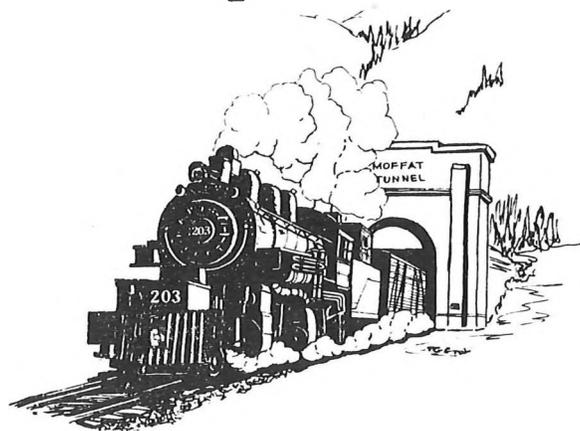


Rocky Mountain Rail Report



The Rocky Mountain Railroad Club

P.O. Box 2391 Denver, Colorado 80201
May, 1980 No. 248

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

Editor Neal A. Reich
Contributing Editor .. Darrell T. Arndt

MEETING NOTICE: Date Tuesday, May 13, 1980
Time 7:45 P.M.
Place ... Southeast wing of Christ Episcopal Church, 2900 South
University at Bates. Off-street parking at rear (east)
of meeting hall. Please use building's south entrance.

PROGRAM NOTES: AN AMERICAN RAIL TOUR, 1941-1976

As happens daily on the nation's railroads, a change in the line-up occurred for the club's April meeting. Pete Groome of Whittier, California, had been scheduled to present a program at a later meeting, but as Mr. Groome was in the Denver area in April, Al Dunton graciously consented to postpone his presentation one month. Thus, at the May meeting, Al Dunton will present photographs from two rail tours of the United States taken 25 years apart, and with the widest variety of railroad equipment imaginable. Al's father made his coast to coast trip in 1941, and Al and his wife made a similar trek in 1976. "An American Rail Tour, 1941-1976" will show passenger travel in the United States from the age of steam to the era of Amtrak.

* * * * *

At the April meeting, Pete Groome combined excellent sound movies with his knowledgeable commentary in presenting the railroads of South Africa. While basically an evening with great appeal for steam fans, diesel and electric power made impressive appearances. A triple-header and double-header steam excursion train romped across the screen as the audience delighted in the immaculately maintained locomotives, rolling stock, and track. Garratts 4-8-2 class locomotives and the big 4-8-4 class engines powering the Rhodesian mail trains made beautiful sights. Among these scenes, shots of regular operations on South Africa's standard gauge (3' 6") and narrow gauge (2') railroads made for a most enjoyable session.

* * * * *

AT THE APRIL MEETING, Andrew W. Jackson of Springfield, New Jersey, was winner of the copy of COLORADO MIDLAND, by Morris Cafky. Roy C. Corley of Denver will receive the copy of MEMORIAL EDITION OF DENVER, SOUTH PARK & PACIFIC, by Mac Poor. Five additional names were drawn, and these folks will receive a copy

of UNION PACIFIC IN COLORADO, 1867-1967, by R. A. LaMassena. These winners are: George Mariacher of Denver; Harlow Beene of Santa Fe, N.M.; Howard J. Seter of Leadville; T.O. Wiese of Bay Village, Ohio; and George W. McKinley of Glasgow, Ky. Congratulations to these winners, and a big thank you to all those who contributed to the equipment fund by participating in this drawing.

* * * * *

CORRECTION DEPARTMENT - In the April newsletter, the schedule for the first trip of the year for UP 8444 carried an incorrect departure date from Cheyenne. The 8444 is due to depart Cheyenne on Saturday, May 10, stop in Green River and Salt Lake City, and arrive in Las Vegas on May 15. Our apologies for this mistake.

* * * * *

COME ON OUT!!! - Well, another season of cold and snow is about to depart, and many of us will experience increased suffering from that inevitable malady known as "Cabin Fever." For Denver area club members who are frantically searching for a solution to this affliction, we are going to do them a great big favor this month and schedule a work day at the Colorado Railroad Museum on May 17. Not only will this provide a great opportunity to break out of the "too-close-to-home syndrome," but will allow you to contribute a bit of time to a pretty worthwhile cause. Everyone is invited to drop by and assist in the myriad of chores that should be done, including general cleaning and painting necessary to keep the club's equipment in good repair and presentable to the public. The get-together isn't just "work," of course, as it gives everyone a chance to have some fun getting to know other members, visit the museum and contribute a little time with other volunteers. If you have never helped out before on a work day, or don't really know anyone in the club, all the more reason to stop out to meet other members and familiarize yourself with what you "own" a piece of! Lunch will be provided at no charge, as Ranniger's Roadbed Commissary will be on the scene with famous Ballastburgers, drink and other condiments. So do entertain the thought of coming out, either to spend the day or just a few hours. We'll start about 9:00 A.M. If you happen to be tied up that day, stop our anyway some other time to look around. Just show your club membership card, which entitles you to free admission, of course, and have a good time! Any questions feel free to call the Equipment Chairman, Darrell Arndt, at 321-2723.

* * * * *

MAJOR REPAIR WORK has begun on the club's ex-Rio Grande Southern narrow gauge business car, RICO, at the Colorado Railroad Museum. Old age has taken its toll, causing the car's platforms and couplers to sag noticeably. A number of support beams will have to be replaced. Some reinforcement work on the car's underframe may also be necessary. A number of members have volunteered their time to assist on the project, and additional help will be welcome. If you could spare some time this summer, even if only a day or two, please contact Darrell Arndt, Equipment Chairman.

* * * * *

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND the club's first get-together of the summer at Heritage Square on Sunday, June 22. High Country Railroad will provide the steam-powered trains for unlimited rides, and of course, photographing during the entire afternoon. And the world famous Ranniger's Roadbed Commissary will be serving those delicious Ballastburgers for your dining enjoyment from 11:30 A.M.

to 1:30 P.M. All this for only \$4.00 per person and tickets are available from the club by mail, or at the May club meeting from Treasurer, Ardie Schoeninger. See you there!!

* * * * *

A 13-CAR INSPECTION SPECIAL, carrying Union Pacific Chairman of the Board, J. H. Evans and party, made stops at Cheyenne and Denver on April 1. The train was enroute to Omaha, after originating in Oakland and running east over the Western Pacific Railroad. Headed by four passenger diesels, the special consisted of a baggage car, staff car, sleeper, diner, dome lounge, and the business cars, 102, 103, 110, 111, 112, Wyoming, Arden, and Shoshone. The immaculate Union Pacific equipment made a most impressive sight and stirred pleasant memories of the days when the UP's elegant passenger trains visited both cities on a daily basis.

The four "E" units that powered the inspection special again visited Cheyenne on April 12, on the point of a Union Pacific Old Timer's Club Special, headed for Las Vegas. Originating in Omaha, these special trains make stops along the UP main line to pick up club members for a visit to the Nevada fun city. The 18-car train, including coaches, 2 diners and 2 lounge cars, stopped again briefly in Cheyenne on the eastbound journey on April 17.

* * * * *

ON SATURDAY MORNING, April 12, 1980, the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club lost one of its most illustrious members with the death of Charles S. Ryland, at age 62. Officers and members of the club offer their condolences to his wife, Elsie, daughter, Clare, and son, Fred. Contributions may be sent to the Charles S. Ryland Memorial Fund, Golden Library, 923 Tenth Street, Golden, Colorado 80401. The fund will be used to enhance the library's Western collection.

Charlie Ryland joined the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club in 1945, shortly after his return from service with the U. S. Navy in World War II. He became president of the club in 1947, and immediately tightened up the organization, eliminating from the mailing list the names of many who had not paid club dues for many years. He printed up the club's first membership roster, which included 90 dues-paying members. He arranged the club's first steam-powered excursion on the Rio Grande Southern, and our first trip over Marshall Pass and through the Black Canyon on the D&RGW. He was also instrumental in persuading the Denver & Intermountain officials to run private interurban trips for the club. Through his public relations expertise and publicity fostered by the excursions, club membership had grown to 225 at the end of his term as president.

It was Charlie Ryland who suggested to Mac Poor that perhaps the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club could publish his Denver, South Park & Pacific book, after it had been turned down by the Railway & Locomotive Historical Society because of the manuscript's great size, launching the club on the first of its many publishing ventures. For years, Charlie's basement printing press in Golden was the source of the club's beautifully embossed membership cards, excursion tickets, and give-away sheets and booklets for club trips. No one will ever be able to sum up the number of hours this good man unstintingly devoted to the club, and much of our fine reputation can be attributed to his efforts. Charlie will also be remembered for some of the club's most memorable and humorous monthly programs.

Charlie Ryland was a man of many hobbies, the most prominent being railroading, photography, writing, Colorado history, printing, and rock and gem collecting. His first love was railroading, and he ardently rode the rails throughout the world. He probably traveled on more railroads than any other member. He will

be sadly missed, but never forgotten by his hundreds of friends in this and the many other organizations that he served so well and so willingly.

(Ed Haley)

* * * * *

IN SPITE OF THE COLD WINTER weather of recent weeks, work has continued on Union Pacific 3985 in the unheated section of the UP Cheyenne roundhouse. The domes, jacket, lagging, pumps, and reservoirs have all been removed from the engine, and the leaky superheater units have been welded. While repairs on the 3985 should be completed this fall, the railroad at this time has no plans to run the big Challenger in excursion service during 1980.

* * * * *

LIGHT RAIL REVIEW - A recent issue of the Denver Regional Transportation District's newsletter, FRONTIER, reviews the RTD's proposed Light Rail Transit (streetcar) system to serve Denver and surrounding communities. The six-page, illustrated report discusses various aspects of LRT systems, including the advantages of such a system for Denver, Suggested routes, funding sources, and similar applications in other cities. As information on this proposal would be of particular interest to club members in the Denver area, we are including a copy with this issue of the Rocky Mountain Rail Report, going to all Denver area members. Unfortunately, we could not send a copy to everyone because of a limited supply, however, if you do not receive a copy but would like one, just send a #10, self-addressed, stamped envelope and we'll gladly return a copy to you. Our thanks to Steve Millard and RTD for providing the club with copies of this issue of FRONTIER!!

* * * * *

THE COLORADO & SOUTHERN RAILWAY CO put its new Loveland, Colo. depot into service on St. Patrick's Day. A one-story, metal structure, the new depot is located one-half block south and across the main line from the old brick building. The old depot, of classic design and in use by the railroad since 1902, has been sold to an individual in Loveland who plans to remodel the building as a commercial site. The brick platform on the west side of the old depot has been removed in preparation for track work which is now under way in the Loveland area.

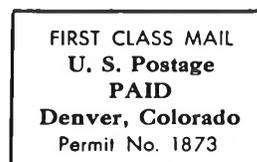
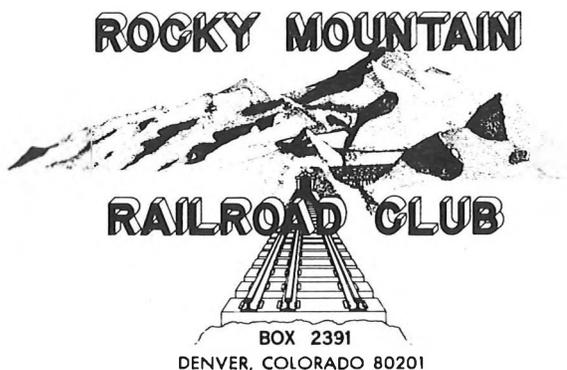
* * * * *

ED GERLITS, President

BILL GORDON, Secretary

ERWIN CHAIM, Vice President

ARDIE SCHOENINGER, Treasurer



FIRST CLASS MAIL