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Notes on the Meeting of the Consistory of the First Reformed Church

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Recommended Citation

Van Raalte, A. C.; Buursma, William; and Buursma, Althea, "Notes on the Meeting of the Consistory of the First Reformed Church" (1857). *Van Raalte Papers: 1850-1859*. 3.
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11 May 1857

Holland, Michigan

At a meeting of the consistory of the First Reformed Church at which Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte presided and also served as clerk, new members were received, a widow received aid, and building matters were discussed. A discussion was held about the baptism of children whose parents have not been admitted to the Lord's supper. Two elders were appointed to check on a member who has not been seen in church.

In Dutch; translation by Rev. William and Althea Buursma, 2000.

Original in the records of the Pillar Christian Reformed Church at the Joint Archives of Holland.

Meeting Held on May 11, 1857

Present were Elders Ploeg, Labots, Keppel, Apeldoorn, Wilterdink; Deacons te Roller, de Vries, and Wilterdink; and Rev. van Raalte.

ARTICLE 1 – The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. A. C. van Raalte.

ARTICLE 2 – Mr. Klaas Eilander entered the meeting and presented his membership statement and that of his wife, Lubrigje Boerendans. After some inquiry concerning his confession of faith, they were received by an unanimous vote. The membership transfer of Philippus J. Heyboer from Zeeland was also received.

ARTICLE 3 – The minutes were read and approved.

ARTICLE 4 – Widow Kleijs, via Brother Broek, requests assistance. The committee appointed to investigate this consists of Broek, Keppel, and te Roller. Next Sunday after eight days there will be a special collection for her.

ARTICLE 5 – Concerning the painting of the church pillars, Keppel informs the meeting that Hoogsteger considers himself relieved of his previous agreement to discount \$10.00. The committee was mandated to see if the painting can be done by Mr. Brands.

ARTICLE 6 – Elder Labots presents the problem of the fairness to the carpenters, given the fact that they have experienced heavy additional costs in making the large and expensive pillars. It was decided to appeal to the congregation for a solution to this problem.

ARTICLE 7 – A long discussion ensued concerning the question of the baptism of children whose parents have not been admitted to the Lord's Supper. It was decided to continue the conversation later.

ARTICLE 8 – Mr. Tubergen has not been seen in church and has not been present at the celebration of the Lord's Supper. Brothers Ploeg and Labots were appointed to investigate.

ARTICLE 9 – A letter from Cornelis de Vree, who has seceded, was read. The same decision of E. Freriks and Willem Notting was reported.

ARTICLE 10 – The meeting was closed with prayer by Elder Wilterdink.

A. C. van Raalte