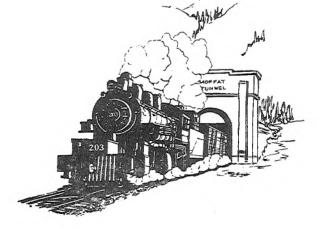
Rocky Mountain Rail Report



The Rocky Mountain Railroad Club

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

Editor - - - Darrell T. Arndt

MEETING NOTICE: Date Tuesday, January 14, 1975 Time 7:45 P.M. Place . . . Southeast wing of Christ Episcopal Church, 2900 S. University at Bates; offstreet parking at rear(east) of meeting hall.

PROGRAM NOTES: The January program is entitled: "Look what we found on the way to Canada!"

Barry Silver and Bob Harmen will guide us through their adventures (and misadventures) over the past four years of trying to ride the rails through Canada. Included in the program will be slides from trips that didn't quite make it into Canada, as well as a two-pronged effort, this past summer, that culminated their long-standing goal to photograph Canadian railroading.

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An old tradition was renewed at Denver's Union Station this Christmas with the placing on display of an 18 foot Christmas tree at the center of the main waiting room. In this photo, Steve McCormick of Wheat Ridge, Colorado views the tree after decorating had been completed.

The project was the result of a combined effort on the part of numerous individuals and groups whose voluntary contributions of time and money made this "Touch of Christmas" for the station possible. The Rocky Mountain Railroad Club provided the tree, which was cut in the San Isabel National Forest, Lake County, Colorado, with the permission of the U.S. Forest Service, and transported to Denver. Mr. C.E. Breternitz, Manager of Denver Union Terminal authorized his staff, under the direction of Mr. Chet Hunt, Supt. of Maintenance, to erect the tree. Support in the form of cash, food, decorations, and hours of time was given by the Intermountain Chapter, NRHS, the Amtrak Staff, The Brotherhood of Railway and Airline Clerks, Mrs. Ida Riesman-Union Station Gift Shop and Snack Bar and her employees, and



MR. PETROS PETRIDES - UNION STATION RESTAURANT. A GOD'S EVE WAS MADE FOR THE TOP OF THE TREE THANKS TO THE CONTRIBUTION OF COMPTON'S ENGINEERS RAILROAD CLUB, A GROUP OF JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL AGE MEMBERS UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF KATHERINE COMPTON. THE YOUTH CHOIR FROM THE New Hope Baptist Church gathered near the tree a few days before Christmas and added Christmas Carols to the atmosphere.

The tree will remain on display until after the Stock Show for the enjoyment of Amtrak and Rio Grande patrons. The public and Club members are invited to stop by the depot and see it. The tree reflects the Christmas Spirit, a true Christmas Spirit that brought forward together numerous individuals volunteering their services for the benefit of many.

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ELECTIONS WERE HELD AT THE DECEMBER MEETING RESULTING IN THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS TO CLUB OFFICES: ELDIN LARSEN - PRESIDENT, JAMES TROWBRIDGE - VICE-PRESIDENT, CARL E. C. CARLSON - TREASURER, AND BILL GORDON - SECRETARY. NEW BOARD MEMBERS ARE NEAL REICH, ARL CUTHBERT, AND E, J. HALEY. CARRY OVER MEMBERS ARE ANE CLINT, JOHN JORDAN AND ED "HIGH COUNTRY RR" GERLITS.

Neal miller passed out his Christmas gift to all those present, this year a photo of a doubleheaded U.P. Freight out of Cheyenne, Wyo. It was also noted at the meeting that the Board of Directors have changed the official title of the office held by William Van Patten from Assistant Treasurer to "Headstuffer". The holder of this office has the responsibility of stuffing and mailing the newsletters each month and it was felt this position should be recognized by a more appropriate title. (Sure hope Van doesn't let it go to his head and get stuffy about it.) The evening was rounded out with a selection of the incomparable Otto Perry movies. Included in the various scenes was some rare footage of the wreck of the San Juan between Antonito and Cumbres Pass when an avalanche took the train down the side of the mountain. Otto walked down to the wreck to film some closeup views.

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- DUES ARE NOW DUE FOR 1975. \$3.00 PER YEAR, \$4.00 FOR NEW MEMBERS. YOUR SUPPORT IS GREATLY
- C.A.T.S ROTARY LATE WORD HAS BEEN RECEIVED AS THIS RAIL REPORT GOES TO PRINT, THAT THE C.A.T.S. ROTARY SNOW PLOW SPECIAL ON JANUARY 11 & 12 HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL FEB. 1 & 2 DUE TO A LACK OF SNOW.

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- STEAM POWER was used again this fall and winter to assist in the Great Western Company's sugar beet harvest. At least two factories, Brighton and Loveland, operated their engines, Little 0-4-0 saddletankers more commonly referred to as "dinkeys". The engines are used for switching around the beet factories only. As late as 1965 the GW had 13 dinkeys operating in Colorado, wyoming, and Nebraska. The Colorado cities were Ft. Morgan, Loveland, Longmont, Sterling, Ovid and Brighton. Now only a few still run and their future is uncertain. The coalburning dinkey's datey operation at Loveland will probably continue until the end of January.
- THE UNION PACIFIC SALES OFFICE AT 17TH & Welton in downtown Denver will be just a memory after the 26th of this month. The office is preparing to move to the U.P. freight office at 19th & Wynkoop, around the corner from Union Station. The freight office is currently undergoing extensive remodeling on the first floor to accompdate the move. Completion of the Work Will be close, work being delayed due to the difficulty encountered in removing a large vault on the ground floor. The sales office downtown is rather distinctive in that the exterior of the cull building on the first floor is done in yellow and red striping complemented with a Window configuration that together, strikingly resembles the side of a U.P. passenger Car.

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THE 8444 TRIP TO LARAMIE ON FEBRUARY 15 SPONSORED BY THE INTERMOUNTAIN CHAPTER HAS BEEN SOLD OUT.

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ON AUGUST 23 ACCOLLECTION OF RAILROAD PASSES WAS STOLEN FROM THE HOME OF MEMBER CHARLES RYLAND. SOME HAVE APPEARED IN ANTIQUE SHOPS AND THROUGH THE HELP OF SOME MEMBERS AND FRIENDS A NUMBER HAVE BEEN RECOVERED. AMONG THOSE NOT YET LOCATED ARE AN 1879 COLORADO CENTRAL #679, A DENVER PACIFIC 1870 ISSUED TO CASEMENT, SEVERAL COLORADO MIDLAND INDIAN PASSES, A DENVER, LAKEWOOD & GOLDEN 1899 AND MANY OTHERS. ANY INFORMATION ABOUT THESE OR OTHERS WILL BE APPRECIATED. A LIST IS AVAILABLE FROM CHARLES RYLAND AT 1914 - 19TH ST., GOLDEN, COLORADO 80401. ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAIL REPORT

JANUARY 1975

THE U.P. DEPOT IN JULESBERG WAS MOVED 100 FEET NORTH OF ITS ORIGINAL LOCATION IN OCTOBER. THE RAIL-ROAD HAD DONATED THE BUILDING TO THE TOWN FOR USE AS A REGIONAL MUSEUM. THE PROJECT WAS FINANCES WITH A \$15,000 GRANT FROM SEDGWICK COUNTY, A \$5,000 GRANT FROM THE COLORADO CENTENNIAL BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION, AND \$17,000 RAISED FROM THE SALE OF DEPOT BRICKS AND OTHER PROJECTS.

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PHONE BOOKS FOR MOUNTAIN BELL'S CUSTOMERS CAME TO DENVER FROM CALIFORNIA THIS YEAR, APPROPRIATELY ENOUGH, "THROUGH THE MOUNTAINS, NOT AROUND THEM". THE SHIPMENT OF OVER 545,000 DIRECTORIES TRAVELED BY PIGGYBACK OVER THE RIO GRANDE BETWEEN SALT LAKE CITY AND DENVER.

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CAN YOU HELP?? - ON OR ABOUT DECEMBER 6TH, THE BELL ON MEXICAN ENGINE NO. 4 AT THE COLORADO RAILROAD MUSEUM WAS APPROPRIATED BY PERSONS UNKNOWN. DUE TO THE SUBSTANTIAL WEIGHT OF THE BELL AND THE FACT THAT IT WAS WELDED ON, IT CAN BE ASSUMED MORE THAN ONE PERSON WAS INVOLVED IN THIS THEFT. THE COLORADO RAILROAD MUSEUM WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATEDANY INFORMATION IN REGARDS TO RECENT ATTEMPTS TO SELL OR OTHERWISE DISPOSE OF AN ENGINE BELL. THE MUSEUM IS LOOKING FOR ANY CLUES THAT MIGHT HELP LOCATING THE HISTORIC PIECE.

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THE CAPITOL CITY OF NEW MEXICO LOST ITS LAST VESTIGE OF RAIL PASSENGER SERVICE ON JANUARY LST WHEN AMTRAK DISCONTINUED CONNECTING BUS SERVICE BETWEEN SANTA FE AND LAMY, N.M. PASSENGERS HAD BEEN ABLE TO PURCHASE RAIL TICKETS AT THE SANTA FE RAILWAY STATION IN SANTA FE AND BOARD A BUS THERE FOR A DIRECT CONNECTION WITH THE SOUTHWEST LIMITEDS AT LAMY. NORTHBOUND SERVICE WAS ALSO AVAILABLE. LAST YEAR ABOUT 4,000 PASSENGERS USED THIS ARRANGEMENT.

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- SCRAPPED What might be regarded as a sort of "Landmark" neartine CF&I Steel Mill at Pueblo became only a memory last fall. The giant steel through-truss bridge that spanned the D&RGW tracks at an angle adjacent to the mill has been dismantled for scrap. The bridge, over which the C&W used to operate, hasn't been used in years, but was an eye catcher not only because of its size, but because the fill for the approach to the western end of it had been removed for a parking lot, resulting in a "bridge to nowhere".
- SLOWING DISAPPEARING Several more historic remnants of the Rio Grande Southern vanished from the San Juan Mountains last summer reports the Colorado Railroad Museum. Ames Tank, about four miles below Ophir Loop was dismantled. Down near Illium, just about across the river from Vance Jct., the old tender that had been resting and rusting near the road for almost 70 years was removed. Coming down from Telluride an ore train had run away and scattered itself down the hillside. The engine and other equipment were retrieved but the tender remained, serving as a conversation piece for many a passerby.

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AN ELECTRIC RAILWAY SYSTEM IS BEING DISCUSSED FOR THE ASPEN, COLORADO AREA ACCORDING TO A RECENT NEWS ARTICLE. THE RAILWAY WOULD CONNECT THE AREA SKI FACILITIES WITH THE ASPEN AIRPORT. NEGOTIATIONS HAVE EVEN BEEN MADE WITH A SWEDISH FIRM FOR EQUIPMENT. A DISTRICT MANAGER FOR THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE EVEN ENVISIONSA 12 MILE BRANCH LINE TO MAROON LAKE IF THE RAIL IDEA MATERIALIZES. AUTO TRAFFIC TO THAT SCENIC SPOT BECOMES WORSE EVERY YEAR. A PITKIN COUNTY COMMISSIONER ALSO SUGGESTED THE POSSIBILITY OF A PASSENGER TRAIN BETWEEN DENVER AND ASPEN. HE STATED SEVERAL (?) RAILROAD COMPANIES HAVE "EXPRESSED AN INTEREST" IN PROVIDING THE SERVICE. HE ACKNOWLEDGED NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE RIO GRANDE FOR USE OF EXISTING TRACK WOULD HAVE TO BE CARRIED OUT. WONDER WHO THE OTHER RAILROAD(S) ARE? WONDER IF THEY'RE GOING TO PUT THE COLORADO MIDLAND BACK IN?

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THE WESTBOUND SFZ HIT A TRUCK CARRYING AN OIL DRILLING RIG ON FRIDAY, DEC. 13TH COMING INTO DENVER. No injuries were reported. The drilling rig will drill no more.

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AMTRAK NEWS MENTIONS THAT CONSTRUCTION IS UNDER WAY AT CHICAGO UNION STATION OF A NEW PASSENGER LOUNGE AND BAGGAGE CLAIM AREA. THE LOUNGE WILL HAVE SEATS FOR 314 PEOPLE, PLUS 34 MORE IN A REFRESHMENT AREA. A CAROUSEL TYPE BAGGAGE DISPENSER WILL BE ABLE TO HANDLE 200 PASSENGERS IN THEIR TEN MINUTES. SCHEDULED COMPLETION IS FOR APRIL. THE CARPETED LOUNGE WILL PROVIDE A COM-FORTABLE WAITING AREA FOR THE MANY PEOPLE WHO CHANGE TRAINS IN CHICAGO AS WELL AS FOR THOSE WHO BEGIN THEIR TRIP FROM THERE.

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EX-SOUTHERN PACIFIC DAYLIGHT ENGINE NO. 4449 will be restored for operation on the American Freedom Train reports the Alaska-Yukon Chapter, NRHS. The engine has been on display in Portland, Oregon. A movement is also under way down at Sacramento, California to return an SP cab forward No, 4294 to service for the Freedom Train. A number of other engines across the country have also been suggested for this use.

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"THERE'S SUGAR IN THEM THAR HILLS" - THAT'S THE CRY THE RIO GRANDE UNDOUBTEDLY FEARED HEARING THE MOST WHEN A ROCK SLIDE BETWEEN TUNNELS NO. 3 AND 4 JUST NORTH OF PLAINVIEW HIT A FREIGHT TRAIN IN EARLY DECEMBER. INFORMATION AVAILABLE INDICATES BETWEEN 8 TO 13 CARS WENT OFF THE TRACK, A NUMBER OF THEM GOING SOME DISTANCE DOWN THE MOUNTAIN SIDE. IN THE CONSIST WAS A CARLOAD OF SUGAR AND ARMED GUARDS WERE ON HAND TO INSURE THAT NEIGHBORS (OR EVERYONE BETWEEN CHEYENNE AND PUEBLO) DIDN'T STOP BY TO BORROW A CUP...OR TWO....OR THREE....OR.... SORT OF LIKE THE "OLD DAYS" WHEN A CAR OF VALUABLE METALS BEING SHIPPED FROM A MINE MIGHT HAVE GONE ON GROUND ON THE NARROW-GAUGE WITH PRECAUTIONS OF THE SAME NATURE BEING TAKEN.

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- SWAP 'N SHOP PERSONAL ADS ARE ACCEPTED FROM MEMBERS FOR ITEMS TO BE LISTED FOR SALE OR TRADE OR WANTED. WE CANNOT ENTER INTO ANY CORRESPONDENCE, NOR WILL WE APPRAISE ITEMS:
 - BOOKS FOR SALE: EDWARD C. BLISS 2944 N. ARROYO DRIVE, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92103 11 - IRON HORSES TO PROMONTORY-BEST-NEAR MINT (1969) \$ 7.00 16 - Men & IRON - HUNGEPORD - 1938 - FAIR 10.00 17 - MINISINK VALLEY EXPRESS - BEST - 1956 - GOOD 5.00 22 - New Mexico's Railroads - Myrick - 1970 - Near Mint 5.00 27 - PACIFIC SLOPE RAILROADS - ABDILL - 1959 - NEAR MINT 7.00 34 - RAILROADS OF THE BLACK HILLS - FIEDLER - 1964 - NEAR MINT 10.00 36 - RAILS WEST - ABDILL - 1960 - NEAR MINT 10.00 43 - SANTA FE THRU CALIF - DUKE - 1965 - NEAR MINT 7.00 51 - STEAMERS TO THE COMSTOCK - BEEBE - 1957 - VERY GOOD 5.00 59 - THE WAY OUR PEOPLE LIVED - WOODWARD - 1944 - FAIR 3.00 65 - TWILIGHT OF STEAM - ZIEL - 1963 - NEAR MINT 5.00 70 - TROLLEY CAR TREASURE - ROWSOME - 1956 - NEAR MINT 5.00 124 - BULLETIN #121 - R & L H SOCIETY 1.00
 - BOOKS WANTED: "ELECTRIC INTERURBAN RAILWAYS IN AMERICA" BY HILTON-DUE "GOLDEN RAILS" BY KRATVILLE "SUPER POWER LOCOMOTIVRS" BY COOK RLHS BULLETINS NO'S 38, 49, 53,55, 58, 65, 75, 81, 83, 84, 85, 93, 96, 110, 113, 122, 126, AND 129. ROBERT A. LEMASSENA 1795 S. SHERIDAN BLVD, DENVER, COLO. 80226
 - FOR SALE: INDIVIDUAL STATE MAPS, APPROX. 11 BY 16 INCHES, IN COLOR. SHOWS RAILROADS. Copyright 1896. One only for each state. Mailed postpaid \$2 each. FRANCIS B. RIZZAR! 1716 Viewpoint Road, Lakewoood, Colorado 80215
 - FOR SALE: SET OF 25 PAPER BACK "TRAINING BOOKS FOR TRAINMENT', PUBLISHED BY BUELL, OMAHA, NEBRASKA. DRAWINGS AND PICTURES INCLUDING INFORMATION ON AIR BRAKES, RIGGING, HISTORY, SAFETY, LOCOMOTIVE INSPECTION, FIRING, AIR COMPRESSORS, BOILERS, VALVES, GEARS AND SUPR-HEATERS. THESE ARE DATED 1941-1942-1943-1944. ONE ONLY HARD BACK BOOK, "LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEER & FIREMAN". QUESTION AND ANSWERS. 3RD EDITION, DECEMBER 1941. 233 PAGES. EIGHT 8x10 PICTURES OF RAILROAD CAR INTERIORS. THE COMPLETE SET PREPAID FOR \$22.50. E. M. SWAN, 1115 NW 41ST STREET, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA. 73118.
 - GOOD WILL THE CHAPEL CAR USED BY THE AMERICAN BAPTIST PUB. CO. IN COLORADO AROUND THE TURN OF THE CENTURY, SEEK FOTOS OF IT OR ANY INFORMATION ABOUT THIS OR OTHERS USED BY AM. BAP. PUB. CO. HAVE AM. FLYER. STANDARD GAUGE 4020 CATTLE CAR, MISSING SLIDING DOORS. PLESANT VIEW OBR CAR. HAS ROOF MISSING. AVERY VON BLON 1111 COLCORD. WACO, TEXAS
 - WANTED: PRE-1930 TIMETABLES COLORADO & SOUTHERN; BURLINGTON, CHICAGO & NORTHWESTERN AND UNION PACIFIC RAILROADS. ALSO NEED FEW ISSUES 1930, 1931 AND 1932 RAILROAD MAGAZINES, WRITE FIRST. JAMES L. EHERNBERGER P. O. BOX 265 CHEYENNE, WYOMING 82001
 - FOR SALE: (1) <u>California Zephyr Linens</u> sheets & pillowcases Have stamp "Property of the Pullman Company" - used by Rio Grande on CZ - laundered. Twin or bunk bed size sheets -\$3.00 ea. Pillowcases - \$1.00 ea. (2) <u>Rio Grande Dining Car Linens</u> - Table cloths (12 only) large - \$10.00 ea. Table covers (25 only) small - \$5.00 ea. have "Rio Grande" insignia woven into pattern - white -linen - laundered. Used on Rio Grande Passenger Trains. Dinner napkins (as above) \$2.00 ea. (3) only a few - Pullman Co. Wooden coat hangers from UPRR - \$5.00 ea. All above plus mailing charges and insurance, sheets, pillowcases or napkins postpaid on quantities over 50. SAMUEL W. McCHESNEY 16845 E. Asbury Ave. Aurora, Colorado 80013