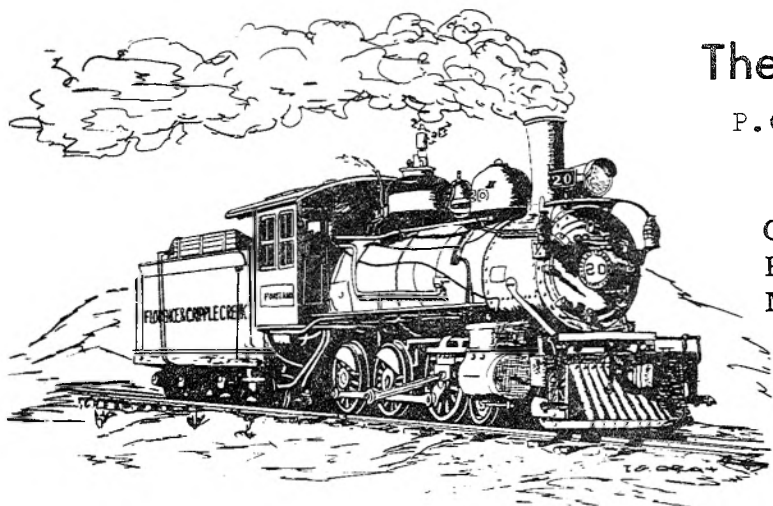


Rocky Mountain Rail Report



The Rocky Mountain Railroad Club

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MAY 1969

No. 117

CURRENT NEWS AND HISTORICAL NOTES OF
ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROADING PUBLISHED
MONTHLY FOR ITS MEMBERS BY THE ROCKY
MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB

EDITOR --- ED SCHNEIDER

MEETING NOTICE: DATE WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 1969
TIME 8:00 P.M.
PLACE WESTERN FEDERAL SAVINGS BLDG., (LOWER LEVEL MEETING ROOM),
17TH & CALIFORNIA STS., DENVER.

PROGRAM NOTES: UNION PACIFIC NIGHT - - - FILM "TRACKS OF THE IRON HORSE" AS WELL AS SPECIAL
INVITED UNION PACIFIC OFFICERS WILL BE THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE MAY MEETING. THE
ENTIRE MEETING WILL BE DEVOTED TO THE GOLDEN SPIKE CENTENNIAL!

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100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DRIVING OF THE GOLDEN SPIKE WILL TAKE PLACE ON MAY 10TH, IN THE PRESENCE
OF HIGH DIGNATARIES, RAILROADERS, RAILFANS,
AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC, AT PROMONTORY, UTAH.

PROMONTORY IS LOCATED JUST OFF HIGHWAY 83 (ABOUT 50 MILES NORTHWEST OF OGDEN), WHICH NO LONGER
HAS RAIL CONNECTIONS. THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC'S MAIN LINE CROSSES THE GREAT SALT LAKE MANY MILES
TO THE SOUTH OF PROMONTORY. A NEW VISITOR CENTER, OPERATED BY THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, NOW
GRACES THE PROMONTORY SITE. TWO OLD-STYLE LOCOMOTIVES ARE BEING LINED UP ON NEWLY INSTALLED
TRACKS, TO REPRESENT THE 1869 TYPE. THE VISITOR CENTER WILL HOUSE MANY DISPLAYS OF THE FIRST
TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD. ASIDE FROM THE MAY 10TH REENACTMENT, THE PARK SERVICE WILL HAVE DAILY
FILM SHOWINGS AND TALKS BY THEIR RANGER-HISTORIANS FROM MEMORIAL DAY TO LABOR DAY IN THE VISITOR
CENTER. ALSO, BETWEEN THE SAME DATES, EACH AFTERNOON ABOUT 1:15 A COSTUMED CAST WILL RE-ENACT
THE SPIKE DRIVING CEREMONY OF A CENTURY AGO.

FOR THOSE THAT WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND THE MAY 10TH EVENT, YOU MAY PERHAPS WANT TO PLAN A
VISIT TO PROMONTORY FOR THIS ONCE IN A LIFETIME CELEBRATION.

THE UNION PACIFIC'S CENTENNIAL EXPO TRAIN IS NOW TOURING THE ENTIRE SYSTEM, AND SHOULD BE IN THE
ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION SOMETIME DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS. THE EXACT ITINERARY OF ITS SCHEDULE IS
NOT BEING RELEASED, DUE TO VARIOUS COMMITMENTS, IT WILL ONLY BE ANNOUNCED BY NEWS RELEASES.

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HIGH IRON SPECIAL FROM NEW YORK TO OGDEN WILL COME THROUGH DENVER ON ITS WESTWARD TRIP STAYING
OVERNIGHT ON MAY 7TH, AND RETURNING WILL LAY OVER ON THE NIGHT OF MAY 13TH.
FOR EXACT ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF THIS 5-CAR SPECIAL TRAIN (POWERED BY A NEW CENTENNIAL TYPE
DIESEL WEST OF KANSAS CITY) YOU MAY CALL THE UNION STATION ON THE ABOVE DATES.

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GOLDEN SPIKE EXCURSIONS OUT OF SALT LAKE CITY FOR THE PUBLIC WILL TAKE PLACE FOR SEVERAL DAYS
FOLLOWING THE MAY 10TH EVENT. ENGINE 8444 WILL BE USED ON THESE SPECIAL
TRAINS STARTING ON MAY 10TH, WHICH IS A PRIVATE EXCURSION. THE ONE WAY FARE WILL BE \$1.22 AND

THE ROUND TRIP FARE IS \$2.23, ADVANCE TICKETS MAY BE PURCHASED FROM THE UNION PACIFIC BY WRITING TO MR. J. G. SEEGMILLER, DISTRICT PASSENGER AND TICKET AGENT, 417 SOUTH MAIN STREET, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111.

FOLLOWING ARE THE PRESENT SCHEDULES OF THIS OPERATION:

SUNDAY - MAY 11, 1969

LEAVE SALT LAKE CITY 9:00 A.M. ARRIVE OGDEN 10:00 A.M.
LEAVE OGDEN 4:00 P.M. ARRIVE SALT LAKE CITY 5:00 P.M.

MONDAY-TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY - MAY 12, 13, 14, 1969

LEAVE SALT LAKE CITY 10:00 A.M. ARRIVE OGDEN 11:00 A.M.
LEAVE OGDEN 2:00 P.M. ARRIVE SALT LAKE CITY 3:00 P.M.

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8444 DENVER EXCURSION ARRANGED BY THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB IS NOW SOLD OUT, HOWEVER, THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE DESIROUS TO RIDE THE FOLLOWING DAY OUT TOWARD STERLING MAY DO SO, AS THE PACIFIC RAILROAD SOCIETY, INC., IS OPERATING A TRIP ON MAY 31ST, LEAVING DENVER UNION STATION AT 7:45 A.M. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR DETAILS YOU SHOULD CONTACT THE SOCIETY AT P. O. BOX 5279, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90055. FARE IS \$25.00, AND DOES NOT INCLUDE MEALS. BOX LUNCHES WILL BE AVAILABLE AT \$1.50 EACH ON THE THE TRAIN.

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SAVE THE NARROW GAUGE CAMPAIGN HAS BEEN ON FOR THE PAST YEAR OR SO, BUT NOT UNTIL RECENTLY HAD THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB BEEN APPROACHED BY THE GROUP THAT WAS PUSHING THE ISSUE. RECENTLY, A COMPLETE PROSPECTUS BOOK WAS MAILED TO THE CLUB, AND IT WAS THOROUGHLY EXAMINED BY SEVERAL OFFICERS OF THE CLUB, AND TO THEIR ASTONISHMENT, IT WAS DECIDED THAT THIS WAS A WORTH WHILE PROJECT, AND SOMETHING THAT THE CLUB SHOULD ENDEAVOR TO WORK IN FAVOR OF, WITHIN OUR OWN BY-LAWS. THERE HAVE BEEN MANY ATTEMPTS IN THE PAST FOR SUCH A MOVEMENT, BUT THE PRESENT APPROACH IS THE MOST DESIROUS SINCE IT WILL BE A STATE OPERATION, OR AT LEAST FOR THE CONTROL OF SUCH A RAILROAD AS WHAT IS PROPOSED.

A LETTER FROM YOUR PRESIDENT WAS MAILED TO COLORADO STATE REPRESENTATIVE CLARENCE QUINLAN OF ANTONITO, GIVING OUR FAVORABLE VIEWPOINT OF THE SAVING OF THE NARROW GAUGE. THE BILL WAS SCHEDULED TO GO THROUGH THE COLORADO STATE SENATE ON OR ABOUT APRIL 23RD, AND A SIMILAR LETTER WAS SENT TO STATE SENATOR WAYNE DENNY, RESPONSIBLE FOR CARRYING THE BILL THROUGH THE SENATE. WE WILL QUOTE THE GREATER PORTION OF THIS LETTER:

"WE OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB FAVOR THE PRESENT APPROACH FOR THE SAVING OF THE NARROW GAUGE LINES WEST OF ANTONITO, COLORADO, AND OFFER OUR SUPPORT, WITHIN OUR OWN BY-LAWS OF THE CLUB, FOR THIS PURPOSE.

"THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB IS THE LARGEST INDEPENDENT RAILROAD CLUB IN THE UNITED STATES, HAVING NEARLY 1200 MEMBERS. WE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN A FAITHFUL SUPPORTER OF THE DENVER & RIO GRANDE WESTERN RAILROAD DURING THE YEARS THAT WE WERE ABLE TO OPERATE OUR ANNUAL EXCURSION TRAINS FROM ALAMOSA TO DURANGO TO SILVERTON. IN RECENT YEARS WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO OPERATE EXCURSIONS OVER MOST OF THIS BEAUTIFUL STRETCH OF RAILROAD LINE, AND WE WOULD LEND OUR SUPPORT FOR CONTINUATION OF SUCH TYPE OPERATIONS WHEN THIS PROPOSED BILL SHALL TAKE EFFECT.

"WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION AND EFFORT PLACED IN PUTTING FORTH THE PRESERVATION OF THE NARROW GAUGE LINES OF COLORADO AND NEW MEXICO."

DUE TO THE BILL ALREADY MOVING THROUGH THE COLORADO STATE SENATE AT THE TIME OF THIS WRITING, WE WERE NOT ABLE TO SEND WORD TO OUR MEMBERS IN TIME FOR THEIR OWN PERSONAL LETTERS OF SUPPORT TO THE STATE OF COLORADO FOR THIS WORTHY CAUSE. WE ARE ALL HOPEFUL THAT THE BILL WILL PASS AS IT HAS IN NEW MEXICO, AND THAT THE FUTURE OF THE NARROW GAUGE CAN BE BRIGHTER THAN IN THE PAST. (NOTE: THE BILL HAS BEEN PASSED BY THE COLORADO SENATE AND NOW AWAITS THE SIGNATURE OF THE GOVERNOR)

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PASSENGER TRAINS ARE NO DOUBT ONE OF THE FOCAL POINTS IN SOME OF TODAY'S NEWS ITEMS, BUT STILL THERE IS A FIGHT IN REGARDS TO THE BURLINGTON'S TRAIN FROM LINCOLN, NEBRASKA TO BILLINGS, MONTANA. A FEDERAL COURT IN CHEYENNE PLACED A RESTRAINING ORDER ON THE DISCONTINUANCE OF THE TRAINS, BUT THE I.C.C. IN THE MEANTIME UPHELD THEIR DECISION REGARDING THE APPROVAL THAT THEY HANDED DOWN FOR THE DISCONTINUANCE. ON JUNE 9TH, ANOTHER BATTLE IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE IN THE WYOMING COURT AS TO WHETHER THE I.C.C. DECISION WILL BE FINAL AND THE TRAINS REMOVED. MANY OPEN EYES AND EARS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, INCLUDING THE LABOR ORGANIZATION, WILL BE PRESENT AS THIS COULD WELL BE AN EXAMPLE FOR THE FUTURE OF OTHER PASSENGER TRAINS THAT MAY BE UP FOR DISCONTINUANCE.

SPEAKING OF THE FUTURE OF THE PASSENGER TRAIN, A STUDY HAS BEEN WORKED UP BY VARIOUS RAILROADS AND THE I.C.C. FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF SOME RAILROAD LINES RECEIVING A SUBSIDY FOR A GUARANTEED CONTINUANCE OF THE FEW TRAINS THAT REMAIN. THIS SHOULD ALSO BE A VERY INTERESTING MATTER AND SOMETHING THAT MOST OF US ARE IN FAVOR OF, INCLUDING SOME OF THE RAILROAD COMPANIES.

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PASSENGER SERVICE PLAN THE NATION'S RAILROADS HAVE PROPOSED A CO-OPERATIVE INDUSTRY-GOVERNMENT
PROPOSED BY RAILROADS PROGRAM TO SUSTAIN MONEY-LOSING PASSENGER TRAINS THAT MUST BE KEPT RUNNING AS A PUBLIC SERVICE.

"THE RAILROADS ARE WILLING AND ANXIOUS TO DO WHAT THEY CAN -- WITHIN THEIR MEANS -- TO HELP SOLVE THE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION CRISIS," SAID THOMAS M. GOODFELLOW, PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS. "BUT WHERE WE'RE FORCED TO OPERATE MONEY-LOSING TRAINS, WE FEEL THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD ASSUME THE OBLIGATION TO SHARE IN THE COST."

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AAR REPRESENTING ALL MAJOR RAILROADS IN THE UNITED STATES, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE PLAN AS A LOGICAL SOLUTION TO THE PASSENGER TRAIN PROBLEM. IN ANNOUNCING THE ACTION -- WHICH REVERSES AN HISTORIC INDUSTRY POSITION -- GOODFELLOW SAID:

"WE STILL BELIEVE AS FIRMLY AS EVER IN THE FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM. BUT WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT THE PUBLIC SHOULD SUPPORT PUBLIC SERVICES REQUIRED OF A PRIVATE INDUSTRY, JUST AS THEY SUPPORT SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE POST OFFICE, AND THE POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS."

UNDER THE RAILROADS' PLAN, PASSENGER RUNS THAT ARE PAYING THEIR OWN WAY OR BREAKING EVEN WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED. ONLY THOSE TRAINS THAT THE GOVERNMENT DECIDES MUST BE CONTINUED, EVEN THOUGH THEY'RE LOSING MONEY, WOULD BE INVOLVED. THE PLAN ALSO ENVISIONS THE PURCHASE OF NEW PASSENGER EQUIPMENT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR RENTAL TO THE RAILROADS TO REPLACE WORN-OUT EQUIPMENT.

GOODFELLOW SAID A BREAK-EVEN OPERATION IS ALL THE RAILROADS ARE PROPOSING. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE LARGER PART OF THE COST OF RUNNING THE TRAINS STILL WOULD BE COVERED, IN MOST CASES, BY RAILROAD REVENUES, WITH THE GOVERNMENT OBLIGATED ONLY TO MAKE UP ANY DEFICITS INCURRED. THESE WOULD BE DETERMINED BY COST PROCEDURE ESTABLISHED BY THE INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF NECESSARY LEGISLATION.

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SWAP 'N SHOP PERSONAL ADS ARE ACCEPTED FROM MEMBERS FOR ITEMS TO BE LISTED FOR TRADE OR SALE OR WANTED. WE CANNOT ENTER INTO CORRESPONDENCE CONCERNING AN ITEM, NOR WILL WE APPRAISE ITEMS TO BE OFFERED FOR SALE. SEND YOUR LISTING TO THE EDITOR BY THE 20TH OF THE MONTH PRECEDING PUBLICATION.

FOR SALE -- A FEW NARROW GAUGE TRAIN ORDERS FROM YEARS 1956 THRU 1963 @ 25¢ A SET MINIMUM OF 10 SETS, OR 35¢ A SINGLE SET POSTAGE PAID. ALSO SOME EMPLOYEES TIME TABLES FOR YEARS 1959-1960-1961-1963 - ONLY A FEW LEFT - WILL SELL AT \$3.00 POSTAGE PAID EACH. THESE ARE ALL ALAMOSA DIVISION TIME TABLES. HAVE 15 ANNUAL PASSES - COVER THE YEARS 1926 THRU 1963: \$3.00 EA., 1926 TO 1950; \$2.50 EA., 1950 THRU 1963 POSTAGE PAID. THESE ARE ALL PERSONAL SYSTEM D&RGW PASSES. OTHER NARROW GAUGE ITEMS. MYRON R. HENRY P. O. Box 3057, DURANGO, COLORADO 81301

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INVITATION CLUB MEMBER WILLIAM H. SCHRODER EXTENDS AN OPEN INVITATION TO ANYONE VISITING IN HOUSTON, TEXAS TO VISIT THE HO GAUGE LAYOUT (1500' OF TRACKAGE, WITH A 48" MINIMUM RADIUS CURVATURE) OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE HOUSTON SOCIETY OF MODEL ENGINEERS. THIS PIKE IS LOCATED ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE HOUSTON UNION STATION. MR. SCHRODER SAYS "WE WILL BE GLAD TO SHOW AND OPERATE IT ON ANY OCCASION; WE FEEL IT IS QUITE A SHOWPIECE IN REALISTIC MODEL RAILROADING. I CAN BE REACHED IN HOUSTON AT WA-6-4461 (DAY) AND AT HO-2-5045 (EVENINGS) FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN SEEING THE LAYOUT IN OPERATION."

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NEW BOOK CLUB MEMBER EDWIN C. DUNN SENDS US THIS ANNOUNCEMENT:
'BOOK "CHILI LINE", PUBLICATION DATE MAY 20 APPROXIMATELY. \$3.50 EACH. AVAILABLE FROM THE AUTHOR DR. JOHN GJERVE, EMBUDO PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITAL, EMBUDO, NEW MEXICO 87531.'

MR. DUNN SAYS "A PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF INFORMATION IN THE BOOK APPEARS TO BE AN INTERESTING BOOK."

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THOT FOR THE DAY HEREDITY IS WHAT MAKES THE MOTHER AND FATHER OF TEENAGERS WONDER A LITTLE ABOUT EACH OTHER. - FRANKLIN P. JONES.

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CARL E. C. CARLSON, VICE PRESIDENT

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ANE O. CLINT, TREASURER