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Meeting Minutes of the Consistory of the First Reformed Church

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11 May 1868

Holland, Michigan

At a meeting of the consistory of the First Reformed Church at which Elder Pijster was chosen chairman, the clerk, Gerrit Wakker, reported that Third Church received the “decision with joy and fully agreed with it.” See article 6 of the 24 April minutes for details. Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte then entered the meeting. There was a discussion about the trio that the congregation decided. Consistory took a vote and Rev. Roelof Pieters, Rev. Peter de Pree, and Rev. Christian Oggel received the highest number of votes. “It was decided to inform the congregation of this vote.”

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, vol. II, pp. 317a, 317b, and 318.

Consistory Meeting of May 8, 1868

All members present, except Brother Beeuwkes.

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

ARTICLE 2 – The minutes of the two previous meetings were read and approved.

ARTICLE 3 – Present at the meeting were:

Lammetje Hetibrij

Geertje Wakker

Anna Boot; all desiring to make profession of faith. They were interviewed and unanimously accepted.

ARTICLE 4 – Memberships requested and granted to G. J. te Winkel to Grand Rapids, and to Ivan O. Bahler to Milwaukee.

ARTICLE 5 – It was decided to call for a congregational meeting on Thursday, May 14, for the purpose of making a trio of pastors, and later to call one of them.

ARTICLE 6 – A request from the professors of the seminary to hold commencement in our church was approved.

ARTICLE 7 – It was decided to meet again next Monday, May 11. The meeting was closed with prayer by Keppel.

G. Wakker, clerk

Consistory Meeting of May 11, 1868

Absent: Kamper.

ARTICLE 1 – The meeting was opened with prayer by Geerlings.

ARTICLE 2 – Brother Pijster was chosen as chairman.

ARTICLE 3 – The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

ARTICLE 4 – The clerk reports that he has reported the decision of the congregation (see Article 6 of the minutes of April 24), to the consistory of the Third Church. The consistory received this decision with joy and fully agreed with it.

ARTICLE 6 (sic) – Rev. van Raalte entered the meeting and assumed the chair.

ARTICLE 7 – Present at the meeting was Jacob Louis, requesting to be received as a member. After a discussion, it was decided by a majority vote to accept him.

ARTICLE 8 – After there had been some discussion over the making of a recommendation for a trio, a vote was taken, and the ballots revealed as follows:

Rev. Chr. Oggel, 3 votes

Rev. Karsten, 1

Rev. Zwemer, 1

Rev. Neijens, 1

Rev. P. de Pree, 6

Rev. Pieters, 8

Rev. Broek, 3

Rev. Lepeltak, 1

Rev. Buikelaar, 1

Rev. Dijksterhuis, 1

Rev. Joh. Brummelkamp, 2

It was decided to inform the congregation of this vote.

ARTICLE 4 – According to custom, the brothers indicated that there was no objection to celebrating the Lord's Supper with one another.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Brother Sprietsma.

G. Wakker, clerk

Congregational Meeting of May 14, 1868

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

ARTICLE 2 – The assembly voted for the formation of a trio. The opening of the ballots revealed that there were: 28 votes for Rev. Pieters;

10 votes for Rev. Oggel,

9 votes for Rev. A. C. van Raalte,

6 votes for Rev. Joh. Brummelkamp,

4 votes for Rev. Karsten,

4 votes for Rev. Bruikelaar.

Rev. van Raalte requested not to be included in the vote. Thereupon, a trio was formed, consisting of Rev. Pieters, Rev. Oggel, Rev. John. Brummelkamp.

It was decided to meet again in fourteen days in order to choose one from this trio.