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May 30/17.

Lieut. Col. Ibbetson Leonard,
Canadian Corps Cavalry Regiment,
B.E.F. France, -

MONDAY May 21st. Light mail only one small engine order. Tendered on 9 - 41 x 84 Upright Boilers Special for Beatty & Sons, delivery of the last Sept. 8th, we heard subsequently that the delivery was too far away to suit the order and are afraid we will not secure this order. We based it on 5% off our list, boilers to be built under Ontario Inspection.

Merin Bros. commenced putting in concrete for second extension.

Have on hand now 24,000, 5" shells yet to be delivered to close our contract for that size.

Received an order for a 6 x 8 Experimental engine for the Saskatchewan University similar to what we have furnished for Toronto University.

Mrs. A.H. Beddome struck by an auto last evening while in the Park and subsequently died from the effects.

TUESDAY May 22nd. Attended Huron & Erie. The President insists upon having a large balance of cash on hand under the present high prices of products and the possibilities of a poor harvest, I think he is quite right in this respect. We were very much gratified to learn that our debentures still hold a place in the British market as far more were renewed for five years than we expected under the present financial conditions of Great Britain.

WEDNESDAY May 23rd. Rain, snow flurries and cold wind, thermometer 36. Lots of business enquiries. Mr. Harvey of Exeter called who has two of our boilers and converting his mill to be driven by electricity which is the song now of all our customers if at all in the reach of the Hydro lines. He has two sons at the front 19 & 21 years old, one of them ill recently, he is doing his bit like myself.

Boiler makers made a good start on the 48" Uprights for Beatty & Son, have already all the heads flanged for same by hand.

Our nosing press cracked this morning and were not able to use it but Mr. Morgan put a clamp on and got it to work before evening. We also started a pattern for a heavier platen which we will cast on Saturday and get in as soon as possible. We are very busy unloading coal of which we bought four or five cars, perhaps too much but we want to be on the right side to keep the shells going out.

THURSDAY MAY 24th. Cold and rain. Went to office until one o'clock, only a fair mail. Shipped 1228 shells. Rain prevented any work being done on second extension. Went for a walk with Schofield who arrived at noon and visited the Middlesex Mill, who are making some kind of cloth and starting a dying department, was much interested. Also visited the Toasted Corn Flake Co. works in the same vicinity. The Brewett & Lindlay engine is still doing service but only in winter when they use the exhaust steam for heating. In summer it is entirely shut down and they have motors large and small on nearly everything, I should judge 40 all told and run day and night, it was quite a revelation to me and shows that electricity is practically more than ever undermining the engine business.

FREDAY May 25th. Cold and bright. Paid \$4181.00 to 193 men including \$1715. piece work. Received an order for three more 48 x 96 Upright boilers for Beatty & Sons. This will make nine of one size, they are for overseas service and we are bound to time in finishing.

Shipped 1232 shells. Examined plan for coal bin and platform, coal bin 42 ft. long platform 63 ft. long which will cost about \$1500.00, have arrived at no decision in this matter.

Only two days work on the second extension this week on account of weather.

SATURDAY May 26th. Warm and bright. Schofield came to office in morning and discussed thoroughly the shell situation. As far as getting them out of the country it has been a very hard job since the New Year for want of ships, he knows little or nothing about our department of manufacturing.

For the first time in over a year we have been even with the bank.

Went for an auto ride to Delaware and back by Komoka, Kilwerth and Springbank Park which was enjoyed very much especially by Mother.

SUNDAY May 27th. Beautiful day. Had a good sermon from Norwood. Aunt Tilly and Estelle went to church with me.

Had a telephone from E.A. Russel who is acting for the Imperial Munition Board who in turn have assumed the management in getting out 40 Triple Expansion Upright Marine Engine ^{about} Scylinders 20", 36" & 48" diam. by 40" stroke, weighing about 65 tons each. Get in communication with Morgan and we left for Toronto that evening with Aubrey. Will report next week result of our interview.