

**SOUTH AFRICAN BAPTISTS AND FINANCE MATTERS
(1820-1948)**

Volume Three (Appendices)

By

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Introduction

The following edition of original documents on South African Baptist history come primarily from the minutes of the annual Baptist Union (BU) assemblies. These documents transmit the decisions, in their actual wording, made by the BU and the South African Baptist Missionary Society (SABMS), throughout the history of the Baptist Church of Southern Africa. Further, these documents also serve to provide a feeling of the mood of the time when these decisions were taken. Unfortunately, South African Baptist scholarship fell short of unearthing these documents.¹ As a result, such scholarship has predominantly been a reworking of published literature.²

This third volume of the thesis serves to indicate the variety of original documents available on South African Baptist history. Further, this volume, which is an appendix to volume one: *South African Baptists and Finance Matters (1820-1948)*, needs to be read and understood against the background of volume one. In doing so, one comes to know the context and the reasons for these documents to have been produced by the BU assemblies.

For the purposes of classifying and differentiating these documents throughout the respective periods in South African Baptist history, four phases have been distinguished. The first phase (1820-1892) has been termed the founding phase. This period saw the settlement of the Europeans in the colony, and the founding of the BU (1877) and the SABMS (1892) respectively. The BU, on the one hand, was a union of white churches, predominantly the English churches. The SABMS, on the other hand, was formed to oversee work amongst the natives and to “diffuse the Gospel ... among the aborigines [natives] of this country.”³ Because the SABMS was led by Europeans, this was the beginning (1820-1877)⁴ of a monetary exchange relationship between the Europeans and the natives. In addition, during this period, there was a strengthening of financial

¹ See Introduction and Chapter 1 of Volume One of this thesis.

² *Ibid.*

³ SABMS Constitution of 1892, in BU Handbook for 1892-1893, p. 33.

⁴ See Chapter 10 (Conclusion) in Volume Two.

congregationalism and separate racial development (1878-1892).⁵ The separate racial development which took place during this phase was still to characterize the nature and development of the Baptist Church of South Africa, many years later.

The second phase (1893-1927) was a phase of further racial differentiation and institutionalism. In other words, during this period of the history of the Baptist Church matters were further demarcated along racial lines. Europeans fellowshipped separately, from the natives. During this phase, the BU's resolutions regarding matters political in nature started to appear. For example, during the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1901), the BU, an English-led body, passed resolutions in favour of the English forces. Further, during this period, the BU rallied behind the English forces. Within the Baptist Church of South Africa, church matters were run along racial lines for the benefit of the Europeans, and resulted in the formation of the Native Baptist Church Councils (1923) and the Bantu Baptist Church (BBC) in 1927, whose purpose was to oversee the running of the black churches. And once again, as was the case with the formation of the SABMS, the Europeans were in control of these bodies.

This second phase of the Baptist Church of South Africa saw the emergence of a culture of financial accounting:⁶ during this phase most of the pension and other funds for the benefit of European workers were formed. In addition, during this phase detailed financial statements of the respective funds under the BU started to appear. Racial segregation, which was evident in the founding phase of the Baptist Church, was now culminating in financial segregation. In other words, the Baptist Church, which was already both racially and financially segregated, became during this period institutionally characterized by two racially separated bodies: the BU for Europeans and the BBC for natives. The Europeans, however, maintained control over the native churches through the SABMS, the Native Baptist Church Councils (1923) and the Bantu Baptist Church (1927).

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ See Chapter 10 (Conclusion) in Volume Two.

The third phase (1928-1935) is a continuation of the second. More specifically, it constitutes a phase of separate theological education.⁷ That is, through separate educational systems, one inferior (that for the natives), the subordination of the native churches and their ministers was to be continued. In other words, the inferior theological education that the natives were given by European teachers made them dependent on their European counterparts. The effect of this, financially, was that the natives' intellectual capital was less than that of their European counterparts. The natives' poor theological education translated into their inability to access better paying jobs or to equip their churches to be financially self-sustaining.⁸

In the last phase (1936-1948) of South African Baptist history, we witness further benefits for European workers, as is the second phase, in the creation of more funds for them within the Baptist Church of South Africa. These funds were created in the context of the dire poverty and poor working conditions under which the native ministers laboured, conditions of which the BU was well aware. To be precise, in 1944 when a Europeans-only delegation visited all the fields of the SABMS, they recorded the deplorable working conditions of the native ministers in the *Missionary Survey of 1944: Report and Recommendations*.⁹ These recommendations remained merely on paper since affairs within the Baptist Church of South Africa continued as usual. That is, the European workers within the Baptist Church of South Africa kept benefiting from and being protected by the BU, while their native counterparts remained in dire economic straits.

With the above-mentioned phases in mind, it is important to note that the following documents are not the only documents produced by the Baptist Church of South Africa between the periods 1820 to 1948. In other words, only a proportion have been selected, on the basis that they have been referred to in Volume One and Volume Two, respectively. Further, a limited selection has been made in order to keep the length of the

⁷ See Chapter 7 in Volume Two.

⁸ See Chapter 6 of Volume Two. This was the opposite of the situation of those natives who were not trained at Baptist owned theological institutions. For a classic case, see the discussion on Mr Stofile, in Chapters 4 and 5 in Volume One, and Chapter 6 in Volume Two.

⁹ See Chapter 8 in Volume Two.

present volume manageable. Documents selected serve to provide an overview of South African Baptist history throughout the 128 years covered in this research. These documents have been reproduced in this volume verbatim, as found in the BU minutes or any other sources consulted.

1. Constitution of the Baptist Union (1877)

I. Name

"The Baptist Union of South Africa"

II. CONSTITUTION

The Union shall comprise all such existing Baptist Churches as shall agree to unite for the attainment of its objects such persons and churches as shall be hereafter admitted according to its rules.

III. DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLE

While this Union is composed of Churches and individuals holding the immersion of believers to be the only Christian Baptism, it fully recognises the right of every separate Church to interpret and administer in and for itself the laws of Christ.

IV. OBJECTS OF THE UNION

1. To promote unity and brotherly love among its members.
2. To obtain accurate information respecting the organisation and work of the Churches.
3. To extend its principles throughout South Africa.
4. To maintain the right of all men everywhere to freedom from legal disadvantage in matters purely religious.
5. And to supply a means of co-operating with other Christian communities as occasion may require.

V. THE ASSEMBLY

This Union shall act by its Assembly and through the executive.

VI. THE ASSEMBLY

The Assembly shall consist of Pastors and Delegates of Churches, Personal voting members and Honorary (or non-voting) members.

Churches of fewer than 50 members may send one delegate; of more than fifty, two delegates; of more than one hundred, three delegates.

All delegates shall be duly appointed annually and their appointment duly accredited and notified to the Secretary before the 1st of April.

Personal members shall be Baptists, though not necessarily connected with a Baptist Church, who shall be recommended to the union by three of its members and accepted by the Assembly.

VII. MEETING OF ASSEMBLY

The Assembly shall meet annually at such time and place as shall be appointed by it from year to year.

VIII. SPECIAL MEETINGS OF ASSEMBLY

The Assembly shall be specially convened at any time at the discretion of the Executive, or upon the requisition of a majority of its members.

IX. THE EXECUTIVE

The office-bearers shall be the Executive.

X. OFFICERS

The Officers of the Union shall be the President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary.

XI. DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE

All monies shall be paid to, and all disbursements made by, the Executive, and an account of the same shall be rendered at the annual Meeting of the Assembly.

The Executive shall prepare for circulation an Annual Report of the proceedings of the Union.

XII. ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION

No proposal for change in this Constitution shall be entertained without one year's notice, given in writing, at the annual Assembly, and published as the Assembly shall direct.

THE BYE-LAWS

1. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The officers of the Union shall be elected by ballot at the close of each annual meeting of the Assembly.

2. NOTICES OF MOTION

In order to facilitate the arrangement of business, notices of motion or of amendments, signed by the proposer, must be forwarded in writing to the Secretary, at least 14 days before the Meeting of the Assembly.

Other notices of motion being given in writing shall be considered after those given as above, and in the order of their presentation to the secretary.

3. FINANCE

Each Church represented in the Union shall be required to contribute not less than £5 annually to the funds of the Union.

Personal members shall be required to subscribe not less than £5 annually, and honorary members £1 annually.

Subscription for the following year shall fall due on the 1st of March, and until paid no Cards of admission to the Assembly can be granted.

Two auditors for the ensuing year shall be appointed by resolution at the annual meeting of the Assembly.

The financial year shall terminate on the 15th of April.

4. COMMENTS

To facilitate and prepare its business the Assembly may appoint committees.

The convener and quorum shall be fixed by the Assembly.

The object of each committee shall be defined in its appointment.

Minutes of all acts in committees shall be kept in writing and ready for use in the Assembly.

The report of each committee shall be given in writing and signed by its chairman.

5. THE REPORT

The matters to be published in the Report shall be determined by the Executive.

No proposal to alter any of these Bye-Laws shall be entertained until after 21 days notice given in writing to the Secretary.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1877, pp. 8-12.)

2. Bye-Laws of the Constitution of the Baptist Union (1885)

I. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Each officers of the Union - except the President (who shall be the Vice-President of the previous year) - shall be elected at each annual meeting of the Assembly, by ballot, if more than one member have been nominated for any office.

II. NOTICES OF MOTION

In order to facilitate the arrangement of business, notices of motion, signed by the proposer, must be forwarded in writing to the Secretary, at least 14 days before the Meeting of the Assembly.

Other notices of motion, being given in writing, shall be considered after those given as above, and in the order of their presentation to the Secretary.

III. FINANCE

Each Church represented in the Union shall be expected to contribute not less than £5 annually to the funds of the Union.

Personal members shall be required to subscribe not less than £5 annually, and honorary

members not less than 10s. annually.

Subscription shall be due and payable within six months from the date of the Assembly last held.

Two auditors for the ensuing year shall be appointed by resolution at the annual meeting of the Assembly.

The financial year shall terminate on the 15th of April.

IV. COMMITTEES

To facilitate and prepare its business the Assembly may appoint Committees.

The convener and *quorum* shall be fixed by the Assembly.

The object of each committee shall be defined in its appointment.

Minutes of all acts in committees shall be kept in writing and ready for use in the Assembly.

The report of each committee shall be given in writing and signed by its chairman.

V. HANDBOOK

The matters to be published in the Handbook shall be determined by the Executive.

No proposal to alter any of these Bye-Laws shall be entertained until after 21 days' notice, given in writing, to the Secretary.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1886-1887, p. 27.)

3. Guide for Preparatory Work of Assembly (1889)

It was proposed as a guide:-

I. "That the Secretary of the Union issue (say six weeks before meeting of session) a reminder to the Connected Churches at the same time sending statistical forms asking for Church, Reports, names of Delegates, & c.; and that the Secretary of the Local Committee of the inviting Churches send out invitation cards, with a preliminary programme, to all the respective Churches, personal and honorary members, forming the Assembly."

II. "That every Church furnish the names of their Delegates, both to the Secretary of the Union and the Secretary of the local Committee, say at least a fortnight before the Assembly meets."

III. "That the inviting Church is expected to provide accommodation for all Ministers and Evangelists, as well as for all Delegates."

IV. "That the programme for the Sunday Services is entirely the work of the inviting Church, and that the programme for the other public service must be drawn up in connection with, or solely by, the Executive, who have also to propose the *agenda* paper."

V. "That the collections during the Session (excluding those at the *Soiree*) can be appropriated by

the inviting Church for local expenses connected with the Assembly, as printing, subsidy to travelling expenses for ministers officiating at the meetings of the Session.”

“N.B. - These disbursements shall not exceed the collections, and the surplus, if any, shall be handed over to the Union Funds.”

Each Church is requested to give this Leaflet a permanent place in its Minute Book.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1889-1890, p. 47.)

4. Letter from the Secretary of the Baptist Union of Britain (1891)

Baptist Missionary Society 19, Furnival Street, Holborn London, E.C., 1st April, 1891
Rev. G. W. CROSS, Secretary of the Baptist Union of South Africa, Grahamstown
<p>Dear MR. CROSS, In reply to your kind letter, dated Grahamstown, February 23rd, I should like to say that I referred your question to our Senior Congo Missionary, Rev. George Grenfell, who happens to be in England just now.</p> <p>He has written me the enclosed letter, which I think gives you the information you desire.</p> <p>I earnestly trust that the missionary work of the Baptist Union of South Africa in Kaffraria will be successful. I am rejoiced to hear that already you can tell of fruit bearing, and that several converts have offered themselves for baptism. May the Lord give you increasing prosperity and increasing happiness.</p> <p>With much respect and esteem,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">I am, dear Mr. Cross Your's [sic] faithfully ALFRED H. BAYNES, Sec.</p>
<p>[ENCLOSURE] Baptist Missionary Society 19 Furnival Street, Holborn, London, E.C., 31st March 1891.</p> <p>MY DEAR MR. Baynes - In reply to yours respecting the enclosed, I may say that on the Congo the Churches of our own Society, and those of the A.B.M.U., admit polygamists as Church Members. They are however, debarred from holding office. If a man adds to the number of his wives after having joined the Church, he comes under discipline.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Your's [sic] very truly, GEORGE GRENFELL.</p>

(Source: BU Handbook for 1891-1892, pp. 37-37.)

5. Formation of a South African Missionary Society (1892)

This being the centenary year of Baptist Missions, and stirring Missionary addresses having been

delivered at the Saturday night meeting, and a motion on the *agenda* paper standing in the names of Revs. D. Hay, E. P. Riemer and L. Nuttall, the Assembly came to a unanimous and enthusiastic decision to found a Missionary Society. A committee consisting of Revs. E. P. Riemer, L. Nuttall, H. Gutsche and D. H. Hay, was appointed to draft a constitution, which was adopted, section by section, at a later meeting, as follows:-

- I. That the name be the South African Missionary Society, in connection with the Baptist Union of South Africa.
- II. That the object of the Society is the diffusion of the Gospel of the Grace of Jesus Christ among the aborigines of this country.
- III. That the Pastors and Delegates of Churches contributing to the funds and all subscribers of £1. 1s. and upwards annually, shall be members of the Society.
- IV. That the business shall be conducted by a Committee of 10 members, including Treasurer, Secretary (chosen by the Committee), and a Chairman, elected at the Annual Meeting.
- V. A General Meeting shall be held at the same place as the Assembly of the Union, when the election of the Committee and Chairman shall be made, and the financial statement and the general report of the Society shall be presented.
- VI. No alterations in, or additions to, this constitution can be made except at the Annual Meetings, and one month's notice of such proposal must be given in writing to the Secretary.
It was agreed that the Provisional Committee be composed of six Ministers and four Lay members.
The result of the ballot was as follows:- Revs. D. Hay, H. Gutsche, E. P. Riemer, L. Nuttall, G. W. Cross, H. J. Batts; and Messrs. J. Ivy, W. G. Cooper, J. Brodie, and W. J. Pople. Mr T. B. King was appointed the first Chairman of Committee and Rev. H. Gutsche Convener.

(Source: BU Handbook of 1892-1893, p. 33.)

6. Letter from the President (1893)

READ TO THE ASSEMBLY, MARCH 16TH, 1893.

NOTE - Our Home readers will be interested to know that Pastor Riemer is a German, the minister of the second German Baptist Church in South Africa.

Our German pastors are veritable bishops, each having the oversight of a large diocese. In Kaffraria, where the German emigrants settled, a central church is surrounded by a cluster of small churches, situated in farm districts and agricultural villages. The German settlers being a pushing people, they, or their children, in the course of a few years, dispersed themselves over the whole country, and, wherever a few families are settled within reach of each other, a little church is organised in connection with the central church, and is generally ministered to by one of their own number, who is ordained co-elder with the pastor of the central church. The whole system is very completely organised: the chief pastor visits, periodically, every portion of his flock. As the Germans are foreigners in these colonies they look to their ministers for many things outside the spiritual sphere. The German pastor is always a hard-worked man; he becomes the father of his people: in all things their protector and guide and helper.

FRONTIER HOSPITAL, QUEENSTOWN,
March, 1893.

To the Baptist Union of South Africa,

DEAR BRETHREN IN THE LORD, - In the minutes of our Handbook for 1888-89, page 16, it is stated that there was a hearty desire expressed I should be the next President. Although thanking the brethren for the high honour they then intended to confer upon me, I thought to act wisely by not accepting it, but to leave the honour and responsibility to brethren whom I deemed better qualified to fill this high office. I can assure the brethren that my opinion regarding my qualification has undergone no change. I would have declined the acceptance of the office again, a year ago, had I not been aware that I, five years ago, had grieved some of the brethren, and that I should have grieved some again, had I refused to accept it. Besides this, it appeared to me, rather disobedience than true modesty to refuse it again, and, the more so, when Br. L. Nuttall, who had also been nominated, magnanimously withdrew in favour of me. Another reason for accepting the office was that my church would share the honour with me. By the force of these reasons, I resolved, although hesitatingly, to accept the honour, and also the burden of responsibilities in connection with this office.

Regarding the honour, I first of all lay it at the feet of our crucified Saviour, to whom all honour belongs. In respect of the burden, etc., it would be my duty, as the new President to read my Presidential Address, and to preside at your meetings: now it grieves me, that I am not able to do either one or the other. But, my brethren, it is not my fault. In His unsearchable wisdom, it has pleased the Lord to lay a very painful sickness upon me. As early as '92, already a severe cold and neuralgia disabled me for a time from doing my ministerial work. By the grace of God, I recovered so far, that I could resume my duties, at first tolerably well, but afterwards, only with great difficulty, could I carry the work on. Some months ago, however, I had a relapse of that obstinate and most painful disease. The nerves had become so sensitive that I could not bear any noise, and even loud speaking to me, and, in consequence of this, I could not attend public worship. But, thanks be to the Lord, that he, nevertheless, has refreshed my soul and cheered me very often by his promises, and by the love and sympathy of so many of my fellow-men. Praise also is due to my church in granting me readily six months' sick-leave, when I asked only for one month. As the physicians at East London advised me to go up-country, I resolved to become a patient at this hospital. I thank the Lord that he has brought me here. What I esteem more than any other thing is rest, and this I enjoy here; besides that I receive good treatment and sufficient nourishing food. I am happy to say that my nerves have already become a little stronger, for else I could not write this letter. Whether I shall recover completely the senior doctor has expressed his doubt; but then the *Great Physician* can do great things. I am happy to think that my fate rests in God, who is Love. It is also a source of great comfort, to me, that the Lord has permitted me to do a little work for him in this country for a little more than eighteen years. And what cheers me most is the thought, that there is a place of perfect rest, a place where there are no more sufferings; and that by the Grace of God, through faith in Christ, I have a living hope to enter that blessed place.

And now dear Brethren, let Immanuel's chariot of victory be drawn on and forward. Do not mind if a fellow-worker had to be left behind. I may be able to crawl behind, but the Lord may also permit me to help again. If not, His will be done. Let me salute you with the words of the Apostle Paul, written I. Cor. XV. 57,58.

"But thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ,"

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

May the Lord be with all of you, and each one of you, and may the Holy Ghost be your guide in the meetings to be held.

Amen.

Remember your suffering Brother in the Lord in your prayers.

E. P. RIEMER.

(Source: BU Handbook of 1893-1894, pp. 10-12.)

7. The following Bye-Laws re BU Constitution (1893)

were read and adopted:-

1. **MEMBERSHIP.** Persons subscribing one guinea or more annually; every benefactor making a donation of £10 or more; one of the executors, on the payment of a legacy of £50 or more; ministers or other representatives of congregations contributing for the use of the Society £3 or more annually, shall be members of the Society and entitled to vote at its public meetings. N.B. - This bye-law expunges No.3 of the Constitution.
2. **RIGHT OF MEMBERS.** Every member is allowed to make propositions in writing to the Committee, which shall be duly discussed and the result be communicated to the proposer.
3. **OPERATIONS.** The Society shall act by its Committee and through its office-bearers.
4. **SPECIAL MEETING.** A requisition in writing from three of the Committee to the Secretary shall empower him to summon a meeting.
5. **ACCOUNTS.** The accounts of the Society shall be closed on the 31st day of December in each year, and shall be audited within one month from that time.
6. **SUBSCRIPTIONS** shall be due and payable within six months from the date of the Assembly last held.
7. **FUNDS.** All funds arising from donations, legacies, subscriptions, collections and other sources of income shall be lodged, as soon as possible, with the Bank of the Society.
8. **PUBLISHING.** The matters to be published shall be determined by the Executive.
9. **NOTICES OF MOTION.** In order to facilitate the arrangement of business, notices of motion, signed by the proposer, must be forwarded in writing to the Secretary at least 14 days before the meeting of the Assembly. Other notices of motion, being given in writing shall be considered after those given as above, and in the order of their presentation to the Secretary.
10. **COMMITTEES.** To facilitate and prepare its business, the Society may appoint Committees. The convener and quorum shall be fixed by the society, and the object of each Committee shall be defined in its appointment. Minutes of all acts in Committee shall be kept in writing, and be ready for use in the Assembly. The report of each Committee shall be given in writing and signed by its Chairman.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1893-1894, pp. 18-19.)

8. A Few Remarks on Finance (1894)

To the Members of the South African Baptist Union

I have been asked to say a few words regarding our financial position, and if possible to suggest improvements in this department for the more efficient working of our Union. Having been closely identified with our financial works for many years, and having known the anxiety caused on account of inability to meet demands when due, perhaps I am entitled to speak on the necessity demands when due, perhaps I am entitled to speak on the necessity for some radical reform, not only to secure an increased income, but for the more prompt payment of the amounts that are promised year by year, so that we may fulfil our engagements honorably with those Churches and Brethren to whom we pledge our support. There is nothing at all flattering to us in our financial position, or in the progress we have made in this respect, during a period of say ten years. In 1883, the membership of our Churches was 1,258; our income that year was £196 3s. 9d. Last year with an increased membership of some 1,200 our income was £202 7s. 1d. I do not wish it to be thought that there has been no increase during the interval in any individual year. In one or two instances there has been, but it cannot be regarded as creditable to us, after a period of 10 years, that our increase should show an advance on the date above-named of only £6 3s. 4d. Or take the incomes since 1883, and see if there is any occasion for congratulation. In 1884, the income was £123 2s. 5d.; in 1885, £236 1s. 8d.; in 1886, £204 17s. 6d.; in 1887, £206. 16s. 9d.; in 1888, £194 15s. 7d.; in 1889, £226 2s. 5d.; in 1890, £353 5s. 0d., which included amounts raised in Kimberley by Mr. Cross and myself, of £45 14s, and from Mr. Spurgeon, £35; in 1891, £191 16s. 4d.; in 1892, £225 16s. 11d., that embraced a sum also from Mr. Spurgeon of £30 8s. and £10 from Sir Donald Currie. So that, after making these deductions, we find our income at the end of ten years very much as it was at the beginning.

It is an interesting question to ask, what are the sources of income? How is the money raised? As a matter of fact, two, or at most three, Churches raise the bulk of it. Just examine the figures in last year's Handbook. Out of a total income of £202 7s. 1d., one Church raised £34 13s., another £48 7s., another £17, add the amount of £25 from "A Friend of Missions" and you get a total of £125, out of a sum of £202 7s. 1d. *from four sources only.* Or, if you think this comparison unfair, take the year 1891, when you will note that one Church contributed £64 5s. 9d., another £37 12s., another £12 3s., a total of £113 19s. 4d., of an income of £191 16s. 4d. The Churches contributing these amounts are the same each year. Surely this shows a state of things that ought not to exist, and we pause to ask the reason why! It should be said that as regards promptitude of payment of yearly subscriptions, our German Brethren are a pattern to us, all, and no delay is caused through them. The question to propose is this:- What can be done to increase our income? An increase of income is a necessity, and ought to have been a consequent of our largely increased numerical strength. In a word, I think we are largely to blame ourselves - I mean the pastors. I would not hint at any lack of loyalty to the Union, but I am satisfied that we do not present the claims of our Union before our Churches, and before individuals likely to help us, as we should. I am going to take the risk of that statement. It may be that we are all very much occupied with our own Church debts, and become selfishly interested in our own work, to the all but exclusion of the general work from our sympathy and support. We have claims, great claims, of our own, I admit. Only a very few of the Churches are free from debt, and some are very largely burdened, and it may be claimed that all efforts must be directed to the lessening of the individual responsibilities. But, Brethren, I have never known a Church or an individual to be the poorer for giving, and in most instances the amounts we get for the general work of the Union would never have come into the exchequer of our own Church. Then I think the claims of the country and the Churches that look to us for support ought to be a very loud appeal to us to do our utmost, if we have faith in our principles and belief in our mission. There is no reason why our income should not be doubled, and consequently our undertakings doubled, if we all did as

much as we could. Let every Church be an auxiliary of the Union, and every Pastor see to the gathering in of the funds, for I think there is sufficient in our short history and advance in this country to awaken a very lively interest among the friends who would gladly lend us their aid. Then there are Baptists scattered about the country, who, by our personal influence, might be induced to become subscribers, even though unconnected with any Church, and their interest, therefore, would at once be secured in the denomination and its work. At any rate, I am quite satisfied, that there are ways and means by which our funds could be largely augmented, and I appeal to the Brethren to give the matter their very serious attention.

H. J. BATTS,
Financial Secretary.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1894-1895, pp. 22-23.)

9. Resolution of Congregational Union in re Co-operation, Passed at their Annual Assembly in Cape Town, 1894,

was read as follows:- "That, with a view to the strengthening and furtherance of the cordial relations that ought to be maintained between the Congregational and Baptist Churches of this Colony, an overture be presented to the Baptist Union, inviting it to unite with this Union in a tacit understanding that where, in any small Colonial community, there is a church of either denomination already established, or about to be established, providing sufficient accommodation for the available worshippers of both denominations, no action involving denominational competition or rivalry be encouraged or countenanced by either Union; it being recognized on both sides, as a principle of wholesome expediency, that, in all such cases, a common ground of Church fellowship should be recognised, which, while involving no surrender of individual conviction, should be sufficiently comprehensive to enable brethren of both denominations to work together in the cause of Christ as brethren, and that the committee formerly existing for communicating with other Churches be re-appointed to make such arrangements with the Baptist Union as are practicable on the lines of the above".

This resolution was referred to a committee, who brought in at a later session the following report:-

"The Assembly of the Baptist Union has received and earnestly considered the communication from the Congregational Union, and in reply it unhesitatingly asserts its desire to co-operate with the sister Union, and again asserts its resolution of 1880. – *vide* Hand-book, Page 2.

"With regard to recent misunderstandings, the Assembly sincerely regrets them, and, without wishing to cast any blame upon the Congregational Union, is unable to cast any upon its own Executive or Officers of Committee, and asks that a Conference may be arranged, in which the matters in dispute may be discussed frankly and amicably between us, and designates the President (the Rev. John Gifford) and the Secretary (the Rev. G. W. Cross) to represent us."

The above report was adopted and passed unanimously

(Source: BU Handbook for 1895-1896, pp. 26-27.)

10. Report of Deputation to England (1895)

**IN THE INTERESTS OF
Missions to Mashona and Matabelelands.**

Your Deputation wish to report that, in harmony with the decision of last meeting, they have visited England in the interests of the Mashona and Matabeleland Missions. In August of last year we arrived in England, but it was soon found that during the summer months it was quite impossible to get evening meetings together for any purpose, on account of the harvest, and late business hours that are kept in the Old Country. So we had to wait, and at the same time upon correspondence with ministers and Churches, in the hope of securing engagements during the autumn and winter months. A great deal of writing was necessitated, but with little result. Unfortunately, misrepresentation of our cause had preceded us, and we were met with a good deal of opposition from various sources. Besides this, we found that friends of our denomination had been taxed very much for the Centenary Fund, and the new proposal for increase of Home mission interests had obliged them, in many instances, reluctantly to decline to undertake fresh responsibilities. Little hope of great success therefore promised, but we faced our work earnestly, travelled night and day, lectured and preached up and down the kingdom, with results that were often very disappointing, but we were nothing daunted, though often cast down. Wherever we got a hearing we were kindly received, and though not a large sum has been obtained, we are almost surprised that, after all, so much was realised, when the difficulties are remembered. We are very thankful to those who helped us and received us so kindly and heartily; glad to have had a visit to the dear old Land again, and trust that the work your Deputation was appointed to inaugurate will be carried to a successful issue, and the new fields of labour soon be occupied by able and successful pioneers of the work of God. Subjoined is the financial statement, which is herewith duly submitted to the Assembly.

(Signed) JAMES HUGES,
H. J. BATTIS.

East London,
April, 1895.

[ANNEXURE B]
Committee's Report in re Northern Missions.

DEAR BRETHREN.

Your committee desire to report that Mr. John Rostron, of the Riverside Baptist Church, New York, acting on the acceptance by this Union of the offer made by him twelve months ago, is now on his way to Bulawayo, for the purpose of selecting a suitable site in that country to commence one centre of industrial Christian missions. He is proceeding thither alone, but as soon as he is ready for work men will be sent out from the Riverside Church in proportion as they may be required. He has full confidence that his American friends will assist him to the full extent of his requirements, with both money and men. The President of the Union of last year gave Mr. Rostron a letter of introduction to the Administrator of Mashonaland and Matabeleland, with the hope of facilitating the object our brother has in view. Your committee never understood that they were to select sites for our contemplated missionary work in the North, so nothing in the respect has been done. We are pleased to say that our brother has entered into his work full of faith and overflowing with love and zeal. He is most sanguine of great results, and earnestly desires the prayers of members of this Union.

[ANNEXURE C.]

Rev. James Hughes stated the conditions upon which the Chartered Company's gift had been accepted. Dr. R. Harris wrote as follows, under date April 7, 1894:-

"I think, however, that Mr. Rhodes will probably recommend for the Board's approval a grant to the Baptist Union of £200 per annum for three years, which you could subdivide amongst your mission as you think fit."

Dr. Harris said also: "That the Society would be allowed to select the farms in any part of the two countries not previously secured by other persons, and the stands in any part of the townships not already taken up by others."

Dr. Harris continued: "The stands and farms are liable to the ordinary quitrent and licence. It is, however, quite a nominal sum in each case, being in that of a farm £1 per annum of 1,000 acres, and for a stand 10/- per month per stand."

In the event of the Society being unable to occupy the land given, Dr. Harris promised that the Company would deal generously toward the Society with respect to the duration of the time during which possession might be entered upon.

The surveying of the farms would not be undertaken by the Company; the Society must make its own arrangements. Mr. Hughes stated that Mr. Horace J. Donnelly, surveyor, of Bulawayo, had offered to survey the farms for the Society free of charge.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1895-1896, pp. 58-59.)

11. The President's Address (1896)

*Delivered to the Baptist Union of South Africa
by the Rev. H. J. BATTIS, of Pretoria, on April 16th, 1896.*

MY DEAR BRETHREN AND FRIENDS, - Believing that the Presidential address ought to contain some distinct message to the Brethren and to the Churches in regard to doctrine, policy, or enterprise, and that such message should go forth bearing the Assembly's imprimatur, let me frankly admit my incapacity to meet the need, or to give forth the word that the occasion requires. At the same time I am deeply sensible of the honour, and grateful for the confidence that the Brethren have reposed in me placing me for a second time in the chair of this Union. This much I think I am permitted to say, that had I known at the time of my election how things would eventuate, and that during the year I should change my ministerial sphere from one of comparative comfort and utter harmony, to one crammed with difficulties and laden with considerable responsibility, and almost hopelessness, the proffered honour would have been respectfully declined. My message consequently will, I think, have the virtue of brevity if none other; for plus the difficulties of my pastoral work, there have been the dreadful threatenings of a civil war, and the most disturbing conditions have obtained in the State where I have elected, and I firmly believe divinely guided, to take up my abode. Meditation and careful thought so as to prepare an address worthy of this Assembly have been rendered extremely difficult. I therefore ask your forbearance while, in introducing my subject, I endeavour to point out what may be deemed.

SOME DEFECTS IN OUR SYSTEM AS APPLIED TO WORK IN THIS COUNTRY

I would gladly have followed on the highly spiritual lines of my predecessor's address of last year, which would perhaps have been more to edification, but that I deem the circumstances of the present require a modification, if not a change, in our operations and polity. I hope the more conservative among us will receive no shock at the bare suggestion of a change, for while I am not going to admit the absolute failure of our present mode of working, I am confident that an alteration in some form is imperative if we are successfully to occupy and maintain the fields of service which are opening up for us. Perhaps the defects and difficulties bulk more largely before those of us who have had to observe them for years with official eyes than is the case with Brethren whose range of vision is limited to the sphere of their own immediate labours. In countries where the population is large and the area is more circumscribed than with us the "Independency" idea may operate successfully, but there is evidence, even in England, and in our own Baptist Union, that some modification is in contemplation. Indeed a proposal has been accepted by the London Baptist Association to legislate for a minimum income for the Pastors belonging to that Association. This shows the trend of things even amid the large populations of Britain, and is quite enough to disturb the equanimity of extreme Independents who protest against the slightest interference with the absolute autonomy of individual congregations. Certainly I love the freedom of the Independent system and with certain modifications accept it; but I can imagine a poor Brother, harassed by pecuniary difficulties, worried by sometimes unsympathetic members, and having to face charges concocted by old ladies and advanced spinsters over afternoon tea, and with no authorized appeal even to his Ministerial Brethren, wishing the absolute Independency idea at the bottom of the ocean. I wish to point out some of the defects of the system, which are all the more glaring because of the conditions which obtain in this country. Indeed I think I am safe in saying that in several instances we have broken through the fences already, and without any legislation upon it, and, almost unconsciously too, we have, by our Executive, guided the decisions of Churches, and appointed Pastors over them, and because these exigencies often occur, and no reason exists why our system cannot be adapted to meet them. I plead for the full consideration of the suggestions which I venture to bring before you.

I cannot even claim priority in advancing these suggestions, for as a matter of fact they have already been before the Assembly not so much in the form of an appeal but rather as a statement of conditions which obtain in a section of our own denomination in this country. I refer to the Presidential address of the Rev. Hugo Gutsche delivered in 1881 on "*The unity and peculiar formation of the German Baptist Churches.*" Now the ideas expressed in that address I am prepared, in the main, to accept, and if they could be applied in connection with the Union as a whole I firmly believe we should be greatly advantaged and our growth would be more rapid and thorough than it is. The remarkable success of our German Churches is proof positive of the value of their system applied. I do not propose to follow or restate any of the arguments used by Mr. Gutsche, but to state in my own way what occurs to me as being desirable, and the reasons why some change or modification should be agreed by us.

1. MINISTERIAL INCAPACITY

Let us take a case in which a minister is found incapable, though perhaps lack of experience, of managing the business affairs of the Church; or, as sometimes happens, individuals in the Church, for some reason or other, bring charges against the minister or endeavouring to make his position uncomfortable. In either cases there is no outside appeal allowed. The minister must go on mismanaging Church affairs and bringing about ruin or chaos; or, on the other hand, these persons, who may have in reality a just case or not, can persist in a course of persecution to the scandal of religion and the utter breaking up of the Church. If the Church requests permission to

refer the matter to the whole brotherhood or its representatives the minister can absolutely refuse - or if the minister on the other hand desires it the Church is entitled to disallow it. Have we not suffered in the past? Have not some of our Churches been well nigh wrecked, and though the intervention of the Executive has been in some cases asked for, neither minister nor congregation is *bound* to accept its decisions. I do not doubt the Scripturalness of Congregationalism, but I distinctly believe it is a *wrong interpretation of it* when such things can be allowed, and surely it is not in accord with the spirit of God.

2. APPOINTING PASTORS

Then in regard to the appointment of Pastors, we say and rightly that the Church alone and no outside body, has the absolute voice in this matter. If the Church decides to elect one of its own members to the office of Pastor it is perfectly justified in doing so. In this no one has the right of interference. But there are occasions in which the absolute exercise of the right may be distinctly unwise and probably fraught with serious issues. There may be men in the country claiming to be Baptist Ministers holding no credentials but making the claim nevertheless; and as no certificate of standing or fitness is required, and as the Church is perfectly autonomous, no reasons exist why such men may not be approached by the Church, and on acceptance given, and at once a ministerial status is assumed. It is too late for any interference, or advice and counsel; the mischief is done and the scandal occasioned.

In making those suggestions I no doubt bring to your minds actual instances; and if any people have suffered through this very thing we have, and to my thinking the time has come for some change or modification, of which more anon.

3. NEW FIELDS OF LABOUR

Then in regard to new Fields of Labour, - In this no doubt we have acted to some extent on lines other than Congregationalism is supposed to recognize. We have sent men forth to labour because we have deemed the openings sufficiently promising to warrant it. But our "principles" require that persons in sympathy with our views should bond together to seek a minister for themselves and act absolutely on their own initiative. I thank God that we have not in every instance waited for this, or today there would have been but little growth to chronicle. But not nearly all has been done in this that should have been. The true spirit of the New Testament requires that preachers should be *sent forth* to preach and evangelise wherever men live that need it, and if any people have a right to do this and to be first in the field with the message, sure we are out to claim that honour. What are the facts? We have generally been last in the big centres of population, and when these have been occupied it has been sometimes with men acting upon their own impulse, and whose past history to say the least has been altogether against making success probable. I do not want to specify instances, but there is one with which I am very familiar whose history has been one of constant trouble simply on account of the conditions which have been allowed to obtain.

Now without doing violence to the basis upon which our Union is founded, or to the principles we are supposed to recognize,

WHAT IS SUGGESTED AS A REMEDY?

Let us take the probable case I have suggested first of all, viz., of a Church becoming dissatisfied with, or making charges against a Pastor, or of an incompetent Pastor bringing trouble and scandal upon the Church through lack of judgement or unfitness to rule. I would propose the appointment of a committee, says the Executive of the Union for the time being, to whom the

Minister should at once apply so that his case might be dealt with by his ministerial brethren, and I would so provide that the Church should be bound to recognize this right and to accept the decision of the committee as final. Trumpery charges are sometimes made with which it may be very difficult for the Minister to deal, with the result that publicity is occasioned and exaggerated accounts are circulated at street corners to be scandal of religion. The Church too should have the same right of appeal for its protection in the case of an incompetent Pastor, and the decision should be the same. In order for this to be carried into effect I would have a document drawn up in proper form, on the basis of these suggestions, to be submitted to the individual Churches for their acceptance, and this document should be kept with the Church records, and every member on joining should be made acquainted with its contents. Every new Church formed should also be required to accept it.

Then in regard to the appointment of Pastors. Every Independent, Church certainly has the right of selection for itself, but I would suggest that in every case the Committee as above should be communicated with, so that it might be able, if it possessed any information which would make such selection undesirable, to state the nature of such information before any invitation is issued; and in no case should a Church approach a brother who is being partly supported by the Union without the full consent and authority of the Executive Committee. I would also provide that any Church receiving aid from the Union should be required to obtain the Executive's permission before inviting any particular person to become its Pastor, and that any Church neglecting to do this shall in no case be aided by the Union's Funds.

I would also supply every minister in recognized standing with a document something after the style in vogue in America, signed by the President and Secretary of the Union, which shall be proof of his ministerial status in the Baptist denomination; and if at any time he should prove incapable the Union shall have the right to withdraw the same; and only upon such terms should the document be issued. This I think will be a safeguard both to the minister and to the denomination.

Then in regard to new fields of labour, let us abandon the old idea of waiting for congregations to form themselves, and let us send men forth, as we are able, fully authorised to establish new enterprises, for the field is an ever growing one and the needs are ever increasing. We are glad at what we have been able to attempt already, but we want to go on to greater things. Our history is a brave one. Our principles we claim to be founded upon the Word of God alone. No hardship will be experienced by the conditions which these suggestions require. We ought to be stronger than we are. Our teachings only need to be intelligently known to commend them to the acceptance of the people. Loyalty to the old Book as containing our only basis of faith and practice we have always chained. We have nothing to fear. This country is open to us. The need of the old Gospel is as great as ever it was, and wherever it is faithfully preached it finds acceptance. Our only desire is to make our equipment more complete, our methods more suitable to the conditions of the country, and I see a glorious future for our Churches.

We do not exist to spread merely an idea; it is that a full unfettered message should be told to the people, and nothing of the will of God concealed. We have no need to be ashamed of our history or our principles. Let us be faithful to them. Let our preachers give forth no uncertain sound. We have no great inducements to offer in the shape of large incomes and easy livings. We have no openings for lazy men, but we have the truth and we must tell it. Tradition holds no place in our preaching. We claim to be Bible Christians only, and on that everlasting basis we hope to rear a structure which shall be our Maker's praise, and the glory of His cause.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1896-1897, pp. 9-13.)

12. Annuity Fund (1896)

A report and constitution were submitted by the members appointed for the purpose. The proposed Constitution having been discussed seriatim, it was adopted as follows:-

1. **Name** be the "S.A. Baptist Minister's Annuity Fund."
Objects be
 - (a) To aid members when incapacitated for work.
 - (b) To aid deceased member's widows or families if possible.
 - (c) Membership should be composed of all ministerial members of the Union who pay the subscription.
 - (d) Should any member discontinue his subscription for two years in succession or leave the Denomination he causes to be a member, but is entitled to receive a third of the amount he has paid.
 - (e) Rate of Subscription be £2 2s. per annum.
 - (f) **Benefits** (i) For first five years no disbursements to be made.
(ii) Amount granted to depend on the sum subscribed.
(iii) In case of member dying without having received any annuity a sum of £10 be paid for funeral expenses.
 - (g) Infirm and aged members recipient of the fund cease to subscribe, as also after forty years subscription.
 - (h) A member is considered disabled for active work when by age, sickness or infirmity he is unable to earn £80 per annum.
 - (i) If a member is under fifty and in the judgement of the Executive of this Fund well able to obtain a living in an honorable and honest calling, then he shall not receive the full amount to which he would be otherwise entitled, but not less than half.
 - (j) After sixty-five years the invalidity is not to be proven.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1895-1896, p. 19.)

13. Incorporation (1898)

During his visit to England, the Secretary had interviews with Dr. Booth and other officials of the Home Union, and received valuable information and advice on the subject of incorporation. It was deemed inadvisable to proceed further with this work without some guarantee from a majority of our churches that the Incorporated Union would be accepted by them as trustees of the property held in South Africa by and for the denomination.

A plan, based upon the deed of the incorporation of the home union, has been drawn up, and a circular will be sent to each Church in this Union submitting this plan, and asking if the church would constitute the Incorporated Union its Trustee. A copy of the Model Trust Deed in use in Great Britain, has also been obtained, and is available for new churches, or for any which have occasion to alter their present Trust-deeds.

(Source: BU Handbook of 1898-1899, p. 17.)

14. *The XXII Annual Assembly ... opened at Pretoria by His Honour, S. J. P. Kruger, Staats President (1899)*

To him the retiring President, the Rev G. W. Cross, addressed these words:

YOUR HONOUR,

It is a great pleasure to us that you honour our Union by your presence at its first Assembly in the South African Republic.

We are of English and German speech, but we are one with you in the worship and service of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Many of us were born in South Africa, most of us have lived in it a long time and all of us love it. We count it our highest privilege to labour in it and to seek its good always.

We have seen the marvellous rise of this State, have noted its wonderful deliverances, and have honoured in you, Sire, a strong, God-fearing ruler - one entrusted by God with the sword of the State-called to be God's Minister to this people for good. We have rejoiced in you as an upholder of our precious Protestant Faith, and have noted with joy your service and support of your own Puritan Church.

We are here to co-operate with Your Honour in all work for the People's good. We know that a state, like a man, is only strong through purity, only exalted by righteousness.

May God spare you long and guide you and your beloved people in prosperous ways. May He give you power over the hearts of men, that you may heal the breaches between the peoples, and may He bless the land with Peace.

The President replied to the following effect, addressing the whole congregation:-

BROTHERS, SISTERS, AND REVD. GENTLEMEN, -

I call you brothers and sisters because you believe with me in Christ. When I see how the Gospel is being spread, I think of the words, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring messages of peace." Those words are dear to me, and I rejoice to see the fulfilment of the Word. This is the peace which our Lord Jesus Christ brought to us. Who can describe the inward feeling of the disciples when the angels brought the tidings, "Christ has risen from the dead?" for it meant the salvation of the sinner from the bonds of sin. After that first Easter, the Apostles spoke to everyone in his own tongue. Churches were founded, and the Gospel began to be preached among all the nations of the earth. And if we look at the events which have taken place, under the guidance of the Almighty, since that period, then we see that it was the dawn of a new era in the history of the world. Notwithstanding that the unbelievers persecuted the Christians, the course of the Gospel could not be impeded, and although subordinate differences arose between the Churches-the one understanding the Word in a different sense from the other - the Christians became more and more united by the one great subject; and, as long as the Churches adhere to the Word of God and Jesus Christ, they will continually grow in unanimity as regards the way in which the Gospel must be understood; and I believe that the day will come to pass when all will understand it in the same light: then all will unite to work together for the suppression of sin, and the Churches will be one and indivisible. Then the four Angels, spoken of in the Apocalypse, as

standing at the four corners of the world, will prevent the winds from damaging a single tree - the trees representing the Churches on the earth, which will not be destroyed. John said: "And was there was war in heaven," but Satan will be bound and cast into the pit that the Churches may be sealed, and then comes the glorious state of the Church, the return of the Jews, the ingathering of the heathen, and all who shall be saved will then be in-and this will be the whole Israel who have struggled against sin. For this reason I am glad that I have been able to come here - to see and to feel that peace is preached also in this Church in the name of Christ. I am glad to think of the day when all Christians will understand the Word of God in the same light, and the Gospel of our Lord will be proclaimed all over the world. In the meantime we can always co-operate in love and peace, and where we differ we can always argue with each other in all brotherly love. As far as I know, the Baptist Churches preach the peace of Jesus Christ, and therefore they teach the true salvation. My desire is that everyone in this Republic should preach the Gospel, so that the name of my Saviour and the everlasting Gospel may be uplifted and made known to all who walk in the darkness and the shadow of death - to every nation and kindred, tongue and people - until the time shall come when everyone will understand the Word of God. This is what I wish also for the Baptist Church. Amen.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1899-1900, pp. 10-12.)

15. Examining Committee (1899)

This report, referring chiefly to the examination of Mr. Stofile in six subjects, in which good results were obtained, and recommending further instruction, especially in theology, was read and adopted.

The Committee having been instructed to draw up a three Years' Course of Study for (1) Native Evangelists; (2) Native and (3) European candidates for the Ministry, presented the same to the Assembly; whereupon it was resolved-

- (a) "That this Assembly approves of the general plan of study sketched by the Examining Committee. Before finally fixing the details thereof, however, it is advisable to compare it carefully with that adopted by other Societies; and the Committee is instructed to prepare a scheme in detail, after due comparison, with power to act, and report the same to next Assembly.
- (b) "That the Examining Committee be also instructed to prepare a set of questions to be answered by candidates for any ministerial office similar to those asked by Baptist Colleges previous to admission"

(Source: BU Handbook for 1899-1900, p. 57.)

16. Annuity Fund (1899)

The report of the Committee recommended the abandonment of the scheme and the formation in its place of a Ministers' Relief Fund.

Mr .T .B. King objected, and offered £50 to start the Fund, with the suggestion of obtaining additional help from a share in the Twentieth Century Fund. This was gratefully accepted, and it being heartily resolved to proceed with the establishment of the fund, a new Committee was elected *vide. ante*.

Resolved, - "That in the Rule 6 of the Baptist Annuity Fund, the words '£1 per annum' be substituted for '15/- per quarter,' and '10/- extra for each year above 28 years of age' for '£1 extra.'

Resolved, - "That it be an instruction to the Annuity Committee to enquire into the subject of purchasing Government Annuities for our Ministers: this to be seen to in the event of the Annuity Fund not being continued."

Resolved, - "That before any more members are accepted as 'benefiting members' of the Annuity Fund, the whole question of payments be considered by the new Committee.

Resolved, - "That the new Secretary and Treasurer of the Fund be elected by the new Committee."

(Source: BU Handbook for 1899-1900, pp. 57-58.)

17. Loyal Address to the King (1901)

Moved by the President, and adopted by the whole Assembly rising and signing the National Anthem.

**TO HIS MAJESTY KING EDWARD VII, BY THE GRACE OF GOD KING
OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND,
EMPEROR OF INDIA, DEFENDER OF THE FAITH,
ETC., ETC.**

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY, -

We the members of the 23rd Annual Assembly of the Baptist Union of South Africa, representing the members of all the British, German, and Native Baptist Churches of Your Majesty's South African Colonies, take the first opportunity afforded us of approaching Your Majesty to express the sense of loss which we share with the whole Empire through the death of our late Sovereign, Her Most Gracious Majesty, Queen Victoria, of ever blessed memory, and to offer your Majesty and all the Royal Family, our deep sympathy in this bereavement. We desire to declare our loyalty to your Majesty's Throne and Person and to express the confidence we have that our ancient liberties in things pertaining to conscience and religious worship will be upheld by Your Majesty. We pray that God may long spare Your Majesty, and our beloved Queen, Your Majesty, and our beloved Queen, Your Majesty's Consort, to reign over us, and that He may continue to prosper, and bless this Great Empire.

(Signed,
ERNEST BAKER, *President*.
GEORGE W. CROSS, *Hon Sec.*
Grahamstown, C. C.
May 16th, 1901.

Proposed by Mr. H. Hall, seconded by Mr. T. B. King; and carried:- "That the loyal address to the King be transcribed on parchment, and signed by the President and the Hon. Sec. and forwarded to His Excellency the Governor for transmission."

(Source: BU Handbook for 1900-1903, pp. 84-85.)

18. Formation of Society of Aid (1901)

The following two Resolutions were laid before the Assembly from the Gold Fields Baptist Missionary Society: "That this Committee suggests to the Baptist Union of South Africa, that the Board of Reference, which represents in England the Missionary Work of the Troyeville Church, should form the nucleus of a larger Board to represent the work of the Colonial Churches, the South African Baptist Missionary Society, and the Gold Fields Baptist Missionary Society, and that we place this organisation in the hands of the Baptist Union of South Africa on the condition that the first £200 of the annual receipts is guaranteed for the support of European Missionary to the Natives on the Rand, and also that should the income exceed £600 per annum the Gold Fields Baptist Missionary Society have a third share of the income with each of the other two bodies named."

"This Board recommends to the Baptist Union of South Africa that a new Board should be nominated by the Union which should be representative of the Baptist Churches of the Transvaal, and which should superintend all Missionary Work of the Denomination in that Colony, and report annually to the Assembly."

The following recommendations of the Executive were submitted, and discussed, viz.:-

This Assembly having received certain suggestions from the Board of Management of the Gold Fields Baptist Missionary Society welcomes their co-operation and resolves as follows:-

- I. — That in order to create an interest amongst the Churches of Great Britain and Ireland in the work of the Baptist Denomination in South Africa and to collect and forward funds in aid of the European, and Native work of the South African Baptist Union, steps be taken to form in Great Britain and Ireland a South African Baptist Union and Missionary Aid Society.
- II. — That such a Society form a Board of Reference with which the Baptist Union of South African could correspond to obtain suitable men, as Missionaries, and also represent the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland.
- III. — That we request the President of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland, The Rev. Dr. Maclaren, the Revs. Dr. Clifford, Thomas Spurgeon, Samuel Vincent, William Cuff, J. H. Shakespeare, Hugh D. Brown, Principal Edwards, F. H. Roberts and Ralph Holme, with the Revs. J. E. Ennals, and T. Chapman to form themselves into such a society with power to add to their numbers
- IV. — That these resolutions be conveyed to the gentlemen named, and that the work of gathering their answers be entrusted to the Revs J. E. Ennals, and T. Chapman, who are hereby empowered to take the necessary steps to organize the Society.
- V. — That the promotion of the work in the Transvaal and Orange River Colonies be a first charge upon all moneys collected by the Society up to June 30th, 1902.
- VI. — That from and after July 1st 1902, the Gold Fields Auxiliary of the South African Baptist Missionary Society have the first £200 per annum for two years, and that all above that amount be apportioned as the Assembly shall from time to time determine.
- VII. — That an Auxiliary Committee of the South African Baptist Missionary Society be formed which shall be representative of the Baptist Churches of the Transvaal, and which shall

superintend as far as possible all the Missionary work of the Denomination in that Colony and report from time to time to the South African Baptist Missionary Society.

- VIII. — That one representative from each of the three bodies named, be elected to form a Committee to collect, and forward information concerning the work in South Africa for circulation in Great Britain.

The above were discussed *seriatim* by the whole assembly in Committee after which Mr. T. B. King, J. P., proposed, and the Rev. T. Perry seconded, that they be adopted.

Carried unanimously.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1900-1903, pp. 85-87.)

19. Report on Formation of the South African Colonial and Missionary Aid Society (1902)

*To the South African Baptist Union
Meeting at Cape Town, October 1902*

Dear Brethren, -

It falls to my lot to have the honour of reporting to the Baptist Union of the formation in England of the Baptist South African Colonial and Missionary Aid Society, according to Resolutions passed by the Baptist Union of South Africa assembled at Grahamstown, May 1901.

In accordance with the desires expressed, your representatives (then in England) Rev. J. E. Ernals, Thos. Chapman and Ralph Holme, being empowered to act in the name of the Union decided upon a course of action which brought about the result already seen in the young but vigorous Society which promises to render valuable assistance to Baptist Colonial and Missionary work throughout South Africa.

My report will be divided into three divisions:-

1. — Formation.
2. — Constitution.
3. — Objects of the Society.

1. THE FORMATION

The first step taken to form the Society, was to personally interview the gentlemen named by the Union, and other leading men likely to be of service to the Society. We first saw Rev. J. H. Shakespeare, Secretary of the Baptist Union of Great Britain. He expressed his entire approval of the formation of the Colonial Society, and further his hearty cooperation and support as a member of the Board of Directors of the proposed Society. He promised to arrange for the new Society to be introduced for denominational recognition at the forthcoming Annual Meetings, and for a representative from South Africa to speak at the Ecumenical Meeting to be held in Edinburgh.

In the interviews with Revs. Dr. Clifford, S. Vincent, F. B. Meyer, W. Cuff, Principal Edwards, Alderman George White and others, it was evident that the psychological moment for the formation of such a Society had come. Most of them lamented the fact that the Colonies had been

so overlooked, and all promised their hearty co-operation in a Society which would express the oneness of the Denomination and federate Baptists in a Union of helpful Brotherhood.

The greatest importance was attached to the selection of a secretary and in this as in most of the work, the knowledge and influence of Rev. Ralph Home was incalculable. Upon his suggestion we interviewed Mr. R. Howard Henson, a staunch Baptist, a most earnest Christian, and one possessing organizing ability in the highest degree. Mr. Henson was led to consider the work, and consented to be nominated as Secretary, feeling that the work was a special call from God and that he dared not refuse.

The inaugural meeting of the Society was held on September 16th, 1901, in the Library of the Baptist Mission House, Fumival Street, London. The afternoon selected proved not to be favourable for a large gathering as had been anticipated, but there was no disappointment in its outcome.

There were present, Rev. J. R. Wood, (then Vice-President of the Baptist Union) who presided as Chairman, Revs. S. Vincent, J. W. Ewing, M. A., B. D., R.S. Fleming, M. A., R. O. Johns, F. Thomson, and Mr. R. Howard Henson. As representing Africa, Mr. T. B. King, Rev. T. Chapman & Rev. R. Holme, then Pastor Elect for Bloemfontein.

Letters of apology for absence were received from Revs. Dr. Clifford, J. H. Shakespeare, T. J. Stockley, B. J. Gibbon, Alderman George White, and the following letter from Rev. Dr. McLaren:- "Your letter has just reached me, and in reply I shall be glad to accede to your wish and to render any service in my power to the object you have in view. I gladly give my name for the Board of Reference."

The first business of the Meeting was to discuss the formation of the Colonial and Missionary Society. This was read and introduced by Mr. T. B. King, who further enlarged upon the need we had in Africa for help from Home; that we were the only Denomination not receiving outside assistance, and that the time had come when without real help our Denomination must fail to discharge its full responsibilities. After discussion in which considerable interest was manifested a Resolution was passed as follows;- "That in compliance with the request of the South African Baptist Union, a Society shall be and is hereby formed to further Baptist work in South Africa and in such ways as the members and officers of the Society may deem advisable; and it is further resolved that the Baptist Churches in Great Britain and Ireland be earnestly invited to give their hearty support to the work of this Society." (Moved by Rev. J. R. Wood. Seconded by Rev. J. W. Ewing).

It was decided that those present form themselves into a Board of Directors with power to elect their officers and Executive; and that the proceedings of the Meeting form a record of the formation of the Society.

The Rev. J. R. Wood was appointed Chairman of the Board of Directors, Rev. S. Vincent Vice-Chairman and Mr. R. Howard Henson, Honorary Secretary.

The following had been interviewed or corresponded with, and were elected tot he Board of Director:-

Rev. S. Baillie, H. D. Brown, Dr. Clifford, Dr. T. Ewing, R.S. Fleming, B. J. Gibbon, R. O. Johns, F.H. King, Dr. McLean, F. B. Meyer, J. H. Shakespeare, T. J. Stockley, F. Thomson, S. Vincent, and Messrs. R. Cory, A. Sharp, George White M. P., and R. Howard Henson, Hon.

The Rev. S. Vincent presented the following Resolution passed at a Special Meeting of the

Baptist Council, "That a small Committee be appointed to consider and report what, if anything, should be done to promote a closer union between the Baptists of the Colonies and ourselves, and especially to consider the present condition and future prospects of our brethren in South Africa, and to report thereon if possible at the next meeting of the Council."

It was resolved to request the Rev. Vincent to make known the formation of this Society which fully met the objects for which the Committee had been appointed by the Baptist Council, and to thank the Council for its consideration of the needs of South Africa.

In accordance with his promise the Rev. J. H. Shakespeare, arranged for time to be allowed at the *Ecumenical Council* held in Edinburgh during October 1901 and the following Resolution was passed_ "That this Council has heard with great satisfaction of the formation of the Baptist South African Colonial and Missionary Aid Society for the purpose of helping forward the work of God in South Africa among our own countrymen and other Europeans, and among the natives, and earnestly commends the work of this Society to the prayerful generous consideration of the Baptist Churches of Great Britain and Ireland."

At the great Ecumenical Meeting, the first of its kind ever held in connection with the Baptist Denomination, Africa's needs were forcibly presented by our present worthy President, Mr. T. B. King. In a ten minute speech (the longest time allowed) he described the noble struggles of the Baptists in South Africa and the vaster possibilities open to them upon the Proclamation of Peace; and urged the need of planting churches for Baptists who should settle in this country. At the close of the Meeting Dr. McLaren signalled out Mr. King's appeal for South Africa and forcibly urged it, saying: "I am especially desirous that the appeal in reference to the new Society, which were are forming with the hope of helping our friends in South Africa in their arduous and immense work, may be listened to generously, and responded to largely in our Denomination. Will you give it the consideration which it deserves?"

The final stage in the launching of the Society was grand reception given by Mr. T. B. King in the Holborn Restaurant, London, on December 17th, 1901. Invitations had been sent to all the leading Baptist ministers and laymen within an easy distance of the city, also to students of some of the London Baptist Colleges. There was a hearty response to the invitations and the elaborate arrangements in the gilded Hall were in perfect keeping with the glowing hopes held out to the New Society.

The speakers of the evening were Revs. J. R. Wood, S. Vincent, Chas. Spurgeon, and Mr. R. H. Henson. Africa being represented by Mr. King the worthy host, also Chairman, and Rev. T. Chapman. By this public reception the Society was formally launched and received the public recognition and warm support of the Denomination's leading representatives. The genial intercourse made possible by Mr. King's generosity did much to create new interest in our South African Churches.

II. THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY

The Society consists of a Board of Directors, with President, Vice-President, Secretary and an Executive.

There are at present thirty six members in all, seventeen of whom form the Executive.

A new rule has been passed according to which the Society shall be under the direction of a Board consisting of fifty members forty of whom, twenty -five ministers and fifteen laymen, shall be elected by Ballot at the Annual Meeting and ten shall be elected by the Board.

Scotland, Ireland and Wales are represented by one or more leading Baptists, also every Baptist College in Great Britain and Ireland has its Principal or a Professor as a member of the Board.

A further development of the Constitution is at present in progress, that is, to appoint ministers as county Secretaries in every county or collection of counties, who will undertake to organise meetings in every district, to appoint speakers, and in every church an Christian Endeavour, where possible, to appoint a collector for the Society. In time the Board of Directors will be largely composed of the county representatives.

A copy of the Rules as finally accepted at Board Meeting held in Holborn Restaurant, 17th December, 1901 is hereto attached.

III. THE OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY

The objects of the Society as stated on the above mentioned Rules are five in number and agree with the wishes of the Union as expressed in their resolution.

It was stated by the Board that they thought it necessary first to assist in re-starting those churches financially and otherwise affected through the war.

Further they desired to assist in aggressive work, keeping abreast if possible with the new development of the country.

Missionary work on a very large scale was considered necessary. It was referred to as work amongst the *Coloured Races* rather than among "Natives," so as to include Malays, Coolies, Chinese etc, amongst whom such work was urged as being necessary.

Then not only would they seek to appoint ministers, when requested to do so, for vacant pastorates in South Africa, but to interest students in the Colleges by arranging special meetings when the needs of the country and the opportunities for talented, men in the South African churches should be made known. As a result an interest would be awakened even though they might not respond to our South African ministerial attractions.

A point for special attention is that all help is to be rendered in connection with and through the South African Baptist Union. The question was raised as to whether the Colonial Society should have power over the allocation of money collected. It was decided that the Colonial Society should not be merely collectors and forwarders of money without knowledge of the purpose for which it was to be used, but that such money would be forwarded to the South African Union response to definite requests for funds for specific objects.

The means being employed for raising money are:-

1. Appeals to all the churches for one Sunday to be set aside as Colonial Sunday when one or both of the collections should be given to the Colonial Society.

2. The Secretary has issued a little book in the form of "Share Certificates." These are shilling and sixpenny shares. These books are to be used in Christian Endeavour Societies, and systematic visitation will be arranged by the County Secretaries. Mr. Henson was hopeful enough to anticipate an income of £1,000 a year through the Share Certificates when properly circulated. The great drawback to the financial success of the Society in its initiation was the 20th Century Fund which even now is a severe drain on even the strongest churches.

3. A third means by which money will be raised is by lectures on Religious Life and Work in South Africa illustrated by lime-light views. I was able to leave for the use of the Society a collection of the most typical and interesting slides, taken or collected by myself, and showing South African towns and cities, our churches and ministers, natives in the towns, on the mines and in their kraals. To accompany the slides I also wrote a lecture to be printed and used, if thought advisable, by the lecturers.

Because of its important bearing upon ourselves we should not overlook the arrangement made with Mr. Shakespeare for the Column in the *Baptist Times and Freeman* to be devoted to *South African News and Notes for Baptists*.

It is evident that by this means the most vital sections of our work will be laid before the public each week. I have reason to know that this is one of the most eagerly read columns in the paper, and if we wish to retain the ear of the public and to increase its interest, this column must be made bright and vigorous, and represent every phase of our work and need. In this way, more than in any other, it is possible for us to strengthen the hands of our Secretary and to appeal through him to hearts still needing the quickening life of awakened sympathies.

THOMAS CHAPMAN.
Troyeville, Johannesburg, Transvaal,
6th October, 1902

(Source: BU Handbook for 1900-1903, pp. 114-119.)

20. Rules as altered and finally adopted by Board, December 17th, 1901

1. The name of the Society shall be The Baptist South African Colonial and Missionary Aid Society.
2. The objects of the Society shall be:
 - (a) To assist financially, and otherwise, through the South African Baptist Union, the existing Churches of the Baptist denomination in South Africa.
 - (b) To assist in planting and sustaining new Baptist Churches in connection with the South African Baptist Union.
 - (c) To assist the South African Baptist Union in carrying on and extending Baptist Missionary work among the Coloured Races, of South Africa.
 - d) To secure for the furtherance of Baptist work in South Africa the services of Ministers and others in this country.
 - e) To represent in this country the interest of South African Baptist work generally.
3. Annual subscribers of One Guinea and upwards (or if Ministers, half a guinea) Collectors of Two Guineas and upwards, Ministers of Churches and Superintendents or Secretaries of Sunday Schools, and other organizations contributing an Annual Collection, shall be members of the Society during the continuance of such subscription or collection.
4. An Annual Meeting of the Members of the Society shall be held in London, at the time of the Spring Assembly of the Baptist Union, when a Report of the proceedings of the Society together with a Financial Statement shall be presented, Members of the Board and Officers of the Society elected, and other usual and necessary business transacted.

5. The work of the Society shall be under the direction of a Board consisting of fifty members, forty (of whom twenty-five ministers and fifteen laymen,) shall be elected by ballot at the Annual Meeting, and ten co-opted Ministers and laymen of the Baptist denomination, who shall be elected by Ballot at the Annual Meeting; this Board shall appoint from their own number certain members to act as an Executive, for the transaction of the affairs of the Society.
6. In the carrying out of the objects of the Society, the Board shall disseminate information, issue appeals, send out deputations, and arrange for Meetings, and take such other steps as may appear advisable.
7. These rules shall not be altered or added to except at an Annual Meeting, or at a special meeting called for that purpose.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1900-1903, p. 120.)

21. Resolutions re The Aid Society (1902)

I. __ "That this Assembly records its grateful thanks to Almighty God for the establishment of the Baptist S.A. Colonial Missionary and Aid Society in Great Britain, and devoutly prays that He may bless it to the saving of thousands in Africa."

II. __ "That this Assembly hereby records its appreciation of the great services rendered in the formation of the Baptist S.A.C.M.A.S., by the Rev. Samuel Vincent, in bringing our needs directly before the Baptist Council; by the Revs. T. Chapman and Ralph Holme, and Mr. T. B. King in the work of organising the committee; by the Rev. J. H. Shakespeare, Rev. J. R. Wood, and Dr. McLaren in their cordial support in the Union Assembly and Press; and by Mr. R. H. Henson in his earnest and continuous labour as hon. Secretary.

III. __ "That a corresponding secretary be appointed whose duties shall be to collect news and forward each week for information and publication in Great Britain, and that communications for the Colonial and Missionary Aid Society, or for publication in the column devoted to its advocacy in the *Baptist Times and Freeman* be forwarded through him. This offer will also supply unpublished news to the editor of the *S.A. Baptist*.

III. ___ "That all applications to Baptist S.A.C.M.A.S., for monetary aid from churches, associations, and societies go through the Union by its executive."

V. __ "That the Assembly hereby brings to the notice of the South African Churches that the Baptist S.A.C.M.A.S. will act as a board of reference, to whom they may refer the question of the selection of pastors, and such work."

(Source: BU Handbook for 1900-1903, p. 145.)

22. Organizing Secretary (1902)

The following message was received from the President:

"Think assembly should most seriously consider advisability appointing forthwith permanent organizing ministerial secretary for union and missionary oversight. Regard Mr. Perry as most suitable, but fear Kingwilliamstown Church could not spare him. Perhaps, however, could be

arranged for him frontier headquarters until volume work drifts northward. The union must make it financially worth while any strong suitable minister making appointment. Believe would give denomination wonderful uplift and foster an evangelistic mission enterprise. Office would furnish much regulating visiting work and gain for union by-and bye vastly more than stipend paid. We want secretary who could do for us what Secretaries Baynes and Shakespeare do for Home Mission Society and Union. If assembly will make experiment I will gladly give £50 annually towards stipend. I personally regard appointment essential development.

Resolved: "That in the event of the Rev. T. Perry being appointed as organizing secretary by the executive of the Baptist Union of South Africa an the Missionary Society during the current year, at a salary of, say £350 per annum, the treasurer may pay out of Union funds a sum not exceeding £125 towards the organizing secretary's salary.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1903-1906, pp. 146-147.)

23. Constitution of the Baptist Union as amended up to 24th October, 1905

I.-- Name

"The Baptist Union of South Africa"

II. -- CONSTITUTION

The Union shall comprise all such existing churches as shall agree to unite for the attainment of its objects, and such persons and churches as shall be hereafter admitted according to its rules.

III.-- DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLE

While the Union is composed of churches and individuals holding the immersion of believers to be the only Christian Baptism, it fully recognises the right of every separate Church to interpret and administer in and for itself the laws of Christ.

IV.-- OBJECTS OF THE UNION

1. To promote unity and brotherly love among its members.
2. To promote the evangelisation of the country.
3. To disseminate Baptist principles.
4. To plant and assist churches in which those principles shall be or have been adopted.
5. To obtain accurate information respecting the organisation and work of the Churches.
6. To combine the efforts of the churches and in all matters affecting the general welfare of the denomination.
7. To maintain the right of all men everywhere to freedom from legal disadvantage in matters purely religious.

8. To confer and cooperate with other Christian communities as occasion may require.

V.-- OPERATIONS

This Union shall act by its Assembly and through its Executive.

VI.-- THE ASSEMBLY

1. The Assembly shall comprise:-

- a. Ministers and Evangelists.

- b. Delegates of Associated Churches and Delegates of Territorial Associations of Churches of our own faith and order. Churches of fewer than 100 members may send one delegate; of 100 or more, two delegates. District Associations shall be entitled to send two delegates to the Union.

- c. Personal voting members and honorary (or no-voting) members. Personal members shall be Baptists, though not necessarily connected with a Baptist Church, who shall be recommended to the Union by three of its members and accepted by the Assembly. Honorary members shall be chosen by a resolution of the Assembly on the recommendation of the Executive.

All delegates shall be duly appointed annually, and their appointment duly accredited and notified to the Secretary before the meeting of the General Assembly.

2. The application of any church for admission to this Union shall be laid before the Executive and submitted to the Assembly.
3. The Assembly shall meet annually, at such time and place as shall be laid appointed by it from year to year; or when and where convened at the direction of the Executive, or upon the requisition of a majority of its members.

VII.-- THE EXECUTIVE

1. *The Executive* shall consist of the office-bearers, and four members of the Union, who shall be elected annually, together with the Chairmen of the affiliated Associations, as *ex officio* members. Four members shall form a quorum.

2. *The Officers* of the Union shall be the President, Vice-President, Ex-President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

3. Duties of the Executive:-

- (a) To prepare the business for the Assembly.

- (b) To carry out the resolutions of the Assembly.

- (c) To collect and disburse the funds according to vote, or by resolution of the Executive to be confirmed at the ensuing Assembly.

- (d) To select and direct new fields of labour for the time being.

- (e) To form a board of reference for churches and ministers who may desire counsel.

- (f) To present to the Assembly a financial statement and a report of the year's work which, having been adopted, shall be printed and circulated with a digest of the proceedings of the Annual Assembly.

VIII— ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION

No proposal for change in this Constitution shall be entertained without one year's notice, given in writing, at the annual Assembly, and published as the Assembly direct.

BYE-LAWS

I. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

All officers of the Union shall be elected at each Annual Meeting of the Assembly, the Vice-President (who shall be the President the following year) by triple ballot without nomination, and the other officers by single ballot if more than one member has been nominated for any office.

II. NOTICES OF MOTION

In order to facilitate the arrangement of business, notices of motions, signed by the proposer, must be forwarded, in writing, to the Secretary at least 14 days before the Meeting of the Assembly.

Other notices of motion, being given in writing, shall be considered after those given above, and in the order of their presentation to the Secretary.

III. FINANCE

Each Church represented in the Union shall contribute £2 annually to the funds of the Union.

Personal members shall be required to subscribe not less than £2 annually, and honorary members not less than 10/- annually.

Subscriptions shall be due and payable within six months from the date of the Assembly last held. Two auditors for the ensuing year shall be appointed by resolution at the annual meeting of the Assembly.

IV. COMMITTEES

To facilitate and prepare its business the Assembly may appoint Committees.

The Convener and *quorum* shall be fixed by the Assembly.

The object of each committee shall be defined in its appointment.

Minutes of all acts in committee shall be kept in writing and ready for use in the Assembly.

The Report of each committee shall be given in writing and signed by its Chairman.

V. ASSOCIATIONS

(i) Churches within a given territorial area being voluntarily united for the purposes of fellowship and Church extension may be recognised by the Union as District Associations.

(ii) Each such Association shall be self-governing within the field of its own operations.

(iii) Each Association shall contribute to the funds of the Union the sum of not less than £5 per annum, and have the right to send two delegates to the Annual Assembly of the Union.

(iv) All Churches within the Association shall report to the Union through the Association Secretary.

(v) All affiliations to the Union for grants in aid from Churches within the Associations shall be made through the Association Assembly.

(vi) The Annual Report of each Association shall be forwarded to the Union Secretary one month before the Annual Assembly.

VIII. THE HANDBOOK

The matters to be published in the Handbook shall be determined by the Executive.

IX. ALTERATION OF BY-LAWS

No proposal to alter any of these Bye-Laws shall be entertained until after 21 days notice given in writing to the Secretary.

BOARD OF ARBITRATORS

Rules adopted by the Assembly at Pretoria, 1899.

1. The Board of Arbitrators shall consist of five members, including the President (convener), General Secretary, and three other members elected by the Assembly, of whom three shall form a *quorum*.
2. The Board of Arbitrators shall undertake the reference of any dispute arising within or respecting any church in the Baptist Union which shall be duly submitted to it by the parties.
3. The Board of Arbitrators may delegate to any one or more of its members the duty of making investigations or taking evidence, but every award shall be the act of the Board, and shall be signed by at least three members on behalf of the whole.
4. The award of the Board of Arbitrators shall be final.
5. The Board of Arbitrators may from time to time make By-Laws for the management of its business, and particularly may require of applicants a deposit for payment of necessary expenses as a preliminary condition of reference.

BOARD OF REFERENCE

FOR AIDED CHURCHES AND MINISTERIAL RECOGNITION

Rules adopted by the Assembly at Pretoria, 1899

1. A church or congregation receiving or applying for aid from the Union shall be expected to refer to this Board previous to the settlement of any Pastor, and failing to do so is liable to forfeit the pecuniary assistance voted.

2. A church or congregation aided by the Union is also expected to submit to this Board plans and particulars of buildings projected by them.
3. This Board, after satisfying itself of a candidate's call to the ministry, shall help him thereto, and if possible obtain for him collegiate training. It shall also guard the pastoral office as far as possible from the unworthy and unqualified.
4. The Board, impressed with the great importance of devout caution and judgement in the choice of a Pastor, strongly advise the Churches to appoint as Pastor no man lacking either ministerial recognition by some known association of Baptist Churches, or college training, without previous consultation with the Board.
5. This Board shall be available for advice to churches seeking Pastors, and as a medium for the introduction of Pastors to churches.

**RULES FOR AUXILLIARIES
OF THE
SOUTH AFRICAN BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY**

1. Churches within a given territorial area uniting together for the furtherance of Missionary work may be recognised as an Auxiliary of the S.A.B.M.S.
2. Each Missionary Auxiliary shall be self-governing.
3. Each Auxiliary shall contribute to the funds of the S.A.B.M.S. ten per cent of its entire income, the minimum being £20 per annum. All moneys contributed by Churches, Church organisations, or individuals within the sphere of an Auxiliary, ear-marked for the SABMS, shall be forwarded through the District Auxiliary.
4. Auxiliaries shall not appoint Missionaries without first submitting the appointment for the approval of the Parent Society; but they may appoint Evangelists subject to the confirmation of the Parent Society.
5. No Missionary Auxiliary shall make any appeal for funds outside its own district except through the Parent Society, nor shall the Parent Society appeal to the churches except through the District Auxiliaries.
6. The Annual Report of each Auxiliary shall be submitted to the Parent Society at least a month before the Annual Assembly.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1903-1906, pp. 5-10.)

24. Loan Fund (1905)

The following Sub-Committee was appointed to consider the administration of a Loan Fund to be raised by the Aid Society, and to arrange for guarantors:- Messrs. Greenwood White (Convener). E. Pickering, T. H. Grocott, H. Schmidt, C. E. Nelson, and G. W. Blackburn. The Committee subsequently presented a Report, recommending –

- (i) That the offer of the Aid Society be adopted, provided the money can be obtained in amount of £500 or multiples of £500 as required.

(ii) That representations be made to the Aid Society that, for the purpose of relieving some of our existing Churches who are paying high rates of interest on their buildings, the administrators of the funds should have discretion to advance sums to these Churches on the security of their immovable property.

(iii) That the administration of the funds be vested in the guarantors with three members of the Executive. The President promised on receiving the form of guarantee required by the Aid Society.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1903-1906, pp. 64-65.)

25. Annuity and Insurance Fund (1905)

This scheme of the Executive for this Fund was introduced by Rev A. Hall.

It was proposed by Rev. J.J. Doke, and seconded by Rev. R. Holme,- "That we adopt a scheme for insurance and annuity."

The following amendment was proposed by Mr. G.W. Blackburn, and seconded by Mr. Webber:-

"That the question of Ministerial Insurance be deferred until the next meeting of the Assembly, and that each Church be requested to express its approval or disapproval of some such scheme. That in the meantime the Executive is empowered to obtain an actuary's report on the scheme outlined by the Executive."

The amendment was lost-for 8, against 27-and the original motion was carried.

The scheme was subsequently withdrawn by the Executive, but was re-introduced by the wish of the Assembly, and passed as follows:-

A. That the objects of this scheme shall be-

1. The accumulation of £1,000 as a nucleus for an Annuity Fund.
2. To ensure that every Minister-in-charge and Missionary shall have his life insured for at least £250.
3. To assist in paying the annual premiums on Ministers' and Missionaries' life policies.
4. To create an Emergency Fund under the control of the Executive to be applied to special cases of sickness or death.

B. The Fund to be called the Baptist Union Annuity and Insurance Fund.

1. Income to be derived from interest on capital in hand, legacies, personal donations, Church collections and one percent of the whole Union and Missionary revenue of each year.
2. The Annuity nucleus to mature in the hands of the Treasurer.
3. The Emergency Reserve to mature in the hands of the Treasurer.
4. An equal annual distribution to be made by the vote of the Assembly each year in aid of premiums.
5. All legacies to go to the Annuity Nucleus, except where otherwise assigned by the donors.
6. All personal contributions to be allocated according to the wish assigned by the donors
7. Every Church in the Union shall be asked to contribute a Communion or other

collection to the Union Annuity and Insurance Fund, to be dealt with upon the following division:

- a. One-fifth to Emergency Reserve.
 - b. Two-fifths to the Annuity Nucleus.
 - c. Two-fifths to the Annual Distribution in aid of premiums.
8. All income derived from percentage on Union and Missionary revenue to be dealt with in the same manner as Church collections.

C. In order to participate in any Annual Distributions, each on a date to be fixed by Executive he was insured to the amount of £250 at least, naming the office, and stating the net annual amount payable on £250 only. Under this plan:

1. Every Minister or Missionary shall make his own arrangements as to his insurance policy.
2. No question shall arise as to whether the policy is weighted by added years or when it is terminable.
3. No Minister or Missionary shall be required to state if his insurance is for more than £250 or not.
4. Ministers-without-charge will have no title to the benefits of the Annual Distribution in aid of premiums, except by vote of the Assembly.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1903-1906, pp. 66-67.)

26. Church Property (1905)

Mr. C.E. Nelson moved and Mr. T. H. Grocott seconded the following resolutions:-

(i) That Churches and individuals applying for property or accepting property for or on behalf of the Baptist Denomination in any South African Colony report on the same to the Executive of Baptist Union of South Africa, or if there is a local Association, to such local Association, who shall see that such property is properly put in trust for the sole use of the Denomination.

Resolve to report to the Executive for consideration, with power to act.

(ii) That it be an instrument to the Executive that no grant be made to any Church holding or about to acquire property, until the Executive is satisfied that the title deeds are in order, and that the trust deed is properly drawn up, and that the property is so vested in trustees that it cannot be alienated from the Denomination without the consent of the Executive.

Resolved to refer to the Executive for consideration, with power to act.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1903-1906, p. 70.)

27. Recognition of Native Ministers (1905)

Whereas the Baptist Union of South Africa has hitherto been frequently requested to give its Recognition, made necessary by the various Colonial Governments of South Africa, to certain Conventions, Associations, and Individuals engaged in Baptist Church work among the native peoples of South Africa, and especially by the National Baptist Convention and the Lott-Carey Convention of U.S. America, and by the South African Native Baptist Association.

The Union Assembly hereby resolves and declares that its method of extending sympathetic recognition to all such workers shall be by dealing with each applicant separately upon the following basis of mutual understanding and agreement: the Union covenanting and promising that the name of each applicant fulfilling the conditions shall be placed upon the Native Ministers Roll of the Baptist Union, which carries the recognition desired by the Government, and subject to revision at the roll-call of each Annual Assembly.

A. That any applicant working under any organised Convention or Society shall produce in support of his application. :-

1. A copy or evidence of an agreement between his Society and the Baptist Union of South Africa as to areas of work, to prevent overlapping and antagonistic spheres of Baptist operations.
2. The written endorsement of his application by his society.
3. The recommendation of two Ministers or members of the Baptist Union Assembly, whether officers or not.

B. That each applicant shall with regard to qualifications:-

1. Give or produce evidence that he has attained what is equal to a Fourth Standard Education.
2. Give or produce evidence of understanding the uses of, and his capacity to execute, documents such as Marriage Registers.

C. That these further conditions shall be operative:-

1. Each applicant shall only be accepted on the grounds of having embraced the Christian faith as held by Baptists and bearing a moral character that is free from open reproach.
2. Each applicant shall declare his personal and public influence to be free from sympathy with a movement known as "Ethiopianism."
3. Each applicant shall declare his refusal to demand the re-baptism of any baptised convert of any other Evangelical Baptist Church recognised by this Union.
4. Each applicant shall give assurance that his Church consents to receive upon transfer duly given the members of every other Church recognised by this Union.
5. Each accepted and approved Minister or Missionary shall furnish to the Union Secretary a statistical return of his work during the year according to Union rules and requirements.
6. No territorial association or individual minister can give a position equal to ministerial status to any person without the applicant's previous recognition by the Union under these regulations.

These recommendations were adopted by the Assembly on the motion of Rev. A. Hall, seconded by Mr. T.C. C. Sloane.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1903-1906, pp. 71-72.)

28. Training of Evangelists (1905)

Resolved:

1. The educational basis shall be the Fourth Standard.

2. That the Committee draw up an outline of doctrinal teaching for instructing Native Evangelists, and that the Gospel of Mark and Acts of the Apostles form the basis of examination as to Scripture knowledge.
3. The "Pilgrim's Progress" in Kafir and Vedder's "History of the Baptists" are also recommended for instruction and examination.
It is to be understood that Missionaries may appoint Missionary Lay-Helpers without the above qualifications, but these are the requirements for recognised Evangelists.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1903-1906, p. 82.)

29. Constitution of the Baptist Union as amended up to 17th October, 1906

I-- NAME

"THE BAPTIST UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA"

II - CONSTITUTION

The Union shall comprise all such existing churches as shall agree to unite for the attainment of its objects, and such persons and churches as shall be hereafter admitted according to its rules.

III-- DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLE

While this Union is composed of Churches and individuals holding the immersion of believers to be the only Christian Baptism, it fully recognises the right of every separate Church to interpret and administer in and for itself the laws of Christ.

IV.-- OBJECTS OF THE UNION

1. To promote unity and brotherly love among its members.
2. To promote the evangelisation of the country.
3. To disseminate Baptist principles
4. To plant and assist the churches in which those principles shall be or have been adopted.
5. To obtain accurate information respecting the organisation and work of the Churches.
6. To combine the efforts of the churches, and in all matters affecting the general welfare of the denomination.
7. To maintain the right of all men everywhere to freedom from legal disadvantage in matters purely religious.
8. To confer and cooperate with other Christian communities as occasion may require.

V.- OPERATIONS

This Union shall act by its Assembly and through its Executive.

VI.- THE ASSEMBLY

1. The Assembly shall comprise:-

- a. **Ministers and Evangelists.**
- b. **Delegates of Associated Churches and Delegates of Territorial Associations of Churches of our own faith and order. Churches of fewer than 100 members may send one delegate; of 100 or more, two delegates. District Associations shall be entitled to send two delegates to the Union.**
- c. **Personal voting members and honorary (or no-voting) members. Personal members shall be Baptists, though not necessarily connected with a Baptist Church, who shall be recommended to the Union by three of its members and accepted by the Assembly. Honorary members shall be chosen by a resolution of the Assembly on the recommendation of the Executive.**

All delegates shall be duly appointed annually, and their appointment duly accredited and notified to the Secretary before the meeting of the General Assembly.

2. **The application of any church for admission to this Union shall be laid before the Executive and submitted to the Assembly.**
3. **The Assembly shall meet annually, at such time and place as shall be laid appointed by it from year to year; or when and where convened at the direction of the Executive, or upon the requisition of a majority of its members.**

VII.- THE EXECUTIVE

1. **The Executive shall consist of the office-bearers, and four members of the Union, who shall be elected annually, together with the Chairmen of the affiliated Associations, as *ex officio* members. Four members shall form a quorum.**
2. **The Officers of the Union shall be the President, Vice-President, Ex-President, Treasurer, and Secretary.**
3. **Duties of the Executive:-**
 - (a) **To prepare the business for the Assembly.**
 - (b) **To carry out the resolutions of the Assembly.**
 - (c) **To collect and disburse the funds according to vote, or by resolution of the Executive to be confirmed at the ensuing Assembly.**
 - (d) **To select and direct new fields of labour for the time being.**
 - (e) **To form a board of reference for churches and ministers who may desire counsel.**
 - (f) **To present to the Assembly a financial statement and a report of the year's work, which, having been adopted, shall be printed and circulated with a digest of the proceedings of the Annual Assembly.**

VIII.-- ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION

No proposal for change in this Constitution shall be entertained without one year's notice, given in writing, at the annual Assembly, and published as the Assembly direct.

BYE-LAWS

I. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

All officers of the Union shall be elected at each Annual Meeting of the Assembly; the Vice-President (who shall be the President the following year) by triple ballot without nomination, and the other officers by single ballot if more than one member has been nominated for any office.

II. NOTICES OF MOTION

In order to facilitate the arrangement of business, notices of motions, signed by the proposer, must be forwarded in writing to the Secretary at least 14 days before the meeting of the Assembly.

Other notices of motion, being given in writing, shall be considered after those given above, and in the order of their presentation to the Secretary.

III. FINANCE

Each Church represented in the Union shall contribute £2 annually to the funds of the Union.

Personal members shall be required to subscribe not less than £2 annually, and honorary members 10/- annually.

Subscriptions shall be due and payable within six months from the date of the Assembly last held. Two auditors for the ensuing year shall be appointed by resolution at the annual meeting of the Assembly.

IV. COMMITTEES

To facilitate and prepare its business the Assembly may appoint Committees.

The Convener and *quorum* shall be fixed by the Assembly.

The object of each committee shall be defined in its appointment.

Minutes of all acts in committees shall be kept in writing and ready for use in the Assembly.

The Report of each Committee shall be given in writing and signed by its Chairman.

V. CHURCH PROPERTY

Churches and individuals applying for property or accepting property for or on behalf of the Baptist Denomination in any South African Colony shall report on the same to the Executive of the Baptist Union of South Africa, or if there is a local Association, to such local Association, who shall see that property is properly put in trust for the sole use of the Denomination.

VI. GRANTS

No grant shall be made to any Church holding or about to acquire property, until the Executive is satisfied that the title-deeds are in order, and that the trust deed is properly drawn up, and that the property is so vested in trustees that it cannot be alienated from the Denomination without the consent of the Executive.

VII. ASSOCIATIONS

(i) Churches within a given territorial area being voluntarily united for the purposes of fellowship and Church extension may be recognised by the Union as District Associations.

(ii) Each such Association shall be self-governing within the field of its own operations.

(iii) Each Association shall contribute to the funds of the Union the sum of not less than £5 per annum, and have the right to send two delegates to the Annual Assembly of the Union.

(iv) All Churches within the Association shall report to the Union through the Association Secretary.

(v) All applications to the Union for grants in aid from Churches within the Associations shall be made through the Association Assembly.

(vi) The Annual Report of each Association shall be forwarded to the Union Secretary one month before the Annual Assembly.

VIII. THE HANDBOOK

The matters to be published in the Handbook shall be determined by the Executive.

IX. ALTERATION OF BY-LAWS

No proposal to alter any of these Bye-Laws shall be entertained until after 21 days' notice, given in writing to the Secretary.

BOARD OF ARBITRATORS

Rules adopted by the Assembly at Pretoria, 1899

1. The Board of Arbitrators shall consist of five members, including the President (convener), General Secretary, and three other members elected by the Assembly, of whom three shall form a quorum.

2. The Board of Arbitrators shall undertake the reference of any dispute arising within or respecting any church in the Baptist Union which shall be duly submitted to it by the parties.

3. The Board of Arbitrators may delegate to any one or more of its members the duty of making investigations or taking evidence, but every award shall be the act of the Board, and shall be signed by at least three members on behalf of the whole.

4. The award of the Board of Arbitrators shall be final.

5. The Board of Arbitrators may from time to time make By-Laws for the management of its business, and particularly may require of applicants a deposit for payment of necessary expenses as a preliminary condition of reference.

BOARD OF REFERENCE

FOR AIDED CHURCHES AND MINISTERIAL RECOGNITION

Rules adopted by the Assembly at Pretoria, 1899

1. A church or congregation receiving or applying for aid from the Union shall be expected to refer to this Board previous to the settlement of any Pastor, and failing to do so is liable to forfeit the pecuniary assistance voted.
2. A church or congregation aided by the Union is also expected to submit to this Board plans and particulars of buildings projected by them.
3. This Board, after satisfying itself of a candidate's call to the ministry, shall help him thereto, and if possible obtain for him collegiate training. It shall also guard the pastoral office as far as possible from the unworthy and unqualified.
4. The Board, impressed with the great importance of devout caution and judgement in the choice of a Pastor, strongly advise the Churches to appoint as Pastor no man lacking either ministerial recognition by some known association of Baptist Churches, or college training, without previous consultation with the Board.
5. This Board shall be available for advice to churches seeking Pastors, and as a medium for the introduction of Pastors to churches.

RULES FOR AUXILIARIES OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY

1. Churches within a given territorial area uniting together for the furtherance of Missionary work may be recognised as an Auxiliary of the S.A.B.M.S.
2. Each Missionary Auxiliary shall be self-governing.
3. Each Auxiliary shall contribute to the funds of the S.A.B.M.S. ten per cent of its entire income, the minimum being £20 per annum. All moneys contributed by Churches, Church organisations, or individuals within the sphere of an Auxiliary, ear-marked for the S.A.B.M.S., shall be forwarded through the District Auxiliary.
4. Auxiliaries shall not appoint Missionaries without first submitting the appointment for the approval of the Parent Society; but they may appoint Evangelists subject to the confirmation of the Parent Society.
5. No Missionary Auxiliary shall make any appeal for funds outside its own district except through the Parent Society, nor shall the Parent Society appeal to the churches except through District Auxiliaries.
6. The Annual Report of each Auxiliary shall be submitted to the Parent Society at least a month before the Annual Assembly.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1906-1907, pp. 5-10.)

30. Church Organization (1906)

Resolved: - (1) "That in the opinion of this Assembly the time has arrived when some steps should be taken with a view to introducing more organization into the denomination."

“And that the incoming Executive is hereby instructed to take steps to ascertain the state of opinion on this matter in each Church connected with the Union, and to report to the next meeting of the Union.”

Resolved: - (2) “That it is advisable to throw open the columns of the ‘South African Baptist’ to a discussion as to the desirability or otherwise of our Churches adopting some modification in our present system of Church government.”

(Source: BU Handbook for 1906- 1907, p. 27.)

31. Historical Minute re Presentation of Mallets (1906)

It was resolved that it be recorded on the minutes of this session that the mallets presented by Mr. Greenwood White to the Union, and to the pioneer churches in their respective Colonies for souvenirs, as set forth in the minutes of the transaction, are made of Ncato wood (otherwise called Ituzi), cut from an old tree still growing on the farm called Elmhurst, in the district of Bathurst West, and now in the ownership of Mr. John Hayton, a grandson of the late Mr. Weakly for years a faithful member and liberal helper of the pioneer church in Grahamstown.

After careful enquiry it has been ascertained that under this tree the Baptist Settlers of 1820 gathered for worship in the early weeks of the Settlement, and there probably was formed the first church of our faith and order in South Africa.

Among the evidences for this statement are: 1st, local traditions; 2nd, the farm originally called Rietfontein, was allotted to the families Miller and Talbot; 3rd, a very old Kafir, recently dead, pointed out this tree to Mr. Stephen Smith as the tree under which he had known the early Settlers to hold their worship.

These services were conducted by Mr. Wm. Miller, who was chosen their first pastor. The tree is a very large one, being 200 feet in diameter, and affording good shade. Within a year or two of the settlement these families, and some other of the few Baptists among the original Settlers, gravitated to Grahamstown, and there was continued the church formed under the tree. The pastor of that church, Rev. J. J. Doke, is the President, who this year receives the mallet on behalf of the Union.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1906-1907, pp. 31-32.)

32. Education of Missionaries' Children (1906)

Referred to incoming Committee to draw up a scheme to provide for the Education of our Missionaries' Children, and that this year a sum not to exceed £50 be authorized, if necessary.

It was also resolved:

1. That this Assembly desires to see the formation of a Ladies' Society, operating throughout the whole denomination, to assist in the work of the S.A.B.M.S.
2. That the President's wife, with the wife of each past President, form the nucleus of such Society, with power to add to their number.
3. That the immediate purpose of the Ladies' Society shall be to provide for the Education of our Missionaries' Children.
4. That Mrs. A. Hall be appointed President and Convener of the Ladies' Society.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1906-1907, pp. 45-46.)

33. *The United Church (1908)*

Following a long discussion on the proposed United Church, the following amended clauses were agreed to for recommendation to Churches:-

1. *Name.*- The United Baptist Church of South Africa.

This agreement shall not affect the autonomy of any individual Church in regard to the condition of membership and the transaction of ordinary Church business.

Clause 2.- Each constituent Church shall have the right to elect its own Pastor, subject to the approval of an Advisory Board. That a Board be formed with advisory functions to arrange settlements, removals, or exchanges in pastorates as the good of any part or of the whole United Church may demand.

The United Church at its Annual Assembly shall have the power, at the instance of the Advisory Board, and after hearing the views of the respective Pastors and Churches, to effect changes between Pastors and Churches.

That during a vacancy every Church shall choose a consultant Minister approved by the Advisory Board.

Clause 3.- That the existing properties be vested in a common Board of Trustees, with power to consolidate all loans (the integrity of each separate trust being respected), and that all properties to be acquired or that may be received by gift or bequest be vested in the Common Trust. It shall be competent for any constituent Church to contract out of this clause as far as its existing properties are concerned, but no constituent Church shall incur financial liabilities for land, buildings, &c., without the consent of the Executive Council.

Clause 4.- *Extension.*- That in future all extension involving the formation of a separate Church, the erection of a building, the purchase of land, or the incurring of debt, to be viewed as the advance movement of the whole Church, and not to be undertaken except with the concurrence of the Executive Council.

That an endeavour be made to raise a building fund of at least £1,000, to be at the absolute disposal of the Executive Council, and to be employed for extension work, such sums to be repaid as arranged, the question of interest being left to the discretion of the Executive.

Clause 5.- *Arbitration.* Each constituent Church shall be required to submit all grave differences that may issue in division to the Executive Council for arbitration. The Executive Council shall have power to appoint assessors, whose award shall be final.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1908-1909, pp. 22-23.)

34. *Annuity or Old Age Pension Fund (1908)*

The Rev. G. W. Cross moved, and Mrs. J. W. Varder seconded, - "That a scheme be prepared for an annuity or old age pension for aged Ministers which shall be obligatory and contributory, and

the same be commended to all Ministers, Missionaries, Churches and Mission Stations within the Union with the view to the immediate acceptance of such a scheme.”

(Source: BU Handbook for 1908-1909, p. 23.)

35. Annuity or Old Age Pension Fund (1909)

Resolved: “That this Assembly declares that a serious effort should be made forthwith to provide an adequate fund to be used as a retiring or Old Age Pension Fund for Baptist Ministers and Missionaries in South Africa, and that a Committee be formed forthwith power to act, the sum of £3,000 to be aimed at within five years.” After discussion, Mr. F. Sheppard made an offer on behalf of two laymen present that when a sum of £1,000 had been raised by the Churches and Ministers they would contribute £250 each, and when another £1,000 had been raised they would contribute another £250 each to the Annuity Fund.

The President, in the name of the Assembly, heartily thanked Mr. Sheppard.

Rev. C. H. Clapp proposed, and Rev. G. W. Cross seconded, “That a Committee be formed consisting of Messrs. T. H. Grocott, F. Sheppard, S. Smith, J. W. Varder, T. Riemer, Greenwood White, Rev. G. W. Cross and the mover, to aid the Executive in carrying out the scheme. Rev. G. W. Cross to be Converter.”- Carried.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1909-1910, p. 25.)

36. United Church (1909)

The Constitution was amended and adopted as follows:

1. **Name.**- The United Baptist Church of South Africa.

This agreement shall not affect the autonomy of any individual Church in regard to the condition of membership and the transaction of ordinary Church business.

Clause 2.- (a) That a Board be formed with advisory functions to arrange settlements, removals or exchanges in the Pastorate as the good of any part or of the whole United Churches may demand.

(b) Each constituent Church shall have the right to elect its own Pastor, subject to the approval of an Advisory Board.

(c) The United Church at its Annual Assembly shall have the power, at the instance of the Advisory Board, and after hearing the views of the respective Pastors and Churches, to effect changes between Pastors and Churches.

(d) That every Church in which a vacancy occurs in the Pastorate, shall choose a consultant approved by the Advisory Board to act during such vacancy.

(e) That the Annual Assembly shall be regarded as the final court of appeal in any case of difficulty.

Clause 3.- That the existing properties be vested in a common Board of Trustees, with power to consolidate all loans (the integrity of each separate trust being respected), and that all properties to be acquired or that may be received by gift or bequest be vested in the common trust. It shall

be competent for any constituent Church to contract out of this clause as far as its existing properties are concerned, but no constituent Church shall incur financial liabilities for land, buildings. & c., without the consent of the Executive Council.

Clause 4.- Extension.- (a) That in future all extension involving the formation of a separate Church, the erection of a building, the purchase of land, or incurring of debt, will be viewed as the advance movement of the whole Church, and not to be undertaken except with the concurrence of the Executive Council.

(b) That an endeavour be made to raise a building fund of at least £1,000, to be at the absolute disposal of the Executive Council, and to be employed for extension work. Questions of repayment and interest to be left to the discretion of the Executive Council.

Clause 5.- Each constituent Church shall be required to submit all grave differences that may result in division to the Executive Council for arbitration. The Executive Council shall have power to appoint assessors, who shall have the confidence of all parties concerned, and whose award shall be final.

Clause 6.- That no proposal for change in the Constitution shall be entertained until after one year's notice, given in writing at the Annual Assembly, and published as the Assembly as the Assembly shall direct.

Resolved: That this Amended Constitution shall be submitted to the Churches, with the request that each Church shall definitely say before June, 1910, whether it joins the United Church without further amendment, and that each Church shall say whether it is prepared to unite with a limited number if only a portion is prepared for union.

Moved by Rev. H. G. Wood, and seconded by Mr. S. H. Kemp, "That the Executive be instructed to draw up an agreement with legal aid embodying the Constitution decided on, to be signed by each Church, which shall have binding force."- Carried.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1909-1910, pp. 25-27.)

37. Address of Loyalty (1910)

By standing vote the following resolutions were passed and ordered to be sent after engrossing to His Excellency the Governor-General:-

"To His Most Gracious Majesty King George V. May it please Your Majesty we, the members of the Baptist Union of South Africa, now meeting in its 32nd Annual Assembly at Pietermaritzburg, Natal, humbly desire to assure Your Majesty of our devoted loyalty to Your Majesty.

"We pray that the inestimable blessings enjoyed under the reign of your illustrious Father King Edward VII and for a still longer period under the benign rule of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, may be continued for many years under your gracious sway.

"We desire also to express our profound gratitude to Almighty God that the reign of Your Majesty has been ushered in with the inauguration of the Union of South Africa, and with the promise of the enjoyment of peace and prosperity not only in this land, but also in all Your Majesty's dominions beyond the seas."

To the Governor-General.

"The 32nd Annual Assembly of the Baptist Union of South Africa in session at Pietermaritzburg, Natal, respectfully desires to offer to Your Excellency its heartiest congratulations on being appointed the first Governor-General of the Union of South Africa, and to extend to Your Excellency a sincere welcome."

(Source: BU Handbook for 1910-1911, p. 20.)

38. Report on the United Church (1910)

On the motion of the Secretary, this was received by 36 votes for, and one against.

BY-LAWS were considered in Committee. The following were agreed to:-

NAME

1. Add to Clause 1. "Until the United Baptist Church of South Africa and the Baptist Union of South Africa are synonymous and co-extensive, the United Baptist Church shall be a federation of Churches within the Union affiliated with it, and having for its object the same aims.

The Assembly of the United Church shall consist only of representatives of the constituent Churches, such representatives consisting of those appointed to represent them in the Assembly of the Union.

The Executive of the Union shall set apart such Session or Sessions as may be necessary for the transaction of the business of the United Church, and at the last of such Sessions shall choose its Executive Officers.

2. RE MINISTRY BYE-LAWS

1. When changes are desirable on the part of either Churches or Ministers, three months' notice of the same must be given to the Advisory Board. In order to effect changes without leaving Churches pastorless or ministers without charge, it will be necessary for more than one of each to be ready for a change at the same time. When a sufficient number are not available for the purpose of exchange, the existing pastoral relationships shall be continued for a further period. March 1st of each year shall be the date when the proposed changes shall be made. Notice of change desired must, therefore, be given on or before June 30th preceding, thus allowing opportunity for review at the October Assembly.

2. If it is found that a sufficient number of ministers are anxious for a change as to make one possible, then notice must be given on or before July 30th to all Churches whose pastors desire to move; and all who have signified their desire for a change must abide by their decision to place themselves in the hands of the Advisory Board.

3. When Churches deem "that a change in the pastorate is desirable" a resolution to that effect must be sent to the Advisory Board on or before June 30th.

4. When changes are desirable, the same shall be made by the Churches and pastors requiring them with those on the exchange list, unless very special circumstances, such as commend

themselves to the Advisory Board, can be pleaded against the proposed arrangements. In such cases the Board can advise the United Church, as provided in Clause 2 of the Constitution, to make such changes as the good of any part or of the whole of the United Church may demand.

5. The Advisory Board shall send a list of Churches and Pastors available for exchange to each Church affected on or before July 30th. Invitations to Pastors should be sent through the Advisory Board. Settlements shall be effected as far as possible by mutual arrangement between Pastors and Churches before September 30th. Arrangements for Churches and Pastors who, by that date, have not effected an agreement, shall be made by the Advisory Board. Such arrangements shall hold good for at least 12 months.

In cases where Churches feel the arrangements proposed for them are not satisfactory, they must give notice to the Advisory Board by June 30th that they desire to be again on the exchange list for the year following the settlement.

6. If any Minister shall, in consequence of receiving no invitation, be planned by the Advisory Board to three different Churches in three consecutive years, and if also each of these Churches shall in that space of time have requested the Advisory Board to terminate the appointment at the end of 12 months, such Minister's name shall not appear again on the list of those available for exchange unless in the opinion of the Advisory Board some special circumstances justify it.

7. In view of changes being arranged a removal fund shall be created for effecting the same. Proportionate grants from this shall be made to Ministers, regard being had to the various distances involved and the number in each family to be removed. When the cost of the removal is ascertained, the Churches affected shall be assessed in the proportion of their membership. When the expense is too great for the exchanging Churches to bear, application for assistance may be made to the United Church.

8. Any Church which, for three consecutive years, shall be unable to get a Minister to respond to its call, and which shall, therefore, have to accept arrangements made for it by the Advisory Board, and which shall also express its dissatisfaction with three such annual arrangements in succession, shall not be entitled to a further immediate annual exchange unless it is prepared to bear the full cost of the same. Only Churches that are entirely self-supporting shall have the right to avail themselves fully of the provision made in Bye-law 5 for a change at the end of 12 months.

9. When vacancies occur in other ways than those suggested above, settlements shall be effected by a mutual arrangement between the Church affected and the Advisory Board.

10. When vacancies occur at periods when the exchange is not due, and any Church is desirous of calling a Minister outside the ranks of the United Church or the S.A. Baptist Union, the approval of the Advisory Board to such a course must be obtained, and the call must go through such Board. In the event of the Advisory Board not approving of the suggested course, the Church shall have the right of appeal to the Annual Assembly of the United Church in October, and the decision of the Annual Assembly shall be final. Ministers invited from outside the United Church or South African Baptist Union, must be called by the United Church, and must be prepared to serve it in accordance with its Constitution and Bye-laws, as well as individual Churches to which they may be immediately called.

3. PROPERTY

1. No constituent Church may contract liabilities without the consent of the Executive Council

beyond the total extent of £1 per enrolled member.

2. The Executive Council may, however, consent to the contracting of liability on the part of any Church without local guarantees, in which case the property of the local Church can be handed to the Executive for the purpose.

3. The Executive are recommended not to sanction the incurring of liabilities by any Church beyond one-half of the total amounts to be expended.

4. GENERAL

1. No resolution of any Church on any matter that has to be reported to the Advisory Board or Executive Council shall be valid and effective unless:-

a) The date, time, place and purpose of the meeting have been notified by circular or otherwise, to all members, the said notification being despatched at least eight (8) days before the holding of the meeting.

b) All persons voting are in full communion, not having absented themselves from the Church for more than 12 months, unless hindered by sickness, or distance, and in the latter case, communication must have been held with either Pastor or Secretary to entitle them to vote; or,

c) All persons voting are over 18 years of age.

2. The Advisory Board shall consist of 10 members in addition to the Chairman and Secretary. These shall be elected at any by the Annual Assembly of the United Church. As far as possible this Board shall be composed of an equal number of Ministers and Laymen. Five shall form a quorum.

The question of the meeting place for this Board shall be determined at each Annual Assembly.

The President of the Union shall be the Chairman of the Advisory Board, and the Secretary of the Union its Secretary.

3. The United Church shall have power to set apart certain days in the year upon which the collections in whole or in part shall be devoted to any of the general funds of the United Church, the Union, or the Missionary Society. Such collections shall not exceed three in twelve months.

4. Whenever Churches are unable to adequately support a Minister, it shall be within the power of the United Church to arrange for the grouping of Churches in districts under a Superintendent Minister, with or without an assistant, as the case may demand and warrant.

5. All correspondence for the Advisory Board shall be directed to the Secretary of the Union.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1910-1911, pp. 22-25.)

39. Pension Scheme (1910)

The Report was read by Mr. T. Riemer, who proposed the Union's acceptance of the scheme, which was enthusiastically adopted, the Assembly rising and singing the Doxology.

TRUSTEES

Messrs. T. H. Grocott, F. Sheppard, J. W. Varder, Greenwood White and Walter Evans were unanimously appointed.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Rev. G. W. Cross, Chairman; Mr. R. A. Eales and Mr. Theo. Riemer, Secretary and Treasurer. The Constitution to be duly printed and circulated.

RESOLUTIONS AGREED TO:

- I. That a time of grace be granted to the 31st of January, 1911, for the payment of contributions to the Pension Fund, and that any Church or Minister joining by that date and paying the contribution due for the six months ending 31st of March, 1911, shall be deemed to have joined the Fund at its inauguration.
- II. That it shall be understood that any Minister or Missionary leaving the country and not retiring from the Fund shall be considered to remain a member provided He continued to pay the total premium due.
- III. That the Annuity Fund, except the Emergency Fund, be merged in the Baptist Union Pension Fund, and that until the balance be handed over to the Pension Committee the Union be charged with 5 per cent. interest, which shall be paid to the Pension Fund.
- IV. That the present Emergency Fund be continued as a separate Fund by the Committee of Management of the Union Pension Fund and be used by them confidentially to aid Ministers or Churches who, in their opinion, are absolutely in need of such assistance.
- V. That in case of decease or vacancy in the Trusteeship the place be filled up by the Executive of the Union. The same rule to obtain in regard to the Management.

It was further resolved - That the Pretoria Branch of the Standard Bank of South Africa, Ltd., be authorised and requested to pay all cheques purporting to be drawn on behalf of the Pension Fund, when signed by the Chairman and countersigned by the Treasurer for the time being of the Fund.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1910-1911, pp. 25-26.)

40. Conditions of Membership with the Churches Affiliated with the Native Baptist Association (1912)

1. **What confession of Faith is required of those seeking membership?**
Anyone seeking membership must believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and accept Him as their Saviour.
2. **What mode of Baptism is practised?**
Immersion.
3. **Is Baptism essential to Church membership?**
Baptism is essential to membership, but faith is pre-requisite.
4. **Is any period of probation required before the administration of Baptism? If so, what period? It all depends on individual intelligence.**

5. Are members elected by Church Meeting?
Yes.
6. Who presides over the Church Meeting?
The Pastor
7. Is a Roll of Membership kept for each Church? By whom is it kept?
Yes; kept by the Pastor or Church Clerk where possible.
8. Is the Ordinance of the Lord's Supper observed? Who is eligible to partake?
Most assuredly. Baptised Believers.
9. Any further remarks upon the basis of Church Membership.
10. Are letters of transfer given with or without the vote of Church Meeting?
With the vote of Church Meeting.
11. Any other remarks *re* condition of transfer.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1912-1913, p. 45.)

41. Baptist Union Pension Fund Report (1912)

Johannesburg, 2nd October, 1912.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE BAPTIST UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

DEAR SIR,

In accordance with the provisions of section 3, subsection 4 (c) of the Constitution of the Baptist Union Pension Fund, we beg to submit (1) the following report on the Fund for the year ended 30th September, 1912, and (2) the attached statements of accounts duly audited.

1. APPOINTMENTS

During the year covered by the report Messrs. T. H. Grocott, J. W. Varder, F. Shepherd, Greenwood White and Walter Evans held office as trustees, and the committee of management consisted of the Rev. G. W. Cross (Chairman) and Messrs. R.A. Eales and T. Riemer, the latter being Hon. Secretary-Treasurer. The Auditors were Messrs. W. H. Phillips and A. Park Alexander.

2. MEMBERSHIP

	Ministers.	Churches.
The number of contributing members at the close of last year was	31	36
Admitted during the year	2	—
Total	33	36
Withdrawn		
By resignation	1	1
Entered by on books in error	2	1
	- 3	2
Total at close of year	30	34

The total number of contributing ministers includes one minister who has since the last Assembly

left the country and who has not yet advised the committee whether he desires to continue his membership or not.

One of the members shown above as having been entered on the books in error is one of our deeply esteemed ministers whose long work in the country is deserving of the recognition of the whole denomination. The Committee was reluctantly compelled to point out to him that as he was over the age of 65 at the inauguration of the Fund he could not legally be accepted as a member because the constitution of the Fund laid down in section 5 that the prescribed age at which a pension shall be paid to every contributing minister or missionary (irrespective of whether he may have retired from active service not) shall be 65 years, at which from age his contributions shall cease. He verbally advised the Committee through the Secretary that he would be willing to abide by its decision. The amount of the contributions paid has been credited to "Contributions Refundable."

An application to join as a foundation member was received during the year, but as the time limit for such membership fixed by the Union had expired the application was refused.

3. CONTRIBUTIONS

The contributions have been promptly paid except in one or two instances. The sum outstanding at the close of last year has been recovered except an amount of £5, being the amount of contributions by one of our ministers who has since decided to leave the matter in abeyance. The sum has been written off and is shown in the statements of accounts as "Contributions credited in the error," as a deduction from the Fund balance as at 1st October, 1911.

The amount due and outstanding at the close of this year amounted to £5, which at this date is still outstanding.

We again desire to impress upon these members the necessity of remitting their contributions as they become due and shall be glad if they will in future pay their contributions promptly.

4. DONATIONS

We have much pleasure in reporting that one of the gentlemen who promised £500 to the Fund and who paid £250 last year has this year paid the balance.

In addition to this amount the following sums have been received:-

Collection at Kimberley	...	...	£6	7	6
Mr. J. E. Biggs	...	...	20	0	0
Mr. H. Schmidt	...	...	5	0	0
Mr. C. C. Henkel	...	...	5	0	0
Mr. Greenwood White	...	...	10	0	0
Mr. James H. Biggs	...	...	100	0	0
Mr. T. Riemer	...	...	2	5	0
Total	...	...	£144	13	6

We are also pleased to be able to state that the following promises of donations have been received during the year, viz. :-

Mr. Greenwood White	...	...	£50 in 5 years.
Mr. Stephen Smith	...	...	£50 in 5 years.

Mr. Henry Schmidt £50 in 10 years.

To all these we express our sincere gratitude for their kindness and we assure them that we highly appreciate their generous assistance.

5. INTEREST

The sum of £84 5s. 1d. shown as interest is made up as follows:-

On Union Loan	...	...	...	£11	6	2
" Church Loan	...	...	...	45	0	0
" United Building Society Savings Bank				11	1	8
" Ditto Fixed Deposit	...	...	...	10	0	0
" Arrear Contributions	...	...	...		3	0
" Contributing Shares	...	...	...	1	18	3
" Post Office Savings Bank	...	...	...	4	16	0

6. EXPENDITURE

The expenditure incurred in administering the Fund amounts to £2 15s. 6d., being .3% of the receipts, as against £11 12s. 3d., being .9% of the receipts during last year. This is very satisfactory.

7. CHURCH LOANS

The following statement shows the applications that have been received for loans, the amount applied for and how each application has been dealt with.

Church.	Amount	How dealt with.
Observatory Road	£750	Refused because the security offered was considered inadequate.
West Bank, East London	£350	As the security of the West Bank property only was not considered sufficient the application was refused, but the Buffallo Street Church was advised that if property was also mortgaged the trustees would agree to a loan provided funds were available.
Lambert Road	£800	This application was accepted, but as the church did not desire the money until the 1st July, 1914, it was decided to place the sum at fixed deposit with the United Building Society at 5% interest per annum and earmark same for this church provided the trustees approve the security at that date.
Cradock	£800	To be considered when funds are available.
Pretoria	£800	Refused as security of second mortgage only was offered.
Battswood Mission	£300	To be considered when funds are available.

8. INVESTMENTS

The investments held at the close of the year are as follows:-

Claremont Church Loan	£400	0	0
Troyeville Church Loan	500	0	0
Security placed with Standard Bank, Johannesburg, for safe custody.			
United Building Society, fixed deposit ...	800	0	0
United Building Society, 10 Contributing Shares	87	9	6
Baptist Union Loan	201	4	7
Having been reduced by £50 during the year.			

9. REPORTS

Your Committee is surprised and disappointed that the report of the Committee and statements of accounts for last year were omitted from the Official Hand-Book. This should be done for the sake of the Committee and trustees and largely for the increase of the interest in the Fund among our churches and personal members. We beg to recommend that last year's report and statements together with those of this year be included in the next issue.

10. NEW APPOINTMENTS

In accordance with the provisions of section 3 of the Constitution it will be necessary for the Assembly to elect or re-elect officers to administer the Fund during the ensuing year, viz.: Trustees, at least 5; Committee, 3; Auditors, 2.

In connection with the election of the Committee we regret to have to report that the Secretary-Treasurer was transferred from Pretoria to Johannesburg on the 1st January last year. After consideration of the matter we have come to the conclusion that it will be better for the proper management of the Fund that the principle that the members of the Committee chosen be all resident in one centre be followed as in the past years.

With regard to the trustees we recommend that for the current year five be elected and that arrangements be made for a meeting of trustees at each Assembly and at other times when expedient. We feel that the trustees should meet as soon as possible for the consideration of the nature of the investments they would be willing to approve.

11. In conclusion we desire to place on record our appreciation of the assistance given by the trustees to all matters which have been submitted to them for consideration. We very much regret that one of our trustees, our dear friend Mr. Grocott, has been laid aside by a serious illness. We are glad that the latest reports speak of improvement and we sincerely pray and hope that he may be restored to health and strength again soon and that he may be long spared to the denomination so that he may continue to help us as he has done so wonderfully in the past.

We also wish to express our thanks to the Auditors for their kindness in auditing the books and accounts.

Yours faithfully,
G. W. CROSS, Chairman.
THEO. RIEMER, Hon. Sec. - Treas.

P.S.- Since the date of the writing of the afore-going report our friend Mr. Grocott has passed

away. We render profound thanks to God for his life and influence and pray that all comfort may be granted to his children in this time of their great sorrow.

G.W. CROSS
THEO. RIEMER

(Source: BU Handbook for 1910-1911, pp. 50-55.)

42. Constitution of the South African Baptist Women's Association (1912)

1. NAME

The name shall be "South African Baptist Women's Association."

2. FORMATION

The South African Baptist Women's Association shall consist of such Women's Associations of the Baptist Churches of South Africa who shall have elected to join, and of Personal and Foundation members.

Personal members shall be admitted by vote of the members of the Association at the Annual Meeting and shall consist of ladies who are members of Churches in which there is no Women's Association and of scattered Baptists who are not within reach of Baptist Churches.

Foundation members shall be those ladies who were admitted as members of the Association before the adoption of this constitution.

3. OBJECTS

The objects of the South African Baptist Women's Association shall be:-

(1) To raise funds for the education of the children of the Missionaries of the Baptist Union of South Africa.

(2) The federation of all existing Women's Associations.

(3) Any other objects that may be brought forward by the delegates at the Annual Meetings or which may be adopted at such meetings after having been suggested by correspondence by any affiliated association it being understood that each association shall be at liberty to decide the scope and methods of its own activities.

4. MEETINGS

The Annual Meetings of the South African Baptist Women's Association shall be held concurrently with the Annual Meetings of the Baptist Union and in the same place.

Each meeting in connection with the Association shall be opened with prayer.

5. DELEGATES

Each affiliated association shall be entitled to be represented at the Annual Meetings by its President and one delegate in the ratio of 1 in 50 (or less) members.

6. OFFICERS

The officers shall consist of: - The President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary, and in addition the Secretary-Treasurer of the Ladies' League.

7. FUNDS

The funds of the Association which may accrue by way of collections, subscriptions, donations, or any other source except the funds contributed to the Ladies' League, shall be allocated to the various objects of the Association by the Annual Meeting and shall be administered by the officers; provided however that in all cases of expediency or urgency the officers shall be empowered to incur any expenditure which they may deem necessary in the time intervening between the Annual Meetings subject to the confirmation of the next following Annual Meeting.

8. SUBSCRIPTIONS

Each association shall pay an annual affiliation fee of not less than 6d. per member.

9. ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION

This constitution shall not be amended or added to unless such amendments or alterations are approved by a two-thirds of the associations affiliated to the Association at an Annual Meeting after three months' notice, in writing, has been given to the Secretary of the Association, and by the Secretary to every affiliated association and personal and foundation member, of the intention to amend or alter these conditions.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1912-1913, pp. 48-50.)

43. Travelling Secretary (1913)

The Report of Guarantee Fund Committee and Executive was read and adopted as follow:- "That we aim at a Guarantee Fund of £600 per annum for three years: that the salary be £400 per annum and expenses, provided that a Fund of £300 per annum for three years be guaranteed, and that the Secretary take office in January, 1914, the appointment being for three years." Further, that the result of a ballot taken was that the Rev. C. H. Chapp be invited to accept the office, regulations relative to the duties to be drawn up for the guidance of the Executive.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1913-1914, p. 22.)

44. His Majesty the King (1915)

Resolved:- That this meeting of the Baptist Union gathering in Annual Assembly respectively desires to express its devotion to the King and his throne and the Government in this hour of the Empire's trial. We wish to assure them of our continued and unqualified support both by prayer and service and pledge ourselves to respond to every appeal that is made to us to enable them to

carry the war to a victorious issue.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1914-1915, p. 21.)

45. To The Right Honourable VISCOUNT BUXTON, G.C.M.G., Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of The Union of South Africa and High Commissioner for South Africa (1914)

May it please Your Excellency,

We the Ministers, Delegates and adherents of the Baptist Churches of South Africa convened at Port Elizabeth as The Assembly of the Baptist Union of South Africa desire, as our first act in Session, hereby to express our loyalty to His Majesty the King of whom Your Excellency is the Representative in these lands. We have been with all His Majesty's loving subjects, deeply moved by the painful and dangerous accident which lately occurred in France and we most devoutly thank Almighty God for the King's recovery and continue in that prayer that at this time, when His Majesty's activity means so much to the Empire and the great cause of civilization and humanity now committed to it, our King's recovery may be complete and his strength fully maintained.

The great and terrible war with its deplorable results in S. Africa, now happily in their worst phases overcome, has so far disorganised our affairs that this Annual Assembly has been deferred, otherwise we should with our sister Churches have asked permission to welcome Your Excellency to South Africa. We are devoutly thankful that one, whose work has been so well tried in many departments of State and whose influence and that of your illustrious ancestors has been so great on the side of humanity and progress and religion, should be entrusted with the important duties of Your Excellency's offices in this portion of the Empire at a time when such labours and influences will mean so much. For the task before us in South Africa at the present time is that of uniting all our European people into one sincere brotherhood, its members loyal to each other, to the Union and to the great Empire of which we form a part, and another of equal importance long on our hands, that, namely, of uplifting to civilization and true religion the great Native peoples all about us.

We beg to assure Your Excellency that we shall continually seek the Divine Blessing on your labours in S. Africa.

W. H. WATSON, *President.*
H. J. BATTS, *General Secretary*

(Source: BU Handbook for 1914-1915, pp. 28-29.)

46. The South African Baptist Missionary Society Constitution of 1914

1. That the name be THE SOUTH AFRICAN BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY, in connection with THE BAPTIST UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.
2. That the object of the Society is the diffusion of the Gospel of Jesus Christ among the aborigines of this country.

3. **That the Pastors and Delegates of Churches** contributing to the funds, all subscribers of £1 1s. and upwards annually, and all other pastors and delegates of churches assembled at the Baptist Union Meetings for the time being, shall be members of the Society.
4. The operations of the Society shall be conducted by a Committee consisting of the Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, and eight other members.
5. A general meeting shall be held at the same place as the Annual Assembly of the Union, when the Officers and Committee shall be elected, and the financial statement and the general report of the Society shall be presented.
6. No alterations in, or additions to, this constitution can be made except at the annual meetings, and one months' notice of such proposal must be given, in writing, to the Secretary.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1914-1915, p. 32.)

47. Regulations for Ministerial Recognition (1916)

The Rev. E. Baker, on behalf of the Executive, presented the following Regulations for Ministerial Recognition, as a notice of motion for next Assembly:-

That Baptist Ministers and Missionaries be given Ministerial Status in this Union-

- I. Who come from recognised Baptist Unions as accredited Ministers.
- II. Who have completed a course of Ministerial Training of not less than three years' duration in one of the recognised Baptist Colleges, or University training elsewhere, and have given proof of their call to the Ministry of the Word.
- III. Men without College training who have satisfied the conditions and passed the examinations prescribed by the Ministerial Education Committee. This Committee shall have power to decide the exact course to be taken by the candidate in each case.
- IV. In very exceptional cases men who have had neither Collegiate training nor have passed the Examinations prescribed by the Ministerial Education Committee, but have been wholly devoted to the pastoral office for at least three years, and have proved themselves efficient therein, may be accepted by special vote of the Assembly.
- V. That a Ministerial Recognition Committee be appointed whose duties shall be to consider all applications for Ministerial training and status, arrange the course of training where necessary, and report thereon to the Executive.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1915-1916, pp. 24-25.)

48. Constitution of the Baptist Union as amended up to November 22nd, 1916

I. NAME

“The Baptist Union of South Africa”

II. CONSTITUTION

The Union shall comprise all such existing Baptist Churches as shall agree to unite for the attainment of its objects such persons and Churches as shall be hereafter admitted according to its rules.

III. DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLE

While this Union is composed of Churches and individuals holding the immersion of believers to be the only Christian Baptism, it fully recognises the right of every separate Church to interpret and administer in and for itself the laws of Christ.

IV. OBJECTS OF THE UNION

1. To promote unity and brotherly love among its members.
2. To promote the evangelisation of the country.
3. To disseminate Baptist Principles
4. To plant and assist Churches in which those principles shall be or have been adopted.
5. To obtain accurate information respecting the organisation and work of the Churches.
6. To combine the efforts of the Churches in all matters affecting the general welfare of the denomination.
7. To maintain the right of all men everywhere to freedom from legal disadvantages in matters purely religious.
8. To confer and cooperate with other Christian communities as occasion may require.

V. OPERATIONS

The Union shall act by its Assembly and through its Executive

VI. THE ASSEMBLY

1. The Assembly shall comprise:
 - a. Ministers and Evangelists.
 - b. Delegates of Associated Churches, and Delegates of Territorial Associations of Churches of our own Faith and Order. Churches of fewer than 100 members may send one delegate; of 100 or more two delegates. District Associations shall be entitled to send one delegate to the Assembly.
 - c. Personal voting members and honorary (or non-voting) members. Personal members shall be Baptists though not necessarily connected with a Baptist Church, who shall be recommended to the Union by three of its members and accepted by the Assembly. Honorary members shall be chosen by resolution of Assembly on the recommendation of the Executive. All delegates shall be appointed annually and their appointment duly accredited and notified to the Secretary before the meeting of the General Assembly.
2. The application of any Church for admission to this Union shall be laid before the Executive and submitted to the Assembly.
3. The Assembly shall meet annually, at such time or place as shall be appointed by it from year

to year; or when and where convened at the discretion of the Executive or upon the requisition of a majority of its members.

VII. THE EXECUTIVE

1. The Executive shall consist of the office bearers and five members of the Union who shall be elected annually together with a representative of the Baptist Women's Association and of each affiliated Association whose Churches are individually associated with the Union, who shall be appointed by these said Associations.
Five members shall form a quorum.
2. The officers of the Union shall be the President, Vice-President, Ex-President, Treasurer and the General Secretary.
3. Any elected member either of the Union or the Association who shall fail to attend any two consecutive meetings without leave shall forfeit his seat.
4. *Duties of Executive.*
 - a. To prepare the business for the Assembly.
 - b. To carry out the resolutions of Assembly.
 - c. To collect and disburse the Funds according to vote, or by resolution of the Executive to be confirmed by the ensuing Assembly.
 - d. To select and direct new fields of labour for the time being.
 - e. To form a Board of Reference for Churches and Ministers who may desire counsel.
 - f. To present to the Assembly a financial statement and a report of the year's work, which, having been adopted, shall be printed and circulated with a digest of the proceedings of the Annual Assembly.

VII. TRUSTEES OF THE UNION

The President, General Secretary, and Treasurer of the Union and their successors in office shall be the Trustees of the Baptist Union of South Africa to buy, to receive, to hold, to hypothecate and to sell property in furtherance of and in accordance with clauses 2 and 4 in Rule IV.

IX. ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION

No proposal for change in the Constitution shall be entertained until after one year's notice, given in writing, at the annual Assembly, and published at the Assembly direct.

BYE-LAWS

1. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. All officers of the Union shall be elected at each Annual Meeting of the Assembly, the Vice-President (who shall be the President in the following year) by triple ballot without nomination, and the other officers by single ballot if more than one member has been nominated for any office.
2. All members of Executive elected by the Assembly attending meetings held between Assemblies, may be paid a sum equal to 2nd class return railway concession fare from his place of residence to the place of meeting of Executive.
3. If any Association member falls out the Executive shall have power to co-opt a member in his place.

II. NOTICES OF MOTION

In order to facilitate the arrangement of business, notices of motion, signed by the proposer, must be forwarded in writing to the Secretary, at least 14 days before the Meeting of the Assembly.

Other notices of motion being given in writing shall be considered after those given as above, and in the order of their presentation to the Secretary.

III. FINANCE

Each Church represented in the Union shall be required to contribute not less than £2 annually to the funds.

Personal members shall be required to subscribe not less than £2 annually, and honorary members not less than 10/-annually.

Subscriptions shall be due and payable within six months from the date of the Assembly last held. Two Auditors for the ensuing year shall be appointed by resolution at the Annual Meeting of the Assembly.

IV. COMMITTEES

To facilitate and prepare its business the Assembly may appoint Committees.

The Convener and quorum shall be fixed by the Assembly.

The object of each Committee shall be defined in its appointment.

Minutes of all acts in Committee shall be kept in writing and ready for use in the Assembly.

The Report of each Committee shall be given in writing and signed by its Chairman.

V. ASSOCIATIONS

(i) Churches within a given territorial area being voluntarily united for the purpose of fellowship and Church extension may be recognised by the Union as District Associations.

(ii) Each such Association shall be self-governing within the field of its own operations.

(iii) Each Association shall contribute to the Funds of the Union not less than £2 2s. per annum and have the right to send one delegate to the Annual Assembly of the Union.

(iv) All Churches within the Association shall report to the Union through the Association Secretary.

(v) All applications to the Union for grants in aid from Churches within the Associations shall be made through the Associations.

(vi) The annual reports of each Association shall be forwarded to the Union Secretary one month before the Annual Assembly.

VI. THE HANDBOOK

The matters to be published in the Handbook shall be determined by the Executive.

VII. ALTERATION OF BY-LAWS

No proposal to alter any of these By-Laws shall be entertained until after 21 days' notice given in writing to the General Secretary.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1915-1916, pp. 44-47.)

49. Plan for Ministerial Training (1915)

1. Each candidate must be a baptized believer in Christ.
2. Each candidate must furnish evidence that he has been used of God's Spirit to lead souls to Christ or has been of help to them in spiritual things.
3. Applicants must answer all questions as per list approved by Executive.
4. Each applicant will be dealt with on his merits and advised according to circumstances regarding any further general education.
5. A sub-committee, appointed by the Executive, shall have power to accept candidates for the first year's course which is designed as a simple plan to test each applicant's ability for study.
6. At the end of the first year the candidate must submit testimonials from two ministers who have heard him preach, and who shall certify that in their judgement his natural and spiritual endowments, his educational and preaching abilities, are such as to qualify him for becoming a student for the ministry. A further recommendation, if possible, should be furnished from a body of local preachers, a District Association or Council. These recommendations, together with the report of the sub-committee upon the first year's work, will be submitted to the Executive who will decide whether the candidate shall become a student and proceed with the remainder of the course.
7. If the candidate satisfactorily passes the first two years of the course he shall then be accepted by the vote of the Executive as a probationer; and, if possible, arrangements shall be made for him to be placed with one of our ministers who shall give him help in study in return for pastoral assistance. Grants in aid for such probationers can be made by the Assembly as the need arises.
8. Ministerial recognition shall be given only at the close of the course and shall be contingent upon satisfactory reports regarding the study, work and character of each candidate.
9. Candidates shall provide their own books.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1915-1916, p. 48.)

50. Course for Study for Ministerial Candidates (1916)

This course must not necessarily be taken as implying an endorsement by the Union of the theological positions advanced in the books, but as covering ground which all candidates for the ministry should be familiar.)

FIRST YEAR

DOCTRINE	"Christian Doctrine" by Dr Dale.
BIBLICAL	"Introduction to the New Testament" by Dr. A. S. Peake (Studies in Theology).
APOLOGETICS	"Handbook of Christian Apologetics" by Dr A. E. Garvie (Studies in Theology)
CHURCH HISTORY	"History of the Free Churches" by Sylvester Horne.
PASTORAL	"Lectures to My Students," Vol.1, by C. H. Spurgeon (also a written sermon of about 2,000 words, to be submitted by the candidate). ¹
ENGLISH BIBLE	"Isaiah" with Expositor's Bible by Dr. George Adam Smith.
GREEK	"Introduction to N.T. Greek" by S. R. Green, and Mark i-iii.
BAPTIST PRINCIPLES	"Christian Baptism" by President Rooke.

SECOND YEAR

DOCTRINE	"Studies in Theology" by Dr. Denney.
BIBLICAL	"Revelation and Inspiration" by Dr. Orr (Studies in Theology)
APOLOGETICS	"The Living Christ and the Four Gospels" by Dr. Dale.
CHURCH HISTORY	"History of the Christian Church" to 451 A.D. by Foakes Jackson.
HOMILETICS	"Lecturers on Preaching" by Dr. Phillips Brooks (also a written sermon).
ENGLISH BIBLE	"Gospel of John" with Century Bible by Dr. McClymont.
GREEK	"Acts i-v, with Grammar and Syntax from Green's Handbook to N. T. Greek.
PSYCHOLOGY	"The Study of Behaviour" by W. Mc.Dougall, M.B. (Home University Library).

THIRD YEAR

DOCTRINE.	"Outlines of Christian Theology" by Dr. Clarke.
BIBLICAL	"Introduction to the Old Testament" by Dr. G. B. Gray (Studies in Theology).
CHURCH HISTORY	
COMPARATIVE	
RELIGION.	"Introduction to the Study of Religions," by Prof. Tevons.
HOMILETICS	"Lecturers on the History of Preaching" by Dr. John Ker (also a sermon).
written	
ENGLISH BIBLE.	"Genesis and Exodus" with Century Bible, by Dr. W. H. Bennett.
GREEK.	"Galatians" with Grammar and Syntax from Green.
PHILOSOPHY.	"Problems of Philosophy" by the Hon. Bertrand Russell (Home University Library) and "Philosophy and Religion" by Dr. Hastings Rashdall (Studies in Theology).

FOURTH YEAR

DOCTRINE.	"History of Christian Doctrine" by Dr. Fisher.
CHURCH HISTORY	"The Story of the English Baptists" by J. C. Carlile and "The Reformation" by Professor Lindsay (T. & T. Clarke's Handbooks).
APOLOGETICS	"Grounds of Theistic and Christian Belief" by Dr. Fisher
PASTORAL	"The Building of the Church" by Dr. C. E. Jefferson, and "The Order and Administration of a Church" by Wood and Chick (also a written

¹ See also Chapter 2 in Volume One wherein the relation between Spurgeon's Pastors' College and the South African Baptist ministry are discussed.

ENGLISH BIBLE	sermon).
ETHICS.	"Hebrews" with Handbook (T. & T. Clarke) by Dr. A. B. Davidson.
GREEK.	"Christianity and Ethics" by Dr. A. B. D. Alexander (Studies in Theology).
	I Corinthians

(Source: BU Handbook for 1915-1916, p. 49-50.)

51. Pension Fund Report: Ministers' Widows' Pension (1917)

This was read by Mr. T. Riemer, Secretary-Treasurer of the Fund, and adopted.

The following resolutions re the proposed Ministers' Widows' Pension were moved by Rev. E. Baker, seconded by Mr. T. Riemer and carried unanimously:

That we agree to the principle:-

- (a) To provide for half the pensions being continued to the widow of a member dying in receipt of a pension.
 - (b) To provide a pension of £50 per annum at and after the age of 50 to the widow of a member of the Pension Fund in lieu of the gratuities, provided the necessary sums to complete the present Fund and to provide proposed pensions are raised.
- Further, That the Pension Committee be instructed to go into the matter to ascertain what donation and contributions will be required to provide these premiums and suggest the necessary amendments in the Constitution for presentation to the next Assembly provided a safeguard is incorporated that such pension shall be payable only in proportion to the amount of donations received to provide the same.*

(Source: BU Handbook for 1916-1917, p. 24.)

52. The South African Baptist Missionary Society Constitution (1917)

- I That the name be THE SOUTH AFRICAN BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY, in connection with THE BAPTIST UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.
- II That the object of the Society is the diffusion of the Gospel of Jesus Christ among the aborigines of this country.
- III That the Pastors and Delegates of Churches contributing to the funds, all subscribers of £1 1s. and upwards annually, and all other pastors and delegates of churches assembled at the Baptist Union Meetings for the time being, shall be members of the Society.
- IV The operations of the Society shall be conducted by a Committee consisting of the Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, and eight other members.
- V A General Meeting shall be held at the same place as the Annual Assembly of the Union, when the Officers and Committee shall be elected, and the financial statement and the general report of the Society shall be presented.
- *VI That Societies working among natives, Indians and coloured people in this country and wishing to be affiliated to our work shall:

- a. Make application to the Committee of the Missionary Society not later than July 31st of each year.
- b. Be received by vote of the Annual General Meeting of the Society on the recommendation of the Committee.
- c. Shall be considered as affiliated to the South African Baptist Missionary Society and shall furnish the Secretary with Annual Reports; these reports to be embodied in a supplementary report to be presented by the Secretary at the Annual Meeting under the heading of affiliated societies.

***VII** That in the cases of ministers (European or native) working among natives, Indians or coloured people in this country desiring recognition by the Baptist Union of South Africa:

- a. They shall make application with all necessary credentials to the Missionary Committee not later than July 31st of each year.
- b. The application with the Committee's report shall then be forwarded to the Baptist Union of South Africa.
- c. In the event of their acceptance by the Union, they shall be considered as affiliated ministers of the S.A.B.M.S.

***VIII** No alterations in, or additions to, this constitution can be made except at the Annual Meetings, and one month's notice of such proposal must be given, in writing, to the Secretary.

*Added to the Constitution October 22nd, 1917.

(Source: Handbook for 1916-1917, pp. 31-32.)

53. Co-ordination (1919)

At a joint session of the B.U.S.A. and the S.A.B.M.S. the following report was submitted by the Secretary of the Union on behalf of the Executive, with a view to co-ordinating our denominational activities, and unanimously agreed to.

1. That the President of the Union be Chairman of the S.A.B.M.S.
2. That the Secretary and Treasurer of the S.A.B.M.S. be ex-officio members of the Union Executive.
3. That the President, Vice-President, ex-President, the Secretary and Treasurer of the Union be ex-officio members of the Missionary Committee.
4. That the representatives of the Associations on the Executive of the Union, be also members of the Missionary Committee.
5. That at the Annual Meeting of the S.A.B.M.S. four additional members be elected to the Missionary Committee.
6. That at the Annual Assembly of the Union, four additional members be elected to the Executive.

7. That the Executive of the Union, and the Committee of the S.A.B.M.S., meet in a common centre three times a year between Assemblies and in the same week.
8. That the Missionary Society and the Union share the travelling expenses of the joint official and elected representatives and that the Missionary Society and the Union defray the expenses of their four elected members. The Associations are expected to pay the expenses of their representatives.
9. That the Missionary Committee appoint from their members two emergency Committees, one to be centred in the Transvaal and the other at the Border.

It was then resolved that the Union Constitution be altered herewith in conformity with the above resolutions.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1917-1919, p. 29.)²

54. Rhodesian Committee (1920)

The Rhodesian Committee's Report was submitted by the President, Rev. A. E. Brett, and adopted.

Incorporated in the Report were the following recommendations of the sub-Committee of the Executive.

1. That after hearing the report of the sub-Committee the Banana Grove and Bulawayo properties be sold as they are unsuitable for our purposes.
2. That the money received by the sale of these properties be held in trust for work in Rhodesia.
3. That a request having been sent by the Somabula people for the appointment of a Minister we favourably entertain the suggestion and hereby request the Rev. J. F. Niebuhr to take charge of the proposed work, to form a Church, and generally to pioneer there with Gwelo as a centre.
4. That the commencing salary be not less than £400 per annum.
5. That the Executive guarantee the salary for first year, and that all subscriptions and collections at the services be remitted to the Union Treasurer.
6. That Mr. Niebuhr submit quarterly statements of Income and Expenditure and that all traveling expenses be also met by the Union during his first year. Special efforts be made for special expenditure by the people.
7. That until interest accrues from the investment of the Rhodesian properties, the necessary money be loaned from the 100,000 Shilling Fund at 2 1/2 per cent rate of interest and that it be repaid in twelve years at most or sooner.
8. That removal expenses be guaranteed, but it is hoped that the local people will endeavour to raise the same.

² According to the BU Executive, the reason that no Assembly was held in 1918 was: "On account of the severe epidemic of influenza raging through the country and especially at Kimberley, where were to have met in October last [1918], it was found necessary to postpone our annual Assembly till present time." (Report of BU Executive for 1917-1919, in BU Handbook for 1917-1919, p. 7.)

9. That a Committee consisting of the Revs. A.E. Brett, J.F. Niebuhr and Messrs T. Riemer and H. Schmidt be appointed to carry out negotiations in regard to the sale of the properties and re-investment of the proceeds.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1920-1921, pp. 24.)

55. Centenary Fund (1920)

It was agreed to establish a Fund to be called "The Centenary Fund" and that

1. The sum to be aimed at be at least £5,000.
2. That 20% of the amount be allocated towards the completion of the Pension Fund.
3. That with the remainder a Trust Fund be created as the nucleus of a Ministerial Sustentation Fund, the interest therefrom to be used toward the support of the Ministry in weaker Churches.
4. That each Church be informed that this amount can be raised if the giving be at the rate of £1 per member.
5. That the fund be inaugurated at this Assembly and that it be the aim to complete the fund in three years.

Arrangements as to the Committee and other appointments for the Fund were referred to the Executive for the necessary action.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1919-1920, p. 26.)

56. Ministerial Stipends: Report by Laymen's Committee (1920)

A Layman's Committee appointed to consider Ministerial Stipends reported as follows:-

Your Committee has gone into the question referred to it as far as the time at its disposal would permit, and recommends to the Assembly the following resolutions:

1. With reference to the resolution of last year's Assembly on the subject of the Stipend Augmentation Fund, this Assembly considers that, owing to the continued rise in the cost of living the position is much more acute than it then was, and urges upon each Church in the Union to take steps immediately to relieve its Minister from anxiety as to temporal matters.
2. The Assembly resolves to form a special Committee of Laymen to deal with the matter, to consist of Messrs. F. M. Williams and W. Chappel, Cape Town; H. Schmidt and R. Penn. Sawers, Kimberley; F. Stacey and S. Brailsford, East London; W.S. Clarke and S. H. Grimwood, Durban; J. Barrow, W. Evans and A. L. Palmer, Johannesburg; R. A. Eales and J. Fair, Pretoria; S. Smith and King, Grahamstown; W. S. Gardner and J. Temlett, Queenstown; F. Sheppard, M.P.C., Alice; Dr. Ph. Gutsche, and Messrs. J. W. Schmidt and H. Bartels, German Churches.
3. It shall be the duty of this Committee,
 - (a) To bring to the notice of all the Churches the need for substantial increases in the stipends of all Ministers in order to meet the increased cost of living.

- (b) To secure as far as possible the adoption of the principle of a minimum salary for all Ministers.
 - (c) The raising of the Augmentation Fund started last year to an amount sufficient to enable the Union Executive to make up salaries to the minimum in cases where the Churches concerned are unable to raise the whole sum.
4. The Committee is instructed to establish sub-Committees in each of the districts named above.
 5. The Committee shall carry on its operations by way of (a) Correspondence, (b) Circulars, (c) Meetings with the officers or members of the Churches, leaving the Ministers out of the matter as far as possible.
 6. All Churches are asked to co-operate with the Committee, and Ministers and Churches are asked to give any information they can (in confidence) to the Committee.
 7. In the opinion of the Assembly the minimum stipend for a Minister in a large town should be £420, and in a small town £300 per annum, it being understood that in the case of a single man the Union Executive should be authorised to make special arrangements under exceptional circumstances, as also in the case of new causes.

(Signed) WALTER EVANS, *Chairman.*
 W. CHAPPELL,
 T. RIEMER,
 H. SCHMIDT,
 R. PENN.SAWERS.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1919-1920, pp. 26-27.)

57. Constitution of the Baptist Union of South Africa (1921)

(As amended and adopted at the Annual Assembly held at Pietermaritzburg, 18th October, 1921)

I. NAME

“The Baptist Union of South Africa”

II. CONSTITUTION

The Union shall comprise all such existing Baptist Churches as shall agree to unite for the attainment of its objects such persons and churches as shall be hereafter admitted according to its rules.

III. DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLE

While this Union is composed of Churches and individuals holding the immersion of believers to be the only Christian Baptism, it fully recognises the right of every separate Church to interpret and administer in and for itself the laws of Christ.

IV. OBJECTS OF THE UNION

1. To promote unity and brotherly love among its members.

2. To promote the evangelization of the country.
3. To extend its principles throughout South Africa.
4. To maintain the right of all men everywhere to freedom from legal disadvantage in matters purely religious.
5. To disseminate Baptist principles.
6. To combine the efforts of the churches, and in all matters affecting the general welfare of the denomination.
7. To maintain the right of all men everywhere to freedom from legal disadvantage in matters purely religious.
8. To confer and cooperate with other Christian communities as occasion may require.
9. To receive, purchase, hold, hypothecate, and sell movable and immovable property.

V. OPERATIONS

This Union shall act by its Assembly and through its Executive.

VI. THE ASSEMBLY

1. The Assembly shall comprise:-
 - a. Ministers and Evangelists.
 - b. Delegates of Associated Churches, and Delegates of Territorial Associations of Churches of our own Faith and Order. Churches of 100 members or less may send one delegate, of 101 to 200 members two delegates, of more than 200 members three delegates. District Associations shall be entitled to send one delegate to the Assembly.
 - c. Personal voting members, who shall vote on all occasions except when a strictly representatives present vote is demanded by one fifth of the representatives present at the Session, and honorary (or no-voting) members. Personal members shall be Baptists though not necessarily connected with a Baptist Church, who shall be recommended to the Union by three of its members and accepted by the Assembly. Honorary members shall be chosen by resolution of Assembly on the recommendation of the Executive. All delegates shall be appointed annually and their appointment duly accredited and notified to the General Secretary before the meeting of the Assembly.
2. The application of any church for admission to this Union shall be laid before the Executive and submitted to the Assembly.
3. The Assembly shall meet annually, at such time and place as convened at the discretion of the Executive, or upon the requisition of a majority of its members.

VII. THE EXECUTIVE

1. The Executive shall consist of the Office-bearers and four members of the Union who shall be elected annually, together with a representative of the Baptist Women's Association and of each affiliated Association whose Churches are individually associated with the Union, who shall be appointed by the said Associations. The Secretary and the Treasurer of the S.A.B.M.S. shall be ex-officio members of the Union Executive. Five members shall form a quorum.

2. The Officers of the Union shall be the President, Vice-President, Ex-President, Treasurer, and General Secretary.

3. Any elected member either of the Union or the Associations who shall fail to attend any two consecutive meetings without leave shall forfeit his seat.

4. Duties of the Executive:-

- (a) To prepare the business for the Assembly.
- (b) To carry out the resolutions of the Assembly.
- (c) To collect and disburse the funds according to vote, or by resolution of the Executive to be confirmed at the ensuing Assembly.
- (d) To select and direct new fields of labour, for the time being.
- (e) To present to the Assembly a financial statement and a report of the year's work, which having been adopted, shall be printed and circulated with a digest of the proceedings of the Annual Assembly.

VIII. TRUSTEES OF THE UNION

The President, the General Secretary, and the Treasurer of the Union, and their successors in office shall be the Trustees of the Baptist Union of South Africa in furtherance of, and in accordance with clauses 2, 4, and 9 in Rule IV.

IX. ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION

No proposal for change in the Constitution shall be entertained until after one year's notice given in writing at the Annual Assembly and published as the Assembly shall direct.

BYE-LAWS

I. FINANCE

1. Each Church represented in the Union shall contribute £2 annually to the Funds.
2. Personal members shall be required to subscribe not less than £2 annually. Subscription shall fall due and payable within six months from the date of the Assembly last held.
3. Two auditors for the ensuing year shall be appointed by resolution at the Annual Assembly.

II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. All officers of the Union shall be elected at each Annual Meeting of the Assembly, the Vice-President (who shall be the President in the following year) by triple ballot without nomination, and the other officers by single ballot if more than one member has been nominated for any office.
2. All members of Executive elected by the Assembly attending meetings held between Assemblies, may be paid a sum equal to 2nd Class return railway concession fare from his place of residence to the place of meeting of Executive.
3. If any Association member falls out, the Executive shall have power to co-opt a member in his place.

III. MEMBERSHIP

The Executive shall have the right to suspend from the Roll of Membership until the matter shall be finally decided by the Assembly.:-

- (a) Any Ministerial member who has been found guilty of misconduct by any court of law.
- (b) Any Ministerial member who shall be deemed by the Executive, after making full enquiry, to be guilty of misconduct.

In the latter case there shall be a right of appeal as to fact by the accused party to a Board of Arbitration of three members, one chosen by the Executive, one by the accused, the third party, who shall be chosen by the other two, shall be Chairman.

The final decision with regard to membership in both cases shall lie with the next Assembly, subject to the right of appeal to the Assembly following.

(Every Ministerial member of the Union shall be required to sign a declaration to the effect that in the event of a charge of misconduct being brought against him, he will accept without resorting to a court of law the judgement of the Executive, Board of Arbitration, and Assembly as provided for in Bye-Law III.)

IV. NOTICES OF MOTION

In order to facilitate the arrangement of business, notices of motion signed by the proposer, must be forwarded to the Secretary at least 14 days before the Meeting of the Assembly. Other notices of motion being given in writing, shall be considered after those given above, and in the order of their presentation to the Secretary.

V. COMMITTEES

To facilitate and prepare its business the Assembly may appoint committees.

The convener and quorum shall be fixed by the Assembly.

The object of each Committee shall be defined in its appointment.

Minutes of all acts in Committee shall be kept in writing and ready for use in the Assembly.

The report of each Committee shall be given in writing and signed by its Chairman.

VI. ASSOCIATIONS

1. Churches within a given territorial area being voluntarily united for the purpose of fellowship and Church extension may be recognised by the Union as District Associations.
2. Each such Association shall be self-governing within the field of its own operations.
3. Each Association shall contribute to the funds of the Union not less than £2 2s. per annum, and have the right to send one delegate to the Annual Assembly of the Union.
4. All Churches within the Association shall report to the Union through the Association shall report to the Union through the Association Secretary.
5. All applications to the Union for Grants in Aid from Churches within the Associations shall

be made through the Associations.

6. The Annual reports of each Association shall be forwarded to the Union Secretary one month before the Annual Assembly.

VII. THE HANDBOOK

The matters to be published in the Handbook shall be determined by the Executive.

VIII. ALTERATIONS OF BYE-LAWS

No proposal to alter any of these Bye-Laws shall be entertained until after 21 days' notice given in writing to the General Secretary.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1920-1921, pp. 49-53.)

58. Constitution of the South African Baptist Missionary Society (1921)

1. That the Name be the South African Baptist Missionary in connection with the Baptist Union of South Africa.
2. That the object of the Society is the diffusion of the Gospel of Jesus Christ among the Natives, Coloured People, and Asiatics in this country
3. That the Society is empowered to receive, purchase, hold, hypothecate, and sell movable and immovable property, also to invest monies available on first mortgage or other security approved by the Committee.
4. That all property shall be vested in, and all bonds shall be made out in favour of, the Trustees of the Society, who shall be the Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer, and their successors in office.
5. The Society shall consist of all Churches affiliated with the Baptist Union of South Africa, and such other Churches in South Africa as shall assist in the attainment of its objects, also subscribers of one guinea and upwards to its funds.
6. The affairs of the Society shall be controlled by the Annual Assembly of the Baptist Union of South Africa to which the Officers and Committee of the Society shall be responsible.
7. The operations of the Society shall be conducted by a Committee consisting of the following:
- (a) Chairman, who shall be the President of the Baptist Union; (b) Members elected as hoc - The Secretary, Treasurer and four others; (c) Representative members. The Vice-President, Ex-President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Baptist Union, and a representative of each affiliated Association whose Churches are individually associated with the Baptist Union, and of the Baptist Women's Association and who shall be appointed by the said Associations. That the Secretary and Treasurer be ex-officio members of the Baptist Union Executive.
8. The General Meeting shall take place at a Missionary Session of the Assembly, when the Annual Report and the Financial Statement shall be presented and the elective members of the Committee shall be elected.
9. That the Executive of the Union and the Committee of the S.A. Baptist Missionary Society

shall meet in a common centre three times a year between Assemblies and in the same week.

10. That the Missionary Society and the Union shall share the traveling expenses of the joint official and elected representatives, and that the Missionary Society and the Union defray the expenses of their four elected members. The Associations are expected to pay the expenses of their representatives.
11. That Societies working among Natives, Coloured peoples, and Asiatics in this country and wishing to be affiliated to our work shall (a) make application to the Committee of the Missionary Society not later than July 31st of each year, (b) be received by the vote of the Annual General Meeting of the Society on the recommendation of the Committee, (c) and be considered as affiliated to the S.A. Baptist Missionary Society and shall furnish the Secretary with Annual reports, these reports to be embodied in a supplementary report to be presented by the Secretary at the Annual General Meeting under the heading of Affiliated Societies.
12. That in the case of Ministers, European or Native, working among Natives, Coloured Peoples, or Asiatics in this country, desiring recognition by the Baptist Union of South Africa, (a) they shall make application with the necessary credentials to the Missionary Committee not later than July 31st of each year, (b) the application with the Committee's report shall be forwarded to the Baptist Union of South Africa, (c) in the event of their acceptance by the Union they shall be considered as affiliated Ministers of the S.A. Baptist Missionary Society.
13. No alterations in or additions to this Constitution can be made except at the Annual General Meeting, and one month's notice of such proposal must be given to the Secretary.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1920-1921, pp. 54-55.)

59. Constitution of Native Baptist Church Councils in Connection with the South African Baptist Missionary Society (1923)

CONSTITUENCY:

1. The Native Baptist Church Councils shall comprise by voluntary association representatives of Native Baptist Churches working under the South African Baptist Missionary Society, or under European Churches, and any other bodies recognised by and affiliated to the South African Baptist Missionary Society.
2. These shall comprise such Councils in various parts of the country as are duly instituted by the South African Baptist Missionary Society.

OBJECTS OF THE COUNCILS:

3. a. To promote co-operation between all the Native Baptist Churches.
- b. To labour for the more speedy and effective evangelisation of the Native Races of South Africa.
- c. To foster the establishment of self-supporting and self-propagating Native Churches.
- d. To obtain reliable numerical and financial statistics of the Native Churches.
- e. To secure, prepare and ultimately recommend suitable and reliable candidates for ordination to the native ministry. Only such candidates as are recommended by the councils in their

respective areas will be considered by the Missionary Society.

OPERATIONS:

4. These Councils shall be consultative and advisory bodies for the more effective guidance of and mutual co-operation in the work of the Native Baptist Churches, the final authority being reserved to the Missionary Society.

MEMBERSHIP:

5. The membership of the Councils shall consist of:-
 - a. Baptist European Missionaries of the Missionary Society.
 - b. Native Ministries and Evangelists.
 - c. Delegates appointed from each Church at the ratio of one for a hundred members, with a maximum of two from any one Church.
 - d. Personal members may be elected by the Council on personal application from Church members of good character.
6. New members shall be proposed on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, and shall be received by a vote of not less than two-thirds majority.

OFFICERS OF THE COUNCILS:

7. The officers of the Councils shall consist of a Chairman who shall be a European Missionary of the Missionary Society, a Vice-Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer. These last three officers shall be elected by ballot after nomination at the Council's Annual Assembly.
8. The Executive Committee shall consist of the above four officers and three others elected by the Annual Assembly. Four shall form a quorum.
9. The business of the Executive Committee is to arrange business for the Annual Assembly, carry out its decisions and form a convenient body for consultation with the Missionary in charge during the year.
10. The Treasurer shall pay out from the funds only for objects authorised by the Executive Committee, and shall submit an annual statement of receipts and expenditure, duly audited by two persons elected by the Council, to the Annual Council, and also to the Secretary of the Missionary Society. Where possible a banking account should be kept.

DISCIPLINE:

11. As a grave responsibility rests on these Councils for guarding the moral life of the Churches, any Pastor, Evangelist or Preacher, who is found guilty by these Councils or their Executive Committee, of drunkenness, immorality, dishonesty, or any other serious offence, shall be deprived of his office and membership of the Church, and shall not be reinstated without the sanction and approval of the Council, whose action in the matter shall be subject to the approval and endorsement of the Committee of the Missionary Society.

ASSEMBLIES:

12. All Pastors, and Preachers must give reports of their work, and financial statements at or before each meeting of the Councils.
13. For the closer co-operation between the Native Councils and the Missionary Society, each Council shall have the right to appoint not more than two delegates to the Missionary Session

for the Annual Assembly of the Baptist Union.

ALTERATION OF THE CONSTITUTION

14. No alteration of this Constitution shall be made except by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present at the Annual Assembly, after notice of such proposed alteration has been forwarded to the Secretary six months previously, and to the Secretary of the Missionary Society. All alterations must be approved by the Committee of the Missionary Society.

BYE-LAWS

1. a. All meetings shall be opened and closed with prayer.
b. All resolutions and amendments must be proposed and seconded before being put to the vote by the Chairman.
c. Amendments shall first be put to the vote, and then, if not carried, the original resolution.
d. All questions brought before the Councils shall be decided by a majority vote, except where otherwise specified.
e. The Chairman, while guiding discussion on all matters shall not vote thereon, but shall have the right of holding in abeyance any matter decided upon, until it can be referred anew to the Council or Executive Committee as the case may be. As the representative of the South African Baptist Missionary Society, it shall be the duty of the Chairman to refer all the important matters for final decision to the Committee of the South African Baptist Missionary Society. When though necessary the voting shall be by ballot.
2. Members not able to be present at the Annual Assembly should notify the Secretary by letter.
3. On behalf of all members of the Councils an annual subscription of 2/6 must be paid, and by personal member 5/-.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1923-1924, pp. 56-59.)

60. Join the Halfpenny - A- Day League (1927)

It has been estimated that if every member of the Evangelical Churches gave one-halfpenny a day to Missions, all the monies necessary for reaching the whole world with the Gospel in this generation would be forthcoming. Halfpenny a day, 1s. 3d. per month, or 15s. per annum! This is surely not an impossible task. One halfpenny a day should be our minimum contribution. This, however, we are not giving. The contributions of all the Churches throughout the world average one-half of a farthing a day.

Our South African Baptist Churches provide £2,000 per annum for our S.A.B.M.S. With a membership of 5,500 this is slightly less than a farthing a day per head. We ought not to talk of the missionary work being beyond our resources when our giving is at this rate. It is not beyond our power of giving. It may be beyond our consecration. One halfpenny a day from all our members would give us over £4,000, which would enable us to properly staff our various stations.

(Source: Report of BBC Inauguration at Tshabo, 1927, p. i.)

61. How to Help the Missionary Society (1927)

PRAY! PRAY! PRAY!

“Pray ye the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest”. Matt. ix. 38.
“Pray that the Word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified”. II. Thess. iii. I.

READ! READ! READ!

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The Ideal of the
S.A. BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY
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A MISSIONARY BOX
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For the repeated gifts of the family;
The special gifts of friends;
The thanks-offerings for unexpected mercies;
The money saved by household economy;
The breakfast contributions on the Lord's day.
The coin quietly slipped in times of new gratitude.

HAVE ONE IN YOUR MOTOR-CAR.

Apply to the Missionary Secretary in your Church, to your Pastor, or to the Hon. Secretary,
Rev. J. E. Ennals, B.A., B.D.,
Bompas Road, Dunkeld,
Johannesburg.

(Source: Report of BBC Inauguration at Tshabo, 1927, p. 29.)

62. Ministerial Recognition (1927)

Notice of Motion by the Joint Executive.

“That all Rules and Regulations at present in force governing the matter of Ministerial Recognition be hereby rescinded, and that the following regulations be adopted.”

Recognition of Probationers

I. Probationary Ministerial status shall be granted, on the recommendation of the Joint Executive Committee, confirmed by an Assembly of the Baptist Union of South Africa, to:-

(1) Any applicant who has completed (to the satisfaction of the Faculty concerned) a course of training of not less than three years' duration at a recognised Baptist College (whether in South Africa or other country), or who has received elsewhere what the Joint Executive Committee shall deem to be an adequate College or University training, and has given satisfactory evidence of his call to the Ministry of the Word. (See Clause II, section 2.)

(2) Any applicant who, without Collegiate training, has satisfied the conditions and passed the Examinations prescribed by the Ministerial Education Committee of the Baptist Union of South Africa, and who has been recommended by that Committee to the Joint Executive.

Recognition of Ministers

II. Full Ministerial status shall be granted, on the recommendation of the Joint Executive Committee, confirmed by an Assembly of the Baptist Union of South Africa, to:-

(1) Any applicant whose name has already been published in the list of the fully accredited Ministers of any other generally recognised Baptist Union or Baptist Missionary Society; provided that the Secretary of such Union or Society has been communicated with, and has confirmed the applicant's good standing; and provided that the applicant has accepted and been installed in the Pastorate of a Church affiliated with the Baptist Union of South Africa, or has been appointed to a station under the S.A. Baptist Missionary Society, or has been appointed to any salaried office under the Baptist Union of South Africa or the S.A. Baptist Missionary Society.

(2) Any applicant who has satisfied the conditions laid down in Clause I, sections (1) or (2) of these Regulations, and who, in addition thereto; has afterwards completed at least two consecutive years in the Pastorate of a church affiliated with the Baptist Union of South Africa, or as a Missionary of the S.A. Baptist Missionary Society, to the satisfaction of the Joint Executive Committee.

(3) By the special recommendation of the Joint Executive Committee confirmed by an Assembly of the Baptist Union of South Africa, Ministerial recognition may be granted to one who has neither received a College or University training for the ministry, nor passed the Examination prescribed by the Ministerial Education Committee of the Baptist Union of South Africa, but who has been wholly devoted to the Pastoral office for at least three consecutive years, and who has given clear evidence of efficiency therein.

Revision of Ministerial Roll

III. From December 31st, 1929, onwards, when any Minister or Probationary Minister shall have accepted a Pastorate in another denomination, or shall have ceased, for a period of not less than three consecutive years, to hold the Pastorate of a church affiliated with the Baptist Union of South Africa, or to be in the service of the S.A Baptist Missionary Society as a Missionary, or to hold any such salaried office as is referred to in Clause II, section (1) of these regulations, his name shall be removed from the list of fully accredited Ministers or Probationary Ministers of the Baptist Union of South Africa, with the following exceptions:-

(1) A Minister who is in the Pastorate of a Union (Interdenominational) Church, and the inclusion of whose name shall be agreed to by the Joint Executive Committee.

(2) A Minister or Missionary in good standing who retires from active service on account of illness or

advanced age.

(3) A Minister or Missionary whose name the Joint Executive committee, for special reasons, shall agree to retain on the Ministerial list by a ballot vote in which not less than three-fourths of the members present shall be in favour of the proposal.

Note.- In no case shall a name be retained on the list of Probationers for longer than six years, *i.e.* the name must either be transferred to the list of fully accredited Ministers or deleted.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1928-1929, pp. 25-27.)

63. The Constitution of the Bantu Baptist Church of the South African Baptist Missionary Society (1927)

PART 1. THE CHURCH

FOUNDATION

This church is based Christ Jesus as the only foundation, and is instituted for the worship of the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, in accordance with the teaching of the Holy Scriptures.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF BELIEF

1. We believe in the Bible as the inspired word of God, and accept the New Testament as the supreme and final authority for Christian faith and life
2. We believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
3. We believe in the true deity and the true humanity of the Lord Jesus Christ.
3. We believe in the personality of the Holy Spirit, His regenerating work and abiding presence in the true believer.
4. We believe that all have sinned and that all are under just condemnation apart from the atonement made by the Lord Jesus Christ.
6. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died in our stead, for our sins, and that it is on account of His shed blood that those who accept Him are justified before God.
7. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ rose from the dead, that He ascended into heaven, and that He ever liveth as our great High Priest and Intercessor.
8. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is coming again according to His word.
9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead; of them that have done good, unto the resurrection of life, and of them that have done evil unto the resurrection of condemnation.
10. We believe that the one true Church is made up of those, and only those, who have truly received the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour and been "born again" of the Holy Spirit.
11. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is the supreme and only spiritual Head of the Church Universal, and that He appointed two ordinances - Baptism and the Lord's Supper - to be observed as acts of confession, communion and consecration, and as witnesses to the central

facts of Christian faith.

Baptism is the immersion of believers in water as symbolical of their identification with Jesus Christ in burial and resurrection.

The Lord's Supper is the partaking of bread and wine as symbols of the Saviour's body "broken for us," and His blood "shed for many for remission of sins," thus shewing forth His death and keeping Him in adoring remembrance "till He come."

12. We believe that all Christians are called to a life of holiness, devotion to the Lord Jesus and service for Him. Christ and to seek to bring others to Him.

Note.-The Ordinances are to be administered by the Pastor, or by one duly appointed when occasion requires.

Only non-alcoholic wine shall be used at the observance of the Lord's Supper.

MEMBERSHIP

Persons may become members of the Church.

1. *By Baptism.* Candidates shall be examined before baptism by the Superintendent or his deputy. The church having heard testimony as to their conversion and change of life, and being satisfied therewith as well as with their general character shall receive them into fellowship after baptism.
2. *By Letter of Transfer or Certificate of Dismissal from a church of the same faith and order.*
3. *By Profession of Faith.* Persons who have been baptised, i.e., Immersed, but were members of a church of another denomination; who give satisfactory evidence of a Christian character, and of substantial agreement with the church in matters of faith and practice, may be received into membership.

Should any member object to the reception of a candidate, the reception may be deferred for further enquiry. In no case should anybody be received except by a vote of three-fourths of members present at the meeting.

The Baptism of young people shall where possible be with the consent of parents or guardians. If this is found to be impossible it is left to the discretion of the Superintendent.

Certificate of Removal shall be given to members leaving for another district.

DUTIES OF MEMBERS

1. To practise private prayer and the reading of the Scriptures.
2. To attend devotional services (Hebrews 10:25) and any other meetings of the Church, and to help one another to good works. (1 Thessalonians 5:11, Hebrews 3:13).
3. To dedicate their children to God and train them in the fear and admonition of the Lord, and to promote the observance of family religion.
4. To seek the salvation of the unconverted by prayer and testimony and a consistent Christian life.
5. To support the Church and its work by cheerful giving, for the maintenance of a faithful ministry and the spread of the Gospel.

6. To help the poor, the aged and sick.

OFFICE BEARERS

1. *Deacons*. Elections -- this should be made the subject of prayer for Divine guidance, and only such a member should be elected whose character and devotion conform to the requirements of the Word of God. (Acts 6.1-4, 1 Timothy 3, 8-13). A majority vote of two thirds of members present at the meeting must be given in favour of a candidate to ensure his election.

Deacons should be ordained at a special service arranged under the guidance of the Superintendent.

The duties of Deacons are principally concerned with the business affairs of the Church.

2. *Elders*. Elections -- The Elders should be deeply spiritual and trusted men of experience, chosen with the approval of the minister by the deacons from among themselves and accepted by the church. The Superintendent, or his deputy, shall be present at the election of Elders.

The Duties of the Elders are to assist the Pastor in every way, especially in the oversight of the Church, in cases of discipline and in every emergency. At the request of the Superintendent or Pastor they may preside over Church meetings.

3. *Lay Preachers*. These shall satisfy the Superintendent as to their ability to serve in this way, and be appointed by him in consultation with the Preachers quarterly meeting.

4. *Evangelists*. These shall be appointed by the Superintendent in consultation with the Council after they have given proof of their fitness for this ministry.

Each Evangelist and Preacher shall receive a Certificate signed by his Superintendent, and this shall be available for not more than one year.

5. *Ministers*. Anyone desiring to enter the ministry is required:

1. To be recommended by his Superintendent, the church of which he is a member, and the Council.
2. To take a preparatory course of study, after having attained the educational basis of the Fourth Standard, as desired by the South African Baptist Missionary Society.

Duties of Ministers

1. To preach and teach the Word of God.
2. To exercise oversight and discipline in the church.
3. To administer the Ordinances.
4. To preside at church meetings.
5. To visit regularly the members of his congregations.
6. To supervise the work of evangelist within his area.

All Ministers and other workers under the S.A. Baptist Missionary Society shall accept and work in accord with the printed Constitution of the Bantu Baptist Church.

DISCIPLINE

Every member shall be subject to discipline in case of

1. *Private Offences.* Offences of one member against another shall be dealt with in the manner prescribed by our Saviour. (Matthew xviii. 4-17). The passage in Matthew v.23-24 should also be borne in mind.

2. *Public Offences.* Such offences as are a reproach or injury to the Church as a body, or injury to the Church as a body, or to reputation of Christianity cannot be overlooked, and when such occur, facts must be ascertained before the matter is reported to the Church, which then shall direct the course of discipline as seems wisest in each case. Should the offending member not submit to the discipline of the Church, it shall be withdrawn from the offender for a time, notwithstanding any confession or promise of amendment. All discipline must be conducted in a spirit of Christian meekness and love, with a desire to remove the offence and win the offender. It must also be carried out under a deep sense of responsibility to maintain the honour of Christ's name, the purity of His Church and the integrity of His Truth.

NATIVE CUSTOMS

1. *Lobola.* Whilst the present state of Native Society makes it difficult to forbid Lobola, Superintendents and Pastors should do all in their power to check the evils of the system and to lead the native Christians to a high ideal of marriage.

2. *Polygamy.* While recognising the great evil of polygamy, and the need for Superintendents and Pastors to emphasize the Divine purpose of marriage, they are left to use their discretion as to the admission of polygamists to church membership, but no polygamist shall hold office in the Church or be allowed to preach.

FINANCE

1. *Collections.* These shall be taken as often as may be found expedient at all churches and preaching stations, and an account shall be kept of them.

2. *Quarterly Contributions.* Every member shall give a Quarterly Contribution as decided by each Council.

3. *Thank Offerings.* Each church shall hold an annual Thanksgiving Day towards the support of the S.A. Baptist Missionary Society.

PROPERTY

All property of the church shall be held in trust by the S.A. Baptist Missionary Society.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1927-1928, pp. I-V.)

64. Constitution and By-Laws of the Baptist Union of South Africa (1933)

As revised and adopted at the Annual Assembly held at Durban, 20th September, 1933.

1. NAME

THE BAPTIST UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

2. DEFINITIONS

In the constitution and By-Laws of THE BAPTIST UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA the following terms shall have the meanings herein assigned to them:

Association shall include

- (a) An Association of two or more Churches within a given territorial area voluntarily united for the purpose of fellowship and extension, and recognised as such by the Union.
 - (b) The South African Baptist Women's Association.
 - (c) The South African Baptist Men's Association.
- and
- (d) Any other Association which may hereafter be recognised as such by the Union.

Church shall mean a body of Protestant Christians accepting in all matters of faith and practice the guidance of the Holy Scriptures, practising believer's baptism by immersion, and in membership with the Union.

Delegate shall mean a person appointed by a Church or an Association and notified to the General Secretary of the Union as an accredited representative.

Ministers and Probationer Ministers shall mean persons who are recognised and enrolled as such or as Missionaries under the By-Laws of the Union.

Officers of the Union shall mean the President, Vice-President, Ex-President, Treasurer and the General Secretary of the Union.

Personal Member shall mean a baptised believer, or a member of a Church, elected to membership of the Union by vote of the Assembly.

The Executive shall mean the Committee constituted as under 8 (a).

The Union shall mean The Baptist Union of South Africa.

Trustees of the Union shall mean the President, the General Secretary and the Treasurer of the Union for the time being.

The Trust Fund shall mean the Baptist Union Sustentation and Trust Fund, and any other Funds which have been and shall be donated, bequeathed, or assigned thereto.

3. MEMBERSHIP

The Union shall comprise:-

- (a) All existing Churches named in the Schedule hereto and such Churches as shall be admitted to membership by vote of the Assembly.
- (b) All existing Associations named in the Schedule hereto and such Associations as shall be admitted to membership by vote of the Assembly.
- (c) Ministers and Probationer Ministers.
- (d) Personal members.

4. DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLE

The basis of the Union is:-

1. That the Lord Jesus Christ, our God and Saviour, is the sole and absolute authority in all matters pertaining to faith and practice, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures, and that each Church has liberty to interpret and administer His Laws.
2. That Christian Baptism is the immersion in water into the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, of those who have professed repentance towards God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ who "died for our sins according to the Scriptures; was buried, and rose again the third day."
3. That it is the duty of every disciple to bear personal witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to take part in the evangelisation of the world.

5. OBJECTS

The objects of the Union are:

- (a) To advance the cause of the kingdom of God in Southern Africa, and the evangelisation of its peoples.
- (b) To promote unity and brotherly love among its members.
- (c) To disseminate Baptist Principles and to maintain religious liberty.
- (d) To establish or assist Churches wherein Baptist Principles are practised.
- (e) To collect information respecting the history, organisation and work of the Churches and Associations within its membership.
- (f) To co-ordinate and combine the efforts of the Churches within its membership in all matters affecting the general welfare of the Denomination.
- (g) To confer and co-operate as occasion may require with other Christian Communities and with Philanthropic Societies for the common weal.
- (h) To make provision for retiring and relief allowances for its Ministers and Missionaries and their wives or widows.
- (i) To provide for Ministerial Education and to control admission to and deletion from the Union's list of accredited Ministers.
- (j) To provide for the supply of Church and Mission requisites.
- (k) To give services of advice or arbitration in cases of difference or dispute, with the consent of the parties concerned.
- (l) To receive, purchase, hold, hypothecate, sell, donate, lease, exchange and partition movable and immovable property.
- (m) To act as Trustee for any Church or Association whether established or to be established.
- (o) To invest any funds of the Union in such manner as may be prescribed by By-Law.

6. METHOD OF FUNCTIONING

The Union shall function through its Assembly.

7. THE ASSEMBLY

(a) The Assembly shall consist of:-

- i. Ministers and Probationer Ministers.
- ii. Delegates.
- iii. Personal Members.
- iv. The Executive.

(b) The Assembly shall meet annually when possible, and the Executive shall have power to summon a special Assembly.

(c) The resolutions of the Assembly shall be executed by the Executive unless the Assembly otherwise direct.

8. THE EXECUTIVE

(a) The Executive shall consist of:-

- i. The Officers of the Union.
- ii. The General Secretary and the Treasurer of the South African Baptist Missionary Society.
- iii. The nominee of each Association in membership with the Union.
- iv. Five members elected by the Annual Assembly.
- v. Such other members not exceeding two in number as may be co-opted by vote of three-fourths of the Executive members present at the meeting dealing therewith.

(b) The Executive shall meet at such times and places as may be considered necessary for the dispatch of business.

9. SUBMISSION OF DIFFERENCES

It is desired and expected that every member of the Union shall submit all grave differences, which tend to create divisions, to the Executive for arbitration and shall abide by the award therein subject to a right of appeal to the next meeting of the Assembly.

10. UNION ASSETS

All property and other assets of the Union and of the Trust Fund including investments shall be held by the Trustees of the Union and be registered in their name.

11. AUTHENTICATION OF DOCUMENTS

The General Secretary of the Union is authorised to issue under his signature any certified copies of, or extracts from, the Constitution and By-Laws of the Union, or of minutes of meetings of the Assembly or the Executive, to which full faith credence shall be given.

12. ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION

Amendments of this Constitution shall be effected by resolution of the Assembly in pursuance of a notice motion in writing given at the previous Assembly and published as the Assembly shall direct.

BY - LAWS

1. MINISTERIAL RECOGNITION

- (a) **The regulations adopted by the Assembly held at Pretoria in the year 1929 shall be deemed to be incorporated herein save that wherever the expression "Joint Executive Committee" therein occurs there shall be substituted the words "the Executive."**
- (b) **It shall be a condition of membership of the Union that every Minister and Probationer Minister shall in the event of a charge of misconduct being brought against him accept without resort to a Court of Law the decision of the Executive and of the Assembly as hereinafter provided for.**

2. ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP OF THE UNION

- (a) **Application for admission by any Church or Association to membership of the Union shall be in writing and in the hands of the General Secretary of the Union at least one month prior to the Assembly, for the Executive's recommendation or otherwise.**
- (b) **Application for Personal Membership shall be submitted to the Assembly on the recommendation of the Executive.**

3. APPOINTMENT OF DELEGATES

- (a) **Every Church shall be entitled to appoint to each Assembly not more than three delegate for each 100 members or part thereof.**
- (b) **Every Association shall be entitled to appoint to each Assembly one delegate.**
- (c) **Notification of such appointment shall be given to the General Secretary of the Union at least 21 days prior to the Assembly.**

4. BUSINESS OF ASSEMBLY

- (a) **The President of the Union shall enter upon his office at the opening session of the Assembly and shall thereafter preside at all sessions thereof. In the event of his failing to take the chair the Vice-President shall do so, failing whom, a chairman shall be elected by the Assembly.**
- (b) **The President, if such an appointment be necessary, the Vice-President of the Union, the General Secretary and the Treasurer of the Union and the General Secretary and the Treasurers of the South African Baptist Missionary Society shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Assembly.**

The method of procedure for the election of such officers and of such members as require to be elected to the Executive shall be as follows:

i. Nominations for the office of the Vice-President, who shall be the President in the following year, and for membership of the Executive shall be invited from Churches, Associations and Personal Members in membership with the Union and whose affiliation fees are not in arrear.

ii. Such nominations shall be on the form sent out by the General Secretary of the Union or his deputy to Churches and Associations at least three months prior to the Assembly.

iii. Nominations shall reach the General Secretary of the Union or his deputy at least

three weeks prior to the Assembly. Nominations received later than the prescribed date shall be invalid.

iv. Churches and Associations shall endeavour to procure the consent of their nominees for the Executive, failing which the General Secretary of the Union shall obtain such consent, before submitting the name of any such nominee to the Assembly provided that the name of any nominee who may for the time being be inaccessible shall go forward.

v. Failing sufficient valid nominations for the Executive from Churches and Associations the Chairman shall, at the first business session of the Assembly, invite further nominations from members of the Assembly there present.

vi. Nominations for the office of the Treasurer and of the General Secretary of the Union and of the Treasurer and of the General Secretary of the South African Baptist Missionary Societies shall at the first business session of the Assembly there present may then make further nominations.

vii. Nominations under two preceding sections shall be made in writing on the form provided and no speeches in connection therewith shall be permitted.

viii. Complete lists of all nominations as aforesaid shall be prominently displayed during the entire morning session of the second day of the Assembly and the necessary elections shall be the first business at the afternoon session of the same day except upon an unopposed motion to the contrary.

ix. Elections shall be by ballot. In the event of a tie the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

x. In the election, where necessary of members to the Executive, each voter shall vote for five nominees. The five nominees receiving a majority of the votes cast shall be declared elected.

xi. In the case of the Vice-Presidency and other offices a majority of votes cast in respect of each office shall be necessary for election, provided that the sole nominee in respect of any office shall be declared elected thereto. In the event of a first ballot being inconclusive in respect of any office the names of the two nominees receiving the greatest number of votes cast shall be submitted to a second ballot and the nominee receiving a majority of votes cast at such second ballot shall be declared elected.

- (c) In addition to the foregoing appointments the Assembly may elect annually such other officials and Standing Committees as it may deem expedient.
- (d) Unless otherwise herein provided voting on all matters before the Assembly shall be by show of hands subject to the right of any ten members to demand a ballot.
- (e) Personal members shall be entitled to vote on all matters unless otherwise determined by a 20% vote of the members of the Assembly other than Personal Members.
- (f) Notices of motion shall be submitted to the General Secretary of the Union in writing signed by the proposer at least 21 day prior to the Assembly. Notices of motion not so submitted may be considered upon permission of the Assembly granted without discussion.
- (g) The Assembly may, in order to facilitate specific business thereat appoint Committees to deal

therewith. The conveners and quorum of committees shall be fixed by the Assembly. Each Committee shall elect its own Chairman and minutes of business shall be recorded and upon a majority vote of the Assembly be available for use in the Assembly. Reports of each Committee shall be submitted in writing signed by the Chairman.

5. THE EXECUTIVE

- (a) The Chairman of the Executive shall be the President of the Union who shall preside at its meetings during his term of office. The Chairman shall have both a deliberative and a casting vote.
- (b) Seven members of the Executive shall form a quorum.
- (c) Any elected member or member nominated by an Association who shall fail to attend any two consecutive meetings without leave shall forfeit his seat.
- (d) On the requisition of any seven members of the Executive the General Secretary of the Union shall summon a special meeting by notice setting forth the business to be transacted thereat.

6. DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE

Without derogation from the Executive powers by the Constitution conferred, the Executive shall:

- i. Prepare the business and arrange the agenda of the Assembly.
- ii. Prepare and present to the Assembly audited financial statement and general and statistical reports of the year's work which after adoption by the Assembly it shall have printed and circulated together with a digest of the proceedings of the Assembly.
- iii. Appoint Hon. Examiners to audit the several accounts of the Union and of the South African Baptist Missionary Society.
- iv. Keep a register of Ministers and Probationer Ministers, Churches, Associations, and Personal Members.
- v. Appoint arbitrators or advisers for the settlement of differences submitted.
- vi. Control and administer the Trust Fund in terms of By-Law No. 9 and appoint a Treasurer thereto.
- vii. Take such initial steps for formation of Churches, Associations, and other Bodies as it may deem necessary for the better fulfillment of the objects of the Union as in the Constitution defined.

(b) The Executive may in its discretion:

- i. In the event of any emergency arising between Assemblies for all such acts, matters and things and authorise the signing and execution of all such deeds and documents as it may deem necessary in the best interests of the Union, and any resolution passed pursuant to the powers hereby vested in the Executive shall be deemed to be a resolution of the Assembly. Any action taken hereunder shall be reported to the next Assembly.
- ii. In order to facilitate and expedite the transaction of business, appoint a sub-Committee to meet at more frequent intervals than the whole Executive. This

Committee may be given power to act in special matters referred to it by the Executive.

- iii. Fill any vacancy occasioned between Assemblies by the death, retirement or incapacity of any officer of the Union or other official or Committee member appointed shall hold office until the next Assembly.
- iv. Fill any vacancy in itself that may occur in its elected membership.
- v. Buy in for the protection of the Trust Fund any property mortgaged under the provisions of By-Law 8 hereof and thereafter utilise, let, sell or otherwise dispose of the same.
- (c) The Executive may on its own motion or on complaint laid before it remove from the roll of membership after due enquiry of misconduct, subject to the right of the Minister or Probationer Minister concerned to appeal to the next Assembly.
- (d) A resolution approved by signature of all the members of the Executive present in South Africa shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at an Executive Meeting duly called and constituted.

7. DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE TRUSTEES

- (a) The Trustees of the Union shall hold on behalf of and for the benefit of the Union all property, estate, actions, credits and things of the Union including all securities and investments of the Trust Fund.
- (b) All proceeds and income accruing to the Trustees shall be dealt with as directed by the Executive.
- (c) The Trustees shall be bound to make, conclude, and accept all such purchases, sales, investments, leases, contracts and agreements whatsoever as directed by the Executive subject always to the terms of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Union and also to sue for and recover all monies, debts, goods and effects whatsoever due or belonging to the Union, and to discharge any securities or investments as so directed by the Executive as aforesaid.
- (d) During any vacancy in the office of Trustee or during illness or absence from South Africa of one or more of the Trustees the remaining Trustee or Trustees shall be and act as Trustees with all the powers and authorities vested in the Trustees jointly.

8. FINANCE

- (a) The following minimum affiliation fees shall be payable annually to the Treasurer of the Union:
£2.2.0 by each Church.
£2.2.0 by each Association.
£2.2.0 by each Personal Member
- (b) All affiliation fees shall become due and payable on or before the 31st day of December in each year, and any member of the Union whose affiliation fees are in arrear for more than one year may be removed by the Executive from the register of members. The name of any member in arrear shall be reported to the Executive.
- (c) The registration fee of 10/-per member of Assembly, except Delegates and Personal Members from the entertaining Church or Churches, shall be paid to the General Secretary of the Union prior to the attendance at each Assembly.

Such fees shall be paid to the Church or Churches entertaining the Assembly as a contribution towards the expense thereof.

- (d) It is desired and expected that every Church and Association shall contribute voluntarily an annual sum towards the general revenue of the Union and shall notify the Assembly of such sum either through its delegation or otherwise.
- (e) The Treasurer is hereby authorised to pay to each member of the Executive, excluding Association nominees, attending Executive meetings other than those held in conjunction with Assemblies a sum equivalent to a second class return railway fare (concession if available) from his place of residence to the place of meeting, and further to pay any authorised fares and expenses of any sub-Committee appointed by the Executive.

9. TRUST FUND

- (a) The Trust Fund shall be administered by the Executive under the name or title of the BAPTIST UNION SUSTENTATION AND TRUST FUND.
- (b) Unless otherwise expressly directed by the creator of any trust the Executive shall invest the trust fund to the best advantage, either in Government or Municipal Stocks of the Union of South Africa or of any British possession or Dominion in South Africa or on fixed deposit in any well accredited Bank or Building Society operating in South Africa or on first mortgage of immovable urban property situate within South Africa.
- (c) The Executive shall not loan money to Churches for current fund purposes.
- (d) It shall be a condition of all loans on mortgage that the capital shall be repaid either monthly, quarterly, half-yearly or annually so as to redeem the loan in any period not exceeding ten years unless the Executive specifically otherwise determine.
- (e) Unless otherwise provided by the creator of any trust the income from the Trust Fund shall be devoted to the general expenses of the Union.
- (f) Pending investment, capital moneys shall be lodged to the credit of the Trust fund at such Bank or Building Society as the Executive may determine.
- (g) Annual statements of account together with a balance sheet duly certified and audited shall be presented to the Executive by the Treasurer of the Trust Fund and submitted by the Executive to the Assembly.

10. BAPTIST UNION PENSION FUND

The Baptist Union Pension Fund established by the Union in October, 1910, shall be managed in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution thereof.

11. SOUTH AFRICAN BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY

The South African Baptist Missionary Society established by the Union in the year 1892 shall be managed in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution thereof. (See Handbook 1920-22, page 54.)

12. CHURCHES

- (a) All Churches shall report annually during the month of July to the General Secretary of the Union giving such statistical figures as may be called for by the Union, and in the case of aided Churches a

general report on the year's work.

(b) Any application to the Union for a grant in aid by a Church shall be accompanied by an audited financial statement.

(c) In the case of Churches in membership with an Association the annual report in clause (a) hereof referred to shall be made through such Association and any application made under clause (b) hereof shall be endorsed by such Association.

13. ASSOCIATIONS

(a) Each Association shall forward an annual report to the General Secretary of the Union at least one month prior to the Annual Assembly. Such report shall incorporate reports on all churches which may be in membership with such Association. Failure so to do will debar the Association from appointing a nominee to the Executive.

(b) Each Association shall notify the General Secretary of the Union of the name of its nominee, if any, to the Executive of the Union.

14. ALTERATION OF BY-LAWS

Amendments to these By-Laws saving By-Law 9 and 10 hereof shall be effected by Resolution of the Assembly in pursuance of a notice of motion in writing given to the General Secretary of the Union at least one month prior to the Assembly.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1933-1934, pp. 32-45.)

65. Statement of Belief (1933)

1. We believe in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments in their original writings as fully inspired of God, and accept them as the supreme and final authority for faith and life.
2. We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons- Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
3. We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, and is true God and true man.
4. We believe that God created man in His own image; that man sinned and thereby incurred the penalty of death, physical and spiritual; that all human beings inherit a sinful nature which issues (in the case of those who reach moral responsibility) in actual transgression involving personal guilt.
5. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins, a substitutionary sacrifice, according to the Scriptures, and that all who believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed blood.
6. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the Lord Jesus, His ascension into heaven, and His present life as our High Priest and Advocate.
7. We believe in the personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ.
8. We believe that all who receive the Lord Jesus by faith are born again of the Holy Spirit and thereby become children of God.
9. We believe in the resurrection both of the just and the unjust, the eternal blessedness of the redeemed and the eternal banishment of those who have rejected the offer of salvation.

10. We believe that the one true Church is the whole company of those who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ and regenerated by the Holy Spirit; that the local Church on earth should take its character from this conception of the Church spiritual, and therefore that the new birth and personal confession of Christ are essentials of Church membership.

11. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ appointed two ordinances - Baptism and the Lord's Supper - to be observed as acts of obedience and as perpetual witnesses to the cardinal facts of the Christian faith; that Baptism is the immersion of the believer in water as a confession on identification with Christ in burial and resurrection, and that the Lord's Supper is the partaking of bread and wine as symbolical of the Saviour's broken body and shed blood, in remembrance of His sacrificial death till He come.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1933-1934, pp. 44-45.)

66. A Model Trust Deed (1933)

As prepared by the Executive of the Baptist Union of South Africa.

1.

The Trust shall be known as the Baptist Church Trust and the Trustees hereinafter referred to throughout shall be the Trustees of the Baptist Union of South Africa, viz., the President, Secretary and Treasurer for the time being in the their official capacity as such, and their successors in those offices.

2.

The Executive hereinafter referred to throughout, shall mean the Executive of the Baptist Union of South Africa as constituted under the rules of the said "Executive" Union for the time being. The word "Meeting" throughout shall mean a meeting of members of the Church for business purposes.

3.

The Trustees shall have power to build or permit to be built on land transferred or to be transferred to the Trust, a building for the use and purpose of the Baptist Church already constituted or to be constituted hereafter, with or without school or class rooms and such other buildings, and accommodation as may be necessary, usual or convenient for carrying on the work of a Baptist Church and/or the housing of the Minister and at any time before the formation of a properly subsequent constituted Baptist Church as hereinafter mentioned to raise by mortgage of the said land such sum or sums of money as they shall think fit for the purchase land and the erection of the building as above, and to stand possessed of the said land and buildings so to be erected subject to such mortgage as aforesaid - if any. All plans and specifications for such buildings shall be submitted to and approved by the Trustees previous to calling for tenders.

4.

The Church property whether movable or immovable and whether already received, purchased, held or hypothecated or hereafter received, purchased, held or hypothecated shall vest in and be held by The Trustees of the Baptist Union of South Africa as aforesaid in Trust for the Members of the Church duly constituted or to be constituted in terms of this Trust Deed.

5.

Any immovable property at any time held or to be held by the Trustees hereinbefore named shall not be alienated save as hereinafter provided except by sanction of a majority of the Members at a Church Meeting properly convened in terms hereof, confirmed by a subsequent special Church Meeting called for the purpose, to be held within one month from the date of the first meeting. The signature of The President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Baptist Union of South Africa, signing as Trustees for the time being shall be sufficient authority for the Trustees to cause any Registrar of Deeds to register in his Registry of Deeds, the Transfer or hypothecation of any property of the Church providing always that they act under and by virtue of a resolution of the Members of the Church whether in annual, half-yearly or special meeting, assembled.

The Trustees to stand possessed of the Property with full power, authority and discretion to do and exercise all such acts, deeds or other things incidental to the ownership and/or control of the property in terms of these presents with power further to sue or be sued in relation thereto excepting always the rights conferred on the Church occupying the property as defined in terms of Clause 8 of this Deed.

6.

The said Trustees shall hold the property herein referred to in Trust to be used, occupied, and enjoyed as a place of Public Worship for the service of Almighty God, and/or for the purpose of schools, classes, residence for Minister or such other purposes incidental to the work and service of a Baptist Church, as may be decided by the Church.

7.

Such Church shall consist only of persons who hold the Deity of he Lord Jesus Christ and the sole authority of the Holy Scriptures and that interpretation of them usually called Protestant and Evangelical in contradistinction to that interpretation known either as Unitarian, Sacerdotal or Roman Catholic and having been immersed on a confession of faith in the doctrine and rite of Immersion of Believers and no other Baptism. PROVIDED ALWAYS that no person shall be eligible to become a Deacon or Elder of the said Church constituted under these presents who has not been immersed upon the confession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and is not at the time of his or her appointment a Member of the said Church. AND UPON TRUST to permit to Officiate in the said premises such stated Pastor or Pastors as the said Church shall in Special Church Meeting from time to time elect holding the Diety of the Lord Jesus Christ and the sole authority of the Holy Scriptures and that interpretation of them usually called Protestant and Evangelical in contradistinction to that interpretation known either as Unitarian, Sacerdotal or Roman Catholic, and having been immersed on a confession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and maintaining and practising the doctrine and rite of the Immersion of Believers and other Baptism. PROVIDED ALWAYS that such occasional Preachers, subject to the condition that such occasional Preachers, shall not teach doctrines subversive of the Protestant Evangelical faith, as generally held by the non-Episcopal Protestant Churches, may from time to time be allowed to Officiate as the stated Pastor or the Deacons or Elders for the time being of the said Church may appoint.

8.

The property herein referred to shall be under the immediate control of the said Church, which body shall be bound and obliged to keep the same in good order and repair and pay all expenses including interest on any mortgage bond as it becomes due.

9.

Should Divine Service in any Church be discontinued whether by reason of paucity of Members or for any other cause for a period of six months, then all movable or immovable property received, purchased, held hypothecated and/or hereafter received, purchased, held or hypothecated by such Church shall vest in and be held, by the Executive as herein defined, and the said Executive may sell, mortgage or in any other whatsoever manner deal with and/or alienate the same and authorise any Registrar of Deeds in like manner as hereinbefore provided. Any funds resulting from such course of action shall be and become the property of the BAPTIST UNION OF SOUTHAFRICA.

10.

The said Trustees shall permit the said Church to alter, improve, enlarge, add to, or rebuild the said Buildings or any of them or any other Buildings for the time being erected on the said land in such manner as the said Church shall determine in Special Church Meeting and the Trustees as aforesaid shall approve.

11.

The said Trustees shall have power from time to time to raise by mortgage of the said land and the buildings thereon or any part thereof such sum or sums of money and at such rate or rates of interest as the said Church shall in Special Church Meeting determine and the Trustees shall consider it expedient to raise for any of the purposes hereinafter mentioned. AND UPON FURTHER TRUST to apply the moneys arising from any such sale exchange letting or mortgage as aforesaid in or towards payment of the expenses of any such work of alteration improvement enlargement addition and re-building as hereinbefore mentioned or the purchase or acquisition for the purposes of the said Church of any other property of freehold tenure or for paying off (wholly or partially) or procuring the transfer of any mortgage or mortgages for the time being affecting the said premises or for meeting or defraying any other necessary or proper expenses connected with or for the benefit of said Church as the said Church shall in Special Church Meeting determine and the Trustees shall approve. AND UPON FURTHER TRUST to hold all property taken in exchange purchased or otherwise acquired by the Trustees under the foregoing provisions and all buildings erected thereon upon the same or the like trusts and with and subject to the same or the like trusts and with and subject to the same or the like powers and provisions as are herein declared or contained concerning the said land hereby conveyed and the buildings thereon.

AND IT IS HEREBY DECLARED that in making any mortgage under any of the powers of mortgaging herein contained the Trustees may insert in such mortgage such power of sale and other powers and such covenants and provisions as they may deem expedient including (if thought advisable) a provision for the continuance of the loan for any term to be therein specified.

12.

The said Trustees shall permit the Church subject to the provisions herein contained to manage all its affairs business and general work according to its uncontrolled discretion.

13.

Should any dispute or difference at any time arise between the Members of the Church (whether a majority of such Members or not) and the Pastor or other officers of the Church or between any of such persons as to the meaning construction or effect of these presents or as to any matter relating to the property or affairs of the Church or as to the doctrines teaching or mode of conducting Public Worship in the said Church or as to any matter or thing whatsoever every such dispute or difference shall on application by the Pastor or a majority of the Deacons or Elders or not fewer than seven Members be submitted for settlement to the Executive whose decision shall be binding and conclusive on the parties to such dispute or difference and all other persons concerned or

interested therein.

PROVIDED that the said Executive may in its discretion decline to entertain any submission under this clause if it does not consider the subject matter of such submission to be of a sufficiently serious character to call for its intervention. **AND** the said Executive shall be at liberty to delegate the consideration of and adjudication upon or determination of any such dispute or difference to a Commission consisting of three or more persons selected by the said Executive and in that case the decision of the Commission so appointed as aforesaid shall be as binding and conclusive on the parties such dispute or difference and all other persons concerned or interested therein as the decision of the full Executive would have been but this provision shall not enable the said Executive or Commission to override any determination of a meeting of the said Church in regard to the subject matter of such dispute or difference when it shall appear to the said Executive or Commission that such determination was within the powers of such meeting and was arrived at regularly and properly and by the necessary majority.

14.

All meetings of the Church whether general or special shall be deemed to have been duly convened and duly assembled if called by the Pastor and Deacons or a majority of them in manner hereinafter described that is to say: For all **GENERAL MEETINGS** of the Church oral public notice of the time and place appointed for every such meeting shall be given during or immediately after divine Service but before the dismissal of the Congregation at each of the Public Services on the Lord's Day immediately preceding the date of such intended General Meeting: For all **SPECIAL MEETINGS** notice shall be given in a similar manner on each of the two Lord's Days immediately preceding any such intended Special Meeting and the purpose for which such Meeting has been convened and the matters to be transacted or dealt with thereat shall be either stated at the time of giving such last mentioned notice or if the Pastor and Deacons or a majority of them shall so decide shall be set out in written notice to be sent by prepaid post at least seven days before the date of such Meeting to every Member at his or her last known address but the non-receipt of the notice by any Member shall not invalidate the proceedings at such meeting.

15.

Except as provided in Clause 5, all resolutions at a General Meeting shall be considered as carried and binding on the whole Church if approved by a majority of the members of the Church entitled to vote and voting at such meeting. Votes shall be taken by ballot if demanded by not less than three of the Members present and no resolution passed at a Meeting whether General or Special shall be rescinded unless notice of the motion for such rescission has been given at the preceding Meeting. No Member may vote at any Meeting whether General or Special unless he or she has been a Member for three calendar months at the least and shall have attained the age of eighteen years. A Resolution at a Special Church Meeting shall not be deemed to have been carried unless supported by the votes of not less than two-thirds of the Members present entitled to vote and voting at such Meeting.

16.

At any Church Meeting (whether General or Special) the Pastor (if any) for time being of the said Church shall if present and willing to act as Chairman of such Meeting be entitled to take the Chair unless the Pastor and Deacons or a majority of the Deacons shall have previously resolved that there shall be an independent Chairman of such Meeting in which case or if there shall be no such Pastor or he shall be absent or unwilling to act as Chairman the members present shall elect a Chairman before proceeding with the business of such Meeting **PROVIDED ALWAYS** that the resolutions of any Church Meeting shall be certified by a minute thereof under the hand of the Chairman and such minute shall be conclusive evidence that any resolution therein stated to have

been passed was passed at a Meeting duly convened and held by the requisite majority and also of the due appointment of the person signing the minute as Chairman.

17.

It shall be lawful for the Church at any time or times by a resolution passed by a two-thirds majority as aforesaid at a Special Church Meeting to revoke vary add to amend or alter all or any of the provisions of this Trust Deed in such manner as such meeting shall think fit except as far as they relate to the doctrines to be held and proclaimed or as to the ultimate reversion of the trust premises but so that no such resolution shall be effective unless and until the same shall have been submitted to and approved by the Executive and upon such resolution being so passed and approved as aforesaid a Deed shall be prepared to give effect to such resolution which Deed shall be executed in duplicate by the Chairman of such meeting or by some other person appointed for that purpose by such meeting on behalf of the said Church and also by the Executive and one copy thereof shall be kept by the Church and the other copy thereof by the said Baptist Union of South Africa.

18.

If at any time the Baptist Union of South Africa shall cease to exist then the Baptist of Great Britain shall be substituted for that of South Africa throughout, and the property shall devolve and vest in the said Baptist Union Britain of Great Britain.

19.

A schedule should be attached giving the particulars of the immovable property held or to be held in trust together with a general statement of the immovable property therein included in the Trust.

20.

The Church constituted or to be constituted under this Deed shall deposit its rules of procedure with the Secretary of the Baptist Union of South Africa. Should there arise any discrepancy between such rules and the provision of the Trust Deed then the Trust Deed is to prevail over the rules which are to be at all times subjects to the provision of this Trust Deed.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1933-1934, pp. 80-87.)

67. Ministerial Education (1936)

Under this paragraph the following was moved by Mr G. N. Cross, B. A., LLB. B., seconded by Mr Herringshaw, and carried unanimously:

“Having noted with regret and grave concern that the Ministerial Education Committee has reported, through the Executive, that most of the Student-Ministers whose names were placed on the Baptist Union list on the understanding that they would take the course of studies prescribed have not, thus far, fulfilled the implied undertaking to the satisfaction of the Executive, the Assembly now resolves as follows:

Fully recognising the primary importance of the spiritual character and equipment that have always been vital to the Christian Ministry, but being also convinced that, for the effective maintenance of a **pastorate of the Baptist order under modern conditions, there must be adequate equipment on the intellectual side, developed by habits of systematic study, the Assembly hereby assures the Executive of its wholehearted support in all legitimate efforts to safeguard the door of entrance into the Baptist Ministry, and in its policy of requiring non-collegiate candidates for ministerial recognition to pass,**

within a specified time limit and at specified intervals, examinations set by the Ministerial Education Committee under the direction of the Executive.

Marking the Denomination's sense of the importance of this matter for the future effectiveness of the Baptist witness in South Africa, and in order to strengthen the hands of those to whom the Assembly has delegated administrative responsibility, it is an Assembly instruction to the Executive-

1. That, before a candidate's name is placed upon the Baptist Union's list of Student Ministers, he be required to signify, in writing, his acceptance of the Baptist Union regulations in regard to Ministerial training and recognition, and his intension to fulfill the conditions contained therein.
2. That the Executive, as the administrative body of the Baptist Union, do not stand sponsor to the Government (in respect of appointments of Marriage Officers, Railway Concessions, etc.) for candidates for the Baptist Ministry, or Student Ministers, who have not given the undertaking indicated above.
3. That the Executive have the right to withdraw any recommendation made to the Government, on behalf of the Baptist Union, in the respect of any Student Minister who does not fulfill the conditions upon which his name was placed on the Baptist Union list.
4. That, before making any grant from the Baptist Union Funds, the Executive require the Church applying for such grant to signify, in writing, its acceptance of the Baptist Union's regulations for ministerial training and recognition as applying to any Student Minister serving, or called to serve, as its Pastor."

(Source: BU Handbook for 1936-1937, pp. 58-59.)

68. Regulations of the Baptist Union & Missionary Society with regard to the Training and Recognition of Baptist Ministers and Missionaries (1936)

These regulations having been sent to all the Churches, and the recommendations of the Churches having been fully considered by the Executive, were presented, on behalf of the Executive, by the Rev Frank Oldrieve and adopted as follows:

THE BAPTIST UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Regulations of the Baptist Union and the Baptist Missionary Society with regard to the Training and Recognition of Baptist Ministers and Missionaries.

DEFINITIONS: THE UNION shall mean The Baptist Union of South Africa. THE EXECUTIVE shall mean the Committee constituted as under Section 8 (a) of the Baptist Union Constitution. THE MINISTERIAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE shall mean the Committee appointed by the Assembly to undertake the training of accepted students.

1. TRAINING

(a) Acceptance of Candidates for Training.

- i. Applications for training must be made in writing to the General Secretary of the Union.

- ii. The acceptance of Candidates for training shall rest with the Executive.
- iii. Wherever possible, Candidates for training shall be interviewed by the Executive, or a Committee appointed by the Executive, before final acceptance.
- iv. The Executive shall not accept responsibility for finding spheres for Students after the completion of their course of study, except in the case of Candidates who have been definitely accepted for service under the South African Baptist Missionary Society.

(b) Qualifications required of Candidates for Training.

- i. *Age.* Save in exceptional circumstances only Candidates under 40 years of age will be accepted.
- ii. *Health.* Every Candidate must be medically examined, before acceptance, and submit a certificate given by a qualified medical practitioner.
- iii. *Education.* All Candidates, except those who have passed the Matriculation Examination, or its equivalent, determined as such by the Ministerial Education Committee, shall be required to pass an examination Committee, set by the Ministerial Education Committee, comprising-
 - 1. English, or Afrikaans, Grammar and Composition.
 - 2. Set Book of English, or Afrikaans, Literature.
 - 3. General Knowledge of the Scriptures.
- iv. The Executive shall require evidence of Candidate's conversion and baptism, and, save in exceptional circumstances, a certificate of the Candidate's membership in a Church affiliated with the Union.
- v. *Experience in Christian Work and Preaching.* The Executive shall satisfy itself as to a Candidate's experience in Christian work and preaching ability, by such references as it may think fit to require in addition to recommendation from the Pastor of the Church to which the Candidate belongs, endorsed by the members of the Church.

(c) Training of accepted Candidates.

- i. In view of the great advantages of College or University training approved young Candidates should be urged, where possible, to take a full course of training at a recognised Baptist College or a University.
- ii. Any Candidate received for training by an overseas College on the recommendation of and by special arrangement with the Executive shall be expected to return for service in one of the Churches in the Union, or in one of the South African Baptist Mission Fields, should a suitable opening occur. The Executive shall have the power to cancel any arrangements made by it concerning such Students on receiving unfavourable reports from the College authorities
- iii. For accepted Candidates who cannot take a College or University training a special course of study, extending over at least four years, shall be provided by the Ministerial Education Committee, and approved by the Executive. Such accepted Candidates shall become Students under the direction of the Ministerial Education Committee.

(d) Students under the Ministerial Education Committee.

- i. Where possible Students shall be urged during their first year to attend University Classes, or to take University Correspondence courses, in English, Afrikaans, Logic, and Psychology. Where this is not possible these subjects shall be included in the first and second year's courses set by the M. E. Committee. The Ministerial Education Committee shall be responsible

only for the direction of the studies of approved Students and the arrangement of examinations, and shall submit regular reports to the Executive regarding the progress made by Students in their studies.

On the receipt of two successive unfavourable reports from the Ministerial Education Committee regarding the work of any Student the Executive may instruct the Ministerial Education Committee to discontinue the course of studies, and only under very exceptional circumstances shall a Student be allowed more than five years in which to complete the four years' course.

- ii. A Student who is in charge of a Church shall be called a Student-Minister, and shall be under the general supervision of an experienced Minister who shall be appointed by the Executive.
- iii. No Student or Student-Minister shall marry without the consent of the Executive.
- iv. Any Candidate whose views (as set forth in his original application) undergo radical change during the period of his training shall inform the Chairman of the Ministerial Education Committee of such change without delay. The action to be taken (if any) shall be decided by the Executive in consultation with the Chairman of the Ministerial Education Committee.

2. MINISTERIAL RECOGNITION

(a) Recognition of probationer Ministers.

Probationary Ministerial status may be granted on the recommendation of the Executive, confirmed by an Assembly of the Union, to any applicant who has given satisfactory evidence of his call to the ministry of the Word, and who has:-

- i. Either completed (to the satisfaction of the Faculty concerned) a course of training of not less than three years' duration at a Baptist Theological college (whether the College be in South Africa or other country),
- ii. Or has received elsewhere what the Executive shall deem to be an adequate College or University training,
- iii. Or who, without College training, has satisfied the conditions and passed the examinations prescribed by the Ministerial Education Committee of the Union, and who has been recommended by that Committee to the Executive.

(b) Recognition of Fully Accredited Ministers.

Full ministerial status may be granted, on the recommendation of the Executive, confirmed by an Assembly of the Union, to:-

- i. Any applicant whose name has already been published in the list of fully accredited Ministers of any other Baptist Union or Baptist Missionary Society recognised by the Executive, provided that the Secretary of such Union or Society has been communicated with and has confirmed the applicant's good standing, and provided that the applicant's good standing, and provided that the applicant has accepted, and been installed in, the pastorate of a Union (interdenominational) Church, or has appointed to any administrative office under the Union or Missionary Society.
- ii. Any applicant who has satisfied the condition laid down in Section 2 (a), clause i or ii, of these regulations, and who has afterwards completed a least two consecutive years in the pastorate of a Church or Churches affiliated with the Union, or of a Union (interdenominational) Church, or as a Missionary of the South African Baptist Missionary Society, to the satisfaction

of the Executive.

- iii. Any applicant over 40 years of age who has not received a College nor University training for the Ministry, and who has been exempted by special resolution of the Executive from the examinations required of non-collegiate candidates for recognition under section 1 (c) iii of these regulations, but who has been wholly devoted to the pastoral office in a Baptist Church, or a Union (interdenominational) Church, in affiliation with the Union for at least six consecutive years, and has given such evidence of efficiency, spiritual and intellectual as shall satisfy a three fourths majority of the Executive present when the vote is taken, provided they be not less than twelve in number.
- iv. Any Minister in good standing in any Church who, as a result of conviction on Baptist principles, makes application to join the ministry of the Union, provided that the recommendation be approved by not less than three fourths of the members of the Executive present when the vote is taken, provided they be not less than twelve in number.

3. ORDINATION

Ordination, if desired, shall be arranged for, where possible, by the Executive in co-operation with the Church of which the applicant is the pastor.

4. REVISION OF MINISTERIAL ROLL

From December 31st, 1936, when any Minister or Probationer-Minister shall have accepted a pastorate in another denomination, or shall have ceased for a period of not less than three consecutive years to hold the pastorate of a Church affiliated with the Union, of a Union (interdenominational) Church, or to be in the service of the South African Baptist Missionary Society as a Missionary, or to hold any such administrative office as is referred to in Section 2 (b) clause i, of these regulations for Ministerial recognition, his name shall be removed from the list of fully accredited Ministers or Probationary Ministers of the Union, with the following exceptions—a Minister or Missionary in good standing who retires from active service on account of ill - health or advanced age, or enters any profession or accepts any post which the Executive deems to be in harmony with his ministerial calling; provided that such Minister or Missionary, if a member of the Pension Fund, shall pay to the Pension Fund, in addition to his personal contribution, a sum equal to the contribution payable by a Church or a Missionary Society.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1936-1937, pp. 61-66.)

69. *Appointment of Baptist Union Commissioner (1936)*

The President, the Rev. J. Chas. Stern, vacated the Chair whilst this matter was discussed, the ex-President, the Rev. J. A. Baier, presiding.

It was moved by the General Secretary, the Rev. Chas. Garratt, seconded by Mr. A. T. Babbs, and unanimously resolved:

1. That the Rev. J. Chas. Stern be appointed Baptist Union Commissioner for Evangelism, Extension, and the deepening of the Spiritual Life.
2. That the appointment be for two years beginning on April 1st, 1937, subject to three months' notice by either side to terminate the engagement.
3. That the minimum stipend be at the rate of £480 per annum paid monthly.

4. That Mr. Stern be granted, and expected to take, one calendar month's holiday each year apart from necessary rest periods between series of meetings.
5. That Mr. Stern's reasonable removal expenses (railway fares for himself, his wife, and family, and transport of furniture, books, etc.) be defrayed.
6. That all arrangements, financial and otherwise, with Churches or groups of Churches desiring Mr. Stern's services, shall be made through a special Committee to be appointed to be appointed by the Assembly, which Committee shall work in consultation with Mr. Stern.
7. That the Committee for this purpose be the Evangelisation and Extension Committee.
8. That the Committee have its headquarters in East London and be composed of Pastor G. Watson (Chairman and Convener); Rev. J. A. Baier, Rev. D. H. Hay, Rev. H. Herringshaw, Rev. E. Fleischmann; Mr. A. H. King (Treasurer), and two other laymen to be co-opted by the members hereby appointed.
9. That the Committee be instructed to act on the following general principles, subject to such modifications as may be necessary in specific instances:
 1. That the Commissioner should remain in each Church, or group of Churches, long enough to consolidate the work accomplished - say, three or four weeks.
 2. That the inviting Church, or group of Churches, shall make a contribution in whole or part of the Commissioners' traveling expenses.
 3. That the inviting Church, or group of Churches, shall provide hospitality, for the Commissioner during the period arranged with the Committee.
10. That the Committee shall send a written report to the Executive, through the General Secretary, in good time for each of its ordinary meetings (usually in March, June, and October).
11. That in the event of any difference of opinion between Mr. Stern and the Committee, or the Committee and any Church or group of Churches, the matter shall be referred to the Executive whose decision shall be final.

The Rev. J. Chas. Stern was then recalled and informed of the appointment, and of its heartiness and unanimity.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1936-1937, pp. 66-67.)

70. Recognition of Lay Preachers (1936)

Regulations for the recognition of Lay Preachers were proposed by Mr. A. T. Babbs, on behalf of the Executive, and on behalf of the Baptist Men's Association, seconded by Mr. R. A. Barton, and carried as follows:

THE BAPTIST UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Proposals for the compilation of a Register of recognised Lay Preachers, and proposed regulations governing the recognition of Lay Preachers afterwards.

DEFINITIONS. *Recognition* shall mean that an accepted applicant's name shall be entered in a

Register of Lay Preachers, which shall be kept by a Registrar appointed by the Executive, and appear in a list of the names of Recognized Lay Preachers which shall be printed in the Union Handbook year by year.

The Union shall mean the Baptist Union of South Africa.

The Executive shall mean the Executive of the Union.

The Assembly shall mean any annual Assembly of the Union.

1. FOUNDATION REGISTER

For the inclusion of any name in the Foundation Register of recognised Lay Preachers:-

- (a) Application must be made to the General Secretary of the Union, not later than April 30th, 1937, by (1), the Lay Preacher himself, or (2), by a Church which desires recognition for a Lay Preacher, or Lay Preachers, associated with its fellowship.
- (b) Each application must be made on the form specially provided, a sufficient supply of which, together with a copy of these present regulations, shall be forwarded to each Church affiliated with the Union, by the General Secretary of the Union not later than December 31st, 1936.
- (c) All applications received shall be considered by the Executive at its meetings in June, 1937, and recognition granted or otherwise, subject to any rejected applicant's right of appeal to the Assembly.

2. ADDITIONS TO REGISTER

After April 30th, 1937, the procedure shall be as follows:

- (a) Application for recognition as a Lay Preacher must be made on the prescribed form which will be supplied, on request, by the General Secretary of the Union.
- (b) An applicant under 35 years of age, whose application is otherwise satisfactory to the Executive, shall be required to pass an examination for Lay Preachers (including the preaching or writing of a trial sermon) arranged by the Executive through a Committee at least half the members of which shall be laymen to be appointed by the Executive in the first instance and subsequently elected by the Assembly.
- (c) The said Committee shall report on the applicant's work to the Executive, with whom the decision as to recognition shall rest, subject to any rejected applicant's right of appeal to the Assembly.
- (d) An application over 35 years of age who does not wish to take examination but who has had not less than 5 years' experience as a Lay Preacher, either in South Africa or elsewhere, may be given recognition without examination, provided he is able to present credentials that satisfy the Executive and that the requirement of clause (a) above has been observed.

3. REMOVALS FROM REGISTER

The Register of Lay Preachers shall be revised by the Executive at least once three years. The names of those who have died or who have ceased to be active in the service of the Churches, either of our own order or of other Protestant Evangelical Churches, except on account of continued illness, shall be removed in this periodic revision, as well as the names of any who, for reasons deemed sufficient by the Executive should not be retained on the register.

4. The Executive shall have the right to ask for a report of work done by Lay Preachers.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1936-1937, pp. 72-73.)

71. New Missionary By-Laws to replace the Old (1937)

The following By-Laws, drafted in consultation with the Union's legal adviser, Mr. G. Nurden Cross, were adopted to replace the old Missionary Constitution which is no longer in line with legal requirements:

MISSIONARY SOCIETY BY-LAWS

1. **NAME.** The South African Baptist Missionary Society.
2. **DEFINITIONS:** The definition of the terms provided in the Constitution and By-Laws of The Baptist Union of South Africa, shall apply *mutatis mutandis* hereto and in addition "the Society" shall mean The South African Baptist Missionary Society.
3. **METHOD OF FUNCTIONING.** The Society shall carry on its operations under the auspices of the Union, and shall function as the Union in all its non-European missionary activities. The affairs of the Society shall be controlled by the Assembly of the Union, acting through the Executive thereof.
4. **OBJECTS AND POWERS.** The objects and powers of the Society are:
 - (a) To disseminate the Gospel of Jesus Christ among and to promote the evangelisation of the non-European peoples of Southern Africa.
 - (b) To engage in medical and educational work among the non-European peoples of Southern Africa.
 - (c) To establish and assist indigenous and other Churches.
 - (d) To appoint and to dismiss Missionaries, Probationer-Missionaries, non-European Ministers, Evangelists and other workers.
 - (e) To define Mission areas and spheres of influence and to place such areas under the charge of specific workers.
 - (f) To confer and co-operate as occasion may require with other bodies for the furtherance of its objects.
 - (g) To prepare and publish literature for use by the Society or to assist in such preparation and publication and to provide Mission requisites.
 - (h) To receive, purchase, hold, hypothecate, sell, donate, lease, exchange and partition movable and immovable property.
 - (i) To invest any funds of the Society in any manner hereinafter provided.
 - (j) To make provision for retiring and relief allowances or gratuities to workers of the Society.
5. **HOLDING OF PROPERTY.** All property and other assets of the Society and of the Trust Funds of the Society, including investments, shall be held by the Trustees of the Union and be registered in their name.
6. **GENERAL MEETINGS.** The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held at the Missionary Session of the Assembly which the annual report and statement of accounts and balance sheet, duly certified and audited, shall be presented. The President of the Union shall be the Chairman of the Society.

7. **APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS.** There shall be elected in terms of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Union, two officers to be styled "the General Secretary of the Society" and "the Treasurer of the Society."
8. **TRUST FUNDS.** (a) The Trust Funds shall be administered by the Executive under the name or title of The South African Baptist Missionary Society Trust Fund, and the Executive shall appoint a Treasurer thereto.
- (b) The provisions of sub-sections (b) to (g) inclusive of Section 9 of the By-Laws of the Union shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the Society. The expression "the Union" occurring in sub-sections (e) thereof being read as "the Society."
- (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of the foregoing sub-section 8 of the By-laws the Executive may utilise sums not exceeding at any time one tenth of the S.A.B.M.S. Trust Fund for the purpose of erecting buildings for Missionary purposes, subject to the condition that a sum equivalent to not less than one tenth of such sum or sums shall be repaid into the said Trust Fund annually and that such sums shall bear interest at such rate and on such conditions as the Executive may determine.
9. **FINANCE** (a) The funds of the Society shall be derived from:
- (i) Church Collections.
 - (ii) Donations, bequests and subscriptions.
 - (iii) Income from its Trust Funds and other sources.
 - (iv) Collections and contributions from the various Mission Areas.
- (b) It is desired and expected that every Church shall contribute voluntarily an annual sum towards the general revenue of the Society.
- One half of the traveling expenses paid by the Treasurer of the Union in respect of Executive Meetings in terms of sub-section (e) of section 8 of the By-Laws of the Union shall be refunded by the Society to the Union. The fares and expenses of any sub-committee appointed for Missionary work may be refunded by the Society to the Union.
10. **CONTROL OF MISSION AREAS.** (a) The Executive may constitute a Field Committee in respect of any area in which the Society is working and such Field Committee shall have such objects, powers and duties as may from time to time be determined by the Executive.
- (b) Each Mission area defined as such by the Executive shall be administered by such Missionary or Missionaries as may be appointed thereto, who shall endeavour to make the said Mission area self-supporting.
- (c) The Superintendent Missionary administering a Mission area shall have such authority as may from time to time be delegated by resolution of the Executive.
11. **ROLL OF NON-EUROPEAN MINISTERS, EVANGELISTS AND OTHER WORKERS.** All appointments of non-European Ministers, Evangelists and other workers in any Mission area and the terms and conditions thereof shall be forthwith reported to the General Secretary of the Society who shall keep a register of all the Ministers, Evangelists and other workers appointed.
12. **AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS.** Amendments of these By-laws shall be affected by resolution of the Assembly in pursuance of a Notice of Motion in writing given to the General Secretary of the Union at least one month prior to the Assembly.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1937-1938, pp. 65-67.)

72. Evangelisation and Deepening of Spiritual Life (1939)

The Rev. J. C. Stern concluded his two years' service as Commissioner for Evangelism at the end of March, the reason being that Mr. Stern had received and accepted the call to the Pastorate of Pietermaritzburg Church. Since the issue of the Executive's last annual report Mr. Stern has held Missions at Grahamstown, Kariega, Nahoon, Troyeville, Johannesburg Central and Pretoria and everywhere his visits have been appreciated.

In writing of his experiences Mr. Stern says:

"During the period under review I have travelled approximately 15,000 miles by land, sea and air, conducted 28 missions and delivered approximately over 400 messages. I have kept no record of the cards signed in the various missions as I am most anxious that there should not be a mere counting of heads and I desire to recognise the fact that spiritual results are with the Lord and that any glory is due to His Name only. At a conservative estimate about 1,200 cards have been signed, three quarters of these would be consecration cards and the other decision cards. I have not always pressed for the signing of a card dealing with individual cases. On occasions one has had the joy of seeing over 50 seekers come forward from the congregation and kneel at the front of the church, sometimes overflowing into the aisles, either seeking salvation or more especially confessing sin and seeking cleansing and the fullness of the Holy Spirit. During every mission numerous interviews have taken place, the numbers of which, of course, are not recorded.

In the presenting of the message to Church Members there has been the opportunity to deal with practical subjects such as the church members' responsibility in attendance, an interest in financial matters, obligations to the Denomination and the Missionary Society, and the relation between the pastor and the people.

I must conclude with an expression of my grateful acknowledgement to the Denomination, through its Executive, for giving me the privilege of a fellowship and service that has meant I trust a lasting enrichment to my own life, and the joy of a spiritual service that I shall always be grateful to the Lord for allowing me to share in.

May God bless our work throughout this land and may He abundantly bless the faithful untiring efforts of those of His servants who are giving of their best to the service of Christ and of our Denomination in this country. To Him 'Whose I am and Whom I serve' be all praise and glory for His unfailing Grace in the choice of, and blessing upon, a very weak vessel whose use in any measure can but serve to magnify the Lord Jesus."

The Executive wishes to express its warm appreciation to Mr. Stern and does not forget the sacrifice Mr. and Mrs. Stern made in their family life during the two years that he gave to the work and they wish to record their thanks. The Evangelisation Committee which was appointed at the last Assembly has continued its work and the proposal, which has been accepted by the Executive Committee, that a Baptist Prayer Union be formed, will be placed before the Assembly. The possibility of arranging Missions in some Churches desiring them is under consideration.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1939-1940, pp. 5-6.)

73. Extension Scheme (1939)

The General Secretary presented, on behalf of the Executive, a Scheme for Extension. Mr. Oldrieve pointed out that at the last Assembly consideration had been given to a Scheme for Ministerial Settlement, Sustentation and Extension. This had been considered by the Executive, but, in the light of the replies received from the Churches, as well as from their knowledge of feeling in the Churches, the Executive considered that this was not the time to bring such a comprehensive scheme, involving the

raising of a large sum of money, before the Denomination. For the time being, therefore, the Executive recommended the adoption of the modified scheme now presented. Considerable discussion took place, and finally the following was adopted by the Assembly:

1. That the Churches be called to adopt a policy to extend the European side of the work of the Denomination.
2. That for the purpose of achieving this object there shall be a Special Central Extension Fund of £5000 (Five Thousand Pounds), to be raised if possible within the next five years.
3. That the Executive appoint a special Treasurer for this Fund and an Organiser if deemed necessary.
4. That the Executive be authorised to use at its discretion this sum as it becomes available for the purpose of securing sites, the purchasing or erecting of buildings, the granting of loans for Extension work free of interest or otherwise, and, or, contributing to the salaries of pioneer workers approved of by the Executive. Before grants are made to any new work the Executive shall consult the local Baptist Association, where such exists, or local Churches before taking action. Final decisions shall be made by the Executive.
5. That those who contribute to this Fund may, if they so desire, direct that their gifts shall be held in trust for Extension work or used for a special purpose."

The Assembly further agreed that the following note should be appended to the above, when the Resolutions were sent out to Churches or individuals:

Note: It is understood that the present Baptist Union Trust Fund shall not be affected in any way, and shall be used as heretofore by the vote of the Assembly on the recommendation of the Executive for the purpose of grants in aid to churches or ministers and other general purposes of the Union. Gifts and bequests to the present trust funds will continue to be added to these funds held in trust, and are earnestly invited.

Immediately this Scheme had been adopted promises were made by friends in the Assembly, and in a very short time £1056 had been promised for the first year. Other promises were made for subsequent years. Such a response evoked real enthusiasm, and the Assembly rose and sang the Doxology.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1939-1940, pp. 75-76.)

74. Location Churches (1942)

Steps have been taken, or are being taken, to meet the need for Baptist Churches in new locations or locations where we have not had buildings hitherto, or where the authorities have required old buildings to be replaced by those of a much more substantial character. In this connection hearty thanks are accorded to the Border Churches to the Pretoria Central Church and the Hatfield Church for generous contributions, and Mr G. N. Cross for legal assistance in regard to Atteridgeville (Pretoria); to the Rev. Geo. Philip for very valuable work in securing a fine site in the New Brighton Location (Port Elizabeth) in lieu of one which formerly belonged to the Society but which the Municipality had taken; and to Mr. E. V. Baker for his efforts to secure a site and funds for a Church in Langa (Cape Town) towards which Baptist natives had themselves raised money.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1942-1943, p. 19.)

75. Orlando Township (1942)

The outstanding event of the year was the opening of the Law Palmer Memorial School on December 6th, 1941. The chairman at the opening ceremony was Rev. A. H. Chapman, B.Sc., and others taking part were the President, Mr. M. A. Cross; the Chief Inspector of Native Education (Dr. W. Eiselen), Dr. J. E. Ennals and Rev. D. Eriksson. A full report of the meeting, together with a most informative account of the complete Orlando scheme comprising Millard Training Institute, Church, Law Palmer Day School, Manual Training School and Manse, appeared in the January number of the South African Baptist. The cost of the school has been covered by gifts, and loans the interest on which will be more than met by interest paid by the Education Department, on their estimated value of the buildings, in lieu of rent.

The Executive records its hearty thanks to Mr. M. A. Cross and Mr. F. Jennings for loans free of interest.

The school has a staff of five teachers, and over 250 scholars.

Since the opening a Woodwork Room has been added and a Woodwork Instructor appointed by the Education Department. The cost of school furniture and tools has been met by the Department.

The buildings and furniture have been insured.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1942-1943, p. 23.)

76. Pretoria – Atteridgeville Location (1942)

A new Church building, conforming to municipal requirements, is being built in this new location, at a probable cost of approximately £700. Towards this the Pretoria Central Church has provisionally promised up to £250 on the £1 for £1 principle, and the Hatfield Church has already donated £50. For these generous helps sincere thanks are given. The Society's Treasurer hopes to find at least £150 for this building. Some money will be received in due course as compensation for the old buildings in the Marabastad. Location which is being closed.

A successful Sunday School work in the new location is being carried on by the young people of the Pretoria Church.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1942-1943, p. 24.)

77. The Jubilee Fund (1943)

The Churches responded splendidly to the appeal for a Jubilee Fund to be devoted to special needs that had arisen, mainly in connection with our work in Native Locations.

At June 30th the Society's Treasurer reported that, according to information sent to him from the various centres, a total sum of £2,733 had been contributed.

The amount raised in any particular area has been ear-marked, in almost every instance, to work in that area, and in most cases has been set aside, or used, for new Church buildings rendered necessary by municipal regulations.

Where so many have given so liberally there can be no invidious distinctions, but two special gifts should be mentioned.

In memory of their father, the late Mr. T. Burnham King, who was the first Chairman of the S.A.B.M.S. and whose interest in its work never slackened, the King family gave £500.

The S.A.B.W.A., with its usual generosity and enthusiasm, handed in a cheque for £250 at its Annual Meeting. This amount has since been substantially increased.

It should also be mentioned, with glad appreciation, that our fellow Christians in the Bantu and Lambaland Churches gave very liberally to the Fund out of their slender resources.

Thanks are again given to the Rev. Frank Oldrieve for his valuable help in organising the Fund and various local celebrations.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1943-1944, p. 20.)

78. Ministerial Training – Bantu (1943)

The matter of the training of our Bantu Ministers and Evangelists is receiving the Executive's earnest attention in the realisation that, with advances in Native education generally, the adequate educational equipment of those engaged in preaching and pastoral work becomes more and more important.

ENNALS INSTITUTE. At the Ennals Institute (Berlin), under the leadership of the Rev. B. E. Pape, B. A., good work has been accomplished. Valuable help has been given by the Revs. L. Baier, D. H. Hay, and B. Robbins, whose lecturers have been much appreciated by the students.

At the end of 1942 there were four students taking the full-time course, and two new students were accepted early in 1943. One of the students was from the African Presbyterian Church. The Executive has received reports of the progress made by these men and all have done well. All Baptist students are given preaching appointments during the week-ends, thus obtaining valuable practical experience in addition to their class work.

Refresher courses are held, from time to time, for Ministers and Evangelists already engaged in pastoral work. These have been exceedingly helpful and have been well attended. The Session held towards the end of 1942 was described as the biggest and best yet, no less than 15 men attending from all parts of the Southern field.

As on former similar occasions, arrangements are being made for a special Service to mark the graduation of two students who will complete their courses this year.

MILLARD INSTITUTE. With the whole-hearted agreement and co-operation of the Superintendent Missionary for the Transvaal field (the Rev. D. H. Eriksson) the work of ministerial training has been continued at the Millard Institute (Orlando, Johannesburg) under the direction of the Rev. Thos. Chapman, A.T.S.

Almost without exception our Bantu Ministers in the Transvaal and adjoining fields, while men of spiritual experience, godly character and evangelistic zeal, have had few educational opportunities; they themselves were deeply conscious of their need and rejoiced when it was announced that Mr. Chapman was willing to conduct Bible training classes.

The work was begun in August, 1942, with six students, all of whom had been in active service for many years; since then two or three other students have been added and Mr. Chapman has kindly undertaken, health and conditions permitting, to carry through a two year course, at the end of which our Bantu brethren will be much better equipped for their work than ever before.

Classes in ordinary secular subjects are conducted by some of the teachers attached to the Orlando day school, and Bible training classes are conducted by the Rev. Thos. Chapman himself; the Rev. D. D.

H. Eriksson and Mr. T. Tusini have given valuable assistance with the work of interpreting. Mr. Tusini is a student at Sweetwaters who was granted leave to assist Mr. Chapman in Mr. Eriksson's enforced absence.

The Rev. W. Edmunds has also given greatly appreciated help by conducting classes to stress the importance and value of Sunday School work, and to give practical instruction as to methods.

The Executive has placed on record its deep appreciation of the valuable voluntary service rendered by the Rev. Thos. Chapman in connection with the Millard Institute. But for his self-sacrificing devotion our Bantu Ministers in the Northern field could not have received the educational help his classes have given.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1943-1944, pp. 26-28.)

79. Orlando (1943)

Useful additions and improvements have been made to the buildings. A room for borders (boys attending our school and the High School adjoining) has been erected, thus freeing the Millard Institute building from a use that was not altogether desirable. Asbestos ceilings have been put in the Church, vestries, porch, etc. The floors of the Church, boarders' room and verandah have been asphalted. This work, which is a great improvement, has been made possible by the generosity of friends as well as contributions from the Jubilee Fund. Hearty thanks are given to the Johannesburg City Engineer and Mrs. Hamblin (who promised to find the balance if the asphaltting cost more than as estimated amount), to Messrs. Surmon & Co., who sent in a receipted account for bricks valued at £25, and to Mrs. A. H. Chapman for a special donation of £20.

The work of the Millard Institute has been mentioned elsewhere, but we may add here that one of the students, Mr. Gumede, from Durban, has been of great help in the Eastern Township where he has spent his Sundays. Nearly all the other students have pastorates and go to their homes for the week-ends.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1943-1944, p. 32.)

80. Pretoria – Atteridgeville (1943)

The new Church building in the Atteridgeville Location was opened on Sunday afternoon, March the 14th, 1943. As the Executive was meeting in Johannesburg at the time the members were able to be present. Where so many have helped so generously we would make no invidious distinctions, but a word of special thanks is due to Mr. Jemiswon, the builder, who not only made a liberal contribution but did the work at very low cost.

Towards the amount required (about £700) the Pretoria Central Church has already given £150 and the Hatfield Church £50. The Young People of the Pretoria Church have given an additional £26.

From the Pretoria Council £250 was received as recompense for the old building at Marabastad. £100 has been paid from S.A.B.M.S. funds, leaving a balance, at the time of writing, of approximately £130.

Arrangements are being made to meet this, and then the erection of the manse will have to be faced. At present the Native Minister in charge is living in a hired house.

A large Sunday School work is being continued at Atteridgeville by the young people of the Pretoria Central Church.

An account of the opening Services, under the Presidency of the Rev. Jas. Walker, with acknowledgements to many friends who have given valuable help, appeared in *The South African Baptist*.

Our Superintendent Missionary, the Rev. D. Eriksson, is to be warmly congratulated on the fulfilment, so far, of a scheme to which he has given a good deal of time and thought.

(Source: BU Minutes 1943-1944, pp. 32-33.)

81. *The Assembly and War Service (1943)*

Early in the Assembly the resolution hereunder, moved by the Rev. A. H. Chapman, B.Sc., was adopted in the spirit of reverence and prayerful remembrance:

“As we meet under the shadow of the present great war we are thankful to God that it is possible for us to gather in this way to consider the interests of the Kingdom of God.

We also wish to commend unto our Heavenly Father and to have in remembrance before Him our men and women who are serving in the Forces at the present time and who have gone forth at the call of their Country.

We especially have in mind before Him those who are wounded or are suffering as the result of the war and those who are held in restraint as Prisoners of War.

We are thankful to our Chaplains for the work that they have been able to do in the Army and Air Force and for those members of our Churches and Congregations who have remained steadfast in the Faith and have been able to add their testimony for our Lord and Master in the Camps and other places where they have been placed.

Whilst we regret that the Revs. A. B. Arnot and R. W. Wright can no longer continue the good work that they have been able to do as Chaplains, we are glad to welcome them back to our ministry in the Union, and we trust that their health and strength will soon be fully restored and that God will abundantly bless them in their new ministries.

We remember our brother the Rev Glyn Tudor who is still, as far as we know, a Prisoner of War, and trust that he will soon be free again.

We give grateful praise to God for the brethren who remain as Chaplains in the Army, the Rev. E. B. Edwards, who has done splendid work up North, and the Revs. J. C. Stern, A. B. Jack and B. H. Marshall, who are doing excellent work in the Union, and we will continue to pray that they will be given the grace and strength needed for their difficult tasks, and we assure them of our continued fellowship with them in their important service for the Master. We pray that God's richest blessing will be ever upon them all.”

(Source: BU Handbook for 1943-1944, pp. 68-69.)

82. *Amendment to By-Law No. 8 (1943)*

It was resolved that By-Law No. 8 (Finance) be cancelled and the following substituted therefore:

- (a) The following minimum membership fees shall be payable annually to the Treasurer of the Union:
- £2.2.0 by each Church.
 - £2.2.0 by each Association.
 - £2.2.0 by each Personal Member.

(b) The financial year shall be from July 1st to June 30th, and all membership fees shall become payable before the 31st day of December in each year, and any member of the Union whose membership fees are in arrear for more than one year may be removed by the Executive from the register of members. The name of any member in arrears shall be reported to the Executive.

(c) It is desired and expected that, in addition to membership fees, every Church and Association will contribute voluntarily an annual sum towards the general revenue of the Union and will notify at each Assembly, either through its delegation or otherwise, the amount for which it is willing to accept assessment for the ensuing year.

(d) A registration fee of 10/-per member of Assembly, except Personal Members of the Union and delegates from the entertaining Church or Churches, shall be paid to the General Secretary of the Union, such payment to accompany the notification required under By-Law No.3.

Such fees, or so much thereof as may be required by the entertaining Church or Churches, shall be paid to the Church or Churches entertaining the Assembly as a contribution towards the cost thereof.

The Treasurer is hereby authorised to pay (1), to each member of the Executive, except Association nominees, attending Executive meetings other than those held in conjunction with Assemblies, and (2), to the President, the Secretary or Secretaries, and the Treasurer or Treasurer of the Union and the Missionary Society, attending Executive meetings held in conjunction with Assemblies, a sum equivalent to a second class railway fare (concession if available) between his or her place of residence and the place of meeting; and further, to pay any authorised fares and expenses of any sub-committee appointed by the Executive.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1943-1944, pp. 73-74.)

83. The Baptist Union of South Africa – Form of Bequest (1943)

I give unto

The Baptist Union of South Africa this*..... day of the month of in the year Nineteen Hundred and * the sum of* pounds sterling, free of all duty, to be paid, if possible, within six calendar months after my decease. And I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being of the said Baptist Union of South Africa shall be a sufficient discharge for the Legacy. This document shall have effect as a will or *codicil* as may best consist with the Law.

.....

Witness

Witness

This Bequest must be signed by the Testator or Testatrix in the presence of two witnesses who must be present at the same time and subscribe their names in his or her presence and in the presence of each other.

*Write in words, do not use figures.

Hon. Treasurer:
Mr. H. Hellyer,
7 Orwell Street,
Kensington,
Johannesburg.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1943-1944, p. 106.)

84. The South African Baptist Missionary Society – Form of Bequest (1943)

I give unto

The South African Baptist Missionary Society this*..... day of the month of in the year Nineteen Hundred and * the sum of* pounds sterling, free of all duty, to be paid, if possible, within six calendar months after my decease. And I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being of the said South African Baptist Missionary Society shall be a sufficient discharge for the Legacy. This document shall have effect as a will or codicil as may best consist with the Law.

.....

Witness

Witness

***Write in words, do not use figures.**

Hon. Treasurer:
Mr. A. H. King,
P.O. Box 100,
East London.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1942-1943, p. 107.)

85. The Missionary Survey (1944)

In June, 1943, on the motion of Mr. A. T. Babbs, a special Committee was appointed by the Executive to consider Policy and Administration.

Arising out of that Committee's report in the following October it was decided to appoint deputations to visit our Missionary fields in the Union of S.A. for conference with our Superintendent Missionaries on their own ground, to make surveys of the respective fields and to frame recommendations for the consolidation and development of our work. It was reported that the Rev. A. J. Cross, the Superintendent of the United Copperbelts Mission and formerly the S.A.B.M.S. Superintendent in Lambaland, would be in the Union early in 1944 and would be willing to accompany the deputations if such help as he could give was thought desirable. With the proviso that the deputations should include the General Secretary it was decided to take advantage of Mr. Cross's expert help, and final arrangements were left in the hands of the Cape Town members of Executive in consultation with other members as they felt desirable.

The first deputation visited Pondoland, East Griqualand, the Transkei and Kaffraria, leaving Cape Town on January 17th, 1944.

It consisted of Mr. E. V. Baker, the Rev. A. J. Cross and the General Secretary, of the Society (Rev. C. Garratt).

The second deputation, including the President (Mr. A. T. Babbs), the Rev. A. H. Chapman, the Rev. A. J. Cross and the General Secretary, visited as much of the Transvaal field as was possible in the

time available, the Cape members returning home, and Mr. Cross returning to Northern Rhodesia, early in March.

A comprehensive report of all the visits made by the two deputations, together with their recommendations, was prepared and laid before the Executive after it had been considered by the Missionary Policy Committee. For the actual drafting of the 50 pages report the Society is indebted to the Rev. A. J. Cross, to whom warmest thanks are given. Mrs. Cross and Miss Myra Cross gave most valuable, and much appreciated, the help in typing the original from which duplicated copies were made.

To Mr. E. V. Baker we are indebted for a careful revision of the report and recommendations after they had been considered by the Executive, and for arranging for the duplication of the revised edition. This was a task demanding a great deal of time and care for which Mr. Baker is greatly thanked.

At Executive meetings in June, 1944, it was resolved that enough copies of the report be produced to supply:-

1. A copy to each Executive member.
2. A copy to every member of each Field Committee.
3. A copy to every Missionary and to the Secretaries of the Bantu Baptist Church.
4. A copy to every Minister and every Church Secretary.
5. Sufficient copies to supply one to each Assembly delegate not included under either of the above headings.
6. Copies to be sent to other interested people as the Committee may decide.

It was further resolved that the Missionary Policy Committee remain in being as a Continuation Committee to keep the various recommendations before the Executive, to receive and collate any comments made by the various Field Committees and the Superintendent Missionaries, and to consider ways and means of carrying out the recommendations.

The Honorary Secretary of the Policy Committee is Mr. E. V. Baker.

As each member of Assembly will, presumably, have a copy of the report and recommendations in hand, and a whole session will be devoted to its consideration and discussion, it is not set forth in any detail in this present report.

The Executive consider that this Missionary Survey Report, with the attached Recommendations, is the most important document that has been presented to the members of the Society since its formation and they commend it to the most earnest consideration of every Assembly delegate. The future direction of the Society's work will depend very much upon decisions taken now.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1944-1945, pp. 21-23.)

86. *The Field Committees (1944)*

For the information of some who may not be familiar with our methods a word or two regarding administration may be helpful.

The supreme authority in the administration of the Society's affairs is, of course, the Annual Meeting or Assembly. For practical purposes the authority of the Assembly is delegated to the Executive which is democratically elected by ballot after nominations have been sent in by all the Churches and Personal Members desiring to exercise their prerogative. For the better supervision of the various fields, and the more immediate consultation with the Missionaries, certain powers are delegated by the Executive to Field Committees which report to the Executive and do not decide matters involving policy or financial expenditure beyond a very limited sum.

There are three such Committees. The Northern Field Committee supervises the Transvaal and Lambaland fields. The Southern Field Committee supervises the Transkeian and Kaffrarian fields. The Natal Field Committee supervises the Pondoland and East Griqualand fields and the work at Umgeni Road, Durban, as well as acting in an advisory capacity in regard to the work of the Indian Baptist Churches.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1944-1945, pp. 23-24.)

87. Millard Institute (1944)

During the last year a deeper spiritual work has been done in our Churches as a result of the help given, through the Millard Institute, to eight brethren who were privileged to take the two years course. The new vision and consecration which our men have experienced have resulted in local preacher's weekly Bible classes, days of prayer, new Sunday Schools, new students for the ministry coming forward, increased giving, etc. For all this we give thanks and praise to God.

As already indicated eight students were able to take the first two year course at Orlando; five were ministers and three lay preachers. On the whole all did well. On the last of the final term the Leader of the Bible School, the Rev. T. Chapman, the Superintendent Missionary and the eight students gathered round the Lord's Table to remember His redeeming love. It was an experience none of those present will forget.

Mr. Eriksson adds, "The Rev. T. Chapman is a great and valuable gift to the Missionary Society, not only because of his ability as a sound Bible teacher, with the rare gift of adaptability to Native minds, but because of his deep spiritual life which has proved to be of such tremendous influence on the life and conduct of the students."

In view of the urgent need for the further training of men in the Transvaal field, where most of the Society's workers have not gone beyond Standard III or IV, the Executive have sanctioned a further two years course to begin in August, 1944. At the June Executive meetings a resolution of thanks to the Rev. T. Chapman for his voluntary service was recorded.

The Executive gratefully acknowledge a gift of £20 from Mr. D. J. Martin to be used for much needed additional furniture for the Institute.

In addition to the full-time courses, refresher courses are held which are greatly appreciated by ministers and evangelists.

The Executive have been gratified to receive a letter from the Native Ministers and Evangelists in this field expressing their deep thankfulness for the help they have received through the classes arranged for their benefit.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1944-1945, pp. 30-31.)

88. Denominational Policy (1944)

Mr. A. T. Babbs presented the Denominational Policy Committee's final report and recommendations. These were referred to a sub-committee and the following resolutions were ultimately adopted.

Realizing that closer co-operation than hitherto between the churches in the Baptist Union is necessary in order to carry out the objects of the Union as set forth in the Constitution- and in the faith that the Holy Spirit works through churches inspired by a holy zeal for the cause of Christ and His Gospel and united in the bonds of fellowship and service, it is resolved that such alterations be made in the

Constitution and by-laws of the Union as will ensure:-

1. That at each Annual Assembly there shall be chosen a confidential consultant with whom during his term of office, Ministers and Churches may consult on any matters appertaining to the ministry and Church life.
2. That at each Annual Assembly there shall be elected one minister, and one layman who together with the confidential consultant shall constitute a Ministerial Settlement Committee (M.S.C.).
3. That the Bye-laws of the B.U. regarding the election of Members of the Executive shall *mutatis mutandis* apply to the election of the Minister, and layman, in the preceding paragraph referred to.
4. That any vacancy caused in the M.S.C. through death or resignation or incapacity shall be filled as speedily as possible by the executive of the Union.
5. That no Church shall call at a minister to its pastorate whether from overseas or otherwise nor propose any change in its ministry without prior consultation with the M.S.C.
6. That no minister shall accept or resign a pastorate without prior consultation with the M.S.C.
7. That the M.S.C. shall at all times have authority to approach any Church or Minister with a view to joint consultation in regard to the pastorate of such Church.
8. That when request thereto by the M.S.C. each Church shall review its ministry in consultation with the M.S.C.
9. That the M.S.C. shall in all matters appertaining to any Church or Minister in membership with the Association known as the German Bund, act in conjunction with a member, if any, who shall have been elected for such purpose by such Bund.
10. That the M.S.C. shall in all matters appertaining to any Church or Minister in membership with the Association known as the Afrikaanse Baptiste Kerk act in conjunction with a member, if any, who shall have been elected for such purpose annually by such Kerk.
11. That the confidential consultant shall act as the Secretary and Convenor of the M.S.C.
12. That all matters dealt with by the M.S.C. shall be treated by each member of such Committee as strictly confidential, and the said M.S.C. shall in no way be answerable to the executive of the B.U. nor to the Assembly thereof.
13. That notwithstanding the foregoing it is recognised that each Church and each Minister is the final authority in relation to the ministry of such Church and the work of such Minister.
14. That in all cases of settlement with the concurrence of the M.S.C. the B.U. shall on request of the inviting Church pay 50% of the cost of removal of the incoming Minister up to a maximum of £50.

Resolved that pending the alteration of the Constitution and By-Laws necessary to bring the M.S.C. into operation:- A provisional M.S.C. be appointed by the Executive with power to carry out the provisions of the above resolution.

Resolved that the present Policy Committee be dissolved with thanks.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1944-1945, pp. 64-65.)

89. *Missionary Survey - Report and Recommendations (1944)*

Mr. E. V. Baker presented the report and recommendations of the deputations which surveyed our missionary fields in the Union of South Africa in March last. A copy of the report, occupying nearly fifty closely typed pages, was placed in the hands of each Assembly delegate, and it was announced that a copy would be sent to each of our ministers and missionaries. After discussion it was resolved that this Assembly expresses its deep appreciation of the action of the Executive in arranging for a survey of our mission fields in the Union of South Africa, and for making a comprehensive report of the survey available for every minister and every Assembly delegate and, through them, for every Church. It records its hearty thanks to the members of the two deputations who carried out the survey, to the Rev. A. J. Cross for his valuable help, to Mr. E. V. Baker for the great trouble he has taken to have the report and recommendations reproduced and circulated, and to the Missionary Policy Committee for their thorough work in regard to the consideration of the report and recommendations made by the deputations.

The Assembly received the report with approval and hereby authorises the Executive to carry out the Missionary Policy Committee's recommendations as they, the Executive, find that practicable and financially possible.

A supplementary resolution was passed in the following terms: The Assembly expresses its deep appreciation of the generosity of the Rev. A. J. Cross in giving time in his holiday for the service rendered in connection with the survey.

Mr. A. Durston urged that the Executive take into consideration the following suggestion:

That the various Native training Institutes under the control of the Society be consolidated as soon as may be practicable into one institution where Bible teaching and Christian work be carried on in conjunction with training in agriculture, carpentry and bricklaying. Further that the Government be approached for transfer to the Baptist Union of a portion of one of the surplus Military Camps with buildings thereon, to be used for the above-mentioned purpose.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1944-1945, p. 70.)

90. *Recommendations regarding (264) the Pondoland and East Griqualand Area (1944)*

- I. The major problem confronting the Society is that of the replacement of the Rev. W. and Mrs. Brailsford, who after 23 years of devoted service are now on the point of retirement.

It is the strong recommendation of the Deputation that the utmost care should be exercised by the Executive in the selection of a suitable successor or successors, even if this means facing an interregnum.

Should this become a necessity the fact that such reliable Native ministers as Solwandle and Ntshulana are at work in these fields and that such a man as Richard Ndubeke is available for the upkeep and care of the Mjozi buildings mitigates the seriousness of leaving the field for a time without a resident European missionary. Further, Mr. Brailsford, who intends to reside for a time at least at Umtentweni in Natal, has most kindly offered to visit the field on occasion, pending the appointment of a successor, in order to keep in touch with the Native ministers and workers. The Deputation feel that this generous offer should be most gratefully accepted and that in the meantime Mr. Brailsford should retain the use of the car. All expenses in connection with these visits would naturally be met by the Society and the question of an honorarium or allowance to Mr. Brailsford considered.

- II. The new candidate, assuming a real vocation and the spiritual fitness the Executive will look for in the first place, should if possible be a trained man, young enough to be able to make a thorough study of the people and to master the language in a reasonable short period (Elementary examination at the end of 12 months and advanced at the end of 2 or 3 years). The advice of Dr. Doke should also be invited as to a suitable course of study of Bantu languages and customs with particular reference to the Pondos. His appointment should not be confirmed on a permanent basis until satisfying the Executive in these ways as well as in his success in winning and retaining the confidence of the people. He should also be prepared to give adequate time and attention to the work of the schools.
- III. The next question of importance is that of the missionary's residence. The Deputation is of the opinion that, notwithstanding the comparative isolation of Mjozi, the successor to Mr. & Mrs. Brailsford should be stationed there in the first instance. It is important that they should have an every opportunity of mastering the language and of obtaining the confidence of the people: these ends can be best attained by residence where the chief church, B.W.A and school work is centred. As national roads now being constructed in Pondoland will make future travelling easier, it is recommended that consideration of the possible removal of the Pondoland headquarters be left in abeyance until the new missionaries have had an opportunity of surveying the field and forming their judgements.
- Mr. Brailsford urges consideration of the possibility of appointing a second missionary couple (European) to this field so that the East Griqualand section of the work might be more adequately supervised: the Deputation could support this suggestion only if it did not preclude the possibility of even more important advance in other directions, and if increased financial provision could be made, apart from European salaries, for the development of the work.
- IV. The Deputation recommends that Mr. Richard Ndubeke should be given some monetary recognition in appreciation of his nearly 30 years continuous service with the Society. An amount of £10 is suggested.
- V. In view of the recommendation that the mission house at Mjozi should be retained as a missionary's residence for the time being, it has to be noted that some money will need to be spent to effect needed repairs. The walls particularly need attention - possibly replastering. In this connection Mr. Brailsford's assumption of personal responsibility for repairs through the years, sparing the Society any expense under this head, should be gratefully acknowledged. While expressing great appreciation of his generosity and expenditure of time and labour it has to be recognised that the Society cannot fairly expect a new missionary to accept such a financial responsibility and that in this, as in other directions, the maintenance of the work in Pondoland will prove to be more expensive than it has been under Mr. Brailsford's exceptionally economical management. To avoid any misunderstanding in the matter it ought to be said quite plainly that the Deputation's recommendation as to renovations cast no reflection whatever on the care taken of the property by Mr. & Mrs. Brailsford. They are quite exceptionally conscientious in their concern for the Society's interests and the house will be handed over in otherwise excellent condition.
- VI. The Deputation recommends that the Society acquire from Mr. & Mrs. Brailsford, at a price to be fixed in full reference to present day value, such furniture as they do not wish to take with them to their new home. An adequate removal allowance should also be made for the transportation of such furniture as they elect to take.
- VIII. The Deputation believes that the only sound solution to many of the difficulties faced by the Society in maintaining its obligations for its existing scattered work in Pondoland (and elsewhere) is the supply of additional well-trained Native Ministries. In Pondoland they would recommend immediately the appointment of a suitable native minister to carry on the work in the eastern part of the area, leaving Mr. Ntshulana to concentrate on the work in the western districts.

- VIII. The work of Mr Brailsford in encouraging the Churches towards self-support, and in the enlistment of voluntary help for preaching and pastoral oversight should not be gone back upon; rather should further efforts be made in these directions.
- IX. Anticipating what will be a general recommendation the Deputation would record here their concern that the organisation of the Bantu Baptist Church be developed so as to give the local churches an increasingly effective voice in the councils of the church, and that the question of the right of the local congregations to consult in regard to ministerial settlements and transfers should be respected and emphasised.

Again anticipating a general recommendation the Deputation suggest that the Pondoland - E. Griqualand field should have its own Bantu Council consisting of the Bantu ministers chosen lay representatives. It is taken for granted that the Superintendent Missionary would be a member and wisely supervise the Council's affairs.

- X. With regard to the suggestion that has been made that the whole or part of the Pondoland work should be handed over to another Society the Deputation expresses firm dissent. They would be against handing over the East Griqualand work - even if a Society could be found, willing to take it over, to whom the S.A.B.M.S. could conscientiously let it go. Further, they would enter a strong protest against the supposition that at this date any group of Natives or of congregations or churches could be "handed over" without their full consent first being gained.
- XI. The Deputation would not regard favourably the further geographical extension of the work in Pondoland. The present commitments, allowing for natural increase and growth, will require increased financial support and increased Native staffing. They recognise in many of our present day problems the results of somewhat haphazard extension in time past and deprecate the perpetuation of such methods however justified they may have been in pioneer days.
- XII. The Deputation recommends the maintenance of existing day schools and the establishment of new schools, wherever possible, alongside our church work. They would favour the opening of day schools in connection with our East Griqualand churches wherever there is need for them in localities inadequately provided for by schools under other denominations. It is felt that this is an obligation inherent in our responsibility for existing work in this country and cannot be called "extension". With improved communications a keen missionary ought to be able to undertake the work of establishing and supervising such schools.

(Source: Missionary Survey of 1944 Reports and Recommendations, pp. 12-14.)

91. Recommendations regarding the Transkei Area (1944)

- XIII. The Deputations recommends that no change be made in the location of the residence of the Superintendent Missionary, Idutywa being as centrally situated as any other spot for the supervision of the whole area to be covered.
- XIV. The Deputation recommends that as soon as possible adequate provision be made by the Society for the more frequent visitation of all centres either by the Missionary or a competent Native assistant.
- XV. The Deputation recommends that Mr. Peinke should continue to devote approximately half his time to the work of the European churches on the understanding that the churches continue to provide half his stipend. The Deputation would express the opinion that the taking of regular services at Umtata ought to assist more frequent visitation of the work in the Western Pondoland and Umtata circuits and would benefit the Native work rather than otherwise.
- XVI. It is recommended that a least one additional trained Native minister be employed in the

Transkeian field, the stationing and duties of such a minister to be a matter for discussion and decision between the Superintendent Missionary, the Southern Field Committee and the Executive.

- XVII. The Deputation recommends that Sunday work should be fostered and developed in this field: at present such work is being done on a very small scale, except at Queenstown.
- XVIII. The Deputation is impressed with the need for more, and better equipped, lay evangelists and pastors, and recommends that the Executive explore the possibility of arranging periodical training and/or refresher courses for such workers at the Ennals Institute, in addition to the courses already arranged for ministerial students.
- XVIII. It is recommended that the Executive shall also arrange for refresher courses to be conducted in the Transkei and Pondoland Fields for ministerial and lay workers.
- XIX. In view of the fact that part of the work supervised by Mr. Peinke was originated by other mission organisations and taken over by the S.A.B.M.S. when for one reason or another these organisations ceased to support what they had started, and that in this way the Society has become responsible for work which on account of the great distance separating its centres has proved to be an increasing embarrassment, the Deputation recommends that the rule already made be strictly adhered to that no further bodies be taken over, and no calls for work in other areas responded to, without the specific authority of the Executive having been first given. This also applies to all other Fields.

(Source: Missionary Survey of 1944 Reports and Recommendations, pp. 20-21.)

92. Recommendations regarding Kaffraria and the Ennals Institute (1944)

- XX. Recommendations XVIII first part, re Evangelists; and XIX, re unauthorised extension; applying to the Transkeian field are equally applicable to the Kaffrarian field.
- XXI. It did not seem possible to suggest any reorganisation which might enable the Superintendent Missionary himself to supervise the Kaffrarian field more effectively, but in view of the scattered nature of much of the work and also of the growing requirements of the Ennals Institute the Deputation suggests that the Rev. S. Mashologu should be appointed to assist Mr. Pape. This may mean Mr. Mashologu's relinquishment of the pastorate of the East London Church, in which case the Church should be consulted. In this event it is suggested that the proposal be placed before Mr. Mashologu and that if he is favourable the matter be placed before the East London congregation by someone deputed by the Southern Field Committee. Obviously, the question of Mr. Mashologu's residence would need careful consideration in view of other questions involved such as Mrs. Mashologu's employment and the education of the family.
- XXII. The possibility of improving and extending our day school work especially in the Tshabo area should have careful consideration.
- XXIII. The Deputation urges that the question of the right of the S.A.B.M.S. to occupy the site and buildings at Buchanan be settled as soon as possible. This being satisfactorily accomplished it is recommended that necessary repairs and renovations to the buildings there be undertaken so as to put them in reasonably good order. The question of the joint management of the school between the Society and the Methodist Church might also be investigated.
- XXIV. It is recommended further that the need at some future date to replace Mr. Vockerodt by a

younger, well-trained minister be foreseen and provided for.

- XXV. The Deputation recommends the provision of a suitable manse for the minister at Tshabo. In this connection the suggestion made in paragraph 18 regarding the adaptation of the existing stone-walled section of the church and the erection of a new school might be considered.
- XXVI. The Deputation recommends that the Berkeley Street Church in King Williams Town be repaired and renovated and maintained in good order.
- XXVII. In view of the funds in hand locally the Deputation is of the opinion that it is desirable that a new church building should be erected in the East London location as soon as possible, and that the site adjoining Mr. Mashologu's house be utilised.
- XXVIII. The Deputation supports the resolution of the Southern Field Committee recorded in paragraph 38, regarding the retention of the Ennals Institute at Berlin.
- XXIX. The Deputation regards it as highly important for the whole of our work that as soon as practicable the Ennals Institute should be developed and extended (a) for the training of Native pastors; (b) for periodical refresher courses; (c) for the training of women as suggested in paragraphs 42-44.
- XXX. To this end it is recommended that as soon as possible a suitable lecture room be provided for the Institute, and also additional accommodation for men attending refresher courses.
- XXXI. Deleted.
- XXXII. The Deputation considers it desirable that as soon as practicable a residence for the Principal be built in a suitable position on the land of the Ennals Institute. This matter to be deferred for two years.
- XXXI. It is recommended that a grant be made for the beginning of a reference for the use of Institute students, and for the provision of a suitable bookcase; also that a small annual grant be made for the purchase of additional books at the discretion of the Principal in consultation with the Field Committee. It is further suggested that an appeal for gifts of suitable books be made to European Ministers and Church members.

(Source: Missionary Survey of 1944 Reports and Recommendations, pp. 30-31.)

93. Recommendations regarding the Millard Institute (1944)

- XXXIV. The Deputation agrees with the decision of the Northern Field Committee in welcoming the consent of the Rev. Thomas Chapman to conduct an additional course at the Millard Institute for students for the Ministry, commencing in 1944 and proceeding for two years, without committing the Society to the establishment of a permanent ministerial training college at Orlando.
- XXXV. The Deputation supports Mr. Eriksson in his desire to be relieved of the regular work of interpreting lectures at the Institute in order to be able to devote himself to more effectual supervision of the Transvaal Field. If, however, Mr. Eriksson feels able from time to time to give assistance at the lectures he should be free to do so provided his other work is not unduly interfered with.
- XXXVI. The recommendations regarding the establishment of a reference library at the Ennals Institute (see Recommendation No. XXXIII) apply equally to the Millard Institute, and the Deputation recommends accordingly.

(Source: Missionary Survey of 1944 Reports and Recommendations, p. 35.)

94. Recommendations regarding the Transvaal Field (1944)

XXXVII. In view of the size of the work in the hands of the Rev. D. Eriksson and the impossibility of one man exercising adequate supervision over the whole of such a wide-spread field the Deputation recommends that as soon as possible a well-trained Native minister should be appointed to assist Mr. Eriksson.

XXXVIII. The Deputation recommends that the duties of the Rev. J. H. G. Raubenheimer be clearly defined by the Northern Field Committee in consultation with the Superintendent missionary.

XXXIX. The Deputation recommends that, having due regard to adequate supervision and to the place of the school in the work of evangelisation, and the establishment of a strong, indigenous church, day schools should be established wherever possible, particularly in places where existing provision is lacking or is inadequate.

XL. It is recommended that the additional class rooms desirable at the Orlando School be provided as soon as possible and a rent grant for same be obtained from the Government.

XLI. It is recommended further that the number of boarders at Orlando be cautiously increased so that sons of ministers and other workers in outlying districts might be able to take advantage of this provision for obtaining further education, either at our school, or at the Government High School adjoining. It should be the rule that boys admitted should be selected for their quality both as to character and ability. It is further recommended that the question of an adequate charge to cover the cost of their board should be settled, so that the boarding establishment should not become a charge on the Society. The question of assistance for needy cases might be met along the line of securing individual European donors to support individual boys, where Native assistance is unobtainable.

It is to be noted that the Government pays a rent grant on the value of the existing hosted and may be prepared to pay an additional grant on the cost of extending the building should this become necessary.

XLII. The Deputation recommends that, as soon as a suitable successor to Mr. Piliso can be appointed at Orlando, he be set free for part of his time to itinerate as a Sunday School organiser. It is desirable, however, that he should first have some special training for this work, and this might be arranged by the Northern Field Committee with, perhaps, advice and help from the Johannesburg and District Sunday School Union. (See paragraphs 19-22)

XLIII. It is further recommended that special attention be directed to the training of Bantu Sunday School teachers, and where assistance from the European Churches is available, the emphasis be placed on this method of forwarding Bantu Sunday School work as being in the long run the most productive. It is suggested also that the various Young People's Societies be interested in the provision of materials for Sunday Schools, in close collaboration with the missionary Superintendent.

(Source: Missionary Survey of 1944 Reports and Recommendations, p. 43.)

95. Missionary Survey: General Recommendations (1944)

It is the conviction of all the members of the Deputation that the solution of many of the problems in our widely scattered missionary work in South Africa lies along two parallel lines: (a) More and better

trained Native Ministers, and (b) the development of the organisation of the Bantu Baptist Church.

(a) **NATIVE MINISTERS**: This has been dealt with at some length in earlier sections of this Report. The Deputation would add two further recommendations:-

XLIV. (1) It is desirable that after the 1944-1946 course at the Millard Institute (which might be regarded as an emergency measure) no further men be accepted for the ministry with an educational qualification inferior to Std.VI., and that as soon as practicable this entrance qualification be raised still higher.

XLV. (2) That in view of the limited number of new men per year who can be absorbed into the work of the Ministry of the Bantu Church consideration be given in 1946 to the question whether only one training institute should be maintained permanently offering a full ministerial course.

XLVI. The question of pensions for disabled and aged native ministers was raised at the meeting with the Northern Council of the Bantu Baptist Church, and has been in the minds of missionaries and Executive members for some time. The Deputation recommends that the matter should receive further sympathetic consideration. (The President was asked to interview Revs. B. E. Pape and S. Mashologu during his visit to East London, and obtain information re the proposed Bantu Pension Fund).

XLVII. **THE BANTU BAPTIST CHURCH**: The Deputation has given considerable attention to the organization and working of the Bantu Baptist Church and wishes first to make the following observations:

That if the Church is to grow and develop healthily and to fulfil the functions for which it was formed the Bantu leaders should be encouraged to accept a greater amount of responsibility.

This might be accomplished in two ways, viz-

XLVIII. (a) Giving greater responsibility to the regional Councils in connection with the selection and training of candidates and the calling, stationing and discipline of the Ministry.

XLIX. (b) Giving the Councils greater responsibility with regard to finance. This should naturally grow as the Churches themselves make a larger contribution towards self-support.

It is recommended that these two matters be referred to Superintendent missionaries and to the Field Committees for careful consideration.

Meanwhile attention may be drawn to the following matters:

L. (1) **THE CONSTITUTION** of the Bantu Baptist Church needs revising. For instance the omission of any mention of the constitution and duties of the regional Councils needs rectifying.

LI. (2) **THE MODERATOR** hitherto has invariably been elected from among the Missionary Superintendents. The question whether the time has come for a Bantu Moderator to be elected, perhaps alternately to a European Moderator, should be seriously considered. (Since this clause was drafted the Bantu Baptist Assembly has elected a Bantu Minister as its Moderator). It is recommended that when a Bantu is elected as a Moderator of Bantu Baptist Church the Treasurer of the S.A.B.M.S. be authorised to pay his expenses to the Assembly, if requested to do so.

LII. (3) **THE ASSEMBLY** meets at present biennially. The question needs considering whether some of the work at present done by the Assembly could not with advantage be delegated to the regional Councils, and the Assembly accordingly meet once in three years. This clause is subject to the approval of the next Church Assembly. If agreed upon it is to become a rule of the Bantu Church.

LIII. (4) **REGIONAL COUNCILS.** The Deputation makes the suggestion that four regional Councils be established by separating the Transkeian members from the Southern Council and forming a separate Council. The four Councils would then be named after the fields as follows:-

1. Kaffrarian,
2. Transkeian,
3. Pondoland,
4. Transvaal.

It is recommended that the possibility of having lay as well as ministerial representatives on all the Councils be re-examined.

LIV. It is also recommended that the local church groups be consulted in regard to ministerial appointments and transfers.

NOTE: On consideration by the Executive of Clauses L., LI., LII., LIII. and LIV. it was resolved to approve of the Committee's suggestion and the request of the Bantu Baptist Church to appoint delegates to meet a revising Committee with a view to the revision of the Constitution.

LV. The Bantu Baptist Church having been developed upon the principle of co-operation between the European and Bantu races and fellowship in Christian work, the Deputation is keenly aware, as are the Bantu leaders themselves, that close collaboration will be necessary for a long time to come.

The Deputation recommends that this should not be lost sight of in any revision of the Constitution or alteration in procedure that may be made.

It might be well if this basic principle were to be explicitly stated in the Constitution.

In this connection two strong recommendations are made:

LVI. 1. That the misconception involved in the inclusion in the "Christian Handbook of South Africa" of the Bantu Baptist Church, in the list of Separatist Churches, be removed by every possible means and that steps be taken to ensure the rectification of this error in any future edition of the Handbook.

LVII. 2. That the connection between the Bantu and Baptist Church and the S.A.B.M.S. be made clear in note-headings and other stationery used on all our fields, in books and publications, and on Church notice boards where such exist.

VIII. It is urgently necessary that individual churches and individual members, particularly in the remoter districts, should be helped to realise their participation in the larger Baptist fellowship. This will depend very much upon the local pastor and church leaders. A recommendation will be made under its appropriate heading for quarterly periodical, one of the purposes of which would be to give information and to foster interest in the wider affairs of the B.B.C. and of the Denomination as a whole in South Africa and elsewhere.

(Source: Missionary Survey of 1944 Reports and Recommendations, pp. 44-46.)

96. Missionary Survey: Literature Recommendations (1944)

- LIX. MINISTER'S MANUAL:** The Deputation found a widespread desire among the Bantu Church leaders that the Manual which has been under consideration for some time should be made available for use as soon as possible, and the Deputation strongly supports this request.
- LX. XHOSA HYMNBOOK:** The Deputation understands that the hymnbook "Amaculo Ase-Baptist" has been out of print for about two years and there is a big demand for it. It is recommended that the Executive examine the possibility of the printing of a wartime edition, and that the book be revised with a view to republication later.
- LXI. QUARTERLY CHURCH PAPER:** The Deputation recommends that a quarterly Church paper to serve the Bantu Baptist Church be taken in hand as soon as possible. The objects of the paper would be generally those of a church news paper, but it should have particularly in mind:
- (a) The spiritual and devotional needs of our scattered membership;
 - (b) The cultivation of a community sense among all the churches, linking north and south, rural and urban, large and small, in one great fellowship;
 - (c) The dissemination of information regarding the Councils and Assemblies of the Bantu Baptist Church.
 - (d) The imparting to the members of knowledge of the Denomination as a whole.

The paper might be known as "The Bantu South African Baptist", with a shorter vernacular title for convenience to be decided upon by the Missionary Superintendents.

It might contain the following features:

- (a) A short evangelistic or devotional message;
- (b) News of individual churches;
- (c) News of Bantu Baptist Church Affairs;
- (d) Helps for Lay-preachers;
- (e) A dictionary giving suitable Scripture lessons for use in the Sunday Services;
- (f) A Bantu B.W.A. Column.
- (g) A Men's Column for the "Sons of the Redeemer."
- (h) Daily Bible reading & prayers for family worship.

The reading matter should be almost entirely in the vernacular, but simple English could be used for small items. The choice of the vernaculars used, whether Xhosa, Zulu or both, or with Sesotho added, would have to be left to the wisdom of the Editor, in consultation with the Missionary Superintendents.

The question of making the paper self-supporting by including suitable advertisements and by requiring local circuits to make a small contribution towards the cost, based on the number of copies taken, should be examined. To ensure that the paper reaches the maximum number of readers it might be issued cheaply to all literate Church members in good standing, and to small groups of the others.

LXII. MINISTERS' LIBRARIES: The Deputation recommends that an effort be made to enable our Bantu ministers to get suitable books both in the vernacular and in simple English. This applies particularly to the younger men who speak English and who have received some training. The advice of the Missionary Superintendents should be sought in this matter.

(Source: Missionary Survey of 1944 Reports and Recommendations, pp. 46-47.)

97. Missionary Survey: Other General Recommendations (1944)

LXVIII. BANTU CHURCHES UNDER CARE OF EUROPEAN CHURCHES AND MINISTERS: In instances where a Native Church is near to a European Church or Churches, and so situated that a Superintendent Missionary is rarely able to visit it, a Local Committee should be formed, the members of which shall be nominated by the European Church or Churches, or Field Committee or Association sponsoring such work, but the actual appointment of which shall be in the hands of the Executive Committee of the SABMS. This local Committee shall appoint one of its number as the local Superintendent of the Native Church, and he shall be the recognized link between a Superintendent Missionary and the said Committee. This local Committee shall have the oversight of the Native Church, encourage the work, and help in every way possible.

The Native Minister shall be under the control of the Superintendent Missionary appointed by the Executive, but should the Missionary desire to do anything that will affect either the Minister or the Church, he shall first confer with the Local Committee. The Superintendent Missionary shall be informed of any proposals made by the Local Committee for the carrying on of the native work, and if and when extra expense is involved, and copies of all Minutes of the Local Committee's meetings shall be sent to him.

When the Superintendent Missionary intends to visit such a centre, he shall advise the Local Superintendent of this intention, so that arrangements can be made for the Local Committee to meet him. A copy of the Minutes of the Local Committee shall be forwarded to the General Secretary of the Field Committee or Association connected with the work.

In making this recommendation the Deputation desires to express its appreciation and its sense of the great value of the work done in the past, and still being done, by Committees and individual Ministers and others, supervising isolated causes, or causes specially *circumstanced*, on behalf of the Society.

LXIX. FIELD COMMITTEES: The Deputation recommends that the Rules and Regulations laid down by the Executive more than 10 years ago should now be reviewed and revised in the light of the practical experience gained during the years of invaluable work these Committees have accomplished.

LXX. MEETINGS OF SUPERINTENDENTS: The Deputation strongly recommends that as soon as possible after the acceptance of this report by the Executive the General Secretary and the Superintendent Missionaries should meet to discuss the recommendations and findings arising out of the work of Deputation as reviewed by the Executive.

The question of regular periodical meetings of the General Secretary and the Superintendent Missionaries be given consideration.

LXXI. VISITATION OF MISSION FIELDS: The Deputation recommends that regular visitation of each of the mission fields by officials of the Society should be seriously considered. The plan and frequency of such official visits would be a matter for the Executive to decide, but the Deputation have been impressed during this tour with the great value that such regular visitation would have both for the European and Bantu workers.

LXXII. STATISTICAL & OTHER RETURNS: The Deputation suggests that, in consultation with the Missionary Superintendents and the Statistical Secretary suitable forms be drawn up to deal separately with (a) Bantu Baptist Church returns, membership, buildings, ETC.; Sunday Schools; and (c) Day Schools. Such returns, if regularly and efficiently compiled, would be of great value.

LXXIII. CONTRIBUTION TO LOCAL BANTU CHURCHES BY INTERESTED EUROPEAN INDIVIDUALS & CHURCHES: The Deputation does not recommend that such direct contributions to the financial but that these contributions should be extra to the missionary assessments underwritten by the European Churches.

XXIV. CARE OF PROPERTIES: The Deputation would call the special attention of the Executive to a fact mentioned more than once in the report; viz. that properties belonging to the dilapidation. It may be necessary to endeavour to raise a substantial capital sum to put these in order.

LXXV. Consideration should be given at a later date to Refresher Courses for day school teachers in Religious teaching.

LXXVI. It is recommended that the Executive shall give serious consideration to the training of suitable native women for service as Bible women.

LXXVII. It is recommended to the Executive that the Secretary of the Policy Committee be asked to correspond with other South African and Central African Missionary Societies and enquire what their Church rules and customs are with regard to Polygamy, and report at the next Executive.

LXXVIII. The Estimated Costs of the various financial proposals, contained in this Report and Recommendations of the Deputation to the S.A.B.M.S. Fields is recommended to the Executive for consideration. As the urgent items amount to £500 the Committee asks that these be given immediate attention.

LXXIX. It is recommended that a copy of the Report and Recommendations with the Executive's emendations shall be sent to each of our European Missionaries working in the Union of South Africa.

LXXX. It is recommended that a copy of the Report and Recommendations as amended by the Executive shall be sent to each member of the Society's Field Committee.

The Missionary Policy Committee recommends this Report and Recommendations as amended to the Executive of the S.A. Baptist Missionary Society for acceptance.

NOTE: At the S.A.B.M.S. Executive Meetings held at Port Elizabeth, June 1944, this Report and Recommendations as amended, were accepted and passed by the Executive.

(Source: Missionary Survey of 1944 Reports and Recommendations, pp. 48-49.)

98. Blind Evangelist (1945)

When Mr. DOUGLAS Nazo, the blind Evangelist, was first appointed it arranged that the Rev. B. E. Pape should be the correspondent through whom arrangements for missions should be made, but that in all other respects Mr. Nazo should be under the supervision of the Superintendent Missionary in whose field he was working for the time being.

While Mr. Pape does not control the work of Mr. Nazo in any other field than Kaffraria he has sent a report by request from which the following extracts are taken:-

During the period under review Evangelist Douglas Nazo paid a length visit to Western Pondoland, where he worked in the circuit under the charge of Rev. Philip Nqoro. The number of the decision reported was 49. There followed period of two to three weeks each at various centres in Kaffraria, where the number of decisions reported was 42.

Early this year Mr. Nazo went to Harrismith for a mission under the supervision of Rev. J. Lepele. Here are a few sentences from Mr. Lepele's letter about the visit: "We had a very pleasant time with Brother Nazo. Many people were coming to listen to him, and those that do not like to attend services came to see the blind preacher, and we had a good chance to preach to them. I would like Brother Nazo to come here for three months next year. I do like him, and I am thanking you very much."

The year closed with visit to Kimberley, regarding which the Rev. Solomon Miti wrote: "I have great

pleasure to tell you that Mr. Nazo's work has done very much good ... ; we had 11 people who repented in one of the services which he conducted. It is the desire of the Kimberley Bantu Baptist Congregation to have Mr. Nazo here for another period of three months."

Mr. Nazo was able to attend the short course for Evangelists held at the Ennals Institute last year, through which he benefited greatly. We commend him and his work to have the sympathy and prayers of the Churches.

Grateful thanks are again given to the friend whose generous contribution makes it possible for Mr. Nazo's work to be continued.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1945-1946, pp. 36-37.)

99. Message to the Churches (1945)

The following resolution, drafted by Mr. A. T. Babbs and presented by the Executive, was adopted unanimously for circulation in the Churches in English and Afrikaans:-

The Baptist Union Assembly meeting in Pietermaritzburg, October 1945, unanimously resolved that the following message be sent to the Churches with the request that it be read to all the congregations at the earliest and most appropriate opportunity.

The Assembly sends affectionate fraternal greetings in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ to the Ministers, Missionaries and Members of our fellowship. It shares their heartfelt thanksgivings to the Lord our God that victory has been mercifully granted to the Allies in the great world conflict now concluded. We rejoice with the members of our congregations in the home-coming of their loved ones from the services and Prisoner of War Camps. That many of our younger people have had a large share of service in many capacities on the home front gives the Assembly much satisfaction. Victory has been gained by the blessing of God through the courage, skill, and toil of the men and women with the fighting services, at the cost of untold suffering and sacrifice in which our nation has borne a full share. The Assembly commends to God those members of our fellowship who have memories of dear ones, who will not return, and prays that the empty places in homes and hearts, may be filled with the love of God, made real by the never-failing presence of Lord of Life and Glory.

The Assembly is assured that our Baptist people will remember, with great thankfulness, that the liberty for which our father fought, and died, has again been secured to them "at a great price" - the unfettered liberty to worship God to proclaim freely the Gospel of His Son, to all peoples and to do the will of God as revealed in His Word. This freedom must be treasured, maintained, and passed on intact to our children.

It is generally agreed that the world is entering a new epoch charged with far reaching possibilities, both of good and evil. We are called to live and carry on our work in times of upheaval and change, with their resultant strifes. A world distraught, is seeking a way out of its confusion, but is not finding it because God is ignored, and the sinfulness of man disregarded. It is planning an organised world Society - without laying the only sure foundation on which it can be successfully built.

In our South Africa, a land fair and full of promise and with much material prosperity, we are confronted with a population racially divided, and with ominous signs of hostility between some of the racial groups. Tens, maybe hundreds of thousands are living on the poverty line or below it, badly fed badly or insufficiently housed and many of our native and especially of our coloured population enslaved by drink. Our white population is materialistic in outlook, are "lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God," profoundly ignorant of the Bible and the elements of the Christian faith, and are consequently apathetic, if not hostile to Christianity and Christian Church. Others again are hungry for something they know not what, and are looking for some sure and inspired word as for a light in a dark place.

In regard to national unity our denomination has been through years of stress and composed as it is of various races is a demonstration of racial peace. We have been able to preserve the "unity of the spirit in the bond of peace." For this there is abundant cause for thankfulness.

We should be unworthy of our Baptist heritage if we were silent or inactive in regard to the unrighteous social conditions of our land, and we certainly should be unworthy of the Lord, "whose we are and whom we serve," if we fail to answer the challenge of the time to renewed all out effort to win the people around us for Christ and His Church. The Assembly therefore calls to all our Church members, to make the conditions outlined the subject of serious study with a view to action where such is possible. Specially it would remind our people that, in the history of the Church, such conditions, and even worse, have often been the prelude to revival. God in His Sovereignty of action has His way of breaking in, when things are at their worst, if He can count upon a people, though they may be but few who are ready and willing to do His bidding. However this may be, the Assembly, because of the dire need of the people and the Calvary claim of Christ, would call our people to the utmost of self-denying service for God.

To meet the abounding indifference and paganism the Assembly stresses the need of aggressive Evangelical witness not confined to the pulpit or the ministry but shared by the whole membership. This is a responsibility which the character of the times and the need of the people has specially thrown upon us, who have the knowledge and experience of the Gospel. Such personal evangelism to be effective must be the outcome of a faith in Christ which is so precious that it simply cannot be kept to ourselves. Our aim and methods must be devoted to bringing men face to face with their need of Christ. The testimony we give to His grace and love must be backed by consistent living, otherwise it will be not only ineffective but will be positively harmful.

More Christians and better Christians God needs as much as ever. We must go all out to win them by all means within our reach and even outside our reach as the Holy Spirit leads the way. The Assembly fears that in our church life we tend to be isolated and self-contained and content if our churches are nurseries for our own spiritual life. The Lord's battles are not to be won by sitting at ease. We must bestir ourselves and enlarge our borders and strengthen our stakes in the communities around us. Remembering that the Holy Spirit is not limited by denominational barriers we should seek in any aggressive work we may undertake to join hands where possible with others who are willing and like-minded and who give the crucified and risen Son of God His true place as the alone and all sufficient Saviour of men, and in this way show the essential oneness of the Lord's people.

The Assembly would affectionately urge all our members to be fully awake to their responsibility in these tremendous days, to shake off dull sloth, and purge away all timidity, pettiness, rivalries, captious criticisms and clogging traditions, and all else that may be a hindrance to blessing. By a solemn act of reconsecration we are called to give ourselves afresh into the Lord's Hands, asking that we may be welded into unity of purpose and action and glowing with warmth and radiance may be made ready to do whatever the Lord our God may appoint. Unitedly, courageously, and with understanding and sympathy may we all bear our testimony to the reality of our faith and the power of Christ, to deal with the sinfulness of men and by the application of the Gospel of His grace to save them from its power, and so make possible a solution of many of the personal and national problems of our day and generation.

The Assembly prays that Maritzburg 1945 may be the beginning of revival blessing throughout our beloved land.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1945-1946, pp. 62-64.)

100. Resolution of Appreciation: Rev. T. Chapman (1946)

The following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Having received the report of the South African Baptist Missionary Society's Executive regarding the work accomplished by the Rev. Thomas Chapman, A.T.S., in the training of Bantu Ministers and Evangelists at the Millard Institute, Orlando, this Annual Assembly of the B.U. of S.A. and the S.A.B.M.S. hereby places on record its sincere appreciation of his consecrated ministry.

Realising the great and urgent needs of the Society's workers in the Transvaal field, who had had few opportunities of instruction, Mr. Chapman gave himself voluntarily to the great task and for four years spared neither time nor strength in a service of which it would be difficult to overstate the value.

The Assembly realises that it cannot adequately reward Mr. Chapman for his labour of love, but asks him to accept this expression of heartfelt gratitude and the assurance that his work is bearing fruit in the lives and service of many who passed through his classes and who received not only new knowledge of God's Word but also a new conception of the dignity and responsibility of the Christian ministry.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1946-1947, p. 59.)

101. Executive Arrangements (1946)

On the strong recommendation of the Executive the resolutions hereunder were adopted after discussion:

That in order to facilitate the business of the Union and the Missionary Society, and especially to meet the urgent need for more frequent Executive Meetings, while avoiding the necessity for ministerial members of Executive to be away from their Churches for more than two weekends in each year, the following changes in the present procedure be made:

1. That the whole Executive shall meet twice in each year at such times as shall be fixed according to circumstances, but preferably in March and September, the latter meeting to be in conjunction with the Annual Assembly.
2. That a sub-committee of the Executive shall be appointed which shall also meet twice in each year, as far as possible midway between the meetings of the whole Executive, preferably in June and December.
3. The sub-committee shall consist of the Office-bearers of the Baptist Union and the Missionary Society, provided that other members of the Executive may be appointed by the Executive to attend particular meetings of the sub-committee for particular purposes, and that the sub-committee may invite one or more members of the Executive to attend its meetings if and when that is deemed desirable.
4. As far as circumstances permit the sub-committee shall meet at such places and times as shall obviate the necessity for member to be away from their homes for week-ends.
5. In order to facilitate business the sub-committee may be allowed reasonable hotel or boarding house expenses, in addition to second-class railway fares, to enable its members to stay together when deemed desirable.
6. Copies of all minutes of the sub-committee shall be sent to all members of the Executive.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1946-1947, pp. 62-63.)

102. *Distribution of Handbook (1946)*

The following resolution was adopted after discussion:

In order (1) to reduce the heavy charge on B.U. and B.M.S. funds for the printing of the Handbook, and (2) to make it available to anyone who desires to have it, the Assembly hereby resolves that in future,

(a) Free copies of the Handbook shall be supplied only to Ministers and Missionaries, Church Secretaries, Association Secretaries, Denominational Committee Secretaries, Personal Members of the Union, and such other official bodies or individuals as the Executive shall decide upon from time to time.

(b) Other copies shall be available to Church Members and other interested persons at a charge of two Shillings per copy, provided that they are ordered before October 31st in each year and paid for in advance so that whoever is responsible may know how many to order from the printers.

Rider: Notwithstanding the above, which shall remain in force as the permanent rule, the date up to which copies of the Handbook may be ordered for the present year (1946) shall be extended to November 30th.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1946-1947, p. 63.)

103. *Training of Candidates for the Bantu Ministry (1947)*

For a long time the Executive has had under earnest, not to say anxious, consideration the question of the effective training of candidates for the Bantu Baptist Ministry. Valuable work has been done in the past both at the Ennals Institute, under the Rev. B. E. Pape, and at the Millard Institute, under Rev. T. Chapman with the co-operation of the Rev. D. H. Eriksson, but the Executive was faced with the fact that it was uneconomical in every way, not merely financially, for our Missionaries to be called upon to give a large part of their time to the training of the very few men our work can absorb each year, while the supervision of their respective fields was bound to suffer.

In June, 1947, a conference was held at East London at which Dr. Ennals and the East London members of the Southern Field Committee were present, and after careful consideration, and after hearing the views of the Rev. B. E. Pape, the following recommendation was made to the Executive:

“That, for a trial period, the duration of which shall be decided by the Executive with full right of review by the Assembly, accepted candidates for the Bantu Baptist ministry be sent to the Union Bible Institute, Sweetwaters, Natal, and that the Ennals Institute at present situated at Berlin and the Millard Institute at Orlando, while retaining their status, as training centres, be used primarily for refresher courses for Ministers and Evangelists and special courses for women workers, as far as suitable arrangements can be made and the other duties of Superintendent Missionaries allow time for such work with the voluntary help of such local Ministers as are available; subject to the proviso that the whole matter comes up for review every three years until we ourselves are able to undertake the full training of our men.”

This recommendation was subsequently considered by the Executive and adopted unanimously.

After further consultation it was agreed that, mainly because of the difficulty of getting satisfactory assurances as to our tenure of the Ennals Institute property for Native training purposes, the Ennals Institute be moved to East London. On the advice of Mr. S. Pape it was resolved to take advantage of the favourable market and to dispose of the Berlin property as soon as possible.

In this most important matter the Executive has earnestly sought the Lord's leading over a long period and believes it has followed that leading in the steps that have now been taken.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1947-1948, pp. 55-56.)

104. Forward Movement Fund: £50, 000 (1947)

On behalf of the Executive Mr. A. T. Babbs urged the starting of a Forward Movement Fund for the all round development of our work. He said that, in administering the Thanksgiving Fund, the Executive had made two discoveries; first, that the amount raised could only do half what was expected because of increased building costs and, second, that many calls had been made which could not be met. He outlined a number of matters that were urgently pressing themselves upon the leaders of the Denomination and finally moved a resolution in the following terms:-

"In view of the increasing opportunities and development in South Africa and Rhodesia, this Assembly of the South African Baptist Union resolves that a Committee be formed to launch a forward movement fund in order to carry out our Lord's Commission:

- I. That this Committee be instructed to envisage a capital of at least £50,000 in order:-
 1. To establish a training centre for ministers and missionaries.
 2. Development in new areas and some existing centres.
 3. Administration assistance.
 4. Book Room development.
 5. Augmentation of missionary staff and new buildings in Native and non-European townships;
- II. That this Committee investigate and prepare plans embodying the above proposals, including also Evangelistic advance, and the incorporation as far as possible of local schemes, with power to submit the proposals to the churches.
- III. That the fund be known as the FORWARD MOVEMENT FUND, which this Assembly now approves and adopts."

This was seconded by the Rev. J. L. Green and adopted by the Assembly.

It was further agreed that the Executive be authorised to decide the personnel of the Committee on the understanding that it would centre on the Reef, with the President (Rev. R. H. Philpott) as convenor, and with corresponding members in all main centres where we have work. A number of names were suggested and these were passed on to the Executive.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1947-1948, pp. 91-92.)

105. Training of Candidates for [European] Ministry (1948)

The Rev. J. L. Green presented a report regarding preliminary investigation made by the Northern Baptist Minister's Fraternal, and of the discussion that had taken place in the Ministerial session of the present Assembly, and then moved the following resolution which was seconded by the Rev. J. D. Odendaal, and carried:-

- (1) The Assembly accords its thanks to the Northern Baptist Minister's Fraternal for bringing forward the question of the adequate training of men for our South African ministry, and for the preparatory work the Fraternal has done in exploring the possibilities and suggestions.

(2) The Assembly recognises the importance and urgency of the matter in question and desires that a comprehensive plan shall be formulated with the least possible delay.

(3) To this end the Assembly now refers the matter to a special committee for further consideration and investigation with a view to the presentations of definite proposals to the 1948 Assembly.

(4) The special committee shall consist of the members of the Northern Ministers' Fraternal with power to add, together, with a corresponding member from each of the larger centres other than the Transvaal and of the Afrikaanse Baptist Kerk. The convenor of the committee shall be the Rev. Clayton Surmon in his capacity as secretary of the Northern Fraternal. The clause "with power to add" means that the committee may, if deemed desirable, co-opt individuals outside the Transvaal area in addition to the regional representatives.

(5) The committee shall present interim reports to the Executive for information and/or suggestion, in time for their meetings in March and June, 1948.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1947-1948, p. 92.)

106. [European] Ministerial Training (1948)

On the initiative of the Northern Baptist Ministers Fraternal, by whom some preliminary enquiries had been made, the Ministers' Session of the 1947 Assembly brought before the delegates the important question of the adequate training of men for the Baptist Ministry in South Africa.

After some discussion a Committee was set up, of which the Northern Fraternal formed the nucleus, charged with the task of going into the matter in all its bearings, investigating all the possibilities, and reporting in due course.

So far as English speaking European candidates are concerned the Committee has done its work thoroughly and has prepared a comprehensive memorandum covering over 20 foolscap sheets of type. This will be submitted to the Ministers' session of the forthcoming Assembly, for consideration and report to the whole Assembly with any recommendations that may be possible at this stage.

The Committee make no report at the moment regarding the training of Afrikaans speaking European students or of non-European candidates for work amongst the non-European.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1948-1949, p. 41.)

107. Bantu Assembly – 21st Anniversary (1948)

The Bantu Assembly, which meets bi-annually, met in May this year at Mjozi, Pondoland, (200) by invitation of the Eastern Council, and the occasion marked the 21st Anniversary of the formation of the Bantu Baptist Church.

Great efforts were made in preparation for the comfort of the Delegates by the folk in the Pondoland Field, efforts which in many respects meant great sacrifices. Buildings were erected to accommodate the Guests, cattle were given to feed the hungry, while one lovely gesture was the loaning of a cow to the Payns to provide milk for little baby Payn—all so eloquent of the spirit of the people.

The Delegates numbered 69, the largest number ever to attend a Bantu Assembly, and the Secretary reports on the wonderful spirit that pervaded the whole of the Assembly gatherings. Several papers were read by Bantu Ministers, all of which reached a very high standard. The Superintendents reported 672 Baptisms and a total membership of 12,046, and the money raised by the people themselves

amounting to £1,913. It will be understood that these figures do not include Lambaland.

One of the important events was the inauguration of the South African Bantu B.W.A. at which Mrs. Eriksson was elected the first President. There have been local B.B.W.A.'s in the Churches but now these have been united as a South African Association and will have its own session at the Assemblies in future. This new move has brought great satisfaction to the Bantu women and has given them a new interest.

For the first time in ten years the Assembly was privileged to have a visit from the President of the B.U. & S.A.B.M.S. The presence and messages of the Rev. R. H. Philpott, writes Mr. Payn, lifted the tone of the whole Assembly to such a high level that none who were present will ever forget. The President addressed the full Assembly, spoke to the women at the inaugural meeting of the S.A.B.B.W.A., conducted a searching Ministers' Session, and preached on the Sunday morning to a great congregation numbering over a thousand people gathered under the trees, a Service which resulted in 60 persons accepting the Saviour.

The Executive greatly appreciated the special resolution adopted to mark the 21st Anniversary of the founding of the Bantu Baptist Church, and for its importance re-produces it in this report.

1. "We emphatically reaffirm our loyalty to the teachings of Christianity and strongly appeal to all our Churches and members to follow this example."
2. "Whilst we humbly express our gratitude to God, and acknowledge that everything is due to His help and blessings, we also desire to thank the South African B.M.S. for founding our Church in 1927 and for the progress it has helped us to make since that date."
3. "We urge all our constituent Churches to show their gratitude towards God and the Society by making greater efforts to raise more money than in the past for God's work and by the up-building of our beloved Church."
The Executive congratulates the Bantu Church for a fine Assembly and for all the devoted service during the year.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1948-1949, pp. 45-46.)

108. Amendment to Constitution and By-Laws: Missionary (1948)

Due notice having been given it was resolved that the Constitution and By-Laws of the South African Baptist Missionary Society be amended by the deletion of Section No.8 and the substitution of the following:-

- (a) The Trust Funds shall be administered by the Executive under the name or title of "The South African Baptist Missionary Society Trust Fund" and the Executive shall appoint a Treasurer thereto.
- (b) The provisions of sub sections (b) to (h) inclusive of Section 9 of the By-Laws of the Union shall apply mutatis mutandis to the Society. The expression "the Society."
- (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of the foregoing sub-sections (a) and (b) of this By Law No.8, the Executive may borrow a portion of the South African Baptist Missionary Trust Funds, held by the Trust Fund Treasurer, to erect buildings for Missionary purposes subject to the conditions set forth in sub-sections (d) and (e) of Section 9 of the By-Laws of the Baptist Union of South Africa and provided that the total amount so borrowed shall not in any circumstances exceed fifty per cent (50%) of the said Trust Fund.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1948-1949, p. 95.)

109. Union Finance – Trust Funds (1949)

In reporting briefly on denominational figures we remarked on our good fortune in having a succession of able and exact Statistical Secretaries; the same can be said in regard to the Treasurers of our Trust Funds. Our present Treasurer, Mr. A. A. Lambie, takes a keen interest in the important service he gives to the Union and we are much indebted to him for his careful handling of the Sustentation and Trust Funds and other moneys held for special purposes.

In presenting the statements printed elsewhere some explanation may be called for regarding what now appears as the Ministerial Training Fund (incorporating the Batts, Cross and Perks Memorial Funds). In recent years the Batts Memorial Fund and the Perks Memorial Fund have appeared in the annual statements without any indication of their purpose, and the name of the late Rev. G. W. Cross has not appeared in connection with either.

The facts are that the Rev. H. J. Batts left a legacy to be used to help men accepted for ministerial training; a sum for the same purpose was raised by friends of the Rev. G. W. Cross, and with their generous consent, merged into the Batts Fund. A further sum was left by the late Mr. Perks with the same object in view.

At the June Executive meetings, in order to perpetuate the names of the brethren mentioned, and at the same time secure that the purpose for which all three funds were intended should not be forgotten or overlooked with the efflux of time and the passing of those who had some personal knowledge of the matter, it was resolved that the three Funds be merged under the title now used. The Executive believe this clarification will have the approval of the Assembly.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1949-1950, pp. 31-32.)

110. Ministerial Training (1949)

In accordance with the resolution of the 1948 Assembly the Executive appointed a special committee to go thoroughly into all matters relevant to the establishment of our own Training Centre on the lines suggested in the resolution presented by the Minister's Session, and to draft a detailed scheme. To facilitate regular meetings the committee was centred in Transvaal, with power to co-opt anyone from any other centre whose experience would be valuable. At its first meeting the committee was centred in Transvaal, with power to co-opt anyone from any other centre whose experience would be valuable. At its first meeting the committee elected Dr. C. M. Doke as Chairman and Rev. E. Williams as Secretary.

A comprehensive scheme was presented to the Executive at their Meeting in March for examination and comment. The scheme was most ably expounded by Dr. Doke. After thorough examination and discussion for a day and a half it was referred back to the committee for their consideration of certain suggestions both as to actual proposals and the form in which the scheme as a whole should be put before our people.

The main points of the scheme in its re-arranged form were embodied in a statement sent to all our Churches with a request for an expression of their attitude by a fixed date.

The special committee's report and recommendations will be submitted to the Assembly by its secretary.

The work of the special committee has been done with thoroughness, involving the expenditure of much time and strength, and the Executive have placed on record their appreciation of the valuable service rendered by all its members especially the Chairman, who has handled the matter in Executive meetings with ability and patience, and the Secretary upon whom a great deal of clerical work has

devolved.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1949-1950, pp. 38-39.)

111. Annuity-Insurance Scheme (1949)

While the Ministers of the Denomination owe an immense debt of gratitude to those who started the present Pension Fund, and to those whose generosity helped to build up the capital fund without which the annuities that have been paid would have been impossible, and while we are equally indebted to the Pension Fund Management Committee, especially the Secretary-Treasurer, for their voluntary service for so many years, the question has been raised whether, with the great advance in Insurance methods, an even more advantageous scheme is not now possible.

The matter has been thoroughly investigated by a strong Committee, which has had the benefit of consultation with the Managers of the present Fund and with the Port Elizabeth Manager of the South African Mutual Life Assurance Society, and a new Annuity-Insurance scheme will be presented to the Assembly for acceptance or otherwise.

Particulars of the scheme have been sent to all our Churches for consideration and an expression of opinion. All the replies received have been in favour of its adoption.

The managers of the present Pension Fund point out that while the new scheme offers certain advantages in the matter of insurance and benefits for dependants, it offers a considerable lower annuity payable at the age of 65.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1949-1950, p. 41.)

112. Colporteur (1949)

The 1948 Assembly adopted a resolution directing the Executive to give special consideration to the possibility of engaging a Colporteur, and Dr. J. E. and Mrs. Ennals generously offered £500 towards the initial cost if such a plan could be carried out.

The Executive have given prolonged and prayerful consideration to this matter and, while they deeply appreciate the motives that promoted the resolution and the offer made by Dr. and Mrs. Ennals, they feel bound to recommend that, in view of the undertakings to which the Union is already pledged, the engagement of an Evangelist-Colporteur, and the purchase of the necessary equipment, cannot be contemplated at present.

In making this recommendation the Executive wish to make it clear that they are whole-heartedly in favour of the suggestion in principle and hope it will be possible to carry it out at some future time.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1949-1950, pp. 58-59.)

113. Confidential Consultant and Ministerial Settlements Committee (1949)

After considerable discussion the resolutions were adopted:

1. That the denominational policy resolutions adopted in 1944, and amended later, be and hereby are rescinded.

2. That for the purpose of the resolutions hereunder the following definitions shall apply: Confidential Consultant shall mean a specially appointed person with whom Churches or Ministers may consult confidentially on any matters, other than ministerial settlements, regarding which they may desire help or advice.

Ministerial Settlements Committee shall mean a specially elected committee with whom Churches and Ministers shall be expected to consult before making pastoral changes. A clear majority shall mean more than half of the total number of votes cast.

3. That all Churches shall be asked, by post, to vote for one of the four propositions hereunder:

- (a) The election of a Confidential Consultant only.
- (b) The election of a Ministerial Settlements Committee only, consisting of the General Secretary of the Union together with one elected ministerial member and one elected non-ministerial member.
- (c) The election of a Confidential Consultant and a Ministerial Settlements Committee.
- (d) The discontinuance of the office of Confidential Consultant and of a Ministerial Settlements Committee.

4. That in the event of a clear majority vote for proposition (a), (b) or (c). such proposition shall be submitted again to all Churches with a request that each Church will intimate, on a form to be provided by the General Secretary of the Union, the name (or names) of the person (or persons) for whom it votes for the office (or offices) to be filled.

5. That each Church voting shall obtain the consent of the person (or persons) for whom it votes before the name (or names) are sent forward. If such consent is not intimated on the voting paper the vote in question will not be valid.

6. That a clear majority of the votes cast shall be necessary for election. If no person receives a clear majority of the votes cast in respect of any office to be filled the names of the two who receive the highest and second highest number of votes respectively for that office shall be submitted to the Churches for their final choice.

7. That in the meantime of the Confidential Consultant and of the Ministerial Settlements Committee be undertaken by the General Secretary of the Union and the Officers of the Union respectively.

8. That future elections of a Confidential Consultant and/or a Ministerial Settlements Committee that may be necessary after the will of the Churches has been ascertained on the points set forth, and in the manner provided for, in the above resolutions be conducted in accordance with the method laid down in the Constitution and By-Laws of the Union for the election of Executive members.

9. That the Executive be authorised to make any special arrangements that may be necessary to secure the whole-hearted agreement of the German Bund and/or Die Afrikaanse Baptiste Kerk in the matter of consultation with the Ministerial Settlements Committee if the Churches vote for setting up of such a Committee.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1949-1950, pp. 104-106.)

114. Appointment, Duties and Powers of Trustees (1949)

In pursuance of a Notice of Motion given at the 1948 Assembly the General Secretary moved, on behalf of the Executive, and it was resolved:

(1) That the definition of the Union" appearing in paragraph 2 of the Constitution be deleted and the following substituted therefore:" TRUSTEES OF THE UNION shall mean such persons as the Assembly shall from time to time appoint as such."

(2) That By-Law 7 be amended: I. By the alteration of the title to read "The appointment, duties and powers of the Trustees." II. By the addition of the following paragraphs:-

(a) The Assembly shall appoint from time to time, three persons, preferably resident in the same area as TRUSTEES OF THE UNION and may appoint alternates to all or any such Trustees."

(b) Each Trustee so appointed shall hold office until such time

(i) As he may resign.

(ii) As he may absent himself from South Africa for any consecutive period exceeding six months.

(iii) As he may die.

(iv) As he may assign his estate or be declared insolvent.

(v) As he may be removed from office by vote of the Assembly

(c) In the event of any Trustee ceasing to hold office between Assembly, the Executive shall fill the vacancy so created. Any person so appointed shall hold office until the next Assembly.

(d) Any two Trustees or their alternates may do any act execute any deed or other document required to carry out the directions of the Assembly or of the Executive.

(e) A certificate under the hand of the General Secretary of the Union shall for all purposes be deemed sufficient evidence of the appointment of the Trustees or their alternates, if any.

3. By the subscription of the letters (f), (g) and (h) for the existing letters (a), (b) and (c) respectively.

4. By the deletion of the existing paragraph (d).

(Source: BU Handbook for 1949-1950, p. 109.)

115. Ministerial Training Scheme (1949)

A comprehensive report on the work of the Training Scheme Committee throughout the year was presented by Rev. E. Williams who then moved the following resolution on behalf of the Executive:

That this Assembly heartily endorses its previous resolution that a Ministerial Training College be commenced as soon as is possible with the funds already available, it being understood that further advances may be made as funds for this purpose are forthcoming.

After considerable discussion Rev. J Porter moved the following amendment:

That this Assembly having received with deep appreciation the report of the Ministerial Training Scheme Committee feels that there is not the unity of the Spirit among the Churches to justify the launching of this scheme at the present time without further serious prayer and consideration, and refers the whole matter to the Executive for further consideration with authority to act.

On being put to the Assembly the amendment was declared lost. The resolution was then put and the voting was for, 59; against, 6 abstentions, 35. There were also a number of absentees. The President expressed from the chair the opinion that on such a vote the Executive would not be able to implement the resolution without further consultation with the Churches.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1949-1950, pp. 112-113.)

116. *New Annuity-Insurance Scheme (1949)*

Rev. J. D. Odendaal explained the proposed Scheme in considerable detail and, after stating that the representations of the Managers of the existing Pension Fund and a few others had received careful consideration, moved the following resolution:

That this Assembly acknowledges with deep gratitude and appreciation all that the Baptist Union Pension Fund has meant to our Ministers and Missionaries and their wives, but realising that the time has now come to launch this new Annuity Scheme, submitted by the "Old Mutual" under the date 17.5.[19]48, in order to make provision commensurate with present-day requirements, now adopts the said "Old Mutual" Scheme as the Denominational Pension-Insurance Scheme for the future, with effect as from 1st July, 1949.

Further it is resolved that arrangements be left in the hands of the Executive with authority to draw up regulations required by the "Old Mutual."

After considerable discussion, and the defeat of two amendments, the resolution was put to the vote and declared carried with eight dissentients.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1949-1950, p. 113.)

117. *Race Relations-An Appeal to Christians (1949)*

This Annual Assembly of the Baptist Union of South Africa and the South African Baptist Missionary Society hereby records its deep concern at the manifest deterioration in race relations in South Africa in recent years and appeals to our own people everywhere for a definitely Christian approach to the many and complex problems that arise in a multi-racial country.

In the present day conditions Europeans are called upon to exercise leadership and responsibility but these should never be exercised in the spirit of race arrogance. The teaching of the Lord Jesus Christ and His Apostles, as preserved in the New Testament, declares that all men are of equal value in the sight of God, since Christ died for all, and it condemns racial prejudice and hatred.

This Assembly, therefore, calls upon all our people not only to avoid words and actions that would tend to embitter relations, but to maintain an attitude of positive friendship and respect in all contacts with those of other races, in the home, in business and in every other sphere of everyday life.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1949-1950, p. 115.)

118. *The Mixed Marriages Act (1949)*

With a deep sense of responsibility this Annual Assembly of the Baptist Union of South Africa and the South African Baptist Missionary Society, representing congregations of various races, the members of which are entirely free in regard to their political affiliations, respectfully but strongly protests against the Mixed Marriages Act and earnestly urges its repeal.

In the Assembly's considered judgment, while Christian opinion generally deprecates mixed marriages as undesirable on grounds of social expediency, the present measure is contrary to the spirit of the New Testament and antidemocratic.

It is the Assembly's conviction, apart from the principle involved, that the Act will be impossible to apply equally to all sections of South African Society, that it places upon Ministers of Religion who are Marriage Officers an almost intolerable burden repugnant to their calling, and that its promulgation

has already increased the bitterness and sense of frustration that are doing more than anything else to drive some of our people to Communism.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1949-1950, p. 117.)

VARIA

(a) Table of Assemblies

	Place	Yr.	President	Preacher	M. ³	D. ⁴
1	Grahamstown	1877 (a)	Rev. W. Stokes	Rev. W. Hamilton	6	5
2	Port Elizabeth	1879	Rev. R. H. Brotherton	Rev. G. W. Cross	6	6
3	Kingwilliamstown	1880	Rev. G. W. Cross	Rev. H. J. Batts	6	7
4	Grahamstown	1881	Rev. H. Gutsche	Rev. R. H. Brotherton	8	10
5	Port Elizabeth	1882	Rev. L. Nuttall	Rev. L. Nuttall	12	9
6	Kingwilliamstown	1883	Rev. H. J. Batts	Rev. G.W. Gross	11	13
7	Grahamstown	1884	T. B. King, Esq.	Rev. J.J. Doke	13	12
8	Port Elizabeth	1885	Rev. R. H. Brotherton	Rev. L. Nuttall	11	12
9	Kingwilliamstown	1886	T.H. Grocott, Esq.	Rev. Chas. Denyer	7	10
10	Grahamstown	1887	Rev. H. Gutsche	Rev. H.J. Batts	11	18
11	Port Elizabeth	1888	W. A. Howard, Esq.	Rev. A. J. Edwards	13	12
12	Kingwilliamstown	1889	Rev. G. W. Cross	Rev. Jas. Hughes	8	18
13	Grahamstown	1890	Rev. Isaac Crowley	Rev. Chas. Denyer	16	18
14	Port Elizabeth	1891	Rev. Chas. Denyer	Rev. D. H. Hay	10	18
15	Kingwilliamstown	1892	John Brodie, Esq.	Rev. J. Gifford	13	18
16	Capetown	1893	Rev. E. P. Riemer	Rev. J. Russell	13	14
17	Grahamstown	1894	Rev. James Hughes	Rev. E. Baker	19	17
18	East London	1895	Rev. John Gifford	Rev. Chas. Homer	21	27
19	Kimberley	1896	Rev. H. J. Batts	Rev. J.E. Ennals, B.D.	17	17
20	Pietermaritzburg	1897	Rev. D. H. Hay	Rev. J. Maginnes	15	17
21	Port Elizabeth	1898	Rev. G. W. Cross	Rev. F. W. King	22	29
22	Pretoria	1899 (b)	Rev. J. B. Heard	Rev. Thos. Perry	26	32
23	Grahamstown	1901	Rev. E. Baker	Rev. A. Hall	14	21
24	Capetown	1902	T.B. King, Esq.	Rev. G. W. Cross	20	21
25	Johannesburg	1903	Rev. T. Perry	Rev. R. Holme	28	39
26	Kingwilliamstown	1904	Rev. A. Hall	Rev. F.G. West	26	42
27	Durban	1905	Greenwood White, Esq.	Rev. J. J. Doke	24	46
28	East London	1906	Rev. J. J. Doke	Rev. G. W. Cross	25	39
29	Port Elizabeth	1907	Rev. F. W. King	Rev. A. H. Chapman	20	17
30	Alice	1908	Rev. J. Russell	Rev. J. F. Niebuhr	26	35
31	Grahamstown	1909	Rev. E. Baker	Rev. C. H. Clapp	29	35
32	Pietermaritzburg	1910	Rev. G.W. Cross	Rev. W. H. Watson	25	30
33	Kimberley	1911	Rev. T. Chapman	Rev. E. Brett	24	42
34	Johannesburg	1912	J. B. Burnes, Esq.	Rev. Arch. G. Brown	28	34
35	Cape Town	1913 (c)	Rev. Ernest Eve	Rev. B. Vernon Bird	29	48
36	Port Elizabeth	1915	Rev. W. H. Watson	Rev. G.W. Cross	25	27
37	Durban	1916	Rev. C. H. Clapp	Rev. J. E. Ennals, B.D.	26	23
38	Bloemfontein	1917 (d)	Rev. T Aitken	Rev. T. Chapman	30	48
39	Cape Town	1919	Rev. J. E. Ennals, B.A., B. D.	Rev. T. Perry	30	27
40	Grahamstown	1920	Rev. A. E. Brett	Wm. Hay, Esq. J. P.	28	41

³ M. stands for Ministers.

⁴ D. stands for Delegates.

41	Pietermaritzburg	1921	Rev. H. J. Batts	Rev. E. Baker	21	27
42	Kingwilliamstown	1922	Theo. Riemer, Esq.	Rev. C. Garratt	34	46
43	Troyeville, Johburg	1923	Ph. Gutsche, Esq., M.D.	Rev. R. F. Lindsay, M.A.	36	48
44	Durban	1924	Rev. H. T. Peach	Rev. A. B. Jack	44	62
45	East London	1925	Rev. D. H. Hay, J.P.	Rev. Andrew Smith	35	67
46	Port Elizabeth	1926	Rev. Chas. Garratt	Rev. W. H. Doke	33	83
47	Cape Town	1927	Rev. E. Baker	Rev. W. Fullerton, D.D.	32	92
48	Queenstown	1928	Rev. J. W. Joyce	Rev. P. W. Lowe	34	78
49	Pretoria	1929	Rev. R. F. Lindsay, M.A.	Rev. J. C. Stern	30	82
50	Kingwilliamstown	1930	Rev. A. B. Jack	Rev. T. Aitken	38	74
51	Grahamstown	1931	A. H. King, Esq.	Rev. R. H. Philpott	37	75
52	Pietermaritzburg	1932	Rev. W. H. Doke	Pastor G. Watson	26	54
53	Durban	1933	Rev. J. E. Ennals, B. A., D.D.	Rev. H. G. Thomas	27	48
54	Johannesburg	1934	Pastor G. Watson	Rev. E. Baker	36	63
55	Cape Town	1935	Rev. J. A. Baier	Rev. C. Garratt	44	69
56	Pretoria	1936	Rev. J. C. Stern	Rev. J. Walker	42	66
57	East London	1937	Rev. A. H. Chapman, B. Sc.	Rev. W. M. Cook, M. A.	47	82
58	Port Elizabeth	1938	Rev. E. E. G. Field, B. A.	Rev. J. L. Green	42	71
59	Kimberley	1939 (e)	Rev. C. Garratt	Rev. J.E. Ennals, D.D.	41	66
60	Grahamstown	1941	M.A. Cross, Esq.	Rev. A. G. W. MacBeath, M.A., B.D.	36	57
61	Kingwilliamstown	1942	Rev. J. Walker	Rev. J. D. Odendaal	49	63
62	Bloemfontein	1943	A. T. Babbs, Esq.	Rev. H. Hettingshaw	44	55
63	Germiston	1944	Rev. W. M. Cook, M.A.	Rev. A. B. Arnot	46	55
64	Pietermantzburg	1945	Rev. H. Herringshaw	Rev. L. W. Matthews	47	56
65	Observatory	1946	Rev. J. D. Odendaal	Rev. W. Edmunds	44	75
66	Durban	1947	Rev. R. H. Philpott	Rev. R. W. Wighton, C.F.	56	82
67	Johannesburg	1948	Rev. A. B. Arnot, C.F.	Rev. D. Matthews	56	85
68	Cape Town	1949	Dr. C. M. Doke	Rev. F. W. Schwarz	54	77

- (a) 1878 No Session, being year of the Kaffir War
(b) 1900 No Session, being year of the Anglo-Boer War
(c) 1914 No Session, being year of the Great World War
(d) 1918 No Session, being year of the Epidemic
(e) 1940 No Session, being year of the Second World War.

The figures for several years between 1924 and 1944 include B.W.A.

(Source: BU Handbook for 1949-1950, pp. 129 -130.)

(b) BU & SABMS Secretaries & Treasurers

SECRETARIES OF THE UNION

Rev. G. W. Cross	July 1877	- September, 1880
Rev. H. J. Batts	September 1880	- July 1883
Rev. F. Hutchinson (Assistant)	July 1882	- July 1883

Rev. I. Nuttall	July 1883	- July 1885
Rev. G. W. Cross	July 1885	- September 1886
Rev. H. J. Batts	September 1886	- May 1887
Rev. G. W. Cross	May 1887	- May 1888
Rev. J. Hughes	May 1888	- May 1890
Rev. G. W. Cross	May 1890	- October 1902
Rev. J. E. Ennals, B.A., B.D.	October 1897	- October 1900
Rev. E. Baker	October 1902	- October 1905
Rev. H. I. Staines (Assistant)	October 1904	- October 1905
Rev. H. I. Staines	October 1905	- October 1908
Rev. H. J. Batts	October 1908	- April 1919
Rev. T. Aitken	April 1919	- January 1935
Rev. E. Baker (Joint)	October 1935	- October 1937
Rev. C. Garratt	October 1935	- October 1938
Rev. F. Oldrieve	October 1938	- October 1940
Rev. C. Garratt	October 1940	-
Rev. W. H. Doke (Assistant)	January 1950	-

TREASURERS OF THE UNION

Mr. T. B. King	July 1877	- September 1880
Rev. W. E. Kelly	September 1880	- July 1881
Mr. Geo. Luke	July 1881	- July 1884
Mr. W. A. Howard	July 1881	- September 1886
Rev. E. G. Evans	September 1886	- May 1887
Rev. H. J. Batts	May 1887	- May 1888
Mr. A. P. Alexander	May 1888	- May 1890
Mr. T. H. Grocott	May 1890	- April 1891
Mr. J. H. Webber	April 1891	- April 1892
Mr. W. J. Pople	April 1892	- March 1894
Mr. H. Hall	March 1894	- April 1895
Mr. J. W. Varder	April 1895	- April 1898
Mr. T. B. King	April 1898	- April 1899
Mr. H. Hall	April 1899	- October 1904
Mr. H. Schmidt	October 1904	- October 1943
Mr. H. Hellyer	October 1943 -	

PAST CHAIRMAN OF THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Mr. T. B. King April 1892, October 1904

From 1904 the President of the Union was appointed Chairman of the Missionary Society, except for the years 1915-16, when the Rev. J. E. Eve was appointed, and the years 1916-19, when Dr. Ph. Gutsche was elected.

From 1925 the Union Executive and the Missionary Committee were merged in one Joint Executive Committee with Union and Missionary Secretaries and Treasurers.

SECRETARIES OF THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Rev. H. Gutsche	April 1892	- March 1893
Rev. D. H. Hay	March 1893	- April 1899
Rev. T. Perry	April 1899	- October 1910

Rev. T. Perry	October 1910	- October 1912
Rev. G. Gutsche		
Rev. B. V. Bird	October 1912	- November 1916
Rev. H. G. Wood	November 1916	- April 1919
Rev. P. W. Lowe (Assistant)	October 1917	- April 1919
Rev. A. E. Brett	April 1919	- April 1920
Rev. J. E. Ennals, B.A., B.D.	April 1920	- September 1932
Rev. H. J. Thomas	September 1932	- October 1935
Rev. F. Oldrieve	October 1935	- October 1940
Rev. C. Garratt	October 1940	- January 1948
Rev. R. H. Philpott	January 1948	- December 1949
Rev. W. H. Doke	January 1950	

TREASURERS OF THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Rev. D. H. Hay	July 1892	- March 1893
Rev. H. Gutsche	March 1893	- April 1896
Rev. H. Gutsche, Jr.	April 1896	- October 1902
Rev. T. Perry	October 1902	- October 1904
Rev. D. H. Hay	October 1904	- April 1919
Mr. A. H. King	April 1919	- September 1928
Mr. A. W. Davis	September 1928	- September 1933
Mr. E. V. Baker	September 1933	- October 1943
Mr. A. H. King	October 1943	- October 1948
Mr. H. Hellyer	October 1948	

(Source: BU Handbook for 1949-1950, pp. 131-132.)