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January 29th/17.

FEL/C.

SUNDAY

January 21st.

Snowing and blowing all day. Did not go out, attended church and had a good sermon and listened to by a good congregation. Messrs. Lister & Goodall, letter of the Imperial Bank had tea with us in the afternoon.

Maitland putting down plates and Gillis unloading car of fire clay slabs, which has been 11 days enroute from Detroit, this is owing to the glut of freight in the vicinity of Detroit, the same thing applies in and about Buffalo.

MONDAY

January 22nd.

Snowing and blowing but not cold. Received a letter from George Stewart who says that Cushing Bros. are in bad shape. We have informed Sir George as to this and he is going to advise us what steps to take in order to collect our Ontario judgment against them. He further informs us that the Foothills Lumber Company who owe us about \$600.00 on a 13 x 12 engine and Eclipse Boiler, 40 miles back from Claresholm will have to be sold before we can resume possession and that with the consent of the Judge before the goods can be moved out of the Province. This formality is just like the legislation that is going on with all the Western Provinces to do away with liens and obstruct all legitimate trade, which at present is a regular epidemic especially in that Province, we will have to go slowly before incurring an expense of say \$200.00, but this engine and boiler can be sold to cover all of this and the freight to St. John, N.B. just now. We are going to act promptly in the matter or lose the chance of getting it out on sleighs.

The Ontario Compensation Board have paid out for our workmen for accidents during the last year \$1147.00, we paid them \$1446.00 for 1915 as a starter and were only required to pay them in 1916 \$562.00, total \$2009.00 or an average of \$1005.00 for the two years, so you will see they have paid out about \$140.00 more than we paid them. In my opinion the whole thing amounts to a workmens benefit society in as much as a great many of these accidents are of a trivial character and an inducement to men to quit on a very small excuse. I do not say dishonestly but very close to it our average before the act came into force for five years was \$450.00 per annum, so you will see we are paying over the nose to the workmen and adding about \$600.00 to our annual expenses which is not very satisfactory.

G.H. Evans has sold this past six months \$33,841.00 and his commission is \$508.00 which we paid him to-day, this is about \$13,000 better than Montreal. He certainly is a hustler and would do more business in my opinion were he to get out on the road as he is an excellent salesman.

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TUESDAY
January 23rd.

Bright and cold. Cost of steel nozzles and steel flanges will be double that of 1916, but we concluded to make a contract for 12 months on this basis as we do not use more than \$250.00 worth a year and the American Spiral Company are very prompt in sending us these goods. We only buy now as we require which is the cheapest in the end.

Shipped 990 shells to-day. Mr. Everett Inspector left for Toronto to go through a coaching school which all the Inspectors in Western Ontario have to attend for two or three days.

WEDNESDAY
January 23rd.
24th.

Much milder. Unloading blank shells all day. Ordered another carload of fire clay slabs in case we need an additional order if we get another order for Eclipse. The first was shipped from Akron, Ohio to-day and if we do not get it in a week it will hold our War Service Order up.

Mr. May of R.G. Dun & Company called and asked for a statement of our financial condition which I laughingly declined to make owing to it being the middle of our financial year, in any case I do not think it is necessary under present conditions but offered to give him a letter of some kind which will satisfy him I think. He would like to get us back on the list and offered to give us any reports gratis in the meantime.

Had snow shoe club to a late supper at Oakwood, about one dozen sat down.

THURSDAY
January 25th.

Cold and bright, snowing. Shipped two Eclipse to St. John, N.B. G.T.R. have put an embargo on all freights except Munitions, coal and fruit. Had a meeting of the Board and concluded to wait work on mark VII before asking for another order. Discussed the convenience of having a second extension put up towards Waterloo Street of 108 ft. which would cost about \$62.00 per foot based on what the last 72 ft. cost. I am inclined very much to get this done, it would bring the machine shop down pretty close to the stable that holds some of our antiquated patterns and would with a door opposite the platform give excellent facilities for loading shells direct on the platform without interfering with many things which does now. Will write you again on this subject.

Decided to purchase two new 24 hour 150 men clocks at about \$550.00 with an allowance of \$100.00 for the ones now in use. We have not been able to register with them our over time which is a great inconvenience and on Sundays we have to depend on the men sending in their slips correctly. The machines are very antiquated and liable to make mistakes which are occurring every pay roll night, considering the large sum we are paying out weekly we think they would pay for themselves in last then 12 mos. This would give us accommodation for 300 men.

FRIDAY
January 26th.

Zero all day but bright and clear. Paid \$4664.00 to 213 men including \$1935.00 piece work. Entirely out of ~~coal~~ for melting but hear that a car is on the way from Detroit as usual. *COKE*

Shipped 990 shells. Workingover time on shipment of four Eclipse. Wore my new fur lined over coat for the first time, it is very acceptable these days.

We are now turning out more than 500 shells in 24 hours which is very gratifying.

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Enough
Mr. Morgan thinks he has the nosing of the mark VII alright and can do it without any trouble when we start on them. I have always been afraid of this part of the operation as I have heard a great many have trouble to get material ~~to clear~~ the square recess necessary. First thread milling machine for this operation arrived by express to-day, we were afraid to have it come by freight owing to the present congested freight of railways.

Alice inspected 2000 pair of socks and carried them to the basement in Hyman Hall to-day, she and Mother were practically prostrated from their work to-day, Mother got a very bad cold in consequence.

SATURDAY

January 27th.

Five below zero and stormy. Received \$4664.00 from Imperial Munition Board for January 11th shipment.

Loaded and shipped four more Eclipse boilers for war office service and had the satisfaction of wiring Mr. FitzGerald who is the Commissioner that we were two days ahead of our promised shipment. It looks as if we would be in time with out 20 boilers.

Received a second cheque in afternoon mail of \$4560.00 from the Imperial Munition Board for shells January 12th.

Had several boiler enquiries this mail.

John Babkirk of the Montreal Trust Company, Toronto arrived this afternoon. He is a very busy man, he left Sunday afternoon.

Cars Loaded Jany. 22 to 27th.

2 Cars finished shells 1980

3 " Eclipse boilers

Cars unloaded Jan. 22nd to 27th.

1 - Car fire Brick Slabs

8 - Cars rough shells

2 - " coal.