

**Baptist State Convention.**

The next session of the Baptist State Convention will be held in the city of Greensboro, December 3-6. The Convention will meet Tuesday morning and will be preceded by the Baptist Ministers' conference of North Carolina, which will meet on Monday.

It may be well to state, for the benefit of those who are not familiar with the Baptist form of church government, just what the Convention is. The Baptists, like the Congregationalists, have a congregational form of church government. That being true the Convention is neither an executive, a legislative, nor a judicial body.

Every local Baptist church is a little republic within itself. It makes and executes its own laws, and administers discipline without any interference from any outside authority, as it recognizes no such authority. There is no such thing as "The Baptist Church" when by that term the local churches of any given territory are meant. For instance, it is not good Baptist terminology to say "The Southern Baptist Church," or "The Northern Baptist Church." In speaking of such group of churches the term "denomination" is used. There is no system of ecclesiastical courts with Baptists and, hence, no appeal from the decisions of a local church.

It will be seen from the foregoing that the function of a Baptist State Convention is purely advisory. It formulates no laws, executes no orders, and tries no cases. It has no jurisdiction as to questions of doctrine. All these are matters that belong to the local church.

If no action taken by the Convention is binding on the local churches, the question may be asked, "Why are the annual meetings held?" While the Convention has no authority to enforce the observance of any recommendation it may make, there is a beautiful spirit of cooperation among the Baptists which leads them to work together with as much unity and harmony as do those denominations which have their more complex organizations.

The denominational paper serves as a channel for expression of opinion in regard to any denominational policy that may be proposed. If any matter of unusual importance is to be introduced in the Convention, it is customary for the brother who expects to introduce the measure to give notice of his purpose in the Record before the meeting of the Convention, and it is discussed in the columns of the paper. In this way unity of action is usually secured. If, however, a matter is presented to the Convention and discussed, and it is seen that the Convention cannot act with a considerable degree of unanimity, a motion is usually made and adopted, which carries the question over for a year, thus giving time for mature consideration. When such action is taken there is almost always a satisfactory agreement reached at the following session of the Convention.

Another thing which helps to secure concert of action is the spirit of democracy which permeates the body. A 'steam roller' would soon be thrown on the junk pile if by any means it should chance to find its way into the Convention hall. The humblest layman in all the state is as much entitled to the floor of the Convention as the biggest preacher who comes from the most important city church. The vote of one man counts for as much as that of another. Where there is such a spirit of democracy, and where the body is composed of "delegates" from all sorts of churches and from all parts of the state, whatever action is taken after free and full discussion, usually reflects the sentiment of the denomination in the state at large.

Furthermore, their democratic spirit leads Baptists to have very high regard for the voice of the majority, and if a majority of the Convention decides upon a certain policy, a local church, whatever might be its opinion in regard to the matter, usually acquiesces in the action of the Convention, and falls into line.

In all their history North Carolina Baptists have been free from factions and dissensions. This does not mean that they have not often differed in their views, for they have. There is hardly a session of the Convention at which there is not difference of opinion, and the brethren express themselves freely upon these questions; but they differ as brethren, and each man on either side of a question believes that the adoption of his views by the Convention would be wise. If, however, a majority is against him he gracefully yields, and goes with the majority. So long as Christian men are prompted to advocate measures because they believe they are right, and are not actuated by a diabolical spirit, there is not much danger of serious division.

The greatest immediate duty before the American people is to supply food to 200,000,000 or more starving people in Europe. Every individual in America has a part of this responsibility and opportunity.

# A Store Full of Seasonable Goods At Reasonable Prices

You will find here a full stock of Winter Underwear for Women, Misses and Children.



Cotton goods, Woolen goods, Silks, Etc., in great variety.



## "Walk-Over" Shoes

We have about one hundred pairs of Men's "Walk-Over" Shoes, in small sizes at half price. These shoes are of the highest grade and could not be bought on present market at double the price we ask for them.



## Beautiful Fall and Winter Boots

We don't believe that ever in the history of our business have the styles been more beautiful—a store full of these beautiful boots for your selection.

You will find here hundreds of pairs of Shoes, both in the heavy every-day grades and in the finer grades for dress wear at much less than wholesale factory prices.



## Children's Shoes

You'll find here splendid assortments of Children's Shoes for Sunday and every-day wear, built on sensible last allowing plenty of room for natural development of the feet.

LOTS OF CHILDRENS SHOES AT BARGAIN PRICES.

## Gloves and Hosiery in Abundance — All The Varied Colors

Ladies' Underwear in all the Latest Styles  
New Handbags



Just Received a Big Shipment of Handkerchiefs For Xmas Shoppers

**Over 800 Patients in The Azalea Hospital.**

Asheville, Nov. 18.—There are now 800 patients at Azalea, and there is every indication that this hospital will be a permanent institution for the treatment of tuberculosis soldiers. The hospital is not one building but is a group of ward buildings on a plateau about six miles from Asheville. Each ward building has capacity of 30 beds, and other accommodations are being provided as rapidly as possible. The wards are arranged so that patients sleep almost out of doors. Those who are convalescent are given a regular instruction in both academic and vocational work, one of the chief aims of the hospital being to return men to civil life better fitted in many cases for civilian occupations than they were before they entered the army.

The greatest immediate duty before the American people is to supply food to 200,000,000 or more starving people in Europe. Every individual in America has a part of this responsibility and opportunity.

After the war Europe will continue to look to America for help; there will be no crops raised over-night.

**WALNUT LOGS WANTED**—We are in the market for walnut logs and will pay you prices that will be interesting to you. See either J. R. Patterson or A. Goldsmith when in town for prices. J. R. PATTERSON & CO.

**Sydnor & Sparger Insurance Agents**  
MOUNT AIRY, N. C.  
Office in Merritt Building.

**TAX SALES**

I will sell for cash at public auction at the Court House door in Dobson on Monday, December 2, 1918, at 11 A. M. the following real estate. Same sold to satisfy taxes levied against parties named by The Town of Mount Airy:  
W. F. Belton, 1 house and lot on S. Main St., taxes 1915-16-17, \$18.85, cost \$2.55.  
Miss Annie Bowman, 1 lot, 1916 tax \$3.56, cost 1.55.  
James Ferrell, 1 house and lot, 1916 tax 9.03, cost 2.05.  
J. C. Hollingworth, 1 house and lot on S. Main street, 1916-17 tax 322.36, cost 2.05.  
Ira F. Jones, 1 house and lot on East Poplar Street, 1916 tax, 5.84 cost 1.55.  
R. E. Sharp, 1 house and lot on East poplar street, 1916-17 tax 19.27, cost 2.05.  
Mrs. S. B. Hadley, bank stock in Greensboro L. & T. Co., 1917 tax,

14.30, cost 1.55.  
Mrs. S. B. Hadley, bank stock in Greensboro L. & T. Co., 1917 tax 27.50, cost \$1.55.  
Mrs. S. B. Hadley, bank stock in Greensboro L. & T. Co., 1917 tax, 27.50, cost 1.55.  
Mrs. S. B. Hadley, bank stock in American Exchange Bank, 1917 tax, 25.93, cost 1.55.  
Mrs. S. B. Hadley, bank stock in American Exchange National Bank, 1917 tax 10.36, cost 1.55.  
J. A. Hadley Estate, 1 house and lot on pine street, 1917, tax 183.19, re-levy 1917 tax 137.04, cost 2.05.  
J. A. Hadley estate, bank stock in Commercial and Farmers Bank, 1917 tax 4.66, cost 1.55.  
J. F. Alfred, 1 house and lot on Cherry street, 1917 tax 37.57 cost 1.55.  
C. M. Childress, 1 house and lot, 1917 tax 4.66, cost 1.55.  
S. E. Fulk, 1 house and lot, 1915-16-17 tax 15.41, cost 2.55.  
R. A. Martin, 1 house and lot 1917 tax 22.37, cost 1.55.

**Colored List.**  
Wm. Galloway, 1 house and lot, 1914-15-17 tax 15.24, cost \$2.55.  
Andrew Galloway 1 house and lot, 1916-17 tax, 7.95, cost 2.05.  
Andrew Wilkinson, 1 town lot 1915-16 tax 10.66, cost 2.05.  
Bell Sawyers, 1 house and lot on South Church street, 1916-17 tax, 15.76, cost 2.05.  
John Farmer, 1 house and lot, 1916-17 tax, 12.50, cost 2.05.  
J. E. McNeal, 1 house and lot 1916-17 tax 4.70, cost, 2.05.  
Porter Mitchell, 1 house and lot, 1916 tax 7.13, cost 1.55.  
This November 2, 1918.  
J. L. BANNER Tax Collector  
Town of Mount Airy.

The 1918-19 Food Program is both a National and a Personal Obligation. The Nation has never failed to meet all obligations and the individual must not.