9/19/89 - continuation of 7/18/89 Machen #6

the students were looking at him with eyes filled with criticism because they thought that he was not taking sufficient position on the great unique teachings of Presbyterianism as againt other Christian with denominations. While Machen had sympathy with many of the ideas that Van Til and others were pressing he considered them as definitely secondary to the great issues of the Gospel, and when he got into them, that is to say in his relations outside, at al, it was in order to defend members of his faculty for he was very loyal to all of those associated with him. If he had been more closely in touch with the institution it is possible (although by no means certain) that he would have come to realize the wasy the emphasis was being diverted away from his primary emphases and done something about it. However, with him to busy outside of the seminary, and Van Til and one or two of his associates spending so much more time with the student that the (Machen) did I do not know whether his influence would have been sufficient to make a difference, particularly as he might not have seen where this was tending, as I did not myself until the latter part of my time there.

Now, for the other point where I wish he had been different, I am not giving this as a criticism of him but as a point where, if he had thought things through and seen them the way I see them now, he would have it would have made a tremendous difference.

At first first things were a little slow in getting the students m into pastorates but before long there excellent work began to be recognized and soon there was little difficulty in finding pastorates for all of the graduates. These students had a great influence in their areas. If the The Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions had not been formed and the res resulting circumstances had not occurred, which drove the seminary out of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., m tremendously cut down the number of entering students, and practically closed the denomination to graduates of the seminary, it m is safe to say that within twenty or