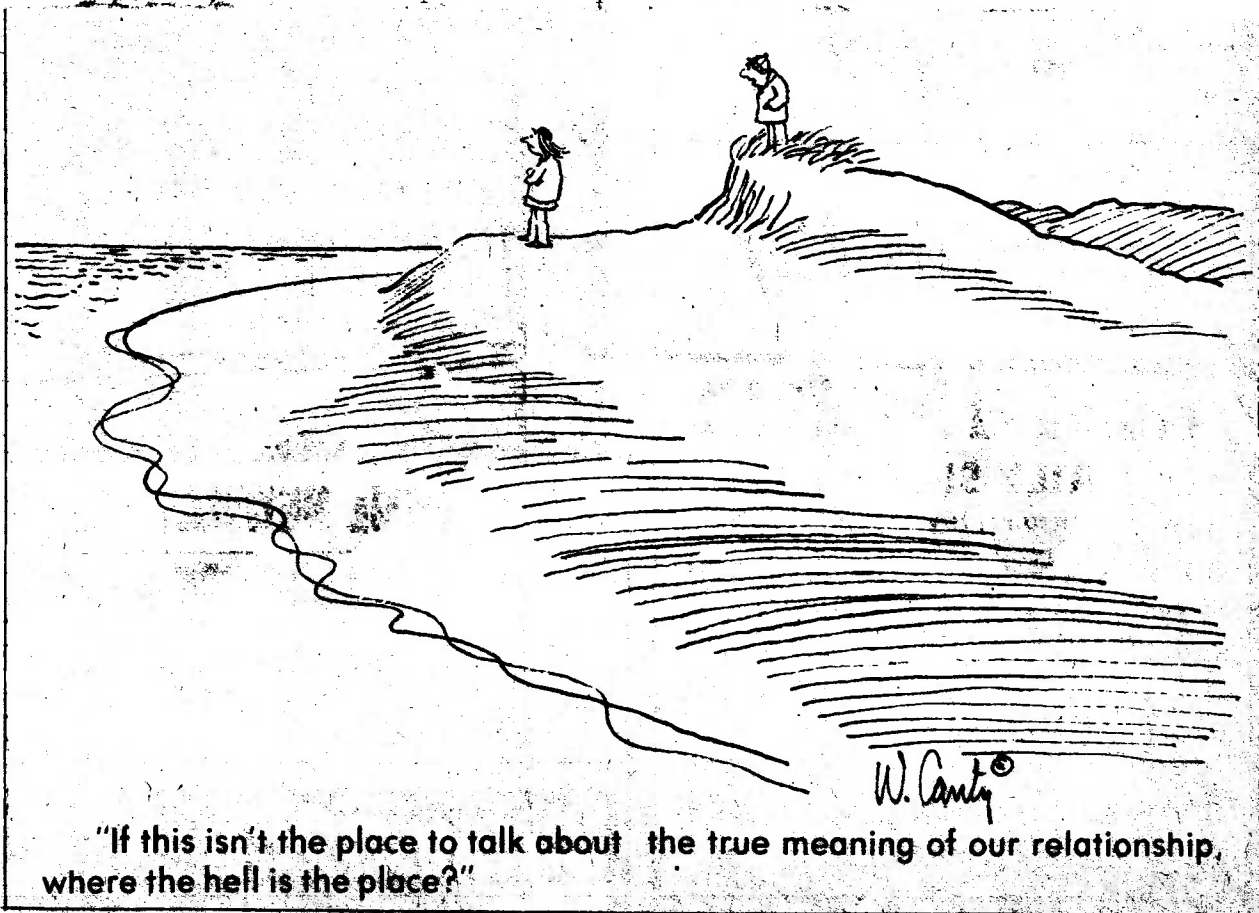


Way back then, we got all excited about F.R.Tennant's SPACE, TIME, AND DEITY and sequels of other authors. The space-time continuum of Einstein et al tickled the theological as well as the scientific cerebrum. That was after "time" was more important than "space," and well before "space" became sexier than "time" (and folks began to be "spaced out").....This thinksheet only seems (in light of the cartoon) to be about the romance of geography (especially Cape Cod: the cartoon is from 10Dec81 CAPE COD TIMES). It's really about the religion of human relationships, which in Streng et al's WAYS OF BEING RELIGIOUS is #5: "Attaining an Integrated Self Through Creative Interaction."

Why folk's IFD disease (from unrealistic idealism to frustration to disappointment-despair) has shifted from God-focus to the current focus on human relationships, I don't entirely know. But I do know that (Plato) the Olympian deities figured out a way to make people more disappointed in each other than in the gods/goddesses, and that this was good news for Olympus and bad news for earth. The numinous relationship is currently, 1982, being reestablished as the human/human (esp. male/female) relationship is breaking down. Good news for theism, bad news for marriage and "live-ins." (As a man of God, I'd be more worried if there were fewer separations and divorces: according to me, the universe is supposed to work poorly when it neglects God; and whenever it works well without God, it shivers my theology.)

(Thinksheet crossreferences: On "space," 1050,1173,1175; on "time," 641,1300,1439A.)

Last summer, we on the Cape were aware of the presence of those two superb thespians, Myrna Loy and Henry Fonda, making a first-rate "relational" film on the beach: "Summer Solstice" (TV-aired, Dec/81). Here, space is "place," the place where they met and she (1/2 c. later) died in his arms. At the fade-out, we see Henry looking at the beach, smiling, as he sits philosophically in his hammock-chair....QUESTION: Where, in the urban setting, is the psycho-moral-spiritual equivalent of the beach? For intimacy, space must be own-place, (Paul Tournier's book-title) A PLACE FOR YOU. Alexander's masterwork, SOLITUDE AND SOCIETY, is on the designing of space architecturally to achieve both place and space. So the works of Doxiadis.



"If this isn't the place to talk about the true meaning of our relationship, where the hell is the place?"