

## Schoolhouse radio

Our photo seen here shows a vintage radio from the late 1930s. It is a new acquisition for the District No. 5 School at the Cobblestone Museum Complex in Childs.

The radio sits on a high shelf near the teacher's desk. The shelf was built by a district father in 1937 for a radio like this. The original radio is unfortunately long gone.

It seems that back in 1937 the teacher at the Cobblestone School, Mrs. Hollebeck, allowed the students to sell Ready Jell as a money-making project.

This product sold at 25 cents for four boxes. When the students had raised enough money for a radio, one was purchased for under \$20 in the spring of 1937.

The reason for this was to enhance student education. On Friday afternoons at 1:30 p.m. a program called "News Today, History Tomorrow" was broadcast over the radio. This especially helped seventh-graders at the time to learn about current events all over the world.

Janice Barnum Thaine recalls that back in 1938, after noontime recess, the students came back into the school room and were asked to put their heads down on their desks to rest so they could listen to the radio.

Once a week back then, a program called "Science on the Air" was broadcast from WHAM out of Rochester. This helped sup-

reflects on the time frame the school was being used for public education.

As to Ready Jell, the students continued to sell it into 1939, using the money for other school projects. Janice Barnum and Betty Janus each won \$1 in a contest sponsored by the Ready Jell magazine.

This was for writing an advertisement that was published in the fall of 1938. It is as follows:

"My friends all come to see me,

They seem to like it well

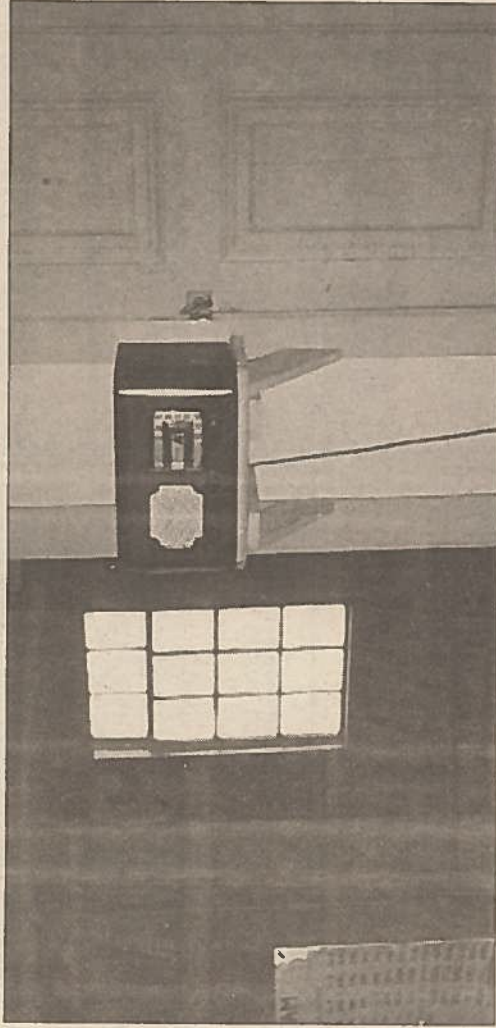
'Cause when they come to my house,

We serve them Ready Jell."

The idea of students getting out and selling some product as a means of raising money for a school project is obviously not a new one.

On Sunday, May 13, Mother's Day, the Cobblestone Museum will be open to the public free of charge from 1 to 5 p.m. This will be an opportunity to see the museum complex as well as to enjoy a special exhibit of photographs of Christmas Park assembled by Ken McPherson.

A collection of photographs called "Vanishing Roadside Landmarks" by Edgar Praus also will be on display. These exhibits will be located in the Proctor Room at the Cobblestone Church.



plement the students' learning in their science lessons.

The replacement radio seen here was recently purchased from an antique dealer in Buffalo to correspond with people's memories of what used to be there. It has a wooden case with rounded corners and fits perfectly on the 1937 shelf. In need of some restoration, the radio was taken to Cobble-

stone Society member George Zeis of Williamsville who got it working with a new tube.

Mrs. Ann Esch, a teacher from the West Irondequoit school system who brings students each season to visit the Cobblestone School, has graciously paid for this project.

The furnishings of the Cobblestone School represent a wide age range from the mid-19th century to the mid-20th century. This