

BULTEMA ANSWERS ACTION OF CLASSIS

**Pastor Suspended for Anti-
doctrinal Utterances Re-
plies in Religious Paper.**

ASKS MERCY FOR CHURCH

Taking up the cudgels in his own behalf, Rev. Harry Bultema, Christian Reformed minister who was suspended from the pastorate of the Muskegon church because of statements made in his book "Mar-anatha," characterizes the action



Rev. Harry Bultema.

of the Muskegon classis in suspending him as "unheard of, unreformed, unbrotherly and contrary to God's Word." The charges are made in the current issue of "De Bereer," a church paper in the Holland language.

"God be merciful to the Christian Reformed church, wherein such decisions can take place and may He not reckon this sin against the brethren," is the concluding sent-

ANCHOR POINT BIBLE CHURCH



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OUR LIGHT SHINE!

May 2, 2021

Lengthy Bill of Complaint.
The bill of complaint filed to-day covers many typewritten pages reviewing much of the past trouble between the classis and the local church body over the teachings of the pastor and his removal by the the pastor and his removal by the classis. The suit was started by Attorney Harris E. Galpin, who is acting as counsel for the classis.

The bill cites that Rev. Bultema and his followers are holding the church and parsonage illegally, representing themselves as pastor and consistory of the church, when they have been legally deposed. It asks that not only the present pastor and church consistory be made to turn over all the property of the church, but all funds that have been collected since December 16, when the pastor was removed. It also asks that the defendants be restrained from interfering in any way with the work of the church, under the temporary consistory.



"PERSIS"
BEREAN CHURCH LADIES MISSIONARY SOCIETY

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MUSKEGON, MICH.

COURT REFUSES TO OUST BULTEMA

Judge White Denies Temporary Injunction to Muskegon Classis.

TRIAL SET FOR JAN. 27

Muskegon, Jan. 9.—Judge Edward White of St. Joseph Thursday denied the Muskegon classis of the Christian Reformed church an injunction restraining Rev. Harry Bultema, deposed pastor of First Christian Reformed church here, and his followers, from using the church and the church property. The court based his decision upon

All one article

classis, the attorney admitted Thursday morning that opinions in the book clash with church doctrine. He claimed the action of the classis in deposing Mr. Bultema was diametrically opposed to the standards of the denomination.

Mr. Bultema is supported by the majority of the male members of the church, 162 recently having given him a vote of confidence, while 59 decided against him.

the argument of Mr. Bultema's attorneys that the injunction, if issued, would inconvenience the larger portion of the congregation. The case will be tried before Judge White on Jan. 27 when the court will decide whether the denial of the restraining order shall be made permanent or not. All of the merits of the case which involves the question as to which of the church councils is the ruling body in the Christian Reformed denomination will be gone into.

When the case began Thursday morning before Judge White, both sides presented their cases. S. H. Clink, attorney for Mr. Bultema, started his argument in which he intends to show the organization of the Christian Reformed denomination differs from that of others in that it is a federation of churches, varying from the Roman Catholic church in which the bishop has sole jurisdiction of church property.

The decision in the case is expected to rest on the determination of the extent of the authority of the classis. The dispute over which body has the sole, original ruling power in the denomination came up when the attorney representing the classis claimed for that body full jurisdiction over all ministers and consistories in its district, declaring it is subject only to the general synod, which is the ecclesiastical court having jurisdiction over the whole church. This Mr. Bultema, through his attorney, flatly denied.

Though it is said Attorney Clink intends to show that the doctrines set forth by Mr. Bultema in his book "Maranatha," for which the Muskegon classis deprived him of his pastorate in First Christian Reformed church here, are just as much in accordance with the Christian Reformed faith as those of the