

Now a few years later I was talking with Dr. Harold S. Laird and heard something very interesting from him that I had not known at that time. It was this: When the IB was formed Dr. Machen wrote a letter to Dr. Laird who was then the pastor of the Collingswood Presbyterian church and asked him to come on the Board as its first president. Dr. Laird replied that he had just recently candidated at the First and Central Church in Wilmington Del. and was ~~==~~ and been called to that church and had accepted the call. He said that in connection with his candidating they had questioned on all his various connections== relationship and situations. They were extremely anxious to get a pastor, but there were many aspects of his life. ~~==== = = =====~~

Dr. Laird said he had replied to Dr. Machen that he was greatly interested in the testimony of the IB°, approved thoroughly of the movement Dr. Machen was leading, but he did not feel that just as he was in transition between two churches and moving to one which had not in the best taken any definite stand with Dr. Machen, that ~~that~~ he should not make an important change in his relationships at that particular point. After he had been at the church well a ~~couple~~ couple of years and gotten/acquainted with the people, if he were them to be invited to join the board, he would discuss the matter with his elders and would ~~urge~~ urge them to ~~with~~ with ~~express~~ express agreement ~~with~~ the idea of his joining it. This I heard from Dr. Laird some years later. I did not know it at that time. Naturally when Dr. Laird did not come on the board as its president the board asked Dr. Machen to assume the presidency. For a couple of years Dr. Machen was president of the ~~Board~~ Board ~~Dr.~~ Dr. Laird was a member of it for a couple of years. [I forget the exact times now] This brings us to the time when Dr. Bennet decided to suggest to those who agreed with him in not wishing the Board to become an instrument of for attacking premillennium, when as a matter of fact its overwhelming majority of its members were premillenniam. They decided ~~at~~ the election to ~~vote for~~ vote for Dr. Laird to be president of the board. ~~The~~ The election was held. The Paul Woolley and the group with him nominated Dr. Machen for president, Merrill MacPherson for vice president and I forget who for secretary and who for treasurer. ~~Then~~ Either Mr. Bennet or one of the other premillennialists on the board nominated Dr. Laird for