

## **John W. McClure**

### **1874 - 1945**



John William McClure, automobile dealer, financier and stockman, was born on October 23, 1874, at Cameron, Missouri, and has lived all of his life in Kansas.

At the time of his birth his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. McClure, owned a 160-acre homestead in Towanda Township, Butler County, but, their resources limited because of the grasshopper plague of 1874, were forced to go to Cameron for a year to enable the father to earn a new "nest egg" by teaching school. When their son was six months old they returned to their Butler County home and made of it a successful farm.

Young John William McClure spent his early years as a farm boy, attended public school in Towanda Township. Mr. McClure married Miss Icy May Hess on January 26, 1896. Until 1913 he was a successful farmer, moving them to El Dorado, where he entered the automobile business. In 1921 he built the McClure Motor Company, housing garage and sales departments, at 318-326 South Main Street. He was the authorized Ford dealer for the El Dorado territory. Together with John Braden, they formed the Braden and McClure Oil Company in Great Bend with headquarters at the Stamey Hotel at Hutchinson, Kansas. He was the president of

the Mid-Continent Building and Loan Company of El Dorado, a director of the Citizens State Bank, and one of the best liked and most dependable citizens of Butler County.

SOURCE: <http://genealogytrails.com/kan/butler/eightymcclure-john.html>