



C. W. Brister

IN the summer of 1960, a recently appointed professor of pastoral ministry walked into a room of seminarians to begin a program of clinical pastoral education. His entrance was noteworthy because he joined the group not as a professor, but as a student. The surprise of the seminarians reflected their expectation that professors do not risk this kind of involvement. It also reflected the fact that they were not yet acquainted with this man, C. W. Brister. Those who know him have come to expect the unexpected, so long as it is consistent with standards of courage, teachability, and disciplined scholarship.

C. W. offers the resources of a varied background to his students and faculty colleagues at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. Though his original vocational impulse was medicine, experiences during World War II and educational opportunities thereafter changed his plans. He was drawn into the ministry while working on an advanced degree in business administration at Louisiana State University.

The pilgrimage launched by his decision for Christian ministry has been marked by concern for persons-in-community. His pastoral relationships originated in an inner-city church in New Orleans, where he began seminary studies in 1949. Involvement with persons in that pluralistic situation ignited C. W.'s interest in ethics and society.

**The MAN
of the
MONTH**

Doctoral studies involving work at Southwestern Baptist and Union in New York combined courses in pastoral care with a dissertation in Christian ethics. Writing on the ethical thought of Harry Emerson Fosdick, C. W. says that he was intrigued by the Riverside pastor's attempted

(Continued on page 66)

conscious clergy, the authors claim that their views are not shared by a large majority of their peers.

Psychology of Women, by Judith M. Bardwick (Harper, \$7.95).

Dr. Bardwick attempts to integrate biological, psychological, and medical data and to explain objectively and candidly the origin and development of sex differences. She evaluates society's preference for masculine qualities and examines the limitations placed on psychologically competent women. She concludes that traditional role divisions are too restrictive, making changes in role allocation logical, necessary, and probable.

I and Thou, by Martin Buber, translated and with a prologue and notes by Walter Kaufmann (Scribner's, \$1.95, paper).

Here is a new translation of Buber's classic. The familiar English title is retained only for identification, since it is Kaufmann's contention that the use of the archaic "thou" for the German "Du" was seriously misleading. "German lovers say *Du* to one another, and so do friends. *Du* is spontaneous and unpretentious, remote from formality, pomp, and dignity." At the request of Buber's family, he has retranslated the work, added extensive notes to clarify obscurities and bring the reader closer to the original work, and written a long prologue that opens up new perspectives on the book and Buber's thought.

MAN OF THE MONTH

(Continued from page 4)

resolution of the tension between life's "oughtness" and "isness" both in his preaching and counseling.

Here is a clue to C. W. Brister's contribution to pastoral theology. He takes seriously both the oughtness and the is-

ness of his own existence, displaying a balance which few men achieve. Those who despair of integrating Christian values and professional competence in the contemporary minister need to be met by this person. His sense of life's oughtness is linked to a free church background of revealed theology. His respect for the isness of life is reflected in the quality of his pastoral ministry, in his post-doctoral clinical work at North Carolina Baptist Hospital (1960) and The Institute of Religion in the Texas Medical Center of Houston (1961), and in his work as Research Fellow in Psychiatry at the Southwestern Medical School of Dallas, Texas (1969-1970).

Beginning with *Pastoral Care in the Church* (Harper & Row, 1964), Brister has continued to write pastorally. *People Who Care* (1967), *Dealing with Doubt* (1970), and *It's Tough Growing Up* (1971) have been published by Broadman Press. They are addressed to the church and are extensions of his own pastoral care of the church and its ministry.

Sharing life both intellectually and in action are his wife, Gloria, and son, Mark. Gloria Nugent Brister is an author and educator in home economics, with a gift for embodying the finest graces to which her field of specialization is addressed. The whole family finds recreation in summer tenting and in searching for antiques of Indian artifacts. They are active members of Fort Worth's University Baptist Church.

It is his deep devotion to the life and ministry of the church which gives C. W. Brister so much contemporary impact for healing and renewal.

—EDWARD E. THORNTON
Professor of
Pastoral Theology
Rochester Center for
Theological Studies
Rochester, New York