

CINDERS

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER

NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

JUNE 1955

MEETING NEWS

The regular business meeting will be held on Thursday, June 16. Feature of the meeting will be an interesting talk by chapter member and NRHS national treasurer Hugh Gibb.

There will be no regular meeting in July. As is our usual custom, this will be replaced by the annual chapter picnic, on which more details will be forthcoming later.

All members are reminded once again of our informal meetings, on the first Tuesday of each month.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The chapter has embarked on a special project, which will be of particular interest to all. Details are to be announced at the June meeting. All are urged to be present for the big news.

BAD NEWS FOR STEAM FANS

In the Interstate Commerce Commission building in Washington recently, a "memorial to the steam locomotive" was recently dedicated. The memorial consists of a marble and limestone shaft topped by a bell from a former Frisco engine. Members of Congress from coal-mining areas protested, but in vain.

Hard on the heels of this news, we learn that the nation's No. 1 steam stronghold, Norfolk & Western, has ordered eight road-switchers -- four from Alco and four from EMD -- with a view to dieselizing operations between Lynchburg, Va. and Durham, N. C. The road, in its announcement, stated that there are no plans for using diesels on the main line -- yet. A mixed train now operates on the branch.

FASHION NEWS

Patrons on Lehigh Valley's Elack Diamond on May 25 might have been somewhat startled to see a parade of models showing off the latest in evening gowns, bathing suits, and whatnot. CINDERS' fashion editor advises that the piece de resistance of the show was a Dior creation selling for the bagatelle of \$5000.

PTC DOINGS

Bus conversions on PTC are now coming fast and furious. Routes 7 and 70 went bus on May 29, Route 54 on June 5, and Routes 57 and 63 are to go June 19. The latter is of particular interest, since it was the first route in town operated by electricity. At the same time Route 54 went, Richmond car barn was closed, and Route 60 now operates out of Allegheny. Also, Route 34 was transferred from Callohill to Woodland, shortening its deadhead run.

The company has also asked permission to bus Route 81.

The company plans to move its general offices from their present downtown location to a new building to be erected at 2nd and Wyoming. There are also rumors that plans are afoot to install fare boxes in all vehicles.

TRIP NEWS

As you read this, the June 12 PRR trip to Wilkes-Barre will probably be history. We hope it was pleasant.

A trip on the Reading's Perkiomen Branch mixed train is scheduled for later this month. Announcements will be sent.

Our trip to Harpers Ferry on July 31 will operate via Trains 35/36 to Baltimore. More details later.

NEWS OF THE PENNSY

Pennsylvania Railroad is conducting a survey on possible extension -- or possible ending -- of electrification. President Symes admitted that the entire fleet of Pennsy MU cars needs replacement, and this was undeniably a factor in stimulating the survey. General Electric and Westinghouse are assisting.

PRR has installed color-light signals at several points on the main line west, and a public address system in Suburban Station.

NEWS ELSEWHERE

Illinois Terminal has gotten rid of all passenger operations north and east of Springfield, Ill.

Chicago, North Shore & Milwaukee's Shore Line will be abandoned in July.

REMEMBER THE CONVENTION
LARGO DAY WEEKEND - MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN