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THE HOCKING VALLEY RAILWAY CO.

Section Foreman's REPORT OF DAMAGE BY FIRE

To the Engineer M. of W., Columbus, Ohio.

Marion, Ohio. Ohio, Sept. 16, 1909 190

The following property, belonging to the person named, and on or along my section, was Destroyed by fire, viz

- 1. Name and residence of Owner Mrs John Evans, Marion, Ohio.
2. If rented, give Tenant's name George Watson .
3. Date Sept. 11, 1909. 190 Time 9:40 A.M. M.
4. Place: Give name and distance to nearest station Marion, one mile. north
5. No. of nearest telegraph pole 46-15
6. Kind and quantity of property destroyed or damaged One, two story frame house.
7. Value: (To be determined by the Supervisor and Section Foreman.) \$ 600.00
8. Which way, and at what stage, was the wind blowing? South-west, highwind.
9. Did the fire start on the Company's right of way? no If so, in what combustible material, such as weeds, grass, leaves or other material did the fire start? )))-----
10. How far from center of main track? 80 ft. Which side? East.
11. What was condition of right-of-way as to weeds and grass? Good.
12. When last mowed? Aug. 30, 1909 190 When last burned over? Oct. 1908. 190
13. Who discovered the fire? N. Dwyer.
14. How soon after train passed? Five minutes.
15. Who put the fire out? Burnt out.
16. What engines set the fire? last passed on right 202 No. of Train 2nd. 61.
17. Names and addresses of all persons, employes, etc., who know about the fire N. Dwyer, I. Pine, J.W. Trickey, Marion, Ohio.

18. REMARKS: This house is located on the east side of our right-of-way and as the wind was blowing from the east, I am of the opinion that the house did not catch fire from our engine.

Correct: H M Fox Supervisor. Foreman Section No. yd C. I. Pine



To SUPT. MOTIVE POWER,  
Columbus, Ohio.

Columbus, Ohio, \_\_\_\_\_ 190\_\_\_\_\_

Dear Sir:—Please give Record of Engine Inspection.

Yours truly,  
C. O. HUNTER,  
General Solicitor.

To GENERAL SOLICITOR,  
Columbus, Ohio.

Dear Sir:—Below is Record of Engine Inspection at time of last departure of Engine before the fire, and on its arrival after the fire.

No. of Engine	DATE INSPECTED	NAME OF INSPECTOR	CONDITION OF	
			SPARK-ARRESTER	ASH-PAN
202	9/10	Roy Fugate	ok	ok
202	9/12	A. Pignani	ok	ok

Columbus, O., 9/24 1909 Yours truly, Ma. Kinney  
Supt. Motive Power.

L. D. No. <u>6412</u>	THE HOCKING VALLEY RAILWAY CO.	SECTION FOREMAN'S REPORT —OF— DAMAGE BY FIRE.	Owner <u>Wm. J. Evans</u>	Tenant <u>L. Watson</u>	Place <u>Sept 11, 1909</u>	Date _____
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**IMPORTANT NOTICE.**  
Section Foreman will report on this form to the Supervisor promptly after a fire shall have occurred on his section, giving all the facts about the Cause, the Kind and Value of Property, and Extent of Damage done, together with any other information he may think of interest, and a pencil sketch on the back of this report showing location, extent, etc., of the fire.

Sept 11-09

P. M. Conroy  
Supt

Dear Sir,

This am while waiting for 32 & 33 at Marian  
there was a house burned down on East side  
of track just north of south bound siding I don't  
know who the house belonged to but I heard  
several talking around there that the railroad  
would have to pay for it. So if there is  
any claim put in for this house claiming

that some one of Mr Eng set fire to  
it. I think from what I saw & am  
satisfied that no Eng set it on fire if  
claim agent wants any information regarding  
this I might be able to give him a  
little if needed. Respt

J Brown

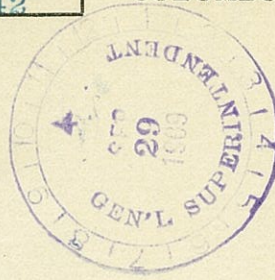
THE  
HOCKING VALLEY  
RAILWAY CO.

*T. M. CONNORS*  
H. S. SPEAKS  
SUPERINTENDENT

IN REPLY  
REFER TO NO.  
42

COLUMBUS, O.,

9-28-09.



Mr. M. S. Connors,  
General Superintendent.

Dear Sir:-

Herewith I hand you regular form report of  
destruction by fire to a house, the property of Mrs. John  
Evans, tenanted by George Watson at Marion, Sept. 11th.

Yourstruly,

*T. M. Connors*  
Superintendent.

WO

*Brown 2' - 2, (1) -*

September 30th, 1909.

Mr. T. M. Connors,  
Superintendent.

Dear Sir:-

With the papers relating to the two story frame building, the property of Mrs. John Evans, tenanted by George Watson, which was destroyed by fire on the 11th inst. near Marion, I find a communication from a Mr. J. Brown, evidently an employe, to you, in which he says that he is satisfied, from what he saw, that the fire was not caused by an engine, and that he is in possession of other information.

Please have Mr. Brown submit in writing his observations and such information that he may be in possession of and may further be able to obtain, as soon as possible, and oblige.

Yours very truly,

a/s.

General Solicitor.

## THE HOCKING VALLEY RAILWAY COMPANY.

Oct 7 1909

W. M. Connor  
Supt

Dear Sir referring to attached in regards to the two story house burning down at Main will say that I pulled in on South bound siding at Main & saw this house on fire in back part of house I went to see what it was as there was some of our Cars, or H.V. Cars standing in front of the house I noticed the fire was all in back part of the house under the roof all the things had been removed from the house & no effort being made to save it by any one house burning very slow. I heard several remark that the Railroad Co would pay for it as local set it on fire. it would have been impossible for a H.V. Eng to set that house on fire as the wind was too strong from the North East to allow a spark to fall East of the track the reason I was there until the house burned down was to protect H.V. Cars from burning up as wind was

## THE HOCKING VALLEY RAILWAY COMPANY.

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had from North East & might have set  
them on fire. And I did not know who  
this place belonged to & as I was sure no  
spark from Eng could get over there against  
the wind that was blowing I thought it might  
be some help to Claim Agent. Should a claim  
be made against H V for damages

Respt  
Joel Seom

THE  
HOCKING VALLEY  
RAILWAY CO.

*T.M. CONNORS*  
H. E. SPEAKS,  
SUPERINTENDENT

IN REPLY  
REFER TO No.  
**42**

COLUMBUS, O.,

10-11-09.

Mr. C. O. Hunter,

General Solicitor, Bldg;

Dear Sir:-

Your favor Sept. 30th. I hand you herewith communi-  
cation from Conductor Joe Brown with reference to destruction  
by fire to property of Mrs. John Evans at Marion September  
11th.

Yours truly,

*T.M. Connors*  
Superintendent.

WO

*King  
Made quick  
investigation to*



10 *no longer*

*Boyer 2/6/1  
Emerson at  
Chicago B.H.  
Wentley V.O.  
Hudson S*

OPINION

I. D. No. 6412

October 14th, 1909

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The report of Section Foreman shows that on September 11th, 1909, 9.40 A.M., one mile north of Marion, Ohio, pole 46-15, a two story frame house, valued at \$600.00, the property of MRS. JOHN EVANS, of Marion, tenanted by GEORGE WATSON, was destroyed by fire.

The fire started about 80 feet east from the center of the main track (high wind from north-east) off of the right of way, which was in good condition, having been last mowed August 30th, 1909, and last burned over in Sept 1908.

The spark arrester and ash pan of engine 202, which passed last previous to fire, were, on inspection, found in good condition.

No liability. ✓

C. O. H. ✓

October 19th, 1909.

Mr. T. M. Connors,  
Superintendent.

Dear Sir:--

Referring again to the destruction by fire on September 11th, at Marion, of two story frame house, the property of Mrs. John Evans,

Will you please have Conductor Joe Brown, Brake-men A. F. Tomlinson and B. H. Clinger, Engineer V. O. Weakley and Fireman S. Nader report to my office at their earliest opportunity without losing time, and much oblige.

Yours very truly,

w/k

General Solicitor.

STATEMENT OF S.NADER.

Columbus, November 1st, 1909.

On September 11th, I was fireman on engine No.202 or 2nd 61, engineer V.O.Weakley and Conductor Joe Brown. Our train arrived at the south end of the south bound passing track at Marion, between 9:30 and 10 o'clock A.M., and as we pulled north up this track I noticed a house about 100 feet east of all of the Hocking Valley tracks burning. It seemed to me that the roof was all on fire, this being the only part I could see at first. Our train was pulled up to the north end of this siding or passing track and stood there awaiting No.33. Conductor Joe Brown and myself walked up to the house and watched it burning. The people there were standing around and not trying to do anything to save the house. The wind was blowing at a good rate from the east and Brown and I remained there at the house as there were Hocking Valley cars on the siding next the house and with the wind blowing as it was from the east, we feared these might take fire and burn, so remained in order that if they got in danger we could pull them out. This feature of the occasion called my attention to the direction in which the wind was blowing. My name is Samuel Nader, I live at No. 41 West Rich Street, and have been employed by the Hocking Valley Railway Company as fireman for about 3 years.

*Samuel Nader*

Fireman.

Statement of Engineer V. O. WEAKLEY, of train 2nd No.61, engine No.202, of September 11th, 1909, relative to fire at Marion,O.,which destroyed house of Mrs. John Evans.

Columbus,O., October 28th,1909.

On September 11th, 1909, I was engineer of engine No.202, train 2nd, No.61, and at about 9.40 A.M., as we pulled into the south-bound siding from the south, as we were north-bound, I saw a two story frame building afire, which was about 30 car lengths ahead, or north of my train, a short distance east of the right of way, and at that time it seemed to me to be all ablaze, and therefore could not say in what part of the house the fire started, and I did not go to ascertain.

The wind on that day and at that time, as I well remember, was blowing from the East. Of this I took particular notice, as the smoke from the fire of this house was blown across the tracks.

My train did not pass the house until it had been almost entirely consumed by the flames.

*V. O. Weakley*

Engine er.

THE  
HOCKING VALLEY  
RAILWAY CO.

T. M. CONNORS,  
SUPERINTENDENT

IN REPLY  
REFER TO No.

42

COLUMBUS, O.,

12-3-09.

Mr. C. O. Hunter,

General Solicitor, Bldg;

Dear Sir:-

Your favor October 30th. I hand you herewith communication from the Master Mechanic, reporting inspection of ash pans and spark arresters of all engines passing Marion just prior to the time of engine 202, train 2nd.No.61, September 11th.

Yours truly,

  
Superintendent.

WO

THE HOCKING VALLEY  
RAILWAY CO.M. A. KINNEY,  
MASTER MECHANICIN REPLY  
REFER TO No.

COLUMBUS, O.

12/1/09.

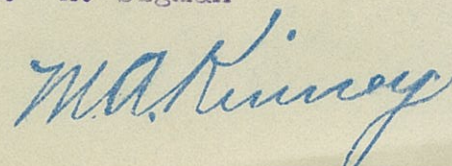
Mr. T. M. Connors,  
Superintendent.

Dear Sir:-

Replying to your File 42 of November 16th, asking for the inspection record of certain engines as to the condition of ash pan and spark arrester before and after September 11th. They were inspected on the following dates and found to be in good condition.

Engine 13	9-9	O.K.	A. Sigman
	9-11	O.K.	R. Fugate
	9-16	O.K.	R. Fugate
202	9-10	O.K.	R. Fugate
	9-12	O.K.	A. Sigman
222	9-9	O.K.	A. Moore
	9-11	O.K.	J. Houser
	9-14	O.K.	A. Moore
	9-16	O.K.	A. Moore
	9-19	O.K.	J. Houser
239	9-10	O.K.	R. Fugate
	9-11	O.K.	C.A. Gemienhardt
	9-13	O.K.	C. Moore
259	9-10	O.K.	R. Fugate
	9-12	O.K.	R. Fugate
261	9-10	O.K.	R. Fugate
	9-12	O.K.	A. Sigman

Yours truly,



D/J