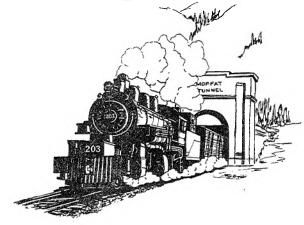
Rocky Mountain Rail Report



The Rocky Mountain Railroad Club

P.O. Box 2391 Denver, Colorado 80201 MAY 1970 No. 128

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

> Editor - - - - ED Schneider Editor - - - - Bruce Black

MEETING NOTICE: Date Wednesday, May 13, 1970 Time 8:00 p.m. Place . . . Western Federal Savings Bldg., (lower level meeting room), 17th & California Sts., Denver

PROGRAM NOTES: Club Member Neal Reich of Cheyenne will present a fine selection of movies he has taken of Union Pacific 8444. Included will be scenes of freight deadhead movements_as well as Green River and Ogden passenger specials. Also, Neal will bring films of the last revenue freight runs on the Alamosa-Farmington narrow gauge in 1968.

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"THE CHEROKEE & SOUTHWESTERN" FROM THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS OF APRIL 7, REGARDING THE NEWEST PASSENGER-CARRYING RAILROAD IN TEXAS: "THE CHEROKEE & SOUTHWESTERN WILL, AT THE START, RUN OVER 9 MILES OF THE STATE-OWNED LINE ONCE DESIGNATED AS THE TEXAS STATE RAILROAD BETWEEN RUSK AND PALESTINE OVER A 32.7-MILE STANDARD GAUGE TRACK. AT THE START THE C&SR WILL USE ONLY 9 MILES OF THE TRACK, FROM RUSK TO THE VILLAGE OF MAYDELLE AND RETURN. (MAYDELLE WAS NAMED FOR A DAUGHTER OF A FORMER TEXAS GOVERNOR, THOMAS CAMPBELL.) LATER THE NEW RAILROAD WILL GO ALL THE WAY TO PALESTINE AND RETURN.

'For rolling stock, the C&SR has four steam locomotives, but only a 1923 Baldwin "saddle tank' engine is ready for service. (The line will begin 3-times-a-day weekend runs next Saturday with 2 trips on Sunday.

'Starting on June 1 the line will run three times a day, every day until after Labor Day, except that there will be only 2 trips on Sundays in deference to morning church services.)

'GENERAL MANAGER EDWARDS SAID THE OTHER STEAM LOCOMOTIVES, WHICH WILL BE READY SOON, ARE A 1942 ALCO, A 1912-13 PORTER, AND A 1923 "282" BALDWIN, KNOWN AS "No. 14" WHEN IT FUNCTIONED ON THE MOSCOW, CAMDEN & SAN AUGUSTINE RAILROAD (ANOTHER SHORT AND LESS TOURIST ORIENTATED EAST TEXAS LINE. THE MOSCOW, CAMDEN STILL CARRIES PASSENGERS ON WEEKDAYS ONLY.)

'THE C&SR HAS 4 PASSENGER CARS ALL OF 1918-19 VINTAGE, AND EACH CAPABLE OF CARRYING AROUND 96 PASSENGERS. AT THE START ONLY ONE PASSENGER CAR WILL BE USED SINCE THAT IT IS ALL IT IS FELT THE SADDLE TANK ENGINE IS CAPABLE OF LUGGING, AND THERE ARE SOME STEEP GRADES AS THE TRAIN GOES OUT BEYOND "THE OLD HANGING GROUNDS," THROUGH THE HAMLET OF OAKLAND, THROUGH THE PINE TREES IN THE FAIRCHILD STATE FOREST, AND THEN TO MAYDELLE AND RETURN. THE FARE IS CERTAINLY 1970ISH, \$3.75 FOR ADULTS AND \$2.75 FOR KIDS.

'THE STATE-OWNED TRACK, LEASED BY THE NEW RAILROAD, WAS FIRST LAID OUT IN 1896, OR RATHER THE INITIAL 5 MILES OFCIT, TO SERVE THE TRON FOUNDRIES ONCE OPERATED BY THE STATE PRISON AT RUSK. THE TEXAS STATE RAILROAD WAS EXTENDED ON TO PALESTINE AROUND 1909. IT BEGAN TO RUN UP A MIGHTY DEFICIT IN THE EARLY 1920'S AND WAS LEASED OUT TO VARIOUS PRIVATE LINES, MOST RECENTLY TO A LUMBER COMPANY.

'One of the current problems was getting the rust off the rails." The foregoing was sent to us by Frank Johnson of Dallas, Texas. २

RAILROADING WE RECEIVED A LETTER FROM NEILLE E. THALER WHICH STATED, IN PART "I AM WHAT THE WORLD WOULD CALL AN ELDERLY PERSON AS I AM PAST SEVENTY, BUT ENJOY MY HOBBY OF WRITING POETRY, AND I AM TAKING THE LIBERTY OF SENDING YOU TWO THAT ARE ALONG THE LINE OF WHAT YOU ARE INTERESTED IN."

THE OLD RAILROAD DEPOT

The old railroad depot with a pot bellied stove In the center of the small waiting room Where cigar stubs and gum wrappers collected and lay Until the agent came out with the broom.

HE WORE A GREEN EYE SHADE AND BLACK OVERSLEEVES AND THANDITHEOTICHLOF THERTELEGRAPH KEY Was so fascinating, you listened, intent Wondering what the message might be.

> The strong wooden benches lined up by the wall With the iron dividers for seats The windows were plentiful on two or more sides And the floor boards were well laid and neat.

WHAT FUN TO GO DOWN WHEN ONLY #40 CAME IN AND STAND ON THE PLATFORM OUTSIDE OR KIBITZ THE AGENT, WHOM EVERYONE KNEW AND WISH WE WERE TAKING A RIDE.

The old depots are going, New ONES TAKE THEIR PLACE But the memory Will Live and Remain As a child, we remember, the thrill we would get When we went there to wait for the train.

WE SALUTE YOU, OLD DEPOTS, YOU'RE A PART OF OUR LIFE WE'RE SORRY YOU MUST BOW TO FATE WE KEEP AN EYE OUT, AS YOU WERE ALL BUILT THE SAME

JUST TO SEE YOU BEFORE ITS TOO LATE.

THE STEAM LOCOMOTIVE How many folks remember Those days of long ago When an old steam engine Pulled our trains? How we loved to watch them go.

Their whistle sounded sharp and clear As they sped along the way The black smoke rolled From the engines stack Trailing off in clouds of grey.

THE ENGINEER WITH STRIPED CAP AND HIS EYE UPON THE RAILS HIS FIREMAN NEAR WAS SHOVELING COAL WHILE THE BRAKEMAN CHECKED DETAILS.

A DOUBLE HEADER WOULD BE USED OR EVEN THREE AT TIMES TO HAUL THE FREIGHT WITH MANY CARS UP THE STEEP AND NARROW CLIMBS.

They pulled the passenger trains as well With condustor's dressed in blue The shrewd news butch And the porter's too Served the coaches they passed through.

They made good time as they smoothed along We remember the clickety clack As they clung to the rails That carried them on Many miles o'er the long, Narrow Track.

THERE WERE BAGGAGE CARS AND ONE FOR MAILL AND A MAIL CLERK WAS ON HAND THE CABOOSE ON THE REAR WITH THE PLATFORM OUTSIDE WHERE WE COULD VIEW OUR WONDERFUL LAND.

What good fun it was to go on a trip And watch the steam engine come in Then the conductor's "All Aboard" And the engineer's "Toot Toot" Was the signal our ride would begin.

BUT THE STREAMLINED DIESELS ARE NOW IN DEMAND WITH THEIR MUTED AND LONG LONESOME WAILS BUT ONCE IN A WHILE WE ARE GIVEN A THRILL TO SEE STEAM DRIVEN POWER ON THE RAILS.

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WHITE PASS & YUKON DARYL B. RYDER, OF SELAWIK, ALASKA HAS WRITTEN AND SENT US AN ARTICLE ON THE WHITE Pass & Yukon - "New life and activity have come to the 3 ft. gauge White Pass and Yukon Route in Alaska for the reason the line was built in 1898 - mining.

'DURING THE GOLDRUSH TO THE KLONDIKE, A RAILROAD WAS NEEDED TO CARRY SUPPLIES AND ORE FOR THE GOLD SEEKERS. WHITE PASS WAS THE LOWEST CROSSING OF THE RUGGED COAST RANGE AND IN ONLY 20 MILES THE LINE HAD TO CLIMB 3,000 FEET ON AN AVERAGE GRADE OF 2.6% WITH A MAXIMUM OF 4%. OF THIS 20 MILES THE FIRST FIVE ARE RELATIVELY LEVEL.

¹TRAVELING OVER WHITE PASS, ONE IS EASILY REMINDED OF ROLLINS PASS IN COLORADO. - 4% GRADES, TRESTLES THAT SURPASS DEVILS SLIDE, LONG SNOWSHEDS OVER THE TRACKS, AND VISTAS OF TRACKAGE FAR BELOW.

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TODAY, A NEW TYPE OF MINING HAS REVIVED THE W.P. & Y.R. - LEAD-ZINC CONCENTRATE FOR SHIPMENT TO JAPAN.

'TO HANDLE THIS NEW ORE, THE WHITE PASS TOOK DELIVERY OF 200 NEW ROLLER BEARING FLAT CARS FROM CANADA TO CARRY THE ORE CONTAINERS, ALSO SEVEN NEW LOW NOSED 1200 H.P. DIESELS FROM ALCO'S MONTREAL WORKS. BECAUSE OF INCREASED TRAIN MOVEMENTS AND THE NEWER, HEAVIER LOCOMOTIVES A COMPLETE TRACK UPGRADING IS TAKING PLACE.

'This includes raising and reballasting the entire roadbed with crushed rock, relaying and rea-LIGNING THE MAIN LINE USING NEW 85# RAIL WITH IMPROVED GRADES AND CURVATURE. THE MOST EXTEN-SIVE WORK WILL ELIMINATE THE LINE'S HIGHEST (215 FT.) BRIDGE AND REPLACE IT WITH A LOWER BRIDGE AND A 660 FT. LONG TUNNEL.

'IN SKAGWAY, A NEW DEPOT IS BEING BUILT TO REPLACE THE ORIGINAL STRUCTURE BUILT IN 1900, AS WELL AS A NEW SHED WHERE ORE WILL BE STORED BEFORE SHIPMENT TO JAPAN.

'NOT ALL THE NEWS OF THE WHITE PASS IS ON THE BRIGHT SIDE, HOWEVER. IN NOVEMBER, THE RAILROAD'S 20 STALL ROUNDHOUSE AND ADJACENT SHOPS WERE TOTALLY DESTROYED BY A DISASTROUS FIRE. LOST WERE NOT ONLY THE STRUCTURES, BUT ALSO THREE OF THE NEW DIESELS, TWO OF THE OLDER DIESELS, THE PLYMOUTH SWITCH ENGINE AND 2-8-2, #72.

'Despite this setback, traffic volume today is equal to what it was during World War II. There are an average of five to six trains daily and the older General Electric diesels are accumulating three times the mileage monthly they did when they were new.

'STEAM WAS LAST USED IN THE SUMMER OF 2965 AND THE ROTARY SNOWPLOWS HAVE BEEN REPLACED WITH BULL-DOZERS.

'STILL ON THE PROPERTY AT SKAGWAY IS ROTARY #2, 4-6-0 #52, AND 2-8-2'S #70, 71, 80, AND 81. NUM-BER 72 WAS USED TO SUPPLY STEAM UP UNTIL IT WAS DESTROYED BY THE FIRE. THE RAILROAD HAS SET UP 2-8-2 #73, A ROTARY AND CABOOSE AS A DISPLAY FOR SUMMER VISITORS AT BENNETT, B.C.

'Rolling stock of interest includes a fleet of all steel hopper cars from the East Broad Top, some C&S boxcars, ex-N. de M. flatcars, and still in daily service are approximately ten of the narrow frame tank cars purchased from the D&RGW.

'While LOW NOSE DIESELS, BALLASTED ROADBED, ROLLER BEARINGS AND CONTAINERIZED FREIGHT MAY NOT BE TRADITIONAL NARROW GAUGE OPERATION, THE WHITE PASS & YUKON ROUTE IS STILL 4% GRADES, HEAVY SNOWFALL AND 36 INCHES BETWEEN THE RAILS."

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<u>NEW EDITOR</u> ED Schneider who had served as temporary Editor and later as Editor of the Newsletter has expressed a desire to take a break from the task of the monthly grind in preparing the Clubs paper. Bruce Black of Boulder has been appointed the new Editor effective with this issue. If anyone has news items (primarily not too lengthy) please contact Bruce by dropping him a note at his home address at 3225 E. Euclid Avenue, Boulder, Colorado 80302. Our thanks to Ed Schneider for his faithful efforts for the Club and our Newsletter.

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8444 EXCURSION Our May 30th trip is nearly sold out.' This is the status at the time of this writing, AND is expected to be sold out ahead of the actual date of the trip. We do not like to have to turn away our friends, so if you are going you should get your ticket request in as early as possible. The fare is \$27.00 for adults and \$18.00 for childred 6-11 years of age. Also, want to ADD that we are not able to make connection with U.P. train number 111 at LaSalle, was recently scheduled even later, and would cause us considerable delay if we were to wait. If you are coming in from the East, perhaps you had best schedule coming directly into Denver on the Zephyr which now arrives here around 6:00 a.m.

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NARROW GAUGE PRESERVATION PLANS NOT LOOKING TOO BRIGHT. RECENT NEWS RELEASES INDICATE THAT THE STATES AND THE RIO GRANDE RAILROAD LOCKED HORNS ON THE MATTER FOR THE OPTION OF THE ADDITIONAL TRACKAGE WEST OF CHAMA, N. M. THE RIO GRANDE STATES THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO SALVAGE IT, PERHAPS USING THE MONEY TO PURCHASE STANDARD GAUGE BOXCARS AND LET THEM BEGIN EARNING MONEY FOR THE COMPANY. SHOULD THIS PRESENT A PROBLEM TO THE TWO STATES, THEN PERHAPS THE ONLY PORTION TO BE SAVED MAY BE THE ANTONITO-CHAMA SEGMENT. IT HAS BEEN STATED THAT THE RIO GRANDE IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE CUMBRES PASS LINE BEING IN COMPETITION WITH ITS SILVERTON BRANCH.

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UNION PACIFIC RE-SCHEDULED ITS "CITY OF EVERYWHERE" ON APRIL 26TH, WITH A SCHEDULE EVEN LENGTHENED OUT LONGER THAN BEFORE. * * * *

BURLINGTON TRACKAGE BETWEEN CARPENTER AND CHEVENNE, WYOMING IS BEING DISMANTLED BY HYMAN-MICHAELS OF

OF CHICAGO, AS IS ANOTHER BRANCH BETWEEN FORT MADISON AND BLOCAFIELD, IOWA.

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- <u>CELEBRATION</u> OF THE MEETING OF THE KANSAS PACIFIC AND DENVER PACIFIC IS BEING PLANNED BY THE CAMANCHE CROSSING HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO TAKE PLACE ON AUGUST 15TH. THE JOINING OF THESE RAILS WERE THE FIRST TRANSCONTINENTAL HOOK-UP IN AMERICA, A TECHNICALITY OF THE PERMANENT BRIDGE ACROSS THE THE MISSOURI'FROM THE KANSAS TERMINAL. THE UNION PACIFIC'S OMAHA BRIDGE WAS NOT PERMANENT UNTIL 1872. MORE DETAILS LATER.
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- A GLIMPSE OF THE PAST FROM THE LARAMIE WEEKLY BOOMERANG, DEC. 10, 1885.

"A RAILWAY CYCLONE. THE CYCLONE WHICH SWEPT ACROSS THE COLORADO RAILWAY WORLD ON MONDAY AND RESULTED IN THE DISMISSAL OF TWELVE OR FIFTEEN CONDUCTORS, HAS NOT YET SPENT ITS STRENGTH. MORE ARE STILL TO FOLLOW. THE DISCHARGED CONDUCTORS ON THE SOUTH PARK BRANCH OF THE UNION PACIFIC WERE MESSRS. SCOTT AND DYER, AND ALL THE REMAINING MEN ARE TREMBLING IN THEIR BOOTS. THE REASONS ASSIGNED BY BOTH THE RIO GRANDE AND THE UNION PACIFIC MANAGEMENT FOR DISCHARGING THE CONDUCTORS IS THE OLD, OLD STORY, VIZ: REFUSING TO DIVIDE FAIRLY WITH THE COMPANY IN THE PROCEEDS OF THE LOCAL CASH BUSINESS."

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- <u>SWAP</u> '<u>N SHOP</u> Personal ads are accepted from members for items to be listed for sale or trade or wanted. We cannot enter into correspondence concerning an item, nor will we appraise items to be offered for sale. Send your listings to the Editor by the 20th of the month preceding publication.
 - Sell or Trade: 4 UP RR menus and 4 Canadian Pacifi menus issued during May 1938 tour of the Senior Class of the Colorado School of Mines. Von Blon, 1208 Locust, Muskogee, Oklahoma
 - Wanted: Books dealing with and covering the mechanical operation of steam locomotives and related equipment. Send title, description and price to Colorado Central Narrow Gauge Railray, in care of Phillip Marceau, P. O. Box 323, Loveland, Co. 80537
 - WANTED: TO CORRESPOND WITH SOME OF THE MINIATURE LOCO BUILDERS, AS I HAVE BUILT A "PACIFIC", "Atlantic", "Mogul", and "Shay", all 1" to the foot 4 3/4" gauge. Laurence E. Hiney, 1935 Colby Avenue, Los Angeles, Calif. 90025
 - WANTED: WISH TO PURCHASE BOUND SET OF COLORADO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MAGAZINE OR SINGLE COPIES OF THE YEARS 1923-1950. FRANCIS B. RIZZARI, 1716 VIEWPOINT ROAD, LAKEWOOD, COL. 80215
 - WANTED: ORIGINAL OR COPY OF ARKANSAS CENTRAL RAILROAD PASS FOR 1870. MUST BE SIGNED BY Stephen W. Dorsey. Francis B. Rizzari, 1716 Viewpoint Road, Lakewood, Co. 80215
 - Watned: Would like to hear from anyone who has any Wells Fargo & Co., Express items for sale. H. T. Seely, 1118 E. Yampa St., Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903
 - WANTED: A COPY OF "PICTORIAL SUPPLEMENT TO DENVER, SOUTH PARK & PACIFIC." PAIR OF CABOOSE OR PASSENGER OIL MARKER LIGHTS, PREFERABLY FROM D&RGW. HOWARD FOGG PRING SHOWING SILVERTON TRAIN ALONG ANIMAS RIVER. 1969 UNION PACIFIC CENTENNIAL CALENDAR. DAN REAGAN, 943 DAY HOLLOW ROAD, ENDICOTT, N. Y. 13760
 - WANTED: PICTURES OF THE OKLAHOMA CITY, ADA, AND ATOKA RR STEAM TRAINS, GAS PASS TRAIN, OR FREIGHT AND STATION PICTURES. Keith Pratt, 9 Gilman Street, Somerville, Mass.
 - OIL-FIRED PENNSYLVANIA SWITCH LAMP; COMPLETE AND WORKS PERFECTLY. \$50 PLUS TRANSPORTATION. L. R. Orton, 2724 North Concord St., Colorado Springs, Colo. 80907

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MEMBERSHIP CARDS We are finally mailing out the 1970 membership cards, and if you have not received yours by now, it indicates that your 1970 dues have not been received by the treasurer. (\$3.00 for Colorado members, \$2.00 for out-of-state residents.) We ran into an unusual series of delays this year, and hope we can do better in 1971. The overprinting was done on Charles Ryland's printing press, as usual, and Charley was assisted by Dick Kindig. The cards then had to have the names typed in, and were mailed in small envelopes which were addressed by our reliable envelope-addresser, Bob Griswold: in fact, he was the only one of those involved who had his part of the operation ready ahead of time!

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JIM EHERNBERGER, PRESIDENT STURKT AND RESONCE FOR SEC. BILL GORDON, SECRETARY