

LETTER 42

Sept 16th 1904

F. Hope-Jones Esq  
32 & 34 Clerkenwell Rd  
LONDON

Dear Sir,

I have pleasure in acknowledging yours of Aug 5th and also of the 12th to Messrs Knox & Co with enclosure re pendulum for me. This information was hardly what I asked for. I suppose you follow some rule for compensating in the different weights and lengths of rod, as yet they have varied in each controller of the same size and so I don't know what rule to follow or size to make for half seconds pendulum.

The first three quarter seconds pendulum we received from you varies considerable in time keeping and I have not been able to adjust it to anything like the seconds beat. The variation in temperature between day and night (summer and winter) is far more here than in England.

You refer to the Bundy I mentioned, I find this cable was sent to Messrs Allison & Co on July 25th by Mr Knox and as he is away at present in Melbourne I cannot give you further particulars. It was a complete waste of money cabling as we wanted it urgently for a customer and it seems as difficult to obtain as Synchronome parts.

I cannot at all understand the position you take up as regards the business, it seems like "Dog in the Manger" tactics, you always emphasised the fact that you did not wish to supply us with the goods and that we should obtain from the makers and now express such deep sorrow at our not being able to do what you wished and have given us information to do. And again your information re the Makers Messrs Rowley & Co state they have not made anything for you for the last 4 or 5 years, how does this agree with your repeated statement that they are the makers of the Controller Clock Work movements you are sending. If these makers will only make in quantity at a reasonable price how much more necessary for you to have our orders to go with yours without charging such extortionate premium as 40% after buying your assistance for £500/-/-.

I would like to know from you definitely what you intended my clients to get for their money as yet there seems no prospect with such charges of their ever getting their money returned and I certainly regret ever having anything to do with selling your rights.

We have heard nothing from you re the Racing Time Recorder in which there is money if produced reasonably and which would have to come through you.

The order sent you direct for controllers has yet been fulfilled only in part, and it was quite impossible to do business with this uncertainty of obtaining materials. It seems to me the best way will be to send back samples to London and obtain quotations from all the manufacturers, and we shall then see if they can improve on them in price and quality.

The loss of business and time to us is increasing each week and will have to be made good some how.

Yours faithfully,  
*Alf Geo Jackson*

P.S. How do you account for the British United Clock Coy saying they have not supplied you with any Dials, after giving us their name as making for you specially.