

# CINDERS

## PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER

### NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

JANUARY 1955

#### MEETING NEWS

The regular monthly meeting will be held Thursday, January 20. An interesting program is scheduled.

We would like to remind all members that our informal meetings on the first Tuesday of each month are still continuing and all are welcome to attend.

#### TRIP NEWS

Don't forget the PTC trip on January 9. The trip will leave Frankford Depot at 10 a.m. Unfortunately, we couldn't get a 5000-series car with cross seats; they have all been consigned to the flames. But the trip will run anyway. Tickets, \$1.25 to NRHS members in advance, \$2.25 on the car or to non-NRHS members.

Announcements for the Reading trip on January 23 using Crusader equipment have been mailed and you will probably receive yours shortly. Tickets, \$4.75 plus \$2.75 for meals. The trip is limited strictly to 225, so get your reservations in early.

A series of Trips-of-the-Month and large trips are planned for later in the year. Announcements will be made soon.

#### THE GREAT WORLD OF TELEVISION

CINDERS' television editor advises us that the "Omnibus" program on January 9 will include a survey of operations at Grand Central Terminal, New York. The program is seen locally on Channel 10 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. The television editor was unable to find out whether the Grand Central feature would appear on the earlier or later part of the program, but he advises all who for one reason or another can't make the PTC trip to see it.

#### THE ARRIVALS

Two of the 90 second-hand PCC cars PTC ordered have arrived -- one from Kansas City and one from St. Louis. They arrived at 2nd and Wyoming on December 31 and, we understand, proceeded under their own power to Kensington Shops for tests. They were routed from St. Louis via PRR to Harrisburg, then via Reading. The subway is scheduled to be due to receive them by June 1955, and the Market Street subway is scheduled to open at the same time.

NEWS NOTE: The Reading operated one diesel-powered afternoon rush-hour train to Chascomu Hill during the Christmas rush. We understand the practice is still continuing. However, switching problems are involved, since the train has to come back to Layne Junction to turn.

#### THE POETS' CORNER

##### The Unwinged Ones

I don't travel on planes.  
I travel on trains.  
Once in a while, on trains,  
I see people who travel on planes.  
Every once in a while I'm surrounded  
By people whose planes have been  
grounded.  
I'm enthralled by their air-minded  
snobbery,  
Their exclusive hobnobbery,  
And I'll swear to, before any notary,  
The cliches of their coterie.  
They feel that they have to explain  
How they happen to be on a train,  
For even in Drawing Room A  
They seem to feel declasse.  
So they sit with portentous faces  
Clutching their attache cases.  
As the Scotches they rapidly drain  
That they couldn't have got on the plane,  
They grumble and fume about how  
They'd have been in Miami by now.  
They frowningly glance at their watches,  
And order more Scotches.  
By the time that they're passing through  
Rahway  
They should be in Havana or Norway,  
And they strongly imply that perhaps,  
Since they're late, the world will  
collapse.  
Then, as station merges with station,  
They complain of the noise and vibration.  
These outcasts of aviation,  
They complain of the noise and vibration.  
Sometimes on the train I'm surrounded  
By people whose planes have been  
grounded.  
That's the only trouble with trains;  
When it fogs, when it smogs, when it  
rains,  
You get people from planes.

-- Ogden Nash

#### LOCAL PIGGYBACK EXPANDS

The Pennsy announced that trailers-on-flats shipments between New York-Chicago and Philadelphia-Chicago are now available for other than company-owned trailers. At the same time inauguration of Philadelphia-Chicago service was announced as a joint operation of Reading-Western Maryland-P&W-Nickel Plate. Both advertise second-morning delivery.