

**New Post Office . . .**

**. . . opened to the public**

**Residents get an inside look**

The delivery of mail in Milton has come a long way since a Mr. Teetzel opened the town's first known postal depot at Main and Foster Sts. during the mid 1800's. In fact, Milton didn't have a recognized postal station until the late 1800's when an office was opened in McNabb and Son's Furniture Store to serve the bustling population of 1,350.

The old post office at Main and Martin Sts. was opened in 1914 with Postmaster Robert Stewart at the helm, and it wasn't until 1960 an addition was built. While everyone has come to accept the concept of mail delivery to the home, that didn't commence in Milton until 1967. But after that time, Milton began to grow. In 1974 when Milton became part of the Regional Municipality of

Halton, the urban population had swelled to 9,476 and the total population, including the rural area, brought the number of people needing postal service to 16,382. As the growth continued, the size of the old post office shrank. And that was the reason for constructing the new postal office on Brown St. in 1980. The official opening of the new post office was

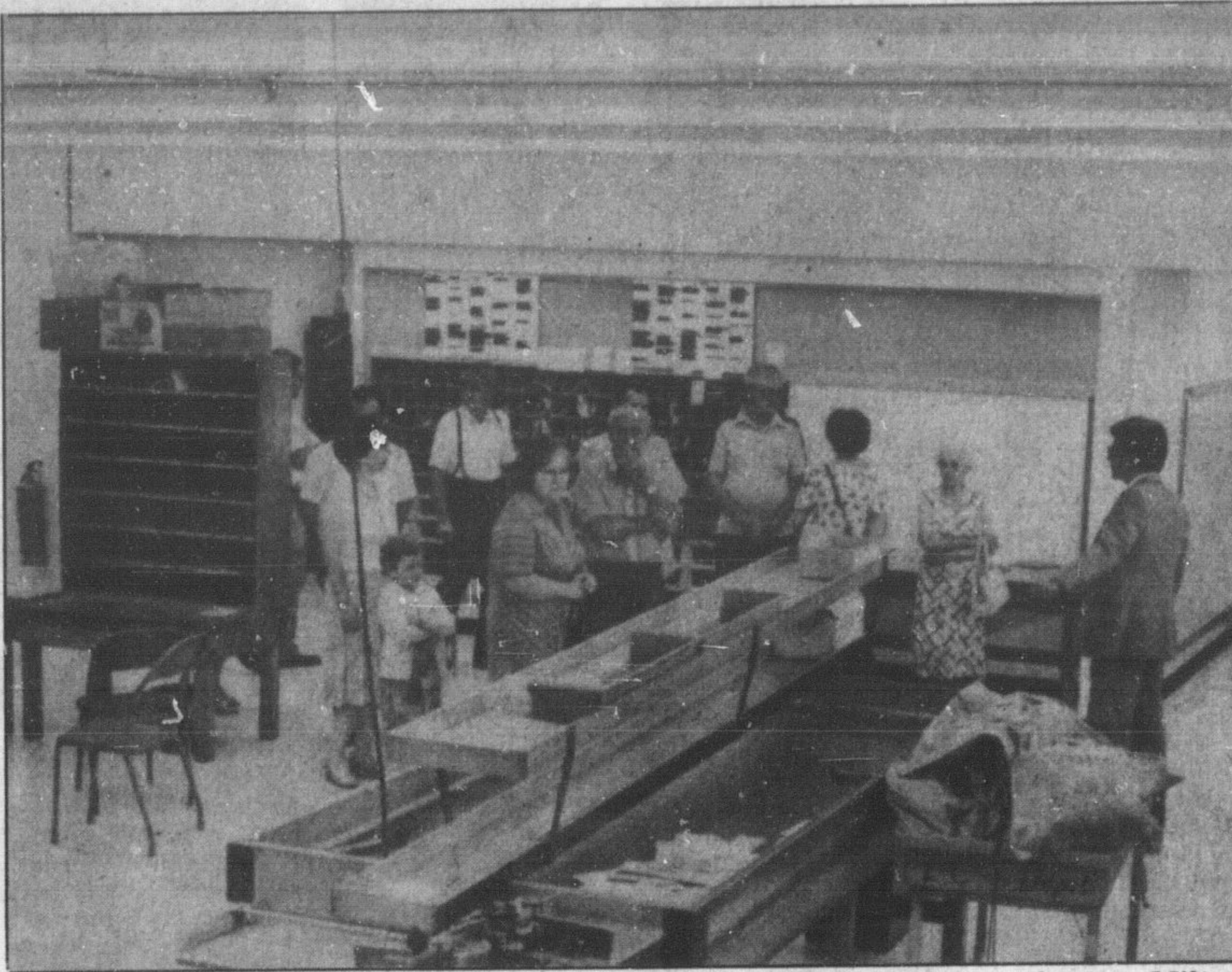
held Thursday with people already lining up to take the tour prior to the 2 p.m. opening of the doors. Despite the postal strike, there were no picketers for visitors to worry about. Postmaster Cal Hart said the new office handled 8,847,000 pieces of mail during the 1980-1981 with a revenue of \$640,000.

The staff consists of 23 letter carriers, 11 postal clerks, and three in the administration. This is bolstered by six rural mail contractors and 183 mail boxes at the new post office which are accessible 24 hours a day.

Mr. Hart said there have been major advances in the past five years in the ability of the post office to handle mail. "It used to be rare when we found a piece of mail with the code on it."

"But now it is rare when we don't find a letter with the code on it," he said. Mr. Hart also noted business users are starting to use their own

machinery to specially code mail. Using this method, the business mail goes right through a machine to the proper destination without it having to be sorted by human hands. There were two tours on Thursday, one in the afternoon and one in the evening hours.



Here's where the work is done. Postmaster Cal Hart gives visitors to the new Milton Post Office a glimpse at the part of the building which is seldom seen. In this area mail is sorted. No postal workers were in the building during Thursday's tour, because of the continuing postal interruption.

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Welcoming guests. Dave Andress, representing Canada Post district offices in Hamilton greeted the first group of visitors Thursday at an open house held in the new Milton Post Office.

**Sidewalk work is limited by budget**

With half the 1981 sidewalk budget already spent, it means Milton Council will only be able to complete work on the first four of its list of 12 priorities. Public Works Director John Matthews told councillors when it was decided to spend \$14,500 on a temporary sidewalk on Woodward Ave. from Ontario St. to Riverplace, it left only \$15,500

of the \$30,000 set aside. The sidewalks which will be serviced are: King St. south side from Brown St. to Bell St., Victoria St., south side from James St. to Elizabeth St., Mary St., north side from Bowes St. to Bell St., and Garnet Ave., south side from Thomas St. to Lydia Ave.

Now out of the list due to lack of money are Lydia Ave., James St., Mary St., Victoria St., Garnet Ave., and last on the list, Anne Blvd. A delegation of four residents from the townhomes on Anne Blvd. came to council to ask for the sidewalk and ditch to be cleaned up. They complained of ponding and garbage from the mall being a major source of concern.

Councillor Jim Watson angered the delegation by saying he was surprised to see people coming to council "to complain about a little bit of ponding."

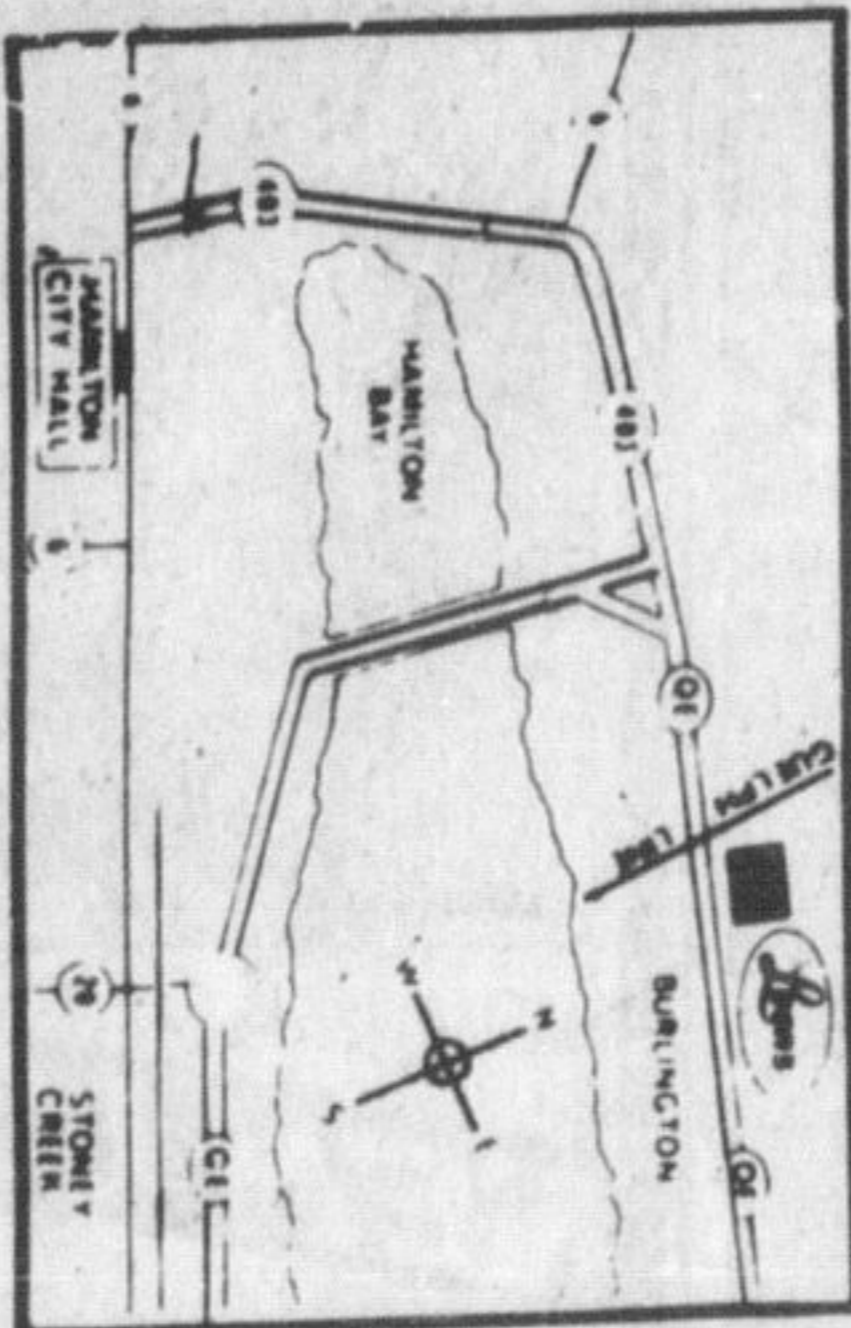
"We don't even have sidewalks in the rural area. . . . In fact we have ponding right in the middle of the road and nothing has ever been done about that," he said. While Mr. Matthews said there is nothing he can do for the eight priorities left on his list, he said he would be coming to budget talks in 1982 ready to ask for a major increase in the sidewalk budget.

**Buyouts proceeding**

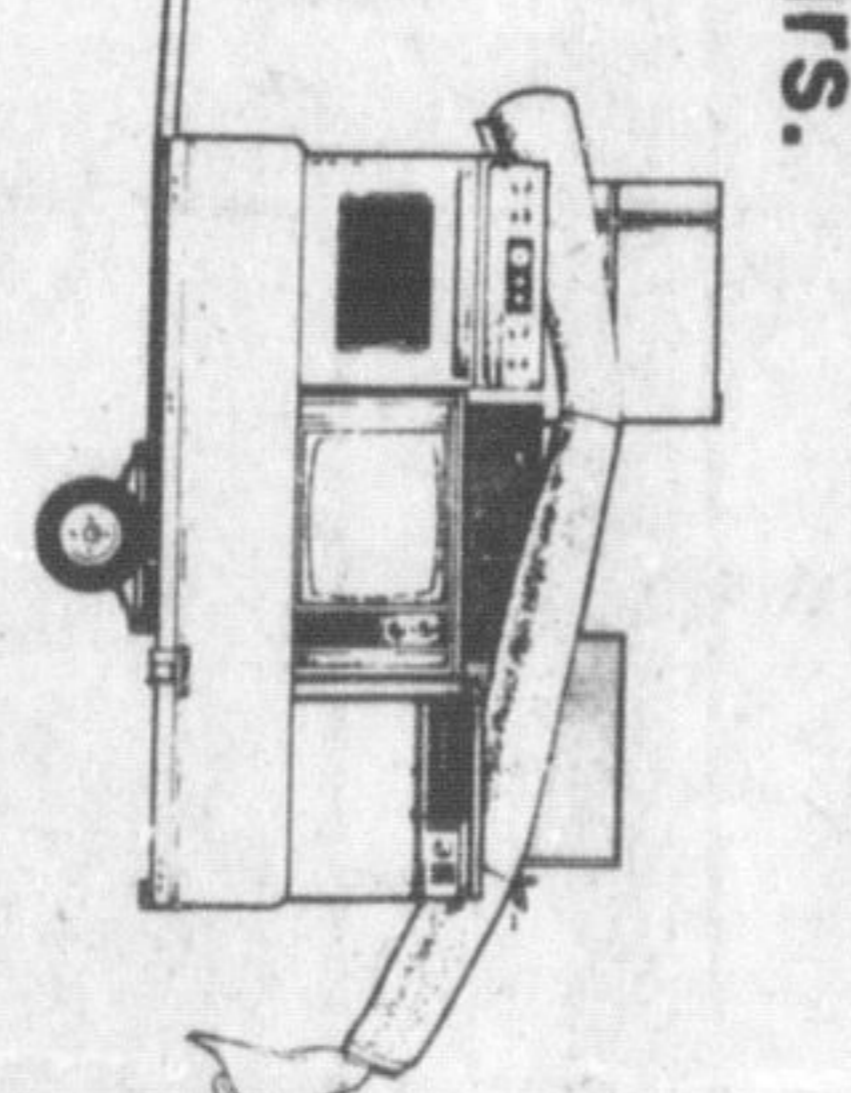
Milton has been advised more buyouts of homes in the Official Plan Amendment Number 7 area have been completed. The Lawson property sale closed March 31; the Broughton property closed May 19; the Poth property closed May 28; and the Marshall property closed May 29.

The information was sent to council by solicitor Roger Beaman who acted on behalf of 19 homeowners who said developers might not honor buyout provisions of a pro-tem agreement between the developers and the town. Council is still trying to decide how, and if, it can help pay for the legal fees to Mr. Beaman incurred during the protracted completion of OP7.

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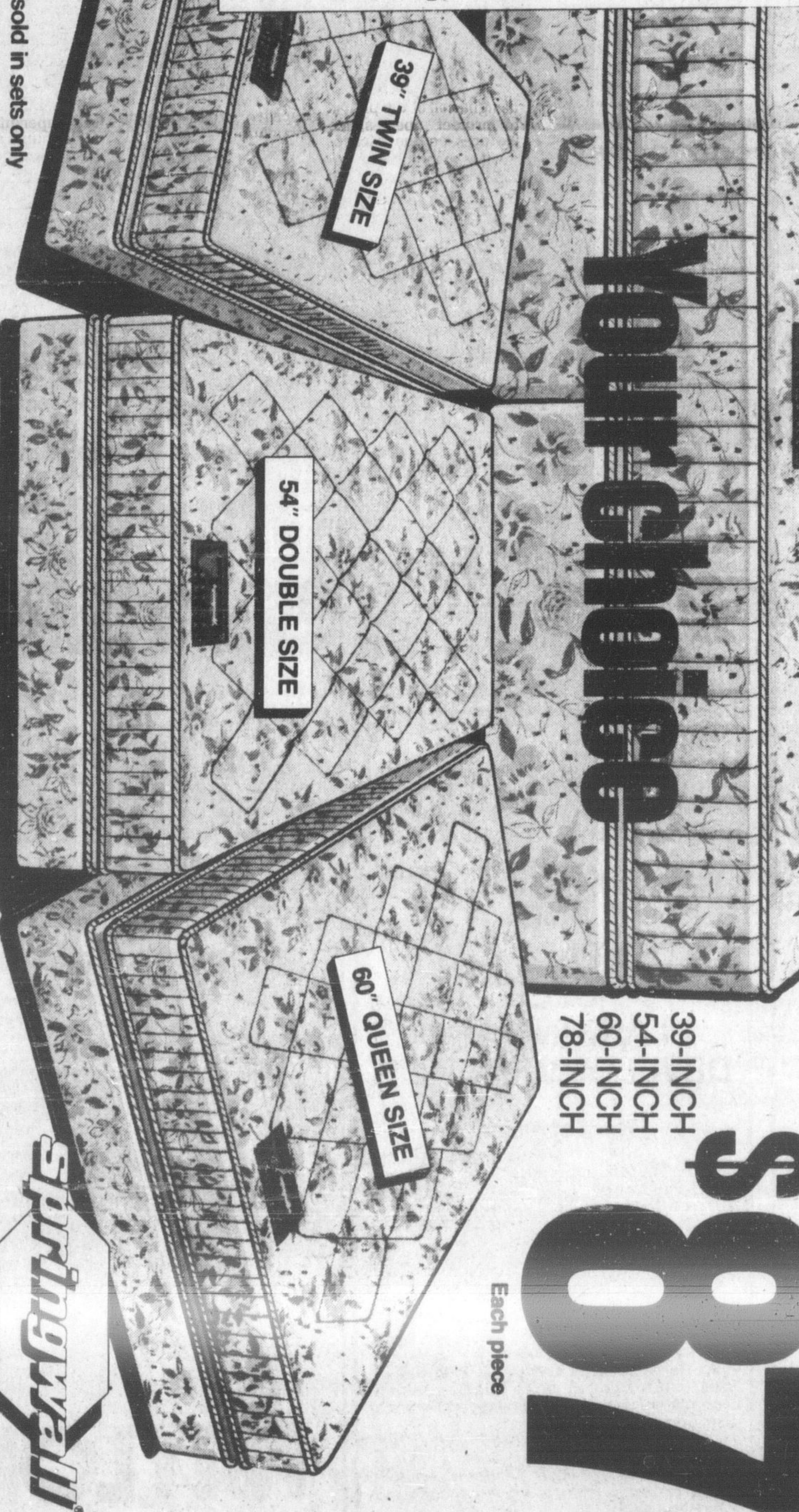
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