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Western Archives, Western University

Sept. 18/1916.

FEL/C.

MONDAY
Sept. 11th.

Maitland and his gang worked yesterday and layed ten C.I. plates 3/4" x 4ft. by 4 ft. down in the machine shop. Will put enough in as fact as possible to reach the West door, we will save the interest several times in labor transporting the shell crates from one part of the shop to the other. Cement floor is a complete failure for these heavy loads and small wheels.

Shipping 950 shells to-day.

Received orders for four sterilizers intended for the Valcartier Camp.

Sent samples of shells to Western Fair.

Discussed with Mr. Morgan and Maitland a new roof for the boiler room and will have Mr. McBride making a plan of it. The iron roof is a completely gone and always has been a nuisance.

We are over loaded with car loads coming in, 12 carloads of shells, boxes and coal are now in the G.T. yards to be unloaded with only four men available to do the work.

TUESDAY
Sept. 12th.

Had a long conference with Mr. Holmes regarding balance sheet for 1916 which I hope to have in shape at the end of the week.

Mr. Lamond went to Hanover to attend Court where a party had ordered some brick and clay and refused to pay for it, he obtained judgment, the next thing is to get the money.

We received a cheque to-day for \$4500.00 from the Imperial Munition Board and also \$3,000.00 from the Nova Scotia Steel & Iron Company for the Laurie lathe. We are glad to see the latter and closes up a vexatious problem, although in the end we got a good price and interest.

Paid \$800.00 to the Woodstock & Thames Valley Railway for two 16 x 16 Peerless Engines and two 72" x 18' boilers and two belts. We ought to do well at these prices but you can never tell.

Western Fair is now on and we are finding the effects in attendance of our workmen all along the line.

Attended Huron & Erie who subscribed \$350,000.00 to the New 15 year Canada War Loan which is very good indeed for that concern.

Called upon George Reid and find that Eric has not made much progress with two operations to restore his hands usefulness. He has taken a position in the meantime which will not interfere with its healing.

Coupling broke in machine shop this morning and four tools idle all day.

Maitland unloaded one car of 1400 shells to-day. They have to be trucked to the East end for cutting off and turned in the big mill which takes a lot of time, but the shells in the end do not lose a great deal of time going backwards and forwards.

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shipped the third boiler (72" x 14") for Mercier Machinery Company, Levis.

WEDNESDAY

Sept. 13th.

Made out a stock list required for McClary Boiler and find we have everything except one plate which we are ordering from Chicago.

Received a letter from Mr. McAvity of I.M.B. regarding changing on another size of shell which we do not think we can entertain. He will try and arrange that we keep on the 60 Fr. as agreed to last May.

Got a cheque for \$550.00 from Imperial Munition Board for freight advanced.

I.M.B. now advise us that the shells will not be painted in the future but covered with a slight coat of vaseline and offering to pay for any paint on hand. We have two barrels which we will bill to them. We do not think this will be any saving to us as the paint fills up the tool marks which otherwise will be now made visible and perhaps give these Inspectors something to turn down, they are laying in wait for every little fiddle faddle.

THURSDAY

Sept. 14th.

Mr. Morgan and assistants are still very busy on getting his series in shape, separating the old fire test shells from the new, what it means we do not know other than it has given us a great deal additional cost to comply with the Inspectors wishes. I sometimes wish we had never seen a 60 Fr. shell. We clear away one obstruction or complaint for 24 hrs. and another comes right along like the waves of the sea, among workmen, Inspectors, broken machinery and turn downs we are at our wits end.

FRIDAY

Sept. 15th.

Paid \$3639.00 to 196 men, including \$1454.00 for pipe work, this pay is \$400.00 less than last week and shows what the Western Fair and "bunching" means in the shop. Yesterday a great day at the Western Fair as the weather was perfect. Arthur Little was elected President in place of the late Capt. W.J. Reid.

Major Keightley, Chief Inspector Ontario District, wires that he will not allow more than 35 odd numbers in a series of 500 shells and to go to the I.M.B. for any increase. This will put us about considerably if not agreed to.

Cheque for \$2150.00 from the I.M.B. for shells.

Commenced estimate on another five boilers for the Mercier Machy Company (72" x 14"), but plates can only be obtained in Chicago we are afraid, which will make the boilers very high priced, there is no use talking about a close price these days. Robertson is ^{nearly} out of plates and wants 4-3/4¢ for some 7/16 plates that we require to repair a boiler for I suppose he can get it.

SATURDAY

Sept. 16th.

Letter from each of the sons, and also a cable in the evening saying both well which is very good news.

Shipped two carloads of shells, in all 1410 after working very late. Wrote to G.H. Evans a long letter on many subjects.

Henry Hayman fixing the top of chimneys around the place, about one dozen with cement, the bricks were getting loose and liable to fall.

Too cool to sit on the veranda. Have had the plumbers adjusting bent pipes and over locking the boiler and radiators at Oakwood, they got through to-day and find everything in good working order.

Cars unloaded for week 11 to 16th. Sept.

Cars loaded for week 11 to 16th.

(3)

EAL

Cars unloaded

5 - cars rough shells
2 - " shell boxes
1 - " moulding sand
1 - " sheet iron

Car loaded.

1 - car Boilers, Montreal
2 - cars shells