

RAILWAY PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF IRELAND

Spring News Sheet 1968

There have been so many important developments since the publication of "Five Foot Three" that it has been decided to issue this news sheet without further delay.

ENGINES

171: The response to the recent appeal for money to shop this engine has been encouraging. Therefore, although there is not yet quite enough money in hand, the Committee have decided to go ahead with this project subject to a successful boiler test.

To date only about a quarter of our members have contributed though some £70 has actually been donated by non-members.

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT AT LEAST THE REMAINDER OF OUR MEMBERS SEND IN THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS WITHOUT DELAY.

Don't worry about the closing date. Our Loco Fund can always find a good use for your money. To begin with 171's tender journals need attention and we must buy spares for 186 which have become available (see below).

171 has been given a boiler inspection for insurance purposes and is to have a steam test when her stolen cab fittings have been replaced. Fortunately this is possible though it will cost yet more money.

186: Welcome news from Inchicore: CIÉ are prepared to let us have 3,345 gallon tender No.375, together with a number of J15 spares including injectors and safety valves for a total of £210 including transportation to Belfast. This is most opportune as extended rail tours with the previous tender would not have been permitted. 186 has received a boiler inspection and is to have a steam test on 20 February.

As a temporary measure C. Clendinning plans to line her out in GS&WR style for the Slieve Cualann Railtour. She will be finished green later probably next winter.

No.3 is to have a boiler inspection on 24 February. Removal of skirts has improved her appearance and should lessen the risk of overheating during the Dock Tour. She will also be repainted before this tour.

NEW COMMITTEE

At the AGM the following officers and committee were elected:

CHAIRMAN:	L.H. Liddle	
SECRETARY:	R.C. Edwards	
TREASURER:	J. Richardson	
ASSISTANT SECRETARY:	W.T. Scott	
COMMITTEE:	I.C. Price	(Locomotives)
	J. McGuigan	(Locomotives)
	A.C. Robb	(Tours)
	A. Donaldson	(Magazine)
	E.F. Jordan	

Messrs Edwards and Richardson are in charge of the site.

RAILTOURS

St. Ciaran: We are informed that transport between Athlone and Clonmacnoise will have to be by bus as a landing at Clonmacnoise could not be guaranteed during the "Monsoon". Bord Fáilte have expressed keen interest in this tour.

Keep the date 6th July clear. The RPSI may have a surprise for you.

WHITEHEAD

The water supply system is now in full working order. The electric wiring is complete and connection has been made with the EBNI grid.

MODEL DISPLAY

We have frequently adverted to the hearty co-operation we receive from both our railways, but it is not often we have a chance to do much in return, apart from publicity and the traffic engendered by our Railtours. Stray remarks heard at Inchicore however, about the regrettable lack of a steam engine for their 1968 Open Day, prompted some Belfast members to offer the free loan of a complete working model railway, depicting CIÉ as it was in steam days. This has been accepted and plans for it are in hand in Dublin and Belfast.

IN VIEW OF OUR HEAVY FINANCIAL BURDEN MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT SO FAR PAID THEIR 1968 SUBSCRIPTION ARE URGED TO DO SO AT ONCE.