

EDITOR'S NOTES

John A. Battle

In our days the pastoral ministry has undergone tremendous change. Foremost in the minds of many pastors are the requirements of leadership, organization, public relations, applied psychology, and financial management. The preaching office has suffered accordingly. In many churches that still do emphasize preaching, the sermon has been converted to a form of popular psychology. Very few churches still offer sound, substantive, biblical and theological preaching; and this trend is advancing even in fundamental and evangelical circles.

This is a special edition of the *WRS Journal*. This issue is a *festschrift* in honor of a minister well known to many of us. We have never done this before, but the faculty is in total agreement that it is most appropriate at this time. Dr. Robert W. Anderson was for thirty-seven years the pastor of the Tacoma Bible Presbyterian Church in Tacoma, Washington. He led the effort in the church to have Western Reformed Seminary begin and continue in the church building. For many years he served on our board of directors. Now he has retired from the pastorate, and it is fitting that we honor him with this collection of articles.

The theme of this issue is the Pastor/Theologian. We are seeking to train such pastors. The pastor must be constantly studying and growing in the knowledge of the Word of God and the theology it contains. Only then can he be a continuing source of spiritual blessing to his people. Dr. Anderson exemplified this type of ministry.

Thank you, Pastor Anderson! May we all profit from your example, and continue to be and to train true and faithful pastor/theologians!