

January 14/18.

From the holdings of
Western Archives, Western University

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

My Dear Ibb,-

SUNDAY Jany. 6th. Did not go to church which was held in the S.S. on account of the scarcity of coal. All went for a motor ride to Springbank and back, roads were in fine shape.

Major Niven called in the afternoon and talked about you and Wood which was very much appreciated. He has been wounded three times and is a brave fellow. He only got 60 days leave, brought his wife over with him. He leaves tomorrow on his return trip which barely gives him two weeks in London. He has to speak in Montreal and also in New York before returning.

Was at home all day resting. Wrote you a short letter about Tractors, Boiler Shop work and New Mounting Shop.

MONDAY Jany. 7th. Much milder with damp snow. Morgan now says the more he thinks it over the more he likes the manufacturing of Tractor proposition, he thinks it is far ahead of Marine engine business from what manufacturers say, especially as he has gone over every part of the Huber Tractor.

Paid \$44544. for the balance of E.L. & S. Ltd. subscription to the Victory Loan, also paid \$27879. for E.L. & S. Ltd. employees subscription including subscriptions of Mr. & Mrs. F.E.L., E.I.L., E.A.L. and Mrs. Shaw, which will bring our balance down pretty low.

Shipped one 60" x and one 66" S.H. boiler to Plant, Montreal which we have repaired. James Lamond away sick with heavy cold.

TUESDAY Jany. 8th. Very much colder. Plenty of snow and excellent sleighing. Wrote Hon. Mr. Ballantyne, Minister of Marine and Fisheries for Blue Prints of the Marine Engines and Boilers they are likely to want this year for service on the Lakes as it is understood they will be employed for the present in regular Commercial Transportation. Had a reply from him stating that he would attend to the matter for us.

Also wrote Hon. Newton Rowell about the steel plate and tube situation. Both of these letters I enclose copy of.

Dennis Wire Company are erecting a memorial tablet to Woodmans memory at the Soldiers Hospital, Byron for \$135.00 which we have ordered ready for the 21st.

Received \$7554. from Imperial Munitions Board.

Attended Huron & Erie and Canada Trust, only general business done.

WEDNESDAY Jany. 9th. Milder and bright. Mother gave her cheque for \$4955.00 for her subscription towards Victory Loan. Charged you account in E.L. & S. Ltd ledger with balance of your subscription to Victory Loan \$4455.40.

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The first payment \$500. was made out of your Hunon & Erie savings account.

Mr. Peacock, Hydro Commissioner tells me that London will have to reduce her power at least 25% as they are greatly troubled with ice now in the Niagara River.

Offered a new 14 x 30 Corliss engine to the Aylmer Condensed Milk Company for \$1200. which rates 6¢ lb. finished, this is about half what we got for these engines four years ago. This engine has been on hand five or six years.

Shipped 1962 shells to-day.

THURSDAY Jany.10th. Still milder, 22 above. Alice paid \$200. on her Victory Loan and I will arrange for the balance \$800.00 at her convenience.

Messrs. Henderson & Warner of the Walkerville Bridge Co. who are making five large Marine engines for I.M.B. called. They want five basis, 9 x 18 and 3 ft. deep, weighing 30,000 lbs. a piece. We will look into the matter and write them tomorrow. They are under heavy penalty to ship these engines on time.

Four cars of blank shells on our siding and two of boxes which is quite satisfactory.

The machinery in the London Foundry Co., King & Thames Streets is being sold out by piece meal as they are going out of the business. I understand Dave Cowan still owns the land and buildings.

Received \$7447. from I.M.B. Finished our estimate on castings for Marine engines to the Canadian Bridge Co. Walkerville and put in a price of 9½¢ F.O.B. London per ~~list~~ *letter* enclosed. The frames will be in two pieces weighing about 7½ tons each. This would suit us very well for we have just bought 100 tons of scrap from J. Harris who is breaking up the London Street Railway engines, it makes me feel pretty blue to see this machinery being in its broken state in our scrap pile. The engines were in excellent shape and would have served for many years yet with good results. The Cross Compound Corliss engine that they got in Pennsylvania especially, the fly wheel of this engine weighed 30 tons and we understand Waterous gave \$17.50 a ton for it, he will have a good time breaking it up.

FRIDAY Jany.11th. Paid \$4868.00 to 205 men including \$2610.00 piece work. This is quite an increase in our weekly pay due largely to piece work.

Messrs. Morgan, Holmes and myself concluded to make an offer to the I.M.B. for 500 Huber Tractors as per letter enclosed. It is not likely they will contract for next years supply, we however will be in excellent shape by December next to enter into a further contract or supply requirements for our own market. Men are getting scarce in the country in spite of the government allowing young men to remain on the farms, and we all concluded the prospect was very bright for a large sale.

SATURDAY Jany.12th. Below zero again with a heavy blizzard of packed snow. Street and vehicle traffic almost suspended. Hydro off several times during the day. Unloading blank shells.

Shipped 3916 shells this week which is a banner output. Did not go down to the office in afternoon and had a good rest.

Woodmans hamper arrived, will have to have a key made. There was no charge for storage or express on this piece which we suppose the government have paid.

No mail in the afternoon as no trains from the East.