

THE TRAINMASTER
PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER
NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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OCTOBER MEETING

The October meeting will be on October 16th, Friday, at 8:00 pm in room 208 of the Union Station. We will have as our speaker Mr. Thomas Vaughan, Director of the Oregon Historical Society, who will talk on the Oregon Historical Society's collection of historical railroadiana and also lead a discussion as to how a group such as ours can collect historical data pertaining to the railroads of this area. We would like to urge all our members to be present. Please note that meetings will be on the third Friday of each month as authorized by vote of the members at the last meeting. Please feel free to invite guests to any of our meetings.

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We were fortunate to have Mr. Herb Arey show some of his photographs at the last meeting. We had one of our best attended meetings and everyone seemed to enjoy the meeting. Our thanks to Mr. Herb Arey and we hope that he will attend our meetings again. I am sorry that I personally had to miss the meeting, but a new daughter, Diana Marie, arrived in the Grande household at 4:03 am the next morning, and while there aren't many things that will keep me away from a meeting, this is one of them. At least we started her off in the right direction because on our way home from the hospital we crossed the Steel Bridge just in time to see the City of Portland depart for Chicago.

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Southern Pacific and Weyerhaeuser Timber Co have reached an agreement for the sale to Weyerhaeuser of 10 1/2 miles of SP branch line in Oregon. The trackage, part of SP's Marcola branch, links Hendricks and Hyland, northwest of Springfield. Under the agreement, SP will sell the line for \$167,500 and lease back common carrier operating rights. SP has filed application with the ICC for the approval of the sale and authority to use the property under the lease agreement.

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PNWERA ran there trip to the dedication of The Dalles Dam on Oct 10th but because of lack of support on the part of the parties involved, only 200 passengers were carried causing considerable financial loss.

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Miln Gillespie, Paul Wirth and Everett Wortman rode the Columbia River Express on Sept. 20th and Al Hajj took the trip on Sept. 29th. Al also took some movies of the train on the last day at Camas.

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Northern Pacific has announced that they will add a Slumbercoach to the North Coast Limited sometime in November, with one car in each train between Seattle and Chicago. For the time being, there will be no car in or out of Portland.

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All the equipment for the Zoo Railroad was moved from the Centennial to the Zoo site. So far the steam locomotive has not seen any revenue service at its new home. The extension to Washington Park has not been completed, as they are short some ties and the tie plant at St. Helens was closed down. Since school started business hasn't been very good at the Zoo and the diesel has been able to handle it.

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It is proposed that this organization concentrate on the collecting of various aspects of railroading of the Pacific Northwest. Many of us have collections of various phases of the subject, and there are also a number of individuals who have quite extensive collections. There are several institutions, such as the Oregon Historical Society and the University of Oregon, that have some material involving the railroads, but what they do have is merely a small part of their collection. While the above mentioned material will probably be saved, there is a great amount of material in the hands of people which is apt to be destroyed unless an effort is made to preserve it. As old-timers pass on their heirs may not realize the value of some of this material and destroy it. At the present time there is not a really complete collection of historical material on the railroads of this area available through any single organization. We feel that something should be done to combine as much as possible of this material in one place ... whether that place should be in such an organization as the Oregon Historical Society, the Public Library, or a separate museum in a park such as to be established for the Railroad Museum is something that can be determined at a later day. However, we must try accumulate as much material as is possible while it is still available. Some of the categories that we would like to emphasize are: 1. Books, both historical and technical; 2. Magazines, ie. Trains, Railroad, Modern Railroads, Railway Age, etc.; 3. Pamphlets, ie., Western Railroader, Pacific Railway Journal, End of an Era, etc., 4. Articles that appear in other newspapers and magazines; 5. Photographs of railway scenes and equipment; 6. Maps; 7. Timetables; 8. Passes; 9. Annual Reports; and 10. Miscellaneous. We will prepare a form to send to members and others to indicate what they might have for donation or sale. We hope that all members will be prepared to give their ideas as to this program at the meeting this month.

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On Friday, Oct. 8th your editor drove to the Georgia Pacific railroad operation at Siletz, only to find that they weren't running that day because of the storm on Thursday. However, the number 5, a 2-8-2 was spotted at the water tank with sufficient room for taking her picture, although there wasn't too much sunshine. At the present time the number 5 is the only locomotive being used, although the number 9, a 2-6-2 tank type locomotive is available for duty. The 1 and 3 are spotted out in the weeds, and they are taking parts off of them to keep the others running. In talking with one of the officials, I was informed that they expect to abandon this railroad operation shortly after the first of the year and switch to a truck operation. Before returning home I followed their line to the reload near Logsdon, which is about ten miles from Siletz. If anyone is interested in going down there to take pictures before they abandon the line let me know and I will brief you as to the best spots.....Some of the equipment is already being sent to the G-P railroad at Samoa, Calif.

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This and That: Superior Publishing has issued George Abdill's new book "Pacific Slope Railroads" although we haven't seen it in any Portland book stores. This book covers the entire west coast from Canada to Mexico and contains many fascinating early day pictures of railroading in the west, most of them taken before 1900....Mansions on Rails by Beebe and Clegg was available in one store but the subject is one that will not appeal to most railfans, although it is a valuable addition to the field of railroad history....Also available are a 40 page pamphlet on the Cab-in-Front locomotives of the SP by Hungerford Press of 6951 Reseda Blvd, Reseda, Calif. at \$1.50 and for those that are interested in recordings of railroad sounds, Ironhorse Productions, Box 4068, Pasadena, Calif. has two new releases entitled "Freight Service Only" and "Whistles in the Weeds" at \$5.00 each. The cover of the later shows a picture taken at Railroad Camp of Rayonier, Inc. north of Hoquiam.

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