



LITTLE ROCK CHAPTER
NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Arkansas Railroader



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February business meeting will be on Sunday the 8th at 2:00 PM at new MOP Bldg. 1000 W. 4th St. No.L.Rock. Another of our members, John Kemple, will give a talk on the Japanese Nat'l.Railway famous Tokaido Line who operate the bullet trains. This should be very interesting and hope we can have a full attendance.

Our January meeting was one of the best yet. Not only did we have a good attendance but had an excellent program given by our own Bill Bailey. Congratulations Bill. Also, Naomi Hill and her Museum Sales Committee continue to bring us additional "Goodies" at each meeting such as patches, ash trays, tie bars and tacs. Thank you Naomi.

While on attendance lets do everything we can to keep it up this year. We welcome all visitors and it would be helpful if we could invite our friends and neighbors who are interested in railroading to one of our meetings. Who knows but what this might result in some new memberships. Our hobby is one that never gets dull and we need to keep ahead of the stamp collectors, model airplanes, bird watchers, etc.

CALLING ALL PHOTO BUGS

The great Johnny Cash and his singing entourage of 40 people will be at Rison, Ark. on March 20th in connection with Cleveland County Bicentennial Celebration. The Cotton Belt R.R. will run a special train from Rison to Kingland, Kingland being Cash's birthplace. Power on the train will be one of the SSW-SP Bicentennial loces, probably No. 9389. We hope to see many of our members at Rison.

***** AMTRAK

The romance and glory of a lost passenger train era has been revived by AMTRAK. A newly refurbished ABRAHAM LINCOLN with a parlor car containing plump seats is once again plying the rails between St. Louis and Chicago. The car is one formerly used by the G&O and it even sports a tail sign containing a portrait of Honest Abe. Now the Lincoln joins other nostalgic name trains on AMTRAK such as the Sunset, the Broadway, the Lone Star, the Panama, the Coast Starlight, San Francisco Zephyr and others.

AMERICAN FREEDOM TRAIN

Mayer Eddie Powell of North Little Rock has employed a Mr. Howard Watson of Little Rock to co-ordinate activities of this train on its visit to the L.Rock-N.L.Rock area (Camp Robinson) on April 13-15. Also, we have news from our good friends in the Memphis, Tenn. club that RDG Loco #1 will likely power the train into Memphis; if not that one then it will be T&P #610. In this event one thing is certain, the Ex-SP Daylight, #4449 will not show in this area. At least lets hope that we can get STEAM of some kind. Diesels we can see day in and day out.

Two Business Cars, SSW No. 151, SAN JOSE, AND S.P. No. 127 THE ALAMO were in North Little Rock Jan. 19th thru the 22nd parked on the service track by the Cotton Belt Yard Office. Both cars were very beautiful.

Texas Utilities will put under wire early this year, 32 miles of new railroad. The lines are separated; one is a 10-mile line (with 9 more miles under construction) running between lignite deposits and TU's Monticella, Texas station near Mt. Pleasant, Texas; the second line - 13 miles of track, 10 already laid, will serve the Martin Lake Station now under construction near Henderson, Texas about 90 miles south of Monticelle. Sure is good to read about NEW railroad construction and always very sad to read about abandonments.

If you like a good railroad book with lots of humour, read "All Aboard With E.M.Frimbe". written by Rogers E. M. Whitaker and Anthony Miss. Frimbe, as you know, is the world's greatest railroad buff. He covers most all of the world in his train riding and it will bring some nostalgia to all of you train riders, which it did to your editor.

EDITOR'S NEWS POLICY

We thank those of you who are giving or sending news articles to the editor. We need these to help try to make up a good newaletter. Our policy will be to run them as space permits. We will endeavor to run them as they are received; in that order. As part of this newaletter we are running an article by Gene Hull. We have another one in hand which was written by Mike Adams and which hopefully we can run in two parts in our March newaletter.

LEHIGH & NEW ENGLAND RY. a Jersey Central subsidiary, has filed for abandonment. Another Falling Flag.

The Railway Clerk's Union, representing most of REA's 10,000 employees, was among several groups seeking to acquire REA's operating authority. Good Luck.

NEW FORMAT

Your editor is using a somewhat different format with this letter. We will constantly "Experiment" to bring you the best letter possible. Give me your ideas if you have any. This is your club and I welcome any and all suggestions.

Below is reproduced an article taken from the Arkansas Gazette of October 20, 1936 and sent to the Editor by Gene Hull.

WOMEN SEIZE L. & A. TRAIN
STRIP OFFICIAL

Minden, La. Oct. 19 - Several hundred women, said to be wives of striking employes of the Louisiana & Arkansas Railroad, captured some of the crew of "The Shreveporter" northbound train when it stopped at a water tank here early tonight, forced the engineer to resign and tore all clothing from a railroad official who remonstrated with them. Surrounding the train as the engineer stopped a short distance from the station for water, the women swarmed into the cars and engine, capturing Mark Willis, senior engineer on the line, and a Negro brakeman. Others in the crew were reported to have escaped by fleeing into the woods bordering the tracks. W. F. Salisbury, chief engineer of the railroad, was in the station when the women came into the depot with Willis as a prisoner, whereupon reports say they tore his clothing off and allowed him to go free, after slapping him. Willis was reported beaten by the women and forced to send a telegram to C. P. Couch, president of the railroad when striking "Big Four" employees walked out. Late tonight the train was reported still in the yards here. When the women forced the crew to flee they left the train where it stood. Marshall T. T. Tobin got the shop foreman to go with him to the train where they shut off the steam in order to keep the engine from blowing up. It was then moved into the roundhouse. The train crew included Conductor M. S. Massey, Fireman A. H. Robertson and Ralph Young and A. Cook, negro brakemen. A freight train was similarly stopped at Searcy, La. by a group of women last week and the conductor imprisoned in the caboose in an attempt to force the train crew to resign.

***** The End *****

It would seem that the above shows that "Women's Lib" is nothing new.

The ARKANSAS RAILROAD CLUB is a non-profit organization that meets the second Sunday of each month in the Missouri Pacific Office Building, 1000 West 4th Street, North Little Rock, Ark. For information write P. O. Box 5584, Little Rock, Ark. 72205.