

ARKANSAS RAILROADER
ARKANSAS RAILROAD CLUB NEWSLETTER
VOL. 5 NO. 9 SEPTEMBER 1974

SEPTEMBER MEETING: The regular monthly business meeting will be held Sunday, September 8 at the Missouri Pacific Office Building, 1000 West 4th S. North Little Rock, Ark at 2:00 p.m. Don't forget, the September program will be a Swap Meet. Bring what you have to sell or trade.

AMTRAK: An appellate division of the I.C.C. has revoked an order directing the Texas & Pacific Railway Co. to operate AMTRAK trains between the connection with the Missouri Pacific at Texarkana and the Santa Fe connection at Ft. Worth.

The order was originally issued on March 21, the day the Inter-American inaugurated service between St. Louis and Laredo. T&P refused to accept the trains at Texarkana due to a dispute over the contract. The I.C.C. issued the order and service started on schedule.

AMTRAK must now refile it's application with the Commission for permission to operate over this line. A proceeding for determination of compensation and indemnification of the T&P will also be reopened.

*** (Editors note;;; on one recent occasion, a Monday morning when the Inter-American arrived in Little Rock at 7:20 a.m. there were upwards of 40 passengers waiting to board.)

In other quarters, the Senate has passed and sent to a House-Senate conference a bill providing for an increase of \$400 Million in loan guarantees, an increase of \$200 in subsidy and \$100 Million for the specific preservation of old railroad stations.

The proposed bill also provides that as far as possible, AMTRAK perform it's own maintenance and rehabilitation of it's equipment. An amendment to the bill would start service from Portland, Oregon through Boise and Des Moines to St. Louis and from Boston to Portland, Maine and Manchester N.H.

MORE CLASSIC TRAINS" This past month we acquired a copy of MORE CLASSIC TRAINS by Arthur D. Dubin. Published by Kalmbach Publishing Co at \$30.00 the copy, it is a worthy sequel to SOME CLASSIC TRAINS by the same author which was published a few years back.

In this volume, which contains some 1500 photographs and about 50 floor plans, the author delves into the personalities of such name trains as the Daylights and the Larks; The Sunshine Special, it's successor the Texas Eagle and the Aztec Eagle of the NdeM. The Golden State is covered along with Canadian National and the advent of Amtrak.

The book is well put together and the photographs alone make it worth the investment. A welcome addition to the shelves of any passenger train lover.

FREEDOM TRAIN: To celebrate the 200th birthday of our nation, a FREEDOM TRAIN will tour the country during 1975-76. It will carry documents and memorabilia of the founding of the United States.

As a préview of things to come a train called the PREAMBLE EXPRESS consisting of four Red, White and Blue Coaches pulled by Delaware & Hudson U23B #2312 departed Boston in mid-July. It will traverse the route to be followed by the FREEDOM TRAIN in order to test the track conditions and to make security preparations for the main tour.

The PREAMBLE EXPRESS is scheduled to Depart St. Louis 9/30, Poplar Bluff 10/1 and be in Little Rock 10/2 on MoPac. It will leave Little Rock for Memphis via Rock Island on 10/2.

ARKANSAS PLANS FOR BI-CENTENNIAL On August 22nd, a group of representatives of some 36 local organizations met with the representative of the Little Rock City Manager to formulate plans for Arkansas' participation in the Bi-centennial celebrations. Bill Merck, our publicity chairman, represented Arkansas Railroad Club and will have a report at the September meeting.

LOCOMOTIVE CARE MANUAL: The Illinois Railway Museum has made available a manual entitled DISPLAYED LOCOMOTIVES: THEIR CARE AND MAINTENANCE. This booklet is well written and illustrated with simple diagrams. It outlines the necessary steps for the care and preservation of locomotives on static display. They have courteously provided a copy to our club.

CLUB PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE: SEVERAL clubs have published items of interest. Some are listed below with address and price.

Inland Empire Chapter Drawings: GN Depot \$1.50 ea
1717 Northwest Blvd. Spokane Union Sta.
Spokane, Wash 99205

Rochester Chapter "When Rochester Rode \$1.50
Greg Sullivan By Rail"
16 Nile Ave
Rochester, NY 14622

NRHS Washington D.C. Chapter "The Kensington Line" 1.00
P. O. Box 487 "Rail Excursions From 3.25
Washington DC Washington The First
Twenty Years"

Colorado Midland Chapter "Railroads of the 1.75 folded
1323 Server Dr. Pikes Peak Region 2.00 Unfolded
Colo. Spgs Colo 80910 1871-1971 (Map)

This is only a partial listing of available material from other chapters. As space permits, additional listings will be published.

N.R.H.S. ACTION: Since the publication of the August Newsletter, word has been received of action taken by the Board of Directors of the NRHS. In addition to publishing a financial statement for the period November, 1973-March 1974, the following statement was made.

"The Bulletin Staff announced that preparation of a survey was nearly in form to be mailed out to the entire membership soliciting their opinions and preferences on contents of our magazine. Professional assistance had been obtained in preparation of the survey which will be included with the Bulletin No. 4 1974.**** Future changes in format and contents of our magazine will be governed by the results of this survey as the Editorial Staff desires to direct their efforts to suit the majority of our members."

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BUILDING PROJECT The club building is progressing. The structural steel is up and ready to receive the roof, sides and insulation. The doorways have been installed.

SCOTT & BEARSKIN LAKE: Scott & Bearskin Lake Ry is off to a good start. They kicked off the season with two trains running on the 4th of July and in excess of 1500 people turned out to ride. The weekend traffic since has been good and the first doubleheader was run the weekend of August 10-11. Weather permitting the season should extend to Thanksgiving. Fares are \$1.50 for Adults and \$1.00 for Children under 12. Hours of operation are 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m Saturday and Sunday only.

Arkansas Railroad Club is a not for profit organization. It meets the second Sunday of each month at the Missouri Pacific Office Bld. 1000 West 4th St. North Little Rock. For information write P. O. Box 5584 Little Rock, Ark. 72205