

Trouble at Jonesville!

By Bob Hanna

Trouble at Jonesville! The last train through Jonesville reported a broken switch at the west end of the siding. Trains were held as the maintenance crew is called out to fix it. But they didn't have the part. So, to get the main line open and trains moving again, the switch was spiked in place for the main and a slow order was put in effect until it is repaired. A new part has been found at the Cumberland shops and is being shipped to Van Doren ASAP, in the baggage car of the National Limited. The maintenance crew can pick it up there and take it up to Jonesville to repair the switch. Repairs are expected to take 24 hours.



Trains can still meet at Jonesville, as a train can still pull into the siding from the east end switch, to meet another train. But after the other train passes, as it cannot throw the west switch, it will have to back out of the siding, over the east switch, to proceed on up the mountain. But the poor crew of the Jonesville Turn that switches the canning plant on the elevator at Jonesville, they will have to plan ahead and perhaps use the runaround track at Van Doren in order to complete its switching. Going to be a long day!

While this bit of trouble is made up, it can happen for real, both on the model railroad and on the prototype too. It will make operations quite different for the day! Pick a switch and try it on your layout. Enjoy!