

Raritan Has Seen Its Last Film Wreck

Passenger service on the Raritan River Railroad, scene of movie wreck thrillers of the 1912-1916 era, ended yesterday.

Permission to suspend passenger service on what once was one of the country's busiest "short" railway lines, 12.3 miles from South Amboy to New Brunswick, was granted by the State Board of Public Utility Commissioners. The company had complained that operation of one round-trip train daily brought in \$76 in fares last year against operating costs of \$5,704.

Among movie stars who appeared in pictures "shot" here were Pearl White, Anita Stewart, Johnny Hines and Antonio Moreno—the heroes and the survivors of the make-believe wrecks and head-

on collisions of the silent films.

The last train left the local depot at 6:45 A. M., the Associated Press reported, with a single passenger, Thomas Lagoda of South Amboy, and two railroad officials.

Passenger traffic on the road last year was in marked contrast to the peak World War business in 1918. In 1937 the one passenger train carried a total of 901 persons, an average of about three a day, whereas in 1918 the Raritan River carried 2,234,653 passengers, running twenty-two trains daily and thirteen on Sundays.

The railroad's freight operators will continue.