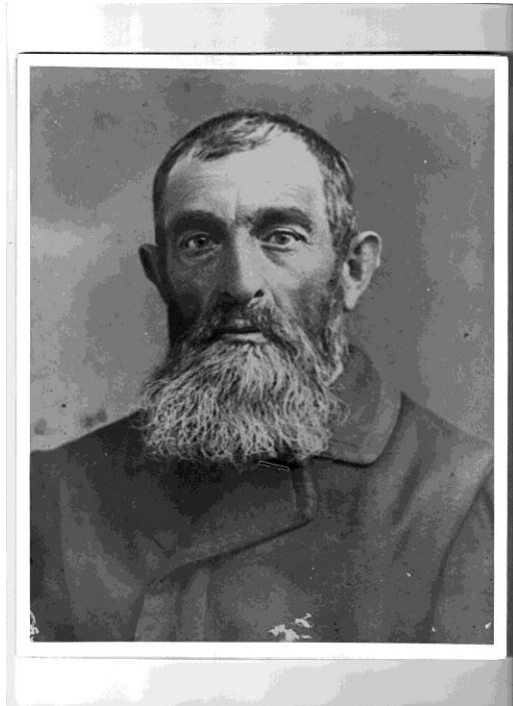




## Family Vodovoz (Arbit) from Akkerman, Bessarabia

Jeff Wexler, 2011, Los Angeles, CA



Akkerman,  
earlier  
20 century



Yonkel Velvel (Yakov Zev) Vodovoz,  
born Arbit (1856-1913)

Zlata Brucha Vodovoz (1860-1943)

In the late 1890s, Yonkel Velvel (Yakov Zev) and Zlata Brucha Vodovoz moved from Grigoriopol, Ukraine (near Tiraspol) to Akkerman. Yonkel's father was Davud Ber; according to family lore, Yonkel's surname was originally Arbit, but he purchased the surname Vodovoz to avoid service in the Tsar's army. Zlata Brucha was born in Grigoriopol to Fishel and Udel Chernetz.

Yonkel and Zlata Brucha had 14 children, only four of whom survived past childhood: (1) Chana (Anna) (1884-1968); (2) Mandel (Max) (1893-1964); (3) Chasa (Susie) (1896-1984); and (4) Leib (Louis) (1900-1966).

Chana and her husband Max Kelber (1882-1964) married in Akkerman and emigrated to the United States in 1906, settling in Ashley, North Dakota. In 1920 and 1921, Zlata Brucha, Mandel, Chasa, and Leib emigrated to the United States from Akkerman (at that time part of Romania and renamed Cetatea Alba) along with Chasa's husband Sander (Alexander) Abramovitz (1890-1971); they all settled in Minneapolis, Minnesota.