

Heywood Boot & Shoe Company

The business now known as the Heywood Boot & Shoe Company was commenced in 1864 in Lincoln Square by Mr. S. R. Heywood of the firm of Houghton & Heywood, composed of C. C. Houghton and S. R. Heywood. After two years Mr. Heywood purchased the whole business, and from that time to this



Samuel R. Heywood

has been a dominant figure in the boot and shoe industry in Worcester. From 1867 to 1873 the business was carried on by Mr. S. R. Heywood alone. The firm was known as S. R. Heywood & Company from 1873 to 1883, Oscar Phillips being associated with Mr. Heywood. In 1883 Mr. Frank E. Heywood, who graduated from Harvard in 1882, was taken into partnership, and he continued in the concern until 1899, when he died at age of thirty-nine, having done a great deal to establish and develop the business.

In 1884 the business was incorporated as the Heywood Boot & Shoe Company, with S. R. Heywood, president; Frank E. Heywood, vice-president, and Oscar Phillips, treasurer. These officers continued until 1889, when Mr. Phillips withdrew and Mr. Frank E. Heywood was made treasurer as well as vice-president.

In 1899, when Mr. Frank E. Heywood died, Albert S. Heywood, his brother and another son, was made vice-president and treasurer in his place, B. S. Newell being assistant treasurer. These with Mr. S. R. Heywood are still the officers.

Mr. Albert S. Heywood is a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the class of 1892, and was connected with the General Electric Company for eight years. Mr. Newell, who acts as superintendent of the company, has been connected with it for twenty-two years.

At the beginning Mr. Heywood, senior, made boots, but for many years the principal product of the concern has been a high grade of men's shoes, with the Heywood special shoe for women forming an important part of the output.

The concern was originally located in Lincoln Square, but in 1867 it was removed to 562 Main Street, Franklin Square, where it stayed until 1880, when the growth of the business rendered it imperative that larger and more modern quarters should be secured. The present plant on Winter Street was erected in answer to this demand, but in 1905 this was outgrown and a large addition erected, followed in 1907 by a still larger extension. The building now occupied by the company is 360 feet frontage on Winter and Harding Streets, five stories high, of brick, and embraces about 60,000 feet of floor space. The output at the beginning was about 300 pairs of boots a day; at the present time the concern makes over 1500 pairs of shoes a day, and it not only has a large trade in America, but the Heywood shoe is also known in Cuba, Great Britain, the Argentine, Australia and the Hawaiian Islands. Mr. S. R. Heywood, the president of this company, is still, after more than fifty years' active connection with the boot and shoe industry, as keenly alive to its development and growth as any of his competitors. He is one of the oldest shoe manufacturers, both in point of years and continuous service, in the United States.

Mr. Albert S. Heywood, his son, who is the general manager of the concern, takes a pardonable pride in producing a shoe which, after forty-five years of continuous marketing, has not depreciated a particle, and, on the contrary, reaches and satisfies and pleases a larger, more intelligent and more fastidious constituency to-day than ever before in almost half a century of its business existence.



HEYWOOD BOOT & SHOE COMPANY PLANT.