

BARTLEY BULL

JOHN BULL

**B. H. BULL & SON**  
**BRAMPTON JERSEYS**

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P.O. DRAWER 398

BRAMPTON, June 8, 1959.

ONTARIO

Rt.-Hon. Arthur Meighen,  
57 Castlefrank Crescent,  
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Meighen:

It made me very happy to have the short visit with you last week.

As you may suppose I did not know that you were on such intimate terms with the Aikens family in Winnipeg. I had met Sir J.A.M. Aikens but the only other one of the Winnipeg branch of the family that I have met I know very well and that is Jean (Mrs. R. D. "Peter" Mulholland).

The Aikens family, back in the '50s and early '60s, was a Peel County family. Of the Peel County members I only knew two. One of them, Dr. Moses Aikens of Burnhamthorpe was a very staunch Liberal but he supported our good friend, the late Colonel Tom Kennedy, simply by voting for him - not doing any work for him. One day when we are talking I want to tell you about the interview in which Colonel Kennedy got his promise to vote for him.

The Hon. J. C. Aikens, P.C., was born in Peel County and in the elections of 1854 and 1858 he was elected for this area to, I suppose, what was the Upper Canada Assembly in those days; but in 1862 he was defeated by a man I never saw but heard my father talking about him quite often, J. Hillyard Cameron who was a Conservative. In the elections that Mr. Aikens won before that he was one of three candidates: a Tory, a Grit and a Cleargrit. He was the Cleargrit.

In the years from then on it seems that Mr. Aikens and Sir John A. got to know each other well and took to each other with the result that in the election of 1870 Mr. Aikens was elected as a Conservative and according to my notes was in Sir John A's. cabinet. I should have stated that Mr. Aikens' riding was Peel and Halton counties.

Through the first twenty or thirty years of my life another member of the Aikens family, John - by name, lived in Brampton a retired farmer. He was particularly noted for being - to put it mildly - thrifty. At a time, he, his wife and daughter were at home, I saw him buy half a box of strawberries and that is about the way he spent his money. He was very wealthy for those days. His daughter died just recently leaving a very large amount of money. She was Miss Eva Aikens and died in Toronto.

The gentleman, R. D. (Peter) Mulholland, mentioned above, is at the moment General Manager of the Bank of Montreal and as I told you his father and my mother were first cousins.

I sincerely hope that one day soon you and I may have lunch together and have a visit like the last time we lunched together. With kindest regards and every good wish to you and yours, I am

Yours sincerely,

*Bartley*

Bartley Bull.

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