Parties to the Dispute Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes

vs.

Norfolk and Western Railway Company (Lake Region)

Case No. 11 Award No. 11

:

STATEMENT OF CLAIM

- (1) The dismissal of Crossing Watchman Rudolph Crawford for allegedly leaving his assignment without being properly relieved on January 19, 1982, was without just and sufficient cause. [File No. NW-CGO-82-1].
- (2) Crossing Watchman Rudolph Crawford shall be reinstated with seniority and all other rights unimpaired and compensated for all wage loss suffered.

OPINION OF THE BOARD

Claimant R. Crawford was employed as a Crossing Watchman at Indianapolis Boulevard in Chicago, Illinois. He was charged with willfully leaving his post before he was properly relieved on January 19, 1982. This action by Claimant was considered by Carrier as a violation of Carrier's Operating Rules 427 and 637.

A hearing into the matter was held on February 17, 1982. As a result of that hearing Claimant was found guilty as charged and dismissed from Carrier's service. The transcript of that hearing has been made a part of the record of this case. A review of that record reveals that Claimant was granted a full and fair hearing and that he was guilty as charged. He clearly left his post prior to being relieved. His excuse concerning his car and the weather is unacceptable. Claimant is fully aware that his first obligation is to his job and his excuse for abandoning his post is unacceptable. Carrier in this instance saw fit to discharge Claimant for this infraction. This Board can find no basis on which to overturn that action.

ALARD

The claim is denied.

R. A. Dennis, Seutral Member

S. C. Lyons, Carrier Homber

H. G. Harper, Employe Number

MAY 10 1984