

CJMD new TV channel Support given for some Milton viewers retarded teams

By Joyce Beaton

There's a new television channel in town. It's CJMD, channel three, and in case you have trouble getting it on your set it's because it's all closed circuit at J. M. Denyes school.

Under the direction of Ed Riley, teacher librarian at the school, the students are formed into a team of camera technicians. They use a portable of tape recorder, tripod

and camera, described by Mr. Riley as the cheapest version of a million dollars' worth of complex equipment.

Filing
Recently the crew visited Kelso Conservation Area and filmed the Halton County Museum there. They followed the process of the film until it eventually ended up being viewed by fellow students on the closed circuit. The reality of the art involved led one boy to exclaim, "Boy, those guys on big T.V. don't fool around, do they!"

Andy Webster, a new student at J. M. Denyes, was excited to describe his part on the team. He was involved in

the taping of a grade five play. While watching the playback he realized and appreciated what goes into camera technique.

Camera work
The team did the camera work when grade four students brought their science project into the resource centre and explained it to fellow students. They were excited to realize they were being viewed by the students on television. A simulation of a party game was also performed.

The equipment belongs to the Halton Board of Education and is available for use in elementary schools.

Financial support for 30 students from schools for the mentally retarded in Halton have been assured by Halton Board of Education in the students' efforts to take part in the 1974 Special Olympics. The olympics are planned for Winnipeg June 13 to June 16.

Mayfield school has a 16 person team and Bruce Lyn and Sunshine schools will combine to send a 14 person team to the event.

Apparently all but \$1,700 of the \$5,100 has been raised from sources outside of the board. The board agreed to pick up the \$1,700 if necessary.

Executive committee

During discussion of a progress report from the committee on schools for the trainable retarded, the board agreed to refer a recommendation to its executive committee that would see retarded children wear seat belts while they are riding school buses.

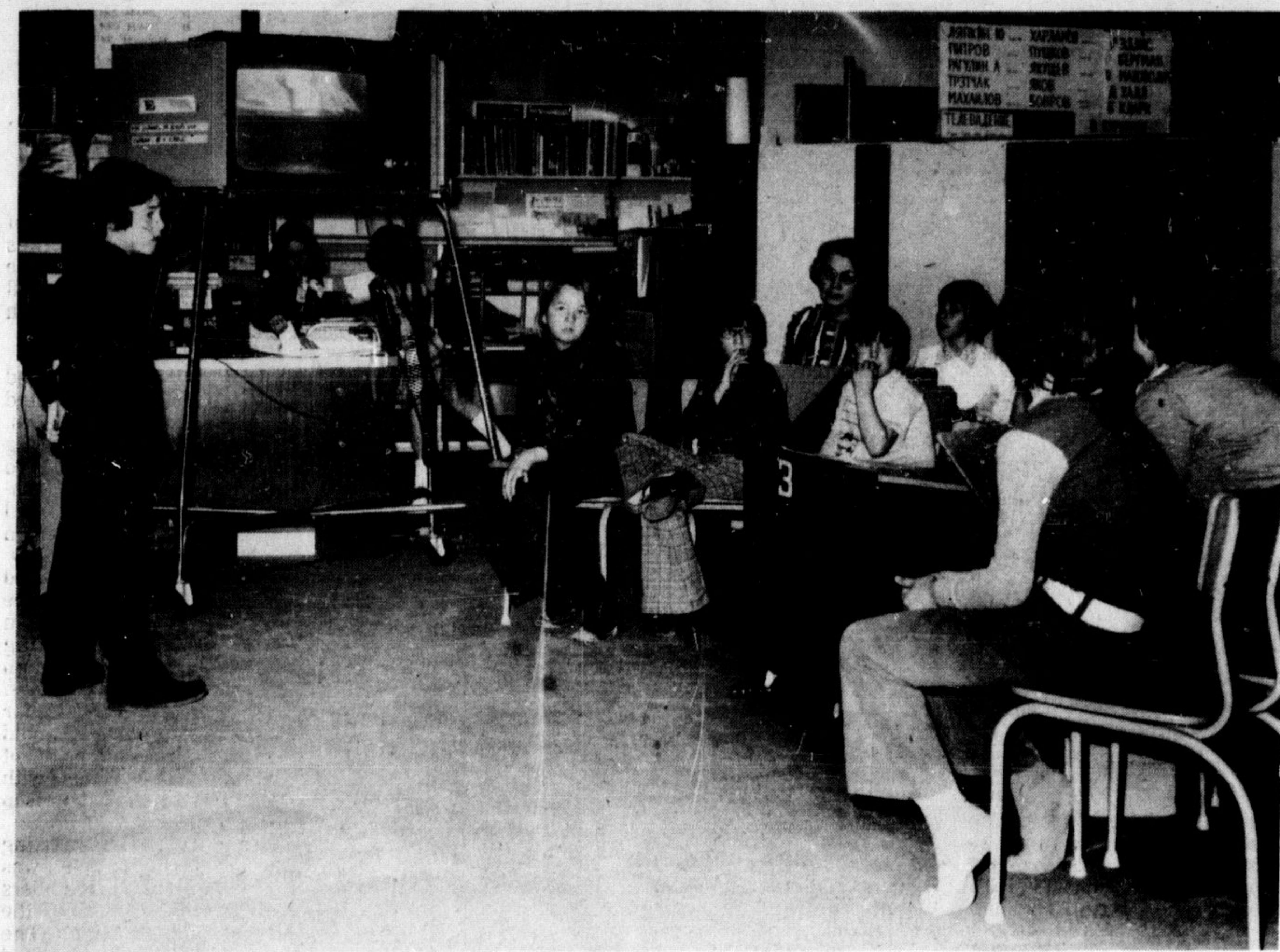
Also referred to the executive committee was a suggestion that a portable classroom be provided at Sunshine and another portable room be provided at Bruce Lyn to alleviate crowding in both schools.

Won't petition on compulsory subjects

The Halton Board of Education will not petition the Ministry of Education to increase the number of compulsory subjects that are necessary to complete requirements for a secondary school graduation diploma.

The board came to that conclusion after receiving a committee report. The report indicated there would be little benefit to students forced to take math or physical fitness and secondly, affirmed the belief that students in concert with their parents and principal should select the courses they wish to take.

It was noted a high percentage of students take both options even though they are not mandatory.



PLAYBACK OF FILMING done at the Halton County Museum at Kelso is shown to fellow classmates by cameraman Stephen Prior. Stephen is part of a team at J. M. Denyes learning TV camera techniques. (Photo by J. Beaton)

Campbell invited to board meeting

Renaissance Committee leader Ken Campbell will be invited to meet with the Halton Board of Education, the board agreed during a regular meeting Thursday.

Campbell has led almost daily charges against education and educators in recent weeks. His first charge concerned the presence of two lesbians in M. M. Robinson High School and the need for censorship of books in school libraries.

What action

Campbell had asked Board Chairman Bill Priestner what action he and the board would take in connection with Director of Education Jim Singleton's behavior.

In his reply Priestner reviewed the incident which precipitated Campbell's attack on moral pollution and supported Singleton's action.

The chairman reviewed some of the religious programs and programs that deal with morals and ethics now being taught in the schools.

"As a result of the Mackay Commission Report, The Halton Board set up a committee to study religion in the schools. It was composed of parents, clergy, teachers, students and trustees. Their work resulted in the offering of a course in World Religions, producing an Anthology of Opening Exercises, the development of a Values Inquiry and further programs being developed at present embracing Morals and Ethics. I suggest our responsibility is to the children. We have a long way to go and we need all the help we can get in handling this very delicate area for the good of the kids entrusted to our trusteeship.

"All the trustees know there are undesirable literary works in school libraries but are also aware of the inhibiting nature of censorship. The Spanish Inquisition had noble goals but no one was proud of the results. The way we handle specific complaints about offensive literature or practices is to quietly have the administrator investigate and deal with the matter. This is more effective in my opinion than the Darrow / Bryant approach.

Give trustee chance

"In your recent statement you mention operating through the elected trustees as the proper means to achieve educational change. We of course totally agree. However, when this incident at M. M. Robinson occurred, I believe after contacting the school, your next contact was with the press. Your trustee should have been the next step. While he may not have been able to get you the results you wanted, he should have at least had a chance. For indeed it is often said that the trustees are powerless against the educators—and they will be if they are not allowed to act for their constituents.

"In summary then, we all know that the educational system is far from perfect. If we all pull together using our various talents, a better, more vibrant and useful school system for our children will result. We need your input as well as that of all segments of society so that we may have a public school system which can be a positive influence on all the students whatever their beliefs," he said.

Favors open architecture

Open concept schools won endorsement of the Halton Board of Education at a meeting Thursday. The board agreed to continue building open concept schools where and when it was deemed advisable.

A report from Assistant Director of Education Em Lavender noted that optional attendance areas made it possible for youngsters in one area to move to another area and avoid having a student attend either a conventional school or an open concept school against his or her choice.

—Halton Renaissance Committee leader Ken Campbell of Milton was on a radio talk show one morning last week in Hamilton.

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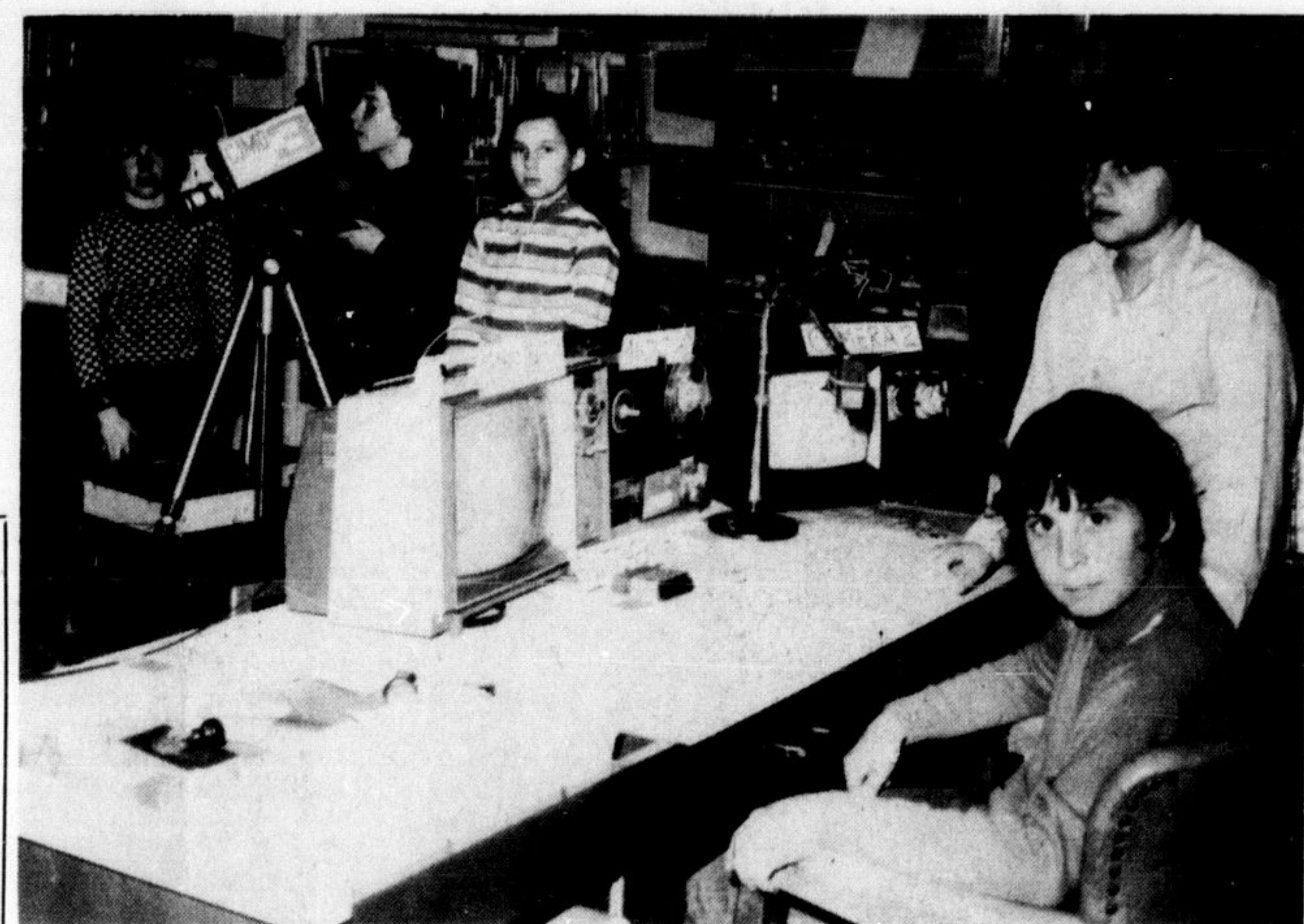
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CJMD CHANNEL 3 closed circuit TV at J. M. Denyes school is operated by the students. With camera from left are Dennis Laroque, Stephen Prior and Bev Edwards. Andy Webster and Tom Ruigrok look after the console. (Photo by J. Beaton)

Sally Ann is a busy group

A report filed with Halton Regional Council recently shows the Salvation Army in Halton had an active year in 1973. According to the report two boys or 314 days of care were provided at the House of Concord.

Four unwed mothers were cared for a total of 377 days at an expense of about \$3,100. Thirty-eight welfare families received assistance at Christmas and 150 persons received grocery orders or furniture and clothing. Thirteen potential suicide cases contacted and received help from the suicide prevention bureau while an average of 851 persons were visited each month and a total

of 1,631 Easter and Christmas treats were distributed as a part of the league of mercy work.

On top of that the Salvation Army runs a men's social centre, a treatment centre for alcoholics and a probation home for girls.

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