

MINUTES

OF THE

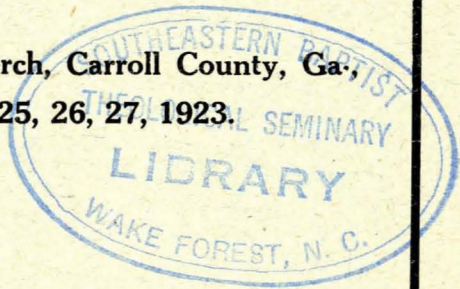
Eighth Annual Session

OF THE

**BETHEL PRIMITIVE BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION**

HELD WITH

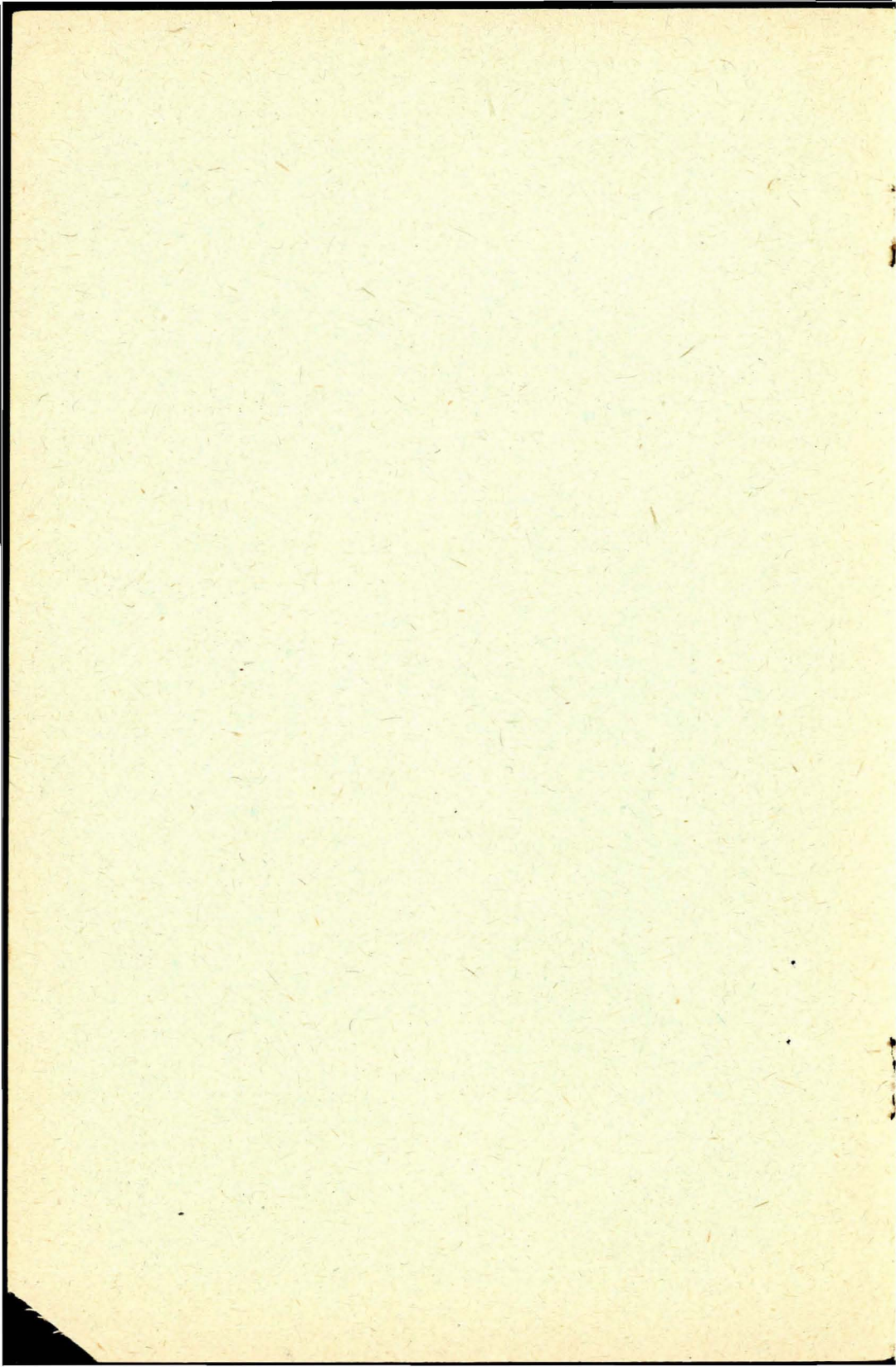
**The Tallapoosa Church, Carroll County, Ga.,
September 25, 26, 27, 1923.**

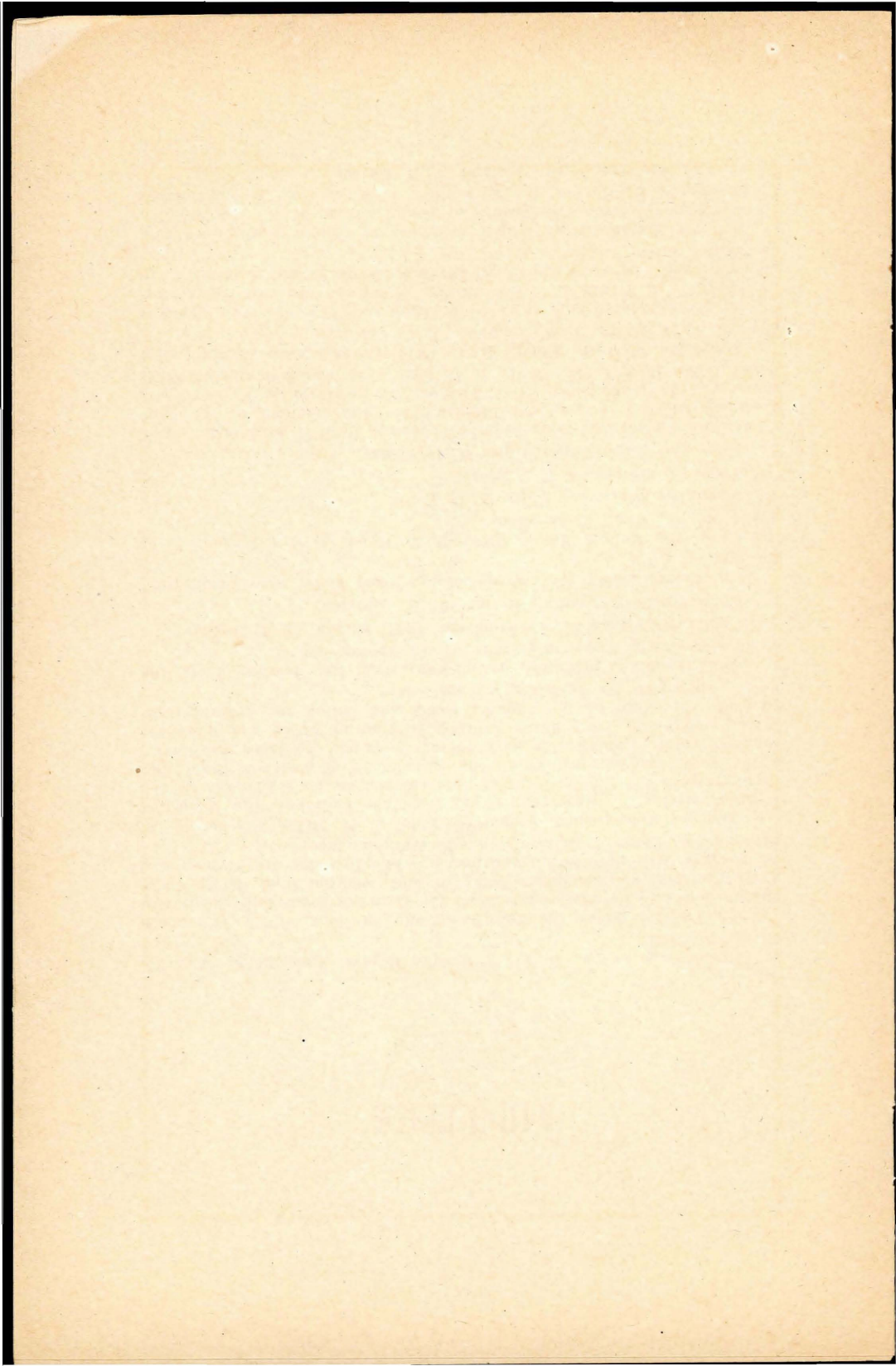


OFFICERS

ELDER LEE HANKS, Moderator.....Atlanta, Ga
N. E. DENNY.....Carrollton, Ga.

**Next Session will Convene with the Church at Canaan, Heard
County, Ga., Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday after
the Fourth Sunday in September, 1924.**





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MINUTES

Proceedings of the Bethel Primitive Baptist Association, Sept 25, 26 and 27, 1923.

On Tuesday after the fourth Sunday in Sept., 1923, Tallapoosa church met, and the messengers from the churches composing the Bethel Primitive Baptist Association being present, Deacon A. M. Keith opened services with exhortation and prayer. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder R. O. Roulston. Intermission one hour.

Association convened, prayer by Elder J. N. Bobo. Elected N. E. Denney, clerk. 1. Received letters from the churches who requested to henceforth let the business of this association be conducted by the authority of the church where the association convenes without any separate rules. Constitution or Rules of Decorum, the same was unanimously adopted. The church invited visiting members and ministers to seat. 2. Omitted the regular items and called for general business. Appointed the following committees:

On Preaching, brethren, on motion, took the deacons from the various churches with messengers of Tallapoosa church.

On Contributions—J. M. Stephens, J. H. Almon, C. R. Denney.

To write Corresponding Letter—J. N. Arnett.

On motion called for correspondance from sister associations and received:

From the Yellow River, Elder T. J. Head, J. A. Jordon, J. C. Huitt, W. W. West, T. C. West.

From the Marietta, Elder Z. C. Hull.

From the Oconee, A. J. Adams.

From the Echo Connee, Elder W. O. Meeks.

Called for visitors from orderly Primitive Baptist Associations and churches who are in good standing at home, and received, J. W. Pearson, J. C. Coleman, Elder B. G. Parker, W. P. Davis, S. E. Copeland, Elder J. N. Bobo, C. W. Davis, C. D. Parker, J. P. Copeland, Mt Zion.

Primitive Western, Elders B. C. Caldwell and Rees Prather, also Deacon A. M. Keith, J. W. Pearson, J. C. Coleman.

At the appointed hour the church reconvened in conference. Prayer by Elder T. J. Head, of Yellow River. Renewed the call for correspondents and visitors. Appointed correspondents to sister associations as follows.

To the Yellow River which convenes at Harry Springs church, Newton county, three miles south of Social Circle, J. B. Copeland, G. C. Burson, L. H. Burson, M. M. Mulloy, J. N. Arnett, W. P. Merrell.

To the Marietta, J. B. Copeland, J. H. Burson.

To the Oconee at Shoal Creek church near Monroe, Ga., Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday after second Sunday in September, 1924, J. H. and G. C. Burson.

On motion agreed to open correspondence with the Beulah association, convenes at Wehadkee church on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday after third Sunday in September, 1923. Location one mile north of Rock Mill, Ala., six miles north of Roanoke, Ala.

The following agreed to go to Beulah at Wehadkee church, M. M. Mulloy, C. R. Denney, J. H. Harris, J. A. Meigs, J. W. and J. N. and E. S. Arnett, J. H. Almon, J. B. Denney, R. H. Duke, L. H. G. C., and J. H. Bursen, N. E. Denney, location one mile north of Rock Mills, Ala., Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday after third Sunday in Sept., 1924.

Next appointed Union meeting at Bethel church, Heard county, Ga., on Friday before fifth Sunday in August. On motion Bethel's request was granted to have the Union meeting and time.

Then agreed for the next session of this body to be held at Canaan church, Heard County, Ga., at the same time, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday after fourth Sunday in September, 1924. Location at Waresville, 11 miles west of Franklin, Ga., and 11 miles northeast of Roanoke, Ala.

Corresponding letter was read and adopted.

Called for report of committee on contributions as follows: For minutes, \$17.05; for Visiting Preachers, \$63.90.

Agreed to have five hundred copies of these minutes printed and distributed in the usual way by the clerk.

Order of Preaching

On motion a vote of thanks was extended to the church of Tallapoosa for her kindness shown us while in their midst.

Minutes read and adopted by the body. Prayer by Bro. J. O. Moore.

Tuesday, A. M., Elder R. O. Roulston, Sequatchee Valley association.
Tuesday P. M., Elder J. A. Jordan, Yellow River, and Elder J. M. Adams, Oconee Association.

Wednesday, Sept. 26, A. M., Exhortation and prayer by Elder B. C. Caldwell, followed by Elders B. G. Parker of the Mount Zion, of Ala., and J. C. Hewitt, of Yellow River.

Evening by Elders J. N. Bobo, of Mount Zion and Rees Prather, of Primitive Western.

Thursday A. M., Song and prayer led by Elder T. C. West, of Yellow River, followed by Elders T. J. Head, of Yellow River, Z. C. Hull, of Marietta Association. Dismissed by W. W. West. Intermission

Next preaching by Elder W. O. Meeks from Echeconnee association, followed by Elder J. O. Moore, of Yellow River.

Tallapoosa, Carroll County, Sept. 25, 26, 27, 1923.

The Bethel Primitive Baptist in its eighth annual session to her sister association of like faith with whom she corresponds greeting.

Notice to those whom we may correspond with that the churches composing the Bethel Association oppose any church or association that takes expelled members without church papers.

Dear and Beloved Brethren: The Bethel Baptist Association in session with the church at Tallapoosa sends her annual greetings. She

has much to thank the Lord for. She is not being disturbed by the encroachments of so many innovations that has disturbed the peace of our beloved Zion in so many parts of the country. We are happy to learn that the disturbances are being removed by the churches who are opposed to the innovation by declaring in no uncertain sound their opposition to them. We stand against all innovation of men, either in secret or any auxiliary pretending to further the gospel by the hands of men. We have been in times past meeting you by letter and messengers, and desire to perpetuate the meetings that is so sweet to us. We desire to continue to be plain simple Primitive Baptists contending for the doctrine and practice the Savior gave to his apostles. We desire to earnestly contend for, without any change in any way, without allowing any inventions of men to come among us. Your correspondence is precious to us and we ask a continuation of the same. The names of the brethren agreeing to visit your respective bodies appear in the minutes.

A LETTER

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. 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.

LIST OF MINISTERS

Elder J. A. Jordan.....	Tucker, Ga.
Elder J. C. Hewitt.....	Luxonni, Ga.
Elder J. O. Moore.....	Lilburn, Ga.
Elder T. J. Head.....	Atlanta, Ga.
Elder Lee Hanks.....	Atlanta, Ga.
Elder J. M. Adams.....	Monroe, Ga.
Elder R. O. Roulston.....	Chattanooga, Tenn.
Elder B. G. Parker.....	Cullman, Ala., Route 4
Elder J. N. Bobo.....	Boaz, Ala.
Elder W. O. Meeks.....	Lorance, Ga.
Elder Rees Prather.....	Atlanta, Ga.
Elder B. C. Caldwell.....	Fayetteville, Ga.
Elder W. W. West.....	Atlanta, Ga.
Elder T. C. West.....	East Point, Ga.
Elder Z. C. Hull.....	Atlanta, Ga.
Elder H. T. Upshaw.....	Atlanta, Ga.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Elder W. P. Merrell.....	Roopville, Ga.
J. N. Arnett.....	Route 4, Franklin, Ga.

ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES

1. We believe in only one 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)

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

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 doctrines 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; 10:41; 1 Cor. 1:30)

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; 1 Cor. 15:12)

8. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment 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)

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)

DECORUM

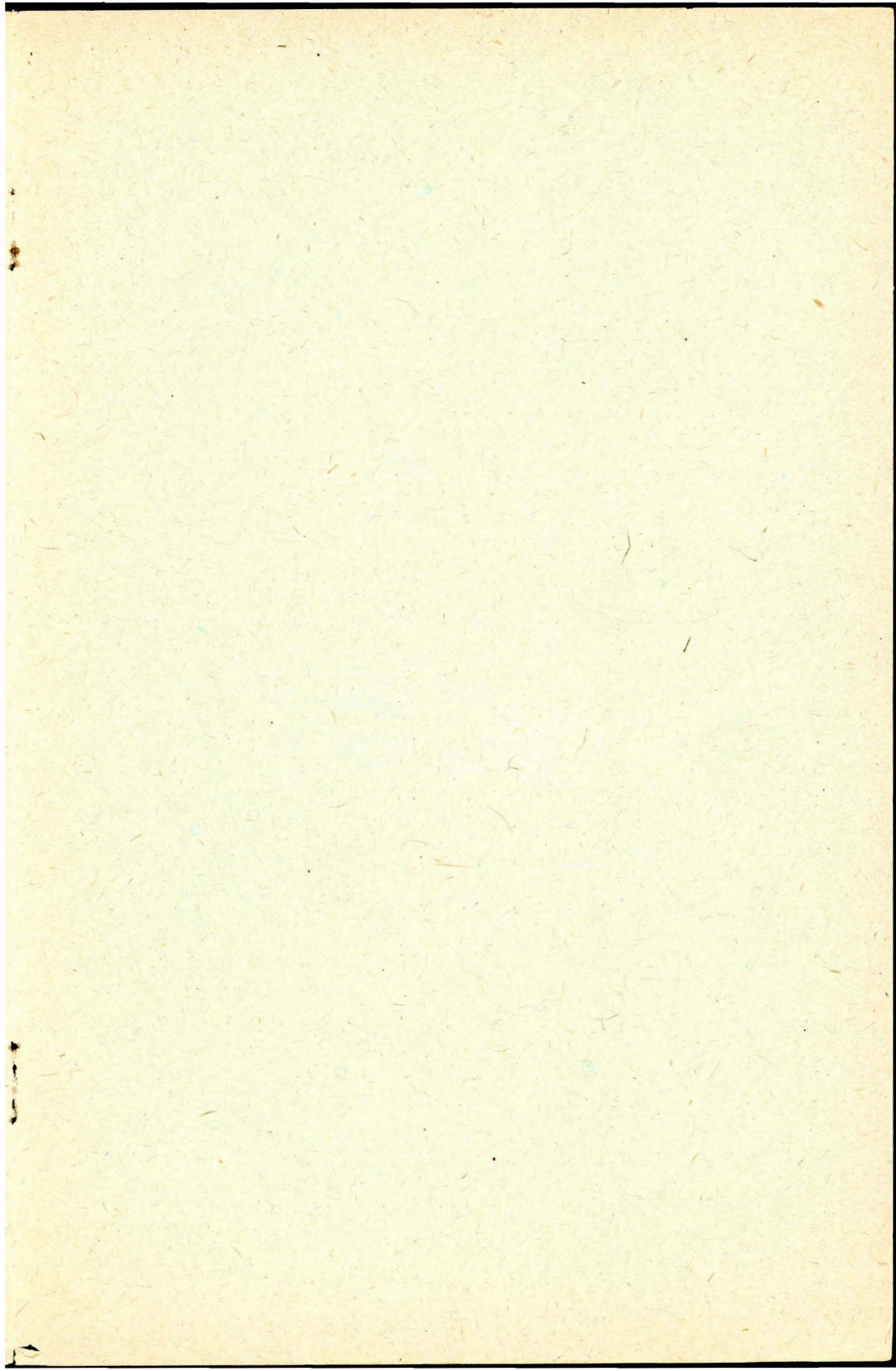
14. It is and has been the sense of the churches composing the Bethel Primitive Baptist Association not to hold in fellowship any church, member or minister who holds the following: boards, conventions, missionary societies, Sunday schools, theological schools, Epworth leagues, instrumental music in 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.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCH	PASTOR	CLERK	POSTOFFICE	MESSENGERS	Baptized	Received by Letter	Dis. by Letter	Excluded	Restored	Con. of Faith	Deceased	Total	Money for Minutes	Meeting Days
Tallapoosa.....	Elder Lee Hanks..	E. B. Meadows.....	Carrollton, Ga.....	M. M. Mulloy, J. J. Phillips.....	2	3		2	2	3	2	41	2.05	2nd
Canaan.....	Elder Lee Hanks..	J. N. Arnett.....	Franklin, Ga., R. 4.	J. W. Arnett.....	6							19	2.25	1st
Bethel.....	Elder Lee Hanks..	J. E. Burson.....	Roopville, Ga., R. 3.	J. H. Harris, J. H. Almon.....	3	4		2			1	45	3.00	3rd
Hopewell.....	J. N. Arnett.....	C. R. Denney.....	Roopville, Ga.....	J. B. Denney, C. R. Denney.....		11	1					19	1.50	2nd
Emmaus.....	Elder Lee Hanks..	N. E. Denney.....	Carrollton, Ga.....	W. C. Shadinger, R. C. Merrell.....		3	3				1	23	4.00	4th
Total.....					11	10	14	3	4	3	4	147	\$17.05	

Hillabahatchee and Valley Grove Not Represented.

BRITISH MUSEUM



JAMES PRINT—CARROLLTON, GA.