

**File Unit - 002/002.01-16810.00.05**



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**Dates:** June 12, 1935 - October 13, 1936

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<b>Extent</b>	[Extent]
<b>Type of Unit</b>	[Type of Unit]FOLDER

**Title:** DL&W RR--Correspondence--General Superintendent--16810: Request for flasher -type signal at grade crossing, Danville, PA

**Add By:** RED  
**Add Date:** 9/8/2009 5:03:21 PM  
**Change By:** RED  
**Change Date:** 9/8/2009 5:08:19 PM  
**Location:** 002/002.01-B15-025

<b>Proc By</b>	
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**Record Id:** 50453

16810

Scranton, Pa., October 13, 1936.

File 1059.

Mr. E. B. Moffatt,  
General Superintendent.

Dear Sir:-

On November 25, 1935, we forwarded to you our entire file relative to the request made by the Borough Council of Danville to have flasher type signal installed at grade crossing just east of State Hospital.

We requested Agent Keiser to advise if any further action had been taken in this matter and he notified us that the Secretary of the Borough Council informed him that while they were promised that such a signal would be installed nothing has been done up to the present time and wish you would advise if we should close our file relative to this matter.

Yours truly,

*G. W. Murphy.*

Superintendent.



16810

THE DELAWARE, LACKAWANNA AND WESTERN RAILROAD COMPANY

LEGAL DEPARTMENT  
SCRANTON, PA.

WILLIAM S. JENNEY  
VICE-PRESIDENT AND GENERAL COUNSEL

G. W. MORGAN  
GENERAL ATTORNEY

NEW YORK

March 7, 1936.

*G.M.P.*  
*To please note*  
*E.P.M.*  
*3/8*  
*[Signature]*

Mr. E. B. Moffatt,  
General Superintendent,  
Scranton, Penna.

Dear Sir:

I am returning herewith your file in connection with the proposition of installing flasher type signals at the grade crossing east of State Hospital, Danville, Pa.

I do not think it would be wise for us to stir this matter up until we are definitely called upon, either by the Borough of Danville or the Public Service Commission, to provide some protection at this crossing. I understand that the Danville Borough authorities are anxious to have the State Highway Department locate and construct a state highway from Danville to the Catawissa River Bridge in order to relieve traffic on State Highway Route No. 11. Their appeal to the State Highway Department, as noted in the newspaper account met with the usual reception by the Secretary of Highways. The Democratic administration at Harrisburg have made so many promises to build highways all over the State that I doubt if this proposed highway will be seriously considered.

Yours truly,

*G. W. Morgan*

2-9-36

E.B.M.

I am unable to do any  
thing for the reason the  
same men are in office  
who made the request  
note slipping from paper  
Toby run is the thing in question  
H.P.

# CATAWISSA ROAD IS PROMISED

Delegations of Officials Received Pledge From Secretary of Highways

## MOST RELEASES SIGNED

A delegation of Columbia and Montour officials were given assurance by Warren VanDyke, Secretary of Highways, that a new road would be built from Danville to Catawissa, on their visit to Harrisburg on Wednesday. Representative McHenry, of Columbia County, made the appointment and officials of the two counties met the secretary in his office at 11 o'clock. Attorney Sharpless, solicitor for the borough of Catawissa introduced the membership of the delegation and presented the petitions for the road which would lead from the upper end of Market street, Danville, along the West side of the Susquehanna river to the Catawissa river bridge. There are about 23-4 miles of this road in Columbia County and a little less than five miles in Montour County.

Already all property owners but two along the proposed road have waived damage claims and these, it was said, can be ironed out amicably. Thomas G. Vincent, register and recorder representing the Danville Chamber of Commerce, told the secretary of the advantage of this route in relieving much of the traffic from the cement route 11, in making a much shorter route to the coal regions and making a route through some of the finest scenery to be found along the Susquehanna river or in Pennsylvania.

Philip Benzbach, president of the council, stated the road is badly needed and the whole community is back of the project as attested by the different bodies represented in the delegation.

William Kindt, chairman of the good roads committee of the Danville Chamber of Commerce, told VanDyke that by changing the road just above the state hospital it would be possible to eliminate two grade crossings over the Lackawanna Railroad.

By using the main crossing into the state hospital and running the new road on the north side of the track up the river the grade crossing at Toby's run and the old lock could be eliminated. This would be in line with the federal governments policy of eliminating all grade crossings possible and there two could be with small cost.

Sheriff Andreas of Columbia County and Clyde Croft, commissioner of Columbia County, both stated that the people of their county were back of this road 100 per cent and would go along in any effort to promote it.

Howard Vankirk, Democratic chairman of Montour, stated that he felt certain the commissioners of Montour county would do all in their power to secure this road which is badly needed. Van Dyke assured the visiting officials that his department would build this road and take the folks along that route out of the mud.

In the delegation were Howard Vankirk, Thomas G. Vincent, Simon Hoffman, Sam Jacobs, Philip Benzbach, William Kindt, A. C. Bobb, Sheriff Sweitzer and W. G. Reese, Danville; Attorney Sharpless, Sheriff Andreas, Clyde Croft, Representative McHenry, Matthew Ervin, W. L. Gearhart, Harder and Grimes from Columbia County.

Scranton, Pa., January 2, 1936.  
Signal grade crossing east State Hospital.  
16810:

Mr. G. E. Lowe:

My letter December 4, reading:

"Referring to attached.

I do not know whether Mr. Morgan was aware you had previously handled this matter, but in accordance with his suggestions I refer the papers to you for further handling with your contact at Danville.

Will you please advise just what you are able to do in connection with this matter."

Can you now advise.

E.B.Moffatt.

1-G



THE DELAWARE, LACKAWANNA AND WESTERN RAILROAD COMPANY

OFFICE OF GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

SCRANTON, PA.

December 4, 1935.

E. B. MOFFATT  
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. G. E. Lowe:

Referring to attached:

I do not know whether Mr. Morgan was aware you had previously handled this matter, but in accordance with his suggestion I refer the papers to you for further handling with your contact at Danville.

Will you please advise just what you are able to do in connection with this matter.

*E. B. Moffatt*

EBM\_4

February 10, 1936.

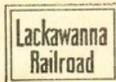
Mr. G. W. Morgan,  
General Attorney.

The attached papers have reference to your letter of December 3, in regard to the proposition of installing flasher type signals at grade crossing east of State Hospital, D nville, Pa.

I would call your attention to newspaper clipping and memorandum from General Roadmaster Lowe in connection with this matter.

Shall be glad of your further suggestions.

EBM-4



THE DELAWARE, LACKAWANNA AND WESTERN RAILROAD COMPANY

LEGAL DEPARTMENT

SCRANTON, PA.

WILLIAM S. JENNEY  
VICE-PRESIDENT AND GENERAL COUNSEL

NEW YORK

G. W. MORGAN  
GENERAL ATTORNEY

December 3, 1935.

Mr. E. B. Moffatt,  
General Superintendent,  
Scranton, Pa.

Dear Sir:

I am returning herewith your file in connection with the application of the Borough of Danville for flasher type signals at the grade crossing east of the State Hospital.

Before taking any definite action in this matter I suggest that it be submitted to General Roadmaster Lowe, who I understand has a good contact at Danville and he may be able to handle this matter to a satisfactory conclusion.

After receiving his report you can then determine just what action you should take.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in brown ink, appearing to read "G. W. Morgan", written over the typed name.

Scranton, Pa., November 25, 1935.

File 1059.

Mr. E. B. Moffatt,  
General Superintendent.

Dear Sir:-

I am attaching hereto our complete file in connection with the request made by the Borough Council at Danville to have flasher type signals installed at grade crossing just east of State Hospital.

We endeavored through Agent Keiser to have the Council permit us to place a slow order on our trains crossing that point in order that it would not be necessary to install these signals. However, you will note that agent's letter of November 21st advises that this will not be satisfactory and it may be necessary for us to install these signals.

These papers are forwarded to you for whatever action you deem necessary.

Yours truly,



Superintendent.

Danville Pa. November 21st 1935.

Mr. H. J. Mullaghy, Supt.  
Scranton Pa.,

Dear Sir,.

Your file 1059

Your above file number inconnection the grade crossing east of the Danville State Hospital ,

Beg to advise i finally a reply from Our Borough Secretary as to whether the Council would be satisfied if we reduced our speed of trains over this crossing to ten to 15 miles per hour. The Majority of the members would not agree to this request.

Yours Truly,.

*A. J. Kaiser*

Agent

Scranton, Pa., January 2, 1936.

16810:

Mr. G. E. Lowe:

My letter December 4, reading:

"Referring to attached.

I do not know whether Mr. Morgan was aware you had previously handled this matter, but in accordance with his suggestions I refer the papers to you for further handling with your contact at Danville.

Will you please advise just what you are able to do in connection with this matter."

Can you now advise.

E.B.Moffatt.

1-G

December 4, 1935.

Signals grade crossing east State Hospital.

Mr. G. E. Lowe:

Referring to attached:

I do not know whether Mr. Morgan was aware you had previously handled this matter, but in accordance with his suggestion I refer the papers to you for further handling with your contact at Danville.

Will you please advise just what you are able to do in connection with this matter.

EBM\_4

Scranton, Pa. Oct. 10, 1935.

Mr. H. J. Mullaghy

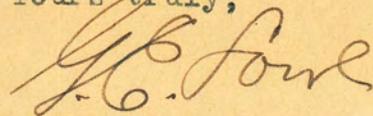
Superintendent,

Dear Sir:-

Replying to your letter of July 25, file 1059 covering Safety Warning signals at crossing just east of the Danville State Hospital Boiler House.

I beg to have advise you that no warning signals have been placed. I understand there is likely to be a change in the highway paralling our track in this vicinity in the near future and recommend trains be slowed down until something definite is decided.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "G. B. Fowl".

General Roadmaster

Scranton, Pa., October 8, 1935.

File 1059.

Mr. G. E. Lowe,  
General Roadmaster.

Dear Sir:

My letter of July 25 and tracers of  
August 8 and 26 and September 9.

Will you not kindly advise if safety  
warning signals have been installed on our grade  
crossing just east of the Danville State Boiler  
House?

Yours truly,

Superintendent

*Punch*

Scranton, Pa., Sept. 9, 1935.

File 1059.

Mr. G. E. Lowe,  
General Roadmaster.

Dear Sir:

Please refer to my letter of July 25  
and tracers of August 8 and 26.

Can you now advise if safety warning  
signals have been installed on our grade crossing  
just east of the Danville State Boiler House?

Yours truly,

Superintendent

Punch

Scranton, Pa., August 26, 1935.

File 1059.

Mr. G. E. Lowe,

General Roadmaster.

Dear Sir:-

I would be pleased if you would reply to my letter of July 25th and urger of August 8th, in connection with installing safety warning signs at Toby-run Crossing, Danville, Pa., advising the present status of this matter.

Yours truly,

Superintendent.

*Punch*

Scranton, Pa., Aug. 8, 1935.

File 1059.

Mr. G. E. Lowe,

General Roadmaster.

Dear Sir:

Kindly favor me with a prompt reply to my letter of July 25, which read as follows:

"Please note the attached copy of letter forwarded to agent Keiser at Danville by Mr. Reese, Secretary of the Borough of Danville, which is self-explanatory.

"It was our understanding, when we made our last trip over the Bloom, that Roadmaster Harney was supposed to call on these people relative to drainage and necessity of installing safety warning signs at this crossing.

"Would be pleased if you would advise just what the status of the affair is."

Yours truly,

Superintendent.

*Punch*

Scranton, Pa., July 25, 1935.

File 1059.

Mr. G. E. Lowe,  
General Roadmaster,  
Scranton, Pa.

Dear Sir:

Please note the attached copy of letter forwarded to agent Keiser at Danville by Mr. Reese, Secretary of the Borough of Danville, which is self-explanatory.

It was our understanding, when we made out last trip over the Bloom, that Roadmaster Harney was supposed to call on these people relative to drainage and necessity of installing safety warning signs at this crossing.

Would be pleased if you would advise just what the status of the affair is.

Yours truly,

Superintendent.

HJM

cc: AHK

THE BOROUGH OF DANVILLE  
CITY HALL BUILDING

Danville, Pa., July 20, 1935.

D. L. & W. R.R. Co.,  
c/o A. H. Keiser, Agent,  
Danville, Pa.

Gentlemen:

Recently we wrote to you requesting that a signal light be placed at the Toby-Run crossing of your company. As we have not heard from you the council has instructed me to bring this to your attention again as this crossing has considerable traffic over it by coal trucks to the hospital and the farming country in that section. Hoping to have an early reply I am.

Yours truly,

W. G. Reese,

Sec. of the Borough of  
Danville.

C O P Y

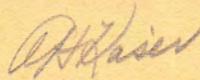
DL & W R R Co. Danville Pa. 7/22nd 1935

Mr. H. J. Mullaghy, Supt.,  
Scranton Pa.,.

Dear Sir,.

You will please note the letter herewith attached from our Borough having reference to my letter to you June 13<sup>th</sup> 1935 along with a letter from them about our Grade crossing just east of the Danville State Boiler house.

Yours Truly,.

  
Agent

H. RUMBOWER  
BURGESS

PHILIP BENZBACH  
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

W. G. REESE  
SECRETARY

CHARLES MONROE  
CHIEF OF POLICE

THE BOROUGH OF DANVILLE  
CITY HALL BUILDING

DANVILLE, PENN'A. July 20, 1935.

D.L.& W.R.R.Co.,  
% A.H.Keiser, Agt.,  
Danville, Pa.

Gentlemen:

Recently we wrote to you requesting that a signal light be placed at the Toby-Run crossing of your company. As we have not heard from you the council has instructed me to bring this to your attention again as this crossing has considerable traffic over it by coal trucks to the hospital and the farming country in that section. Hoping to have an early reply I am.

Yours truly,

*W. G. Reese,*

Sec. of the Borough of Danville.

Scranton, Pa., November 20, 1935.

File 1059.

Mr. A. H. Keiser,  
Agent, Danville.

Dear Sir:

See my letter of October 22 and advise without further delay whether any reply has been received from the Council in the matter of the grade crossing west of State Hospital.

Yours truly,

Superintendent

Punch

Scranton, Pa., October 22, 1935.

File 1059.

Mr. A. H. Keiser,  
Agent, Danville.

Dear Sir:

See previous correspondence relative to action to be taken in connection with the grade crossing east of State Hospital.

Has any reply been received from the Council in this matter?

Yours truly,

Superintendent

DL & W R R Co

Danville Pa. Oct 7th 1935

Mr. H. J. Mullaghy, Supt.,  
Scranton Pa.,

Dear Sir,.

Your file 1059  
-----

Your letter of Sept 9th and Oct 7th 1935  
in line with your above file record.

I beg to advise at time of receipt of your letter  
of Sept 9th I called this matter to the attention of our  
Borough Secretary who told me he would handle this matter  
with the Borough Council at their first meeting, which for  
some reason he failed to do, but after calling his attention  
to this matter again he has promised to take this question  
up with the proper authorities and let me know their reply,.

*Punch*

Yours truly,

*C. J. Kaiser*

action was to be taken in connection  
grade crossing east of State Hospital.

Will you please advise what action  
taken?

Yours truly,

Superintendent

Scranton, Pa., October 7, 1935.

File 1059.

Mr. A. H. Keiser,  
Agent, Danville.

Dear Sir:

On September 9 we wrote you, suggesting that you advise the Council verbally what action was to be taken in connection with the grade crossing east of State Hospital.

Will you please advise what action taken?

Yours truly,

Superintendent

HPM

Do you wish to have  
any bulletin issued on this

HPM

No  
ask  
met-

be done

HPM 10/3

Scranton, Pa., Sept. 9, 1935.

File 1059.

Mr. A. H. Keiser,  
Agent,  
Danville, Pa.

Dear Sir:

Referring to your letter August 29, in reply to our letter of the 27th, in which you advise that Mr. Reese, Borough Secretary, suggests you write him a letter stating just what our Company is willing to do relative to protection of crossing in question.

Would advise this matter was submitted to General Attorney G. W. Morgan and he suggests that you advise the Council verbally, instead of writing a letter to them.

Yours truly,

Superintendent.

HJM

Scranton, Pa., Aug. 31, 1935.

File 1059.

Mr. E. B. Moffatt,  
General Superintendent.

Dear Sir:

I am herewith returning my file, which you handed to me recently relative to proposed protection of grade crossing just east of State Hospital, Danville.

Same was sent to our agent, Mr. Keiser, and attached you will find letter from him covering the subject.

Do you wish me to send a letter as suggested or do you wish to draft one to cover the matter?

Yours truly,

Superintendent.

*H. J. M.*  
*Confer with Mr. Morgan*  
*to prepare letter. E. B. M. 9/1.*  
*9/1/35*  
*Ag. Keiser and that the*  
*embellish cover of letter.*  
*Keiser*

Scranton, Pa., Aug. 31, 1935.

File 1059.

Mr. E. B. Moffatt,

General Superintendent.

Dear Sir:

I am herewith returning my file, which you handed to me recently relative to proposed protection of grade crossing just east of State Hospital, Danville.

Same was sent to our agent, Mr. Keiser, and attached you will find letter from him covering the subject.

Do you wish me to send a letter as suggested or do you wish to draft one to cover the matter?

Yours truly,

Superintendent.

HJM

Mr. H. J. Mullaghy, Supt.,  
Scranton Pa.,

Danville Pa. Aug 29th 1935.

Dear Sir,.

Your letter of 27th inst file 1059  
rel to protecting the grade crossing just east  
of the State Hospital,

I called on Mr. Reese, Borough Secy.  
and explained how our situation was about  
installing a flasher type signal at this crossing  
and told him our people would be willing to go along  
by placing a slow order of 10 miles per hour over  
this crossing, I did not mention anything about the  
15 mile limit inasmuch I noticed he was not very  
much impressed with the idea,.

However he suggested I write him a letter  
stating just what our people were willing to go  
along on and he would take up at their next council  
meeting which is Friday Sept 6th 1935. Shall I  
write such a letter or will you prepare one and send  
to me.? I feel they will go along on the 10 mile  
limit .

Yours Truly

*A H Kaiser*

Agent

Seranton, Pa., August 27, 1935.

File 1059.

PERSONAL

Mr. A. H. Keiser,  
Agent,  
Danville, Pa.

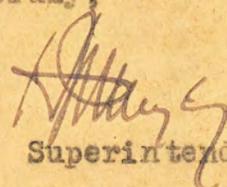
Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter June 13, in which you call our attention to a letter from Borough authorities making complaint about no protection at grade crossing just east of Danville State Hospital.

For your information, would advise that this matter has been taken up with our people and at the present time they do not feel that they can afford to go to the expense of a flasher-type signal at this crossing, especially when the few movements which pass over same in a 24-hour period are taken into consideration. This information, of course, is confidential, but would be pleased if you would call on Mr. Reese, Secretary of the Borough and inform him that at the present time we do not feel that we should install flasher light signal at this crossing and ask him if we will put a slow order of 10 or 15 miles per hour on all trains over this crossing if it would be satisfactory to the Borough Council.

Advise just how you make out.

Yours truly,

  
Superintendent.

HJM

Scranton, Pa., June 15, 1935.

File 1059.

Mr. E. B. Moffatt,

General Superintendent.

Dear Sir:

Please note the attached letter from Agent Keiser, Danville, enclosing letter received from Mr. W. G. Reese, Secretary of the Borough of Danville, requesting our Company to furnish protection at the first grade crossing east of State Asylum at that point.

For your information, would advise that there are two first-class trains and two extra freight trains in each direction which pass over this crossing regularly on week days. On Sundays, this is cut down to one first-class and one freight train in each direction.

This for your information and whatever action you see fit to take in the matter.

Yours truly,

Superintendent.

*GAP*  
HJM  
What do you suggest  
in connection with this  
request?  
E B M  
6/16.

*Attains a possibility  
of a State Road next year  
+ my will be submitted if near  
I would suggest  
Reduce speed over  
To satisfy until  
we see  
9/16/35*

*HJM  
Am objection  
to carrying out  
suggestion  
E B M  
6/25*

Danville Pa. June 13th 1935.

Mr. H. J. Mullaghy, Supt.  
Scranton Pa.,.

Dear Sir,.

You will please note the attached letter from our Bourough authorities making a complaint about no protection at the grade crossing just east of the Danville State Hospital new bolier house.

Will you please look into this matter advising what I shall say to them.

Yours Truly,.

*A. H. Kaiser*  
Agent

H. E. TRUMBOWER  
BURGESS

PHILIP BENZBACH  
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

W. G. REESE  
SECRETARY

CHARLES MONROE  
CHIEF OF POLICE

THE BOROUGH OF DANVILLE  
CITY HALL BUILDING

DANVILLE, PENN'A. June 12, 1935.

Mr. A. H. Keiser, Agt.,  
D. L. & W. R. R. Co.,  
Danville, Pa.

Dear sir:

The borough council has instructed me to bring to your attention the dangerous crossing over your tracks at the Danville State Hospital where according to the report made in the council recently, forty to fifty trucks pass over every hour, and request that a blinker signal light be placed at that point. This crossing is at the <sup>East-</sup>~~south~~ end of the power house where the trucks are operating to the hospital.

We would very much appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

Yours truly,

*W. G. Reese*

Sec. of the borough of Danville, Pa.

Copy for 16810

November 27, 1935.

Danville - Crossing State Hospital.

Mr. G. W. Morgan:

Re. attached.

If we can be forced to provide flasher type signals I suppose the only thing to do is to refer this correspondence to the Chief Engineer so that he can include it in his 1936 budget of expense.

However, it does not seem to me we ought to be forced into this proposition, particularly in view of the fact that we have indicated our willingness to reduce the speed of trains over crossing in question.

Will you please advise.

EBM-4

COPY

File No. ....

February 26, 1916. 19 ..

Mr. G.W. Morgan .....

Bldg. ....

Dear Sir:

Please let me have reply to my letter dated Feb. 10.

your file number ..... in relation to proposition of  
installing flasher type signals at grade crossing east  
of State Hospital, Danville, Pa.

Yours truly,  
E.B. MOFFATT