

The year that I became a
resident student in the Harvard
Divinity School, the address to
the students was made by
the then President of H. U.
The concluding sentence was
in these words.

"Gentlemen, I welcome you
to the most venturesome peri-
odion of the twentieth century."

But, I am sure, still looks.

At the ripe age of 91. that same
man made a brief address in
Tremont Temple. - after the last
world-war.

"I look forward to the new
Age with hope"

Two other things I want to speak
of.

First. I was ordained and in-
stalled by a layman
But, with all its implications
I cherish.

Second

Charge to the minister;

"The significant fact is that most of the important thinking of the time is being done outside of the Christian Churches."

One of your tasks as a minister of religion is to carry forward the rich spiritual tradition of, and so far as possible, work to bring together these divergent streams of life."

That charge still holds, for we, and, I believe, is valid in any understanding of modern life, of current difficulties, and is an ever present factor in your decisions =

Some factors involved, and some eliminated; upon all of which a minister comes at one time or another.

1st Our tradition goes back to the principles of the Congregational polity.

The church exists before its officers.

a - Separation of church & state.

b - Minister of the congregation.

Recent Annual election
of minister.

So - in theory, the minister is of the people.

Back of that is the assumption that truth is discovered not revealed.

"Think not that I am come to destroy the law and the prophets, I came not to destroy but to fulfil."

Not a track, or a ladder for
social standing. :-

Married ministry.

Profession =

Call =

- 2 -

about patterns and a
structured world without
end, but in actual fact there
is something at the heart of it
so intimately personal as to defy
all definitive generalizations.

Witness the dear old priest in
"The Keys to the Kingdom," and
ask why it has become, and
remained a best seller for these
long months.

"O Lord, for once, - ratify will,
but mind be done." -

Here we have a very genuine
person, coming into direct
conflict with an old generalization.
The individual personality is just
breaking through.

Just what forces and factors