

# THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS &

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SPASONS CREATINGS

The ALLECHENY REGION THIRD QUARTERLY REPORT- April, 1975 - December, 1975

As supplied for us by our kind, considerate, thoughtful secretary/treasurer

NEW MAXIERS AS OF AUGUST, 1975.....

Dowk Johnson

David DePhillips

Merk Solomon

Steve Wass

Steve Herper

Greg Larocca

Scott Drake

Mark Lee Morgan

ANY NEW MEMBER WHO HAS NOT RECEIVED A COPY OF THE DIRECTORY, FLEASE CONTACT SECRETARY.

# AT THE ZOO

- Frank JI Chadwick (editor)

Since the release of the last issue of the "Dispatcher", I have received no new material except for some "Frototypical Visdom", cortisy of Scott Drake and PJK. I had at first hoped that it was in response to the little note that I threw on page 6 of the last AD. This would show that at least some people resu the paper before it is subject for use as kindle, bird cage linings, or other appelling fates. And in a varity of cases it fortunatly was just that. But now the only opions I hear are those spelling out dissatisfaction. Likewise, all of these are inderect. That's the thing that irritates me the most; this "wader the table" way of getting one's RECTION INTON

If you've got something to say about the things that make up the AD, come out with it. I know that the Dispatcher could be one hell of a lot better, but so could the flow of member's articles. It is the latter that must be present before anything happens et this end. Of course a lot of posess neither the time (ten minutes is usually all it takes) or interest (even though it takes some doing to find the neeple to centact to join the AR) to whip up a few lines to me. So to those I feel no ramorse but instead, a word of themks for putting up with the demented antics of us who wish to get involved in this hole.

For those who do take hand in this production, from the one who sends For those who do take held in thats production, true the one who sends in his pike ad right up to the president, I. or the act of doing what you do can offer little in the vay of material consolation. Nost of us do it simply to prove something to ourselves (in an organization of this magnitude, you will not become world renowned by writing something good). And that something that you prove is that your capable of getting your head together on a theme and coming up with something worthwhile. I isn't the easiest thing to do, but then again, if it was it would not be satisfing.

So I'll accept criticism, but I won't be able to do a dam thing with it unless it is backed up with some material. Even a person so close to God as an editor can't turn lead to gold (you better beleive that if I could I wouldn't be around here!)

Merry Christmas

#### WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PERAVELLING CIRCUS PROUE? P. J. Manton

We thought we had all of our plans made for the Nov. Sth "AR Travelling We thought we had all of our plans made for the Nov. 5th "Ak Travelling Circus Road Show" tour that was supposed to be conducted that weekend, but as it turns out the entire trip was planged with bad lick and misfortune. First of all John Held and Fd Robinson couldn't make it on Saturday and it was too late to change the date. Then Scott brake had to cancell out - down another car. By this time, Frank and Chris had elready come down from Jersey and we had six dudes to cram into the "Minx" which just doesn't work no matter how you lock at it. So Lave Foley asked his mon if he could borrow her car and when he told her it was over 400 miles round trip she gave him a blunt NO! So we decided to forget the "Circus" and we changed our plans into a more local trip in ans around the Philadelphia area. At this suggestion, Wrs. Foley didn't object to Days mains the car. (continued on mase A) Mrs. Foley didn't object to beve using the car. (continued on page 4)

so Frank, the Buck, Joe Tarquini, and continued from preceding page "Whitehat" all came to my place for the night as we held an operating session on the Reading/Springfield Valley. After a "mood" might's sleep(?) we all copped some grub and proceeded to head into Philadelphia in search of the Reading's Port Richmond Fagine Terminal, but lady luck struck again and we found that quite a few of the roads in the area were torn up due to construction, and we had a helluva time finding it, though we finally did. Next stop was out to (continued pg 6) 

## PROTOTIFICAL WISDOM

Nothing much has happened concerning the new intrik car Tlect since the completion of the first order (57 cars total) 46 coaches, 11 cafes) on October 17. The second order of 200 cars has yet to arrive. Scott Ireke

Since Congress did nothing to hall the move, Correll legally took over the bankrupt railroads in the Northonet. The Chessic System has reduced the amount that it is willing to pay the USRA for portions of bankrupt roads that it is supposed to get made! the roorganization plan, to \$54.50 million

Amtrok is hopeful that the F60CP s can be neglified to run at their designed speeds. An experiment were Tofilon were plates were added to the truck bolstors reportedly enabled the units to ill 95sph without much

The elimination of North Philadelphia as a stop for the Eroadkay Limited has been criticized by the Pennsy DOT (if you know of the stop you wouldn't blame NNPG too much for its action).

OF. or ALIMANNA SVENSKA TIFETRISKA AR ? You that a the question facing Amtrak now as it has second thoughts about the quality of the GF "GOOP's.

NNPC has made arrangements with a Swedish locemotive company, ASSA, to rent a Ret 6000h.p. electric for a six month period for testing on the N.Y.C.— P.C. runs. The 4750,000 lease provides for the 150,000lh. engine (less than half the weight of comparable imerican machines) equiped with an advanced thyristor control on each of the local sideur excle which eliminates weel slippage. The unit supposedly can handle up to 25% greater weight than conventional engine, hit a maximan of 120 mph, and is used in Sweden. Austria, lithuania, Tumenia, and Tugland.

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In the last "Dispatcher", it was said that RI #630 is the last K-6. Well, it is not; d SCL F-6 is at Union Sta., Denver, avaiting sale to anyone who wishes to preserve her. Shers SCL #501.

Tim Tonce

Amtrak reports that both the Broadway Limited and the National Limited have bad thoir their schodolle lengthoned (by over an low) to accomodate PC poor track west of Pittsburgh.

Rumor has it that the ConReil color scheme will be black, with the name ConReil in white. How original?

The number of Baldwin switchers in stored at Canden (Pavonia) has been reduced to 12, but two (5334 and 5336) were noted with capped stacks, indicating that they may eventually return to service again. At least one PRSL Baltin road-switcher (6024) is still active, while 6016 and 6025 are stored.

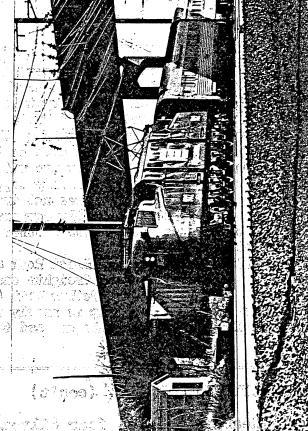
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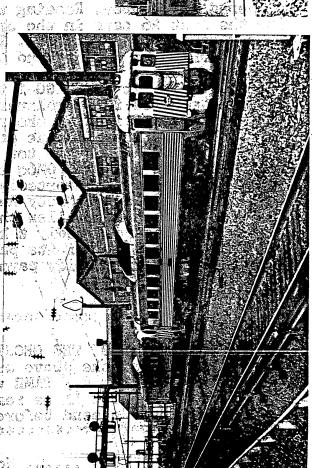
- 1) E/AMTRAK Metroliner #805 at Harrison, NJ in July 1975. (Frank Chadwick)
- 2) Reading RDC's now make up "The Wall Street" again at Harrison, NJ in July '75. (Frank Chadwick

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- 3) Central R.R. of New Jersey's EMD GP40P #3678 also at Harrison, NJ in July, 1975. (Frank Chadwick)
- 4) Penn Central GG-1 #902 Southbound at Monmouth Jct., New Jersey in March, 1974. (Al Tillotson)







8

### "TRAVELLING CIRCUS TOUR" (CONT)

West Failly to check out the damage at the SEPTA carbarn at 19th and Woodland, due to a fire which struck the barn on October 22 and destroyed 59 trolleys. About half of the wreckage had been cleared by this time (my fourth visit) but there were still quite a few melted and twisted PCC's at the site. What a pity this is to look at. All were then quite hungry again by this time so we decided to head back up the Expressway and cop some more grub on the way to Black Rock Tunnel.

Once again the bad luck was with us, for noo sooner had we entered the expressway when Dave got stopped by a Philly cop, who promptly handed him a \$25.00 ticket for "wreckless driving". Dave was not driving wrecklessly either, but he was not about to argue with the flamboyantly sereastic officer. Immediately after the man pulled away from Dave he pulled over another driver seconds later. Wow, was that wan ever

hot that days

Finally arriving at Black Rock around mad-afternoon we finally caught a piece of the action as several Reading freights came rumbling through, along with the usual RDC action. By the way, my brother Dait (Deuce) was also dong with us on this trip, his first railfanning trip in nearly five months. All went home and called it a day, but we'll all remember this one and the bad lack it brought us.

#### PROTOTYPICAL WISDOM (con't)

Reading's first four Silverliner IV's from the new group were delivered in October. Reading will get four cars, then PC will finish up with the last 26 cars in the order. Reading will be receiving the rest of its new cars around Feburary. Incidentally, RDG's cars will be numbered 101-170. Only the Reading and the LIRR start their number series at G instead of OO.

Once again, it's the GG-1 to the rescue! In the past, the tireless GG-1's have haled in Metroliners, Silverliners, E-44's, and even diesel units which had failed on the road, But on the morning of November 2, 1975, one of the old timers strode across the PC high line in West Philadelphia with GM's pride and joy in tow - big C=C electric #1975 - plus travelvan train TV-2. The 6,000-hp GM6c experimental unit had burned out her main transformers, and is reportedly out of commission for up to three months.

The reported deal whereby Rea ing would loan five Gp-39-2's to the

Delaware & Hudson has fallen through.

The USRA has reportedly taken no action on Reading's petion filed last August to abandon all of its passenger service, because of SEPTA's failure to provide certain subsidy payments.

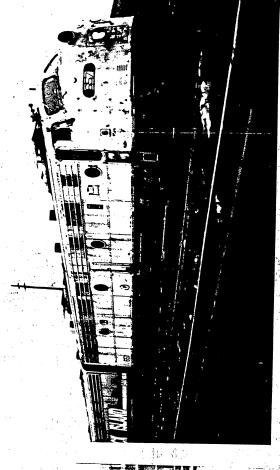
Paul J. Manton.

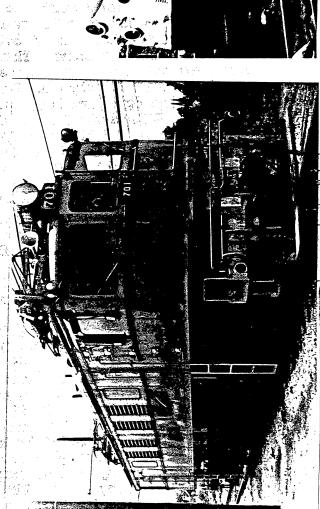
INTER-REGIONAL NOTE..... None other than our TAMR president, Mark Solomen, is attempting to revive the Southeast Region, with a newsletter, officers, conventions, - the works. Let's give the guy a hand or some other vital organ. Membership is \$1.50 - 6 Bayberry Branch, Casselberry, Fla.

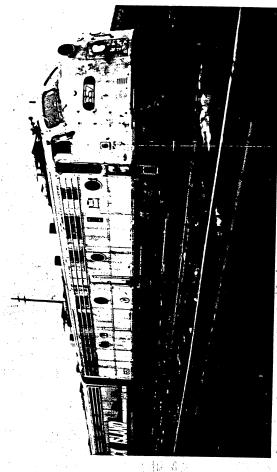
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# PIX FROM OUT VERMANDE'S WAY

- 1) AT&SF EMD SD-4,5 #5709 at Jollet, ILL, Jan. 3, 1975 (Tim Vermande)
- Bend, IND., August '74 (Tim Vermande) CSS&SB Box Motor #701 at South 5
- 3) CRIP EMD E-8 #657 (ex-Union Pacific, still in UP yellow) at Blue Island, Chicago, August '75 (Chris Buckley)
- 4) CRIP END E-8 #644 at Blue Island, Chicago, August '75 (Chris Buckley)







## MODEL RAILROAD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION SHOW

as reported by P.J. Manton

With the opportunity at hand to recruit many new TAMR and AR members, our region sprang into action once again to handle the job. At the personal invitation of Hal Carstens, editor of RMS and Railfan, AR members Frank Chedwick, Chris "The Buck" Buckley, and Dave "Whitehat" Foley Joined me on an excursion to White Plains, NY, site of the 1975 MRIA show which lasted three days. John Held, also, was scheduled to join us for the show's activities, but could not make the trip due to a "tonsilites" attack. O well, old John should hire a full time physician to care for his many ailments, but that's not the point.

Dave and I went up to join Frank and Chris on Thursday night the 30th of October (mischief night), and thanks to the overwhelming generosity of Mrs. Chadwick we were able to use the Chadwick home as "home 'ase" for the duration of the show, and we would be commuting to and from White Plains (60 miles) during that time. Since the show did not start officially until 6:00 PM Friday the 31st, the four of us decided to do some trucking around in the North Jersey area to hit a few yards and good rail locations, such as PC's Kearny facility and the Corridor. Around mid-afternoon we preceded on up to White Plains Convention Center, and were greated at the door by Hal Carstens himself.

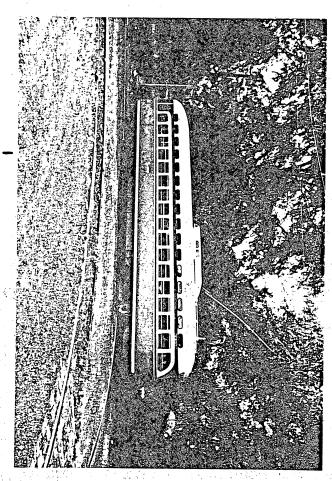
So we unloaded the car (by the way, my little "Minx" only seats four, and when fully loaded with other stuff too it's a real jam!) and proceeded to set up our own little "TAMR Information Booth" which was provided courtesy of Carstens Publications. No sooner did the show open at 6:00 PM when hundreds of people from all over the area flocked into the arena. There was much at the show to catch the attention of the average passer-by: diaramas, operating layouts, displays, free catalogs, railfan material, slide shows, etc. Mostly all of the big manufacturers were represented at the show. AHM had a large operating layout with a sample of each locomotive in their catalog running, and PFM had the largest display of brass I've ever seen. We tried to make the TAHR booth interesting as well, as we put on a marathon slide show for the three days and we all must have gone thru every slide in our collections at least twice!

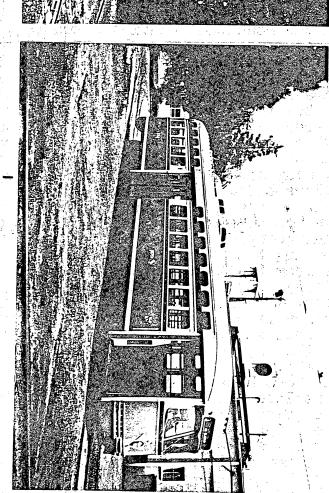
Saturday the 1st of November we were there from 12:00 noon till 9:00 PM that evening, and it was this day that perhaps a lot of the young people came through. We handed out stacks and stacks of TANR application forms—and we were really surprised at all who expressed an interest in the TANR. In fact lots of people said to us that they have heard of the TANR thru the ads in Model Railroader and their local hobby shops. TANR member Bill George, from Brooklyn NV, stopped by our booth to rap a while about the group and things. Also on Saturday, as well as Sunday, Hal Carstens asked a couple of us to volunteer to sit in the "Model Building Demonstration" Booth all day and build model car, locamotive, and structure kits, and when Hal said that "you can keep anything you build" eight hands went flying in the air begging for the job. So we worked alternating shifts in the "building" booth so the four of us would benefit evenly. The idea of the MED Booth is to educate the public about the joys of kitbuilding in model-railroading. At one point, when Chris was working on an all-wood Campbell shack, he attracted quite a large audience on youngsters and grownups alike. The public seemed fascinated;

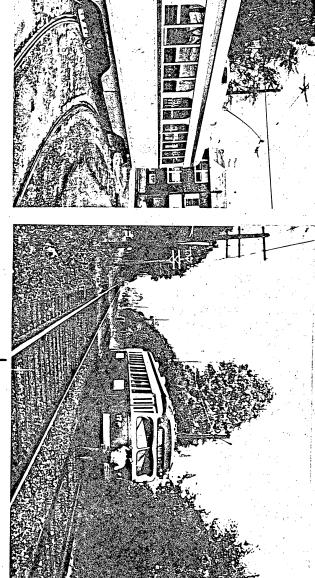
Sunday November 2nd, the final day of the show, was the heaviest attended. I mean it when I say that ever ybody and his uncle was there? Better believe it, but that convention center was absolutely jam-packed with people, and it was this day that we picked up most of our perspective new members for many teenagers were present (they probably work Saturday jobs or something). A few familiar faces dropped by to chat too, including Jim Boyd of the RMC staff and some NMRA big-wigs. Also we had a surprising visit from Ray Hakim and Bill Ritter, both of the Bergen County Railfan Society (Ray being an infamous AR member as well). Ray also had his new girlfriend with him at the show, and he invited her into our booth to sit a spell and look at some slides, and shhot the breeze. Very nice girl, whatever her name is. By the way, the show must have netted a lot of cash, for everyone who came thru had to pay \$2.50

2) SEPIA RCC car #2568 at the Yeadon, PA loop on route 13; June 175 (P.J. Manton) HOTBOX EDITOR . HIS NOW INTO DICTION AT LIKET ERMANDE TO DETERMENT

> 4) SEPTA Red Arrow Division car #17 (FCC Double-SEFTA RCC car #2159 at the Yeadon, PA loop on route 13; June '75 (P.J. Manton) ender) on the Media Line; June '75. is re-wiring pole. (P.J. Manton) Motorman







MRIA SHOW (con't) - to get in. All those who were "exhibitors" at the show had to wear these cute little name tags identifying ourselves and what group we were from. All went smoothly, right up to the close of the show at 6:00 PM that evening, and we estimate at least 800 to 1,000 people picked up a TANR application blank. An educated guess would assume that at least a third of them will eventually join the group, and it looks very probable that we'll have several hundred new members by the end of the year. The four of us had to unanimously agree that the show had been very profitable, and was perhaps the biggest piece of exposure the TAMR ever had (not to mention many perspective AR members as well).

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KADEF COUPLER DILEMMA - P.J.Manton - This article is directed primarily at the HO people who have been trying to convert their fleet of freight cars over to Kadee couplers, but even if you're not converting your fleet you might want to read on anyway and keep in mind what is said here, in case you ever

decide to change over in the future.

First of all, most model railroaders probably know that the Kadee coupler is a far superior coupler compared to the so called "Horn-hook"; "X2f", "NMRA" type that comes standard with most ready to run cars and locomotives. In fact, due to this added practicality, ease of operation, and prototypic appearance of the Kadee coupler, it has even become more popular among the model railroading crowd (er, that is, professional model railroaders), and a petition has been placed to the NMRA to change the standard for model manufacturers from the horn-hook to the kadee or similar coupler. Face it, the use of the Kadee is definitely becoming much more widespread. It looks mal. It works just like an E. H. Jenny knuckle. And the fact that it is magnetically operated makes yard switching a breeze--no more uncoupling ramps to worry about bending up. Simply install one magnet at the foot of the yeard and conduct all your switching from that point. Nothing could be simpler.

However, many modelers shy away from converting their rolling stock to Kadee couplers b ecause of the work involved in converting each car. Some shy away from the initial cost of the couplers, which isn't really that high when you come right down to it. Each package (of 5 & 10's) supplies enought couplers to convert two cars, and the package lists for \$1.4C. But buying them in quantity keeps the cost down. I bought all my Kadees from Sal Marino up in Staten Island for about twenty bucks, as he was selling them for around 70¢ a package, which isn't bad. This

gave me enought couplers to convert about 70 freight cars.

Now, another problem arises after you have bought all your couplers. Now, you will notice that they will mount very easily on many makes of car, such as Athearn, Train Miniature, Roundhouse, Varney, or any other brands that are manufactured with a body-mounted journal box. Simply remove the old horn-hook, drop in the Kadee spring mechanism, then the coupler, and replace the journal box cover. Easy, right? OK, well what about all those cars that don't have a body-mounted coupler, but truck-mounted couplers instead?

This is where a lot of people get all hypered out about Kadees. And it's really nothing to get all steamedup about, for a little ingenuity and imagination can help you mount Kadee 5%10's on virtually ANY HO car! Basically, all that needs to be done on these type of cars is to remove the truck-mounted journal box from the truck itself, and install the Kadee journal box right on the body of the car. Let's start with a typical car of this nature——the AHM boxcar.

## IRANOSIO MEETS AND CONTRIFICAS IN THE AS.

Distribute 28th, 25th, and 30th, 1975

As usually climys holds a rect of name idual criminal this time of the poor. In your past we have visited such places as Ocean City, if, Account this time of the poor. This your was would like to hold a most in the Philodolphia made and the aris that this tail to a most of induced organic added will involve visits to the various rath and terminal fractition in the mast. Tentative place call for visits to the analogy of the Historial facility and Abraha facility, a stat at His Hest year. He will also tay to got a size of the H-6001's and Absolute that the got of an extenditude to the the facility satisfactor. The next will also feature a los of SEPTA trolley estion for these into rested, including a look at the destroyed Hordiand Ave. carries and a possible tour of the favority in the facilities. So bring lots of film, Also don't forget to bring your feverite he loses to give 'on a run on Film's Reading Company System, and your slides. Ledging will be provided at the material burse to keep death development for the slides. Ledging will be provided at the material burse to keep death development for the factor forms and a possible development for the slides. Ledging will be provided at the material burse to keep death development for the slides. Hendell J. H

A.RIL 15th then 18th, 1976

Times and the final, definite defect for the Alleghany Region committees to be held in Piblishurgh, PA. Kovin Syrika. Betay Surring, and Dave May have been busy working to note this a good convention for all and wall region the money it will cost you. He will be visiting Pittsburgh's sole Hotel Bellroad club, plus visits to RUS Commy feedlifty, Rela action, Bell ection, and a look at the newy shortlines in the error. Also a complete tore of the PAT trailey system is piramed, with a possible look at the chap feedlities. The convention will also feedere cludes and revio short, and an original AR costion. So vring any Model Reilrand about their year walls to unlare-but no just. To are expecting a large error to attach about their substants. For information in the convention.

In the provide the conventions, contact betay substants. For information in the convention.

RADIT COUPLIR Con't --- Remove the pins from the trucks on the car that hold the trucks to the underframe. DCN'T LOOSE THE Take the trucks and remove the horn-book coupler (on the car there is a small spring securing it into place). Now remove the freight car wheels from the trucks and lay them aside. Utilizing a pair of heavy wire cutters, the off the journal box from the truck and file the edges down clean and smooth. This will enable the trucks to stivel freely when they are installed back onto the car. Hext step, assemble the Kadee journal box as indicated on the instruction Radee gheat privided with the couplers. All that needs to be done now is to glue the Radee journal box to the underside ends of the car, and allow it to dry hard and firm overnight. Next morning, simply install the original trucks back on the car, and there you have a it! Radee couplers on your odd rolling stock! You will

there you have it! Kades couplers on your odd rolling stock! You will even find that the car might now operate a little better due to the change in courlers. Body mounted couplers have always been known to operate more efficiently and effectively than truck-mounted, and thus same principle described here can also be applied to other brands of cars that come equipped with truck-mounted couplers such as Tyco, INI, and Lional Ho.

equipped with truck-mounted couplers such as Tyco, PMI, and Lional M), Locomotives are a whole different story in regards to mounting Madee couplers, for there are so many different makes and models of locomotives in AC scale that is is possible to find arread different methods of mounting Eadoes on len. Locomotives made by Atheara are usually the easiest to convert, for they come equipped with the figure mounties horn-hook when yo buy len. (Lower ep seed)

KAPT CCUTITE (Cont) -- Model Power locamotives (Sharks, FA's) aren't too bad to convert, again using a little inginuity. On my own Model Power FA's I had to attach the Kades coupler to the twisting horn-hook shank with bell wire. Varney and Life-like locos aren't too bad, depending on the loco. I think the most difficult locomotives to convert are those made by Tyco and AMM, for the couplers supplied with the loco are truck mounted, therefore, there is a big hole in the front of these diesel locos to allow for the swing of the horn-hook. This not only diverts from the prototypical appearance of the locomotive, but also has a tendency to cause an occasional derailment if your track is not the best laid. The best thing you can do with these locos is to try to rount the Kadee right in the existing horn-hook journal box, waless you're super-keen with plastics and are able to mold and shape an entire new front and for the diesel, with a journal box.

hook. This not only diverts from the prototypical appearance of the locomotive, but also has a tendency to couse an occasional dersilment if your track is not the best laid. The best thing you can do with these locos is to try to rount the Kadee right in the existing horn-hook journal box, unless you're super-keen with plastics and are able to mold and shape an entire new front end for the dissel, with a journal box.

Another idea to keep in mind: while you are in the process of converting your fleet over to Kadee, it ignt a bad idea to keep a few "compromise" or "Conversion" cars handy for use on your layout. These cars contain a Kadee compler on one end of the car and a regular horn-hook on the other and. Therefore, if your running a freight train that's only partially converted, you can simply add a "conversion" car to the drag and mix your Kadee equipment with horn-hook equipment. Also, if you have a comple of locomotives that seen impossible to convert, as I have, a "conversion" car allows you to run these locos on the pike with a string of Kadee-equipped cars. Just be creative, or invent your own idea for mounting Kadee. There's so many different ways, and I'm sure every model reilirosder uses more or less bis own method.

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A SPFCIAL WHEN YEARS ALLEGIFMI WDISPATCHER IS COMUIN - DEADLING DEC. 27

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