

## BADANLOCH

Extracts from correspondence  
relating to the Electric  
Lighting.  
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1921

- May 2 Arthur Macdonald arrived Badanloch to take lessons from Mackenzie in running of engine until, as arranged, his Father the new Gardener should come on 18th instant:  
Note: Mackenzie, the old Gardener, complained of the delay in the arrival of the new cells for the battery (Mr Horne's Dept.). Mackenzie urged me to see Mr Horne and press him. Saw him a few days later, when he explained that the delay lay with the Edmundsons Electricity Corporation, but that he would again press them:
- " 15 Mackenzie writes "Arthur Macdonald getting on very well with the light. He will soon come to understand it all right".
- " 18 Macdonald, the new Gardener, arrives Badanloch:
- " 20 J.S. to Mackenzie. "Glad to hear boy is doing well in connection with the electric light. I am anxious, however, that Macdonald himself should thoroughly understand it before you leave, and I trust you will coach him as much as possible as Mr McCerquodale and Mrs Wood are very anxious about this department".
- " 25 J.S. at Badanloch: interviewed Macdonald, the new Gardener, his son, and Mackenzie. Mackenzie complained of the battery cells not having yet arrived, and urged me to press Mr Horne. He further explained for the first time to me that the rings in the cylinder were broken, and that while he could run the engine with them broken, it was unfair to ask a new man to do so.
- " 26 Wired and wrote Mr Horne pressing him to have the repairs executed immediately. "As you know Mackenzie, the Gardener, is leaving tomorrow, and the new man has arrived. Mackenzie has been teaching him, but says that until the engine is repaired and the cells placed, the new man will be at a disadvantage. Mackenzie hopes that you will be able to get the man Sutherland from Inverness to do the repairs, and to instruct the Gardener while he is there. Both Mr McCerquodale and Mrs Wood are naturally very anxious that the new man should master the running of the engine".
- " 28 Mr Horne writes in reply "Mr Williams (Edmundsons Electricity Corporation) has had in hand the supplying and fitting of the new piston positive plates for the batteries, but he has been unable to obtain the correct positive sections \* \* \* \* I have both wired and written Williams to-day about it, to have them sent on as quickly as possible, and the piston rings will be done at the same time".

June 8 New Gardener intimates engine stuck:



June 13 Mr Horne writes he and Electrician at Badanloch: found exhaust pipe wanted tightening up: put on the piston rings and ran Engine. Some adjustment still to make in connection with the switchboard, which the Electrician will do when he puts in the new sections to the battery.

Note: From this it would appear that the battery was still as Mackenzie left it - incomplete:

" 25 New Gardener gives notice terminating his engagement on 28th September:

" " Wiring and writing Mr McCorquodale and Mrs Wood:

" 26 Letter from Mr McCorquodale recommending engagement of Robert Cameron as Garden boy and to run the engine till another Gardener found:

" 30 Cameron engaged at 32/- a week with Mr McCorquodale's approval, and wiring him to meet me Badanloch 11 tomorrow:

Note: Received private note from Murdo Ross asking me to go at once to Badanloch:

July 1 J.S. at Badanloch: met Cameron and started him on his job: found Macdonald, the Gardener, perfectly unreasonable and impossible to treat with: became very troublesome from this time forward:

" 2 Letter received from Mr McCorquodale instructing that Cameron must at once be taught how to run the electric plant: Mr Horne to make arrangements with Electrician without delay: Also instructing me to find new Gardener single man or married without grown-up family:

" " Calling on Mr Horne and conveying to him Mr McCorquodale's instructions:

" 4 Writing Mr Horne repeating instructions that Electrician must go at once to Badanloch to teach Cameron. "This is Mr McCorquodale's orders and he punctuates his instructions".

" 6 Note from Mr Horne: "Man going Badanloch mail this morning".

" 12 Received letter from Mr Horne stating that he had been to Badanloch on 8th, and saw the Electrician and Cameron: Electrician of the opinion that Cameron now able to run the plant satisfactorily, but on Horne's cross-examination several weak points brought out in Cameron's knowledge. Horne instructed Electrician to go over all points with Cameron again before leaving next day.

" " Intimation received same day "Cameron wires engine broken: We are sending Electrician: Horne".

" 15 Letter received from Mr Horne saying "Edmondsons man went Badanloch, discovered crack in water jacket of new cylinder, which they recently supplied. The fault therefore reported by Cameron on Saturday is not his fault Edmondsons say that they have taken the cracked cylinder to Inverness and are getting a new cylinder for it".

Augt: 1 Letter from Horne saying new cylinder fitted and engine working satisfactorily.