

# CINDERS

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER

NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

- - - JANUARY 1956 - - -

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## MEMORIES OF 1955

To bring back pleasant memories of the past year, do you remember the sight of the Reading's Crusader snaking along the Brandywine Creek in January.....the February meeting celebrating the 60th Anniversary of railway electrification in America with an interesting program by Mr. MacLeod of the General Electric Co.... that delicious pot roast dinner in the diner enroute to Wilkes Barre via the PRR (which probably was the last passenger train over the line since the Nescopeck bridge is now out-of-service due to flood damage last summer).....the farewell celebration aboard "The Perk" (Perkiomen Local) on the last run of the only mixed train serving this area.....of the trek up the hill at Harpers Ferry after a fast RDC trip over the B & O.....that tour of the new Railway Express Agency facilities at 30th and Walnut Sts. on a rainy, humid night in August.....or perhaps you saw Roscoe Ammon taking group photos upon arrival of our newly rerouted PRR "Off the Beaten Track" train at York, Pa.....or the gala 20th Anniversary Dinner of the Society at the Penn Sherwood Hotel in November complete with the fascinating world-wide tales of Mrs. Holroyd.....or the speed run up Atlantic Ave. on the "Farewell to the Trolleys" tour of Atlantic City. Yes, 1955 was a big year for the fans, one that will be remembered for some time.

## NEW MEMBERS

We are glad to welcome two new members who joined the Chapter during the last month:

George J. Gimborn  
1438 N. Lawrence St.  
Philadelphia, 22, Pa.      and  
B. Thomas Walsh  
Central Y.M.C.A.  
Philadelphia, 7, Pa.

## ATLANTIC CITY CONVERTS

Wed. Dec. 28th was last day for rail operation in Atlantic City, Ventnor and Margate. Several members were on hand for special midafternoon trip which was widely publicized in advance. We are happy to say that our organization's name appeared in the press among those present. For \$2.00, with proceeds to charity, anyone could partake in the parade of the "Miss America Float" from Douglas Ave. up to the Inlet.

Phila. Chapter operated a "Farewell to the Trolleys" trip the previous Monday using Hog Island type car No. 6888 and milliner No. 218 on two complete trips - the Margate Loop.

## RAIL NOTES

The PRSL has rerouted Train No. 102 between Atlantic City and Camden, operating via Haddonfield instead of Clementon..... PRR's famous locomotive No. 460 has made its final passenger run on the Pomberton Br. and now sits idle without main driving rods at Camden Engine Terminal. It has been reported that this famous engine (remember the Lindbergh Special) will be sent to Northumberland (Pa.) to be added to the PRR's permanent collection.....Timetable collectors, hold on to your last issue of the Chicago, Indianapolis & Louisville RR schedule. Henceforth it is officially to be called the "Monon".....Have you seen the two-tone exterior color scheme of the Reading's MU electric cars, similar to the color combination of the Wall Street, etc. In addition, the interiors have been repainted a pastel blue with crimson stripes... Trial run of PRR's new General Motor light-weight train was Jan. 5th with three months trial run to follow between New York and Pittsburgh.

## TRANSIT NEWS

Christmas Day marked the conversion of PCC Routes 5 and 33 to bus operation. By pure coincidence, Baltimore converted their Routes 5 and 33 - on the same day!

After twice moving in the past year, Route 60 is now operating from Luzerne Depot, and has a new loop under construction on Richmond above Allegheny. It has been rumored that a similar new loop will be built at Ridge & Allegheny Ave. to permit operation of single-end vehicles.

Frankford Depot closed for rail operation on Dec. 25th; Route 3 being shifted to Ridge Depot. The ex-Kansas City PCC cars on Route 5 were reassigned to Rt. 60.

After Jan. 14th, Dallas can be added to the growing list of cities without rail transit lines. At present 49 streetcars operate in the Texas city.

Detroit has sold 150 PCC cars to Mexico City for \$4,000. and an additional 33 older type cars for \$3,000. The cars now operate on the Gravier and Woodward lines.

Boston recently converted Sullivan Sq.-Elm Sts. line and Arborway-Egleston Line to bus operation, and transferred PCC cars to the Mattapan high-speed line.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Meeting - on Thurs. Jan. 19th, we present another of Walt Zaeken's motion picture programs of 1955 activities.

Trip - In March, another of the Red Arrow overhead system trips covering all four divisions.

Membership - In January, our Treasurer asks for payment of the annual dues. If you haven't paid, send Harry Myers your remittance today.