



ATTRACTION for the almost 200 shoe superintendents and foremen who visited Beardmore's plant recently was the large variety of leathers made in Acton. New machinery which does away with the old laborious methods of making leather is another drawing card. Here some inspect products ready to be shipped.



TWO BOILERS generating 85,000 pounds of steam per hour are regulated from the huge boiler room. Oil fired, they consume from 5,000 to 8,000 gallons per day. An unusual sight through the sky light is the huge smoke stack, 140 ft. high, built in 1904 at a cost of \$3,500. Today it would cost \$50,000 to replace it. (Staff Photo)



BEARDMORE AND COMPANY takes pride in their attractive main entrance. Pinkerton Security Guard Frank H. Miller says he clears from 50 to 75 employees and visitors to the plant each day. (Staff Photo)



RECENTLY, THE BEARDMORE and Co. plant was visited by shoe superintendents and foremen from all over Ontario and parts of Quebec. Third visit of the shoe specialists, they were again taken on guided tours of the plant in groups of 20. Here they register prior to the tour on the plant's beautiful grounds.

New machines modernize Beardmore plant . . .

tanning. The entire tanning operation is completed in eight huge drums which Beardmore's pioneered and today is widely copied.

Chrome leather is also sorted, split, shaved and colored in the chrome department with shaving being done on new wide (50 inch) shaving machines which have speeded up production.

In the Pasting Unit leather is slicked out to get maximum footage and smoothness and then dried. Pride of the department is the new "Charvo" vacuum dryer which dries in approximately five minutes. One of the most modern concepts in drying the machine takes totally wet leather at a speed of 25-30 sides an hour. Motors for the dryer which

sets the company back \$35,000 a unit are made in Guelph and shipped to Grenoble, France, and return as part of the machine. Automatic staking machines are rapidly replacing the old Slocumb model on which a skilled operator could do only 50 sides an hour. The Schlageter, for instance, made in Germany does 175 sides an hour. It includes

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an automatic positioning appendage which builds loads on a horse. Approximately \$120,000 has been spent to purchase new equipment in this department. The new machines are part of management's resolve to keep production costs minimal while maintaining the high standard by which Beardmore leather is known around the globe.

A well-equipped laboratory which controls and analyzes the quality of the leather produced and develops new products is another fundamental part of the Beardmore secret.

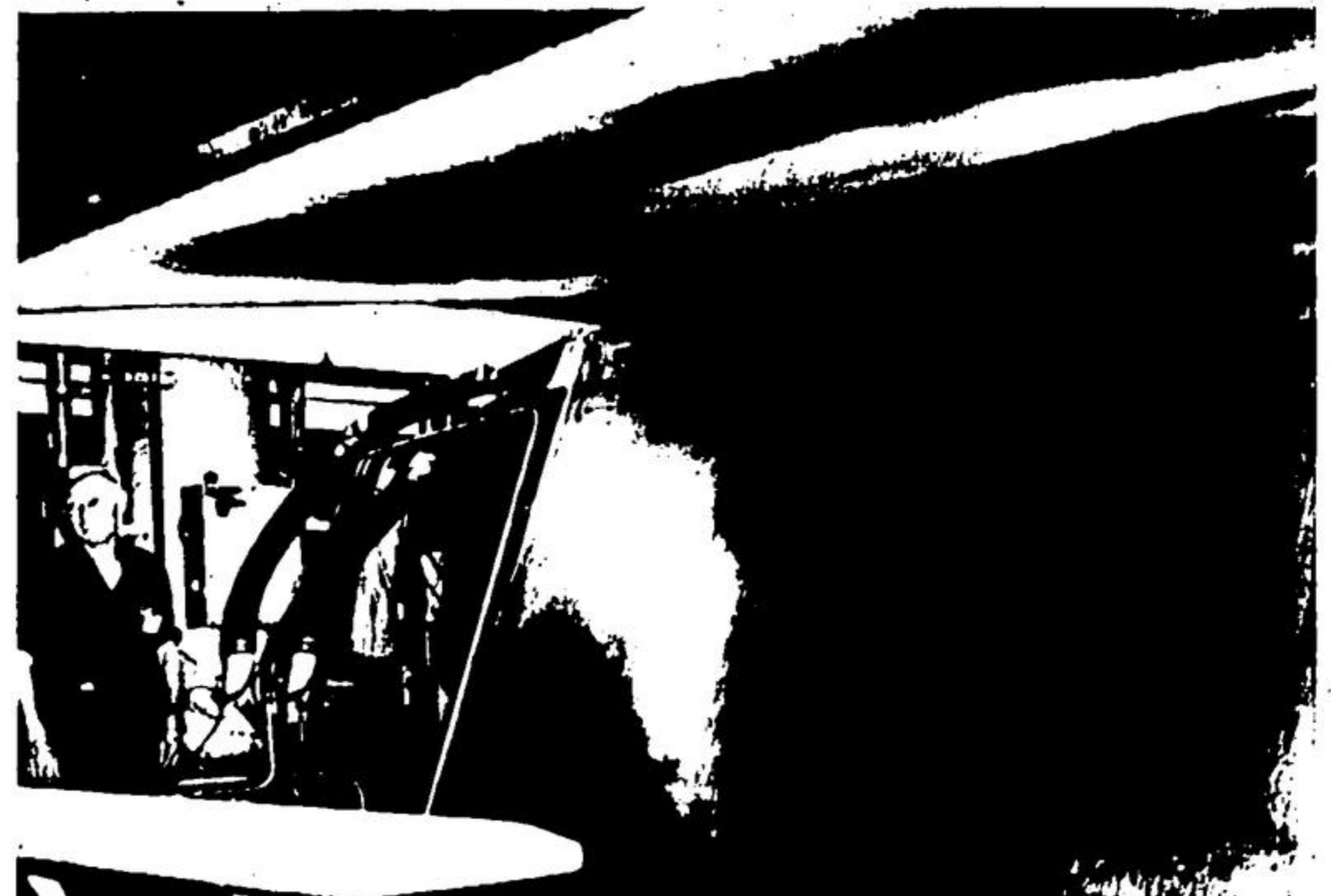
Specialty leather finishes, antique type finishes, colors of every hue are produced in Acton.

Enough wetting is produced each month to stretch to Toronto and back.

The company also produces transmission belting. The largest belt ever manufactured here was four feet wide, 135 feet long, three ply thickness. It required 200 bits.

Power for the huge Beardmore complex comes from two boilers with rated horsepower of 830 when combined. They consume from 5,000 to 8,000 gallons of oil per day.

Changing with the times the Beardmore plant is likely to be a leading Acton industry for many years to come.



ONE OF THE MOST MODERN concepts in drying, the "Charvo" vacuum dryer takes totally wet leather and dries it in approximately five minutes. Beardmore foreman Stan Collett demonstrates the huge \$35,000 machine for The True Press camera. (Staff Photo)



Beardmore & Co. Limited

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