

From the holdings of
Western Archives, Western University

March 11/18.

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

My Dear Ibb,-

SUNDAY March 3rd. Mild and thawing. Went to church as usual and spent the day very quietly, but wrote you a long letter on business affairs which I hope you will get in a weeks time.

MONDAY March 4th. We had a meeting of the board to-day and it was decided not to employ any agents in the sale of Tractors for 1918 and to sell the eight that we have ordered from the Marion people for \$1220. each F.O.B. London, this will barely let us out of the expense of handling same with no profit. You understand of course that the Government have taken the duty off Tractors until next November. We have spent considerable in making drawings of all the different parts of the Huber and have made quite a few patterns that would be necessary. These will all come in good we hope later on when things straighten themselves out.

We had a long conversation also to-day as to purchase of a gear ~~including~~ shaper to be used for the present in repairs, as we are running a very large bill to replace gears on our gishelts and machines on shells, ultimately the machine we would buy would come in for cutting gears for the Tractors and be a good investment. We are also on the lookout for a 30" ^{and} 36" swing first class engine lathe, if we can get them reasonably with a view of handling any work that comes in for the present and keep our repairs up on engines which are in a very very backward state.

TUESDAY March 5th. Five inquiries for price and description of Tractors to-day. We sold our first Tractor to-day which we bought last fall and tested, it will go to I.S.Egan, Ilderton first and be loaded on a car with other machinery and taken to lower Alberta. Mr. Egan has been talking about buying this for sometime and arranged to pay us the \$1220.00, and Wheaton took it out to Ilderton on Friday and put it on the car with him, it created quite a little stir in the Hamlet which Wheaton increased considerably when he hitched it to a couple of box cars and moved them up the track a considerable distance. It is wonderful what this Tractor will pull on the road as I mentioned to you several times.

Attended Huron & Erie, short meeting, George Brown is very ill and so is Mr. Gates, and Dr. Eccles attends very seldom.

Generator in the boiler shop partly melted out for some reason and held us up considerably.

WEDNESDAY March 6th. Things very quiet with small mail. Arranged the numbers of Tractors and will follow in the same manner as we have hitherto with the engines

Mar. 11/18.

E.L.

starting with devoting a whole page in the engine book and referring to the Blue Prints we have made. This will answer for all that we will handle this year.

28 Inquiries for Tractors so far from the Farmers Advocate which is very encouraging.

Got the minutes of the Board meeting for the last six months entered in the Co's books.

Victor Kent killed in France. Your mother telephoned Mr. Kent our sympathy.

Deposited your funds in the Co's hands in Huron & Erie with a view of meeting the new Victory Bonds which I have purchased for you.

FRIDAY March 8th. Paid \$5214. to 209 men including \$2172 piece work.

Shipped 3870 shells this week.

Received a letter from Shirley, Woodmans old Batman who is returning to Canada. He is sending forward some of his own baggage which I am going to look after for him.

Attended Board of Trade meeting at the Tecumseh House and discussed a lot of matters including recommendation of how we are to get men to take the harvest off next year, and keep our other industries and shell making going. It is a serious question.

SATURDAY March 9th. Mild but a heavy snow storm blowing.

Letter from Uncle Henry to-day, he is much better which I am glad to hear.

Woodmans friend James McNaughton called and tells me that the Polson Iron Works have all they can do in Marine work until 1925 so Col. Miller says, I think the Colonel is stringing a very long bow when he makes such a statement. However Mr. McNaughton will see me again and keep me posted on what the company is doing.

Received \$10,008. from I.M.B. principally from cars of February 27th and March 2nd.

Did not go down to the office in the afternoon as the day was very inclement and was not feeling just up to the mark.