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Barretts Station Road Kirkwood 22, Missouri

May 10, 1949

Mr. I. L. Gordon Director of Publicity The Reading Company Philadelphia 1, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Gordon:

At long last the Black Diamond arrived on April 29, and unloading of the engine was completed successfully on May 3.

If all Reading freight is loaded as the Black Diamond, I am sure that your Traffic Department has no freight loss claims. It was undoubtedly built into the car to stay, and there was some feeling that it would be simpler to talk you folks into giving us the gondola than to unload the engine from it.

Preparations are being made this week for a little ceremony at The Museum May 15 at which Mr. Emmett McConnell, your General Agent here will officiate. Full newspaper coverage will be had and press notices will be sent out to various national railway publications for their coverage. I shall forward a complete story with several representative pictures of the unloading, as well as the ceremonies, for your use in the Reading house organ.

I wish you could be here for the affair and to see what great progress has been made in recent months at the Museum. It is through the efforts of such people as you in the railroads that we have been able to achieve the measure of success that The Museum is today.

With kindest personal regards,

Cordially