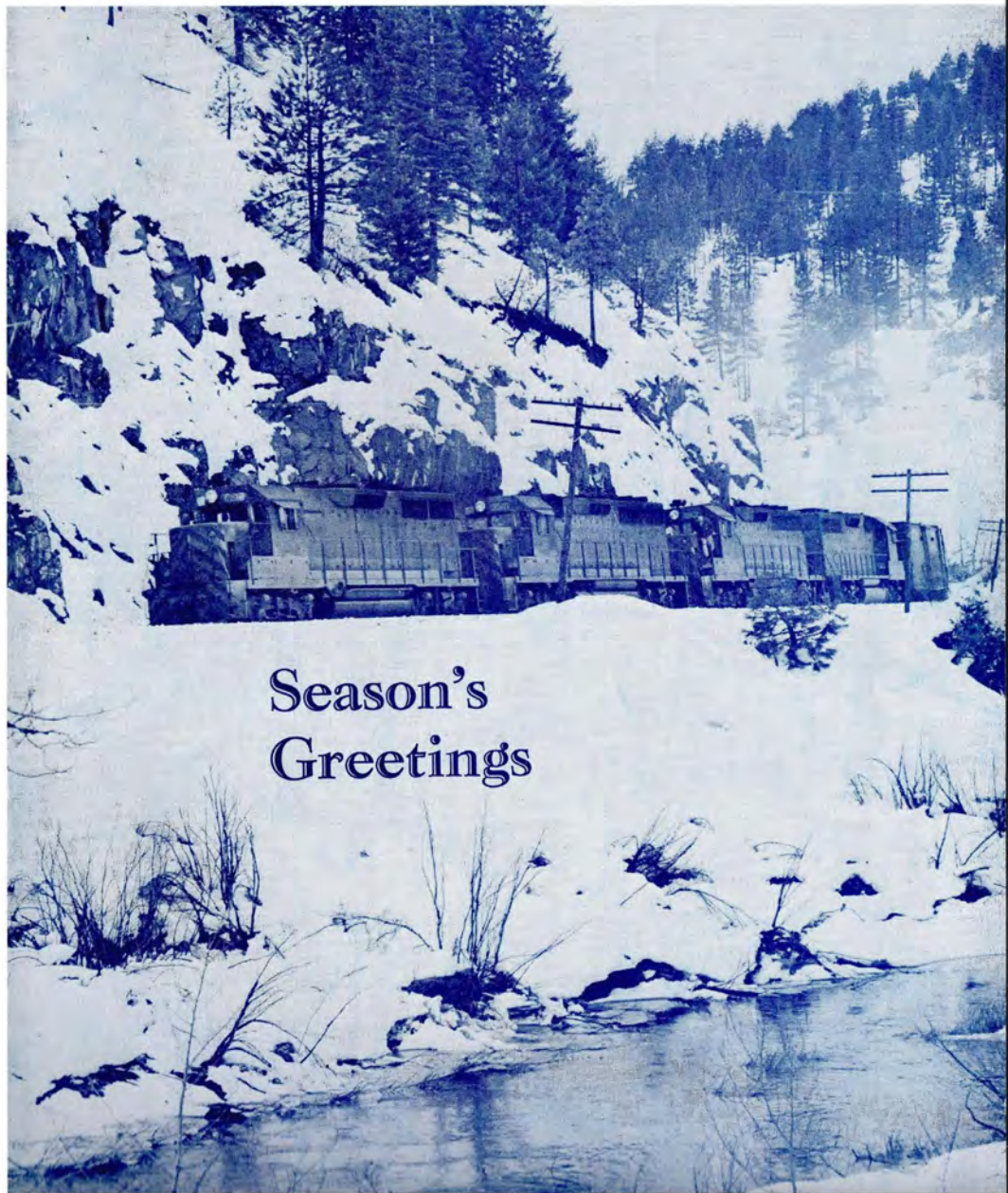


WESTERN PACIFIC
Mileposts

DECEMBER 1969



Season's
Greetings

Christmas 1969

The spirit of good fellowship during the very special Christmas Season offers each of us the opportunity to express our thanks for what we often take for granted.

On this day we can acknowledge our gratitude to those who deserve but seldom receive it. We can smile back at those who carry a smile even though we may be unhappy. We can be patient with those who are patient with us, knowing that they, too, are very busy. We can give of ourselves to those who give of themselves more than we have a right to expect.

As we gather with with our family and friends on Christmas Day, let us not overlook the need for silent prayer in the spirit of peace, with the hopes that our fellow man will soon learn to better understand each other's feelings so that all may better live together.

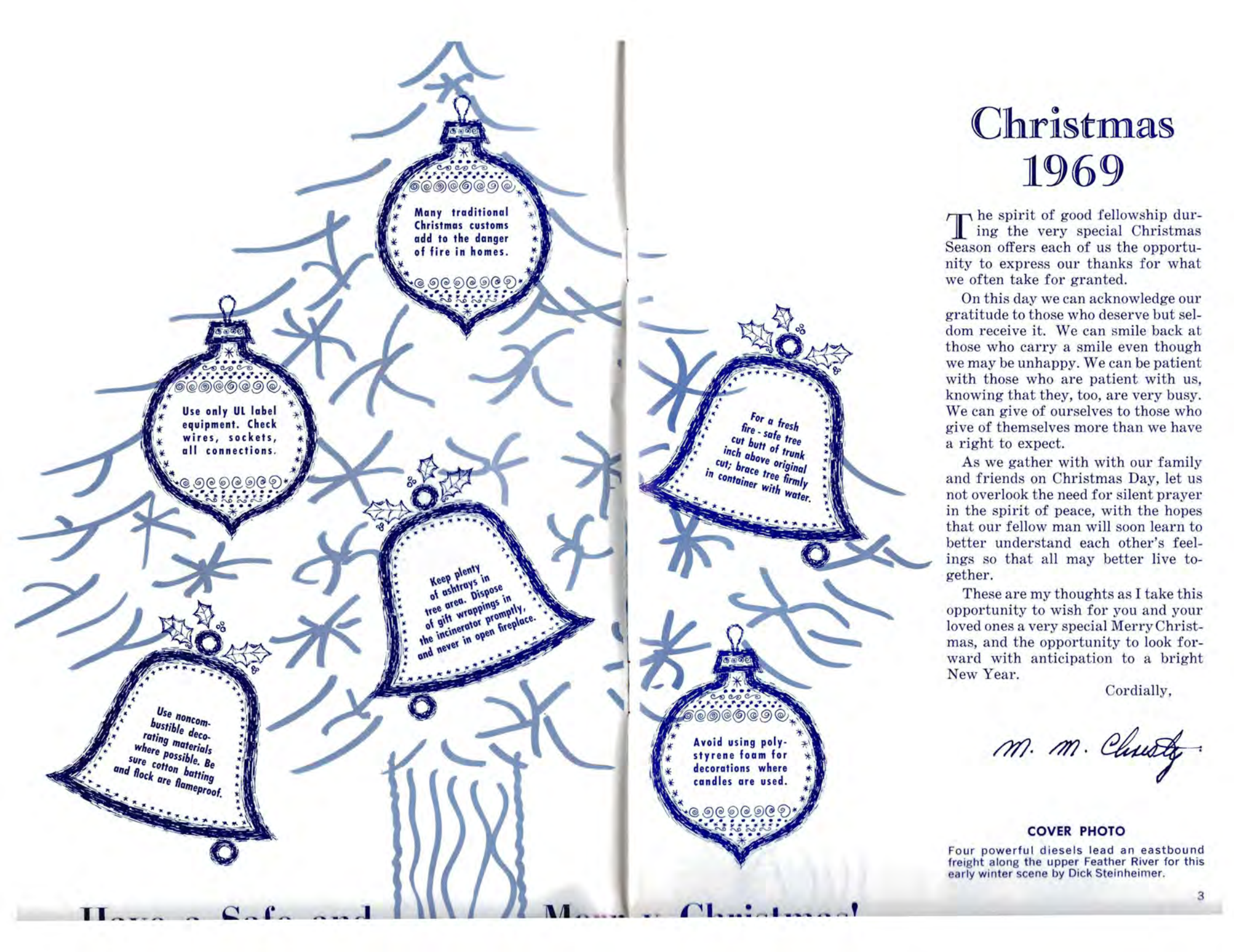
These are my thoughts as I take this opportunity to wish for you and your loved ones a very special Merry Christmas, and the opportunity to look forward with anticipation to a bright New Year.

Cordially,

M. M. Christy

COVER PHOTO

Four powerful diesels lead an eastbound freight along the upper Feather River for this early winter scene by Dick Steinheimer.



Many traditional Christmas customs add to the danger of fire in homes.

Use only UL label equipment. Check wires, sockets, all connections.

Keep plenty of ashtrays in tree area. Dispose of gift wrappings in the incinerator promptly, and never in open fireplace.

Use noncombustible decorating materials where possible. Be sure cotton batting and flock are flameproof.

Avoid using polystyrene foam for decorations where candles are used.

Put a *SMILE* in your Voice!

If you're an average business person, it's been estimated that you will spend about one year of your career talking on the telephone! Some talk more, some less. During those 8,760 hours, people on the other end of the line in many instances will identify you only by your voice. When you speak—to them—it's Western Pacific speaking! Our customers and others with whom you converse will gain their greatest impression of our railroad through your telephone personality.

For some tips on acquiring a good telephone personality, MILEPOSTS asked the opinions of WP's fine staff of PBX operators whose pictures accompany this article.

Answer your phone promptly, pleasantly. Ringing phones may annoy others near you. The caller may have good news or an important message. His time is valuable.

Identify yourself—"Accounting Department, Tom Jones speaking." Isn't that better than "Uhhh . . . H'lo?"

If the person called is talking on another line, is in a conference, or away from his desk, politely tell the caller so then add "May I have him call you?" A "He's busy" may make the caller think he's too busy to talk to HIM!

If there's a message to be taken, be certain you write down the caller's correct name and number.

If a caller seeks information you can't give promptly, don't keep him on the line. Tell him why, about when you'll have the information, and return his call promptly. No one likes to hold a dead line—time is valuable.

Don't be a buck passer — "Try Operations." Better, if the call must be transferred, tell the caller why, how you will do it, then be sure the call is given to the right person who has the information.

The *LITTLE* Things

- "John Brown speaking"
- "I'll be glad to transfer your call"
- "May I help?"
- "Thank you!"
- "He's not at his desk right now"
- "Would you prefer to be called back?"
- "Excuse me"
- "Good morning!"
- "Nice to hear from you!"
- "Can I give him a message?"

If you call a wrong number, don't bang down the phone when they answer. Be courteous with an "I'm sorry," then check the number before calling again. When calling don't hang up too soon. Give him time to answer your call. Then identify yourself politely.

Now a word FOR our operators, who spend their entire day talking on the phone. Don't ask them to take messages—they don't have time and most of them are not allowed to do so. Secondly, when you ask an operator to place a long distance call, remain at your desk until the call is completed . . . it's only a matter of a few seconds and will save time for everyone.

Having a good telephone personality means being as courteous "voice to voice" as you would be "face to face." The impression you make will mean much to all of us who work for Western Pacific. And, you'll feel much better at the end of the day if you have been pleasant and have put a SMILE in your Voice!

Picture Credits:

Stockton—John Sterner, district special agent and claim agent.

Sacramento—Clarence Cox, Leonard Radcliff, district special agents and claim agents.

Salt Lake City—Everett West, D&RGW district claim agent.

* * *

MILEPOSTS regrets that Chief PBX Operator Irma Hanson, S.F., was unavailable for a picture due to her absence because of illness.



Jan Byerley, Kathy Lau, Frances Scher—S.F.



Nellie Giulio—Oakland



Barbara Moffitt—Stockton

Rosemary Fields—Sacramento



Bernice Peterson—Salt Lake City



Left-right:
 H. E. Meeker
 W. S. Cope
 H. J. Tinker
 R. P. McCarthy
 J. F. Kennedy



PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

Harold E. Meeker, executive assistant to the president since January 1967, has been appointed assistant chief mechanical officer. His headquarters, effective November 16, are Sacramento.

Harold is a native of New York City, born March 24, 1929. He received his high school education in Forest Hills, N. Y. and later attended Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, Michigan State College, and received his B.S. degree in civil engineering at Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind.

He began his railroad career in 1956 as a technical trainee for the Baltimore & Ohio. In 1958 he became assistant to division engineer, and one year later was assistant division engineer at Pittsburgh. He was transferred to Akron, Ohio as assistant trainmaster in 1960 and became trainmaster at Cowan, W. Va. in 1961. The following year he returned to Baltimore as industrial engineer which led to positions as supervisory

industrial engineer, senior industrial engineer and assistant director of industrial engineering before being appointed to position of manager of C&O-B&O corporate planning, from which position he came to Western Pacific.

Harold and his wife, Lorraine, and their five children, Kenneth, Lawrence, Kathleen, Susan and William live at 853 Bauer Drive, San Carlos. Harold is president of the San Carlos Little League, and includes photography and model railroading as hobbies.

* * *

Wilbert S. Cope was appointed manager of labor relations, with headquarters in San Francisco. The promotion, effective November 11, was announced by William A. Tussey, manager of personnel.

Bill was born in Oakland on February 12, 1914, the son of the late Engineer and Mrs. James R. Cope. His grandfather, the late William S. Cope, was a dispatcher.



Bill continued his family's railroad career by hiring out as a fireman at Stockton on July 26, 1936. He was promoted to locomotive engineer in February, 1942, and on January 2, 1955 was appointed road foreman of engines at Portola. Bill has been assistant manager of labor relations since May, 1960.

Bill and his wife, Dorothy, will celebrate their 35th wedding anniversary

this December, and their family includes one daughter, Mrs. Donna Calloway, and two grandchildren, Patrick Michael and Colleen Rae.

Bill is a member of Grizzley Lodge No. 601, F. & A. M., Portola, and a member of Ben Ali Temple, Sacramento.

* * *

Kenneth J. Tinker was appointed to a newly created position of assistant superintendent of stations, effective November 1. His headquarters are Sacramento.

Ken was born in Superior, Wisc. in 1928 and his railroad career began in 1944 at the age of 15 when he worked during summer vacations as a track laborer for the Northern Pacific. During vacation period in 1945 he worked for the Soo Line, lighting fires in steam engines, and also as a deck hand aboard a ship on the Great Lakes. Beginning that year he also served over two years in the U. S. Navy, graduating from Radio Communication School and served aboard the Aircraft Carrier USS Saratoga, the heavy cruiser USS Fall River, and the battleship USS Iowa. While aboard the Saratoga he participated in the first atom bomb test at Bikini Atoll.

In 1948 Ken worked a short time as a switchman on the Great Northern and graduated from telegraph school and for the next five years was a Soo Line telegrapher. He joined Western Pacific as a telegraph operator in 1953 and bid his first agency several months later at Fremont. He was promoted to position as traveling auditor in 1956, became freight agent at Sacramento in March 1968 and one year later was promoted to position as assistant trainmaster, Sacramento.

He is a member of BPOE Lodge

(Continued on next page)

**HOLIDAY DRIVING
 DEMANDS IT
 EVEN MORE!
 DRIVE DEFENSIVELY.**



Published to save lives in cooperation with
 The Advertising Council and The National Safety Council.

#2103, Carmichael, and he and his wife, Nancy, are members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Elk Grove for which he has served as treasurer, vice president and president. His hobby is genealogy, through which he has traced his ancestry back 13 generations to the Mayflower and into the middle 15th century in England, covering over 400 years. This should provide interesting reading for the three Tinker children, Elizabeth, 17, Nancy, 16, and Jay, two months.

* * *

Robert P. McCarthy was appointed trainmaster at Sacramento, effective November 1.

Bob was born in Pittsburgh, Pa. on April 5, 1925, and was raised and educated in Verona, Pa. He entered the Navy in 1943 and served three years in the South Pacific as a gunner's mate. He first began railroading as a fireman for the Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad in 1946 and was promoted to engineer in 1952. With the thought that he would better like to live in California he moved west and became a switchman for Western Pacific in 1954. He was promoted to yardmaster in 1958, and in June, 1964, was promoted to trainmaster-road foreman of engines for the Sacramento Northern.

Bob lives in Sacramento with his wife, the former LaRue McNair, also a Pennsylvania resident, and they have three children. Robert John, 22, is in the U. S. Army Security Agency stationed in Panama. Thomas, 19, is a brakeman on the Sacramento Northern, and Linda, 16, is a senior in high school.

Bob is an avid golfer and also finds enjoyment in water skiing.

* * *

James F. Kennedy was appointed trainmaster-road foreman of engines,

effective November 1 with headquarters at Sacramento.

Jim was born in San Luis Obispo on November 24, 1930 and has lived in Sacramento for the past 27 years. He attended C. K. McClatchy High School in Sacramento and after graduation went to work as a clerk for Western Pacific in Portola for a short time before entering the Army. After two years in military service, one year in Korea, Jim returned to railroading with the Sacramento Northern in July 1953 first as a brakeman and then as an engineer.

He married the former Beverly Zwack of Sacramento on August 30, 1953 and the family includes three children, Janice, 12, Denise, 10, and James Lee 8 years.

Jim enjoys bowling and swimming with his family and racing his dragster on weekends.

USE CHRISTMAS SEALS.

IT'S A MATTER OF LIFE AND BREATH.

CHRISTMAS SEALS FIGHT
EMPHYSEMA, TUBERCULOSIS,
AND AIR POLLUTION



A visit to a local agency to see how UBAC aids handicapped children encouraged WP's solicitors in their efforts to achieve their goals.

U.B.A.C. Goal Smashed!

The spirit of giving by Western Pacific employees was truly evident during the Company's United Bay Area Crusade campaign.

The goal of \$23,000 was surpassed by \$126. This was a nine per cent increase over 1968.

The number of Fair Share givers increased 12 per cent.

Great credit for this fine showing should be given to the many solicitors who worked so diligently to put us over the top. They were:

Barbara Bergman
Robert Bradley
Althea Briggs
Marge Brown
Willie Dickens
Donna Fleet
Bill Gault
Mace Gordon
John Haberly
Betty Hill
Tom Horsley
Dan Irwin
Daryl Jennings
Mary McCullough

Mary McFadden
Emma McClure
Charles McNeal
Amira Moranoff
Norman Neathamer
Barney O'Keefe
Thor Olson
Gary Orterry
Bill Petrovich
Irma Piver
Bill Powell
Lee Preston
Sam Razo
Bill Schmidt
Reinhold Schmidt
Jack Starr
Andy Stene
Joe Valerga
Joann Wood

My sincere appreciation to all of you for your untiring efforts!

B. E. Pedersen
WP UBAC Chairman



Service Pin Anniversaries

November-December 1969

45-YEAR PIN

George H. Patterson Conductor Division

40-YEAR PINS

William B. Anderson Asst. Gen'l. Sup'r. Roadway Work Equipment Oakland
 Clarence L. Elliott Section Foreman Division
 Russell P. Rickmon Carman Oakland
 Frank Vasquez Carman Elko

35-YEAR PINS

Howard D. Atkinson Locomotive Engineer Division
 N. J. Laughlin Conductor Division

30-YEAR PINS

Frank W. Ahlert Sup'r. General Books & Insurance San Francisco
 Robert B. Ritchie District Sales Manager Cincinnati

25-YEAR PINS

Eugenio Arano Laborer-Mechanical Dept. Elko
 John F. Bass Switchman Division
 Ora L. Dugger Hostler Helper Stockton
 Hearold Huntoon Carman Sacramento
 Lee M. Jones Conductor Division
 William Lewis Locomotive Engineer Division
 Maxine H. Naisbitt Transportation Clerk Sacramento
 Ernest J. Pontiflet Waiter Dining Car Dept.
 Alexander P. Wichmer Telegrapher Division

20-YEAR PINS

John T. Chavez Welder Helper Division
 James Parrish Section Laborer Division
 Darrell D. Stahl TCS Maintainer Doyle

15-YEAR PINS

R. Anaya Section Laborer Division
 E. A. Beaman B & B Carpenter Division
 J. A. Esquivel Extra Gang Foreman Division
 V. C. Roblyer Conductor Division
 E. G. Schronen Extra Gang Helper Division

10-YEAR PINS

Frank O. Bristow Mechanical Foreman Winnemucca
 P. R. McElheney Asst. Freight Pricing Mgr. San Francisco
 Thomas E. McKinzey Machinist Oakland
 C. Vargas Track Laborer Division

Proud Parents

Would you please include my baby's picture in MILEPOSTS? He was born in St. Luke's Hospital on August 13, 1969, and was three months old when this picture was taken. His mother, Mary, and I have named him Harold Allen Ingebretsen. I joined Western



Little Harold's first picture

Pacific in 1955 as a deckhand and I am working on the Las Plumas. If you can include his picture in the magazine I would like to send my friends a copy.

Harold O. Ingebretsen

* * *

Finis J. Ellis

I am writing to inform you of the death of my husband, Finis J. Ellis, which occurred on April 28, and would love to have it reported in MILEPOSTS as I want to keep it in my memory book. He had worked for the Western Pacific and last a clerk

Letters Received

for the Sacramento Northern, for 22 years and two months. He loved the railroad work and as long as he was able he visited the people with whom he had worked. He had four children, 16 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

Mrs. Ellen Ellis
 38 Oregon Way
 Marysville, Ca. 95901

* * *

Holiday Greetings

If it is not too late and you have the space, would you please include this Holiday Greeting in your next issue.

"Wishing all my friends at Western Pacific a very, very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year."

Mort Buell
 1445 Harrison Street
 Apartment 674
 Oakland, Ca. 94612

(Editor's note: Mr. Buell was 77 last May 12 and retired from the Key System Lines eight years ago. Since that time he has been custodian of the train equipment on display at the Harrison Street Railroad Park. He has been a loyal booster for Western Pacific for many years and has many WP friends in the Oakland area.)



A very Merry Christmas from your Correspondents!

WENDOVER-SALT LAKE CITY

Carol Suchan, J. B. Price

Cashier PRESTON A. NUFFER, Bishop of the Wendover Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, reports that a new chapel was dedicated in Wendover on September 7. Allen M. Swan, regional representative of the Quorum of the Twelve, gave the dedicatory address and prayer. Other speakers were President Kenneth C. Johnson, First Branch President Peter McKellar, and First Bishop J. RONALD ANDERSON, a former WP employee. Many members who had lived in Wendover in the past and others from out of town were in attendance, including Counselors Max L. Shirts and Ferris R. Williams of the Grantsville Stake, Bishop ALFRED B. CALLISTER, a retired employee, and his wife, and Bishop LEONARD F. MAUER, former WP employee. Other Bishops over the years who were present were Phillip Garrett and Wayne R. Shields and his family.

This is the first Chapel to be constructed by the Church in Wendover, services in the past having been held in buildings acquired from the Tooele County School Board which were

dedicated for this purpose. The new building is a fine addition to the Town of Wendover and is so constructed that additions can be made for future needs. The Chapel will seat 300 people and has 13 teaching areas, a multi-purpose baptismal font and kitchen and library facilities.

Engineer H. R. HARGROVE retired on October 23 with 46 years service to his credit. "Hack" was employed as a fireman on October 23, 1923 and was promoted to engineer on August 17, 1941. It will seem strange not to see "Hack" on the California Zephyr on its way through Wendover and in and out of Salt Lake City and Elko. All of us on the railroad wish Mr. and Mrs. Hargrove the best of good fortune and a long and happy retirement.

Conductor and Mrs. D. C. ANDERSON recently returned from a wonderful 10-day holiday in Hawaii.

Our best wishes to Engineer K. N. CALVIN with the hopes that his recovery will be rapid.

Fireman FRANK A. BURDETT died on October 28 at Holy Cross Hospital in Salt Lake City. He is survived by his widow, Naoma, sons Michael F. of Salt Lake City, George of Cody,

Texas, and five grandchildren. Funeral services were held November 1 at noon at Larkin Mortuary with burial at Salt Lake City Cemetery. Frank hired out as a fireman on August 9, 1945 and was promoted to engineer on July 17, 1959. He was a member of B.P.O.E. Lodge #85, the Disabled Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Brotherhood of Firemen and Locomotive Engineers. Our sympathy is extended to his family.

OAKLAND

John V. Leland

From JIMMY GODWIN, rate & bill clerk at Fremont, we learned they had a nice party there on October 31 to honor MASON P. GORDON, SR., who retired that day as senior clerk with 49 years and 4 months service. If you'll check the seniority roster you'll see that Mace, who began service on June 26, 1920, holds No. 1 position on the clerks' roster! During those years

Mace has worked in various positions from San Francisco to Stockton and return and was at Fremont since April 9, 1964. For the occasion following completion of his shift at 7 P.M. on October 31, Mace cut a big cake on which was a replica of the Stockton local coming out of Tunnel 1 on its way to Fremont, to be enjoyed by all present along with sandwiches and salad. Agent C. R. BLISS presented Mace with a model railroad mounted on wood with a plaque engraved with his name and dates of service. The railroad consisted of a WP 2000 class engine, a WP DF-car, a bulkhead flat, tank car and caboose.

HANK TELLER, of freight claims, brought a telegram from DAN IRWIN wishing Mr. Gordon the best of luck, and Assistant Superintendent KEN WOOD was also present to extend best wishes and to thank Mace for his many loyal years of service. In the latter part of January Mace and Agent Bliss plan to make a trip to the Caribbean Islands, going first class of course! Beyond that, Mace has no other plans other than to get his yard work done which has been somewhat neglected of late. He promised to keep in touch with his many friends on the Western Pacific. It might be mentioned that Gordon's son, MASON P. GORDON, JR., crew dispatcher in the dining car department at Oakland, is following in his dad's footsteps although he only has one-half the years service. That's still about 75 years between them!

KEDDIE

Elsie Hagen

Retired Chief Clerk W. A. "BUD" SOULE, who has been living in San Jose, is now living in Quincy and enjoys it very much as he enjoys fishing and hunting.

Airman Gary Barlow and his wife,



Mace had nearly a half century of service

the former Penny Gregory, daughter of Engineer IVOR GREGORY, left on November 2 for Washington, D. C. Gary has been assigned to the 89th Military Airlift Wing (Special Missions) whose purpose it is to transport the President of the United States and other high ranking government officials. The wing is comprised of 27 aircraft manned by a personnel of 130. Airman Barlow entered the Air Force on June 3 this year after receiving basic training at Lackland A.F.B., Texas, and technical training at Lowry A.F.B., Denver. He came home on leave on October 22. Gary and Penny formerly made their home in Sacramento where she was employed as supervisor of the Sacramento City School's key punch division.

Three years ago Ed Sieber of Meadow Valley, whose son was then serving overseas in the Armed Forces, originated a plan to send live Christmas trees to members of the Armed Forces in distant outposts of conflict. Thus was the now world-famous "Operation Pine Needle" born in Plumas County. Sieber's son has since returned home but his father is once more deeply involved in this now widely expanded project. The committee in charge involves many citizens of Quincy, and Christmas tree cutters have volunteered their services. This year, Dr. Dale Wren and the Associated Students of Feather River College have offered to help package the trees for shipping in individual tubes. The Forest Service furnishes permits to cut the trees, and the Christmas Tree Growers Association will cut and deliver the trees to the Fairgrounds for packaging. We're most happy to report that "Operation Pine Needle" is again in full force and we sincerely commend each and everyone taking part in the program!

PORTOLA



Chief Clerk HY O'RULLIAN reports that Miss Susan Lawrence, daughter of Conductor ROBERT J. and Wilma Lawrence, was voted Homecoming Queen for Portola High School where she is a senior. The

attractive young lady has every reason to be proud of her honor and she has our congratulations!

Best wishes to Conductor FREDERICK W. STOGSDILL on his retirement in August after 43 years of railroading, of which 33 years and 11 months were with Western Pacific. He first worked as a brakeman for the Santa Fe in Kansas in 1926 and later as a switchman, fireman, and brakeman with a number of lines until he signed with WP as a brakeman out of Portola. He was promoted to conductor in 1953. Until next spring Fred and his wife will be staying at their vacation home on Bull Shoals Lake in Arkansas.

WINNEMUCCA

Shirley Holt, W. A. Hoxsey

Congratulations to Burro Crane Operator WALTER HOLT and his bride, the former Carol Helen Christensen of Winnemucca, who were married in Elko on October 13. May they have many years of happiness.

Carman CARL REPASS is back at work after having been away from work for several months with a knee injury.

Welcome to Winnemucca to Hostler Helper R. "JAKE" MILLER, his wife, Zayne, and young son, Lance. The Millers just recently moved here from Portola. Zayne is the daughter of Brakeman and Mrs. ED SOUTH.

(Continued on next page)

A few vacationers last month were Brakeman JOE ARRUITI in Oregon, Conductor BILL HOXSEY in Idaho, and Brakeman JACK VETTER, for the most part out hunting.

Speaking of hunters, the top honors for this year must go to Signal Maintainer HAROLD AUL, who got his deer on the first day of archery season—ONE ARROW, ONE SHOT!

LOS ANGELES

Joan L. Worthington

Tom Knapp, son of Sales Representative and Mrs. GORDON P. KNAPP, received his Navy discharge on August 8 three days before his 21st birthday after serving aboard the U.S.S. Isle Royale. In September, Tom and two buddies flew to New York, then took the Islandic route to



Europe. They spent \$90 for a Volkswagen to begin a tour of Ireland, Austria, Germany, Copenhagen and Italy and when last heard from were enroute to Madrid, Spain. Gordon, Mary

Frances, and younger son, Bob, are hoping Tom will ring the doorbell of their Anaheim home in time for Christmas.

MIKE RZEZNIK, sales representative, took time off from our office to take his wife, Joannie, and daughter, Michelle, to New York for the Thanksgiving holiday to visit both their families for the day's festivities.

VOLUME 21, No. 12 DECEMBER 1969



Milepost 200: Looking toward Oroville yard, about three miles beyond.

WESTERN PACIFIC MILEPOSTS

526 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
Lee Sherwood, Editor

Member Assn. of Railroad Editors

DECEMBER 1969



They Have Retired

William S. Brokaw, locomotive engineer, Oakland, 28 years.

Irvine J. Dinkel, clerk, Stockton, 24 years 6 months.

James H. Dyer, Sr., cook, Oakland, 17 years 5 months.

Mason P. Gordon, senior clerk, Fremont, 49 years 4 months.

Harold R. Hargrove, locomotive engineer, Salt Lake City, 46 years.

Amon Hayes, traveling carpenter, System, 19 years 1 month.

George Johnson, cook, Oakland, 24 years 3 months.

Clarence McAfee, waiter, Oakland, 25 years 2 months.

Mack McDaniels, chef, Oakland, 39 years 9 months.

John W. Norford, chef, Oakland, 26 years 6 months.

Frederick W. Stogsdill, conductor, Portola, 33 years 11 months.

Willie Williams, waiter, Oakland, 30 years 4 months.

WESTERN PACIFIC MILEPOSTS

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Season's Greetings
to railroads
everywhere!

May the New Year provide
many Railroad Lines
to report in 1970!