

April 1st/1918.

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

From the holdings of
Western Archives, Western University

My Dear Ibb,-

SUNDAY March 24th. Palm Sunday, did not go to church but Estelle and Mother did. Aubrey accepted a page in our new catalogue for his Renolds chain which we have decided to insert as we think Evans can do something with it in the Maritime Provinces, whatever sales we make it is understood we are to be allowed a good commission. Evans will look into this at Montreal on his way to visit London in the next week or ten days.

Wrote you about Tractors, Bank of B.N.A., Marine Engines and Boilers, and new blacksmith shop.

MONDAY March 25th. Mild and bright. Received \$6983.00 from the Imperial Munitions Board for March 11th. Had a large mail with several estimates wanted. Arranged with the boiler shop what plates are to go into the secondhand 72" boilers from the Street Rly.

Maitland laid some plates in the noising room which makes a good job, the cement floor is of little use with such heavy things as shells being handled upon it.

TUESDAY March 26th. Mild and bright. Paid our war tax ending 30th June 1916 \$2450.00.

Lacey called on Mother to-day, his application to be received into the aged people's home is having considerable opposition from some source, but I think he will be admitted.

Attended Huron & Erie and had a short meeting. Paid \$10.50 for a pair of boots, what three years ago I only paid \$ 6.50 for, this is the largest sum I ever paid in my life and shows how things are soaring up in price.

Ferry Greenless had dinner with us and talked about dear Woodman. He looks very well. He has not decided yet whether to go back or not.

Morgan to go to Toronto to look over several millings machines and a grinder.

WEDNESDAY March 27th. Mild and bright. Tendered on six 66" x 16' boilers for the Ottawa Public Buildings and will turn the matter over into Plant's hands to deliver.

Had a order from Evans for a 12 x 12 Leonard Ball and a 66 x 14 secondhand boiler all in Montreal. The former has been in stock over three years. We only get for it \$565. cash, but are glad to get rid of it. He also sold a new 22" heater which we have in the Waterloo Street shed for four years or more, we had to reduce the price because it was pitted.

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Mailed tender to the U.S. for 10 - 10 H.P. Upright Boilers on hand for the U.S. Fleet, quoting 10% off list with usual fixtures. Very doubtful if we will have a chance except that these are on hand ready to ship.

Received \$7012. from Imperial Munitions Board for the 12th March shipment.

Received your cable that you and Innis were together for week end which is very gratifying.

Added 14 additional names to men of the 3rd Brigade, which Sgt. Barnhill has secured from the G.W.V.A. A very few more will exhaust the 50 that you sent me, will write you when they are all mailed.

THURSDAY March 28th. Bright and cool. Attended a reception lunch at the Tecumseh House to Major Jack Hunt and Capt. Greenless, the former addressed us with a conversational speech as to his experience in Russia and Bulgaria which was very interesting.

Paid \$4458.00 to 197 men including \$2268. piece work. This is for five days work.

Wrote Manager MacKenzie of B.N.A. regretting their withdrawal from doing business in Canada.

Got two cars of shells off, total 3938 and also a load of turnings.

Attended the Board of Trade Executive meeting and cleaned up a lot of business. Will make a special effort to have Tractor meeting for 1919 in London, Cobourg has got it after all this year. Discussed the Red Cross and Patriotic Funds and appointed captains to take care of the canvass to take place the week of April 1916. Mr. Silverwood declined to take the Presidency for a second term.

FRIDAY March 29th. Beautiful day. All the works closed except repairing noising furnace and shipping copper turnings. Had a conference with Messrs. Holmes & Morgan regarding result of the latter's trip to Toronto, concluded to wait a little and go to N.Y. first before deciding.

Mr. Hyatt looked over new blacksmith shop with a view of tendering.

Had a good mail this morning with some inquiries, including a request for tender on 3 - 78" x 16 ft. boilers from Imperial Oil Co. We have only the heads on hand and doubtful if we could get the material necessary, however will see. James and I were laughing over it because the prints were made out by Goldie & McCulloch who got the best two to make at such a reduced price that everybody said they made fools of themselves.

Mr. Holmes went to ~~Monday~~ Windsor until Monday.

Did not go to office in the afternoon as was very tired. Alice at Hospital and Estelle at Mr. Carling's.

Wire from Washington that the Ferguson license had passed for 6 - 7/16 x 96 x 19'3" flanged plates, this will put us in very good shape and just suit the material we have on hand.

Pume Cronyn called and I said we would give the same as last year for Red Cross & Patriotic funds and to cover all other Patriotic Subscriptions for the current year equal to \$6000.00.

SATURDAY March 30th. Bright and cool. Only shipping gang at work in the works. As you requested I wrote Director of Graves Registration as per copy enclosed. Also Canadian War office Records as per copy enclosed. If you are in London in the near future I wish you would look these people up.

Several inquiries yesterday and to-day for Tractors.

Cancelled car of plates ordered through Need, Alexander & James, it appears they cannot roll 96" plates and we cannot wait.

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The Ferguson plates from Buffalo for which we have now got a license will answer all our purposes for the present.

Received from Imperial Munitions Board orders to reduce 4.5" shells to 2400 per week commencing April 8th, this means we will have to discontinue our night shift. Will write you later on this subject.

Received also from I.M.B. order for 9600 - 4.5" shells for the month of June at the same rate which is quite satisfactory giving us three months work on them.

Total shells shipped for March - 18632.

Balance at Bank of B.N.A. - \$ 32,000.

Went to kennels with Alice and walked part way home, beautiful day. The links are hardly fit to play upon yet, but feel I must do something this spring.

Paid \$1500. on contract for mounting shop which is very nearly complete in all details.

Got an order for one 48" x 12 R.T. Boiler which has been on hand partly made up about ten months, also for a 34" x 10 Dairy boiler recently put together, both for immediate shipment.

Mother, Alice and Estelle very busy with presents of candy and easter eggs to the patients in Victoria and Military Hospital both afternoon and evening, they were very very tired, did not get home until nearly 11 o'clock.