

not just receive anybody that wants to come in, but they should be mighty sure that the person is saved. They must be mighty sure of that. And another thing they should be careful about is this, many churches have been very very careless about people leaving, ~~f drifting~~ drifting away from ~~town~~ town or staying in town and losing interest, and they have just kept their names on their rolls. And you say, well, maybe we can win them back. You should try to win them back. But if, in a certain length of time you don't succeed, their names should be dropped from the roll.

I know of a church down here in Phila. where a man began preaching/ against the Federal Council. It was a great big wonderful ~~building~~ building, which had gone down to a point where they only had about 100 members. A great big beautiful ~~a~~ edifice. And he began preaching about the National Council, and somebody got busy and brought in 150 people from around, who had been members of that church way back and still had their names on the rolls. And they came in. He had five elders who were standing right behind him, and at the congregational meeting they elected six new elders, so they had the majority. And that would never have happened if the elders had done their duty in watching over the roll of the church. To see that active mem~~bers~~bers be continued and encouraged, and people who lose interest be tried to be won back. But if you don't win them back in a reasonable/ length ~~for~~ of ~~th~~ time, drop them from the roll.

(question) (break in record)

a Number 1, to determine who shall preach in a particular congregation. This is by far the most important function of ch. govt. The selection of men. The selection of men and the getting rid of men when necessary. ~~Now~~ I was talking to the Roman ~~Catholic~~ Catholic bishop of Wilmington, a few years ago, and found out that he had for eleven years had been the head of the Roman Catholic seminary over here ~~in~~ on the Main Line. And I harped on the fact that ~~of~~ their course was an eleven year course. And he said, yes, it is a good thing, it gives you a chance to eliminate undesirables. Well, of course, if you can eliminate before you ordain them into your ministry, those who should not be in it, you have done a wonderful thing. But you cannot do it. You can