

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

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

SECRETARY'S NEWSLETTER

30 OCTOBER 1973

Dear B & M Fans:

The October meeting of the Society saw a very good turnout of members and guests who were treated to another slide program presented by Mr. Henry Marrec, who showed a variety of his collection including, quite naturally, a great many B&M scenes. This good attendance was in spite of the fact that we were in competition with a fan trip on the B&M that day, not to mention another trip in Canada that was attended by some of the membership, plus another local club that met that same night!

The November meeting of the Society will be held at the Reading Depot at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 10, 1973.

A fan trip was run on October 27-28 from Boston to Montpelier and return using Steamtown's ex-NKP Berkshire No. 759. The trip covered the B&M from Boston to White River Junction, and the Central Vermont Railway from there to Montpelier Junction. Two Montpelier & Barre switchers hauled the train the two miles from the Junction to Montpelier over the M&B, while 759 spent the night on the wye at Montpelier Jct. The return trip on Sunday traced Saturday's route. The steamer was due to return to Steamtown on October 29, but may have been delayed because two B&M freights collided on Sunday, Oct. 28, on the westbound track near the West Orange overpass on the Fitchburg Division. Three B&M workers were injured.

The Great Chelsea Fire of October 14, 1973 affected operations on the B&M significantly. The gateman's shanty at the Everett Avenue crossing was consumed by the blaze, and trains to and from Lynn, Ipswich and Rockport were rerouted over the Saugus Branch through Monday morning, Oct. 15, because of the fire itself and hoses stretched over the tracks.

It is with sincere regret that we must announce the passing of one of our loyal members, who was also a B&M engineer for 50 years. Mr. Allan E. Simmons died on June 8, 1973. He was one of our most ardent fans and enjoyed the meetings very much, and, even though retired, was called up to the cab during last winter's RRE Snow Train to give advice when problems were encountered at Walloomsac, New York. The Society was very fortunate in having had Mr. Simmons as a member in its early years.

Mr. Ralph Phillips notes that B&M EMD SW-1 No. 1118 has been repainted blue with a black cab roof. The B&M has on order 12 GP 38-2's, but the delivery date is not known at this time. This will be the B&M's first new power since the GP-18's of the 1961 model year. (Timely information such as this is highly desired by the Secretary for inclusion in the Newsletter. If you have such data please forward it to the Society.) We are also very happy to include sections on trading, selling, and requests for information from the membership.

The Board of Directors has accepted with regret the resignation of Mr. Richard Towle from the Board. Mr. Towle has served the Society well, but he felt that employment and family commitments necessitated his resignation. An interim successor will be voted upon at the November 10th. meeting. The Board will place Mr. Donald Robinson's name in nomination to fill this vacancy.

It is with pleasure that we welcome the following new members to the Society:

James Shelter, Sr., Oshawa, Ontario; Charles Spears, West Swanzey, NH; Waldo H. Kingston, Peekskill, NY; James A. Robertson, Waltham, MA; John Parker, Springfield, VT; Roger H. Wojtkiewicz, Brookline, MA; Gary E. Slade, North Reading, MA; Norman H. Hazel, New York, NY; Lawrence S. Brown, Putney, VT; George F. Dalrymple, Bedford, MA; Erving J. Laware, Wilbraham, MA; Gerard Guy D'Errico, Maynard, MA; Robert T. Gustafson, West Boylston, MA; Jason Pelletier, Danvers, MA; Vincent McIntyre, Paxton, MA; Arthur S. Blanchard, Woburn, MA; Fred J. Perkins, Weston, MA; Norvel C. Parker, West Springfield, MA; Stephen Russell, Acton, MA; Leander F. Rafuse, Weston, MA; Arthur M. Stewart, III, Wilbraham, MA; Stephen Richardson, Waltham, MA; Michael D. O'Farrel, Marlboro, MA; Everett Gallison, Warner, NH; Robert Chaffin, Lynn, MA; John T. McIlwaine, No. Quincy, MA; Stanley C. Hope, New York, NY; Richard F. Cole, Cambridge, MA; Allan Cooper, Taylor, MI; Kevin G. Day, Pierrefond, Quebec; Richard C. Hussey, Jr., Saugus, MA; James W. Allen, Brookfield, MA; George C. Smith, Melrose, MA; Nathaniel A. Emerson, III, White River Junction, VT; Preston Cook, Marion, OH; Donald K. Haskel, Mansfield, MA; Percy S. Ross, Wakefield, MA; Ronald P. Salters, Weymouth, MA; Edward L. Johnson, Peoria, IL; Edward J. Carbrey, Jr., Beverly, MA; and Henry P. Thurlow, Jr., Salisbury, MA.

Best Regards, *David R. Squires*
David R. Squires, Secretary

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