

J. H. Wilkinson-BrighthouseInterviewed April 12, 1972.

Born 1902 - came to Brighthouse Estates in 1912 - left 1914 to go back to England - returned later after W.W.I to live in Vancouver - talks about travelling to England on board ship during W.W. I - farmed large portion of farm until his Uncle died - Uncle, Sam Brighthouse relationships described - early fields had to be drained - talks about this - (story about favorite horse) - description of property 710 acres - had own smithy there - a chap with a stallion travelled about breeding local mares - a clydesdale - talks about old barns - father in Vancouver ice-delivery business - Royal Ice & Storage - leased property to various people who are named - talks about 5 acres given to Municipality - Municipal Hall at River Rd. and No. 20 - burned down about 1916-1918¹⁹¹³ - traded that 5 acres with 5 acres up at No. 3 and Granville - talks about Arena at No. 3 and Granville - worlds champion fight held there earlier - Railway siding into Brighthouse Park where Grandstand was - story about Minoru Park changing hands thus called Brighthouse Park - change was about 1912 from Minoru Park to Brighthouse Park - early days of W.W. I, Park used as training school for flyers - (story about how Brighthouse obtained Racetrack) - Brighthouse racetrack considered best track in Canada - (Stories about this) - (Arena story) - discusses racing as a hedge against the Depression - names North American tracks then - Brighthouse Track was very prominent then - (Hastings Park Track story) - talks about origins of Lansdowne Track - Father ran Great Northern and Dinsmore Canneries - (talks about this) - dock outside Pearsons' place for transport to Dinsmore Is. - talks about fishing on North Arm and Middle Arm - (describes fishing methods) - discusses middle Arm canneries - bought a salmon from boats for 25¢ - talks about depression as being a demoralizing experience

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that affected community attitudes - talks about early horse-racing procedures - discussion of payoffs at tracks and taxes on the action - talks about early bookies - talks about early birds geese and duck in the bog - (5 mallards for dinner story) - some professional hunters then - sold birds in town - talks about hunting season - various small birds discussed - butterflys in large numbers - Sam Brighthouse brought in birds and trees from Europe - talks about Government removing trees to make a "secret" location during W.W. II - talks about Dec. 6-7, 1941 in Vancouver and Seattle - Boeings had use of Clubhouse at Brighthouse racetrack - (story about this) - sold track in 1943 to a Vancouver Syndicate - Minoru Track built about 1909 - Airport originally on field next to Lansdowne - Patterson farm - planes were local - early flyer was Wowk - talks about early bridges very rickety bridges then - (story about run-away horse and buggy over these bridges) - chinese and hindus had to sit in smoking section of early trams - had hindus working for Brighthouse - story about Hindu who went to India to transport things to Brighthouse's Aunt living there - story about Indians going to pick berries in the bog - traded berries for clothes at Brighthouse's place - discusses various kinds of berries - Indians also sold baskets and small bottles that have a woven exterior - discusses his 12 acres of strawberries, 3 kind and hunters bothering the fences - talks about bringing in high tension wire to accommodate Farrell who wished to run small yacht basin at edge of farm - talks about barn fire - talks about Steveston fire during the 20's - bucket brigade only method employed then - had tennis court and bowling pitch on property - discusses lawn bowling - talks about May Day procession, floats, and Maypole dances, all on Brighthouse Track. -

Discusses various public holidays - had cows and shipped milk into Vancouver - early days pumped water directly from River into kitchen - water pipes put in about 1912 - took all day to visit friends in Vancouver and return - talks about interurban stations in Vancouver property - both bridges from Sea Island were swing spans operated by hand - talks about new Marpole Bridge instigated by R. Grauer - talks about Woodward's Landing ferry in old days - the area around No. 4 Road developed around W.W. II - peat sold for munitions during war.

TAPE 16 - SIDE 1