

Local Railway Items from Area Papers - 1936

18/01/1936 Ottawa Citizen Renfrew

Two west end youths had a narrow escape from serious injury or death early last evening when four box cars passed completely over one youth and a second was forced to jump to safety as a C.N.R. freight train, backing along the trestle over Holland avenue, overtook them as they were skiing along the right of way.

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20/02/1936 Ottawa Citizen L'Orignal

Set March 27 to hear Application of C.N.R.

Would Abandon Certain Lines East of Capital.

The Board of Railway Commissioners has set for Tuesday, march 17, its hearing of the application of the Canadian National Railways for leave to abandon a portion of its L'Orignal Subdivision between hawkesbury and Hurdman, and between Rockland and Clarence Creek, a distance of 61.2miles.

Owing to the illness of E.R.E. Chevrier, K.C., M.P., counsel for the Rockland Board of Trade and the municipalities opposing the request, and to the absence of Hon. Hugh Guthrie, chairman of the Board, who sat in similar cases in Western Canada, the hearing had to be postponed until march 17.

I.C. Rand, K.C., Montreal, will act for the C.N. Railways and the firm of Chevrier and lacourciere for the Boards of Trade and municipalities fighting the application.

12/03/1936 Ottawa Citizen Maniwaki

Maniwaki line blocked by slide.

Old siding called into service to prevent any delay in train service.

Resulting from mild weather during the last few days and rain yesterday a clay bank overhanging the C.P.R. Ottawa-Maniwaki line, half a mile south of Cascades, slid down onto the track sometime during the night, burying the rails to a depth of five feet for a distance of 60 feet. No trains were placed in danger by the slide which was discovered this morning by men sent out to patrol the track which is the custom following heavy rain.

The slide resulted in only slight delay for this morning's passenger trains although it has not yet been cleared up. A gang of nearly 100 men recruited from Ottawa and Hull are at work while two snow plows have been pressed into service to clear the line.

Soon as the slide was discovered notification was flashed to the offices in Ottawa. A work train was immediately rushed to Cascades and a temporary detour was built over a former siding, over which the passenger trains were able to pass while work of clearing the blockade continued.

William Garland, assistant divisional superintendent for the C.P.R. stated that he expected that the line would be cleared in a few hours.

The Ottawa-Maniwaki highway was not affected by the slide, nor were there any buildings in the vicinity to be damaged.

17/03/1936 Ottawa Journal L'Orignal

Ontario Ready Build Highway on Old Rail Line

Deputy Minister says 500 men would get work on Ottawa - Hawkesbury proposal.

With the board room crowded with mayors, reeves and others from the affected municipalities, as well as with C.N.R. officials, the application of the railways for leave to abandon the 61.2 miles of line between Ottawa and Hawkesbury, including the spur from Rockland to Clarence Creek, was heard by the Board of Railway Commissioners today. All members of the board were present. Decision was reserved.

Feature of the hearing was the statement of R.M. Smith, Ontario deputy minister of Railways, that the provincial government was ready to take over part of the right-of-way for a new modern 40 - foot highway, if and as soon as the application was granted. Mr Smith stated that the government was interested only in the stretch of right-of-way between Ottawa and Plantagenet, about 25 miles, For this distance the existing road contain sections in poor condition.

Cost 40% less.

"We can build a new highway on the railway right-of-way much more cheaply than we could rebuild the present Highway", he said. Mr Smith's estimate was that the cost would be 40% less, an important factor in considering that the new road would probably become part of the Trans - Canada Highway. He termed the present road from Ottawa to Plantagenet, winding, hilly and with many sharp curves dangerous to traffic. There had been many traffic accidents in recent years.

"Montreal is the largest city in Canada and Ottawa is the capital city and it is natural to expect Highway improvements between the two commensurate with their importance," Mr. Smith declared.

If the commission gave the railway leave to abandon the line the Highways Department would start at once filling and grading the right of way. The work would take about a year and would mean the employment of 500 men.

The application was submitted by I. C. Rand, Montreal, counsel for the railways, and was opposed by E.R.E. Chevrier KC, M.P., representing the municipalities now served by the line: Elie Bertrand, M.P. for Prescott; Alfred Goulet M.P. Russell, with the following also in attendance (omitted)

Says line not necessary.

Mr. Rand declare the line was not necessary for the economic well - being of the district it served. The traffic enjoyed had never been sufficient to justify it.

None of the towns or villages had been built up because of the railway service. He quoted figures showing that on the other hand population had declined. They had had a loss of \$3,000 on the past year's operations, but that was with the expenditure of only \$12,500 for maintenance. The road bed had been in good condition. However, the normal cost of maintaining 61 miles of railway was \$32,000 and there was no indication of future business that would warrant such an expenditure.

Mr. Bertrand contended if the railways were permitted to abandon the line and part of the right-of-way became a highway tremendous expense would be involved in restoring the railway line later on. It would be needed again. The line was built for direct traffic from the west to Montreal. If the government exercised control over use of the highways by trucks and buses the railways will get a fair share of business. People in the area affected did not get good highway transportation service in the winter months. The railway was needed. The area served was an important milk and hay shipping district.

Says Service Poor

Mr. Goulet said when normal conditions returned the towns and villages would do their part to see the railway line paid. The trouble was that in the past the C.N.R. provided very little service. There now was but one freight train weekly.

The Ontario Government was to be commended for planning a new highway, Mr. Chevrier said, but if the construction of this road was necessary for the increased road traffic then was the same argument not applicable for maintenance of the railway line?

Train Hits Wrecked Handcar Youth Is Charged

Transcontinental Stays on Rails but Track Torn Up.

Passengers aboard the fast east-bound Canadian National Railways transcontinental express No. 2, had a close call, and considerable property damage was caused, when the flyer crashed into wreckage of a handcar on the main line east of Bell's Corners, early on the morning of Tuesday, it was revealed here late Friday night by railway authorities with the arrest of a youth they charge was responsible for the near-derailment.

Travelling towards Ottawa through dense fog, at 5.30 a.m. on Tuesday, the Vancouver train threw the obstruction a considerable distance, causing the track to be torn up for nearly 200 yards. and doing damage to the locomotive. Fortunately the train did not leave the tracks.

Kenneth Edingsborough, 22, farm hand employed four miles east of Bell's Corners, was arrested at 10.15 p.m. on Friday by Chief Investigator B.B. Harris, of C.N.R. police, Ottawa, and booked at Ottawa police station later.

He is appearing in Carleton County court next week on a charge of placing an obstruction on the railway in such a way as to cause damage to property and possible loss of life. He will also be charged with breaking into a railway section carhouse, and stealing a motor-propelled handcar, which was destroyed.

Edingsborough is alleged to have told police he had attended a dance at Bells Corners on the night of Monday, and about two o'clock in the morning started to walk eastward along the tracks towards his employer's farm. It is alleged that Edingsborough knew where the motor-propelled hand-car, which is valued at \$500, and contains, in addition, valuable tools and equipment was stored.

Railway police charge the farm hand broke into the storehouse and pushed the handcar on to the tracks. It was urged along the rails, in an easterly direction, for some distance. About one mile east of the shack, police say, an attempt was made to start it with match or some other light. Flames caught around the carburetor, and in a few miles the handcar was blazing. The vehicle was damaged beyond repair.

Investigator Harris stated, after the fire the handcar had been left on the tracks. It was too heavy to remove again.

The young farm worker is a native of London, England. He came to Canada about eight years ago.

15/05/1936 *Ottawa Citizen**Montreal and Ottawa**Hurdman*

Tale of a railway collision at Hurdman's Bridge in 1903.

Soo train crashed into freight at midnight. Four men injured but no loss of life. Impact heard a mile away. Heavy express engine ploughed through lighter freight locomotive. Crew of both engines saved lives by jumping.

Here is something hundreds of middle-aged Ottawans may recall. It happened in the early morning hours of September 27, 1903. Four people were injured, two engines were badly smashed and three cars telescoped in a head-on collision on the C.P.R. short line, a little distance north of Hurdman's Bridge. Coming into Ottawa and travelling at a good rate of speed, the Soo train collided with a special freight which, contrary to the rules, had got on the main line while the right of way belonged to the express. The four persons injured were train hands:

Engineer M.J. Doherty, Ottawa; Express messenger R. Thompson, Ottawa; Baggage man Ed. King, Montreal; Brakeman Geo. Gobey, Hintonburgh.

None of the passengers were injured although some had very narrow escapes. That none of the train hands were killed outright was regarded as little short of miraculous.

At Midnight

It was just five minutes to one when the accident occurred. The west bound Soo train had left Montreal on time and was in charge of Conductor McIntosh with Engineer M.J. Doherty and Fireman M.J. Walsh. It was customary for freight trains to be moving back and forth between the Chaudiere and Sussex street and the freight in question had arrived a short time before from Prescott and was to be taken down to Sussex street.

From the account of the accident published at the time, it appears that at the tower the freight hands had received orders to do some shunting up to midnight and then go on a siding and allow the express to pass. They mistook the time or forgot the order from the towerman and remained on the main line until it was too late.

Sharp on time the Soo express rounded the curve near the locomotive sheds. It was then that the engineers of both trains saw what was going to happen. The express was travelling at a good rate of speed while the freight was barely moving. The engineers and firemen of both trains, seeing the inevitable, jumped for their lives and escaped serious injury.

Terrible impact

An instant later with an awful impact which could be heard a mile away, the two trains came together. Engine No. 303 on the Soo was of a large type and it simply ploughed through the smaller locomotive. Though the brakes were applied they were unable to arrest the velocity of the swiftly moving coaches and in less time than it takes to tell it the express and baggage cars and part of a colonial sleeper were telescoped.

Thousands of people who went out the following morning witnessed a hideous sight. Locked together with the smaller one underneath and partly obscured were the two locomotives. In the rear was an express car badly smashed and then the colonist car with its end stove in. In the express section there was a conglomeration of smashed trunks, valises, parcels and mail bags all mixed together while the cars were piled up in splinters.

19/05/1936 *Ottawa Citizen**Renfrew**Ottawa, Bank Street*

Complaint of train noise.

Mayor Lewis has received complaints as to the prevalence of shunting of trains in the Bank street railway yards during the night. The C.N. Rly. some time ago agreed to reduce the night shunting to an absolute minimum but residents in the district say the nuisance is now more common. An appeal will likely be made to the minister of railways.

05/06/1936 *Ottawa Citizen**Thurso and Nation Valley*

Governor General visits Manufacturing Plant

His Excellency Lord Tweedsmuir, Governor-General, accompanied by Colonel Willis O'Connor and a party from Government House, visited the Singer Manufacturing Company plant at Thurso yesterday and was taken through the works by the manager P.B. Bourget.

The party arrived at Thurso about 10 a.m. and after visiting the sawmills was taken on a company's private railway to Iroquois Lake and shown the plants there. After lunch at the camp at Iroquois lake the party returned to Thurso then to the Capital.

13/06/1936 *Ottawa Citizen**Chalk River**Arnprior*

Engine crew has remarkable escape from instant death

When locomotive plunged from trestle to deep gully. Engineer Hawley tells the story.

The graphic story of an engine crew's remarkable escape from sure death is related by Mr. George W. Hawley, veteran C.P.R. employe as follows:

"It was about forty years ago. We were shunting a freight engine in McLachlin's lumber yards at Arnprior, and the engine left the track just as we came onto a trestle over a deep gully.

"She ran out onto the edge of the trestle on one side and the force of the heavy wheels grinding over the timbers broke them off, with the result that the locomotive plunged to the depths below, turning a complete somersault as she did so. Fireman Harry Cavanagh, being on the opposite side, jumped first and ran back: then, just as that old engine was about to plunge into the gully, I followed Cavanagh and ran out on the unbroken edge of the trestle, narrowly escaping falling over the edge in my haste.

"Had either of us lingered a second longer we would have gone over with our charge and been smashed to pulp. I recall that it took a wrecking crew a full week to get the locomotive - No. 283 - out of the gully and back in service again. She had landed on her back with the end of the tender lying in the cab. A year later the same engine figured in a wreck just east of Stittsville when Mail Clerk Peden was killed and several others injured."

NB. The accident at Stittsville in which Mail Clerk Robert Peden was killed occurred on 14 October 1897.

Locomotive fireman of eighties had many mean tasks to perform

Veteran railroader recalls customs of fifty years ago.

George W. Hawley draws on memory to recount tales of hardship, snowbound passenger trains and slow moving freights, tells of fishermen's paradise at Chalk River and of the big ones that didn't get away, relates an amusing partridge story.

Looking back upon forty-four years of railroading in the Ottawa district, Mr. George W. Hawley, of 346 Cambridge street, who entered the employ of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1883 and retired on pension in June 1927, throws some interesting light on the life and experiences of a railroader in the days of "pony" engines and slow-moving passenger trains. Mr. Hawley's reminiscences should prove fascinating to the younger generation of readers and revive memories, both pleasant and unpleasant, for those readers who began their railroad careers under just such conditions as Mr. Hawley describes.

George Hawley, who has 74 summers to his credit and is still as agile as a cricket, is not a native of Ottawa or the Ottawa district. He was born in the year 1862 near the village of Cardinal, in Edwardsburg township and has many interesting memories of life and conditions in that district in his childhood days. Some of them are related in a separate story on this page.

'Twas on the 26th of March, 1883, that Mr. Hawley got word to come to Ottawa and begin his railroad career with the C.P.R. He was slated to commence as assistant mechanic in the machine shops located near the old 3-stall roundhouse, which was built and used by the Quebec, Montreal and Occidental Railway - later taken over by the C.P.R.

In those days, when labor was not as plentiful as it is today, a smart mechanic didn't have long to wait for promotion to a higher position. And so, after slaving in the shops for seven months - with long hours and comparatively little pay - young Hawley found himself elevated to the more dignified and more lucrative position of fireman.

Before we leave the shops and go on with Mr. Hawley's story of his experiences as fireman and later engineer, let us recall the names of some of those employed in the Ottawa Division (C.P.R.) in the eighties. Johnny Dewar was foreman of the shops and William Cross was master mechanic. Among those who "ran" out of Ottawa were Isaac Schofield, Joe Burke, Ab Hudson, Bill Christie, Joe Jackson, James Barr, Dave Kelley, Charlie Eldridge, Charlie Bellamy, Jack Dudley, Fred Rowe, Bill Golden and Hughie Richmond.

When the narrator of this story arrived in Ottawa in '83, he secured lodgings in the home of the late William Hill, on Sherwood street. Hill was the official lamplighter for Lebreton Flats. In those days the streets were lighted with naphtha lamps and it was Hill's job to start out bright and early each morning and fill the lamps so they would be ready to set aglow at night. Readers who lived in that section of the city in the eighties will undoubtedly recall seeing Hill driving through the streets with a cart on which was mounted a barrel of naphtha, a ladder with which to scale the lamp posts and a bag containing lamps, wipers, wicks and other paraphernalia.

The life of a railroad fireman was no sinecure in the eighties, Mr. Hawley informs us. The firemen of those days had plenty of the dirty work to do - work which is now done in the shops or through mechanical gadgets which require only the pulling of a lever. For instance, the fireman was required to crawl under his engine and clean out the ashpan with a hoe: it was his business to see that all brass, inside and outside, was thoroughly scoured every day; it was his business to fill the oil cups, lubricators, etc., and it was his business to do a dozen and one other things from which present firemen are exempt.

There were then the discomforts of piloting an engine. There were no side curtains to keep out the snow in winter and the rain in summer. Little provision was made for combatting snowstorms, with the result that running schedules were slowed up considerably and much valuable time was lost. To illustrate this point Mr. Hawley told the following story:

"I remember one time we started out from Ottawa about five o'clock in the evening with a passenger train pulled by two engines. When we were two miles east of Almonte we ran into a heavy snow storm; the snow was up to the footplates of the engines. We plowed through it for a short distance and finally stalled. There we stayed until eight o'clock the next morning when a crew was sent from the city to dig us out.

"No, the passengers didn't freeze to death. In those days each passenger car was equipped with a little coal-burning stove called a Baker heater. The cars were small compared to present day coaches and it didn't require a very big stove to heat them.

"A railroad engineer received the munificent sum of \$1.10 a day, and no matter how much overtime he put in there was no extra compensation. It would take anywhere from ten to twenty hours for a freight train to get from Montreal to Ottawa. The engines of those days would pull between eighteen and twenty freight cars; giant locomotives of today have a pulling power of between seventy-five and one hundred freight cars. Faster time might be made in the old days but for the fact that we had to stop every twenty miles to take on water; present day tenders will go over a division - 120 miles - without having to stop for water.

Mr. Hawley fired the first through time-billed passenger train of the C.P.R. from Montreal to Vancouver, in June 1886, taking it from Ottawa to Chalk River.

The engineer on that occasion was Alexander Rogers. The following year - May 1887 - Mr. Hawley was promoted to engineer, and was at the throttles of C.P.R. locomotives from that time until he retired on pension on June 30th, 1927.

Great fishing

The railroader who was fond of fishing and hunting never found time hanging heavily on his hands at Chalk River, according to Mr. Hawley. The lakes and small streams in that vicinity simply teemed with fish "that were fish" and the woods round about were alive with partridge and deer. A few hours fishing would net a man almost more fish than he could carry home.

Mr. Hawley tells that one day he caught seven maskinonge, weighing ten pounds each, and two black bass weighing five to six pounds each. Other railroaders of the eighties and nineties who fished the lakes and streams above Chalk River could undoubtedly match this story. It wasn't necessary to have fisherman's luck in those days.

One day, while angling in a lake near Chalk River, Mr. Hawley landed a ten pound pike which had swallowed a sucker thirteen inches long.

And here is a good one to wind up this part of Mr. Hawley's reminiscences:

"One morning we were going up the Castleford grade, between Carleton Place and Renfrew, when the brakeman, Ed Parke, spotted a partridge standing on a log just inside the railway fence. He hopped off one of the cars near the front, ran back to the van, got a gun and killed the partridge. A few hours later he confided the tale of his achievement to me. That night I came down with a light engine, stopped at the spot where Parke said he had shot the partridge - and next day there was meat on the table in the Hawley home."

Railway to Hawkesbury won't be abandoned

Judgment was given Monday afternoon by the Board of Railway Commissioners in the application recently made by the Canadian National Railways for leave to abandon a portion of its L'Orignal subdivision in the province of Ontario between Hawkesbury and Hurdman, and the Clarence Creek spur between Rockland and Clarence Creek.

The Judgment was signed by commissioner G. A. Stone, and granted the application to cut off the line between Rockland and Clarence Creek. The commissioner expressed the opinion that the business offering between Rockland and Clarence Creek does not warrant the expenditure necessary to rehabilitate this segment.

Regarding the application for the line between Hawkesbury and Hurdman the board dismisses this portion of the application.

The decision will block the plans of the Ontario Department of Highways. The department proposed taking over about 25 miles of the right-of-way between here and Plantagenet for a 40-foot Highway.

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23/06/1936 *Ottawa Citizen* *L'Orignal*

Must not abandon C.N.R. Hawkesbury to Hurdman Line.

The application of the Canadian National Railways to the Board of Railway Commissioners for leave to abandon a portion of its line between hawkesbury and Hurdman, a distance of 56.6 miles, was dismissed by the commission. The commission however, granted the company leave to abandon the portion between Rockland and Clarence Creek, a distance of 4.6miles. Both applications had been joined in the case presented to the commission.

In the judgment which was written by Commissioner G.A. Stone and concurred in by the other members of the board, the opinion was that the business offering between Rockland and Clarence creek does not warrant the large expenditure which would be required to rehabilitate that mileage.

Regarding the Hawkesbury-Hurdman mortion of the application, however, the judgment stated that considering the financial improvement in operation during the past three yearson that portion of the line, together with other features, the application was dismissed, without prejudice to any future application the Canadian National Railways may desire to make after the expiration of at least one year from the date of the order.

27/06/1936 *Ottawa Citizen* *Canadian Refractories* *Kil*

Worker Killed In Laurentian Mine

Tragedy Occurred at Canadian Refractories Ltd, Property at Kilmar.

Special to The Evening Citizen HAWKESBURY, Ont, June 27

While working in the mine of tha Canadian Refractories Limited at Kilmar. several miles north of here in the Laurentian mountains, late yesterday afternoon, David Provencal. 25. of Harrington. Que., was instantly killed when he was buried beneath several tons of rock.

An inquest under Dr. James Mason of Lachute was held, the jury bringing a verdict of accidental death.

Provencal, who had been an erne ploye of the Canadian Refractories for some time, leaves a wtf and two small children.

10/07/1936 *Ottawa Citizen* *Lachute* *Smiths Falls*

Albert Maynes was fireman on first transcontinental train

Albert maynes, formerly of Smiths Falls, now retired, was outstanding among the C.P.R. veterans, in the recent golden jubilee celebration of the inauguration of transcontinental railway service in Canada. Mr. Maynes, now residing in Toronto, was, for about a quarter of a century, one of the best known C.P.R. locomotive engineers on the Smiths Falls division.

He had the honor of being on of the two men who piloted the engine that hauled the first through C.P.R. train out of Montreal destined for Fort Moody, then the Pacific coast terminal. He was chosen locomotive fireman for that occasion by the stalwart group who drove in the last spike. The engineer on the fiorst train was Aaron Barr. Mr. Maynes has great recollections of that first trip. He said great crowds gathered about the old Place Viger station and huge bonfires were lighted along the way.

Mr. Maynes, who is the son of an Irish infantry captain, started as a machinist for the old Southern Railway in Vermont and later became a humble engine-wiper in the Hochelaga shops at Montreal. He afterwards became locomotive engineer in Smiths Falls, divisional master mechanic, rule instructor and mechanical examiner. He has travelled with royalty and has been a friend of dukes and princes and statesmen.

29/08/1936 *Ottawa Citizen* *L'Orignal* *Orleans*

Orleans family had a narrow escape at crossing.

Freight train smashed into stalled truck.

When the truck in which they were passengers stalled near Orleans on Friday, Mr. and Mrs. Rene Brisbois of Orleans and their three children were forced to abandon the vehicle as a Montreal-bound freight train smashed into it. The occupants barely had enough time to escape before the train struck the truck, carrying it 600 feet along the right of way.

Although he saw the train approaching, Mr. Brisbois thought he had ample time to cross. When the truck stalled he shouted to his wife and catching up the children they leaped to safety.

31/08/1936 *Ottawa Citizen* *Cornwall Street* *Cornwall*

8 arrested in clash outside Cornwall plant.

Eight persons were arrested, one for intimidation and seven for obstruction in the performance of their duties in a clash between striking wrkers and provincial police in front of the Courtaulds (Canada) lant at three o'clock this afternoon.

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The trouble occurred when an attempt was made to bring a street railway power car into the plant grounds to move freight cars lying on the siding. One of the picketers attempted to pull the motorman from the car and when police came to the motorman's assistance the large gang of men swarmed on the police in an attempt to take away from them the man who had, according to police, attempted to intimifate the motorman.

The eight men arrested were taken to the city hall, more than two miles distant from the plant, and locked in cells. No one was seriously hurt in the melee although one of the provincial policemen suffered a split lip, caused by being struck with a fist.

A bread truck which was scheduled to make a delivery to the company cafeteria, drove by the plant but did not attempt to go in when it was seen that the picketers were in what was said to be a very ugly mood.

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04/09/1936 *Ottawa Journal* *Prescott* *Broad Street*

New C.P.R. Train Being Shown Here

Semi-Streamlined Engine and Coach in Broad Street Yards.

A new light weight semi-stream lined train of the Canadian Pacific Railway, arrived at the Broad Street yards Thursday afternoon from Carleton Place. It will be on view to the public until 10 o'clock Saturday night. The train may be inspected from 11 a.m. to 10. p.m.

Representing the last word In modernization the train was headed by the new 4-4-4, high speed semi-streamlined locomotive No. 3003, and. consists of mall and express, baggage, buffet and two first class coaches. The train is fully air conditioned throughout. The locomotive is capable of 110 miles an hour.

The passenger coaches are of light-weight design and semi- streamlined.

Officials who arrived with the train included A. Peers, master mechanic, Montreal; R. F. Thomas, general airbrake inspector, Eastern Lines; Jules Fortier, assistant superintendent Smiths Falls; F. G. Perkins, division master mechanic, Smiths Falls; O. G. Riepert electrical engineer, Quebec division; W. Gregory, electrical engineer, Angus Shops, Montreal; and C. Beaudry, passenger agent Montreal.

Picture of interior

Interior of the buffet coach of the Canadian Pacific's new semi-streamlined train which was on exhibition here Friday and Saturday. One of these coaches, in which refreshments can be served at tables will be a regular part of each train when placed in service. The train is air-conditioned throughout and is the last word in modern day-coach travel.

09/09/1936 *Ottawa Citizen* *Renfrew* *Carp*

Carp Youth Unhurt as Train Strikes Auto

Claude Armstrong Has Narrow Escape in Crash

CARP, Sept. 8 Claude Armstrong, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Armstrong, of Carp, narrowly escaped death this morning when the car he was driving was hit by a freight train travelling west from the village. He was alone in the car which was entering the village, and although approaching trains may be seen for some distance, he apparently did not notice the freight until too late to stop.

The car was badly wrecked but Mr. Armstrong himself escaped with only a cut on the chin.

About a year ago, Robert Armstrong, brother of Claude Armstrong, was struck at the same crossing while driving in the opposite direction. He, too, was not injured.

14/09/1936 *Ottawa Citizen* *Renfrew* *Arnprior*

Freight Train Strikes Frank Nighbor's Car

Hockey Star and Companion Escape Injuries

ARNPRIOR, Ont.- Sept. 13 Frank Nighbor of Pembroke, well-known in hockey circles, had a narrow escape from serious injury here when his car was struck by a freight train at the Daniel street crossing of the CNR., at about 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon. Mr. Nighbor was accompanied by Miss Ann Heney of Pembroke.

He slowed up for the crossing but did not notice the train, a freight, which was shunting on a siding. The crossing has an electric wig-wag signal but it operated from the main line only and does not wag or light up when trains are working on the siding.

When Nighbor saw the train it was too late to back up and he accelerated as speedily as possible with the result that the train caught the rear of the car and swung it around with a crash that brought people from nearby homes to their doors.

Neither Mr. Nighbor nor Miss Heney suffered any injury other than shock and although damage was caused to the car it was able to proceed under its own power.

14/09/1936 *Ottawa Journal* *L'Original* *Hawkesbury*

Take Heavy Safe On Two-Mile Trip Find Only Book

Thieves at Hawkesbury Open C.N.R. Shed, Steal 500-Pound and Skooter.

HAWKESBURY Sept. 14. (Special). Thieves who made three separate robberies of Canadian National Railway property here during the night, and who went to the trouble of pushing a 500-pound iron safe across the Ottawa river bridge, have little to show for their pains. All they discovered when they pried open the safe was a cash book.

When telegraph operator Leo Menard arrived at work this morning, he discovered the C.N.R. freight shed at Hawkesbury had been forcibly entered.

Thieves gained admittance, through a side window and stole merchandise consisting mostly of socks and underwear, valued at \$8.

A large side door fronting the tracks was opened, and the heavy safe, weighing between 500 and 600 pounds, was moved out and placed on a lorry. The safe was pushed along the tracks to the end of the train yards, where a section house was broken into and a railway motor speeder appropriated.

By using the motor speeder the thieves were able to push the lorry and the safe across the Ottawa River to Grenville, Que., a distance of some two miles from the station. A third entry was made, into a section house, where crowbars, sledge-hammers, and other tools were taken, and the safe pried open. The sole contents was the cash book.

Hawkesbury and railway police were notified by Freight Clerk Antoine Carriere, who was informed of the robbery by Menard. The stolen lorry and motor speeder and the ruined safe have been recovered, but there is no sign of the cash book. Chief Joseph Beaulne is leading the hunt for the thieves.

19/09/1936 *Ottawa Citizen* *Renfrew* *Elgin Street*

Young man gravely injured in falling off freight train

Roland Duchesneau of Cacouna, Que., suffers amputation of foot. Accident in C.N.R. yards

Just after he climbed aboard the side of a box-car moving westbound freight in the yards of the Canadian national Railways near Elgin street at 7 o'clock last evening, Roland Duchesneau, 28, of Cacouna, Que., was caught by the switch standard just west of the bridge over Elgin streetsubway and pulled from the train. He fell to the ground between the train and the west corner of the iron bridge and sustained severe injuries to both feet in addition to a cut on the forehead.

More - - -

29/09/1936 *Ottawa Citizen* *Maniwaki* *Ironside*

Three Men Injured in Level Crossing Crash

Truck Struck by Passenger Train allrionside.. Two of Those Hurt in Serious Condition. One Man Escapes By Jumping Before Impact. Other Rescued From Cabin of Wrecked Truck on C.P.R Right of Way

When the rear of a truck proceeding north on the Hull-Maniwaki highway was struck by the C.P.R. passenger train at Ironside crossing shortly before five o'clock yesterday afternoon three men were injured and a fourth escaped by jumping from the truck a moment before the impact. The truck was almost completely wrecked.

The Injured, who are all in the Sacred Heart Hospital, Hull, are:

Adelard Brossard, aged 46. Poltimore. driver of the truck, head injuries and probably internal injuries, serious but not critical.

Charles Tomkeawez, aged 61. Low, Que, fractured collar bone and head injuries, not serious.

Hermenegilde Dagenais aged 30. St. Pierre de Wakefield, fractured left hip, serious head injuries and internal injuries, serious but not critical.

Jumped Before Crash.

John Easy of Low, Que., was seated in the body of the truck and jumped when he saw that a collision was inevitable. He was not injured.

According to Traffic Officer Hamel, who investigated the accident. Brossard, who is doing transportation work between Poltimore and Hull, was returning home shortly before five o'clock. He apparently did not notice the approach of the train. Easy was the first to see the danger and shouted to the men in the front seat.

Tomkeawez and Dagenais, who were seated with the driver. Brossard, heard their companion's shouts and seeing their danger, cried to the driver to increase his speed. Brossard did all that was possible then to avoid the accident but it was too late. The locomotive struck the right rear wheel and carried the truck more than 30 feet along the right-of-way. The three men were still in the cabin of the truck when rescued by passing motorists. They were taken to hospital in an ambulance called from Hull.

The train was brought to an immediate stop and the crew did everything possible to aid the injured men. At this crossing there is no electric signal or crossing gates but there is a clear view for more than half a mile in each direction The crossing also bears the signs that motorists must come to a full stop before passing over the railway tracks.

In the past few months there have been several accidents at this crossing but none have been fatal accidents.

The train was in charge of Conductor H. Bell of Ottawa, with James Dunlop of Ottawa, engineer.

At the hospital late last night it was stated that all three men have good chance of recovery

Three cars derailed on Ottawa - Toronto train, 200 passengers escape.
 Night train meets accident near Manotick. Engineer's presence of mind averted disaster and only express and mail cars leave rails. Broken rail given as cause. Members of crew win high praise.
 More than 200 passengers on the Ottawa-Toronto night train had a remarkable escape when three cars left the rails between Gloucester and Manotick at mileage ten just before midnight last night. Due to smart work on the part of the train crew, no one was injured and what might easily have been a major catastrophe was averted.
 Three cars off tracks
 The train, which is the night pool train, pulled out of Ottawa Union station at 11.35 last night with its first scheduled stop Kemptville at 12.25 a.m. It had just got up speed and was thundering on towards its first stop when suddenly the Canadian Pacific Express car left the rails, pulling a Canadian National Express car and the mail car with it. Fortunately the engineer, G. Yelland of Ottawa saw what had happened and immediately braked the train.
 Right of way torn up
 As he pulled the train to a stop the baggage car between the mail car and the passenger coach and five sleepers held to the rails despite the fact that the right-of-way was torn up and the entire train was rocking from side to side.
 Workers in the mail car were thrown to the floor but beyond a few bruises were otherwise unhurt.
 Passengers however, were badly jolted but it is understood that none of them were injured.
 Among passengers
 Among the well known people who left Ottawa last evening on the train were: Arthur Slaght K.C., M.P., of Toronto who was in Ottawa yesterday in connection with a court case; R. McIntyre and J.J. Beachen, both of Toronto, and C.H. Corman of the Hamilton Harbour Commission.
 Calls for assistance were at once phoned to Ottawa and Smiths Falls and operating officials of the Canadian Pacific Railway ordered auxiliary engines to the scene of the accident from Smiths Falls and from Ottawa.
 Delayed three hours
 By three o'clock this morning the three derailed cars were back on the track and the train pulled off for Bedell where other equipment stood ready to rush the now three-hour late train on her way to Toronto.
 Despite the fact that there was a drenching rain pouring down, the crew worked like heroes in an effort to get the train back on the track with all possible speed.
 Believe rail broken
 Officials at the scene of the accident state that they were of the opinion that the accident was the result of a broken rail. They all announce themselves as being extremely glad that the engine itself had not left the rails as this would possibly have resulted in a serious loss of life.
 A C.P.R. official from Hull, Que., who was on the train en route to Toronto on his holidays, took charge of the operations at the accident.
 The crew in charge of the train were Conductor D. Kennedy of Toronto and Engineer G. Yelland of Ottawa.
 Ten feet of rail were found to be split when an examination was made following the accident. The wheels of the three cars ripped fishplates and ties for 400 yards along the track.

Baggage Cars Leave Track
 Three Hours' Delay in Toronto Run Results.
 Due to the derailment of three cars caused by a broken rail at mileage 10. between Gloucester and Manotick, at 11.50 o'clock Wednesday evening, The Ottawa-Toronto pool train was delayed three hours. Officials state that the baggage, mail and express cars were partially derailed and were returned to the tracks through the efforts of the train crew. Workers in the mail car were jolted, but no injuries were reported.
 The night pool train left Union Station at 1135 o'clock last night en route to its first stop at Kemptville. The Canadian Pacific Railway Railway express car was suddenly derailed at 11 50. pulling a Canadian National express car and the mail car with it. The Engineer, G. Yelland of Ottawa, immediately braked the train. Ottawa and Smiths Falls were notified of the mishap and the Canadian Pacific operating officials ordered auxiliary engines to the scene, but the train crew managed to get the derailed cars back on the track, without any assistance. The crew worked in a downpour and no time was lost through utilization of standard equipment.
 The crew in charge of the train were Conductor D. Kennedy, of Toronto and Engineer G. Yelland. of Ottawa.
 Ten feet of rail were found to be split and the wheels of the cars ripped fish plates and ties along the track at intervals for about 400 yards.

Board Investigates Derailment
 The Board of Railway Commissioners, it was learned Thursday, is investigating the partial derailment of three cars on the Toronto-Ottawa pool train which occurred near . Manotick, 16 miles south of here.
 An official of the board said three baggage and express cars were derailed. No one was injured.
 A broken rail was said to have been the cause of the accident. The train crew was able to work the cars back on to the track without assistance of a wrecking crew summoned from Ottawa.

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Admits he robbed railway stations
 B.B. Harris, special investigator for the C.N.R. announced this morning that a series of railway station break-ins in the Ottawa district had been solved by the confession of Redmond Cote, 25 years of age, of no fixed abode, but who said his home was in Ottawa
 Cote was wounded in the leg by a revolver shot by C.N.R. police at Valleyfield, Que., last week as he was allegedly attempting to break in the New York Central Railway freight sheds there. He is at present in the Valleyfield hospital and will be committed for trial as soon as he is well enough to appear in Valleyfield court.
 Mr. Harris stated that Cote admitted breaking into Hawkesbury, Vankleek Hill and St. Polycarp stations. In each case safes were broken open and varying amounts of money stolen.
 Cote has previous convictions in Ottawa.

Police searching for bogus money believed hidden.

Working on a theory that a quantity of counterfeit bills, and plates for printing them, were cached under the flooring, police this morning ripped up the floor of the Canadian Pacific Railway tool-house at Ellwood, four miles south of Ottawa. Digging several feet into the earth beneath the two-inch planks revealed nothing.

The search was instituted following the arrest early this morning of Daniel McRitchie, 51 years, of Cooksville, who was paroled four days ago from an Ontario reformatory at Mimico. McRitchie was apprehended by Corporal C. Graham and Constable Poudrette of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Cornwall. McRitchie was caught in the tool-house. he is charged with breaking and entering and awaits arraignment.

A close watch is being kept in the vicinity of the tool-house as the police hold the theory that McRitchie had arranged to meet a confederate believed to have been one of the gang of counterfeiters which was operating in Ottawa and Hull slightly over a year ago. At that time many spurious bills were circulated in the two cities, merchants being the victims.

When police began ripping up the floor of the tool-house they discovered that in one spot the earth appeared to have been recently disturbed. They think it possible that some members of the gang may have visited the shack recently and removed whatever might have been buried there. The officers also made a casual examination of the surrounding fields, ditches and hedges.

Constables Poudrette and Georges Lemieux of the R.C.M.P. and Constable George Kelly of the C.P.R. police, are conducting the investigation. McRitchie, it is alleged, had a key to the tool-house and police are endeavouring to discover how he got it.

Train off rails near Wyman delays traffic

The Waltham-Ottawa C.P.R. passenger train was delayed for about two hours this morning when two wheels of the locomotive left the rails at a crossing a short distance west of Wyman station. No one suffered injury and no property damage was caused. The train was coming to a stop for the station when the derailment occurred. An auxiliary crew was called from Ottawa and placed the locomotive back on the rails. Ice forming over the rails at the crossing on the Hull-Chapleau highway a few hundred yards from the railway station is blamed for the derailment. Highway traffic as well as the railway line was tied up.