

# MINUTES

—of the—

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

—of the—

## Anson County Baptist Association

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1925

Held With

Deep Creek Baptist Church, Anson County, N. C.

Oct. 22-23, 1925

SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST  
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY LIBRARY  
Wake Forest, North Carolina

The next session will be held with the Gum Springs Church on Friday and Saturday, Oct. the 29, 30, 1926. To preach the introductory sermon, Rev. M. L. Dorton.

## DIRECTORY

### OFFICERS

Moderator—M. L. Dorton..... Ansonville, N. C.  
Vice-Moderator—C. H. Martin..... Polkton, N C  
Clerk—J. M. Broadaway..... Polkton, N. C., Route 2  
Treasurer—I. F. Thomas..... Wadesbro. N C

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

M L Dorton, Chairman; I. F. Thomas, J H Thomas, S. J. Turner,  
G. H. Parker, J. E. Efid, W. H. Harrington, C. H. Harrington, J. D. Usery,  
R. T. Morton, G. B. Melton, J. M. Broadaway, Jonah Thomas.

### ORDAINED MINISTERS HOLDING MEMBERSHIP WITH CHURCHES IN THIS ASSOCIATION

E. J. Hutchinson, C. H. Martin, W. M. Thompson.

MESSANGER TO SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION  
J. S. Tyson

MESSENGERS TO BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION  
C. H. Martin, M. L. Dorton, J. S. Tyson

## PROCEEDINGS

Deep Creek, Oct. 22, 1925

The Anson Co. Baptist Association met in its sixteenth annual session this morning with the Deep Creek Baptist Church at 11 A. M. J. C. Meggs led the devotional services; after which the letters from the different churches was read, and the names of the delegates were enrolled.

Brown Creek—W D Teal, J W Threadgill, Fred Flake, Miss Anna Flake  
Mrs. A J Waddell.

Cedar Grove—W J Sikes, J B Kiker, David Cox.  
Deep Creek—Mrs J V Gullledge, David Huntley, E Y Ratliff.

Fall Branch—J J Price, W P Price, R T Morton.

Gum Springs—A G Harris, R T Harris, J P Harris.

Mt. Beulah—G E Hooks, G W Tice, W J Diggs.

Mt. Zion—A L Bailey, W T Brooks, C F Kelley.

New Home—No delegates.

North Wadesboro—Mrs J C Heavener, Mrs W J Treadaway, Mrs. B F Treadaway.

Polkton—R J Harrington, Preston Adkins, Jonah Thomas.

Rocky Mt.—W T Allen, J A Allen, D J Hill.

Rocky River—D L Thompson, M W Goodman, W W Smith.

The Association was organized by electing M L Dorton, Mod., C H Martin, Vice-Mod., J M Broadaway, Clerk, and I F Thomas, Treas. The Moderator recognized the following visiting brethren:

J M Page of Badin, W O Rivenbark of Rockingham, J B Huff and F G Walker of Wingate Junior College.

The chair announced the following on order of business: J C Meggs, E Y Ratliff, J W Sullivan. The hour having arrived for the annual sermon, C H Martin preached the introductory sermon, using as a text the 1st verse of the 2nd chap. of the 1st Epistle of John. At the conclusion of the sermon the Association adjourned for dinner. Prayer by F G Walker.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

F G Walker led the devotional service. The Wingate Junior College boys sung several quartettes, which was greatly enjoyed by the Association.

J C Meigs presented the following report on Foreign Missions, which, after discussion, was adopted:

## REPORT OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

The Lord continues to bless our efforts on the foreign fields. There was a time when we stood at the door of nations and knocked for admittance. Today the doors are open wide and a loving, entreating invitation comes from afar like the voice from Macedonia of old, "come over and help us."

We have on the foreign field at present, 539 missionaries, and 2243 native workers. These preach in 4291 churches, with a membership of 117,923. Last year there was a total of 121,34 baptisms on the field.

The marvelous success attending the efforts of Southern Baptists during the last decade, indicates God's interest and indorsement of our work. Dr E P Aldridge shows that, during the 1st seventy years of foreign mission activities resulted in a church membership of 29,991. In the last 10 years 88,861 members have been added, or more than three times as many in the last 10 years as were added in a total of 7 times ten in the beginning. With such definite marks of divine approval, we ought to be enlarging rather than retrenching.

The Lord not only offered an important suggestion when He said, "lift up your eyes and look upon the field," but he was giving a command to be obeyed. If we knew the needs just as they are, we would rally to the support of the foreign mission program. Our people need a world vision, and the work of missions will suffer until they have it.

The embarrassment of debt, the urgency of the unfinished task and the large number of men and women, willing and ready to go, is a challenge to our people to do their best in this most hopeful and yet most critical hour in the life of foreign missions. Respectfully submitted,

J C Meigs.

President J. B. Huff of Wingate Jr. College, discussed Christian Education. J. S. Tyson read the following report, which was adopted:

## REPORT ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Very early in the history of their organized efforts, Baptists felt the needs for schools. This need has constantly increased rather than diminished. Baptists in this State have grown up around their cherished institutions and are to no small degree, known and judged by their schools.

On March 20th, 1830, Rev. Thomas Meredith prepared a constitution for the North Carolina Baptist Convention, and in the barn of Dr. J. C. Gorham, a leading Baptist of Pitt County, the constitution was adopted. The primary object of this Convention was the education of young men called of God to the ministry and approved of by their churches. At the time of the adoption of this constitution, the Baptists of North Carolina, including Primitive or anti-missionary and Free-Will Baptists, numbered only 14 Associations, 272 churches and 15,360 members. They had no denominational schools for male or female under control of the denom-

ination. Many of the Associations scarcely raised more than enough at their annual meetings than was necessary to defray the expense of printing the minutes. But the founders of the Convention were men of large brain and influence and untiring zeal and earnest piety. These men planned wisely and worked earnestly for denominational education. From the days of the plantings, laborings and prayings of these noble brethren, the spirit of christian education has remained in the Baptists. To-day we can rejoice in the fact that God has richly blessed our education board, and permitted us to make great progress. May God give us love and zeal that will enable us to care for Christian Education in a worthy way.

Respectfully submitted, J. S. Tyson.

F. G. Walker presented the report on the Biblical Recorder. After discussion by J.M. Page, report adopted.

## BIBLICAL RECORDER

The Biblical Recorder for ninety-one years has served as the official organ of North Carolina Baptists. It was first printed by Thomas Meredith. From then until now it has always carried the best thoughts of the best thinkers among our Baptist people. Its purpose is to inspire and to impart to Baptists of this and neighboring states information about the kingdom work, which information if read prayerfully, will lead them on in carrying out the Master's command to carry the Gospel to the ends of the earth. The Recorder promotes the thing that shall win. It seeks to aid in bringing in the certain reign of Christ on earth. It is an instigator of righteousness and a voice of wisdom to those who are tuning in on its weekly message.

The Biblical Recorder is being published now at the expense of the stockholders. For the past four years it has been a liability rather than an asset. Since the Recorder is published in the interest of our Baptist work and therefore the work of the kingdom of Christ, surely it is worthy of our patronage and hearty support. Its readers are its best asset, and in North Carolina, the kingdom's best friends. We tend to become like our thoughts, and since our thoughts are stimulated largely by what we read, it behooves us to read the best literature of the day. The Recorder offers the best in inspiration and information for our Baptist people. Since the best is none too good for our North Carolina Baptists, and since the future homes depend on the Christian culture of the homes of this generation, we as Baptist people, ought to make a strong effort to put the Recorder in every Baptist home of the state. The circulation ought to be increased from 16,000 to 25,000 copies weekly during this year. If we read the best, and the best things do, then the God of the best will reserve the best things for us too. Signed F. G. Walker.

A letter of greetings from the ministerial class and volunteers of Wingate Jr. College was read by J B Huff, and very cordially received by the Association.

A report on Needs of the Churches was read by J. W. Sullivan, and adopted.

#### NEEDS OF OUR CHURCHES

The needs of our churches are manifold. We do not say the churches are doing less to fulfill their obligations than they used to, but we all know there is more required of them. In the great whirl of business, pleasure, politics and crime, the churches furnish the one steadying force. Many of our leaders, in all walks of life, feel that if our country is to be saved from destruction, it must be through the leaven of the churches. There are likely other needs as urgent but we will mention just a few of the greatest needs as we see them:

1st. We need more training of our members. We have added a great many members and turned them loose. If you want your boy to farm, you teach him how. Many of our members might do better if the pastor and experienced members would encourage and train them. This can be done in prayer meetings, Sunday Schools, B. Y. P. U's and special training classes.

2nd. We need the spirit of co-operation among the members. We are, brethren and sisters, one great family. We should love one another pray for one another and do our best to pull together; not just a faithful few but all pull together. The fault-finder and the "kicker" should have no job in a Baptist church.

3rd. We need to co-operate with our pastor. He is the overseer, the leader and the undershepherd. It is as important to have good followers as it is to have good leaders. No pastor can do his best work unless he has the sympathetic co-operation of his flock. We should pay him too. We want honest men as pastors, men who dress well, take care of their families, get up good sermons and pay their debts. How can any man do this if his churches fail to support him financially or keep behind all the time. And it not only hurts the pastor but the churches also to get behind with their obligations.

4th. We need to co-operate with our denomination for the full founded Baptist program. Of course, we may not approve all the policies and methods of work; there may be objections to some of the men as leaders. But that is no reason for not co-operating. We usually stand by our political party if it does make mistakes, we try to correct the mistakes and do better next time. We believe we belong to the greatest denomination in the world. It is not perfect because it is composed of imperfect human beings, but its success, under the blessings of God, is largely due to the co-operative spirit of our brotherhood. When Baptists fail to co-operate they discredit spiritual democracy and give a chance for other denominations with centralized church governments to take the lead.

Last, but not least, we need prayer and consecration, such as shall call us back to Bible methods of living and work. A closer walk with God would help solve many of our perplexing problems. Not more church machinery but more spirituality is the crying need of our churches.

J. W. Sullivan

The report on Sunday Schools was presented by I. F. Thomas and adopted.

#### SOME FACTS FOR A SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

The Sunday School Board's report to the last session of the Southern Baptist Convention gives our state 2,181 Sunday Schools with a membership of 287,466. Texas leads in schools and membership; Georgia reports 11 more schools but 30,833 less in membership than North Carolina. She has 300 more churches than we have. In churches and Sunday School membership we are ahead of all other states.

It is distressing that American Sunday Schools had a loss in 1924, but Southern Baptists had one of their best gains by adding 155,000 to their former membership. Our North Carolina gain for 1924 was 12,269. In five years we have gained 73,048.

The work is going well along all lines. Besides membership gains there are marked improvements in organization, buildings and equipment, teacher training, and working for the Standard of Excellence. This Standard is being recognized as a program of work and not something technical.

The following facts regarding our own Association need our consideration.

1st. Less than 1/2 of the members of our churches attend Sunday School:

2nd. That steps can be taken to increase attendance?

In spite of all hopeful signs we need to keep before us big things to do. For our great state we want to join the other 63 associations in doing the following things:

1. Put a Sunday school in every church & run it 12 months in the year.
  2. Add 25,000 people to our Sunday school rolls in 1926 and press on until there are as many in our Sunday schools as in our churches.
  3. Earn 3,000 Normal diplomas and 7,000 seals for other books studied in our Normal Course.
  4. Reach 100 Standard Schools, thus having a well balanced program of work in these schools.
  5. Start the work of the Daily Vacation Bible School in our midst. This new movement is worthy of our best efforts.
  6. Never forget our greatest and holiest task of trying to win the lost to Christ. Thousands of unsaved are in our midst.
- We urge all pastors, superintendents, teachers and other workers to secure full and free information from our State Sunday School Secretary, E. L. Middleton, Raleigh, N. C.  
I. F. Thomas.

C H Martin read the report on Temperance, which was adopted. On motion it was decided to send the report to the Charlotte Observer with request to publish.

#### REPORT ON TEMPERANCE

Prohibition, a thousand times better than the open bar-room. There are so many and varied angles of the temperance question that it is difficult to decide which would be most appropriate to the present occasion. However, in view of the radical changes which have been brought about by adopting the prohibition amendment to the Constitution, I will briefly

discuss only one or two phases of this important question.

In the first place, let me describe as best I can the distressing conditions which existed under the open bar-room system. Then it was dangerous to walk the streets or travel the public highway day or night lest we should encounter a band of drunken ruffians, singing, whooping and yelling like wild Comanche Indians, firing pistols and making night hideous and the day frightful. Oh those were times which tested the courage of women and tried the souls of men! But happily, under the beneficent operation of the prohibition amendment, those days of riot, revelry, bloodshed and murder, have gone, and we sincerely hope to return no more. Thank God, however, since bootleggers can spend 50c for corn, manufacture it into a gallon of poisonous liquor, and sell the produce for us much as fifteen dollars, the temptation to unscrupulous men to enter the unlawful traffic has been and is very great. They go into this kind of illegal business for the love of money, which is but another illustration of the truth of God's saying "The love of money is the root of all evil." Let me here add that in my humble opinion, those who wear the ermine, the judges who sit upon the Superior Court bench are to a great extent responsible for the prevalence of the bootlegging industry. Some of the judges impose only a momentary fine upon these violators of the prohibition law; but what do these hardened criminals care for pecuniary punishment. They can go out and in a very short time, selling the damnable stuff for \$15 a gallon, make enough money to pay the fine and then go on in their iniquitous way, rejoicing as one who rises up from pleasant dreams. If all the judges would discharge their full duty to uphold the integrity of the cause and sentence every violator of the prohibition statute to the chain gang or penitentiary, there would be fewer cases on the docket, and men would be more law-abiding citizens. God give us judges, upright men and true, sun crowned men, who will dare to do their duty and set up so much of hell born business! Amen! And let all the judges remember that those who buy the bootleg liquor are just as guilty in law as they who sell it, and that every buyer thereof should be punished as severely as the seller, that is the judges should send both the buyer and the seller of the contraband to the chain gang or the penitentiary. If this line of policy should be uniformly pursued it would surely throw a bomb in the bootleg camp and finally destroy the unlawful traffic. Amen!

Charles H. Martin.

The moderator announced the following committees: On digest of Church letters, J S Tyson; on time and place and preacher for next session, Jonah W Thomas, J W Threadgill, D L Thompson. To nominate delegates to Southern Baptist and Baptist State Conventions—J C Meggs, E J Hutchinson, I F Thomas.

On motion the Association adjourned until 10:30 tomorrow morning. Prayer by E J Hutchinson.

## SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

"What a friend we have in Jesus" was sung, and R E Powell led the devotional service. The Moderator called the body to order. Proceedings of yesterday read and approved. Report of committee on Time & Place and Preacher. We recommend that the next session be held with the Gum Springs church, commencing on Friday before the 5th Sunday in Oct., 1926. To preach Introductory sermon, Rev M L Dorton. Report adopted.

Something having been said about dissolving the Anson Association. The chair appointed a committee consisting of C H Martin, J W Sullivan, J M Broadaway to inquire of the churches, composing said Association. If in their judgment it be advisable to dissolve the Anson Association, and report at the next session. R E Powell of Marshville spoke on Home and State Missions at some length. M L Dorton offered the following resolution, which, after discussion by number of brethren, was adopted:

RESOLVED, That we have great faith in our christian schools, and believe them to be a great power-house from which source great wheels are turned to advance the kingdom. We furthermore believe they should be supported by Baptists sending their daughters and sons to them, where they will receive christian training, such as they will receive no where else. We furthermore urge our Baptist people to give of their means to support our schools. Shall we be guided by His hand who makes no mistakes in our support of our schools.

We therefore instruct our messengers to the Baptist Convention to vote for the "Barrett Resolution," as we believe the Convention should be kept as close to the schools as possible since they are to be strictly christian, and as we believe should represent Baptists of North Carolina, and should stand for the faith once for all delivered to the saints of old.

Respectfully submitted, M. L. Dorton.

The Association adjourned for one hour. Benediction by R E Powell.

## SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

"Come thou fount of every blessing" was sung, and J S Tyson led the devotional service. J S Tyson made the following report on Digest of Church Letters:

## REPORT ON DIGEST OF CHURCH LETTERS

Received by baptisms	48	Received by restoration	4	
" Letters	28	" Statement	2	
Total received.....		82		
Lost by letter	58	By exclusion	13	
Net gains	4	By death	7	
Baptisms from S. S.		12	Total losses	78
Churches sending in letters.....			11	
" reporting no S. S.....			1	
" net loss in membership.....			5	
" not paying to 1925 P.....			2	
Payments to 1925 program.....		\$1301.82		
To current expenses.....		4087.46		
S. School to local church expenses.....		220.29		
W. M. S.....		80.00		
Total finance		\$5689.57		

Respectfully submitted, J S Tyson.

## Report on Aged Minister's Relief by M D Hill.

## AGED MINISTERS

The 1st and most essential thing in this report is a due consideration of the one's who have done so much for us. To leave them out and not to give them our prayers and sympathy is to stamp ourselves as ingrates to the most worthy of all God's children. Prayer and sympathy is just another way of saying, care for them financially, for who can really pray for an object and not help to finance the same.

There is a suggestion that may be fitting just here. If our brethren shall hope to become recipients of the board in their old age; then we shall have to continue longer in our pastorate. This you say is all but impossible. The suggestion is merely to let us see that we as a body of preachers are too shifty. The quickest road to help of the aged minister is the longer pastorate. It is the rare case that an old minister is not well cared for so far as provisions are concerned if he has lingered long in any place. A visit to the old minister will give him a new grip on life and truly the same might prove a wholesome feast to us as young ministers. Their manner of doing God's service was different from ours but I think none the less worthy. Yours respectfully, M. D. Hill.

## H M Cox presented Report on B. Y. P. U.

B. Y. P. U., like all other departments of the church, has had its day of small things. Since the day it was organized it has grown by leaps. What a wonderful mission the B. Y. P. U. has training in church membership; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded unto you." B. Y. P. U. is backward in this Association because the pastors have not encouraged the young people and urged them as they should. Anson Association is as strong as its churches, its churches are as strong as its members. Therefore the easiest way to

perpetuate this Association is to perpetuate or to train the young members as they come into the church. Each church should elect in church conference a B. Y. P. U. leader and let this leader know that the church is looking to him to make a written report to the church every quarter about the need and the development of the young members. The words of the master are just as true today as ever. "In as much as you have done it unto the least of one of these little ones you have done unto me."

Respectfully submitted, H M Cox.

## Home Mission report :

## REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS

With a steady and unvarying purpose for the salvation of the lost and the upbuilding of the kingdom of God in our Southland, the work of the home mission board presents an unbroken history of fidelity and spiritual contest, covering a period of 80 years.

It has been the great constructive, co-operative, unifying agency of Southern Baptists. The foster-mother of our weaker enterprise, the founder and supporter of thousands of our churches. With meager forces and resources in the beginning, the work has steadily grown in scope and power until it has become one of the greatest factors in America for the salvation and christian development of our country.

The following comparative statement, by periods, shows a steady onward and upward movement of the activities of the board since its organization in 1845 to 1924 :

	am't raised.	Missionaries commissioned	Stations	Baptisms	Churches Organized
1845 to 1903	\$3,520,000.00	10,586	38,793	82,742	3,649
1903 to 1924	13,731,965.99	27,468	72,829	642,492	4,524

In the infancy of the board the waste places called for organization of churches while in the later period it called for their development.

The Home Mission Board has been retrenching in their operation for several years, and if our receipts had not fallen off so seriously before now we would have had the debt removed. The blessings of God has been upon the Home missionaries. Thousands of souls have been brought to Christ through their efforts. The calls are many and heart-searching from needy churches, and destitute fields needing help and missionaries.

May the Giver of all good and perfect gifts enable us to see and feel this urgent need and come to the rescue of our Home Mission Board in a worthy way.

Respectfully submitted, J. S. Tyson.

Miscellaneous business. Delegate to Southern Baptist and Baptist State Conventions. (See Directory.) Committee on Program for next year—J C Meigs, Jonah W Thomas, J M Broadaway.

**MEMORIAL**

With sorrow we report the death of one of our most faithful and beloved members—Bro. W. F. Humbert.

The usual vote of thanks was extended to the Deep Creek church and community for the splendid hospitality shown us during the session of this Association.

On motion the Association adjourned to meet with the Gum Springs Baptist Church on Friday before the 5th Sunday in Oct. 1926, at 10:30 A. M. Prayer by I. F. Thomas.

M. L. DORTON, Moderator.

J. M. BROADAWAY, Clerk.

**STATISTICAL TABLE**

CHURCHES	PASTOR & P. O.	CLERK & P. O.	Time of preaching	Gain by bap't'm	Gain by letter	Gains by rest'n	Loss by letter	Loss by exclu'n	Loss by death	Total membership
Brown Creek	M L Dorton, Ansonville	Burgess Tyson, Wadesboro	2-4	7	2	3	6	1	4	158
Cedar Grove	I C Meggs, Marshville	J M Broadaway, Polkton	1-3	10	3	10	3	4	1	142
Deep Creek	M L Dorton, Ansonville	W C Webb, Wadesboro	1-3	5	3	5	3	2	1	135
Fall Branch	I B Little, Porter	J T Flake, Lilesville	3	4	6	9	6	2	56	100
Gum Springs	F G Walker, Wingate	W W Marks, Pee Dee	1	2	2	6	6	1	100	268
Mt. Beulah	I S Tyson, Cheraw, S C	J K Tyson, Wadesboro	2-4	7	11	1	1	2	80	80
Mt. Zion	E J Hutchinson, Wadesboro	Willie Williams, Wadesboro	1	6	4	1	1	1	22	22
New Home	M D Hill, Marshville	G H Parker, Polkton	1	2	2	2	5	1	130	130
North wad'b'ro	W O Rivenbark, Rockingham	S D Chinnis, Wadesboro	1-3	1	6	6	6	1	2	194
Polkton	C H Martin, Polkton	Mrs B L Curlee, Polkton	1-3	1	6	2	11	2	8	64
Rock Mt.	W J Russell, Stanfield	A. Parker, Marshville	1-3	4	7	2	2	1	1	194
Rocky River	C H Martin, Polkton	Earl Thompson, Polkton	1-3	7	2	2	2	1	1	64

**FINANCIAL TABLE**

*Sunday School*

CHURCHES	SUPTS. & P. O.	Enrollment	Offrs & Sch's	Gfts to Local Church and S.S.	Kap's T'm Sch	and Expenses.
Brown Creek	I F Thomas, Wadesboro	788	4	127	35	
Cedar Grove	J H Thomas, Polkton	770	6	53	00	
Deep Creek	J w Carrick, wadesboro	697	3	161	00	
Fall Branch	J T Flake, Lilesville	552	4	25	00	
Gum Springs	W W Marks, Pee Dee	890	8	90	34	00
Mt. Beulah	J K Tyson, Wadesboro	796	7	40	00	
Mt. Zion	J S Williams, Peachland	6131	2	15	00	
New Home	S D Chinnis, wadesboro	790	1	48	00	
Northwad'b'ro	R J Harrington, Polkton	12130	1	76	40	
Polkton	S J Turner, Polkton	5100	46	00		
Rocky Mt.	D L Thompson, Polkton	5140	17	40		
Rocky River						

