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**Western Archives, Western University**

October 2nd/1916.

FEL/C.

SUNDAY  
September 24th.

Attended church and heard about ten per cent of Dean Davis' sermon. He is getting to lower his voice so much like a lot of other clergymen that I may as well stay away from church because my mind wanders to shell making and all other worldly things.

Mr. Tidy had dinner with me, he says will likely turn out 2500 shells this week, will see.

Maitland laid eight cast iron plates in the machine shop.

Wrote mother and sons and had supper with Mrs. Scatchard & Jack.

MONDAY  
September 25th.

Very busy in the office with letters. Received letter from Ibb & Wood who approve of the Waterloo Tractor. Since then we got a letter from this Company referring us to a firm in Montreal who are going to handle their product in Canada. I answered, that we did not care to do business in that way and only through the principals, and am very much disappointed that they could not see their way to give us a chance. Since writing you on this subject Mr. Morgan and I have concluded that this machine is hardly heavy enough and that a four cylinder machine would be more likely what we should make and better adapted for farms in Canada. We will now take up and correspond with the Electric Wheel Company of Quincy, Illinois of which I have sent you some circulars, if favorable reply it would be a good thing for Mr. Morgan and I to slip over to Quincy, about 100 miles South West of Chicago and look the thing over for ourselves. It appears that there is to be a field trial near Toronto of these kind of machines and if so we would likely call there in addition.

Shipped two boiler to Mercier Machinery Company, Levis, to-day.

Cable from sons, both well.

Received \$4500.00 from the I.M.B.

Caught a man smoking in the furnace room and just looked hard at him, he felt ashamed of himself, I did not say a word to him.

TUESDAY  
September 26th.

Estimated on a 3/16 tank, which comes with the extra cost of material 18g a lb.

Received letter from Woodman which was only 13 days in coming inclusive.

Attended Huron & Erie, there was not much doing, Mr. Cronyn is in Winnipeg at present. No Huron & Erie stock for sale as far as the staff can find out.

WEDNESDAY  
September 27th.

Talked with Messrs. Morgan & Holmes about raising the roof of the boiler house 4 ft. and putting in Windows North and South for ventilation with a new 2" roof, tar and gravel, we had four tenders in and they all run about \$800.00, that is \$200. more than we expected. Mr. McBride looked over the thing again and says he thinks it cannot be made a good job for any less. We will likely give him instructions to go ahead with the work, we have got to do something right away, the roof is practically useless. This will allow us to raise the smoke conductor and boilers 15 or 18" <sup>more</sup> above the grates which we have long contemplated and which we all think would make better combustion and less smoke.

The roof of the mounting shop is leaking very badly and after discussing the possibility of putting a new wall and other changes along the track costing between \$4 and \$5,000.00 we concluded to patch it up again so that it will stand another winter.

We have been trying to get some body to load these two engines and boilers at Woodstock on ~~to~~ a car and bring them to London but it seems impossible only at most extravagant rates. We will wait a few days and perhaps after all arrange to do the work ourselves.

We are now turning out 400 shells per day in some departments and Mr. Morgan says have about 9000 of the new process more or less complete. He is determined to get rid of the old process first which I think the wisest plan before we make a complaint.

THURSDAY  
September 28th.

Very busy in office and shop. Arranged a car for both Montreal and St. John with James Lamond who is working on that part of the business just now.

Second Canadian Loan of One Hundred Million Dollars was double subscribed by the public and banks. I have sent you a circular about this. It makes a net rate of 5.3 per cent per annum based on 97½ revised capital, a most excellent security in my opinion. I see by the morning papers that the Australian Public are coming forward in the same manner for funds to ~~accept~~ equip their Contingents.

Arranged with Stevely to renew 15 sky lights on foundry and mounting shop shed at \$5.00 each, he was lower than any body else.

Wrote Evans a long letter about the Woodstock Engines, Boilers and Generators, he has a pretty fair nibble for part of this plant which we bought at a very low price and hope we will be able to make something out of it.

Mr. Morgan is very much worried this morning and was almost ready to break with the Inspectors but concluded to wait a little longer.

FRIDAY  
SEPTEMBER 29th.

Paid \$3842.00 to 194 men including \$1440.00 piece work. Messrs. Herwood and Dennis called on me and I consented to be chairman of a citizens committee to help the Y.M.C.A. to do more work, they have had more than they could manage with the soldiers the last two winters and must have some assistance to keep up the good work. The firm will likely have to give a fair subscription for the purpose.

Attended Board of Trade meeting last evening and went through a lot of important business. The Board will likely send a delegate to Ottawa at the request of Sir George Foster to talk over what we are going to do w after the war with the men and industries out of business. I have very little faith in making any plan of this kind but will not discourage it. I believe that when Canada comes to the bridge she will cross it with her magnificent natural resources and facilities that comes out of the ground

and grows on the top of the ground.  
Covered shell boxes in the yard with old tents.

SATURDAY  
September 30th.

Loaded two cars of shells to-day, 1846, just about 1000 shy of what Mr. Tidy prophesied, so much for his opinion.

Shipped car to St. John consisting of - 1, 60" x 16' Special Boiler  
For Stock - 1, 48 x 14 Stan. A.T. Boiler  
2, 12 x 10 Clipper Engines.

This will set him up in good shape for awhile.

Received a cheque for \$6661.00 from the I.M.B. which leaves us a nice little balance at the end of the month in our own favor. Received a cheque for \$250.00 from George Stewart in full payment for a 72" x 16 ft. secondhand boiler we allowed that for about a year ago, there was no order with it, no name of purchaser and no nothing but the cheque with a very poor excuse. We wired him immediately we could not accept the cheque as we must have \$500.00 for the boiler or to ship it here for repairs as we were getting \$700.00 for a like boiler. We are greatly annoyed with him lately, he will not do business the way we want him to do it lately and he is constantly trying to stand in with the customer we think more than the firm, and we are getting tired of him and having to pay him his salary every month without his doing business, we have to write him a very sharp letter which he may not like, it will not be the first one I have been obliged to write lately. He is fully aware of the famine in plates and tubes and must have lost his head in this case. He is certainly no good to the firm under the circumstances.

Mr. Skey would not promise to have their claim on the I.M.B. cheques cancelled, did not think it was necessary when Mr. Holmes approached him to-day on the subject. We will not press the matter just for the present.

The Watson Jack Company now write us that the Steel Company will not make a promise as to delivery of 100 tons ordered last January, they are just putting us off and by so doing ruining our trade for we are practically out of boiler plates.

Two months ago they said they had our order partly made up which we now think was a straight falsehood, will have to write a very sharp letter, but doubt if we can improve the situation.

Messrs. Plant and Evans are both willing to accept of what engines and boilers we can spare from our stock in Vancouver, we of course will have to pay Walker what<sup>we</sup> advanced in the shape of freight going out and also the freight from Vancouver to Montreal and St. John, but as we can readily sell all this machinery which has had for three years and cannot, we think it is time that we reduced this large stock, nearly \$10,000.00 and got it into money, that way that new goods are selling now we think we could get list price f.o.b. London for all new boilers. We are getting 10% advance on list price for the few Clipper Engines we are selling.

Cars unloaded Sept. 25 to 30th.

25th.	1	Car Boxes
26th	1	" Shells
26th	1	" Boxes
27th.	1	" Boxes
28th	1	" Shells
29th	1	" "
30th	1	" Coal

Cars Loaded Sept. 25th to 30th.

25th.	1	Car Boilers, Lewis.
28th.	1	" " Montreal
30th	1	" Boilers, & Engines, St. John
30th	2	Cars- Shells.