## Dr. MacRae Interviewed by Jim Neher

In connection with the matter of experiences at Princeton I think it worth saying a few words about Clarence McCartney. He was the one whom the conservatives managed to elect Moderator of the Assembly one year, at the time they got Fosdick out from preaching in that Presbyterian church in New York. They also got one man out from the Foreign Board. That was all that was accomplished from that great effort to elect him as Moderator. One reason why the liberals were able to control the Assembly as much as they came to be able to do -- a very important reason, I think, was the fact that the Boards and Agencies of the church came under the control of the liberals. The Boards and Agencies had a tremendous amount of power in the Assembly. That may seem bad, in another way it's almost necessary. If you have a denomination with large boards and agencies, the officials of those organizations think through problems through a whole year. They are working and planning and trying to do their work, and then they come up to a national meeting at which a few hundred people are gathered and decision are made that can wreck half of what they have done, or change things all around. In self defense they have to --- they may not get time for more than a few minutes presenting their situations, and then important actions are taken and almost in self-defense they have to try to organize ways in which they can prevent that sort of thing from happening. When you get that much control, it's easy to go a bit further, particularly if you get a few men into these Boards and Agencies who feel very strongly on certain subjects and are trying to twist things around to bring them to their viewpoint. So all the agencies became infiltrated to some extent with people with strong liberal tendencies. But of course the read cause of it is the