

Assembly had to O.K. all elections of the Board, which of course, had been originally done in order to preserve ~~INSTITUTIONS~~ institutions, to have the church have a veto of a professor. Now, of course with those representatives of Union Seminary and those others there and I was there at the meeting, at which J. Ross Stevenson talked like a bull the way he talked about Machen and they should not elect Machen as the Professor of Apologetics and ~~He said~~/Dr. Allis was the man who defended getting Dr. Machen, and Allis said this is said to be a peace assembly, now why should we make a peace offering of Dr. Machen. Stevenson tore into Machen, and the Assembly voted to defer decision for a year on the matter.

One reason they could not get him was that Machen belonged to the Benham Club which was an eating club in the seminary which was almost like a fraternity. All the leading modernists in the seminary were Benhams and they would not speak against the Benham in the Assembly although they would vote against him. I heard him just tear into Machen. Mrs. R. D. Wilson was sitting in the gallery, and she told me there was an old gentleman sitting next to her and as they tore into Machen this man said, Serves Machen right, serves Machen right! Look at the way he attacked dear Dr. Erdman. And she turned to him and said but Dr. So and so didn't Dr. Erdman attack Dr. Machen first? Oh, he said, We ought to forgive dear Dr. Erdman for that mistake! But it just showed the feeling. And at that Assembly the Presbyterian Banner, which was published in Pittsburgh-- they gave every commissioner a copy-- in it was an article: When the Professors Disagree. Dr. Machen had spoken at a meeting in Oxford -- of students. He had in his talk had said mirabile dictu -- Latin a common expression at that time meaning "strange to say." What he said was taken down in shorthand, add whether the shorthand writer made a mistake or whether the typist made a mistake