

## **The S. Rae Hickok Belt and Browncroft**

S. Rae Hickok lived at 185 Dorchester Road. In 1919, Stephen Rae Hickok and family moved into their new Browncroft home on the SW corner of Yarmouth and Dorchester from Sherwood Avenue. Mr. Hickok was the founder (1909) and President of the Hickok Manufacturing Co. maker of upscale belts, buckles, garters, and braces. Mr. Hickok was born in 1883 in Pittsford and in 1909 bought a small jewelry plating business for \$350.00.

His sons Raymond and Alan created the S. Rae Hickok Belt awarded to the Top Professional Athlete of the Year from 1950-1971 at the Rochester Press-Radio Club charity dinner. Raymond inherited the company presidency at the age of 27 from his father in 1945 and served until the company was sold to Tandy Co. in 1971.

Raymond was a great-great nephew of the legendary Wild Bill Hickok. Raymond developed prototypes of safety belts, which ultimately became standard automobile equipment. Raymond also was appointed by Sec. John Foster Dulles as Chairman of the US Committee for the UN in 1956.

Raymond died in Sept 1992. Alan passed away this year in January 2010.

- RFG, October 2010