

# Local Railway Items from Ottawa Papers 1951

**Wednesday 07/02/1951 Ottawa Citizen Sussex Street**

An Eastview man, Sydney H. Webb, 78 St. Amboise street, escaped unhurt when his car skidded into the side of a slow moving freight locomotive shortly before 7.30 p.m. yesterday.

The CPR crossing at Charlevoix Street in Eastview was the scene of the accident, which involved CPR locomotive No. 3410 operated by Engineer Hubert Bough, 231 Primrose Avenue.

Webb told police that the train pulled out of the yards of Betcherman Iron and Metal Company as he approached the crossing. He stated that he noticed the engine and though he applied the brakes the automobile slid on the glare ice into the side of it. The train was travelling at the rate of 4 miles an hour at the time.

Damage to the automobile was estimated at \$400.

The accident was investigated by Constable Claude Dwyer of the Eastview police, who was assisted by Constables Gordon Hicks and William Haley of the Ottawa City Police.

**Monday 12/02/1951 Ottawa Citizen Chalk River Pembroke**

Pembroke - No injuries resulted but considerable damage was caused and the main line of the CPR blocked for several hours here yesterday, the result of a derailment of a freight train near the Pembroke Shook Mills, just inside western Pembroke limits.

Ten box cars were derailed two of them overturned beside the track which happened about 7.45 a.m.

Traffic along the transcontinental line was immediately halted and interrupted until late yesterday afternoon when wrecking crews completed clearing up the wreckage and repaired the damaged rails.

Railway officials revealed that the accident occurred when a mechanical defect caused a broken arch-bar on the underside of one of the cars.

Ten cars were derailed and the tracks torn up for several hundred feet. Two of the derailed cars, the one with the defect and another, were overturned one on each side of the right-of-way with the wheels torn off both.

The officials revealed also that the train, eastbound at the time, was an extra freight under the charge of Conductor Tom Spooner of Smiths Falls. They emphasized that no blame was attached to anyone with respect to the accident.

One wrecking train and crew arrived from the west early yesterday morning while another from Smiths Falls reached the scene about noon and both worked rapidly to clear the line. Eastbound trains were held at Chalk River, about 20 miles west of here, while those westbound were stopped at Pembroke.

**Saturday 17/02/1951 Ottawa Citizen Lachute**

None hurt in crash of truck train.

Ernest Bastien, 35, of 154 Hinchey Avenue, narrowly escaped injury yesterday afternoon when his loaded fuel-oil truck with its inflammable cargo skidded into the side of a moving passenger train at a Hull crossing.

The CPR Montclair Street crossing was the scene of the truck-train crash, when the truck plowed into one of the rear coaches of CPR Ottawa-Maniwaki passenger train, locomotive No.2927, that had just pulled out of Beemer station at 4.45 p.m.

Although the cab of the heavy tanker tractor owned by Hall Fuels, 339 Preston Street, was totally wrecked, the efforts of the driver in pulling the truck sideways was credited with saving the 1,200 gallon oil tank from damage.

None of the oil escaped and there was little danger of fire or explosion following the crash.

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Although the railway coaches were slightly damaged as a result of the accident, officials reported last night that none of the passengers were injured.

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Engineer William R. Creighton, of 125 Bayswater Avenue and Fireman George Tapp, of 158 Beach Street were in charge of the locomotive.

**Thursday 24/05/1951 Ottawa Citizen Kingston (CN) Cardinal**

Emergency tracks were being laid throughout the night at the Cardinal accident scene. --

Trains were being rerouted last night around the Cardinal wreck by way of Smiths Falls and Dorval. Other passenger and freight trains were carried on CPR tracks as the two systems combined to meet the looming emergency.

Rail officials at Ottawa said that the disruption in passenger and commercial traffic could have been "just about the worst holiday weekend imaginable" had it not been for the fast decisions and the ability to change routes.

The derailment at Cardinal, still being cleared at press time, threw off four cars and a big railway crane about 4.30 p.m. yesterday. The small work train from Montreal, which also included four other cars and a diesel engine which were not derailed, was on its way to Napanee to clear a wreck there which had blocked the line at noon yesterday, requiring further rerouting earlier.

The crew of 15 had been riding in the rear cars or the engine at the time of the rail-jumping at Cardinal. No one was injured as the crane and four cars toppled over about a mile north of Cardinal at the place where the tracks cross the Shanley Road subway there.

Cause of the accident was a broken axle on the crane car which edged the heavy piece of wrecking machinery off the tracks, dragging the four cars with it. Both tracks were ripped up for more than 50 yards. Crews last night worked to restore one of the tracks. Trailing pieces from the bottom of the crane car scraped the track badly for several hundred yards further.

**17/09/1951 Athens Reporter Westport Athens**

Strong opposition to the closing of the Canadian National Railway line (the Brockville and Westport) from Lyn Junction to Westport was registered at the regular meeting of the Athens village council. Reeve Guy Purcell and all councillors were in attendance at the meeting, at which the members agreed to send a representative expressing their views to any board or committee meeting held in connection with the line's closing. A copy of the resolution was voted to be sent to the Board of Transport Commission at Ottawa.