

**BOSTON AND MAINE RAILROAD
HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.**

P.O. BOX 302, READING, MASS. 01867

SECRETARY'S NEWSLETTER

25 August 1972

Dear B & M Fans:

The August meeting of the Society was a great success. Forty-seven members and guests assembled for a short business meeting, and then enjoyed a very fine program of slides presented by John McGaffigan. We hope to see such a nice turnout at all of our future meetings.

DUES ARE DUE! Dues for the current fiscal year are now due and should be sent to the above address as soon as possible. Five dollars will renew your membership and bring you four issues of the B&M Bulletin, the Secretary's Newsletter through June, 1973, and other useful publications from time to time. Please do not send cash. Checks should be made payable to the Boston and Maine Railroad Historical Society, Inc.

The Society is searching for an assistant editor to help Mr. Gabriel with the Bulletin. If you are a reasonably good typist and would like to devote some of your time to the Society in this way, please contact President Hutchinson at the above address, or at the next meeting of the Society. We now have over 200 members, and the workload for all of the officers, committee members, and certainly the editor has increased proportionately.

As you probably know, the B&M Bulletin is mailed third class in order to save money. We mail out approximately 350 copies to our members and subscribers, and some are bound to get delayed in certain areas. Please be patient - you will receive your copy, but there do seem to be some inordinate delays with third class mail.

If you move, please be sure to send your new address to the membership secretary, David Hutchinson, at the above address. Recently we have had a considerable amount of mail returned because the members did not give us their change of address and did not leave a forwarding address. This is an inconvenience to all concerned.

We regret that Volume I, Numbers 1 and 2 of the B&M Bulletin, are now out of print. We can no longer fill any more orders for these publications.

If the Mount Washington Cog Railway is one of your interests, you may wish to contact member Glen Kidder at P.O. Box 1035, Davis Substation, Acton, Mass. 01720. Mr. Kidder is the author of "Railway To The Moon," and it appears that his book, like our Bulletins, may soon be out of print.

Members who are interested in obtaining slides or prints of Santa Fe locomotives and rolling stock should contact member John D. Gondol who is now residing at 302 Nevada Street, Victorville, California 92392.

Friends of the B&M were distressed to learn recently that part of the roofing near the west portal of the Hoosac Tunnel collapsed in a shower of bricks, mortar and mud. Repair crews removed the track from the tunnel entrance up to the site of the collapse in order to get repair equipment into the tunnel quickly, easily and safely. The tunnel was repaired in a few days time and the B&M once again became the "Hoosac Tunnel Route."

On the other hand, B&M fans were delighted to hear the news that our favorite railroad will once again operate conventional trains along the Connecticut River - the first time in six years! Amtrak has chosen the PC(Ex NYNH&H)-B&M-CV-CN route from New York to Montreal for their Washington-Montreal overnight train service. The target date for the commencement of service is Friday, Sept. 29, 1972. Details at this time are scanty, and schedules are still tentative. No name has yet been chosen (or at least published) for the train. The consist (coaches, sleeper, and grill lounge) will leave Washington daily at 5:05 P.M., New York at 9:10 P.M., and arrive in Montreal at 10:35 A.M. The coach fare from Washington to Montreal will be about \$31.00.

We are happy to welcome the following members to the Society:
Francis R. Cookson, Charles A. Purinton, J. Wesley Caldwell, Harry R. Irons, William D. Bailey, H. Bentley Crouch, David s. Berggren, Wilbur M. Twombly, Colin G. Chisholm, Wallace L. Dunningham, Charles Murch, Robert Wendell, Wilfred P. Harrison, Warren S. Chase, Kenneth F. Briggs, Leonard M. Eaton, and Carl V. Ehrke.

The September meeting of the Society will be held at the Reading Depot at 7:00 P.M. on Saturday, Sept. 9, 1972. Entertainment for the evening will be provided by Ralph Phillips featuring the Boston and Maine Railroad in the 1950's.

Best wishes,

David R. Squires

David R. Squires, Secretary