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Thursday 18 May

My dear Father

I acknowledged your interesting letter of April 24th in my diary letter last Sunday. Needless to say Wood and I were greatly relieved to hear that the Mr. matter is settled. As I did not send my cable until 4th May you had the matter all adjusted long before. I still consider it a very generous commission but as you say he has worked day & night

The point I am not quite clear on is whether the \$4000 salary starts next year or not but on reading your agreement again I see that it is pretty clear that it does not start until shell business is finished. As you say it is very doubtful if we will want to do very much in the engine business after the war, it never has been profitable.

Wood and I both feel that it would not be wise to make any further extensions or investments on a large scale until you see how the new tax is going to hit you and whether the Shell committee are going to go back on their contracts as apparently they seem to have the right to.

I had a letter from Aunt Louisa which

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She said you had been in Montreal and were going to Ottawa, and I presume you intended seeing Mr Flavelle yourself and I sincerely trust that you were successful.

There is no reason why the Coaks cannot run the boiler shop under present slack conditions with very little supervision. I get letters from Sammy occasionally and he seems anxious to do his best.

I had to pass the photo album on to Wood. I had been holding it for him to get up here but cannot any longer as we leave tomorrow and as it is rather bulky I was afraid it might get injured.

You deserve great credit for it and it shows very clearly how much you have undertaken and what changes it has meant in the works. They are really splendid pictures.

I think you have always given Morgan ample credit and he certainly deserves some, at the same time he has never made any money for us out of the engine business, but that he was to blame altogether but I think we were after lead on against our better judgement. This is the first time, in ^{20 years} we have made any money in machine shop according to my way of thinking.

Nothing further has happened yet about
 our organization and I don't know how
 know where I will stand in future
 regiment. Jamison left for Canada
 this morning. I called there last night to
 say good bye. He is disgusted that an
 outsider (Emsley) should have
 been chosen in J. I believe that
 Alderson is altogether to blame
 although I dare say Emsley went
 after the job. I wish I should
 have had it after Jamison and most
 assuredly do not put myself second
 to any permanent force officer. I don't
 know yet how it will turn out but
 the uncertainty is rather trying.

We are mapping out Carfa area
 about 3 miles back and I picked out a
 couple of farms yesterday. Three bombs
 were dropped on Carfa 400 yds
 back the landing right in the town,
 killing one and maiming three. The
 plane was so high it could not be seen
 with naked eye. I fell for Jan starts
 dead very much and was talking him
 for half an hour last Saturday Friday.
 He died in 3 hours and was buried on
 Monday. His four mother's sister are in
 England and believe he had just
 become engaged. Am sending Sarah a
 lettergram today. Please excuse short
 note. Very much love to mother & the girls
 Your devoted son Jbb