

Machines are George Cozen's business

By BENDUMMETT
The Herald

Need a machine? Need it fast? Who are you going to call? George Cozens.

George Cozens, along with a silent partner and Mr. Cozens' son Chris, run the custom machine shop, Cozens Machine and Tool Works Limited at 33 Armstrong Avenue in Georgetown.

If a customer wants a machine that's unavailable on the market, the person will come to us and we'll custom design it, said Mr. Cozens.

Mr. Cozens has designed machines to make paper bags, pillow cases, and heavy duty socks. Heavy duty socks, except for the toe, are put together outside in.

But the toe is sewn together from the inside out. Mr. Cozen came up with a machine that turned the socks inside out so the toe could be sewn.

"Anything is possible," Mr. Cozens says. Most of his business comes from in and around Georgetown, but he has also made machines for customers as far away as Newfoundland and Vancouver, B.C.

Mr. Cozens also turns inventor's ideas into a reality. He recently designed a piece of equipment that is attached to a computer terminal. But understandably, he didn't want to reveal more than that about the new product.

Mr. Cozens also builds standard type parts and offers a welding service.

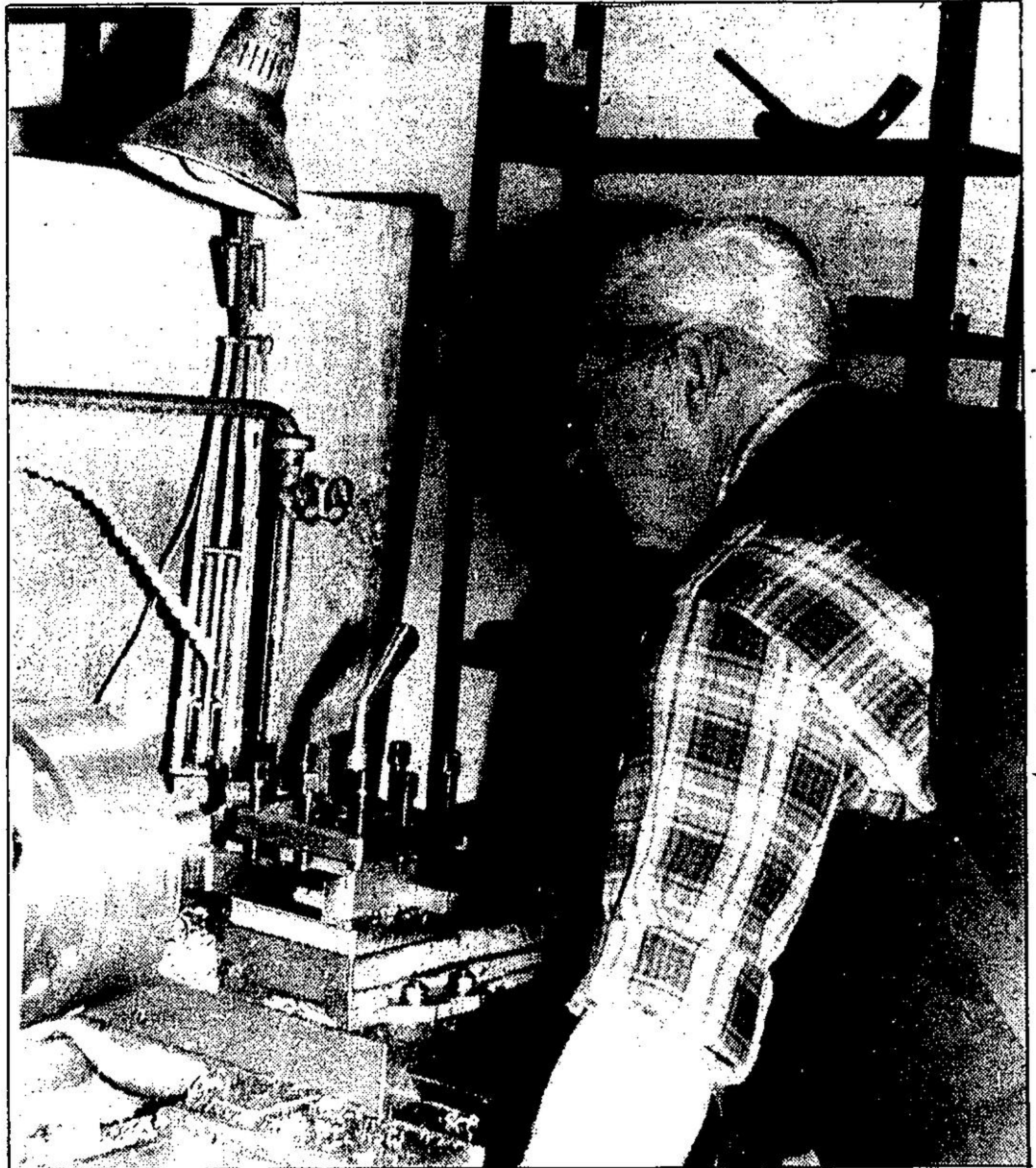
He has operated the business for the last 15 years and during that time Mr. Cozens has made machines ranging in size from the very small to 80 feet long.

Right now the company is extremely busy. But Mr. Cozens said if the need for the right machine comes along the business is set to expand.

The situation was not always this good, Mr. Cozens said. Two years ago a Canadian company had contracted the machine shop to mass produce a machine. Mr. Cozens invested \$80,000 in equipment to do the job. But then an American company bought out the Canadian company and transferred the business to the United States. "We were left high and dry. So much for free trade," added Mr. Cozens.

But having overcome this loss of business, Mr. Cozens is doing everything possible to ensure the company maintains its current prosperity into the future. He son Chris is currently taking a computer training course. The equipment used at the machine shop to build a machine is becoming more computerized, he said. "You have to move with the times or you'll be left behind."

Regardless of the new technology to be successful in this business, the hands on experience is necessary, said Mr. Cozens. It's one thing to operate a computerized machine but it's an entirely different thing to know how to design and assemble a machine, said Mr. Cozens. He relies on his 30 years of experience in designing machines to accomplish this difficult task.



George Cozens of Cozens Machine and Tool Works Limited in Georgetown backs his claim "anything is possible" with 30 years of experience designing and building customized machines. (Herald Photo)



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