

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER
NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THE TRAINMASTER

Volume 1 Number 7

Portland, Oregon

November 30, 1956

Editor - C. J. Keenan

6354 N. E. Cleveland Ave.

Portland 11, Oregon

NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

The next regular meeting will be held Thursday, December 13th in Room 208, Union Station, Portland, at 8 P.M. Jim Feldman plans a surprise slide showing. The Trainmaster will not be issued on December 31st. Notice is hereby given that the first meeting in 1957 will also be held in the same place on Thursday, January 17th. It is important that all members be present for the installation of the new officers elected to serve during the year of 1957. The new officers are as follows: Director - F. M. "Jack" Serecombe, 280 Alice Avenue, Salem, Oregon President - C. J. "Coke" Keenan, 6354 N. E. Cleveland Avenue, Portland 11, Oregon Vice-President - Miln D. Gillespie, 3549 S. W. Grover St., Portland 1, Oregon Secy.-Treas. - George R. Burton, 4905 S. W. Charming Way, Portland 19, Oregon

OBSERVATION CAR

The centenary of Sweden's railroads is December 1, 1956. The 1853-54 session of the Riksdag (Parliament) proposed the building of railroads. The main lines were to be government owned and operated, while the smaller branch lines were to have private ownership. In 1939 the Riksdag called for nationalization of all railroads with the result that 95% of all facilities are in government hands. Considering the length of lines relative to the population, Sweden is far ahead of other European nations. It is fifth among all the world's nations.

Fourteen Alaska Railroad steam locomotives are being shipped to Spain. The sale was arranged through the International cooperation administration. The locomotives were purchased by the railway company of Langreo, Spain. Railroad officials said the entire Alaska line is to be dieselized.

Japan inaugurated its fastest trains in history this month. The National Railways is cutting the minimum running time between Tokyo and Osaka from 8 to 7½ hours. Twenty trains are being added to the 343-mile main line between the two big cities, making a total of 270 freight and passenger trains over the congested double tracks every day.

Fred Rummel came to the Spokane International Railroad as President in 1948, overhauled it from the roadbed up, to the extent that now three railroads seek either equal or exclusive control, viz: Union Pacific, Canadian Pacific, and Great Northern. When Mr. Rummel took over in 1948 Spokane International spent \$10,500 per mile of road to gross \$14,000. Last year the railroad grossed \$23,970 per mile of road, held its expenses to just \$12,598.

C H RISTMAS SUGGESTIONS

The story of Casey Jones, the Brave Engineer, by B. W. Overall. Published by The Casey Jones Museum, Jackson, Tennessee. Beautifully illustrated, nearly 100 pages. Price \$1.00. Write P. O. Box 382, Jackson, Tennessee.

Traveltown by G. M. Best. Every person interested in railroads, standard gauge or otherwise, should own a copy of this booklet. Write Francis A. Guido, Editor-Publisher, The Western Railroader, P. O. Box 668, San Mateo, California.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

I sincerely extend to every member and your families my best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and the hope that the year 1957 brings you a full measure of health, happiness and prosperity. Ed.