W. Johnson	J. O. Bruner	Epiphania	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
Friendship	D. E. Burdshaw	N. Barefoot	Campbellton	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
Greenwood	W. H. McIntosh	M. E. Boone	Bolton	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
Hickory Level	H. A. Nelson	R. J. Foxworth	Greenwood	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
Loveale	S. L. Loudermilk	J. H. Anderson	Anderson	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
Marianna	S. B. Rogers	J. C. Davis	Marianna	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
Mount Olive	C. S. Lock	R. E. Jordan	Parham	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
New Salem	S. W. Lock	R. E. Jordan	Chilkey	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
*Mt. Ida	J. M. Land	M. J. Coley	Bonifay	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
Milville	S. L. Loudermilk	Thos. Branch	Kynesville	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
New Orange	J. D. Courtney	W. T. Horne	Harrison	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
North Bay	H. A. Guinn	J. E. Kiser	Orange Hill	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
Orange Hill	W. H. McIntosh	T. L. Daniel	Tompkins	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
Oaky Ridge	J. D. Courtney	W. H. Slay	Wausau	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
Pilgrims Rest	M. P. Gilmore	C. C. Shouppe	Orange Hill	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
Piney Grove	Jno. Walkup	J. B. Shores	Cottondale	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
Pleasant Hill	S. L. Loudermilk	D. W. Nixon	Cottondale	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
St. Andrews	S. L. Loudermilk	B. V. Brock	Nixon	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
Sheds	Geo. W. McKee	Nix Carpenter	St. Andrews	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
*Unity				5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
Vermon	S. L. Loudermilk	T. R. Hollinger	Wewahitchka	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
Wewahitchka	E. D. Nelson	Burris Kent	Chilkey	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
White Pond	H. A. Guinn	J. A. Hurbison	West Bay	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896
West Bay				5	4	3	1	1	15	15	30	1896

*No Reports. Last year's totals.

FINANCIAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	Associational Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Home Missions.	State Missions.	Minutes.	Associational Purposes.	Ministerial Education.	Aged Ministers.	Total sent now to Association.	Sent during year.	Value of Church Property.	Home Charity.	Sunday-School Expenditures.	Church expenditures incl'd g'p't's a'l'y	Sent by S. S. now for Missions.
Apalachicola	\$ 5.00				50	\$ 1.00			\$ 1.00	\$30.08	\$ 800		\$45.00	\$200.00	
Bethlehem	5.73				1.50	3.50			3.50	475			6.75	50.00	
Bethlehem					1.50	29.00			29.00	400				795.25	
Bassom					1.50	8.10			8.10	750				100.00	
Bethany					1.50	12.00			12.00	1500				400.00	
Bonifay					1.50	28.75			28.75	81.53					
Campbellton					1.50	50			50	4.35					
Chilkey					1.50	50			50	1.35					
Cottondale					1.50	1.00			1.00	15.00					
Dannacus					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
Edenizer					1.50	1.00			1.00	700					
Epiphania					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
Friendship					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
Greenwood					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
Grassy Point					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
Hickory Level					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
Loveale					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
Marianna					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
Marianna					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
Mt. Ida					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
Mt. Olive					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
New Orange					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
New Salem					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
Orange Hill					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
Oaky Ridge					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
Pilgrims Rest					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
Piney Grove					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
Pleasant Hill					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
St. Andrews					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
Sheds					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
Wewahitchka					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
White Pond					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
West Bay					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					
North Bay					1.50	1.00			1.00	300					

TABLE OF SUNDAY-SCHOOL STATISTICS.

Churches.	Superintendents.	Post offices.	Officers.	Pupils.	Expenses.	Missions.
Apalachicola.	Orin Harding.	Apalachicola.	9	100	\$ 25.00	20.00
Bethlehem.	S. W. Land.	Kynessville.	8	42	6.75	
Bonifay.	A. M. Mathews.	Bonifay.	4	60		
Campbellton.	J. W. White.	Campbellton.	5	14		
Chipley.	W. C. Lockett.	Chipley.	8	120	21.71	23.30
Danascus.	J. H. Crutchfield.	Graceville.	8	40	3.00	
Econfin.	W. B. Gainer.	Econfin.	4	31		
Friendship.	J. M. Stevens.	Belton.	5	30	4.50	
Graceville.	G. B. Yawn.	Graceville.	7	60	6.00	
Grassy Point.	C. T. Anderson.	Anderson.	6	35	3.00	
Lovedale.	Wilton Lawrence.	Dellwood.	7	60	22.20	29.90
Marianna.	M. L. Dekle.	Marianna.	4	32	8.50	
Millville.	W. I. Singletary.	Millville.	4	41	2.00	
Pleasant Hill.	D. W. Nixon.	Nixon.	8	35	18.00	
St. Andrews.	B. V. Brock.	St. Andrews.	6	50	6.00	1.00
Sneads.	W. B. Bryan.	Sneads.	5	25		
West Bay.	J. T. Thompson.	West Bay.	8	35	17.01	.50
Wewahitchka.	J. A. Connell.	Wewahitchka.	5	28	12.00	2.50
Greenwood.	M. F. Boone.	Greenwood.	6	31	6.00	
Cottondale.	J. L. Massey.	Cottondale.	117	869	161.67	77.20

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in one true and living God, and that there is a Trinity of Persons in the Godhead—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; and yet there are not three Gods, but one God.—Mark xii. 32; Mat. xvi. 17; xviii. 19; 1 Tim. i. 2, 5; Exod. xx. 1, 3; John i. 1, 4; v. 23; x. 30.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament are the word of God and that they are the only rules of faith and practice.—2 Tim. iii. 16, 17; 2 Pet. i. 21; 2 Sam. xxiii. 2; Rev. xxii. 18, 19.

3. We believe in the fall of Adam, the imputation of his sin to his posterity; in the corruption of human nature, and the impotency of man to recover himself by his own free will and ability.—Isa. i. 5, 6; Psa. xiv. 1, 3; Rom. v. 12; John vi. 44; 1 Cor. xv. 20; Job xiv. 57; Eph. ii. 8, 10.

4. We believe in the everlasting love of God to his people, and the eternal election of a definite number of the human race to grace and glory, and that there was a covenant of grace of redemption made between the Father and the Son before the world began, in which their salvation is secure, and they in particular are redeemed.—Rev. xxi. 3; John xv. 16, 17; Isa. xi. 8, 9; Eph. i. 4, 5, 11; Acts. xiii. 48; 2 Thess. ii. 13; 1 Pet. i. 2; Rom. viii. 29, 30; Rom. ix. 11, 12, 23; xi. 4, 7; 2 Tim. ii. 9.

5. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the righteousness of Christ imputed to them. Rom. 3:21, v. 19. Ps. 14. John x.; 9, 15. Rom. v.; 1. 10.

6. We believe that all those who are chosen of God in Christ will be effectually called, regenerated, sanctified and supported by the spirit and power of God, so that they shall persevere in grace—not one of them be finally lost. John 10:30, 6:29 Phil. 1:6, I. Peter 1:3-9. Heb. 6:16-20. John 17:2, 3. 2 Tim. 1:9, 10. Tit. 4:4, 7. Eph. 2:4, 5. Rom. 3:28-31.

7. We believe that good works are the fruits of faith—that they follow after justification, and they only justify us to the sight of men, and are only evidences of our Christianity. Eph. 2:10. James 2:13, 3:13. 1 Peter 2:3, 5. Matt. 5:16.

8. We believe there will be a resurrection of the dead, and a general judgment, and that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal. Mark. 12:24-27. 2 Cor. 5:10. 2 Cor. 15:12-29. Acts 17:31. Matt. 25:46. John 5:20-29. 2 Thes. 1:7-10.

9. We believe that the Church of Christ is a visible congregation of baptized believers who have gained Christian fellowship with each other, and that immersion is the only Scriptural mode of baptism. Rom. 6.

10. We believe that Jesus Christ is the great head of His Church, and only lawgiver, and that the government is with the body, and is the privilege of each individual; and that the discipline of the Church is intended for the reclamation of those Christians who may be disorderly, either in principle or practice, and must be faithfully kept up for God's glory and the peace and unity of the church.

11. We believe that water baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances

of the Lord, and are to be continued until His second coming:

12. We believe that none but those regularly baptized, and who are in fellowship with the Church, have a right to commune at the Lord's table.

RULES OF DECORUM.

ARTICLE 1. These members who are regularly chosen by the churches, ministers and pastors in our union shall compose this Association.

ART. 2. The members so chosen shall produce letters from their respective churches, certifying their appointment, together with their number in fellowship, those baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and dead since the last Association; also a statement of the amount of funds sent up by the delegates, and for what purpose, and any other contributions made during the year. Said letters as presented shall be filed with the Clerk of the Association, and their subject matter referred to proper committees for consideration and report.

ART. 3. The members thus chosen and convened shall be denominated The West Florida Baptist Association.

ART. 5. The Association will have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor by which she can infringe upon any of the internal rights of the churches.

ART. 6. If newly constituted churches, or others, desire to be admitted into the union, they shall petition by letters and delegates; and if found upon examination to be orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the Association, and such reception shall be manifested by the Moderator giving to the delegates the right hand of fellowship.

ART. 7. Each church in this Association shall be entitled to two delegates, and when her number of members shall reach twenty-five members she shall be entitled to an additional delegate.

ART. 8. Every query sent to the Association by any of the churches in this union shall be read and put to a vote by the Moderator whether it shall be discussed, and if there is a majority for discussion it shall be taken up and considered; if not, it shall be withdrawn. Provided, always, that those be considered that affect the union of the church.

ART. 9. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the observation of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it. The last motion shall be first in order.

ART. 10. Every person who speaks in debate shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator and shall not be interrupted while speaking, except he depart from the subject.

ART. 11. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject without the permission of the Association.

ART. 12. There shall be no talking or whispering in time of public speech, nor shall any reflection be cast upon the speaker.

ART. 13. No member shall absent himself from the Association without first obtaining permission from the body, or Moderator, and the Moderator shall only have power to act while the body is not in session. The Asso-

ciation is not considered closed until after the farewell sermon is preached.

ART. 14. If any member shall break the rules of the Constitution he shall be immediately reproved by the Moderator.

ART. 15. It is the business of the Association, first, to provide for the general union of the churches; second, to keep up a correspondence with Associations of the same faith and order, that the chain of communication may be preserved among the churches; third, to give churches the best advice in matters of difficulty, and if the communion between any of the sister churches be broken, to inquire into the cause of the breach and use the best means to remove the difficulty; but if the breach cannot be made up to withdraw from any church whom they look upon as unsound in principle or disorderly in practice, until she be reclaimed; fourth, to admit any of the brethren of the ministry as assistant, if they deem it to be necessary; fifth, to appoint a Clerk to keep the record of every meeting of the Association; sixth, to have the minutes read and corrected, if need be, before the Association rises, and have them printed if they think proper; seventh, to amend this plan of government at any time when the majority of the Association may deem it necessary; eighth, to adjourn at any time or place considered most proper.

HISTORICAL TABLE.

Sessions.	Year.	MODERATOR.	CLERK.	CHURCH.	Number	Missions.
1	1847			Campbellton.....	....	....
2	1848			Union Academy....	....	....
3	1849	D. P. Everett.....	E. Minching.....	Campbellton.....	464	134 93
4	1850	J. Mercer.....	"	Bethlehem.....	400	119 15
5	1851	"	"	"	....	....
6	1852	J. Mercer.....	J. H. Wombwell....	Sardis.....	467	147 30
7	1853	"	W. D. Horne.....	Bethlehem.....	538	84 50
8	1854	"	J. Dremmond.....	Union Academy....	593	104 40
9	1855	"	Stephen Rowe.....	Orange Hill.....	597	72 40
10	1856	"	"	Sardis.....	600	143 40
11	1857	"	"	Bethlehem.....	423	158 00
12	1858	"	"	Greenwood.....	545	106 90
13	1859	"	"	Grange Church....	679	300 90
14	1860	W. B. Lacy.....	"	Campbellton.....	774	200 00
15	1861	"	"	"	....	....
16	1862	"	"	"	....	....
17	1863	W. B. Lacy.....	Stephen Rowe.....	Campbellton.....	870	655 99
18	1864	"	"	Greenwood.....	952	500 00
19	1865	"	"	Friendship.....	1082	346 00
20	1866	"	"	Campbellton.....	1049	128 00
21	1867	W. H. Howell.....	"	Greenwood.....	953	184 00
22	1868	"	"	Antioch.....	953	....
23	1869	W. H. Banks.....	"	Friendship.....	935	....
24	1870	"	W. F. Jordan.....	Smyrna.....	654	127 00
25	1871	T. E. Langley.....	"	Campbellton.....	739	154 00
26	1872	"	W. J. Daniel.....	Greenwood.....	720	152 00
27	1873	"	"	Cedar Pond.....	629	183 00
28	1874	"	"	Friendship.....	698	204 00
29	1875	"	"	Campbellton.....	833	166 00
30	1876	"	"	Rocky Grove.....	663	177 00
31	1877	"	"	Greenwood.....	889	166 00
32	1878	"	"	Cedar Pond.....	771	111 00
33	1879	"	"	Damascus.....	792	82 00
34	1880	"	A. P. Ashurst.....	Campbellton.....	946	105 00
35	1881	"	W. J. Daniel.....	Friendship.....	823	125 00
36	1882	"	W. M. Farrior.....	Ebenezer.....	918	98 00
37	1883	"	"	Bethlehem.....	982	982 00
38	1884	"	"	Bellwood.....	1005	206 00
39	1885	W. J. Daniel.....	"	Rocky Grove.....	1018	231 15
40	1886	T. E. Langley.....	"	Greenwood.....	1006	263 80
41	1887	"	"	Magnolia.....	1129	213 00
42	1888	"	"	Chipley.....	1377	206 00
43	1889	"	"	Damascus.....	1052	257 00
44	1890	D. H. Horne.....	"	Ephesus.....	1141	293 15
45	1891	W. A. Bryan.....	"	Hickory Level....	1159	680 90
46	1892	"	"	Piney Grove.....	950	147 40
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48	1894	"	"	Ebenezer.....	1294	401 10
49	1895	J. P. Smith.....	"	Campbellton.....	1306	108 08
50	1896	W. A. Bryan.....	John M. Stephens	Friendship.....	1408	207 62
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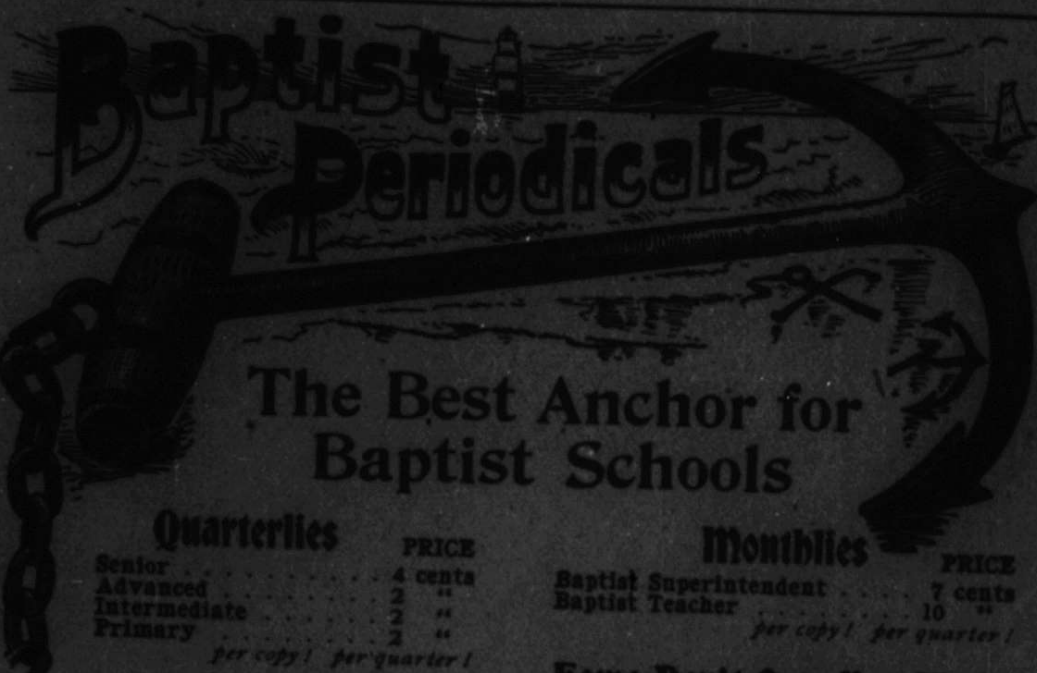
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