

CINDERS

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Donald Y. Kehl

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Willard H. Hanz

THE ANNUAL AUCTION

Our annual auction was the lively attraction of the November meeting. With Lloyd Glass presiding as auctioneer the bidding remained spirited throughout the evening. The usual accumulation of pictures, timetables, and magazines were offered for sale. Outstanding among the items offered was part of the Benjamin Burkholder collection. Other portions of this collection are being retained by the club as a memorial to the late Mr. Burkholder, one of our staunchest supporters.

OUR DECEMBER MEETING

Due to the Christmas holidays our December meeting will be held on December 13th instead of the third Thursday. (13th)

ELECTRIC NOTES

The following is a list of current PTC new rail projects: Columbia Ave., Broad to 24th St.; Rt. 3; 54th St. Hill from Jefferson into 54th; Rt. 70; Jefferson & Frankford Ave. to 2nd, Rt. 5. This job removed the Howard St. cutback for Rt. 5 as the switch at Howard and Jefferson was removed. Another recent loss was the trackage on Germantown Ave. between Oxford & Diamond when Rt. 50 was rerouted via 6th St.

Stations on the new Subway-Surface tube beyond 36th and Ludlow will be located at 36th and Walnut, and 37th and Spruce. Among the PCCs being repainted are the original low 2000's. All present rolling stock is scheduled for shopping.

Pittsburgh Rys: All lines crossing Point Bridge are using a temporary loop one block west of the recently demolished P&V station.

The recent storm almost wrote finis to the LVT. It is indeed gratifying to find that the line is being repaired for service again, despite rather severe damage. The day before the storm, however, the pit capacity at Souderton was reduced to one car, giving plain evidence of things soon to come. The buses, after their first day of dodging trees, have done remarkably well.

Cars were trapped all along the line but only 431, sitting at Sellersville station amidst the flood waters, suffered any damage. This is the only car now in the area that carries its own high water mark plus a generous accumulation of mud on the floor.

The P&V was also hard hit by the storm. Five trees plunked themselves across the line disrupting service for several hours and taking out all station and signal lights for most of the day. The first time in many years that Villanova Tower was manually run.

PTC Routes 3, 5, 23, 37, and 66 were also out of service for all or most of the day due to floods and power failures. Buses were quickly hauled into service, and were still in use on 31 a day later.

LIBRARY NOTES

This month we have two new books on our shelf. Both deal with British railways. "Modern World Book of Railways" is the title of the first. It emphasizes British Railway but has a wide scope of contents including Swiss railways and the London blitz. In our estimation it is one of the best on the subject. The other, a short 39 page book entitled "Early British Railways" covers early British railways and prints from the beginning to the middle of the 19th century. This book was donated to the library by Mr. Alan Humm, one of our members.

STEAM NOTES

The NY, S&V apparently received very fast deliveris on their RDC-Ls since all five of the older models, #3002 thru 3006, are sitting in solitary splendor at Modena. The company deserves much credit for its attitude toward passenger service since, besides the new RDC-ls, there are also 16 new stainless steel coaches on order.

Abandonment has been approved for the Schellinger Landing and Manumuskin Branches of the PRSL, but plans to take off the Sover Point Branch were dropped.

We wonder why the Reading has single tracked its line in the vicinity of Perkasic. Our members report seeing one track removed through the station. The Reading now operates a new fast frt. PCS-1 leaving Belmont at 8:30PM and arriving Hagerstown (WM) at 1:30AM.

The PRR has eliminated New Castle, Del. from its Delmarva Div. public timetables. A new yard known as Adams Yard is under construction at New Brunswick. Have you seen the long MU football specials being run to N. Phila. on Sundays?

B&O Nos 11/12 Metropolitan Special now is dieselized, plus the addition of a snack car and a faster timing since the Cincinnati's transfer to the Toledo Div. No. 5, to Capitol Ltd. has been seen by our members with units A and B plus a P-7 pacific on cold Sundays. Congratulations to the B&O on their pleasing new paint job at 24th & Chestnut Sts.

The New Haven has added an express to its two Boston-Hartford trains and another train Providence to Worcester. Several Boston-New Bedford trains are now routed via Canton Jct., eliminating the Canton Jct. N. Easton gas car, giving through service once again on this famous old route.

Our members report the Md. & Pa. is now sporting a new emblem featuring "The Famous Ma & Pa" and can be seen on its girder bridge over York Rd. and BTC #8 at Towson.

The recent gale marooned the Royal Blue for a long period on the NY Div. while the Wash. N.Y. section of the Natl. Ltd. was hauled back again to 24th & Chestnut by a bridge washed in the rear and steam on the ground.