



NORTHERN NEWS

THE NORTHERN DIVISION LABOR-MANAGEMENT ACTION GROUP NEWSLETTER • MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

DECEMBER 1984

give the ultimate gift this holiday - yourself!!

The holiday season is a joyous time for most of us, however, many people are without family and friends. The festivities around them may exaggerate their loneliness and depression. Reach out to a lonely, elderly neighbor or a co-worker who has lost his or her family. Your effort will help to make someone very happy, not to mention the warm glow you will experience through the giving of yourself!!

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy New Year to all!!

milwaukee road archives increased

Additional historical materials, including a large Milwaukee Road negative collection held by the Kalmbach Publishing Company of Milwaukee, were given to the Milwaukee Public Library at a ceremony which took place on business car Milwaukee at Milwaukee on October 30. President Worth Smith signed an agreement providing the library with full rights to the archival records, papers, engineering drawings and other materials. Following the signing ceremony, involving president Smith, Milwaukee City librarian Donald J. Sager, and James J. King, president of Kalmbach, a luncheon was served aboard the car attended also by representatives of the library, the City of Milwaukee, The Milwaukee Road Railfans Association and the railroad. The Milwaukee Public Library was designated as official repository for Milwaukee Road historical materials in 1981. For the past two years, representatives of the MRRA have been working sorting and cataloging the material for eventual access by the public.

shippers help finance iowa rail purchase

Local shippers and a state agency seem to think that a former Rock Island main line across Iowa can serve as a viable alternative to Chicago & North Western dominance. They recently helped Heartland Rail Corp. to acquire 553 miles of Rock Island track linking Omaha with northern Illinois. The acquisition involved \$5 million in equity from major users; \$15 million in a low interest loan from the Iowa Railway Finance Authority; and \$11 million from Iowa Interstate Railroad, a new carrier that will operate the line. Citicorp Industrial Credit provided IIR financing. Harry S. Meislahn, IIR president, says growth of grain traffic will be the main marketing objective.

from Railway Age, November, 1984

Editor's Note: As a result, November 2 was the last day that the Milwaukee Road provided service on the Davenport - Iowa City line.

dog joins rail police staff

The Police and Fire Prevention Department welcomed a new member to their force in mid-October with the arrival of K-9 Selkie, a 14 month old, yellow, Labrador Retriever. Selkie's specialty is drug detection. Drug and alcohol concerns have increased throughout the industry this year in reaction to train wrecks in which use of these substances by railroad workers was a suspected factor. The basic plan is for Selkie to assist drug enforcement efforts on the railroad where no drug detection dogs are available locally. Assistant Captain Phil Wagner of Milwaukee is the dog's handler and she resides with the Wagner family.

answers to last month's trivia

What's the nickname of the Iowa State football team?

"Cyclones"

What Mormon leader was said to have had 27 wives?

"Brigham Young"

What famed ship did Christopher Jones captain?

"The Mayflower"

passenger coach becomes civic center

A former Milwaukee Road passenger coach (No. 541, Milwaukee Shops, 1948) which has served as an office for the Savanna, Illinois employees credit union for a number of years, has been donated to that city and relocated to a site in the downtown area. Now renamed "The City of Savanna", the car is undergoing re-furbishing and will be used as a civic center in which to promote Savanna and its rail heritage. They are looking to re-equip the car with coach seats and display railroad memorabilia. Can you offer any ideas or suggestions? Please contact: Savanna Train Project, John Brodbeck, Curator, 518 Poplar Street, Savanna, IL 61074. John is a retired Milwaukee Road yardmaster.

safety clips

If you have toddlers, don't leave the handles of pans sticking out over the stove. Curious hands could pull the pan down. Turn handles back toward the wall.

Gasoline and other flammable liquids release explosive vapors. Never use flammable liquids for cleaning---a pilot light rooms away could ignite the drifting vapors.

If you drop a needle or pin into a carpet, find it right away. Don't leave it where it can be found by an unsuspecting foot or knee.

railfan group seeks members

The Milwaukee Road Railfans Association, Inc., formed in 1972 to study and

railfan group seeks members (cont'd.)

preserve the history of our railroad and its predecessor lines, is looking for more Milwaukee Road employee members and Milwaukee retirees. For \$12 (the regular membership dues for 1985) you will receive their quarterly magazine, The Milwaukee Railroader and a bi-monthly newsletter. Articles about the history of the railroad and a feature on model railroading appear in each issue. The newsletter contains current information and less formal articles of interest. You can join by writing to: Wendell E. Murphy, Treasurer, 7504 W. Ruby Avenue, Milwaukee WI 53218. Enclose your check or money order for \$12 made payable to MRRA, Inc.

stop, look and listen

his warning slogan was devised in 1912 by Ralph R. Upton, a safety lecturer for the Puget Sound Company of Seattle, Washington. He wanted to improve the signs then in use at railroad crossings, which read: "Look out for the engine."

Since that time, flashing red warning lights have replaced Upton's slogan at many of our railroad crossings. But there's still a need for his slogan - in our everyday lives.

Instead of thinking vaguely, I'll be more careful from now on, start practicing "Stop - Look - Listen," both on your job and at home.

STOP what you're doing every once in a while and score yourself for safety. Chances are you'll find that you're not as safe as you thought.

LOOK for ways to do your job more safely. There is a safe way to do most things, and you owe it to yourself, your family, and those who work around you to find that way.

LISTEN to what the safety experts have to say. Follow their advice on safety procedures, rules, and devices (and see to it that your employees do, too).

quote of the month

"There is only one reason for a railroad to be in business and that's to handle the shippers' business. For us to do anything that would make it difficult to win your business---poor service, non-competitive rates, a non-responsive attitude---is unthinkable, especially at a time when railroads have to fight for every carload of business we can get. Anyone who says differently simply doesn't know what he's talking about."---A. R. Carpenter, senior vice president-coal and coordinations, Chessie System Railroads, in remarks to the Rail Shippers Advisory Boards, Detroit, Michigan, May 1, 1984.

(from Trains Magazine, December, 1984)

if you drive to work

Here are some causes of winter wrecks, and some actions you can take to ward off these potential winter woes:

TOO FAST FOR CONDITIONS...When the road is slippery you can't stop as quickly or as safely. Reduce your speed when the road surface is hazardous.

ABRUPT TURNS, LANE CHANGING AND SUDDEN ACCELERATION OR DECELERATION...can cause bad skids on ice and snow. Anticipate turns or speed changes and make them slowly and gradually. Use smaller steering corrections more often.

LIMITED VISIBILITY...A driver who scrapes only a little peephole in his ice-covered windshield is asking for it. Clear your windshield completely of ice and snow and keep it that way. Also scrape outside mirrors clear. Be sure your defroster is in good shape.

POOR TRACTION...has caused many a crackup. Your traction is improved markedly with tire chains. And you'll be able to stop in a much shorter distance on ice and loosely packed snow with chains.

more trivia

Paul Michael Glaser and David Soul starred in what police series?

Who was Kate's famous husband on the "Kate Loves a Mystery" series?

What was the first TV movie ever made into a Hollywood movie?

(answers next month)

more reasons to exercise

a health tip from medical services

Taking part in a regular, moderate exercise program has a beneficial effect on every system of the body - cardiovascular, respiratory, skeletal, nervous, digestive, etc. Exercise also alleviates stress and depression and helps people to think more clearly, have a more positive attitude, to sleep better and to have a sense of being more in control of their lives.

Studies underway at the University of Michigan are providing confirmation that regular exercise helps to ward off infection. When the body temperature increases during exercise, the number of white blood cells - the body's germ fighters - also increases, in much the same way as occurs during periods of fever when the body is fighting infection.

coal slurry pipelines

For the present, Congress has put aside serious discussion of granting special privileges to coal slurry pipelines. Such lines would carry powdered coal

coal slurry pipelines (cont'd)

suspended in water or some other medium directly from the mine sites to points of use.

Proponents have tried, unsuccessfully so far, to gain the power of federal eminent domain for the pipeline pathways. This would allow pipeline companies to condemn private land for rights of way.

Availability of water is an issue, too. Slurry pipelines would require enormous amounts of water.

Critical to railroads, which are common carriers, is the right to compete on an equitable basis. If slurry pipeline operators, who are private carriers with the right to limit service, were also given the privilege of eminent domain, they would gain an unequal advantage in the views of the railroads.

from Burlington Northern Government Action
Report, October - December, 1984

from the desk of bob hickle
director of social counseling

The following letter was sent to me by a good friend, a recovering alcoholic. I hate to admit that anyone can write better than I can, but I didn't change a word of it!! I would give credit to the author, but I don't know who it was. I hope it's not copyrighted!!

An Open Letter to my Family:

Don't allow me to lie to you and accept it for the truth, for in so doing, you encourage me to lie. The truth may be painful, but get at it.

Don't let me outsmart you. This only teaches me to avoid responsibility and to lose respect for you at the same time.

Don't let me exploit you or take advantage of you. In so doing, you become an accomplice to my evasion of responsibility.

Don't lecture me, moralize, scold, praise, blame or argue when I'm drunk or sober. And don't pour out my liquor; you may feel better, but the situation will be worse.

Don't accept my promises. This is just my method of postponing pain. And don't keep switching agreements. If an agreement is made, stick to it.

Don't lose your temper with me. It will destroy you and any possibility of helping me.

Don't cover up or abort the consequences of my drinking. It reduces the crisis, but perpetuates the illness.

from the desk of bob hickle (cont'd)

Above all, don't run away from reality as I do. Alcoholism, my illness, gets worse as my drinking continues. Start now to learn, to understand, and to plan for my recovery. I need help from a doctor, a counselor or a psychologist, a recovered alcoholic, from God. I cannot help myself.

I hate myself, but I love you. To do nothing is the worst choice you can make for us.

Please help me. Your alcoholic.

keeping track

W. D. "Doug" Werner, attorney at Milwaukee, resigned November 2 and has joined the Burlington Northern in St. Paul as a trial attorney. We wish him well!!

J. D. Hanley, Milwaukee yard engineer, was released from the hospital October 30 after undergoing open heart surgery and treatment for cancer. He is recuperating at home and hopes to return to work soon.

Yardmaster Vern Sage returned to work 1st shift at Glendale Yard in Milwaukee November 12 after being off for 9 weeks due to surgery. Welcome back, Vern!!

D. E. Corcoran has been promoted to superintendent of work equipment and shops at Tomah succeeding R. P. Drew, retired. J. E. Zingler promoted to general foreman succeeding Corcoran, all effective August 16.

John P. Kiley, 89, president of The Milwaukee Road 1950 - 1957, died October 2 in Chicago. Mr. Kiley began his career with the railroad as a rodman in the engineering department in 1913. He served in a number of engineering, financial, and operating capacities until being elected operations vice president in 1948. Mr. Kiley was elected president of the road and a director September 1, 1950 and retired December 31, 1957.

Joe Wuerl (Customer Accounting) and his wife Florence will try their hands at "feeding the one-armed bandits" at Las Vegas, Nevada. They are leaving November 28 from Milwaukee and returning home December 1. They are hoping the "one-armed bandits" regurgitate a few times so all will not be lost. By the way, the trip was a winning for Florence as a door prize while playing bingo recently near Green Bay, WI.

There is a new face in Milwaukee Regional Accounting. It is Leland Arms, a new revising clerk recently arriving from the Chicago area. Lee and his family live in Milwaukee, but he had been working in District 1. A big welcome to him from all of us.

Anthony L. "Tony" Fletcher has been appointed trainmaster at Milwaukee effective November 1. Tony began his railroad career as a trainman in Milwaukee in 1973. He entered the locomotive engineers training program in 1976 and subsequently has been in engine service on the "H&D" out of St. Paul. Tony and his wife Anna

keeping track (cont'd)

are currently looking for a home in the Milwaukee area. Our best wishes to Tony on his new assignment!!

Muskego Yard Control Center clerk Dewey W. "The Duke" Glaser experienced two flat tires, ran out of gas twice, and burnt up a car on his recent hunting trip. He also shot a five-point buck. All in all, a satisfying outing!!

Milwaukee Wheel Shop machinist Marvin Gullicksen, 61, retired October 9 with 42 years of service.

Alfred Flohr, Milwaukee Terminal locomotive engineer, retired November 30 with 37 years of service.

John H. Murray, 59, cashier at Hastings, Minnesota retired December 1 with 42 years of service.

Barbara Sands, wife of former car shop superintendent Jack Sands, passed away October 25. Those among us who knew her will miss her. All of us feel for Jack and his personal loss.

Milo J. Miljat, 64, retired carman-welder in the freight shop, passed away November 24. Mr. Miljat retired June 2, 1983 with over 20 years of service. He leaves many friends behind.

news items and information wanted for newsletter

We need news items and information about our fellow employees for the Northern News. What's going on out there? Please contact the correspondent listed below that is in your area or drop a note direct to the editor. You'll be glad you did!!

northern news correspondents

Jerry Magnuson - Green Bay
Margaret Lange - Portage
Gene Porter - Wausau
Chuck Kowalke - LaCrosse
Ray Shisler - Tomah Shops
Mike Leonard - Muskego Yard

Marilyn Carlson - Milw. Regional Data
Bev Radtke - Milwaukee Depot
Bob Voigt - Milwaukee Car Shops
Nancy Bidlingmeyer - Locomotive Shops
Dolores Gavin - Material Division

Editor: R. Milton Clark

Muskego Yard, Milwaukee, WI - Telephone Ext. 351. Material for publication should be forwarded to the editor or contact one of the correspondents. Deadline for material is the 15th of the month preceding the issue date.

Will revert to former extension of 315 as soon as the new Rolm telephone system, being installed in Milwaukee, becomes operative.