

1917

## THE ALABAMA CONFERENCE

President—Rev. J. A. Wood.....	Blocton, Ala.
Vice-President—Rev. R. A. French.....	Pell City, Ala.
Secretary-Treasurer—W. E. Hobson, Jr.....	Tuscaloosa, Ala.
Advisory Board—J. A. Wood, Blocton, Ala.; R. E. Snipes, Centreville, Ala.; R. M. Bearden, Blocton, Ala.	
Sunday School Board—R. E. Snipes, J. D. Muse, J. O. Bailey.	
Missionary Board—V. A. Stewart, W. C. Lovin, R. E. Snipes, R. A. French, W. E. Hobson, Jr., N. J. Latham.	
Missionary Executive Board—W. C. Lovin, R. E. Snipes, N. J. Latham.	
Vacancy Committee—M. A. Medders, N. J. Latham, M. C. Medders, R. A. French, W. C. Lovin.	
Camp-Meeting Committee—J. A. Wood, John Gilbert, R. M. Bearden, J. D. Avery, R. E. Snipes.	

## CONFERENCE ROLL

Elders—Rev. J. A. S. Anderson, R. No. 1.....	Centreville, Ala.
Rev. R. A. French.....	Pell City, Ala.
Rev. M. A. Medders, R. No. 1.....	Centreville, Ala.
Rev. R. E. Snipes, R. No. 1.....	Centreville, Ala.
Rev. J. A. Wood.....	Blocton, Ala.
Rev. W. C. Lovin, R. No. 4.....	Blocton, Ala.
Rev. R. G. Ramsey.....	McRae, Ga.
Rev. H. R. French.....	Tuscaloosa, Ala.
Licentiates on the Stationed List:	
Rev. J. L. Averett, R. No. 1.....	Morgan Springs, Ala.
Rev. W. R. French.....	Mentone, Ala.
Rev. G. W. Hilson.....	Robertsdale, Ala.
Rev. M. J. Kelly, R. No. 2.....	Bankston, Ala.
Delegates—Miss Frances Compton, Mrs. P. A. Gleaton, I. M. Newman, J. D. Avery, V. A. Stewart, H. F. Paire, R. M. Bearden, W. E. Hobson, Jr., N. J. Latham, H. F. Shigley, J. O. Bailey.	

## CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

The Eighth Session of the Alabama Annual Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Connection or Church of America, met at Tuscaloosa, Ala., November 8, 1917, at 9 a. m. and was called to order by Rev. E. Teter, President.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. R. A. French. The Secretary then called the roll of Elders and Licentiates on the Stationed List answering to their names: J. A. S. Anderson, R. A. French, M. A. Medders, R. G. Ramsey, R. E. Snipes, J. A. Wood, J. L. Averett, and H. R. French.

The following names were presented with credentials as lay delegates from the various charges and their names placed on the roll: H. F. Paire, W. E. Hobson, Jr., N. J. Latham, and R. M. Bearden.

Conference was then declared ready for business.

The Vice-President acting as President made his Annual Report. See Report No. 1.

On motion the hour of meeting was fixed at 8 a. m. and 1:30 p. m. to adjourn by motion. Religious services at 7:30 p. m.

On motion the conference bar was made to include each side and three seats in front of the pulpit.

Called for report of committees.

Committee on Nominations made its report as follows:

Examination of Characters—E. Teter, R. E. Snipes and H. F. Paire.

Pastoral Relations—R. A. French, J. A. S. Anderson, J. O. Bailey, V. A. Stewart, E. Teter and W. E. Hobson, Jr.

Courtesies—W. C. Lovin and M. A. Medders.

Statistics—R. M. Bearden.

Thanks—J. D. Avery and Miss Ruth Brown.

The following names were presented with credentials as lay delegates and their names entered on the roll. Mrs. P. A. Gleaton, V. A. Stewart, J. D. Avery, I. M. Newman, Miss Frances Compton and H. F. Shigley.

On motion conference adjourned.

#### FIRST DAY—AFTERNOON MEETING

Conference called to order by the President and devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. M. A. Medders.

Roll called, minutes read and approved as corrected.

J. O. Bailey presented credentials as a lay delegate from the Friendship charge, which were accepted and his name entered on the roll.

Recommendations for Elders Orders were presented from the Bibb Circuit asking that W. C. Lovin be ordained an Elder, which were referred to the committee on Itinerancy and Orders.

Committee on Secrecy reported. Report adopted and ordered sent to the Wesleyan for publication. See Report No. 2.

On motion the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society were given Friday afternoon 1:30 p. m. for their business session.

On motion it was made the order of the day to elect permanent officers as soon as ready for business Friday morning.

On motion it was made the order of the day for the Connectional representative to make his address Friday afternoon.

On motion, J. A. Wood, W. C. Lovin and R. M. Bearden were elected as a committee on religious services.

On motion conference adjourned.

#### SECOND DAY—MORNING SESSION

Conference called to order by the President and devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. R. E. Snipes.

Roll called, minutes read and approved.

By appointment J. D. Avery and R. M. Bearden were made lay members of the Committee on Itinerancy and Orders.

Prof. H. C. Bedford, President of Central College, Central, S. C. was introduced to the conference after which he read an interesting letter to the Alabama Conference from the students of the conference in Central College, and by motion the Secretary was authorized to make a reply to the letter in behalf of the conference. On motion Prof. Bedford was made an honorary member of the conference and given a seat in its body.

On motion Prof. Bedford was given the hour of 11 o'clock a. m. Friday to make his educational address.

Rev. R. G. Ramsey made his report, which was adopted and character passed.

Rev. J. A. Wood made his pastoral report, report adopted and character passed.

Rev. W. C. Lovin made his pastoral report, report adopted and character passed.

Rev. G. W. Hilson's pastoral report was made by the President, report adopted and character passed.

The order of the day was called for and proceeded to the election of permanent officers which resulted as follows: President, J. A. Wood, Vice-President, R. A. French, Secretary, W. E. Hobson, Jr., Advisory Board, R. E. Snipes and R. M. Bearden, Vacancy Committee, R. A. French, W. C. Lovin, M. A. Medders, N. J. Latham and M. C. Medders.

On motion the election of Sunday School Board and Missionary Board was deferred until they make their reports.

Committee on Pastoral Relations made its first reading.

On motion conference adjourned to call of the chair.

## SECOND DAY—AFTERNOON MEETING

Conference called to order and devotional exercises were conducted by the President.

Roll called, minutes read and approved.

Camp-Meeting Committee reported. Report adopted. See report No. 3. On motion the committee was authorized to hold the camp-meeting for the next year and publish date for same as early as possible.

Committee on Thanks reported. Report adopted and ordered read at the Sunday morning services. See report No. 4.

Committee on Missions reported. Report adopted. See report No. 5.

Committee on Itinerancy and Orders made a partial report which was adopted as read.

J. A. S. Anderson made his pastoral report, report adopted and character passed.

Rev. R. E. Snipes made his pastoral report, report adopted and character passed.

Rev. J. L. Averett made his pastoral report, report adopted and character passed.

On motion adjourned to meet at 9 a. m. Saturday.

## THIRD DAY—MORNING MEETING

Conference called to order by the President, and devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. R. G. Ramsey.

Roll called, minutes read and approved.

Camp-meeting Committee made its complete report, which was adopted see report No. 3.

Sunday School Board made its report, report adopted, see report No. 6.

Rev. M. Elliott of Wysox, Pa. was introduced to the conference, as a past member of the North Carolina conference.

Rev. W. R. French made his pastoral report, report adopted and character passed.

Rev. M. A. Medders made his report, report adopted and character passed.  
Rev. R. A. French made his pastoral report, report adopted and character passed.

Rev. M. J. Kelly made his pastoral report, report adopted and character passed.  
Rev. H. R. French made a report of his evangelistical work which was adopted and character passed.

Committee on Tithing reported, report adopted. See report No. 7.

Committee on pastoral relations made its second reading.

Treasurer reported, report adopted. See report No. 8.

On motion J. O. Bailey was appointed assistant Statistician.

On motion adjourned.

### THIRD DAY--AFTERNOON MEETING

Conference called to order and devotional exercises conducted by the President  
Roll called, minutes read and approved.

Committee on Itinerancy and Orders reported, report adopted. See report No. 9.

Missionary Board reported. Report adopted. See report No. 10.

On motion and vote the Sunday School Board was re-elected.

On motion and vote J. O. Bailey was elected secretary of the Sunday School Board.

On motion the following were elected as the Missionary Board: V. A. Stewart, W. C. Lovin, W. E. Hobson, Jr., N. J. Latham, Rev. R. A. French, and Rev. R. E. Snipes.

Committee on pastoral relations made its third reading, which was adopted as read. See report No. 11.

On motion the Secretary was instructed to notify each pastor of the amount of budget money to be raised by their respective charges.

On motion and vote Rev. M. A. Medders was re-elected as a member of the Committee on Itinerancy and Orders for 4 years.

On motion the fifth Sunday conventions were asked to be called Bible Conferences, which was adopted and the following committee elected to hold these conferences, Rev. R. A. French, Rev. W. C. Lovin and Rev. R. E. Snipes.

On motion Rev. R. G. Ramsey was granted a letter of standing upon his request.

On motion the following resolution was adopted:

*"Resolved, That we the Alabama Conference do hereby approve of the efficiency conference to be held at Central College in February 1918."*

On motion the following resolution was adopted:

*"Be it Resolved by the Alabama Conference assembled at Tuscaloosa, Ala., November 7-9, 1917, that we will not receive as ministers any man or woman with two living companions.*

2, That while we believe that adultery is scriptural grounds for divorce, and that such sins are forgivable, yet when a person who has been divorced offers themselves for membership we will only receive them as associate members until they furnish sufficient evidence that they did have a scriptural ground for divorce.

3, In order to discourage the practice of divorcement we require that our ministers refuse to marry divorced persons without clear evidence that the divorced party is innocent."

On motion the Secretary was authorized to have the minutes printed.  
 On motion the Secretary was instructed to place all resolutions in the minutes.  
 On motion a collection was to be taken Sunday to pay the Secretary for his services. Amount collected \$5.45.

The place of the next conference, Blocton, Ala., November, 1918.

On motion conference adjourned.

REV. E. TETER, President.

W. E. HOBSON, JR., Secretary.

N. B. Some of the lengthy reports are left out of the minutes, on account of space

#### REPORT NO. 1—VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

On April 15, 1917 I appointed Rev. M. J. Kelly pastor of Mt. Vernon Church.

On July 25, 1917 by consent of the Advisory Board I received a church with seventeen members organized by Rev. R. E. Snipes at Roebuck, Ala.

In August I received a church with six members organized by Rev. G. W. Hilson at Robertsedale, Ala.

On September 2, 1917 I granted a letter of transfer for Rev. W. H. Massey to the Georgia Conference.

On September 30, 1917 I received a letter of transfer for Rev. G. W. Hilson, a Licentiate of the North Carolina conference.

I have appointed the following committees to report to the Conference: Missions—J. A. S. Anderson, Secrecy—W. C. Lovin, Moral Reform—W. R. French, Catholicism—H. R. French, Tithing—M. A. Medders, Nominations—R. E. Snipes, H. R. French and R. M. Bearden.

J. A. WOOD, Vice-President.

#### REPORT NO. 3—CAMP MEETING COMMITTEE

We your camp-meeting committee beg to submit the following report: The Camp Meeting Association held the camp meeting from July 25th to August 5th inclusive, we employed Rev. S. B. Williams as the principal speaker. Amount of indebtedness on the Tabernacle at beginning of year \$300.00. Paid on indebtedness, \$57.50 leaving a balance of \$242.50 indebtedness.

J. A. WOOD, Chairman.

R. M. BEARDEN, Secretary.

#### REPORT NO. 4—THANKS

We, your committee on Thanks beg to submit the following report:

Whereas, God in his goodness and wise providence has been pleased to bring us, the members of the Alabama Annual Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church among you, we desire to extend our sincere thanks to the Pastor, members and friends of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of Tuscaloosa for their loyal support and entertainment. May God's richest blessings be upon them in this life and may they be given eternal life in the end.

J. D. AVERY,

MISS RUTH BROWN, Committee.

#### REPORT NO. 6—SUNDAY SCHOOLS

We your committee on Sunday Schools beg to submit the following report:

Number of Schools.....	9
Number Scholars in main school.....	540
Average attendance .....	337
Collections .....	\$246.00
Paid for supplies.....	169.55
Given to other benevolent objects.....	58.89
Cash in treasury.....	17.56

R. E. SNIPES, Secretary.

#### REPORT NO. 8—TREASURER'S REPORT

##### RECEIPTS

Cash Receipts.....	\$370.77
Cash .....	171.28
	\$542.05

## DISBURSEMENTS

Cash Receipts on hand.....	\$370.77
Paid E. Teter.....	123.88
Paid H. C. Bedford.....	26.00
Superannuated Ministers Fund.....	6.40
Cash Balance on hand.....	15.00
	<b>\$542.05</b>

W. E. HOBSON, JR., Treasurer

## REPORT NO. 9—ITINERANCY AND ORDERS

We your committee on Itinerancy and Orders beg to submit the following report.

1. That H. R. French and W. C. Lovin be ordained to Elders orders.
2. The following have passed one or more subjects in the Course of Study during the year: W. C. Lovin, J. H. Cole, J. L. Averett, G. W. Wall, H. R. French and W. R. French.
3. We recommend that the following persons continue the Course of Study and take examinations on the same as required by the discipline; J. H. Cole, M. J. Kelly, G. W. Hall, W. R. French and J. L. Averett.

J. A. Wood, Chairman.

R. E. SNIPES, Secretary.

## REPORT NO. 11—PASTORAL RELATIONS

We your committee on Pastoral Relations beg to submit the following report:

Bibb Charge—W. C. Lovin, Pastor; Friendship—J. A. S. Anderson, Pastor; Moon Lake—W. R. French, Pastor; Mt. Vernon—M. J. Kelly, Pastor; Pell City Charge—R. A. French, Pastor; Tuscaloosa—H. R. French, Pastor; Roberts-dale—G. W. Hilson, Pastor; Roebuck—R. E. Snipes, Pastor; Waycross Charge—J. L. Averett, Pastor; Superannuated List—R. G. Ramsey and M. A. Medders.

On motion and vote of the committee the church at Eoline was discontinued and the present pastor instructed to grant letters to those members who desire to become connected with some other church of the connection.

We further recommend that the duties of the President be as follows:

1. That he hold the first and fourth quarterly meetings, subject to call for any others. The pastors to arrange for their help for the second and third quarterly meetings.
2. That the President help the pastors in revival services when desired, also help the pastors raise the benevolences of the church,—Missions, Education and any other moneys needed for the budget when desired by the pastor.
3. That when the tent season arrives the President is to have use of tent and hold missionary services, opening up new territory, and either taking care of the same or providing for the care of all churches organized during the year.
4. That we believe that for his services, that he should receive not less than ten dollars per week for actual services rendered, and traveling and tent expenses. In order to meet this, it is recommended that collections be taken where he hold quarterly meetings, also at tent meetings, and should any money be paid privately, all receipts are to apply on the amount he should receive. We recommend that he report quarterly to the Missionary Board and then to the Missionary Secretary, and that should the collections, gifts, etc. fail to make up the amount we believe he is entitled to that the Parent Missionary Board be asked to consider further payment beyond the collections. An itemized statement of all receipts and expenditures must be rendered with each report.

J. A. Wood, Chairman.

W. E. HOBSON, JR., Secretary.

## WOMANS' HOME & FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY CONFERENCE

President—Mrs. J. A. S. Anderson.....Centreville, Ala.  
 Vice-President—Mrs. W. C. Lovin, R. No. 4.....Blocton, Ala.  
 Secretary-Treasurer—Mrs. Tinie Segrest.....West Blocton, Ala.  
 Assistant Secretary-Treasurer—Miss Hattie Avery, R. No. 1.....Centreville, Ala.  
 Organizer—Miss Frances French.....Pell City, Ala.  
 Conference Y. M. W. B. Superintendent—Miss Ruth Brown.....Mentone, Ala.

## CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

The first session of the Alabama Annual Conference of the Womans' Home and Foreign Missionary Society of the Wesleyan Methodist Church or Connection of America, met at Tuscaloosa, Ala., Nov. 9, 1917, at 1 p. m., and was called to order by Mrs. J. A. S. Anderson, President.

Devotional exercises were conducted by the President, who then declared conference ready for business.

The welcome address was given by Mrs. W. E. Hobson, Jr., response by Mrs. P. A. Gleaton.

By motion and vote the President was authorized to appoint the various committees, which were as follows: Credentials—Mrs. M. A. Medders, Mrs. P. A. Gleaton. Auditing—Miss Hattie Avery, Mrs. W. C. Lovin. Statistics—Miss Frances French. Resolutions and Plans for the Work—Mrs. John Gilbert.

By motion and vote the members of the Y. M. W. B. were allowed a vote in its conference.

The committee on Credentials reported the following names as Presidents and delegates, Mrs. O. O. Edwards, Mrs. R. A. French, Mrs. J. A. S. Anderson, Miss Hattie Avery, Mrs. Tinie Segrest, Mrs. John Gilbert, Mrs. Ruby Wood, Mrs. Mattie Jones, Mrs. W. C. Lovin.

Reports were read from the following Y. M. W. B. Societies: West Blocton, Ada Chapel, Pell City, Mentone, Friendship, Mt. Ivah, and Tuscaloosa.

The President reported Mrs. O. O. Edwards as a committee on Thanks. Treasurer reported. See report No. 1. On motion adjourned.

## SECOND DAY MEETING

Called to order by the President.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Mrs. John Gilbert.

Roll called, minutes read and approved.

On motion the Secretary was authorized to prepare the minutes for publication, and \$2. was voted from the conference treasury to pay expenses of printing.

Committee on Statistics reported. Report adopted. See report No. 2.

The Committee on resolutions made an interesting talk.

On motion conference adjourned.

Mrs. J. A. S. ANDERSON, President.

Mrs. TINIE SEGREST, Secretary.

## REPORT NO. 1—TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash received from the following:

Tuscaloosa .....	\$27.10
Pell City .....	32.15
Friendship .....	31.74
West Blocton .....	18.00
Ada Chapel .....	18.00
Offerings .....	7.07
Dues .....	2.00
Cash on hand.....	.45

Total.....\$136.51

FRANCES FRENCH, Treasurer.

## REPORT NO. 2—STATISTICS

Ada Chapel—Members 18, Active 15, Honorary 3, Home Missions \$10.00, Foreign Missions \$2.00, Church Work \$6.00, Total \$18.00.

Friendship—Members 21, Active 14, Honorary 7, Home Missions \$21.16, Foreign Missions \$10.58, Total \$31.74.

Pell City—Members 34, Active 30, Honorary 4, Home Missions \$29.15, Foreign Missions \$3.00, Total \$32.15.

Tuscaloosa—Members 30, Active 12, Honorary 18, Home Missions \$25.10, Foreign Missions \$2.00, Total \$27.10.

West Blocton—Members 18, Active 17, Honorary 1, Home Missions \$6.00,

Foreign Missions \$6.00, Church Work \$6.00, Total \$18.00.  
 Totals—Members 121, Active 88, Honorary 33, Home Missions \$91.41, Foreign  
 Missions \$23.58, Local Church Work \$12.00, Total Receipts \$126.99.

FRANCES FRENCH,  
 HATTIE AVERY, Committee.

## STATISTICAL REPORT

How many elders are on the conference roll? 8.  
 Who of the elders are on the stationed list?  
 (Give names and postoffice addresses.)

J. A. S. Anderson, R. 1.....Centreville, Ala.  
 R. A. French.....Pell City, Ala.  
 R. E. Snipes, R. 1.....Centreville, Ala.  
 W. C. Lovin, R. 4.....Blocton, Ala.  
 H. R. French.....Tuscaloosa, Ala.  
 J. A. Wood, R. 4.....Blocton, Ala.

Who of the elders are on the supernumerary  
 list? (Give names and postoffice addresses.)

M. A. Medders, R. 1.....Centreville, Ala.  
 R. G. Ramsey.....McRae, Ga.

Who of the elders have withdrawn this year:  
 By transfer?.....W. H. Massey

By letter of standing?.....R. G. Ramsey

Who have joined the conference this year:  
 By ordination? H. R. French, W. C. Lovin.

Who of the licentiates are on the stationed list?  
 (Give names and postoffice addresses.)

J. L. Averett, R. 1.....Morgan Springs, Ala.  
 W. R. French.....Mentone, Ala.  
 M. J. Kelly, R. 2.....Bankston, Ala.  
 G. W. Hilson.....Robertsdale, Ala.

What is the summary of the statistics reported  
 from the churches?

### PASTOR'S LABORS. Item I

Time employed (months).....102  
 Appointments.....13  
 No. of Church Societies.....13

### PERIODICALS. Item II

Wesleyan Methodists taken.....60  
 Wesleyan Lesson Helps taken:  
 Sunday School Banner.....44  
 Primary Class Paper.....222  
 Teacher's Quarterly.....79  
 Scholar's Quarterly.....287  
 Junior Quarterly.....171  
 Our Little Folks Cards.....278

### MEMBERSHIP. Item III

Received.....43  
 Expelled.....11  
 Discontinued.....34  
 Died.....2  
 Granted Letters.....17  
 Number reported last year.....590  
 Number at beginning of year.....590  
 Present Number.....575  
 Loss.....15  
 Associate Members.....3  
 Baptized.....12  
 Unstationed Elders.....2  
 Licentiates.....10  
 Membership Tithing.....69

### SABBATH SCHOOLS. Item IV

No. of Sabbath Schools.....9  
 No. of Officers, not Teachers or Scholars.....33  
 No. of Teachers.....38  
 No. of Scholars in Cradle Roll.....66  
 No. of Scholars in Main School.....540  
 Total No. in Sabbath School.....708  
 Average Attendance.....337  
 No. of Scholars Converted.....34  
 No. of Scholars Joining Church.....16  
 No. of Departmental Supts.....6  
 No. in Teacher's Training Course.....7

No. of Scholars in Adult Bible Classes.....175

### CHURCH PROPERTY. Item V

No. of Church Buildings.....9  
 Value of Buildings.....\$8,500.00  
 Amount of Indebtedness.....671.00  
 No. of Parsonages.....3  
 Value of Parsonages.....750.00  
 Amount of Indebtedness.....None  
 Cash or other values on hand.....8.31

### AMOUNT CONTRIBUTED. Item VI

For Pastors:  
 Salary.....\$1866.33  
 Fees—Marriage and Funeral.....15.00  
 Gifts.....90.31

Total Pastors' Receipts.....\$1971.64

### AMOUNTED CONTRIBUTED. Item VII

For Churches:  
 Conference President's Salary.....\$ 63.60  
 Evangelistic Help.....268.68  
 Sabbath School Expense.....169.56  
 Building and Repairs.....596.00  
 Incidental Expenses.....147.05

Total for Churches.....\$1244.89

### AMOUNT CONTRIBUTED. Item VIII

For Benevolences  
 Undivided Budget.....\$ 24.45  
 Missions.....381.11  
 Education.....196.39  
 Superannuated Ministers' Fund.....4.80  
 Other Benevolent Objects.....37.30

Total for Benevolences.....\$ 644.05

### TOTALS. Item IX

Total for Pastors.....\$1971.64  
 Total for Churches.....1244.89  
 Total for Benevolences.....644.05

Total for all Purposes.....\$3860.58

### BUDGET. Item X

Undivided Budget.....\$ 24.45  
 Missions.....367.04  
 Education.....196.39

Total.....\$ 587.88

When and where shall the next conference  
 be held? Blocton, Ala., November, 1918.

How is the work supplied?

Bibb Circuit.....W. C. Lovin  
 Friendship.....J. A. S. Anderson  
 Moon Lake.....W. R. French  
 Mt. Vernon.....M. J. Kelly  
 Pell City Charge.....R. A. French  
 Tuscaloosa.....H. R. French  
 Robertsdale.....G. W. Hilson  
 Rockbuck.....R. E. Snipes  
 Waycross Charge.....J. L. Averett

Who are the conference officers?

J. A. Wood.....President  
 R. A. French.....Vice-President  
 W. E. Hobson, Jr.....Secretary-Treasurer  
 W. E. HOBSON, Jr., Sec'y