

Local Railway Items from Area Papers - Walkley Line

08/06/1949 Ottawa Citizen Walkley Line

Clearing land for rail cutoff.

Land in the Walkley road area south of Billings Bridge is being acquired gradually by the Federal District Commission, it was learned yesterday. The property will be used as a railway cutoff to handle the make-up of trains now being done in the Bank street yards of the Canadian National Railways. Ottawa real estate representatives are handling negotiations for the FDC with 40 home owners in the Russell road area, which is scheduled to be the new industrial area in the Greater Ottawa blueprint.

30/09/1950 Ottawa Journal Walkley Line

Picture - King Size Scoop - this DW10 Caterpillar Diesel scraper dwarfs the shovel in the hands of Joseph Boileau of Hull, but both have their part in a \$200,000 scraping job that will see the levelling off of the five mile railway cut-off south of Ottawa. The scraper can dispose of 10 cubic yards of earth in a few minutes. Therrien Construction Company has the contract with the Federal District Commission for the job

Joe McVeigh, who used to farm 70 acres in Ottawa about two and a half miles south of Billings road on a concession road just east of the Metcalfe highway was downcast yesterday.

Joe was out of business as a farmer. He is now employed by the R.L. Crain Limited firm.

Joe's farm, house and barn has all been expropriated by the Federal District Commission to become part of the new railway cut-off from Hawthorne to near Bowesville road.

A crew from the Therrien Construction Company, were at work on the McVeigh farm.

They had brought in the first of the heavy equipment they are going to use to grade the land down two and a half feet.

They use scrapers with Diesel engines and, to insure their traction in the wet ground, a tractor bulldozer is pressed into service.

The scraper carries off 10 cubic yards of earth and the average trip is about 20 minutes.

The Therrien firm has 16 cubic-yard scrapers but they haven't reached Ottawa yet.

It won't be long before Joe McVeigh's house, barn and other farmers' homes nearby will be pulled down and the fields cut down to the proper railway grade.

Meanwhile there are cows relishing the rich autumn pastures before those scrapers start cutting.

16/02/1971 Ottawa Journal Walkley Line

Six Cars Of Train Derailed

An ice build-up and drifting snow from the weekend storm has been blamed for the derailment early today of a freight train on the Walkley rail line, near Russell Road. There were no injuries. Six cars of a CNR freight train, departing the Walkley marshalling - yards, left the tracks at 2.35 a.m. A CN spokesman said the derailment would cause few problems for other rail traffic and other trains are currently being rerouted around it. Repair crews from Montreal had put four cars back on the rails by noon today and a CN spokesman said the track should be cleared by evening. The spokesman said there would be an investigation to determine why the snow built up at that particular point.

17/02/1971 Ottawa Journal Walkley Line

BLAME IT ON THE STORM

An ice build-up and snow drifts from last weekend's 22-inch snowfall have been blamed for the derailment early Tuesday of six cars of a CN freight train in Ottawa's south end. Rail traffic was re-routed around the site on the Walkley Line near Russell Road and repair crews from Montreal, seen here at work, had the cars back on the rails by evening. (Journal Photo by Dominion Wlot)

27/03/1972 Ottawa Journal Walkley Line Hunt Club Road

CPR BLAMES CITY FOR DERAILMENT

Ottawa has been blamed for this train derailment at the Hunt Club Road crossing about noon Sunday. A CPR spokesman said a city grader didn't lift its blade while crossing the tracks and piled gravel and Ice between the rails. Two engines and one car of an Ottawa-to-Smlths Falls freight train went off the tracks. CPR workmen restored service on the ljne in about three hours. The CPR spokesman said the matter would be taken up with the city today.