

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

July 23/17.

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

JULY 15th. SUNDAY. Rain and sunshine alternately all day. Attended church with Mother and Alice. Wrote a long letter to yourself about 5" shell contract, second addition, Sarah's permit and balance due your credit.

July 16th. MONDAY. Maitland laying cast iron plates to connect shops. Did not run on shells Saturday night or Sunday A.M. the first time in nearly two years. Maitland and gang sweeping the chimneys at Oakwood, it is impossible to get anyone even City authority men are so scarce to do this work.

Had a game of golf with Mr. Lad of St. Louis over 16 holes in the New University links.

July 17th. TUESDAY. Blackgrove of the Casualty Insurance Company called to inspect secondhand boilers for a party in Hamilton. We had warned them that we would not allow him to inspect any of our work as he had always made trouble between us so when he came Morgan and Lamond showed him the correspondence and he left much chagrined after making a trip from Hamilton here, this is the man who made or was largely responsible for our law suit with the Grant Brewery Company of Hamilton and we therefore want to see nothing of him but his heels.

Ordered a Ford motor for Mother of the Sedan pattern to cost \$902.00 and extras \$200. more.

Received \$7834.00 from Imperial Munitions Board.

Mr. Gurney, Steamboat Branch of the Marine Department, I.M.B. wires that tenders for winches and windlasses is extended to the end of week. We wrote that as the time was past before we could get in a tender on the 1st enquiry we were not prepared for a second tender on such short notice.

Mr. Morgan is having trouble closing in 4.5 leaving enough to finish the collar. He went to St.Thomas and investigated there.

July 18th. WEDNESDAY. Visited church and located size of E.W.L. Memorial Tablet which we have now got together in shape and wording and will now ask for tenders.

Morgan went to Brantford and purchased an oven for 4.5 nosing which we think will do and also a fan, we are very very fortunate to get these for it would hold up a week until we could buy or make elsewhere.

Your cable arrived and answered we would post pone pending an investigation.



July 23/17.

EIL.

Went for a motor ride to Springbank, Kilworth and Hyde Park home.

Mr. & Mrs. Gartshore called and made a very pleasant evening for us, I handed him your Historical report of the Canadian Light Horse.

We are practically out of coke and concluded to order acarat \$15.00 per ton at the mines, \$3.00 freight to London and 10 days shipment. Nearly everybody is in the same fix. McClarys working from hand to mouth, if this does not come in time I told James Hutton we would start and melt with lump Leheigh which my father did 40 years ago before coke was used in Canada so I am not losing any sleep over that situation.

July 19th. THURSDAY. Busy moving furnace room and putting up new Inspector room, in second extension.

Went over depreciation of machinery and tools to 30th June 1917 with Mr. Holmes.

Tore down 4.5 furnace which we had just repaired and put up, practically new, and prepared to receive furnace from Brantford.

Shipped 990 shells to-day.

July 20th. FRIDAY. Fair and quite warm. Paid \$2981. to 190 men including \$1663. piece work.

Mrs. John Stevely called and I arranged to put insurance on the Ford Motor against accidents for a year \$31.90.

Sent guarantee to Militia Department for charities on E.W.D's kit which we trust will soon arrive. I dread its entrance into Oakwood very much but all such things have to be faced.

Called with the Committee on the Bishop to select a new Rector for Memorial, this is my third visit of this character and perhaps the last. Several names were mentioned which I am not at liberty to divulge just now, but we will make a selection of a man this week and I hope things will be settled as I am a little heart sick at Nerwood leaving us but he can do so much better in a wider field, I only wish him every success, our congregation I do not think have quite appreciated him.

July 21st. SATURDAY. Morgan got a furnace at Ker & Goodwins for nosing and a blower in operation after many changes and it heats the shell just far enough, turning out a couple of hundred a day, and he thinks we have made a good beginning on the 4.5. We have not run for four nights this week but will commence night shift Monday next. Hydraulic riveter pipe burst in engine room so we took it out and had it electrically welded which so far works good and tight.

Shipped 905 - 5" shells to-day.

Received \$4050. from I.M.B.

Did not go to links as it was very hot and I was very tired.



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RE MOUNTING AND SHEET IRON SHOP.

Dear EdL  
July 23-17

I suppose the reason you cabled us last week that you had just received the details of tender for the Brick work and new beams \$5680.00 or thereabouts. I am sorry we cannot agree into making this into a machine shop for it is in the wrong place. I consented in 1904 against my better judgment and have always regretted it. My reasons are -

- 1st. We need every square foot of sheet iron and boiler fitters shop for their work either for that kind of work or Tractors.
- 2nd. After deducting a bench and space at present used by track will leave only about 20 foot wide for an erecting floor which takes a third off a cranes usefulness.
- 3rd. We can handle all the Engine (heavy) repairs in the mounting shop or Planer room. We do not have a genuine call for a new engine once a month. Good Secondhand Engines can now be bought at \$20.00 per ton. We had three letters last week offering Engines for sale on account of Hydro.
- 4th. There is no possibility of us making one marine Engine complete, Patterns, castings, forgings, Pumps, condensers, thrust box and other parts I am not acquainted with in the 12 months offered by the Imperial Munition Board with a penalty. The Blue Prints, conditions and inspection would give you a head ache.
- 5th. We would have to spend over \$40,000. in a crane, tools and appliances to make marine Engine at double or more the value would have been asked three years ago.
- 6th. I am not prepared to pay for the education of Mr. Morgan his assistants and our workmen on another class of Engines the same way we threw away our money on the Peerless and High Speed English Engines.
- 7th. I am strongly of the opinion we should execute this \$5680.00 contract doing what we do substantially and making brick wall and post and beams so they can be elevated 30 foot wide by 180 foot long at any future time.

The same day we received your cable we had a thorough examination of the joists and sheeting and was very much disappointed to find both in a most deplorable state from dry rot of which I will send you a sample by post. This roof has been up for fifty years and it is not to be wondered at. I made a rough estimate of lumber for Joist and sheeting (2") of \$1600 & say \$400. for putting on would make say \$7500. add \$500. for work altering pipes, putting in benches, counter shafts would make a total of \$8000. at least half of this we would be able to charge to repairs for the current year. I feel like jumping in and doing the work as above with the new roof & joists but we can cancel I think the contract with Harry Hayman by paying him for the lumber he is getting from B.C. for posts and beams and a fair sum for his trouble and some profit. If so desired, will write you at a day or two on this subject.