

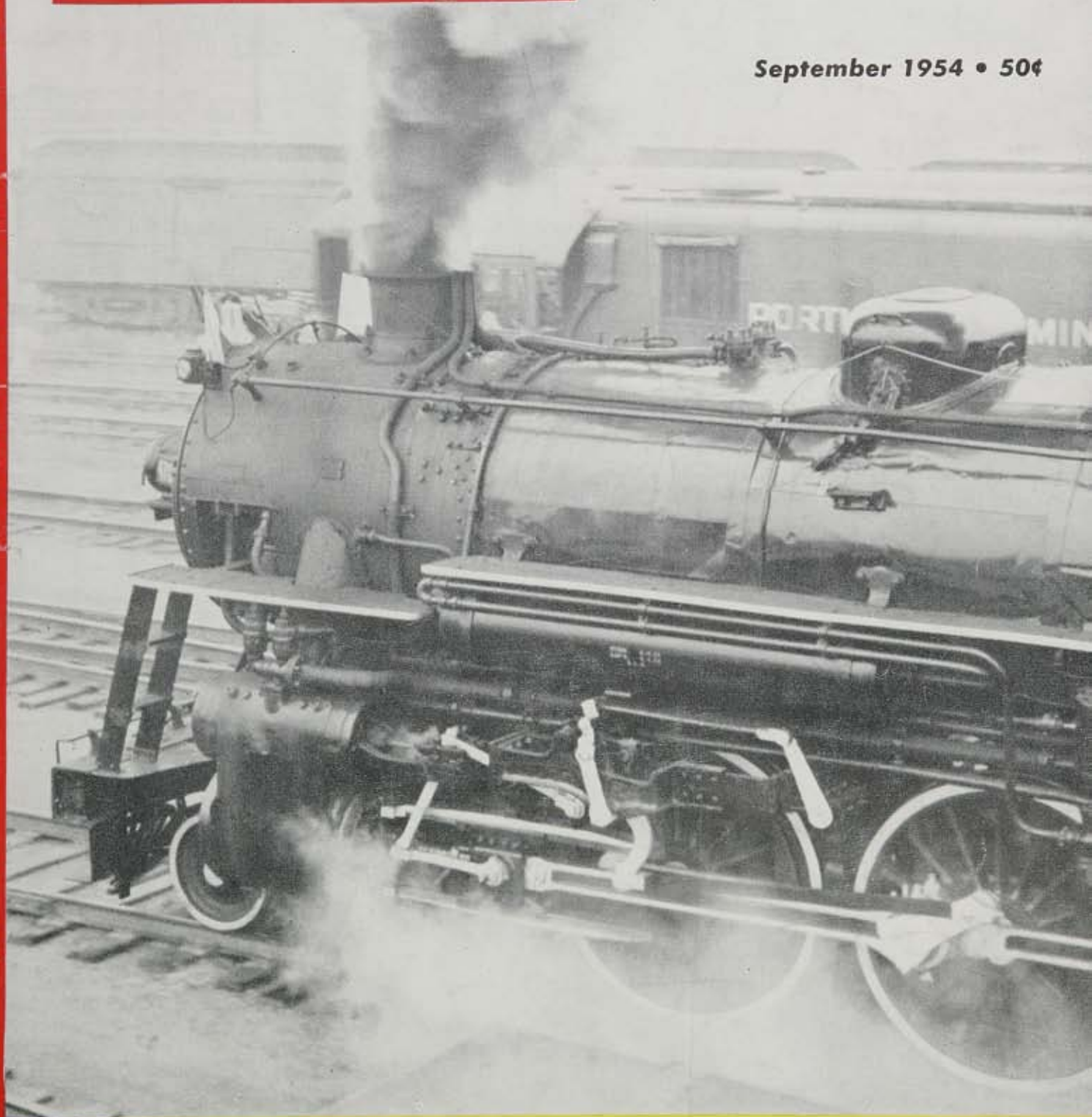


Trains

THE MAGAZINE OF RAILROADING

- ★ New Orleans' new station
- ★ Letter to Robert R. Young
- ★ New Haven's new boss
- ★ Narrow gauge in Guatemala

September 1954 • 50¢



Maine Central loses steam



Congregants follow Engineer A. C. Towle around as he oils up in Portland.

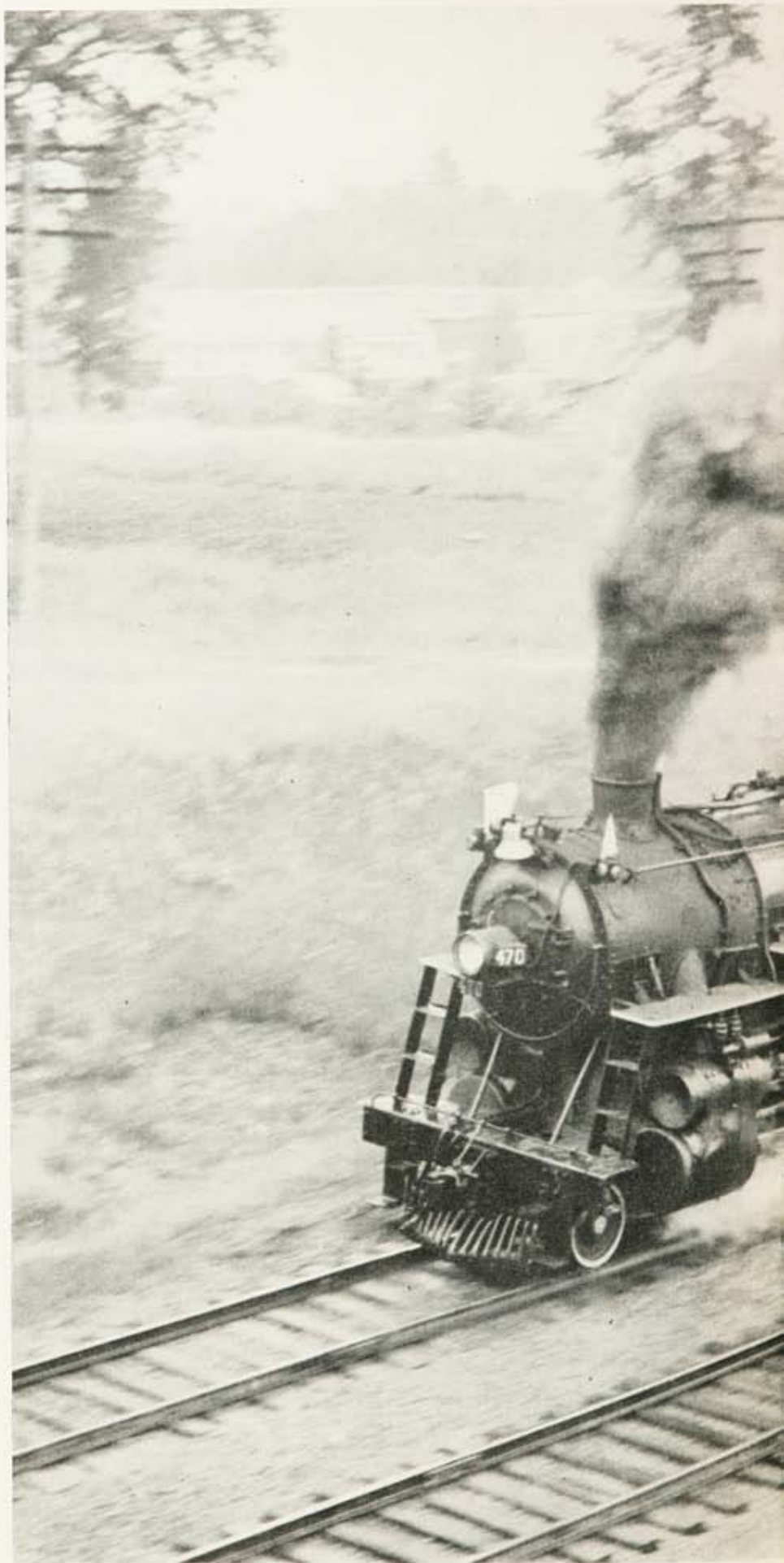


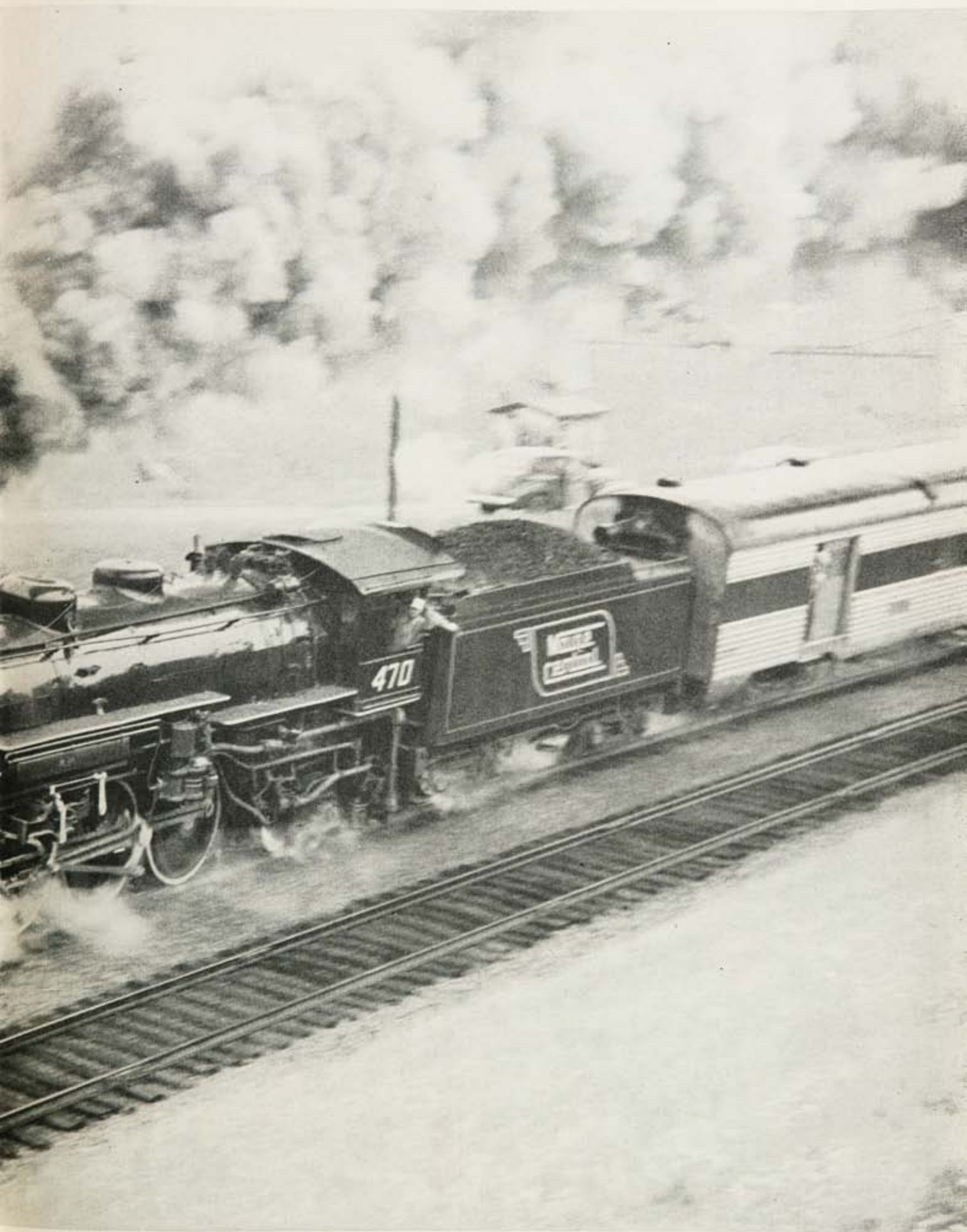
When steam ruled June 13

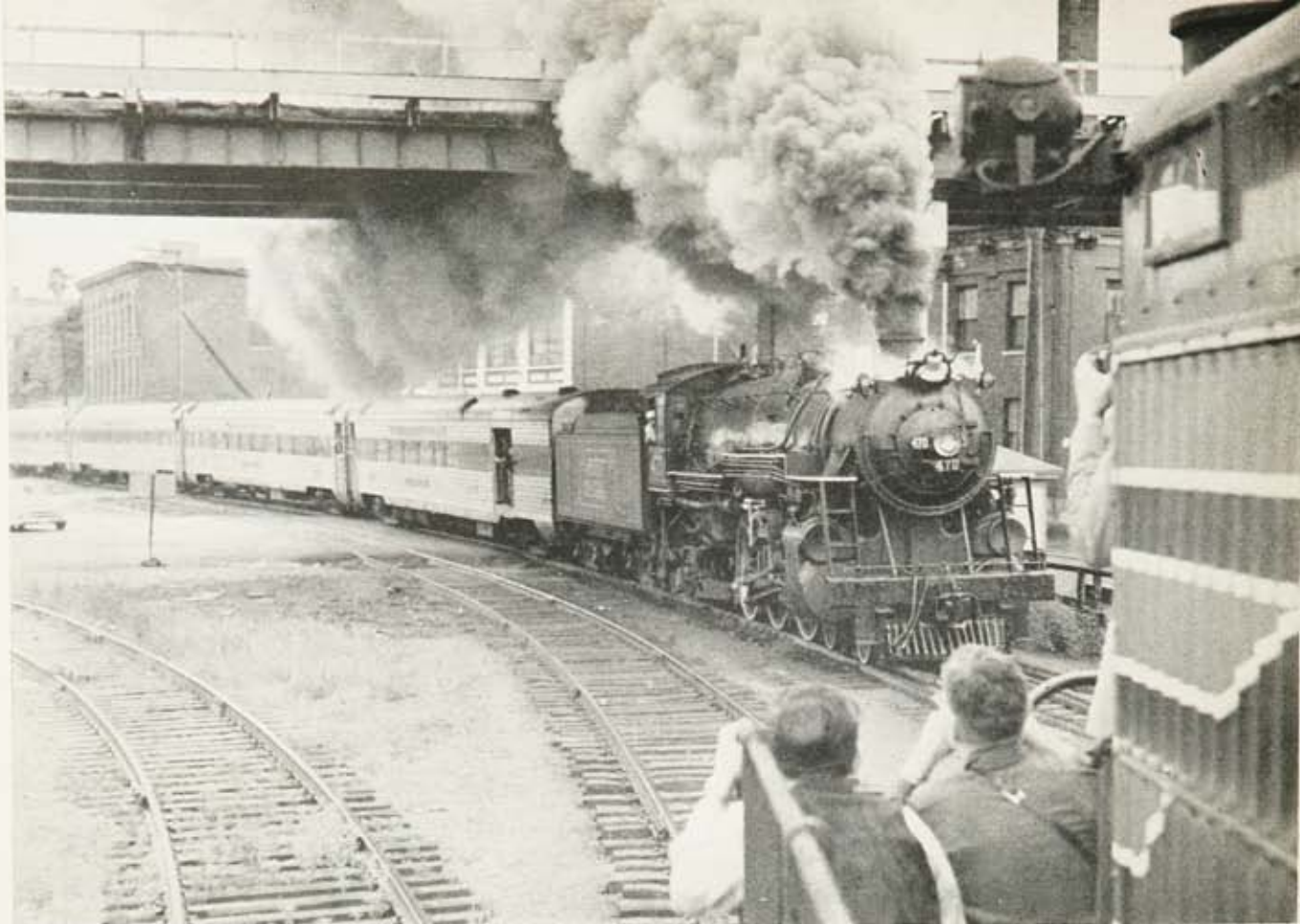
SOME 700 souls crowded aboard the train she drew; hundreds more came to front porches, parallel highways, and stations en route for a last look; Maine Central President E. Spencer Miller and Maine Governor Burton M. Cross rode her cab and made appropriate remarks before radio and TV mikes. All this in tribute to a "Big C" Pacific making steam's final run over Maine Central June 13, 1954. Herewith Philip R. Hastings' photos of her.

A great lady struts her stuff

Between Pittsfield and Newport Junction on the northbound side of the journey Engineer Towle gets his "hot cat" notched up, and with the aid of Fireman P. H. Moores creates this memorable portrait of steam at speed. Enthusiasts in combine made tape recording of entire round trip June 13.







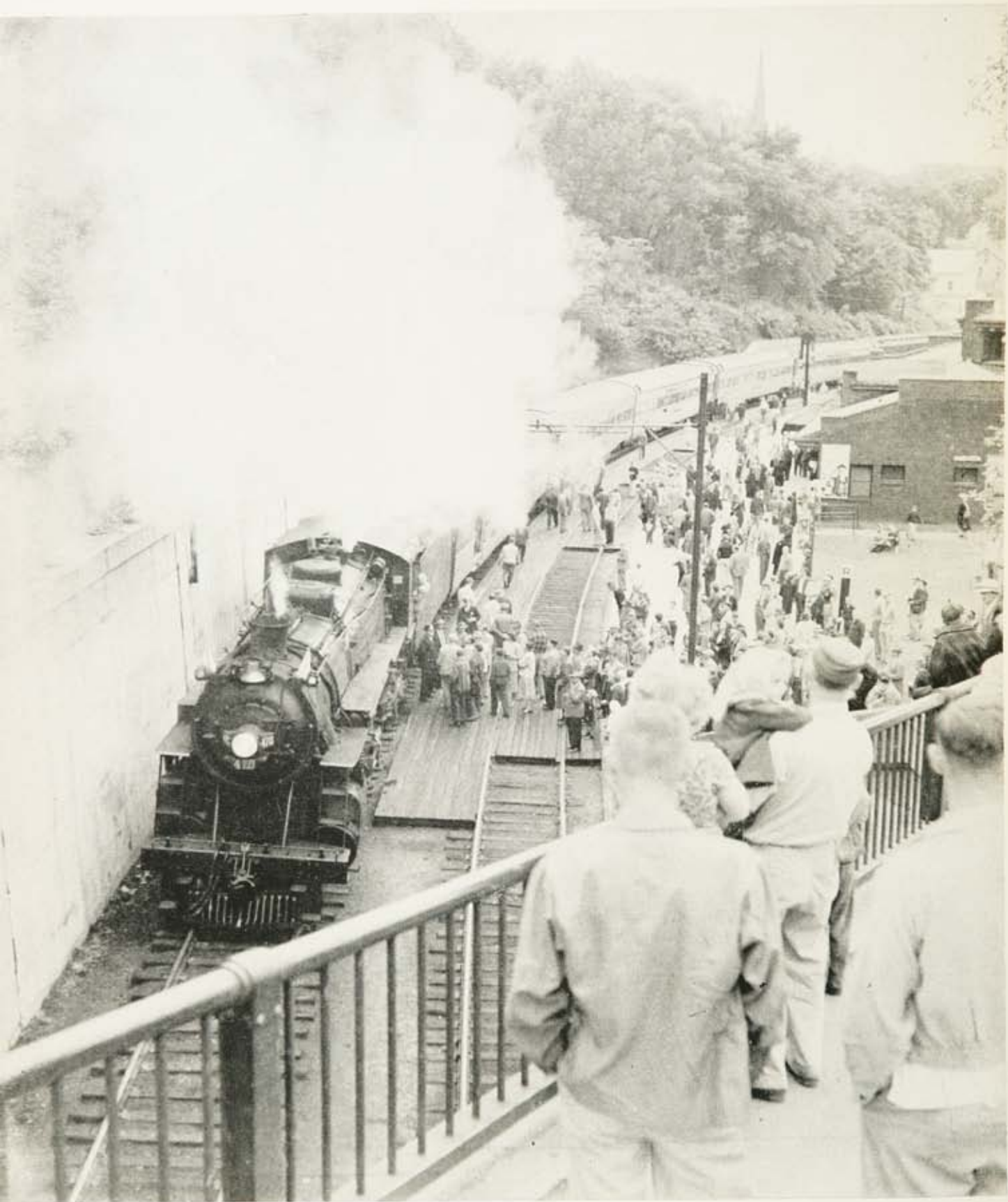
↑ A diesel yard engine which paced the special into Bangor on a parallel track gave TV cameramen (from three stations) an action reel of the 470. Also built the Pacific in 1924; she's being preserved in Waterville, Me.

← Maine Central President E. Spencer Miller rode train and cab, talked to reporters, posed for countless photos, always found time for a handshake and conversation with old friends of his road and its last steam power.





Hitting the high iron for the last time, Pacific 470 gets her train under way from Portland and, with stack black and booster going, heads past a ball signal mast. Consist included five streamlined cars plus standard coaches.



At every station stop (like this one in Augusta, the state capital) generations of Maine folk came down to pay final homage to steam. Cloudy grayness of day, which occasionally broke into rain, seemed to blend with the event.