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Western Archives, Western University

October 16th/1916.

FEL/C.

SUNDAY

October 8th.

Bright and warm. Called on Mr. Bullen who is very miserable. Saw Fred Betts who says that Woodman wired to Mrs. Betts who is in London that Fred Jr. was disabled by shell check, but papers say here he was wounded. Mr. Betts was very much pleased to get this information and was much obliged to Woodman.

Spent the afternoon in reading and sorting papers and had supper with Marshall and Babs. Cable arrived at 11.30 P.M., and strange you have not received the business statement as it was mailed on the 19th and should be in your hands by this time.

MONDAY

October 9th.

Thanksgiving day throughout Canada. Wet, cold and bright. Opened the mail at the office which contained some small work to do. Shell makers in machine shop are all on but two which we consider very good. Brick layers only worked half day on the new boiler house.

Received cheque for \$4487.00 from the Imperial Munition Board.

Had lunch with Aunt Lizzie at the kennels with a very pleasant company. Saw many old friends. They had a run of about six horses including Marian Beck who seems to be a very nice rider. Had dinner with Aunt Lizzie and Miss Christie, very pleasantly in the evening, and retired early.

TUESDAY

October 10th.

Had two men cleaning out tanks at Oakwood which were very dirty. The Free Press this morning reports Will Leonard of St. Thomas has sold his house. As I did not see him I do not know the situation.

Attended the Young Mens Christian Assn. Banquet where canvassers were selected and names revised, they aim to get \$15,000.00.

WEDNESDAY

October 11th.

Received a couple of small orders. Mr. Pierre of the Crosby Company, Boston called and will send prices of safety valves and steam gauges, as we are not able to make valves at present every lathe and tool being occupied I think we will have to buy some from him for the few boilers we are making. Mr. Pierre made a great deal of enquiries about my sons at the front which I was pleased to give him. He is a great friend of the family.

Had lunch at the Kennels, guest of George S. Gibbons and Sydney Little with 99 Liberals from Montreal to Windsor, intercourse very enjoyable a fine lot of men all fit for the political fight. Had a motor to Springbank hill and Sanitarium with Mr. Poccock.

Business very quiet at the office.

Oct. 16/16.

In the evening I attended the banquet given for Sir Wilfred, Rowell and Norris. When speaking to the former, they both made very kind enquiries about you. Mr. Rowell made a special effort to see Woodman but could not arrange it as he was largely in the hands of the staff. Had an excellent seat quite close to the chairman, heard all the speeches very nicely. Sir Wilfred certainly is the greatest statesman living. In speaking of Germany he was firm but generous and captivated the whole audience time and again. C.S. Hyman made his first appearance. Rowell is very much improved. Norris is a quiet and firm speaker, had a few words with him, also Chas. Murphy of Ottawa, Bowman of Port Elgin and many old friends. George S. conducted the meeting very nicely but I could not hear Syd. Sat beside A.J. Young of North Bay and saw many many old reform faces in the audience which was most enthusiastic. Sir George asked me to his house after the banquet but I was really used up having been nearly four hours sitting.

THURSDAY

October 12th.

We had our first good fire in the furnace to-day with a good draft when it got started. I am very much pleased with that part of our repairs.

Capt. Green of the Inspection Bureau, Toronto arrived and put Mr. J. Everett in Mr. Tidy's place as Chief Inspector of our output. Mr. Tidy left at 7 P.M. a little surprised after 15 months in charge, he felt the sudden change considerably. We have been most excellent friends personally, he is a very nervous fellow and sometimes did not do us justice, lacking what we call horse sense in some of his judgments.

Very poor mail but busy in the office, very tired and went home early.

Received a letter from Ibb to-day. Attended audit committee of the Huron & Erie in the evening and passed accounts up to the 30th June.

FRIDAY

October 13th.

Paid \$4004.00 to 205 men including \$1532.00 on piece work. Mr. Holmes arrived back from his holiday seemingly quite refreshed. When in Windsor he bought one of our old 7 x 10 Ball Engines for \$75.00. We will have it shipped here and repaired and can easily sell it for \$250.00.

Arranged that Mr. Wheaton go to Woodstock to dismantle the engines and boilers at the Woodstock & Thames Valley Rly. and ship them to London. The boilers we will put in the East Bay of the boiler shop and will store the engines on the platform shed. I have good hopes that this is a good buy, we have got a good chance to sell one of each in N.B. already.

Mr. Morgan is inclined to think Mr. Everett is a man of decision and that we will know just where we stand on every shell he inspects.

Rain stopped work on the walls of the new boiler shop.

Attended dinner at the Tecumseh House of the Board of Trade who are starting next week to collect funds for the British Red Cross who are asking us in Canada to do as we did some months ago. London subscribed nearly \$70,000.00, and is expected to do the same. I expect we will contribute the same amount as we did on the former occasion. It is very seldom that Great Britain appeals to Canada on these matters but War brings necessity. We had a story from a Londoner, a Pte. Soldier who told us what great work the Red Cross had been doing for our boys at the front.

Oct. 16/16.

SATURDAY

October 14th.

This is your dear Mothers Birthday. She and Alice arrived home at 9 P.M. tired but very glad to get back to dear old Oakwood after a months change and rest at Montreal and Ottawa.

Imperial Munition Board sent us a cheque for \$8891.00. Deposited \$10,000.00 to-day which leaves the balance in our credit nearly the latter sum.

Sent flat car to Woodstock with blocks, tackle, etc, to move engines and boilers. Asked Mr. Sverett to check smeking of the Inspectors which is a bad example to the rest of the shop. He talked very considerate and nicely and I hope we will have great comfort with him.

Lacey has been cleaning windows and I have given him charge of the furnace at Oakwood in the meantime, he certainly is making himself very useful about here.

New boiler house roof will be 48" clear of the present smoke conductor so we will have abundance of room if we want to elevate the boilers at any time. We will also have plenty of light around the softening ~~apps~~. *Tauk B.*

Cars unloaded Oct. 9th to 14th.

| | | | |
|-------|---|-----|--------------|
| 9th. | 1 | car | coal |
| 10th. | 1 | " | shells rough |
| 12th. | 1 | " | " " |
| 13th. | 1 | " | " " |

Car loaded Oct. 9 to 14th.

| | | | |
|-------|---|-----|--------|
| 11th. | 1 | car | shells |
| 12th. | 1 | " | " |