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Diversity aids exports of Canadian machinery and equipment

The diversity and proven capability of the Canadian machinery industry has helped achieve growth in production as a result of sales both in the domestic and export markets.

The "machinery sector" in Canada consists of some 2 000 companies, fulfilling the demands of the nation's resource, processing, manufacturing and service industries. The expertise gained in meeting the domestic demands has resulted in increased shipments of machinery and equipment to world markets.

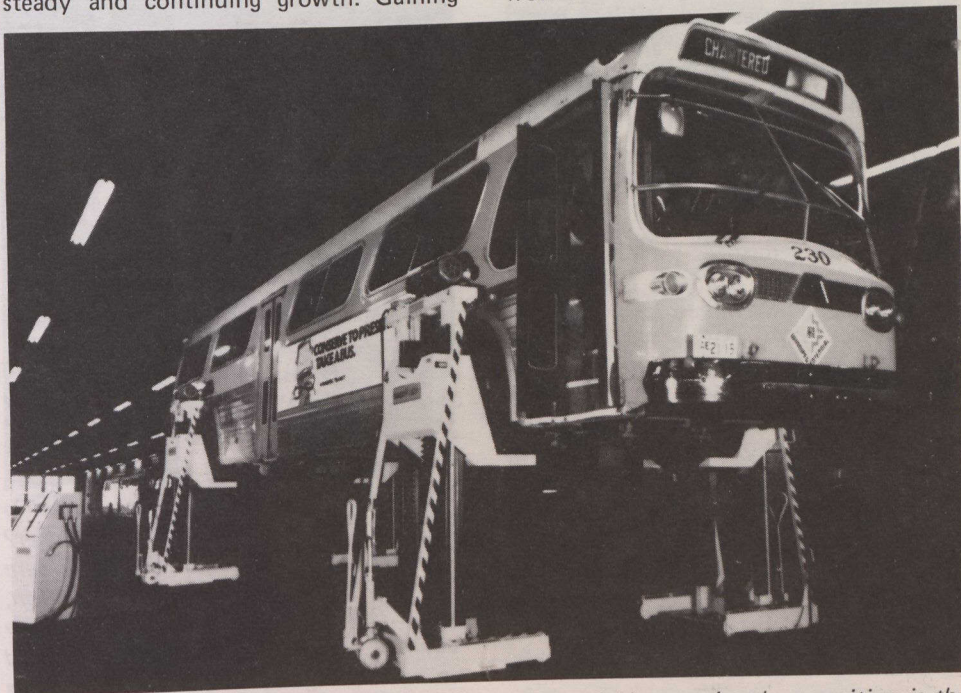
At present there are about 140 000 men and women employed in the industry, with companies ranging from small firms with fewer than 100 workers, to major firms that rank with the industrial leaders in Canada.

The pattern of the industry is one of steady and continuing growth. Gaining

its strength as a result of Canada's war efforts in the 1940s and the resulting need to rebuild European production capabilities, the industry had maintained Second World War and post-war momentum during the ensuing years but, like most industries the past couple of years, has been affected by the world-wide economic downturn.

In 1938, domestic machinery shipments totalled only \$60 million; by 1950 shipments had increased to some \$460 million; and by 1981 production of Canadian machinery and equipment had reached an estimated volume of \$10.8 billion.

Between 1965 and 1980 machinery industry production increased from \$1.8 billion to \$9.7 billion, a real average growth of close to 5 per cent a year. Export trade has been the fastest growing component of this production increasing from \$400 million to \$4.3 billion or 9 per



A new vehicle servicing facility that continues to gain international recognition is the Transpo-Lift system designed and manufactured by a firm in Winnipeg, Manitoba. More than 200 units are now operating in North and South America. The system is designed to facilitate the repair or maintenance of any vehicle chassis and eliminate the need for below-floor pits or fixed vehicle lifts.



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