

Well now "E". Yes? (Student question) That particular problem, the problem of the man who gets along in years is a problem which many churches have endeavored to solve by an arbitrary date at which he's supposed to retire. Some denominations have made a rule that at a certain age a man must retire. I know in the Presbyterian Church 20 years ago in these areas there was a big push for that on the part of the modernists because we had a dozen strong fundamentalist preachers who were along in their seventies and they were beloved men and their congregations thought the world of them and they were energetic and they were taking their stand and if they could make a rule, "at 68 you've got to retire", the modernists would get rid of these fellows. But aside from that being the purpose of that line, there is an advantage and there's also the disadvantage. ~~XXXXXX~~ Now in many corporations they are having those definite rules. Here comes an , has to get out regardless. I question the wisdom of it in the church because there's such a difference in individuals. Now you take a man like Mr. Bennet - of course he's not in the ministry. Well, take a man like Dr. Holdcroft - take Dr. Holdcroft and Mr. Bennet. I think Dr. Holdcroft's 78. Mr. Bennet, I think is 82. Mr. Bennet today is doing more effective presentation of the Gospel than the average fundamentalist minister you will find anywhere. He's preaching all the time, presenting God's work, he's tremendously used of the Lord. In addition to that he's carrying on a very effective law practice. Well, he's a rare man. But a man like that, if he were in the church, 68 say, " You've got to quit" - why that just wouldn't be right. I feel that there's more difference at the ages in which people approach senility perhaps in Christian work than there is in a good many other lines. And the difficulty is to make a fixed limit. But then perhaps Mr. Sutton had another point in mind - perhaps he was thinking of the minister that would like to retire but isn't financially able. And it seems to me that that is something which is worth all of us thinking about. I mean when we're in a position where our thinking will count for something. If a system can be developed whereby a man won't have to keep on after he's reached an age where his powers are failing, he can retire, there is provision for him. I think that that could be a very great help. On the other hand there's a danger in that that sometimes it makes a weapon that can be used