

OFFICIAL BOARD
of
HIGHWAY MISSION TABERNACLE

A meeting of the Official Board was held on Thursday, May 4, 1939, after the evening service, at the Church.

Pastor Wesley R. Steelberg presided.

Present:

Brothers	W.R.Steelberg	Walter McClure
	Joe McKittrick	Herbert McKittrick,
	Edgar Overstreet	Hollahan
	Robert Strang	Alfred Green
	Walter Hepworth	Sisters:
	Charles Krause	W. R. Steelberg,
	Homer Bell	Maud Nethery
	Earl Wilson	Anna McEwen
	Ward Laughlin	C. Clark
	Charles Spain	Clara M. Payne

The meeting was opened with prayer.

The reading of the minutes of the previous Official Board meeting was dispensed with.

The Pastor made a report on the radio question, stating that in his talk with Mr. Simon of WPEN, Mr. Simon offered us the full hour from 9 to 10 on Wednesdays for the months of June, July and August at a cost of \$70.00, but stated that if we wanted to cut it to a half hour it would cost us \$60. Mr. Simon also said that our contract was valid and he could hold us to it.

The Pastor further stated that there had been received for the radio fund, since the last message on the radio, the sums of \$10. \$50, \$3., and \$5., or a total of \$68.00, from different people, and he also read excerpts from various radio letters.

After some discussion it was moved by Brother Earl Wilson, seconded by Brother Hollahan, and carried, that the Pastor, together with the Treasurer and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, be appointed to again interview Mr. Simon of WPEN Broadcasting Station and lay before him the financial condition of the Church, with the view to being released from the contract, if possible.

Brother Overstreet informed the Board that he had a serious matter he desired to present to the Board and have cleared, if possible. He said that his name, together with

the names of three other men on the Official Board, have been associated together in false rumors, in that they had :

1. Determined to take the Pastor off the air;
2. Change the Sunday School from morning to afternoon, and
3. Decided to oust the Pastor from Highway.

He stated that such rumors were false, and that the promulgation of such statements he considered as tale bearing, as the Word distinctly says: "Thou shalt not go up and down in among thy people as a tale bearer", and he believed such things should be stopped and the guilty members should be disciplined.

The statements of Brother Overstreet were not only corroborated, but were enlarged upon, by Brothers Herbert McKittrick, Charles Spain and Joe McKittrick, whose names were connected with the rumors. All of the men involved said the rumors were untrue and that they had endeavored to stand behind the Pastor both in prayer and assistance, whenever possible for them to do so.

During the discussion, which was participated in by Brothers Overstreet, Joe McKittrick, Charles Spain, C. Krause, H. McKittrick, Walter Hepworth, Homer Bell, Alfred Green, R. Strang, Hollahan and the Pastor, as well as Sisters Steelberg and Clark,

Brother Ward Laughlin stated that he felt the whole Official Board had implicit confidence in the members who are involved in this matter, and asked them just what they wished the Official Board to do, as he thought the Board would be willing to do as they desired.

Brother Overstreet stated that he felt a statement should be made to the congregation as a whole that such rumors were false, and that the Board had confidence in its members to do the business of the Church, otherwise he felt the Church would be better off to have officers in whom they did have confidence.

After further discussion, lasting until after one o'clock, it was moved by Brother Overstreet, seconded by Brother Joe McKittrick, and carried, that we adjourn the meeting and leave to the discretion of the Pastor and the Board of Elders the matter of a statement to clarify and exonerate the Official Board with reference to such false rumors.

(This statement was later written and read to the Congregation on Thursday, May 11, 1939, and is attached to these minutes.)

The meeting adjourned with prayer,

Respectfully submitted,

Clara M. Payne Church Clerk

Due to a most unfortunate and unscriptural attitude which has been generated by a false rumour which has been circulated among many members of Highway to the effect that two members of the Board of Elders, and two members of the Board of Trustees were involved in a plot to oust the Pastor it has been duly ordered by the Official Board that these men met & conferred with the Official Board and were exonerated of any complicity in such plans, and they hereby make statement to the effect that this is a false and unfounded statement & a direct reflection on the reputation of these brethren, we therefore entreat all who have heard or repeated such rumour to suppress and refrain from any further repetition of this untruth.

Signed - Official Board

Due to a most unfortunate and unscrupulous
attitude which has been generated by a false
rumor which has been circulated among
many members of Highways to the effect that
two members of the Board of Elders, and
two members of the Board of Trustees were
involved in a plot to oust the Pastor of
the church. It is to be regretted that the
fact that these men were in conference with the
Official Board and were exonerated of any
complicity in such claims, and they
thereby made statements to the effect that
this was a false and unfounded statement
+ a direct reflection on the reputation
of the church, we therefore entered all
the facts heard or reported such rumors to
the church and again from any further
repetition of this matter.

Signed - Official Board