THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB Box 2391 DENVER 1, COLORADO

February 8, 1958

Dear Club Member:

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We, the officers, directors, and committee chairmen of your club would like, at this time, to report to you on our plans for 1958. As some of you may know, this will be our 20th anniversary year and we hope to make it a true vintage one.

First, a word about our upcoming programs. The February meeting will be held on Wednesday the 12th at the Wyer Auditorium of the Denver Public Library at 14th and Broadway. The program for that night is entitled "The Life of the Silver San Juan," and will consist of selected slides showing the life and times of the Rio Grande Southern, one of Colorado's most romantic narrow gauges. In March, a program is planned on the steam short lines of Texas and Louisiana. In April, a banquet at the Holland House in Golden will celebrate the club's 20th birthday. At that time, Dick Kindig will take us down memory lane and show some highlights of the club's 20 years.

During the following months, programs will be presented on the history of the Rio Grande, the Colorado and Southern, and snow fighting in the Colorado Rockies.

We plan to operate several trips this year over both narrow and standard gauge trackage. Our traditional three-day excursion to Silverton will be operated over the Memorial Day weekend. The fare and schedule for this trip will be roughly the same as last year's.

A Great Western--Colorado and Southern steam trip is being planned for late in June. Since the Great Western is the last short line in Colorado operating steam we feel this trip will be of great interest to our members.

We are also working on a Union Pacific steam trip featuring operation behind both a 4-8-4 and a "Big Boy" 4-8-8-4. This trip, which will feature both speed running and operation over Sherman Hill may well be a farewell to steam on the Union Pacific System.

Tentative plans are also being made for excursions on the Manitou and Pikes Peak and the Burlington. We are, of course, eager to hear from members and to get their ideas on operating trips. Since the days of steam are numbered, we are most interested in operating behind steam and over lines where it would be impossible to make the trip otherwise. At this point, we should like to urge more of the members to support our trips, especially those operated out of Denver. A great deal of work goes into the planning of these excursions, and the only way we can tell whether you, the members, want them is by your patronage. If the trips we operate are what you want, come along and join us; if they are not, let us know what you do want.

In the publications field, work is rapidly progressing on the pictorial supplement to <u>Denver</u>, <u>South Park and Pacific</u>, and an announcement of the price and publication date will be sent to the members this spring. Orders will be taken for the book at that time.

Over the next few years, we also hope to publish a history of the Denver, Boulder and Western by Forrest Crossen, and an all-time roster of the Denver and Rio Grande Western by R. H. Kindig.

It is also hoped that this year some progress may be made in gathering our equipment together, and placing it on display at a central location within the Denver area. Plans are now being made toward this end, and it is hoped that we will have something constructive to report on by the end of the year.

Work on the 1958 roster is about to begin, and we hope to have it in your hands by April. If you have changed your address during the past year, and have not notified the secretary, please do so and help us keep the records straight. Also, 1958 dues are now payable. If you have not done so, please send them to the treasurer at the club post office box. Dues are, by the way, \$2.00 for those residing in Colorado, and \$1.00 for those living out of the state.

Hoping that this year will be a great one for all of us, and wishing you all the best for 1958, we remain,

Yours very truly,

W. J. Gordon, PresidentJohn W. Maxwell, Vice-PresidentW. M. Cafky, TreasurerR. B. Grenard, Jr., Secretary

Directors

"Mike" Blecha E. J. Haley Charles Max

R. A. Ronzio C. S. Ryland B. A. Snow

Cormittee Chairmen

I. E. August, Equipment E. J. Haley, Trips David Gross, Programs - R. H. Kindig, Publications