THE TRAINMASTER

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER

NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

"Last of the Giants"

OCTOBER MEETING

October 21 - 8 pm.

For our October meeting we are pleased to announce the showing of the new 16mm 23 minute sound color movie "Last of the Giants" which has just been released by the Union Pacific Railroad this fall. The UP film catalog describes this film as follows: "A parade of locomotives commemorates a romantic era of railroading when steam was king of the iron trail. The star is 'Big Boy', largest of its type ever built, at work and in the roundhouse." We understand that most of the footage was taken in 1957 and 1958 on Sherman Hill in Wyoming, and this should be one of the outstanding rail films ever produced commercially. In order to enable more people to see this film, we will hold the meeting in the old Fire Hall at the west end of the Steel Bridge on Glisan Street, starting at 8:00 pm. We have extended an invitation to members of PNERA and WVERA and suggest that all our members extend an invitation to anyone interested in seeing what is believed to be the first northwest showing of this film. We are endeavoring to secure a 15 minute movie being produced on the Portland Zoo Railway in connection with the Zoo levy on the November ballot. However, if this movie is not released by then we will substitue some other film. Remember to set aside Friday, October 21st for this meeting.

We had a very enjoyable September meeting at Al Haij's home. Beth Russell showed a number of excellent slides taken on a trip through South America a couple years ago, with a large number of them showing trains and streetcars in South America. It is unfortunate that our attendance wasn't as large as it should have been. Our thanks to the Haij's and to Beth Russell.

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PNERA has announced a fall foliage tour to Goldendale, Wash. over the SP&S on Sunday, October 23d, leaving from NW 11th and Hoyt at 8:00 am. Fare is \$6.50 which includes round trip transportation and a delicious dinner served at Goldendale. "Natures paintbrush lends enchantment to the view of the scenic Columbia Gorge and Klickitat River Canyon from the windows of our SP&S train of reclining seat chair cars. Goldendale Chamber of Commerce has arranged for a special dinner for all excursionists on arrival there and a open-air refreshment car will provide coffee, soft drinks and sandwiches enroute." Tickets are available from the GN or NP ticket offices, the Union Station or by mail from PNERA, Box 62, Tualatin, Oregon. Maybe some of our out of town members and friends can plan to attend our meeting on Friday and stay over for this trip on Sunday.

Last month we mentioned that Georgia Pacific Corp. had donated their number 9 to a MGM movie company and number 5 to Corvallis. We have sinced learned the number 1 was donated to Toledo, so by a process of elimination it means the number 3 was donated to Coos Bay. Eureka, Calif. was the recipient of number 15, a 72-ton Mikado-type engine which hauled millions of tons of logs over the Crannell-Samoa route for the Hammond Lumber Co and, recently, for Georgia Pacific. This locomotive will be in Sequoia Park in Eureka. The number 9 has now been wrecked on the Simpson Logging Railroad near Shelton, Wash. where it and two ex-SP coaches went down on a flaming trestle 180 feet into the Wynooche River as part of the movie, "Ring of Fire", which was largely filmed at Vernonia last month.

We have received two substantial contributions of magazines to our club collection, including Railroad Magazine for the period from 1932 to 1950 from Fred Jukes of Blaine, Washington, and another group of Railroad Magazines extending from 1950 to July 1960 and a group of Trains Magazines from Nov. 1946 to July 1960. These magazines were donated to Al Haij and Miln Gillespie, who, in turn, donated them to our club library. We want to thank Mr. Jukes and Al and Miln for their interest in our program. There are a few blank spots in these collections and we still need the following Railroad Magazines: Everything prior to May 1932 except Nov '30, June '31, Aug '31, and Sept '31. We are also short Aug and Dec '32, Jan '33, Feb '33, and March '33, Nov '41, Feb '48, Mar '48, Apr '48, May '48, June '48, Apr '49, and July '52. We need any Trains before Nov '46, and also Mar '48, Jan '50, Jan '51, Feb '52, and June '55. Perhaps some of our members can fill in these blank spots.

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The much publicized steam trip from Chicago to Ogden over Labor Day was cancelled at the last minute after the UP had fixed up their 844 for the trip. However, the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club has lined up a trip using the 844 from Denver to Rawlins on Nov. 13th with a fare of \$20.00. Wouldn't it be nice if the UP would bring the 844 out here for a couple trips next year.

Status of the DRGW narrow gauge in Colorado seams to be getting rather confused. The ICC has announced that they will hold hearings in Durango, Colo. on Nov. 14th on the DRGW's announced plan to abandon the Silverton Branch. According to the Iron Horse News, the Rocky Mountain Western RR was incorporated by some California men to buy the Silverton Branch for the \$300,000 the DRGW is asking. Various other groups are reported after the line and even a report a couple interested in entire narrow gauge.

If you were asked to pick out ten books dealing with the railroads of the Pacific Northwest, what books would you choose? Do you realize how few books are devoted entirely to the railroads of the Pacific Northwest? We are trying to compile a bibliography of material pertaining to the railroads of this area as part of our club library. We would appreciate hearing what books our readers would choose. Some of the books that come to mind are "Railroads Down the Valley" by Randall Mills, "This Was Railroading" by George Abdill, and "Early History of Transportation in Pacific Northwest" by Villard, which deal almost entirely with the Pacific Northwest lines. Others that devote substatial space are "Oil Lamps and Iron Ponies" by Shaw and others, "They Built the West" by Quiett, "Pacific Slope Railroads" by George Abdill, "Locomotives of the Union Pacific RR" by Kratville and Rank, "Story of American Railroads" by Stewart Holbrook. Several biographies of men prominent in the railroad industry of the Pacific Northwest include "The Saga of Ben Holliday" by Ellis Lucia, "Gold Rawhide and Iron" about Dorsey Baker, by Helen Baker Reynolds.

This and That: For the first time in history the Airline Guide is reported to contain more pages than the Official Railway Guide....The Rayonier Railroad is back in operation after being closed down account bridge construction....Members and friends of the Puget Sound Railway Historical Society have moved the Deep River Logging Co 2-4-4-2 by dismantling it and moving it piece by piece....Interurbans #23 covering the Puget Sound Electric Railway may be secured from Interurbans, 1416 S. Westmoreland Ave., Los Angeles 6, Calif. at a price of \$3.00. Pacific Railway Journal has announced a new book "Rails of the Silver Gate" dealing with the Spreckel's railroads in the San Diego area. Pre-publication price is \$8.50....Be sure and come to the meeting Oct. 21st to see "Last of the Giants".

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