



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Today, the Lannings of Belleville own the three-storeyed brick building at 257 Coleman St. It was built by William B. Deacon, founder of Deacon Shirt Company, after fire destroyed the company's operations in 1911. When this company moved to the Front Street site, north-east of Victoria Avenue, the American Optical company moved in in 1924 and stayed in the building for 25 years before moving on to the 87,000 sq ft building on Bridge Street West in 1949. That same year the new owner, G.T. Lanning Ltd., took over the building.