go to the State to ask permission to instruct our children, after God has commanded us to, are we not elevating government above God? When a conflict arises, I believe our position must be that we obey God rather than men.

As with any human endeavor, home education has its problems: teaching mothers become weary, their children become bored, etc. However, I hope this article has shown that home education solves a lot of problems faced by the conventional school and provides a workable alternative to it. The parents may be assured that, though their teaching is done in human frailty, with God's blessing, they may hear "well done, good and faithful servant. . . enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

CURRENT ISSUES

Just a reminder: Suggestions for "news" on which to comment will be appreciated by the writer of this column. News items, or copies thereof, may be sent to his home address: 171 Baldwin Dr., Apartment D, Jenison, MI 49428.

One-Room Schools Make a Comeback

In a nation that lives by the motto, "Bigger is better," it is refreshing to see that the value of something small has been recognized by experts. During the '60's and '70's one-room schools were being quickly eliminated. Students were bused to central schools which were equipped with the latest educational tools.

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Although no society for education in Protestant Reformed circles operates a one-room school, there are several societies which operate multi-grade classroom schools. Since multi-grade classroom schools are closely related to one-room schools, what is said about one can apply to the other.

The December 2, 1985 issue of *Time* points out that parents and education officials have been working to save one-room schools, since their value is being acknowl-

edged. Among the reasons cited for supporting one-room schools is "a reawakened national concern for some faded educational verities, among them the close teacher-pupil contact."

Apparently educators did not feel that graduates of one-room schools were given as good an education as those from a traditional school. This accusation has proven to be false according to recent studies. *Time* reports, "To the surprise of many educators, the youngsters tend to score handsomely when they move on to high school."

I had the opportunity to teach in a multi-grade classroom and observed other advantages. Students there were better able to work on their own, since the teacher could not always be there to help them immediately. Reading skills also appeared to be more highly developed.

Perhaps parents who send their children to a multi-grade classroom school feel that they are settling for second best when they cannot provide a traditional school. These recent findings should put such feelings to rest.

MTV-A Favorite in Public School Cafeteria

The *Plains Baptist Challenger* reported on a newspaper article about how a public school solved its problem of keeping students under control in the lunchroom. The principal set up a large screen in the cafeteria on which the latest rock videos are displayed courtesy of MTV (Music Television).

The editor of the *Plains Baptist Challenger* writes concerning MTV: "MTV is to be found on the cable TV channels across America and it isn't fit for a dog, much less human beings. . . . No parent, under any circumstances should let their children ever watch this punk dirty rock. It is incredible that any school system would set up television screens in the cafeteria, so that the teens can watch this garbage."

Of course we are happy that such things do not happen in any of our schools. This reminds us of the reason we have our own schools: that our children are kept separate from the world. While it might have been safe for Christians in public schools years ago when nothing else was available, there is no doubt that the atmosphere of public schools has greatly changed.

Before we pat ourselves on the backs for this one though, how much of this "garbage" is being