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Western Archives, Western University

March 18th/18.

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

Dear Ibb,-

SUNDAY March 10th. Went to church as usual. Wrote you a long letter re Tractors, Deposit of Bonds, Catalogue and minor matters.

MONDAY March 11th. Mild but 4" of snow. Waitland moving two - 48" x 12' Boilers to the west yard, these have been practically under way since last spring, very few inquiries and we are sorry we made them up, however their time will come for Ontario use we hope.

Sent cheques to-day to A.E. Ames for Victory Bonds.

TUESDAY March 12th. Warm and bright, snow going. I.M.B. write steel blanks will be scarce for a time, whether this is owing to shortage of steel or railways we do not know, so a prospect of slacking up in the near future is good.

Attended Huron & Erie and presided. George T. Brown is holding his own only. Hume Cronyn back from the south from a short visit.

WEDNESDAY March 13th. Mild and bright. Deposited bonds in Canada Trust vaults. Got the order by 'phone for a new 54" x 14 ft. for \$1450. from the Avon Hosiery Co. Stratford. Three more Tractor inquiries to-day.

THURSDAY March 14th. Milder and rain. Got a cable that you and Innis were together and it was most gratifying, it was dated London and we suppose that Innis was able to get to the front to see you there. It will be nice when he returns to have someone directly from you with many details we have hitherto not been able to get. Wrote Srah at Paris enclosing a cheque for 20 Pounds from the firm for Army & Navy League Club Fund, this is acting upon your suggestion. As a rule we are not subscribing to any association outside of the Patriotic, Red Cross and Y.M.C.A. Five more inquiries for Tractors by to-days' mail.

FRIDAY March 15th. 3" snow, cold and bright. Paid \$5130.00 to 211 men including \$2767. piece work.

Goldie & McCulloch telephoned us asking and we looked over set of Blue Prints for three ammonia compressors which they would like us to undertake to make. The frames would be 19'6" long, 4 ft. wide and having the guides cast on them. After careful measurement of our machinery we concluded that we could not undertake the work so wrote them to that effect. It would mean three or four 1st class moulders at very high wages and half a dozen machinists of the same grade to do the work which are practically not

obtainable in London and we would have to advertise like they are all doing for help. We further heard that this company are having trouble with their moulders and if we started likely we would have the same before us in a very short time.

Heaton returned from his trip North with three very good prospects for Tractors.

SATURDAY March 16th. Mild and bright. Three more Tractors inquiries in the mail. Board decided not to make a Stover Gasoline engine at G.H.E. request who has lost the Agency for this splendid engine. He would require three sizes and sell three or four of each size during the 12 months. We wrote him saying we could not think of entering into any line of manufacturing after this unless it was in a wholesale way. We had enough of three or four of a size in the last 20 years to under take, there is no money in it. We suggested that he take a trip to London and when here we will discuss the matter. Our advice will be to hunt up another company of the same reputation and tie up to them in the meantime.

Cleaning up the yard of ashes. We find very little room now for boilers, lumber, etc, in the West yard after putting up the buildings 54 x 156. It is fortunate in this respect we have not got a lot of boilers to sell, they are being cleaned out gradually. Are largest stock is of Uprights with little or no call for them.

G.H.Evans wrote a nice letter asking about your health and prospects in the West. He has now another son Lloyd joined and will go forward shortly. Harold his third son who was returned home wounded has got a position on the Divisional Staff at Halifax which will suit him very well for the present.

Called on Mrs. Ware and left Canon Scott's book of Poem's which she loaned me sometime ago, unfortunately she was out. Walked home, it took me 50 minutes.

Attended special meeting of the Huron & Erie to adjust some important matters and to bid good bye to Hume Crenyn, M.P. who goes to Ottawa for the opening of Parliament on Monday.