

METCA NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 14

MAY

1965

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Attendance at our last meet was the best ever. Over 200 METCA collectors with assorted guests, were present. Although it was a good meet as far as quality and variety of equipment were concerned, it was obvious that the hall was operating beyond capacity. In addition to overcrowding, several members have complained that the social aspect of belonging to the collecting fraternity is now just a fond memory.

We all hope the next meet, of which you have already been notified, will take care of these objections. There should be plenty of space and perhaps most of the wheeling and dealing can be suspended--while we enjoy the good food. Our thanks to John Marron for his hard work.

Incidentally, if you think you have a hall that is just right, contact an officer of this division. All suggestions are most welcome. Figure on an attendance of 200. This requires 40--50 tables. Price is negotiable, but we are not Norfolk and Western.

Featured collector this issue--JOHN BOATE--with the biggest collection--east of Grand Central Terminal. John collects everything, and cannot resist a train-inspired product. Ask him all about his locomotive cookie-jar. It's a gem, and barely chipped.

Recommended to all is "THE TRAIN" with Burt Lancaster, currently playing the circuits. If you enjoyed "The Guns of Navarone", you'll like this one. Set against the background of the liberation of France during the war, the story revolves about the efforts of French railway workers to stop a train carrying French art treasures to Berlin without destroying it. There are excellent railroad scenes, in addition to the graphically depicted

destruction of several locomotives and many more pieces of rolling stock. Not to be missed!

See you at the food table.

George Pins

A REMINDER TO ALL

NO ADMITTANCE WITHOUT RESERVATION

Advance registration for the May METCA meet is filling up fast. Margaret Ranker reports close to 70 reservations already. Don't miss it! and don't forget ADVANCE REGISTRATION ONLY--LIMITED TO 150. No reservations accepted after May 17th. \$4.00 per adult, \$2.50 per child under 12; meal included. Send checks to Mrs. Margaret Ranker.

NATIONAL CONVENTION IN JUNE

The big Pittsburgh National is less than two months away and some surprises are in the offing when you get your reservation forms and convention data. The entire convention will be under one roof. METCA-ites can drive to Pittsburgh in about 8 hours. The Pennsylvania offers 5 trains to Pittsburgh. There is also air service via TWA (3 hours, Super Constellations), Allegheny (Convairs, 2 to 3 hours), and United (jet direct), all out of Newark. Other flights out of LaGuardia Round trip air fare runs about \$58.00 round trip by jet, \$54.00 round trip by propellor craft and Allegheny offers a special week-end only round trip for \$40.00.

We are sorry to inform METCA members of the death of
CY LEVITT and BOB CORNELL

HERSHEY MEET A WING DING AFFAIR

Perfect weather brought an overflow crowd of over 300 collectors to Hershey for the May meet. Early birds started arriving Thursday and the hall was well filled by noon Friday. A number of METCA people were on hand. Other collectors came from California, Florida, Toronto, Cleveland and New England.

METCA Fall Meet

Mark your calendar: Sunday,
September 12th

A spacious new hall has been located and promises to be ideal. The Veterans Center, 33 N. 21st Street, Kenilworth, N.J. Larger than Hershey, ½ mile from the Garden State Parkway, plenty of tables, plenty of parking, light and bright, and good food. More details will follow.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

METCA
May 23, Elmsford, N. Y.
9U-DOOR PRIZE

New England
June 5, Italian-American
Club, Natick, Mass.
Contact Tom Otis

NATIONAL CONVENTION
June 25-26-27. Webster
Hall Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pa.

WB&A (Baltimore)
August 20-21
Contact John Whitmore

METCA
Sept. 12, Veteran's Center
Kenilworth, New Jersey

LET'S CLEAR THE TRACK by "Doc" Robinson

There seems to be a fair amount of confusion on the part of my fellow collectors concerning the Lionel 1911 Special and the 8 wheel #53.

It is really simple. Just bare in mind the 1911 Special came first, 1910, and has 8 solid wheels of cast iron. The roofs of the cars #180, 181, and 182 did not have openings in the clerestory. When you find this early type 180 series car it belongs to a 1911 Special.

The 8 wheel #53 was mfg. in 1911-1912. This simply is the 1911 Special re-numbered 53 and wheels changed from solid to spoked cast iron. The first of the #53 locos used up the stock on hand of solid sheeld. By far the vast majority of 8 wheel 53's rode on spoked wheels. 180 series cars had the now famous open lionel clerestory with the mottled reddish brown celluloid.

So for a summary the 1911 Special comes only with solid cast iron wheels, while the 8 wheel #53 may come with either solid or spoked wheels.

LIONEL BRASS ELECTRICS by "Doc" Robinson

The 1912 Special is another of the old Lionel locos that has been causing a lot of unnecessary confusion.

The 1912 Special mfg. in 1911, is a brass version of the 8 wheel #1912 loco. However it had a very short life. In 1912 the brass 8 wheeler became #54 and had a two year run in its' square cab form. In 1913 the round cab or common garden variety #42 came into being, along with the round cab #54. These engines began a better than ten year run.

Now to tell the two brass square ca locos apart-simple.


The 1912 Special has a slip on head light and the square cab #54 has two punched out groves with two holes for the pedestal head-light mounting screw and wire. Slip on head light - 1912 Special. Pedestal head light-Square Cab #54.

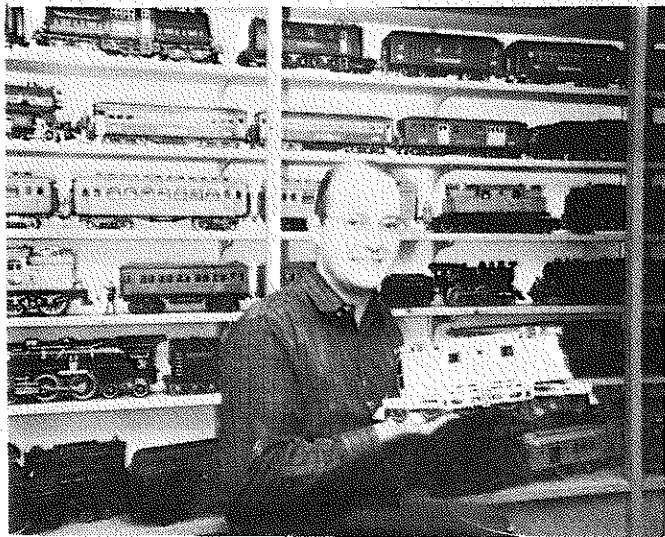
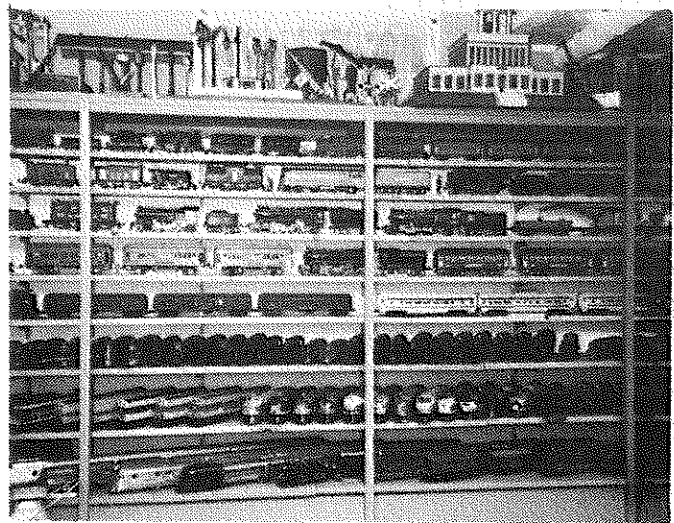
FEATURE COLLECTOR

Our METCA collector featured in this issue is JOHN BOATE of Flushing. John is ideally suited for train collecting. Single, employed, and with a basement to himself, -- John is able to collect vigorously, and to display much of his collection which runs into well over a thousand pieces.

John is one of a relatively small group of collectors interested in "modern" Lionel; that is, trains made since the war. One of the photos shows part of this section of the collection. Not illustrated are 8 variations of GGI's, including the scarce black model. Collecting modern trains gives the pleasure of "cleaning out" hardware stores and other such places now dumping their trains. This is certainly more productive than searching for the older models.

Of course, the classic era is well represented, with State Cars, Blue Comets, 381's, 408's, 400's, and 3243's. A recent acquisition is a Boucher 2500, a black Pacific. Illustrated is a white 3243, all original.

A general view of the Lionel O gauge division. Note all the Trainmasters and F-3's. 



The master himself, with original white 3243. More goodies in the background.



John holds a Boucher Pacific. Take your pick on the shelves.



← Part of the standard gauge section. Illustrated are 381 with State Cars, Blue Comet, Apple Green 408 set, and Boucher 2500

THE IVES 3243

#3243 the great standard barer of the Ives Line from 1921-1928 came in a great variety of colors.

We have been asked to list the colors in descending order of rarity. First, the colors as they appeared by year:-

1921 - olive green
1922 - red, yellow, white
1923 - red, orange, yellow, white
1924 - orange, white, mahogany
1925 - orange, white
1926 - orange, light green, wine red
1927 - light green, orange
1928 - blue, black

Now:--color by rarity--

Blue, wine red, black, red, mahogany, olive green, white, yellow, light green and orange.

NEW MEMBERS

192-James Perna
193-Richard Corser
194-Robert Sell
195-Frank Schmid
196-James Morton
197-Robert DeHanes
198-Leon Eggers
199-Arthur Giles
200-Thomas Downham
201-R. E. Schumacher
202-William Lucy
203-J. P. Muldowney
204-E. B. Allen Jr.
205-Kenneth Pielich
206-Edward Rosenthal
207-Charles Mitchell
208-Robert Bacon

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

JOE RANKER bought a rare wine or maroon colored 42 at the Hershey auction. Also some O litho Bing freight cars, 8-wheel. And a Burlington GP-7 by Lionel...LES MORRIS proud as hops over his Mickey Mouse handcar, which he sez is for daughter Judy!...HAL CARSTENS finally got his Lionel No. 10 in olive green - the old interurban model. Hal's stuff is starting to come out of mothballs onto brand new basement shelves...BEN SMITH picking up catalogs like crazy...WARREN SHUCH has a new 392 plus a 402 set, mohave of course...and what have you picked up?
RED CHAPMAN, a 1904 Marklin O gauge Heinz pickle car...

THE ROUNDHOUSE

JOE FRANCIS will trade old Lionel catalogs and std. gauge for scale O gauge.

FRED HEIMANN will swap AF 6-wheel trucks for any Ives 6-wheel trucks.

BOB NOEBEL wants good 2812 R.S. Tank Car, 613-14-15 set red & silver, erector tender, any 1686 and 1696 Lionel baggage cars or sets, and nice tender for Ives #25. Will buy or have for trade 203 Switcher, new green 2360, and Ives #17 engine and tender.

JOHN MARRON wants Lionel "All Aboard" magazines, train advertisements prior to 1942, train catalogues other than Lionel, Ives, Dorfman and A.F. Also desperate for Lionel #8, 10, and 318's.

BOB LAKEMACHER wants beer cars (Schlitz, Pabst, etc.) any make, any gauge, Old Dutch, Swift's etc. Also wants AF std. gauge Box, Stock and Tank in excellent or better condition.

JIM COHEN needs Ives 184-185-186 with snake pull couplers - any condition.

JOSEPH RANKER would like litho or hand painted refrigerator and box cars --- even Lionel "C" 6464 series. Has for sale or trade Lionel C.P. set, 390E with 500's frt. cars, 380 with orange 31-32-34-35, first 256 with pass. cars lettered N.Y.C., and green frame 260 with 800's frt. cars including crane.

NOTES

We need pictures of collections and collectors for the Newsletter.

At the Elmsford meet there will be a nice 9U and some Lionel accessories as door prizes for the men plus a door prize from Flagstaff Food for the women. These prizes were made available by Joe Francis as is the State Set we hope to raffle off at the September meet. Many thanks to Joe Francis for the reasonable price placed on these items so METCA could purchase same to use as a raffle and/or door prize.