NATIONAL RAILROAD ADJUSTMENT BOARD

THIRD DIVISION

Award Number 22530 Docket Number MW-22716

Paul C. Carter, Referee

(Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes

PARTIES TO DISPUTE:

(St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Company

STATEMENT OF CLAIM: "Claim of the System Committee of the Brotherhood that:

- (1) The dismissal of Trackman K. R. Sarsycki was without just and sufficient cause and exceedingly disproportionate to the offense with which charged (System File B-1748)
- (2) Claimant Sarsycki shall be reinstated to service and extended all other benefits and remedies prescribed in Rule 91 (b) (6)."

OPINION OF BOARD: Claimant entered Carrier's service as a trackman on February 14, 1977. On October 21, 1977, claimant and his wife pleaded guilty in Oklahoma County District Court to charges of unlawful possession of marijuana with intent to distribute and unlawful distribution of a controlled substance, and were given two-year deferred sentences on each count. The claimant had been arrested on April 12, 1977, following the sale of approximately one pound of marijuana to a City Detective.

Claimant was suspended from service by the Carrier on November 7, 1977, and instructed to appear for formal investigation on November 19, 1977, on charges that he had pleaded guilty on October 21, 1977, to unlawful possession of marijuana with intent to distribute and unlawful distribution of a controlled drug, in violation of Rule 176 and General Rule G of the rules for Maintenance of Way and Structures. The investigation was conducted as scheduled, with the claimant present. On November 21, 1977, he was notified of his dismissal from Carrier's service.

General Rule G, referred to in the notice of investigation, reads:

"The use or possession of intoxicants or narcotics is prohibited."

Rule 176 reads:

"Employes who are negligent or indifferent to duty, insubordinate, dishonest, immoral, quarrelsome, insolent or otherwise vicious, or who conduct themselves and handle their personal obligations in such a way that the railway will be subject to criticism and loss of good will, will not be retained in the service.

"Employes failing or refusing to pay their just debts or against whom bills are frequently presented to the railway for payment will, unless satisfactory reason is given, be dismissed from the service.

"Unauthorized assignment of wages by employes is prohibited and will be sufficient cause for dismissal."

Based on the entire record, including claimant's statement at the investigation on November 18, 1977, the Board finds no proper basis for interfering with the discipline imposed.

The claim will be denied.

FINDINGS: The Third Division of the Adjustment Board, upon the whole record and all the evidence, finds and holds:

That the parties waived oral hearing;

That the Carrier and the Employes involved in this dispute are respectively Carrier and Employes within the meaning of the Railway Labor Act, as approved June 21, 1934;

That this Division of the Adjustment Board has jurisdiction over the dispute involved herein; and

That the Agreement was not violated.

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Claim denied.

NATIONAL RAILROAD ADJUSTMENT BOARD By Order of Third Division

ATTEST: CONTINUE Secretary

Dated at Chicago, Illinois, this 28th day of September 1979.