Ottawa Personalities

Well known business people who share in and contribute to the growth and development of our city

MR. BOB-RAY DAVIS

A native of Montreal and branch manager of Planned Investments Corporation, Bob-Ray Davis, at 31, is well established in the world of finance in Ottawa. He majored in economics at Cornell University in New York State, graduating with a B.S. degree in Hotel Administration, was drafted into the U.S. Army, serving for two years in Korea and Japan.

While auditor and assistant manager for a resort hotel in Florida, Mr. Davis met his wife and they now have one small daughter. In October 1962, Mr. Davis came to Ottawa to open the local branch of P.I.C. at 88 Metcalfe Street. He had joined the Montreal Head Office in 1960 and became group supervisor the following year. He is a member of the Seigniory Club, the Ottawa Board of Trade, Carleton Golf and Yacht Club and attends St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church.

Planned Investments Corporation is an independent distributor of mutual fund shares. The first's object is to provide an unequalled service through employing well informed specialists able to apply knowledge and concern to each individual investor's interests. Personal financial planning is stressed at P.I.C. before proceeding to mutual investment programs. With the aid of a number of investment privileges and options Planned Investments are able to embrace to advantage all phases pertaining to the wise investor's requirements.

Among the funds sponsored by the corporation are the Canada Growth Fund, (for which Vance Sanders Company of Canada act as investment advisor) the Canadian Security Fund and the Putnam Growth Fund.

CONRAD BELISLE

Amongst the prominent citizens of Ottawa, Mr. Conrad Belisle, President of Belisle Automobiles Ltd., Chevrolet, Oldsmobile dealer, holds a choice spot.

Mr. Conrad Belisle is continuing a family tradition and through his constant efforts succeeded in building up one of the largest franchised dealerships in the Ottawa Valley.

In 1949, he completed with great success the Post Graduate School of Modern Merchandising and Management course for dealers conducted by General Motors in Detroit. He is a Director of St. Louis Marie de Montfort Hospital, a member of the Rivermead Golf Club, an active participant in the National Council of General Motors Dealers in Detroit, a member of L'Institut Canadien Francais and the Seigniory Club. Mr. Belisle is also affiliated with numerous other associations and is really an asset to our community.

We salute him as a pioneer of the automobile industry and a most successful businessman.

MR. ROBERT. W. RUNGE

Robert W. Runge is Vice-President and General Manager of the Runge Press Limited, 124 Queen Street. His mother, Mrs. Fred W. Runge is president, but takes no part in the business. The Runge Press is one of the oldest Ottawa concerns, having been established by Robert's father, the late Mr. Fred Runge in 1912. The business was operating then as the Modern Press, with premises at 78 O'Connor Street. In 1927 the existing firm was incorporated into The Runge Press Limited. The business operates as General Printers, doing extensive lithography as well as maintaining a large letterpress plant. In the business with Mr. Runge are his brothers, Herbert, treasurer, and Frederick, Sales Manager. Mr. Donald Runge of Pembroke is a director. The company at present employs 120 persons.

Visitors and customers calling in at The Runge Press offices will notice with interest an extremely old and beautifully constructed model of a steamship displayed. This is an authentic model of the Royal William, first steamship in history to cross the Atlantic entirely travelling by steam. The journey was made in 1833 and the original plans of this model are now treasured by a Chicago Museum. The ship is featured on all The Runge Press stationery.

Mr. Robert Runge was born and educated in Ottawa. He is a member of the Ottawa Rotary Club, a member of the Board of Trade, the Royal Ottawa Golf Club, the Laurentian Club, the Rideau Curling Club, the Coulonge Fish and Game Club and the Rivermead Golf Club.

JERRY BROWSKY

Jerry Browsky is the owner-operator of Budget Rent-A-Car of Ottawa, Kent and Somerset. He moved to Ottawa in September, 1964, from Winnipeg where he attended United College and articled as a chartered accountant.

Two years ago Jerry and several of his friends became interested in Budget Rent-A-Car because of its new concepts and merchandising in the rent-a-car industry. The idea that a discount price could be given to a renter while the cars available for rent were the same or better than Budget's competitors was revolutionary. Jerry and his associates decided to get in on the ground floor by opening Budget Rent-A-Car of Winnipeg in November 1963 and Budget Rent-A-Car of Ottawa in November 1964.

By Jerry's coming to Ottawa to become a resident it showed his confidence in the growth of Budget Rent-A-Car and the potential of Ottawa. Today Budget Rent-A-Car is world wide and in Canada, is Canadian owned and operated.

Jerry Browsky is a member of the Ottawa Board of Trade, is 26, and single.

MR. SAUL GOLDFARB

Mr. Goldfarb was born in Warsaw, Poland. His family moved to Canada when he was 10 years of age and settled in Montreal.

During his early years Saul Goldfarb was an amateur and semi-professional in various sporting activities in and around Montreal. He excelled at Baseball, Basketball and Hockey and entered into many skiing competitions and jumping events. Also for many years he has studied voice and sang with opera companies for 10 years.

Mr. Goldfarb attended school in Montreal and after finishing his education at McGill University, joined the R.C.A.F. in 1941. He received his pilot's wings at RCAF Uplands and served until the war's end.

In 1945 he married the former Edna Brunberg and became associated with his father-in-law, Albert Brunberg, in Albert's Men's Shops. He purchased the business outright in 1954. Under Saul Goldfarb's guidance, Albert's Men's Shops Ltd. has expanded and modernized. The main store at 74 Rideau Street was enlarged and completely renovated in 1962 and subsequently three more retail stores were opened. Today this business, which takes great pride in a reputation for quality and style, is regarded as one of the most efficient and progressive men's shops in North America.

Saul Goldfarb is a prominent yachtsman. He is a popular figure in yachting circles both in Canada and the U.S.A. He is also a member of Rideauview Golf Club.

Mr. and Mrs. Goldfarb have three sons all attending schools in Ottawa: David, 17, Howard, 14 and Stanley, 8.

DOUGLAS C. NETTLETON

The firm of Nettleton's Jewellery Limited was established across the street from their present location by the late Mr. George G. Nettleton in 1917, moving to their present convenient location at 108 Bank Street in 1922.

Keeping pace with the ever-changing face of the thriving business community of Bank Street the store was completely renovated and enlarged in 1952. Through the years it has become a family institution for quality products, friendly service and an insistence on the highest axioms of integrity. Nettleton's skilled watch repair experts are inspectors for C.N.R. and C.P.R. watches.

Gracing the tables of Ottawa and district homes are world famous names in glassware, silverware, and fine English bone chinaware from Nettleton's. A complete selection of diamonds, watches and jewellery are always on display. Douglas C. Nettleton was born in Ottawa, attended Glebe Collegiate and Albert College. Entering the firm on the death of his father, Mr. Nettleton is now secretary-treasurer and manager.

Mr. Nettleton is a director of the Canadian Jewellers Association, a member of the Ottawa Board of Trade and is a member of St. Martin's Anglican Church.

He is married to the former Rosemary Booth of Ottawa, and has three boys attending D. Roy Kennedy Public School.

GORDON H. JOHNSON

The modern showrooms and up to date service department of Gordon Johnson Motor Sales Limited reflects the planning and foresightedness of its owner and the staff of auto sales and service specialists. Established at the present location at 1159 Bank Street the firm has earned an enviable reputation as a franchised Chrysler products dealer. Their modernly equipped service department provides the utmost in every phase of auto service and repair.

"Gordie" Johnson as he is known by his many friends is an avid hockey enthusiast, and a staunch supporter of minor hockey in Ottawa. It is Mr. Johnson's fervent hope to see an adequate sports arena built in the nation's capital and at some future date see the formation of a national hockey league team to represent this city.

With Ralph Backstrom, Montreal Canadiens star, Mr. Johnson is a partner in Holiday Lodge, a favourite sportsman's paradise eight miles from Notre Dame de la Salette.

DAVID R. NESBITT

David R. Nesbitt was born and educated in Ottawa and attended Albert College in Belleville, Ontario and Eastern Institute of Technology in Ottawa.

David joined Nesbitt Engineering in 1962. He has recently been appointed Vice President of this firm. With his father, Kenneth Neil Nesbitt, he is helping to maintain the high standard of service that has earned this company an enviable reputation in the industry they serve.

Mr. Nesbitt Sr., established a one-man shop known as Nesbitt Machine Shop in 1944. The ensuing years witnessed a vast expansion in the development of the business which continually necessitated the purchase of additional, modern equipment in order to maintain adequate service and facilities.

In the modernly equipped plant, 14 competent, trained craftsmen provide the ultimate in service in every phase of general machine shop work.

Incorporated in 1954 the reputation of Nesbitt Engineering Limited for quality workmanship has won for them important and complex engineering contracts. The firm provides service for many of the most modern and high-speed elevators operating in the largest departmental stores and modern office buildings in the city.

Complete machine shop welding and metallizing services are provided in maintaining all types of printing equipment, heavy and intricate earth moving, hoisting and building equipment for many outstanding contractors and leading machinery dealers.

David Nesbitt is a member and is active in the board of stewards of Bell Street United Church. He is an avid water skier, and boat enthusiast, and is also interested in drag racing. He is a keen supporter of football and hockey and a participant in broomball.

One In a Series of Pages Featuring Ottawa Personalities in the Business Community of our City