

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER, 1958

The next meeting of the Railway Historical Society of San Diego will be Monday evening, September 1, 1958 at 7:30 p.m. in the Safety Room in the Santa Fe Depot, Kettner at Broadway, downtown San Diego.

Entertainment for the evening will be a movie entitled "When Steam Was King". Movies of the Golden Spike Anniversary of The Goleta Valley Railroad, an inch and a half live steam railroad a few miles above Santa Barbara, will be shown by Roy and Daisy Miller.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE AUGUST MEETING

In the absence of the President and the Recording Secretary the meeting was called to order by Vice Prexy Jack Stodelle and the minutes were recorded by the very capable Mrs. Ruby McCleary. (The Prexy, Corresponding Secretary and Recording Secretary arrived sometime later).

The Treasurer's report was given by Fred Finke (Treas.) (He arrived on time)

Eric Sanders-Dispatcher Editor-asked for volunteers to help with typing and other mechanical Dispatcher work. He also suggested making a library and hoped to have a locked cabinet for it. Mrs. Calkins donated several magazines (collectors items) for it. Mr. Finke offered to be librarian.

Excursion Director McCleary told about the recent excursion with the Southern California Division of the ERA on August 2 over the old remaining FE. Mac also gave a report on our proposed excursion to Ward Kimball's Grizzly Flats and Robert Day's Pioneer Mill R.R. on Sunday, October 12.

Tom Mann-2nd V.R. in charge of maintenance-reported on the meeting of the Board of Directors at the home of Mayor Hodge of National City on July 9 to discuss a Museum Park in National City. The project was shelved until more research can be done on it.

Mr. Mann also reported that the car in Calexico will be scrapped. \$1200 will save it. He said a work day will be planned for the Fair exhibits after the racing season. A work party will be planned for #54 with Tom Matson and Dick Pennick doing the preliminary work. Charlae Gerdes will possibly help on the

construction of trucks for it.

Eric Sanders suggested sending a letter of inquiry for museum articles such as an old upright victrola for the Fair exhibit.

It was moved to have the Board of Directors invite the San Diego Historical Society to discuss plans for a museum.

The following guests were introduced: Robert A. Stone, Paul and Mary Briggs, Dick and Helena Guthrie, Mr. and Mrs. Monroe, Charles Abel, Jr., Charles F. Abel, George Art, Alvin F. Koenig and Michael Snyder.

Dick Dodge reported on his Baja California Story and the fact that PRS is in financial trouble with its San Diego bulletins and suggested we might be able to help by taking these particular bulletins off their hands and processing them ourselves.

Tom Mann showed the newly made 16mm copy of SD&AE's old Carriso Gorge film. Copies are available to members and interested persons for \$25 or \$30.

Membership applications were received from Wally Duthie and J.B. Herreshoff.

Refreshments were served and a 16mm movie make by Wally Duthie of the Silverton trip was shown along with "Completion of the Transcontinental Railroad".

NOTE:

Our loyal member Fred Reif has been bedfast for several weeks now and I'm sure he would greatly appreciate a card or visit from all of us.

APLOGIES!!

The Editors of the Newsletter express their deepest apologies for not publishing a Newsletter for the past two months. The fair at Del Mar kept us busy during the latter part of June and into July and we recently purchased a the last days of July soooooo need I say more?? Hope to be on time in the future with bigger and better Newsletters. While on this subject, we would greatly appreciate any information from any of our members and friends for copy for the Newsletter. Come on you people, give us a hand. I know a lot of you are full of interesting tidbits that would be great for the Newsletter.

NEWSLETTER
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of the
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REQUEST FROM THE RECORDING SECRETARY

Tom Matson, Recording Secretary, requests that all reports be turned in to him after being given orally. If possible, he would like to have them in triplicate. This is necessary to keep the Secretary's files complete. I know it's a nuisance but it is important.

VACATION TIME

Seems as though our membership is taking advantage of this beautiful weather and taking trips. Roy and Daisy Miller had a terrific trip in June. Hope to have a full report from them in future issues. They are now the proud owners of a genuine full sized steam threshing machine. Think it has almost found its way home by now.

Tom Matson spent a few days in the L. A. area.

Dick Pennick made the Sierra Railroad excursion on Sunday, July 13.

Tom Mann and family spent their vacation touring the L.A. area hitting such spots of tourist attraction as Knott's Berry Farm, Marineland of the Pacific and Disneyland.

Ordinarily the Mann's take off for the wide open spaces but this year, due to the fact they're both California prune-pickers, they decided it was about time to find out what is in their own native state.

Naturally, Dick Dodge has been wandering, as usual. It's almost an impossibility to keep up with his most recent travels.

Let's hear about some of our other members vacations.

NEWSFLASHES FROM DICK PENNICK

A new team track, to be completed by August 2, has been installed in the Lemon Grove yard to meet expanding business. The new 400' addition will increase yard capacity an additional eight cars.

Extending from a point just south of the North Ave. grade crossing, it will connect with the Prevost Bros. spur, forming one long spur. The resulting crossover to the spur will be eliminated.

The derail will be located approximately 50' northeast of the grade crossing.

Rail is 1898, 1899 guard rail formerly used in Carizzo Gorge tunnels.

La Jolla Excavating is doing the ballast work.

DICK PENNICK REPORTS ON THE SIERRA RR EXCURSION ON JULY 13, 1958.

As usual, Central Coast Ry. Club provided a well-planned, smooth-running and quite enjoyable excursion on the Sierra Railroad, Oakdale to Tuolumne and return, using 2-8-0 No. 28, CCRC's "Ferrocoquinologist", (ex SP Business car 2901) and two SP commuter coaches.

The trip was well attended, complete with usual quantity of motorcaders. Central Coast initiated a new program with this trip concerning motorcaders; for a small fee, an auto excursionist was entitled to a trip brochure listing photo stops and a window sticker signifying his support of the trip. The idea was apparently well-received.

Photo stops were many, and new and different locations were chosen.

The chicken barbecue in Tuolumne's Community Hall was well worth the \$2.00 tab. However, many of the excursionists would have eaten cotton waste by the time the train pulled into Tuolumne.

Sierra Excursion--continued

No. 28 performed almost like a new engine, although drivers slipped occasionally on grades between Jamestown and Tuolumne, and on the jungle of weeds which covered the Angels Branch. Then on the return trip, injector trouble was encountered several miles east of Oakdale, which necessitated both engineer and fireman trying their hand at repairs. All this without stopping, of course. As a result, there was no one on the right-hand side at times. It was a strange feeling seeing an engine running without an engineer.

The train stopped just south of the Oakdale station so photographers could unload and picture the train pulling in, climaxing a wonderful day of 100% railroading.

NOTICE OF COMING EXCURSIONS

RHSofSD, Inc. will have a picnic in Griffith Park at Travel Town in Los Angeles on Sunday, September 14, 1958. For further information contact Roy Miller or write to P.O. Box 9351, SD 9. This should be a terrific day. Plan to be there and bring the family.

RHSofSD will make an excursion to L.A. to visit the Grizzly Flats railroad and the Pioneer Mill Railroad. Tentative date is October 12. More information later.

Mt. Rubidoux Chapter, Pacific Railroad Society will have ran their annual Farmers' Fair Excursion to Hemet Sunday, August 24.

Pacific Railroad Society is running a Grand Canyon tour over the Labor Day weekend. This will also include a side trip on a lumber road behind steam. Information is available at the Whistle Stop, 3819 Sixth Ave., San Diego.

September 21--Pacific Coast Chapter, R&LHS--North Western Pacific to Asti.

October 12--Bay Area Electric RR Ass'n--Marysville-Yuba City.

October 26--California-Nevada Railroad Historical Society--SP steam to Shasta Dam.

For information on any of the above excursions write to P. O. Box 9351 or call JU 2-2764 or BR 3-5081.

NOTES OF INTEREST (I hope) (from The Western Railroader).

Santa Fe ended passenger runs on the former California & Nevada trackage between Richmond and Oakland on June 15. A new bus-train transfer at Richmond was approved by the PUC following hearings at which the cities of Richmond and Berkeley joined the railroad in the plea to end service on the slow-order route involving "91 crossings". Savings up to 15 minutes are claimed for the new service involving buses between Richmond and Berkeley, Oakland and San Francisco.

The SP and Town of Los Gatos announced jointly an application by the SP to abandon trackage on the three-mile branch from Vasona Junction to Los Gatos. The SP sought to abandon the passenger service on this stub off of the Los Altos branch a year or so ago, but withdrew it when protests were filed with the state. The ICC application has the backing of the town and the chamber of commerce as the station area is being considered for a downtown parking area. Commuters would use the Vasona Junction depot some three miles east of town.

The ex-California C.ble cars went through rennumbers as follows under SF Municipal Railway: 40 became 6 then 49. The 4 became 54. The 8 became 55. The 57 became 11 and then back to 57. The 15 became 59. The 16 became 60. The plan was to make the 3 the 52, but 3 is so bad that the 3 and 18 swapped numbers so it will be 18 to 3 to 52. The original 3, now the 18, will be sold. (John Wallace.)

The last of the St. Louis PCC cars have now arrived in San Francisco. Cars 1142 to 1166 are ex-St. Louis 1788, 1738, 1762, 1723, 1763, 1709, 1729, 1731, 1740, 1739, 1750, 1742, 1718, 1726, 1753, 1765, 1749, 1727, 1761, 1758, 1710, 1743, 1736, and 1752, respectively.

Cars 170, 176, 178, 181, 184, and 186 were moved to Geary car house on May 22 leaving the 130 (wrecker) and 171 as the only older cars at Geneva. The 171 ran on a fan trip on May 23 which makes it the last 2-man car in service.

St. Louis PCC's continued

Line car 6304 has been working in the Sunset Tunnel and crane car 0130 has been working on the L line. (John Wallace).

SF Muni 1126 previously listed as St. Louis 1726 is ex-St. Louis 1721; St.

Some 48 Key System units have been sold for scrap and demolished at the Lerner Yard in East Oakland. Trackage at the Bridge Terminal in San Francisco is being torn up---slowly. Buses which have taken over report a 24 per cent drop in patronage from train levels the engineers of the Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District report. The District is now working on plans for a \$10 million bond issue to take over the now all-bus Key System which they expect to put on the ballot in November.

HISTORICAL (From NMRA Bulletin-August '58)

August 8, 1829--First English built Locomotive - "Stourbridge Lion", made trial run at Homestead, Penna. Horatio Allen was the engineer.

August 19, 1870--Stage coach service discontinued between Denver and the east due to rail completion.

August 24, 1835--First railway train to enter Washington, D.C. President Andrew Jackson and members of the Cabinet on hand to witness.

August 4, 1895--First electric locomotive to run in regular service in the United States made its initial run through a tunnel in Baltimore, Md.

SOCIETY TO LOAN NEW FILM

A second print of the Society's 16 mm. film, "Carriso Gorge, the Magnificent," will be ordered and then made available on loan basis to interested groups and individuals.

A rental fee will include costs of mailing and a small contribution which will be used to defray cost of converting the film from 35 mm to 16 mm.

Film shows train operation and scenery in the Carriso Gorge. Locomotives 20 and 27, combo 175, coach 210 and a cafe-parlor observation car are observed in the film.

Rental inquiries for this 9 minute film should be addressed to Corky Thomson.

DISPATCHED DUE IN LATE SEPTEMBER

Issue #20-late news; Issue #21-Calif. logging story will be distributed this month.

DID YOU KNOW?

The world's oldest passenger-carrying railway is the Swansen & Mumbles in Wales. Built in 1804, the line began carrying passengers on March 25, 1807, and is still in operation. Trains were horse-drawn until 1877.

The first carferry used in the U. S. was the Susquehanna which carried cars of the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore (now the Pennsy) across the Susquehanna River at Havre de Grace, Md., beginning in April, 1836. She continued in service until 1854 when she was replaced by the ferryboat Maryland. The latter was replaced by a bridge in 1866.

The world's highest point reached by a railroad is in La Cima, Peru, 15,848 feet above sea level, on the Peruvian Central, a standard-gauge line.

The world's longest bridgeless stretch of railroad is on the Trans-Australian Railway, between Port Augusta and Kalgoorlie, which for more than 1,000 miles traverses an almost waterless desert, crossing neither rivers nor streams. (Ed. note--all above information was obtained from the October issue of Railroad Magazine).

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MET AUGUST 22

After considerable discussion the Board of Directors assigned the following tasks to Society members and officers:

1. Ascertain Del Mar's interest in further rail preservation projects; also discuss track reconstruction for 104 and 050; and relocate 528. (Stodelle, Thomson, Mann)
2. Inquire as to availability and acquisition of one street car. (Copeland, Stodelle, Judd and Sanders)
3. Determine first needs of 54 rebuilding (Sanders, Cuttell)
4. Proceed with 050 roof and window repairs (Mann, Cuttell, McCleary)
5. Rail availability (Mann)
6. Final decision on 03 (Thomson)
7. Tarps-plastic or canvas (B.Thomson)
8. A San Diego historical museum? (Sanders)
9. Assist model railroad groups with SD NMRA Convention (Thomsons)