

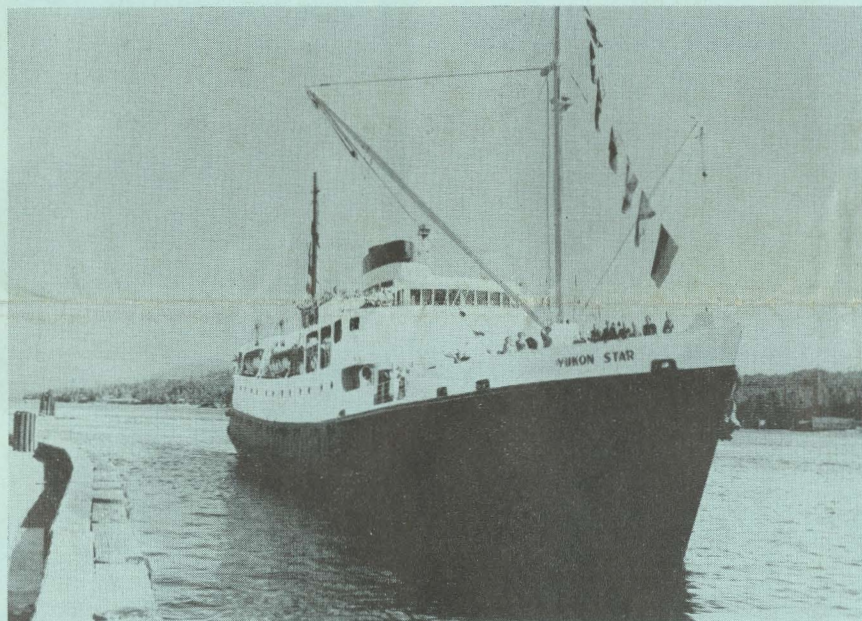
# THE NORTH COASTER

NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY

Route of the *Vista-Dome* NORTH COAST LIMITED

Volume 34 Number 1

January-February, 1963



Off to the Land of the Midnight Sun

## Springtime Alaskan Cruises Are Now Being Offered out of Seattle

For the first time ever, travelers in the Pacific Northwest this spring will be able to take Alaskan cruises right out of the port of Seattle.

The one week spring cruises from Seattle up through the "Inside Passage" of British Columbia are being offered by Alaska Cruise Lines, Ltd., according to C. B. West, president of the line.

"We know many people prefer to take two one-week vacations a year," West said, "and these spring cruises will enable them to do this when weather in British Columbia is excellent, and yet enjoy a substantial saving in cost because of lower off-season rates."

Cruise departures on the 120-passenger S.S. Yukon Star are scheduled from Seattle on April 6, 13, 20 and 27. The ship, which starts out of Vancouver, B.C., will pick up passengers at Seattle and Victoria, B.C., and then sail up the island-dotted coast of Canada to the northern port of Prince

Rupert. From there, passengers may transfer to Alaska State Ferries for a visit to the 49th state.

The Yukon Star is the same cruise ship that makes the popular summer trips from Vancouver to Alaska with her sister ship, the S.S. Glacier Queen.

## Yellowstone Records Biggest Year With 1.9 Million Park Visitors in '62

Yellowstone National Park closed its 1962 tourist season last November after counting a record 1,925,227 visitors, according to figures released by Luis A. Gastellum, associate superintendent at the park.

The total is nearly 330,000 above the previous record attendance set in 1957. Gastellum credits the Seattle World's Fair for a large share of the increased travel through the park.

This marks the fifteenth consecutive

## Passenger Revenue on Northern Pacific Continues up in 1962

Northern Pacific railway passenger revenue of \$7,840,000 in 1962 hit its highest non-war year total in 33 years, according to G. W. Rodine, Passenger Traffic Manager for the railway.

It marks the fourth straight year that the NP has recorded an increase in its passenger business. Revenue was hiked 11.39 per cent over that of 1961.

"A large share of the increase was due to travel to the Seattle World's Fair, of course," Rodine said, "but we've been showing increases in our long haul travelers ever since 1952."

The Northern Pacific considers trips between the Twin Cities and Spokane — and points beyond — its "long haul" traffic. Last year over 95,000 people traveled at least that 1,500 miles over NP's line.

"That's an increase of 23 per cent over 1961," Rodine said, "and the average passenger trip on the NP jumped to 559 miles. It was 502 miles the year before."

Rodine also expressed hope that the large numbers introduced to the Pacific Northwest through the Fair in 1962 would make return trips this year.

year that travel in Yellowstone has exceeded a million visitors. Greatest single day's travel in 1962 was on July 4, when 25,600 people entered the park.

In a special observance this year, Yellowstone participated in a ceremony honoring the billionth visit to national parks. On Aug. 22, the Paul Geiman family of Baltimore, Md., were greeted at the East entrance as visitors symbolic of the billionth visit to areas of the National Park System.



Published by the Passenger Traffic Department  
NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY, ST. PAUL, MINN.

G. W. RODINE - - - Passenger Traffic Manager  
L. HOLMSTROM - - - General Passenger Agent  
F. G. SCOTT - - - Western Pass. Traffic Mgr.  
R. H. PERRIZO - - - - - Editor

MADE IN U. S. A. 6250

## Lady Travels Far to Christen a Ship

Usually, when an important new ship is christened, the Navy is content to have any available celebrity bash a bottle of champagne across its bow. But when it came time for the Navy's new guided-missile destroyer, the U.S.S. Stoddert, to go to sea, Mrs. Henry Ravenel of Chevy Chase, Md., was whisked clear across the country by train to Seattle to do the honors.



Mrs. Ravenel

Reason for all the fuss? Mrs. Ravenel just happens to be the great-great-granddaughter of Benjamin Stoddert, the nation's first secretary of the Navy and the man for whom the ship was being named. Stoddert was appointed in 1798 by President John Adams.

The beaming Mrs. Ravenel, who made the last leg of her cross-country trip on the NP's Vista-Dome North Coast Limited, was given the best of Navy hospitality on the occasion. On her arrival in Seattle's King Street Station, two dignified Navy officers were on hand to escort her prior to the "very special" christening.

The Stoddert will be commissioned in April, 1964.

## Correction...

On Page 4 in the November-December issue of the North Coaster, Fred Sullivan of Random Tours was incorrectly identified as Raymond A. Dodge, Jr., in a picture involving the retirement of Portland Grayline Manager Tim O'Connor.



TELLING THE NP STORY—Gathered at KCW-TV in Portland to plan a Northern Pacific commercial are, left to right: NP's Portland passenger man M. L. Thomson, NP Western Passenger Traffic Manager F. G. Scott, KCW announcer Roy Peck, NP Stewardess-Nurse Sydney Tally, Konnie Worth of KGW and Walter Fitzsimons of BBDO, NP's advertising agency. Peck handles the commercials on NP-sponsored news, and Konnie Worth co-hosts the station's "Telescope" program that recently featured Miss Tally.

## Dude Ranchers, Outfitters Elect Officers

Dick Hickey of the Diamond L Bar Ranch, Seeley Lake, Mont., was named president of the Dude Ranchers' Association after recent elections in Billings, Mont. New vice president is Don Siggins of Siggins' Triangle X Ranch, Cody, Wyo. Ernie Keyes of Tumbling River Ranch in Grant, Colo., was voted new secretary-treasurer. Conna May is executive secretary.

The Montana Outfitters and Guides Association named Jack Hume of Bozeman, Mont., their president after elections at Missoula. Ralph Nichol of the Lazy 3 S Ranch near Wisdom is his vice president. Elected secretary-treasurer was N. K. (Babe) Syre, Elk Creek Ranch near Augusta. Jim Bourne of Northern Pacific railway in Billings is executive secretary of the organization.



NEW TICKET OFFICE—Grand opening of Northern Pacific's new Minneapolis ticket office recently called for a special open house by the railway. On hand, left to right, were: NP Passenger Traffic Manager G. W. Rodine, Mrs. A. M. Smith (NP ticket office), S. B. Lifson (NP passenger representative), H. B. Boyer (city passenger agent), Karen Johnson (Miss Downtown of Minneapolis), and J. A. Beatty (asst. gen. passenger agent). The modern travel center houses the ticket offices of Northern Pacific, Great Northern and Burlington.



# Calendar Brings Back Memories of NP's Last Spike Event in 1883

Northern Pacific's colorful 1963 calendar, depicting the railway's Last Spike ceremonies at Gold Creek, Mont., in 1883, holds a special interest for 98-year-old Louis Rich.

Rich, an active realtor in Hollywood, Calif., was present at the Last Spike event 80 years ago. At the time, he was a news agent on the Utah Northern Railroad, and he dropped over from nearby Deer Lodge, Mont., to see the excitement.

For this distinction, Northern Pacific recently presented Rich with the first '63 calendar off the presses.

"It was a real celebration," he recalled. "It would have made our present day TV productions look sick."

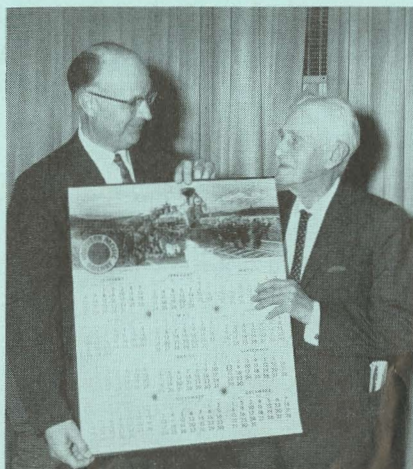
**RICH'S RECOLLECTION** of the event bears out historical accounts—it was a wild extravaganza at Gold Creek that day. Former President Ulysses S. Grant was there. So were Carl Schurz, the famous German-American editor, and British Ambassador Sir Lionel Sackville-West. They had arrived, along with delegations of British and German financiers, noblemen and writers, on special excursion trains as guests of Northern Pacific President Henry Villard.

Not that the five-day rail trip wasn't hectic enough, (British lords spent stop-overs hunting small game on the Dakota prairies) but all-out receptions at St. Paul, Minneapolis, Fargo, Bismarck and other stops gave the trains an aura of being traveling celebrations.

**AT GOLD CREEK**, a whooping collection of cowboys, miners and Crow Indians greeted the party. Villard had ordered a large grandstand constructed so the crowd could view the final linking of the first northern transcontinental line.

The celebration never let up. The final 1,000 feet of track had been left uncompleted for a ballyhooed track-laying contest between eastern and western crews. After a wild melee, the east won when a derailed hand-car delayed the western track-layers. Horse-racing and an authentic Indian Pow-wow followed.

Amidst all the clamor, the honored guests got around to the business of pounding the Last Spike. Virtually all the dignitaries—including Chief Iron Bull—got a crack at the spike. General Grant missed the spike on his first



**HE WAS THERE**—Louis Rich, right, receives the Northern Pacific's first 1963 calendar off the presses from S. A. Jewell, NP general agent in Los Angeles. Rich was present at the 1883 Last Spike ceremonies depicted on the calendar.

swing, but, with characteristic perseverance, he followed up with a couple of lusty licks before the hammer was passed around. The rail line was then linked to the Pacific Coast.

**AN IRONIC TWIST** to the whole affair was that Villard could not get the story of the historic event out over the telegraph wires. A telegraphers' strike had left the few operating wires overtaxed, and the news was left bottled up in Hellgate Canyon. It leaked out only after the excursion had moved on to further celebrations on the Coast.

## Hotel Space Limited for Tokyo Olympics

Quality hotel space for the 1964 summer Olympic Games in Tokyo will be tight.

Applications for accommodations are currently being accepted for the run of the Games, Oct. 10-24.

Visitors must have confirmed space before tickets can be bought for the events. Interested parties are advised to see their travel agent or write Japan National Tourist Assn. in their area.

The port city of Seattle, served daily by Northern Pacific's Vista-Dome North Coast Limited, is a popular jumping off point for trips to the Orient.

## Passenger Clubs Tap Their 1963 Officers

Passenger clubs all over the United States have recently held elections for 1963 executive officers of their organizations. Following are some of the new selections from around the country:

### ST. PAUL

Harold Carlson of Union Depot was elected president of the St. Paul Passenger Association at a recent meeting. Mark Harnden of Northern Pacific was picked as vice president.

Gordon Landahl of Milwaukee Road and Gene Kampa of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific were elected treasurer and secretary, respectively.

### CINCINNATI

New president of the Cincinnati Passenger Club is W. L. Daly of the Southern Railway System. Others assuming office were Canadian Pacific's R. E. Horn as vice president, and Wayfarer Travel Service's A. C. Gutekunst as secretary-treasurer.

Chairman of the Board of Governors is P. Byers of Union Terminal. Governors are: Santa Fe's P. Garland,



**MINNEAPOLIS OFFICERS**—After recent elections, these four men assumed offices with the Minneapolis Passenger Traffic Club. Seated, left to right, are: Russ Clayton of the Rock Island, president, and Sam Lifson, Northern Pacific, vice president. Above are Treasurer Charles Billingsley of Union Pacific, left, and Secretary Frank Barnfield of Canadian National.

C&O's H. C. Wilson, New York Central's R. A. Martin, and E. LeCounter of Fifth Third Bank Travel Bureau.

### WASHINGTON, D. C.

John H. Hardy of Southern Pacific Lines has been elected president of

**Passenger Clubs**  
Continued on Page 4



## Red Lodge is Picked for Olympic Tryouts

A U. S. Olympic committee has announced that Red Lodge ski area in the Montana Rockies has been selected as Biathlon tryout camp for skiers shooting for the 1964 Olympic Games in Austria.

The Biathlon, one of the most rugged Olympic events, is a combination 12 and one-half mile race and rifle-firing contest.

Tryouts for the '64 team will be in December of 1963, according to Biathlon Committee Chairman James E. Russell.

"We are fortunate," Russell said, "to have access to such an excellent area under such favorable conditions. Red Lodge is magnificently equipped to conduct the training and trials."

## Passenger Clubs

*Continued from Page 3*

the Washington Passenger Association. Everett L. Thompson of B&O and Ronald J. Fricka of Santa Fe were chosen first and second vice presidents.

Executive Committee includes Howard Ahrens of the Santa Fe, Ben Picano of Executive Motor Tours, and Raymond Weiss of the Washington Terminal Co.

### OMAHA

New president of the Trans-Missouri Passenger Club for 1963 is Douglas Armstrong of Union Pacific.

Three vice presidents were elected. They are: Howard Howland of Missouri Pacific, Duane Eiven of Union Pacific, and Ronald Monnier of the Rock Island. W. M. Higgins of the Rock Island is new secretary of the club and Tom Wotherspoon, Midwest Asbestos Co., is treasurer.

### NEW YORK

The General Eastern Passenger Agents Association of New York have elected P. C. Servine of Atlantic Coast Line Railroad as their new president.

W. C. Havens of Northern Pacific was tapped for vice president at the Association's 41st annual luncheon and meeting. Pullman Company's H. E. Worley is new treasurer, A. E. Born of Canada Steamship Lines, Ltd. is secretary, and E. A. Harding, Pennsylvania Railroad, is assistant secretary.

In addition, Past President L. G. Sak of Southern Railway System and Neil Mitts, Erie-Lackawanna, were elected to the Executive Committee.

## Traditional Daffodil, Lilac Festivals Draw Attention to Washington Cities

Washington may be known as the Evergreen state, but come spring-time and it's two famous Pacific Northwest flowers—the lilac and the daffodil—that get all the attention.

No sooner do these flowers blush into bloom and two of the state's oldest celebrations are touched off. One is the Daffodil Festival in the Puyallup Valley and the other is Spokane's Lilac Festival. Both celebrations are located at convenient stop-overs on the route of NP's Vista-Dome North Coast Limited.

### Daffodils . . .

The 30th Puyallup Valley Daffodil Festival, held jointly in the four "Daffodil Valley" cities of Tacoma, Puyallup, Sumner and Orting, Wash., has been staged for March 30 through April 7 this spring.

Theme for the 1963 edition of the Festival is "Great Moments." Besides the traditional three-day flower show, a long list of other special events promises to make this spring fling especially inviting to city residents



'62 Daffodil Queen Sharon Silvernail

and visitors alike.

Most spectacular event is the lengthy street parade which winds through Tacoma, up the Puyallup River Road to Puyallup and then to Sumner. Yachting and sailboat races in Tacoma's Commencement Bay cap the festivities.

The rich Puyallup Valley, which only became daffodil-oriented in 1925 after Dutch bulb farmers took advantage of the area's growing potential, now produces one-fourth of all daffodils in the United States.

### Lilacs . . .

Spokane, Wash., popularly known as the "City of Lilacs," opens its doors wide to visitors May 11-19 for its 1963 Lilac Festival.

This marks the 24th celebration of the event, which was begun in 1938. Today some 60 business leaders of the city serve as directors of the nine-day gaiety and pageantry.

A junior parade, featuring some 5,000 costumed youngsters, kicks off this year's affair. A variety of flower



'62 Lilac Queen Louise Henry

shows, sports events, luncheons, dinners, dances, music concerts and stage shows follow.

Most popular with visitors are the two giant parades of the Festival. An estimated 75,000 spectators are expected to view the May 16 Torchlight Parade, and 150 units have been lined up for the spectacular Lilac Festival-Armed Forces parade on May 18.

Each year a new Lilac Queen and her attendants are named in Coronation ceremonies in Spokane's famous Coliseum.