

Forty
**TWENTY--FIFTH ANNUAL
SESSION**

OF THE

**Suwannee Missionary Baptist
Association**

HELD WITH

TIGER LAKE BAPTIST CHURCH

OCT 11, 12, 13, A. D. 1916

NEXT SESSION OF THE ASSOCIATION WILL CONVENE WITH ANTI-
LOCH BAPTIST CHURCH. THURSDAY BEFORE THIRD SUNDAY
IN OCTOBER, 1917.

A. J. YORK, MODERATOR

R. J. ALLEN, CLERK

D. J. MILLS, TREASURER

SUWANNEE CITIZEN PRINT

SAMPSON LIBRARY
JOHN B. STETSON UNIVERSITY
DeLAND FLORIDA

SUWANNEE MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

Article 1. The organization shall be known as the Suwannee Missionary Baptist Association.

Article 2. The specific object of the association shall be:

- a. To unite the influence and pious intelligence of the Baptists within it and thereby facilitate their union and co-operation.
- b. To form and encourage plans for the revival of experimental and practical religion and the spread of the gospel within the bounds of this association and elsewhere.
- c. To aid weak churches within our bounds.
- d. To encourage and aid the education of our pious young men who may be called by the spirit and approved by their churches for the work of the gospel ministry.
- e. To promote pious and useful education among all Baptists.
- f. To care for the needy orphans among us.
- g. To aid in any work whose object is the saving and uplifting of humanity.

Article 3. This association shall be composed of messengers from its several churches on the following basis: Three messengers from each church and one additional messenger for every twenty-five members or major part thereof in excess of fifty members, and one messenger each from the auxiliary bodies of the church.

Article 4. The messengers shall present to the association letters certifying their appointment and giving also the statistics of the church and auxiliaries for the current year.

Article 5. Whenever the messengers appointed by the church shall fail to attend or the number is not equal to the representation allowed by the constitution, the association, at its discretion, may accord seats to another member present from said church.

Article 6. The officers of this association shall be a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be elected annually by ballot and by a majority vote, but the association may by a unanimous vote instruct someone to cast the ballot for the body as a whole.

Article 7. The duties of the Moderator shall be to preside, keep order and appoint all committees not otherwise provided for.

The Clerk shall keep the records of the association, supervise the printing and distribution of the minutes and keep a regular file of the published proceedings of the association and deliver same to his successor in office.

The Treasurer shall keep a correct account of all the money received and disbursed by him, paying out the same only on the order of the association or the executive committee and report in full the transactions of his office at each annual session of the association.

Article 8. The business of the association shall be transacted adinterim by an executive committee consisting of seven members to be recommended by the committee on nominations and approved by the body. The Moderator and Clerk of the association to be members exofficio of the committee.

Article 9. The annual meeting of this association shall begin on Thursday before the third Sunday in October, and requesting all churches who hold regular services on the third Sunday and Saturday before to give their pastor their October meeting in each year in order that the pastor may attend the association and remain there through Sunday and by appointment there shall be preached an introductory sermon on the first day.

Article 10. Newly organized churches may be admitted into the association on petitionary letters presented during session of the association; presented by their messengers, accompanied by a certificate of the presbytery as to their orthodoxy and proper organization.

Article 11. This association shall be advisory only in matters of controversy between members of any of the churches or between different churches, but reserves to itself the right to withdraw fellowship from any church which it deems disorderly or heterodox and concedes to its constituent churches the right to sever their connection with this body whenever they shall apply for letters of dismissal from the association.

Article 12. The Moderator shall, at each session, appoint a chairman of committees on the following subjects, to-wit: State Missions, Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Education, Orphanage, Woman's Work, Sunday School and B. Y. P. U., Periodicals, Obituaries, Present Day Evils, Temperance and such other questions as the association may deem proper.

Article 13. All messengers, officers and members of the executive committee shall be members of some of the churches composing this body.

Article 14. When any church neglects to send up statistics to the annual meeting the Clerk shall insert the last reported total membership in the column containing said statistics.

RULES OF DECORUM

1. The first meeting of each annual session of the association the Moderator of the previous session shall call the messengers to order and after singing and prayer he shall declare the association ready for business, the first item being the election of a Moderator and Clerk after the messengers have enrolled their names. In case of the absence of the Moderator, the messengers present shall elect a Moderator pro-tem who shall proceed as aforesaid.

2. Each meeting shall be opened and closed with singing and prayer.

3. The Moderator shall preserve order and decide all questions in debate subject to an appeal to the body, and when speaking on any subject shall call some member to the chair and in case of a tie may give the deciding vote.

4. All committees shall be appointed by the Moderator, subject to the vote of the body.

5. The Clerk shall keep a complete record of the proceedings of each meeting and in the absence of the Moderator shall call the association to order and preside until a Moderator pro-tem is elected.

6. No business shall be transacted without a quorum, which shall consist of a majority of the registered members.

7. All members wishing to speak shall rise and respectfully address the Moderator, confine themselves strictly to the subject and no unkind allusions shall be made while speaking.

8. No motion shall be debated until seconded, nor voted upon until stated by the Moderator or read by the Clerk.

9. When a question is under debate no motion shall be received except to adjourn, lay on table, amend, indefinitely postpone, refer to a committee or otherwise call previous question.

10. Any member in the majority may move a reconsideration at any time during the session.

11. The rules of Decorum may be amended at any annual session of the association by a majority vote of all the members present.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

"Purpose to set in order a declaration of those things most surely believed among us."—Luke 1:1.

Article 1. We believe in one only true and living God, and that there are three persons in the God head, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.—1 Kings 8:60. Isaiah 44:6. Mat. 28:19. John 10:30, 14:16.

Article 2. We believe that the scriptures of the old and new testament are the word of God and the only rule of faith and prac-

tice. Deut. 4:2, 12:32. Matt. 5:9. Luke 11:28. John 14:15. II Tim., 2:16. I Peter 4:11. I Thess., 2:13. Rev. 22:19.

Article 3. We believe in the doctrine of original sin. Gen. 3:5. Psa. 51:5. I Kings 8:46. Rom. 3:9 Gal. 3:22.

Article 4. We believe in the total depravity of the human heart and that the natural state of man is such that he cannot recover himself from his fallen and ruined condition. Psa. 51:1. Jer. 13:23. Rom. 8:7-8. John 3:3. Micah. 6:7. Gal. 3:10-11.

Article 5. We believe in election according to the foreknowledge of God through sanctification of the spirit and belief of the truth. Deut. 7:6. Acts 22:14, 13:46. Romans 8:29-30. Eph. 1:4. Matt. 24:31. John 10:16, 6:37. Rom. 9:15. II Tim. 1:9. Titus 1:1-2.

Article 6. We believe that the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared unto all men and that nothing prevents the salvation of the vilest sinner but his own voluntary rejection of that grace. Titus 2:11. John 3:16-18.

Article 7. We believe that sinners are justified only by faith in Jesus Christ. Romans 5:1. Isaiah 53:11. Acts 13:38-39. Romans 10:4, 3:25-26. I Cor. 1:30. Gal. 3:21-24, 2:16.

Article 8. We believe that the gospel of Christ is the means of divine appointment to bring sinners to repentance and faith in Jesus Christ and therefore should be preached to all men everywhere. Mat. 28:19-20. Acts 4:12. Romans 1:16. Acts 16:31.

Article 9. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and never finally fall away. John 10:27-29, 17:9-12, 11:25-26. Romans 8:31-39.

Article 10. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus imposed upon his church. Matt. 28:19-20. Luke 22:19. That nothing is baptism but immersion. Matt 3:16. That believers are the only proper subjects and that the only proper administrators of baptism are ministers who have been regularly ordained by a church of faith and order, by the imposition of hands of a presbytery. Matt. 3:13. I Cor. 11:2. I Tim. 4:14. Titus 1:5. And that none but baptised believers are entitled to partake of the Lord's Supper. Acts 2:41-42. Matt 26:20-30. Mark 14:17-26. Luke 22:14-18.

Article 11. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment. Acts 17:31. I Cor. 15:3-4, 20:25. John 5:28-29. Heb. 9:27. II Peter 3:7.

Article 12. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting and the joy of the righteous will be eternal. Matt. 25:26. II Thess. 1:9. Mark 10:30.

MINUTES

Wednesday, October 11, 1916.

The Suwannee Missionary Baptist Association met with Tiger Lake Baptist Church in its forty-fifth annual session.

Moderator A. J. York reading the 8th Psalm and the choir singing hymn No. 9. Bro. Padgett led in prayer.

Moderator calling for letters, the following churches came forward with letters: Tiger Lake, Philadelphia, Live Oak, Antioch, Friendship, Mount Olive, O'Brien, Pleasant Hill, Union, Evergreen and Macedonia. The Clerk reported quorum present, next business was to organize. Bro. A. J. York was elected Moderator and R. Jas. Allen was elected Clerk and D. J. Mills, Treasurer.

Bro. Jordan was appointed to preach the introductory sermon. His text was found in the 25th chapter of Matthew. After services a motion was made to adjourn two hours for dinner which was served on the grounds.

Afternoon. Return to the church at two o'clock. Open by singing. Prayer by Bro. B. A. Geiger. Letter call for Jasper, New Hope, Hopewell, Jennings, Bellville, Beulah, Clayland responded. Visitors invited to seats with us, Bros. H. A. Jordan and R. H. Carver from Little River association responded. Chairman of the Executive Committee read his report to the Missionary Baptist Association as follows:

Dear Brothers: Your Executive Committee to whom you committed the interest of the Association has been as faithful, watching every interest for the best, as we have understood our duty. We have, after a long and tedious effort, secured the services of Bro. Gus Padgett as Missionary in and for the Association at a salary of \$50.00 per month. Of this amount the State Board has agreed to pay \$25.00 per month, leaving \$25.00 to be paid by the Association. Bro. Padgett's report will show what has been paid in on the field, also the results of his work.

We only regret that we can not keep him another year, and we could if the pastors and churches would uphold our hands and provide the money. Just think of eighteen hundred Baptists in as prosperous a country as ours, and can't average 50 cents per member, which would secure Bro. Padgett for all his time. Then we, your committee, say awake, sleepy Zions, and put on thy strength. The work is the Lord's, and we claim to be His. See the many "isms" that are making inroads in our midst and trying to lead our children astray. Is

it not time that we arise and give the true light of the gospel of the Son of God to our children and our neighbor's children? May the power of the Holy Spirit of God awake, Bro. Pastors and Laymen, is our prayer.

Respectfully, A. J. York, Chairman.

The Missionary made his report as follows:

Brethren: As Associational Missionary I went on the field the first week in August and have continued to the present time. The churches have received me cordially. The pastors have co-operated in every way. Some of the churches had no pastor but have called one. The churches were ready and anxious for a meeting. I have collected and sent to Bro. S. B. Rogers, Secretary of the State Board of Missions all funds designated for State Missions. I have received promptly, at the end of each month, a check from him for my salary. I herewith give a tabulated report of my work:

Weeks of labor to date, 10; miles traveled, 360; churches visited 10; visits to homes, 140; sermons, 75; Baptised, 4; received for Baptism by pastors, 21; by letter or relation, 3; by restoration, 5. Collected as follows:

Union Meeting at Obrien.....	\$ 3.95
Friendship.....	3.55
Philadelphia.....	13.30
Macedonia.....	2.05
Pleasant Hill.....	10.70
Antioch.....	15.05
Jasper.....	10.00
Rocky Sink.....	33.35
Mt. Gilead.....	.75
Mary Belle.....	1.04
Evergreen.....	.46
<hr/>	
Total.....	\$64.20

Fraternally, Gus Padgett, Missionary.

Both reports were adopted and spoken on by Bros. A. J. York and Parshley. A collection was taken up for State Missions amounting to \$13.25.

The following committees were appointed by the Moderator: State Missions: W. B. Parshley, Albert Bonds, E. L. Lanair and Chas. Register. Sacred Literature: T. L. Peacock, W. W. Leggett, Homer Horn and T. C. Williams. Home Missions: Gus Padgett, R. H. Warner, J. H. Johns and J. W. Jenkins.

Bro. T. L. Peacock offered the following motion with amendment of Bro. Dorman: That Article 9 of the Constitution be changed so as to read: "This Association shall meet on Thursday before the third Sunday in October. (Amendment to Article:) Requesting all church-

es who hold regular services on the third Saturday and Sunday in October to give their pastor their October meeting in each year in order that he may attend the Association and remain there through Sunday." After some discussion motion was adopted.

On motion the Association adjourned until 9:30 tomorrow morning.

Thursday morning. Open by singing, and prayer by Bro. A. A. Scruggs. Letter call for Orange, Suwannee, Rosemary, Mt. Giliad and Rocky Sink. Visitors invited to seat with us, Bro. A. A. Scruggs from Texas, responded.

The Moderator appointed the following committees: Nomination: G. L. Dorman, George Perry, B. T. Brown and Chas. Register. Foreign Missions: B. A. Geiger, Claude Jenkins, H. V. Johns, Geo. Carver and J. D. Williams. Obituaries: T. L. Peacock, E. R. Wise, G. O. Bush. Education: B. A. Geiger, T. L. Peacock, Gus Padgett. Present Day Evils: R. J. Bush, Geo. Perry, A. Miller, Mrs. B. Small Mrs. A. J. York. Orphanage: J. A. Holmes, J. H. Horn, A. Miller, Mrs. C. N. Hildreth. Finance: Homer Horn, R. F. McCall. Woman's Work: Miss Lucy Perry, G. O. Bush, Mrs. M. V. Mills, Mrs. D. J. Mills, Jacob Johnson. The report on Woman's Work was read by Miss Lucy Perry as follows: The Gospel of the grace of God is the good news that Jesus Christ has died on the cross for the sins of the world, that He was raised from the dead for our justification, that by Him all who believe are justified through Him. We are under obligation either to go ourselves to carry the gospel to perishing souls or to send others as our substitutes and to sustain them in the work. It is for this purpose that the women of the churches are united and organized all over our fair land and there is no such service or sacrifice too great for them to perform in this work for the Master. We find from reports that the women and children in this, our own association, are at work for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom, and some progress is noted in their work for this year.

There are eleven Woman's Missionary Societies and two Children's Societies, and reports from five of them place the contributions for the year at \$902.50. No reports as yet from the remaining six. Besides this the gift in money boxes has been given and sent to the Baptist Orphanage at Arcadia. And personal service work has come in for a share of our efforts also. While this is especially gratifying there is such a great need in this association for more work and effort among the women and for a broader knowledge of the organized work of the Union with more regular Bible study, especially on mission lines hence the need of mission study classes. Some of the results of which are leaders thus developed which will in turn arouse the same interest in others. It has a general educational value and broadens the minds to a world outlook. It trains leaders for better methods of Missionary finance and it makes people more ready to give for mis-

sions, and too, some will hear the call for service in the mission field, the above results are greatly to be desired, especially in our country churches. Too much stress cannot be laid upon the necessity of training the young people and enlisting them in the work and service of the Master. A hearty co-operation of pastors and associational superintendents and leaders in the churches is necessary for the progress of our work. Correct records should be kept and reports made regularly. We need to be much in prayer for it is the prayers that we give spiritually. There still remains much to be done and we cannot afford to be satisfied with less than our best, so with a prayer in our hearts that we may go forward, let us endeavor to increase our gifts and strive to render a greater service to our Savior and King.

Report adopted and spoken on by Miss Lucy Perry, Chairman, Mrs. W. B. Parshley, Mrs. B. Small, Maude Mills and Bro. A. A. Scruggs.

Committee on Temperance: E. R. Wise, T. C. Williams, W. W. Leggett, C. A. Goff and Miss Genie Peacock. Chairman read his report on State Missions: Dear Brethren: The scripture says that he who does not make provision for his own household has denied the faith and we suppose that it is not doing the spirit of the passage any violence to apply it to ourselves in relation to our State work. The command to evangelize is really a part of the christian faith, in fact, a large part of it, and to the extent that we fail to do this we do deny the faith. But it is better to be led than to be driven. There are great motives that should pull us with all the attraction of divine love. A general one, of course, is the motive of all christian work, namely that God so loved the world that He gave His only son that whosoever believeth in Him shoul not perish, but have everlasting life. But there are special reasons why we should feel powerfully the attractions of State Missions. Vast stretches of our state are purely proper fields. In one of our counties, great in extent—Baker, I mean—there are only two Baptist churches. In another there are eleven churches, but only two with houses of worship. In Broward county there are only two congregations. In Palm Beach county the same and in Monroe county only one Baptist congregation. In some of the counties there are but one or two Baptist preachers, and in one not a single resident pastor. And even those counties where we seem to be strong, such as our own association, we all feel how unequal are our forces to the needs and opportunities of the field. This year some of us have witnessed fields that have been ruined simply from the inability of the owner to work his crop: But in addition to this the boll weevil has invaded the fields from without, even so we too are suffering from studied encroachment upon our churches by more vigorous propagandas from other folds. Ticks gather quickly on a sickly

animal and we too find that it is not our best cultivated territory, but our most neglected churches that are suffering invasion.

Throughout the state many of our churches are without a building and many without pastoral care other than they get through the aid of state boards. Therefore let us see in our state work a great and attractive field for honest and liberal endeavors, for we too have been the glad recipients of the Board's aid. The Board has employed 85 missionaries, 147 churches have been constituted without a building; 105 churches are now putting up buildings through the aid of the Board and thousands of homes are visited where Christ has not been known and hundreds are yearly led to the Savior. In addition to this direct work many young men and women are being trained for christian service, and finally that which touches human hearts—we have a splendid home where 91 orphans have been trained in body and mind and in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. The Board, our Board, which is doing this great work is now over \$10,000.00 behind its obligations and men called of God to preach the gospel of His love must be held back from the harvest fields. We urge all messengers and pastors to call upon their respective churches immediately to send forward large contributions to meet this pressing need.

Respectfully submitted, W. B. Parshley, Chm.

The above report was adopted after being spoken on by Bros. Parshley, Padgett and York.

Report on Foreign Missions was read by the Chairman as follows:

But this is perhaps taking up too much time for this place and time. We want our people to know something of the immediate work in hand. I will say this much: that the ratio of increase, while it has not been what it ought to be, is still the marvel of the age. The electric current, the railroads, the steamships, the telephone, and soon no doubt the flying machine and maybe some day the undersea boat will be used in some way for the propagation of the gospel to all parts of the world. Instead of a letting up of the cry for help, the call grows louder and yet louder, for the old truth that has lifted our own race out of the slough of heathenism to the forefront of the nations of the earth. You who belittle the call of God from the Foreign Field, remember, that this very department of the work of the church of God, whether under the modern system or not, is the power that lifted us out of the tyrannical grasp of idolatry into the liberty of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Will you be content to sit on the bank of the stream of time unmoved and see the sons and daughters of untold thousands less fortunately born than you go down to death, because you are indifferent to their cry?

Let me put just this little parable to you for a moment's consideration: I am sitting on the bank of a river and a little way from me your little son is playing. He is the soul of your being. You

would give your life to protect him, but in this case you are not in position to save him; but I am, and when he tumbles into the river and cries aloud for help, and drifts by me, holding up his hands for help, and I look on his anxious face, unmoved, until he sinks forever, what is your opinion of me, or what do you think God will think of it?

On the bank of the river of time sits the heathen nations of the world. The very book of nature tells them of the danger, and they know they are in the stream that is bearing them on to eternal death, and they are calling for help and the bread of life. You have it and to spare. But you say "It is not my business; am I my brother's keeper?" Did not God say, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature?" What have you done for the world's good? I have not yet seen a summary of the year's work on the Foreign Field; it is a little too early yet for that: but to say that wonderful progress is being made notwithstanding the devastating effect of the great war is but putting it mildly. In Africa alone such progress has never been made before in the same length of time. Beside all the heathen world now has to look to America for the gospel. Let us arouse ourselves and get us about our Master's work. Then we will know the joy of the Lord as we have never known it before.

B. A. Geiger,
J. D. Williams,
G. R. Carver.

Discussion of report was deferred until afternoon. It being time for preaching, the meeting was turned over to Bro Padgett, who preached a doctrinal sermon. Text Matt. 16:18. After preaching we adjourned two hours for dinner.

Thursday afternoon session opened with a song and prayer by Bro. Parshley. Foreign Mission report was discussed by Bro. B. A. Geiger. Report was adopted.

Report on Sacred Literature was read by the chairman as follows: "As poison in the blood effects the entire body and mars the life-building organs of the body, and then destroys health and life, so reading effects the mind and either hinders or develops spiritual life. Reading the right literature will develop right thinking and right thinking will produce right living. We cannot be too careful as to what we read ourselves, and oh! how very careful we should be as to what our children read.

"One little printing press can disseminate more falsehood, unrighteousness and soul-destroying influence than many men. Mr. Russell, were it not for printer's ink, would scarcely be known in the Suwannee Association; but with the aid of the many sermons published in the daily and weekly papers, almost every home in our land is invaded by his doctrine, the minds of parents poisoned and the lives of noble boys and girls destroyed by his pernicious influence. It is not

the danger of too much reading but of what we read, that confronts us today.

"The isms of today see to it that their followers read their own literature but Baptists read and patronize any other literature more than our own; hence so many Baptists who cannot tell why they are Baptists. Your committee earnestly recommends that our pastors and all of the workers of our denomination devote more interest to the dissemination of the Baptist literature, viz: the Bible, the books and periodicals of our organized work and the Baptist Witness. We further recommend that we give the Witness the printing of our minutes and other printing we have to do. Respectfully, T. L. Peacock, Chairman.

Report was spoken on by Bros. Peacock, Parshley, York and Bro. Geo. Mills. The report was adopted.

Report on Present Day Evils was read by the chairman as follows: "We, your committee on Present Day Evils, beg leave to report the following: We fully believe the greatest evil which has befallen the American people today is the environments which surrounds the bringing up of children of today and lack of proper discipline in the homes. We believe the way to reach the greatest masses is education. How it seems it is impossible through the present system! We therefore insist that this body as an Association go on record as favoring and carrying the matter to our State meeting in January, 1917, urging them through the proper channel to work for the passage at the next session of our general assembly a law for Compulsory Education. Resp. Bub., R. J. Rush, chairman." Spoken to by Bro. Bush. Report adopted. On motion adjourned until Friday morning at 9:30.

Friday morning, Oct. 13, Association opened by singing "All hail the power of Jesus name." Prayer by Bro. Bonds. Minutes of the last two days were read and adopted. The clerk was instructed to strike out 7:30 o'clock order of business and place the committee some other place.

Report on Temperance was read by the chairman as follows: "We your committee on Temperance beg leave to submit our report. We believe in being temperate in all things. Limiting ourselves to the phrase concerning alcohol, we note that nineteen states of our nation are dry; that is they have constitutional amendments or laws to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors. The remaining eighteen states which have not statewide prohibition have laws more or less restricting its sale and use. In Florida we have counties dry and wet, the latter containing Jacksonville, Tampa, Key West, Palm Beach, Pensacola, Ocala, and a few other strongholds of the liquor traffic. We believe that the only way to rid those counties is an amendment to the constitution of the state requiring statewide prohibition. The temperance cause is gradually gaining strength. Victory after victory is

being gained. Let us neither underrate nor overrate the enemy. He is strong. Greed and avarice are his controlling factors; power, wealth, cunning, chicanery, bribery, passion, his weapons. There is no place too sacred for his scope of operation. Legislative halls, the bench, the home, the marts, the cradle, the palace, the hovel, receive his relentless strokes. Misery, despair, poverty, suicide, orphanage, widowhood, starvation, murder, theft, stalk in the wake of his army and with his captives and victims his colonizers; jails, penitentiaries, asylums, slums, the grave and hell: The God of truth is on our side and victory will perch on our banners.

We pledge ourselves to unceasing, uncompromising warfare against this enemy of man. We plead with our churches to let there be no laxity of discipline. No church is worthy of membership in this association who holds within its membership a drunkard. Let us by consecrated and united effort with ballot and pen and jury service and sermon fight this evil". E. R. Wise, chariman.

Report was spoken on by Bro. Wise and Bro. Padgett and was adopted.

Report on Home Missions was read by the chairman, as follows: "There never was a time which so forcefully vindicated the inconspicuous but untiring work of those holy men of God, the missionaries and pioneer preachers, whose voices throughout our entire history have carried the gospel to the homes and the hearts of men in all the length and breadth of the land. Never before was there presented to Baptists a challenge so strong, both in this vindication of home mission work and in the great and urgent needs which still beckon us on to mightier efforts.

The Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention located at Atlanta has for seventy-one years been the exponent of our united Southern Baptist body for evangelizing our own land. The story of the achievements of its missionaries in bringing lost men to Christ surpasses that of any similar agency in America. Last year the number of Baptists reported by its workers was 43,792, and the number brought into the churches was 71,386. After the negro Baptisms are counted out twenty per cent of the baptisms reported by Southern Baptist churches last year were by missionaries supported in part by the Home Mission Board, and thirteen per cent by missionaries supported by no other agency than the Home Board.

"At the time our Board through its enlistment department and mission schools and otherwise is doing each year a larger work of developing the unplanted life in our churches which is mission and which is today one of the most strenuous and appealing tasks that still confronts us. Baptists both count and weigh, but the very largeness of our successful outreach has made for us an intensive task which may well cause us to tremble with a sense of responsibility while it should also

make us rejoice with a realization of our almost unmatched opportunity.

"For the first time in many years our Board reported at the last convention a significant debt of \$72,000. At the same time if the \$102,000 be counted which was raised in cash and subscriptions during the year for the church building loan fund, the record for the year was more than \$50,000 above the year preceding.

1. That our churches be encouraged and urged to order and make a large use of the Board free tracts on Home Missions and of its admirable mission study books suitable either for classes, the general reader, or for use in prayermeeting talks and sermons. These books sound a needed note of denominational loyalty.

2. That subscribers be gotten in every church for the Home Field and for its successor, the combined Home and Foreign Mission Magazine, to be published by the unday School Board at Nashville, Tenn.

3. Inasmuch as our Board is not making any extra appeals to raise the balance of the debt, we feel that each of our churches should be all the more determined to raise its full apportionment for home missions and that the money should be raised and sent in regularly rather than at the close of the year.

Submitted, Gus Padgett, Chairman.

Report was spoken on by Bro. Gus Padgett and Bro. York and was adopted.

The meeting was turned over to Bro. Parshley to preach a missionary sermon. His text was Ephesians 5:15,16. After preaching on motion we adjourned until two o'clock p. m.

Friday afternoon session opened with song and prayer by Bro. Wise. Took up collection for Foreign Missions amounting to \$10.75. The Moderator appointed the following chairmen of the various committees: State Missions, Gus Padgett; Home Missions, B. A. Geiger; Foreign Missions, W. B. Parshley; Orphanage, G. L. Dorman; Obituaries, W. W. Legget; Nominations, Geo. Perry; Temperance, Homer Horne; Sunday Schools and B. Y. P. U., T. L. Peacock; Sacred Literature, R. J. Bush; Present Day Evils, E. R. Wise; Education, Braxton Small; Woman's Work, Mrs. Claude Jenkins.

Motion by Bro. Wise that the constitution, Article 10, be changed to read thus: "Newly organized churches may be admitted into the association on petitionary letters presented during session of the association by their messengers accompanied by a certificate of the presbytery as to their orthodoxy and proper organization." Motion that the 10th article of faith be changed, motion accepted; clerk instructed to make the change.

Report on Sunday Schools and B. Y. P. U. was read by the chairman to-wit:

Then were there brought unto him little children that he should put his hands on them and pray and the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said "Suffer little children and forbid them not to come unto me for of such is the kingdom of heaven." A gain we find, "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you;" "Till we all come in the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ." With the command of our Master as set forth above in our mind who is ther among us that does not fully recognize the importance of training the child, even while it is young, forgetting those things which are in the past, viz: Questioning the right of the Sunday School and B. Y. P. U. to a place in our church.

It is the earnest desire of your committee and our fervent prayer that this report may be received by you and by the church which you represent in the spirit of Christian Love and with hearts full of a desire to prepare for the coming of the Master, and that we may see these departments in the proper light, that they are real, vital parts of the church work.

The idea now is not only every child but every member of the church in the Sunday School, and to touch every member and child and lead them to an earnest, intelligent, systematic, prayerful study of the word. Ask yourself how this shall be done, and we think you will conclude that through training and teaching of the Sunday school we have the best way.

Are you a Christian, one of the followers of Lord Jesus, doing your duty along this line? Do you go to Sunday School? If you have children do you send them or do you take them? Has your church a real live Sunday School, and if not, why not? Wont you help wake up the sleepers (church members asleep) in your church and organize a Sunday School and get to work for the Master? Your church and God need your help.

Are you a preacher, who never has much time for Sunday School work but rather feels that maybe the Sunday School is very good, but slow and in the way? Say Brother, you should wake up. The work of the Sunday School is the plowing of the field so that the seed may be sown. Are you a laborer for the Lord, or only for the church? If your church has no Sunday School go home and begin the good work next Sabbath day by organizing one in your church.

If you are a preacher who has this great work on your heart and earnestly and faithfully strive to do the very best you can in your Sunday School, then we say, thank God for such a man. Your committee wants to express their deep appreciation of the Godly men and women who as Sunday School superintendents and teachers work

in the fear of the Lord and seek mightily to prepare the way in the minds of his little children for the indwelling of the word of God. Pray often that God may give you strength of mind, patience and that loving kindness that shall hold the attendance and attention of the children; your reward is sure.

The Sunday School is the teaching service or Bible School of the church, and as such should have our first thought and effort. Some one has said that doctors and lawyers and public school teachers come not by accident but by hard study and training. Christian workers come the same way. It is imperative that the teacher should be prepared to do his or her very best. Therefore teachers should study and train for the work. Ask your pastor to explain to you the convention Normal Manual Course of Study, and where to get the necessary books. Many laymen are class leaders in this course of study while many consecrated men and women in our state are doing this work individually.

We have another most important branch of work in our church to consider, the Baptist Young People's Union. As the Sunday School is the teaching service or Bible School, the B. Y. P. U. is the training school for church workers. How true are Jeremah's words: "It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth." Our Baptist churches are learning to use and appreciate the great number who with Obadiah can say, "I, thy servant, fear the Lord from my youth up," and have persistently set themselves to the task of training their young members to hear and to heed. When God says "Remember now thy creator in the days of thy youth," we earnestly recommend that our pastors and churches more persistently and prayerfully give themselves to the task of enlisting and training our young Baptists in the great work of the B. Y. P. U. for greater service in the church, greater consecration in the home life, and that with God's loving help our great desire and hope shall come to pass and thereby fulfill our part in the great plan of redemption of the world for Christ.

We find that 23 churches report to this Association that of this number 10 report Sunday Schools. These 10 churches have a total of enrollment of 653 scholars and a total collection of \$542.61 expenses by them for all purposes. Of this amount \$310.78 was reported for expenses and \$231.83 for the several Benevolences. There are 13 churches who report no Sunday School. The Live Oak church is the only church which shows a B. Y. P. U. collection, \$45.00 for all purposes. Live Oak and Bellville show Sunbeam Bands.

We trust that every member of our Association shall give more liberally for Sunday School and B. Y. P. U. during the next year than for the last year. The pastors of our churches and the Superintend-

ents and members of our Sunday Schools and B. Y. P. U. should attend the yearly state encampment at Columbia College in Lake City. This is for the study of Sunday School and B. Y. P. U. work and has accomplished great good and is growing in usefulness. The literature supplied by our Sunday School Board is well adapted to every need of our churches for the teaching and training of the children and young people in a well rounded Baptist life. We suggest its use by our churches.

Report was discussed by Bro. Small, Wise, Carnette and Padgett and was adopted.

Respectfully submitted, Braxton Small, Chairman.

Report on Education was read by the chairman to-wit:

We beg leave to submit the following as our report on Education. As Baptists we have ever been the friends and promoters of every legitimate means of the uplift of humanity. We have not only been the leaders in religious and political liberty, but the pioneers in Christian education. The world does not recognize now that it owes its political liberty to Baptists, but still this is a fact that cannot be denied. And as to its religious liberty it is without any question the trophy of Baptists. Baptist preachers in Virginia and Georgia, the latter in particular, stood before the state assemblies and plead for and secured the repeal of laws that bound all to the support of the established churches and giving each the right to worship God under his own vine and fig tree. Baptists have ever been the leaders in Education in every section of this state. We were the pioneers in Georgia and in every one of our Southern States that I know of.

In our own beloved state today we have as fine a school in Lake City as there is in Florida and at its head as competent and generous a soul as ever presided over a college. No more capable one is to be found in the State. It therefore becomes us as Baptists to stand with unswerving loyalty by our Columbia College to give it our boys and girls for such training as will make them not only good citizens but staunch and faithful Baptists. There are no people in the world and no school run by any people that have been more loyal to the law of the land. Brethern, it is a shame and a reflection on us that our school should be allowed to get in the straightened circumstances that it has some time. Let us lift up our heads, face the responsibilities and meet them like men, and make our school one of the real bulwarks of the state to train our citizenship for the glory of God and the good of the nation and the world at large.

Respectfully, B. A. Geiger, chairman.

The report was discussed by Bro. Geiger and adopted.

Report of nomination committee was read by the chairman to-wit: We your committee on nominations beg leave to submit the following: Executive Committee: A. J. York, R. J. Allen, E. R. Wise, B. A. Geiger, T. C. Williams, W. H. Holmes, T. L. Peacock, W. W. Leggett and H. J. Horn; Member State Board, Braxton Small; Messengers to Southern Baptist Convention, Gus Padgett; Messengers to the State Convention, A. J. York, E. R. Wise, D. J. Mills, R. J. Hush and T. C. Williams; The next meeting place of the Association will be with Antioch church beginning on Thursday before the third Sunday in Oct., 1917, at 10 o'clock a. m. Introductory sermon by W. H. Holmes; Alternate, A. Bonds. Missionary sermon by Gus Padgett; alternate, J. S. Hearst. Doctrinal sermon by T. L. Peacock; alternate, W. B. Parshley. Submitted G. L. Dorman, chairman. Report adopted.

Report on Obituaries was read by the chairman as follows:

After careful inquiring we find that our Heavenly Father through his mercy and kindness has spared the lives of his servants of this association through another year, except our dearly beloved ministers of the gospel, Bro. J. B. Dixon and B. D. Harrell and about eighteen others, dearly beloved brethren from all over the bounds of its field. H. V. Johns, chairman.

This report was spoken on by Bro. Padgett, and was adopted.

Bro. Padgett made a motion that the moderator appoint a committee of three to draft resolutions on the death of these two ministers and that a page of our minutes be set apart for same. Bro. Padgett, E. R. Wise and W. W. Leggett was the committee appointed.

Finance committee reported as follows: We the Finance committee beg leave to report that there has been turned into them the following amounts: Clerk and Minutes \$64.80; State Board, \$9.00; Orphanage, \$1.40; Aged Ministers, \$6.00. R. F. McCall, chairman. Report adopted.

Treasurer read his report to-wit:

1915 Receipts Oct. 14 from Finance committee	\$59.09
Disbursements, Oct. 14, paid clerk salary	15.00
Dec. 10 paid for printing minutes.....	44.00

Total Disbursements

Leaving no balance. Submitted, D. J. Mills, Treas. Report adopted.

The clerk offered a resolution That we tender a vote of thanks to Tiger Lake church and vicinity for its kind and hospitable entertainment to the messengers of this association, and to the organist and choir for their music. Resolution adopted by a rising vote.

Motion by Bro. Wise that the clerk be paid fifteen dollars for his

service. Motion that we sing a piece and have a good old hand shake for adjournment. They sang "When we meet again," and all bid one another goodbye to meet with Antioch church on Thursday before the third Sunday in Oct. 1917.

A. J. YORK, Moderator.

R. JAS. ALLEN, Clerk.

REPORT OF W. M. U. OF SUWANNEE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union of Suwannee Association was held with Tiger Lake church, near Live Oak, Oct. 12, 1916. In the absence of the President Miss Marmie Griffin, Mrs. B. Small acted in that capacity. The Doxology was sung and our devotional service was lead by Mrs. Bryant Mills, Live Oak. A poem rendered by a young girl from Tiger Lake church welcoming the ladies and Mrs. Nellie Helton from Jasper responded with appropriate words.

Enrollment of delegates and visitors from different churches: Antioch: Mrs. E. R. Wise; Bellville, Lucy Perry; Beulah, Miss Ethel and Eva McMullian; Jasper, Mrs. B. Small and Mrs. Nellie Helton, G. A. Barnes; Friendship, G. L. Jenkins, Louis Lanie, Miss Annie Warren; Live Oak, Mrs. W. B. Parshley, Mrs. C. N. Hildredth, Bryant Mills, Mrs. Warden, Mrs. York, Mrs. Mays, Mrs. Harrell, Misses Kate and Mamie Brown; Mount Olive, Mrs. W. H. Ellis and Mrs. Maggie Johns, Miss Mirl Knight and Annie Johns; Pleasant Hill, Mrs. S. C. Haynes, Misses Rachael, Callie and Ruby Leggett; Suwannee, Miss Julia Phillips; Tiger Lake, Mrs. M. V. Mills, A. S. Mills, H. J. Horn and W. H. Horn, W. L. Robertson, G. L. Dorman, G. M. Harrell, H. M. Haisten, W. A. Martin, J. R. Mills, J. B. Brown, Mrs. Claud Jenkins, John Helton, I. T. Williams, H. V. Johns, C. W. Crosier, Miss R. A. Brown, B. Horn, Maggie Williams, Florence Williams; Philadelphia, Mesdames D. J. Mills, Ed Lanie, A. J. Boatright, Miss Jennie Peacock, Jane Lanie, Eliza Boatright and Annie Lanier.

After the song "for the night is coming," followed by prayer by Mrs. Parshley.

The reports were then read as follows: W. M. U. Bellville, Jasper, Jennings, Live Oak and Tiger Lake. These showed a year of splendid efforts with a contribution of \$888.95. Two Sunbeam Bands reported, Live Oak and Bellville. They give \$13.55, making the total contribution \$902.50. Jasper, along with regular reports, gave a good one on personal service work. Hope to have more of them another year. Associational superintendents gave interesting reports of their work for the year.

Discussing how to keep the members interested in the monthly meetings and best ways to raise money, this was spoken on by Mrs. Parshley and Mrs. Brant Mills and good ideas and methods were obtained from their talks.

A touching memorial service for members who have died during the year was held, Mrs. M. V. Mills conducting same. Mrs. B. Small gave an interesting talk on the plans for the future.

The following officers were elected to serve the coming year: Mrs. Nellie Helton, President; Mrs. Brant Mills, Vice President; Mrs. Claud Jenkins, Secretary and Treasurer; Mrs. W. B. Parshley and Mrs. B. Small, Associational Superintendents.

A collection of \$6.00 was taken up for State Missions. "Blest be the tie that binds" was sung and this closed of the Suwannee Woman's Missionary Union.

MISS LUCY PERRY, Secretary.

Next came report from committee on memorials:

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Thursday Morning 10 o'clock

- 10 A. M. Temporary organization, Enrolling names of Messengers, permanent organization.
 11 A. M. Introductory sermon.
 12:15 P. M. Dinner.

Thursday Afternoon

- 2:30 Appointment of committees, reading petitionary letters, recognition of visitors and correspondent, report of Executive Committee. Miscellaneous business.
 3:30 Adjourn for the afternoon.

Friday Morning

- 9:30 A. M. Reading minutes of previous day, invite visitors and call for messengers, report of committee on Education, report of committee on Missions, State, Home and Foreign.
 10:30 Report on Temperance.
 11:00 Doctrinal Sermon.
 12:15 Dinner.

Friday Afternoon

- 2:00 P. M. Report of committee on Present day Evil, Sacred Literature, Woman's Work, Sunday School and B. Y. P. U. Miscellaneous business.
 3:30 Adjournment.

Saturday Morning

- 9:30 Reading minutes of previous day, report of committee on Orphan Home, report of committee on Obituaries, report of Treasurer,
 10:30 Miscellaneous business.
 11:00 Missionary sermon.
 12:15 Dinner.

Saturday Afternoon

- 2:00 Report of Finance committee, report of committee on nomination, appointing chairman of standing committees.
 3:30 Adjournment.
 the 10 article f Faith be changed, mtion accepted; clerk instructed to

IN MEMORIAM

Elder Benjamin D. Harrell was born June 26, 1836, in Lowndes County, Georgia. He was converted about the age of 35, and joined the M. E. church and preached M. E. doctrine for about six or eight months. Being convinced that he had been mistaken he joined the Missionary Baptists, was soon ordained to preach by them, and continued to preach as a Missionary Baptists, up to abut five years of his death. The infirmities of old age only caused him to lay down his preaching.

He was married to Elizabeth H. Page on April 2, 1856, and to this union were born nine children, four boys and five girls. Mrs. Elizabeth Page Harrell died Aug. 7, 1877.

On Nov. 27, 1881, he was married to Elizabeth M. J. Gray who still survives him. To them was born one girl.

He died July 6, 1916, at the age of 80 years.

"He has joined the ranks on High."

Elder J. B. Dixon was born March 25, 1882, in Georgia. He was ordained to preach at Ebenezer church, Raines, Ga., Nov. 23, 1902, at the age of 20 years. He served several prominent churches in Georgia and also served as Evangelist for the Georgia State Mission Board for five years. All of his work was in Georgia until Nov. 1913, when he resigned the care of the church at Swainsboro, Ga., and came to Jasper, Fla.

He was married in Georgia and is survived by his wife and children who live at Jasper, Fla.

He died while on a visit to Leesburg, Ga., June 2, 1916, at the age of 34 years.

"He was faithful to every duty."

