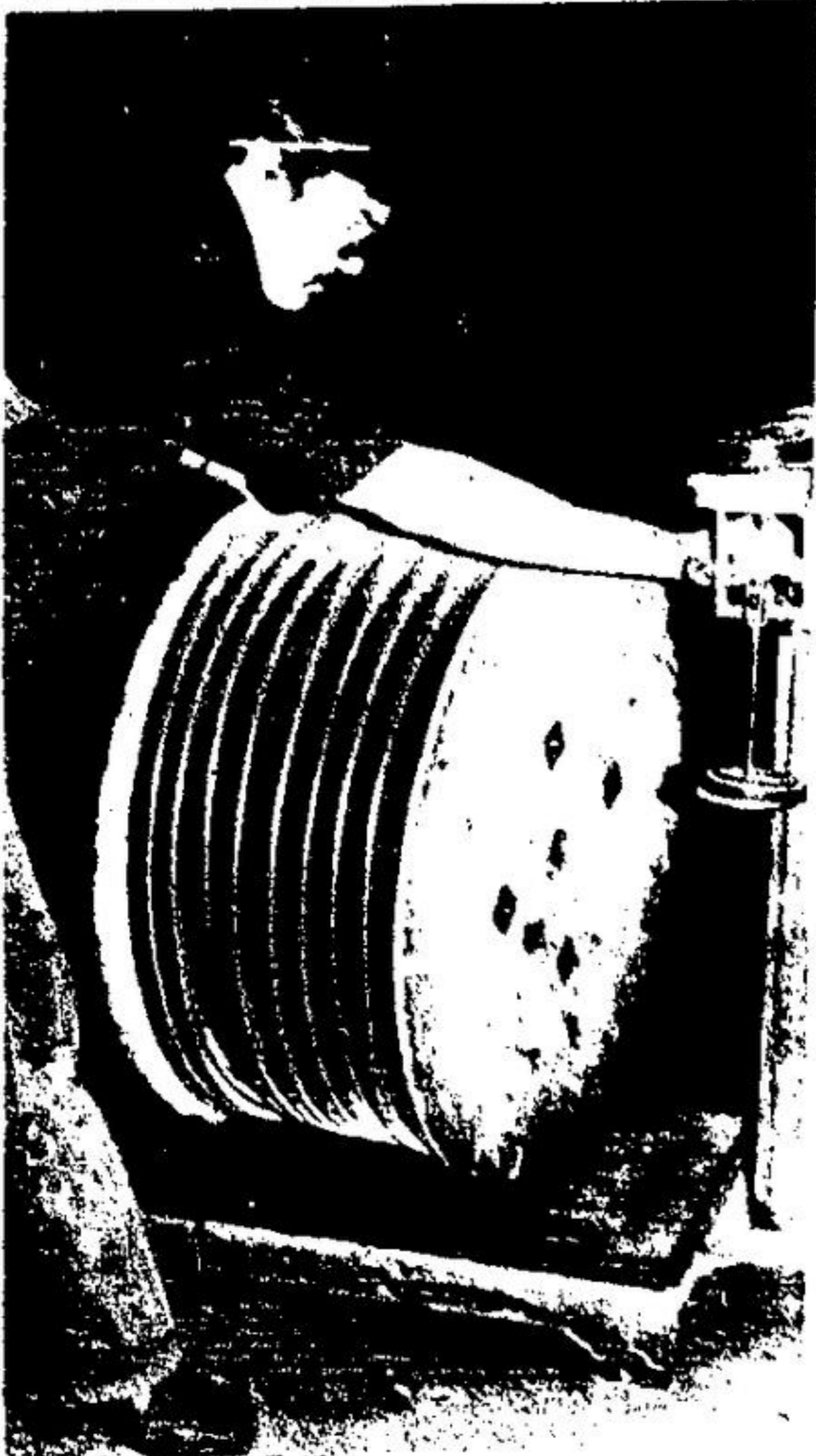


Plastoflex products are recognized across Canada



PETER STEWART of Acton is seen checking weight and measurement of one of the standard hose items. Plastoflex Industries is one of approximately six similar hose manufacturing in Canada.

A company which began originally as a side-line has, 12 years later, developed into a highly competitive plastics business with sales volume stretching across Canada. The sign on Highway 7, west of Acton, reads Plastoflex Industries.

Jean Marcoux of Acton was the originator of the company. He had started a chicken business on a one-acre lot just down the road from the present building. It was begun as an income-supplementing secondary employment which grew to the point of requiring three buildings.

From eggs to plastics! The bottom fell out of the egg business in 1963. With a friend, Harry Van Der Heyden, Mr. Marcoux decided to go into the plastic business. With the purchase of one extruder, plus Harry's know-how in the field of plastics, they set up shop in one of the three buildings. This Ontario Plastics was born.

Mostly the business was a custom one, such as supplying orders of window spline (gasketing material used as a seal for draft protection on aluminum windows), and furniture trim for binding around edges of furniture. Lawn chair webbing in tube form was the company's greatest output. Company statistics show Ontario Plastics was moving on a steady level with good sales growth from '63 to '71.

On Jan. 1, 1972 two more men moved into the enterprise. Dan Van Poucke and Ian Somers bought 50 per cent of Ontario Plastics at which time a subsidiary company

came into being. It was named Plastoflex Industries and specializes in the manufacture of hose and tubes for industrial and automotive use.

Progress Today the amazing little company has moved ahead. Mr. Somers, sales manager of Plastoflex, says that since 1973 sales have been phenomenal, showing a ten-fold increase over Ontario Plastics. Where Ontario Plastics operated as a supply company for custom jobs, Plastoflex Industries has created a chain of distributors which carry their products across Canada. Products are manufactured, warehoused and catalogued right in the local plant.

"Target of our company is to penetrate the rubber hose market," says Mr. Somers. Plastoflex manufacturers are producing a range of hoses being accepted in industrial, automotive and agricultural areas which formerly used rubber. As well as the heavier-type hoses, Plastoflex manufactures air hoses, water hoses, chemical, beverage hoses, and other types of tubing and products for special application.

New site From the original "egg-producing" site, Ontario

Plastics was moved to ten acres located on the same roadway closer to Highway 7. A new steel building was erected which encompassed 5,000 square feet. Since incorporation with Plastoflex an addition was required to accommodate the cataloging and warehouse needs of the second company.

Last December Mr. Marcoux decided to voluntarily retire. He had served as president of the amalgamated company since its inception in 1972 but decided to plant his interests in other fields. New president of Plastoflex Industries is Mr. Van Poucke. Mr. Somers is vice president and sales manager. Mr. Van Der Heyden is plant manager in charge of production. The three partners look ahead to even greater sales volume in '75.

Employees According to Mr. Somers, the two companies employ approximately 20 employees steadily, including office staff. At peak production times as many as 30 are required. Plastoflex Limited is now taking on more help.

In the plant raw resin can be seen being extruded through mammoth machines as tubing for hoses or flat webbing for lawn chairs. The hoses are covered with a supporting fibre-webbing material, followed by a heavier rubber-appearing plastic top.

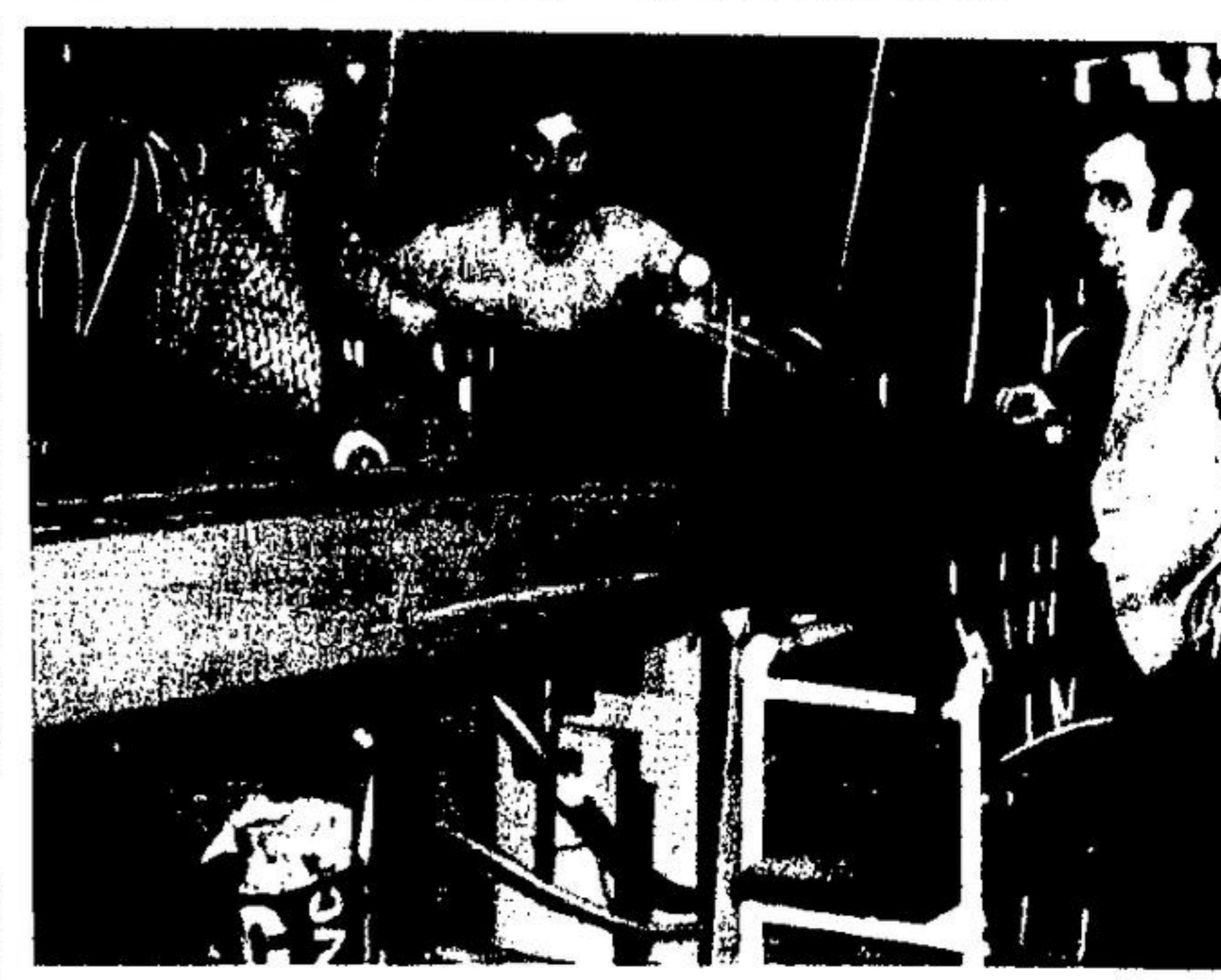
The original company, Ontario Plastics continues as a supplier for custom products. Plastoflex Industries encourages catalogue and store inventory sales. This year the company intends sending sales repre-

sentatives on a selling safari in other provinces. Wide range Mr. Somers explains that thermoplastics is a highly technological field. The company wants to be identified with its wide use and range of hoses. "As well as manufacturing a line of hoses, there is a continuous development policy where extensive research is being conducted," he said.

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PRESIDENT OF Plastoflex Industries is Dan Van Poucke. He is seen with plant manager Harry Van Der Heyden and vice-president Ian Somers as they examine a supplementary unit used in the manufacturing process of hoses.

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The clergy speak out

More power to you! Mr. D. J. Sydney, Acton Baptist Church.

One of the most subtle reminders of the past is the sound of a bell tolling. It is a sound that comes from another time, another place, another world. Often only a faint echo of the gong and the clangor of the past, it is a sound that comes from the past, a sound that is a reminder of the past.

It is a sound that is a reminder of the past, a sound that is a reminder of the past. It is a sound that is a reminder of the past, a sound that is a reminder of the past.

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Industrial commission is supported, opposed

The question of establishing an industrial commission for the Region is before the Region's Administration and Finance Committee once again. While there is some support for the creation of such a department, there is also definite opposition to the proposition.

Oakville Councillor Carl Erikson reiterated his opposition to the commission. He argued there were several factors that encouraged or discouraged industry from setting up shop in any given area. He listed labor, proximity to raw materials and supplies, proximity to a market, good transportation and a favorable tax structure as factors that would be con-

Nixon to Liberal dance

Bob Nixon, leader of the Liberal party has accepted an invitation from dance chairperson, Mrs. Alice Walker, vice-president of the Halton East Provincial Liberal Association, to attend the Halton Liberal dance at the Credit Valley Club March 21.

All M.P. and M.P.P.s in the surrounding area will also be invited, including the ebullient Phil Givens, former Mayor of Toronto and back-bencher in the Liberal party.

Mrs. Walker and Frank Allen, executive vice president of the Halton East Provincial Liberal Association attended the Liberal Party Convention in Windsor last week-end as official delegates, as part of a 22 member delegation from Halton and Halton East.

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WOLF CUBS DISPLAY in a local store window are part of the Acton groups' participation in Scout and Guide Week across Canada. A makeshift fireplace, flags, uniforms and a wolf hide made up the display.

December chilly

Elections should be held in better weather than usually prevails in December, according to Councillor Ern Hyde, who balked at a Markham resolution to that effect being received and filed.

He said it was worthy of consideration. He said the present system goes back 100 years, and should be updated. "That's back when it was warm in December," quipped Councillor Ric Morrow.

Mayor Tom Hill said the fiscal year would end December 31, and the new council would not take over until January 1.

Hyde claimed the election date could be October 1 as the Markham resolution stated, and the year could end October 31.

Council sent the resolution back to the finance committee, with only the members of that committee opposing the move.

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