

R.H.S. of S.D. NEWSLETTER No 4-1960 APRIL

RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY of SAN DIEGO, Inc. - NEWSLETTER No. 4-1960.

APRIL MEETING NOTICE.....The next regular meeting of the RHSoSD will be held at 8:00 P.M., MONDAY, APRIL 4th, 1960. The meeting will be held in the usual place, upstairs in the Safety Room, Santa Fe Railway Station, Kettner & Broadway, downtown San Diego.

We hope to keep the business portion of the meeting as short as possible, the Board of Directors will try to cover most of the business at a special meeting on March 30th. A review of this meeting will be reported to the general membership at the April 4th meeting.

The society at the time of this writing does not have a new 3rd Vice-President as yet, with the loss of our good friend Bill Snyder from that position we at the moment do not have anyone in charge of entertainment at meetings. Our 1st V.P., Jack Stedelle has taken over for this meeting with some very interesting movies.....come to the meeting and enjoy these very fine railroad films, they are something a little different. Also on the bill, if time permits is a rerun of last year when we had our S.B.C. trip, followed by films of the latest trip on Sunday, March 20th.

Refreshments WILL be served this month, through a bit of confusion we did not have our usual goodies last month.

SEE YOU AT THE SANTA FE DEPOT, MONDAY, APRIL 4th- 8:00 P.M.

FERROCARRIL SONORA-BAJA CALIFORNIA.....On Sunday, March 20th the RHSoSD held another excursion on the S.B.C. out of Mexicali, bigger and better than the trip in 1959. The excursion was operated earlier this year in hopes of having milder weather, for the first day of spring it was quite warm. This did not effect the fans riding the vestibules or baggage car but in the air-conditioned cars it was very hot due to lack of operating air-conditioning equipment. One of the cars was perfect, another was working at one end but most of the modern equipment was overly hot due to lack of cool air. Several old S.P. cars with windows that opened were perfect.

The trip was quite a huge success with between 550 and 600 people going to Rillito and back to Mexicali. The 45 minute sight-seeing stop at Cahuilla was great this year, clear weather, no dusty wind and lots of interesting sights to see. Another RHSoSD event, the train returned to Mexicali ON TIME, this is rare on fan trips.

Six big charter busses made the journey from San Diego to Calexico, the rest of the group drove over in their own cars. A delay in departure was caused by lack of enough seats on the train for the large number of excursionists. The diesel was uncoupled and sent down to the coach yard for more cars, after a short delay, some old S.P. coaches were added and we were under way with an eleven car train.

DEL MAR WORK DEPARTMENT.....2nd V.P., Rex Cattell has announced work parties at the fairgrounds on the SECOND SUNDAY of each month. There will be other work days, but the second Sunday will be set up as a definite date each month.

On Sunday, March 13th- the second Sunday of March, a big work crew turned out to start painting car 959, Rex Cattell and Corky Thomson painted one side of the coach all by themselves. Lets see some more of these hard working members that wish to save all kinds of equipment, SHOW UP TO WORK ON THE CARS WE HAVE, before we get anymore to worry about. Remember- SECOND SUNDAY AT DEL MAR.

Railway Historical Society of San Diego, Inc. NEWS LETTER No. 4-1960.

NOTES ON THE MARCH MEETING.....Called to order at 8:30 PM in the absence of Pres. Mann and 1st V.P. Stodella, by 2nd V.P. Rex Cutteli.

Bill Snyder absconded his resignation as 3rd V.P. Bill is moving to Salt Lake City to take a new job, his hitch with the U.S. Navy is finished.

Dick Pennick reported on the old streetcars at India & Laurel, many are in good condition, many still have the original paint on them. There is some hope of saving one or two of the old center door cars.

Short discussion on museum possibilities, letters have been written about some locations. An interest poll should be taken to see how many members are really serious about helping to get a museum started. Dick Pennick moved that a committee be set up to coordinate the planning of such a museum group, this motion seconded by Bill Morrison. This will be brought up at the next board meeting for action.

Cosky Thomson read a letter from the Public Utilities Commission in San Francisco, they have a FCC streetcar for sale. Bill Morrison moved we bid on the car, no second to the motion.

Eric Sanders gave a report on the Dispatcher, past issues, costs, etc. It was agreed that Eric handle back issues and selling costs as he sells them, work the selling prices according to demand.

Meeting adjourned for conversation and looking at members pictures and railroad books.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME TO THE SOCIETY.....We have added many new names to the roster recently, to name a few (and we hope we haven't missed anyone)..... Dwight Couch, Lloyd Morrison, Frank Repinske, Bob Balzer, Mr. & Mrs. Knouse, Rick Kallis, Bob McGrew, Byron Bean, Chard Walker, Clifford Rhea, Paul Henry, Mrs. Cordelia Anderson, Robert Beaton, Miss Frances DeNorish and we also have a large group of renewals coming in from 1959 members. Welcome to all you new members and we are glad to see you older members signing up again.

We had intended to run a 1960 membership roster with this issue of the News-Letter but with many late arrivals of membership renewals, we will hold off on an up to date roster until the May issue. We total 117 paid members as of March 30, 1960.

There was much to be printed this month, but, the S.B.C. trip took up an awful lot of our time, we are tired, so this month the news will be light while we relax and get ready for a fresh start in the May issue. COME DOWN TO THE MEETING ON MONDAY, APRIL 4th, 8:00PM IN THE SANTA FE DEPOT, WE HAVE A NICE EVENING PLANNED FOR YOU. News notes from here and there: Mt. Rubidoux Chapter of the P.R.S. is still looking for your donation to the S.P. Mogul #1765 fund, you get a real nice card for as little as a dollar donation.....big steam trip back in Kansas City on the 28th & 29th of May, 5600 series 4-8-4 steamer on two one day trips, only \$5.00.....steam should be back in service on the Nickel Plate at this writing, heavy traffic and shortage of the Diesel may see the steam in service over the Buffalo Division.....Central Coast Club trip on the Sierra on May 15th.....Golden West Railfans are having big Memorial Day weekend tour, May 27th to 31st via Santa Fe & Western Pacific, L.A. to Reno.... PICTURES REQUESTED: anyone having pictures of S.D.&A. in the 1920's please write to W.C. ATKIN, Rt. 1, PALOS PARK, ILL. also.....a request for pictures of S.D.&A.E. #24, 25, 26, 27, good clear size 116 or postcard, if you have any, write to EARL W. BARLOW, 3421 West 4th AVE., VANCOUVER, B.C., CANADA.....Thank you.

S.D.&A.E. TRACKS IN CHULA VISTA.....the trackage from Chula Vista Junction to the end of track at 3rd and 'K' will be discontinued. In 1912 when the Chula Vista packing plant was built, interurban cars of the San Diego & Southeastern Ry. ran over this trackage, south to Otay. Electric service discontinued in 1918, the trackage south of Chula Vista having been torn up in 1916.

During the week of Feb. 29th, a Tijuana salvage outfit will be completing razing operations on the old Chula Vista Citrus Ass'n. packing plant at 3rd and 'K' Streets. Although trains have been running daily over the 3rd Street trackage during the recent celery harvest, the trip on Wed., Feb 24th was expected to be the last. However, due to unexpected developments, the last run probably will not take place until the week of Feb. 29th or shortly thereafter.

The rails on 'F' Street and on 3rd Street will be paved over, as the expense of removal would be too great.

Dick Pennick, 2/23/60

GENERAL ELECTRIC SPECIAL.....The G.E. demonstrator train was in San Diego for one day on Feb. 23rd, demonstrating G.E.'s new home appliances for a limited number of invited guests.

Designated as Train No. 53, it consisted of a single AT&SF Alco-G.E. Diesel locomotive, Santa Fe # 53, baggage # 3785, and three coaches #1364, 1389 and 1478 made up the train. The locomotive and baggage car were painted gold with blue lettering and striping, to match the uniforms worn by the G.E. personnel on board.

San Diego was the last of six stops, the other five were: Los Angeles(2) Pasadena(1) Fullerton(1) and San Bernardino(1). Bringing up the rear of the train was one of Santa Fe's new roller-bearing "Shock Control" damage free box cars.

Dick Pennick, 2/23/60

OPERATION HOLLYWOOD TROLLEY COMPLETED.....To end the story with the purchase of the 4 "Hollywood Trolleys" for display at the Perris O.E.T. Trolley Museum is to leave incomplete the legend of the famed P.E. 600's.

The latest issue of the Orange Empire TRACTION GAZETTE tells the whole story of moving the cars to Perris. Write to O.E.T. at P.O. Box 501, Perris, Calif. for more information on the operations and activities of this "Live wire" group of trolley enthusiasts. Associate and regular memberships are open and the income from new members is needed to keep the cars rolling. The fine monthly Traction Gazette will be mailed to all members, regular or associate.

O.E.T. "OPERATION IMPERIAL BEACH".....The O.E.T. announces the completion of rail removal at Imperial Beach on Saturday and Sunday, April 2nd & 3rd. Any RHSofSD members with a little time to spare are invited to help with the rail removal and loading. Remember, that's this week end....April 2nd & 3rd. (head north toward Coronado on the Silver Strand Highway, rail pulling is just north of populated area in Imperial Beach, on the bay side of road.)

MONEY NEEDED FOR OPERATION EMERALD.....O.E.T. is getting ready to have their tramcar shipped from Ireland. An estimated \$2,000 freight bill is payable when it arrives at the Port of L.A.

Donations of any amount are needed: O.E.T., P.O. Box 501, Perris, Calif.

RHSofSD MEETING, MONDAY, APRIL 25th, 8:00P.M., SANTA FE DEPOT, SAN DIEGO, CALIF.