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Western Archives, Western University

August 28th/1916.

FEL/C.

MONDAY

August 21st.

99° in the shade. Made a very good deposit to-day. Unloaded car of boxes and coal and are very busy in that department. Got a written order for the Laurie lathe which seems all straight and right and now begin to think the old thing has been sold at last.

Your mother and Alice in the house all day and very much depressed with the heat which is affecting everybody.

Long letter from Mr. Morgan when in Montreal. He was not allowed in any of the shops this time and only got the chance to talk with the Superintendent of the different establishments in their offices. It seems that they are getting very strict in this respect, they complain that it will be to the advantage of all to act in the same way.

Ordered a small Hydro fan to help dry the shells on trial but from what McIlvenna says later I doubt if it is going to be of much help.

TUESDAY

August 22nd.

Hot again, 96 in the shade. Checked up with Mr. Lamond the different pieces belonging to the Laurie lathe and find it practically intact except for hangers of counter shaft and some small pieces, we sent forward two carloads, total weight about 56,000 lbs.

We had two Gishelts put out of business last night by rough handling. We do not know how to get over this with the inexperienced men, they are a very rough lot and only have one desire and that is to get as many out as possible no matter what the consequences.

WEDNESDAY

August 23rd.

A little cooler, 80 in the shade. We had considerable trouble with labourers loading cars to-day about wages, half of them quit and left us in the lurch with three cars of shells and one of boxes on our siding. We are paying them 22½ to 25½ an hour and they do not seem to care to take advantage of this very high wage.

Had Mr. McBride look over some sketches that I had made for an extension to the office, this seems to me absolutely necessary before the cold weather sets in, it will cost about \$2000.00 and make us very comfortable for many years to come, really we are not private enough in the back office for ordinary business transactions.

Got a cheque from the I.M.B. for \$4600.00 leaving a balance against us of \$11,500.

Hydraulic rivetter gave us some trouble to-day but we got the valves reground and hope it will be better.



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THURSDAY  
August 24.

Much cooler at 6.30 A.M. A letter from Mr. A.G. McAvity informs me that Schofield had applied to the 79 Battery for to go overseas but when Mr. Flavelle heard of it he protested that he could not spare him, so we think his chances for going to the War are now pretty slim. He has been six months on his job and it will take another man fully that length of time to get in touch so that things will run smoothly. Mr. Morgan saw him in Montreal a week ago and found him very busy. Mr. Schofield is very much thought of for his executive ability and his attention to business which you will be glad to hear.

Imperial Oil Company want 2, 78" x 18' boilers with 146-3" tubes. We have plates and heads coming for one boiler and could make it sometime this fall if we can find the tubes of that size in stock anywhere.

I.M.B. sent us \$2200.00 to-day.

Got a letter from both of you to-day which is very gratifying, especially the one from Wood which has a very cheerful tone.

Went for an auto ride with mother and Alice East through Dorchester to Putnam and South to Harrietsville and Belmont, returned through Westminster by way of Wellington Road, it took us 3½ hrs. but was most enjoyable.

FRIDAY  
August 25th.

Warm and bright, 82 in the shade. Paid \$3793.00 to 206 men on the roll including \$1592.00 for piece work.

Mr. Tripp an Inspector for the I.M.B. called and looked over our list of machinery for what purpose I do not know. He will have to come back and interview Mr. Morgan in ten days.

Shipped 984 shells to-day. Unloaded more shells and copper bands. We are being well supplied which I am glad to say for rumors are that we are going to be short of material of this kind.

Hydro was off this evening from 9 to 11 P.M. but men waited and our output was not much delayed for the reason that we coupled up and ran the whole establishment by steam for two hours.

SATURDAY  
August 22nd.

Cool and dull, 81 in the shade. Wrote quite a few business letters. We are turning out now something over 400 completed shells and in some cases the parts of 600 shells per day, if only could keep this going we could easily reach 500 completed shells in a day which we must do in September. Shipped 952 shells to-day. The Inspectors are very strict and at one time it looked as if we would have to take the cover off 400 of them in order to identify the heat number, I do not see the sense in this to be so exact. Of all the shells we have sent to Quebec and Woolwich we have only heard of one upon which the passing of it was suspended for a couple of weeks.

Balance to the debit to-day is about 9500.00.

Mr. A.G. McAvity of the Munition Board had dinner with us and stayed until 9 P.M. when he started to motor to Seaforth to visit Bell Company who are making 6" shells and getting along very nicely he says, we talked some about the shell position, he had no complaints or requests to make as far as we are concerned and would not go near the works, but was an hour at the Spraymotor Company who are making the same size shell.

He says that the farm of McAvity & Sons, St. John will have their building done in a few days, the machinery is on hand and in a month they will be turning out 8.2 shells. I doubt this very much but they will have



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the experience in their former contracts to help them make this very quick delivery of such a large size.