

CINDERS

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A-P-R-I-L 1-9-5-6

SPRING DINNER-MEETING Saturday, April 7, 1956

- 6.15 P.M. - Dinner in the Diner. Meet in Main Concourse, Pennsylvania Sta. 30th St. Please be prompt. Sorry, reservations only due to limited capacity of the dining car.
- 8.00 P.M. - Special Spring Meeting, all members and guests invited to Room 261 Pennsylvania Sta. - 30th St. Our old friend, Jim Shuman from Lancaster, Pa. will present a varied program of color slides. Everyone welcome! (Please use Northwest elevator to second floor at 30th St. side of building.)

RAIL NOTES

The PRSL has torn down Redoak Tower at Woodbury. This old West Jersey & Sea-Shore landmark will henceforth be controlled from the station building.

Speaking of demolitions, the Reading razed the 31st & Girard Ave. Yardmaster's office, formerly a station on thru N.Y. to Washington trains of the B & O.

Surprise order for 7 RDC's from Budd came from the Pacific Great Eastern for use between Squamish Dock & Prince George (428.8 mi) in British Columbia.

Al Derr reports that the Erie RR has been granted permission to discontinue commutation fares west of Binghampton. Interesting point is that no tickets have been sold for years, since no trains run at rush hours.

The ICC examiner recommended that New York Central's West Shore be permitted to drop all ferry service, if they extend passenger trains down to National Jet. (5 mi.) and build a new station for passengers at Newark Ave., Jersey City for bus or H & M tube connections.

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- Apr 7 - Spring Dinner Meeting.
- Apr 19 - Regular April Meeting and Election of Officers. Double feature night - Bill Blakslee's hour of new films plus Roger Frederick's reel featuring the West Highland Rwy of Scotland.
- May 12-13 (date tentative) Weekend trip to Johnstown via the Pennsy Aerotrains featuring a trolley trip in Johnstown on Sunday.
- June 3 - PRR trip from Phila. to North Jersey Coast, center of steam activity in the east, covering Camden & Amboy route with stops at Bay Head Jet & Asbury Park.

A WORD OF WELCOME

This month we welcome another new member to the Chapter:

Benjamin Sheppard, Jr.
878 Haddon Ave.
Collingswood, N. J.

CINDERS - Monthly newssheet of the Phila. Chapter, National Railway Historical Society. James S. Myers, Editor, 5005 N. Sydenham St., Philadelphia, 41, Pa.

TRANSIT NEWS

On one day notice, Red Arrow Lines discontinued rail service to Strafford on Thurs. March 22, leaving only Norristown Div. cars. Schedule of thru bus from 69th St. to Strafford shows a 44 minute running time, compared with 23 minutes by rail. Locals now operate 15 min. apart to Bryn Mawr only (except for 6 rush-hour trips to Villanova) with 10 minute headway on Norristown trips and two additional stops for all trains - Rosemont & Harrett Hill.

Acting under a temporary permit, PTC replaced street cars on Rt 21 (Front & Market to Hunting Park & Pulaski) on March 25th. 40 passenger buses now appear on Market St. in center city. PTC claims that construction work at 17th & 18th and Penna Blvd. necessitated temporary change-over, but added that application will be made shortly for permanent PUC approval. Originally, it was planned to retain cars on Market St. until 1958. Wonder what is the future for Rts. 17 and 32!

Fare Boxes appeared March 26th in all PCC's on Rt 23, also most bus lines operating from Germantown Depot. All buses & PCC cars will shortly be equipped. The operators now carry heavy change, since all coins remain locked in the boxes until completion of a day's run.

The transfer machine at Walnut-Locust was withdrawn from service for adjustment after a brief appearance.

Gov. Harriman recently signed a bill authorizing New York City Transit Auth. to lease and operate Staten Island Rapid Transit from the B & O RR between St. George & Tottenville. The Authority is expected to go ahead with this matter.

From Washington comes word that all rail lines, except Cabin John & Branchville will be bus by August.

PTC has sought zoning approval for a property at 35th & Allegheny Ave. for a street trolley loop. Seems quite likely that Rt 60 will have ICC's soon.