

# CINDERS

## PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER

### NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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JUNE 1954 - ALAN G. HUNN, EDITOR

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#### THE FALLEN BLOW

The blow, in the form of a decision of the Pennsylvania PUC, fell, and the West Chester line of PST succumbed on the night of June 3. A number of chapter members made the round trip on the last regular car to West Chester, which left 69th Street at midnight Thursday night. A few die-hards even stayed for the 2:30 a.m. trip to Newtown Square which followed.

The following Sunday, June 6, was the date of the post-abandonment fan trip. The editor regrets that, due to previous commitments, he wasn't there, but he has been informed that an interesting afternoon was had by all, including the West Chester traffic cops.

At present, rail service as far as Westgate Hills is operated during the morning and evening rush hours Monday through Friday, and all day Saturday.

#### MEETING NEWS

The May meeting was "Wabash Night", featuring a film made by the Wabash Railroad.

The meeting of June 17 is scheduled to feature slides by Mr. John Weinhold, of the Lehigh Valley chapter. They will include slides of Japanese railroads, as well as steam and electric lines in this country.

The July meeting will consist of the annual chapter picnic. Exact place, date and time will be announced later.

#### TRIP NEWS

The informal trip on the Reading's Perkiomen Branch will be on Friday, June 18. The date was moved up from the original tentative date of June 11 because of the music festival on the latter date, and because of the June 6 trip. Announcements will be in the mail shortly.

The informal trip on the New York & Long Branch will be held on a Sunday in August. Details will be announced later.

#### LITERARY QUOTATION OF THE MONTH

We often hear grown-up people complaining of having to hang about a railway station and wait for a train. Did you ever hear a small boy complain of having to hang about a railway station and wait for a train? No; for to him to be inside a railway station is to be inside a cavern of wonder and a palace of poetical pleasures. Because to him the red light and the green light on the signal are like a new sun and a new moon. Because to him when the wooden arm of the signal falls down suddenly, it is as if a great king had thrown down his staff as a signal and started a shrieking tournament of trains. I myself am of little boys' habit in this matter.

-- G. K. Chesterton

#### THE CHAPTER LIBRARY

The chapter library contains a number of books on various railroad and traction subjects, including a number of reference works. These may be borrowed from one informal meeting to the next, or from one formal meeting to the next, for only 25 cents. For details see either Willard Hart or Bill Blakslee, librarians. (The Official Guide, however, may not be taken out). In addition, the chapter subscribes to Railway Age and Passenger Transport. Members are urged to use these facilities.

#### MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

The Long Island Rail Road has been refused permission to abandon its line to Montauk. Indications are the road will not press the matter.

New York, Ontario & Western has gotten rid of passenger service.

Maryland & Pennsylvania will lose its mail contract next month. This on other roads has been the forerunner of dropping passenger trains, and this may be the case here.

If you want to ride the Pennsy's "high line" we suggest you purchase a round trip ticket on June 11 for the music festival specials from North Philadelphia or any point north thereof.