

president, Merrill MacPherson for vice-president and the same people in the other positions as were already == already == as had been in those positions during the previous year and as were nominated by the others. The vote was taken and vice president and so forth were all elected unanimously. Dr. Laird had a slight preponderance in the vote over Dr. Machen so Dr. Laird became president of the board.

The == I was not then on the board and did not hear much about these developments at the time, but the next morning Pul Woolley told me that they had had a meeting of the IB^o the day before and he expressed disgust that Dr. Laird had been elected president of the board. I said, Isn't Dr. Laird a fine man? Isn't he a good man for president of the board? I remember Paul's words exactly. He == But he said, Do you think that the independent pastor of an independent church should be president of an independent board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions? It was all I could do to keep from laughing because of the repetition of the word independent three times this way. Paul's mind had been so affected by this propaganda from these various people that he had reached the point where the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions -- the word that was most important in it was Presbyterian which meant that an independent pastor should not be a prominent officer in it even though the other officers, or at least the VP, were in exactly that position. Both Dr. Laird and Merrill MacPherson having been put out of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A because of their stand for the IB^o and now being independent pastors. I am sure that Dr. Machen under ordinary circumstances Dr. Machen who had taken== invited Dr. Laird to come on the board and become its president would have felt relieved rather than irritated that Dr. Laird should be elected its president. However, this group of which I spoke had been so influenced by their attitude and their strong prejudices and utterances when they were by themselves =when they with Dr. Machen had so influenced him that he was greatly upset at not being re-elected president of the board. I was told that that evening ~~he~~ after the meeting he called his mother in