

~~group~~ group of men and elders, which has authority over the preaching of the church. That is, it has the authority to watch for the coming of heresy, and have a general ~~supervision~~ supervision. And so that is the check on the authority of the local elders. But aside from that, the authority aside from the direct direction ~~of~~ of the preaching, the elders ~~have~~ have the direction of the church,. That is, the minister wants to start a certain work. He goes to the elders. He says, I think it would be a fine thing to start a work over here. Well, they say, that is a grand thing, go ahead with it. Or they say, ~~well~~ well, now that is fine, we like your enthusiasm, we think there is a great need there, but we feel that right here in the church there is need for a more development at this time. It might be a good thing to start that later. But just now we would rather if you have more time than you are actively putting here, we would rather you put it in here. In other words, in the general direction ~~of~~ of the work, it is the body of elders in which the ~~minister~~ minister is warranted.

(question) Well, the minister presides at the meetings. And ~~his~~ his authority to order the elders, he has no authority to order the elders, none whatever. Neither do they have authority to order him not to preach. What he feels is God's Word. ~~They~~ If he is preachin what they feel is not God's Word, and that he has gotten heresy, they can make an appeal to the presbytery, but so long as it is a matter of selection as to what preaching is desirable, that is up to him. But the direction of the work is in the hands of the group together. That is, the direction is not in the hands of one man, who is a ~~permanent~~ permanent official, or is it in the hands of the whole ~~group~~ group together. But it is a system, I believe, it is the fundamental basis upon which our United States system of govt. was established. That is, our system of govt. here is not /a monarchical system, and it is not a pure democracy in the sense that all the people try to make all the decisions. But it is a system in which we elect representatives, and then we expect the representatives, for a certain period of time, to study the matters and make their decisions, and we see whether we like the general way they are running things, and we reelect them or we elect others. It is a halfway inbetween the two.