MeC Branch Lines Study Progresses At All Levels

Intensive studies of five Maine Central Railroad branch lines searching for ways and means to effect economies and to improve the financial condition of the railroad are being progressed in all departments.

As Accounting Department personnel worked through the month of September to draw together masses of figures, a team of Marketing Department representatives called on shippers located on the branches being studied.

Coming under the careful scrutiny of management are:

- Bingham Branch from Anson to Bingham
- Eastport Branch from Ayers Junction to Eastport
- Farmington Branch from Livermore Falls to Farmington
- Hartland Branch from Pittsfield to Hartland
- Skowhegan Branch from Waterville to Skowhegan

H. E. Buchheim, MeC Director of Sales, reports most shippers contacted are familiar with the financial difficulties experienced by Maine Central and want to cooperate to achieve the best working arrangement possible.

Final recommendations concerning the branches are expected to be brought before President E. S. Miller and the Board of Directors for decision-making later this month.

Maine’s Newest Industry Slated At Pittsfield

Maine’s newest industry, S. Bent and Brothers, Incorporated of Gardner, Massachusetts is scheduled to start production at its Pittsfield, Maine plant next month following many months of negotiations with the Department of Economic Development and with the cooperation of the Maine Central Railroad and Gianchetto Brothers of Pittsfield.

Governor Kenneth M. Curtis and DED Commissioner James K. Keefe report that the new

(See page 8—Newest Industry)

Safety Urged For Snowmobilers

Concern for the safety of snowmobile users and railroad personnel was expressed at the first Maine Snowmobile Congress held at the University of Maine in Orono September 11.

The more than 135 persons from 6 states and some 60 communities in attendance were told that “Maine Central Railroad recognizes that the use of snowmobiles has become a popular sport, providing enjoyment for individuals and families alike. However, the railroad has become increasingly alarmed at the high incidence of snowmobile users running these vehicles on our tracks and right-of-way. We feel that those who do are endangering their own lives as well as posing a threat to safe train operations.”

The railroad’s statement continued “We are certainly interested in communicating to snowmobile users our concern for their safety and our desire for mutual cooperation in this area.”

Jack V. Hoeme, Director of public affairs for the International Snowmobile Industry Association, urged that all clubs stress to members the importance of safety.

INDUSTRY LEADERS MEET—Principals at a Pittsfield meeting announcing Maine’s newest industry, S. Bent and Brothers, Incorporated, left to right, Alton Gianchetto, Ival Gianchetto, John Bent, C. G. Rivers, Maine Central Manager, Industrial Development, Real Estate and Taxation; Gardner Bent and Arthur Austin, Department of Economic Development.
TO MY FELLOW EMPLOYEES:

Communication is said by sociologists and educators of our day to be something of a lost art. Its significance in the fields of human relations as well as in projecting the answers to tomorrow's problems in our technological age cannot be overrated.

Recognition of this fact led us early in September to lay before our State's leaders in Augusta and Washington as well as the public communications media a report on the intensive studies being conducted by Maine Central of the economic benefits which could accrue from partial or complete abandonments of five branch lines.

To these leaders and to the general public as well we took our case for the necessity of this study, our regrettable failure to earn any profit in the first six months of 1969, the prospect of higher taxes and another round of wage increases on a national scale which can only inhibit our progress.

We disclosed the need for the detailed study being conducted by the transportation and marketing departments of present and prospective operations on these lines:

Bingham Branch from Anson to Bingham
Eastport Branch from Ayers Junction to Eastport
Farmington Branch from Livermore Falls to Farmington
Hartland Branch from Pittsfield to Hartland
Skowhegan Branch from Waterville to Skowhegan

As a detailed cost study and examination of present and past operation of these branches proceeded, Maine Central's marketing team initiated an intensive communication effort of its own.

With the exception of some callbacks necessitated by the absence of officials who must be contacted, our marketing people have talked with nearly every shipper or receiver of car freight in the last two years on the branch lines being studied.

Reiterating the necessity for these projected abandonments, Maine Central emissaries have sought to measure the impact on our shippers and to be as helpful as possible in overcoming difficulties. We have tried to suggest useful alternatives should the abandonments become a reality, endeavored to make constructive proposals ranging from piggyback operations to plant consolidations.

Our marketing representatives have found our shippers generally sympathetic and knowledgeable regarding the difficult situation into which the times and conditions have forced the railroad and them; further, they have found a genuine willingness in most cases to cooperate with the railroad in recognition of the valuable service we are able to render our customers.

While these negative developments progress as indicated, there are positive developments holding much hope for generation of new rail traffic and significant new industry in areas where abandonments may occur. For instance, there is very real hope, and even expectation, of a major oil refinery and chemical complex in Washington County. Its materialization at the far end of our system could be the most significant industrial development in Maine in fifty years and its favorable impact on the economy of depressed Washington County and the State as a whole, nothing short of enormous.

E. SPENCER MILLER
President
HULA CHAMP—Eileen P. Flynn, 11-year-old daughter of General Storekeeper Hugh F. Flynn, demonstrates the skill which won her second place in the finals of the New England hula-hop championships in Boston, recently. Eileen, one of five children in the Flynn family, is a pupil in the 6th grade at South Portland's Skillin Grammar School. She won honors at Sebago Lake and Deer- ing Oaks competition which sent her to the finals.

RIGBY YARDS

Conductor Paul Glidden and Mrs. Glidden decided to take in a few weeks of roaming. Their venturing took them through the New Brunswick Area in their new camper. Now that's the way to break in.

Conductor Ralph Blumenthal was off for a couple of weeks vacationing. Yard conductor Bobby Parker decided four weeks of vacationing would do him fine. So Bobby's off for the Texas area. Sure hope he doesn't decide to start raising steers down around the wharf.

Conductor Henry Manning used a little vacation time to get in some painting.

John Johnson, chief clerk Mr. Harris' office, was on vacation for two weeks. John says he did a little pick nicking but mostly he slept.

Covering for John while he vacationed was Pat O'Toole. Betcha Pat had a key hiding somewhere just in case.

First trick telegrapher Bill Graham decided the French atmosphere would do him a bit of good. So Bill motored up to Montreal, Quebec for a few days.

Jimmy Kearn Jr., yard conductor, is practicing up for the annual Company Golfing Tournament. Better watch out fellas.

Conductor Forest Mills did a bit of vacationing. Hear he was breaking in that new swimming pool of his.

Paul Faust, spare operator, recently enlisted in the Air Force. Now that's an all American boy for you.

Spare Operator Don E. Perkins returned to the University of Maine at Orono this fall. Hope we'll be seeing Don in the Spring.

Another vacationer is George Woodward Jr.

Yard Conductor Pete Gilio was on vacation for a couple of weeks. We should like to send our congratulations out to Pete and his new bride.

Another golfer vacationing is Conductor Merv Greenlaw. Imagine Merv's entered in the Company Tournament also.

Yard Clerk Don Barker has been off for a while nursing a bad back. Hope Don's feeling better.

Clerk Tyypeed Roland Chaisson was on vacation for a few weeks. Roland enjoyed himself with a trip to St. Anne's in Quebec. Says he visited the hippies in Quebec City.

Inspector Arthur Stack enjoyed his vacation at his cottage on Crescent Lake in Raymond. Enjoyed would be far from it since he worked on putting a stone foundation around his cottage.

Head Television Clerk Don Gillies and his sons Christopher and Eugene recently returned from a trip to New London, Conn. Gene who plays on Little League No. 7 was with the "All Stars" who stayed at the Mitchell College Dorms. Gene pitched the game for his team at Mitchell College Field. Even though the team didn't win they were all complimented by the fans from New London and a vast number of fans who also attended to cheer their team on. It's not every team that can take their fans with them.

Spare Clerk Al Pratt was on vacation for a week. Al and his wife took a trip to Auburndale, Mass.

WATERVILLE SHOPS

Our spare star, Billrach Clerk and Checker Roger St. Amand, has left us to take his first teaching position at Quimby Elementary School in Bingham as a science teacher. We hope he enjoyed spending summer vacation with us, and also wish him our best.

Congratulations are in order for Car Inspector and Mrs. Harvey McCaslin, who recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. A party was given by their children and friends. There are seven children: Edward, student at Michigan State; Carl, with the United States Air Force in England; Mrs. Terry Cressman of Delroy Beach, Florida; Bruce, Colleen, Audrey and Rodney; Harvey holds the 1st trick as car inspector on the west bound, and raises chicken's in his spare time.

WEDDING BELLS—Miss Cheryl Annette Buck, daughter of Tractor Driver and Mrs. Gerald E. Buck, Waterville Shop, recently became the bride of Walter E. Davis of East Benton in a ceremony at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Fairfield. Mr. and Mrs. Davis are both employed by C. F. Hathaway Company, Waterville.

Relief Switcher No. 2 crew at Livermore Falls, E. J. LaLiberte, flagman, P. L. Messier, conductor, and Chris Nielsen, engineer, in the clear for DR-2.

ENGINE & TRAIN CREWS

Engineer Gene Plourd and family enjoyed their vacation at Little Sebago.

Engineer Dominic Maletta and family also spent their vacation at Little Sebago.

Glad to see Hostler Frank Caruso back on the job after an operation.

ROCKLAND

On vacation is Conductor Maurice Johnson, enjoying the nice cool crisp weather, while chasing that little white ball all over the pasture. His job was covered by R. O. Carrier from the Waterville spare board.

Sorry to have our busy Waldoboro Agent Del Smith laid up following a "do it yourself" accident. Trust that he is well on the mend and will be back to work by the time this comes out. Covering in his absence were spare operators T. A. MacDon- ald, Jr., and George Melvin.

Retired General Agent and Mrs. Frank Carsey are back at their cottage from a cross Canada trip thence up to the wilds of Alaska, where they took in the sights of Skagway and White Horse, traveling on the narrow gauge White Pass and Yukon Railroad.

Car Cleaner Fred LaBranche vacationing during part of July and August traveling around to various fairs and visiting relatives in Vermont. Cashier Stan Prescott also vacationing attending Union Fair, painting for his father, Retired Con- ductor Frank Prescott, and camping at the lake with the family.

Recent visitor to the freight office was Sectionman John Bodman, looking pretty good, but still on a long road to recovery before being able to return to work.

D. A. Pomercy and outfit in Rock- land making repairs to the freight office, engine house and section house, preparing for winter.

On vacation last of September was Agent W. B. Lewis traveling on short trips and working around the house, painting and getting things ready for winter. His job was covered by Spare Operator George Melvin.

It is interesting to note that the Maine State Ferry service will continue to run their summer schedule through the month of October this
Miss Kathleen Mary Foley, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. F. Joseph Foley of Portland, became the bride of Dudley E. Bennett, son of Mrs. Laurence F. Bennett of Windham Center and the late Dr. Bennett recently. Kathleen’s mother is Margaret Foley, stenographer in the mechanical department. A graduate of Deering High School and a magna cum laude aluma of Boston University School of Nursing, Mrs. Bennett will be associated with the Federal Children and Youth Program in Kirkville, Mo., where the couple will make their home. A graduate of Windham High School, Dean Jr. College in Franklin, Mass., and Northeast Missouri State College, Bennett is a student at Kirkville College of Osteopathy and Surgery.

Gordon Williams, cashier, and his family had a long and interesting trip this summer including Cleveland, Ohio; West Virginia and Washington, D.C., helping his son John move at the end of his studies in Cleveland to Philadelphia, W. Va., where he is now teaching chemistry and math at Alderson-Broadus College. Since then they have visited their daughter and son-in-law in Connecticut.

Shirley Wilson, stenographer in the Assistant Treasurer’s office, and her husband Bill visited him in Canada in September.

Bob Nurse of Car Accounting and his wife made their annual trek to Chihuahua, Mexico, on the far side of the Laurentian Mountains, where they caught a few trout in spite of 7 straight days of rain and wind. Sorry about that weather on those 200 miles of dirt roads, Bob.

John Dresser of the Statistical Studies office has reportedly become a real “sea dog” since he got a great deal of time sailing and cruising in his new boat—a CAl-25.

Morfill Stanley of the same office enjoyed a week’s vacation during September, and Grace Hoglund, a secretary in the Executive Department, drove with her hubby in their new speckled trout and bass. The Mar- crofts can hardly wait to get after those sea trout again.

Division Engineer and Mrs. Ray- mond Jackson are sporting a beauti- ful new 1969 Meadow Green Olds- mobile Convoyeur, 6-cyl. daughter of Peggy Berry, stenographer, engineering department, entered the Portland Uni- versity of Maine in September. She is studying Political Science.

Marion Faibsy, clerk-stenographer, and her husband, John, spent their vacation visiting friends and relatives in Nova Scotia last month. Then John departed from Halifax to take the national Airport for London, England, where he will do research in connection with his Ph.D Degree.

Mr. and Mrs. Phil Farley, retired instrumentman, drafting room, flew to Ireland, on vacation, to see the friend’s been and see if they can get to see a few of the birthday and in particular is most grateful to Moore & Munger Anglo-America Engineers, for their generous remembrance of an English Bone China Tea Set - truly a master- piece, many thanks from Farley.

Bob and Connor Grant and Axel and Polly Hansen were involved in a two car collision on a rusted from Little Lake, Waterboro. The driver of the other car went through a stop sign and hit Bob Grant’s car, spinning it into the side of the road and completely demolishing it. They were most fortunate in escaping with the bruises, with the exception of Bob he had eight stitches taken on his head.

August vacations—Donna Roderick, Marion Fabisy, Tom Foley, Dot- tie Smith and Dottie Proctor and what beautiful weather they had.

Tom Foley, transportation office has been the sick for a few days. Personnel in Data Processing have been having a busy and, in one par- ticular, the case of Hazel Davison and her husband Leo, had the house guest on several occasions this summer, Allen, a resident of the and thoroughly enjoyed her respite the Marketing Department.

“AL” Chapman, clerk in auditor division, offices, is at home recuperating from an operation on his knee. He does a good job getting around on crutches.

New Father! ! John McAnallen, Jr. of the Data Processing office is the proud daddy of a 5 lb. 12 ounce baby girl born the first week in Sep- tember. They have named the baby Linda Jo.

"ADMIRAL’S BANDSMAN"—Wayne Sorenson, son of MEC Engineer and Mrs. Ralph Sorenson of Portland is known as the "Admiral’s Band" after enlisting in the U.S. Navy in January of 1968.

Recent tours of the armed forces band unit have taken him from Hobo- lolo to Viet Nam. The bandman play on bases as well as the troops. A versatile musician, Wayne plays clarinet and saxophone. A 1967 graduate of Portland High School, he was a member of the school band and orchestra as well as a member of the Portland Junior Symphony and S. D. Warren band.

SPECIAL MESSAGE—Keith Allen, son of Mrs. J. H. Allen and Mr. John Allen of Cape Elizabeth, received a letter from the White House this summer which graciously expressed the President’s good wishes and thanks for Keith’s comments. Keith will enter 6th grade this fall and has been in national defense which was stimulated by his hobby of working on models of ships and planes.

DOG DAZE—Introducing Donna (Office Manager, General Superintendent’s office) pet dachshund “Shari”—en- joying the latest in “Mod” fashions.

beige-gold Chevelle up the coast of Maine and ferried over to Vinalhaven. Purchasing Agent E. R. Russell and Mrs. Russell daughter Avis and son John motored recently to Plattsburg, New York, where John’s enrolled as a sophomore at Mount Assumption In- stitute. They visited Ausable Chasm and Fort Ticonderoga as part of the trip.

Avis, a June graduate of Scar- borough High School, has entered Plus-Gray’s School of Business in Portland.

Another memorable vacation trip was enjoyed in mid-September by Train Crew Dispatcher Arthur Palmer, his mother and George and Dave Marcroft. The weather cooperated as they got another look at beautiful Vermont and the Burlington area in particular, as well as the New York lakes. Arthur wanted to visit the Lake George area and George let him. The four also toured Lake Placid and Catskill areas, crossing over the state line and stopping at Bennington, Ver- mont and Hogback Mountain on re- tour. A special treat was breakfast high on the hill overlooking the 100 mile view at Marboro, Vermont. They report a perfect trip, you can “pick up the schedule at the Train Crew Dispatcher’s office.”

The travelers went afield from their route to send back a few friendly postcards showing Tupper Lake, New York. Didn’t realize they’d named a lake for our General Superintendent.

The Burkhart Boys, Bucky and Billy and their wives from Skowhegan, recently stopped over on Mount Desert Hill, Portland, to say “hello” to their aunt, recently retired Ray Marcroft. Bill’s son, Jimmy, was in town making use of a camp at Troutdale, Lake Moosie and go after some of the
RIGBY

Stores Department Clerk Francis Haldane is back on the job after his vacation during which he toured, with Mrs. Haldane, most of the New England states in their new Toyota. The "Ray" Forbis have decided to sell their cottage at Brandy Pond, and take up permanent residence in their Venice, Florida home. "Ray", a retired engineer with over 40 years service, had formerly spent about 4 months of each year in Maine.

Retired Machinist "Lou", and Mrs. Carignan were visited by their daughter and family during the summer.

Carman Helper John Chetley, who is now covering the Crane Operators' job after the retirement of Joe Martell, spent the most of his vacation in the Rockwood area, up North, camping at Schoonock Wilderness.

Carman Merle Cook, II is back on the job after surgery.

Arnold Cook is one of our latest additions, having joined the Bridge and Building Crew last month, as a Carpenters' Helper.

Foreman Charles Tetreault is back on the job after a bout with a virus for nearly a month. Machinist Martin Stratton covered his position.

Your Assistant Editor, Albert B. Wetmore Senior, and Mrs. Wetmore attended the wedding of their grand- son Luke E. Calazoo, and Nilah Lorraine, at Lee, Indiana, on September 6th. A party of seven persons made the trip representing the bride- groom's family. Both of the young couple are members of the armed services, the bride a member of the U.S. Navy, Nasecon Staff, and the groom a member of the Naval Reserves, "Seabees". It was also the 49th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Albert B. Wetmore Senior.

Mark J. Fialherty, 83, died at his home after a short illness. He was an employee of the Maine Central Railroad and Portland Terminal for many years before joining the Portland Police force.

Your reporter recently paid a visit to retired Machinist "Bert" Jewett of Waterville, at his cottage located on the New Meadows River, near Bath, Maine, shortly after he and Mrs. Jewetta's 50th wedding anniversary. A surprise party was given at which there were 42 members of the family gathered for the occasion. "Bert" was a machinist for many years at the old Thompson's Point Shops, before being transferred to the Waterville Shops in that capacity, and later promoted to engine house foreman.

Robert A. MacDonald, 53, died after a long illness. An employee for many years in the Maintenance of Ways Department crew at Rigby.

Visitors at the shops during the month: Former Millman John Dellow, General Foreman Malcolm Billington: Machinist Phillip Bonang and Foreman Fred Lombard.

Frank Tokarski, employed at the engine house as a machinist helper, during the war days, later transferred to the Section Crew, retired this month. A purse of money was presented to him, and Frank passed around the cigars.

Wreck Master Donald MacVane retired after 47 years of service in various capacities.

Chief Clerk Frank Garland and his Freeport Little Leaguers have finished their season, and although did not win the pennant, played quite consistently and won 3rd place.

Engine House employee Afa Worchester spent all 4 weeks of his vacation at his blueberry farm at Columbia Falls and reports a bumper crop.

Jerald Leroux, 44, brother of Mrs. Milton Goonhs, wife of one of our machinists, died suddenly. The incident occurred while he was hauling his boat out of the water just before the forcasted hurricane. He resided in Westbrook, an employee of S.D. Warren Company.

Engine Hostler Raymond Thompson while on vacation was able to make a few necessary repairs around his home, as well as getting some miles on the road.

Retired Electrician Alvin Strout, was injured while endeavoring to assist one of his neighbors to start his automobile engine. He was caught between two cars. He is getting along very well.

Retired Janitor of engineers' quarters, Arthur Thompson, Beech Hill Road, Freeport, had a successful garden this year at his farm. He wishes to be remembered to all of his friends at Rigby.

HAPPY DAY—Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Robert, 62 Bridge St., Lewiston, were recently honored by their children and grandchildren in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary and were presented with a money tree. Mr. Robert retired as Telegrapher at Lewiston in October, 1961.

TROPHY WINNER—Daryl Buck, son of Tractor Driver and Mrs. Gerald E. Buck, Waterville, won this trophy for Best Pastry Display at a recent show at South Portland Armory. A Dean's List student and graduate of Southern Maine Vocational Institute of Culinary Arts, Daryl is now employed at a Portland bakery.

EASTERN SUB-DIVISION

Switchtender and Mrs. John J. Farrell of 14 Fruit St., Bangor, Maine announce the marriage of their daughter Virginia Ann to James Wade Weaver, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald M. Weaver of 39 Mainwood Ave., Orono. Mrs. Weaver is a 1965 graduate of Bangor High School. She graduated from the University of Maine in 1969 with a B.S. degree in secondary education. She will teach English at Brewer High School. Weaver is a 1965 graduate of Orono High School. He graduated from the University of Maine in 1969 with a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering. He will teach in the Civil Engineering department of the University of Maine while working on his Masters.

Chief Clerk Harry A. Bowen and Mrs. Bowen have recently been on a month's vacation. They spent one week in Binghamton, N. Y., visiting their son Bob and his wife Pat.

JOURNEYMAN'S PAPERS EARNED—Robert C. Crowell, right, of Waterville receives his journeyman's papers from Waterville Shops Superintendent Aiden H. Finnermore after four years of machinist apprenticeship. Bob started work at the shop following graduation from Lawrence High School, Winslow. His best advice and most straightforward criticism come from Bob's dad, Otha D. Crowell, longtime Maine Central Railroad machinist. Bob is married to the former Cynthia Deveau of Waterville and they have a four months old son, Timmy. The couple is hoping for success with Mrs. Crowell's new venture, Cindy's School of Dance which opened recently in Augusta.
WATERVILLE YARDS

Our good friend, Vic Tardiff, brakeman, has been convalescing all summer in Augusta. He is at the Thayer Hospital for a knee operation. Vic is an ardent lover of horses. He frequently free-lances them at race tracks, especially at the Lewiston Fairgrounds.

We were glad to see Larry Golford, trainman, who has just returned to work after an operation. At first, we didn’t recognize him, but after a while his voice gave him away. You see Larry, as a hobby while convalescing, let his hair and beard grow. He’s back to normal now, shaved and all.

Through the grapevine, we heard that “Skip” Houlette, Engineer on Switcher No. 2, had an experience not too long ago, when his wife asked him to move a bureau downstairs. The story goes; “Skip”, figured the bureau should be light, due to having clothing inside. But a sneaky one it was, with something inside hidden under the clothes. “O.K., honey”, he says, “let her go. I’ll ease her down”. Down it went and Skip inches away from it. A flight of stairs and through the door like a shot out of a gun, as it sounded to one of his neighbors and a few onlookers with awed looks on their faces. “Skip” picked himself up. He found he was O.K., but the bureau didn’t do so well. The only unharmed item was the glassware. So there you are, an experienced movorman was born.

Mark Michaud says he likes to take his vacation during the months of June and July. He claims the weather is at its best during these months. So, Mark did just that, and was soaked for a week.

Enroute to Portland, Karen Clark, spare engineer and freeman, was in a automobile accident. Karen got out all right with a few cuts and scratches.

Lloyd K. Powers, brakeman on Switcher No. 8, is rapidly losing his blonde wavy hair, and was asked if he regrets. He says you don’t find marble top on cheap furniture.

Harold Erickson, spare engineer from Portland, is down due to shortage on Waterville Spare Board. As always, it’s a pleasure to see our old buddies.

A band was formed in the Waterville Area by the Parks and Recreation Department. Most of the fellows were from the old American Legion Band and various local talent of which a good part came from the Maine Central Railroad. They are: Paul Barrows, engineer, Switcher No. 6; Burns Hillman, 2nd truck yardmaster; Paul Joler, spare brakeman; and Ed Palmer, conductor, Switcher No. 8.

Who says “Sugarfoot” is on T.V.? He was seen on DR-2 recently at Livermore Falls. None other than “Sugarfoot” Harmon as Conductor.

Congratulations to Dennis Chamberlain, chief clerk, Waterville Freight Office, on his recent marriage. We hear that he’s honeymooning in Canada. We wish him our best and a long, happy married life.

Machinist John Larracey reports that there are more than 160 enrolled members in the community blood bank from the railroad industry in Waterville.

Watchman Roland Higgins has resigned and applied for pension as of September 24, after some 21 years of service.

I SAW TWO SHIPS A SAILING—16 year old “Chris” Nielsen, son of MEC Engineer and Mrs. Christian G. Nielsen with two of the paintings he displayed at the annual Sidewalk Art festival in Portland.

Machinist Rick Chamberlain is a surgical patient in a local hospital.

Carman Basil Thompson has recently traded cars and now has a Toyota four-door.

Carmen hospitalized during the month are Sam Merrow, Buster Tuttle, and Charles Collier. Clara Giroux and Rachel Barton have been vacationing in Ottawa and Montreal.

Checker Arnold Giroux has recently purchased a new Volkswagen.

Foreman N.B. Estabrook is making plans and preparations for the move to his new home in Winslow.

Electrician Foreman Al Nelson got his left hand tangled in a bench saw causing considerable damage to several fingers.

Paint Helper and Mrs. Dave Alley are parents of a new boy, named Eugene Louis.

Phillis Pelletier, daughter of Mrs. Omelia Pelletier and John A. Gravel of Carman and Mrs. Frank Gravel, Waterville Shops were married September 6, at Sacred Heart Church, Waterville. Phillis Pelletier graduated from Waterville High in 1966, and later was graduated from Central Beauty School in Augusta. John Gravel was graduated from Lawrence High in 1966. Is now attending Husson College in Bangor as a senior. John plans on teaching. The Honeymoon was spent in New York and Washington.

Careful Car Handling Observed in October

October is the month in which special efforts are made to promote careful car handling. We wish him our best and a long, happy married life.

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Watchman Roland Higgins has resigned and applied for pension as of September 24, after some 21 years of service.

It all began in subprimary. Chris Nielsen was sketching little figures while some of the other youngsters preferred modeling clay. At the age of 10 his favorite pastime was drawing cartoons; then two years ago he tried painting, using poster paints because they don’t cost as much as oils.

With no formal art training he produced some good water colors and last year made his first attempt at oils.

“I like oils best of all” says Chris “because you can change and improve then endlessly.” “I’m hard to satisfy,” he adds.

One of the younger exhibitors in Portland’s summer Sidewalk Art Festival August 16th sponsored by WCSH, Chris sold four of his five entries. A water color which he labels “combat art” was purchased by a lady artist from California who had an exhibit adjoining his; a prominent Portland dentist paid Chris $30. for what is probably the best of the work he has done, a massive clipper ship, portrayed with such a sense of reality and beauty that it stirs the “adventurer” spirit in those who see it.

A Deering High School junior, Chris enjoys his art class there but expresses the yearnings of many creative young people today that more money could be spent by taxpayers to see that youth gets a greater chance to expand its experience in the arts while in public school.

Chris hopes to be a commercial artist someday; meanwhile as the foliage changes around the area of the family’s camp at Little Sebago, he’ll be out with easel and brushes, trying to capture the “feel” of autumn on canvas. Those who will be watching for his future showings are hoping for clear days for Chris.

A warm welcome is extended to Mrs. Margaret Berry, Stenographer, Engineering Department, who is taking the place of Carol Bragdon, recently resigned. “Peggy” has four youngsters; Theresa, Donna, George Patrick, and Mary. She was a former railroad employee at Rigby several years ago, and has a brother Pat O’Toole, Jr. who works as a Clerk in the Per Diem Office.
A PLEASANT VOICE AND A FINE RECORD OF SERVICE—that's what they say about Mrs. Beverly Cook, car clerk-stenographer at Waterville Freight Office. “Bov” celebrated 21 years of service for Maine Central in September. Her duties include telephone notification to the area consignees of carload shipments received, keeping demurrage records and taking orders for the loading of freight shipments. Husband Roland is a yard conductor at Waterville Yard. They have two youngsters, Cindy, age 19 and Ricky, age 10.

MAINE CENTRAL-PORTLAND TERMINAL COMPANY GOLF LEAGUE BANQUET—First place team members shown at the annual Golf League banquet at Carolyn's included, left to right, Everett Goddard, Manager, Car Accounting and Statistics; Tom Manning, Rigby Car Shop; Tom Caufield, Conductor, P.T. Co.; Bob Chapman (Team Captain), Stores Department, Rigby; Ralph Gordon, Auditor, Data Processing Manager; Ray Williams, Sales, Penn Central and John Broderick, Assistant Yard Master, Rigby. Absent at picture taking time was George Silva, Superintendent, Locomotive Maintenance.

BY JERRY SHEA

As predicted, the results of a couple of make-up matches the day before the Awards Banquet decided the final standing of the forty-eight-man Maine Central and Portland Terminal Golf League.

Team No. 1 won first place by 6 points after trailing team No. 2 most of the last half of the season. Bob Chapman, Stores Department, Rigby, besides being Captain of the winning team, led the league in all departments. His 38.9 per round was low average and he walked away with the most pars with 75 and most birdies with 6. See picture for other members of the winning team.

In second place, Team No. 2, led by John Tracy, P.T.C. conductor, who tied Chapman for low round with a one over par 37, beat out Team No. 4 the last week of play. Other fellows on Team No. 2 were John Barnes, P.T.C. Brakeman, Reggie Libby, Payroll Dept., Auditor Disbursements; Bob Brewster, Assistant Engineer, Engineering Dept., Bob Perkins, Rigby Car Shop; Joe Cushman, Trainman, P.T.C.; Gene Guilmette, Conductor, P.T. Co.; and Steve Magyar, Sales, Penn Central.

Other individual award winners were: Bob Chapman - Low Average; John Curran - Low Gross Class A; Bob Travis - Low Gross Class B; Larry Jackson - Low Gross Class C; Art Edwards - Low Net Class A; Brownie Tate - Low Net Class B; Jimmy Kearns - Low Net Class C.

In the Men’s Bowling League at West-Port Lanes on Monday nights at 6:45 P.M., twelve 5-man teams were lined up by this year’s Commissioners, Jay Welch, Rigby Engine House, and Bill Welch, Clerk-Auditor Disbursements.

Teams are made up from about every Department on the Railroad. Team Captains are Lenny Forest, Track Crew, P.T.C.; Tommy Caufield, Conductor, P.T.C.; Ralph Coffin, Jr., Dispatchers, Maine Central; Marty Stratton, Engine House, Rigby; Tom Manning, Car Department, Car Department, Rigby; Lindy Burgess, Stores, Maine Central; Reggie Libby, Auditor Disbursements; Ralph Gordon, Machine Room; Percy Coombs, Engineering; Bill Brownell, General Office; Larry Parker, Track; Jerry Shea, Car Accounting.

The Couples Bowling League were able to obtain four more alleys this year. Therefore, they will have sixteen new faces in the eighteen team league. They bowl on Thursday nights at 6:45 P.M. at West-Port Lanes. Because Gene Guilmette will be unable to bowl this year, Joe Gallant, Statistical Assistant, Executive Department, has offered his services as Treasurser of the League. The other Commissioner is Ken Austin, Clerk, Comptroller’s Office.
New Industry—(from page 1) facility in the former J. R. Cianchette building will produce colonial reproductions of chairs and rockers made of 100 percent northern hardwood.

Paying tribute to Maine Central and Cianchette Brothers for their joint effort to provide a rail siding to the plant, Keefe praised local town officials who encouraged the new industry.

Governor Curtis noted that, "in addition to bolstering the economy of Pittsfield, the impact will be felt by the area's lumber industry as well."

The firm's president, Jack Bent says a planned expansion program over the next two years will boost the initial work force of 35 to 200 and triple the size of the existing 50,000 square foot plant with construction of 100,000 square feet of new manufacturing space.

Bent adds that the firm has purchased the most modern waste and dust control equipment available for its new plant.

A family-owned corporation established in 1867, S. Bent and Brothers has plants in Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

CAPE ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADERS—It's fall again and sons and daughters of railroad employees throughout the system are enjoying the beautiful weather schoolboy sports. The five girls are Grand Champions among cheerleaders of New England Schools. Second from the left is Linda Foster, daughter of MEC Comptroller and Treasurer H. N. Foster. Left to right, Sue Adair, Barbara Lussier, Donna McCraw and Cherie Birmingham. Linda is co-captain with Barbara. The gals spent a week at the University of Connecticut at a cheerleaders' workshop and emerged at the top of the heap over 15 other New England Schools. Latest triumph for the group was a stellar appearance on the popular Dave Astor Show on WGAN-TV in which they pantomimed various numbers.

Your Tax Dollars At Work ????

There's a yarn going the rounds that it wasn't an American flag that Astronauts Armstrong and Aldrin raised on the moon, but that photo enlargements have revealed it was a sign reading "Your Tax Dollars At Work."

Railroads aren't bothered by the $24 billion dollars spent on the Apollo program but they may well swallow hard at the billions in support of railroad competition.

And another figure that's really "out of this world" is the 125 billion dollars paid in interest on the national debt since 1961.

We could all chart a program of useful spending in this country for an amount like that.

DEATHS

Robert A. MacDonald, crossingganger, Portland, August 24.
Norman A. Sawyer, trainman, Portland, August 30.
John J. Flaherty, engine house employee, Portland, September 14.
Clayton Williamson, retired MEC conductor, Jacksonville, Fla., September 18.

Note Of Thanks

W. C. Bass, section foreman, Yarmouth, has asked us to express sincere thanks to fellow workers for their donation and thoughtfulness during his recent illness.

Caleb R. Mitchell, retired work equipment maintainer, Bowdoinham, wishes to thank all his railroad friends for the purse of money which he received at his retirement.

WHICH STATION IS THIS—This one shouldn't be too difficult to guess but see if you can guess approximately what the year was.

Y. C. Nielson Identifies Picture Crowleys Junction

The Messenger received a note quickly following publication of the September issue from retired MEC Conductor Y. C. Neilson of Brunswick, correctly identifying the mystery picture as Crowleys Junction. He also recalled that Henry Knowles was station agent and his wife was the operator.

Henry Knowles became agent in 1881 and held that position until 1919, when the accounts were transferred to his wife, Sarah, telegrapher at Crowleys. Both retired in June of 1920. Mr. Knowles died in 1922 and Mrs. Knowles in 1948.

The career of Conductor Neilson is of interest as well. He started as a newsboy on Maine Central in 1901, hired out as trainman in 1906 and was promoted to Conductor in 1927, a position he held until his retirement on January 1, 1958.

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By Harold R. Keniston

The first fall meeting of the Association of Railroad Veterans will be held at Howard Johnson's in South Portland on Sunday, September 28, with a dinner and program to follow.

Machinist and Mrs. Theodore Cote, Sr., were surprised and entertained at a cook out recently at the home of their daughter and son-in-law Mr. and Mrs. George Webster, of Scarborough. Their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Carleton Howard, arrived from Charlotte, N.C. for the cook-out. The Howard's visited with the Cote's for two weeks before returning to North Carolina.