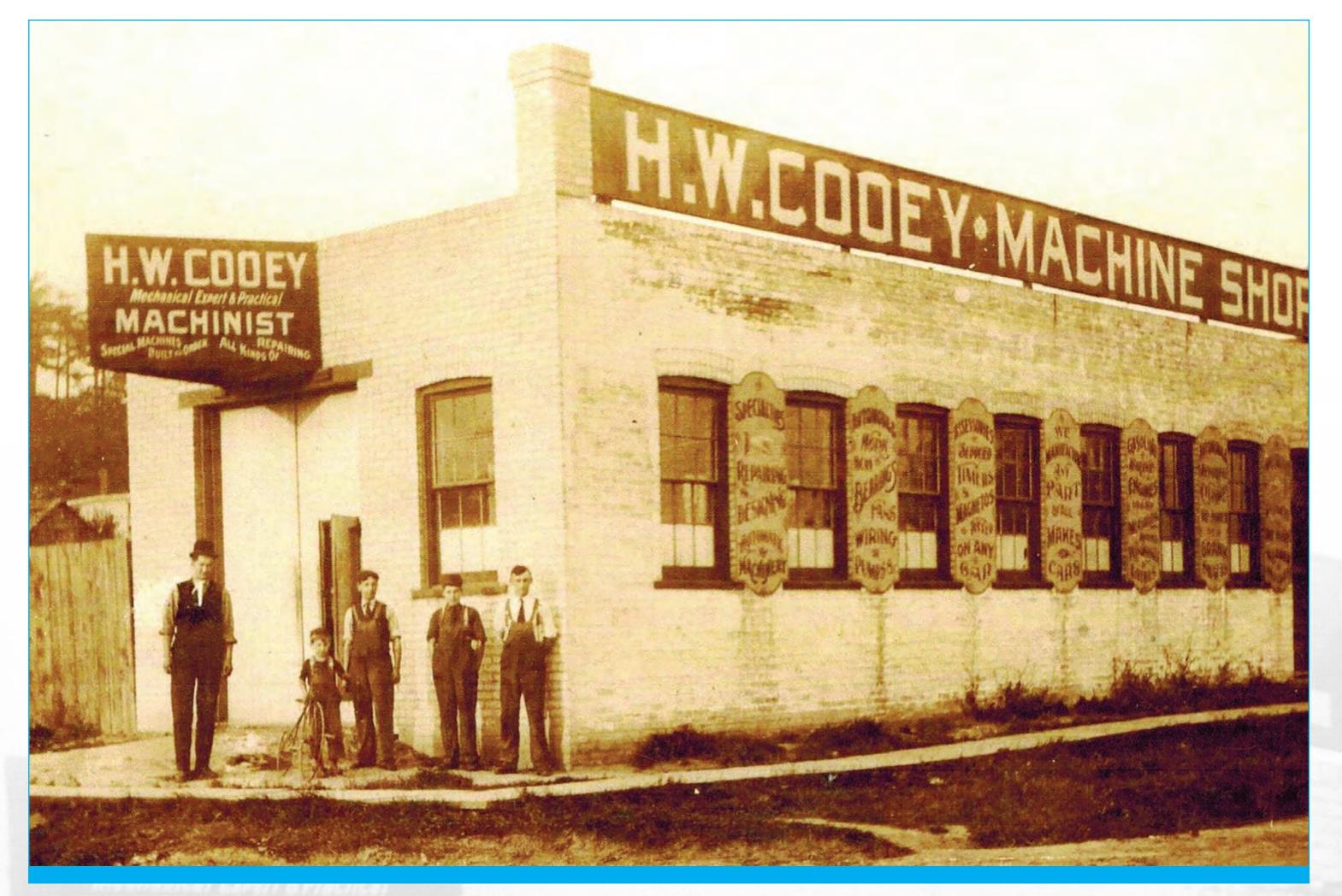
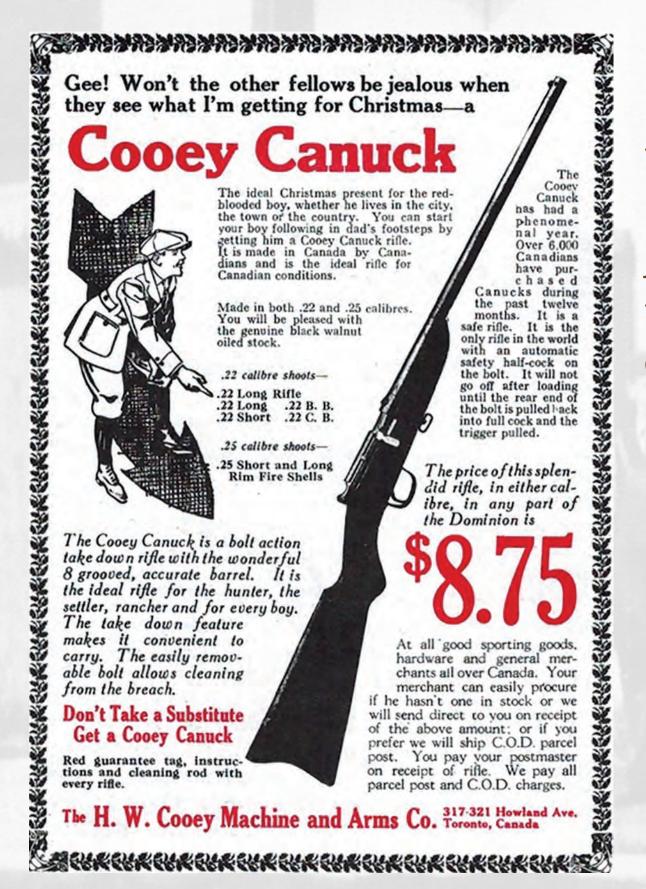
THE COOEY COMPANY



Back in Toronto in 1903, Herbert was confident enough to branch out on his own as a "Mechanical Expert and Practicing Machinist", opening a shop on the south-east corner of Queen & Spadina. His skills as a machinist and inventor brought business growth and a move to larger quarters. **WWI brought government contracts**, including one for folding peep sights for Ross rifles.

This move to weapons design fitted well with Herbert's personal interests as he was a skilled shooter. Following the war the company produced his design of the Canadian Canuck, the first of a long line of rifles and shotguns.

A new story in the saga of the Tremaine Street factories began with arrival of the famous **H.W. Cooey Machine and Arms Co.** in 1929. That story lasted until 1970 when the whole operation, by then known as Winchester-Western (Canada) Ltd., moved to new premises on Brook Road North.



H. W. (Herbert William) Cooey was born in Toronto in 1881 and at 15 began a three year apprenticeship with the Grand Trunk Railroad. However, before completing it he left to join his brother in Cleveland. There he got a job on an assembly line, a job he found so dehumanizing that it **influenced the way he organized his own employees many years later**. In 1924 the Cooey rifles exhibit was awarded a **gold medal and certificate of honour at the British Empire Exhibition in Wembley, England**. In the same year, Herbert was a member of the Canadian trapshooting team that won a

silver medal at the 1924 Olympics in France.

A 1922 Cooey advertisement boasted that "**over 6,000 Canadians have purchased Canucks** during the past twelve months"; the T. Eaton Co. Ltd. had a special "Eatonia" brand made, and soon serious expansion was required.



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Herbert William Cooey Toronto Gun Club, March 2, 1920

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