

copy Feb letter

Jan 6 - April

1918

January 7th/18

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

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

Mr Ibb,-

SUNDAY Dec. 30th. Again below zero. Attended church, sermon on the "Open Door". Received cable from you that you had returned to the front on the 22nd. Library very cold, perhaps due to no fire in the conservatory on the South side. Wrote you about Gravity Filters, Power at the Works, Tractors, Victory Loans and Woodmans effects at Simkins.

MONDAY Dec. 31st. Still cold and close to zero.

Received \$7075.00 from Imperial Munitions Board and practically \$5000. from G.H. Evans and other sources, total nearly \$13,000 deposited. Received about 4000.00 from employees towards the payment on the Victory Loan.

Contractor made a start on the tar and gravel on the mounting shop roof as the day was clear and cold.

Shipped 10866 shells in December and would have been 1500 more but could not ship because proofs had not been reported on from Quebec, this is a regular nuisance and a drawback to us shipping but I suppose cannot be helped. *being brought into Canada*

Attended Huron & Erie, very few 7% loans. Government it is said will likely prohibit any other than Canadian securities, this I think a good thing and will lead to I hope our own people loaning money to our own government. The trouble has been for 50 years past that because they could get foreign funds  $\frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{2}{3}$  % less per year they have borrowed from wherever they could. I hope this will be changed in the future.

TUESDAY Jany. 1st. Bright and cold. Went to office and looked over mail with R.S.H.

Mr. Holmes and Mr. Morgan busy valuating machinery that is engaged on munitions. We are all the time having requests of this kind either from the different Governments or labor department and it has got to be a regular nuisance. Nearly all the men at work to-day on munitions, one car partly loaded.

Boiler shop on Dakin Heater for Steel Company of Canada of Hamilton (80").

R. Somerville elected by 880 majority for Mayor, defeating H. Stevenson and Ald. amount. We are all very glad as Hughie has lost his head in offering himself

the Sisters of the Precious Blood next door with best wishes for a Happy New Year on Mrs. Warrener, Mrs. Bullen, Mrs. McTaggart, Kate & Annie Elliott and

EIL.

2.

Jany.7/18.

TUESDAY Jany.2. Just above zero. Have been obliged to get up lately between 4 and 5 A.M. to stoke the furnace something I never did before, but it pays.

Wrote Trade & Commerce about embargo on steel plates that are in stock in Chicago and Buffalo and cannot be used in shipbuilding, it seems folly to me that we should have to get a license to use this class of material, you know we have been using it for over ten years, got a reply later that the matter was being looked into and I hope it will bring about some good result.

Gave McBride the order to go ahead with the sign next the track 28" x 132" <sup>fool</sup>

Morgan has a plain talk with the Night Inspector and Mr. Everett which may lead to considerable friction, but we cannot be over ridden all the time and I hope it will do good.

Called on my old friend Wm. Skinner, talked about old times and dear Wood. He has a grandson at the front.

FRIDAY Jany.4th. Again below zero. Paid \$4391.00 to 196 men including \$2165.00 piece work.

Mother paid me back \$840.00 which I borrowed from Woodmans account three months ago to secure some Huron & Erie shares, deposited same back to the dear boys account. I think it best now that I should transfer his account to you and draw the combined amount towards payment of the shares I have subscribed for you in the Victory Loan, will write you again on the subject.

Paid Mrs. Patteson \$1000. for dining room furniture at the Soldiers Hospital, Byron in memory of dear Woodman. Other members of the family to contribute their share, will write you in a few days on this subject also.

Bought 5 - 72" x 18 ft. boilers from J. Harris at the Steel Railway Power House for \$1400.00, this will give us quite a bit of work to repair and put in selling order. We also bought 100 tons of machinery scrap from him (engines, condensers, pumps, etc.) for \$29.50 per ton of 2000 lbs.

Lieut. Cooper, Mr. Everett and Mr. Morgan had a conference and the latter asked for two more Inspectors and was promised one. There did not develop any friction at this interview which was a happy relief, so everything is more satisfactory than we expected.

We take 100 ft. board measure to brace one car of shells on an average, have not bought any blocking for this purpose for over a year, using the York Street Shed and we now have for use the joist sheeting from the old mounting shop shed, which will supply us for the next 10 months to come.

SATURDAY Jany.5th. Snowed last night but bright to-day. A very quiet day at the office. Shipped 80" Dakin Heater to Hamilton, weighed considerably less than we expected. We have been three months making this heater on and off and I am afraid it will cost a good deal more than we expect as all articles do put together under these circumstances. However, we are getting a good price for it and hope to have a fair margin.

Morgan reports to-day that we are now working full capacity on shells and turning at the rate of 3500 to 4000 per week, this means that all the machines are at work. Certainly a lively scene in the old machine shop and the extensions, it is a great sight to see at night when they are all lit up.

Called on Mrs. Frank Ware and also Aunt Elizabeth in the afternoon.