

From the holdings of  
**Western Archives, Western University**

May 22nd/1916.

Monday 15th.  
May.

John Hayman & Sons commenced Western extension with five of the sons at work themselves and as many men as could make a good start with a cement mixer. Concluded to make the base of the cement 2" thicker at a little extra cost. Old wall to be taken away at a cost of \$20.00 which is very reasonable, we put down \$50.00 in our estimate for that work.

Mr. Lesmond went to Preston to see about a boiler we supplied the Anchor Company nearly three years ago which was bricked in and connected but never used as the company failed. We will likely get it off our hands at a slight loss, if not it is new good stock as old boilers are a little more in demand.

The London Hunt & Country Club have secured a lease of the use of the Kingsmill farm right adjacent, for 15 years (\$500.00 a year) from the Western University who have bought this property recently for that Institution this will double the length and make a most beautiful situation for this game. It is going to cost at least \$5000.00 to put it in order and it will take a years work at least to bring this about. I subscribed \$400.00 towards it to be paid in the next two years. Mr. Brown tells me that they are going to do away with so much cross of the meadow, which has always been a draw back to such players as myself. I will advise you later what sum they succeed in getting. The Club is too poor to undertake to assume this so that it will have to be done privately.

Tuesday 16th.  
May.

A letter from Waterous asking if we had not better advance price of Locomotive Boilers. Replied that it would be agreeable to reduce discount below 25 off as soon as we disposed of a few Locomotives that have been made up for sometime.

At the Huron & Erie meeting to-day Hume Cronyn made his first report which was on the whole encouraging considering the financial state of the whole world. He expects that 60% of our debentures amounting to over a million dollars this year will be renewed at maturity. It will not trouble us to do this as we have plenty of money and a large sum available if we want it from New York. This is the first time in the history of that Institution that we have borrowed money from the United States.

Mr. Cronyn called last Sunday and gave us a synopsis of his interview with Woodman which we were very glad to hear.

To-day the atmosphere is very humid from recent rains and consequently we are having all kind of trouble with our belts in the machine shop which will lead to a reduction in our output at the end of the week.

Money is coming in very well. We have received so far this month \$12,000. on regular business account and \$18,000. from the Shell Committee.

Wednesday  
May 17th.

Sent you both Round Robin agreement to-day. Also wrote Aubrey about our extensions and the new machinery which is now on the way. Ordered shafting and hangers for the new extension from Dodge Company Toronto. We could not possibly get this out and keep our promises to deliver shells, bought it very reasonable.

We are all feeling very much the reported death of George Van Statter and judge that he was not very far from Woodman.

Two boilers arrived from Montreal to be shortened and sent back again. One of these was made in 1888 and is apparently good for several years service yet after we get it repaired.

Thursday 18th.  
May.

Sam Cook got the new Oakwood boiler in place, was obliged to take it in below the door at the North Porch, it has been tested since and pronounced tight.

There is evidently going to be a famine for boiler tubes. Robertson reports to-day that our order given a couple of months ago for 5000 tubes will be delivered sometime in April 1917, we may as well give up the boiler business with such a condition of things beforous. We used up our 4" tubes in Clarke's order and are quoted now 40¢ per foot in Montreal for that size when our price a year ago was something like 15¢ per foot, all other tubes are going up sky high.

Received a long letter from Ibbotson regarding shell contract, which I will reply to later.

Sent Blue Print of extension to Ibbotson, as the building advances we are more than pleased with every detail of it, McBride is giving the work personal attention and I am sure you will be pleased with it, as soon as finished I will send you a snap shot as to how it looks. We were only obliged to cut off about 3 ft. of the York Street Shed.

Friday 19th.  
May.

Paid \$2904.00 to 155 men, including \$1183.72 piece work.

Sam Cook got the boiler at Oakwood bolted up and in place and tested, Met the Board of Trade of Windsor with about 800 citizens from that City who are coming up here to present a Flag to the 90th Battalion, Colonel McLean, which passed off very well except for a shower or two. The Windsor people are very enthusiastic over this Regiment as it is composed largely of citizens of Essex County and Americans from Michigan.

Saturday 20th.  
May.

Shipped two carloads of shells to-day, in all 1450. We had fully an additional 500 almost ready which would have made 2000, but we are going to try and make it up next week.

Three of the shell workers on machines quit without any notice. Mr. Morgan is greatly annoyed by this kind of conduct.

Bought 350 secondhand 3" x 20 ft. boiler tubes in Montreal on the recommendation of Plant, we will work them up in some way. We offered 30¢ per foot for some 4 x 18 tubes from the Street Railway who have had them for nearly two years, they would have sold them last year for about half that price, but got wise on the famine for all sizes of boiler tubes that has set in.

Seamless 4" tubes are 61¢ per foot in New York	Lap welded	29
45¢ " " " Chicago		28
50¢ " " " Toronto		

2" tubes are 12¢ for lap welded and 22¢ for cold drawn seamless in Montreal

*1 1/2 days round*

*Lap welded 29 28*

We were notified by Thos. Robertson that our order for 5000 tubes ordered in April this year would not be shipped until April of 1917. We are afraid to ask people the price based on any such cost of material, take it altogether it looks as if the boiler business would go to pieces except for boilers actually wanted. At these figures we would have to add about 10% to our list price and wait till the Steel Lords of Pennsylvania choose to send us the material.

The car of machinery that Mr. Morgan arranged for from New York is reported as arriving, we will no doubt get it Monday or Tuesday.

Taking altogether we have had very fair success this week in spite of many drawbacks in turning out shells.

Mr. Morgan is adopting some plans that he saw in Montreal which he thinks will enable us to rough turn much faster, which I will explain later on.

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Mr. Morgan wishes me to say that your cable was received when he was in New York and that he will answer it just as soon as he gets time. You will understand he will be exceptionally busy now placing machinery and planning for different appliances necessary. We have got a lot of shells in lately that do not require turning off on the solid and are therefore able to catch up with some of our urgent orders for other machinery.

He has concluded to make a second cutting off machine for the open end, this will give us three and there will be no delay if one should break down in completing our output. The actual cost of these machines will be less than \$200.00 and we think can be sold for cutting off pipe when we have no further use for them.

We worked yesterday putting in one length of heavier shafting at a point where we were taking off a great deal of power. It runs like a clock this morning.