

INSIGHT



ACTON

Acton Box Co.

Doubled output since last year

Using assembly line techniques which have doubled output since 1967, Acton Box Co. is now producing at two locations.

Pallets, skids, shipping boxes and crates and any type of box used for shipping are being turned out not only at the original

location at the end of Acton on No. 7 Highway but also at new headquarters in the town of Acton on No. 25 Highway.

Peak season is the fall of the year and early winter, but the plants keep busy all year.

Most of the Acton industries and business places use Acton Box Co. crates to ship their products as well as industries in Guelph, Toronto, Kitchener and surrounding area. That calls for a variety of construction.

Frank Unterhahrer purchased the company in 1967 from Gordon Ralston who started the business on a part time basis several years ago. Demand for products soon outstripped available time and it turned into a full time venture.

Sixteen men and one woman are employed now in the two plants.

Born in Switzerland, Mr. Unter-

hahrer came to Canada after the second world war. He worked with the General Electric engineering department in Guelph before purchasing the box company.

Mr. Unterhahrer never regretted moving to Canada although he had a tough row to hoe in his first few years. He and his wife live on Mowbray Place here. They find Acton people "very friendly" and the town a pleasant place to live.

"Opportunities are here for anyone who wants to use them," Mr. Unterhahrer maintained both about the country and the town and district. The couple live near Acton on the Blue Springs Lane for 15 years before moving to Guelph for a short period. They see the town and district expanding rapidly in the next few years and are happy to be part of the growth.



FORKLIFTS ARE USED to load stacks of skids onto trucks for shipment to industry. Acton Box has doubled its output in the last year. (Staff Photo)



LUMBER AT ACTON BOX is carefully cut and of various sizes used in industrial shipping. Planned to be constructed into wooden crates. (Staff Photo)

The average Actonian...

The average wage earner in Acton will probably live here and be employed in one of the 22 industries. He probably owns his own home or is buying it. Most of his shopping will be done in Acton; some will be done

in neighboring cities and towns. There are also many wage earners who work in other places and commute to and from their homes here. Rapid subdivision development in the last few years has added many commuters.

The average wage earner in Acton probably takes home between \$80 and \$100 a week. Those who work out of town will most likely be better paid than those employed in Acton.

Those who commute in most cases use the automobile as their primary mode of travel to jobs. Passenger train service is available and Gray Coach Lines travel between most of the important points.

The average Actonian has all the services most urban communities in Canada have. His children will likely go to school in Acton, both public and high. Some will go on to university but most of those who go on to higher education will likely pursue it in the community colleges or trade schools.

Universities or community colleges are only a few miles away. There is little class distinction in Acton. Most people are in the same circumstances financially and the disparity in wages between those who work in and outside the town is balanced by commuting costs.

An acute housing shortage made worse by the reluctance of the mortgage companies to release money in 1968 has prevented many people from establishing homes in the town and district.

Signs at this writing point to a relaxation in tight money restrictions and it is quite likely there will be plenty of housing within the next few months. Unfortunately, much of this will be beyond the reach of the average wage earner.

However, the Ontario Housing Commission has made plans for low rental housing units to be erected in Acton as well as units for senior citizens. This also could help solve the housing shortage and provide shelter for those in the low income brackets who cannot afford subdivision houses.

The population of Acton rapidly approaching the 5,000 mark, projection is that it will reach 7,000 within the next five years. Important factors which could influence the course of Acton's development in the next few years? The extension of the government sponsored Go Transit system which is presently under study; also expansion of highways in the Acton area.

Plans are already afoot to rebuild No. 7 highway between Acton and Georgetown but it is quite possible further highway development will influence development in the area.

Planning will also have a profound effect on the future of the town and district. Much of the responsibility for Acton's growth will depend on the foresight of local and regional governments and the decisions they make.



NEWSPAPERS ARE PRODUCED on this Goss Community web offset press at Dills Printing and Publishing Co. plant in Acton. The 22 foot long, 10 ton machine rolls off a 12 page section at the rate of 12,000 per hour. Several newspapers, including The Acton Free Press, are printed at the plant which is set up to produce almost any type of commercial printing in addition to newspaper production. Pressman Will McLachlan prints an edition here while Dorothy Rogivaldson, Oral Horton and Ed Marshall take the papers away. (Staff Photo)



THIS HEIDELBERG PLATEN press, operated by John Cunningham, is capable of doing all types of commercial printing for business or personal use. It is one of several presses in the Dills Printing and Publishing plant producing quality printing.



AUDREY LAWRENCE operates a typewriter which reproduces the typed copy into lines which are the exact width they will appear in the paper. (Staff Photo)

PRINTING & PUBLISHING COMPANY LIMITED

From the concept to the printed piece Dills Printing and Publishing can assist you in obtaining quality printing. A full time artist, and complete design and production facilities in either letterpress or offset lithography, assure economical production consistent with quality.

- Complete newspaper production by the most modern offset methods.
- Snap-out, multi-part business forms
- Posters and tickets
- Brochures
- Editorial services
- Multi-color labels and packaging components
- Invoices, statements and bills
- Plastic spiral bound books
- Beef cattle pedigree books
- Die cut machine billings
- Books and programmes

59 WILLOW ST. N.
ACTON, ONT.
853-2010

The Acton Box Manufacturing Co.

MANUFACTURERS OF:

WOOD BOXES
CRATES
PALLET
BASES FOR ELECTRICAL
APPLIANCES

R.R. 4, Acton - Hwy. No. 7 East - 853-1641