The temperature of milk, as it comes from the cow, is normally about 100°F. To prevent souring it must be cooled quickly. Farmers selling milk built tanks deep enough to bring cold water high on the cans. Water, as it comes from the ground, averages about 55 F. Often an extra well was dug which served the cooling tank in the milk house.

To keep the milk cool on the trip to the milk factory during hot weather the driver of the milk wagon covered the cans with a thick burlap blanket. This he'd wet in the cold water from the farmer's cooling tank. Conversely, during the winter the blanket was used to keep the milk from freezing. It was a hard way to make a living but people were accustomed to hard work, small pay and profit in those days.

The milk hauler also occasionally served as an errand boy and would make purchases for people on his route to be delivered on the return trip. To show appreciation the farmer's wife often had a hot cup of coffee and piece of cake waiting for him. He was also often the bearer of local news in those pre radio days.

Another local milk hauler was Clarence Taylor, whose pictures is on the right. He's taking milk to the creamery in Brighton which stood on N. First Street between Cedar and Chestnut. (Compiled by Marianna Bair. To be continued.)

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 481
BRIGHTON, MI 48116

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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DATES TO REMEMBER
*Jan. 15, 9-11 a.m. Archives Comm.
*Jan. 17, 7 p.m. Board Meeting
**Apr. 8-9: Local History Conf., Detroit.
**May 13: 2nd Annual Michigan One-Room School House Conf., Ionia.
**May 23-24: Michigan Archival Assoc., Mackinac Island.
*Old Town Hall, 202 W. Main. Members welcome.
**Contact Historical Society of Michigan, 2117 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor 48104.

BOARD MEETING DATES
CHANGED FOR 1994
Beginning January 17, the Board will be meeting on the third Mondays in 1994. Meetings will begin at 7 p.m., and will be held upstairs at the Old Town Hall, 202 W. Main. Members are welcome.

YOU ARE NEEDED
Your participation in society activities and events is of utmost importance. There are lots of jobs and opportunities listed on the membership form which are in need of warm bodies. Offer to chair or help in any way you can. Attend a board meeting to see where you might fit in if you wish.

A few ways to help:
serve as Membership Chairman;
serve as Publicity Person;
help prepare Trail Tales;
serve as Treasurer January/April;
donate old scrapbooks, diaries, photos, abstracts, journals;
donate a safe place to store the buggy;
contact Marianna Bair with information and/or corrections for the history page.

Brighton Area Preservation News
The purpose of the Brighton Area Historical Society is to preserve, advance and disseminate knowledge of the history of the Brighton Area.
The membership is composed of people who feel this purpose is worthwhile and should be promoted.