

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

October 29th/17.

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

My Dear Ibb,-

SUNDAY Oct.21st. Went to church in the morning as usual and remained in the house all day excepting walk with Alice to Quebec Street and back in the evening. Wrote a long letter to you regarding Tractor position and Morgans trip in connection with the purchase.

MONDAY Oct.22nd. Had a talk with Messrs. Morgan and Holmes and will send Wheaton soliciting at once in vicinity of London for Tractor business, and I might say here that he was fairly successful in getting some prospective purchasers. He could make two sales right away if he would take some old farm machinery, gas engine, harrow, rake and a couple of horses. It is very laughable what some people will drag into this kind of business but we are determined to keep entirely out of it or make no sale. We set the price at \$1500. which just covers the cost of the one with freight and duty that we have now on the way from Marion. We will require half cash and the balance in six months or as can be arranged agreeably.

Shipped special car of 1472 - 4.5 shells. The Board met and decided that it was to the interest of the Company in view of the Tractor Prospects to proceed to repair mounting shop and sheet iron shop by new brick wall next G.T.R.. New joists, beams, posts, roof and monitors as per plan and as per contract of the 18th June and charge same to profit and loss of last years business.

TUESDAY October 23rd. The Board had a long conversation with Mr. McBride who made the estimate up as follows -

Former estimate without roof	\$5695.00
Entire new roof and joists	\$1649.00
A higher wall (15") next G.T.	

to carry the water off inside the building to conductors  
into a drain on our own property

\$ 255.00 - Total \$7599.00.

In addition to this we will likely put wire screens on all the windows next the tracts and other fixtures about \$200.00. This will make a fine shop for Tractors 30 ft. wide and 183 ft. long with practically a fire wall without cornices next to G.T.R.

Wired Imperial Munitions Board that we have material on hand for 10 or 11 filters required for the new steamships but could not cut the price as we they wished owing to increased cost of material.



Oct. 29/17.

Attended Huron & Erie. All 7% loans (16) and one 8% in. The Minister of Finance indirectly intimated to our Manager that we would require to subscribe one million dollars as our share for the Victory loan. This rather took us off our feet as we will have drag enough from our savings bank account without putting up such a very large sum. However, we will see.

*by subscribers to Victory Loan*

WEDNESDAY October 24th. We had another conference with McBride and would be willing to extend the time a little longer, the 1st of January provided Hayman would put a temporary petition the full length so that we could work in the press room, the blacksmith shop and the planer room, while he is building the wall and putting on the roof.

Received \$12690.00 from Imperial Munitions Board, two cars of shells and some extras. Had a wire from Mr. Southam of the I.M.B. ordering us to increase our weekly output of 4.5 to 3500, we were surprised at this but will see what we can do in meeting the situation byt putting on a night shift.

THURSDAY October 25th. McBride and Haymen called and we went over verbally, contract, see former notes, and closed same on the understanding that the work be done sooner if possible. We will leave the old roof for him to work under ( 30 ft. x 183 ft.) and also to bring in his material for building the wall next the track and do not see why with this protection he should not make better time.

Sent Ames & Company 6 Russian Bonds to be recorded. Mr. Ames says it is altogether likely they will pay the face of the coupons now but deduct the current exchange which will cut into the value very much. I am sorry for this as I recommended the purchase but never expected Russia to reach the condition it is now reported to be in.

FRIDAY October 26th. Paid \$2783.00 to 133 men including \$1189.00 piece work.

G.H.Evans has sold the Sydney, N.S. cottage, that we have had on hand for so long from the McCabe Estate for \$1000. cash which we concluded to accept. The interest and expenses on our books are equal to about \$1300. less about one years rent which has been collected. We are glad to get rid of this thing as it has been on our books four or five years.

We are making two boilers for the American Can Company (72" x 18') and are behind with our promises like all other manufacturers so much so they sent one of their principals up here and he arrived at noon and by a special effort we got the boiler on a car which was waiting and shipped at same evening. He was delighted at our expedition, the boiler however was not painted but he was afraid of the cold. *2nd Boiler Nov 2-*

A car of boxes arrived to-day which was four days coming from Burlington, we hustled 500 out of it, had the shells painted, dried and Inspected and car billed out at 10 P.M. which was very satisfactory.

SATURDAY October 26th. Our new Rector Mr. Warrenner for the Memorial church arrived at 6 P.M. from Montreal in his motor and we put he and his wife up at Oakwood, he has made a favorable impression on the members of the family and left next afternoon to return permanently on the 1st December.

Fourth Canadian Loan will be for 300 millions, a most astounding sum and we will have to face the situation by subscribing most liberally from all sources available. Sir George Gibbons has accepted the Chairmanship of London and immediate Counties adjacent which we are very glad of and insures almost to a certainty that we will do our share.



Oct. 29/17.

EIL

The Huber Company of Marion offer to sell us four Tractors if ordered now. I feel very much like placing an order with them and putting them on the market as we have got to take the bull by the horns and either make A SPOON OR SPOIL A HORN as your grandfather used to say.

Mr. Morgan is very busy hiring a gang for next Monday night shift.

Have caught a cold and went home early.