



**DISSTON DIVISION** of H. K. Porter produces all types of saws. Mario Baginski (left) and Lloyd Streets (in the flowered apron) handle back saws. (Staff Photo)



**BILL PENDLETON** shows off one of the larger circular saw blades produced by Disston. (Staff Photo)



## DISSTON 1904-1968 and Still Growing

The Disston Division of H. K. Porter Company (Canada) Limited came to Acton in 1957. It was formerly known as the Henry Disston Company and had been located in Toronto since 1904.

Two extensions have been made to the main plant in Acton. First was the processing and shipping facilities for the Refractories Division. In November of 1963 the temporary premises of the Thermoid Division was moved to the new 12,000 square foot addition on the Disston property.

Disston has a branch plant in Vancouver, British Columbia, sales offices and warehouses in major centres across Canada and the British Commonwealth.

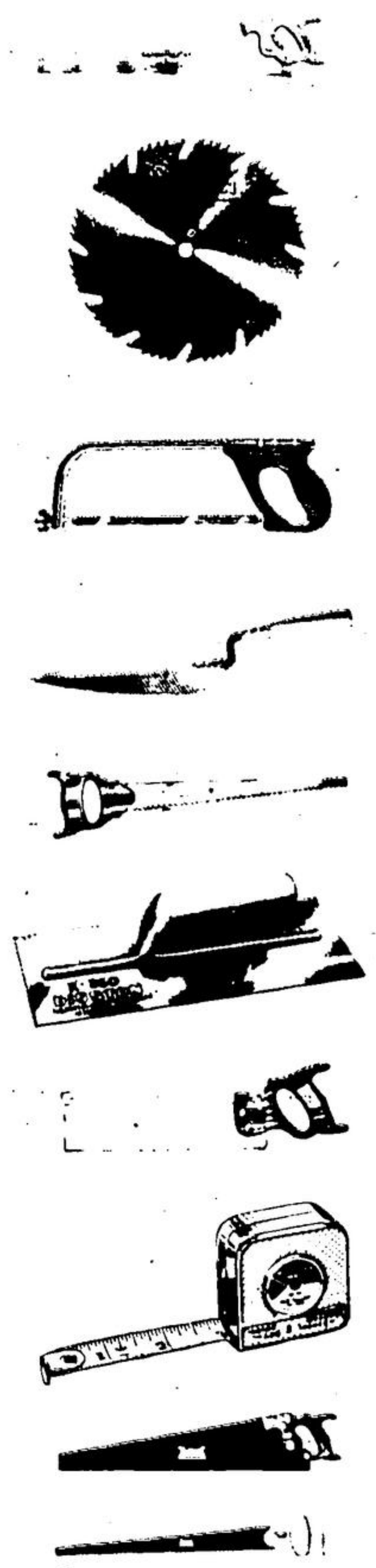
Disston produces all types of handsaws, circular saws; hacksaw frames and blades; industrial saw blades for wood, metal and other materials, machine knives and cutterheads; trowels for cementing, plastering and masonry; steel tape rules and power rewind rules.

Refractories produces high heat insulating brick and mortars for the steel and foundry industry.

Thermoid produces brakes linings, clutch facings, electrical vinyl insulating tape and radiator hose.

These three divisions in Acton are members of the H. K. Porter Company (Canada) Limited industrial family serving Canada.

Disston introduced Teflon coated handsaws, pruning saws and circular saws in February, 1968, another first for Disston. This industrial quality of teflon coating to saw blades provides easier, cleaner, smoother cutting of even green or wet wood.



# DISSTON

**PORTER** DISSTON DIVISION  
H. K. PORTER COMPANY (CANADA) LIMITED

ACTON ONTARIO Phone 853-2120

INSIGHT



ACTON

H. K. Porter

## Markets across Commonwealth



**PETER BINNIE 'PULLS'** while John Hartlan 'dips' in front of the giant heat treating oven at H. K. Porter. Hand saw blades are placed for a special hardening process. (Staff Photo)



**CHARLES MAITLAND** (left) and William Hucuk produce metal plaster trowels with the giant machinery in H. K. Porter's Disston division. (Staff Photo)

H. K. Porter (Canada) Limited came to Acton in 1957, for a number of reasons. They needed spacious, modern facilities on a major trucking line, and they wanted to be relatively close to metropolitan Toronto.

The American owned company is one of 65 branches around the world. According to plant manager Tom Shields, "We are basically a Canadian operated company with as much autonomy as any of the branches in the U.S."

The plant houses three major sections under the one roof.

The Disston Division produces all types of saw blades for wood, metal and other material, hand saws and circular saws, machine knives, cutterheads, trowels for cementing, and steel tape rules.

From the Thermoid Division comes brake linings, clutch facings, electrical vinyl insulating tape and radiator hoses.

In the Refractory Division, the plant produces high heat insulating, brick and mortars for the steel and foundry industry.

The machinery and atmosphere of the different sections of the plant are as varied as the goods produced.

A huge heat treating oven with temperatures up to 1500 degrees heats saw blades to a glowing red. Employees then remove them from the oven with tongs and set them in vats for cooling. The process hardens the blades for heavy use.

Cutting the saw blades, particularly the round type, requires the steady hands of a craftsman to guide the grinding machines.

Finished products are packaged in the factory for shipment. There are 125 employees presently on staff.

The products of H. K. Porter are shipped out by local trucks to markets all across Canada, and to members of the Commonwealth such as the United Kingdom, New Zealand, South Africa and Jamaica.