

THE
ILLINOIS - IOWA DIVISION
LABOR MANAGEMENT ACTION GROUP NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NUMBER 3

JUNE, 1981

FROM THE DESK OF J. W. STUCKEY - DIVISION MANAGER

Due to the decrease in carloading business for April (we expected 53,500 cars and fell short of projections by 5776 cars with an actual 47,724 cars for the month) we had to make adjustments in various departments to compensate for this and the anticipated decreases in the months of May, June and July.

The change in carloads did not reflect in the operation as far as train movement for April. On an average for April, 1981 all loads moving between Kansas City - Louisville versus Chicago - Milwaukee and St. Paul were 2.4 days compared to April of 1979 when our average was 5.2 days reflecting a great improvement.

The greatest improvement by comparison is the interchange from Kansas City to Chicago,...in April of 1979 it took 8.7 days compared to an outstanding 1.8 days in April of 1981. This was our goal for December of 1981 and with the added improvements in this area we will be well beyond our goal by December. These changes show the high quality of work we are capable of.

In May we started an Extra Gang at Marquette to coincide with the opening of the Marquette-River Junction Line, scheduled to open August 1, 1981. With the opening of the River Junction Line, we are planning to move cars from Kansas City to St. Paul. At this time we are making plans for rescheduling westbound trains to Kansas City and making a study of train time for the best connection on eastbound trains.

We are also starting a tie and surfacing Extra Gang to work between Ottumwa, Iowa and Muscatine, Iowa. This will be a set back for our Kansas City fleet, but in the long run it will enable us to meet the maximum productivity.

J. W. Stuckey
Division Manager

FROM THE DESK OF MIKE PETERSON - ADM-TRANSPORTATION

Due to restoration of track on the Marquette-River Junction Line by Extra Gang forces the speed on this segment will be 10, 25 and 30 MPH. This will enable us to operate Trains 221-220 (presently operating via Chicago) via River Junction--down the river. The change in operation of Trains 221-220 will save 243 miles per trip resulting in a fuel savings of 2.4 million per year, \$516,000 savings in labor and \$816,000 savings in car hire. Most important---we will be saving 24 hours in transit time from Duluth - Kansas City, St. Paul - Kansas City Gateway, and by revising the Chicago departures to coincide with Train 221 in Ottumwa, Iowa this will save approximately 12 hours on almost all other Kansas City traffic. This improvement should be considerable aid to maintaining our present position of No. 1 carrier Duluth-Kansas City from Canadian origin, beating the CNW Railway by 2 days and the BN by 3 days.

We will again be calling on Ottumwa, Iowa to keep and expand the fine job they have been doing blocking the Kansas City run through trains. When this operation begins, we will start blocking St. Paul, River Junction and other north cars at Ottumwa, Iowa as well. As you can see, this is just another step in providing a more productive and efficient operation and better service for our customers.

FROM THE DESK OF L. C. VAN GEMERT - AREA MANAGER-SALES

The Milwaukee Road Sales Department on the Illinois-Iowa Division has District Sales Offices in Chicago, Illinois; Davenport, Iowa; Kansas City, Missouri; and Louisville, Kentucky. Each sales office has a District Manager of Sales and a Chief Clerk for the office. In the Chicago office, we have 5 Sales Representatives, Davenport has 2 Sales Representatives and the Kansas City office has 1 Sales Representative. These Sales Representatives report directly to the District Manager of Sales, who in turn reports to the Area Manager of Sales in Chicago.

The Sales Department has a main objective to solicit new business for the Milwaukee Road as well as maintain current business at the highest level of profit to the Milwaukee Road. We consider ourselves the "eyes and ears" of the Milwaukee Road, always looking and listening for new business opportunities to participate in. As you can see, this is a very large territory to cover with a very limited number of people. Therefore, I ask your help--if you see or hear of some business opportunity, new or existing that you feel we can participate in or better our position with, please feel free to contact one of our District Sales offices or me directly on extension 3330 in Chicago. We can then follow-up for the best interest of the Milwaukee Road.

FROM THE PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

Jerome Wilson, Personnel Department on the Illinois-Iowa Division has asked that the following information be printed for the benefit of all employees.

Interested in being promoted within the Company? Questions regarding career possibilities with the Milwaukee Road? Your Regional Personnel Office has a program designed to help you. It's called the Internal Mobility Program, created to make the Personnel Department aware of your interested in promotional opportunities.

To do this, simply obtain a Form PD-108, Request for Promotion or Transfer, from your Supervisor. Information from this completed form will be logged into our Internal Mobility System, giving us a ready resource of interested applicants when position openings occur.

If you have questions as to what career opportunities are available, our Personnel Office will be glad to set up a Career Counseling appointment to help guide you in your career path. Career Opportunity Binders describing various positions on the Railroad are **also** available in the following locations:

- Personnel Office at Galewood
- Trainmaster's Office at Ottumwa, IA
- Trainmaster's Office at Terre Haute, IN
- Freight Office at Davenport, IA

Also, don't forget to ask about the Tuition Refund Program to help you become qualified for any future career moves you would like to make. The program reimburses employees for approved tuition fees in career related courses. Such career courses may be outside of your present position or your department. In order to insure your expenses will qualify for reimbursement under the program, be sure to contact the Personnel Officer prior to enrollment in classes.

If you have any questions on these programs, please feel free to visit the Personnel Department located in the Division Manager's office building at the Galewood facility or contact the office on Extension 3985 (648-3985). Personnel representatives on the Illinois-Iowa Division are Jerome Wilson, Personnel Manager and Earline Marshall, Personnel Officer.

THE PEOPLE PRESS:

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Herman Cunningham, Mechanical Foreman at the Bensenville Car Department who recently completed the requirements for his diploma. We are proud of you Herman. Also, Herman was recently selected to be an Instructor in the American Red Cross Multi-Media Systems Standard First Aid Course.

WELCOME BACK TO:

Don James, Freight Service Inspector, who recently returned to work after a serious car accident --- Don and Jill James have also recently become new parents which I'm sure will aid in Don's recovery---- our best wishes to the New James Family!!!!

RETIREMENTS:

We wish the following people long, healthy & happy retirements and encourage them to keep in touch . . .

Henry Warner of the Bensenville Diesel House retired in May, Good Luck Hank.

Charlie Nash of the Bensenville Diesel House retired in May. It has been reported by Mrs. Nash that Charlie is having a hard time slowing down . . . keep in touch, Charlie.

James Toon, Sr., Engineer, retired in May. For the past 2 years "Jimmy" has been working at the Diesel House on the day Relief Crew. It won't be the same without you - James. Good Luck and keep in touch!!!

C. E. Bittner, Car Retarder Operator at Bensenville retired during the month of May - Best Wishes.

Robert Watson, Switchman in the Chicago Terminal retired and has our best wishes.

Anthony Diebold, Switchman in the Chicago Terminal retired this past month -- Good Luck.

Gordon R. Johnson, Engineer, Bensenville retired during May, Good Luck, Gordon.

Bob Johnson of the Material Division at Bensenville retired during May -- Best Wishes, Bob and keep in touch.

Tom Machione, Sr. retired from the Bensenville Car Department in May . . . Good Luck, Tom.

We have the following from Bob Christensen, Engineer:

"Arnold Sampson Quits"

After Arnold received notice of a formal hearing by the Terminal Manager of his allegedly reporting for work for the past 35 years impersonating an Engineer, Arnold pulled the pin....Nice work Mr. G. E. Lane it gave his fellow workers a good reason to join together with Charlotte (Arnie's wife of 39 years) for a surprise party for Arnold. Arnold's fellow workers gave Arnold a gift and some cash so he could buy a band saw he has wanted.

Continued . . .

Highlights of Arnold Sampson's Retirement Party - continued

There were plenty of old friends to share food and refreshments with Arnold at his party.

Arnie and Charlotte will be living between Bensenville and Wisconsin during the year. We all join in saying "Good Luck Arnie, in your new ventures." We will all miss you, but along with your "Foster Grants" will never forget you...we can't wait to see our Division without sunglasses.

(Thanks for taking the time to communicate the "highlights" of Arnold's party with all of us, Bob.)

HAPPINESS IS:

Marriage for Elaine Heinz and Howard Neff --- our Congratulations!!!

A new baby daughter born to Carman Sisler and Wife Joan of Ottumwa, Iowa. Jim Kelley, Iowa Division Engineer, and wife Mary are the happy Grandparents.

TAKE TIME:

Laverne Rebensterf, retired D&I Engineer, is at home bedridden and would appreciate having the guys stop over to see him or give him a call. His address and phone number: 842 Morgan Street, Elgin, Illinois 60120.
Phone: 742-8080

OUR SYMPATHY TO:

- Merle Miskimmins and his wife for their loss.
- The family of Felix J. Vannini, second shift Caller at Savanna.

"To live in the hearts we leave behind is never to die."

HELLO / GOODBYE:

Goodbye to Greg Williams of Bensenville who took a job at Chicago Union Station - - - Good Luck Greg.

Congratulations to Jeff Playman who has taken the job as Assistant Terminal Manager at Bensenville.

Hello to Phil Marbut who has taken the job as Supervisor-Stations & Yards on the Illinois-Iowa Division, formerly Agent at Davenport.

Congratulations to Ray Rebesco who was recently promoted to Assistant Terminal Manager.

Goodbye to Steve Patton of Bensenville who was recently promoted to a position in the Safety Department at Union Station.

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