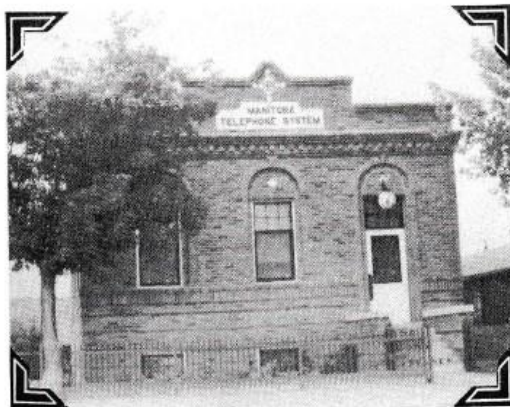


## THE TELEPHONE OFFICE

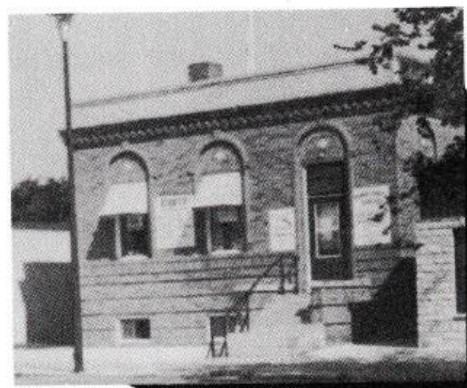
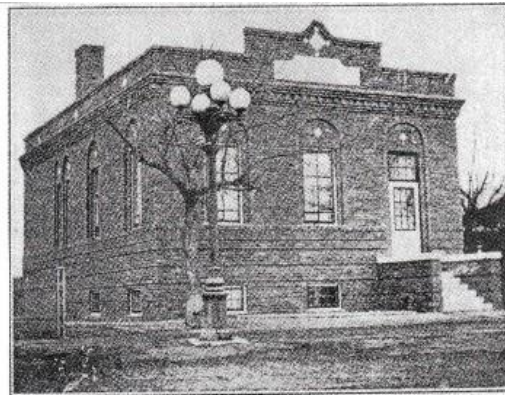
As hard as it is to believe, there was not always a telephone. In 1901 the long-distance telephone lines reached Souris. By 1904 all the poles, had been erected for the local exchange and wires were being strung and connected. By August 1904 there were 58 local subscribers. In 1911 Bell Telephone purchased Mr. J. Nation's house and the service was located there until 1928. At that time a new building was built on Crescent Avenue and remained there until 1976. For those too young to remember, the Telephone Office had Operators who personally connected your call to the person you were calling. As well, there were "party lines", meaning more than one household on one line. When you picked up your receiver to ring the Operator you had to first make sure that the line was not "busy". How far the service has come today!! In 1976, Bill and Sheila Kirkup purchased the Telephone Office for their business. Today, this is the home of Keystone Investments.

### *27 Crescent Avenue*

*Manitoba Telephone located here in 1928*



*1989 - occupied by Kirkup Agencies - Bill, Sheila and Dwight Kirkup.*



*Kirkup Agencies first occupied this building in 1976*