

CINDERS

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER

NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P. O. BOX 7302 PHILADELPHIA, PA.

JULY, 1957

IMPORTANT NOTICE

As a result of a motion approved at the June meeting, a ballot will be mailed to all chapter members. This is to determine whether or not the regular meeting night shall be changed from the 3rd Thursday to the 3rd Friday. The chapter officers urge you to consider this carefully, and mark and return your ballot promptly after you receive it.

Your trip Committee will shortly send invitations to you to come along on a trip over the broad gauge lines of PST, on Sat., July 27th. This trip will be FREE to chapter members; and it will replace the regular July meeting.

RAIL NOTES

"Old No. 1000", CNJ's famous Diesel swicher, in steady operation for 32 years, was retired, with much fanfare, in June....PRR K-4s #1361, after considerable ceremonies, has been placed on exhibit in the little park at the center of Horseshoe Curve...And the B & O museum now has their line's first Diesel.

When Paul J. Neff died in June all MoPac. trains were halted, by train orders, for one minute, at the time of his funeral. This great re-builder of the M.P. successfully kept the road out of the clutches of R. R. Young and his quaint friends from Texas.

The "Ma & Pa" has petitioned to abandon 42 miles, from Baltimore to Whiteford, Md. This will leave them with but 35 miles of railroad.

The Travel Section of "The New York Times" of June 9th has a most interesting and beautifully illustrated article on railfanning, as exemplified by the recent N&W Clinch Valley excursion. The author is the peripatetic railfan who is Managing Editor of the "New Yorker" magazine; - Rogers E. M. Whitaker.

Pennsy steam not yet dead. Last month, their Columbus, Ohio, roundhouse was seen to contain well over a dozen "I" and "J" class under steam, and ready to go out on the road. A water plug at Heaton, Pa., services the occasional L-1 pusher out of Thornsdale, Pa., and the plug at Cold Spring Harbor, N. J., serves the K-4 that goes to Wildwood on Fri. night and returns on Sunday. One Camden-Pemberton (Mon-thru-Fri) run, and a few NY&LB trains are about all the passenger runs.

MALLETS IN THE MOUNTAINS

--AT ROENCKE.

ELECTRIC RAILWAY ITEMS

PTC was compelled to postpone, only hours before their scheduled demise, - the abandonment of Routes 41 and 46. A neighborhood druggist pointed out that the PUC had not yet issued a formal abandonment order.

With passenger service/as of our going to press, the ultimate fate of the CA&E does not yet appear to be permanently settled.

The very fine system of Kansas City Public Service, with its miles of well-kept and busy p.r.w., was abandoned in toto, on June 23. Mexico City unsuccessfully attempted to obtain many of their cars, but instead they are being scrapped; with some of their trucks to be sold to those European systems that presently operate PCC's. KCPS big Lister shops once maintained one of the best-kept car fleets anywhere.

The 7 GN electrics purchased by PRR are well along on re-building, at Altoona. It is believed they will see helper service out of Thorndale and Columbia, Pa.

Did you read, in the newspapers for June 28th, the detailed account of the new City-PTC 5-year agreement? Apparently there will be even more abandonments after Rts. 17, 32 and 20 go. And neither the desperately needed new cars for the "E1" nor the Broad St. subway extension to Packer Ave. appear to move closer to reality.

Contrary to previously announced plans, Montreal's famous tiered, open sightseeing trams are running again this summer. It will have to be their last season, as the city's motorization of all remaining trolley lines will be completed next year.

The 3 chapter members who have ridden them, urge the trip comm. to run a trip over the seaside routes down in Vera Cruz, Mexico, on one of their single-truck open cars, complete with air whistle! Well?

"The Trains We Loved".

After making studies, Monon is seeking to discontinue all passenger service. And Western Maryland is getting down to only their Cumberland-Elkins-Durbin mixed.

Clearly, the SP will be joined by many other roads in being out of the passenger business by 1965.

Study the enclosed FREE chart! On your next rail jaunt it will enable you to ascertain the speed of your train instantly, if you can see the mile posts. This was made for us by Al Derr.