

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

October 22nd/17.

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

My Dear Ibb,-

SUNDAY Oct. 14th. Went to church with grateful hearts and had a good sermon from Mr. Hawkins. Took Sedan to Port Stanley and back running time a little less than 4 hours, visited Duffields and Hymans location and Fraser heights on the West side and had a cup of tea in front of George Reids house. The view and location at this point has always appealed to me.

MONDAY Oct. 15th. Morgan and Wheaton left last night for Sandusky and Marion Ohio to look into two or three makes of Ohio Tractors. Shop and office running in very good order.

4.5 shells are certainly the size adapted to our machinery, we are breaking less belts and machines as a result, I hope we will be left alone for the balance of our Munition work on this size. Nice cheerful letter from you which I read in the evening and hope sincerely you will be able to be with us for a month or so in December, the longer the better.

Lieut.Blandford late of the 12th Battery called. He left it on the 31st March before Vimy Ridge. He explained to me how a barage works in preventing assistance coming forward and it clears up the movements of Woodman up to that time. I can now understand why he was hit as he was attempting I think to go around one side of a barage.

TUESDAY Oct. 16th. Paid my life Insurance Policies \$179.50.  
Maitland and gang cleaning up yard which is assuming a very tidy appearance.  
Made extract from a letter from Major Frank Ware written to his wife on his connection with yourself and Woodmans death which we appreciate very much.

Attended with auditors the Huron & Erie and went over all the security of that Company and the Canada Trust Company, got through at 7.30 was not able to be at the office any part of the day.

Political atmosphere is getting very clouded, one hardly know what to do but I am inclined so far to support Union Government. Premier Borden will get rid of a lot of incompetent men and be replaced by a lot that we can reasonably trust to prosecute the War.

Private ---- had dinner with us, was with Woodman up to the middle of June 1916 when ara was struck with piece of 5.9, Woodman helped get him on a stretcher. It is very thrilling to get so near to the actual battle as this.



THURSDAY Oct. 18th. Looked over the letters. Had a wire from Morgan who went to Columbus to visit Tractor show. Wheaton also wired us that we could have a Tractor now on a car at Marion if we wired him \$1185. which Mr. Holmes arranged to do at a cost of \$9.75 by the telegraph company. This is for a Huber Tractor which one we think has the most promising points about it and we hope it will arrive very soon. The more we look into the possibilities of this business the better it seems.

Imperial Munitions Board phoned us to ship if possible a second car this week of 4.5 shells. We hope this is a fore runner for increased production.

FRIDAY Oct. 19th. Paid \$2534. to 128 men including \$1061. piece work. Attended special meeting of Huron & Erie regarding a loan we hold in the Province of Alberta. Cut off and gave R.S. Holmes 100 coupons from the Anglo French and also deposited your coupons and Woodmans to your respective accounts in Huron & Erie.

Mr. Murch of St. Thomas has sold the Southern Loan Co. stock that Estelle & Elaine have at 110 which is a fair price. I will now have this converted into Huron & Erie soon as I can get hold of the stock. The Southern Loan Co. is all solid but is not a progressive company and the prospects of a higher dividend are better in the Huron & Erie.

Received \$7240.00 from the Imperial Munitions Board.

Paid \$350. towards Salvation Army Rescue Home which is one of our local institutions and doing a great deal of good.

Major Allen MacEwen, D.S.O. and Miss Ross of Montreal had dinner with us and we went over the map covering Woodmans movements at the second battle of Ypres April 22/15 and explained many matters that I was not able to get from Woodmans letters.

SATURDAY Oct. 20th. Morgan and Wheaton back from Sandusky, Marion, Columbus and Detroit. We have just been quoted a price from one firm not in the regular business however of \$1.03 for 4" x 18 ft. boiler tubes, this is the highest by a good deal we have been asked so far for tubes equal to 17g lb.

Word from the I.M.B. to increase our output to 2500 per week of 4.5 shells covering our day shift and Mr. Morgan after looking into it says it can be done by working a couple of hours for three nights during the week. We hope this is the fore runner to putting on our night shift.

The fourth Canadian Loan will be floated and particulars given to the Public early next month. They are appointing the most influential men in the country in the larger Towns and Cities in the Dominion to form sub-committees to canvass personally all people towards this great object.

Punch frame that we cast last Saturday proves to be a good one as we have taken all the cores out will report to you later what it weighs.

Fred Harper says Woodmans will be probated about 10 days from now, so we will be able to get the balance of his insurance money. Judge McBeath was not satisfied with my standing and Sir George got Col. Hobbs and R.C. Struthers to go security for me. This seems perfectly absurd but is the usual procedure when an Agent is appointed as I was to carry out the instructions.

Col. Abbott returned the history of the Hussars which I sent him after being followed up to do so.

We had a conference after lunch and decided to buy a gang plow for our Tractor immediately and get Tractor at work on any prospective farm purchaser in this vicinity, and will get Wheaton on the job list of the week. He is most enthusiastic to take hold of this line of business and is well acquainted with construction of motors. He tested one in Marion off the wheels and got full instructions what to look out for. Mr. Morgan says this type of Tractor can be made very cheaply and he was assured that when all the parts



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are assembled that two men can put one together ready for testing in less than 14 hours. He got many points at Columbus and good word for the Huber.

We had a general talk about rebuilding the mounting shop and S.I.Shop estimated at \$7300. but will have another talk 1st of the week on this subject.