

The DRGW's famed Durango to Silverton narrow gauge passenger train, last of its kind in America, is headed toward perpetual operation as a living monument to pioneer railroading. The Helen Thatcher White Foundation, a non-profit institution, established to preserve historic assets of Colorado, has agreed to buy the 45-mile line, its equipment and properties from the DRGW for \$250,000. The line will be named the Durango and Silverton Railroad. Property to be acquired by the foundation includes all of the right-of-way between Durango and Silverton, the depots and station grounds at Durango and Silverton, all Rio-Grande owned buildings, lands, water tanks and operating mechanisms on the line, one locomotive, a baggage car, baggage-buffet car Alamosa, seven coaches, three maintenance cars, two box cars, four flat cars, two coal cars, three track motor cars and two track push cars. The foundation will have an option to buy a second locomotive from the DRGW for \$10,000. Only steam power will be used. The regular engine will be the veteran coal-burner No.473, a Mikado type 2-8-2 built in 1923 by the American Locomotive Co. They plan to take over operation of the line in 1961.

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The Oregon Historical Society has received one of the nation's more comprehensive collections of electric railroad journals and records. Rose City Transit Co. has turned over to the Society various electric railroad books, maps and other documents, some dating back to 1894, for the use of railroad historians. Electric railroad historians believe the collection will rank high with any collection and is probably second only to the Stanford University collection on the West Coast, the Society said. The collection includes the Electric Railway Dictionary and files of Railway Age, the Electric Traction Weekly and the Street Railway Journal.

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Union Pacific Locomotive 2537 arrived in Walla Walla, Wn. over the Christmas season, where it will be on display at the yards until it can be moved to a permanent showplace at Jefferson Park on South Ninth.

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A steam passenger excursion train for Tillamook County may become a reality, if plans of various Tillamook county groups are fulfilled. The proposed train would make a thirty-five mile run through five Oregon coastal towns of Tillamook County on two or three schedules per week, stopping at various points of interest for visiting beaches, view points, and boat basins on Tillamook and Nehalem bays. Suggested name for the steam train would be the "Gold Coast Special", with cars being named for towns or localities of Tillamook County. The idea originated with the Garibaldi Lion's Club and the proposal is sponsored by the same groups that sponsored the "Morning Star" in connection with the Oregon Centennial.

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During December the locomotive from Finland was moved from the Centennial grounds to the Oaks Park where it joined the other equipment on display there. The locomotive was moved by truck and was placed on its own five-foot gauge track at the park. Plywood has been placed over the windows of the other equipment on display there and a floodlight has been installed to reduce vandalism.

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This and That: A picture story on the Portland Zoo Ry by Ellis Lucia appears in the January 1960 issue of Popular Science Magazine....Western Washington Excursions is sponsoring a "Mountain Snow Trip by Rail" on Sunday, Feb. 21 via the Northern Pacific between Seattle and Ellensburg, with a fare of \$4.80 for adults....International Paper Co. closed down their logging operations in the Grand Ronde area shortly before the first of the year....If anyone is interested in visiting the Rayonier RR at Hoquiam on Feb. 22d, let me know....I am also looking for people who would be willing to work on our collection of negatives.

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