

Railroad Business Dwindling But End To Passenger Service Not Believed To Be Certainty

By GORMAN HOGAN
Associated Press Staff Writer

Fifty-one daily trains running between Portland and Eugene, and an annual income of \$891,000—

A railroad's dream today, all right, but that was the Oregon Electric in 1920. George F. Ehlen, a railroader for 46 years and now traffic manager for the Spokane, Portland and Seattle Railroad, remembers it well.

He remembers, too, that by 1932 patronage had dwindled to a point where income was only \$17,213 and the following year the Oregon Electric dropped all passenger operations in Oregon's Willamette Valley.

Branchline railroad passenger service dwindled in the Pacific Northwest ever since. One line after another has pulled off trains serving smaller communities in Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

Pattern About Same

The pattern has been much the same. The railroads complain they're losing money because of lost patronage to automobiles, air lines and buses. Civic groups protest loss of passenger trains and, after hearings, public utilities commissions usually approve abandonment.

On occasion the trains have been pulled off even before approval was given.

Does this mean branch line passenger service is doomed? It would appear so.

But this is not to say that the railroads intend to go out of the passenger business. President A. E. Stoddard of the Union Pacific said recently that "as long as the freight shippers in our territory and those who prefer to ride by train need our service, we will provide transportation."

Trains Better Today

Mainline trains on the Union Pacific, he said, "are better today than ever before."

C. W. Evers, Northwestern district traffic manager for the Union Pacific, says that between 1951 and 1956 some 1274 passenger trains were discontinued by American railroads. Twenty-one were in Washington, three in Oregon, and 18 in Idaho.

One of these, the Southern Pacific train between Eugene and Ashland, Ore., was halted without the approval of the Oregon PUC and a hearing is scheduled April 15 on a protest by three Southern Oregon state senators. They want service restored.

Still unsettled, too, is the request by the Union Pacific to stop passenger service between Ayer, Wash., and Lewiston, Idaho.

Inroads on Travel

There can be no question about the inroads made on rail travel by planes.

Only recently the Civil Aeronautics Board announced that air line passenger miles, for the first time, topped both the railroads and the bus lines in 1957.

U. S. airlines, the report said, topped both the railroads and the bus lines in 1957.

U. S. airlines, the report said, flew 25,800,000,000 passenger miles. Railroads traveled an estimated 21,600,000,000 and buses 25,200,000,000.

But it would appear that the railroads are still a major factor in the transportation picture.

Circuit Court

Complaints

Joe B. Hadaway vs. State Industrial Accident Commission. Plaintiff seeks compensation for 50 per cent loss of function of one leg and 85 per cent loss of function of one arm.

Decrees

Otto and Virginia Streiberger vs. Carl Wolf. Property allegedly contracted to be purchased by defendant ordered foreclosed in default judgment.

National Life Insurance Co. vs. William H. and Mae Lindsay and City of Winston. Plaintiff awarded default judgment of \$7,869.19 in foreclosure suit.

National Life Insurance Co. vs. Willard J. and Marilyn J. Myatt and City of Winston. Plaintiff awarded default judgment of \$8,849.35 in foreclosure suit.

Dismissals

Vern Kutz vs. Harry Olsen. Suit dismissed with prejudice and without costs.

Elton O. Holm vs. Home Indemnity Co. and J. B. Cox. Suit dismissed with prejudice to plaintiff and without costs.

State Unemployment Compensation Commission vs. Pacific Logging Co., Inc. Suit dismissed upon payment of claim of plaintiff.

State Unemployment Compensation Commission vs. Carl R. Duncan and Floyd W. Felt, dba Duncan & Felt Logging Co. Suit dismissed with prejudice and without costs to either party.

Walter Callahan vs. Charles Ridenour. Suit dismissed with prejudice and without costs.

Beverly Naylor vs. Delphyn Bebb. Suit dismissed with prejudice and without costs.

Mary G. Monk vs. Edward R. Rauscher. Suit dismissed with prejudice and without costs.

Ardley H. Naylor vs. Delphyn Bebb. Suit dismissed with prejudice and without costs.

Lexlie L. McKnight vs. Donald L. Hadley. Suit dismissed with prejudice and without cost.

Calapooia Bureau Tables A Request On County Harbor

By MRS. BRITTAN SLACK

The Calapooia Farm Bureau has tabled a resolution for further study which asks the county federation to write the state's congressmen urging them to work for further development of the Reedsport harbor.

The resolution was read at the last meeting.

At the same meeting, Bob Monett, chairman, gave a report on the county membership drive.

In its only other action, the unit agreed to pay half the cost of installing a new switch box at the clubhouse.

Wayne Timely, the new Farm Bureau insurance agent, answered questions. Nine families were represented.

Work on Quilt

Members of the Do-A-Dede Club worked on quilt blocks for hostess Pat Liesinger in West Sutherland at the last meeting. The work followed a noon potluck.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Riggs spent the weekend at Grants Pass visiting Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sparks, former Oakland residents.

The project at the last meeting of the Cookeites 4-H Club was making cookies of various kinds. The meeting was held at the home of leader Mrs. Lloyd Harris.

Plane Passengers Drop

At Roseburg, Ore., a point once served by the Southern Pacific passenger train running between Eugene and Ashland, West Coast reported no gain in passengers after the train abandonment.

In fact the number of air passengers dropped in 1956 after the train quit running — to 4,277 from a total of 4,729 the year before. Last year West Coast's total showed a minor gain to 4,342.

These figures are all well below the Roseburg peak of 5,132 in 1953. Kurt Dils, Portland district sales manager for West Coast, attributes the drop in air travel from Roseburg to a lumbering center to economic conditions.

West Coast's business has grown steadily, however, in most Pacific Northwest cities. Lewiston, Idaho, reports a gain from 2,839 in 1952 to 10,869 in 1957, with West Coast adding two more flights in 1955. Pasco, Wash., served by the Spokane, Portland and Seattle railroad, shows an air passenger gain from 4,390 to 13,478 in the period.

At North Bend, Ore., which is without rail service, West Coast's passenger total has nearly doubled from 7,802 in 1948 to 13,167 last year.

Automobiles Competitor

Dils says the feeder air line considers the automobile, not the railroads and other carriers — to be their chief competitor.

"For example, when a new freeway opens, we find our business takes a drop," he says. Promotion of U-drive car business from airports is the principal method now in use to try to overcome this competition.

Major air lines also have made spectacular gains in business in the Pacific Northwest in the past decade. United, for example, reports a gain in air travel of more than 100 per cent along with a big increase in air mail, freight and express.

Even so, the major lines, as the Oregon Statesman, Salem, commented editorially recently, "complain they are being drowned in their own prosperity."

Like the railroads, they report dwindling net returns despite increasing business and are seeking rate increases. Unlike the feeder air lines, the major air carriers no longer receive a government subsidy.

The railroads aren't the only carriers seeking to abandon service in specific areas. Some major air lines have asked permission to drop service to some smaller communities such as Klamath Falls and Bend-Redmond, Ore.

They argue that feeder lines—in this case West Coast—could operate such flights more economically and provide better service.

Despite the sometimes staunch opposition from civic groups, the railroads in the past generally have received sympathetic treatment from governing bodies in requests to abandon service.

Never in the history of the Oregon Public Utilities Commission, for example, has such a request been turned down.

Langley, Ousted DA, Files For Nomination

SALEM — William M. Langley, ousted last year from the Multnomah County district attorney's office, filed Monday for Democratic nomination for his former position. He said last weekend he would do so.

Langley was forced to vacate his office after being convicted of permitting gambling to operate. The state Supreme Court is expected to rule soon on Langley's appeal.

Other filings Monday: Circuit Judge David R. Vandenberg, Klamath Falls, filed for reelection.

Roseburg Church Hosts Singing Family Group

The O. L. Taylor family of Vancouver, Wash., will begin a series of singing engagements tonight at the Church of the Open Bible, 1643 SE Jackson St.

Mr. and Mrs. Taylor and their three daughters will appear at 7:30 p.m. weekdays, with the exception of Monday, and at 7 p.m. Sundays. Pastor of the local church is the Rev. Lawrence A. Smith Jr.

SERVING ON DESTROYER

Seaman Apprentice Gerald L. Sullivan, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Sullivan, 4070 SW Carnes St., Roseburg, is serving aboard the destroyer USS Beatty in the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean.

Since joining the fleet in December of 1957, the Beatty has visited the ports of Athens and Rhodes, Greece, while operating in the eastern Mediterranean area.

BICYCLE RECOVERED

A boy's bicycle reported stolen Friday was returned the following day. Roseburg police report Ed Deal, 649 SE Flint St., found the wheel in his yard where it had been abandoned. Betty Mosher reported to police Friday that the bike had been stolen from 847 W. Corey St.

LISTEN

ART LINKLETTER'S "HOUSE PARTY"

2:30 PM
Monday thru Friday
KRNR
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Design School Is Completed By Engineer

By MRS. ARTHUR SHELBY

Donald Koten, location engineer with the Glider station, has returned from Portland after attending four weeks of U.S. Forest Service design school on procedures involving access roads.

Rolls Bandages

The Glider Baptist Mission Aid Society met recently to roll bandages from old sheets. Members packed the fourth box to be shipped to a mission hospital in Africa.

The Glider society is in need of more old pillowcases and sheets. Anyone willing to donate these articles, should leave them at the parsonage or phone Mrs. Carl Messing at GYpsy 63233 and the package will be picked up. The condition of the material, does not matter, members use the smallest scraps to make swabs.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Pugh accompanied by Mrs. Jack Pugh, returned recently from a three-day visit with Pugh's brother-in-law and sister, Dr. and Mrs. Frank Keyser, in Seattle, Wash.

Mrs. Bernice Smith, county health nurse, gave tuberculin skin tests to all first grade students of Glider Elementary Monday morning.

The Bule Star Mothers Chapter 6 met recently at the home of Mrs. Rena Cox with 11 members and one guest present. The evening was spent in working on the chapter's fund raising project. The next meeting will be held March 18 at the home of Mrs. Ester Hackney.

Today's Students Superior To Those In Former Times

ST. LOUIS — A Purdue University official says today's high school students are in many ways superior in achievement to those of former times.

In a paper prepared for a regional convention of 9,000 public school administrators, J. R. Mitchell said comparing schools of past and present is like "comparing the first Wright airplane with a modern jet transport."

However, he said, tests indicate "today's high school students compare favorably with, and are in many ways superior in achievement to, those of former times."

The college-bound youth is as well prepared as his counterpart of previous years and the superior student is much better prepared.

The big difference, Mitchell said, is not in the student but in the type of education he's getting. Years ago the brightest went beyond the eighth grade. Now practically all do. Years ago the program of courses was strictly limited. Now it covers a wide variety of academic and vocational subjects.

"Years ago there was little guidance of the student. Now it is a task of major importance. Years ago the controlling objective of a high school was preparation for college. Now it is designed to serve all youth, college-bound or not."

Small Districts Troublesome

A committee that has been working on the problem for two years reported the real trouble with high school education is the outmoded school district organization.

Many of the nation's small school districts must combine, the committee said, because they can't build and staff high schools capable of giving American children the education they need.

In the major session, Sen. Bush (R Conn) warned: "Unless we soon change the emphasis from the material to the spiritual and intellectual, we are doomed to be a second class power. We may well go the way of the Roman civilization 1900 years ago — or perhaps we shall be blown into oblivion so we will not have to suffer the transition."

K-Falls Girl Lone NW Entry In U. S. Contest

MOBILE, Ala. — Oregon is the only Northwest state which will have an entry in the initial Junior Miss America contest, which opens here Thursday.

She is Darlene F. M. Buchholz of Klamath Falls.

Eighteen high school seniors will compete for the title.

A \$5,000 scholarship will go to the girl who piles up the most points on the basis of looks, poise, intellect, appearance, talent and personality.

The final judging will be held Saturday night.

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Indians To Vote On Land Disposal

WASHINGTON — Immediate arrangement for a tribal election among Klamath Indians to decide disposition of properties valued at \$121,659,618 under the Klamath Termination program was ordered Monday by the Bureau of Indian Affairs of the Interior Department.

Interior Under Secretary Hatfield Chilton notified Thomas B. Watters, Klamath Falls, management specialist supervising the termination program, that his plan for a private management trust of the tribal properties after the federal trusteeship has been terminated, has been accepted.

In the election, adult members of the tribe will decide for themselves a and minor dependents whether to remain in the tribal organization and participate in the management plan dividing tribal assets, or withdraw and receive cash payments.

A sufficient portion of the tribal property must be sold to pay off the withdrawing members.

Value of the tribe's property was reported at congressional hearings earlier. It includes 694,000 acres of prime forest land.

FROM NINE TO FIVE



Why can't I find a simple word like 'coughing'? Does it have one F or two?



Nuclear-Powered U. S. Sub Sails For England

GROTON, Conn. — The U.S.S. Skate, the world's third largest nuclear-powered submarine, sailed Monday for Portland, England on a "shakedown" cruise.

The 265-foot submarine, which joined the Nautilus and Seawolf in the Navy's growing nuclear fleet last December, is scheduled to arrive at Portland on March 5.

The undersea craft will also visit other undisclosed European ports on the cruise. It's due back in Groton late in March.

Capable of traveling 61,000 miles — equal to three times around the earth at the equator — without refueling, the Skate cost the Navy \$1 million dollars to build.

Her skipper is Cmdr. James F. Calvert of Cleveland, Ohio.

APPOINTED NOTARY

H. R. Winston, Winston, has been appointed a notary public by Gov. Holmes. Winston's tenure will begin March 1 and end Feb. 28, 1962.

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ACROSS

13 Religious leader — Plus — of the Roman Catholic church

DOWN

1 Quick explosive sound

2 Dance step

3 Footlike part of compound ether

4 Dry (comb. form)

5 Masculine appellation

6 John (Gaelic)

8 Pueblo Indians

9 Assam silkworm

10 Entire

11 Delaware (ab.)

19 Obtain

20 Dance step

21 Ester of oleic acid

22 Attie

23 Nota

24 Expunge

25 Apoin

26 Sewing tool

27 Mimics

28 Goddess of peace

31 Transaction

39 Health resort

40 Scottish sheepfold

43 Portion out

45 Cap anew

47 Musical quality

48 Feathered scarf

49 Footed vase

50 Southern general

51 Eucharistic wine vessel

52 Long fish

54 Island (Fr.)

55 Unit of weight

56 Affirmative

