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DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIAL MACHINE
TOOLS IN ARGENTINA ✓

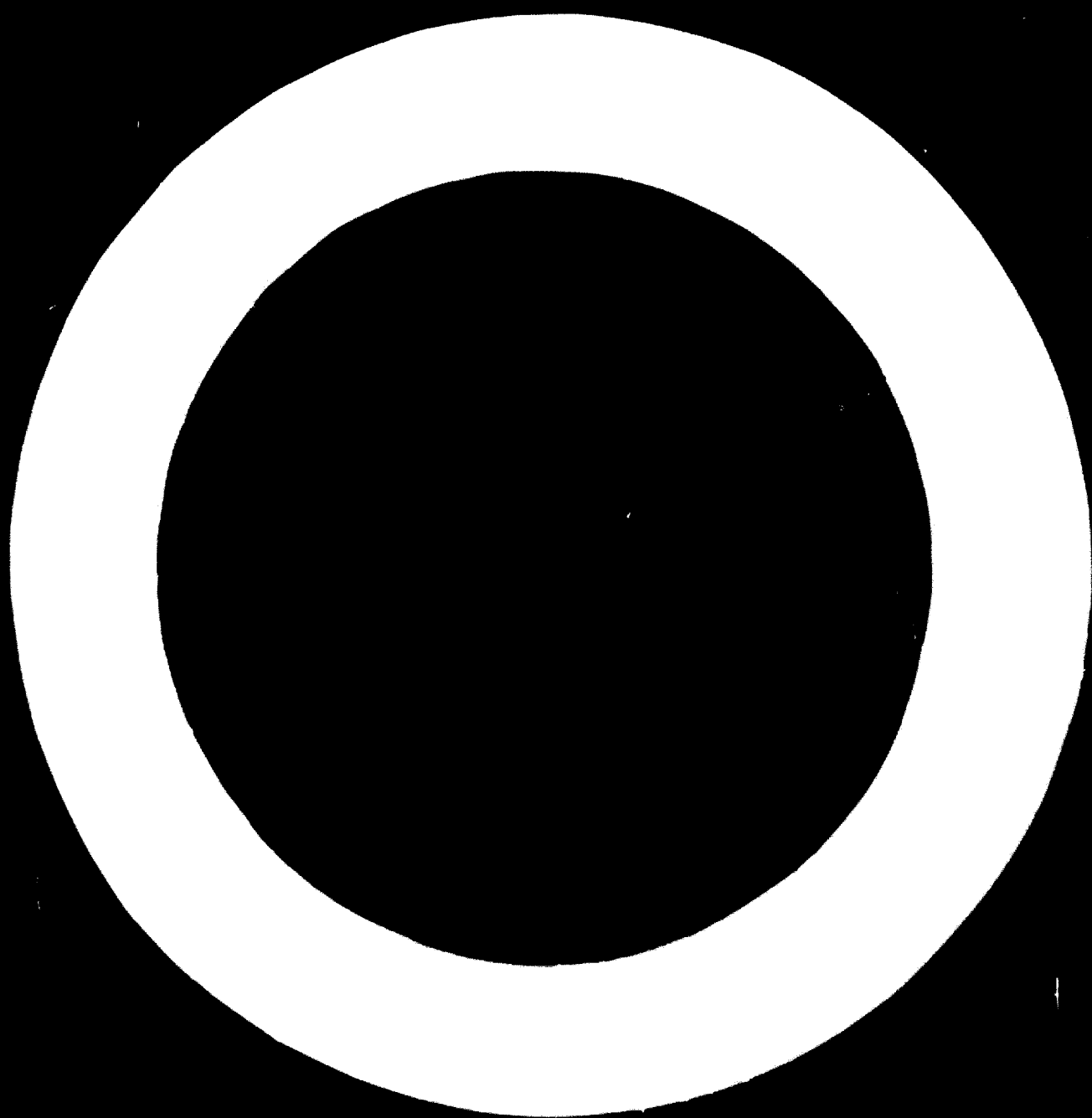
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DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIAL MACHINE TOOLS

IN ARGENTINA

At the beginning of the 1950s, a positive trend was to be observed in the development of Argentine machine tool production, due to a large extent to various measures taken by the Government to promote and stimulate this sector. This trend became firmly established from 1960 onwards as plans for the manufacture of engines and motor vehicles, were put into effect.

The growing need for supplies of capital goods for these sectors of production and the ancillary industries led to a pronounced expansion in the manufacture of machine tools of the universal type and, subsequently, of special and producer machine tools. Negotiations led to various licensing agreements and the provision of technical assistance by firms with experience at the international level, making possible the accelerated development of the sector and its effective participation in meeting the needs of users.

The first enterprise which set up installations in Argentina with the prime object of manufacturing special producer machine tools was Berardi Argentina S.A., which began industrial operations in 1960, originally bringing licences, technology and experience from Berardi S.p.A. of Brescia, Italy. Later, in spite of the serious difficulties which it had to face in the period of recession from 1963 to 1966, it increased its industrial potential with a licence and technology from Renault Machines Outils of France, a firm whose competence and international reputation there is no need to stress.

The possibilities of the enterprise in question thus became almost unlimited, as is shown by the large number of its products currently in operation in various plants producing cars, engines, tractors, domestic electrical appliances, etc.

Among other noteworthy developments, special mention should be made of the co-operation taking place with the firm Roberto Bosch of Argentina, which manufactures injection pumps for diesel engines, a highly delicate and complex product.

Roberto Bosch has made available to Berardi Argentina S.A. all its know-how and experience in this field - plans, specifications and particular characteristics for a set of special machines for the machining of various components of injection pumps. The production of such a set of machines is now fully under way.

Four smaller firms in Argentina are engaged in similar activities at the present time: Automación Micromecánica S.A., Metalúrgica Donna y Cía., Metalúrgica Losino S.C.A. and Transfer Argentina S.R.L. These enterprises, within the limits of their possibilities, are contributing towards meeting the requirements of users in various branches.

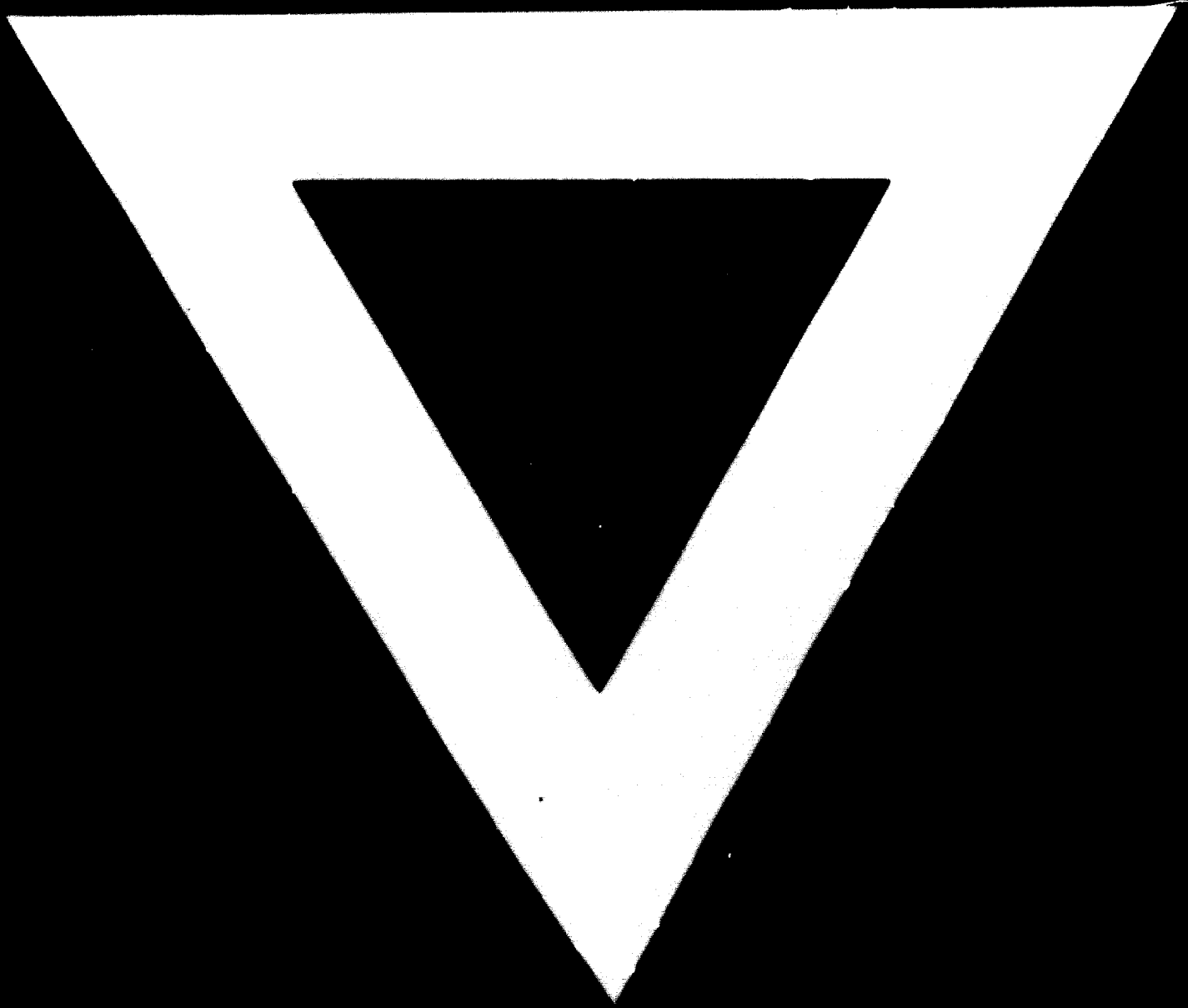
It is beyond question that Argentine industry is now in a position to supply special machine tools - whether for the domestic market or for export - under identical conditions in regard to quality and efficiency with those offered on the international market. It possesses the necessary infrastructure and specialized personnel for this purpose.

A very important point should be mentioned in this regard: the development of this sector has led to a need for technical personnel trained at various levels to fill the posts of responsibility in the operating enterprises, a circumstance which is reflected in the steady flow of young people to the specialized centres for technical studies.

In addition, an appreciable number of enterprises are making a continuing contribution in this regard, supplementing the efforts of the State in regard to the improvement and expansion of technical education for the rising generations, a factor of vital importance in enabling industrial development to proceed effectively and efficiently.

At the more general level, attention should be drawn to the great importance for the country of the development of the production of special machines, both socially and economically. The production of such machinery - and its consequent utilization by manufacturers - has a positive multiplier effect, increasing general welfare by making possible a reduction of costs as a result of a greater degree of automatic operation in manufacturing processes. This in turn permits salary improvements and an increase in the purchasing power of the population. The general demand for goods is thereby augmented, providing in turn a continuing stimulus to the productive sectors, a phenomenon which repeats itself and results ultimately in an appreciable improvement in average living levels, thus contributing towards strengthening social peace and creating a favourable economic climate.





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