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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
BAPTIST
South-western Central Association
OF TEXAS
HELD WITH LIVE OAK BAPTIST CHURCH
AT BEAUMONT, TEXAS,
JULY 20TH-24TH 1897.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST
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Baptist Church, Wharton, Texas, on Tuesday
before the Fourth Lord's Day
in July, 1898, at
10 a. m.*



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Officers of the Association.

Moderator Rev. P. H. Collier of Houston, Texas, is one of the founders of the association; he has a national fame, loves the cause and may be trusted to push the cause to the front. He may be better known to some as "the old field hand."

Vice-moderator Rev. R. B. Eyans of Houston is too well known to need have much said of him; he too was with the grand old body in her beginning, and has stood for many years at the head of the Children's department as president of the Sunday-school convention; he will be a Joshua to our worthy moderator.

Recording Secretary Bro. S. H. Wheat of Wharton, through the help of God and the confidence and assistance of the brethren it is hoped that he will be a faithful servant.

Assistant Secretary Rev. A. T. Gordon of Foster, Ft. Bend county, is a pioneer also; he has served the association in several capacities as an officer; he was missionary for a long time and is now thoroughly acquainted with the field; he is an efficient scribe and will do his part at the desk.

Corresponding Secretary Rev. E. H. Branch of Houston, Texas, is an accomplished young minister of the Gospel who by close study and a devout Christian conduct has pushed his way to the front and may be found at all times fighting in the interest of the association; he has pastored successfully in different localities and as corresponding secretary made a creditable report in the last session.

Bro. A. H. Speaker of Spanish Camp, Texas, is the treasurer and is well known as a prosperous farmer, a Christian gentleman and an earnest worker in the cause of our Maker and Redeemer, with him our monies are safe, since his banking account stands subject to attack.

Managers of the Board are Rev. J. W. Robertson and Rev. C. H. Sparks the former began also with the birth of the association; in the early days he served as missionary when railroads were not so numerous, often walking through rains and winds to set up the old banner under which we now so proudly "Go forward." The latter, Rev. C. H. Sparks, formerly of Cameron, Texas, is pastor of the Second Baptist Church of Wharton, and is an able minister, a strong and successful worker and will spare no pains in striving to bring the association upon that level where its influence will be felt in every home throughout the associational district.

Proceedings.

The fourteenth annual session of the Missionary Baptist South-western Central association of Texas met with the Live Oak Baptist church of Beaumont, where Rev. P. H. Collier is pastor, on Tuesday before the 4th Lord's day in July, 1897, at 10 a. m. with Moderator G. W. Smith in the chair and Secretaries Roberts and Wheat at the minute book. The moderator then exhorted the body to a strict observance of the constitution and rules of order; to lay aside all selfish motives and in every word and act give honor to the Lord. He then introduced Rev. I. S. Wright of Eagle Lake who read for a Scripture lesson the 148th Psalm. The choir rendered some sweet strains of music; Bro. Wright prayed fervent, v. and

the gavel fell announcing the formal opening of the 14th annual session of the grand old army. Here Prof. J. H. Golfin, ex-principal of the city school, was greeted with a sea of upturned faces to hear the welcome address; he spoke in an impressive and scholarly manner, and presented the words of welcome in all that could be embraced in its broad meaning, and pointed with pride to the manufacturing industries of the city, citing the fact that so many of our people are given employment in these immense labor institutions, concluding amid great applause. Rev. C. M. Moore one of the city pastors, followed in a short speech filled with words of welcome. Rev. H. McKinney of the A. M. E. Church was next introduced and welcomed the brethren also in behalf of his congregation. Bro. Mac is an accomplished gentleman, gifted also with wit and humor; we owe him a warm and comfortable room in our broad hearts for the use of his church for our sisters; God bless him. Then Rev. R. J. McGill of Wharton responded to the kind words of welcome in strong and impressive terms, closing with heavy threats against the poor fowls. The house being in order for business, the constitution and rules of order were read as required by the constitution. Then Revs. A. T. Gordon and E. H. Branch were elected reporters for the meeting. Rev. P. H. Collier moved to adjourn till 2:30. Prayer by Rev. C. M. Moore.

Promptly at 2:30 Rev. E. H. Lamkins opened the meeting by reading the 33d Psalm; sang Hymn 206 and offered prayer. The morning session was read and adopted. Bro. A. Travis moved to appoint a committee of five on enrollment, carried; and the following brethren were appointed: Rev. H. C. Cooper, Rev. Jas. Tisdale, Bro. J. B. Roberts, Bro. S. H. Wheat and Rev. S. Fomby. At this hour came Rev. H. B. Southern to preach the introductory sermon; he took for a text Exodus, 14:15. The theme of his discussion was "Go Forward." The dear brothers's words were electrifying in that they fell from his lips in great power, inspiring more zeal in the hearts of all the brethren. Prayer by Rev. McKinney. A collection of \$1.50 was taken up; then as per programme the subject, "Can a Pastor Successfully Pastor more than one Church?" was opened by Rev. R. B. Evans, while he seemed to be pastoring more than one he was of the opinion that much more good could be done if there could be one church to every pastor and one pastor to every church. Bro. Travis of Wallace spoke against the multiplicity of churches under one pastor; he did not think that as good work could be done with such divided fields of labor. Rev. Sparks of Wharton spoke against it; he thought any minister with his labors thus divided must necessarily fall short of his duty at each point. Rev. Wilbourn of Wharton shared in this opinion; he said he knew by experience. Rev. I. S. Wright, of Eagle Lake spoke at length on the subject, not however without showing slight signs of embarrassment; Bro. Wright was pastoring several churches. Much interest was manifested, though some of the brethren were dumb as a lamb before its shearer. An inexhaustible flow of oratory was listened to till a motion prevailed to take a vote to determine the sense of the body. It was carried almost unanimously that a pastor CANNOT successfully pastor more than one church.

FIRST DAY—Night Session.

At eight o'clock the association (after a short song service conducted by Rev. H. Anderson) was called to order to hear a sermon by Rev. E. H. Branch of Houston; the doctor read from the 16th chapter of St. Mark. The choir sang a sweet song and the text, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations," was ably analyzed and the entire congregation revived. Prayer was offered by Rev. Wm. Beckham. Collection \$4 25.

SECOND DAY—Morning.

The hour having arrived for opening, Rev. P. M. Dibble conducted Divine services by reading the 3rd chapter of Malachi. Hymn No. 101, "All hail the power of Jesus' name," etc. Prayer by Bro. Jno. Franks. Bro. Travis was called at this time to open the subject assigned to him in the program; he being absent the time passed to adjournment or recess for breakfast. Re-assembled at 10.30; the minutes of the previous days were read and adopted. Then came the committee on enrollment with their report showing that a number of churches were short and were asking further time to pay balance. Mother Zion was allowed till October to pay balance of \$8.40. On motion of Bro. John Franks the Sycamore Grove church was allowed time to pay balance of \$1. Bro. Franks then moved to allow the Garfield Church till the first of September to pay a balance of \$1.70. Mt. Grove Church was allowed till the first of September to pay a balance of \$2. Grove Hill paid balance due of \$5.50, through Rev. H. C. Cooper. At this hour the following distinguished gentlemen were noticed in the room and escorted to the stand by Rev. P. H. Collier and R. Walker: Rev. Prof. David B. Abner, Jr. of Seguin, Texas; Rev. F. C. Cook, Rev. P. M. Dibble, Rev. Dr. W. B. Ball and Rev. Wm. Beckham. Dr. Abner spoke of his having run over to Orange, Texas and had met and had the privilege of addressing between 1000 and 1500 people in that city; at the conclusion of his speech he said that the mass stood up in approval to our work and that three churches belonging to the old convention voted unanimously to join us and that they would go over to Beaumont and join the S. W. C. Association. They came. The appearance of these distinguished brethren in our midst was indeed encouraging to the brethren to press forward under the chivalrous leadership of such noble men. Dr. Ball was insisted on to make a short talk which he did in touching words of advice to the delegates, adjuring them to stand together, permitting no diversions to come among them. He was listened to with marked attention throughout. Recess for 30 minutes. Prayer by Rev. Dibble. After partaking of refreshments the body reassembled; Rev. S. M. Pendergrass read the Scriptures and sang this familiar song: "Lord I would come to Thee," etc. Bro. Travis prayed a feeling prayer that God would strengthen the work all over the land. The minutes of the morning session were next read and adopted on motion of Rev. R. B. Evans. Bro. Collier moved to instruct the corresponding secretary to notify all the churches that owe back dues to pay them over to the treasurer and take his receipt therefor; carried. Then came the Question box containing a number of important questions; time would not allow the discussion of all of them; a few are here mentioned that they may be thought out by the brethren in their homes; it is hoped that they may be prayerfully con-

sidered, the true answer gotten and the truth spread among the people: The first was, "Should a man who is converted and is baptized by a Methodist minister be re-baptized if he comes to the Baptist church for membership?" This question was discussed at length; some of the brethren at first thought it not necessary, but strong speeches against their views seemed to have prevailed; a vote was taken on motion made by Bro. Collier that it is the sense of this body that such candidates should be baptized, holding as they do that the unbelief of the minister invalidates the work, as "work without faith is dead, being alone." The following questions were not discussed: 1st. Is it Scriptural to tax the members of the church a nominal sum? 2d. Is it right to re-baptize one who was baptized by a regular ordained Baptist minister? 3d. If there come a grievance between a member of the Methodist and a member of the Baptist church, how shall the matter be settled? If the Methodist member has been ill-treated can he come into the Baptist church with his grievance? 4th. Can a member be in good standing with his church who is in open violation to the law of the land? 5th. Can a minister of the gospel be chosen as a deacon? 6th. Can the church exclude a member on the testimony of one witness? 7th. Did Christ take up collection on the Sabbath? 8th. How can a member be received into the church who has been excluded from some other church of the same faith? These questions and a few others of less importance were asked and it is hoped will be answered in future to the satisfaction and benefit of those who asked them. At this point Rev. Beckham, Supt. of S. S. work, was allowed time to represent his work, which he did showing a course of hard work, yet the accomplishment of much good. A collection of \$5.00 raised from the congregation. To this we added from the treasury \$4.70, making in all \$10 which we gave for Sunday School mission work. Prayer by Rev. Sam Fomby.

Night Session.

Immediately after the house was called to order Prof. Abner was again called to the stand and asked to say a few words to the crowded house; he responded in a short speech fraught with both information and instruction; among many other good things, he said that we as a race must "draw a line" between the right and the wrong, between the moral and the immoral, between the honorable and the dishonorable. This, said he, must be done even though the line runs across our own families. He spoke also of our having cut our way to the line of Louisiana absorbing every opposition. A vote was taken in favor of the general convention and a sea of faces beamed with delight over the good news that the one common pass word now is becoming one Lord, one faith and one general convention in Texas. When he had finished speaking, Rev. R. B. Evans occupied the stand to preach. He took for his text the words "This gospel must be preached for a witness to all nations, then shall the end come. Our hearts were made to rejoice as the dear servant of God spoke with power and authority. Rev. I. S. Wright offered prayer before the sermon. Rev. T. W. Wilbourn closed with a fervent prayer. Collection \$1.65.

THIRD DAY.—Morning Session.

At 9:30 in the morning Rev. E. Eaton read the 13 chapter of—— and sang hymn No. 117, prayer by Rev. Boykin. The minutes of Wednesday evening and night were read and approved on motion of Bro. Evans, then came a petition from Mt. Calvary asking to be exempt from taxation. Quite a lengthy debate ensued; Bro. Sparks called attention to a resolution adopted in the last association to the effect that no church be exempt from taxation except in cases where it had been destroyed by fire or storm. He said that before any church could ask help of of the association, that resolution must be first reconsidered. Bro. Collier concurred in that opinion and moved to so amend the resolution as to have it read "any distress that might come against it" and this motion was carried; then Bro. Wheat moved to donate \$6.10 to the church with which she could pay her dues, but this motion was lost by a vote of 31 to 30. It was a tie twice in succession but the moderator gave the casting vote which settled the vexed question. Then Rev. Sparks moved to refer all other petitions to a committee on investigation of grievances, thus settling the long debate. No churches therefore need apply for exemption except for reasons set forth in the following; Resolved, that no church shall hereafter be exempted from annual dues except said church shall have been destroyed by fire or storm. This resolution was offered by Rev. A. N. Wyatt in the association at Houston and Bro. Collier so amended it at Beaumont as to admit other reasons provided they come in the meaning of a cry of distress. It is again hoped and advised that the pastors of the various churches will in the future begin earlier to collect the amount due the association that we may not be called upon to show favors along this line since it invariably causes unpleasantness that ought not to exist in our midst. Sister Taylor is representing the foreign mission work also the Herald of Austin. She made an impressive speech for the cause and we gave her \$5, half of which, was collected from the congregation. Dr. Ball represented the Guadalupe School and we gave him \$75 to be paid on our stock now and voted \$25 to be paid later. Then came our beloved sisters desiring to have the house that they might funeralize their deceased members, viz: Sisters Jennie Hunter, Fannie Hall, Ellen Godfrey, Malindy Wright, Eliza Jane Hurd and Sister Hester Carter. Rev. C. H. Collier preached for the sisters on this occasion, quoting from Rev. 14 chapter, 13 verse. He preached a powerful sermon, many were the tears that fell for joy as the beautiful pictures of the triumph of these sainted Christian workers were drawn by the speaker.

Night Session.

The association reassembled at 9 o'clock with a host of visitors present to hear a sermon by Rev. S. E. Henderson of Houston.

FOURTH DAY—Morning Session.

The association was called to order by moderator, G. W. Smith, divine services were conducted by Rev. G. W. Hatton by reading the 112 Ps. and singing hymn No. 118; prayer by Rev. A. Williams, after which the moderator announced the order of business and announced the following committees: On investigation of letters, special committee on petition or griev-

ances, committee on time and place, on education and temperance. Here the new churches were fellowshipped into the grand old body, two of them coming from the old convention declaring that as a race we must "go forward". Rev. Robertson, one of the newly inlisted war soldiers from Orange was called to the stand and made a short and pointed talk in the interest of the work. Rev. Collier moved that a committee of seven be elected from the floor and that said committee report the officers for the ensuing year. This motion was carried and the following named brethren were elected viz: Revs. A. A. Travis, J. W. Robertson, R. J. McGill, P. H. Collier, A. Robertson and A. H. Speaker and R. Walker. After a few short talks by different brethren and a prayer by Bro. A. Robertson, the association took recess for dinner. Reassembled at 2:30 p. m. and Rev. J. W. Sykes read the 20th chapter of Exodus, sang and had prayer by Rev. John Baldwin of Wharton. Rev. S. Granthum was introduced. He is one of the aged pioneers of the association. Bro. Granthum spoke of his labors in Houston and asked for help to assist him in liquidating the debt of his church. Rev. J. W. Robertson moved to donate him \$2.50 from the treasury. Rev. Sparks amended the motion by giving him a collection also from the congregation, a collection of \$3.05 was placed on the table in a few minutes. Bro. Granthum then entertained the house a few moments with a little wit and humor and bid us God speed. At this time we had the pleasure of being introduced to Rev. G. A. Smart, pastor of the white Baptist church of the city and J. Davis Gober, Sunday School superintendent and Bro. L. Gober, his father. They spoke highly of our progress as a race, both intellectually and spiritually. Then came the committee on investigation of letters reporting several churches asking for help and one, the St. James of Wharton for dismission. The report was recommitted on motion of Bro. Wheat. The St. James Church was denied the letter for dismission only because her petition did not set forth the object for which she desired a letter. Since the association under the constitution can only grant letters to join some other association this intent must be set up. See Art. 12. After this Bro. Sidney Evans of Wharton a poor cripple object of charity and Bro. Charles Stewart, a poor blind man was presented to the congregation for help. God bless the brethren and sisters, they soon gave \$4.10, which was divided equally between them. Then came the report of officers showing faithful and efficient work done in their respective fields of labor. Special attention is ordered in regard to Rev. James Tisdale, treasurer. He attached his resignation to his final report giving as a reason that he was growing too old to serve the body as he had. Rev. Tisdale has handled, as he said, thousands of dollars for the association having been the treasurer from its birth. He pointed to his hands with pride and said they are clean. His report was adopted on motion of John Franks. His resignation was received and ordered spread on the face of the minutes. Rev. I. S. Wright, who is also one of the founders that has gone with Elder Tisdale through the dark days moved to make the faithful old servant a life long member of the body. Carried. Then came the report of the ex board, which was adopted with the exception of the joint resolution drawn up by the board which met at Stafford's Point. The brethren discussed the advisability of increasing the taxation but decided that it was best to defer it till later hoping to secure

a more unanimous endorsement. The corresponding secretary and missionary should have credit for the creditable showing in their reports. Rev. A. N. Wyatt read the report of the committee on temperance; strong speeches followed in condemnation of the drink habit especially among preachers. The committee on time and place recommended Mt. Pleasant, near Thompson where Rev. G. W. Smith is pastor, but this was changed later and it is now ordered that we meet next year at Macedonia Baptist Church where Rev. C. H. Sparks is pastor. The committee on permanent organization reported and the officers are as follows: Rev. P. H. Collier, Moderator, Houston; Rev. R. B. Evans, vice moderator, Houston; Bro. S. H. Wheat, recording secretary; Rev. A. T. Gordon, assistant; Rev. E. H. Branch, corresponding secretary; Bro. A. H. Speaker, treasurer, Bro. J. W. Robertson, C. H. Sparks, board managers. Bro. S. E. Henderson was nominated for missionary on conditions which made it necessary to defer approval till the 1st board meeting. Bro. Robertson moved to go into election of delegates to the various conventions, etc. Rev. T. W. Wilbourn and Rev. A. A. Travis were elected as delegates to the national convention. To the state convention, P. H. Collier, I. S. Wright, C. H. Sparks, Wm. Jones and J. W. Robertson; to the Lincoln Association, Rev. A. N. Wyatt, H. C. Cooper. The sisters at this time came before the body seeking to have the association apologize for the bad lights thrown upon them. Through a resolution offered by Rev. E. H. Branch in the ex-board to the effect that they were acting separate and apart from the body and not bearing their part of the pecuniary burden. The sisters proved conclusively that the thrust at them was unwarranted. It is needless to say that we were only too glad to get off with merely taking it back. They wiped the resolution off the face of the earth and retired with a significant warning very elated over their victory. Then Rev. Collier moved to adjourn to give place to the cantata given by his church. Reassembled directly after the literary exercises which were indeed a treat. The trustees from the Seguin College were allowed their railroad fare to and from the school where they had gone to be present at the closing and to represent the association in the school board. Rev. G. W. Smith, \$4.85; Rev. S. M. Fomby, \$6.40; Rev. J. D. Montgomery, \$6.40. The corresponding secretary was paid \$5.45 for services for the year. On motion of Bro. Wh-at, we gave Live Oak Church \$10 and lent her \$15 to be paid at the setting of the next association.

Roll of Churches.

Bethlehem	Lamp Zion	Palestine
Bethel	Mother Zion	Penile
Bethlehem	Mount Zion	Page Ville
Bethelda	Mount Grove	Pleasant Hill
Concord	Mount Pilgrim	Pilgrim Journey
Camp Zion	Mt. Zion	Prairie Grove
Charles Zion	Mt. Pleasant	Pleasant Green
Damascus	Mt. Pilgrim	Rock West
Elm Grove	Mt. Carmel	Rising Star
East Gate	Mt. Pleasant	Rising Star
Eanon Chapel	Mt. Priscilla	Sycamore Grove
Ever Green	Macedonia	Sand Ridge
Elizabeth	Mt. Calvary	Sweet Cromwell
Free Svstem	Mt. Olive	Shiloh
Gilfield	Mt. Gileon	St. Paul
Grove Hill	Mt. Pilgrim	St. Phillip
Good Hope	Mt. Corinth	St. Luke
Good Hope	Mt. Zion	Thompson Chapel
Good Hope	Mt. Calvary	Wilderness Branch
Jordan Grove	Mt. Pleasant	Zion Hill Brookshire
Jerusalem	Mt. Zion	Zacheus Chapel
Little Zion Jerusalem	New Zion	Zion Hill
Live Oak	Pleasant Hill	

Roll of Delegates.

Rev. S. M. Fomby	Rev. J. M. Williams	Rev. J. R. Lofton
Joe Owens	Rev. H. B. Southern	" T. Hatton
Sam Pendergrass	P. J. James	" J. D. Montgomery
Rev. H. Boykin	R. A. Perkins	A. H. Speaker
P. M. Smith	Sister A. Whitney.	G. H. Brown
Rev. G. W. Hatton	J. D. Spivey	Mansom Wood
Rev. G. T. Thompson	Sister H. Deblough	J. E. Taylor
Rev. T. H. Hudgins	Sister M. Blantchett	Rev. Austin Francis
P. W. Wilkerson	Sister Julia Stewart	" E. Eadon
Rev. Thomas Lemons	Sister Norah Hebert	" Tee Wesley
Rev. William Wright	Sister J. P. Eugene	James Holland
Johnnie Brooks	I. S. Carrol	C. C. Hawkins
C. J. Burton	Rev. J. W. Baldwin	A. Young
S. H. Thompson	Y. Ford	Rev. T. W. Wilbourn
Rev. S. E. Henderson	Rev. A. N. Wyatt	" James Tisdale
A. E. Black	Rev. E. H. Lampkins	" J. W. Robertson
Rev. H. C. Cooper	W. R. Ross	R. H. Tisdale
Sister P. C. Cooper	A. W. Williams	S. H. Wheat
Rev. S. S. Montgomery	J. T. Thomas	Rev. George Nichols
Rev. J. P. Parker	Rev. A. A. Travis	John Franks
Rev. Nat James	Rev. J. S. Sanders	Randle Asimore
Rev. P. H. Collier	Rev. S. Granthum	Rev. C. H. Sparks
Magale Dorris	Rev. G. W. Smith	Sister M. A. Hall
Rev. A. T. Gordon	A. Thomas	I. B. Thomas
Rev. L. Branch	William Jefferson	P. W. Wilkerson
Robert Simmons	Revs. R. B. Evans	Sister I. B. Pointer
George Simmons	" M. Simmons	A. Williams
Wm. Hall	" A. Minor	Sister J. W. Sykes
Rev. E. H. Branch	P. Howling	A. R. Ross
R. Walker	V. Henderson	Sister I. M. Hendon
Rev. R. J. McGill	Rev. J. W. Steel	S. F. Brown
F. C. Cooks	" A. Grimes	Sister D. C. Cobb
Rev. I. S. Wright	" H. H. Anderson	

Report of Committee on Education.

To the moderator and members of the Southwestern Central Association: We your committee on education would respectfully report that after a careful study of the subject assigned to us and the situation of our people generally, that education is the need of the day. We thank God for the help he has given us and would renew our allegiance to principles set forth in the decree of our general Baptist convention of Texas. We point again with pride to our school at Seguin and recognize in it a school of high learning with a faculty second to none. We do most urgently insist that all the lovers of race pride and higher educational attainments patronize this school since the benefits to be derived are equal to any in the state if not the Union. We further recommend that you set apart one hundred dollars to be paid on our stock, also that we patronize the National Public Board for literature and also the Baptist Herald of Austin, Texas. Respectfully submitted, Rev. William Jones, Rev. J. M. Williams, Rev. C. H. Sparks, Rev. I. S. Wright, and John Franks and Martha Blanchet, Secretary.

Committee on enrollment: Rev. H. C. Cooper, Matagorda; Rev. S. Fomby, Eagle Lake; Rev. James Tisdale, Wharton; James Roberts, Houston; S. H. Wheat, Wharton. Committee on investigation of letters:

Rev. J. R. Lofton, Rev. R. B. Evans, George Hatton, J. H. Holland and Rev. R. J. McGill. Committee on Obituary reported that the different letters showed that it had pleased Almighty God to take from our district 92 of our members. "Be ye always ready." Respectfully submitted, Rev. W. H. Hall, Rev. G. W. Hatton, Rev. T. Hatton, P. W. Wilkerson and William Jones.

Constitution of the Regular Baptist Missionary Southwestern Central Ass'n of Texas.

Art. 1. This association shall be known as the regular Baptist Missionary Southwestern Central Association of Texas.

Art. 2. The object of this association shall be to concert and execute measures for the spread of the Gospel within its limits and throughout the world, and to consolidate a Christian union, never to be broken.

Art. 3. The officers of this association shall consist of a moderator; vice moderator; recording secretary; assistant recording secretary; corresponding secretary; treasurer, missionary and two managers. Said officers are to hold their positions until their successors are elected and qualified. The two managers together with the other officers shall constitute the executive board for the transaction of business for the association. Five of whom shall constitute a quorum.

Art. 4. The moderator shall preside at all meetings of the association and see that order and decorum are observed by its members. He shall also appoint the following committees if not otherwise ordered by the body, to-wit: Investigation of letters in dispute, finance, education, devotion, obituary, time and place of holding association, enrollment, order of the day, and temperance. In the absence of the moderator the vice moderator shall perform said duties; in the absence of both the recording secretary shall attend to said duties.

Art. 5. It shall be the duty of the recording secretary to keep a faithful record of all the business transactions of the body and read at each annual meeting the Constitution and Rules of Order of the association.

Art. 6. The treasurer shall receive all monies of the association, keep a correct account of the same and the objects for which it is designed, pay it out according to the order of the association or executive board, and report the state of the treasury at each annual meeting. The corresponding secretary shall correspond with such societies of the body, churches, branches or individuals as the association may direct.

Art. 7. The executive board shall have power to fill all vacancies in its membership between the meetings of the association; to appoint and dismiss agents and missionaries, and arrange their compensations. But this does not, nor does it apply to agents or missionaries, in regard to dismissal when appointed by the association, unless two-thirds of the churches belonging thereto, shall present or cause to be presented their consent of removal. The word vacancy, as herein described shall apply to death or resignation.

Art. 8. The executive board shall make all appropriations, when not made by the association, to be paid out of the treasury; do all the executive business of the association; present to the association at each annual

meeting, a full written report of its proceedings during the current year and in all cases be subject to the decision of the association.

Art. 9. Immediately, or as soon as practicable, after the adjournment of the association, the moderator shall call the officers and managers together and proceed to organize the board by electing officers, etc., after which they shall proceed to examine the manuscript of the association's minutes, correct and approve them; also to make all necessary appropriations for the payment of same.

Art. 10. This association shall consist of regular Baptist ministers in charge of regular missionary Baptist churches and their duly elected delegates or ministers, in good standing with their churches by paying \$1; no delegate, however, will be recognized coming from a church of which he is not a member, except he be an ordained minister pastoring said church or churches.

Art. 11. The churches shall send letters by their pastors or delegates, containing statistics of their increase, together with whatever else in their affairs may be interesting.

Art. 12. Church may be received in this body if sound in the doctrine and practice of the Baptist faith, and by paying 10 cents per member as shown on their letter annually, or dismissed from it by their request through their delegation, to join any other association of the faith and order.

Art. 13. This association shall not interfere with the independence of the individual church in conducting its worship and discipline: this belongs to the church itself, and if the association acts at all, it shall only be in the way of advice and council.

Art. 14. Any member who may have an objection against an individual church shall present his objection in writing, which objection together with the letter shall go to the committee on investigation without debate. Nothing, however, will be considered an objection except it be against the doctrine and practice of the Baptist faith, neither will the report be sustained unless it be proven that a private course of labor has been pursued, the same as in individual cases.

Art. 15. The association shall meet annually at the time and place appointed, unless otherwise ordered.

Art. 16. Any article of this constitution may be altered or amended at the annual meeting of this body, by a two-thirds vote of the members present, after thirty days' notice of the proposed change—being given through the Baptist medium of the state or otherwise.

Art. 17. This notice must be published at least thirty days prior to the convening of the annual session of the association, setting forth and pointing out the particular article to be changed or amended.

Art. 18. The churches shall send one delegate for every twenty-five members reported on their letters, and one delegate for each fraction thereof.

Rules of Order of the Southwestern Central Association.

The association shall be called to order by the moderator; in his absence by the vice moderator, in the absence of both by the secretary.

2. Religious services—Introductory sermon.

3. Reading the constitution and rules of order.
4. Reading of letters and enrolling names of delegates.*
5. Appointment of committees as follows: On investigation, finance, education, devotion, obituary, time and place, enrollment, order of day, temperance.
6. Reception of new churches.
7. Whenever any objection is raised against a letter, it shall be referred to the investigation committee without debate.
8. Reports of officers and election of officers, on the fourth day.
9. No member of the association shall absent himself without permission from the moderator.
10. No subject shall be discussed without a motion made and seconded.
11. No person shall speak more than twice on the same motion without permission from the moderator and no more than five minutes at any one time without the unanimous consent of the association.
12. A motion to lay on table, indefinitely postpone takes up the previous question, or to adjourn, shall always be in order and shall be put without debate.
13. A motion made and lost, shall not be recorded on the minutes unless so ordered at a time.
14. When the moderator calls a member to order the member shall take his seat once. If the member refuses to come to order he shall make apology to the moderator and association immediately, or forfeit his privilege as a member, and shall not be allowed to speak during the session of the association, unless he appeals from the ruling of the moderator and his appeals are sustained.

Church Covenant.

Having been lead, as we believe, by the spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior, and on the profession of our faith having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we do now, in the presence God's angels and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another as one body in Christ. We engage, therefore, by the help of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of the church in knowledge, holiness and comfort; to endeavor to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline and doctrine; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor and the spread of the gospel through all nations. We also engage to maintain family and secret devotions; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and our acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, back-biting or excessive anger; to abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage; to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Savior. We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love, to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but

always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the rules of our Savior, to secure it without delay. We moreover engage that when we move from this place we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other church of the same faith and order, where we carry out the spirit of this covenant and principles of God's word. Amen.

Things We Ought to Know.

On the 21st day of July 1891 the S. W. C. A. took stock in the Guadalupe College to the amount of \$1625. We have paid from all sources, viz: From the association, woman's mission societies, Sunday-school district convention, Sunday-schools and all persons white and colored in this associational district \$722.90 leaving a balance due of \$902 10. The last payment on the school debt falls due Feb. the 1st, 1898. It amounts to \$1442. Every one is called upon to help. We get the above facts and figures from Dr. W. B. Ball, financial agent of the college. Our Gaudaloupe College matriculates annually from 275 to 325 pupils and still there is room.

There were 68 churches reported at Beaumont and they reported 4109 members. Since the numerical strength of the Baptist can only be gotten from statistics we can never know how strong we are until we learn to report the full membership of our churches. At present our membership seems to be governed by the amount of money we collect. This ought not to be. Rev. James Tisdale tendered his resignation as treasurer of the association, having served it ever since the organization; he was made a life member. If we would pay 25 cents apiece at the next sitting of the body we would raise \$1,027.25, even if we did not increase in membership. This would pay our entire stock.

Board Meeting.

WHARTON, TEXAS, Aug., 4, 1897.

The first board meeting of the S. W. C. A. of Texas met with the Macedonia Baptist Church at Wharton at 3 p. m.

Rev. J. W. Robertson in the chair, Rev. C. C. Craig conducted opening services and offered prayer. Bro. Sparks, the pastor made a short welcome address to the members, six being present, viz: Rev. J. W. Robertson, R. B. Evans, E. H. Branch, S. H. Wheat, A. H. Speaker and C. H. Sparks; Bro. Collier and Bro. Gordon being absent. The president then announced the house in order for business. The first thing in order was the examination of the manuscript of the association. Bro. Sparks was elected secretary to act for Bro. Gordon who was elected at Beaumont. The mss. was read and after careful examination and corrections it was approved and turned over to Bro. Wheat, the recording secretary for printing. It was ordered that 1500 copies be printed and sent out by the secretary, and that he (the secretary) be allowed \$30 for the work.

Thursday morning the board met at 8 o'clock, Rev. A. D. Mathenia read 1st. Cor. 2nd. Chapt., sang and offered prayer. The president then announced the house in order for business. Sister Taylor being present was allowed time to present the claims of the Herald for the printing of the minutes. We assured her that the Herald should have every oppor-

tunity to secure the work. Bro. Collier made his arrival on the 12 o'clock train. At this time the question pertaining to the missionary was taken up. It will be remembered that this matter was referred to the board by the association and Rev. Henderson was recommended upon the condition that he resign his churches and give all of his time to the field. Bro. Henderson was present and told us that he could not comply with the request of the association; this of course, made it necessary that we seek some one else. Bro. C. C. Craig was present and offered to resign his church at Rosenberg and take the field giving his entire time. Bro. Craig, coming as he did, very highly recommended by Dr. Collier and others, were put on the field upon the following conditions: He is to give his entire time to the work and report to the board at its regular quarterly meetings. We are to pay him \$25 a month. His railroad fare and stationery bill, Bro. Craig is to raise this money from the field and all over his expenses as herein mentioned shall be paid into the treasury. Bro. Wheat made a short talk showing the necessity of putting forth more energy towards raising more money, since the treasury of any institution is in a great measure the life of it, and offered the following resolution which was adopted: Resolved, that each member of this board is hereby appointed as financial agent for the association and that they be required to hold rallies wherever the doors of the church may be opened to them and that the proceeds be placed in the treasury after paying the expenses of said meeting. Rev. Collier offered a resolution that the board hold quarterly meetings, get out a suitable program for the occasion, etc. (carried). Adjourned to hear preaching by Bro. Collier. Accordingly at 8:30 he was in the stand. His text, Heb. 11:6, was rendered with great power. Bro. Branch offered prayer. Collection \$2.10.

Friday morning, Aug. 6, the president called the house to order at 8 o'clock. Bro. Branch conducted the usual divine services and a committee of three was appointed to select ministers to preach the annual sermons in the next association, viz. J. W. Robertson, P. H. Collier, E. H. Branch. This is their report.

Introductory Sermon.....	Rev. H. C. Cooper
Doctrinal Sermon.....	Rev. R. B. Evans
Education Sermon.....	Rev. S. E. Henderson
Historical Sermon.....	Rev. J. W. Robertson
Temperance Sermon.....	Rev. E. H. Lampkins
Missionary Sermon.....	Rev. C. C. Craig
Final perseverance of the Saints.....	Rev. A. A. Travis
What Baptists believe.....	A. F. Gordon

Bro. Collier moved to appropriate \$8 for the national convention. Bro. Robertson moved to appropriate \$45 for printing minutes. A vote of thanks was taken for the Macedonia Church for her care of the board, on motion of Bro. Robertson. The following resolutions were offered and adopted by Rev. Robertson. Whereas, as there has been and is now so many incompetent ministers being sent out and whereas it would seem to be because of careless examinations. Resolved that all applicants for ordination be sent up to the association or to a board appointed by that body. This resolution does not seek to interfere with the sovereign right of the individual churches, but it is hereby submitted to them for consideration and adoption.

Resolution by Bro. Wheat, Whereas, it is the custom of the association to exempt the church from dues which cares for it and whereas, it was overlooked at the association, resolved, that we exempt the Live Oak Church of Beaumont from dues for this year and that a vote of thanks be tendered those good people for their care of us while there. Bro. Collier moved to adjourn to meet at Rock West Baptist Church on Wednesday before the 3rd Sunday in November. Cost of board, \$28.45. Resolution by S. H. Wheat, whereas the association in its recommendation of officers did recommend Rev. S. E. Henderson for missionary upon the condition that he resign his churches and give all his time to field, and whereas in this board he comes before us saying that he cannot comply with the requirements resolve that we cast about for some one that can comply with the above order.

Board Meeting.

The woman's district mission board met at Beaumont, Texas, July, 20, 1897. The president, Mrs. H. E. Henderson, read for the opening exercises the CXXXVIII Psalms, prayer was offered by Sister Ellis, after which they sang. The board then went into business. Sister I. B. Thomas motioned that the discussion concerning the last year's minutes be turned over to the convention, after which the board adjourned.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
TENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
BAPTIST

South-western Woman's Home Mission
District Convention.

HELD WITH LIVE OAK BAPTIST CHURCH

AT BEAUMONT, TEXAS,

JULY 20TH-24TH 1897.

Officers.

President A. L. Tisdale, Wharton; vice-president H. E. Henderson, Houston; recording secretary M. A. Hall, Wharton; assistant secretary Nora Hebert, Beaumont; corresponding secretary M. K. Collier, Houston; treasurer I. B. Thomas, Wharton; missionary J. A. Osborn, Spanish Camp; board member S. F. Brown, Hungerford; H. V. Adams, Spanish Camp; B. Usher, Houston.

First Day's Session.

BEAUMONT, TEXAS, Wednesday, July, 21st, 1897.

At 7:30 a. m. prayer meeting was conducted by Sister E. Sipples of Richmond. At 9:30 a. m. Sister A. L. Tisdale, the president called the convention together and read for our benefit the XCV Psalm; then sang hymn No. 38; prayer was then offered by Sister H. E. Henderson of Houston; second hymn, Savior more than life to me, after which the president, introduced several visitors, among whom were Rev. McKinney of the A. M. E. Church, who gave us a brief and interesting talk that was very encouraging to the convention; then the president called the house to order and Sister M. K. Collier made the welcome address which was responded to by Sister I. B. Thomas of Wharton. On motion of J. A. Osborn of Spanish Camp, that the welcome address be spread on the minutes of the meeting; the same was carried.

Sister president, members and friends of the district convention of the S. W. C. A.:

No more pleasant task was ever assigned me in connection with our work, than to extend to you some words of welcome and Christian salutation. We sometime behold men crossing states, continents and mighty seas to attend labor conventions and assemblies of science and art; surely the sight of this glorious morning ought to be much more welcome to our eyes.

Sisters, the thoughts that bring us together in these walls are the greatest that can touch and thrill the human heart.

The causes to which you are to give your words of counsel, help and cheer are not those of to-day and to-morrow, but of all time and eternity, and are fed by the thoughts of our sin and sorrow, the grave, God and immortality.

We welcome you to our town (Beaumont), better known as the lumber city, with its beautiful surroundings, saw mills, factories, electric lights and last but not least, its delightful springs and big hills.

We bid you all hail! We welcome you because you have shown that our denomination does not creep along the shallow shoals of ignorance, but that it grows and glories in the broadest intellectual culture; and the path of its best progress lies along the lines of education of all the people.

In behalf of the old mother church, who as she sits there like Roman matron, proud of her children gathered around her, points to the growing churches of the city saying, "these are my jewels." In behalf of her and them I welcome you with all my heart.

If there cannot be a home reception for each one of you, rest assured that there is a heart reception for you all.

We welcome you especially to our table which may be loaded with potatoes, cabbage, beef, chicken, and all that will tend to make you happy.

You will not find the king's palace all decorated with draperies nor his table laden with its dainty eatables, but to such as we have, we welcome you.

And again dear sisters, we welcome you to your rightful place. May your names rank high in the lamb's book of life with those worthy women whom the apostle so gladly acknowledged his helpers in the gospel.

Welcome, welcome, welcome.

Yours in the work,

(Mrs.) M. K. COLLIER.

The convention then went into its regular business; on motion of I. B. Thomas of Wharton that rule third be taken up; the assistant secretary being absent, Mrs. J. A. Osborn of Spanish Camp, motioned that Mrs. S. E. White of Spanish Camp, serve as assistant secretary of the meeting. On motion of E. Sipple that Mrs. M. K. Collier be porter of the meeting; then came the enrolling of the delegates names. Rev. W. M. Beckham being present, Sister Hanna Adams motioned that all business be suspended to hear from Rev. W. M. Beckham of Austin, after which Rev. Beckham came forward and stirred our very souls with the good things from his lips. After hearing so many good things from Rev. W M, Beckham, sister president turned the meeting over to Rev. Beckham and the sisters lost sight of this world and dropped their pocket books and did not think until they had lost \$3.50 in favor of Rev. Beckham; after which the convention donated Rev. Beckham \$2 which made \$5.50 in all, then the reverend smiled and said "Thank you sisters, this is for Africa." Then the convention went into a speaking meeting, and after they all had spoken we took up rule 4th. Then the committees were appointed. 1. Committee on order of the day was appointed as follows: E. J. Norton of Richmond, A. Washington of Wharton and S. F. Brown of Hungerford. 2. Committee on devotion was as follows: S. A. Cook, R. A. Hatton, D. Briton, P. B. Brown, G. McKinsick, Carrie Upine and S. E. Randle. 3. Committee on finance was as follows: J. A. Osborn, I. B. Thomas, C. E. Diggs and V. A. Jenkins. 4. Committee on temperance: S. A. Cook R. A. Hatton, D. Briton, T. B. Brown and M. E. Ellis.

The committee on order of the day came forward and was ready to report. On motion of Mrs. C Pinkney of Wharton, we heard the reports of the committee on order of the day, which read as follows: We your committee on order of the day beg leave to make the following report. The convention shall meet daily at 9 a. m., recess at 11.30 a. m. and reconvene at 1:30 p. m., adjourn for dinner at 4 p. m. and reconvene at 5 p. m. We respectfully submit to your honorable body our report, A. Washington, S. F. Brown and E. J. Norton, chairman. The convention adjourned to meet at 1:30 p. m.

Afternoon Session.

Met at 1:30 p. m.; the president, Miss A. L. Tisdale called the convention to order by reading the VI chap. of St. Luke, and prayer was offered by Sister S. F. Brown. First hymn, "Lord I would come to thee." The president announced the house in order for business, and on motion of I. B. Thomas the minutes of the morning session were read and adopted, after which Sister A. Taylor was introduced to the convention and made one of her soul stirring talks. It was meat to our very soul. She spoke briefly of our work and then of the Baptist state work and she put in some heavy blows for the Baptist Herald of Austin. The convention donated Sister A. Taylor \$3, after which I. B. Thomas motioned that we take up rule 3rd, after which the following named delegates were enrolled:

M. E. McCray	S. Long	S. A. Cook
Mattie Baker	S. Edom	C. E. Digg
Maria Laws	Mary George	Hallie Miles
I. S. Wright	S. P. Brown	Fanny White
A. T. Gordon	A. L. Tisdale	M. A. Hall

E. H. J. Hatton	A. Washington	I. B. Thomas
M. J. Hatton	C. Pinkney	D. Britton
H. E. Hooks	M. Scott	B. Usher
V. A. Jinken	S. Ranger	J. W. Steels
S. Belle	G. A. McKisic	K. Deblough
A. D. Palmer	H. V. Adam	N. Hebert
Bettie Johnson	S. E. White	C. Upine
Annie Carter	I. M. Henderson	M. K. Collier
Isabella Carter	E. Robertson	M. R. Jacob
S. E. Randle	M. E. Rosway	M. Wardell
Mary Wadkins	L. Wallace	S. Fomby
Mary Washington	R. A. Hatton	
H. E. Henderson	P. B. Brown	

After which some discussion came up concerning Thompson Chapel Society. Sister S. E. Henderson motioned that we appoint a committee to investigate the above said society's letter, after which all business was suspended until we could hear some interesting remarks from Prof. D. Abner, the president of the Gaudaloupe College at Seguin, Texas. Sister A. D. Palmer motioned that the convention extend a vote of thanks to Prof. D. Abner for his interesting lecture. The convention gave the vote of thanks. After reading all letters in hands prayer was offered by Sister A. Taylor, then the convention adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock a. m.

THIRD DAY.—Morning Session.

The president, Sister A. L. Tisdale, opened by reading the XV chap. of St. John, prayer was offered by Sister R. A. Hatton, then the president announced the house in order for business. Next came the reading of the minutes of the previous day. On motion of Sister Sipples the minutes were adopted. On motion of Sister V. Jinken we took up rule third. On motion of Sister S. F. Brown, we received the letters of all new societies, after which the following new societies were received and their delegates fellowshipped: New Zion, Prairie Grove, Elizabeth, Rosenberg and Shiloh, first ward societies.

On motion of I. B. Thomas we hear the reports of the committees. The committee on temperance came forward and reported the following:

We have carefully considered the word temperance and we know that it means moderate and strict control of appetite and mind and a woman cannot be a true woman unless she is temperate in all its elements. Intemperance is a curse that has and is yet ruining our race. We will say to the mothers, if you will only abstain from drinks and tobacco and snuff, we would have better girls and boys. I trust we will keep all the rules of temperance and make our future race better. Then we are your humble committee, S. A. Cook, R. A. Hatton, D. Britton, P. B. Brown.

Next comes the committee on investigation and they report as follows: We your committee on investigation find that the Thompson Chapel society is not in good standing with the church, therefore we cannot recommend her to your body. H. E. Henderson, S. F. Brown

The committee on devotion reported that Rev. Williams preach the woman's missionary sermon.

On motion of Sister Hatton that we hear from the societies that sent money to pay Sister Henderson's way to the to the national convention of last year at St. Louis.

Mother Zion Society.....	\$1 00
East Gate Society.....	1 00
Sister Gordon reports her society.....	1 00
Freesystem Society.....	1 00
Oak Hill.....	—

On motion of Sister Gordon that we hear the reports of the secretary concerning Sister Fanny Epperson, our former secretary. The secretary reported that she had written Sister Epperson but received no answer. Sister Hatton motioned that we write Sister Epperson again concerning the money she has of the convention. Sister Silvey Gordon motion that we send some one to school. Sister M. K. Collier motioned that we send Rosa Thompson, and Miss Stubbs to the Guadalupe College at Seguin, Texas. Then the convention adjourned to meet at 1:30 o'clock p. m.

THIRD DAY.—Evening Session.

Opened by singing hymn No. 102, prayer was offered by Sister Bettie Johnson, after which they read the V chap. of St. Matthew, then the president announced the house in order for business. Then Rev. W. B. Ball was introduced to the convention after giving us one of his good old smiling lectures. Sister I. B. Thomas motioned that the convention donate Bro. W. B. Ball \$5 for Gaudaloupe College.

At 3 o'clock p. m. all business was suspended to hear the obituary sermon of the deceased sisters of the home mission societies of our district. Rev. P. H. Collier preached the sermon for the women in memory of the deceased sisters. His sermon was weight and power to our souls. Rev. Collier knows how to talk about God's holy word. He is a God sent preacher, another Peter of old. After hearing such a good sermon from Rev. P. H. Collier, the convention took up four dollars and donated two dollars to Rev. Collier. The balance which was two dollars, was turned over to the treasurer, Mrs. I. B. Thomas. After which the convention took up the regular routine of business. As each society promised last year to give 50 cents each to the training school, they took up the fifty cents.

Mount Common Society give.....	50
J. A. Osborn paid.....	\$1 00
Sister Henderson.....	25
Anna Carter.....	25
Ellen Robertson.....	25
V. A. Jinken.....	25
C. Pinkney.....	25
Total amount.....	2 75

On motion of Sister Henderson we heard the report of the committee on finance. The committee reported as follows:

We have taken up during the meeting \$45.10. On the motion of Sister H. E. Henderson that the convention pay Prof. D. Abner five dollars on Miss Mary Stewart's schooling at the Gaudaloupe College. Balance due on Miss Mary Stewart's schooling ten dollars. Then Sister M. K. Collier motioned that rule six be taken up to hear the annual report of officers. M. A. Hall, secretary, reported as follows:

DEAR SISTERS:—I shall turn over four dollars that I collected since we last met and I have written twenty cards and five letters during the year.

The president, Miss A. L. Tisdale made her annual reports as follows: Letters written, thirty-two, blank for the society \$1.50, societies visited four.

Yours,
A. L. TISDALE.

Mrs. I. B. Thomas, the treasurer reported as follows:

Sister President, money received last year \$59.20, payed out \$30, paid for sending money 30 cents, balance on hand from last year \$28.

Yours,
I. B. THOMAS, Treasurer.

Reports of Sister J. A. Osborn, missionary of the district:

I have traveled 224 miles and visited eleven churches, organized 4 societies. Money collected:

Rising Star.....	55
Prairie Grove.....	\$1 30
Pleasant Hill.....	1 35
St. Luke.....	—
Elm Grove.....	1 00
Mt. Calvary.....	—
Mt. Vernon.....	—
Sand Ridge.....	1 00
Mt. Maiah.....	2 10
Mt. Pleasant.....	50
Mt Zion.....	90
Total.....	\$8 70

Yours,
J. A. OSBORN, Missionary.

I. B. Thomas motioned that all the officers of this convention be paid for their services during the sitting of the convention. (Carried.) Sister E. Sipple motioned that we pay Sister M. K. Collier two dollars for acting porter during the convention. M. A. Hall motioned that we pay S. E. White \$2.50 for acting assistant secretary of the convention.

Sister Hatton motioned that the president appoint a committee of Seven on permanent organization. (Carried.) The president appointed the following named sisters:

S. Brown, H. V. Adams, L. C. Cook, C. H. Deblaugh, M. J. Hatton, G. A. McKissic, S. Ranger, S. E. Randle.

After which the committee retired and made the following report:

We, your committee on permanent organization, beg leave to make the following report:

A. L. Tisdale, President.
H. E. Henderson, Vice-President.
M. A. Hall, Recording Secretary.
J. A. Osborn, Missionary.
I. B. Thomas, Treasurer.
Nora Hebert, Assistant Secretary.
M. K. Collier, Corresponding Sec.

The above names were elected officers of the convention by the house. After which the following resolutions were offered by Sister C. E. Diggs of Wharton: Resolve, That the convention pay the district officer's way of this convention to and from the annual meeting of each year. Sister M. Hatton of Spanish Camp, motioned that the above resolution be received and adopted. Sister E. J. Hatton motioned that a committee of three be appointed to wait on the association to ascertain whether we would be recognized in a joint session with them or not. The committee reported that the association recognized us as a part of the association.

Sister Norton motioned that the money that was collected last year to defray Sister Henderson's way to the national convention at St. Louis last year, be turned over to the treasurer.

Sister Cook motioned that the convention and friends return a vote of thanks to the pastor and the members of the A. M. E. Church for their great kindness to them, also to the citizens of Beaumont, both white and colored. Sister M. K. Collier motioned that we pay Sister Sipple one dollar. On the 24th officers were all installed, The convention then adjourned to meet 1898 at Wharton, Texas in the Macedonia Baptist Church.

Obituary.

TO THE HOME MISSION SOCIETY AND SISTER PRESIDENT:—We submit to you the testimony of our beloved sister and president, Mrs. Jennie Hunter. This beloved sister was born in 1853 and became a member of Mt. Pleasant Church in 1877. From the time she became a member of the church to her death she was a zealous worker for Christ. Her record as a member of our church is worthy of commendation. Her mission as a helper was an admirable one, for she proclaimed "Jesus" every where she had an opportunity. As a worker in the home mission society, she lost no time in trying to build it up. We owe our progress to her, for she seemed to have given her soul and attention to measure such things as would keep us marching upwards to heaven. She became president of our society in 1891 and served six successive years. Under her administration our society continued upwards. Her testimony:

Eight days before she made her departure to the bright world, she said she heard the bells ringing and also heard a singing at the river. She said they were singing "O Lord when I died." She then said "I pray God that the bells I hear are ringing for me to take me out of my misery" and also said she saw a light pass over her and asked her nurses did they see it. She also met her mother and said she cooked for her and told her to go back and she would come for her in short. The morning before she died she asked what time it was and some one told her it was then a few minutes to eleven and she told us she had but a few minutes longer to stay here, and so on the next morning 15 minutes of eleven, she died on the 18th of Jan, 1897.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

BAPTIST

South-western Woman's Home Mission District Convention.

Art. 1. This convention shall be known as the Baptist Woman Home Mission Convention. Its object shall be to concert a union or action never to be broken and establish an interest in mission work among the Baptist women of this district.

Art. 2. The officers of this convention shall consist of president, vice-president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, treasurer and three others as the board of managers, who together with the officers of the convention shall constitute an executive board for the transaction of business for the convention, five of whom shall constitute a quorum. They shall all be elected annually and shall hold their respective positions until successors are elected and qualified.

Art. 3. The convention shall elect a general missionary annually who shall visit each society in the district and lecture to the same and also visit each church in the district and with the co-operation of the church and pastor organize a home mission society in the district whenever there is none organized. She shall collect money in the field for her support.

Art. 4. The executive board shall have the same power to act during the current year as the board of the association.

Rules of Order.

1. The convention shall open with reading and religious services.
2. Reading constitution and rules of order.
3. Calling the names of societies, reading letters and enrolling the names of delegates.
4. Appointment of committees as follows. Committee on order of the day, on finance, on devotion and on temperance.
5. Reception of new societies.
6. Reports of officers.
7. Remarks on papers by the sisters to be read in joint session with the association. The election of officers after this. We will conform to the rules of the association.

NAME OF SOCIETIES	POSTOFFICES	Membership	No. Meetings	Gathered in Sunday-school	Back Sliders Reclaimed	Church improvement at home	To gen'l Baptist convention	Given to women's H. mission So ty	Given to foreign Missions	Given to sick and poor	Total amount Paid out	Sent to the Meeting	President	Secretary	Pastor	DELEGATES
St. James	Wharton	20	8	35	0	\$75 00				\$1 00	\$77 00	1 00	H. M. Carrington	L. A. Branch		
New Zion	Sealy	15	10	10	0					40	75	75	M. E. McCray	C. R. Palmer	P. H. Collier	M E McCray
Little Zion	Kendleton	22	12	6	1					2 50	5 00	85	F. T. Pink	M. S. Dillard	S. Green	
Prairie Grove	Hungerford	11	1	0	0							30	S. F. Brown	Nettie Brown	J. S. Neil	S F Brown
Mt. Zion Mission	Mathis	15	5	4	4	9 85					11 85	1 50	Mary Jones	Annie Flours	I. S. Wright	Mary Joynes
Zion	Eagle Lake	5	0	0	0							25	Mattie Baker	Josephine Jones	E. H. Lampkins	Mattie Baker
Rosenberg Society	Rosenberg	12	0	0	0							60	Maria Laws		C. C. Craig	Maria Laws
Elizabeth	Wallis	5	2	0	0	25 00		25 00			75	25	Lucy Brown	Rocksyan Dulkan	I. S. Wright	I S Wright
Shiloh	Houston	22	14	8	4	35 00	2 00				1 38	1 00	Adeline Gilpen	C. Nowlin	A. T. Gordon	A T Gordon
Camp Zion	Spanish Camp	12	7	10	1	12 25		2 00	2 70		17 25	1 20	E. H. J. Hatton	E. J. Smith	J. D. Montgomery	E H J Hatton, M J Hatton and H E Hooks
Mt. Common	Richmond	35	15	23	5	6 00	2 00			1 40	46 40	1 75	E. J. Norton	E. Sipple	L. Branch	V A Jenkin and S Belle
Little Z Jerusalem	Hungerford	8	9		2						75	1 25	A. B. Godfrey	A. D. Palmer		A D Palmer
Elm Grove	Eagle Lake	30	24	13	4	13 00	1 00	1 00	50	23 30	38 70	1 50	Bettie L. Johnson	Julia Owens	S. F. Fomby	Bettie Johnson Annie Owens, Isabella Carter
Evergreen	Wallis	70	15	6	7	12 15					12 45	1 00	S. E. Randle	Mary Stewart	R. B. Evans	S. E. Randle
Mt. Pleasant	Eagle Lake	35	12	0	1	5 45			1 50	1 00	16 10	75	Silvia Carter	Carrie Sims	R. B. Evans	Mary Wadkins, Mary Washington
Betheldar Mission	Yoakum	27	24	15	6	3 00	40	1 00	1 00	7 70	13 10	1 25	E. W. Brown	Bertie Hill	S. E. Henderson	H. Henderson
Pleasant Grove	Eagle Lake	15	13	10	3	7 00				3 00	10 00	75	Susan Long	Annie Thompson	W. M. Jones	S Long, S Edom
Mother Zion	Wharton	24	26	16	1	61 35	50	50	3 50	3 70	74 05	3 50	A. L. Tisdale	A. Washington	T. W. Wilbourn	A L Tisdale, A Washington, C Pinkney
Mt. Zion	Caney	22	5	0	0					1 50	4 70	1 10	M. Scott	L. Gray	H. C. Cooper	M Scott, S Ranger
Damascus	Brunner	6	24	6	17	4 40	1 00	60		1 00	24 30	1 00	G. C. McKisic	B. E. Black	S. E. Henderson	G A McKisie
Mt. Gileon	Spanish Camp	13	10	10	7	11 25				3 20	14 45	75	S. E. White	L. L. Lewis	J. D. Montgomery	H V Adams, S E White
Gilfield	Harrisburg	10	18	11	1	27 85	3 00	50	1 30	75	27 85	30	C. Larkins	E. Woods	I. M. Henderson	I M Henderson
New Home	Harlem	11	12	6	5	9 50	1 40			5 50	16 90	1 00	J. O Cook	A. D. Dorel	F. C. Cook	E Robertson
Oak Hill	Kendleton	31	11	13	0			50		2 15	12 50	1 65	L. A. Harrison	Mrs. S. Braxton	R. B. Evans	One
Rising Star	Spanish Camp	15	7	7	2	73 00		50		7 35	77 85	75	R. A. Hatton	R. M. Glass	R. B. Southern	M E Rosaway, L Wallis R A Hatton
East Gate	Sorrella	10	7	5	0	10 00	1 00	1 45		1 00	11 45	5 00	F. Bryant	M. M. Darby	John Baldon	P B Brown
Mt. Ciller	Wharton	19	9	25	0	5 35				75	18 60	1 00	S. A. Cook	Mollie Rav	Geo. Nickles	S A Cook, C E Diggs
Sand Ridge	Spanish Camp	19	7	8	8	6 50		2 00		4 00	10 50	1 30	J. A. Osborn	F. B. Grant	Thomas Lemons	Hallie Mills, Fannie White
Macedonia	Wharton	20	18	25	5	28 00			1 00	1 75	39 75	2 00	I. B. Thomas	M. A. Hall	C. H. Sparks	M A Hall, I B Thomas
First Word Baptist	Houston	10	12	6	4	8 10				75	10 75	70	H. E. Henderson	J. A. Davis	S. E. Henderson	D Briton, E Usher
Jerusalem	Spanish Camp	15	5	11	2	42 50		85		3 00	42 50	80	W. Jones	S. P. Sanford	J. W. Steel	J W Steels
Live Oak	Beaumont	21	15	10	9	125 00	3 50		2 00	1 85	133 60	1 25	M. R. Jacob	Nora Hebert	P. H. Colier	K Deblau, N Hebert, M K Collier, M R Jacob
Mission	Booth	15	10	12	3	5 75			1 00	1 00	13 10	1 50	E. F. Fisher	M. Wardell	G. W. Smith	M Wardell
St. Luke	Eagle Lake	10	24	10	3	6 00	35	25		6 60	6 60	50	Charity Simpson	Violet Chainey	S. Fomby	S Fomby
Totals		629	391	321	106	443 80	16 15	11 40	13 50	79 40	533 00	100 00				