

WESTERN PACIFIC

Mileposts

NOVEMBER 1969



Hi, Neighbor!

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PEP

coming
your
way
soon!

— Page 5

**STAY
SHARP!**

a
good
habit

— Page 6

Seatrain container ships start Hawaiian service

There's a lot of new activity next door to Western Pacific's coach yard in Oakland. It's new business for a new neighbor and customer—SEATRAN LINES, INC.—and the future looks bright for both companies!

The activity is taking place on 35 acres adjacent to Oakland Inner Harbor where Seatrain's container handling facility loads container ships for Hawaii. The first sailing was on September 25. There are presently two sailings each month, each with a cargo of 435 containers, and the service will be increased to one sailing each week in late November.

Seatrain was founded in 1929 as an ocean-going railroad-car ferry linking New York with Gulf ports and later Cuba. Today, Seatrain has a large fleet of container ships, tankers, vessels, dry cargo ships, and multi-purpose

military cargo carriers. The firm also operates ship charters and Military Sea Transportation Service, an recently leased a major shipbuilding facility, the former Brooklyn Navy yard. New container facilities are also being made operational at Weehawken, N.J. and Honolulu. Their container port in Puerto Rico is being doubled in size for movements from New York and will include new service on the North Atlantic in 1970. "The future is in containers," says President Howard Pack, "and will account for 50% of our business in two years' time. It's a field with a lot of room to grow."

WP concurrently installed two 10-car team tracks adjacent to Seatrain's facility to provide service for Seatrain and other Oakland Port area customers. In addition to carload service, WP jointly with Santa Fe, is moving Seatrain containers from Los Angeles to Oakland, the only West Coast port for their Hawaiian service.



One of two sliding boom 45-ton cap. mobile cranes which run along 700'-long pier.



MILEPOSTS



Seatrain VP Charles Velson; W P Asst. VP-intermodal services Don Loftus; Seatrain Gen. Mgr.-Operations Bill Miller; W P Mgr.-Terminal Services Ed Howard, on the opposite page, watch the action shown above.

— Continued



Crane's lifting frame drops down... twist locks onto container, makes an easy lift... and swings container onto ship's deck.



Coming your way soon!

PEP

**An award program
for employees of
Western Pacific,
Sacramento Northern and
Tidewater Southern**

In the past MILEPOSTS has published a series of articles about Western Pacific's "Willing People." To further recognize the most outstanding of our "Willing People" among employees of Western Pacific and its Subsidiary Companies, a PEP (Participating Employee Program) Award will be made every quarter; the first quarter will start January 1, 1970.

Award selections will be based on best meeting the following criteria:

1. Interest in Company:
 - Punctuality and attendance.
 - Useful suggestions:
 - A. New Methods.
 - B. Cost Saving.
 - C. Safety.
2. Interest in Self:
 - Appearance.
 - Cooperativeness.
 - Self development—(educational courses).
3. Interest in community.
 - Local government.
 - Community work (UBAC and other charities, social, patriotic, youth work, etc.).

Five groups will be responsible for the selection of a single candidate

from their respective groups each quarter:

- Group 1—Operating.
- Group 2—Marketing.
- Group 3—Finance.
- Group 4—All other (employees not in Groups 1, 2, and 3).
- Group 5—SN and TS.

A group can rename an individual every other quarter. An annual winner will be selected from the four winners.

Quarterly candidate nominations must be forwarded to Lee Sherwood, Editor, MILEPOSTS, by March 1, 1970; June 1, 1970; September 1, 1970; and December 1, 1970.

An Evaluation Committee composed of representatives from each group will meet to determine the PEP AWARD quarterly winner. In December 1970, the annual winner will be determined from the four quarterly winners.

Each quarterly winner will receive five share of Western Pacific common stock. The annual winner will, in addition, receive 10 shares of Western Pacific common stock.



STAY SHARP!

It's a habit with George!

It would test the brain of a WP computer to correctly come up with the number of times Switchman George Shattuck has thrown a switch.

He's been on the job for a little over 19 years.

George probably wouldn't like you to think of him as a perfectionist, and there may be other switchmen with a

better record—19 years on the job without an injury!

Watch George on the job and you'll see why. He goes about his work the right way—using his head to think before using his arms, legs and body.

You see, it's a habit with George! A good habit.

He's a nice guy and he won't mind one bit if you have a better record!





Roadway Improvements

These pictures of rail and tie installations on the main line between Thornton and Sacramento were taken by K. W. Craig, conductor on the work train.

Above: Flatcars arrive at location with 136-pound continuous welded rail in 1,440-foot lengths.

Right: Close-up shows flexibility of welded rail as it rides off car over W P designed elevators, through threader on car side to shoulder of track.

Below left: About 300 pre-stressed concrete ties undergoing main line tests at Thornton.

Below right: Distributed rail on shoulder of track ready for installation.



SAN JOSE

Lee Marshall

On September 28 our jovial Sales Representative JOHN CARROLL and his charming wife celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary at the home of their daughter. A large number of friends attended a reception given in their honor.

We have a talented artist in our midst by the name of Nancy Scott, daughter of our Local Agent PAUL SCOTT. Two of her paintings were on exhibit in the Crown-Zellerbach building's lobby October 6-10. She hopes to have more exhibits and with her hopes go our best wishes for success. Nancy's father, incidentally, returned

to work early in July after a serious illness, and from a recent picture of Paul taken at San Jose yard, he looks to be in good health again.

FRANK WILLIAMS, ticket clerk, is now home recuperating after extensive surgery. Frank has all of our best wishes for an early recovery which will bring him back to the office again, soon.

ELKO

Henry Wallock

We were all deeply saddened by the loss of a fine employee and good friend, Road Foreman of Engines WILLIAM D. EYRE. His death at the age of 50 on September 4 was of an apparent heart attack in his Elko home. His body was



Train Desk Clerks Gene Hamilton and Glenn Snodderly during recent visit to San Jose yard office by Agent Paul Scott and Herb Knappe, manager-data control.

discovered by a neighbor, as his widow, Mona, was in Reno to assist her daughter, Sharon Hiott, enroll at the University of Nevada. Also surviving is another step-daughter, Linda Demaline, who reigned this year as Miss Elko Centennial.

Bill had worked for Western Pacific for 29 years, the last nine years as road foreman. He previously had worked as an engineer and a fireman at Portola and Stockton, and was at Elko for a time about 15 years ago.

Our sincere condolences to his family.

PORTOLA

All of us at Portola have good reason to be very proud of one of our young people, Clerk STANLEY HULL, the son of retired Section Laborer and Mrs. MATT HULL.



Stanley Hull

Stanley, 22, is a graduate of Portola High School and a veteran of the Marine Corps. He is presently studying business administration at the new Feather River College in Quincy, where he was recently elected as Associated Student Body president for the coming year. His schedule as chief officer will be a busy one, with a vari-

ety of items which included ASB fees, budget, college name, colors and motto, book store operation, college athletics, entertainment, and constitution. Plans were also drawn for participation in the Northern California Student Government Conference and the California State Student Government Conference. Classes are being held in temporary buildings until the new college is completed in the Fall of 1970.

OROVILLE

Helen R. Small

Congratulations to Train Desk Clerk STUART E. MCVEAN and his wife, Betty, who on September 20 celebrated their 25th Wedding Anniversary. We wish them many more such occasions.

Congratulations, too, to Welder Helper and Mrs. TERRY TAYLOR who announced the arrival of their baby on September 23.

Recent visitors at our office were retired Brakeman H. J. SEVERNS and retired Conductor E. L. PENINGER. Both look fine, appear to be in good health, and told us they are enjoying their retirements.

We have learned that retired Engineer OSCAR HEARING is confined to the Chico Memorial Hospital, and that retired Conductor V. W. "TONY" MERRILL is in a Marysville hospital. We wish for them good health soon.

Conductor E. F. REEDY and Switchman N. A. WHITTIER are taking therapy treatments for recent illnesses and we hope they, too, will soon be fully recovered.

STOCKTON

Elaine Obenshain

A very hearty welcome to the mechanical department employees who have recently transferred to Stockton from Oroville and Sacramento! We

hope they will enjoy working in our new diesel maintenance facilities, and living in Stockton.

Retired Roundhouse Clerk MARY L. "MAY" ELLIOTT, accompanied by Sales Representative and Mrs. JAMES B. HANSEN from Shreveport, La. and Jim's mother, visited former fellow employees at Stockton yard office recently. Jim was employed as a clerk at Stockton before he entered the marketing division.

There's a new member in the family of Switchman and Mrs. L. J. CARDOZA since August 6. Leonard John II "Johnny," who weighed 7 lbs. 15 ozs., joins a sister, Natalie, age 2½ years.

First-time parents are Brakeman and Mrs. J. W. EDGAR, whose daughter, Brandie Allison, was born September 6. She weighed 7 lbs. 7 oz.

We received a note from Brakeman L. H. PARKER's wife, telling of the remarkable accomplishments made by their talented children in the world of bowling. An accompanying picture



Bowling champs Joretta, Susan and Buddy

shows the children with the trophies they won during the 1969 bowling season. Their oldest daughter, Joretta, age 10, received her trophy for the season's high game handicap—a score

of 180! Son Buddy, age 8, a left-hander, received his from the Northern California B.P.A. state tournament held at Mountain View in April. Buddy's team placed second, but the trophy of which he is most proud was one he received for placing sixth in the singles event. There were 1500 children participating in the tournament so mother and father Parker are quite happy for them. Little sister, Susan, age 6, another lefty, says she will be bowling this next year with Joretta and Buddy.

SAN FRANCISCO

Marge Brown, Ruth Stone

A luncheon was given on October 15 for Assistant Office Engineer BRUCE MCCURDY, who resigned after 20 years service with WP to work in the track maintenance department with BARTD. Among the 50 or more friends, retirees, and co-workers attending were FRANK R. WOOLFORD, ELIZABETH FAGAN, BERT PRESS, and OSCAR LARSON.

Congratulations to FRANK J. HYATT, scale inspector, a charter member of the Railroad Division, National Scale Men's Association, who was selected by committee to chair a meeting at their November meeting in Chicago on the basis of his being "one of the bright young men" in the Railroad Division.

Special Birthday Greetings to retired Conductor MARK V. WINDUS! Each year in the spring and fall, Mark stops by the Editor's office to say hello enroute to his home at 1625 Third Street, Lewiston, Ida. to spend the summer, and to his winter home at Antonia de Sequovia 727, Guadalajara, Jal., Mexico. Quite an accomplishment for an individual who appears to be in his late 60's but who, this November, will reach the age of 90!

Present for the party were, back row: Darrell Walleen, Robert Helriegel, Althea Briggs and Maxwell Stoughton. Center: Max Potter, Bernie O'Connell, Sonja Hanson, Tommy Kyle, Dorothy Davidson. In the lower left corner Bob Gonsalves.



Below: Bernie, Tom, and Dot view the cake which read, "Happy 25th! Tom, Dot, Bernie 1944-1969"



During the first ten days of September Zephyr Conductor BOB McQUARRIE and former Western Division Conductor and ORC General Chairman A. G. "Si" PERKINS and their wives toured the "Inside Passage" of Canada and Alaska. They were among a group of 92 senior and retired rail-



"Si" Perkins and Bob McQuarrie on ship

There was a cake and coffee party in the passenger department on a recent October afternoon to honor three staff members who completed 25 years service with WP this year. TOMMY KYLE, assistant to director of passenger sales, entered service on May 8, 1944; DOROTHY DAVIDSON, chief of solicitation bureau, began service on June 21, 1944; and BERNADETTE O'CONNELL, rate clerk, became an employee on September 27, 1944.

readers and wives who enjoyed the delightful and most interesting trip as far as historical Skagway and return to Vancouver, B.C. The tour was sponsored by the Union Pacific Old Timers Club No. 12 of Salt Lake City.

Sincere condolences to the family of DAVID A. SKOOTSKY, head investigator-freight claims, who died on October 12. He had been in ill health for several years. "During his 36 years with WP, 21 years in freight claims, he was known as a wonderful individual, and a meticulous and conscientious worker," said HERB AUSTIN, chief clerk. "We'll miss him greatly." David is survived by his wife, Betty, son Stephen, daughter Ann, and brother ARNOLD, head export clerk-revenue accounting.

San Lorenzo, to honor his rank of Eagle Scout. The reception took place at the San Lorenzo Community Church in October. Gordon's brother, David, is also an Eagle Scout.

BOB GOLDEN, secretary-clerk-president's office, has returned from his 7th trip to Europe. This year Bob went to the Soviet Union (Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev) and several of its satellite countries—Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia, East Berlin before returning home from West Berlin. In Moscow, Bob's group stayed in the world's largest hotel, the Rossiak which can accommodate 6,000 guests. "The accommodations and food throughout the trip were excellent, and the treasures to be seen in the Kremlin Museum in Moscow and the Hermitage in Leningrad cannot be matched by anything outside the Iron Curtain," said Bob. "It's ironic, as all these treasures are relics of the czars and czarinas against whom the communists revolted."

SACRAMENTO NORTHERN

Milton Ziehn

We regret to report that retired President and General Manager REX T. KEARNEY died en route to a hospital following a heart attack on November 3. Since his retirement in June 1965 he had suffered several attacks of varying severity. Rex began his 46 years service as an accountant with the SP. He came to Tidewater Southern as secretary to the manager in 1919, then became trainmaster and superintendent, and in 1946 president and general manager. He was appointed president and general manager of the SN in 1949 and held the two titles until his retirement. Mr. Kearney is survived by his wife, Florence; a son, Rex T. Kearney, Jr. 30; and a sister, Mrs. Gordon Lacy of Stockton.



Scout knives come in handy!

In the picture above, Gordon Crespo, 15, son of MW&S Engineer and Mrs. M. J. CRESPO, makes good use of his Scout knife. The cake he is cutting was presented by his Troop 609,

Letters Received

I received from Mrs. Florence Boyle of Oroville a clipping from an old undated newspaper, evidently written about 1910 by Mrs. Mary C. Benjamin, mother-in-law of the late Engineer Benjamin R. Huff.

Thundering down the grand old canyon
Waking echoes far and near
Comes the friend we long have waited
Comes the sound we've longed to hear.

Through the heart of the Sierras
Down the Feather River grand
Scenes no other clime can equal
Even far-famed Switzerland.

Through pine forest, where the Red men
Tracked the lion, stalked the deer;
Past the roaring falls and cascades
Waters sparkling crystal clear.

To the lovely fertile valley
To the home of grains and fruit
To the land of golden plenty
Oroville, the Gem of Butte.

Now in the cul-de-sac no longer;
Gould has pierced the Rockies' door.
Pacific Western road is open—
Open wide from shore to shore.

And we give you hearty welcome
Friend of this rich virgin soil,
You, the world's wide marts have opened;
Now we see reward for toil.

Then down the Sacramento,
Leagues and leagues of this grand state,
To the fairest, greatest city,
Oakland, at the Golden Gate—

Where the stately ships are lying
On the broad Pacific's breast,
To complete the world-wide journey;
Thus you've joined the East and West.

Welcome! Welcome! Yes, thrice welcome
To this land of fruit and flowers,
You have cut the chains that bound us,
And your interests shall be ours!

* * *

I have now been on the WP payroll for 60 years and eight months, but cannot claim to be on the payroll the longest. Two engineers, Billy Metzger and Harvey Mullen, hired out before I did and are still drawing their

pensions. There may be others, though I don't think many. God bless the good old WP.

Charles L. Ellis
27 County Road
Alameda, Ca. 94501

* * *

Since the retirement a year ago of my father, Conductor Hans J. Larsen, we have an unknown friend on the California Zephyr run who keeps alive a very happy memory for us of "Daddy's Train" (MILEPOSTS May - June 1967 issue). He whistles 'round the bend and waves his cloth of white as he passes by our way. Our appreciation is beyond expressing and I would like to dedicate this poem to our kind friend.

The Glistening Comet

'Long toward 'evening time,
When dusk begins to fall
And the rays of sunset glisten
on the regal pines, so tall.

We strain to hear her whistle
And her distant diesel hum
To tell us that the Zephyr
is on her canyon run.

Her gleaming silver domes
Catch the golden rays sublime.
She's like a glistening comet
Escaping from the sun.

To our unknown friend (the hog head)
Thanks! (Much, much more than a mite).
He keeps alive our memories
Of yesterdays gone by.

No longer in the doorway
Do we see Dad's flag of white.
His golden years are here now—
He no longer passes by.

We ponder over memories
As she glides past out of sight,
Of Daddy's Train; the yesteryears;
And fond memories of sheer delight!

Mrs. Fawn Grant
Box 57
Storrie, Ca. 95980

MILEPOSTS

In Memoriam



Frederick J. Boll, retired machinist, Sacramento, October 9.

F. A. Burdett, locomotive engineer, Salt Lake City, October 28.

James J. Canaga, retired switchman, Stockton, October 4.

James H. Duhig, retired commissary buyer, Oakland, August 1969.

John A. Johnson, retired track patrolman, Oroville, August 1969.

Robert A. Keck, baggageman-janitor, Sacramento, October 28.

Herman G. Mahlin, sheet metal worker, Sacramento, October 9.

Patrick J. Pendergast, Sacramento Northern brakeman, Sacramento, October 6.

Alden H. Perkins, retired laborer, Western Roadway, August 1969.

Wilbur E. Reese, retired towerman, Stockton, August 1969.

William C. Sells, retired laborer, Sacramento, August 1969.

David A. Skootsky, head investigator, San Francisco, October 12.

Calvin Transue, retired section foreman, Western Roadway, August 1969.

John E. Withrow, retired laborer, Portola, August 1969.

Tennis Tournament

A second semi-annual tennis tournament was held on Golden Gate Park courts in San Francisco on October 19.

Many good matches led to the finals, of which the winners were:

Ladies Singles: Amira Moranoff d. Cathy Wong, 6-2, 6-0.

Mens Singles: Tom Horsley d. Boris Moranoff, 6-0, 6-3.

Mixed Doubles: Boris and Amira Moranoff d. Bill Brew and Cathy Wong, 6-2, 6-3.

Mens Doubles: Jim Edeler and Bill Stephenson d. Tom Horsley and Dean Treichelt, 6-2, 6-1.

While enjoying refreshments following the matches, plans were made for the 1970 Spring semi-annual tournament tentatively scheduled for April, a date to be later announced. Any inquiries or early sign-ups may contact Tom Horsley (Ext. 518) or Amira Moranoff (Ext. 595). The tournament is open to all WP employees, their wives or husbands, and guests.



Milepost 199: Hy-Railer passes near Vista Robles, 35-car passing track.

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526 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
Lee Sherwood, Editor

Member Assn. of Railroad Editors

NOVEMBER 1969

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An over-all \$9 million expansion of Lake Charles, La. harbor and terminal will include an extensive bulk materials handling and shiploading system which will unload from rail cars.

* * *

Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory's vehicle research department awarded a \$73,000 contract by Office of High Speed Ground Transportation to study advanced braking systems for 250-300 mph trains.

* * *

Just completed \$2.7 million modernization of its Sharonville Yard at Cincinnati makes it a major Penn Central classification point with capacity of 3,782 cars.

* * *

The 5th International Container Services and Equipment Exposition scheduled for April 14-17, 1970 in Chicago's International Amphitheater.

* * *

Canadian Pacific spends \$20 million for unit trains to start early 1970 shipments of export coal bound for Japan's steel mills.