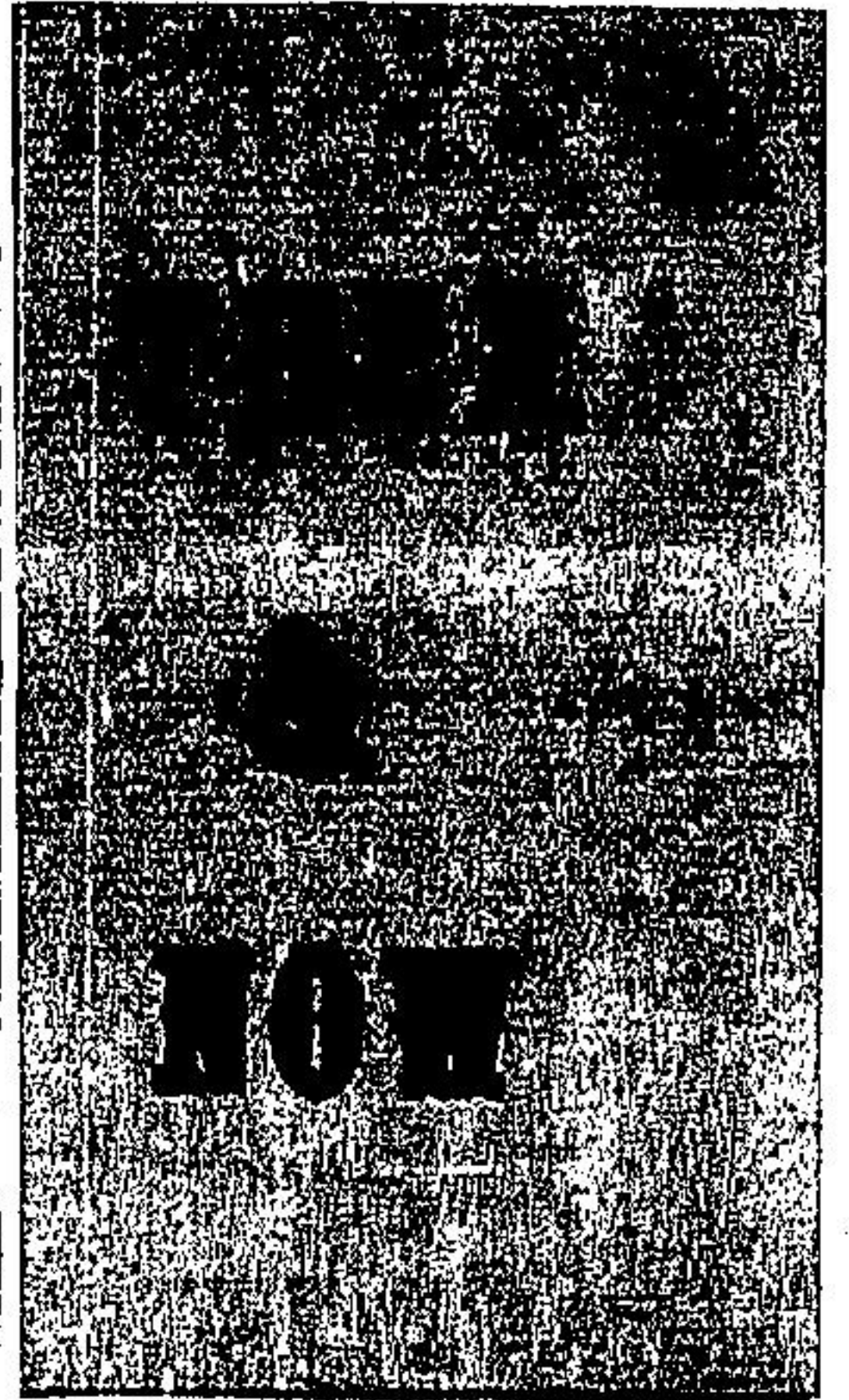
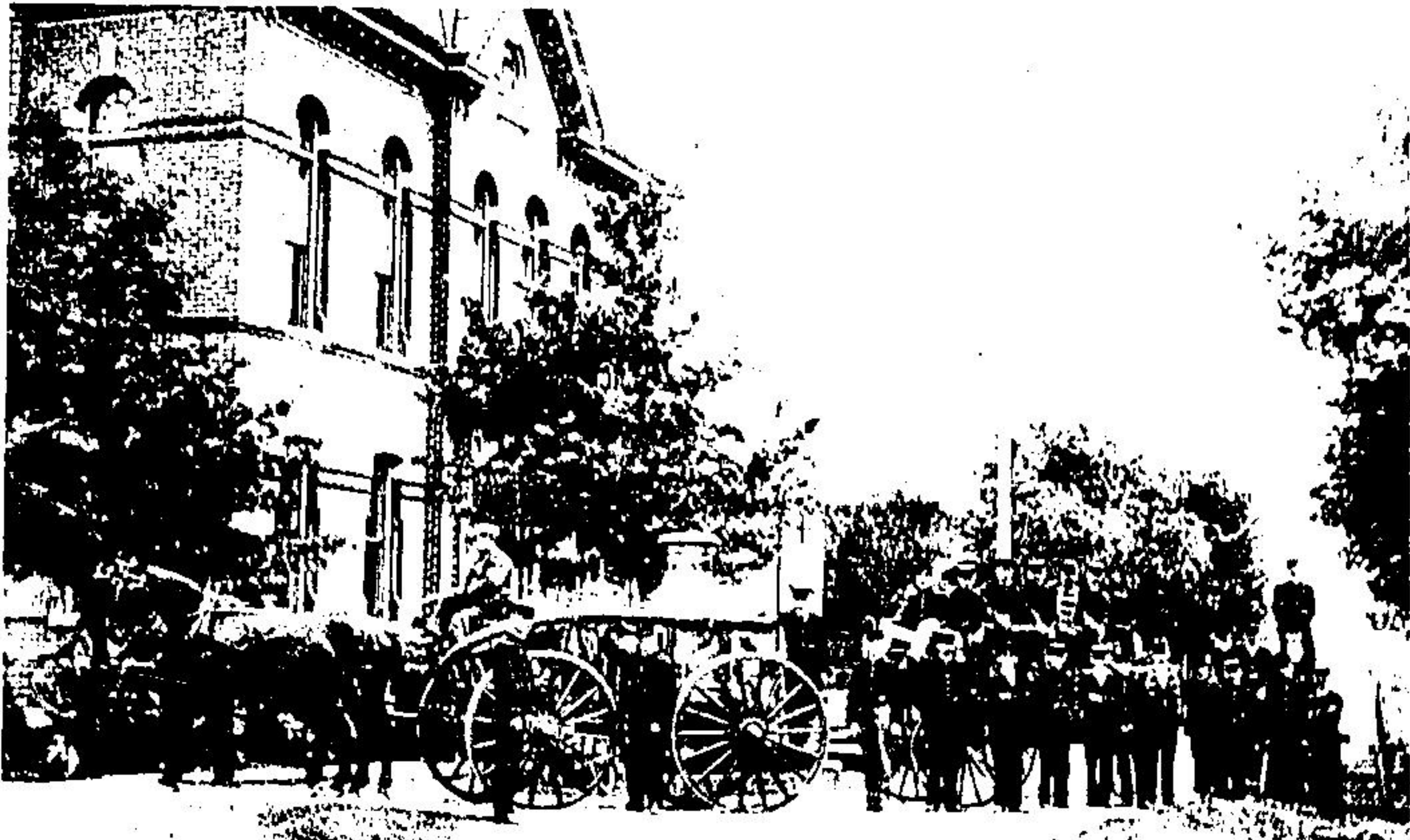
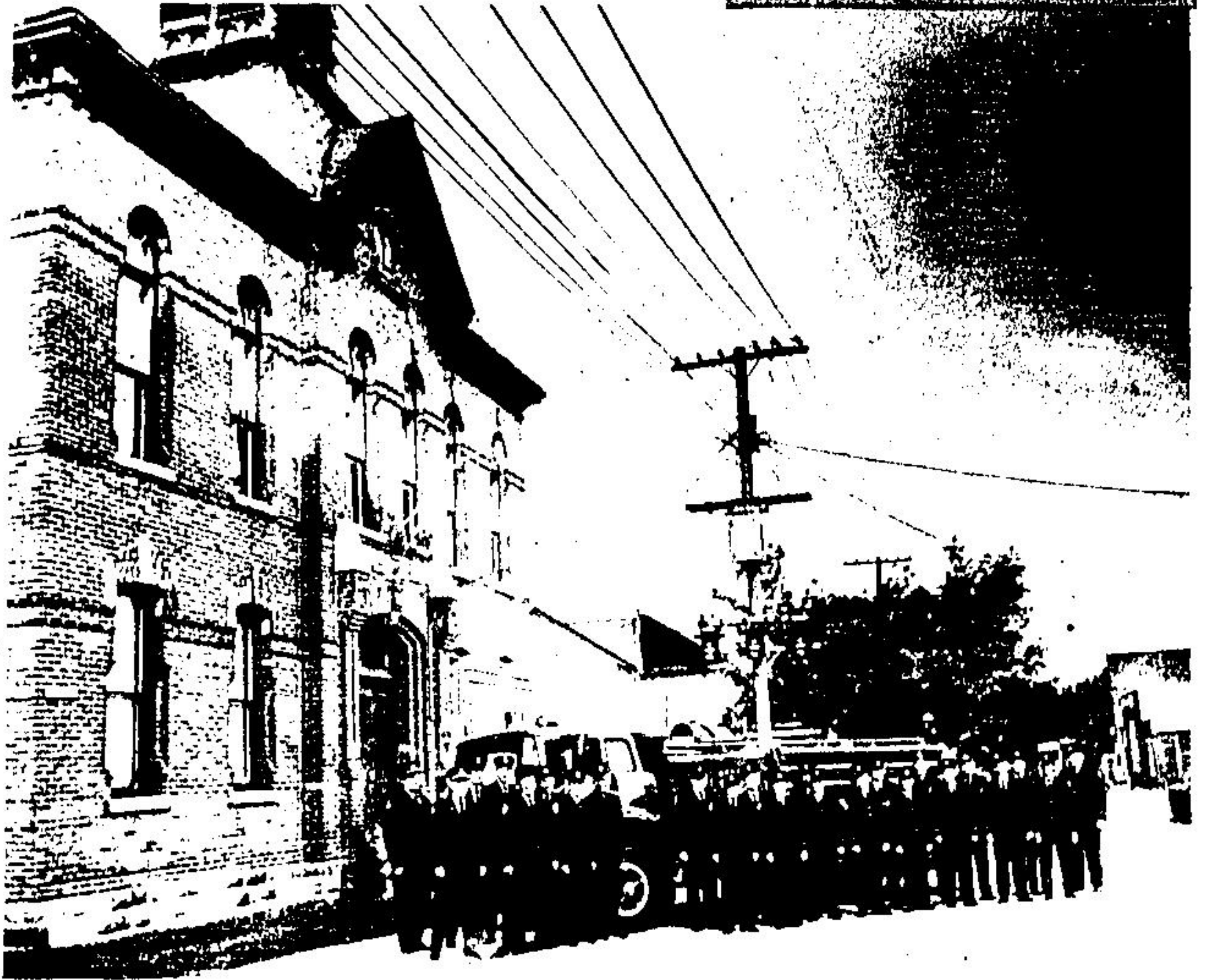
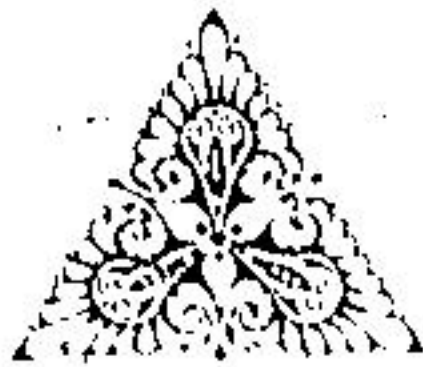


# FIREFIGHTERS



IN 1898 the fire brigade posed in front of the town hall with their pride and joy--their steam fire engine. It was purchased in the 1890's and kept till the last war when it was sold for needed scrap. It last served in 1924 at a big Beardmore fire. Delay was a problem; after the firefighters reached the fire hall the fire had to be kindled and then the gear had to be hauled by horses or men to one of the half-dozen sources of water available. The hose was carried on extra reels. Once steam was up the streams of water would rip shingles or siding off buildings and smash in glass windows, to the delight of all but the owner of the building. Often water damage was as great as fire damage. But no fire got completely out of hand and no sections of the village were ever wiped out.



DUPLICATING HISTORICAL picture, Acton firefighters again lined up at the town hall in June, 1974. Left to right are: Bert Fowler, chief; Mack Holmes, Leo Symott, John Turkosz, Harold Townsley, John Vander Brink, Bill Spielvogel, Sam Tennant, Will Duval, Lloyd McIntyre, Doug Mason, Ken Hodgins, Larry Frizzell, Wayne Kelly, Ed McGiloway, John Dunn, John Krapek, Alf Duby, Grant Withers, Bern Van Fleet, Norm Price, Howard Roszell, Dorson Frizzell and Harry Otterbein.



STOREY TANNERY and Ebbage's planing mill were both destroyed by fire June 29, 1898. These photographs were taken by A. T. Brown before and after the water arrived with the firefighting crew.