

# 17 Cars Jump Track; Damage Set At \$165,000

Seventeen cars in a 30-car Monon freight train were derailed in early dawn hours today when an axle broke on one of the gondola cars of a southbound train passing through Carmel from Chicago.

No one was injured in the spectacular crash, Carmel authorities reported.

Twisted wreckage, chunks of steel, trucks torn loose from cabs, and loose corn, were strewn over an area of more than 1500 feet.

Railroad officials reported to Carmel Police Chief Marvie Myers the train was passing south of the Carmel Grain Elevator and Marathon Gasoline Bulk Plant, about 6:30 a.m., when an overheated axle broke.

The gondola car and two freight cars behind it were derailed but remained upright. The next eight cars overturned, ripping up track, roadbed, telephone poles, and expensive communications signal equipment.

Ironically, at least four of the eleven cars which appear to be total losses, contained newsprint, posting a sign which read:

"Take it easy: keep this business on the rails."

Estimated loss placed by railroad officials on property damage alone is between \$150,000 to \$165,000, excluding cargo loss.

John Christy, Carmel fire department battalion chief, said he believed an axle became overheated and broke. He said the friction heat of the dragging car ignited a carload of lumber.

The Carmel fire department was called to put out the smoldering lumber fire.

Hundreds of townspeople and students from Carmel High School rushed to view the scene as railroad crews began salvage operations.

Emergency crews were awaiting the arrival of huge steam and diesel-powered cranes and winches, summoned from Indianapolis.

Many of the cars jackknifed one on top of the other, crumpling steel as if it were tissue paper, and must be separated by steel-cutting torch.

Monon Station Agent J. L. Long, Carmel representative, said all Monon trains were immediately rerouted on Pennsylvania Railroad, by way of Frankfort and Indianapolis.

Reconstruction of the track area began as soon as workmen arrived

on the scene. Debris and freight cars not in condition to run were cut up and thrown to one side, down an embankment, in an effort to restore the track to operating order within the next 24-hours, Long said.

## Hoedown Here Friday Night



Jack Ryan

The Indiana Hoedown will be presented again by the Junior Classical League of Noblesville Senior High School in the gymnasium Friday, May 11th, at 8 p.m.

Jack Ryan will be there to add zest and laughs as he brings comic Clem Witherspoon to life.

Judy and Jen, a winsome twosome, will sing with Charlie Gore and his Rangers, but Charlie will take his guitar and hoe it down in true country style as he serves as master of ceremonies.

Tickets are on sale at the high school principal's office or may be obtained from any J. C. L. member. Adult and high school tickets are \$1.00. Children's tickets 50c. Children under school age will be admitted free. Reserved seats for \$1.25 are situated on the main floor.

In charge of the stage is William Phillips, assisted by Jan Robinson, Jim Dillon, David Figgins, Eldon Riggins Tom Abel and Tom Goad.

Patricia Derival leads the decorating committee. She will have Emma Duvall and Linda Hoover as assistants.

## Senior . . . Sketches

by Sandy Lehr and Vicki Spidel