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WESTERN PACIFIC RAILROAD ON THE PRINTED PAGE

by Kent Stephens

BOOKS:

Asay, Jeff. WESTERN PACIFIC TIMETABLES AND OPERATIONS: A HISTORY AND COMPENDIUM. Crete, NB, J-B Pub. Co., 1983. 110 [81] pages, softbound, illus. (out of print).

Atheam, Robert G. REBEL OF THE ROCKIES: A HISTORY OF THE DENVER & RIO GRANDE WESTERN RAILROAD. New Haven and London, Yale University Press, 1962. 395 pages, hardbound, illus, maps (hardbound.out of print; two-vol. softbound reprint is in print)

The official history of the Rio Grande, from 1871 when the railroad was founded to 1961, written by the late Dr Athearn, at the time a Professor of History at the University of Colorado. The author had full access to corporate records without editorial restrictions from the railroad's officials. It is a ninety year history of the ups and downs of Rio Grande, ninety years when crises were normal rather than unusual, with the Rio Grande surviving five receiverships, bankruptcy, and a temporary captivity to become one of the best equipped and well run railroads in the nation.

George Gould placed full responsibility, as well as the full financial burden, on the Rio Grande to build the Western Pacific. Thus the two railroad's history is interwoven during the period that WP was being built and for half a decade afterward until both railroads collapsed into bankruptcy. REBEL OF THE ROCKIES is an excellent source for this period of Western Pacific history, as well as for the relationship of the two railroads during the following decades. The book is scholarly as well as being well written.

Benson, Ted. ECHOES DOWN THE CANYON. A WESTERN PACIFIC JOURNAL: 1968-1986. Glendora, CA, Westrail Publications, 1987. 64 pages, hardbound, illus, maps. (out of print).

Boynton, James E. LOVE AFFAIR WITH THE IRON HORSE: JIM BOYNTON'S LIFE ON THE STEEL TRAIL. Edited by Mary Rehwald. Quincy, CA, Plumas Community History Project, 1983. 38 pages, softbound, illus. (Out of print? Copies were available, as of last year, at the Plumas County Museum in Quincy.)

Crump, Spencer. WESTERN PACIFIC; THE RAILROAD THAT WAS BUILT TOO LATE. Los Angeles, Trans-Anglo Books, 1963. 48 pages, softbound, illus., part col., maps (out of print).

A well written short history of the WP from the railroad's inception through 1961. The author was the founder and one of the owners of Trans-Anglo Books. The WP history was published as one of about a half dozen "TAB Railway History Classic" 5x8-inch softbound booklets on various railroad subjects during the early 1960's. Numerous photographs and several maps complement the text.

DeNevi, Don. THE WESTERN PACIFIC, FEATHER RIVER ROUTE: RAILROADING YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW. Seattle, Superior Publishing Co., 1978. 157 pages, hardbound, illus. (out of print).

Despite the title words Western Pacific, about half of the text coverage is on the construction of the Central Pacific Railroad and train robberies on Central Pacific and Southern Pacific. The text in the WP portion starts on page 48 and is partially a compilation of articles from MILEPOSTS and other sources. The final third of the book (pages 117-156) is a selection of Ted Benson photographs of the contemporary WP at the time the book was published.

The book contains some errors. An error that stands out to those who are familiar with the history of Rio Grande is the photograph of the double-ended steam locomotive on page 66. It is captioned "A rare builders photograph of the Western Pacific locomotive 'Mountaineer' employed for small, special runs in the Sierras." The locomotive shown was actually No. 101 "Mountaineer" that was a gift of the Duke of Sutherland of England to the D&RG in 1873. (The Duke was a stockholder.) It was a narrow gauge Vulcan Fairlie type built by the Vulcan Foundry at Lincolnshire, England in 1873. The "Mountaineer" saw a decade of service on the Rio Grande narrow gauge in Colorado before retirement, then was scrapped at Burnham Shops in Denver on November 1, 1888, some fifteen years before the WP was incorporated.

Despite weak text and some factual errors, most WP fans and modelers probably will find something of interest in this book. For a more complete review, see John S. Walker's review in THE TAIL LIGHT Issue #2.

Dorin, Patrick C. WESTERN PACIFIC LOCOMOTIVES AND CARS. Lynchburg, VA, TLC Publishing, 1998. 128 pages, hardbound, illus., some in color (in print).

Duke, Donald. RDC: THE BUDD RAIL DIESEL CAR, by Donald Duke and Edmund Keilty. San Marino, CA, Golden West Books, 1990. 279 pages, illus.

An excellent and well researched book that covers the development, history and operation of the RDC Car, a modernized "doodlebug" (self-propelled rail car) that was pioneered by William R. McKeen's development of the McKeen Car in 1905. RDC Cars were built over a period of thirteen years from 1949 at the Budd Company's Red Lion plant near Philadelphia. A total of 398 were sold to railroads that were attempting to reduce operating costs of secondary passenger trains. Following the history of the RDC Car's development, brief chapters cover operation of RDC's on every railroad that owned RDC's. WP's two "Zephyrette" RDC's are covered in an illustrated chapter titled "Western Pacific" on pages 234-238.

Dunscomb, Guy L. LOCOMOTIVES OF THE WESTERN PACIFIC: A PHOTO STORY OF STEAM, by Guy L Dunscomb and Fred A. Stindt. Modesto, CA, Acme Printing Co., 1954. 130 pages, spiral bound, mostly illus., maps. (out of print).

This spiral bound horizontal album format booklet was the authors' first effort on a history of WP steam. The first 38-pages are a mix of text and photographs with brief coverage of WP history and subsidiaries. Most of this section is devoted to information on WP steam. The "Roster of Individual Locomotives" includes purchase price, disposition and disposition price (scrap sale for most locomotives) that isn't in the authors' definitive WP steam book WESTERN PACIFIC STEAM LOCOMOTIVES, PASSENGER TRAINS AND CARS (following entry). The remaining 119-pages of the "photo story of steam" that follow the text section is a photo album of WP steam with roster views followed by a number of action photographs. It complements the larger Dunscomb-Stindt WP steam book (next entry).

Dunscomb, Guy L. WESTERN PACIFIC STEAM LOCOMOTIVES. PASSENGER TRAINS AND CARS, by Guy L. Dunscomb and Fred A, Stindt.. Modesto, CA, G. L. Dunscomb, 1980. 376 pages, hardbound, illus. (out of print).

Fickewirth, Alvin A. CALIFORNIA RAILROADS. San Marino, CA, Golden West Books, 1992, 194 pages, hardbound, illus. (in print).

The inception of this book was in 1952 when the author was asked, following his lecture on the history of California railroads, how many railroads California had throughout the state's history. The author spent 40 years researching this question. The book, however, unfortunately does not live up to expectations. There are many inconsistencies, among them the inconsistent use of Railroad and Railway for various listings of the same company, as well as inconsistency of geographic location in different listings for the same company. Some geographic names are misspelled. A number of dates are either misleading or suspect. There are errors of fact within a number of the listings for individual railroads. It is unfortunate that this book can only be used as a bare starting point for research and careful verification of facts on a railroad company.

Green, Fred H. INSIDE GATEWAY: THE LAST GASP OF A HUNDRED YEAR ORGY. Paradise, CA, 1993? 23 leaves, softbound, illus., map (out of print).

The author, a former president of the Butte County Historical Society, worked as a young man for a contractor that was building the Great Northern's portion of the High Line. This booklet is an account of his experiences. A total of 30 copies were printed. One copy was donated to Meriam Library, California State University, Chico. (It is held in the non-circulating Northeastern California Regional Collection in the Library's Special Collections Department.)

Hildebrand, Clifton. THE GAMBLE OF LAW. New York, Carlton Press, 1973. 266 pages, (out of print). Autobiographical book written by a Bay Area attorney who represented a number of railroad employees in injury law suits against Southern Pacific and Western Pacific, and to a lessor extent the ATSF and Union

Pacific, during a fifty year career that started during the late 1920's. An entire chapter is devoted to the WP and its practices when an employee was injured. The author describes a number of cases. A copy is owned by University of California, Berkeley, Library, held in the non-circulating Bancroft Library collection.

Holmes, Norman W. MY WESTERN PACIFIC RAILROAD: AN ENGINEER'S STORY. Sparks, NV, Steel Rails West Publishing, 1996. 128 pages, published in both softbound and hardbound editions, illus., maps (currently in print).

Howard, Ernest. A NEW STORY OF AMERICAN RAILROAD WRECKING: DENVER AND RIO GRANDE, WESTERN PACIFIC AND THE MISSOURI PACIFIC'S PART IN THE AFFAIR, WITH SOME CONSIDERATION OF ITS RELATION TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN THE SECOND AND NINTH FEDERAL CIRCUITS... New York, 1918?

Matthews, Fred. NORTHERN CALIFORNIA RAILROADS: THE SILVER AGE. Vols. 1-2. Denver, CO, Sundance Books, 1983-84. pages, handbound, mostly illus., part color (out of print).

Horizontal format two-vol. set that is mostly photographs (some in color) and limited text. Coverage is divided into chapters ranging from topical (Chapter 2, "Indian Summer of the Standard Passenger Train") to geographical (Chapter 4, "Across the Mountain Barrier" and Chapter 6, "Mighty Mountain Passes North and South."). There is extensive coverage of both SP and WP in both volumes. Regional short lines are also included.

McGregor, Bruce A., PORTRAIT OF A SILVER LADY: THE TRAIN THEY CALLED THE CALIFORNIA ZEPHYR, by Bruce McGregor and Ted Benson. Boulder, CO, Pruett Publishing Co., 1977. 357 pages, hardbound, illus. (out of print).

Moody, Eric N. FLANIGAN: ANATOMY OF A RAILROAD GHOST TOWN. Susanville, CA., Lahontan Images, 1985. 121 pages., softbound, illus., maps. (out of print).

Odisho, William Charles. SALT LAKE CITY TO OAKLAND: THE WESTERN PACIFIC LINK IN THE CONTINENTAL RAILROAD SYSTEM. (Ph.D Dissertation). Berkeley, University of California, 1941. 180 leaves, maps. (Microfilm copies available from University of California, Berkeley).

Dr, Odisho completed this disstertation in partial fulfillment of a Ph.D degree in history in June 1941. You may think that a dissertation would be dry and boring. This one is not. It is well written and held my attention through the entire 180 pages. This is a solid, documented history of the Western Pacific through 1940, with footnote documentation on every page (required format in a Ph.D dissertation). There are two maps but no photographs.

During the period I was on the FRRS Board of Directors, FRRS checked the possibility of turning this dissertation into a published book, but we were unable to do so due to legal restraints. (The author, if he is still living, and his family could not be located. The University of California will not grant legal permission without the author's permission.)

Microfilm copies can be purchased from the University of California. To obtain a copy of this important history, write a request letter containing the following information: SALT LAKE TO OAKLAND: THE WESTERN PACIFIC IN THE CONTINENTAL RAILROAD SYSTEM, by William Charles Odisho; Ph.D dissertation, June 1941, University of California, Berkeley. Request one 35mm positive microfilm reel from master negative #XCU-T 1551; price \$45.00 in advance with check or money order payable to the Regents of the University of California. Mail to: Interlibrary Services, 133 Doe Library, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720; ATTN.: Photoduplication Services.

Pearlman, Alfred E. WESTERN PACIFIC RAILROAD: THE FEATHER RIVER ROUTE. New York, Newcomen Society of North America, 1975. 16 pages, 4 leaves of plates, softbound, illus. Also published as No. 1014 of Newcomen Society of North America addresses (out of print).

Rattenne, Ken. THE FEATHER RIVER ROUTE. Glendale, CA, Interurban Press, 1990-1991. 2 vols., 304 pages, hardbound, illus., some col. (out of print).

Ken Rattenne effectively captured the essence of the Western Pacific in this two-volume book. Coverage is from west to east, with Vol. 1 subtitled "A GEOGRAPHIC TOUR SAN FRANCISCO TO

KEDDIE, then Vol. 2 picks up at Keddie and is subtitled "A GEOGRAPHIC TOUR KEDDIE TO SALT LAKE CITY. As this is a post-merger book, the transistion to UP is covered in a chapter "Plucking the Feather" in the second volume. There are "Personal Glimpses" chapters in both volumes, short conversations with WP employees. For instance, engineer Kirk Baer and Dave Stanley tell about the operation of UP 6900 "Big Jack" Centennial units in the section "Big Jack Blues" and Arthur Lloyd relates his memories in a section called "I'm a CZ Man." Vol. 2 contains an appendix locomotive roster listing all WP units owned on December 22, 1982 with dispositions effective to publication date. A reporduction of Employees Timetable #5 is also in the appendix.

It is unfortunate that this photographic study of the WP is out of print.. Vol. 2 will probably be harder to locate and more expensive on the used book market. For some unexplained reason, the publisher printed fewer copies of the second volume.

Robertson, Donald B. ENCYCLOPEDIA OF WESTERN RAILROAD HISTORY: Vol. 4, CALIFORNIA. Caldwell, ID, The Claxton Printers, Ltd., 1998. 353 pages, illus., maps, hardbound (in print).

The recently published California volume is the "final volume of a 35 year effort by the author to document the history of railroading in eleven western states." (Other volumes have been previously published.) The California vol. includes the WP as well as subsidiaries SN, TS, Oakland Terminal and CCT. An impressive amount of detail is included on the railroads from sources such as POOR'S MANUAL OF RAILROADS. A locomotive roster is included for each company.

There are some annoyances to quibble about. The president listed for most railroads is far back in the history of the company without any indication that it is a non-current listing. WP is an example, listing C. M. Levey as the company president. (Charles M. Levey was WP's fourth president, serving from July 14, 1916 to March 30, 1927.) Another point to quibble about is the lack of diesel model delineation in the locomotive rosters. An example is the CCT, where six diesel units are listed as Schen. without the delineation of the models of #40-42 (Alco S-1), 45 (S-2), 50 (S-4) and 80 (RS-1). Another complaint is the cover photograph and caption, which may possibly be the publisher's fault. The caption briefly discusses the development of the Challenger steam locomotive for operation on fast freights over the Union Pacific, then mentions runs by Challengers over the east end of the WP without specifying it is the WP mainline that is being discussed. The Challenger shown in the photograph is WP #407 with the tender cut off from view.

Although my points to quibble about occupy more space than the phrases, this is a book that is well worth purchasing while it is still in print.

Ryczkowski, John J. WESTERN PACIFIC PICTORIAL, by John J. Ryczkowski and Dan Crews. Sparks, NV, Steel Rails West Publishing. 1979. pages, hardbound, illus. (Published as vol. 1, no additional vols. published; out of print)

Schmollinger, Steve. THE FEATHER RIVER CANYON: UNION PACIFIC'S HEART OF STONE. Pasadena, CA, Pentrex, 1996. 104 pages, hardbound, illus., mostly color. (currently in print).

Staff, Virgil. D-DAY ON THE WESTERN PACIFIC: A RAILROAD'S DECISION TO DIESELIZE. Glendale, CA, Interurbans Press, 1982. 223 pages, hardbound, illus. (out of print).

Stanford Research Institute. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT POSSIBILITIES IN THE FEATHER RIVER AREA OF CALIFORNIA: A REPORT PREPARED FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC RAILROAD CO. FINAL REPORT. Menlo Park, CA, Stanford Research Institute, 1956. 94 pages, softbound, graphs, maps, tables (out of print).

Strapac, Joseph A., WESTERN PACIFIC'S DIESEL YEARS. Muncie, IN, Overland Models, 1980. 208 pages, softbound, illus, maps (out of print).

Talbitzer, Bill. THE GANDYDANCERS. Oroville, CA, Las Plumas Publications, 1967. 47 pages, softbound, illus. (Copies still locally available at one Oroville bookstore.)

Chapters cover the construction of the Western Pacific with the focus for the most part the Oroville region and Feather River Canyon. The stories are drawn from the railroad records and local newspaper articles. It is a light, journalistic coverage. The late Bill Talbitzer was the longtime Oroville correspondent

for the SACRAMENTO BEE. Black & white photographic coverage is all WP during the time the railroad was being built and the early operations.

Whitman, Frederic.

Zimmerman, Karl. CZ: THE STORY OF THE CALIFORNIA ZEPHYR. Starrucca, PA, Starrucca Valley Publications, 1972. 104 pages, hardbound, illus. (out of print).

A history of "America's most talked about train." Text and numerous photographs cover the ancestry, birth and inauguration of the "California Zephyr." There is a separate chapter on each of the three owning railroads. Includes a car roster and car diagrams.

Zimmerman, Karl. DOMELINERS: YESTERDAY'S TRAINS OIF TOMORROW. Crossroads Circle, WI, Kalmbach Publishing Company, 1998. 128 pages, hardbound, illus, part color (in print).

Zimmerman's newest book is on "the mystic of the dome car." A total of 236 domes were built for sixteen railroads by three builders, The Budd Company, Pullman-Standard, and American Car & Foundry. The author's coverage ranges from a chapter on the "pioneers," separate chapters on the three builders and a section on "new lives for old dome cars." Includes a "Roster of Domes Cars of North America."

MANUSCRIPTS:

Oliver, Emory. BUILDING THE WESTERN PACIFIC THROUGH THE FEATHER RIVER CANYON. (n.p.) 1941. Typescript, 15 leaves.

Mr. Oliver was a locating engineer for Utah Construction Company at the time the Western Pacific was being built. (Utah Construction Co. was the contractor that built the WP from Salt Lake City to Oroville.) In this short account, Mr. Oliver described locating and building the WP mainline through Feather River Canyon. As a locating engineer, he was directly involved in this portion of building the WP. The only known copy of this short history is owned by the Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley. (The typescript is a non-circulating rare book.)

Oliver, Emory. THE HISTORY OF THE BUILDING OF THE WESTERN PACIFIC RAILROAD. (n.p.) 1941. Typescript, 19 leaves.

A brief history of the construction of the WP by a locating engineer who was involved in the road's construction. The only known copy of this short history is owned by Meriam Library, California State University, Chico. (The typescript is a non-circulating rare book in the Library's Special Collections Department.)

SELECTED PERIODICAL ARTICLES:

Anderson, Norman E. "Western Pacific's General electric demonstrators." PACIFIC NEWS, Vol. 13, No. 7 (Issue #141), pages 3-7.

WP's U30B units Nos. 3070 and 3071, former GE demo units Nos. 303-304. Coverage also of WP's other U30B's including a roster. (Does not include the U23B's, as they were in the future.)

Benson, Ted. "California's final four: Dowager queens maybe, but queens nevertheless." TRAINS, Vol. 39, No. 1, November 1978, pages 37-45.

A tribute to WP's "final four" F7A's including a number of photographs. Includes a sidebar titled "Recalling the CZ."

Benson, Ted. "Guess who's back in Westwood?" PACIFIC NEWS, Vol. 14, No. 3 (Issue #149), March 1974, page .

News article and one photograph of a five day detour of SP Shasta Route freights over the High Line.

Benson, Ted. "Her spirit will never die." TRAINS, Vol. 33, No. 3, January 1973, pages 18-21.

Photographs and commentary on the California Zephyr following the CZ's last run on the WP between Salt Lake City and Oakland.

Benson, Ted. "Nevada: The outlaw railroad state." TRAINS, Vol. 38, No. 3, January 1978, pages 18-41, 44-54.

A photo-essay on railroading in the State of Nevada that conprises an entire issue of TRAINS. The joint trackage operated by Western Pacific and Southern Pacific is the subject of a section titled "Down Humboldt's golden road" on pages 38-41, 44-54.

Benson, Ted. "Travels with Jimmy." STEAM FOREVER, Issue 12, May 1992, pages 10-11, 14 (Jim Boynton memorial issue). .

Ted Benson's rememberances of being introduced to the world of everyday railroading of Keddie and the WP by the late Jim Boynton.

Benson, Ted. "WP's Seventh Subdivision." CTC BOARD, Issue #88, October 1982, pages 12-13.

The Seventh Subdivision extended from Elko to Salt Lake City. At 263.2 miles, it was WP's longest crew district.

Boynton, James E. "Big womps." STEAM FOREVER, Issue 7, August 1990, pages 6-8.

Jim Boynton's account of WP's 251 and 257 class 2-8-8-2 articulateds. According to Mr. Boynton, WP railroaders called the 2-8-8-2's "Big womps." "That's what we called them: no one seemed to know why or who hung the nickname on them..."

Boynton, James E. "Big womp, chapter two." STEAM FOREVER, Issue 8, December 1990, pages 7-9. Part 2 of Jim's continuing article on the "Big Womps." Includes an account and photograph of the wreck of No. 258 during the 1940's when the westbound freight hit a huge rockslide in McLean's Cut near David on the old WP mainline, now by-passed due to the Lake Oroville relocation.

Boynton, Jim. "The seven wonders of the railroad world." STEAM FOREVER, Issue 10, August 1991, pages 14-15.

Short article describing "seven wonders of railroad engineering" on the WP in Plumas County. The article had originally been printed as a pamphlet that had been distributed by the Plumas Chamber of Commerce several years earlier.

Boynton, Jim. "Where do we drive the last spike?" STEAM FOREVER, Issue 2, November 1988, pages 9-

Driving of the last spike to complete the WP on Spanish Creek bridge just west of Keddie, November 1, 1909, and the Ruby Spike celebration" by WP at the same location on November 1, 1949. Two photographs, one of each spike ceremony, illustrate the article.

Boynton, S. S. "Before the rails came." STEAM FOREVER, Issue 11, Winter Edition 1991-1992, pages 11-13.

A reprint article from the SEMI-WEEKLY PLUMAS NATIONAL BULLETIN, November 5, 1905 (Quincy's newspaper), describing the route of the Western Pacific from Oroville to the American River Valley near Quincy. The article was authored by S. S. Boynton, at that time the editor of the OROVILLE REGISTER. Three early day photographs illustrate the article.

Bryum, Biff. "Western Pacific roster," by Biff Bryum and Joseph Magruder. CTC BOARD, Issue #104, December 8, 1972, pages 5-8.

All-time diesel roster through 1972. Includes disposition for units no longer on roster, "Summary of trade-ins," and "Roster summary" by model. Statistics given include totals (282 units purchased; 145 now on roster), total horsepower (561,830 of units purchased; 371,450 of units on roster); median unit age (5-66); median horsepower age (9-67).

Calloway, Warren. "Orange & silver diesels of the Western Pacific." DIESEL ERA, Vol. 4, No. 1, January/February 1993, pages 17-22.

Brief article on the orange and silver era of WP's diesels. Includes fourteen black &white photographs and eight color photographs including the cover color shot of FP7A #804-A on the point of the "California Zephyr."

"Covered wagons west: Who's got 'em... where to get 'em." CTC BOARD, March 1984, pages 16-29. A photo essay on EMD F unit "covered wagons" in the West. WP's final four are in the listing "Preserved covered wagons of the West" on page 29 with No. 921 pictured at Portola Railroad Museum.

Demoro, Harre W. "The Western Pacific Railroad Company: Last railroad to the coast." PACIFIC NEWS, May 1979, pages 4-7.

A brief history of WP's first 75 years with map and steam era photographs. It is followed by Ken Meeker's diesel history article.

Dorn, Dick. "Fighting snow for profit: Rotaries are the ultimate line of defense." TRAINS, Vol.. 36, No. 5, March 1976, pages 22-26.

Fighting snow in California's Sierra Nevadas by SP and WP during the winter of 1974/75.

Dunscomb, Guy L. "James E. (Jimmy) Boynton: railroad man-railroad fan-my friend." STEAM FOREVER, Issue 12, May 1992, pages 5-7.

Guy Dunscomb's recollections of the late Jim Boynton in Issue 12, the Memorial Issue of STEAM FOREVER for Mr. Boynton, who was the founding editor and publisher of STEAM FOREVER.

Dunscomb, Guy L. "Steam Scene." STEAM FOREVER, Issue 1, July 1988, pages 4-5.

Brief article on WP's passenger trains, including two photographs, one of which is of the wreck of the eastbound "Exposition Flyer" near Pulga in November 1937. The wreck destroyed WP 2-8-2 No. 326 and killed the fireman and engineer.

Grimm, Curtis M. "An evaluation of economic issues in the UP-MP-WP railroad merger." THE LOGISTICS AND TRANSPORTATION REVIEW, Vol. 20, No. 3, 1984, pages 239-259.

Hepkema, Roger. "WP's Sixth Subdivision." CTC BOARD, Issue #88, October 1982, pages 12-13. The Sixth sub. extended from Winnemucca to Elko.

Hutchinson, William H. "A street car named Zephyrette: what is this shiny creature that speeds across the wasteland miles, bringing joy to the operating department and sustenance to the people." TRAINS, Vol. 12, no. 9, July 1951, pages 26-32.

Kalmbach, A. C. "Feather River route: Western Pacific, newest of the transcontinentals, crosses the high Sierra with only one percent grade." TRAINS, Vol. 2, no. 5, March 1942, pages 28-45.

Kneiss, Gilbert H. "Fifty candles for the Western Pacific." WESTERN PACIFIC MILEPOSTS, March 1953 (Golden Anniversary Issue), pages 1-40.

First publication of the Gil. Kneiss fifty history of the WP, the entire March issue of MILEPOSTS.

Kneiss, Gilbert H. "History of the Western Pacific Railroad: The construction years, 1903-1909." MILEPOSTS, Spr. Sum. Fall 1978, pages H-2 – H-31.

Reprint of the Kneiss history covering only the six year construction period 1903-1909 with numerous additional photographs. MILEPOSTS Editor Paul Gordenev called this enlarged historical reprint "WP's 75 Year History-Part 1.

Kneiss, Gilbert H. "The Western Pacific story: To the waters of the West." TRAINS, Vol. 13, No. 9, July 1953, pages 50-58.

Kneiss, Gilbert H. "The Western Pacific story: The wobbly comes of age." TRAINS, Vol. 13, No. 10, August 1953, pages 48-57.

Two-part reprint of "Fifty candles for the Western Pacific." Includes photographic images that are not in the MILEPOSTS edition.

Koenig, Karl R. "'Flying Scotsman' steams to San Francisco, at last." PACIFIC NEWS, Vol. 11, No. 11 (Issue #121), November 1971, pages 5-7.

The "Flying Scotsman" operation over the WP for exhibition at San Francisco.

Meeker, Bill. "Hard times on the Inside Gateway: In the Sierras 60 years later, the dream of Great Northern's Jim Hill and Western Pacific's Arthur James is unrealized." TRAINS, Vol. 54, No. 1, January 1994, pages 40-49.

Meeker, Ken. "California's Altamont Pass." CTC BOARD, Issue #47, May 1979, pages 9-11.

Meeker, Ken. "Over SP's Donner Pass with Western Pacific." PACIFIC NEWS, Vol. 16, No. 9 (Issue #179), September 1976, page 5.

A flash flood washed out WP track at Floka, Nevada, resulting in a freight detour over Donner Pass.

Meeker, Ken. "Progress with diesels." PACIFIC NEWS, May 1979, pages 10-16

The author surveys WP's diesel history from the 1939 introduction of the railroad's first diesel (EMC built No. 501, now preserved at Portola Railroad Museum) through the beginning of the GP40 deliveries in 1979. Includes a diesel roster covering 1939-1979, compiled with the aid of source information from the WP Mechanical Department. Ken's diesel article follows Harre Demoro's WP 75th anniversary article.

Meeker, Ken. "WP's First Subdivision." CTC BOARD, Issue #87, September 1982, p. 8.

The First Sub. extended from Oakland to Stockton, but also included the limited amount of track that WP had in San Francisco.

Monger, Wayne. "Uncle Pete plucks the feather: The Western Pacific a year after the merger." CTC BOARD, #102, December 1983, pages 12-17.

An analysis of the changes on "the wobbly" one year after the merger into the UP.

Monger, Wayne. "WP's Fifth Subdivision." CTC BOARD, #88, October 1982, pages 10-15. The Fifth Sub. extended from Portola to Winnemucca.

Monger, Wayne. "WP's Fourth Subdivision." CTC BOARD, Issue #87, September 1982, page 11.

The Fourth Sub.was WP's High Line. This is still a useful road guide for train chasing, although it is now BNSF instead of WP.

Monger, Wayne. "WP's train symbols." CTC BOARD, Issue #87, September 1982, pages 12-15.

Descriptive listing of WP freight train symbols and schedules as operations were in 1982. Includes Tidewater Southern Railroad and Sacramento Northern Railway.

Morgan, David P. "A conversation with A.E. Perlman." TRAINS, Vol. 34, No. 10, August 1974, pages 42-45.

Alfred E. Perlman reflected on his career in an interview with TRAINS editor David P. Morgan at San Francisco during his WP tenure. Includes Perlman's comments on the Rio Grande, New York Central, Penn Central, and Western Pacific.

Morgan, David P. "Alfred E. Perlman, 1902-1983." TRAINS, Vol. 43, No. 9, July 1983, page 4. TRAINS Editor David P. Morgan reflects on Alfred Perlman's contributions to the railroad industry in this one column obituary.

Morgan, David P. "Doomed to obscurity." TRAINS, Vol. 25, No. 11, September 1965, pages 26-27. Western Pacific's seven coal-burning Challengers that operated on the eastern end of the railroad. Brief text and one photograph.

Morgan, David P. "The diesel that did it: The story of the 83,764-mile test run that doomed steam." TRAINS, Vol. 20, No. 4, February 1960, pages 18-25.

The test run of Electro Motive's No. 103 that covered 20 railroads in 35 states. The only mention of WP is on page 25, among the listed railroads that ordered the FT, and a Guy Dunscomb photo of No. 103 at Wendover in May 1940 during its test run over the WP. The article is illustrated with a dozen photographs and includes a map tracing No. 103's nationwide test run.

Neves, Vic. "Guide to the Feather River Canyon," by Vic Neves and the Lark staff.. LARK, #57, May 13, 1991, pages 3-13.

"Rail Fair '91 Special Edition" that was designed as a guide for the passengers aboard the FRRS/Union Pacific steam excursion train.

Noble, Mark. "Articulated locomotives of the Western Pacific.' PACIFIC RAILWAY JOURNAL, Vol.. 2, No. 8, January 1959, pages 3-23.

A reprint of the article "Articulated locomotives on the Western Pacific Railroad" that was published in the January 1932 issue of BALDWIN LOCOMOTIVE, a company magazine issued by the Baldwin Locomotive Works for a number of years. Guy L. Dunscomb and Donald Duke brought the reprint up-to-date with additional information and photographs. An excellent article that contains a brief history of the WP; then the author describes the then new WP 251 class Baldwin-built 2-8-8-2's (Nos. 251-256 built in 1931) with many technical details.

Sanders, Dale. "Western Pacific's Third Subdivision." RAILFAN & RAILROAD, May 1979, pages 22-30

Detailed operational guide to WP's Third Sub. between Oroville and Portola during the late 1970's. Includes photos and a map.

Sanders, Dale. "WP's Third Subdivision." CTC BOARD, Issue #87, September 1982, p. 10. One page guide to the Third Sub. between Oroville and Portola.

Snyder, Graham. "The Western Pacific's 171 class locomotives." STEAM FOREVER, Issue 18, Summer 1995, pages 8-10.

Retired WP engineer Graham Snyder's account "of these exceptional locomotives."

Stanley, Dave. "WP's Second Subdivision." CTC BOARD, Issue #87, September 1982, p. 9. The Second Sub. was Stockton to Oroville.

Stephens, Kent. "Western Pacific's Oroville roundhouse burns." PACIFIC NEWS, Vol. 16, No. 10 (Issue #180), October 1976, page 27.

One page news article on the destructive fire that destroyed WP's Oroville roundhouse on Septembere 10, 1976.

"The first Baldwin becomes the last." PACIFIC NEWS, Vol. 13, No. 8 (Issue #142), August 1973, page 10. Builders photograph and short news article about WP Baldwin VO1000 No. 581, the last Baldwin switcher to be retired.

Thomas, L.E. "From water boy to division engineer," by L.E. "Ed" Thomas. STEAM FOREVER, Issue 18, Summer 1995, pages 14-15.

A short biographical account of the career of Raymond F.Hobbs on the WP. Mr. Hobbs started his WP maintenance-of-way career at Sand Pass in 1938. He was promoted to Division Engineer at Keddie in 1970 and retired in 1978.

Thomas, L.E. "Western Pacific Railroad 1937," by L.E. "Ed" Thomas. STEAM FOREVER, Issue 15, Winter 1993, pages 12-15.

The late Ed Thomas started his career with the WP in April 1937 as a student brakeman on the Portola-Keddie Local, Train No. 97. In this article, he describes his first student brakeman trip eastbound from Keddie. Seven b&w photographs, including a photograph of the Keddie depot in January 1937, illustrate the article.

Walker, John S. "The shield and the feather: In Feather River Canyon, Union Pacific battles the elements and prospers on the 'last transcontinental.' "TRAINS, Vol. 51, No. 6, April 1991, pages 38-51.

"Western Pacific accident, Pilot, Nevada – April 7, 1946." STEAM FOREVER, Issue 16, Spring-Summer 1994, pages 4-6.

Short article, probably authored by Jim Boynton, on the derailment of WP's "Exposition Flyer" at Pilot, Nevada on April 7, 1946. The derailment, which was blamed on excessive speed, was the first in the railroad's history to involve passenger fatalities on a train Two passengers were killed and 78 injured. Three photographs are included with the article, two showing 4-8-4 No. 482 wrecked.

"W.P.'s Alco boomers." PACIFIC NEWS, Vol. 14, No. 5 (Issue #151), May 1974, page 3.
Acquisition of four used Mopac Alco S-2 units for WP subsidiaries SN and TS. Units became SN #403-404 and TS #744-745,

"WP's First Subdivision" by Ken Meeker. CTC BOARD, Issue #87, September 1982, page 8; "WP's Second Subdivision," by Dave Stanley, page 9; "WP's Third Subdivision," by Dale Sanders, page 10; "WP's Fourth Subdivision," by Wayne Monger, page 11. "WP's Fifth Subdivision," by Wayne Monger. CTC BOARD, Issue #88, October 1982, pages 10-11; WP's Sixth Subdivision," by Roger Hepkema, pages 12-13; "WP's Seventh Subdivision," by Ted Benson, pages 14-15.

These articles are cited individually under each author in this bibliography, and collected in this citation in subdivision number sequence.

Wurm, Ted. "Western Pacific's floating division." STEAM FOREVER, Issue 17, Winter 1994-95, pages 8-10.

Short history of WP's marine operations on San Francisco Bay.

Wurm, Ted. "Young Jim Boynton." STEAM FOREVER, Issue 12, May 1992, pages 8-9 (Jim Boynton memorial issue).

Mr. Wurm shares his memories of meeting Jim Boynton and other young Bay Area railfans during the mid-1930's.