GM&O Board Declares Dividend on Preferred

The regular Fall meeting of the Gulf, Mobile and Ohio Railroad's Board of Directors was held in the Company's offices in St. Louis on Thursday, September 8. The Board declared a $5.00 dividend on preferred stock for the year and for the first time scheduled the dividend for payment in regular quarterly installments of $1.25 each.

The Board also provided for payment of $1,206,000 in interest on two series of General Mortgage Income Bonds and authorized additional rental of $196,560 to the New Orleans Great Northern Railway. The N.O.G.N. is a part of our Railroad between Jackson, Mississippi and Slidell, Louisiana and under the lease agreement the debenture holders were to receive compensation contingent upon dividend payments by GM&O on its own stock.

BURLINGTON NEGOTIATIONS FOR TRACkAGE ON WESTERN DIVISION

President Tigrett, who presided at the meeting, told the Board that negotiations were under way with the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad which would permit the Burlington to use with us part of our Kansas City-St. Louis line in order to shorten the CBQ's present freight route between these two cities. Under the proposed plan, extensive improvements would be made in segments of the line, which would also greatly enhance our position in the solicitation of traffic for the Kansas City, St. Louis and Chicago gateways. Proposed are heavier rail and Centralized Traffic Control for some of the more congested areas.

The Burlington, Mr. Tigrett explained to the Board, would operate over GM&O from Rock Creek Junction (just outside of Kansas City) to Francis (just east of Mexico, Missouri) and then use their own line into St. Louis. A previous application by the Burlington and the Santa Fe for outright purchase of the Rock Creek Junction-Mexico segment from GM&O with GM&O retaining trackage rights only was denied by the Interstate Commerce Commission. Principal objection was from the Southern lines and was based upon the fact that the sale would permit the

FOUR RAIL PRESIDENTS AT CHICAGO FAIR

When Mr. Tigrett attended the Chicago Railroad Fair last month he was accompanied by three other Railroad Presidents and the group is shown here visiting the GM&O exhibit. From right to left are: President Tigrett, Hostess Margaret Railbrock, Clark Hungerford, President St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Co.; James Davis, President Alton and Southern Railroad; Armstrong Chinn, President Terminal Railroad Association of St. Louis; Herman Seely, Financial Editor, Chicago Daily News; Major Lenox Lohr, President Chicago Railroad Fair and Vice-President S. A. Dobbs of the GM&O in Chicago.

Railroads Sponsor Program For Radio Listeners

Of special interest to GM&O employees will be the new "Railroad Hour," sponsored by the Association of American Railroads over the American Broadcasting Company's network beginning Monday, October 4 at 7:00 p.m., CST.

Featuring Gordon McRae as singing host and master of ceremonies, the 45-minute show will feature top-name guest stars each week. With music and comedy familiar to and loved by millions of

P. D. Dorman Elected Assistant Vice President

Paul D. Dorman, formerly Executive General Agent at New Orleans, was elected Assistant Vice President at the recent meeting of the Board of Directors. He will continue his headquarters in the Crescent City.

Mr. Dorman has been with the GM&O since 1917, when he entered service as a Storeroom Clerk. He has worked at various agencies on the line during the intervening years, until he was named Executive General Agent in 1941.
When Singer Andy Russell of Bobby-socks fame made a personal appearance tour through Mobile, girls of the GM&O general office force were on hand to greet him. Shown (left to right) are: Patsy DeWitt, Legal Department; Mary Catherine Thompson, Traffic Department; Delores McGahin, Traffic Department; Bettye Wyatt, Traffic Department; Dorothy Curd, Traffic Department; Margaret Chase, Executive Department; Jane Houser, Advertising Department; Charlotte Witt, Accounting Department; Mr. Russell; Kay Calvert, Accounting Department; Jackie Rawlings, Accounting Department; Laura Rayfield, Traffic Department; Kathleen Terrell, Treasury Department, and Kathleen Fritz, Gulf Transport Company.

Mr. Russell, star of records, radio and motion picture, appeared in Mobile through the cooperation of Capitol Records and Jaycee Adrian Roberts. Following his appearance in Mobile, the recording star continued to New Orleans, where he will appear at one of the leading hotels.

Jacksonville Rotary Views Anti-Communism Film

Our Railroad has a copy of the film "Crossroads of America," which was screened by the Research Institute of America to combat the growing communist influence in American Industry. The film is available to civic clubs in our territory and has already been shown to the Jacksonville, Illinois Rotary Club, at the request of Agent D. C. Dilts, Chairman of the Program Committee. Assistant General Passenger Agent N. J. Souleers has requested it for the Springfield, Illinois Optimist Club and the Havana, Illinois Rotary Club has also arranged a showing.

The film is a thirty-minute expose on Communism in America. It shows who the American Communist is, how he works and what can be done about him. It was screened particularly to answer a widely distributed Communist film entitled "Deadline for Action."

"Conscience" Fund

Conscience seemed to be unusually active in August and Treasurer "Bill" Wall has two more contributions to his special "Conscience Fund."

During last month two contributions to the GM&O's "Conscience Fund" were received from writers who wished to compensate for past errors.

One of these was sent in by a lady in Texas who had failed to pay the railroad fare for her daughter nearly 40 years ago on the MJ&KC. Her letter explained:

"As I remember, the fare should have been 40 cents. I am asking you to accept the enclosed dollar, as I believe it will take this amount to clear my conscience."

The other contribution was made by a man in Joliet who enclosed three dollars as payment for merchandise which was removed from an Alton box car.

GM&O Board Declares

(Continued from Page 1)

Sante Fe an entrance into St. Louis, which its does not now have. The Burlington already has Kansas City- St. Louis service.

Our Chief Executive reported net income for the month of August of $650,000, with a total for the first eight months of $3,900,000.

The preferred dividend payments will be made in four regular quarterly installments of $1.33 each per share and will start on September 30, to holders of record on September 17. Other payments will be made on December 20 to holders of record on December 10; on March 30, 1949 to holders of record on March 10; and on June 30, 1949 to holders of record on June 10, 1949.

The preferred dividend payments will be made in four regular quarterly installments of $1.33 each per share and will start on September 30, to holders of record on September 17. Other payments will be made on December 20 to holders of record on December 10; on March 30, 1949 to holders of record on March 10; and on June 30, 1949 to holders of record on June 10, 1949.

Payments of interest on the General Mortgage Income Bonds will be made on April 1, 1949, 5% on the Bonds of Series A due 1955 and 4% on the Bonds of Series B due 2044.

Following the meeting of the GM&O Board, a meeting of the New Orleans Great Northern Railway Directors was called and they directed payment of interest on NOGN 5% Income Debentures due 2032 and to be paid 1% on September 30 to holders of record on September 25; 1½% on December 20 to holders of record on December 23; 1½% on March 30, 1949 to holders of record on March 25, 1949; and 1¼% on June 30, 1949 to record holders on June 25, 1949.

E. L. Wilson, Vice President of the Nashville Coal Camp and President of the Mobile Industrial Ice Company, was named a director of N.O.G.N.

Dear Mr. Tigrett:

The writer wishes to let you know how much he had his guest appreciate the courteous treatment accorded them during the several visits to your exhibit at the Railroad Fair by your hostess, Mrs. Jane Hart (nee Miss Jane Hutchinson), and Miss Margaret Halbrook.

The days we spent at the Fair were extremely hot and it was just "swell" to enjoy the dandy seat and be cooled off by the air conditioning. The lady with me was bothered with a headache when we entered, but as soon as the hostess heard of it she promptly offered aspirin and cold water which remedied the condition.

I had the pleasure of riding your Ann Rutledge from Chicago to Sorrowfield, and will say that the famous Southern Hospitality prevailed on it also.

If you can see your way to pass these words along to the ladies I refer to, I'll appreciate it kindly.

Best o' luck to that "ribbon of steel" of yours.

Sincerely,

HUBERT C. SMITH
Chicago Heights, Ill.
Gulf Transport Drivers Honored At Safety Award Presentation

Sixty-four bus and truck operators were presented with safety awards this month in recognition of their outstanding records in long driving service without accidents.

The first of the formal presentations was made at Mobile on September 1, with more than fifty drivers and guests present. The first presentations were made by President C. H. Whitlow and Vice President A. G. Johnson at the regular monthly safety meeting in Mobile.

Talks were made by Messrs. Whitlow, Johnson and J. D. Johnson, Interstate Commerce Commission. Other short talks were made by Safety Engineers C. J. Taylor and G. A. Webster, Markell Service, Inc.; General Superintendent H. G. Wilson; Manager of Maintenance C. B. Beard; Freight Traffic Manager J. I. Gillikin; and General Passenger Agent J. H. Bachar.

Other presentation meetings were held at various outlying points in the Southern Division and the final meeting was held at Waterloo on September 13.

Bus Driver’s Courtesy Makes Gulf a Leader

Bus Operator Robert Gill, Waterloo, has been commended by Miss Joanne C. Johnson, Webster Grove, Mo., for his friendliness and courtesy.

In part her letter said:

“The extreme courtesy of the driver was most pleasing. This driver has, in my estimation, raised Gulf Transport Company above all other bus lines.”

Word to the Unwise

Statistics show most industrial accidents occur between 10 and 11 o’clock in the morning and between three and four in the afternoon.

At these hours work is in full swing, physical activity is greatest—and for some reason the average worker gets careless.

And alibi as we will, statistics prove conclusively that most accidents are caused by somebody’s carelessness.


At the recent Gulf Transport Meeting in Mobile are shown: Top Photo, left to right: Vice-President A. G. Johnson, Operators Arthur Raley, A. L. Lewis and P. B. Brantley, and President C. H. Whitlow.


The awards, which consist of a small lapel emblem bearing the Gulf Transport insignia, are made of green enamel for bus operators and red enamel for the truck operators. They are in gold or silver and jeweled, depending on the length of the safety record. The jewels range from a diamond for the six-year award to a pearl for the one-year award.
Farm Family Reunion

On Sunday, August 22, the Farm Families from Illinois and Missouri who made the Deep South tour as guests of the GM&O Railroad, held a big reunion at New Salem National Park, not far from Springfield, Illinois. Held in the form of a basket picnic, all of the representatives from the 34 counties attended except two, and they were prohibited from coming by illness.

Returning home last Spring on The Rebel, the Farm Families who were chosen as the outstanding farm couples in their respective counties, decided that such warm friendships had been established on the trip that each year a big get-together would be held somewhere convenient to all concerned. E. W. Lowery of Sherman, Illinois was elected Chairman for the 1949 reunion which will again be held at New Salem and he will be assisted by Mr. and Mrs. Howard Stone, Mason City, Illinois and Mr. and Mrs. John Richter of Athens, Illinois. Arthur and Mrs. Page of the Prairie Farmer and Radio Station WLS presented Director of Agriculture and Forestry S. A. Robert with a magnolia wood gavel carved from a piece of wood sent him by GM&O Vice-President T. T. Martin when the party was in Mobile. Mr. Robert tended the gavel to Chairman Lowery to be used to call the 1949 meeting to order.

Following the picnic lunch this year the Farm Families motored to nearby Petersburg where the moving pictures which were taken during the Gulf Coast tour were shown. The movie is a thirty-minute show and each of the farm families is to have it in turn to show to their friends and neighbors at County gatherings.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Dexter from Alexander County, Illinois drove the greatest distance, 222 miles, to attend the picnic. Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Steiner of Pocahontas County, Illinois had their small grandchild with them, the youngest member of the party.
(Top left) It's "COME TO DINNER" and the table is so laden with food that it's a question just what to select. Second helpings were mandatory. (Left, front to rear) Mrs. J. D. Rice, Mr. S. A. Robert, Mrs. S. A. Robert, Division Passenger Agent Roy Fischer, Agriculture Agent A. F. Stephens. (Right side) Roy Fischer, Jr., Hostess Public Porter, and in the background, Superintendent of Hostess Service Mrs. Vera Elvert. (No. 2 left) The ladies were kept busy unpacking lunch boxes as each couple arrived. (Bottom left) A scene in the village of New Salem where Abraham Lincoln first started his business career, working as a merchant. The town has been reconstructed, many of the buildings being erected upon the exact foundations. As a Lincoln shrine it is visited by thousands of tourists each year. William Randolph Hearst is responsible for the restoration of New Salem. Attending the Old Salem Chautauqua, across the river from the old village, about the turn of the century the Publisher was shown the one-time home of Lincoln and was convinced of the value of preserving the site for the public. Mr. Hearst purchased the sixty acres comprising the original town site for $11,000 and later conveyed the land to the Old Salem Chautauqua Association. In 1918 replicas of five or six cabins were erected on their original sites. In 1919 when the project became too expensive for private enterprise, the lands were deeded to the State of Illinois, under the consideration that the State would continue the work of restoration. (Top right) The Eugene Kline family. Mrs. Kline acted as Chairman of the reunion.

(Top right) Director of Agriculture and Forestry S. A. Robert and Mrs. Robert, who were responsible for the original Farm Family get-together idea. One of the younger members of the party looks over the "Cake Department" and makes plans for the immediate future. (Bottom right) Here's a typical family arriving with their boxes of food. (Bottom left) Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Stevens. Mr. Stevens is Agricultural Agent for the Railroad and much of the success of the Farm Family Program goes to him.
Naming a Popular Train
Has Its Problems

We have received quite a number of letters similar to the one below from Mr. E. W. Flusek, Chicago, suggesting we change the name of the "Ann Rutledge" to "Mary Todd." Abraham Lincoln's wife. We have had other letters about the name of our Rebel trains. Naturally we appreciate the interest of our patrons and are always pleased to have their comments on all phases of our service. But renaming a train that has a passenger following of 13 years in the case of Ann Rutledge and 15 years for The Rebel, has complications which we know everyone will understand. Mr. Flusek's interesting letter follows:

"While walking through your train at the Chicago Railroad Fair, I picked up a folder concerning your affairs and that of the GM&O. The story told by Arthur W. Baum regarding your experiences as a builder of railroads reminded me of our own Lincoln of Illinois.

"It occurred to me after noting you had trains named after his young sweetheart, Ann Rutledge, that somewhere some thought should be given his wife, Mary Todd. This same Mary Todd saw in Lincoln the man of destiny; and it being her persuasion that motivated the course that fate took. Had Ann Rutledge survived the plague and became Lincoln's wife, you would not have had the course in our history or a Lincoln!"

"You, of course, know Ann Rutledge — whom Lincoln met in his small postal station.

"Let us give some thought to Mrs. Mary Todd Lincoln, a short, stout woman, a writer, a wonderful family background, who impatiently waited for her suitor, called Abe Lincoln, to come back and marry her. She saw his short-comings, weaknesses, and tried to correct them, giving to us a Lincoln. The Great Emancipator. Her short stay here in Chicago after his death, her insatiable and her confinement at Elkton, Ill., her subsequent expiration, were her compensations.

"Thanking you for the opportunity I remain,

Yours very truly,

EDWARD W. FLUSEK
Chicago, Ill.

Miss Virginia McKnight
Joins Hostess Staff

Miss Virginia McKnight, Jackson, Tenn., became a member of the GM&O Hostess staff last month. Miss McKnight, who is a graduate of Lambuth College, taught in the Madison County, Tenn., schools prior to her accepting her present position.

An outstanding student while in school, Miss McKnight received an award for the highest average in English, and was active in all college activities.

Fred L. Johnson, veteran of 43 years' railroading, was recently named General Claim Agent, succeeding Mr. Parks C. Archer, retired. (News-August, 1948.)

Tour Trip On GM&O

When the Murphree-Ford "Know Mississippi Better" tour made its annual educational trip to acquaint the people of the nation with Mississippi people and resources this year, they chose GM&O for the St. Louis-Kansas City portion of the trip. Division Passenger Agent Roy Fischer, St. Louis, accompanied the tour, which was arranged by Division Passenger Agent E. A. Chapman, New Orleans.

Mrs. Tigrett Subject Of Commercial Appeal Column

Mrs. I. B. Tigrett was the subject recently of Paul Flowers' "Greenhouse column, a widely read daily article in the Memphis Commercial Appeal. Entitled "The Gracious Lady," the column told of "Miss Mary Sue's" kindly endeavors as teacher of the Beginners' Class at Sunday School.

Smiling Hostess McKnight points to her home town, Jackson, Tenn., on the huge GM&O map, shortly after joining the hostess staff.

Railroad On The Air
(Continued from Page 1)

Americans, "The Railroad Hour" will provide entertainment for the general public and nearly one and a half million railroad workers and their families. In addition, the program will present brief excerpts from the fascinating story of the essential part railroads play in the life of the nation.

Originating in Hollywood, the program will have as regular members of the cast, in addition to baritone Gordon McRae, the popular orchestra of Carmen Dragon and a mixed chorus under the direction of Norman Luboff.

"Railroad Hour" Stations

The following stations in the GM&O territory will carry "The Railroad Hour" at 7:00 p.m. every Monday night beginning October 4.

Mobile, Ala. ........ WOMB
New Orleans, La. ... WDSU
Jackson, Miss. ..... WSLJ
Meridian, Miss. ..... WTKO
Montgomery, Ala. ... WAXP
Birmingham, Ala. ... WSGN
Memphis, Tenn. ... WMPS
Jackson, Tenn. ... WTTJ
St. Louis, Mo. ..... WXOK
Kansas City, Mo. ... KCMO
Springfield, Ill. ... WCYS
Bloomington, Ill. ... WJBC
Peoria, Ill. ........ WENR-WLS

All employees are urged to listen to "The Railroad Hour."

Officials and employees of the GM&O are encouraged to listen to this new program, both from the standpoint of its excellent entertainment and for its valuable presentation of the place of American railroads in the nation's economy and welfare.
At the right are shown ticket clerks, who handle Gulf Transport tickets in Mobile, southern terminus of the Gulf Transport Company. Left to right: Lloyd McMillan, Mrs. Emmy Lou Vaughn, and Miss Virginia Bounds.

On the arrival of the first Meridian-Mobile, Radio Station WKRG broadcast the through passengers on its "Welcome, Traveler" program. Carl Hogg interviews Mr. and their two children, from Meridian, on route.

Mother Needs Aspirin as Rebel Waits For Lost Five-Year-Old

When five-year-old Jeffery Lee Hale wandered away from the Chicago-Mobile sleeper at the St. Louis Union Station, he only knew that he was going to Mobile. As he gazed at the wonders of the St. Louis station, the Rebel pulled out on its southbound run with his unsuspecting mother aboard.

Shortly after the train had departed, attendants discovered the boy crying for his mother. Upon learning that his desti-

Short, Short, Story

"Injury," said the workman.
"Inattention," said the boss.
"Inflammation," said the doctor.
"Incurable," said the hospital.
"Incredible," said the mourners.
"Interested," said the mortician.
"In peace," said the headache.
"Insurance?" said the neighbor.
—Clipped by Superintendent of Hostess Service Vera Elvert.

Memphis Baseball Club
Chooses GM&O For Trip

When the Memphis Chicks traveled to Mobile recently for a series of games, their special Pullman was handled by
Kansas City Weddings

Two recent weddings in our Kansas City offices have added new members to the GM&O family.

The first of these, on July 19, was the marriage of Miss Acasa Luthey, secretary to Assistant Vice President L. L. Lapp, to Leo L. Gangel.

Commendations

Section-Laborer Tony Koch, Waterloo, for his detection of a broken flange on the wheel of a passing car.

Operator J. W. Funk, Girard, for his discovery of a bad hot box on a passing train and signalling the crew, having the car set aside at Virden.

Section Foreman E. R. White, Centralia, for noticing a dragging brake beam on a passing car. White flagged the train, thus preventing a possible serious accident.

Operator Mrs. M. G. Elliott, Union City, for her detection of a hot box during her inspection of a passing train. She signaled the conductor and the car was set aside.

B. L. Pond Complimented By Canadian Tourist

Following her vacation in Montreal, Miss Edith Carney, Kankakee, Ill., wrote Passenger Traffic Manager R. A. Pearce expressing her thanks for the services rendered by Station Passenger Agent B. L. Pond in securing reservations.

In part her letter said:

"This kindness on his part was done at a moment when he was busy with other work. It is only fair that I acknowledge my deepest thanks for this effort."

Mr. R. E. Stevenson
Asst. Vice President
GM&O R.R.
St. Louis, Mo.

I was a passenger on the Abraham Lincoln yesterday coming down from Chicago at 4:50 p.m. It was a very comfortable trip—however, there was one very bright spot, about which I have decided to take a moment of your time so that I may tell you about it.

My husband and I went into the diner—it was crowded, however, in a very courteous manner we were asked to wait, and eventually we were served by a negro waiter, one Theon Jackson, who told me that he lives at 4025 Finney St. Louis. Theon is indeed a jewel; with his sincerity, his eagerness to please and his efficiency, he is about the best example that I have seen of "public relations in action" in a long time.

I thought you people might like to know about Theon—I'm sure you must think he's a pretty good man or you wouldn't have him in your employe, on the other hand, isn't it really GOOD to know that a man—is doing a "high-grade" job? Anyway—just because of the good feeling he left with us, we have decided that whenever possible in the future, the Alton is the train for us!

Sincerely,
LUCILE ZOERB,
Public Relations,
Community Chest, St. Louis, Mo.

MR. AND MRS. L. L. GANGEL

Miss Luthey is a graduate of the Carbondale, Kans., high school, and attended the University of New Mexico prior to entering service with the GM&O. Mr. Gangel is in the restaurant business.

On September 4, Miss Marjorie Wilson, Birmingham, became the bride of Commercial Agent Ernest Reiney, Jr., Kansas City. Prior to her marriage Miss Wilson was employed by the Missouri Pacific.

The wedding took place in Memphis, Tenn., with members of both families in attendance. The couple will make their home at Kansas City.

Railroad Mourns Death Of Former Gen. Manager

Friends of Mr. P. E. Odell, former Vice President and General Manager of the GM&N learned of his death this month with regret.

Mr. Odell, who served with the GM&N for 12 years, became General Manager of the system in 1922, following service with the Illinois Central. In 1924 he was elected Vice President.

Following his retirement in 1934, Mr. Odell moved to Rutland, Vermont, where he made his home until his death.