

## Businessmen Buy Post Office in New Business Offices



62-YEAR-OLD former post office on Mill St. was sold this week to B. D. Rachlin and George Robertson. Word was received Wednesday morning from Crown Assets Disposal Corporation that their bid has been accepted. Although no purchase price was disclosed, Acton council turned down an offer from Crown Assets to match a bid for the building of \$16,125. The building will be renovated into small offices.

Jeweller B. D. Rachlin purchased his largest and most expensive clock this week when he and business associate George Robertson received word from Crown Assets Disposal Corporation that their bid for the former post office on Mill St. had been accepted. Although the two men refused to disclose the purchase price for the 62-year-old building, they didn't deny a previously reported figure of \$16,125.

According to the two new owners the building will be renovated to accommodate professional and small business offices and they claim to have some tenants lined up already. Both men hope to preserve the outside appearance of the building as much as possible.

**No Objectionable Business**

Mr. Rachlin said they don't intend to rent to any type of business which might interfere with other tenants with regard to noise, objectionable odors etc.

Final papers have not been signed, but the two businessmen anticipate starting the remodeling program as soon as the transactions are completed. No contractor for the renovations has been considered to date.

**Biggest of Career**

The familiar town clock will be maintained by a caretaker and if repairs are necessary Mr. Rachlin, himself a jeweller, will have the opportunity of repairing the largest clock of his career. Benchmarks now stationed outside the building for citizens to rest will be kept there, as far as the two are concerned.

At present Cam Leishman, caretaker for the new federal building, is still maintaining the clock and building as the two men have not received their keys. The present heating system is in good condition and they don't anticipate any major change in the coal-fired, hot water system.

The former post office which was erected in 1913 replaced the previous building which was moved to the adjoining lot and is now occupied by Hitchen's Bakery. Before the former post office was built, the previous store on the site was occupied by James Matthews who had a post office and telegraph office in the rear and a grocery and crockery store in front.

It was in the original building that the Free Press was founded in 1875 by Joseph Hacking, formerly of Guelph.

**Here Over 30 Years**

Mr. Rachlin has been a resident and businessman in Acton for the past 32 years and served on municipal government three years, one as mayor and two as councillor. Mr. Robertson has been an Acton area resident for the past 34 years and is a well-known farmer residing with his wife at R.R. 1, Acton.

# The Acton Free Press.

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## Complete New \$71,450 Municipal Building Esqueusing Staff Moves Files in Thursday

Operation "Shuffle" took place Thursday morning of last week for Esqueusing township clerk K. C. Lindsay and staff when they moved from their outdated quarters in Stewarttown to the modern \$71,450 municipal building on the seventh line of Esqueusing. The only materials to move were old records. Everything else in the building is new.

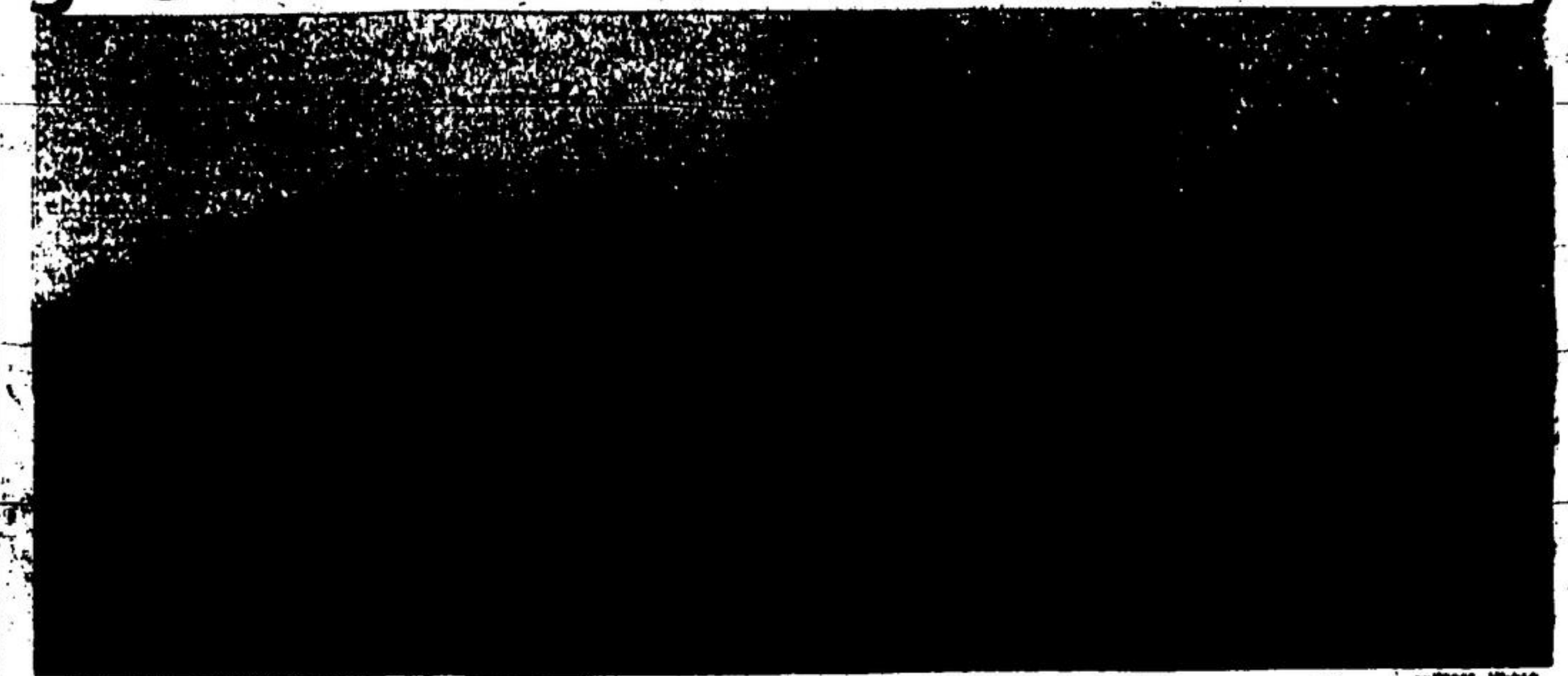
Within an hour and a half of beginning the move, two miles north of the old location, Mr. Lindsay was in business and had his first customer. A woman dropped in to pick up her relief cheque.

The township has operated since 1925 in the former municipal building. Esqueusing council agreed to purchase five acres of land owned by Charlie Greag, R. I. Georgetown, for the purpose of erecting a new municipal building, and in September, 1962, an agreement was signed with general contractor J. B. Mackenzie and Son. Ground was broken early in October, 1962. In spite of council's efforts to include the new building within Stewarttown village boundaries, adequate space could not be found.

### Modern Design

The brightly illuminated quarters are of brick and steel exterior with stained mahogany wood panelling throughout the interior. This, combined with battleship linoleum on the floors, recessed fluorescent lighting, walnut desks and chairs and expansive windows, blends favorably with the modern design of the building.

The 2,800 square foot building accommodates council chambers, main administration office, assessor's office, recvee's office, vault, extra office space, cloak-



ESQUEUSING TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING was occupied Thursday of last week when clerk K. C. Lindsay and staff moved into their new quarters. Construction began last fall on the modern building. The old municipal building located in Stewart-

town had been in use since 1925 as headquarters for council. The exterior is of brick and steel and the interior has stained mahogany panelling, tile ceilings, walnut desks and battleship linoleum on the floor.

rooms and washrooms on the main floor. On the lower level, there are the furnace room, storage vault, utility room, spare meeting room and spare storage room.

### Rebuilt in 1948

The former municipal office was erected in 1858 and prior to 1948 was purchased by the township from the H. P. Lawson estate in 1925, was three storeys high. Originally, the building accommodated a store showroom and living quarters on the main floor, public hall on the second floor

and banquet room on the third floor.

In 1948, the municipal building was rebuilt, the two top storeys removed and a garage for township equipment added at the rear.

### Started as Treasurer

Clerk Lindsay recalls when he first worked for the township in 1943 as treasurer, there were 915 assessments on the roll, with a total population of near 2,300 people.

"The township is gradually growing and the administration

accommodation must grow with it," declared the clerk this week.

### Not Much Business Then

Mr. Lindsay also recalls back in 1943 when council met once a month and the minute book disclosed only a few paragraphs indicating a small amount of work finalized by council. This summer, council has been meeting a minimum of once a week and sometimes as many as three times a week.

The old building will be maintained by the township and used as a works department, with headquarters for superintendent Bud Snow.

Other employees enjoying the modern facilities in the new quarters are office employee Mrs. Catherine Bouskill, assessor A. W. Benton and assistant assessor Geoffrey Denny. When on business, Recvee George Leslie will enjoy his new surroundings.

Public meetings will still be held in the old hall.

No date has been set for an official opening of the new building.

## Firefighters Tops in Parade At Convention in Teeswater

Acton Firefighters captured first place honors Monday in the parade and narrowly missed two other firsts when they were with in seconds of winners during hose and ladder competitions at the annual Firemen's Convention held at Teeswater.

Dressed in their blue and gold uniforms the Acton representatives were picked for their appearance and marching ability in a class of 20 firemen or under during the Monday parade.

In the ladder rescue race Acton came third when they were checked at 27 seconds. The winner, Teeswater, finished in 25 seconds. In the hose race, Acton finished sixth in 51 seconds, only 11 seconds behind the winning team from Danville.

Members also competed in the 100 and 50 yard dashes.

Delegates from the Acton Department were Harold Townsley

### Banded in Gold Fair Book's Out

With a gold band on the cover for the golden anniversary, Acton fair book is out this week and available for entrants to peruse. It's a whooper of a catalogue of prizes and events with 89 pages.

There are special anniversary prizes as well as events. In the center, on gold paper, is a special section which contains a history of the Agricultural Society.

and Phillip McCristall who registered Friday along with 200 other delegates and attended lectures and buzz sessions. They will make a full report at the next regular meeting Monday. Others attending for part of the time were chief Mick Holmes, Grant Withers, Herb Dodds, Jack Pink, John Krupck, Don Van Fleet, Bern Van Fleet, Eddie McGiloway, Bill Knight and Bert Fowler.

The four day convention attracted nearly 2,000 firefighters and their wives from various parts of Ontario. The two Acton delegates received their life memberships for attending five consecutive conventions and Wayne Kelly, who was absent but had registered, also received his life membership.

## G. W. McKenzie Elected International President

It was "Pat McKenzie" Day Monday at the International Y's Men's convention at the Seaside Hilton Hotel, Buffalo, and today (Thursday), the Acton man takes over the reins of top office as international president of the Y's Men's clubs of the world.

Hundreds of delegates from the U.S., Canada, Europe and the West Indies honored the prominent Acton Y's Man, who this past year has travelled widely as international president-elect.

**Root for Pat**

The president of his home club, Walter Dubois, attended the entire convention. Those who went down Monday were Mr. and Mrs. Mansell Nellis, Mr. and Mrs. Fyfe Somerville, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Arbie and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Rognvaldson. Miss Nancy Rognvaldson stayed at the convention with Miss Kathryn McKenzie, and there were special programs for the children of delegates each day.

On Thursday (today), District Governor Bill Wilson plans to attend the convention.

The Acton group were there for meals, speakers, forums and finally Monday evening, the outgoing president's banquet and ball. The president, Jason McCoy, spoke and his address was shown live on television.

The new president addressed the convention yesterday (Wednesday) at noon.

There was a large Ontario group at the convention which filled the hotel.

Popular president McKenzie has travelled widely on weekends

the past year in his office as international president-elect. He is principal of the Robert Little public school.

A keen Y's Man, his quiet capabilities have been recognized in this club since he joined years ago. Acton is the smallest town in the world to have a Y.M.C.A. building (the Murray Memorial building) and as such is known to clubs in many countries.

Mr. McKenzie has attended 10 international conventions and has not missed an Ontario regional convention since he entered Y's-dom. The regional convention will be in Sudbury in September.

Mr. McKenzie heads 700 clubs, four new countries added to the roster this year. He'll have organized duties during his year as president and will likely travel overseas as past president.

This week's election of officers brings the number of Canadian presidents up to five. All the others have come from the U.S.A. since the club was organized in 1922. Representatives of the 29 regions of the world also attended.

Last year's convention was at Banff and the next one is at Estes Park, Colorado, next June.

The conventions are always family affairs with some special sessions and luncheons for the women. At Buffalo there was a typical nursery arrangement for toddlers and the older children went to parks, swimming at Crystal Beach, a zoo, a Y. on tour and had magic shows and movies. Acton wives heard a fashion commentator from Paris.

## Jean Hart, Karl Gathof Head Eight High School Graduates

Karl Gathof and Jean Hart topped a class of eight graduates from grade 13 at Acton high school. Other graduates are Ruth Coles, Fred Dawkins, Kay Dennis and Jo-Anne Force who had taken grade 13 subjects for the first year, and Katherine Garrett and Randy Lidka who had taken grade 13 subjects for two years.

Results issued late last week indicate of 184 grade 13 papers written here, 130 were passed — an average of just over 70 per cent. There were 20 firsts for Acton — 10.9 per cent of the paper; seconds 33 — 17.9 per cent; thirds 27 — 14.7 per cent; credits 50 — 27.2 per cent; and failures 54 — 29.3 per cent.

### Percentages Up

Percentages of firsts and seconds is up from last year. There were just six graduates last year.

Principal Ted Hansen expressed pleasure at the results of the successful students who had done very well, he said, despite the fact valuable minutes were lost each day due to teachers commuting from the high school to the stone school.

A total of 44 students wrote papers, including those taking private study and quite a few grade 12 students taking just one grade 13 subject in advance. Most did not write a full year's subjects.

Karl Gathof, who attained the highest total marks, wrote 11 papers for four firsts, four seconds, one third and two credits. He plans to attend university.

### Grade 13 Results

Following are the results of grade 13 examinations written by 44 Acton students in the spring. They were received by principal E. A. Hansen at the end of last week.

- M. Lorraine Bennett — Eng. Comp. 63, Eng. Lit. 70, Botany 51, Zoology 59, French Auth. 52.
  - Patricia A. Blundell — Eng. Comp. 56, Eng. Lit. 59, Botany 56, Zoology 51.
  - Ruth J. Coles — Eng. Comp. 61, Eng. Lit. 66, Algebra 80, Trig. & Statics 53, Latin Auth. 64, Latin Comp. 71, French Auth. 61, French Comp. 75.
  - Vivian B. Collett — Botany 75, Joan M. Cook — Botany 76.
  - Frederick C. Dawkins — Eng. Comp. 52, Eng. Lit. 64, Algebra 82, Geometry 87, Trig. & Statics 62, French Auth. 69, French Comp. 62.
  - Katherine L. Dennis — Eng. Comp. 54, Eng. Lit. 71, History 51, Botany 67, Chemistry 66, Latin Auth. 78, Latin Comp. 74, French Auth. 50, French Comp. 50.
  - Mary Elizabeth Elliott — Botany 59.
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Other employees enjoying the modern facilities in the new quarters are office employee Mrs. Catherine Bouskill, assessor A. W. Benton and assistant assessor Geoffrey Denny. When on business, Recvee George Leslie will enjoy his new surroundings.

Public meetings will still be held in the old hall.

No date has been set for an official opening of the new building.

**Continue Education**

Fred Dawkins, with five firsts, one second, two thirds and a credit, hopes to go to university. Kay Dennis has nine subjects and plans to go to university. Jo-Anne Force also has nine and will go to university.

Ruth Coles with eight subjects will enter Lakeshore Teachers' College.

Katherine Garrett will go to Teachers' College and Randy Lidka hopes to go to university.

Although the students have applied to universities (in some cases, one student has applied to two), they have not yet had time to learn that they have been accepted. Final decision on courses will be made later.

**Special Cases**

Mrs. Vivian B. Collett was studying botany privately.

The grade 12 students who just wrote one grade 13 subject and were successful were Joan Cook, Mary Beth Elliott, Gertrud Kuhn, Heather Levland, Gary Masales, Janet Rognvaldson and Norman Smith.

With six subjects, David Roughley may go to Ryerson Institute of Technology.



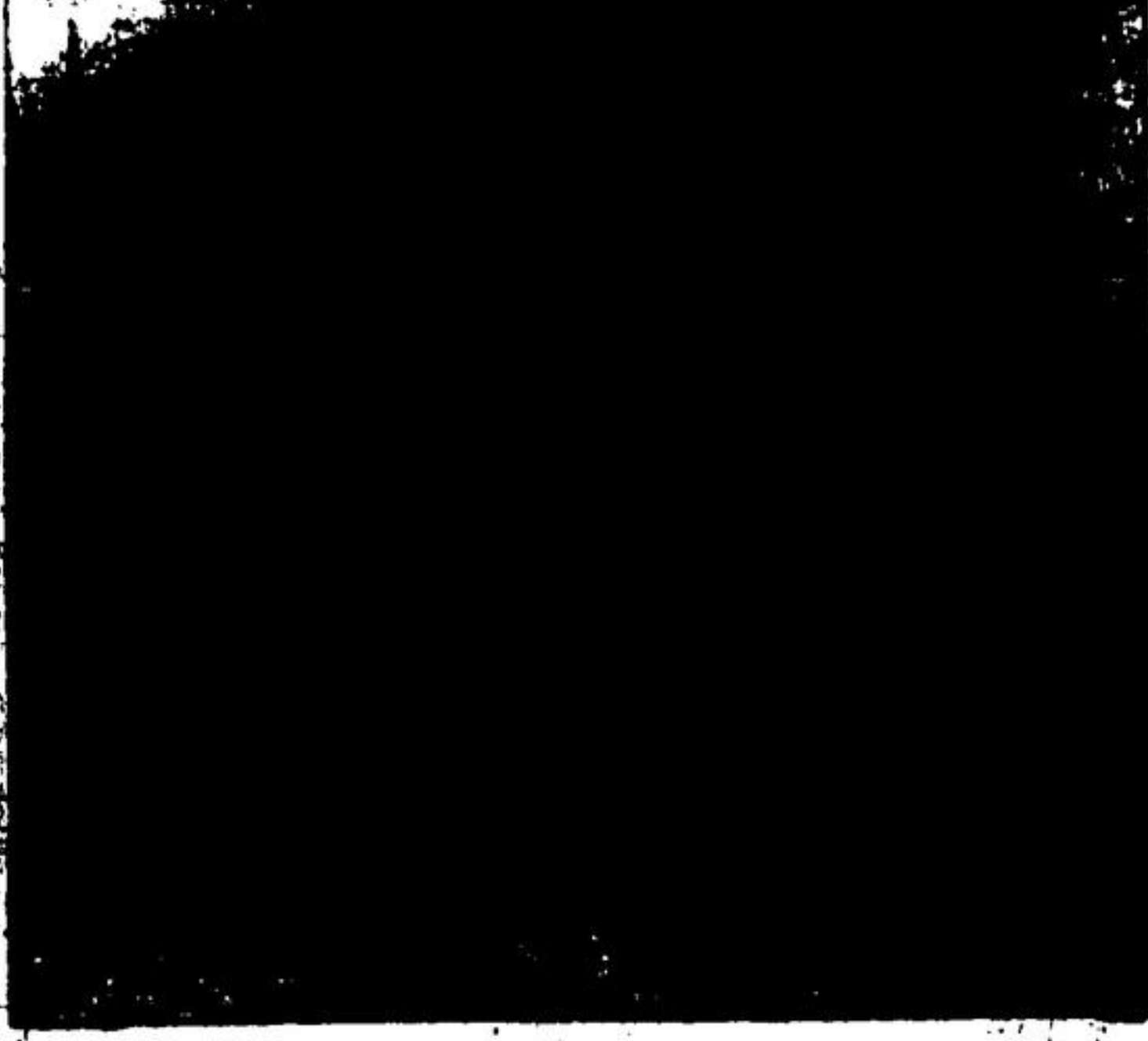
CLERK K. C. LINDSAY didn't have time to cool off after moving files from the old municipal building at Stewarttown to the new building two miles north of the village. Within an hour after the move began he had his first customer — a lady enquiring about her relief cheque.



ESQUEUSING COUNCIL members will be anxious to hold their first meeting in their new council room. They can now sit back and relax in comfort and have plenty of room to move around. Their former meeting place in the old municipal building was crowded and dark. All new furniture has been installed and



Large, full length windows of one and will allow plenty of light. Meetings in the old building were interrupted by the noise of trucks and cars travelling on the Seventh Line. Now members will be able to conduct business without interference.



MRS. CATHERINE BOUSKILL, office clerk of the Esqueusing township building, is shown in the modern, roomy office of the new headquarters on the seventh line above Stewarttown. The former office was crowded and poorly illuminated. Mrs. Bouskill now has plenty of room to do filing and other work.