

Dr. Cyrus and Monta Mallette

Dr. Cyrus and Monta Mallette were citizens of Crocker, Missouri, for many years. Cyrus was born in Washington County, Indiana, in 1882. Mrs. Mallette was born near Swedeborg, Missouri, in 1898.

At the age of nine, Cyrus was brought to southwest Missouri by his parents. His father homesteaded land in the area almost destroyed by the New Madrid earthquake. Early in life, Cyrus learned the meaning of poverty and an honest day's work for an honest day's pay.

During his teenage years, he worked as a day laborer on farms and in lumber camps. In his early teens, he received a certificate to teach and became a teacher in rural schools of southeast Missouri for seven years. During his career as a teacher, he attended the Normal School at Cape Girardeau during the summer months. From there, he enrolled in the University of Louisville, graduating in 1909 with an M. D. degree.

Cyrus came to Bloodland in Pulaski County, Missouri, in 1910, where he met a daughter of Sam and Betty York, Monta. Cyrus and Monta were married,

and later moved to Crocker.

Dr. Mallette served two years in the Medical Corps of the U. S. Army. For two years, he and Monta lived in Mississippi while he performed military duty during World War I.

Monta had been a teacher in the Bloodland School, but never taught again after the couple moved to Crocker. She preferred to be a housewife, mother, and later a businesswoman.

In 1924, the doctor and his wife became the proud parents of Betty Lee Mallette. Nine years later, Joe Dean Thornberry came to live in their home.

Monta and Cyrus lived in Crocker the rest of their lives. He passed away in 1965. Monta continued to operate their drug store business, Corner Drug in Crocker.

Dr. and Monta enjoyed living in Crocker. The two of them were good citizens and active Christians as members of the First Baptist Church.

Monta passed away June 1, 1980, in her business establishment.

They especially enjoyed their ten grandchildren, and took great pride in their achievements.



Cyrus and Monta Mallette. Photo courtesy of Betty Sooter.



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