

RAILWAY HISTORY

UV Was Called Upon for WWII Support

Transportation Officials Confer with Railroad

Negotiate with O&W for Two Passenger Coaches

Mr. John B. Meola of Norwich, Chenango County war transportation coordinator, was in town again this past week continuing his endeavors to get more satisfactory transportation for war workers in the Scintilla plant from this section.

At the present time he is hoping that some arrangement may be made for the Unadilla Valley Railway Company to run passenger trains for the workers from Chenango and Otsego counties served by the railroad. Mr. Meola stated on Tuesday that the principal obstacle seems to be inadequate passenger coaches and that negotiations are under

way with the Ontario & Western Railroad Company to furnish two coaches for use by the U. V. These coaches would be of wooden construction but would serve the purpose in the emergency.

Mr. Meola and R.H. Kohler, field agent of the state war transportation committee, conferred with railroad officials in New York city last week and are hopeful that a plan may be worked out to the satisfaction of the carrier and the many employees of the Scintilla company who reside in this section. The railroad serves all the territory between Bridgewater and New Berlin and that between Edmeston and Sidney, which could guarantee several hundred passengers on trips to and from Sidney each day.

[This article was reprinted from the March 11, 1943 edition of the New Berlin Gazette. It is unknown by us whether or not this plan was put into action. Any readers with more information about this plan are encouraged to advise the Pendragon so that we can do a follow-up. —Ed.]

FROM THE CONDUCTOR

Accomplishments To Be Proud Of; Renewed Efforts Still Needed

Dear fellow members and friends of the Railroad Museum:

Maybe we have something we should be proud of. Certainly we have something to shout about.

Last year we were funded for a roadside historical marker which we then had installed. This year, with your help and that of a couple of anonymous donors, we paid off a burdensome land contract and gained clear title to the New Berlin O&W depot where we house the museum. We have good reason to shout.

You haven't been in to see the museum? Well, maybe you should make it a point to do just that. Back last August the museum had a visit from an out-of-towner who just happened by and saw the door open. When he got home he sent this note:

Thanks for the private tour Sunday 23 August when we just stumbled into your Museum.

You guys are really off to a great start for

only three years, and you have all sorts of potential!

*Best wishes,
Rand Warner*

We've had visitors before, and many of them have been drop-ins. But guess what? Mr. Warner happens to be the Preservation Chairman and Director of the Rochester and Genesee Valley Railroad Museum, and is also connected with the Railroad Museum of the State of New York, also in that area. I'd say if he thinks we are doing something good, then that must be the truth.

But you must realize that receiving such a rave is no reason to go sit on our laurels. On the contrary. This is the time we must double or triple our efforts to make sure we are doing our very best.

Recently I attended a workshop in Utica sponsored by the Board of Regents of the State of New York, which chartered us. The purpose of the workshop was to guide trust-

ees in how to function efficiently and effectively. Needless to say, just about every society and museum represented at the workshop saw numerous shortcomings in their management and their outreach. We will need to increase our staff. An effort must be made to develop a body of volunteers for various activities. Work days will have to be established both for day-to-day maintenance and to work on needed projects we have thus far just talked about.

...

Upcoming projects:

- Installation of wooden line barrier on east edge of property
- Installation of house track on east side of depot
- Discovery and acquisition of rolling stock
- Clean-up of engine house property

...

See you at the depot!

—YOUR CONDUCTOR

A Note to Contributors

The Unadilla Valley Railway Museum & Society is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization chartered by the New York State Board of Regents.

UV Book Still Available

We still have some copies of Fred Pugh's book *Days Along the Buckwheat & Dandelion: The Unadilla Valley Railway*. The cost remains \$45. When they run out, they run out.

Hats On!

If you haven't yet purchased your UVRS hat, now's a great time to catch up. These

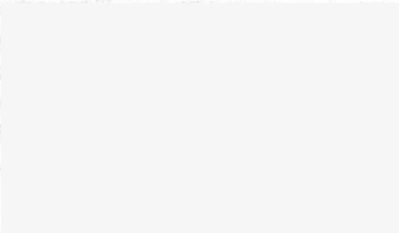


"Salzberg Orange" beauties are sold at every Society meeting for \$6.00 each, or you can send \$6.00 plus \$1.00 postage to UVRS Hats, P.O. Box 751, New Berlin NY 13411.

Items for Publication

If you have an item or photo you would like to submit for publication, write to The Editor, UV Railway Society and Museum, PO Box 751, New Berlin NY 13411.

Unadilla Valley Railway Society
PO Box 751
New Berlin, NY 13411



20151+2202

