

 To each Member that gets a Minute,—Read It All.

MINUTES

—OF THE—

AVERY COUNTY

Baptist Association

—HELD WITH—

✻ Minneapolis Baptist Church ✻

AUGUST 19 & 20, 1920,

IN THE 9th ANNUAL SESSION

S. M. PITMAN,	- - - -	Moderator
D. BUCHANAN,	- - - -	Clerk

The next session will meet with Beech Mountain Baptist Church on Thursday before the 4th Sunday in August

1921

12 miles north of Elk Park, N. C.

Rev. N. S. Hampton will deliver the annual sermon.

SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST
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Wake Forest, North Carolina

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MINUTES
OF THE
Avery County Baptist Association

Avery County Baptist Association met with Minneapolis church as designated, August 19, 1920.

FIRST DAY'S SESSION

Association was called to order by singing. The Moderator, D. A. Green, read a lesson from Psalm 103 and commented and led prayer. Rev. Dr. W. R. Cullom being present, consented to preach the introductory sermon in Bro. S. M. Pitman's place. He took for his subject the 3d chapter of Exodus. Theme: The Call of Moses.

After the sermon, the Moderator took charge and the association was dismissed by prayer till 2 o'clock p. m., by N. S. Hampton.

AFTERNOON SESSION—First Day.

Association met at time designated. Devotional service was conducted by N. S. Hampton. Singing. Scripture lesson was read from 116 Psalm. Prayer by L. C. Wilson. The Moderator then took charge of the association and the following business transacted:

Letters from the different churches were called for and in response the following were received, and read by Brethren R. T. Lewis and R. N. Cardwell:—Minneapolis,—Roaring Creek,—Pleasant Valley—Oak Grove,—Elk Valley,—Beech Mtn.—Mt. Pleasant,—Henson Creek,—Big Meadows,—Crossnore,—Pleasant Hill,—Flat Springs,—Aaron,—Yellow Mt.—Green Valley,—Cranberry.

Corresponding Brethren were called for. Dr. W. R. Cullom from Mission Room in Raleigh, Rev. N. S. Hampton from Stony Fork association, Rev. E. M. Johnson from Holston association, Tenn., and L. C. Wilson from Three Forks association were welcomed to seats.

The Moderator announced that the officers' time of this association has expired and was designated by him that the officers be elected by ballot, and N. S. Hampton, L. C. Wilson and W. R. Cullom were appointed as committee to take the vote. Committee report that Rev. S. M. Pitman was elected Moderator, and he was welcomed to the chair by the retiring moderator, and D. Buchanan to succeed himself as Clerk.

Program of Business for the association was offered by N. S. Hampton. Moved and seconded that the program be adopted.

The moderator appointed the following committees for the different objects:

State, Home & Foreign Missions: R. T. Lewis, Ch. N.S. Hampton

Periodicals: Dr. W. R. Cullom, C. T. Hicks.
 Preaching: Delegates and Pastor of Minneapolis Church.
 Education: L. C. Wilson, D. T. Bailiff.
 Orphanage: N. S. Hampton, S. A. Hughs.
 Finance: J G Buchanan, A E Norman.
 Woman's Work: M L Burlson, Mrs Pink Johnson.
 Pastoral Support: W R Cullom, A L Miller
 Obituaries: Rev W M Gardner, S M Green.
 Resolutions: W W Benfield, Ed Buchanan.
 Sunday Schools: L C Wilson, N A Buchanan.
 Temperance: R T Lewis, R N Cardwell, J D Braswell.
 Time and Place: T F Cook, J A Sparks.
 State of Churches: W J Lolly, N S Hampton.
 Order of Business was then taken up.

The Associational Executive Committee was called to report and not being ready was allowed to make a preliminary report and write a report later.

On motion by N. S. Hampton that the Executive Committee be appointed as follows:

J. G. Buchanan Chairman, Roy Gentry Secy. J. L. Pyatte, W. W. Benfield and D. Buchanan, and this committee was empowered by the association to take such steps as may be necessary to collect any money that has been paid in to erect a church house at Newland and any other business that may be necessary to advance the Baptist cause in this association.

Bro. N. S. Hampton, the Missionary for this county, reported as follows:

REPORT OF MISSIONARY

Avery County Association

Dear Brethren:— I humbly submit the following:

1. Churches supplied, 8 to 11.
2. Sermons, 318.
3. Mission Meetings, 50.
4. Conversions, 110.
5. Baptisms, 71.
6. Visited all the churches in the association except one, and organized them in the 75-million campaign.
7. Distributed more than 5,000 pieces of free literature.
8. Took some pledges for money to erect a church house at Newland.
9. As to the field work the churches seem to be slow to learn the importance of the field work, but there is a growing inter-

est in the field work, in a number of churches and a better system in church finance.

Amount received from church and people, \$505.88.

Yours in Christ for success,

N. S. Hampton.

On motion Rev. N. S. Hampton was held to succeed himself as Associational Missionary the coming year.

The subject of erecting a church house at Newland was called to association's attention, and discussed by N. S. Hampton, S. M. Pitman, L. C. Wilson and W. R. Cullom.

Rev. S. M. Pitman challenges to association by donating \$500.00.

On motion by D. A. Green that the association adjourn till 9 o'clock Friday. Dismissed. Prayer led by W. R. Cullom.

SECOND DAY'S SESSION

Met according to adjournment. Singing by the choir.

Devotional exercises conducted by L. C. Wilson. Prayer led by A. E. Norman. Scripture lesson 10 chap. of Romans 1 to 15 verses. Prayer by W. R. Cullom. Singing.

Moderator then resumed his seat for the transaction of business.

Minutes of preceeding day's session were read. On motion of R. N. Cardwell minutes were adopted as recorded.

Reports of committees were in order. Committee on Temperance report as follows, read by R. T. Lewis:

TEMPERANCE

About 100 years ago the Christian churches began their crusade against intemperance; first by fighting against church members using intoxicating drinks to an excess, finally making it sufficient cause for expulsion of members for public drunkenness, and prohibiting church members from furnishing fruit and grain to be distilled into intoxicating liquors. When church sentiment was sufficiently crystallized, laws began to be enacted to suppress this greatest of evils, first by incorporating church houses, then by local prohibition in various communities, then by referendum to the people by counties, then by State wide prohibition which finally culminated in the passage of the 18 Amendment to the Federal Constitution, and the enactment of the Volstead enforcement act.

It seems that we have sufficient protection by law to wipe out this curse from our beloved land, but we recognize the fact that there is a spirit of lawlessness and Bolshevism among a certain class of our people that is going to be hard to eradicate and it will take the combined efforts of all Christian bodies as well as the moral forces to suppress the evil of blockading in our country, and your committee,

would ask every member of the church in Avery County Association to lend a helping hand to our Sheriff and officers in stamping out this monstrous evil in our county, and if it should be found that more stringent laws should be enacted, we call on the churches of this association to urge upon the representative from Avery county in the next General Assembly to give us such additional laws as are required.

R. T. Lewis }
R. N. Cardwell } Committee.

Report on Temperance was received. Spoken to by Dr. W. R. Cullom and J. A. Sparks. Report adopted.

Report on Sunday Schools was read by L. C. Wilson and received. Discussed by him and N. S. Hampton. Report was adopted.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS

The time has come when the Sunday School is no longer a question as to what it is, its place, and its work. And no church can hope to ever be what it is possible for her to be, and do the work that God has called her to do, and neglect this department of her work. The improved methods in equipment, organization and teacher training, &c. should claim our attention and indorsement.

But your committee wish to call attention to another very important feature of our Sunday-school work. The matter of more thorough study of the Bible in the Sunday-school is a matter of vital importance. To create an interest in the actual study of the Bible in the Sunday-school means the laying of the foundation of something lasting. The shallowness of much of the teaching in the Sunday-school is alarming. Study, study, is the right name, in the Sunday-school. To fail in this respect is to fail in every respect. Let us not lose sight of two objects of the Sunday-school, *Salvation*, and *Elevation* to nobler things.

L. C. Wilson, }
N. A. Buchanan. }

Report on Woman's Work was read by Mrs. Pink Johnson. Discussed by Dr. Cullom. Report was adopted.

WOMAN'S WORK

The head quarters of our Woman's Work for North Carolina are in the Biblical Recorder building Raleigh, N. C. Mrs. Wesley N. Jones is chairman of the Central Committee, Miss Elsie Hunter is the office Secretary, and Miss Elizabeth Briggs has charge of the children's work. Information and help on any matter pertaining to the work of our women or the work with and for our children may be had by writing any of the women named, Raleigh, N. C.

The report on this subject last year showed one missionary society among our women with a membership of 39. The letters this year

show that there are four such societies with a membership of 90. This is encouraging progress. In the great 75 Million dollar campaign last fall the women of N. C. undertook to raise \$1,000,000.00. When the reports from Victory Week came in it was found that the women and children had pledged more than two million dollars. This was a great achievement. Our women have caught a vision, and are ready to undertake and carry forward greater things for our Lord.

In every church there is at least a small group of praying pious women who have the work of the Kingdom of God on their hearts. We would urge such women to form a Woman's Missionary Society, put themselves into fellowship with their sisters of the W. M. U. and get the inspiration, instruction and help that can come from such fellowship.

Mrs. J. L. Pyatte, Pyatte, N. C., is our associational representative. She will be glad to help the women of any church who may desire such help. Write her.

Mrs. Wilson Burleson
" Pink Johnson.

Report on State, Home, and Foreign Missions was all combined and read by W. R. Cullom. On motion reports were received, and discussed by Dr. Cullom in a very forceful speech.

REPORT on MISSIONS

Aug. 17, 1920 will always be looked back to as a red letter day in the history of Southern Baptists. On that day for the first time in the history of the world, so far as we know, a whole ship load of missionaries sailed from our western shore to China, Japan, and the peoples of the East. This ship load of missionaries was one of the first fruits of our great Baptist 75-million-dollar campaign. May this be followed by yet other fruits of faith and consecration until Southern Baptists to a man shall be doing their level best to bring the whole earth to the feet of Jesus.

There was never a time in the world's history when the whole earth was burst assunder and when the nations were in such confusion as we see today. Surely the master looks abroad over the earth just now and feels as was said of Him in the long ago, "When He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then sent He unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plentiful but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth laborers into his harvest."

North Carolina Baptists have three Boards or Committees that are carrying on the work of the Kingdom in this World field. For our work here in N. C. we have the Board of State Missions, Walter N. Johnson, D. D., Raleigh, N. C., Corresponding Secretary. For the

work of trying to make our South land Christian we have our Home Mission Board, B. D. Gray, D. D., Corresponding Secretary, Atlanta Ga. For the work of the regions beyond the foreign fields we have our Foreign Mission Board, J. F. Love D. D., Corresponding Secretary, Richmond, Va. Besides the Biblical Recorder, every home should have the visits of Home and Foreign Fields, and Royal Service. People cannot feel strongly nor can they pray intelligently until they are informed, and they cannot be informed until they begin to read and study. "The field is the world." "Lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are white already unto harvest."

R. L. Lewis, N. S. Hampton.

Twenty minutes were taken as testimony for surrender for better service in the Lord's work. Prayer by D. A. Green.

Singing, "Nearer My God to Thee."

Prayer led by L. C. Wilson.

A proposition was made for those to come forward and make it known to this body who were willing to consecrate themselves to work in the Master's cause in any way that the Lord may lead them. The following young ladies came forward:

Misses Cordie Franklin, Beulah Braswell, Annie Ollis, Nora Green, and Mrs. Ida Vance, Mrs. Pink Johnson, Mrs. R. L. Carpenter, and Mrs. J. W. Bursleson; after which the association adjourned till afternoon at 2 o'clock. Prayer by Dr. Cullom.

SECOND DAY'S SESSION, Afternoon.

Opened by singing. Regular business was proceeded with. Final report on Missions adopted.

Report on Education was read by L. C. Wilson and received. Discussed by L. C. Wilson. Report was adopted.

EDUCATION.

There is no question that is of more vital importance in its bearing and farreaching in its nature to the Baptists as a denomination, than that of education, and there is no question that has been more sadly neglected.

But the time has come when we realize that something must be done and done now.

To neglect the education and enlightenment of our people, means only the retarding and delay of the worlds redemption.

Isaiah said that "Wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of the times, and strength of salvation."

Enlightenment, enlistment and enlargement is the war cry of the hour. These are concomitant times, each referring or answering to

the other. And while your committee would stress the matter of our denominational schools, that should be supported and patronized by our people, your committee would call special attention to another phase of education that is in reach of every individual home.

The reading of our denominational literature; the Biblical Recorder, Charity and Children, Home and Foreignfield, many good books and tracts bring information on vital subjects is a feature of our educational work of very great importance and should not be neglected. The time has come when the Baptists must place themselves on record and stand for education for all that it means to the end that the world may be redeemed. Respectfully submitted,

L. C. Wilson, D. F. Baliff.

Report on Orphanage was read by N. S. Hampton and discussed by him. Report was adopted.

ORPHANAGE

The Orphanage rests heavily on the hearts of our people. More than 525 boys and girls are growing into honorable manhood and womanhood under its benign influenc. Its record is rich in helpful service; our people are satisfied.

We feel more keenly with each passing year our obligation to the children who cry to us for help and friendship. And as this obligation is more clearly seen and felt, we the more gladly and generously discharge it.

And this is well, for the enormous and outrageous prices that we are obliged to pay for every household necessity makes it essential to increase the current fund in order to keep our beloved institution out of the bondage and peril of debt.

Furthermore, the pressure for admittance from boys and girls on the outside grows stronger day by day. Hundreds of homeless children utterly helpless and dependent clamor at our doors. The Lord has poured material things upon us. Our barns are filled with plenty and our presses burst out with new wine. We are well able to heed the cry of these children, and we must heed it or suffer ourselves.

To give relief to this army of children we must largely increase our current fund. What comes into the treasury barely covers the cost of supporting those within the walls of the Orphanage.

We have many children here who might be cared for by their mothers, if a little help were supplied to them by the communities from which they come. The welfare workers of the state, with Mr. R. F. Beasley as their head, are trying to hold these households intact. We would give our hearty endorsment to this agency of help and blessing and thus make more room in the Orphanage for those who

have neither mother nor father but are wholly dependent upon the institution for their care and training.

Your committee would recommend:

1. The plan of setting apart ONE DAY FOR THE ORPHAN-AGE at or near Thanksgiving by every man, woman and child in this association.
2. A monthly contribution from every Sunday school in this association.
3. A club of Charity and Children in the well organized Sunday schools with an individual copy to as many others as possible.

N. S. Hampton, S. A. Hughs.

Report on State of Churches was read by N. S. Hampton. Report was received. Discussed by N. S. Hampton and adopted.

STATE OF CHURCHES

19 churches the past year reported for pastoral support, \$138.42.
15 churches this year report for pastoral support \$1,122.85; no report from 5 churches.

14 churches report Sunday-schools.

4 churches report W. M. U. organized.

2 churches report B. Y. P. U. organized.

19 churches last year reported gains by baptism 71.

11 churches this year report gains by baptism 128.

19 churches gave to missions last year \$262.86.

13 this year gave to missions \$810.54.

Respectfully,

N. S. Hampton.

Report on Obituaries was read by Rev. E. M. Johnson. Adopted.

OBITUARIES

We the committee on obituaries submit the following:

The minutes of the various churches show the deaths of 17 in the last year.

Resolved, That we as a committee in behalf of the Avery County Association offer our sympathy to each bereft family, and pray the Master to fill the vacancy caused by death with another brother or sister that the Master's cause may be put forward.

Our loss is heaven's gain.

Respectfully submitted,

W. M. Gardner }
S. M. Green }

Report on Time and Place was read by A. E. Norman and adopted.

TIME and PLACE

Time: Thursday before 4th Sunday in August, 1921.

Place: Beech Mountain church. Introductory sermon: N. S. Hampton.
T. F. Cook, A. E. Norman, J. A. Sparks.

Report on Pastoral Support was read by Dr. W. R. Cullom and discussed by him, N. S. Hampton, E. M. Johnson, S. C. Braswell, L. C. Wilson, S. M. Pitman. Report was adopted.

PASTORAL SUPPORT

When Jesus sent out his apostles he told them not to take their purse, for the laborer was worthy of his hire. Paul also said that those who preach the gospel should live of the gospel. Without question, it is the will of God that those whom he calls into the ministry shall give themselves wholly to the work of the ministry, and that his people should see to it that they receive a sufficient support.

The increased cost of clothing, provisions, books and everything that a minister has to buy lays upon him the necessity of either increasing his income from secular business or of getting more from the churches. In the nature of the case the minister cannot press this matter himself. We would urge, therefore, the more progressive men and women in the churches to give attention to this important matter and see to it that the pastors shall receive more for their services.

We would urge our churches to combine themselves into fields and try to locate pastors in their midst. We would also urge our preachers to do what they can to help the church toward this end. There are several weak points in our association that should receive prompt attention. We hope our ministers will do what they can to help our executive committee to look after these points.

As rapidly as possible the churches should increase the number of their preaching services, going from one to two Sundays, and as soon as possible go to full time preaching, having the pastor with them every Sunday.

W. R. Cullom, }

A. L. Miller, { Com.

Report on Periodicals was read by Dr. W. R. Cullom and discussed by him, L. C. Wilson, and adopted.

REPORT on PERIODICALS

Education is a life process. We begin learning as little children. Some enter our schools and colleges. All should be ambitious to make themselves as useful as possible in the work of the Kingdom of God. Religious papers are the means we have of educating our people in the teachings of our holy religion and in the principles of life. The Biblical Recorder, Raleigh, N. C., Charity and Children, Thomasville, N. C., Home and Foreign Fields, Nashville Tenn. should make their regular visits to the homes of our people, and should be read by them with care and prayer. We would urge our people to subscribe for and read these periodicals.

W. R. Cullom.

Report on Finance was read by J. G. Buchanan and adopted.

FINANCE

Committee on Finance report as follows:

Minute fund, \$33.29, also that the Clerk be allowed \$8.00 for his services.

We find that there is not money enough to defray all expenses, therefore we recommend that the different churches finish this expense, not to be less than \$1.50 to each church, to make up the balance due, about \$12.00. Also the Clerk is empowered to write the different churches on this matter, and to collect the funds.

Respectfully, submitted,

J. G. Buchanan, A. E. Norman.

Clerk's report was read by him and adopted.

CLERK'S REPORT

I herewith submit the following report:

Received as follows from Finance Committee last association from churches,	\$154.69
Sunday School Convention,	7.51
Collected after association, from Crossnore church,	1.25
“ Pleasant Hill church,	1.50
Total,	\$164.95

Disbursed for the following objects as set apart in Minutes:

Orphanage,	\$ 21.79
Ministers' Relief,	4.75
Education,	3.00
Foreign Missions,	5.00
Home Missions,	11.50
State Missions,	84.65
Printing 500 Minutes,	31.00
Postage,	1.58
Clerk's Fees Allowed,	7.00
Left over from Last Year,	.38
Total paid out,	\$170.65
Total Received,	\$164.95
Due Clerk from last year's work,	\$5.70

Respectfully submitted.

D. Buchanan,
Clerk & Treasurer.

On motion that chairman of each committee be appointed for next year to have ready their reports as chairmen on each subject, well written, and the Moderator appointed the following committees:

Woman's Work— Mrs. J. L. Pyatte.
Pastoral Support— N. W. Buchanan.
State, Home and Foreign Missions— Roy Gentry.
Orphanage— J. L. Pyatte.
Education— R. T. Lewis.
Temperance— P. L. Johnson.
Resolutions— D. A. Greene.
Periodicals— A. E. Norman.
Obituaries— T. F. Cook.
Time and Place— J. G. Buchanan.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolved, That the sincere thanks of this association are due and are tendered to this church and community for their hospitality in entertaining this association so wonderfully.

May God continue to bless this good people.

W. W. Benfield, }
D. Buchanan, } Com.

Names of Delegates were enrolled, and all were in attendance as follows:

Aaron— H. R. Ledford and Harles Ledford.
Big Meadows— E O Pyatte, and D. N. Philips.
Beech Mountain— T F Cook.
Cranberry— R N Cardwell and F G Walker.
Chestnutdale— John Hall, Elijah Holtsclaw.
Crossnore— Roe Johnson, J G Buchanan and W W Benfield.
Flat Springs— R M Green and S M Green.
Green Valley— P F Grindstaff and J P Grindstaff.
Henson Creek— Hobert Delinger and J F Buchanan.
Jonas Ridge— [Blank]
Mt. Pleasant— H S Burleson and Mrs. B E Carpenter.
Minneapolis— Aaron Burleson, W W Pyatte, W J Tolly, R Cook
Oak Grove— T Jones.
Pleasant Hill— N A Buchanan, B A Ollis, Will Maberry, C T
Hicks, and Ed Buchanan.
Elk Valley— A E Norman, D T Bailiff.
Pleasant Valley— William Hampton.
Roaring Creek— S A Hughs, W M Gardner.
Yellow Mt.— D Buchanan.

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TABLE IV.--W. M. U.

Church	Organization	President	Post Office	Members	75-million	Missions
Aaron.....	W. M. U.	Belle Sudderth	Montezuma	20		
Big Meadows.....	"	Mrs C C Johnson	Pyatte	16		2.05
Pleasant Hill.....	"	L E Pitman	Minneapolis	39	27.25	7.50
Crossnore.....	"	Mrs M Johnson	Crossnore	15	20.00	
Crossnore.....	B. Y. P. U.	Miss C Franklin	"	25		