

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Twenty-Fourth Session

OF THE

WISEMAN ASSOCIATION

— OF —

MISSIONARY BAPTISTS

HELD WITH THE

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church

Sumner County, Tennessee

BEGINNING

Wednesday, Oct. 20

1915

W. K. JOHNSON, Moderator
J. T. OAKLEY, Assistant Moderator
D. S. REED, Clerk
T. S. JONES, Assistant Clerk
J. W. LEWIS, Treasurer

The next meeting will be held with Spring Creek Church, six miles north of LaFayette, Macon County, Tenn., Wednesday, after the Third Sunday in October, 1916.

MINUTES

FIRST DAY

The Messengers composing the Wiseman Association met with the Pleasant Hill Church Wednesday, October 20, 1915. Devotional services were conducted by Bro. P. F. Burnley, former Moderator. The introductory sermon was delivered by Bro. W. J. Summar from Matthew, chapter 28, verses 19-20: "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, and lo! I am with you always, even until the end of the world." The sermon was listened to with much interest and was followed by a good, old-fashioned handshaking amid shouts of joy among the people.

Following the sermon the Moderator appointed Brethren J. F. Oakley and Wilson Woodcock to read the letters from the churches, and the following responded:

Bledsce Creek—J. A. Evins, J. S. Thompson.

Cedar Bluff—J. D. White.

Corum Hill—A. D. Robertson, Mack Benfly, Miss Ammie Robertson.

Crisman Chapel—No letter nor Messengers.

Dixon Creek—Booker Wilburn.

Friendship—J. W. Lewis, P. F. Burnley.

Fairview—J. H. Jenkins, A. D. Sullivan, J. D. Cook.

Goodwill—Jim Lynville, G. W. Taylor, J. H. Harper.

Hartsville—J. T. Oakley, J. F. Lee.

Hillsdale—J. B. Carter, Yate Gross.

Hopewell—Stanley Johnson, T. S. Jones, Lew's Johnson.

Long Creek—G. W. Jenkins, W. K. Johnson, A. T. Claiborn.

LaFayette—Letter and no Messengers.

Meadorville—Letter and no Messengers.

New Harmony—L. A. Fuqua, W. J. Summar, Willie Jenkins.

New Zion—J. D. Pettigo, S. S. M. Blankenship.

Pleasant Hill—J. W. Simpson, W. M. Brooks, L. C. Brown.

Pleasant Grove—No letter nor Messengers.

Rock Bridge—T. B. Simpson, Elijah Martin, Alvin Swallows.

Rocky Mound—J. F. Overton, O. K. O'Neal.

Shady Grove—D. S. Reed.

Siloam—T. C. Harrison, S. F. Curtis, E. E. Bentle.

Spring Creek—J. L. Lawrence.

Zion—Dol Saunders, C. Driver, W. D. Winn.

After various announcements the Association adjourned one hour for dinner.

Report on Home Missions.

We, your Committee on Home Missions, submit the following report:

The Mission Board began seventy years ago with its work with organization of the Southern Baptist Convention. A glorious history we have had. Last year more than 30,000 baptisms were reported by the missionary support by the Home Board and more than 56,000 additions to Baptist churches.

We recommend that prayer be made in our churches for this great cause and for the saving and broadening of the South for our Lord, and that every preacher be requested to preach more on Home Missions.

A. J. SLOAN,
J. H. JENKINS,
J. S. THOMPSON.

Report on State Missions.

In our mission work we have four great departments: the local church, State, Home and Foreign.

Our State Mission work is the work done by the churches of the State within the State through the instrumentality of the State Mission Board. The Board is merely working under the orders of churches.

The churches issue their orders through their Messengers when they meet in convention. The churches have eight tasks they are now trying to foster through their State Mission Board:

1. They employ pastors to preach to churches that are unable to employ their pastor.
2. They employ and help employ Association missionaries.
3. They help employ city missionaries.
4. They employ a Sunday School field man to help develop our Sunday schools.
5. They employ a woman Secretary and field worker.
6. They employ from forty to seventy-five colporters.
7. They employ an _____ field worker organizing missionaries.
8. They publish and distribute together.

Respectfully submitted,

J. T. OAKLEY,
T. S. JONES,
W. J. SUMMAR,
Committee.

Report on Gospel Missions.

We, your committee, submit the following report:

We note some small gifts through this channel by the churches of this Association this year, and there has been some given that have not been reported.

Gospel Missions means mission money sent direct to the missionaries on the field by the churches or individual gifts; in other words, spent alone for the preaching of the Gospel. There are thousands of Baptists, also of churches, that do not contribute through other channels, so let us all give as it seems good to us. Money may be sent to Bro. T. A. Cross, Bardswell, Ky., as Treasurer; also he will give names of missionaries on application. Let us stir up, brethren, and do the Lord's work.

C. B. MASSEY,
L. A. FUQUA,
J. S. THOMPSON,
Committee.

After being discussed by Bro. J. W. Gillon, W. F. Jenkins, A. J. Sloan and C. B. Massey the report was adopted.

It was announced that Bro. W. J. Summar would preach at the Grove.

The Association suspended the regular order of business and Bro. A. J. Sloan proceeded to preach the Doctrinal Sermon. Text: I Timothy, 4th chapter, 1st verse. The sermon was a strong and able one and was greatly enjoyed by all.

The Association adjourned one hour for dinner.

Afternoon Session

After singing and prayer by Bro. J. W. Gillon, the Association resumed its regular order of business.

Report on Prohibition.

Your Committee on Prohibition submit the following report:

Prohibition is one of the great principles inculcated in the Bible. That is, in the use and sale of intoxicating drinks. It has been the greatest curse of the nineteenth century. The use of strong drink has caused more suffering, destitution and debauchery than anything manufactured in the world to-day. It is used to excess by a large portion of the unsaved, and, we are sorry to say, many Baptists are guilty of using the same to excess. We, therefore, urge the churches composing this Association to discipline their members for drunkenness and, if they will not repent and cease doing so, to withdraw fellowship from them.

We also recommend to the members of this Association that we vote for prohibition in State and national elections, regardless of party or affiliations, every time we have an opportunity.

P. F. BURNLEY,
J. W. LEWIS,
J. D. COOK,

Committee.

After being discussed by Bros. P. F. Eurnley, J. L. Hawkins, A. J. Sloan, J. T. Oakley, Wilson Woodcock and Elijah Martin the report was adopted.

Report of District Board.

We, the Board of District Missions, submit the following report:

We have held but few business meetings and, owing to the lack of funds, nothing of a permanent nature has been accomplished. We corresponded with the State Board and it readily agreed to give us, for associational work, a dollar for every dollar raised within our bounds. We deemed it unwise to put a man in the field for full time on account of the lack of funds. Only a few churches responded to the agreement to give a certain amount at the last session.

We are of the opinion that the Board can best proceed by setting on foot a fall campaign by first selecting suitable preachers of a sound Gospel and, secondly, placing them on desirable fields duly selected by the Board with the hope that the seed may be planted and foundations laid for a permanent occupancy of these places as the years come and go. It is our desire that safe men be put at certain places to hold Gospel revivals and thus lay the foundation for future good.

We recommend that the present Board be reappointed, as it is our desire to more effectively put our plans into operation and bring good results by the meeting of our next Association.

We earnestly plead that all the churches take special collections for associational missions and forward the amounts to the Secretary and Treasurer, J. T. Oakley, Hartsville, Tenn. The State Board will cheerfully assist us in our work. A brighter day opens before us.

Respectfully submitted.

A. J. SLOAN, President.
J. T. OAKLEY, Secretary and Treasurer.
J. W. LEWIS.
J. D. COOK.
J. W. FLEMING.

The report, with its recommendations, was unanimously adopted.

Report of the Secretary and Treasurer of the District Board.

As Secretary and Treasurer of the District Board of Wisconsin Association, I submit for your information the following contributions:

Bledsoe's Creek, \$6.95; Cedar Bluff, \$5; Corum's Hill, \$2.10; Friendship, \$10; Fairview, \$2.10; Goodwill, \$5; Hartsville, \$5; Hillsdale, \$3; Hopewell, \$5; New Harmony, \$7.50; New Zion, \$2.50; Siloam, \$5; Meadowville, \$6; Spring Creek, \$5; Rocky Mound, \$3; Long Creek, \$2.50; Pleasant Hill, \$5. Total collections from the churches, most of which has been paid in at the present session, \$82.65. Received from former Treasurer, \$16.60. Total amount now in the hands of the Board, \$98.65.

J. T. OAKLEY, Secretary and Treasurer.

Report on State of Religion.

Your committee finds that the state of religion has improved some over the preceding year. The churches report 202 by experience and baptism. This year there were but few churches that reported Sunday schools. We recommend that the churches have good, old-time revivals and reject all their modern confessions; hold for good, spiritual services; Sunday schools in all of the churches.

C. B. MASSEY,
J. F. LEE,
A. D. ROBERTSON,
Committee.

After being discussed by Bros. C. B. Massey, J. W. Gillon, J. F. Overton, and I. N. Knight, the report was adopted.

Report on Orphans' Home.

The work of our Tennessee Baptist Orphans' Home has made some progress during the past year, notwithstanding the financial pressure that has been felt all over our State.

The 100 children now in the Home are all well. There has been only one death in the institution since it was removed from the city to our farm, twelve miles south of Nashville. We have suffered a very great loss in the death of Major C. T. Cheek, the President of the Board, but have been very fortunate in securing W. M. Gupton, a successful business man, as his successor.

We have been greatly embarrassed during the year because of the lack of money with which to meet our monthly running expenses and pay off the remaining \$6,000 debt on our new plant. Some of the merchants carried us last winter and spring for six months at a time. This ought not to be; our bills should be paid regularly and promptly.

Another embarrassment has been the cry of scores of homeless children to come to us for care and training, and inability to take them because of the lack of money with which to support them. We can do no more for helpless children than the 195,000 whites in Tennessee make it possible for us to do with their contributions to the Home.

The receipts to the Home are \$5,500 less than for this same period last year. Eight hundred churches have sent in contributions to the Home since the first of last November. There were nearly 1,200 churches that made contributions for this same period last year. We must have the sympathy and co-operation of our churches if we are to render larger service to dependent children in our great State.

We have our school, run our farm and have our pastor and Sunday School.

There were seventeen professions of faith and baptism in the Home during the past year. We recommend that our Association most heartily approve the work that is being done by the Home, and do hereby pledge our prayers and money to the support of this most worthy cause.

W. J. STEWART,
G. W. JENKINS,
YATE GROSS,
Committee.

Discussed by W. J. Stewart, J. D. Cook and G. W. Jenkins. Adopted.

It was announced that Bros. C. B. Massey and A. J. Sloan would preach at Sulphuria to-night.

The Association then adjourned until Friday at 9 o'clock.
Prayer by J. W. Gillon.

THIRD DAY

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. After singing and reading prayer was offered by T. S. Jones. After roll call by the Clerk the Association proceeded to business.

Report on Ministerial Relief.

We, your Committee on Ministerial Relief, submit the following report:

We note that the amount paid to this noble cause is only \$7.50 which is, indeed, only a pittance. We have a number of old, worn-out ministers in the State, and some of them live in our midst. Our Board at Nashville is hunting them up and dividing our gifts among them. We should rally to the support of these feeble saints of God and feed and clothe them. In doing so we will feed and clothe our Savior.

Fifteen dollars has been paid to the State Board on Ministerial Relief. Fifteen men are receiving \$9 a month from this fund.

W. J. SUMMAR,
J. F. LEE,
W. M. BROOKS,
Committee.

After being discussed by Bros. C. B. Massey, J. F. Overton, T. B. Simpson and others a free-will offering was made by the Association, separate and apart from what was being paid by the Board, amounting to \$10.70, which was placed in the hands of Bro. S. F. Curtis to be carried directly to Bro. Lambert.

Ministerial Education.

We, your Committee on Ministerial Education, beg leave to report:

There are many qualifications that go to make up an acceptable preacher of the Gospel. Among these might be mentioned two of