

ALABAMA BAPTIST

Frank Willis Barnett, Editor.

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CHILDREN'S DAY

I will write you a few lines to let you know how the Baptist people of this little nook at Blue Eye M. B. church are getting along. The people meet with the brethren of this church, Blue Eye, and first time in history of the church that they had a children's day and a Sunday school celebration. We had a good time and the Lord blessed us. We had the children to march in the church and they looked like a little band of angels, and were trained by our noble-souled sister, Mrs. Susan Hitt. Brother Woodward, of Talladega, failed to show up in time, so Brother Haynes and I had to do all of the speaking. But I want to tell you that those little ones that took part in the program did well. You ought to have seen them as they spoke their little verses and put their pennies in the little missionary boxes. It was so sweet to see them as they marched back to their places. But the best of all was when they sang a song and a little man took a collection up in the church for the Bible fund in China, and I thank God that our people are up and about our Master's cause, and for the faith that was delivered to the saints. Dear brother, the collection was \$2.65, but it ought to have been \$5. Will close for this time. I am going from this place to meet with Oak Grove church, to be with Brother Brown in a revival, so pray that God may bless us and that souls may be saved for His kingdom. Your brother in Christ, R. C. Hunt.



JUDGE N. D. DENSON, Lafayette, Ala.
Unanimously Re-Elected President Alabama State Convention

FROM HUNTSVILLE

Our entire brotherhood mourns the loss of our good and useful brother, Major J. G. Harris. He has for years been a profitable and prominent attendant upon our denominational gatherings. His presence and counsel we shall all miss. He was to have been here in his official capacity the day he died.

We have had delightful meetings at the First and Dallas Avenue churches. That sweet-spirited apostle of peace, Dr. H. M. Wharton, did the preaching in a most pleasing and convincing manner at the First church. Both his singing and preaching were inspiring. Brother W. J. Ray and young Brother Carson assisted the pastor, Rev. J. S. Dunlap, at Dallas Avenue church. Bro. Ray did some earnest, effective preaching. The church was much strengthened by his coming. Brother Carson, a ministerial student of Howard college, led the singing in a most efficient and helpful manner. There were about twenty additions to each church as results of the meetings. Quite a number more professed conversion. Rev. H. E. Rice, pastor at West Huntsville, will begin a series of meetings there tomorrow. The former much loved pastor, Rev. C. T. Culpepper, will do the preaching.

At our district Sunday school convention held here last week the Baptists presented the best reports ever made, showing largest attendance and largest number of conversions during any previous quarter.

—R. E. Pettus.

THE BAPTIST MINISTERS' MEETING --- REPORTED BY J. W. HAMNER

The Alabama Baptist Ministers' Conference met in the meeting house of the First Baptist church at Roanoke, Ala., Monday, July 20, 1908, at 8 p. m.

8 p. m. Devotional services were conducted by J. H. Bush, Montgomery. Prayer by A. S. Smith and J. J. Hagood.

Organization was perfected by the election of R. A. J. Cumbee, president, and J. W. Hamner, secretary.

8:30 p. m. Scripture reading by Dr. G. B. Eager, Louisville, Ky. Prayer by Dr. W. C. Bledsoe, of Lafayette.

The opening sermon was preached by J. M. Thomas, Union Springs, the theme being "The Universal Call." Prayer and benediction, Dr. Eager.

July 21, Morning Session:

9 a. m. John L. Ray, Albertville, conducted the devotions. Prayer by C. J. Bentley.

Discussions:

1. Denominational principles. Discussion opened by J. W. O'Hara, Montgomery, in a clear and forceful presentation.

2. Dr. J. P. Shaffer, Lineville, delivered a masterful address on "Should Baptist Doctrines be Preached?" On motion a committee composed of A. J. Dickinson, J. P. Shaffer and A. S. Smith were appointed to draft suitable resolutions on the death of Dr. M. E. Wharton and to send telegram of sympathy to the family of Dr. Wharton.

3. On motion of W. M. Anderson, Dr. J. M. Frost, Nashville, addressed the conference on "Co-operation Among Baptists." Dr. Eager, of the seminary, was likewise asked to address us on the same topic. The addresses were strong and helpful.

S. O. Y. Ray likewise spoke in a characteristic way on the same topic.

11:30 a. m. L. O. Dawson, Tuscaloosa, preached a heart-searching sermon, greatly helpful. Prayer by J. V. Dickinson. Benediction by L. O. Dawson.

Afternoon Session, July 21, 1908.

2:30 p. m. Devotional services conducted by L. L. Gwaltney, Talladega. Prayer by A. G. Spinks, Jesse Cook and Dr. J. M. Frost.

Discussions:

3 p. m., How I prepare my sermons, by I. A. White.

3:30 p. m. How to make the prayer meeting attractive, discussed by J. J. Hagood, W. A. Tallaferrero.

4 p. m., Evangelism, discussed by B. S. Ralley and J. M. Frost.

On motion a committee composed of J. M. Shelburne, Austin Crouch and Richard Hall were appointed to draft by-laws and program to be reported through the press three months before the next convention. J. V. Dickinson spoke on denominational evangelism, strongly insisting on this type of evangelism. (Amens.)

He was followed by Dr. Shaffer and J. J. Hagood.

5 p. m. Advantages of simultaneous evangelistic

services was passed by reason of the absence of the appointed speakers and in its stead what we hope for in Birmingham by such service was discussed by Wallace Wear, followed by L. O. Dawson, A. J. Dickinson, J. M. Thomas, J. F. Gable and O. P. Bentley.

Benediction, Dr. Shaffer.

Evening Session, July 21, 1908.

8 p. m. J. M. Shelburne read the scriptures and led in prayer.

8:30 p. m. Sermon by Preston Blake, Birmingham, Acts 11:24. Prayer, W. B. Crumpton.

The committee on resolutions reported on the death of Dr. Wharton as follows:

"Resolved 1, That this conference has heard with sorrow of the death of our fellow pastor, Dr. M. E. Wharton and feels deeply his loss.

2. That we return thanks to God for his rich gift to us in the life of this, His gracious servant, and bow in submission to His will.

3. That this conference extend to his beloved family our condolence and sympathy, and the secretary be instructed to so wire them."

On motion of A. J. Dickinson the committee on by-laws was instructed to take under advisement the organization of pastors' conferences over the state.

Adjourned after benediction by Dr. J. P. Shaffer.

R. A. J. CUMBEE, President.
J. W. HAMNER, Secretary.

NOTES FROM THE GREAT ROANOKE CONVENTION

By Rev. Frank Willis Barnett

THE CONVENTION AT ROANOKE.

This week we give up our editorial space to convention news, as we are anxious to let our readers who remained at home get some idea of what a really great treat the delegates and visitors had who attended the various sessions. It was truly a great session, evidencing the fact that the Baptists of Alabama are coming into their own. It was truly a representative body, and a great inspiration came to us as we looked into the earnest faces of the godly men and consecrated women who had come together from all parts of the State to plan for the Master's work. The reports to the convention were gratifying, and elsewhere we publish most of them. We call especial attention to the report of Brother Crumpton, our beloved secretary, who for twenty years has been our wise leader in things which make for the hastening of the kingdom. God's blessings abide on him and upon all who are representing us in our denominational work.

The welcome address of Pastor T. J. Porter was short, hearty and in excellent taste.

The response to the address of welcome by Rev. J. M. Shelburne, D. D., of East Lake, was most appropriate, witty, wise, and otherwise.

I never saw a convention organized so quickly and get down to work in such short order. It was a good omen.

Park Nichols, chairman of the entertainment committee, was in his glory for Park is never happier than when doing favors for his friends.

Judge N. D. Denson, that sterling layman of Lafayette, loved and honored not only in east Alabama, but throughout the state, was unanimously re-elected president. A just judge, a Christian gentleman and a correct parliamentarian, he is in a class by himself and is only outclassed by his good wife, who delights to occupy a place in the woman's work in Alabama. God's blessings be upon this lovely pair.

The convention honored itself in electing Dr. John P. Shaffer, of Lineville, first vice president. Dr. Shaffer occupies a unique position in the hearts of east Alabamians.

It seemed a fitting thing to elect J. B. Ellis, that tireless denominational worker, as second vice president. He is a busy man in many ways and has one particular piece of business to put through in the next few years which greatly interests the Baptists of Alabama.

I was glad to see J. L. Thompson, the South Side Baptist deacon of Birmingham, present. I remember meeting him for the first time at the dedi-

cation of the Roanoke Baptist church. At that time he was making a liberal subscription and I learn that he is continually giving for church work.

It was a source of sincere regret to learn that Hon. R. E. Pettus, of Huntsville, had been in bad health for some time, but was glad to know that his great love for the convention had caused him to make the journey to be present. He has never lost touch with the denominational work, but always has been in the forefront.

Hon. H. S. D. Mallory, of Selma, as usual, was present and as usual was consulted by the convention whenever any legal question came up. He has been a faithful worker through the years.

I was certainly glad to see Sam Carroll, of Troy, at the convention. It means much for our work when busy laymen like Bro. Carroll will travel across the state to attend the convention.

Judge H. B. Foster, of Tuscaloosa, was present. He is greatly interested in raising a fund for indigent ministers.

W. A. Davis, of Anniston, was on hand. It is always comforting and assuring to know that he is present, for he is a mine of information.

Judge John R. Tyson, of Montgomery, is developing a fondness for the convention which is pleasing to the brethren and his presence was a source of pleasure to his many friends.

Roanoke is busy beautifying its streets and improving its schools and parks. On every side I saw evidences of a strong local pride.

Prohibition has taken effect in Roanoke. The jail was empty and the lock was open, making it easy to get in or out.

The ministers' meeting was well attended and the brethren seemed to greatly enjoy meeting one another. It was a source of regret that so many of the speakers on the program were absent, and yet the substitutes made good impromptu speeches.

John C. Williams, editor of Our Mountain Home at Talladega, was present. He was anxious to attend the Alabama Press Association, but owing to a conflict in dates gave the convention preference.

Editor Stephenson, of the Roanoke Leader, got out a great convention edition, showing a genuine metropolitan enterprise. He also gave his time to helping to entertain the visitors and delegates and greatly added to my comfort in many ways.

I was glad to see that a number of preachers brought their wives along.

The new Methodist church was turned over to the W. M. U. for its session. The church is a monument to those who erected it.

I never cease to marvel at the hospitality of our Alabama people. At Roanoke all homes were opened, members of the other denominations vying with the Baptists in entertaining the visitors and delegates.

It was a genuine pleasure to be entertained in the home of "Uncle George" Hill. He is one of nature's noblemen and his wife is a fitting helpmeet, and they are blessed with a noble son and charming daughter-in-law and blessed grandson. Dr. and Mrs. Montague were also his guests, which added much to my pleasure.

The death of Dr. M. B. Wharton had a saddening effect on his many friends at the ministers' meeting. Dr. Stakeley was called to Eufaula to preach the funeral sermon.

George G. Miles was present. He is generally somewhere around when Baptists are assembled, and he is a mighty convenient man to have about, as he is capable of working most anywhere.

Dr. R. A. J. Cumble, Brundidge, presided over the ministers' meeting with dignity and ease, and he had the sympathy of the audience when the choir on Tuesday night refused to sing, the joke being that the choir loft was occupied by visitors, who very naturally were supposed by Brother Cumble to be members of the choir, and they failed to lift a hymn.

J. D. Motley, the lawyer layman of Gadsden, was present with his charming wife. He takes great interest not only in his church work, but always attends his association.

H. C. Reynolds, a business man from Evergreen, was on hand. Brother Reynolds is always associated in my mind with the South Side Baptist church, Birmingham, where for years he was a deacon.

Dr. J. M. Frost, that wise man from Nashville, was on hand looking out for the interests of the Sunday school board and giving out great chunks of wisdom in his impromptu speeches for the brethren called him out on numerous occasions.

Dr. B. D. Gray is one of our great men who is thoroughly unspolled by the love and admiration which is showered upon him.

Dr. George B. Eager took care of the interests of the seminary in conjunction with Bro. W. Y. Quisenberry, who has a warm place in the hearts of Alabama Baptists.

If there is a pluckier little city in all the south than Roanoke, I have yet

to find it. Some six years ago I first saw it. At Dothan when some one questioned Roanoke's ability to entertain the convention I said you needn't fear. When it asked for the convention it meant to do it and do it well, and right well they did it. Roanoke had many surprises for the delegates and visitors, but the greatest surprise of all was the church in which the convention was held. I was present when it was dedicated and thought it at that time the handsomest church I had ever seen in a city the size of Roanoke, but when I got here last week and walked into the main building and got a view of the new Sunday school annex I said to myself these people have surpassed themselves.

The grounds around the church are beautifully kept. It shows that some of the good women had them in charge. I wish a committee of women from each church might visit Roanoke and get a pointer as how to beautify the church grounds.

J. T. Henderson, the great Tennessee layman, was at Roanoke to tell of the great laymen's movement.

Dr. W. W. Hamilton, general evangelist of the home board, was mingling with his friends and stirring the hearts of the ministers with his love for evangelism.

Dr. W. H. Smith, of Richmond, was at the convention to enthuse and inform the brotherhood about the work of foreign missions. Bro. Smith is at home in Alabama.

The joy of Christian fellowship, the joy of hospitality, the joy of hearing helpful sermons were all experienced at Roanoke.

It was a sight to sit out in front of the stores at Roanoke and watch the wagons, buggies and other vehicles drive up laden with peaches, watermelons, vegetables and the finest fruit of all, yellow legged chickens.

I wrote that I was entertained in the home of the Hills and so was I, but later I was guest in the home of our old Atlanta friend, Burrell Sanders. He and his lovely wife have learned the art of making all beneath their roof feel at home.

How the old hymns stirred me. Somehow it thrills me to hear a congregation of men sing the old songs.

I overheard one of our ripe scholars praising the talk of S. O. Y. Ray, saying that he was one of our strong men. Bro. Ray is peculiarly fitted for work in a great district like the Birmingham one, for he knows both the city and the country man.

I was greatly impressed with the body of men making up the convention I just like to stand at the door and look into the faces and frequently stopped writing to glance around.

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Rev. J. W. O'Hara, the consecrated pastor of the Clayton Street Baptist Church, of Montgomery, is fast becoming one of the best newspaper correspondents in Alabama. His reports in the various secular papers were well written.

More and more each year I am impressed with the short time that the convention has for its work as the great subjects press for a hearing and crowd one another out.

R. F. Manly, treasurer of the convention, and S. P. Fowkes, auditor, both of Birmingham, were present.

Rev. A. E. Brown, the man from the mountains, who under the Home Board is doing so much for the work in the mountains, was on hand, to the delight of his friends.

The good women were on hand at Roanoke and doing good work, but as usual kept the men out, and I am dependent on them for a report of their meeting.

One of the pleasing and helpful things at the convention was the large number of laymen on hand, who not only attended the sessions closely, but made a number of suggestive addresses.

J. B. Ellis, of Selma, is certainly giving himself to the work of the denomination in a way to make the brotherhood love him. He made a forceful address on how the funds for the endowment of Howard College can be raised.

With President Palmer at the head of the laymen's movement in Alabama, backed up by George Mills as vice-president, something is going to happen. Many regretted that Brother Minor, of Ensley, was not present.

Rev. W. M. Blackwell, of Greenville, was greatly missed, and many a sympathetic heart went out to him in his illness.

I have been going to conventions in Alabama for six years, but the spirit of the one at Roanoke was unsurpassed. The speeches, addresses and sermons were of an unusually high order.

Dr. John P. Shaffer, of Lineville, was called upon frequently to pray, talk and preside. Fervent in prayer, brilliant in speech and charming in the chair, this noble East Alabamian won the hearts of all.

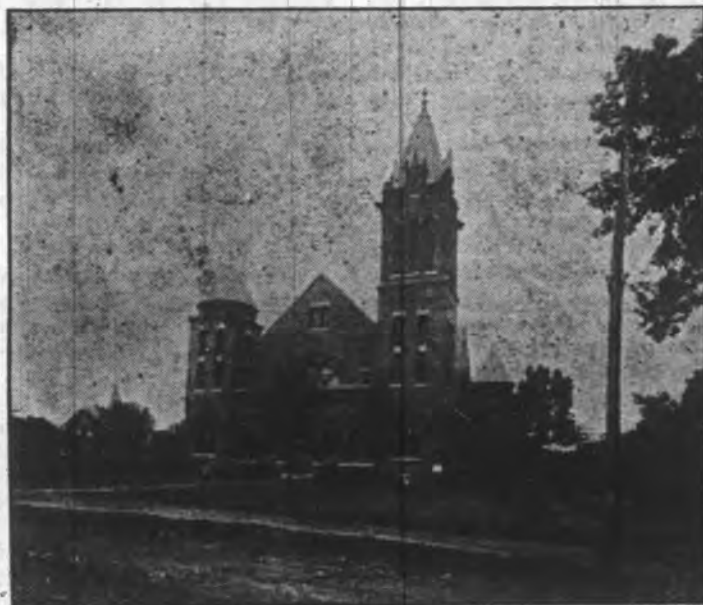
Did you notice how the young men came to the front and measured up to the occasion without any show of trying to push aside the older brethren? The brother with a "hobby horse" left the animal at home.

The delegates and visitors had a jolly time going and coming. I noticed with pleasure the kindness of the conductor on the Central of Georgia, who telegraphed ahead and got the L. & N. fast bound train to stop at the Twenty-seventh street crossing in Bir-

mingham to take on three charming delegates from Cullman, who otherwise would have been forced to spend the night in the city. The same conductor stopped the train in Woodlawn to allow Dr. and Mrs. Montague to get off, thereby reaching home without the trouble of going into Birmingham. Such courtesies pay the railroads in the long run.

The temperance report read by Rev. W. A. Talliaferro, of Opelika, was a strong one and had a fine hour on Friday morning, when stirring talks were made by W. B. Bolling, P. A. Smith, Judge John R. Tyson, Sam H. Carroll and others. If any one thinks the prohibition sentiment is dying out they are behind the times.

The Alabama Baptists will hold their next convention at Andalusia on Tuesday after the third Sunday in July in 1909. Rev. Gholson Yates, New Decatur, will preach the convention sermon, and Rev. T. J. Porter is alternate.



ROANOKE BAPTIST CHURCH

The Sunday school work had a good hearing Friday morning. Geo. Miles is always at his best when talking about Sunday school work. D. W. Sims made a strong plea for the interdenominational work, while C. E. Crossland handled the subject of the work in the State with great ability when the committee to define a plan of work for a State Baptist Sunday School Association, using the association as a basis or unit, made its report. The convention thought it not timely to take up this matter at present and promptly laid the report on the table, to be acted upon at Andalusia next year.

Dr. Geo. W. Macon, the newly elected dean and professor of biology, at Howard College, was given an ovation as he came to the platform, the audience rising and waving handkerchiefs. Dr. Macon indulged in reminiscences for a few minutes, then spoke on making great men. He said that biology, English and other branches should be taught, but the great concern should

be to teach men and make character. It requires men with a message.

The following resolution was offered by A. P. Montague: "Whereas, our seminary needs and must have a much larger endowment; and whereas, by resolution passed by the Southern Baptist Convention the movement to add to its endowment is strongly commended to the several Southern States, resolved that we, the Baptists of Alabama in convention assembled, do repledge our loyalty to the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, give cordial welcome to our dear brother, Rev. W. Y. Quisenberry, its canvassing agent, and urge our people throughout the State to give to this movement the right of way to secure during the coming year \$50,000." Rev. W. Y. Quisenberry spoke concerning his work. The convention formally committed itself to raising the \$50,000 asked.

The report of the Alabama Baptist Historical Society was read by its

convention ought to raise \$500 as a publishing fund to be turned over to the Sunday School Board and be called "The E. B. Teague Publishing Fund."

The Thursday night session was devoted to foreign missions. Rev. J. L. Jackson, of Orrville, read the report. It was discussed by W. H. Smith, editorial secretary of the Foreign Mission Board; Preston Blake, of Birmingham, S. H. Campbell, of Troy, and others. The auditorium was crowded to the utmost with eager listeners, and the addresses were stirring and informing.

That sterling layman of Bristol, Tenn., Prof. J. T. Henderson, presented the layman's movement with eloquence and force on Wednesday night. Officers elected for the movement are: T. W. Palmer, Montevallo, president; G. G. Miles, Montgomery, vice-president; George W. Ellis, secretary; S. H. Carroll, Troy, treasurer.

The orphanage at Evergreen had a good hearing on Thursday morning, strong talks being made by W. B. Nichols, of Lafayette, and S. H. Carroll, of Troy. Rev. J. W. Dickson explained how the debt of \$8,100 came about. The surplus that was expected did not materialize on account of the panic. The Baptists, however, are loyal and will soon meet this amount. It has been incurred in erecting much needed buildings and necessary equipment. The children are being trained for all kinds of service. Rev. John W. Stewart, the manager of the Home, spoke to the convention with his heart burdened and breaking for the children. He said he was not scared about the debt, for he thought it entirely possible to liquidate the entire amount. He suggested that we adopt the day plan, giving one day's work to the Home. October 3, which is Saturday, was suggested as the day. He again suggested that if every Sunday school and church would send a Sunday offering it would also do it. Why should not all the schools and churches do as requested?

The Wednesday night session was given over to a great home mission rally. Rev. A. S. Cowan, of Montgomery, read the report, and Dr. B. D. Gray, secretary Home Mission Board, and Rev. W. J. E. Cox, of Mobile, both made great addresses on the subject.

The following officers were elected: Judge N. D. Denson, president; M. M. Wood, secretary; Rev. J. P. Shaffer, vice-president; J. B. Ellis, vice-president.

Rev. R. S. Gavin and Dr. P. N. Bomar made fine addresses.

The report of the Program Committee was made by F. P. Nichols and the report was adopted.

The following new pastors were introduced: Rev. L. L. Gwaltney, Prattville; J. S. Dunlap, Huntsville; S. H. Campbell, Troy; Preston Blake, Southside, Birmingham; J. M. Thomas, Union Springs.

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The following visitors were recognized: Rev. B. D. Gray and Rev. W. W. Hamilton, representing the Home Board; Rev. J. N. Prestridge, of the Baptist World; Rev. J. G. Bow, of the Western Recorder; Rev. J. M. Frost, of the Sunday School Board; Rev. W. Y. Quisenberry, dean of the seminary; Rev. George B. Eager, of the seminary.

The report of the board of directors was made by Judge N. D. Denson. The report was short, but important in that it chronicled the organization of the Alabama Baptist Historical Society, with John R. Tyson as president. It also recorded the sale of the Scottsboro school property to the State for a high school. The price of sale was \$3,000, which sum is now held by the treasurer, subject to the orders of the convention.

The convention sermon was preached by Rev. Austin Crouch, of Woodlawn, on the text, Matthew xxvii, 46: "My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me?" He gave the following reasons why God forsook His Son: First, because Jesus is there acting as a substitute; second, Jesus died on the cross spiritually that we might live spiritually; third, God forsook His Son in the hour of death that He might not forsake us in death. The sermon was a volume of eloquence and earnest presentation of the cross of Christ as the great central Bible doctrine. The audience sat motionless during the entire hour. Rev. L. O. Dawson came to the platform and presented the appeal to any who might be unconverted that they take Jesus as their substitute. Dr. J. P. Shaffer offered a most earnest prayer for his coronation.—J. W. O'Hara in Montgomery Advertiser.

The Centennial Committee made its report through the chairman, C. A. Stakely. The report recommended an adjourned session of the convention in Montgomery November 27, 28, 29.

The B. Y. P. U. report was read by Rev. E. M. Stewart at the Friday night session, and was spoke to by Rev. S. A. Cowan, of Montgomery, in an illuminating way.

A vote of thanks was tendered the people of Roanoke for their hospitality, and F. P. Nichols was especially mentioned. The hospitality was unbounded.

Rev. A. E. Brown, Mountain School secretary, spoke on the schools in the mountains. He gave the reason for the sale of the Scottsboro school property and something about the school at Eldridge. He stated that the Bridgeport people in order to secure the school there had agreed to give two lots and \$5,000 to build a Baptist church, besides property worth about \$15,000, on which there was already a good school building.

The work of the secondary schools of the State was discussed by Rev. Joseph Shackelford, D. D. He thought there was need for Baptist schools

between the primary school and the college for ambitious boys and girls. Dr. Shackelford for many years was prominently identified with education in North Alabama.

Mr. H. B. Foster, of Tuscaloosa, made the report on aged and infirm ministers' fund as follows. Subscriptions to amount of \$2,000 have been secured, two subscriptions for \$500 each endowment fund to be paid by the treasurer on order of Chairman board of trustees; that it be called "The Aged and Infirm Ministers' Endowment Fund," and that the convention elect a board of trustees.

The report of the committee on the report of the trustees of the Orphans' Home was read by Rev. W. A. Tallafiero. The report deplored the lack of tabulated statistics, but commended the moral atmosphere, religious care, mental improvement. It urges a larger loyalty and better support on the part of the churches and a small curtailment of expenses at the Home. It paid a high and well deserved tribute to the faithful and efficient manager, Rev. J. W. Stewart. The denomination would lose much in the loss by overwork of this valuable man, and will give him more help.

The report on religious literature and press was read by Rev. J. W. O'Hara. It called attention to the influence of religious tracts, books and periodicals, mentioned the efficiency of The Alabama Baptist and our great publishing houses, and urged financial support to these. It called attention to the fact that all the great dailies of the State were giving full reports of the proceedings. Special mention was made of the Roanoke Leader and its worthy editor, Mr. O. H. Stevenson, for its splendid special Baptist edition.

The report of the committee on State Mission Board report was read by Rev. S. H. Campbell, of Troy. It called attention to the twenty years' service of its secretary, W. B. Crumpton, urged that the \$4,000 debt be paid as soon as possible and the secretary relieved of the burden; it called attention to the need of a schedule and its close adherence; it stressed the suggestion to raise \$35,000 for home missions in October; it commended the Sunday school contributions of at least one offering each year to help pay the Sunday school secretary, and further recommended the loan of the \$3,000 from the Scottsboro school property to the Home Board without interest.

The report on Sunday schools was read by Rev. Jesse M. Cook, of Wylam. The report commended the work of Secretary Crossland and asked that his report be printed in the minutes of the convention. Mr. Crossland's report shows that of the 1,921 churches, 1,246 have Sunday schools, 251 have none, and 406 have not been heard from. It points out the standing of Alabama as compared with other States in Sunday school work. The goal of 100,000 is almost

reached, 95,792 scholars being enrolled. It urges that every school send in a contribution for the work. It stresses teacher training, a mid-winter training-school, an Alabama training school, the Baraca and Philathea class work and a word of hope for the future.

Woman's Missionary Union.

The eighteenth annual session of the Woman's Missionary Union met at 9:30 in the Methodist church. Mrs. C. A. Stakely, of Montgomery, presided over the union. Mrs. T. W. Hannon of Montgomery is recording secretary, and Mrs. J. M. Malone is corresponding secretary.

Mrs. Wade Carlisle, of Roanoke, sang "In the Cross of Christ I Glory." Mrs. Driver led in prayer. Mrs. Carlisle led the devotional exercises, reading from Ephesians, and stressing the higher things for the union.

The president appointed an enrollment committee, consisting of Miss Kathleen Mallory, Mrs. Porter and Mrs. Sanders. Mrs. J. C. Wright made the welcome address in a speech of well chosen words, extending a cordial welcome to all while in Roanoke.

Mrs. T. W. Hannon made a survey of the work and gave a strong appeal for the "stranger within our gates," and the different phases of the W. M. U. work, closing her paper by paying a well deserved tribute to the lamented Mrs. L. F. Stratton.

Mrs. McClure, of Louisville, was welcomed and spoke about the training school. Mrs. J. M. Malone made her report as secretary and treasurer, showing money contributed as follows:

Foreign missions	\$ 5,140.24
Home missions	3,460.69
State missions	2,527.64
Margaret home	148.51
Training school	763.83
Sunday school board	9.70
Home mission boxes	1,057.87
Orphans' home	3,128.12
Church and other subjects	10,802.88
Total	\$27,039.48

The entire amount given for all purposes was \$30,937.41.

Mrs. N. A. Barrett read a splendid paper on the scope and outlook of the union. Mrs. Hamilton read the report of the Sunbeams, showing \$1,400 raised. Mrs. Vesey made a report of Young Women's work, showing \$2,407 contributed. Mrs. A. J. Dickinson spoke on the enlistment of all. The service closed with singing, "I'll Go Where You Want Me To Go," and a circle of prayers.

HOWARD COLLEGE'S BRIGHT OUTLOOK.

Howard college had last session large success, and that in spite of the panic and consequent financial trouble.

The enrollment was 192, 40 of whom were young preachers.

There were nineteen graduates, who will become preachers, lawyers, physicians, farmers, and business men. Graduates who purpose to teach are engaged almost immediately after

leaving college. The call for Howard teachers is far larger than the supply.

The financial condition of the college for last session was good, and this, too, in face of marked stringency in money matters.

For the coming college year the faculty has been enlarged and greatly strengthened. The admirable man and able teacher, George W. Macon, has come back to us; and two other new men, representing Harvard and Chicago, have been elected.

Howard college asks the Baptists of Alabama for \$7,000 for the current fund next session. The increased expense for salaries of strong men and the necessity for immediate repairs call for large assistance. The president and his colleagues are canvassing, though, as they have never done before. They are getting into touch in our quest for boys with well nigh every section of our state.

The management desires to place Howard college on the hearts of Baptist people over the entire commonwealth.

Howard college stands for mental development and for the moulding of character. Let us give it constant and generous aid.

A GOOD MEETING.

A gracious meeting, which began June 15th, closed a few days ago at the East Hill Baptist church, Pensacola, of which Rev. J. W. Sentoffitt is pastor. He was ably assisted by Rev. John A. Wray, who is now pastor at Live Oak, Fla. About thirty-six more received for baptism and fourteen by letter, making a total of fifty.

Brother Wray has had a great deal of experience in the evangelistic work and has met with marked success in this line as well as in the pastorate. He is a very fluent and easy speaker, and is always interesting and deeply in earnest. At times he is dramatic in his delivery and always presents the old gospel in an attractive manner.

On one Sunday afternoon he held a service for men only at the First Baptist church, and near the close of the series of meetings preached on the subject, "Why I am a Baptist." He did it in a very judicious manner, without giving offense, and yet none the less effectively. Throughout the meeting some of our distinctive principles were clearly and forcibly presented. The East Hill church is in a growing section and has a bright prospect. The work at the First church is progressing, though somewhat slowly during these hot days. We are arranging for a special meeting in the fall. I enjoy the weekly visits of the Alabama Baptist and am always interested in Alabama affairs. I have a number of copies of minutes of the Alabama Baptist convention, reaching back in the seventies, and perhaps some earlier. If Brother Crumpton or the board or the Alabama Baptist can find them useful, I shall be glad to send them up with my compliments. With love for all my old Alabama friends, sincerely, Thos. M. Callaway.

REPORTS MADE TO THE CONVENTION AT ROANOKE

THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STATE BOARD OF MISSIONS.

With profound sorrow we report the death of one of our oldest and most faithful members. The following resolutions express in a feeble way the board's appreciation of him:

Whereas, God, in His allwise providence, has removed from us our beloved brother, John G. Harris, one of our oldest and most faithful members, and one of the most useful laymen in the denomination, therefore be it resolved:

That in the death of our brother we have lost a true and tried and faithful member of our board. His connection with the denomination work for more than twenty years, as owner and editor of the Alabama Baptist and as a member of the board, has given him a wide circle of friends in our beloved State, who mourn with us his loss.

That in his position as layman he made himself eminently useful and set an example worthy of emulation by the laymen of our churches.

That we extend to his family our sincere sympathy and pray for them the all sufficient grace of our Christ.

Throughout the year your board has continued evidence of the blessings of the Lord on the workers and the work. We are privileged to report the largest number ever employed and the greatest work ever done.

Beginning the year with the annual meeting in November, we were greatly puzzled to know what was best to do. With a debt of several thousand dollars on us and a money panic on the country, prudence called for retrenchment; but considering the great needs, with firm faith in God and His people, we determined to lay out the work on an advanced scale. In part, at least, we have not been disappointed. For home and foreign missions we did not receive the amount apportioned us, but made a gratifying increase over last year. The amount for State missions is much below what we had a right to expect. The total amounts for each of the mission boards are as follows:

State missions	\$20,165
Home missions	18,016
Foreign missions	28,513

Total

.....	\$66,694
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This is \$219 more for home missions than last year and \$2,954 more for foreign missions and \$635 less for State missions.

We regret to report a Debt on the State Mission Account. Before the adoption of the schedule some debt at the convention was hardly thought worthy of mention. But now since everything has a regular time, a debt is a very serious matter. Not until February can another call be made for State missions. We are at a loss to know how we are going to carry the missionaries through until February. The debt is

near \$4,000. Since the books closed we have received for State missions \$1,027. We have no words of censure for any one. Maybe all did their duty. Certain we are that the pastors and many of the brethren and sisters were kept posted about the condition of affairs from week to week. It looks as if there is no hope of getting pastors and churches away from the idea that we must wait until the last month

To Make a Grand Dash for the Mission Boards.

The last few days of April brought more than \$20,000 into the treasury for home and foreign missions and saved us the mortification of falling below the figures of last year. It becomes harder each year to stir the churches and pastors the last month. After April comes a let-down, and it is next to impossible to arouse interest again for the June campaign for State missions. The folly and real hazard of depending upon spurts and jerks ought to be apparent to every thinking person. The money may come that way for awhile, but the training is bad. The after effects are really hurtful. The steady all-the-year pull is the one that will tell most year pull is the one that will tell most money finally. Everett Gill, our missionary from Italy, said at the Hot Springs convention, "Italy is not to be taken by a brilliant dash of cavalry, but by siege work." Put Alabama in the place of Italy, and it is equally true. It is especially true of church development along any line. Siege work is what we need. If our pastors could only learn its importance! There is no hope for further development along the line of benevolence unless the pastors are willing to get down to straight all-the-year pulling.

The Introduction of the Scheme has done much good. It is in use in hundreds of country and village churches. We are absolutely sure of the wisdom of the plan, though our larger churches, where the greatest results might be obtained, are not using it. To give it up would be a step backward and would work harm to our benevolent operations. To continue it with a majority of pastors out of sympathy with it, if not opposed to it, looks like an attempt to force on them what they do not want. We are at a loss to know what is best to do under the circumstances. Shall we continue the schedule or give it up? If the plan could receive anything like hearty and unanimous support, and the brethren representing different interests would throw themselves earnestly in co-operation, the results would be most satisfactory. Some slight changes need to be made to make it more effective. It is possible for us to divide the State into twelve parts so as to distribute the collections for the different objects in different sections and thus bring some money for each object into the treasury all the year round. This, how-

ever, should be considered by the different interests in connection with the Committee of Co-operation.

The Apportionment should be adhered to. The churches are beginning to take pride in raising the amounts asked of them by the associations. The Committee of Co-operation should be continued and this work turned over to them. It would be well if all the interests could be represented before the committee at its meeting, which meeting should be called as soon after the convention as possible. The committee should remain together until the amounts are apportioned to the association and the table of apportionment prepared. They should also seek to impress the moderators with the importance of exercising great care in the selection of men for the Committee on Apportionment. This is one of the most important committees to be appointed by the moderators. A careless or indifferent committee, or one composed of men opposed to missions, can bring the whole scheme into disrepute and assure its certain failure.

A question has arisen in the minds of many

When Does the Centennial Year Close?

As there was no mission collection after the convention until October, and as the event we celebrate occurred in October, by agreement with the Centennial Committee we have been figuring on the last day of October as the close of the century's celebration.

A Suggestion.

The month of October is home mission month. If we could by concerted action raise the whole apportionment, \$35,000 in full, for that board, it would be the greatest possible good to the Home Board and at the same time come near rounding out the \$100,000 named for the Centennial offering. This would not be hard to do. The last fifteen days of April \$14,370 were given to the Foreign Board and \$6,216 for home missions, making \$20,586 in half a month, with almost no pressure. We can, if we will arouse ourselves, raise the full amount for home missions in October.

A Great Opportunity for the Baptists of Alabama

is very nearly thrown away each year. We refer to the evangelistic labors of our more than fifty ministerial students during the vacation. The secretary puts forth efforts each year to have them employed by the executive committees for colportage, Sunday school and evangelistic work in the associations. He finds it almost impossible to secure the co-operation of the committees. In some instances they claim lack of authority. In others, want of funds, and in some a doubt about the efficiency of the work done by an inexperienced young man. As to the first—want of authority—we hope the associations will put that matter at rest at their

sessions this fall by instructing their committees to exercise all diligence in the employment of such help as may be at hand. The next objection, want of funds, may seem serious, but will the funds ever be in hand unless something is attempted? Our experience leads us to believe that the churches, when they learn that something is being done, will cheerfully give to the work, but they will not give money to be held in hand, with no prospect of its being used. As to the fear that an inexperienced young man will not do acceptable work, we are sure it is a great mistake. If the young man is pious and industrious he will often make up in zeal and enthusiasm what he may lack in experience. The Zion Association, Covington county, has two student preachers employed; the Geneva and Coosa River one each. We know of no others doing missionary work except the five employed directly by the board. We could have forty or fifty at work if we could arouse interest in the executive committees of associations and gain their co-operation. The Alabama students in all our schools ought to be put to work every summer in the State. Besides the valuable work they would do, we would thereby assist them in continuing their college courses and finally settle them permanently in their native State when their school days are over.

Any loyal Baptist examining the minutes of our convention

Will Be Made Ashamed at Our Sunday School Showing.

But Secretary Crossland is removing our reproach. Of the 1,921 churches, his investigation shows 657 that do not report schools. A bad showing still, but a great improvement over past years.

"For this centennial year 100,000 pupils in our Sunday schools" was the slogan suggested by the secretary. His latest information shows 95,792, so that we lack only 4,209 of rounding up the 100,000, a number which we can easily add before the close of October. Another year we ought to add 50,000 new pupils to the number. Would it not be glorious to report in 1909 a Sunday school in every Baptist church in Alabama? Why should we not cherish an ambition like that?

The Sunday School Board at Nashville has given to us for the support of this department \$200 in money and \$300 in Bibles. Most of the Bibles were turned into money and applied to the support of this work. The Sunday schools contributed \$129 on pledges. However, much more than that comes regularly into the mission treasury from the Sunday schools not directed to the Sunday school department. We are asking each school to give one Sunday's collections each quarter for the support of this department. Some have cheerfully complied, but the most of them have made no response.

Secretary Crossland is getting ac-

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quainted with the field and has the work well in hand. The field is so broad and the needs so great, we could profitably employ several more men in this branch of service had we the means. In the minutes will be found an illuminating table of statistics, prepared by the secretary. The cost will be considerable, but we believe it is money well spent, for it shows exactly what we are doing. What we are not doing is an alarming feature of the tables.

At the request of the Alabama Baptist Young People's Union we have allowed Brother Crossland to become their field worker. The field is the same and the work is so related as to be practically one.

The Evangelists, three in number, have been much in demand. They have lacked \$905 of paying their own way. Some of the churches remunerate them liberally, but some others are not nearly so liberal with them as with independent evangelists. The idea that they are in the employ of the board seems to be in the way of their greatest remuneration. Some of the States are able, through the evangelists, to add many hundreds of dollars to the treasuries for State missions. Alabama has not found out how to do this. More and more we hope to employ the evangelists in reaching the weaker churches, where their services are greatly needed. As the stronger churches, which use them, increase their support, we will be able to extend help to the weak ones.

The Tract Fund has received only \$31 in contributions this year, two brethren giving \$20 of that. We have paid out much more than that sum. Heretofore most of the support of this fund came from the lectures of the secretary, but the pressure upon his time has been so great he has not lectured once this year.

We have printed 60,000 tracts. The demand for this sort of literature is increasing. There can be no question of its value. Fuel must be liberally supplied the engine to keep the fire ablaze that makes the steam that drives the machinery. It would be the poorest economy to cut down the supply of fuel. Printed matter is the fuel in the denominational machinery that keeps alive interest in the various enterprises we are fostering. The ever increasing bills for printed matter and postage is the best index of growth. We send out from the office an enormous amount of religious literature. This includes our own tracts and those furnished by the boards and Publication Society, besides the monthly mission papers of the boards.

This has been a hard year on our **Bible and Colportage Work.**

Though we have sold probably as many books, the money stringency has practically driven some of the colporters out of business. Because of the slow sale we have declined to appoint new men. We are still firmly of the opinion that a great field of usefulness is here. The contributions of the churches in the month given to this work are something

over \$100 in advance of last year, \$485 being the amount given this year. Could there be a large increase, we could greatly enlarge operations. We can never do much business until we have some capital on which to operate.

The Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund.

Since giving it a month in the regular schedule contributions have grown. In 1904, the year before the schedule was adopted, \$51 was the amount given. In 1905, the first year of its adoption, \$124 was the amount; in 1906, \$260; 1907, \$674; in 1908, \$1,032. If the pastors would put it before their people it would strike a tender chord in their hearts.

Last year a move was started to put this on another basis. It is a serious question for the convention to decide. Shall we use the agency we now have or give place to the new? By the present plan we can manipulate the funds entrusted to us with almost no expense and with practical knowledge of the situation, which no new committee could have. It is impractical to have two agencies doing the same work in the same field. We submit therefore to the convention the question: Shall this board continue to put forth efforts for the old ministers, or shall it be turned over to new hands?

One of our beneficiaries, C. C. Billingsley, after many long years in the service, passed away. The little we were able to do for him was a great comfort in his declining days. We have had eight on our list of beneficiaries. Others have been helped by the associations, which have not been reported to us. It is proper in this connection to add another word about our deceased brother, Major John G. Harris. He it was who first offered the resolution in this convention, at its session in 1878, to raise a fund for the support of aged and infirm ministers. He was a layman, and the subject appealed to him as it ought to appeal to every layman. He was a good speaker and easily carried the convention with him, and the fund was established. Through all these years it has aided many an old servant of God. Whatever usefulness it attains in the future it will be a monument to the kind heart and noble spirit of the layman who first arose in his place at Talladega and made the motion that some provision be made for our worn-out preachers.

The Colored People seem deeply grateful for the help we are extending in the support of Brother A. F. Owen, the teacher in the theological department of the Selma University. This year the enrollment was the largest in the history of the institution—762, seventy-six preachers among them.

The Woman's Central Committee has established headquarters in the Watts building, Birmingham. More than ever before we have helped them financially in getting located in their new quarters and in various other ways. No money we invest pays so well as this. The Woman's Missionary Union of Alabama reported at the Southern Baptist Convention for home missions \$5,088 and for

foreign missions \$6,596. They report for State missions \$2,761, making a total of \$14,445. Now that they are permanently located and have a secretary-treasurer giving all her time to the office, we look for them to make marvelous growth. From their office in Birmingham they are sending out mission literature like a stream to bless all parts of our fair State.

Our Secondary Schools.

At Gaylesville, Cherokee county, the Home Board owns splendid property and has maintained a school this year with three teachers and 146 pupils. At Eldridge there were three teachers and 107 pupils, two ministerial students among them. At Scottsboro eight teachers and 179 pupils, nine of whom were young preachers.

The citizens of Scottsboro, wishing to secure the location of the State High School, purchased our school property, paying to the treasurer of the convention \$3,000, receiving the benefit of the \$1,500 originally paid by them in the purchase of the property.

The Home Board has a liberal offer of property at Bridgeport and at Pisgah, both points being in Jackson county. Our latest information is that a school will be established at each point. We would recommend that the \$3,000 be loaned the Home Mission Board for two years without interest, to be used in the erection of a dormitory at Bridgeport, to cost not less than \$6,000. We will thus be aiding them to establish a school in our State, and later on we can decide what is best to be done with the money. We would suggest, however, that it be used for secondary education somewhere in North Alabama. We have a school, all our own, at Healing Springs, in Washington county. We had an attendance of 69 pupils the past year and employed three teachers. The Newton Collegiate Institute, with its buildings and eight acres of land, is now the property of the convention, entirely free from debt. It reports six teachers, 340 pupils, fourteen young preachers among them. The trustees of Howard College, by his consent, loaned President Montague to the Newton school for thirty days. The school has outgrown every building it has. To do the work creditably it is absolutely necessary to have a building to cost not less than \$15,000 or \$20,000. President Montague in thirty days secured bonds, payable in five annual installments, for \$——. This valued brother has achieved great things since his coming to Alabama. He has done no greater work at any time than this for this worthy school. As reports will be made to the convention by the trustees of all the schools, it is not necessary that we say more.

A Retrospect.

Our corresponding secretary rounds out with this convention twenty years of service, one year as an evangelist under the appointment of the board, ten years continuously as corresponding secretary. Returning from Kentucky, after an absence of more than three years, he resumed his old place, which he has held for nine years.

He was elected corresponding secretary first in 1885. In that year the Southern Baptist Convention minutes show 1,305 churches in the State. The minutes of 1908 show 1,927. Then our membership was 76,717; now 161,408. Then we gave for State missions \$9,402, for home missions \$1,871, for foreign missions \$2,150; total, \$13,425. An advance in the number of churches of 616; members, 84,691, and contributions for missions, \$53,269. Granting that the statistics were not as accurate then as they are now, still the showing is very remarkable. This has been accomplished by the enlistment of only a fraction of our forces. What could we not have done if all our membership had been actively engaged? Looking back further through the thirty-seven years of your board's history, we mark marvelous progress along every line of denominational life. Opposition which met us at every turn in the beginning has ceased entirely in many sections, and everywhere it is giving way. This has been accomplished by the patient dissemination of information. No harsh words have been used, but the faithful presentation of facts and appeals to the word of God and the love of God has done the work. Back there the church knew but little about missions anywhere. In many sections they had heard ten words against where they had heard one in favor of missions. They knew absolutely nothing about church finances. As a result, the preachers had a most uncertain living. The board was slow to press upon the pastors and churches questions which might provoke discussion and maybe cause division. After years the idea of enlargement began to possess the board. Many of the pastors yielded a ready response, and the move forward from that time has been most gratifying. It might have come earlier, but we were afraid. It could be more marked now, but we are still afraid. Our unbelief is our shame.

The Increase of Wealth in Alabama in town and city and country is amazing. Almost anywhere one goes in the country men can be found owning hundreds and some thousands of acres of land, every acre of which is worth five times what it was worth five years ago. The people are well-to-do or absolutely wealthy and do not seem to know it. The meeting houses and the preachers' salaries and the mission collections do not feel the effects, but wealthy they are in spite of claims to poverty, which they often make. Much of this wealth is falling to Baptists who are untrained in church and benevolent work. If we hold these people and their children we must bestir ourselves. Other denominations are sending out their strongest and best men into sections where now the Baptists hold sway. The new settlements must have live and progressive pastors. There must be much voluntary mission work done by pastors. There are many communities where the board's missionaries cannot reach, or if they could, they could not get the hold on the people that strong neighboring pastors could.

Vacancies on the Board.

Besides the place of our lamented Brother John G. Harris the terms of the following members expire this year: D. F. Green, W. J. Elliott, W. M. Anderson, H. S. D. Mallory, G. G. Miles, R. E. Pettus and C. A. Stakely.

Our relations with

The Boards of the Southern Baptist Convention

remain most cordial. The Home and Foreign Boards continue to assist in the support of the corresponding secretary and liberally share in the expenses of the office. The vice-presidents of the boards in the associations could be much more efficient if they could give more time to the work. If laymen would consent to act they would be in most instances more efficient than preachers. It is now too late for the Home and Foreign Boards to enter into the scheme this year since they have appointed their men, but it is worth while to think about making laymen associational vice-presidents for all our boards. We would thereby encourage them to attend the meetings of this body and of the Southern Baptist Convention. If they should hold a special meeting every year during the session of the State convention it would be worth much to the cause.

Special Mention.

The columns of The Alabama Baptist have been open to the board for the publication of all information needed in the prosecution of our work. In answer to the appeals made in the paper, sometimes at the last moment hundreds of dollars have come into our treasury, showing that the paper is widely read by our people. Every employe of the convention is heartily welcomed into every home where The Alabama Baptist is read. In those homes the denominational work is best understood and an intelligent interest is manifested at every mention of the names of the denominational workers and institutions.

Accompanying this report will be found a full financial statement, with the certificate of the auditors, and a summary of the work for the year. This expresses as clearly as figures can the work accomplished. The larger and more important part is unreportable, but the record is on high.

Respectfully submitted,

W. B. CRUMPTON.

REPORT OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

In making a report of the first full year's existence of the Sunday School Department of the State Board of Missions we acknowledge with gratitude the abiding favor of our Heavenly Father, the loving Master Teacher. All who have been zealous in the great Bible studying and teaching service of our churches have been conscious of many blessings. So will it ever be as long as the church Bible school is mindful of its object—the instruction and evangelization of the community and the world.

Centennial Statistics.

Of course, our blessings and pro-

gress' cannot be calculated on paper or in tables. A few figures, however, taken from the many available, will show the improved standing which Alabama has taken in the Sunday school field:

At the beginning of the convention year the Sunday school secretary, in harmony with the Centennial movement to raise \$100,000 for missions, issued a suggestion that we increase our Sunday school enrollment to a round 100,000, making 1,000 for every year of the Baptist Centenary. The approval and acceptance of this battle cry of "100,000 in 1908" was gratifying indeed. We are happy to report that this goal has almost been reached.

The Contrast.—Last year at Dothan we reported 980 schools in Alabama, with an enrollment of 67,479. This year we are enabled to report 1,246 schools, with an enrollment of 95,792, of which total 9,258 are officers and teachers. It is of course understood that this difference is not due to actual gains so much as it is due to more accurate statistics. And yet it is a matter of observation that there have been large and real gains made in both the number of schools and the enrollment in almost every section of the State.

The Comparison.—Among her sister states of the Southern Baptist convention Alabama stands third in the number of churches and fifth in the number of schools. Alabama's per cent ratio between the number of schools and the number of churches is 67, which places her sixth in such a column. In church membership Alabama is sixth, while in Sunday school enrollment she is fourth. Alabama's per cent ratio between enrollment and membership is 60, which places her fifth in such a column.

Sunday School Tables.

This year for the first time will be found printed in the appendix to the minutes of the State Convention a separate table showing the Sunday school status of every individual church, as far as could be ascertained by direct correspondence up to May 1, 1908.

This table is arranged alphabetically by associations and shows of each church whether or not a report has been secured, or if a definite report of "No Sunday School" has been received. Of each school is shown the number of teachers and officers, the enrollment as compared with last reported church membership, the superintendent's name and address, the amount pledged for Baptist Sunday school missions and the amount actually contributed on such pledge.

It is hoped this table will be found to be worth reproducing next year with additional items secured and included.

Interesting Totals.

Special study is asked for the interesting two-page table showing the totals and averages by associations. This is the first time such information has been presented in such a form. See last page of Sunday School Statistics.

In totals given for the entire State it will be noticed that of the 1,321

churches, 1,246 report having a Sunday school, 251 reported definitely "No Sunday School," while 406 make no report at all. We report 161,408 church members; we report 95,792 enrolled in Sunday school, 9,258 of whom are officers and teachers. The large majority of the enrollment consists of children and non-church members. Forty associations report 2,053 baptisms from the school; this figure is much too small. Various schools have pledged \$82 every quarter for the support of the department. A total of \$129.74 has been contributed.

"No Sunday School" Churches.

From exactly 251 churches has come the statement that they have no Sunday school or shadow thereof. Many causes are responsible for this—direct opposition from pastor and people, painful indifference of Christ's disciples to His last commission, real and apparent obstacles to having a separate teaching service of the church.

Each association should make plans for visiting, organizing and caring for "No S. S." churches in its territory. The strong churches should bear the infirmities of the weak. A special leaflet has been issued on this situation and its remedy.

The missionaries of the State Board report 38 new schools organized by them. This is by no means all the new schools organized in the past year, however.

"No Report" Churches.

From 406 churches it was impossible to secure any report at all, even as to whether or not they had schools.

Special arrangements have been made to get full Sunday school data through the 1908 fall associational church letters. Pastors and superintendents are urged to see to it personally that a full Sunday school record is sent up to the association in the church letter.

Department Finances.

In his work among the churches the secretary does not levy a charge or a collection for his services. This is an educational feature more than it is a financial feature. However, every Sunday school is asked to co-operate by sending once each quarter to our treasurer, Rev. W. B. Crumpton, Montgomery, a definite amount or a Sunday's offering.

Since this excellent plan has been adopted various schools (47 in number) have pledged \$82 quarterly. A total contribution of \$129.74 has been received. Other remittances may have been intended for this fund, but the accompanying letter did not so state and the amount was not so credited. Our schools ought to contribute at least \$1,500 every year for this purpose.

The Field Work.

Immediately at the close of the Dothan convention the secretary began the field work by a tour in Southeast Alabama in company with Prof. J. T. McKee, of Newton. Since that time the field work has been continued by tours, institutes and appointments with individual churches.

The secretary has spoken 130 times and visited 73 churches, a number of which were revisited for special rea-

sons. It is impossible to state the number of churches participating in these institutes and services; only the churches in which the services were held are counted. Of the 1907 fall associations 27 were visited. The total number of miles traveled in the year is 13,031, which includes the trip to the Southern Baptist Convention at Hot Springs and two other lengthy trips, taken in the interest of our State work. The number of miles traveled by private conveyance is 660.

The secretary during the year has entered 39 associations, 10 of which have been visited more than once.

The Sunday School Board.

Grateful acknowledgment is made of the continued and valuable support of our Nashville board. Our debt to this board is manifold. The work of their field secretary, L. P. Leavell, has been the greatest single element in bringing about the wave of Sunday school progress in Alabama. By the high quality of their literature and lesson helps they have made possible the efficiency of our teaching, and they are now revising and improving the series.

Better Trained Teachers and Officers.

The Sunday School Board is offering a most excellent course for the training of our teachers and officers of the present and the future. Many Sunday schools are using this with great benefit and a small cost for the necessary text-books. Diplomas are awarded free to those who complete the foundation courses.

The Baptist Collegiate Institute at Newton has a regular Normal Sunday School Department in its curriculum. Last session, including commencement, this institute made 125 awards to young men and women trained and enthused for better things in Bible education. This is an advanced step in the right direction, and should have the hearty approval of the denomination.

Midwinter Training School.

An exceptional opportunity will be offered for Sunday school workers in Alabama for training at a midwinter school to be conducted at Murfreesboro, Tenn., December 27 to January 3 by experts such as L. P. Leavell, B. W. Spilman, T. B. Ray, A. C. Davidson and others.

A definite course of study will be offered without cost other than board and railroad fare. It is hoped that Alabama will be largely represented.

Baraca and Philathea Classes.

One of the most greatly needed and most intensely successful movements of the times is the organized classes for young men and women. Every school should have a Baraca class for the young men and a Philathea class for the young women. These classes were inaugurated by Mr. Marshall A. Hudson, a Baptist Sunday school teacher of Syracuse, N. Y., and information may be had concerning them from the secretary.

An Alabama Training School.

One of the things we ought to plan for in Alabama is a summer training school for our Baptist Sunday school workers. We can easily secure the finest of experts who, for ten days, can carry a class of Sunday school en-

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thuslasts through a thorough and systematic course in methods of managing and teaching a school. A definite and practical line of studies, followed by a graduation service when diplomas and certificates shall be awarded, would mean a great deal for our increased efficiency. Such a plan is being used in other States, and there is no reason why Alabama should not have such a blessing.

As to the Future.

In the future we must look and plan for a sure, steady growth in the work. We are not trying to run an experiment station; we are building with the things of eternity, and we must therefore plan and execute as wisely as possible. Consecrated and co-operative effort will solve every problem we encounter in making our Sunday schools more and more a powerful agency in each and every church.

One of the first things which should engage the attention of the leaders in each district association is the establishment of a live Sunday school in every church in the bounds of the association. This is not an idle dream, and can be realized if only the need is realized.

Final Word.

In closing his first year in the service of the denomination and the cause of the Bible school, the secretary is deeply appreciative of the uniform kindness which has been shown him. Although inexperienced in the work, although not immune to mistakes and failures, he has been received by the brethren in a noble spirit of charity and fraternity. This has meant much to him, and he prays for a continuance of their co-operation, their suggestions and their prayers.

Submitted fraternally,

C. E. CROSSLAND,
Sunday School Secretary.

REPORT OF JUDSON COLLEGE TRUSTEES.

To the Alabama Baptist State Convention:

In submitting the report of the seventieth annual session of Judson College the trustees are pleased to say that the past year was highly satisfactory from the standpoint of great numbers, of excellent work accomplished in the class room, of the health and happiness of the students, of the strong religious enthusiasm and successful Christian work. At the recent commencement one of the largest classes in the history of the institution was graduated, thirty-eight diplomas being awarded.

The Prestige of the Judson.

So well has the work of the Judson been done throughout the three score and ten years of its history that it now holds a commanding position among the colleges for women. During the past few sessions the demand for admittance has exceeded the capacity of the dormitories, and many are turned away each year. The average enrollment for the past four sessions has been more than 300, and the students have been secured with very small expense for canvassing. This encouraging situation is due not only to the excellent advantages and up-

to-date equipments of the college, but to the unequalled loyalty of the alumnae and former students.

The Carnegie Library Completed.

While progress has been made along many lines, the most notable achievement of the year was the completion of the Carnegie Library. This building is of the colonial type, and represents an expenditure, including the endowment and furnishings, of approximately \$28,000. It is built of pressed brick, and has on the first floor the main stack room and two spacious reading and reference rooms, in addition to the Memorial hall and stair hall. In the second story are three large rooms. The building is handsomely furnished within and without. An adequate supply of the handsomest library furniture has been placed in the building, all of which is in old mission finish, to match the interior woodwork. Great care was exercised to see that all material was excellent, and that the work was first class in every particular. At the formal opening of the library, on May 12, it was the unanimous opinion of those who carefully inspected the library that it was the best building for the amount expended they had ever seen.

Further Expansion.

The completion of the library is but the beginning of the plan for expansion and improvement of which mention was made in our last report to the convention. At the recent meeting of our board President Patrick was instructed to proceed as early as possible to raise money for other needed buildings and improved facilities. In view of the crowded condition of the institution we deem it imperative that the denomination should give the heartiest support to this movement for the upbuilding of our great college, which during the seventy years of its existence has educated and sent into the churches and homes of this and other States more than 8,000 cultured, refined women. It is our conviction that no agency fostered by the convention has done more for the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom. We therefore earnestly request the convention to give its endorsement to our plans for the enlargement and better equipment of the Judson.

Respectfully submitted,

B. F. ELLIS,
Chairman Board of Trustees.
T. T. DAUGHDRILL, Secretary.

ANNUAL REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF ORPHANS' HOME AT EVERGREEN.

To the Baptists of Alabama in Convention Assembled:

In submitting this, the fifteenth annual report of the Baptist Orphanage of Alabama, it is our purpose to present to your minds a review of the work, telling you both our joys and our sorrows, and we trust that this may be done in such a way as to enlist your sympathy and kind consideration. God's blessings have rested on the institution during the past year. Our officers and assistants have been faithful and efficient, and it affords us much

pleasure to report progress along many lines, and with your prayers, sympathy and aid it is the earnest desire of this board to make it a center of larger influences and greater usefulness.

Moral and Religious Life.

Gathered as our inmates are, from all corners of the State, and for the most part from homes of neglect, it will not be surprising for you to know that we have a grave problem in the moral and religious training of these children, but what greater argument could be found or offered for the existence of the institution.

Did not Christ "come to seek and to save that which was lost?" And so it is that many of our children who come to us are exceedingly crude, but under the influence of the Home have expanded and developed into splendid boys and girls. Here again God's blessings have rested on us in a signal manner—in that many have been converted and added to the church.

Sunday School and Church Services.

A splendid Sunday school is maintained in our school building every Sunday afternoon. One of our trustees, Bro. C. S. Babb, is the efficient and faithful superintendent. The children also attend regularly preaching services in the spacious new building of the Evergreen Baptist church, of which Bro. Richard Hall is pastor.

Gifts.

Our people in a general way have been generous in their gifts, and we desire to publicly express a renewed obligation to the Tennessee River Association for another car of corn as well as other good things. We are grateful as well over the increasing number of Sunday schools sending us regular monthly contributions. If space permitted we would be glad to make special mention of some of them. And the Women Societies—ever ready to help in any good work—the orphanage seems to especially enlist their sympathies, and they, too, have been most generous in their contributions, sending many boxes of household necessities and other gifts. And we would not forget the churches and the various organizations which have had a part in this great work, as well as the individuals who have generously remembered us.

Special Gifts.

Special gifts have come to us, among them being a gift of the sum of \$250 left by the terms of the will of Miss S. G. Follanoper, of Montgomery, Ala., who remembered the orphanage in the division of her estate.

Our School.

In connection with the home we have a school conducted in our splendid new four-story building erected during the past year, specially equipped for this feature of our work, though not as yet quite completed.

We are using this building, however, with great benefit to the children in giving them mental training, for we, your trustees, feel that you would wish us to give to these children entrusted to us a reasonable education, fitting them to become self-

supporting and to be useful men and women. To that end we have employed good teachers and conduct a school the term of which is concurrent with the public schools in the community. This feature of our work necessarily enters largely into our expense account, but we believe this money well invested.

The Children in the Home.

The children in the home are at once our most interesting asset and as well our most perplexing liability. We have at this time 67 boys and 87 girls, making a total of 154. To this number may be added matrons, teachers and assistants so that the aggregate constitutes a large and needy family. The health of this large family has been excellent for the past two and a half years, and in this, too, God has been good to us. We have had no serious sickness in the home, but we regret to report the sad death of one of our most promising girls during the year as the result of burns last December.

Bro. J. W. Stewart, Our Financial Secretary.

When one thinks of the orphanage we naturally think of Bro. Stewart. We all love him for his years of toil and sacrifice. "He has wrought a good work." Hereafter Bro. Stewart will devote the larger part of his time to the duties of financial secretary and will be relieved as quickly as possible by the board of the increasing cares and responsibilities of internal supervision of the home. With his co-operation and aid the board is now endeavoring to secure the services of some capable, consecrated brother who will be placed in the position of superintendent at the home.

Our New Treasurer.

We have elected Bro. W. B. Ivey as the treasurer. He is one of the prominent business men of Evergreen, well qualified for the position, who has heretofore given much time and thought freely to the management of the home.

We desire to request all who make remittances hereafter to address the same to Bro. Ivey as treasurer and he will endeavor to promptly acknowledge receipt of the same.

Our Needs.

At our last convention there was a debt of \$6,500 reported to you. By reference to the attached financial statement which is made a part of this report you will see that we are in debt at this time in a sum which approximates \$8,000, and we regret to report it, yet the explanation we think is easy.

In the first place this amount is practically the cost of the new building, and considering the fact that when the panic came so many of our people forgot us, it is indeed not surprising that this debt should be reported, and sad to relate many of our strong city churches continue in their panicky condition, much to the distress of our work. It is a fact that we are much embarrassed by the situation; we are having to pay a high rate of interest on this indebtedness and are much pressed for funds to pay for the necessities of life at the

Continued on page 11

THE ALABAMA BAPTIST

CONTEMPT FOR STATE LAWS IN MOBILE.

That there is decided contempt for some of the laws of the state by many of the citizens of Mobile and even by some who have taken a solemn oath to enforce them there is no doubt in the minds of many of our citizens, and this condition of things is giving our fair city a most unenviable reputation not only throughout our own state, but in other states. The law against the playing of baseball on Sunday has been ignored in Mobile. Many weeks before the baseball season opened the Southern League arranged a schedule which included a number of Sunday games in Mobile. It was claimed that the constitutionality of the law would be tested, but no such test has been made, and the playing has gone on with the belief that no jury would convict the ball players. When the last grand jury met the cases against the ball players were presented, and there was a prosecutor. In such a case the law gives the jury no privilege but to convict if the evidence of guilt is satisfactory. Notwithstanding this fact, a sufficient number of the late grand jury in Mobile violated their oath in refusing to bring in a verdict against the ball players on the ground that the law is unpopular in Mobile. This same grand jury refused to indict a barkeeper who assaulted a young man and knocked him down several times without provocation—only because he imagined that the young man was watching his barroom after 9 o'clock. The young man went before the grand jury and presented the case, but they refused to bring in an indictment. What is a citizen to do in such circumstances, when he appeals to the courts for protection and fails to get it? Such a course will sooner or later result in bloodshed in Mobile or anywhere else.

The 9 o'clock closing law and the Sunday closing law are practically ignored by those who care to disregard them, and it is understood that the present city administration has no disposition to enforce them. The once conservative Mobile Register has given its indorsement to the contempt shown for certain state laws in Mobile. In its issue of Sunday, July 5th, that paper had an editorial on "Sentiment and the Laws," which has been characterized, and properly so, I think, by many of our citizens as anarchistic in the extreme. In speaking of Sunday baseball the editorial says that "when the grand jury of this county was asked to indict the players not an indictment was returned. The same is true regarding the punishment of the violators of the 9 o'clock closing law." The same editorial said that if the grand jury indicted "there would be yet the further difficulty of finding a petit jury that would convict." The Register evidently thinks that there are not enough men in the county of Mobile who have sufficient regard for a solemn oath to indict for violation of this state law in any circumstances. What a reflection on the citizenship of Mobile county! Some of us do not agree with the Register, however.

The same editorial says, in speaking of the action of the recent grand jury that no outward sign was given of the public's failure to approve of the grand jury's course. The Register was evidently only looking for such signs as indicated approval of the anarchistic course it was pursuing. There have been very decided and repeated signs given of the public's disapproval of the grand jury's course. I should dislike to believe that Mobile had gotten down so low in the scale of morality as to show no disapproval of a plain violation of a solemn oath, publicly taken.

The Register furthermore says: "What will eventually we do not know. We are defining the present situation, not preaching a sermon—but it is likely that prohibition in Mobile will receive as scant respect as is now given the 9 o'clock phase of the same 'moral wave,' because put upon this community without its consent and in violation of the democratic fundamental doctrine of local self-government. If prohibition proves to be a farce in Mobile it will be because there is no strong sentiment supporting it." The state is hereby notified by the Register that scant respect will be shown its prohibition law after

the 1st of January, and all because Mobile was not consulted.

The Register, speaking for Mobile, says: "Why were we not allowed a voice in this matter of liquor license and of ball playing? Who knows what we would have thought of these matters had the decision been left to us? We were condemned unheard. We object to being made good by compulsion." Now will you "up-state townsmen and rurals" be good. Mobile has spoken through its widely read and conservative Mobile Register. Was not Mobile given a voice in the matters mentioned? If her representatives were not present when these matters were voted on, it was their fault, not the state's fault. They were given the same voice that any other county was given. The attitude of the Register would force the legislature whenever it passed a law to first submit it to the people of every community in the state to see if it suited them. Some of us have been under the impression that the legislature had the authority to pass any law that was for the good of the state at large without consulting any particular community to ascertain if the law suited a majority of that particular community.

When the local option law was before the legislature the whisky ring and their newspaper supporters demanded that the precinct should be made the unit as that was democratic, and when the bill for statewide prohibition was being considered they claimed that it was democratic to leave the matter to each county.

The whisky ring and some of their friends would not hesitate to resort to any method to force whisky on a community. A vast majority of liquor dealers have no respect for any law that is intended to regulate their business, and yet there are many people who insist that regulation is the thing for the whisky traffic. I was once considered rather conservative on the liquor business, though I have always been opposed to the saloon, but I have seen so much of the dreadful effects of whisky since I have lived in Mobile that I am now a radical on the subject. I am uncompromisingly opposed to the sale of the stuff as a beverage in any circumstances.

Governor Comer called an extra session of the legislature some time ago to make laws that would compel the railroads to do certain things. Some of us believe that he would be more justified in calling a special session of the legislature for the purpose of passing certain laws that would force sheriffs and others to enforce some other state laws, contempt for which is bringing the whole state into disrepute.

W. J. E. COX.

HEALTH AND INCOME Both Kept Up on Scientific Food.

Good sturdy health helps one a lot to make money. With the loss of health one's income is liable to shrink, if not entirely dwindle away.

When a young lady has to make her own living, good health is her best asset.

"I am alone in the world," writes a Chicago girl, "dependent on my own efforts for my living. I am a clerk, and about two years ago through close application to work and a boarding house diet, I became a nervous invalid, and got so bad off it was almost impossible for me to stay in the office a half day at a time.

"A friend suggested to me the idea of trying Grape-Nuts, which I did, making this food a large part of at least two meals a day.

"Today I am free from brain-tire, dyspepsia and all the ills of an overworked and improperly nourished brain and body. To Grape-Nuts I owe the recovery of my health, and the ability to retain my position and income."

"There's a Reason."

Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs.

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.

BAPTISTS AND THE INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION.

By E. Y. Mullins, D. D.

By request of the editor I am glad to submit a brief statement as to a matter which interests the Baptists in connection with the recent meeting of the International Sunday school convention at Louisville. Apparently the Baptists received a slight at the hands of the convention: As a matter of fact, I do not believe they did. The facts, it seems to me, will make this perfectly clear.

By common consent among Baptists and others it was deemed wise for the nominating committee to drop a northern Baptist who was a member of the lesson committee owing to his inability to give the time to the work which was required, leaving a vacancy. Naturally this vacancy would have been filled by a Baptist, but it seems there has been a desire on the part of many to reduce the representation of the three larger denominations—Baptists, Methodists and Presbyterians—each of which has had three members on the lesson committee, in the interest of some of the smaller denominations which have had no representative on the lesson committee. The northern Baptists who were members of the nominating committee voluntarily surrendered their right to nominate a Baptist to fill the vacancy occurring as above. This they did in the interest of the principle mentioned, that it would be wise for the three larger bodies having three representatives one by one to give up a representative in the interest of the smaller bodies. The United Presbyterians were recognized and a United Presbyterian nominated and afterwards elected in the place of the Northern Baptist who was dropped. We were assured this change would not have been made but for the action of the Northern Baptists themselves. If they had insisted on a Baptist for the place, a Baptist would have been nominated.

A Southern Baptist member of the nominating committee, however, made a speech and insisted that a Baptist be put on in the place of the Baptist who was left off. The Southern Baptist, being defeated in the nominating committee, offered a motion in the convention to substitute a Baptist from Canada in place of the United Presbyterian, thus restoring the Baptist membership on the lesson committee. A motion to table this resolution was then made and carried without explanation or debate. It was unfortunate that no opportunity was afforded for an explanation and that the chair ruled so abruptly that debate was out of order. But from conversations with the brother who made the motion to table, I am sure he had no thought of doing anything except to prevent an unnecessary wrangle on the floor of the convention, and would have been quite open to consider the question on its merits had it come up otherwise. The Southern brother who offered the motion, of course, acted from a strong sense of duty in the matter.

After these occurrences a conference of Baptists of the north and south, at which were present two or three representative Presbyterians, considered the whole question. The aim was to secure proper action towards the Baptists, and if wrong was done, to set it right. It was seen at once that the Southern Baptists were placed in an awkward light in insisting upon a Baptist to fill the vacancy occurring in the North, while the Baptists of the North relinquished the place to a smaller denomination. However, upon the urgent insistence of some earnest brethren this conference appointed Dr. C. R. Hemphill, a prominent Presbyterian of Louisville, and myself as a committee to request the nominating committee to reconsider their action at least to the extent of adding a Baptist to the lesson committee, thus restoring the original number of three Baptists, and thus vindicating our brother who had offered the resolution. Dr. Hemphill and the other Presbyterian brother in the conference heartily joined us in the request.

The nominating committee was called together; Dr. Hemphill and I laid the case before them, urg-

ing the committee to add a member to the lesson committee and appoint a Baptist. One by one the members of the nominating committee arose and expressed their entire willingness to vote as we desired and add a Baptist to the committee. I have never seen greater spontaneity or unanimity in any matter than in this up to a point which will be named in a moment. Methodists, Presbyterians and Northern Baptists who had originally yielded the vacancy to the United Presbyterian, said that if their Southern Baptist brethren desired it they would stand with their Southern brethren and vote for the additional member. All was going most smoothly, and I believe we would assuredly have had the additional member.

At this point the Southern member of the nominating committee who had opposed the substitution of the United Presbyterian for the Baptist originally, and who had offered the resolution before the convention, arose and opposed Dr. Hemphill and myself in our effort to secure the appointment of a Baptist. He gave as his reasons that the Baptists had no favor to ask, and that as the action had been taken it had now better stand as taken. I cite this, not by way of reproach in any sense upon the brother, for he considered his reasons entirely sufficient for the position he took. It was, however, quite a surprise to Dr. Hemphill and myself, and as he was a member of the nominating committee who originally opposed the action of the committee in leaving off the Baptist, Dr. Hemphill and I could not overcome his opposition to us. From that point onward the nominating committee took sides with our Southern Baptist in refusing to add a Baptist to the lesson committee. Dr. Hemphill and I could only retire from the committee after having done our best. I was assured over and over again by leaders of the International Association and members of the nominating committee that there was not the slightest desire or thought of affront in any way to the Baptists, and that they were ready to do anything that was reasonable to make amends for even an apparent slight. Together with many other Southern Baptists present, I was thoroughly convinced that there was absolutely no intention to do the Baptists any wrong, and indeed that the original action which was opposed by the Southern Baptist was due entirely to the position taken by our Northern Baptist brethren on the nominating committee. This position they took, not because of any disloyalty to Baptist interests, but because an opening had occurred which afforded them an opportunity to begin the application of the principle of the larger denominations reducing their representation on the lesson committee and giving recognition to the smaller bodies. Indeed everybody acted conscientiously in the matter, so far as I could see. I am sorry that there was any appearance of harshness even where none was intended.

Let me say in closing that I have never known any body of people more prompt or willing to consider the wishes of the various denominations in the administration of affairs than is the International Sunday School Association. Baptists were, in large measure, the founders of the International Association. They have done great things in shaping its policy and its work. Dr. John A. Broadus used to consider it the most effective of all the interdenominational bodies for Christian co-operation in the work of the Master. My own judgment is that there is no ground at all for the Baptists feeling that there is any reason for a change of policy or attitude toward the International work.

Louisville, Ky.

AUTHORITY IN RELIGION.

Rev. S. M. Provence.

Every man believes something about the supernatural. He has ideas about a God of some sort. They may be as variable as the winds. They may embrace all the gods in the pantheons of the Greeks and the Egyptians and the Babylonians. They may contain all manner of absurdities. The Athenians were "very religious." So are the Chinese. Whatever one's ideas may be they constitute for him his

religion. And as Carlyle said, this is the most important thing about him. This universality of what I may here call the religious instinct is the foundation of all religious initiative among men. It seeks its imperatives in the ultimate moral authority of the universe. Without such authority there can be no imperative higher than the human will. Without an imperative higher than the human will, one man's religion is as good for him as that of another is for the one who holds. This reduction ad absurdum is inevitable, if authority be denied.

All that men know about God is what He himself has told. I do not intend here to sum up the theistic argument, nor to restate the process of ratiocination by which men have found a firm footing in the belief that God exists, and that the scriptures of the Old and New Testament were given by Him. I merely point out that unless both these theses are true, human life is without a moral imperative. The universal human moral sense is inexplicable without God, and is without an imperative unless God have revealed His will. That revelation must, therefore, in the nature of things, be the ultimate moral authority, unless God shall supersede it with another. Until He does that the final appeal is to "the law and the evidence." And this is the final appeal not after other appeals, as from a lower court to a higher, but direct and immediate and for the individual soul. This is where the great principle of President Mullins' remarkable book, "The Axioms of Religion," comes in; namely, "the competency of the soul under God in religion." He is arguing from the manward side. Here are the first four of his "axioms:" 1. A holy and righteous God has a right to be sovereign. 2. All souls have an equal right to direct access to God. 3. All believers have a right to equal privileges in the church. 4. To be responsible man must be free. The other two are really corollaries from these; namely, 5. A free church in a free state; and 6. Love your neighbor as yourself. These are the acme of social morality. Taken together the six axioms are the freshest summing up of the basal and enduring principles of Christianity.

The competency of the soul under God in religion does not imply that a man may make a religion for himself, but only that no other man has a right to make it for him. That right is inherent in the sovereignty of God. Freedom from human control does not render the divine authority less binding. No man can ever have any moral right to do or believe what is contrary to the divine authority. If he can, then God is not sovereign. No man can ever become a law unto himself for the same reason. The authority, or as President Mullins prefers, the sovereignty, of God is not relative but absolute.

Beyond the scope of the divine revelation as we have it lies the wide field of practical life, in regard to which the revelation itself teaches us to seek direct guidance; but this is not the realm of fundamental beliefs. "Exceeding great and precious promises" are given concerning the "infinite variety" of human duty. Yet even here one must be sure that he does not make the promise in any case contradict its Author. This states a principle of incalculable importance. Our practices and our formulae of belief must both hold as their ideal perfect conformity to the Word of God. The distinction betwixt "static" and "dynamic" in religion is misleading. If there were nothing static there could not be anything dynamic. We may, indeed, change our forms of words as often as the ever-changing currents of human thinking make it wise to do so, but we have no right, nor can we ever have any right, in the absence of a new revelation, to frame our statements out of unbelief or disbelief.

Tried by the Word of God there are many misbeliefs which must pass away. In the "Axioms of Religion" President Mullins has indicated some of the most important of these impending changes. Not one of them affects the faith of the Baptists. It is a magnificent service Dr. Mullins has rendered the Baptist propaganda. The religious thinking of the whole world might be reconstructed on the basis of his axioms as expounded by him, without at all changing

the faith of any Baptist or disturbing the machinery of any Baptist church.

Further and further down the centuries goes the tremendous, fateful question, "What think ye of Christ?" More men are asking it today than ever before. But no man can ever get an adequate answer to that question except from the New Testament Scriptures. Who He is, what He did, why and how He came, no man can know except from history—the history of His ministry. What He is to the individual soul no one can know except from experience. The ultimate moral appeal of the world to Christ, which is becoming more apparent with every day's history, is not coming over His words, but through them. If there shall be a larger interpretation of His truth (dynamic), it will be on the basis of what is fixed (static). "The faith once for all delivered to the saints" has proved itself to be the most dynamic and vital thing in human life, because it is fixed on Him who is eternally static—Him who does not change.

There is the difference of the poles betwixt this vital faith which makes the preaching of every man who unfolds the meaning of the Scriptures throb with life, and that meaningless repetition of a creed which no thinking man believes. This is passing away, while that is rooting itself more and more deeply into the life of the world.—Christian Index.



THE LATE M. B. WHARTON

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"I began to use Postum 8 years ago, not because I wanted to, but because coffee, which I dearly loved, made my nights long, weary periods to be dreaded and unfitting me for business during the day.

"On advice of a friend, I first tried Postum, making it carefully as suggested on the package. As I had always used cream and no sugar, I mixed my Postum so. It looked good, was clear and fragrant, and it was a pleasure to see the cream color it as my Kentucky friend always wanted her coffee to look—like a new saddle.

"Then I tasted it critically, and I was pleased, yes, satisfied with my Postum in taste and effect, and am yet, being a constant user of it all these years.

"I continually assure my friends and acquaintances that they will like Postum in place of coffee, and receive benefit from its use. I have gained weight, can sleep and am not nervous." "There's a Reason." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs.

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.

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Frequent, or periodical headaches, weaken the brain, and very often extinguish the light of reason. Dr. Miles' Anti-Pain Pills will cure headache quickly, by soothing the irritated nerves of the brain. They also prevent pain if taken when first symptoms of headache appear. 25 doses, 25c. Never sold in bulk.

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We make this our business. Tell us what you want. No charge to schools. Good teachers should write for circulars. Address R. A. Clayton, Mgr., Birmingham, Ala.

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NOTICE.

Write to Secretary B. F. Davidson, Montgomery, and send him 50 cents for a copy of Leavell's B. Y. P. U. manual. Read it, study it, quote it.

HENDERSONVILLE, N. C.—"Pine Grove Lodge" will be open for guests after June 1. Delightful location; special rates for June. Address, Mrs. E. C. Bedell.

Continued from page 8

home. In order to meet the needs of the home we ask for the sum of \$20,000; this will pay all outstanding indebtedness, as well as place us in position to meet our current bills promptly.

We greatly need some laundry equipment and we feel sure that if some of our good friends knew our crude facilities at this time they would quickly relieve the situation.

Some half dozen sewing machines would also be at once a useful as well as practical gift.

In Conclusion.

Ever mindful of the fact that the Baptists of the State love the orphanage, we, your trustees, have endeavored to conduct it in such a way as to merit your approval, and yet we are not unmindful of the fact that there may be and doubtless there is justly some room for criticism, yet in the main all have worked for the great aim of helping the helpless and bringing the institution up to that standard that you wish maintained and so be further honored with your confidence and your gifts.

Respectfully submitted,

M. C. REYNOLDS,
 Chairman Board of Trustees.

Committees for Ensuing Year.

President Denson announced the following committees to report next year:

Foreign Missions—A. J. Dickinson, T. J. Dean, J. C. Maxwell, W. W. Campbell, S. S. Yerby, R. E. Jones, J. W. Kelley.

Home Missions—J. H. Foster, W. T. Davis, W. A. Darden, John W. Partridge, S. A. Cowan, L. M. Bradley, W. C. Bledsoe.

Sunday Schools—J. S. Carroll, C. E. Crossland, J. M. Head, Frank Barnard, A. L. Smith, Jasper C. Hutto, L. T. Reeves.

Baptist Young People's Union—G. D. Gwaltney, J. S. Hartsfield, J. A. Arnold, J. S. Dunlap, George A. Sorrell, J. D. Pittman, S. P. Lindsey.

Woman's Work—A. G. Mosely, Jay D. Lane, C. H. Priester, W. M. Hopson, B. S. Ralley, A. B. Metcalf, T. J. Porter.

Temperance—John V. Dickinson, George S. Brewer, George L. Faucette, W. S. Wallar, J. T. Nickols, J. R. Conger, J. M. Shellburne.

Memorials—M. M. Wood, W. R. Whatley, W. L. Hendrix, C. W. O'Hara, R. A. J. Cumbee, F. P. Wakefield, C. J. Bentley.

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Encampment—Y. O. Dawson, A. G. Morely, Austin Crouch, Richard Hall, S. O. Y. Ray.

The Committee on Nominations. The report of the Committee on Nominations was read by D. C. Cooper:

State Board of Missions, terms expiring 1908—W. J. E. Cox, W. J. Elliott, W. M. Anderson, H. S. D. Mallory, G. G. Miles, R. E. Pettus, C. A. Stakely, Dr. R. W. Woods, Jasper, in place of J. G. Harris, deceased; L. Lassiter, in place of M. B. Wharton, deceased.

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Treasurer—R. F. Manly.
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Report of Time and Place Committee was that Andalusia be the place to meet Tuesday after the third Sunday in July.

Rev. G. L. Yates will preach the sermon, with T. J. Porter, alternate.

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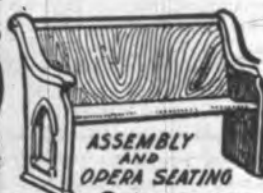
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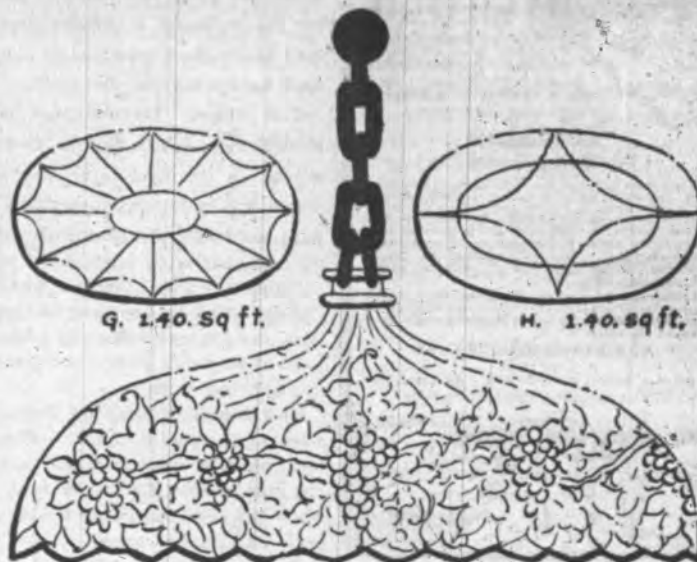
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A GREAT NEED

Baptist of Alabama: I want to mention a thing for which I fervently wish I could move the hearts and hands of every Baptist and friend of education in the state. I have meditated upon and studied this question as I have nothing else. I have prayed for light and understanding of it, and that God would raise up a man for the hour and need. I am still praying, hoping, expecting. The cause of all this is the crying need of the right kind of an educational institution on Sand Mountain. True, we have such facilities as the public school system can supply to country localities and they are productive of great good, but they don't begin to meet the demand. For one reason of this, our mountain people are different from other people, owing chiefly to isolated environment and some peculiarities of mountain people in general, and merely a literary education, as the term is generally used, can not meet their needs. Education, the fact, the thing and real purpose, should be kept constantly before the young until thoroughly understood. I would I had ability and time and space for what is in my heart just here. Let me earnestly request every reader of this to read carefully the article appearing in Uncle Remus' Magazine for July entitled "A People of the North Georgia Mountains." In that you will find conditions in kind as they exist in north Alabama on Sand and Look-out Mountains. The souls of these people may be and are being saved by God's grace through the gospel preacher, but if their lives are made efficient for the service of their God and country it must be done by the trained head, heart and hand. This section is admittedly a Baptist country. We have the people and the prestige. We have also one of the most marvelously beautiful and attractive countries anywhere, and it is fast becoming densely populated by births and immigration. We have amounted to little in the past. Our hope is in the rising generation. Our people are not able or willing to build up the educational institution we so much need, not willing because they don't know they need it, but let the work once begin and our people understand it and they will put heart and soul into it. I know these people but are powerless to help them as they need. Will some Baptist Moses not rise up and in God's name deliver His people's children from the mental and moral bondage under which they were placed without their knowledge or consent? This is one of the greatest opportunities of Alabama Baptists. The state may one day undertake this work if Baptists don't. If every Baptist in the state with brains and money could only understand this condition and opportunity as we see it we believe God's will would be done in this thing. Who will undertake for us the building of a great Christian technical school on great Sand Mountain? Fraternally, J. B. Hamric.
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The East Birmingham Baptist church extended a call to me and I moved on the field three weeks ago. When my better two-thirds and I got here we found the parlor furnished from parlor to kitchen, so we had nothing to do but "walk in and go to living." The Ladies' Aid Society had done the job, and when the ladies take hold of anything, they always make it go, and "go" right.

The second Sunday in June there were 63 in Sunday school. The number gradually increased, and last Sunday, the second Sunday in July, there were 103, besides officers and teachers. The Sunday school is now working for two hundred by October 1st. In fact that is the motto of the Sunday school, "Two hundred by October." At the present rate of increase we will reach that number long before that time. We have a teacher training class of fifteen that are doing some good work in Bible study. Just organized last week, with the pastor as teacher. We are going through the Bible by January 1st.

We are now in the midst of a tent meeting. The Lord is blessing us with large congregations and as good attention as could be asked for. To date there have been eight additions. The meeting will go on indefinitely.

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You will hear from us again, Bro. Barnett, and I trust that it will not be many months ere we have a new church building started. Yours for Christ, A. E. Page, pastor East Birmingham church.

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Words of Introduction.

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Section 2—The Experience of Saul of Tarsus. Told by Himself and Reported by Luke. Telling the Story to His Countrymen in Jerusalem.

Section 3—The Experience of Saul of Tarsus, who was also Called Paul. Told by himself as prisoner in Audience with the King.

Section 4—The experience of Edward Everett Hale, Jr., as Told by himself and reported for the papers by one who heard him.

Section 5—The experience of Edward Everett Hale, Jr., as the call of Christ. Told by himself in a watch-service Address (December 31, 1905). Written out for the Epworth Herald, and used here by his consent.

Section 6—The experience of John Jasper, the Negro Preacher. Told by Dr. Wm. E. Hatcher, in The Baptist Argus, and used here by consent of Writer and Editor.

Section 7—The experience of Edward Everett Hale, Jr., and how it influenced his view of the Gospel of John. Told in the Sunday School Times of February 2, 1908, and used by consent of himself and of the Editor.

Section 8—The experience of Saul of Tarsus, who was also called Paul, in Christian Doctrine and Life, as Teacher, Apostle and Preacher. Told by himself from time to time.

Section 9—Experience of Edward Everett Hale, Jr., and how it changed his views of the Resurrection of Jesus and of the call of the Risen Christ. Told by himself and Published in the Sunday School Times of April 4th, 1908. Used here by permission.

Section 10—Lessons from the Three.

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Historical Sketch of New Prospect Baptist Church, Jefferson County.

New Prospect Baptist church was organized July 29, 1884, in the old Vermont academy, where the church continued to worship for three years till a church building was erected. The organizing presbytery consisted of Elders A. J. Waldrop, R. W. Inzer and S. Henderson, with R. W. Inzer as chairman and S. Henderson, clerk. After a sermon by Dr. Henderson from Eph. 4:16, forty-seven charter members presented letters and entered into the constitution of the church. W. R. Hilliard was elected church clerk and E. P. Reed, treasurer. The new church by vote selected New Prospect for its name, and the second Sabbath each month and Saturday before as its meeting days. On September 13, 1884, Elder A. J. Waldrop was called as pastor, and on November 9 D. W. Franklin was elected deacon. November 27, 1886, W. R. Hilliard, the clerk, was granted a letter of dismission, and on same date Deacon W. O. M. Franklin was received and elected clerk, which office he has faithfully filled ever since, with the exception of about two years when sickness prevented his attendance of the church services.

In August, 1887, during the pastorate of Elder M. T. Branham, the church decided to build a house of worship and the present commodious building was erected. The building committee consisted of Brethren D. H. Vann, W. L. C. Vann, W. O. M. Franklin, E. P. Reed, J. T. McClinton, F. LeVie and L. E. Stubbs. Later, with a view possibly, of having a pastor in their midst, the church purchased four acres of land, upon which they will build a nice pastors' home when the community develops sufficiently.

In the twenty-four years of its history the church has had eight pastors, as follows: A. J. Waldrop, served from 1884 to 1886, and from 1892 to 1895. No church ever had a more devoted, faithful and fatherly pastor than Brother Waldrop. Like one of old, he spoke of his younger members as his children. The church loves and cherishes his memory.

M. T. Branham was pastor from 1886 to 1890. Under his ministry the church built its present house of worship and made other material progress. G. D. Slaton served as pastor from 1891 till his death August 6, 1892. A. A. Hutto was pastor one year—1895-6. J. H. Longcrier was also pastor for one year, 1896-7. Both of these brethren were students in Howard college and rendered faithful and efficient service. M. M. Wood served the church five years from 1897 to 1902. The influence of his sound and faithful ministry is still felt by the entire community. J. M. McCord came after Brother Wood and served the church ably and effectively for four years, from 1902 to 1906. A. E. Burns served for one year, 1906-7, when he was compelled to resign on account of ill health. J. A. Hendricks has been with the church since September, 1907. The church has been honored of God in the call of several of her loved sons into the ministry. Elders J. D. Falks is a useful pastor in Tus-

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caloosa association; A. S. Pinson is pastor in Texas and is nobly helping to bring in the kingdom in the Lone Star state, and R. S. Wood, brother of our former pastor, W. M. Wood, is still in the Birmingham district.

The Sunday school, older than the church, was organized in the school house, with W. L. C. Vann as its first superintendent, who served in that capacity for sixteen years, and is still one of the pillars of the church. The present efficient superintendent, G. W. Franklin, has served for seven years.

Louis E. Franklin was the first member that joined after the organization of the church and was the first of the new church to lay down earth's burdens for his heavenly crown. Perhaps no member of the church ever more deeply impressed his life for good upon the community.

An approximately correct statement of our numerical growth for the last twenty-four years is as follows:

Charter members	47
Received in 24 years	535
Number lettered out	175
Number excluded	9
Number dead	27
Number lost in 24 years	226

Totals 582 437
Present membership 145
June 5, 1908.

W. O. M. Franklin, E. P. Reed, W. L. C. Vann, committee.

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As death has taken from us one of our number whom we valued and loved, Sister G. W. Brock, be it

Resolved, That we tender the bereaved husband our deep sympathy in his great sorrow and loss; that we express our own sense of loss in the taking from us of one who was so faithful and efficient in all church relations, whose unostentatious faithfulness and thoughtfulness were an inspiring example, whose character and life won our respect and love.

Resolved, That the resolutions be incorporated in the minutes of the church and a copy be sent to our brother, G. W. Brock, and a copy sent to the Alabama Baptist.

LIVINGSTON BAPTIST CHURCH.
July 9, 1908.

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