

Minutes of the Ninth Annual Session of the

# BETHEL

## Primitive Baptist Association

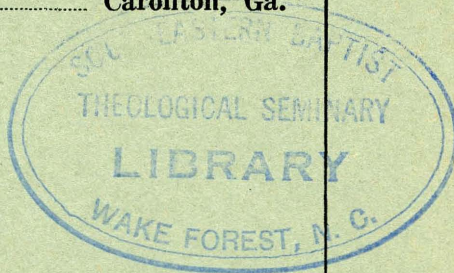
Held with Canaan Church, Heard County, Ga., September  
30, October 1, 2, 1924.



### Officers

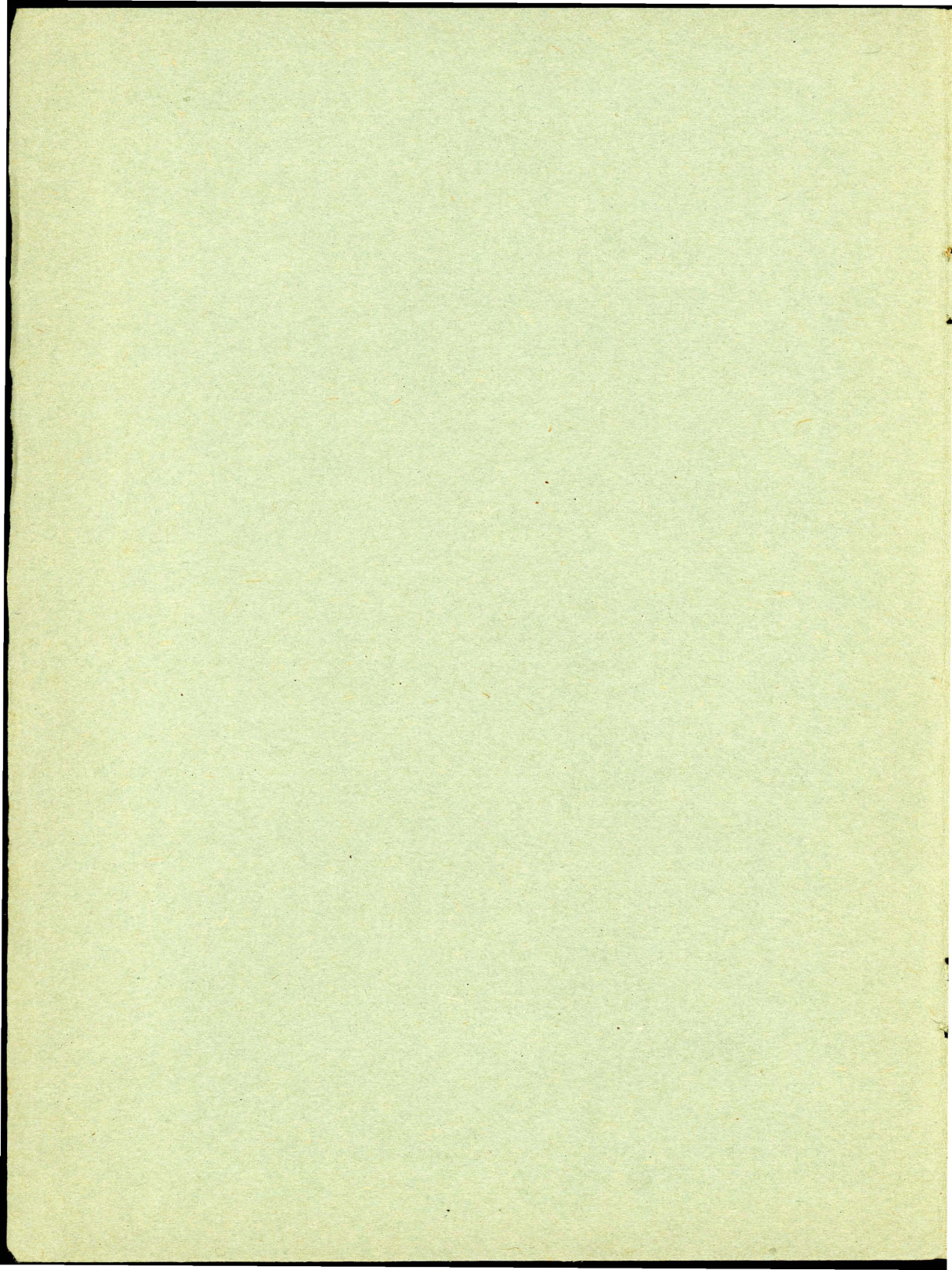
Elder Lee Hanks, Moderator ..... Atlanta, Ga.  
J. H. Burson, Clerk ..... Carrollton, Ga.

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Next session will convene with the church at Bethel, Heard  
County, Ga., Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday  
After the fourth Sunday in September, 1925.







Proceedings of the  
**Bethel Primitive Baptist  
ASSOCIATION**

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**FIRST DAY—TUESDAY.**

Tuesday, September 30, 1924, Canaan Church, of the Primitive Baptist faith and order, met, and after prayer by Elder J. N. Dunaway the introductory sermon was preached by Elder J. E. Yancey, of the Mount Zion Association; text, Isaiah 42:4, "He shall not fail," etc.

The church went into conference.

Invited members and elders to seats.

Prayer by Elder B. C. Caldwell.

Elected Brother J. H. Burson clerk.

Read letters from churches composing the association and all messengers invited to seats.

Appointed the following committees:

On preaching—W. C. Shadinger, L. H. Burson and J. B. Denney, with the messengers of Canaan Church.

On contributions—L. H. Burson, J. N. Arnett and G. W. Merrell.

To write corresponding letter—Elder W. P. Merrell.

On motion, called for correspondence from sister associations and received—

From the Yellow River, Elder Lee Hanks, with minutes.

From the Marietta, none.

From the Echeconnee, Elder W. O. Meeks.

Called for petitionary correspondence, and received a letter from the Mount Zion Association by the hands of Elders J. E. Yancy, F. B. Moon and C. W. Davis petitioning our correspondence. The petition was unanimously granted and the moderator extended the right hand of fellowship to their messengers.

Called for visitors, and received from the Primitive Western Elder B. C. Caldwell and Elder F. L. Fuller and wife. From

the Hillabee, Elder W. B. Denney and wife and Sister H. M. Crawford. From the Beulah, J. J. Jordan, O. L. Avery, J. C. Hearn and T. L. Couch. From Bethlehem Church, in Tennessee, Elder J. N. Dunaway and wife.

Adjourned to meet Wednesday at 8:30 a. m.

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### SECOND DAY—WEDNESDAY.

Wednesday at 8:30 a. m. the church re-convened her conference.

Prayer by Elder W. O. Meeks.

Called the roll.

Renewed the call for correspondence and visitors.

Appointed correspondence to sister associations as follows:

To the Yellow River, which convenes with the church at Utoy, Atlanta, Ga., Elders W. P. Merrell and J. N. Arnett, and Brethren J. H. Burson, L. H. Burson, Green Burson, M. T. Holland, W. C. Shadinger, W. F. Williamson and J. B. Denney.

To the Marietta, which convenes with the church at Cross Roads, J. H. Burson.

To the Oconee, send minutes.

To the Mount Zion, when convened with Rocky Mount Church, nine miles from Guntersville, Elder W. P. Merrell, Brethren L. H. Burson, J. H. Burson, J. W. Arnett, W. C. Shadinger and M. T. Holland.

On motion, petitioned correspondence with the Hillabee Association. Brethren L. H. Burson, J. W. Arnett, J. B. Denney, W. F. Williamson and Elder J. N. Arnett agreed to attend.

Appointed next union meeting at Emmaus Church, Friday before the fourth Sunday in August, 1925.

Agreed to hold the next session of this body with Bethel Church, Heard County, Ga., Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday after the fourth Sunday in September, 1925.

Corresponding letter was read and adopted.

Called for report of committee on contributions, who reported as follows: For minutes, \$19.60; for visiting preachers, \$66.

Agreed to have 500 copies of the minutes of this association printed.

On motion, a vote of thanks was extended to Canaan Church



and the good friends for their kindness shown while in their midst.

Minutes read, and adopted by the body.

Prayer by L. H. Burson.

Elder Lee Hanks, Moderator.

J. H. Burson, Clerk.

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### ORDER OF PREACHING.

Tuesday a. m.—Elder J. E. Yancey; Isa. 42:4.

Tuesday p. m.—Elder B. C. Caldwell; 2nd Tim. 1:9.

At J. W. Arnett's, 7 p. m.—Elders W. P. Merrell and F. L. Fuller.

Wednesday a. m.—Elder J. N. Dunaway; Josh. 24:15. Elder W. B. Denney; Isa. 40:1.

Wednesday p. m.—Elder F. B. Moon; Psalm 33:12. Elder F. L. Fuller; John 4: 34.

At church house, 7 p. m.—Prayer by Elder J. N. Arnett. Elder J. E. Yancey; Luke 16:15-24.

Thursday a. m.—Brother J. C. Hearn; prayer and good talk from Deut. 13:1-5. Prayer by Elder J. E. Yancey. Elder W. O. Meeks; 2nd Tim. 2:15. Elder Lee Hanks. Closed with prayer by Elder F. L. Fuller.

The preaching was able, sound and comforting. Sweet peace and love abounded. It was a glorious meeting.

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### VISITING MINISTERS PRESENT.

Elder Lee Hanks, 2 Edwin Place, Atlanta, Ga.

Elder J. E. Yancey, Walnut Grove, Ala.

Elder F. B. Moon, Boaz, Ala.

Elder W. B. Denney, Ashland, Ala.

Elder J. N. Dunaway, Decherd, Tenn.

Elder F. L. Fuller, Hogansville, Ga.

Elder B. C. Caldwell, Harris, Ga.

Elder W. O. Meeks, Lorain, Ga.

### HOME MINISTERS.

Elder W. P. Merrell, Roopville, Ga.

Elder J. N. Arnett, Carrollton, Ga.

## CORRESPONDING LETTER.

Canaan Church, Heard County, Ga.,  
Sept. 30, Oct. 1, 2, 1924.

The Bethel Primitive Baptist Association in our ninth session, to her sister associations with whom we correspond, sendeth greeting:

Dear Brethren in the Lord—This is to inform you that we have held another session of our body. We feel that your ministers came to us in the fulness of the blessings of the gospel of Christ, for which we feel thankful to our God.

We, as an association, desire to go on record as opposing the absolute predestination of sin and wickedness, Universalism, Russelism, no endless punishment for the wicked, non-resurrection of the body, with all kindred heresies; or any preacher coming among us sowing seeds of discord by the use of confusing and unscriptural expressions.

Our next session will be held (the Lord willing) with Bethel Church, Heard County, Ga., on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday after the fourth Sunday in September, 1925, fourteen miles from Carrollton, Ga., on Central R. R., where we earnestly desire to have you and all orderly peace-loving Baptists with us.

May the God of all grace be with and sustain and finally save us all in heaven, for Christ's sake. Amen. Elder Lee Hanks, Moderator.

J. H. Burson, Clerk.

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## ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES

1. We believe in only one true and living God, and that there are three that bear record in Heaven—the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost, and these three are one. (John 1:1; 1 John 5:7)

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the written word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice. (2 Peter 1:21; 2 Tim. 3:16)

3. We believe that God elected or chose his people in Christ before the foundation of the world; that they should be holy and without blame before Him in love. (Eph. 1:4, 5; 1 Peter 1:2; Rom. 8:29, 30; Psalm 68:4)

4. We believe the doctrine of original sin, and a man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, by his own free will and ability. (Rom. 5:12; John 6:44; Rom. 3:9-23)

5. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ. (Rom. 5:19; 1 Cor. 1:30; Rom. 3:24; 4:5, 7, 8, 24)

6. We believe that God's elect shall be called, effectually regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit and shall be preserved in grace and never fall finally away. (2 Tim. 1:9; John 6:63; Rom. 8:29, 30; John 10:27-30; 1 John 3:9)

7. We believe that baptism, the Lord's Supper, and washing the saint's feet are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of these ordinances and the true mode of baptism is immersion. (Mark 1:9; Rom. 6:4; Matt. 26:26, 27; John 13:5)

8. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judg-



ment and the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting and the joy of the righteous will be eternal. (John 5:28, 29; Matt. 25:46; 1 Cor. 15:12-40)

9. We believe that no minister has the right to administer the ordinances only such as are called by God, as was Aaron and came under the imposition of the hands by Presbytery and is in fellowship with the church of which he is a member. (Mark 3:14; 1 Tim. 4:14)

10. We believe that God has ordained good works, that His children should walk in them, and that good works are only such as God commanded in His word and not such as without the warrant thereof, are devised of men out of blind zeal, or any pretense of good intentions. (Matt. 28:19, 20; 2 Tim. 3:16; Eph. 2:10; Tit. 3:8)

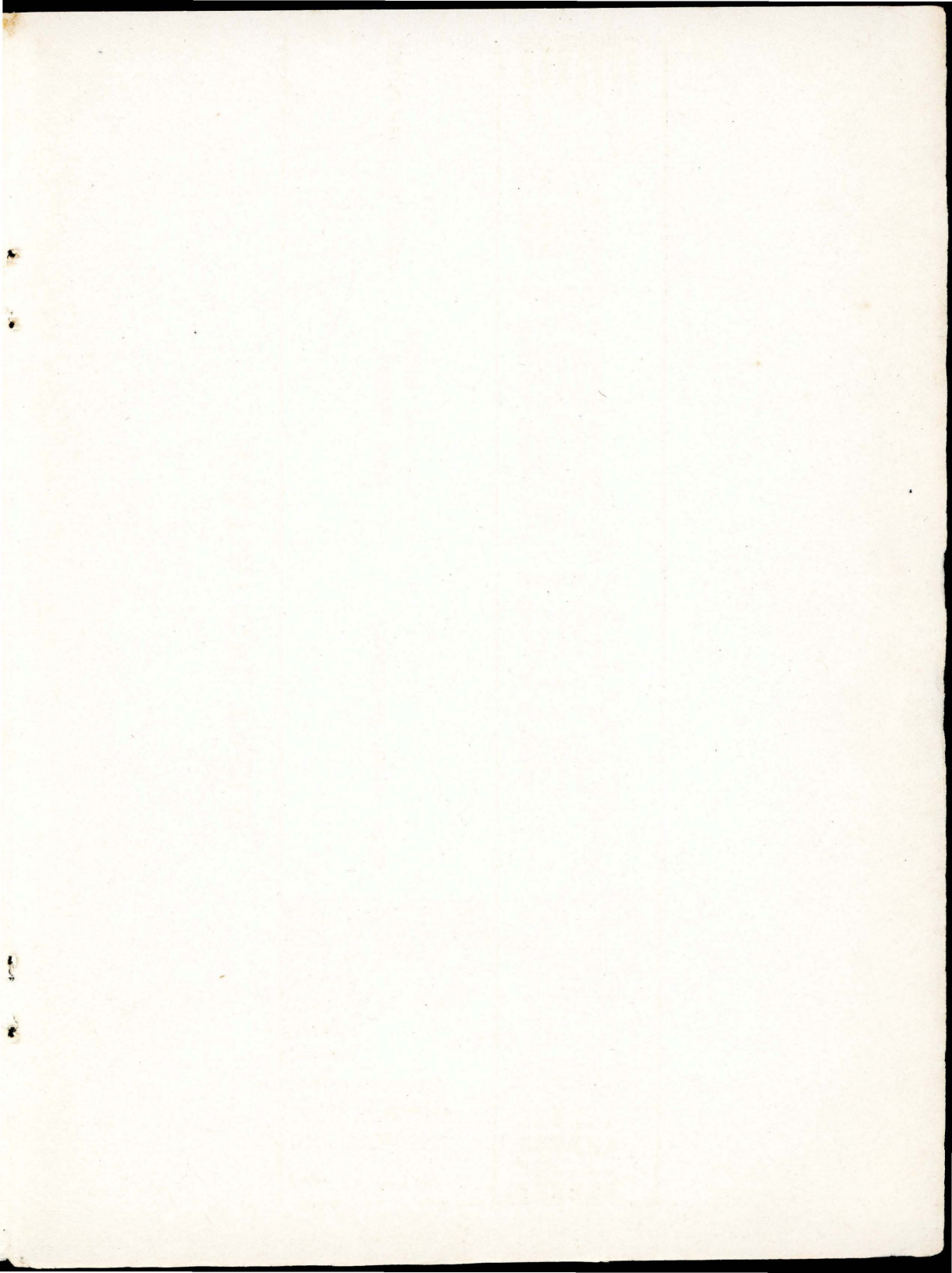
11. It is and has been the sense of the churches composing the Bethel Primitive Baptist Association not to hold in fellowship any church, member or minister who holds the following: boards, conventions, Missionary societies, Sunday schools, theological schools, Epworth leagues, instrumental music in worship of God, a salaried ministry or assessing or taxing the members Freemasonry, Odd Fellows, or other secret orders or religious societies that do now exist or may hereafter exist, founded upon the wisdom of men, together with any of the modern attempts to reform the church of God.

12. We hold it to be disorderly and a public offense against the church of God in the aggregate to receive members from a sister church on confession of faith, even if the church has error in it, until Gospel labor has been bestowed and the church has been scripturally withdrawn from. We further hold that it is gross disorder to receive an excluded member from a church until a church has been deposed or has gone out of existence. We hold it to be disorder for an association to usurp authority over her own churches, Associations and ministers of sister associations as dictators and regulators. We further hold that discipline belongs exclusively to the church and the church cannot transmit or delegate her authority to any man or set of men to discipline members or churches.

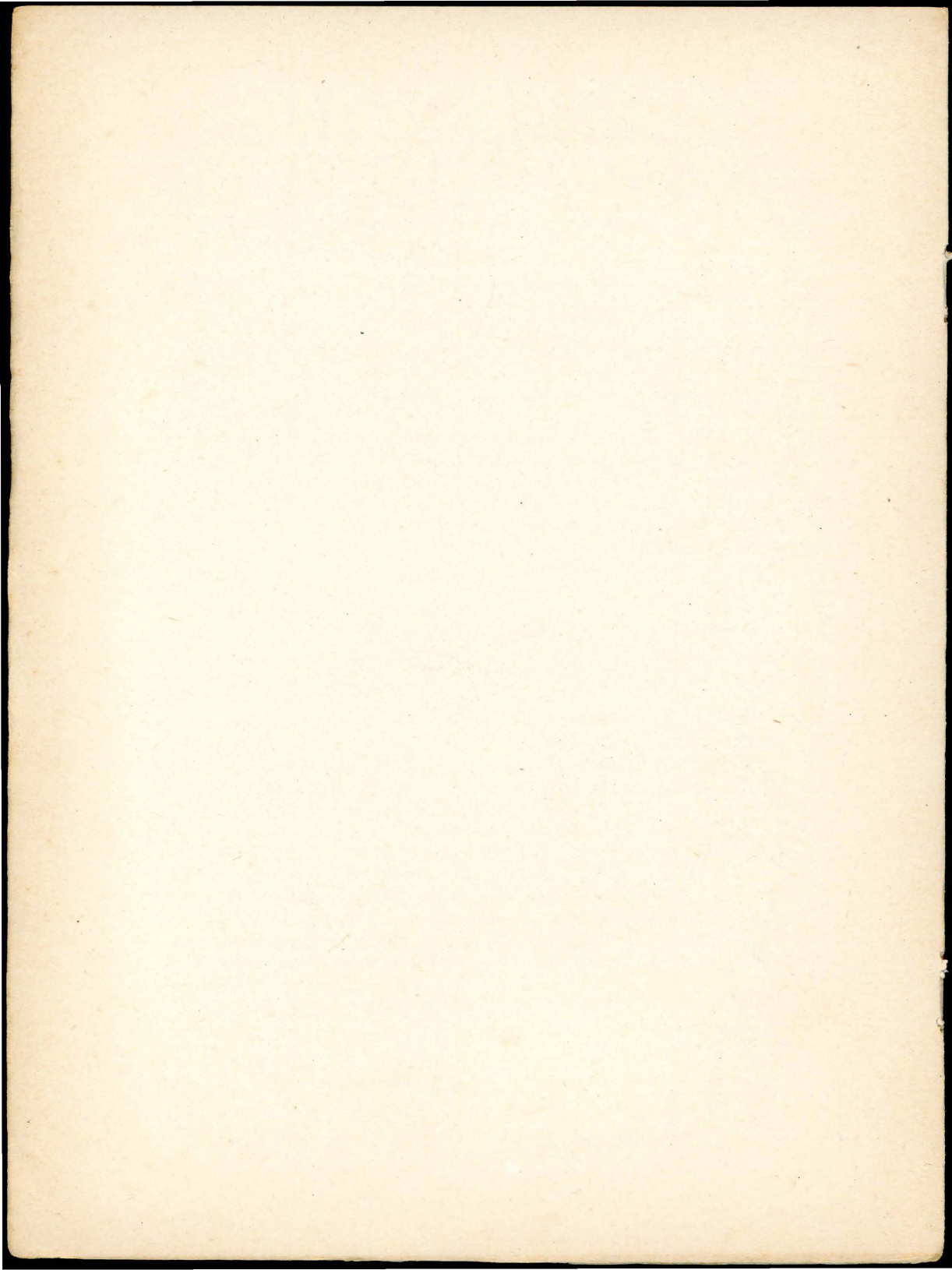
## STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS AND THEIR POSTOFFICES	NAMES OF MESSENGERS	Rec'd. by Exp. and Bap.		Rec'd. on Con. of Faith	Rec'd. by Letter	Restored	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	Total Membership	Sunday of Meeting	Con. for Minutes	Con. for Ministers
				2	4										
Tallapoosa .....	Lee Hanks ....	L. H. Burson, Bowdon, Ga. ...	J. H. Burson, M. T. Holland .....	2	4	2					2	44	2	5.10	31.00
Canaan .....	Lee Hanks ....	J. N. Kirk, La Grange, Ga... ..	J. W. Arnett, J. N. Kirk .....	1								20	1	2.50	16.00
Bethel .....	Lee Hanks ....	J. E. Burson, Roopville, Ga... ..	G. W. Merrell, W. F. Merrell .....	2			1			3		2	4	3	5.00
Hopewell .....	J. N. Arnett ...	C. R. Denney, Roopville, Ga. ...	J. B. Denney, C. R. Denney .....					2		3		22	2	2.00	2.00
Emmans .....	W. P. Merrell	N. E. Denney, Carrollton, Ga	W. C. Shadinger, Eld. W. P. Merrell .....					2				26	4	5.00	9.50
Hillabahatchee Valley Grove			T. Z. Head, G. W. Drummond .....									13		1.00	5.00
												5			

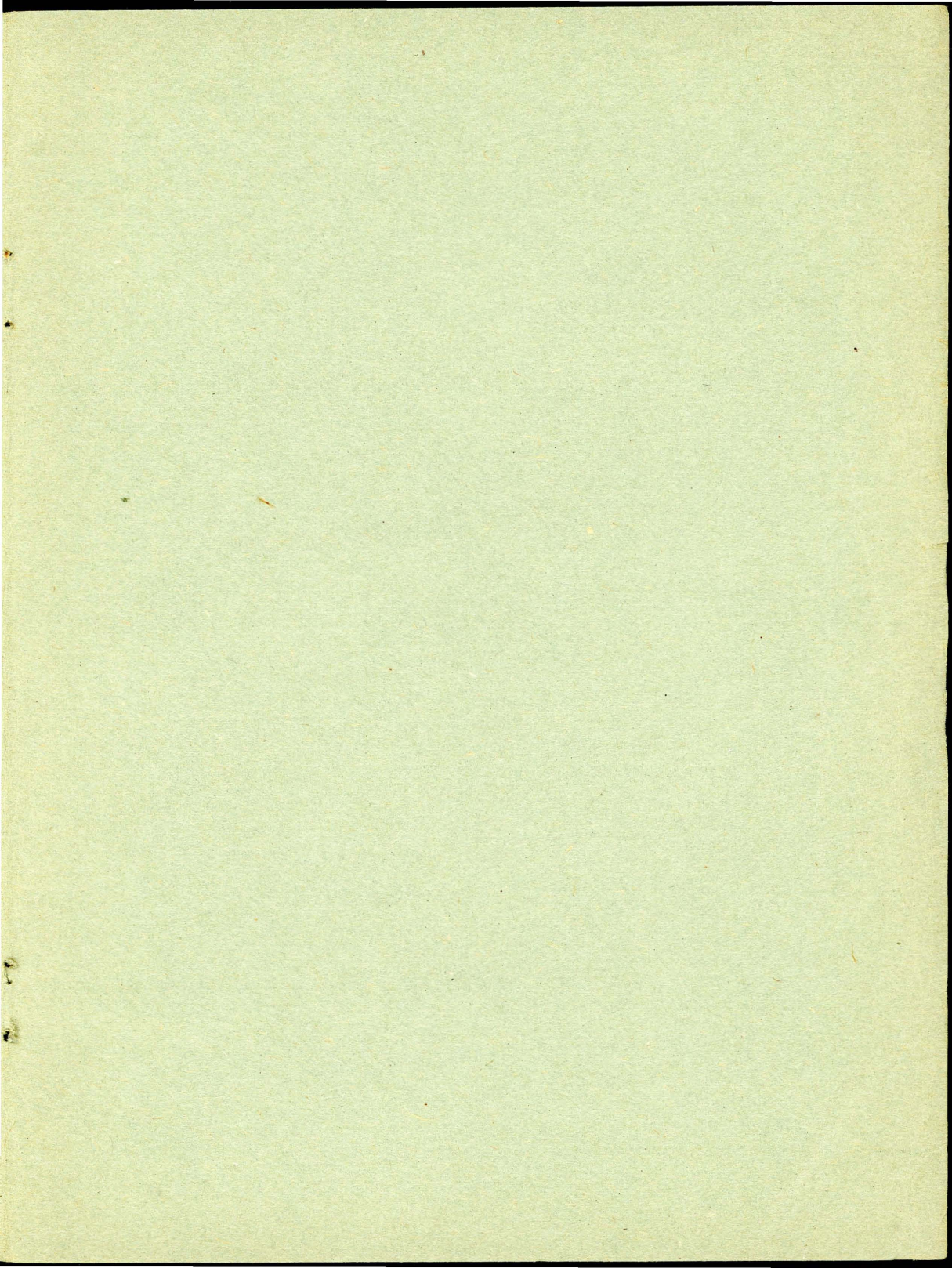














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Is a semi-monthly periodical devoted to the interest of the Primitive or Old School Baptists. It was founded January 1, 1886, and has been published continuously since that time. It advocates the time honored principles of our fathers. The subscription is \$2.00 a year; ministers and widows, \$1.75 a year. Sample Copies Free—Send for One.

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