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October 15th/17.

Lieut.Col. Ibbotson Leonard,
Canadian Light Horse,
B.E.F.France.

My Dear Ibb -

SUNDAY Sept.30th. Went to church in morning. 63rd Battery in attendance with Keith Cameron in Command, they looked very well but a variety of height and width, not what you would call attractive.

Shells shipped this month 7284, 4.5.

MONDAY October 1st. Received 7032 from Imperial Munitions Board.

Sent you catalogue of the Bates Steel Mule to read and hope you will say what you think about it as soon as possible.

Were obliged to-day to detach the twist belt in the machine shop leading to counter shaft upstairs and put steam on shop engine driving the North and South shafts in the mounting shop. The new Compressor now on machine shop motor and it works very satisfactory. This plan gives a good air pressure in the boiler shop which has for a year back been very unsatisfactory and the men make excuses about low pressure and take advantage of the situation.

TUESDAY Oct.2nd. Looked over the cost of fuel oil for the last eight months, working 22 hours we used 422 barrels equal to 18380 gals. price ranged from 8 to 11 1/2 or a total of \$1990.00. We would save the price of a large tank to hold a carload in about six months if we were running 22 hours, but would not advise it when only running 55 hours per week.

J.I.Case Company, Racine Wisc. whose make of Tractor we think the most of have declined to give us any information or arrangements to make in Canada, we however are not surprised as they have a splendid connection especially in the West.

Attended a short meeting of the Huron & Erie, Farm loans are up to 7%.

WEDNESDAY Oct.3rd. Poor mail and very little doing in the office. Messrs.Morgan and Wheaton very busy on making lists of Tractor sizes which is very interesting. Wish I could send you one.

Alice is taking me to and from the office very often.

THURSDAY October 4th. Quoted 33% on our list for 2 - 54" x 21 ft. Locomotive Boilers for Alberta. We have practically all the stock for them if ordered quickly but I doubt if people will pay the price asked.

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FRIDAY October 5th. Paid \$2738. to 139 men including \$1124.00 on piece work.

Mr. Holmes returned from his visit to Ottawa and Montreal and thinks practically no prospect of getting plates from the United States, as the application is surrounded by so many safe guards it leaves very little prospect, most of the other manufacturers think the same way. We wrote however an estimate to the Secretary and gave an approximate of what we would require for the next six months, concluded to try and cancel orders to Lukens in part or in all if possible as there is really nothing in the 44,000 lbs. that could be construed for War purposes directly or indirectly.

Mr. Holmes met Harman of Sawyer Massey and Arthur White and both asked him to make Tractors for them, after considering the matter concluded we could not do so although the advantage they have of unorganized sale department would be quite an inducement.

SATURDAY Oct. 6th. By-Law for \$25,000. to establish a Municipal Coal Yard carried by 1000 majority which was a great surprise, but the labor people turned out in the afternoon and brought it to that majority, other sober thinking business men voted against it including myself.

Had lunch with General Archie McDonald at Hume Cronyn's request at the Club meeting six other of his friends. He looks well and is most enthusiastic over the way the boys are fighting. He spoke in touching terms of gallant Woodman. I am in hopes he will call on dear Mother before he leaves Canada.

SUNDAY Oct. 7th. Attended church with Mother and had Holy Communion. Hockins preached a splendid sermon which was upon the war and the sacrifices being made.

Went to Woodstock with Mother and Alice by way of Thamesville and back by Ingersoll, 4 hours actual running time. Spent an hour with Mrs. White and family whose intimacy we will encourage. Gordon we understand had left the Canadian Light Horse which you have not intimated to us.

MONDAY Oct. 8th Thanksgiving Day. Received \$7500. from Imperial Munitions Board. Mr. Morgan down for a couple of hours at the office and we had a good talk about making Tractors. Went for a ride to Elginsfield, East on proof line and South by way of Asylum side road. Not as nice as some of the other trips we have made.

Had a good read at Woodman's diary, it seems too bad to lose such a good son.

TUESDAY Oct. 9th. Talking Tractors with Morgan again, he likes the small machine called the Wallace Cub which is very light and able to pull 2 or 3 plows. We have written them for more particulars.

The Board decided to try and get employees interested in the service fund which gives a good return for their savings.

Six months to-day since Dear Woodman laid down his life at Vimy Ridge.

The Bridge Company of Walkerville who are making several Marine engine for the Imperial Munitions Board want us to make two sizes, 16 & 33" diam. x 40" stroke, they placed this order elsewhere and we are suspicious there has been a failure. We talked the matter over and concluded it was too much risk at it and unless we made the moulds in dry sand and baked them in an oven to be sure of having good castings. We have been given to understand that the Inspectors throw out work for the least defect and several Companies are in hot water trying to make these engines to suit.

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WEDNESDAY Oct. 10th. James Lamond returned from Ojibway, who want a lot of wharf castings for the Canadian Steel Company (U.S. Steel Corp). We concluded to offer to make the mooring posts for 5½¢ F.O.B. Sandwich and a lot of manholes for sewers for 5½¢, there will be nearly 200 tons castings required by next March. This job would fit in very well for the Winter.

Goldie McCulloch it is rumored are forgings 6" shell blanks. They have been held up for sometime for the 18 Prs. they have been making since the War began.

Robert Peary of the Crosby Company, Boston called and left prices for safety valves and steam gauges. Had a good business talk with him and then discussed the merits of Abram Lincoln vs. Woodrow Wilson very hotly. Took him out and had a cup of tea with Aunt Lizzie who knows of his family connection to Mr. Clark.

Alice took out four soldiers for a drive to-day in the Sedan.

THURSDAY Oct. 11th. Arranged with Maitland to put a brace on the East side of the foundry to stiffen up the foundry wall when we cast on Saturday.

To show you how prices are going we sold Park Bros of Chatham 70 - 3½" x 16 ft. boiler tubes at 67¢ lb. or a total of \$750.00 equal to about 15¢ lb. Boiler tubes have increased in price lately and we took advantage of it.

Your Mother, Alice and I took the Sedan to Thamesville, St. Marys nearly to Stratford and Embro and Governors Road home, 5 hours ride, made 80 miles or 10 miles per hour which we think is very good.

Alice had Red Cross in billiard room this evening.

Union Government has been formed in Ottawa. I fell much relieved although cannot say I think well of Coalition. *and not the cream of Liberal Statesmen*

FRIDAY Oct. 12th. Paid \$2230. to 134 men including \$928. piece work.

Interviewed Nurse Ivey re her experience at Ypres in Belgium. Her Hospital was about four miles back from Kammel Hill where Woodman was stationed for several months. She spoke well of Woodmans standing in the Army and Canon Scott's grief at his death which she witnessed. I wish you could run against this gentlemen and tell him how much we appreciated his Association with Woodman in this great War.

Conferred with Holmes & Morgan re Tractors. The latter's choice lays in the Huber Company of Marion Ohio, The Parrett Company, Chicago and the Lauson Company of Wisconsin and wants one of each bought to test and examine merits of construction. We will look into this suggestion later.

Received \$4500. from boilers sent to Dorchester, N.B. for the prison.

SATURDAY OCT. 13th. The Board met and will subscribe to British Red Cross \$1000. This is a good deal more than we did last year but the requirements are more urgent and we will not be behind in generosity towards any Red Cross enterprise it is doing so much good.

Will write Huber Company, Marion ^{Ohio} and ask for Ontario and East Canada and try and get a Tractor for Canada with a view to Manufacturing. It was decided that Mr. Morgan and Mr. Wheaton leave Sunday night for that place and call at Sandusky on the way to get information from a Mr. Parker whom we met at New Market a month ago.

Had a successful cast in the foundry of the punch frame weighing as near as we could tell 21000 lbs. We spilled about half a ton in clumsy handling, one of the ladies, the only drawback is our cupola is behind the times and we were hindered by slow melting owing to the slack that accumulated. We will let it remain until Wednesday before we take it out but the surface shows we have a good casting unless the core lifted.

The mail came in and we have no word from the Parrett Company, Chicago, who make a

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Tractor that we are very much inclined to adopt. I will meet Mr. Morgan in Chicago next week and go to Joliet anyway ~~even~~ if he is successful at Marion because we cannot get the Steel Mule out of our heads it has so many good points.

Received cable from you and Sarah for Mothers Birthday which was very pleasant.

F. H. L.