

# CLINKERS & SPARKS

FROM THE ASHPIT

FROM THE TROLLEYWIFE

EAST BAY MODEL ENGINEERS' SOCIETY, INC.  
4075 HALLECK STREET, OAKLAND, CALIF.

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## REMEMBER THE ELECTIONS

As the year draws to a close, preparations for next year begin. The most important item on the agenda for the December 7th meeting is the annual election. Don't forget, only Senior Members whose dues are paid up through December will be eligible to vote.

The nominating committee recommends:

- |                   |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| President         | Jim Dodge     |
| Vice President    | Harold Damon  |
| Secretary         | Don Messenger |
| Treasurer         | Ray Nelsoe    |
| Bldg. Electrician | Bill Williams |
| Bldg. Super.      | I.J. Brain    |
| Editor            | Ed Marshall   |

As usual, the general membership will have an opportunity to make further nominations from the floor. Also, there will be no absentee ballots; you must be present if you want to express your opinion.

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## DIMINUTIVO, GRATIAS

I am grateful to those who have helped to make this year's editions of CLINKERS & SPARKS as successful as they have been. I will save the majority of the membership a certain amount of embarrassment by not listing the few to whom this is directed. I am confident that the new editor will discover that his burden will be more than challenging; it will also be rewarding in its own way. May his year be a great success. Galen Sarno, Editor

## SOME SERIOUS THOUGHTS

By Fred Beach

Fellow members of ERMES, we must seriously consider what value we place on our long association in the hobby of model railroading, especially with regard to the Society's layouts. It is well known that a small nucleus of the total membership has provided the sustaining force, in spite of frustration, to keep the Society a live entity. I will only add my somewhat muted, whole-hearted agreement to similar thoughts in one of last month's articles, THE DAY THE RAINS CAME. The group of members who had enough determination to show up that night was exceptionally small, considering the preparations required for the ensuing Show. Undoubtedly it would have been larger if the weather had been more favorable.

I have invested a substantial amount of time, thought, and energy in the Society in my thirteen years with it. I am not willing to yield all this to those who treat semi-annual Shows as deadlines for the completion of definite quotas of work. I realize that we are under an obligation to the Santa Fe to have a monthly open house. However, we are not bound to also have grand scale semi-annual shows.

An attempt was made to lighten the load on the hard workers by suggesting progressive changes in our classifications of membership. (Cont'd. on Page 2, Col. 2)

CLINKERS & SPARKS

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ASSISTANTS. . . W.L.Kun, N.E.Eded

The management of this publication is open to comments from its readers, but it should be noted that by its very nature error will inadvertently be included for which the management will accept only token responsibility. Thus, present editorial policy dictates that corrections, retractions, etc., will be held to a minimum.

O GAUGE GOSSIP

If anyone is looking for Fred Beach, you'll find him working on the switches at Barstow. The switches in that yard have given us considerable misery. Fred says he'll remove the miseries.

Carl Dean has taken the contract of building the passenger train terminal at Oakland. Start has already been made to pass the mainline around the outside of the yard, so that thru service can be operated during the construction period.

Bill Reynolds was seen getting some help from Chuck Trombley. We are sure he appreciated it. Building a railroad more or less alone gets to be quite a chore.

One new cab is in service, and holes for two more are in evidence. Cabs #1 and #3 were removed. And we are quite sure Ed Hurtado intends to have the two new ones in place before the December operating night.

Don't forget — when the new cabs are in use the last car of each train must have a light or resistance in it to operate the light signals on the cabs.

Bill Williams coupled the electricity to the heaters; the inspector looked us over; the Aladdin (Continued at lower right)

SOME SERIOUS THOUGHTS (Cont'd.)

This was met with narrow regard.

I feel the present setup is inadequate, and have decided on my own personal method to aid my area of interest. I am not as young as I once was, and must now work at a slower pace. Therefore, during the next year I shall make a monthly contribution of five dollars, to be devoted to O Gauge activity only.

If the Society were in a real financial emergency I could be persuaded to make this contribution to the general fund. But I do not see any emergency as long as the majority of the membership feels the current dues schedule is adequate. Personally, I feel that with our present setup, a raise in the dues and in the entrance fee is in order.

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O GAUGE GOSSIP (Cont'd.)

people finished their work; and the heaters made the room plenty comfortable. We O Gaugers are happy with them. There will be no cold air to sip into the HO room. Nothing but Hot Air. Go ahead, make something of that statement. In the summer the fans will help during any daytime operation, such as the May Show. (Several HO Gaugers have already commented, favorably. Ed.) (Cont'd. on Page 3, Col. 1)

O GAUGE GOSSIP (Cont'd.)

Art Rice is going to school somewhere in Illinois. That's why you haven't seen him.

Paul Icanberry has had to work for several Friday nights. But he gets here after work, the same as other people. He doesn't bring his lunch, tho', he brings his breakfast.

The turntable is operating. Jack Manro has some finishing touches to do before he is satisfied, but locomotives were turned during the November show night. Dennon's Big Boy can stand on the table, but the tender has to stand on one foot.

Mojave tracks are now in place. A few things to do to complete the job are: platforms, duck boards, and ballast. The next project to complete is the Bakersfield Yard. Turn around local freights will soon be operating from Richmond and Barstow to Bakersfield.

John Hill has been working overtime on the scenery. He comes early Friday afternoon and works straight thru until quitting time. Some weeks he also gets here Thursday afternoon. It is too bad we don't  
(Continued at right)

have a nice mountain range of that kind of "Hills". When would you expect to see hills, but someone born a Hill?

Some new work has been noted on the streets of Antioch. Ed Marshall seems to be the commissioner in charge. Look around, you fellows who just come to visit. With all the work needed, there must be something you can improve!

George Lewis was one of our active O Gauge members. He passed away in November 1953. Mrs. Lewis has some equipment of George's that she would like to sell, and also quite a file of Model Railroader, Model Craftsman, and Trains magazines. Some years are complete. If interested, see Harold Dennon for more details.

Fred Krock has to work on Friday nights, so he will be missed temporarily. It is too bad a fellow has to eat.

Next year should be a big year for the O Gauge section. We are looking forward to a number of accomplishments. With that pleasant feeling, we O Gaugers wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas, and a New Year crowned with comradeship, at EBMAES. H.D.

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