

Local Railway Items from Area Papers - 1967

17/02/1967 *Ottawa Citizen* *Beachburg*

Oil tanker blazes in railway crash.

One man was injured in a flaming crash between an oil tanker and a train on Woodroffe Avenue at 10.09 a.m. today.

The man, Ken Bigalow, 28, of 2172 Regency Terrace was the driver of a double-tanker oil truck which apparently stopped on the railway tracks south of City View.

He is in Civic Hospital in fair condition.

The train hit the truck in the middle of the first tanker section, and the tanker burst into flames as it was dragged down the track.

Flames covered the train engine and burned the front out of a wooden car immediately behind.

The smashed cab of the truck rolled into the ditch on the north side of the track and the flaming tank flew into the south ditch.

Ken Trudeau, a plumber with Smith and Brown Ltd., who arrived on the scene moments after the collision said the driver in the crushed cab was unconscious.

However he came to in about five minutes and was able to help rescuers get him out.

Firemen were called to put out the burning tanker.

Ivan Lawrence, head end trainman on the CNR freight bound for Barrys Bay said the train crew had only a few seconds when they saw the truck coming onto the track.

"We ducked, and there were flames all around us," he said.

Traffic was held up for about an hour and a half by the accident.

A new engine had to be brought to remove the train which was taken back to Walkley Yards.

28/04/1967 *Ottawa Journal* *Alexandria* *Glen Robertson*

Community Fights Station Closing

GLEN ROBERTSON (Staff) This community of 700 fears it may become a ghost town? Some 30 residents of the town bitterly expressed this fear Thursday at a meeting called by the Board of Transport Transport commissioners here.

The board was studying local objections to an application by Canadian National Railways to close down the town's railway station and passenger service on the main Ottawa-Montreal line.

BUSINESS SLOW

Only five passenger trains stop at the station each week and freight express business is light, the railway said.

CN officials made last-minute alterations to their proposals when faced with the ire of town residents who gathered for the meeting at the station.

"If you take away our passenger passenger service you will isolate the community completely. We will become a ghost town," one resident shouted.

Glen Robertson has no bus service, another pointed out. "We have to spend \$2.56 for cab fares to get to Alexandria," she said.

COMPROMISE

Compromising, officials suggested that instead of closing the station they only replace their agent with an on-hand representative who would take over freighting duties and other tasks at the station.

Last year Lochiel Township council voiced strong objections to CN proposals to close Glen Robertson station. CN officials said Thursday only four passenger tickets were sold on the average each month at the station.

Two Montreal - bound and three Toronto-bound trains stop at the station during the weekend.

Residents asked, as a last resort, if CN could arrange that an eastbound and westbound train be stopped Friday morning and evening at the station.

"At least then we will be able to travel to Montreal and be able to return home the same day," a resident commented.

Little opposition was shown to CN's proposal to replace the agent at the station with an on-hand local representative.

CN officials promised to do everything possible to arrange a morning and evening stop at Glen Robertson of both east and west bound trains on Fridays

13/05/1967 *Ottawa Journal* *Winchester* *Avonmore*

Caption to a photo.

Rail Lines Blocked

Railroad workers have cleared and rebuilt blocked railroad tracks near Avonmore, 25 miles north of Cornwall. Tracks were blocked Thursday when 18 cars of a freight train carrying grain and oil were derailed when one of the boxcars lost a wheel.

21/06/1967 *Ottawa Journal* *Beachburg* *Portage du Fort*

Deraillment Cuts CN Main Line

PORTAGE DU (Staff) The Canadian National Railways main line was blocked here at 5.30 a.m. today when a nine-car derailment cut the single track and left four shattered boxcars in the middle of the right-of-way

Fire broke out when a box-car of sulphur split open. Flames were brought under control, before spreading to other cars.

114-car train

The unexplained derailment occurred near the middle of a 114-car eastbound freight train, a quarter of a mile west of the railway station. A tank car and boxcar, both carrying sulphur, were ditched south the line.

The next three boxcars stacked up side-by-side at right angles to and straddling the track. The next car telescoped on impact and two more were derailed but remained upright; apparently undamaged.

The ninth car, ahead of the main wreckage, broke loose and "rode the ties" for 200 yards before coming to rest.

ESCAPE UNHURT

Conductor Fred Swinwood and engineer. Jack Nielson, both of Ottawa, and other crew members escaped injury.

The front half of the twin diesel unit powered train went on to Ottawa.

Railway officials would not estimate how long the line would be blocked.

Trains have been rerouted over Canadian Pacific lines.

Heavy auxiliary equipment has been despatched here from Belleville

In the meantime, two bull dozers are being used to move some of the wreckage.

22/06/1967 *Ottawa Journal*

Beachburg

Portage du Fort

CNR Line Reopened To Traffic

PORTAGE Du FORT. Que. The Canadian National Railways main line. cut here Wednesday morning by a freight train derailment, was reopened for traffic early today.

Heavy equipment was brought from Belleville to clear the line and re-lay 300 feet of up rooted track

Four battered boxcars littered the single track after nine cars left the rails.

Two were ditched and three remain standing on the ties.

Cause of the wreck has not been officially announced.

29/06/1967 *Ottawa Citizen*

Alexandria

Ottawa New

Second parking lot at station will open soon.

A new parking lot to hold 141 cars will be opened next to the Ottawa train station, railway officials announced today.

The lot to be built on the west side of the station is in addition to an existing 160-car lot now in use on the east side.

It is anticipated the new facilities will be available this weekend.

28/07/1967 *Ottawa Journal*

Prescott

Broad Street

Demolishing Coal Sheds - McIlraith

The rusty ramshackle coal sheds near the eastern end of the Ottawa River Parkway will be knocked down as soon as the government gets control of them, according to Works Minister McIlraith. The vacant sheds, standing near the edge of the Broad Street yards, were described as an eyesore by the minister who said negotiations with the CPR for them are on the verge of completion. "We have wanted them out of the way since the first of July but we can't do anything until we take possession of them," he said. The buildings and property are part of abandoned railway land which the federal government is taking over in stages under the railway relocation programme.

14/08/1967 *Ottawa Citizen*

Lachute

Train slices car, four die.

Four people, three of them children, were killed when a CPR dayliner express from Montreal demolished their car at a level crossing between Gatineau Point and Gatineau shortly after 9 p.m. yesterday.

Stalled on tracks

Arthur Chartrand, 34 year-old husband and father of the victims, and his father, Arthur Chartrand, Sr., jumped from the 1956 model convertible when it stalled on the tracks in the path of the onrushing train.

The two men made frantic efforts to push the car to safety. They jumped clear only seconds before the impact.

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16/11/1967 *Ottawa Citizen*

Alexandria

Vars

Santa here Saturday.

Santa Claus is coming to Ottawa Saturday, by helicopter and train.

He will touch down at Vars, where a welcoming committee of 2,000 children and adults will meet and accompany him to Ottawa on a special train.

The train will arrive at Union station at 10.45 a.m. A parade from Daly and Nicholas Streets at 11.35 a.m. will go along Daly to Nicholas, along Nicholas to Rideau and left on Rideau Street to Freiman's department store.

20/11/1967 *Ottawa Citizen*

Alexandria

Vars

2,200 arrive with Santa.

More than 2,200 Ottawa children and their parents travelled to Vars Saturday in a special excursion train to greet Santa Claus as he flew in from the North Pole by helicopter.

Several seized the opportunity to present their Christmas lists to Pere Noel personally.

Con. Ernie Jones officially welcomed Santa to the city at Ottawa Station.

About 300 others had gathered at the station to greet him.

A parade through downtown followed as Santa was accompanied by the Governor General's Foot Guards, baton twirling majorettes from the Marjorie Bishop School, a group of dancers from Diane Fareell's Ottawa Diplomats and students from Algonquin College dressed as clowns.

Besides Santa's traditional sleigh and the reindeer float, there were several floats from "Fairyland."

The Little Old Lady who lived in a shoe was joined by Cinderella and the Pied Piper of Hamelin. Puss in Boots and Little Red Riding Hood also greeted the children and parents lining the parade route down Nicholas Street and along Rideau Street to Freiman's downtown store.

30/11/1967 *Eganville Leader*

Renfrew

Killaloe

Killaloe Station To Close

A further indication of the changing times is the decision to close the Canadian National Railways Station at Killaloe, effective December 7th, and have express shipments held on hand and accepted for transportation by Mr. Vincent A. McCue at his grocery store.

As the only means of transportation, after the stages ceased to operate, and until the advent of the motor car and buses, it was the scene of many gatherings, happy for young newly-weds embarking on their honeymoon, sad for those receiving the remains of loved ones who had died elsewhere. Or, for the rousing welcome given to Martin Garvey on his arrival home from overseas service during World War I.

Mr. Albert Thurston was the last regular agent and latterly Mr. John E. Redmond, CNR, Agent, Eganville, has taken care of the billing.

Much of the decline in rail shipping is attributed to the high shipping charges now in effect.

30/12/1967 *Ottawa Journal*

Alexandria

Alexandria

Derailment Delays Passengers

ALEXANDRIA (Staff) Ottawa-bound passengers aboard a CNR train from Montreal Friday night were taken to Ottawa by three school buses from here when the main Ottawa-Montreal line was blocked by a derailment.

Wheels from a car of an earlier eastbound freight train were believed to have jumped the track causing the car to derail and blocking the line for several hours.

CNR police are investigating.