

## **Herman and Oleta Abbe**

Herman B. and Oleta Abbe came to Morton in 1935. They were the parents of two sons, Mitchell Lee and Charles. They farmed north of Morton and their boys attended Morton Schools.

Herman was a very good friend of Roy Hickman; he helped organize the Morton Fat Stock Show and helped with 4-H. Herman was an Elder in the Church of Christ and worked hard to help build the new church building after World War II.

Herman and Glenn Thompson worked long and hard to help get the new hospital built in Morton. Herman was the first President of the Board for the West Plains Hospital and Clinic. He and Glenn drove far and near hunting the first Doctor for the Hospital. They located Dr. Wendell S. Dove in El Paso, Texas and got him to come to Morton. They furnished their own expenses for these services.

The Abbes' were one of the first farm families to get electricity from REA out of Muleshoe. Herman served as a director on the REA Board. Herman helped to organize one of the first Co-op Gins in this area; the gin is still operating at Maple, Texas. He was the first President of the Gin Board. Both of his sons have served as directors on the board. He and Oleta enjoyed going fishing with Clyde and Lulu Reynolds and spent many vacations together.

Herman developed cancer of the mouth in 1947, and went to Missouri and Dallas for treatment. Oleta was killed in an auto accident on March 11, 1953, near Hale Center, Texas.

Later Herman married Grace Carter and they and Glenn Thompson ran a grocery store at Maple, Texas. Herman later bought out Glenn, and ran the store until his death in 1958. He and Oleta are buried in Morton Cemetery.

They had eight grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren. Mitchell married Berta Brown of Morton and Charles married Berta Jean Richardson from Maple, Texas.

Herman's parents, John Mitchell and Bernice Holt Abbe moved to Cochran County in 1938. They were retired farmers. They were the parents of four children: Herman B. Abbe, Floy (Mrs. Haskell Kirby), Mamie (Mrs. Cecil Williams), and John Abbe. They had eighteen grandchildren.

*Submitted by Berta Abbe*

*Source: Cochran County Legacy Published 1986 by the Cochran County Historical Commission.*