



CMO REPORT

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CHIEF MECHANICAL OFFICER

Once again it is my pleasure to inform our membership on the work of the Mechanical Department. On an active note, the first Locomotive Maintenance Clinic has come and gone and it was a rousing success. The crew for the weekend included Chuck Barker, Dave Stares, Jay Sarno, Steve Habeck, Ken Iverson, Gordon Wollesen, Doug Morgan, Ed Powell, Rodney Jenkins and myself. Please excuse me if I inadvertently missed anyone. I was very pleased with the turnout for this clinic and I hope that even more of you turnout in the future.

This is the kind of response that we will need to get on top of our equipment maintenance. I would like to see all of our equipment in factory fresh condition, but I don't think I will have to worry about that anytime soon. I can only hope.

Projects worked on included:

WP 608

Replace leaking water pump.
Change oil in the governor.
Repair oil leak on governor lube oil supply line.
Disassemble brake cylinder. Will assemble then the parts arrive.

FR&W 1857

More work on reverser, this is an ongoing problem. Know one has been able to find the problem, but Peter Lyman was on the job a few days later and if he can't find the problem no one can!! Late news: reverser is repaired and working. Keep your fingers crossed. The voltage regulator was adjusted to 72.1 volts. Work was started on the control system for the shutter and radiator fan. Once again parts were needed but Dave Stares took the pressure relief valve home and he e-mailed me that he was able to repair it. We can get to work on this next time.

WP 512

Replaced brake pipe feed valve.
Checked voltage regulator setting.

WP 921-D

Clean battery boxes.
Extend battery cables.
Install Uni-Pack batteries. (This makes it much easier to service the batteries.)

SP 2873

Investigated water leak in cooling water supply line. Replaced water pump on the right side and installed water drain on pump so it could be drained. (I did this on March 28, it was not part of the clinic but I thought I would throw it in). Found water leak in water heating system for toilet, this will need attention later as we ran out of time.

On another note, we have a lot of parts for our equipment that is stored in boxes and on pallets in various boxcars. We have a rough idea of what we have and where it is, but we can't put our hands on a specific item without an exhausting search. This is very wasteful of our time and energy. I would like to ask if there are some in our membership that have experience in warehousing, working with parts distribution or a related field that would like to form a team to take on the task of solving this problem? This is something that will be an immense stride on the path to increased productivity in the operation of our shop.

There are times that we could sell some of the excess parts that we purchased for resale, but due to not having control of our inventory, we can't capitalize on these opportunities. Being able to take advantage of these opportunities will not only help others in our field; it will increase our cash flow so we can take better care of our charges.

So step forward, you handful of brave souls, the museum is calling you to your destiny. Please remember I can be reached either by e-mail or by phone, the addresses are on the title page of this *Train Sheet*. I would like to hear from anyone that has any thoughts on any part of the museum. This will help me represent you at the board of directors meetings. Help me to help you. Thanks for your time.

—Hank "Flat Iron" Stiles