

## MIDDLETON RAILWAY TRUST

The attached abstract from the Ministry of Transport order No. 2119 concerning notice of accidents has been prepared after study of the official documents and consultation with Railway Officials on certain points, for the information, necessary action and compliance by all personnel connected with the Middleton Railway by the Vice President of the Middleton Railway Trust, Dr. R. C. Lawrence.

It is very obvious from the wording of the order and the fact that it was made on December 14th 1965 and was effective from January 1st. 1966, that the Ministry of Transport considers that, for safety, legal and statistical reasons, the scope of reportable railway accidents should be enlarged.

Any transport system, however carefully worked, has an accident, whether fatal or involving serious personal injury, sooner or later. Thus the Middleton Railway must comply in every way with the requirements of order 2119. Consequently an Accident Reporting Officer has been appointed and a copy of the abstract will be circulated to every member.

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT ORDER No. 2119 of DECEMBER 14th. 1965.

RAILWAYS. NOTICE OF ACCIDENTS ORDER

Applicable from January 1st. 1966

Abstract of the order insofar as it affects the  
Middleton Railway.

- 1.) The order is effective from January 1st. 1966 and revokes and supersedes all previous orders.
- 2.) The expressions used have the following meanings
  - a. 'Passenger Railway' means a railway used for passenger traffic or which is still maintained to passenger standards although no longer so used.
  - b. 'Goods Train' includes a mineral or empty stock train.
  - c. 'Serious injury' means amputation of a limb, a fracture or dislocation, internal injuries, loss of an eye, burns or scalds or any other injury likely to cause lengthy disablement.
- 3.) Accidents likely to cause loss of life or serious personal injury.
  - a. Locomotives - steam, diesel, electric, and rolling stock
    - Bursting of boiler.
    - Failure of rope used in working an incline.
    - Failure of wheels or tyres-including loose tyres.
    - Failure of an axle.
    - Failure of any part of a traction unit or any other vehicle which might endanger passengers.
    - Any fire, severe electrical arcing or fusing in any part of a passenger or goods train or the power unit of such train.

b. Permanent Way and works connected with a passenger railway (THESE ARE OMITTED FROM THIS ABSTRACT AS THEY DO NOT concern the Middleton freight branch.)

c. Miscellaneous accidents to rolling stock and permanent way. 3 categories defined, all concerned with passenger railways and thus not applicable.

Any collision, derailment or division of a train occurring in a freight line and causing fouling of a passenger line.

A locomotive, train or railway vehicle striking any horse, beast or other obstruction or the gate or gates of any level crossing.

An aircraft or vehicle of any kind coming to rest foul of the permanent way.

d. Notice of all FATAL accidents whether to passengers, railway servants, servants of contractors employed on the railway, suicides or any other person ( including trespassers ) will be immediately notified to the Minister by telephone and confirmed in writing by the earliest post.

Notice of all non fatal accidents to persons of the above categories ( except suicides ) shall be sent to the Minister by the earliest post.

4.) Notice of all non fatal accidents occurring to railway servants, servants of contractors employed on the railway and trespassers of any kind which will result in the person being disabled for more than three days shall be sent to the Minister if they are connected with

- a. Movement of any locomotive or rail vehicle.
- b. Any mechanical fault or electrical fault or failure of material.
- c. The presence of electrical equipment.
- d. Any machinery in motion.
- e. Unprotected points etc., rods, signal or stay wires or obstructions of similar nature.
- f. Circumstances of an exceptional or unusual character

by the earliest possible post.

- 5.) This section entirely covers passengers and is thus not applicable to the Middleton Railway normally, except for the last paragraph which states that notice of accidents to persons other than passengers or trespassers, full particulars shall be sent to the Minister by the earliest possible post whatever the nature of the injury ( which must be specified in detail )
- Visitors to the Railway who travel on a locomotive or in a brake van are considered as passengers.
- Visitors to the Railway are, by the rules of the Middleton Railway required to sign the Indemnity Form over a 6d. stamp but this in no way absolves the Middleton Railway Trust or its duly appointed Reporting Officer from reporting any fatality or injury to a visitor when travelling on a locomotive, in a brake van or any other vehicle ( including cranes ) or where walking on the permanent way.

6.) section iii

In case of accidents to persons other than passengers or trespassers when :-

- a. due to lifts, hoists or escalators.
- b. assisting with cranes.
- c. due to their coming into contact with live electrical equipment of any kind.
- d. crossing the railway lines whether at level crossings or not.
- e. due to defective rolling stock, permanent way or other railway works.
- f. due to carelessness or neglect of railway servants or of contractors' servants working on the railway.
- d. due to circumstances of any exceptional nature

shall be sent to the Minister by the earliest post.



In the case of accidents to persons on business on the Railway

- a. injured by falling of goods wagon flaps, partitions etc. or by opening or closing of doors of railway vehicles
- b. when loading, unloading or sheeting railway or road vehicles or through falling when getting on to or off such vehicles or by being struck by road vehicles owned by the railway.
- c. slipping or falling off platforms, steps, scaffolding or ladders.
- d. injured by moving of materials or goods in barrows etc.

7.) In the case of injury to persons other than passengers, persons on business or trespassers on the railway line or property

- a. ascending or descending any steps or falling from platforms.
- b. being struck by barrows or falling over obstructions
- c. injured on other miscellaneous accidents

by the earliest post.

The notices of accidents or injury shall be submitted on the appropriate official forms :-

- a. Form A for all accidents other than level crossing accidents.
- b. Form B for all level crossing accidents.
- c. Form C.D.E and F respectively shall be used for returns of failures of wheels or tyres ( including loose tyres ), failures of axles, broken rails and trains becoming divided.
- d. Every notice of the failure of boiler, tyre or axle shall include a diagram with particulars of construction and failure description of the materials of which it was composed and the amount of work it had performed.

ALL NOTICES SHALL BE SUBMITTED IN DUPLICATE, SHALL BE DATED, SIGNED AND ADDRESSED TO :-

The Secretary,  
Ministry of Transport,  
8, Christopher House,  
Southwark Street, London S.E.1.

Given under the official seal of the Minister of Transport on December 14th.1965.

Signed. C.P.Scott Malden, Under Secretary to the  
Ministry of Transport.

The appropriate forms will be obtained in bulk from British Railways and submitted in duplicate and a copy kept by the sender of the Report.