minister speaking at the Philadelphia Sunday School Association

Convention some years ago said in his address: "If all the

assistant pastors in the world were laid end to end around the

equator, we would all be better off." There was laughter in the

large audience, but the remark was more pathetic than funny.

It is no less true that the position of senior pastor is stereotyped by some. Motives and actions may be attributed to a man in leadership out of prejudice. Team members may make judgments that are highly inaccurate because of such distorted thinking.

Whatever the cause, bitterness or resentment in the heart of any member of a group toward his fellows is bound to cause trouble sooner or later.

The envious heart. The terms translated "jealous" or "envy" have already been looked at under "the fleshly heart." Here the problem of envy will be treated more fully.

The fact that envy is so often in the company of strife and division in the Scriptures gives evidence of its importance as a divider of men. Though often hidden from view, envy is probably at the bottom of many conflicts involving people working together in some form of ministry. For this reason it would be well to become more familiar with what Scripture teaches about envy.

The Apostle Paul shows that envy is part of the reprobate mind in Romans chapter one. John Murray defines the reprobate mind as "one abandoned or rejected of God and therefore not fit for any