

Ray Hugh Garvey

1893 - 1959



Mr. Garvey was born near Phillipsburg, Kansas in 1893. He received a law degree from Washburn University at Topeka in 1915 and returned to his native area in northwest Kansas where he was elected county attorney of Thomas County.

With a \$500 investment in a Colby, Kansas real estate firm, Mr. Garvey began a business career that made his name legendary in Kansas financial circles. His enterprises included farming, ranching, oil production and construction.

After moving to Wichita in 1928, Mr. Garvey established an investment company that handles loans totaling \$20 million; organized a construction company which has built as many as 500 houses a year; and developed major Wichita shopping centers.

Mr. Garvey was the Founder and Chairman of Garvey Drilling & Petroleum, Inc. It was a domestic oil and gas exploration/production company located in Wichita, Kansas from 1948-1959. He owned and operated more drilling rigs than any person in Kansas and his drilling company had 17 rigs, drilling about 300 wells a

year. One of his most striking ventures was his C-G-F grain elevator at the southwest edge of the city. It had a capacity of almost 40 million bushels and is believed to be the largest in the world at its time.

Mr. Garvey was a member of Plymouth Church, Chamber of Commerce, YMCA and many civic clubs.

SOURCE: The Wichita Eagle. July 4, 1959.