

Tape # 7

Mr. Clifford Dean & Wife Irmabell  
(Smith) Dean

Length: 50 min

"Santa Fe Railroad, Roosevelt County"

Interviewed by Mrs. Jean Burroughs  
August 7, 1972

- 006 Dec. 13, 1897: Clifford Roy Dean was born at Crandle, Texas
- 011 Jan. 1909: came to Roosevelt Co.; homesteaded 2½ mi. E. of Delphus
- 016 Parents: John E. Dean born Dec. 11, 1865  
Sarah Jane McClaron born April 6, 1857
- 027 1906: brother, Robert A. Dean, worked in Portales for Blakenship & Woodcock general mercantile business; later homesteaded in same section as father
- 038 Had 5 room house and good barn
- 048 Were farmers but had some cattle
- 052 Had water well; water was piped into the house
- 066 1901: oldest brother, Jay Porter Dean, worked for Citizens Bank; later went to work for Joyce Pruitts.
- 086-114 Water wells discussed
- 115 Water was shared
- 160 Seemed to have more snow, rain, and sand storms in the past.
- 184 First school he attended was Shelby - four and one half miles East of Delphus; names those that went to school and still live here.
- 200 1909: Miss Maud Land was first teacher; 1910: brother, Bob, taught.
- 209 1911: He came to Portales for school (Seventh grade); brother came as Superintendant of Public Schools
- 213 School building located where old L.L. Brown school is; building was two stories, made of concrete blocks, about twelve classrooms, no lights, and stove in each room.
- 245 Went to high school in same building; 24 in graduating class of 1917; first class to have cap and gowns; lists members in class, twenty girls and four boys.

- 284 July, 1917: After graduation, went to work for Santa Fe Railroad as a casheir; worked until June 15, 1966 when he retired.
- 301 Mentions immigrant cars on trains used for moving belongings; family usually came by passenger train.
- 348 1898: First railroad came up Pecos Valley through Roswell to here.
- 356 Later Santa Fe came form Amarillo through Clovis; also took over railroad from Roswell.
- 409 Most coal used was from Raton, New Mexico.
- 430 Coal house was filled and lasted through winter.
- 471 Last shipment of coal he could remember were by Mr. Slaten for the schools.
- 506 Shipping of cattle here discussed.
- 526 Cattle were kept at Yerba (?) before shipped.
- 554 Had bad drought around 1920
- 595 Mentions town band that would play at political gatherings around this part of state.
- 612 Senator Bratton and Carl Magee were two of his favorite speakers.
- 629 1907: Mrs. Dean's family came to Roswell from Matador, Texas.
- 631 Parents: Mrs. Maud Smith, father died when young.
- 644 Her name: Irmabell Smith Dean; two sisters: Irene Balas and Leta Smith of Portales; brother, C. Roy Smith of Clovis.
- 655 Grandparents: I.G. Trimbles, already lived here.
- 668 Mother took business course in Bowie, Texas, then founded Portales Abstract Co.
- 681 1917: She went to work with mother and worked until sold business to Smith-Wright in 1940.
- 685 She had all of schooling in Portales and graduated in 1916.
- 728 Mentions early oil filngs.
- 748 One of first oil wells drilled about 1920 by N.M. Oil Co., South of town; was capped.

829 Her mother's first records were received from Chaves Co.

(Side Two)

006 Other abstract businesses run by Booths, B.F. Cooks, Grahams, and Smith-Wright.

027 Abstracts is steady business because have to have abstract every time land is sold.