

CINDERS

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER
NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOL. 47

JUNE 1947

NO. 6

James S. Myers

EDITORS

Henry Dickinson Jr.

MARYLAND & PENNSYLVANIA SELECTED FOR CHAPTER'S SPRING FAN TRIP

Another "Off-the-Beaten-Track" railfan trip over the Maryland and Pennsylvania RR (known to all fans as the Ma & Pa) will be on Sunday, June 29th. Round trip fare will be \$5.00. Special train lvs Broad St. Sta. at 8:00 AM Daylight Time operating via Octoraro Branch to Baltimore (freight only below Oxford) before joining the Ma & Pa for the winding 77 mile journey to York. Return after a stopover for dinner to Columbia, Lancaster and Philadelphia. The Ma & Pa will provide an observation flat car between Balto. and York, plus a beauty of a wooden open platform coach. All tickets must be purchased from the Trip Committee before Wed., June 25th. Sorry, no late applications this time. Trip will run, rain or shine. Watch for the flyers!

TRANSIT NEWS AT A GLANCE

Altoona & Logan Valley has announced intention to convert all rail lines to bus within next two years....Third Ave. Rwy's 3rd Ave. line in Manhattan ceased trolley operation amid much fanfare on May 17th....Same date Reading St. Rwy. bid farewell to cars on Albright's Line, making Penn St. (principal thoroughfare) entirely motorized.... The Mohnton Line remains as only rail line using 800 series cars for service....PTC expects remainder of 110 new PCC cars by end of 1947....All 700 series cars are now painted cream color on the Lehigh Valley Transit....Car 812 is now in the paint shop being painted cream....The renewal on the LVT has now progressed as far as south end of Broad Siding....P & W RR hopper car #422 is now making regular trips between Millbourne Mills and Glen Mills for ballast.

MAY MEETING FEATURED TALK ON REFRIGERATED TRANSPORTATION

The regular monthly meeting of the Chapter held on Thursday, May 15th, presented Mr. D. W. Ward, of the Fruit Growers Express Co., who spoke on transportation by refrigerated car. Mr. Ward had a large scale model of a FGEX car to illustrate the salient points of his talk. The members now have a clearer understanding of the problems of refrigeration.

PTC WITHDRAWS PLAN TO DISCONTINUE TROLLEYS ON ROUTE 25

Because of the hazard of waiting for buses at Front & Berks Sts. due to isolated neighborhood, Michael J. Bradley, Esq., Chairman of Democratic County Executive Committee, has succeeded in getting PTC to hold plans in abeyance for conversion of trolley route 25 to bus operation. The PTC answered Mr. Bradley telling him that the whole question should be studied further and instructions given to withdraw their application to the Pa. PUC in order that such further study and consideration can be given.

READING COMPANY TO COMPLETELY MODERNIZE 55 COACHES

Latest reports from the Reading include the modernization of 55 existing coaches to present a streamline appearance, complete with outside skirts and possibly a new more pleasing exterior green color. Interiors will be completely rebuilt to modern specifications with wide-vision windows, comfortable day-coach seats, dome concealed lighting and attractive interior paint schemes. At least two will be rebuilt with lunch counters.

CHAPTER MEMBERS GO ON NMRA TRIP TO LYKENS

On Sunday, May 18th, the NMRA operated a Reading RR Rail Ramble as part of its Mid-Eastern Region spring convention, from Reading, Pa. A 5 car train, with camel-back locomotive and observation car was used. A very enjoyable trip over the switchback was made by the following members: Ben Burkholder, Bill Blakslee, Henry Dickinson, Jim Myers, Chas. Rowland, Karl Then, and Frank Watson.

BUDD EXPERIMENTAL CAR RETURNS TO RED LION PLANT

Reports have reached us to the effect that a new Budd research 85' coach has just returned to the company after extensive tests on the PRR Delmarva Div. operating between Wilmington and Delmar. The car is equipped with numerous testing and recording devices.

NEXT INFORMAL MEETING JUNE 3RD

The Chapter's next regular informal meeting will be held on June 3rd at 24th & Chestnut Sts.