



Floyd C. Dodson
1895 - 1949
Inducted 1975

As a boy living near Paint Rock, Texas, Floyd Dodson lost one of his arms in a hunting accident, but it never slowed him down. He attended the University of Texas at Austin and, in 1920, earned his degree in geology. During his summers in college, he worked on mapping parties with the U.S. Geological Survey in West Texas and southeastern New Mexico. After graduation, Dodson entered the oil business. This was three years before the Santa Rita No. 1 blew in and very few wells had been drilled in the Permian Basin. Nonetheless, Dodson applied his experience with the mapping parties and studied the geology of Reagan County and adjoining counties. He became confident in the potential for oil and gas in the area. He then met attorney Rupert Ricker and together they acquired leases in the southern part of West Texas, concentrating on Crockett and Pecos counties. They also participated in early leasing in the Yates Field and the McCamey Field. Dodson and Ricker's firm became one of the largest and most active in the Basin, representing ten large companies and performing studies in fourteen Permian Basin counties.