

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

November 5th/17.

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

My Dear Ibb,-

SUNDAY Oct. 28th. In bed until 5 P.M. trying to ward off a cold. Looked over Woodmans letters and made some extracts. Mother and Alice went to church and made two trips with soldiers in afternoon giving them a trip to Springbank and back. Major Wm. Bishop and his bride in the City but did not call upon us which we thought a little strange.

MONDAY Oct.29th. We were too high on four boilers we recently bid for in the vicinity of St.John, N.B. at the rate of 50 on the list and allowed the freight. If we had based our price on the present cost of material that is in stock in Ontario we could not sell for less than 75% on our list. This seems a little strange, however we do not think we can quote any less than 50 on for the present. Started night shift on 4.5 shells with 15 men.

TUESDAY Oct.30th. A hot box on the main counter shaft above engine melted out the bearing and we lost half a days work there by.

No word of car with Tractor now 12 days on the way from Marion, Ohio. Wheaton seems a little discouraged lately but we bucked him up and he went off again in good spirits into the Township of Westminster.

Attended Huron & Erie and made a lot of 7% loans. Mr. Grundy of Toronto discussed the fourth Canadian Loan to be launched on the 12th and asked us to make a most liberal subscription towards it which we will try to do.

Financial situation in monetary centres is very unsettled largely due to want of confidence on both sides of the line. The C.P.R. dropped 6 or 8 points lately and other first class American roads several points.

Received a letter from you of the 10th of October and read portion of it to Messrs. Holmes & Morgan.

WEDNESDAY Oct.31st. We are almost at a standstill because of the non-arrival of component parts for 4.5 shells. The railways are very slow in our opinion.

Haymans men putting up a rough partition so that we can keep the planer room, blacksmith shop and nosing room working during the repairs. Had talk with Messrs. Holmes & Morgan regarding what we shall do as regards selling our Tractors when we get a few made but came to know decision other than it now appears harder to sell them than to manufacture but we will surmount in some good business way.

Nov. 5/17.

EIL.

Shipped 7388 shells this month which is only 2/3 of what we should have done but will make a better showing next week.

THURSDAY Nov. 1st. Second fall of snow of 2" indicates winter is very close. Mr. McBride submitted plan for ~~higher~~ <sup>higher</sup> windows next G.T.R. which will be 4'8" of glass above the top of a box car when it is standing on the G.T.R. track. This will assure us a well lighted shop even without the ~~monitors~~ on the North half of the building from which we expect also some light. We will put along the wall foundations for the footings of steel work to carry a ten ton *travelling* driven Crane if it is called for in the future and we wish to elevate the whole roof at any future time. I hope this will meet all your wishes in this regard.

Attended meeting of Victory loan in the evening.

FRIDAY Nov. 2nd. Paid \$3187. to 160 men including \$1372. on piece work. Shipped two cars of 2458 - 4.5 shells, all tools running last night with an output of 342 - 11 hours, and the day shift turning out exactly the same number in ten hours.

George Reid called and the firm subscribed for the Y.M.C.A. the same as last year \$300.00 and added \$100. for the Y.W.C.A. in their new enterprise and also \$100. to the Italian Red Cross, total \$500. These are all worthy objects and these times all must be supported.

Received \$5715.00 from Imperial Munitions Board.

Made of list with Mr. Morgan of the patterns 1st to be destroyed upstairs will try and get at this work without delay.

SATURDAY Nov. 3rd. Will have to quote in the future 50 on the list for smoke stacks when material is bought in Canada, when it is bought in U.S. and freight and duty added it will come to a little less but they have a way now of holding up all kinds of material under the excuse of embargo so that the life of a S.I. smoke stack maker is no Bed of Roses.

Wrote Sir Chas. Gordon, Canadian Commissioner of purchases assisting the English authorities in purchases in the U.S. asking for the name of the purchaser of Tractors that England is buying in the U.S. with a view of getting some of these to make.

Also wrote Massey Harris if they were not going to manufacture would they not sell our Tractors on a commission basis.

Had a long walk with Alice out across the Trafalgar property. I still have it in my head that we should purchase the six acres that is owned by Drs. Drake & Wilson Estates. The property is in splendid shape. We may have to test our Marion Tractor on a part of it if it ever arrives in time.