Administrators, when was the last time you saw a *real* geography book that was worthwhile? If geography has fizzled out, are our children missing something valuable? After all, in order to sleep soundly tonight are you going to run to your atlas to find out where in the world Zaire is?

BULLETIN BOARD

REPORT OF THE 34th ANNUAL PROTESTANT REFORMED TEACHERS' CONVENTION (October 27-28, 1988)

Gerald Kuiper

We began the convention with about 70 teachers meeting in South Holland Protestant Reformed School at 8:00 Thursday morning for registration. All of our schools in the Grand Rapids area and from South Holland were well represented. In addition, teachers came from the following Protestant Reformed schools: Hull, Iowa; Northwest Protestant Reformed Christian School in Doon, Iowa; Free Christian School of Edgerton, Minnesota; Loveland Protestant Reformed School from Loveland, Colorado; and Lynden Christian School all the way from Lynden, Washington. Following registration, opening devotions were held during which time we sang together (I always enjoy the spirited singing of our teachers. I'm sure Martin Luther would approve of the singing of the "School masters"!).

We then enjoyed the keynote address by Rev. Ron VanOverloop entitled, "Teachers Seeking the Kingdom of Heaven." In this instructive and inspirational address Rev. VanOverloop pointed out that our duty as teachers is not only to impart knowledge, but to impart the fear of Jehovah as well. We stand beside our students as fellow citizens of the kingdom. He taught us that teachers are to model the fear of Jehovah, by confessing to one another and to our students our sins, and by showing one another our forgiveness. We are to present God as

Jim Regnerus

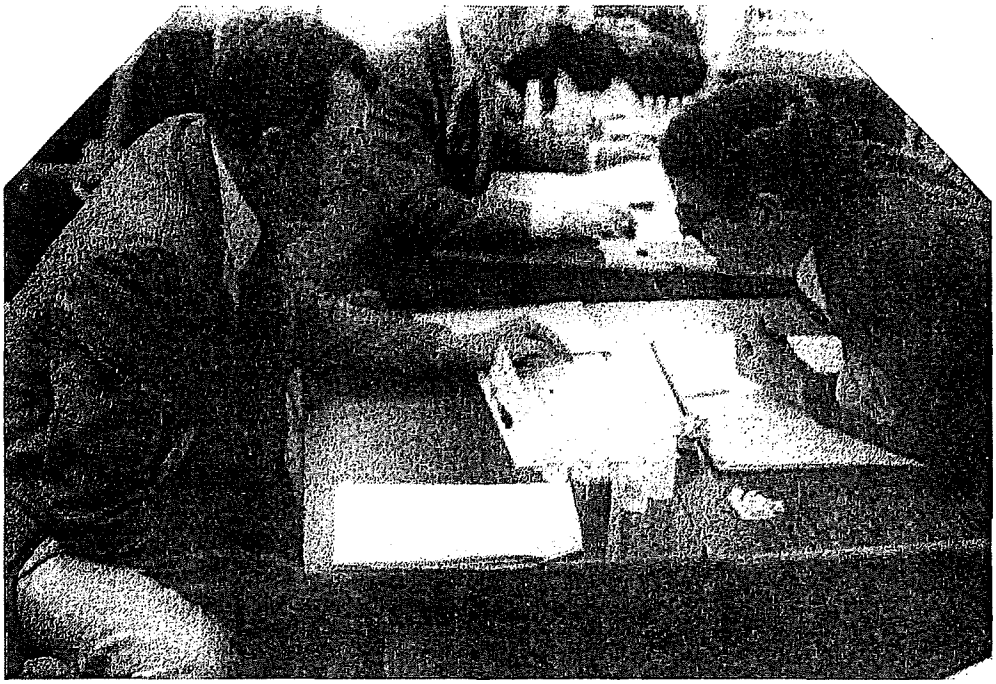
Connie Meyer

Jan Zandstra

Stimulating presentations and. . .

Gerald Kuiper

Denise DeJong



. . . eager learners.

"Coffee" breaks

holy and sovereign, and attack wrong attitudes we see in our students by condemning sin *with understanding.* Rev. VanOverloop charged us to strive faithfully, even though we do it imperfectly. He urged us to be constant in study and prayer so we ourselves can be filled with the fear of Jehovah.

Following his speech we had "crunch" (coffee-lunch), followed by four 75-minute sectionals on subjects such as "Math Their Way," "Newspapers in the Classrooms," and "Junior High Art." After noon devotions we boarded buses and cars and went to the Museum of Science and Industry Omni Max where we enjoyed a presentation about "The Great Barrier Reef" off Australia. After a lunch at Berghoff's Restaurant in downtown Chicago we went to the Adler Planetarium where we experienced two lectures: "The Universal Motions," and "The Planetary Puzzle." We were once again reminded of the wonderful hand of God who "orders the stars in their courses." We could rejoice in our God who shows *His* glory in the heavens. At about 6:30 PM we were free to tour downtown Chicago or go back to South Holland.

Day two began with a delicious breakfast at South Holland School. Imagine – scrambled eggs, Belgian waffles with strawberries, blueberries, peaches, and whipped cream!!! It was delicious. We then had devotions, followed by a choice of more sectionals on Jr. High Science, Primary Art, and Student Motivation. Following these sectionals we had a break.

Professor Robert Decker then spoke to us on "Developing Proper Self-Esteem." He showed us that we look at ourselves according to the standard of God and His Word. We see in that Word that we are totally depraved, but we also see ourselves as saved by grace through Jesus Christ. Therefore, we see *ourselves* and our children as *precious* in Christ. We are to treat these children with great care. We are to criticize them constructively and be lavish with praise. We have to learn to listen to the children and address *their* worries. We are to teach the children that God has a place for each of them, and He gives to each child His grace so that each one may serve God in his particular place. We are to say with Paul, "I am, because God made me!" The fruits of proper self-esteem will show themselves in contentment, gratitude to God, and hard work by each in his own place. What an encouragement his address was to all of us! We then had a business meeting of the organization which puts on our convention – the Protestant Reformed Teachers' Institute. New officers were

elected, and reports were given about our meetings, activities, and our magazine, *The Perspectives.*

After farewells, we left one another refreshed, and ready to begin our work anew.

PARENTS' CORNER

Perhaps you recall that in two previous issues we carried the first two parts of what we made a three-part series of "Considering the King's Speech to His Daughters," a panel discussion by that name, held at a Spring Breakfast at Hope School in Grand Rapids. The first panelist dealt with feminism as to its meaning and significance. The three which followed set forth Scripture's answer to that carnal philosophy. In this issue we hear from Mrs. Dena Engelsma, who drew the attention of her listeners to the first couple of chapters of Genesis, which clearly define God's intention, from the beginning, with respect to the role of the woman as wife and mother; and from Mrs. Carole Reitsma, who approaches the matter from the point of view of Titus 2:3-5, which speaks to the place of the older women in the church.

... the King's Speech to His Daughters

by Dena Engelsma

GENESIS 1 and 2

For a proper understanding of anything, one needs to know its origin. How did it begin? What was the original purpose? What characterizes it? And because we are addressing woman in her calling as wife and mother, we'll go directly to the Word of God for our "right understanding."

We open our Bible to the beginning (the opening of our wounds): Genesis 1:27. So God created man in His own image. . . male and female created He them. Here we learn that not only the man, but also the woman, was created by the Hand of God. I

Mrs. Engelsma is a member of our Hope Protestant Reformed Church in Walker, Michigan.