



# WP LIVES

WP LIVES.....

BUMBER STICKERS AVAILABLE @ \$1.50 ea.

This STATEMENT & SYMBOL, drawn by John Ryczkowski is being sold as a special fund raiser for the restoration of WP freight cars, Let's get them all to look as good as WP 3032!!!!!!

## FUND RAISING.....

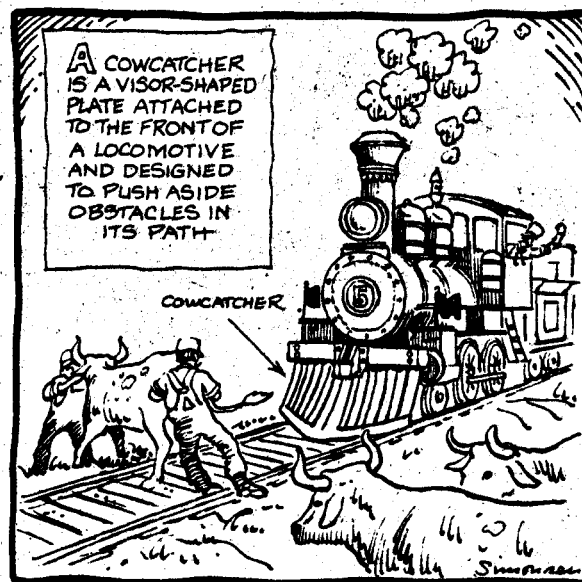
We have been gearing up for Feather River Railroad Days which will be on August 25 this year. Several new items are now in stock or will be very soon. Our members keep coming up with new ideas for all kinds of railroad type items to sell. Our Society will have merchandise for sale in two booths, one at each end of Commercial St. and at Marion's Hobbies also on the same street. All profits will go to the Portola Railroad Museum. This year we are going all out and will have over \$10,000 in merchandise to sell. Some items have been given to us on consignment by a hobby store in the Sacramento Valley. These items we will stock only for Railroad Days, then we will return whatever we do not sell.

We now have received our custom made emblem of the "boxed feather" which was the last logo the WP used before the merger. We have this orange & white colored emblem in watch fobs, hat tacks, key rings and buckles. Now that the large UP 6900 diesels are running through the Feather River Canyon regularly, we will stock 6900 watch fobs, hat tacks and key rings. Our very own coffee mugs should be in stock by the time you read this. These mugs will have a full color picture of the WP F7A 921. Another nice addition which would look great in any den is two porcelain enamelled signs on heavy steel with corner eyelets for mounting. These signs are 8 inches square and we have Western Pacific and Union Pacific in stock.

You will also see we have several new styles of belt buckles. Please check out the enclosed list of items for sale. Two new items not listed are: Orange colored key rings with Feather River Rail Society and address on one side and our logo on the other. The other item is a ball point pen. Either item sells for 50¢ each, 3 for \$1,

We can ship any item by mail, or better yet, come join in on the fun at Railroad Days and buy from the booth. We have some real surprises in store for you on Railroad Days this year.

## COWCATCHERS



**QUESTION:** What is a cowcatcher?

**ANSWER:** A cowcatcher is a visor-shaped plate attached to the front of a locomotive and designed to push aside obstacles in its path. To railroaders, the cowcatcher is frequently known as the "pilot."

The cowcatcher is nearly as old as railroading itself. The first record of the use of such a device was the "guard" invented by Isaac Drips in 1832. It was installed on locomotives of the Camden and South Amboy Railroad of New Jersey after trains destroyed several cows that had wandered onto the tracks. The guard consisted of a sturdy wooden frame attached to the front axle of the locomotive and guided by two small wheels.

Many early guards were too high and too pointed, and caused serious injury to animals. As a result, the device was modified into the form of a large, horizontal, wooden triangle attached directly to the body of the locomotive and suspended only a few inches above the rails. By 1838, the guard was known as a "cowcatcher," and a few years, a "pilot," "Horsecatcher" and "cow guard" are other names that were commonly applied to the device.

On modern diesel locomotives, the cowcatcher is a simple wedge-shaped steel plate that not only pushes aside obstructions, but also serves as a snowplow. Generally, locomotives used only for yard work and switching are not equipped with cowcatchers.

There are those who make it happen  
There are those who watch it happening  
There are those who wonder what happened

**HOBO:** After the Civil War, displaced farm workers roamed the South looking for work. They were called "hoe boys" because they carried their own hoe, the means of farming at that time. Time shortened the term to "hobo" also changing the meaning to anyone who wanders having no home.