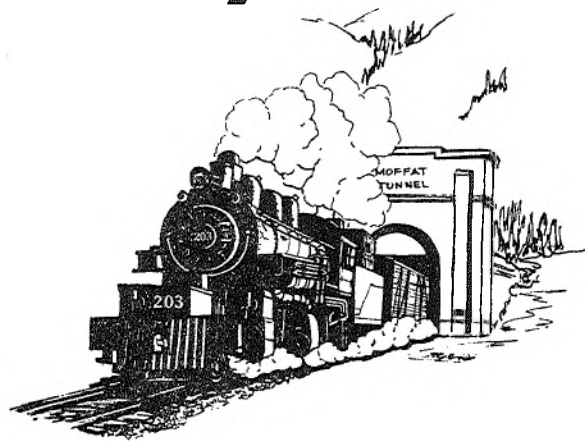


Rocky Mountain Rail Report



The Rocky Mountain Railroad Club

P.O. Box 2391 Denver, Colorado 80201

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No. 154

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

Editor - - - Bruce Black

MEETING NOTICE: Date . . . Wednesday, July 12, 1972
Time . . . 7:45 p.m.
Place . . . Southeast wing of Christ Episcopal Church,
2900 S. University at Bates; offstreet parking
at rear (east) of meeting hall.

PROGRAM: 16 mm movies taken by the late Otto Perry from 1946 to 1968 will be
shown covering steam, diesel and electric activity in the Denver area.

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MUSEUM DAY -- ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB DAY AT THE COLORADO RAILROAD MUSEUM
SUNDAY, JULY 16th, 1972. All members of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club
and their families have been invited to participate in the club's day at
the museum. Your membership card will admit you and your family to the
building and grounds free of charge. This is a golden opportunity to
visit this wonderful exhibit of Colorado's railroad history. Bob Richardson
will have Engine 346 steamed up and ready to haul the club's caboose and
business car on the museum's trackage. He also promises that there will be
no Laramie-type delays such as we experienced on our recent Union Pacific
Excursion since he will not attempt to turn the engine. Also his switch
crew is younger and much more alert. Come on out to 17155 West 44th Avenue.
The club's equipment will be open for inspection.

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BLACK HILLS CENTRAL EXCURSION -- In the recent tragic floods in the Black Hills
of South Dakota, the Keystone Branch of the Burlington Northern used by
the Black Hills Central for regular operations was badly damaged but the
Deadwood Branch escaped damage and the club's special train from Hill City
to Deadwood on Saturday June 24th operated almost as planned. The saddle-
tank locomotive No. 104 was used instead of No. 7 and did a wonderful job.
The operation was expertly planned by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Heckman, owners
of the Black Hills Central, and a very enjoyable trip was had by our 176
passengers. The trip included a number of photo runbys, four waterstops and
a great fried chicken lunch beautifully served by BHC employees at the ghost
town of Rochford. The BN switch crew and BHC employees could certainly give
Union Pacific employees a lesson in how to service and turn a locomotive.
We were ready for our return trip to Hill City one half hour after our
arrival in Deadwood.

Shortly after learning that the Keystone Branch was badly damaged and would
take months to repair, the Heckmans negotiated a contract with the Burling-
ton Northern to operate between Hill City and Custer. Scenery is equal to
the Deadwood and Keystone runs and the trip is about 10 miles longer than
the Keystone run. Three runs are made each day through this scenic area
and are well worth the price of a ticket. The Heckman's very graciously
honored our excursion tickets on any Custer run Friday and Sunday.

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ALPINE TUNNEL DAYS -- Club member Dow Helmers reports that there will be a "Get-together" for the Faithful, at Alpine Tunnel on Sunday August 6th. No elaborate plans are contemplated. The few activities will probably start near the depot at Pitkin around 11:00 AM that Sunday morning.

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BN - C&S will be running unit coal trains from the Amax strip mines 15-18 mi. S. of Gillette, Wyo. to the new Comanche steam-electric generating station now under construction just SE of Pueblo, Colo. Initial deliveries on the 20-year contract are to start in May 1973. Two trains of 68 cars each will provide the service making the round trip in about 80 hours.

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BN is doing a booming business over the Alliance-Edgemont-Sheridan, Wyo. line. On June 24, 1972, 10 westbound trains and 7 eastbound trains originated from Edgemont, S.D. during a 24hour period.

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Abandonments:

C&NW - Randolph to Bloomfield, Nebr. - 22 mi.
Norfolk to Wayne, Nebraska.
Elgin to Newman Grove, Nebr.

CRI&P - Beatrice, Nebr. thru Dubois, Nebr and into Kansas - Total 87 mi.

MO PAC - Avoca to Otoe, Nebr. - 5.1 mi.

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SWAP 'N SHOP - Personal ads are accepted from members for items to be listed for sale or trade or wanted. We cannot enter into any correspondence, nor will we appraise items.

DOW HELMERS, 1930 Greenwood, Pueblo, Colo. 81003 would like to buy a copy of "The Snowshoe Itinerant" by Rev. Wm. Dyer.

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Carl E. C. Carlson, President
Charles Max, Vice-President

Bill Gordon, Secretary
Arl Cuthbert, Treasurer