

THE TRAINMASTER
PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER
NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Number 70 Portland, Oregon May 13, 1963
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May 17, 1963 MAY MEETING 8:00 PM
CHANGE IN MAY MEETING - PLACE AND DATE - PLEASE NOTE

Due to the severe illness of Mr. Holman, an official of the Longview, Portland & Northern Railway, our projected excursion to Grand Ronde, Saturday, May 18th has been postponed. Therefore, we shall meet on the usual third Friday night (May 17th) at 8:00 P. M. in Room 208, Union Station.

Art Hamilton, a railfan, who has lived in many areas of the U. S. A., will show a large number of his extensive collection of slides. These will include various logging lines of the Pacific Northwest and last year's fan trip over lines of the British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (formerly the British Columbia Electric Railway).

Any member or guest who has slides which haven't been shown to NRHS, please bring them, as a projector and screen will be on hand.

We do hope Mr. Holman will recover soon from his illness.

THIS AND THAT

Generous to the Railroad Rivals - The Milwaukee has taken the trouble to find out and publicize the amount it pays in taxes in support of local airports compared with payments for this purpose by the airlines that use them. At Bozeman, Montana the Milwaukee pays \$1,441 to keep the airport going and the airline using it pays \$85.00. At Miles City the railroad pays \$765 and the airline \$5.10. This is the same as it would be to tax the W. C. T. U. to promote the beer business.

April 15 - Railway Age.

SP&S RAILROAD - During 1963 twenty-four (24) miles of mainline track will be relocated because of John Day Lock & Dam project on the Columbia River.

YUKON RAILROAD BUYS DIESELS - Three 80-ton G. E. diesel engines were shipped to Alaska to "take the steam out" of the historic White Pass & Yukon Railroad. White Pass & Yukon Railway is a narrow gauge line which runs over the precipitous 110 miles route from Skagway to Whitehorse, Y. T. rising more than 3000 feet in less than 20 miles. The three new 1000 horse-power diesels will retire three steam locomotives Five other diesels already are on the line, hauling asbestors, silver and lead ore, gold ore and similar cargo. Oregonian - April 25, 1963

NANAIMO TO ENTER BAY OF FUNDAY SERVICE - A bigger ship on the Bay of Funday the 6,800 - ton "Princess of Nanaimo" will replace the CPR "Princess Helene" in ferry service between Saint Johns, N. B. and Digby, N. S. late this Spring. Princess Nanaimo had been previously in service between Nanaimo, B.C. and Vancouver, B.C. She can carry 1750 passengers and 120 automobiles and will go to the East Coast via the Panama Canal.

THE RAILROAD BACKGROUND OF R. C. McCORMICK

Ralph Claire McCormick was born in Shedd, Oregon, January 10, 1895. He was graduated from grade and high schools in this small Willamette Valley community. As a young boy the thrill of the passing trains was a constant joy. From this Ralph knew that railroading was his first love. His father had hoped he might be a farmer like himself.

He started working for the SP at Shedd on August 5, 1916 as a Clerk-Warehouseman and received \$25.00 per month; and, as Ralph says, he received all of it, except 50 cents which was taken out for the hospital department.

In 1917 he attended Telegraph School in San Francisco and started out as an operator. For a while, he worked on the Salt Lake Division and then decided to return to the Oregon country and the Portland Division.

Ralph has served at various stations a Telegraph Operator and then later as an Agent. Today he is No. 2 on the seniority roster and is Freight and Ticket Agent for Salem, Oregon.

Ralph is married and has a son who works for the Southern Pacific. In addition to being interested in railroad history as a hobby, he enjoys hiking being active in one of the state groups. He is also very active in church activities.

GLEANINGS FROM APRIL MEETING

The April meeting at Salem was a great success. Mr. Eugene Staller, Editor of the Woodburn Independent, was the speaker of the evening. He, also, showed his own sound railroad pictures of the arrival of SP 1785 to Woodburn-a gift of the Southern Pacific to the city of Woodburn. He reminisced that in his childhood days he played on locomotives that were stored in Cottage Grove, and later watched them being overhauled to be used in the Buster Keaton's film "The Great Chase". This picture was shown at the Guild Theater from April 26 to May 2nd.

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YOU ARE A REAL RAIL HAND IF YOU SAVVY THIS:

We just pulled the drag off the main stem onto the two streaks of rust be she hung over. The hoghead was down on the ground greasing the pig, and the tallowpot was up crackin diamonds The Con was in the dog house flippin his tissues, and the hind shack was coolin a red hub when he should a been out out trying to put 15 sticks between him and the drag. I was up ahead bending the rails when the streak of varnish and plate glass came around the bend. The eagle eye seen us and throwed her in the big hold and give her two streams of sea-shore but he'd been poundin her on the back and they slid into us.

The Cascadian