

X

MINUTES OF
 THE 85TH ANNUAL SESSION OF
THE FISHERS RIVER
PRIMITIVE BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION

This, the Eighty-fifth Annual Session, was held with
 the Church at Union, Surry County, North Carolina, on
 Friday, Saturday and Second Sunday, August 10, 11 and
 12, 1917.

OFFICERS:

Elder W. H. Atkinson, Moderator, R. 1, Round Peak, N. C.
 Elder F. P. Stone, Clerk, R. F. D. 1, Francisco, N. C.

Printed at the

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 Laurel Fork, Virginia,
 1917.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF MINISTERS

ELDERS

G. Denny,.....	R. 3, Pinnacle, N. C.
A. M. Denny,.....	R. 3, Pinnacle, N. C.
C. B. Denny,.....	R. 3, Pinnacle, N. C.
H. Cain,.....	R. 2, Pilot Mountain, N. C.
G. O. Key,.....	Pilot Mountain, N. C.
W. H. Atkinson,.....	R. 1, Round Peak, N. C.
H. D. Mickey,.....	R. 2, Pinnacle, N. C.
W. M. Stone,.....	Pilot Mountain, N. C.
J. M. Royal,.....	Thurman, N. C.
J. L. Pyrtle,.....	R. 1, Westfield, N. C.
F. P. Stone,.....	R. 1, Francisco, N. C.
George Denny,.....	R. 3, Pinnacle, N. C.
James Creed,.....	R. 1, Ararat, N. C.
D. Collins,.....	R. 1, Pinnacle, N. C.
R. H. Riggan,.....	R. F. D., Mt Airy, N. C.
L. F. Tucker,.....	R. 1, Nettle Ridge, Va.
J. R. Cruise,.....	Mt. Airy, N. C.
Jesse Dunbar,.....	Rockford, N. C.
J. W. Beasley,.....	R. 5, Mt. Airy, N. C.

LICENTIATES

W. J. Key,.....	Ararat, N. C.
J. Key,.....	R. 3, Kernersville, N. C.
J. S. Morrison,.....	R. 1, Mt. Airy, N. C.
Charlie Adams,.....	R. 2, Pilot Mountain, N. C.
C. W. Stone,.....	Rockford, N. C.

PROCEEDINGS.

The eighty-fifth annual session held with the church at Union, Surry county, N. C., on Friday, Saturday and second Sunday, August 10, 11, and 12, 1917.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10, 1917.

1. The introductory sermon was preached by Elder E. M. Barnard, of Mayo, from Prov. 9:1: "Wisdom hath built her house," etc.

2. After recess, the messengers met in the house, with prayer by Elder Ben F. Caudill, from Western Oklahoma Association.

3. Elders M. M. Horton, from New River, S. J. Reich, from Salem, and G. Denny, were appointed to preach in the afternoon.

4. Received and read letters from all the churches, except Fishers River, and seated their messengers.

5. Called for petitionary letters and received one from the church at Conners Grove, asking membership in the association. The church was received and her messengers, after receiving the right hand of fellowship by the Moderator, were seated with us.

6. Seated correspondents and visitors from sister associations with us as follows: From Mayo, Elder E. M. Barnard, correspondent, and Brethren T. C. Hall, J. F. Payne and J. E. Hutchens, visitors; From Salem, Elder S. J. Reich and J. A. Thomas, correspondents, and J. T. Hicks, C. A. Sprinkle and J. R. Peel, visitors; From New River, Elders R. P. Vass and M. M. Horton, correspondents; From Mountain, A. J. Galyen and J. M. Rector, correspondents, and and Henry Richards and Emmett Richards, visitors; From A Creek, Samuel McMillan, correspondent; From Western Ok-

lahoma, Elder Ben F. Caudill, visitor; and from Contentnea, Zion, Little River, Ebenezer, Senter, Mountain, Abbotts Creek, Pig River, New River and Roaring River, a file of corresponding minutes.

7. It was moved, seconded and carried that the Moderator and Clerk be elected by private ballot, and the present Moderator and Clerk were elected.

8. Agreed that the Moderator and Clerk make all temporary appointments, and they appointed Elder H. D. Mickey, Albert Smith and J. T. Rigan, to act with the Moderator and Clerk, as a Committee on Arrangements; Brethren G. J. Key and S. A. Taylor, a Committee on Finance; Elders G. O. Key, D. Collins and J. R. Cruise a Committee on Correspondence; J. M. Eldridge and A. Q. Hunter, with the Moderator and messengers of this church, a Committee on Preaching; and Elders J. W. Creed and George Denny a Committee on distribution of Corresponding Minutes.

9. The Committee on Preaching reported, for Saturday, Elders J. M. Royal, George Denny, O. J. Denny and H. D. Mickey, to preach at the stand, and R. P. Vass and Ben F. Caudill, to preach in the house in the evening: and, for Sunday, Elders W. H. Atkinson, Samuel McMillan, E. M. Barnard and Ben F. Caudill, to preach at the stand, and A. M. Denny, L. T. Tucker, R. P. Vass and S. J. Reich, to preach in the house.

10. Adjourned till Saturday, 9 o'clock a. m.

SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 11, 1917.

1. The deliberations were opened with praise and prayer by Elder D. Collins.

2. Called the roll and struck off the names of absentees.

3. The report of the Committee on Arrangements was received and the committee discharged.

4. Read the Rules of Decorum.

5. Heard the report of Brother J. T. Riggan. His report was received and his appointment continued, and Brethren J. M. Eldridge and A. B. Key were appointed to serve with him in locating the Rock Spring church property, giving to them the right to call in such other help as they may deem to be necessary; and, if they find the interest in the surrounding country sufficient, to proceed, as a building committee, to erect another house for worship. The brethren of the several churches are requested to double their subscriptions for next year, that we may have sufficient funds to pay this committee.

6. The Circular Letter was received and ordered to be attached to these minutes.

7. In compliance with the request of the church at Stony Creek, Elders G. O. Key, E. M. Barnard, D. Collins, W. H. Atkinson, with their Moderator, F. P. Stone, were appointed to meet with said church on Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in Nov., 1917, for the purpose of enquiring into the call and qualifications of Brother J. S. Morrison and to set him apart to the work of the ministry, if found orthodox.

8. In compliance with the request of the church at Liberty, Elder G. Denny was appointed to write the obituary of Deacon L. B. Alberty.

9. The Committee on Correspondence reported as follows: To Abbotts Creek, Elders H. D. Mickey, G. O. Key and L. T. Tucker; To Mayo, Elder G. O. Key, A. Q. Hunter and J. S. Morrison; To Smiths River, Elders F. P. Stone, D. Collins and J. R. Cruise; To Mountain, Elders H. D. Mickey, J. M. Royal and W. H. Atkinson; To Zion, W. H. Atkinson and J. R. Cruise; To Salem, Elders George Denny and A. M. Denny; To Roaring River, Elder J. M. Royal, J. T. Riggan and J. M. Eldridge; To New River, Elder J. R. Cruise, R. W. Mosley and C. W. Stone.

10. Elder G. O. Key was appointed to write the next Cir-

cular Letter.

11. The Clerk was ordered to pay to Brother J. T. Riggan four dollars for his services. Balance of surplus in Clerk's hands to be retained by him to pay all expenses for stationery, postage, etc.

12. Called on correspondents to report. Some of them reported their attendance, and those who did not attend were excused.

13. Agreed to hold the next session of this association with the church at Little Vine, one mile northwest from Dobson, Surry county, N. C., to begin on Friday before the second Sunday in August, 1918.

14. Agreed to have 1,200 copies of these minutes printed, to be distributed in the way and manner the Clerk shall think best.

15. Agreed to give our Clerk the usual fee of ten dollars.

16. The Committee on Finance reported :

Received from the churches.....		\$30.65	
Balance in Clerk's hands		6.21	
Paid for printing and postage.....	\$20.00		
Paid Clerk's fee.....	10.00		
Paid to Brother J. T. Riggan.....	4.00		
Remainder of surplus given to Clerk for expenses.....	2.86		
Sums total.....	\$36.86	\$36.86	

17. Adjourned till after preaching services this afternoon.

18. August 11th, p. m. There being no other business the association offered a resolution of thanks to the brethren, sisters and friends for their generous hospitalities while entertaining this session of the association.

19. These minutes were read and approved and signed by
W. H. ATKINSON, Mod.

F. P. STONE, Clerk.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

Being appointed to write a Circular Letter for the consideration of the brethren and sisters of the Fishers River Primitive Baptist Association, and those with whom we are in correspondence; and, realizing the fact that we, the Primitive Baptist, as a whole, are one people, bound together by the cords of love, the heirs of one kingdom, and joint heirs with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I shall proceed to address you as one body.

I will use John 14:1,2, for my subject. "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." He divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament, and called the firmament heaven. And the waters under the heaven were gathered together unto one place and the dry land appeared, and he called the dry land earth. Heaven is my throne and the earth is my footstool. But Jesus did not say, In heaven are many mansions, but "In my Father's house." The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof. Solomon said, "He brought me to his banqueting house and his banner over me was love." And when Jacob awoke out of sleep, he said, "How dreadful is this place! this is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven. This is the house that Christ spoke of, when he said, "In my Father's house are many mansions. * * * I go to prepare a place for you." He went down into death for his bride, the church; and all of the redeemed of the Lord belong to the church of God. "In my Father's house are many mansions." A mansion is a stately house. So our houses of worship are con-

sidered, by the children of God, to be the house of God, and our organization the church of the living God, a house for the poor wayworn pilgrim while he remains in this world. Knowing that his children could not all worship at one place God foreordained that in his house should be many mansions (churches), and they are of the Lord's planting. We believe that God ordained that the children of Israel should be and remain a separate people. Come out of her, my people, and be ye a separate people. The children of Israel were forbidden to take unto themselves strange wives. But Solomon, a king of Israel, proud and vain, took unto himself seven hundred wives; and, when he grew to be old, they turned away his heart and he worshiped other gods. Christ chose but one bride and all of his sympathies and affection were with her, his bride, the church. So we are no more under the law, but under grace. Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight. Now, under the reign of grace, we have no scriptural right to join ourselves to nor to mingle with other organizations: for if our names are written in the Lamb's book of life, and we have been received into one of our churches, Christ prepared the place for us. So our churches (mansions) are established in the house of God, the spiritual kingdom. "A garden enclosed is my spouse." Christ found his bride in his Father's house. How fair is thy love, my sister, my spouse? How much better is thy love than wine? "The spirit (God) and the bride (the church) say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Now we see that all who are born into this kingdom, the house of God, are invited to go home to their friends, the church. "This is the way, walk ye in it." So it becomes us to adorn our profession with an orderly walk and a godly conversation. "If ye have bitter enveying

and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. * * But the wisdom that is from above, is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits." "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith.

Your brother in hope,

F. P. STONE,

THE PREACHING.

Friday—1. Elder M. M. Horton, 2 Tim. 4:2. 2. Elder S. J. Reich, from Haggi 2:9. 3. Elder G. Denny, from—.

Saturday—1. Elder J. M. Royal, from Malachi 3:16. 2. Elder George Denny, from Matt. 6:19. 3. Elder O. J. Denny, from 1 Cor. 15:55,56. 4. Elder H. D. Mickey, from Rev. 5:1. 5. Elder Robert P. Vass, from Heb. 10:24,25. 6. Elder Ben F. Caudill, from—Clerk failed to get his text.

Sunday—1. Elder W. H. Atkinson, from Ps. 122:1. 2. Elder Samuel McMillan, from Ps. 2:7,8. 3. Elder E. M. Barnard, from 2 Cor. 5:2. 4. Elder A. M. Denny, from Col. 3:1-4. 5. Elder L. T. Tucker, from Isa. 55:4. 6. Elder R. P. Vass. 7. Elder S. J. Reich. 8. Elder Ben F. Caudill. The Clerk failed to get the subjects used by the last three ministers.

F. P. STONE, Clerk.

DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES TO SISTER ASSOCIATIONS.

Associations	Clerks	Postoffices	No. of Min.
Abbotts Creek,	A. L. Owen,	R. 2, Salisbury, N. C.	15
Contentnea,	J. P. Tingle,	Grantsboro, N. C.	22
Ebenezer,	W. L. Carpenter,	Brightwood, Virginia	14
Kehukee,	Elder B. S. Cowing,	R. 2, Williamston, N. C.	15
Ketoc-ton,	Elder T. S. Dalton,	3024 Prestman St. Baltimore, Md.	15
Little River,	Elder J. A. T. Jones,	McCullers, N. C.	21
L. Country Line,	J. H. Gooch,	Stem, N. C.	15
Mayo,	Elder E. M. Barnard,	Peters Creek, Virginia	20
Mountain,	J. M. Rector,	Baywood, Virginia	17
Mates Creek	H. S. Carter,	Coleman, Ky.	15
New River,	Elder F. P. Branscome,	Laurel Fork, Virginia	20
Pig River,	Eld. E. L. Blankenship,	Boone Mill, Virginia	20
Roaring River,	M. L. Lyon,	Trap Hill, N. C.	11
Staunton River,	R. L. Dodson,	Ringgold, Virginia	15
U. Country Line,	S. J. Hall,	Cedar Grove, N. C.	15
Zion,	Elder R. T. Monday,	Mt. Airy, N. C.	11
Senter,	J. F. Hartzog,	Boon, N. C.	14
Smiths River,	Elder J. D. Cockram,	Floyd, Virginia	20
Salem,	W. L. Teague,	Winston-Salem, N. C.	15
Total No.			310

