

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

October 30/16.

FEL/C.

SUNDAY  
OCTOBER 22nd.

Clear, cold and bright. Attended church with Mother and Alice. Fred Betts stopped me and said how grateful he was for Woodman's attention to Fred Jr. Got a car in the afternoon and drove West to Western outlook at Springbank, foliage in the valley of Thames at its best and the view superb. Called on Col. McEwen who says to get somebody in London to sell Dolly as he is out of touch with horses just now, he informs me that feed is very scarce and dear and some farmers are selling their stock in consequence. Hay is a little more abundant, but I heard during the week that it has since advanced. I really do not know what to do about Dolly and the colt. Will make some casual inquiries but fear she will have to be sold at a lower price than you would like to take. I will however either sell or arrange with McEwen for another winter.

Maitland and others at work laying plates.

MONDAY  
OCTOBER 23rd.

Received \$2100.00 from the Imperial Munition Board. Got a nice letter from Aubrey about the shell situation which I detailed the contents in my private letter, showed it to Messrs. Morgan and Holmes who both seemed satisfied.

Waterous has been served notice with a 9 hr. tender next April from his moulders, have written him what we are at present paying to the very few real mechanics we have about the works.

Looking over dimensions of fan and exhausters, we we will have to buy one for the new extension.

Elaine and Stephen arrived at noon, made us all very happy. The little fellow can talk but very sparsely.

TUESDAY  
OCTOBER 24th.

Estimated on three 72" x 18 ft. boilers for the Vancouver Machinery Depot Limited at 5% on the list f.o.b. London. The inquiry was for six but three is only number we could possibly undertake provided we get some plates promised us. All the letters now appear to be signed by Mr. Fraser.

Enclosed is a list of stock on hand at Vancouver after the two cars had been shipped. Also another list enclosed is selling price of boiler tubes. Also enclosed is discounts and additions to in connection with boiler prices.

We found a completed shell hid away in a barrel in the York Street shed which we had been hunting for the last two days as missing from a series. This discovery proves that we have a lot of thieves about the place which is not very reassuring.

Oct. 30/16.

Attended Huron & Erie. Hume Cronyn is back from the West after a visit to Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Things are not any too good out there notwithstanding the high prices. This morning's paper however announces that wheat is worth \$1.80 per bushel a price that it has not touched for 28 years. As this is the basis of all foods I fear we are in for very close times during the winter and spring.

WEDNESDAY

OCTOBER 25th.

Received an order to-day for a 25 H.P. Special Upright from Evans at a good price. Decided at last to make a heater for the extension, 30" dia. with 35 - 3" tubes 19 ft. long. We had all the material on hand. We wished to use 2" tubes but they were not available, but I think this will answer all requirements.

Shipped one car of shells, 1000. We have notice from the Imperial Munition Board that as soon as 5" shells are worked off they will expect us to machine the balance of our contract to suit mark VII, which calls for two recesses in the cone end at the base of the thread. Mr. Morgan is afraid we will have to buy a couple of tools to do this work which is quite annoying but we had better comply.

Mr. Brewer of Thomas Robertson & Company called and left some prices from an independent plate mill which could supply us with  $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick and 8 ft. wide in six weeks at \$4.35 f.o.b. Pittsburg of flange quality. We felt like ordering 50 ton on a chance, but did not do so and this morning (October 30th) we have word from the head office withdrawing this price. He reports that boiler tubes are more easily obtained and we may expect some of our April order before the new year. He assures us however that our order November 1915 will still be filled at the price quoted but in relation with others which is good news. He wanted us to order 100 tons of plates at \$2.90 delivered in one year but must be specified for tomorrow the 31st. This would be a foolish thing to do in our opinion so we will not entertain it. He informs us that nearly all the boiler makers are ordering in this shape. We however, for the present will run the risk.

THURSDAY

OCTOBER 26th.

Paid \$500.00 on account of new boiler house improvements.

Ordered a secondhand double exhaust fan from H.S. Plant which we think will do costing \$60.00.

Maitland installed the Boiler at the Pure Milk Company, Dundas Street.

Had to let rough turners and finish turners go being short of shells.

Mr. Morgan wrote a review letter of the whole situation to Ottawa, on this subject.

I regret to say that one of the Oak Trees on Queeque Avenue side, been split apparently for sometime fell this morning on a horse chestnut and stripped it from top to bottom, but no other damage. We are going to cut the broken limbs off, one of which must be 12" in dia. and try and support the balance of the tree with a piece of boiler plate strapped on the side.

FRIDAY.

October 27th.

Paid \$4178.00 to 207 men including \$1820.00 piece work. Paid the insurance on my life \$89.75.

Shipped a car of shells 1000. Received \$2100.00 from the Imperial Munition Board.

We have had our first complaint about smoke from our chimney from parties living on King and Dundas Streets and really at times it must be a nuisance from the amount of coal that we are using in 22 hrs. some \$40.00 worth.

*incl cancelled*

Oct. 30/16.

I am afraid that we are in for making some changes in that respect, but will not cross the bridge until we come to it. I have told you before that we could now raise our boilers 2 ft. more above the grates if it is necessary, which would in my opinion help matters considerably as we will be forcing our boilers to their utmost capacity this winter. They have given us the very best of service for nearly two years.

## SATURDAY

October 28th.

Did not run full handed this morning on account of shortage.

Vancouver Machinery Company want a secondhand locomotive crane which we have located in St. John, N.B. and get Evans onto it.

Evans wires that he has sold a 15 x 12 and probably a 14 x 15 Tangye which is very good news indeed.

## Cars unloaded from October 23rd to 28th.

Oct. 25th.	1	Car	Sand for shells
" "	1	"	Coal
" 28th.	1	"	"

## Cars Loaded from October 23rd to 28th.

Oct. 25th.	1	Car	Boiler for Stratford
" "	1	"	shells finished
" 28th.	1	"	" "