

# CINDERS

## PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER

### NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

---

MARCH 1955

---

#### MEETING NEWS

We are happy to report that the February meeting, addressed by Mr. D. R. MacLeod, of the General Electric Company, brought one of the largest attendances we recall to the meeting, and all enjoyed the talk thoroughly.

The March 17 meeting will feature railfan movies taken in various places by chapter member John Francis.

Also, please do not forget our informal meetings, on the first Tuesday of each month, same time and place.

#### TRIP NEWS

The March "Trip of the Month" is scheduled for Saturday, March 19. The trip will be over the Reading Company to Doylestown. Train leaves Reading Terminal at 1:25 p.m., returning at 5:34 p.m. Round trip fare, \$1.32. There will be approximately 2 hours in Doylestown, and the Trip Committee will announce later whether or not it will be possible to visit the Bucks County Historical Museum during this layover.

#### THE CHAPTER FILES

The Chapter files contain a number of photographs which are of no particular value to the chapter, but which some members might want. Accordingly, these will be displayed immediately prior to the April formal meeting, and all members are invited to come around and help themselves. First come, first served.

#### ERRATUM

In last month's CINDERS we reported erroneously that the Maryland Public Service Commission had approved conversion to bus operation of Baltimore Transit Company's Sparrows Point car line. This is incorrect. The company has applied, but permission has not been granted.

#### MIXED TRAIN DAILY DEPARTMENT

Hearings in Norristown and Allentown have been held on the Reading's request to end passenger service on its Perkiomen Branch mixed train. We regret to announce that very few protested ending the service. At the present writing there has been no decision yet by the Public Utilities Commission. Should approval be granted, the chapter will have a last ride.

#### PTC DOINGS

Philadelphia Transportation Company officially became affiliated with National City Lines, Inc., on March 1, when Mr. Douglas Pratt, president of the Baltimore Transit Co., became PTC president. NCL, a transit holding company, operates or controls transit systems in Baltimore, St. Louis, Los Angeles, and a number of smaller cities. No sweeping plans in operation have been announced as yet, but, judging by experience elsewhere, the new owners will make changes. We believe it is worthy of note that the city's representatives on the board of directors did not vote on the issue of the new president.

The used PCC's from St. Louis and Kansas City have begun to arrive on a regular basis. They will be numbered in the 2200 series. The instruction track at 2nd and Wyoming, incidentally, is no longer in use.

#### PRR AND PRSL NEWS

Pennsy has inaugurated "Ladies' Day" round-trip tickets between Philadelphia and New York, whereby every Wednesday round-trip tickets for ladies will be sold for one-way fare. A similar plan will soon be started on PRSL to Atlantic City on Thursdays.

In the face of local opposition, PRSL has withdrawn its request to discontinue passenger service to Wildwood.

Pennsy has begun ~~common-carrier~~ daily piggyback service between New York-Philadelphia and Chicago.

#### NEWS FROM NEW YORK

The Third Avenue Elevated, originally scheduled for abandonment December 31, will last until April 15. The last train will leave on that date from Chatham Square at 6 p.m.

The Transit Authority, for the first time in history, now issues public timetables for high-speed lines during off-peak periods.

#### MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Next month, Canadian Pacific will inaugurate a transcontinental dome stainless-steel train, to be designated "The Canadian".

Street car service in Omaha, Nebraska, has ended.