

Baptist churches had felt the quickening influences of what has come to be known as the Young People's Movement. Young people's societies which, under different names, had been at work in our churches adopted the watchwords and methods of the new movement. New societies were organized. All felt the thrill of the new enthusiasm. As the great possibilities of this movement became more apparent there sprang up in the minds of many a conviction of the need of a denominational organization. It was felt that the forces of the Baptist young people should be unified and directed toward the attainment of the common interests and ends of the denominational life of the Church. Out of the discussions which ensued the Baptist Young People's Union of America was born."

In April, 1891, a conference was held in Philadelphia, which framed a general outline of basis of organization. This recommended that the national organization should include all Baptist young people's societies of whatever name or constitution. "Federation" became the watchword. A form was adopted for national, state, associational and local constitutions.

While the Baptist Young People's Union is thus distinctively denominational, as its name implies, yet within these lines it is broadly inclusive. Its basis is federative. It does not insist upon uniformity of name or constitution. It undertakes no legislative function over local societies. It simply seeks to