

1889

1940

**MINUTES**  
OF THE  
FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION  
Of The  
**Ebenezer Baptist Association**  
Of Western North Carolina and Northern South  
Carolina  
Held At

**PROVIDENCE BAPTIST CHURCH  
LINCOLNTON, NORTH CAROLINA**

September 19 and 20, 1940  
REV. D. F. MOORE, Pastor

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**OFFICERS:**

Moderator: Rev. F. L. Howell, Rt. 2, Cherryville, N. C.  
Vice Moderator: Rev. M. L. Davidson, Rt. 10 Box 794,  
Charlotte, N. C.  
Recording Secretary: F. L. Smith, P. O. Box 24, Cherry-  
ville, N. C.  
Corresponding Secretary: Rev. H. B. Wray, Lawndale,  
N. C.  
Treasurer: J. F. Howell, Rt. 1, Shelby, N. C.  
Auditor: M. J. Burke, Blacksburg, S. C.  
Historian: Bishop Hamright, Lincolnton, N. C.

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The next Session will convene at the Pine Grove  
Baptist Church, Blacksburg, S. C. on Thursday before  
the fourth Lord's Day in September, 1941.

SLOGAN: "STRIVE TO RISE"  
WATCHWORD: "ON TO PINE GROVE  
BAPTIST CHURCH"

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FIRST DAY -- THURSDAY -- MORNING SESSION

**MINUTES**

OF THE

FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

**Evangelist Baptist Association**

OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Held at

PROVIDENCE BAPTIST CHURCH  
LINCOLN, NORTH CAROLINA

September 12 and 13, 1920

REV. D. E. MOORE, Pastor

**OFFICERS**

President: Rev. A. L. Hays, Jr., Charlotte, N. C.

Vice-President: Rev. J. L. Taylor, Jr., Raleigh, N. C.

Secretary: Rev. J. L. Taylor, Jr., Raleigh, N. C.

Treasurer: Rev. J. L. Taylor, Jr., Raleigh, N. C.

Editor: Rev. J. L. Taylor, Jr., Raleigh, N. C.

Deputy Secretary: Rev. J. L. Taylor, Jr., Raleigh, N. C.

Deputy Treasurer: Rev. J. L. Taylor, Jr., Raleigh, N. C.

Deputy Editor: Rev. J. L. Taylor, Jr., Raleigh, N. C.

Deputy Deputy Secretary: Rev. J. L. Taylor, Jr., Raleigh, N. C.

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Deputy Deputy Deputy Deputy Treasurer: Rev. J. L. Taylor, Jr., Raleigh, N. C.

Deputy Deputy Deputy Deputy Editor: Rev. J. L. Taylor, Jr., Raleigh, N. C.



**FIRST DAY — THURSDAY — MORNING SESSION**

Devotion was conducted by delegates from Washington and Ebenezer Baptist churches, after which the vice Moderator, Rev. M. L. Davidson took charge of the meeting. Immediately after the program of the association was ordered read and by motion was adopted.

The enrollment, finance, and permanent organization Committees were appointed.

The Enrollment Committee reported \$13.35.

The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Rev. H. B. Wray, assisted by Rev. James. After a few preliminary remarks the speaker chose a text from Hebrews 10:22. Using as a subject, "Let Us Draw Nigh Unto God With a True Heart". The discourse was well presented and acceptable to all.

The Collection was taken by Mr. James Camp and Mr. W. L. Logan which amounted to \$6.05.

At this point Rev. H. M. Moore was given the liberty to discuss his books namely: On Sanctification and Transfiguration, Adoptions, Last Words of Christ on the Cross.

The Enrollment committee reported 25 cents after which the meeting was adjourned for dinner with the benediction given by Rev. H. B. Wray.

**FIRST DAY — THURSDAY — AFTERNOON SESSION**

Devotion conducted by delegates from Shiloh Baptist Church. After which the Vice Moderator was given charge. The Minutes of the previous Session were read and by motion, was adopted. The reports from various officers were ordered by common consent.

The treasurer gave his report. (See Report).

The Auditor made his report, (See Report). By motion the reports were adopted.

A motion prevailed that the Moderator deliver his Annual Address immediately. After which the Vice Moderator, Rev. M. L. Davidson, delivered the Annual Address in the absence of the Moderator, Rev. W. A. Roberts who died previously to the meeting.

The response to the address was given by Rev. J. R. Hampton. Motion prevailed that the Annual Address be turned over to the Committee on Resolutions for disposition.

The committee on Permanent Organization made the following report:

Moderator—Rev. F. L. Howell.

Vice Moderator—Rev. M. L. Davidson  
Recording Secretary—F. L. Smith  
Corresponding Secretary—Rev. H. B. Wray  
Treasurer—J. F. Howell  
Auditor—M. J. Burke  
Historian—Bishop Hamright  
The report of the Committee was, by motion adopted.

The Committee on New Churches made its report, (See Report). In addition thereto the committee recommended that section II Article 5 of the Constitution be revised after some discussion the original recommendation of the committee was adopted allowing the entrance of four new churches. (See Report).

The Enrollment Committee reported \$1:50.

Church letters were received and read.

The problem of laxity of our member church with reference to the paying of Association fees was discussed by the Reverends D. F. Moore, T. C. Sanders, W. L. Johnson and the Vice Moderator, Rev. M. L. Davidson. It was specifically pointed out that the laxity of said member churches is due to the fact that we have no definite objective in view.

At this point Vice Moderator introduced all visitors, among whom was the Rev. Pearl a representative from Friendship College, Rock Hill, S. C.

A public collection was taken for Friendship College which amounted to \$5.00

The following committees were appointed:

Obituary, Education, Temperance, and Time and place.

By motion it was certified that the topic previously scheduled for the miscellaneous period would be postponed until later. At this point the meeting was adjourned until the evening service.

#### **FIRST DAY — THURSDAY — EVENING SESSION**

Devotion was conducted by delegates from First Baptist Church, Lawndale, and Mt Olive Baptist Church.

By Common consent the topic for discussion which was previously deferred was taken up. "What Should be the Relationship Between the Pastor and Deacons." The discussion was presented by Mr. J. F. Howell, Rev. Pearl, Rev. W. L. Johnson and Rev. R. J. Davidson. All of which stressed the necessity of selecting the right kind of persons for deacons. After this discussion the home talent program was presented by the Providence Baptist Church, Lincolnton, N. C.



The program was as follows:

Opening Song—"Lord, I Want to be a Christian."

Invocation—Rev. V. L. Carson

Welcome on behalf of the churches of the city—Dr. Yancy C. Elliott, pastor, First Baptist Church (White) Lincolnton, N. C. Dr. Elliott brought inspiring words from the white churches of the city. He pointed out the basic attributes of a Christian as: A Christian is Unafraid. A Christian is Abounding with Love, A Christian is a Thoughtful Individual.

Solo—Mrs. Odessa Livingstone

Welcome on behalf of Educational institutions—Mr. S. E. Biggers

Welcome on behalf of the City of Lincolnton—Mayor E. M. Brown (Due to the absence of Mayor Brown, Dr. Y. C. Elliott gave the welcome to the city).

Oration—The Gentle Stranger—Miss Lillie J. Ramseur.

Response—Mr. Smith

Response—Prof. Massey

Response—Prof. W. H. Green

At this point the Doctrinal Sermon was ordered and presented by Rev. E. D. Wray. Rev. Wray took his text from Luke 8:45 "Who Touched Me". He used as a subject, "Somebody Touched Me". Rev. Wray presented a Soul stirring sermon after which the collection was taken, amounting to \$5.75.

Letter from Center Church was read and accepted.

The following committees were appointed:

Resolutions.

Statistics

Adjournment by Rev. W. L. Johnson.

## SECOND DAY — FRIDAY — MORNING SESSION

Devotions conducted by delegates from Ebenezer and Friendship Baptist Churches, after which the Moderator ordered the minutes of previous sessions to be read, which were by motion adopted. Roll call was ordered by the Moderator and was, by motion adopted.

Church letters were ordered read and were, by motion, adopted.

Enrollment Committee reported \$2.60.

Mr. Hamilton, one of the original founders of the Ebenezer Association brought inspiration to the entire convention with his very encouraging remarks.

A motion was entertained and carried that a special donation be given to the aged members in addition to the usual 5 per cent.

A motion was entertained further that a substitute motion be made namely, that the question of special donations be left in the hands of the Appropriation committee.

At this junction the Moderator called for the discussion of the following topic. "How Shall We Interest Our Young People in Our Churches". This topic was discussed by Rev. T. C. Sanders, Mr. Cornwell, Rev. McKissick, Rev. Thomas Grier, Rev. A. B. McClure (white), Presbyterian Minister of Lincolnton, Rev. Hall, Rev. Thigpen, and Rev. Hamilton. This discussion was well presented and proved very helpful to all.

The inspirational Sermon was given by Rev. S. N. Davidson. Using as a subject "The Marching Order of the Church", "Go Forward. Rev. Davidson urged the convention to go forward.

A special collection was taken for the Union Baptist Church of Gastonia of which Rev. S. N. Davidson is the pastor, this collection amounted to \$7.35.

The Enrollment Committee reported \$1.60, after which the meeting was adjourned until the Afternoon Session.

## **SECOND DAY — FRIDAY — — AFTERNOON SESSION**

Devotion conducted by delegates of Green Bethel and Fairview Baptist Churches, at the conclusion of which the minutes of the previous Session were ordered read and were by motion adopted.

The Moderator then called for the reports of the following Committees:

Committee on Temperance, (See Report).

Committee on Education, (See Report).

Committee on Time and Place, (See Report).

At this junction, Dr. B. K. Mason a representative of the State Wide Work among Baptists in North Carolina was presented to the convention. Dr. Mason stated in part that the entrenchment of Baptist principles among Baptist people lies in the organization and unification of all Baptist Units. He also pointed out particularly the accomplishments of Shaw University and subsequently the problems and the great need of coordinated effort on the part of every Baptist in North Carolina to rally to the support of Shaw University.

A motion prevailed and was adopted that a special donation be made to Shaw University together with the public collection,



the whole of which would be \$15.00. Public Collection for Shaw \$7.55.

The Committee on Resolutions made its report and the report was, by motion, adopted, after which the meeting was adjourned until the evening Session.

## SECOND DAY — FRIDAY — NIGHT SESSION

Due to a lack of time the devotional services were omitted and the Moderator declared the house open for business.

The Obituary Committee made its report and was by motion adopted. After which business was suspended for a period of fifteen minutes to pay tribute to our deceased members. Impressive and symbolic services were held honoring deceased members.

At the conclusion of the Memorial Services, the Moderator reopened the house for business.

A motion prevailed and was adopted that the report of the statistical committee be turned over to the Recording Secretary.

The report of the Appropriation Committee was received and adopted, (See Report).

A motion prevailed that Rev. Neely be added to the super Annuated list. A motion prevailed and was carried that F. L. Smith be added to the executive board. A motion prevailed and was carried that an ordained board be established. Those members are:

Rev. F. L. Howell, Chairman, Rev. D. A. Costner, Rev. R. J. Davidson, Rev. S. N. Davidson, Rev. M. L. Davidson, Rev. Kilgore, Rev. Neely, Rev. J. F. Moore, and Rev. McKissick.

The educational Sermon was delivered by Rev. R. J. Davidson who took his text from Matthew 6:33, using Solomon as an example. Rev Davidson stressed the great need for divine knowledge and wisdom.

A prayer for the peace of the world was offered by Rev. W. H. Davidson.

At this junction, the Moderator called for the Educational rally. Total amount collected in this rally, \$34.10.

A resolution of thanks to the people of Lincolnton was given by Rev. McKissick.

## CLOSING PROCEDURE

After closing remarks by the Moderator, the Rev. F. L. Howell, the Congregation joined in singing "God Be With You Til We Meet Again."

Final Benediction, Rev. R. J. Davidson.

## Memorial Page

**"Watch Therefore: For Ye know not what hour  
your Lord doth come." St. Matt. 24:42.**



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**EXECUTIVE BOARD OF 1940**

Rev. R. J. Davidson, A. B. S. T. B.  
Rev. D. A. Costner, A. B. B. D.  
F. L. Smith, A. B.  
Rev. D. F. Moore  
Rev. F. L. Howell  
J. F. Howell  
D. A. Cornwell  
J. R. Hamilton  
Professor, W. H. Green

**COMMITTEES APPOINTED:**

**EDUCATION**—Rev. J. H. McKissick, Rev. W. L. Johnson,  
Rev. T. R. Hampton, Mr. S. M. Davis, Mr. Mark Black.

**PERMANENT ORGANIZATION**—W. Earls, D. A. Cornwell, James Baxter, D. C. Gill.

**TEMPERANCE**—Rev. W. M. Neeley, Mr. D. B. Brintley, Belton Roberts, Jerry Gordon.

**OBITUARY**—Rev. S. N. Davidson, Rev. W. M. Neeley, Mr. A. W. Milline.

**NEW CHURCHES**—Rev. W. M. Ellis, James Camp, J. C. Roberts.

**ENROLLMENT—**

**RESOLUTION**—Rev. D. A. Costner, Rev. T. R. Hampton, Rev. D. F. Moore, Rev. T. C. Sanders, J. B. Borders, James Camp, Professor W. H. Green.

**TIME AND PLACE—**

**FINANCE**—J. F. Howell, W. L. Logan, M. J. Burke.

**NOTE:** Due to failure on part of some Committees to report their names; the names of all committees do not appear on this list.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION:**

We your Committee on Education beg leave to make the following report:

We recommend that each church send two students to Western Union Academy, to the Bible Institute. We further recommend that we send Students to Shaw University. We also recommend that this Association send one worthy Minister, and one Layman, girl or boy, to the Bible Institute, at Spindale, North Carolina.

Respectfully Submitted,  
The Committee

# STATISTICAL

CHURCHES	REC'D BY BAPTISM	LETTER	RESTORED	DISMISSED BY LETTER	EXCLUDED	DEATHS	TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	REPRESENTATIVE FEE	VALUE OF CHURCH PROPERTY	PASTOR'S SALARY	DAYS OF PREACHING	PASTOR
Mt. Pleasant	21	0	4	2	0	2	237	\$7.00	\$ 1,900	\$	2-4	Rev. W. M.
1 Bapt. Earl	3	10	2	0	4	0	85	10.00	1,000		2-4	Rev. R. F.
Pine Grove	1	0	1	0	1	1	120	6.00	2,500		2-4	Rev. J. H.
Shoal Creek	6	2	1	0	0	2	157	4.20	3,000		1-3	Rev. H. M.
Providence	0	0	0	0	0	0	170	10.00	4,000	400.00	1-3	Rev. D. F.
Long Branch	14	0	0	0	0	0	50	7.50	1,500		2-4	Rev. S. A.
Macedonia	4	0	0	0	0	0	79	4.00	1,000		2-4	Rev. F. L.
Green Bethel	11	1	3	1	5	2	279	10.00	7,000	360.00	2-4	Rev. W. L.
Mt. View	6	0	2	0	2	0	100	4.00	800		2-4	Rev. E. D.
Union	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	1.50			2-4	Rev. S. N.
New Zion	3	0	0	0	0	0	193	5.00	3,000	350.00	2-4	Rev. R. B.
Washington	17	0	0	0	0	2	150	7.00	5,000		1-3	Rev. S. N.
Mt. Calvary	12	0	2	0	1	2	150	3.00	4,000		1234	Rev. J. A.
Eskridge G.	38	8	3	0	0	3	389	10.00	3,000	460.00	1-3	Rev. T. C.
Hopewell	30	5	0	0	0	1	150	7.00	4,500	350.00	1-3	Rev. R. J.
Fairview	1	3	1	0		2	35	4.10	2,200		2-4	
Ebenezer	9	0	0	0	0	2	100	8.00	20,000		2-4	Rev. C. F.
St. Peter	7	0	0	1	0	2	50	5.40	3,500		1-3	Rev. E. T.
Mcunt Pisgah	5	14	1	0	0	1	400	1.50	500		2-4	Rev. H. M.
O'Connors G.	7	0	0	0	0	0	75	3.00			1	Rev. E. D.
1 B. Lawndale	17	0	3	0	1	2	341	10.00	1,500	420.00	1-3	Rev. W. L.
Mt. Olive	4	0	0	0	0	0	79	4.50	1,000		2-4	Rev. W. M.
Center	3	1	0	0	0	2	125	7.00	2,000	400.00	1-3	Rev. E. W.
Ellis Chapel	11	2	0	0	0	5	260	4.30	2,500	400.00	2-4	Rev. L. R.
Shiloh	45	0	0	0	0	5	450	7.50	20,000	1000.00	1234	Rev. R. J. D.



# CAL TABLE

EBENEZER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION — 1940

ASTOR — ADDRESS	CLERK — ADDRESS
W. M. Murray, Duncan, S. C.	Mrs. B. Goins, Bessemer City, N. C.
R. F. Kilgore, Shelby, N. C.	J. M. Kilgore, Blacksburg, S. C.
J. H. McKissick, Gaffney, S. C.	M. J. Burke, Blacksburg, S. C.
H. M. Ijames, Dallas, N. C.	C. Z. Accor, Shelby, N. C.
D. F. Moore, Charlotte, N. C.	B. M. Hamright, Lincolnton, N. C.
S. A. Hopper, Shelby, N. C.	M.s. Mary E. Tate, Grover, N. C.
F. L. Howell, Cherryville, N. C.	U. A. Harris, Cherryville, N. C.
W. L. Johnson, Asheville, N. C.	Mrs. Nevada Wilson, Boiling Springs,
E. D. Wray, Shelby, N. C.	John Hopper, Lawndale, N. C.
S. N. Davidson, Gastonia, N. C.	Mrs. D. Hargroves, Gastonia, N. C.
R. B. Sullivan, Greer, S. C.	Charlie Petty
S. N. Davidson, Gastonia, N. C.	J. R. Howell, Cherryville, N. C.
J. A. Dawkins, Shelby, N. C.	Mrs. Hattie Dawkins, Shelby, N. C.
T. C. Sanders, Charlotte, N. C.	Mrs. Lillie Wilson, Shelby, N. C.
P. J. Davidson, Charlotte, N. C.	S. B. Cornwell, Shelby, N. C.
C. F. Gingles, Dallas, N. C.	W. H. Green, Cherryville, N. C.
E. T. Mcffet, Rock Hill, S. C.	C. F. Ramseur, Kings Mtn. N. C.
H. M. Ijames, Dallas, N. C.	A. B. Roberts, Grover, N. C.
E. D. Wray, Shelby, N. C.	Mrs. Minnie Hunter, Bessemer City, N. C.
W. L. Johnson, Asheville, N. C.	M. Williams, Lawndale, N. C.
W. M. McNeeley, Gaston,a, N. C.	Mrs. M. Cocough, Lawndale, N. C.
E. W. Burke, Gastonia, N. C.	John Ross, Kings Mtn. N. C.
L. R. Barber, Shelby, N. C.	Miss E. Reid, Gastonia, N. C.
R. J. Davidson, Charlotte, N. C.	W. R. Jeffries, Shelby, N. C.
	Mrs. J. L. Enloe, Shelby, N. C.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PERMANENT ORGANIZATION**

We, your Committee on Permanent Organization beg leave to make the following report:

We recommend for Moderator—Rev. F. L. Howell

We recommend for Vice Moderator—Rev. M. L. Davidson

We recommend for Recording Secretary—F. L. Smith

We recommend for Corresponding Secretary—Rev. H. B. Wray

We recommend for Treasurer—J. F. Howell

We recommend for Auditor—M. J. Burke

We recommend for Historian—Bishop Hamright

Respectfully submitted,

The Committee

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**REPORT OF TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE:**

We, your Committee on Temperance beg leave to make the following report:

Whereas we find that Intemperance today is one of the most destructive evils existing among our people, we recommend the total abstinence from all strong drink, improper car riding, the use of profane language, card playing and dancing. Upon these conditions we set our seal of disapproval.

Respectfully submitted,

The Committee

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OBITUARY:**

We, your Committee on Obituary, beg leave to make the following report:

Whereas our Heavenly Father in His all wise Providence removed from our midst several of our Brethern; be it resolved that: we suspend business for a few minutes and leave a blank space in our minutes in honor of our deceased ones.

Respectfully submitted,

The Committee



**REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NEW CHURCHES:**

We, your Committee on new churches beg leave to make the following report:

After careful examination, we recommend the admission of the following New Churches into the Ebenezer Association:

Union Baptist Church—Gastonia, N. C. (Rev. S. N. Davidson, Pastor).

Edwards Chapel—Toluca, N. C.

Mount Zion—Kings Mtn., N. C. (Rev. W. M. Murray, Pastor).

Mount Pisgah—Bessemer City, N. C. (Rev. H. M. Ijames, Pastor).

We, Recommend further that (Section II, and Article 5 of the Constitution of 1938 be revised to admit new Churches as:

First 50 Members—Assessment \$1.50

First 100 Members—Assessment \$2.50

All above 100 Members—Assessment \$3.50

Respectfully submitted,

The Committee

**REPORT OF THE RESOLUTION COMMITTEE:**

We, your Committee on Resolutions beg leave to make the following report:

We recommend that the President's Annual Address, along with his Recommendations be placed on the face of the Minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

The Committee

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TIME AND PLACE:**

We, your Committee on Time and Place beg to make the following report:

The next session of the Ebenezer Association will convene with the Pine Grove Baptist Church, Blacksburg, S. C. Thursday before the Fourth Lords Day, in September, 1941.

Respectfully submitted,

The Committee

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: (1940)**

We, your Committee on Finance beg to make the following report:

ENROLLMENT	\$ 22.40
PUBLIC COLLECTIONS	11.80
CHARITY COLLECTIONS	19.95
REPRESENTATIVE FEES	151.50
EDUCATIONAL RALLY	34.10

GRAND TOTAL \$239.75

### APPROPRIATIONS FROM 1939 SESSION:

MODERATOR	\$ 15.00
VICE MODERATOR	7.00
RECORDING SECRETARY	15.00
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	2.00
TREASURER	7.00
SEXTON	2.00
HISTORIAN	2.00
SERMONS (\$2.00 Each)	8.00
FRIENDSHIP COLLEGE	5.01
R. J. DAVIDSON	4.40
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, EARLS	1.70
SHAW UNIVERSITY	15.00
J. R. PRICE	3.20
PROGRAMS AND POSTAGE	7.00
AUDITOR	5.00

GRAND TOTAL \$99.31

### REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

#### BROTHER MODERATOR AND BRETHERN:

September 21 and 22, 1939 money raised at Lawndale by Association \$288.23

#### PAID OUT:

Over draft	\$ 18.36
October, 22, 1939—Paid to M. L. Davidson (State Con.)	\$ 12.00
October, 1939—W. H. Roberts, Life Member	2.50
October, 1939—Sallie Ellis, Life Member	2.50
October, 1939—W. Earls Life Member	2.50
December, 1939—Wreath for W. A. Roberts	4.00
April, 1940—Paid to Education Board	26.00
June, 1940—Paid to Union Treasurer	100.00
August, 1940—Paid for Minutes	25.00
To Shaw University	15.00
For Appropriations, etc.	99.31

GRAND TOTAL \$307.17  
AMOUNT RAISED \$288.23

OVER DRAFT \$ 18.94

J. F. HOWELL, Treasurer

Rt. 1, Box 100, Shelby, N. C.



## AUDITOR'S REPORT

September 19, 1940.

BRO. MODERATOR AND BRETHEREN:

As Auditor I have examined the Treasurer's books and receipts, and found them to be in order. I also find that we owe the Treasurer \$18.94 overdraft.

Yours as Auditor,  
M. J. BURKE

## MODERATOR'S ADDRESS

To the Ministers, Delegates, and Visitors of the Fifty-First Annual Session of the Western North Carolina and Northern South Carolina Ebenezer Baptist Association, Greetings:

Dear Co-workers our Heavenly Father once again has permitted us to meet in another annual association, and our hearts go out in praise to Him for His loving kindness and His tender care toward us during the year just passed.

It fills my heart with joy to greet you, as I come before you today in an attempt to address you upon this occasion; not that I have any great message to deliver. I count it a joy to be here with you, and to join with you in praise to Him from whom all blessings flow and to thank Him for His providential care this year. We must confess that only God was able to bring us through the difficulties of life this year. We have had our joys and our sorrows, we have been afflicted in many ways, yet our gracious Father, Who knows how to share with us in our joys and in our sorrows and in our afflictions, have been with us. His precious promises have comforted us, and we have been made to say, "Where He leadeth, we will follow."

Here our memory is saddened when we realize that some who joined with us on last year in our deliberations are not with us this year in our annual session; they have passed over the river of death; they have done their work; they have sung their song, and today they are resting from all their toils and sufferings. Our beloved Moderator, the late Rev. W. A. Roberts, who stood at the head of this Association for many years has passed to his great reward since we met last year, and the unfinished task to which he dedicated his life must be carried on by the brethren who yet live.

Brethern, I want to remind you that the challenge has been hurled to the Church as never before. There has never been a time that the Church has been put to the test as it is today.

It is a fact that nothing will be able to destroy the true Church of Christ. We speak this with authority, for Christ told Peter, "Upon this rock I will build My Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it". We realize that through past ages the gates of hell have flung mighty hard against the Christian Church, but it has passed through great calamities—storms of adversities and the scorching fires of persecution, and under the leadership of our great captain Jesus, the Head of the church, we are marching on to victory.

The challenge of the church of today is, shall we be able to meet the demands of a restless world, a world that is crying and dying for a haven of refuge from the storms of destruction. The cries are coming from countries north, south, east, and west, begging and longing for peace. A few Sundays ago America was called to her knees to beseech God to answer the prayers of the suffering humanity.

Shall we be able to stand up under these trying times and say as our Master said, "Come unto Me all you that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest".

Brethern, we are at the crossroad; we must not stop; we must not turn to the right, nor to the left; the signal says go; the great Captain of our salvation, Jesus Christ, who has never lost a battle says, "I'll be with you always, even unto the end of time". Then we can say, "Onward, Christian soldiers Marching as to war with the cross of Jesus going on before."

Brethern, God is depending on us to put over this christian program. The fields are white, all ready for harvest. The laborers are few. Let us pray to God that He will send laborers into His Vineyard.

Dear Ministers of the Gospel and Laymen, let us pray to God that He will consecrate and dedicate our all to him, that the Kingdom of our Lord and Christ will soon become the kingdom of this world. Let us pray that the Lord may give us a real spiritual vision that we may be able to go out into the



world charged and surcharged with the divine power from on high and extend a helping hand to a suffering and dying world.

May I bid you in the words of the hymn, "Go preach my Gospel, saith the Lord, bid this whole earth My grace receive; he shall be saved that trust My Word, and ye condemned, Who'll not believe".

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That we will lay greater stress on home and foreign mission.

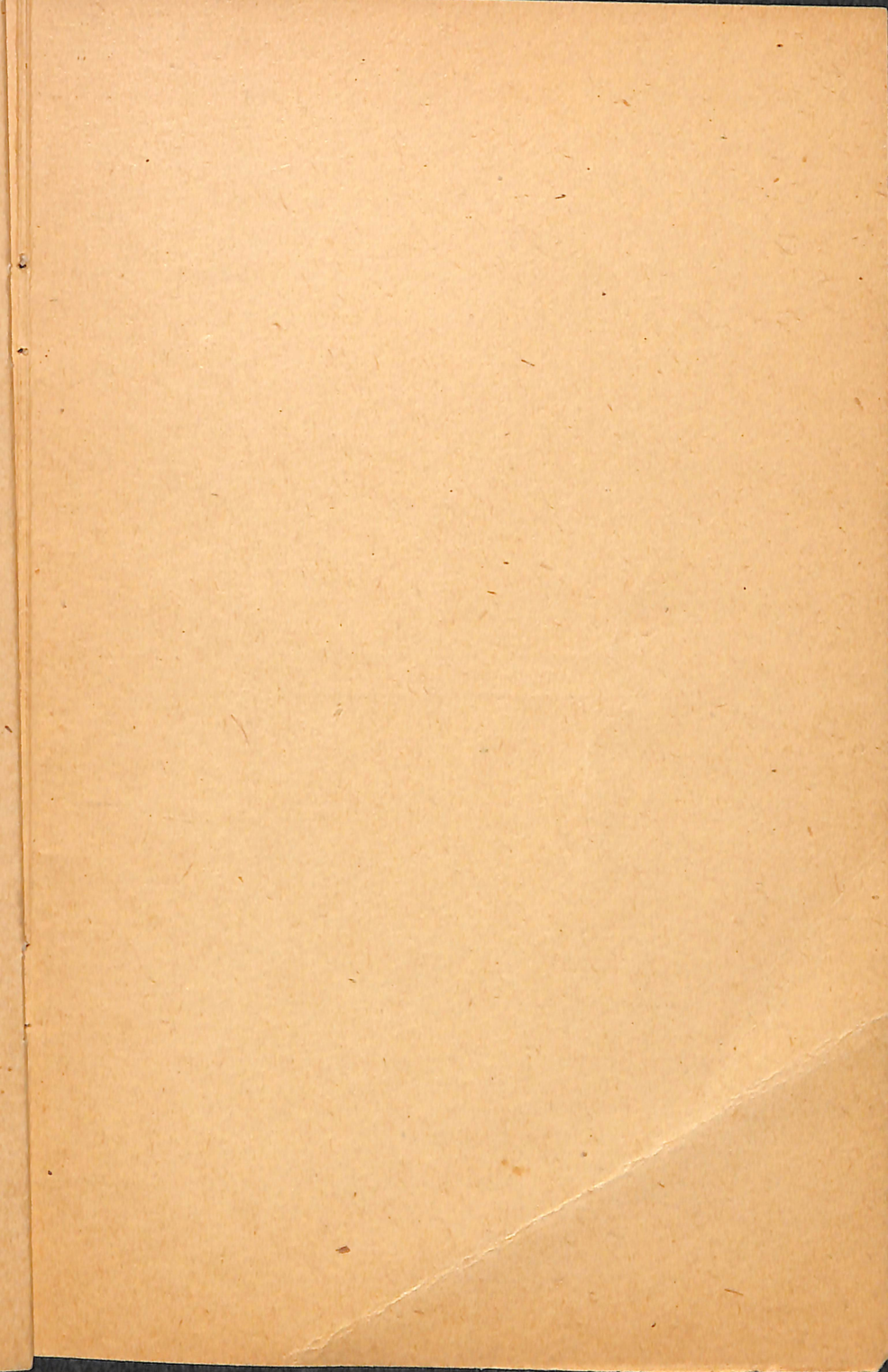
2, Education—that we will request our Educational Union to work out some real educational objectives of Western Union Academy.

3. That this Association will pledge its support to these objectives.

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