

COPETOWN

DECEMBER 4, 1947

To Safety When Locomotive es Judge Currey To Head Arbitrators



SPECTACULAR TRAIN ACCIDENT—A general view of the scene of the collision early this morning in Copetown. C.N.R. yard is seen above with the overturned pilot locomotive being prepared for lifting back onto the tracks. The other locomotive involved, the giant Northern-type on the Detroit-bound freight, did not leave the rails and was towed back into the yard. No one was hurt in the accident and all lines were reported cleared by noon, although traffic had been passing through since a line was cleared at 7.45 this morning.



COPETOWN TRAIN WRECK—The pilot engine of the Chicago-bound freight is seen above, lying on its side, after being struck by the Detroit-bound freight in the Copetown C.N.R. yard at 2.40 this morning. The two cranes of the Hamilton auxiliary train are seen preparing to lift the locomotive back onto the rails. The Hamilton crew leaped to safety as the collision occurred and they, left inset, Victor Martin, fireman, and, right inset, Roy Cushman, engineer.



COPELTOWN TRAIN WRECK—The pilot engine of the Chicago-bound freight is seen above, lying on its side, after being struck by the Detroit-bound freight in the Copetown C.N.R. yard at 2.40 this morning. The two cranes of the Hamilton auxiliary train are seen preparing to lift the locomotive back onto the rails. The Hamilton crew leaped to safety as the collision occurred and they, left inset, Victor Martin, fireman, and, right inset, Roy Cushman, engineer.

Wreck Blocks

C.N. Main Line

Copetown Scene Of Rail Mishap As Freight Hits Pilot Engine

Jumping from the cab of their toppling C.N.R. locomotive as the Detroit-bound main-line freight tore into its side, a Hamilton engineer and fireman had a remarkable escape from death or serious injury at 2.40 this morning in the Copetown freight yard. They were Roy Cushman, engineer, 186 John Street North, and Victor Martin, fireman, 109 Dundurn Street North, and they formed the crew of the pilot locomotive double-heading the 70-car Chicago-bound main-line freight, standing at the west end of the Copetown freight yards early this morning, a few hundred yards from the still-smouldering ruins of the feed warehouse burned down last Friday.

Longer Than Loop

The Chicago freight had stopped on the main line to let the Detroit train enter the passing loop and, because of its extreme length, had to back up to let it out at the westerly end. It was just in the process of doing this when the Detroit, travelling at a fair speed, hit the pilot engine, toppling it off the rails.

Both the pilot engine, helping the Chicago freight up the grade as far as Woodstock, and the giant Northern-type Detroit locomotive are reported out of commission, although the heaviest damage was sustained by the former. The first cars of the Chicago-bound freight contained cattle who seemed none the worse for their experience this morning.

Lines Cleared

The damaged Detroit locomotive was towed back into a siding in the Copetown yard this morning but the cars continued with another engine as soon as the line was cleared. Officials of the C.N.R. London division said the eastbound line was cleared about noon today and the westbound track was cleared at 7.45 this morning. It is reported that one night freight was re-routed via Brantford and Caledonia but a line was cleared in time for the morning passenger services.

Mr. Cushman, who has 32 years service with the C.N.R., said that this was the first major accident in which he had been involved, and that both he and his fireman, when they saw what was to happen, got out as quickly as possible.