

Special meeting of the Official Board, called by Elder Charles Krause, at the close of the morning worship and communion service on June 3, 1951, at which the following had transpired:

"At the close of the communion service Bro. Bragg asked the congregation to be seated and proceeded to make a statement of his accomplishments during the last eight years and the fact that, in the main, the various Boards, officers and departments of the church had cooperated with him, as they had done with Brothers Ernest Williams, VanMeter and Steelberg, and then read a paper:

"I hereby tender my resignation as your Pastor and plan to terminate my ministry with you on Sunday, July 1, 1951. Very sincerely yours, W. S. Bragg."

This all came as a surprise to the Church, the Boards and officers, with the exception of the Elders, no reasons having been given.

Whereupon Bro. Krause asked that all who would like to see Bro. Bragg remain as Pastor to stand. Most of the congregation stood. Bro. Krause then called an Official Board meeting immediately following this service."

The entire Official Board was present, except the Pastor.

Bro. Krause presided.

The meeting was opened with prayer.

Bro. Hollahan made the statement that since we have gotten so technical he wanted to know whether there was any reason why an Official Board meeting could not be had.

It was agreed that the Board meeting should be had.

Bro. Krause said that since Bro. Bragg had handed in his resignation the Elders felt that by an Official Board meeting some of the difficulties that had been encountered during the years might be straightened out. He said that the Elder Board did not know that Bro. Bragg went to Cleveland, Ohio, for a trial, but there must be some reason, some difficulties that have caused him to do this. That he was expected to give an answer to Cleveland on Tuesday night. He said that the Pastor had been bucking up against some hard things.

Bro. Bogdan made the statement that part of the trouble was the salary.

This produced quite some discussion in which a number took part. Bro. Krause said he was receiving \$90. a week. Bro. Day said he would like it understood that he was receiving at least \$132. a week when his rent, auto allowance, telephone and other allowances are taken into consideration. Bro. Krause asked what Bro. Waggoner was receiving and the answer was \$58 a week and he rendered an expense bill at the end of the month.

Bro. Thomas Griffith said that the Trustees had been put on the spot because they had no idea whatsoever that Bro. Bragg went to Cleveland for a trial, and that an increase in salary had not been brought to the Board.

Bro. Harry Valentine said that if Bro. Bragg was after \$20. more a week he did not want him as his pastor. If it is God's will that he go we don't want to stand in his way; that he had heard rumors as to the Trustee Board, but he had found them much different than they had been pictured.

Bro. Heintz said that it had been hard toiling, that there have been misunderstandings, but he would do nothing to change the will of God in his life.

Sis. Griffin said that if the Spirit of God was leading Bro. Bragg we should not interfere. However, she said that we as a church are an organism, not just an organization, and when the organs of the church or Boards are expected to function according to the dictates of one man, the Spirit of God is not in operation.

Bro. Robert Lafferty and also Bro. Albert Clark said they did not feel that Bro. Bragg should resign because of money, as they did not think the ministry should be looked upon in that way.

Bro. Bogdan said that when we get to the place where we can trust one another, when there are no secrets, then we can have a revival.

Bro. Alexander made the statement that there were times when the Trustee Board did not agree with him.

Bro. Day explained that while his cash salary was \$90 a week, which was put on the Treasurer's report, many other items are paid, but not so itemized that the Church really knew the exact amount the Pastor is receiving by way of allowances, etc.

Bro. Hollahan asked if there was not something that we can do in order to keep Bro. Bragg so he can keep his commitments and engagements and go to the two Council meetings over the summer. He suggested that a representative of each Board meet with the Pastor and find out what can be done to straighten things out.

Bro. Heintz said that the Pastor's resignation was unfair and out of order, that he appeared to be after the shekel rather than after the souls of men.

Sis. Payne suggested that it would be better for the whole Board meet with the Pastor and each assume their own responsibility, and they would get the situation first hand.

On motion of Bro. MacPherson, duly seconded by Bro. Lafferty and carried, the whole Official Board is to meet with the Pastor tonight after the evening service in order to find out the motive for the resignation, etc.

Adjourned

Clara M. Payne

Secretary