Local Railway Items from Ottawa Papers 1950

Monday 19/03/1950 Ottawa Journal? Carleton Place Ashton

Like the Toys of an Angry Giant (with picture)

Smashed and tossed by the tremendous impact of tons of steel, the wreckage of CPR freight No. 83 lies scattered across the main transcontinental line at Ashton, 20 miles southwest of Ottawa. The broken cars spew their cargo across the snow, the one in the right upper background spreading hundreds of cases of beer about. Seven cars, the engine and the tender are spread around in much the same confusion as would result if a small boy in temper had upset his toy train. The early morning collision Saturday of No. 83 with the rear end of an eastbound freight affected train schedules and connections from Montreal to Sudbury, while dispatchers rerouted freight and passenger to by-pass the smash-up in which two crewmen died and two others were injured. The wreckage was cleared, 250 yards of ripped up track replaced and the line opened for traffic again late Saturday. At either end of the torn right-of-way, the railway wreck-clearing cranes can be seen beginning the job of working their way to the centre of the pile-up.

Thursday 31/08/1950 Ottawa Citizen Alexandria Ottawa Union

Only two on board

First passenger train arrives

Employees of both railroads ere all on the job on time this morning

At the Chateau Laurier, however, it will take a day before new guests can be accommodated and the cafeteria won't be open until Friday. By Saturday management expects everything will be back to normal, with grill and main dining rooms open and full services available for guests.

On the first passenger train to arrive in Ottawa after the strike was CPR 563 from Prescott, which carried two passengers from Smiths Falls.

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Saturday 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 or 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.