

We cannot say precisely when this new forward house was placed on GLENFINNAN, but it was very similar to a new bridge structure placed on GLENLYON, and we know that the latter ship got hers in 1918 during a refit by the Midland Shipbuilding Company Ltd., so we must assume that GLENFINNAN got her house at the same yard and around the same time. The Midland shipyard did almost all of the maintenance and refit work required by any of Playfair's vessels over the years.

As well, GLENFINNAN was given a new closed rail at the forward end of the forecastle head, and thereupon the rest of the forecastle was painted grey like the hull, and only the new section of rail was painted white. Between the forecastle head and the texas deck there was now only one moveable catwalk, centred amidships. It is very likely that it was at the same time that these other changes occurred that GLENFINNAN at long last was given a freight elevator to assist in the hoisting of general cargo carried in the lower hold. It was positioned over the fifth cargo hatch, and forward of the doghouse. The addition of this piece of equipment must have made the jobs of the steamer's deckhands considerably easier, for not only were they required to handle cargo stowage and unloading, including the sweeping up after a load of grain, but they also had to handle the wooden hatchcovers and canvas battens, handle the ship's lines whenever she moved, and do all sorts of odd jobs around the ship at any time, but they also were required to go below to shovel from the firehold all the huge pile of ashes that would accumulate when the ship was in port and regular ash dumping was impossible!

GLENFINNAN enjoyed a successful period of operation for Great Lakes Transportation. She undoubtedly was involved in a number of minor scrapes and bumps, but the Dominion Wreck Commissioner's reports mention the steamer only twice. The first of these occasions came on Thursday, May 18th, 1922, when GLENFINNAN, under the command of Capt. J. N. Foote, was downbound from Fort William with a cargo of grain for Port McNicoll. In a position some 70 miles southeast of Passage Island in Lake Superior, during a dense fog, GLENFINNAN came into collision with the Canada Steamship Lines' bulk steamer MIDLAND KING which, commanded by Capt. A. T. Pyette, was upbound from Port McNicoll for Fort William in ballast. The Commissioner's report indicated that damage to MIDLAND KING was approximately \$20,000 and the steamer arrived at the Port Arthur shipyard for repairs on May 19th. GLENFINNAN's damage must not have been terribly severe, for she continued on her way and passed down at the Soo on the 19th. She undoubtedly went to the shipyard at Midland after unloading her grain at Port McNicoll.

It was not very long until GLENFINNAN was involved in yet another mishap. On Saturday, July 22nd, under the command of Capt. William Taylor and bound with grain from Fort William to Port Colborne, GLENFINNAN ran aground in the St. Mary's river. Unfortunately, the circumstances of the incident were not reported so we have no further details.

In fact, GLENFINNAN had a much happier time under Playfair ownership than did GLENLYON and several other upper lakers of the fleet, and the 1923-1924 period was an extremely unpleasant one for Playfair ships. The package freighter GLENSTRIVEN, (a) AMERICA (19), stranded on South West Shoal off Cove Island on November 16th, 1923, and although she was refloated on December 5th and was towed to Collingwood, she was found to have been damaged so badly that she was scrapped in 1924. Then, on October 29, 1924, the Playfair bulk carrier GLENORCHY, (a) A. E. STEWART (18), was sunk in collision with the steamer LEONARD B. MILLER off Harbor Beach in Lake Huron during a dense fog. GLENORCHY foundered in deep water and the wreck never was recovered.

The third in the trio of fleet disasters came on November 1st, 1924, when GLENLYON, downbound with grain, encountered heavy weather on Lake Superior and turned back, trying to find shelter in Siskiwit Bay on the southeasterly face of Isle Royale. In doing so, she stranded on Menagerie Island and,