

Report

Of the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Assn., Inc.

Issue 24

San Diego, California

March 12, 1966

AT NORTH PARK

RAILROAD FLICKERS

Carriso Gorge! The Zepher! Chihuahua al Pacifico! Come to the North Park Theatre on Wednesday, March 16, at 7:30pm. Movies featuring these attractions will be shown by the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum.

The main feature is "The Rainmaker," which was filmed in Carriso Gorge during the 1930's. It is a slapstick and promises fun for all.

Also featured is a flicker called the "Silver Streak." It is about the operation of the first Burlington Zepher. This is the beginning of the diesel streamliners.

The building of the Chihuahua al Pacifico is the feature of another short film. This is Mexico's newest transcontinental railroad which crossed the mighty Sierra Madre.

All Aboard! The fare is \$1.50 for those 14 and over, and 75¢ for the youngsters. Tickets may be obtained from PSRMA members or at the movie theatre on March 16, just before movie time.

BUT NOT PSRMA

ENGINE GOES TO MUSEUM

The Unidos de Yucatan locomotive is museum bound. The locomotive that the PSRMA hoped to obtain from UdeY is to be placed in a Mexican museum.

So ends the project to obtain a locomotive from Mexico for an operating museum. Many thanks to those who pledged financial backing for this project.

Don't lose hope, however. The museum also has other irons in the same locomotive fire. Several other locomotives are under the eye of our sluth, Perry Durkin. The future looks favorable.

...SUPPORT PSRMA ACTIVITIES...

....LET'S GO TO THE MOVIES....

BURLINGTON TO END STEAM RUNS

It's "Boo-Hoo" for steam enthusiasts since the Burlington announced it would retire two "Choo-Choos" August 1, last of its two iron horses which have been used to pull excursion trains for railroad buffs and children.

The carrier said it cannot find repairmen who know how to repair steam locomotives. Burlington says it needs 14 workmen to keep the steam locomotives—a coal burner built in 1923 and an oil burner built in 1940—in repair.....(Trainmen News).

NEW MEMBERS:

Dennis G. Robinson 4646 Mission Ave, San Diego, California 92116
Daniel McLean 3584 Herman Ave, San Diego, California 92104

160 MPH TRAINS COMING SOON.....
JET3, NO LESS.....

According to news clippings recently received from Charles Ekholm, rail passengers between Providence and Boston will be zipping along early next year in swift new trains capable of speeds up to 160 miles per hour on existing tracks.

The trains are to be built by United Aircraft and are called Turbine Motor Trains. They are powered by ST-6 gas turbine engines. The trains will be quieter, lighter, smoother and cleaner than today's trains. Eventually the trains will be in use on New York-Boston runs.

According to Trainmen news, a brotherhood publication, the cars will be constructed by the Pullman Company and will provide luxury accommodations for 156 passengers.

Features will include a self-banking system to allow the train to travel curves at much higher speeds. It will take only 18 seconds to reach top speed from a standing start.

This is part of the U.S. Department of Commerce project to modernize rail service in the Northeast Corridor.

NEWS FROM ELSEWHERE

PHILADELPHIA

A girl named Pamela Jacobson became lost on the way home on night last December. She followed a bus which was headed downtown. Only after following it into a tunnel with her car did she discover it was a street car. At any rate she wound up in the Market Street Subway. She left her car at the first station and called the police. A street cab was used to pull her auto, a Mustang with license plates bearing the letters JAM, out of the subway. Miss Jacobson was charged with reckless driving. (Time points)

TORONTO

The Bloor subway was opened in February. The displaced trolleys are to be sold in Mexico, South America, and possibly in the U.S. (Trainman News).

.....MOVIES MARCH 16, 7:30pm.....MEETING MARCH 20, 7:30pm.....
...SUPPORT PSRMA PROJECTS...

OTHER MUSEUM ACTIVITIES

PSRMA's work party of February 27 worked on the SMV railbus. Walt Hayward reports that the wiring is now almost completed on the bus. Only the hooking up and installation of the front lights remain. Charles Gerdes and Stanton Kerr have finished their work on the frame and the bus is ready to have the side panels mounted upon it.

No date has been set by the Museum Operating Committee for a work party this month. These work dates are soon to be set up on a monthly basis. The date will fall on a certain Sunday of each month. Watch your Report for the dates.

Anyone interested in being a librarian? If so, please contact Walt Hayward. Our museum is in need.

Special thanks to Mrs. Kerr and Mrs. Hayward for the time they donated in folding and addressing PSRMA brochures plugging the upcoming Movies. Also thanks are due Kent Anderson, George Allen, Terry Durkin, and Charles Gerdes for their part in making the movies possible. Jack Stodelle deserves special thanks for his efforts in obtaining the films and theatre.

As a reminder, our next meeting is March 20, at 7:30pm. It will be held in the old library building at El Cajon...

NEWS OF THE PACIFIC SOUTH WEST CORNER

SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY

The ICC ordered SP to continue daily passenger service between Tucumcari and Phoenix as of January 28. Trains 39 and 40 will continue under this order. The train provides mixed piggyback and lay-coach service between LA and Tucumcari... (Railroad Labor News).

New equipment for 1966 includes 172 more diesel units, 3952 freight cars, and 1617 pieces of highway equipment. Total cost is over \$125 million... (SP Bulletin).

SP, Western Pacific, Sacramento Northern and Central California Traction have reached an agreement to remove COT and SN tracks from several important Sacramento streets. ICC approval is still pending on this project... (SP Bulletin)

SP subsidiary, St. Louis Southwestern Ry, has applied to the ICC for authority to purchase the assets of the Alton and Southern R.R. The AL&S is a switching and terminal road serving 18 railroads in East St. Louis, Illinois... (SP Bulletin)

SANTA FE

The Missouri Pacific has purchased more than 2 million shares of Santa Fe preferred stock. The value of the stock was more than \$22 million dollars. The MoP believes that any realignment of western railroads will include merger with the Santa Fe. MoP is now the largest holder of Santa Fe stock... (SD Union)

Yard engines in San Diego recently were all Alcos. They were Nos. 2359, 2387, 2394. Some yard engines and also some freight units are equipped with revolving amber lights on top their cabs. Your editor is not sure of the purpose of these lights. His speculation is that they are used to allow yardmasters to locate their engines faster at night.

SAN DIEGO & ARIZONA EASTERN

Engine 4505 has been used on the 6:30am yard job several times recently. This locomotive is an EMD, SW-8 equipped with dynamic brakes. It also is equipped with a whistle like those used on the PE interurban cars. The standard whistle is used around San Diego, however.

Although business in February took its usual slump, March came in with a roar. Three units on the El Cajon line has not been unusual so far this month. The celery harvest in the Chula Vista area is almost finished for the season. The 7pm roustabout will be taken off about the middle of this month. It is rumored that engines 5108 and 5115 are soon to be scrapped....

EAGLE MOUNTAIN

Movies featuring steam locomotive 75 of the Great Western Ry. and one Mexican steam locomotive were made recently on the Eagle Mountain. The GW engine was under steam and the other was used dead. No. 75 is slated for use at Salt Lake on the Salt Lake Garfield and Western Ry in weekend excursion service. The excursions are to begin with the Memorial Day weekend.... (V. Koenigsberg).