

# Kellaway Stores

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were cut from slabs depending on customer request.

"We used to cut cheese with wire. That was the only way we could cut it properly. They were about hundred pounds heavy and they came in round boxes. You then cut it with wire for the customers. It was as smooth as silk," recalls Don.

Another popular product sold in the store was a household disinfecting solution called javel water and Don says that people regularly brought in their containers to get it.

As the Second World War came around, the effect of Canada's involvement in the war effort was thrust on the community of Belleville just like everywhere else across the country.

"During the war, everything was rationed and that included butter, tea, coffee and meat. If you didn't have the coupons, you didn't get them. There was no lard or shortening because it was in short supply. If you wanted toothpaste, you'd have to bring in your old tube because tubes were made of lead and that was needed for the war effort," he says.

Don is openly proud of the success of his parents, which he put it down to their strong business sense and hard work.

"They were good and honest people. They believed in themselves and made it through all those years, through good times and the bad."

Don Kellaway and his wife rebuilt the store after the fire in 1959 and attempted to carry on his father's business until the early '60s. He gave up the business when he was offered a financially more secure future in the form of a federal government position.

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The last of the Kellaway chain of stores was located on 20 Bridge St. W., Belleville. It was destroyed by fire in 1959.

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