



TAKING IT EASY in preparation for his retirement is Stan Robinson as he relaxes on the lawn furniture, a gift of the community. With Stan from left are Laurie Paylor, Horace Blythe, Joe Currie, Bruce Paylor, Betty Paylor, Wayne McLeod, Artie Currie, Willy Wild, Florence Paylor, James Stokes and Marjorie Ramsey. (Photo by J. Beaton)

Stan Robinson

Board member-cum-caretaker retires, but reluctantly

By Joyce Beaton
"Have a happy retirement" was still ringing in his ears from hundreds of neighbors, staff and children as Stan Robinson recalled his 14 years as caretaker at Brookville Public School. "It's not my idea to retire, I'd like to stay here," he said. Unfortunately this warm and caring fatherfigure must, according to school board rules, leave the job now he is 65.

Stan came to Nassagaweya at the age of 11 from Omagh. He attended S.S. No. 7 school and is still a member of Nassagaweya Presbyterian church. He farmed until 1960 and during the previous 10 years was a member of the Nassagaweya school board. It was during this time the one-room schoolhouses were abandoned and Brookville was built. And so the school board member became the first caretaker. In Stan's words, "I said I'd put in for the job but if someone with more qualifications turns up,

that's alright too. Fortunately for me, there wasn't anybody." And it was fortunate for Brookville as well. Stan is known for his gentleness with the children, his cheerfulness with the staff, his modest and optimistic nature—he's a real gentleman.

Grandfather
Brookville principal Bob McCaw refers to Stan as "a grandfather figure who loves all the children, a tremendous fellow. And we'll miss him." Thursday evening the community turned out to wish Stan well and to thank him for his many years of service to the school system. A dinner was held in his honor, catered to by the teachers at Brookville. Members of the former school board, staff, and four couples from the community attended. Stan and his wife were presented by the teachers, with a piece of luggage to be used on their

upcoming trip to Germany. The community contributed towards a patio set of lounge chairs and umbrella table. Following the dinner a social hour took place where Stan greeted additional friends and received individual gifts. Throughout the evening remarks could be heard such as "he's been awfully nice to me in a personal way," from ex-Brook-

ville student Joe Currie, and young James Stokes who said, "I like Mr. Robinson, this is my fourth year at Brookville and he's the best caretaker I've ever known. Perhaps students Marjorie Ramsey and Willie Wild summed Stan up best of all when they said, "He's a friend more than a janitor, we'll miss him." "He's a really nice guy."

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LOOKING AT THE WORLD through tinted glasses held by Rebekah Raeleen Timbers, Jennifer Flannagan was also tested for problems such as myopia, far-sightedness and muscle imbalance. The clinic's main purpose was to discover whether or not the pre-schoolers were using both eyes when looking at things. If they don't co-ordinate both eyes by the time they're six, they could go blind.



POINTING THE SAME DIRECTION as the E's, Michelle Hadley gets her vision tested by volunteer Doris Tonelli at the Amblyopia Vision Screening clinic for pre-schoolers last week. The machine with the E's was donated to the county health unit by the Milton Rebekah Lodge, of which Mrs. Tonelli is a member.



POSSIBLE HEARING PROBLEMS were also tested for at the clinic. Tony Bott, 4, pointed to the pictures he heard a voice ask for through the earphones. Public health nurse Edythe Davis operated the audiometer. (Photo by P. Ford)

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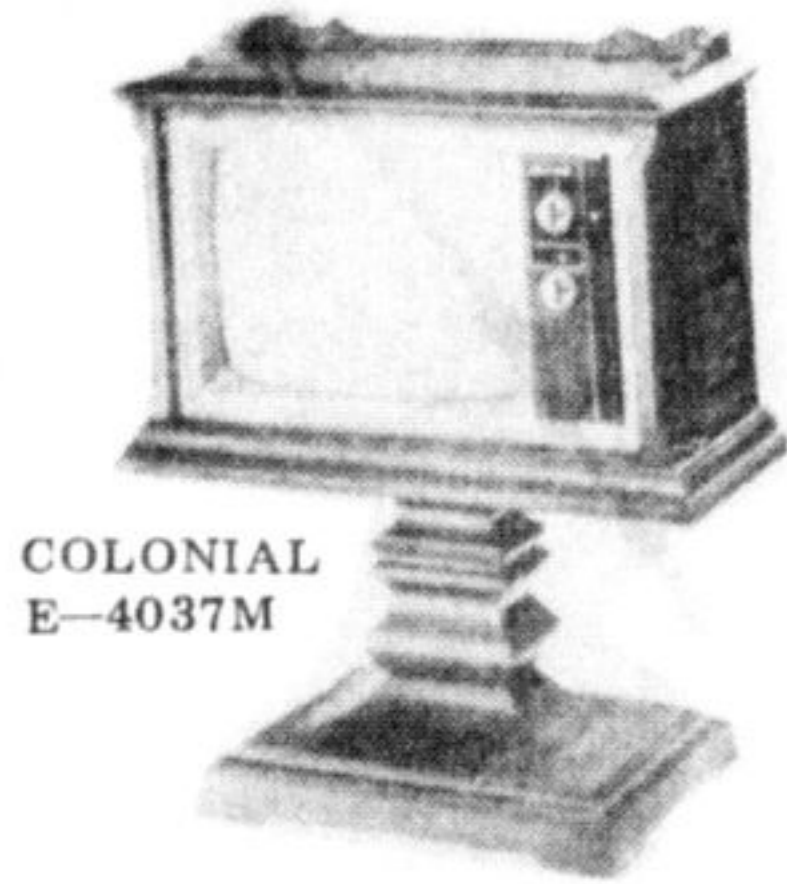
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