

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P O BOX 481
BRIGHTON MI 48116-0481

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #303
BRIGHTON, MI

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

AREA FARMS C. 1900

RESEARCH OF LOCAL FARMS AND FARMERS, LISTED IN THE BRIGHTON ARGUS, THEIR BACKGROUND AND LOCATION CONTINUES. JOHN TAYLOR'S OAKDALE FARM IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS ISSUE.

SINCE THE ARRIVAL IN THE AREA, IN 1857, OF JOHN L. SR. AND WIFE MAHALIA ROBERTS, THE TAYLOR NAME HAS BEEN WELL KNOWN AND RESPECTED. BOTH JOHN AND MAHALIA WERE BORN IN MICHIGAN WHICH SUGGESTS THEIR PARENTS CAME TO THIS STATE AT AN EARLIER DATE.

MAHALIA MUST HAVE BEEN A STURDY WOMAN TO COME WITH JOHN TO COMMENCE FARMING AT A TIME OF NATIONAL RECESSION. AMONG THE TEN CHILDREN BORN TO THEM FROM 1856 THRU 1877, IT APPEARS ALL, EXCEPT THE LAST, MIRTIE, LIVED INTO ADULthood. (HOWEVER, CORRA, THE EIGHTH, DIED AT 21.)

JOHN SR., WAS A FARMER AND DEALT IN STOCK. 1875 LIVINGSTON COUNTY BUSINESS NOTICES LIST HIM AS "ENGAGED IN GENERAL FARMING". (BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP, SEC. 10, E½ SE¼ 90 ACRES ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF HYNE ROAD.) BY 1895 HE HAS 120 ACRES IN SECTIONS 9 AND 10, ON MAXFIELD LAKE ROAD IN THE WOODRUFF CREEK WATERSHED; AN AREA ESPECIALLY SUITED FOR GENERAL FARMING.

SON, JOHN JR., WAS BORN IN 1867. AS WITH MOST OF HIS SIBLINGS JOHN (# 6) MARRIED A YOUNG WOMAN FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD. FLORA JACOBS BECAME HIS WIFE MARCH 12, 1896. BORN IN 1873 SHE WAS THE DAUGHTER OF CHARLES JACOBS WHO WAS BORN IN BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP IN 1846. JOHN AND FLORA HAD FOUR CHILDREN: CLARENCE, LILLIAN, RUTH AND MILDRED BELLE. AS THEIR PARENTS HAD DONE THE CHILDREN MARRIED LOCALLY.

C. 1900 JOHN L. JR., IS THE OWNER OF OAKDALE FARM, CONSISTING OF 40 ACRES IN SECTION 19, BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP. GRAND RIVER ROAD RUNS THRU THE MIDDLE, WHERE HILTON ROAD JOINS. NEARBY, ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF HILTON THERE ARE ANOTHER 80 ACRES THROUGH WHICH ORE CREEK FLOWS. THIS IS JUST EAST OF AN 80 HIS FATHER-IN-LAW OWNS. (THIS IS BEFORE THE FORMATION OF WOODLAND LAKE.)

THERE ARE STILL MANY DESCENDANTS OF JOHN SR., AND MAHALIA IN THE AREA. BECAUSE OF THIS TREPIDATION IS FELT BUT WE HAVE MUSTERED COURAGE SUFFICIENT TO GIVE AN ACCOUNTING OF THE HISTORY OF THIS FARM. (COMPILED BY MARIEANNA BAIR FROM "EARLY LANDOWNERS AND SETTLERS OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY" AND OBITUARIES COLLECTED BY MILTON CHARBONEAU; GENEALOGICAL REFERENCES PROVIDED BY JANE TOMLINSON; AND ATLAS AND CENSUS RECORDS. ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS WELCOMED. 810/229-6402.)