



### Woman, 82 Still Serves In Village

Free Press Woodstock Bureau

**BURGESSVILLE** — Miss Rossie Burgess, who was born 82 years ago in this village of 200, named after her grandfather, Edward West Burgess, is still a member of the library she helped form more than 50 years ago.

She lives in the same white frame house in which she was born.

Besides being the first telephone operator here in 1905, Miss Burgess has been active in almost every community endeavor during her lifetime. She recalls how she operated the switchboard by herself when the telephone was still in infancy.

Her grandfather was born near Burgessville in 1821 and operated a blacksmithing and carriage-making business in 1844. He was the village's first postmaster and served 30 years in that capacity, as well as 18 as station agent.

The village, formerly known as Synder's Corners, was later changed by popular vote to Burgessville and incorporated in 1876.

Miss Burgess' favorite hobby is collecting salt dishes used in pioneer days. She has more than 100 of the small glass dishes, many of them intricately cut.

Discussing today's young people, she said they are much the same as they were in her youth. There were delinquency problems long ago just as there are today.



**BURGESSVILLE NAMESAKE** — Miss Rossie Burgess, 82, of Burgessville, is granddaughter of the late Edward West Burgess, after whom the village of 200 was named. Here, Miss Burgess examines one of her more than 100 salt dishes she collects as a hobby.

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