

Lane County Co-operation Meeting.

The County Coöperation of the Christian brotherhood of Lane county, Oregon, convened in Springfield on Friday before the third Lord's day in February, 1883, at the hour of 11 A. M., and was called to order by Bro. R. G. Callison, President. After reading a chapter, was led in prayer by Bro. I. N. Mulkey. The Secretary being absent, Bro. A. C. Jennings was appointed Secretary *pro tem*.

The committee on Constitution and By-laws made their report, which was read in full, after which it was considered by sections, and adopted as follows:

SEC. 1. This association shall be called the Christian Coöperation of the Congregations of the Church of Christ in Lane County, Oregon.

2. It shall be composed of the Elders and Deacons of each congregation and one delegate for every ten members or fractional part thereof in each coöperating congregation.

3. The object of this Coöperation shall be 1st. To employ and sustain an Evangelist in the county, whose duty shall be to labor among weak and destitute churches, to preach the Gospel and try to build up and establish churches where we have not at present any organization. 2nd. To cultivate a more fraternal feeling and a stronger desire for union and communion among the members of the congregations.

4. This Coöperation shall meet quarterly at such time and place as the previous meeting shall determine.

5. There shall be elected at the first meeting after the adoption of this constitution, and annually thereafter a President, Secretary, Treasurer and an Executive Committee of three.

6. The President shall preside at all meetings, and endeavor at all times to secure and urge forward the distinctive objects of the Coöperation. He shall confer with and assist the Executive Committee in their efforts to obtain and keep in the field an Evangelist, and shall take a general oversight of the interest of the society.

7. The Secretary shall keep a record of all proceedings of the Coöperation; shall give notice of the place and time of all meetings, and endeavor by letter or otherwise to stir up cold or lukewarm churches to take an interest in the objects of this Coöperation.

8. The Treasurer shall receive and receipt for money coming into his hands from the congregations, for the purpose of this Coöperation, and pay out the same on the order of the Executive Committee, signed by the President.

9. The duties of the Executive Committee shall be to employ an Evangelist for the county, assign him his place of labor, draw orders on the Treasurer for his support and perform such other duties as may be assigned to them by the Coöperation.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. BUSHNELL,

Chairman of Committee on Rules and Order.

On motion, the Constitution and By-laws was adopted as a whole.

On motion by Bro. Davis, the Chair was authorized to appoint an additional member to the Committee on Programme, Bro. S. Baughman was appointed as committee, and the committee was requested to report immediately on convening at the afternoon session.

On motion, the Coöperation took a recess to 3 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION:

Bro. Callison in the chair, and after reading, was led in prayer by Bro. J. P. Gill.

Minutes read and adopted:

Committee on Order and Business reported as follows:

We, your committee, beg leave to make the following report on order of business:

1. Enrollment of delegates.
2. Discussion of the duties of church officers.
3. Reports from the congregations.

4. Would recommend that Bro. R. G. Callison preach on Friday night, Bro. S. Baughman on Saturday night, Bro. I. N. Mulkey Lord's day at 11 A. M., and Bro. R. G. Callison at 7 o'clock P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. McPHERSON,

Chair of Com.

1. List of Delegates.
Eugene City—Bros. J. P. Gill and Jesse Gross.

Pleasant Hill—Bros. I. N. Mulkey and S. Baughman.

Trent—Bros. Caleb Davis and J. W. Parks.

Springfield—Bros. J. B. Smith, L. Linder, J. C. McPherson and T. O. Maxwell.

Clear Lake—Bros. A. C. Jennings and J. P. Cheshire.

Not represented—Oak Hill, Mohawk, Drain, Liberty, Junction City, Cottage Grove and Coast Fork.

2. Discussion of the duties of church officers being next in order, and Bro. S. Baughman having been chosen at the previous meeting to open said discussion, therefore it was moved that this meeting grant to him all the time that he may desire, and that all others who may desire to follow in the discussion be limited not to exceed fifteen minutes. Motion prevailed. Bro. Baughman then took the stand, entering at once into a Scriptural investigation as to the number and duties of church officers, his finding was first, Deacons; second, Elders or Bishops, and third Evangelist, (a meager synopsis of which can only be given).

1. The duties of Deacons were to look after the financial interest of the church. 2. To the needy, if there be such in the church, to administer to their wants and to notify the church of their needs; also to prepare and furnish the congregation with the emblems of the Lord's house, and to wait on the members in the administration of the same.

2. Duties of Elders or Bishops (which terms find interchangeably used) were overseers, who were to feed the flock or church of God, to be apt to teach, to act not as a legislative, but as an executive body, whose duty it is to look after the erring brother as a shepherd would over his flock, and to carry out all that power, Scripturally delegated to them by the church.

3. Duties of the Evangelist. To set in order the things that are wanting and to ordain Elders in the churches, to preach the Gospel and to organize churches where it may be proper to do so.

After which were followed by Bros. Gill, Davis, Mulkey, Moore, Callison, Linder, McPherson and Churchill, all of which rendered the discussion very interesting and instructive.

Motion to adjourn to Saturday 10 o'clock A. M. Carried.

SATURDAY MORNING 10 O'CLOCK.

Bro. Callison in the chair, and after reading, was led in prayer by Bro. James Moore.

Minutes of previous day read and approved.

The discussion of previous day was again resumed and conducted principally by those who engaged in the previous day's discussion, which occupied the entire forenoon. Not being finished, it was moved to adjourn to 2 P. M. Motion prevailed.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Bro. Callison in the chair, and after reading, was led in prayer by Bro. Churchill.

The discussion was then opened by Bro. Churchill which was participated in by Bros. Mulkey, Davis, Linder and Callison, which continued until about 3 o'clock, closing with a general good feeling and having discussed pretty general all that was connected with the subject all felt benefited thereby, realizing that it is profitable to coöperate as a brotherhood of the various congregations, to interchange ideas, and to secure unity of action.

3. Reports from the congregations.

There being but little change since the November reports, will omit giving them here, but if called for will do so at any time.

It was then moved that the Chair appoint a committee of three on programme for the next quarterly coöperation. The Chair appointed Bro. S. Baughman, of Pleasant Hill, chairman of said committee, Bros. Wm. Churchill, of Eugene City, and T. O. Maxwell, of Springfield. Motion that Bro. R. G. Callison be added to said committee. Motion prevailed. The committee selected the following subject to be discussed at the next meeting in May: "The work of the Evangelist, and the way and manner in which he shall be sustained." Discussion to be opened by Bro. I. N. Mulkey. The committee on securing an Evangelist for Lane county failing to secure the services of Bro. C. J. Wright, (as was requested by last meeting) are now in correspondence with brethren in the East, one of which they hope to secure as an evangelist for this county. We are requested to be patient as they will have a brother in the field as soon as possible. It took quite a while to reach a conclusion with Bro. Wright as he was in Grand Round valley at the time of the first writing, then their attention was turned to the East, and in that direction it takes time to reach a conclusion.

It was now moved to adjourn this Coöperation to meet at Clear Lake on Friday before the second Lord's day in May, 1883, at 11 o'clock A. M. Motion prevailed.

The meeting was then dismissed by Bro. Baughman.

R. G. CALLISON, Chairman.
J. W. PARKS, Secretary.

Men seldom improve when they have no other models than themselves to copy.