

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

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

SECRETARY'S NEWSLETTER

29 MAY 1974

Dear B & M Fans:

The May meeting of the Society was attended by approximately 100 members and guests who heard Mr. Alan Dustin, Executive Vice President of the Boston and Maine Corporation, speak on current operating procedures on the B&M Railroad. He also spoke about his former days with the D&H Railway and the BAR Railroad, and about the B&M's future with respect to viability and possible merger with other railroads. A question and answer period followed his most interesting talk. Mr. Charles Smith then showed a selection of slides of the B&M operations in the early 1950's. Coffee and doughnuts were served after the slide program.

The June meeting of the Society will be held at the First Unitarian Parish Church, corner of Winn and Pleasant Streets, Woburn Square, at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 8, 1974. Mr. Don Valentine will present the entertainment that evening, which will consist of slides and movies of the Cass Scenic Railroad in Pocahontas County, West Virginia. This will be a good opportunity for those who can't get down to the Mountain State to see this fascinating operation.

The tour of the Billerica Shops was postponed to June 15 due to unforeseen circumstances. Those who were to have taken the tour on May 18 were notified of the change by special mailing. This will serve to notify those who have signed up for the tour that it will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 15. Please try to assemble in the parking lot in front of the B&M's General Offices Building, Iron Horse Park, Billerica, by 8:15 a.m. Releases will be sent to those taking the tour either with this Newsletter or by a separate mailing.

In the April 29 Newsletter, George Drury told about his trip on the D&H Inspection Train that ran from Portland, Maine to Potomac Yard, Virginia on March 19-21, 1974. This issue contains photos of that train in Rigby Yard, Maine, Greenfield, Mass., and Potomac Yard, Virginia. We will try to have a photo page or two in future issues of the Newsletter on a regular basis. The photo page(s) will be contingent upon receipt of good quality black and white photos of recent and/or current activities on the B&M Railroad from the membership. B&M motive power Teased to other railroads also makes good subject material. There are limitless possibilities: derailments, No. 119 in action, a shot of one of the rare F-units, Amtrak's Montrealer on the Connecticut River Line, and so on. Please send your photos to the attention of the Secretary at the Society's address. Remember, no photos - no photo page. It's up to you.

Back issues of the B&M Bulletin are available at \$1.00 each plus 40¢ for first class postage and handling. The following issues are available:

1972: September (very few), December. 1973: March, June, September.

Also available are a few copies of the 1899 Hoosac Tunnel Route timetable at 25¢ each plus 10¢ postage, and the February 1932 Snow Train menu at 15¢ each plus 10¢ postage. If you buy both the timetable and menu, the postage charge is only 10¢.

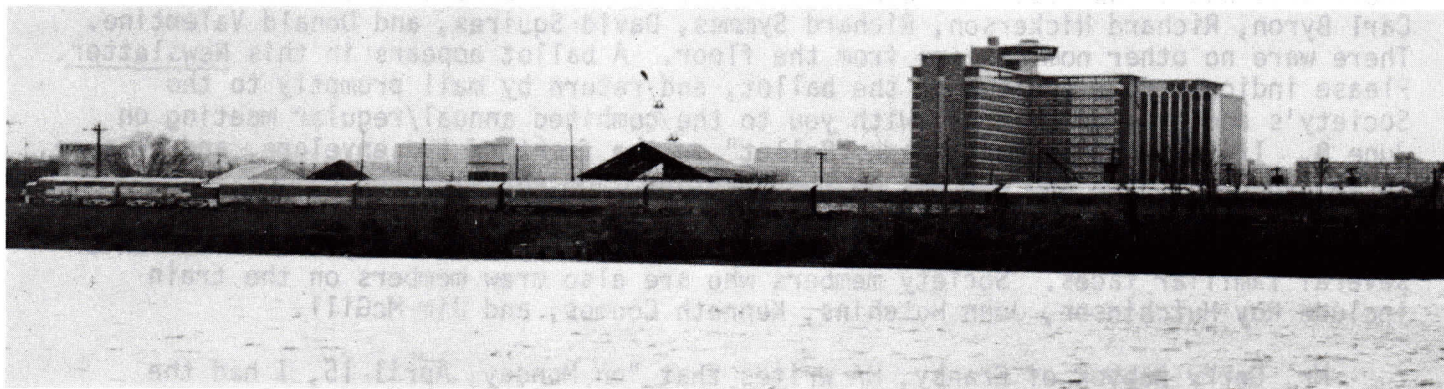
The B&M's lone 44-tonner, No. 119, lives on. The latest report is that it is once again back in operation.



Above: Alco PA-powered inspection train destined to follow the "Alphabet Route", Rigby Yard, S. Portland, Maine, March 19, 1974. George Drury, Milwaukee, WI.

Below: Inspection train at Greenfield, Massachusetts, March 19, 1974. George Drury.





Above: Inspection train pulling into Potomac Yard, Alexandria, Virginia, March 21, 1974. The Yard's namesake river is in the foreground. David Coldren, Springfield, Virginia.

Below: The end of the three-day trip, Potomac Yard, Alexandria, VA. George Drury.



At the last meeting, the Nominating Committee presented its slate of nominees for office for the next fiscal year. Those nominated for office are: President: Donald Robinson; Vice President: William Cashman; Treasurer: Charles Smith; Secretary: David Squires. For election to the Board of Directors (three to be elected): Carl Byron, Richard Nickerson, Richard Symmes, David Squires, and Donald Valentine. There were no other nominations from the floor. A ballot appears in this Newsletter. Please indicate your choices on the ballot, and return by mail promptly to the Society's address, or bring it with you to the combined annual/regular meeting on June 8. If you vote by mail, mark "Ballot" on the front of the envelope, and be sure to include your name and address on the envelope. Do not sign the ballot.

Members riding Steamtown's train from Riverside to Chester Depot will encounter several familiar faces. Society members who are also crew members on the train include Roy Hutchinson, John Hutchins, Kenneth Coombs, and Jim McGill.

Mr. Gerry Babyok of Granby, MA writes that "on Monday, April 15, I had the pleasure of touring the East Deerfield shops, and was surprised to see No. 1274 (ALCO S-1m) in the shop, after reading in the February 27 Newsletter that it was to be scrapped. I questioned the shop foreman as to its future, and he stated that they are going to put a new center plate on (to replace the one smashed by GP-7 No. 1565) and then rebuild the engine. Parts are being taken from stripped S-2 No. 1265 to repair the 1274. S-2 No. 1262 is also at East Deerfield being stripped for scrap."

Mr. Paul Shea, 121 Cottage Street, Concord, MA 01742, is interested in obtaining a copy of any 1930's or 1940's B&M timetable which shows the schedule of trains operating on the Central Mass. Division (public or employee's timetable will do.) Original to be bought or loaned for copy - either is suitable.

Mr. J.R. McFarlane, 241 Ocean House Road, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107, would like to purchase the following B&M Bulletins: September and December 1971, and March 1972.

It is with pleasure that we welcome the following new members to the Society: Roger C. Keim, New York, NY; Gilbert R. Payson, Salem, MA; Henry F. Curtis, Waterford, CT; James D. Leeson, Greenfield, MA; William L. Cobleigh, Acton, MA; Harvey D. Allen, Amherst, MA; Capt. Donald A. Woodworth, Jr., APO New York; Victor M. Newton, Longmeadow, MA; Miller W. Robb, Cambridge, MA; John A. Tisdale, Woburn, MA; James M. Kelly, Beverly, MA; Robert Wilner, Bronx, NY; Robert L. Eastwood, Jr., Huntingdon Valley, PA; William L. Patton, Jr., Natick, MA; Harold E. Mellen, Belchertown, MA; Scott M. Batson, Wakefield, MA; Edward C. Doocey, Canton, MA; Joseph L. Scannel, Somerville, MA; Howard D. Beard, Hyde Park, NY; James E. Lee, Manchester, MA; Charles M. Harrington, Lebanon, NH; David F.H. Watts, Wakefield, MA; Robert E. Hill, Barnstead, NH; and Preston S. Johnson, Melrose, MA.

Because of another major fire in Chelsea, on May 22, B&M Budd RDC commuter service between Boston and Lynn was diverted over the Saugus branch for several hours. At least one Society member, and probably several more, had the presence of mind to drop mundane things like work and rush off to ride the branch. At least two others procrastinated too long and missed the last trip before the return to normal service through Chelsea by a good hour.

The Boston Street Railway Association, P.O. Box 102, Cambridge, MA 02138, is running two fan trips on Sunday, June 23. The first is on the Blue Line and will utilize the 50-year-old equipment that has been in use since the East Boston Tunnel was converted to high-level platform operation. Included will be a tour of the Orient Heights shops. The second trip will be a trolley coach tour of the lines that run out of Harvard Square, Cambridge. Contact the Association for tickets and further information.

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

(Please cut here)

BOSTON AND MAINE RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OFFICIAL BALLOT

To vote for a nominee, place an X in the space provided to the right of the person's name.

PRESIDENT: Donald Robinson _____

VICE PRESIDENT: William Cashman _____

TREASURER: Charles Smith _____

SECRETARY: *David Squires _____

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Vote for no more than three:

Carl Byron _____ Richard Nickerson _____ *David Squires _____

Richard Symmes _____ Donald Valentine _____

*Incumbent

Please return this ballot according to the instructions in the Newsletter.

DO NOT SIGN THIS BALLOT.