

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB
P. O. BOX 2391
DENVER 1, COLORADO

Newsletter #17

The annual meeting of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club will be held on Wednesday, December 14, 1960, at the Farmers Union Auditorium, East 16th Avenue and Sherman St., Denver, at 8:00 P.M. Election of officers will take place at this meeting. The program will be furnished by Bill Gordon, who will provide a selection of 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ x2 $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch slides showing past Rocky Mountain Railroad Club excursions, and other railroad scenes in this area.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

The year 1960 has been one in which the club's progress has continued in a most satisfactory manner. Our membership has increased to a total of 837, the highest number in the history of the club, which began in 1938 with less than two dozen charter members. Financially, we have also reached an all-time high, with cash assets in our checking and savings accounts which amounted to \$9,714.07 on November 1st of this year. Our new book, "Pictorial Supplement to Denver South Park and Pacific" reached the break-even point by summer, and the remaining 300-odd copies will further improve the club's financial status as they are sold.

Our excursions took us over trackage in Colorado, Wyoming and New Mexico. Excursion Committee Chairman Ed Haley managed to secure four steam excursions for us during the year, although the task becomes more difficult each year. Our first trip consisted of an evening run from Denver to Boulder behind C. & S. 638, on the occasion of our annual dinner at the Harvest House, in April. The Memorial Day weekend found us with our usual enthusiastic group of narrow gauge fans from all over the country, on the 3-day Alamosa-Durango-Silverton trip. The railroad provided us with five different engines at various points on the trip, which made the event very pleasant for photographers. On October 2nd, we spent a fine fall day on the Colorado & Southern and the Great Western, part of the time behind C. & S. 638 and the rest of the time with G. W. 90. Our excursion season wound up with Union Pacific 844, which hauled us from Cheyenne to Rawlins and return on November 20th. The day was cold and sunny, and the photo stops left little to be desired. The passengers particularly enjoyed the meal arrangements, which allowed them to eat at any time of the day or night--or continuously if they wished! In the raffle which was conducted on the train, Bob Riley won the number plate from Union Pacific 843, and E. J. Quinn's ticket secured a copy of the South Park Supplement for his library.

We expect to have some steam excursions in 1961, and can tentatively announce that the annual three-day narrow gauge trip will take place on May 27-28-29, unless an unexpected abandonment or sale of the line should take place before that date. However, please do not send in money or make reservations for this trip until you receive the official announcement, we are giving the dates in order to aid those who come from long distances and must plan their vacations ahead of time.

The Club's railroad equipment, at the Colorado Railroad Museum, showed definite improvement during the year 1960. New exterior paint jobs were given to the narrow gauge business car "Rico" and the standard gauge interurban, D. & I. M. 25. The exterior of the Birney car was completed, and some work done to the interior, as well as the interior of the D. & I. M. interurban. The standard gauge boxcar which the C. & S. generously donated is being converted into a workshop, and excellent progress has been made in fitting up the interior of this car with shelves, benches, and equipment. My thanks are due to Equipment Committee Chairman Bill Gordon and all those who gave freely of their personal time toward the improvement of the club's equipment. This project will continue during 1961, and club members are always welcome to assist us at the Museum.

My sincere thanks are also due to those who aided in keeping the club a smooth-running organization during 1960, including our indefatigable treasurer, Ane Clint, whose conscientious and reliable work has kept the club's accounts in excellent condition at all times. Particular thanks are also due to Bryant and Shirley McFadden, whose work with the South Park Supplement continues until the books are all sold; to Bert Fullman, who regularly aided me in getting the meeting notices mailed out on time (this one should be mailed ten days ahead of the meeting, according to the Club's by-laws); and to many others who aided in producing the fine programs at our monthly meetings.

R. H. Kindig, President.