

## OLD RUN NEWS

Newsletter of the Middleton Railway Trust.

Number 19      September 1966

### On the line

Traffic has been fair since the Leeds holiday fortnight at the beginning of August. A wagon of spares for the Avonside have arrived during the last few days.

Little work has been done on the locomotives except for the Sentinel which has caused the engineer much hard work due to difficulty with some of the studs. The result is that the fire-box has been rather like a yo-yo - in and out etc. The engine has received a top coat of black and the sides have been lettered with '54'.

The steam crane mentioned in the July Newsletter has been hauled on channels and rail, mostly by the Y7, towards the new track in Clayton's Moor End Works.

There has been a general tidying up of scrap etc. - all we need now is a landscape gardener!

A number of houses between Burton Road and Clayton's Sports Field have been demolished and the level crossing on Burton Road has been resurfaced leaving enough depth of track to allow running over it if it was ever necessary. The lines at Whittaker's Staithes have been lifted by the owner. It is hoped to secure some of the relics thus moved.

For a long time it has been obvious that only very careful maintenance has kept the bottom loop junction in a safe condition, with tiebars holding the track to gauge, and underpinning of chairs to prevent them crushing the old timbers. As the first stage of improvement, the switches and common crossing of the turnout were lifted and dismantled and plain track laid in their place. This was done in one weekend by a very hard-working and unusually large group of members.

A waterlogged area at the lowest place (where the down gradients from Moor Road and B.R. meet) had become rather hazardous for both track and train crews. This was found to be due to the Leeds Drainage Department having blocked a drain and lifted it higher up, unfortunately without informing us.

### The Northern Model Railway Exhibition

This was held in the splendid exhibition hall in Kings Road, Harrogate at August Bank Holiday. We were fortunate to have been given 18' of space and were thus able to show our Midland Bank exhibition as well as the layout that The Wakefield Railway Modellers Society has built for us. The layout was complete enough for us to show but has to be returned to Wakefield for scenery etc. to be added. It proved a great attraction and has improved the Middleton stand beyond measure. Over 10,000 people visited the exhibition and our sales were good. Very many thanks go to the members who helped there (and played with the layout!)

AIRE-ESK ENTERPRISE

Saturday September 10th.1966. Hauled by the GREAT MARQUESS.

Have you got your ticket yet ?

There are still some tickets available and still time to get them.

Place - Leeds City, Keighley or Skipton.

Fare - 42/- , 38/- or 36/- .

Time - 9.45 am., 10.15 am. or 10.35 am.

Arrive back at Leeds. 19.17.

Send money and stamped addressed envelope with or without the booking form to :-

J.R.Atherley, 31 Silvey Avenue, Southwell, Notts.

A tremendous amount of time, energy and expense have gone into organising for YOUR benefit this very pleasant outing behind STEAM. B.R. will not be in a position to allow such expeditions in the future when cooling and water points are withdrawn.

So travel while you can!

CAN YOU HELP CLEAN THE GREAT MARQUESS ANY EVENING THIS WEEK ?

CONTACT THE SECRETARY AT LEEDS 54441,  
if you can

Christmas is coming! Though it is still only October many shops are already stocking up for Christmas, and it may be as well to remind you what possible gifts Middleton has to offer. We think you will find something of interest to all railway enthusiasts whatever their age in the list below. Remember all you buy will help swell the funds.

MEMBERSHIP. 21/- and 7/6 junior. Incidentally, don't forget to renew your own!

SLIDES. 1. "J.A." in original green livery.  
2. Sentinel 54 in steam.  
3. Swansea.  
4. Windle.

5. 1310 in N.C.B. livery. There are also assorted oddments of "J.A." in partially finished blue, 54, and the steam crane. All slides are 2/- each, or 9/- per set of five.

BOOKS. "Pennine Journey" by W.B. Stocks, which deals with transport in the Huddersfield area. 98 Pages, only ~~5/6~~ 5/6.

"Swansea and Mumbles Souvenir". We have the last few copies of this well illustrated memory of the world's first passenger railway. Only 2/6.

"Great Northern". Published to sell at 2/6 this brief history of the G.N.R. by Cecil J. Allen is available to MRT members at 1/6.

"The Middleton Colliery Railway". This, the third edition, has been extended and revised, and only costs 1/6.

"Third Century at Middleton" and "Steam Loco in 1812". Together available at 1/-.

Also available are postcards, ballpens, and combs at 6d each, and MRT cloth badges at 2/- each - only a few left!

Order early to avoid disappointment! A contribution to postal charges will be greatly appreciated.

If there is sufficient demand a Middleton Calendar may be produced, with one or more railway views. Should you think this a worthwhile venture tell us how many you could use, marking your envelope "Calendar". Cost will naturally depend on demand and quality - we have in mind a large photo or group of photos, mounted on stiff card, with a small calendar beneath the photos. Cost would be 3-5/-.

Leeds Union Railway Society Meetings. All MRT members are welcome at the University Union's meetings, which are held in the Physics Department of the University at 19.30. (Buses 1,28,30,33,36,56.) Meetings will be announced in the 'Old Run News'. Friday October 15th - Conversations. Friday October 29th - The Rt. Rev. E. Treacy on a motive power topic.

Blenkinsop's local celebrates 150th anniversary! A pub which Murray and Blenkinsop may well have frequented in Middleton's early days - "The Engine" at the foot of the "Old Run" - recently celebrated its 150th birthday. To mark this auspicious occasion articles appeared in the Yorkshire Evening Post, and the landlord was photographed on the Y7.

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This issue has been edited by John Carr and very badly typed by a person who justifiably wishes to remain anonymous. Comments, offers of help, ideas on Middleton affairs and orders for goods should be sent to

5, North Grange Mount, LEEDS 6.