

M-B

March 1984 [39]

We

I was shocked a few minutes to see how stories can develop with little or no foundation. It was said that a man had recently written a letter criticizing Dr. McIntire for some actions taken in recent years and saying that ==something like this that Dr. McIntire had succeeded in getting Dr. Machen ousted from the Independent Board years ago.

Nothing of course could be further from the truth than this statement. In the days toward the end of Dr. Machen's life a group of men in the faculty of Westminster was trying to take the students == was taking the students whom Dr. Buswell sent them from Wheaton who were a very large part of the student body and filling them with the idea that everything they had gotten at Wheaton including particularly the ideas of the separated life and the teaching of premillennialism was wrong, and that a very involved system of belief most of the elements of which were correct, ~~xxxx~~ of the important ones but which nevertheless included a thousand minor elements all of these they claimed were the Reformed Faith and if one differed on any one of these points he was on the toboggan slide toward denial of all Christianity. This was the general attitude that was being inculcated into the students by this portion of the faculty. Dr. Machen never shared such a view at all, but as these men began taking this attitude in an extremely strong way and leading some of these students to have no use for Dr. Buswell or the others that held views similar to his, naturally there can criticism of these faculty members and when that happened Dr. Machen tried to stand by his colleagues. If I had been attacked I believe he would have stood by me. He was very loyal to his colleagues and ready to stand for them against almost any criticism or attack. Under these ~~circum~~ situations Dr. Machen and others began to make statements against premillennialism when actually I believe the great majority of Westminster at that time was coming from premillennialists and most of the students were coming from premillennial backgrounds. Mr. James Bennet was active in the ~~movement~~ movement against modernism in the church at this time and active in the defense of Dr. Machen and others of the Independent Board U.S.A. members. After they had been put out of the Presbyterian Church/for their