

The senior Bryan (1838 - 1911) fathered two United States senators, one of whom later became a federal judge. Actually, it was his namesake son who first migrated to south Florida. *The Miami Metropolis* first noted the appearance of John Milton Bryan, Jr., in south Florida in September 1897. It later recorded that in 1898 this son had a farm in Hallandale and also a fine citrus grove at Big City, near the south fork of New River. Bryan, Jr., served as a Broward County Commissioner from February 1925 until January 1929. His home, located just south of Stirling Road and east of Route 441, stands on the site where he first had built a shack in 1898.

President Harry S. Truman appointed Judge Bryan Simpson to the federal bench in 1950. Retired Judge Simpson, who delivered a biographical sketch of his grandfather John M. Bryan, Sr., is the son of the late Professor A.A. Simpson. The latter gentleman was an eminent Florida educator around the turn of the century. Judge Simpson had lived on his grandfather's Tigertail island property in the early 1900s. This issue features that speech which he delivered in Tavares, Florida, at the unveiling of a portrait of his illustrious grandfather.

When a recent American president declared that the United States is a nation of immigrants, hardly anyone registered a dissenting comment. South Florida, more than any other part of the nation, is a 20th century product of immigration and colonization. The United States Census of 1900 revealed that all of southeastern Florida had a population of 4,995 persons. Today, this same area is the permanent home of upwards of five million people and, annually, it caters to millions of tourists and winter residents.

Some south Florida immigrants emigrated in colonies. Dania and Hallandale began with colonies of Danes and Swedes, respectively. In June 1910 the National Association of Florida Land Companies, which consisted of approximately seventy-five business enterprises, was formed to funnel colonies, groups and individuals into Florida, particularly into the Everglades section, a part of which is in Broward County.

But previously on November 23, 1904, Japanese colonizer Joe Sakai arrived in Boca Raton which then, like present-day Broward County, was a part of Dade County. He was accompanied by an advance guard of Japanese farmers who were intent on colonizing in the area. Other members of the vanguard included M. Oki, G. Ichinose, J. Hosegawa, K. Toubukura and N. Notsumate. Fort Lauderdale citizens often entertained these immigrants in their homes during the weekends.

In 1907 Meido Kobayashi travelled from his hometown area, which was near Kobe, Japan, to the south Florida Japanese colony which eventually became known as Yamato. Its population peaked at approximately one hundred. After he saw the colony begin to dissolve, he became a domestic gardener in Fort Lauderdale in 1937. The colony ended when the United States Air Force established a base in Boca Raton at the beginning of World War II. His son Tamotsu Kobayashi, who also became a gardener, kindly furnished the photographs which accompany the reprint of the 1907 article from *The Weekly Miami Metropolis*.

#### IN MEMORIAM

#### SARAH SUGGS KEATING

1919 - 1984

With her appointment to the Historical Commission in 1979, Sarah Suggs Keating expanded her range of community service and strove to serve all the people of Broward County. With her gracious manner, she touched the lives of many who now mourn her passing.

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Front cover, outside: John Milton Bryan, Sr.: born in Hamilton County, Florida, (1838 - 1911), member of the Florida House of Representatives from 1875 to 1883 and of the State Senate from 1886 to 1889.

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