



# Messenger

Vol. 3, No. 1

For Employees and Friends of the Maine Central Railroad

November, 1962



AS MEC OBSERVED ITS CENTENNIAL—Six of the head table guests at the Maine Central's Centennial dinner at Colby College are shown above. Left to right, Waterville Mayor Cyril M. Joly, Jr., Frederick N. Allen, PUC chairman, who represented Governor Reed; President Miller; Mrs. Jean Gannett Arnzen, president of the Gannett Publishing Co.; Edward S. French, chairman of the MeC board and President Robert L. Strider of Colby College. Others at head table included Presidents Daniel A. Benson of the B&M and W. Jerome Strout of the B.A.R.; Edward W. Wheeler, vice president and director of the MeC, and David W. Stevens, chairman of the State Highway Commission.

## Wintry Weather, Warm Crowds For Centennial

The efforts of hundreds—including railroad employees, civic groups and individual citizens—were responsible for the success of the Maine Central's three-day Centennial celebration late last month in Waterville.

The observance, which included a colorful parade, the presentation of Locomotive 470 to the City, open house at the Waterville Shops and a Centennial Dinner, will long be remembered in the community where the Maine Central was founded on Oct. 28, 1862. It was one of the most successful events of its type ever held in the Elm City and certainly a fitting observance of the Maine Central's century of service to the State of Maine.

The Maine Central Messenger, which starts its third year of publication with this issue, notes the occasion with a Centennial Edition, presenting the photographic record of the Centennial events as they occurred in Waterville.

## Farnham Smith Named To Board

Farnham W. Smith of Carlisle, Mass., conservationist, lumber operator and business management consultant, took office in



October as a member of the Maine Central Railroad Board of Directors. He replaces the late H. Nelson McDougall of Portland on the Maine Central board. Smith, president of the Lincoln Management Corp., Carlisle, Mass., also serves as president of the New England Forestry Foundation; treasurer of the Timber Owners of New England; a trustee of the Middlesex Institution for Savings; and a member of the Corporation of Northeastern University.

## Miller Elected To AAR Post

E. Spencer Miller, president of the Maine Central, has been elected to the board of directors of the Association of American Railroads.

The Maine Central chief executive was the nominee of the Eastern Railroad Presidents' Conference as New England representative on the AAR board. He is a member of the executive committee and the committee on labor relations of the E.R.P.C.

President of the Maine Central since 1952, Mr. Miller is a director of the First National Bank of Boston, the Great Northern Paper Company, the Keyes Fibre Company, the First National Bank of Portland, Bancroft-Martin Rolling Mills, Inc., the Railway Express, Inc., and the Maine Development Credit Corporation. He is also a vice president of the Maine State Chamber of Commerce.

## Shops Open House Visitors' Ballots Give Edge To Green For Box Cars

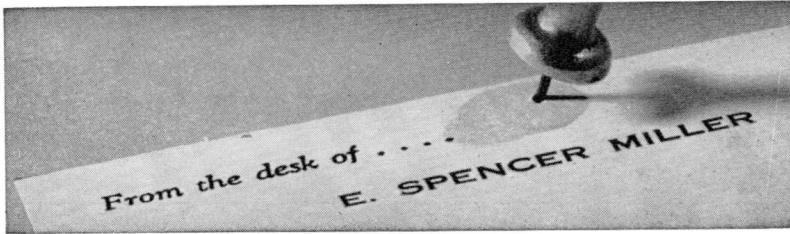
Centennial guests at the Maine Central's Waterville Shops gave a 300 vote edge to green as the railroad's new color standard for box cars.

Some 2,300 shops visitors dropped green and yellow ballots into a box to choose between two suggested color schemes. Before voting, they inspected two cars, one painted basic green, with yellow lettering, and one painted yellow with green lettering.

The voting went to the green car by about 300 ballots, and

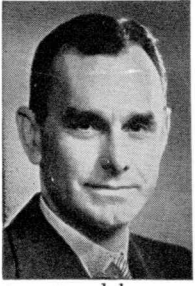
most of the railroad's box cars will be painted accordingly. Every third car through the shops, however, will emerge with the yellow color scheme. Both colors will feature the railroad's initials in huge letters that will leave no doubt as to the car's origin as it travels throughout the nation.

The voting was a feature of a Maine Central Centennial open-house program that attracted more than 3,800 people to the Waterville shops.



### TO MY FELLOW EMPLOYEES:

Despite unseasonable cold and a snow storm that left more than seven inches on the ground, the Centennial observance at Waterville was a railroad success. We made many new friends, re-cemented some old friendships, and convinced a lot of people of the truth that the railroad continues to be the vital and dynamic force in the transportation economy of Maine.



We were especially pleased with the local enthusiasm that greeted the entire project, particularly the parade on Saturday morning. Thanks to the efforts of the Waterville street department, the entire route had been salted and plowed long before the marchers were scheduled to step off, with the result that the surface along the two-and-one-half miles of route was clear. It was a tribute to the interest and enthusiasm of the hundreds of parade participants that only one band cancelled its plans to attend because of the weather. The other bands, floats and marching units were at their assigned forming areas promptly and the parade started down Waterville's Main street on time.

We of the Maine Central would be remiss if we failed to express our appreciation to the students and directors of the high school bands, to the organizations that provided floats, and to the hundreds of Waterville-area people—of all ages—who participated as members of marching units. Our special thanks also go to members of the Waterville Junior Chamber of Commerce, who not only organized the parade but were there to direct it, and to the Waterville Sentinel and radio station WTVL for news, editorial support and comment. Particular appreciation is tendered to President Strider and Dean Marriner of Colby, who respectively participated in welcoming the banquet guests and introducing the presentation ceremonies so hospitably and graciously.

The parade, the presentation of locomotive 470 to the City, and the Centennial dinner at Colby were all bright events, but to me—and to all Maine Central people—the brightest event of all was the open house at the Waterville Shops.

The fact that this latter program attracted nearly 4,000 guests from all over the state allows us to classify the open house as a thoroughgoing success, but it is not this fact alone that pleases most. The most gratifying phase of the Shops open house was the interest, enthusiasm and pride in work well done and in the Maine Central Railroad shown by the employees themselves during the weeks of preparation for the open house, and especially during the event itself.

All Shops employees were involved to a greater or lesser degree in these preparations, and many volunteered to serve as guides, as attendants at displays, as demonstrators at various machines, as parking lot attendants, as transfer table operators and as members of the crew of the miniature train. Many of these same people were also responsible for the advance work that included arranging the displays, decorating, and the big job of rendering safe and attractive the Shops for the open house guests.

It was especially gratifying to note that not only the workers themselves, but members of their families were willing to volunteer help to make the Shops open house an event to be remembered. Several wives served as hostesses, another as a first-aid nurse, and at least two sons were on hand to help where needed.

To all these people—our thanks for a job well done! It takes a team to run a railroad, and it's good to know that we have a team of exemplary ability and devotion at the Waterville Shops.

*Spencer Miller*

## Editorial Opinion

(From "The Enterprise," Lisbon Falls, Me.)

At regular intervals the Association of American Railroad analyzes editorials appearing in American newspapers on railroad topics and problems. The last analysis covers 1,635 of these editorials printed during a recent three month period. The opinions thus given are typical of past surveys. Here are some of the editorial conclusions:

154 said railroads are essential to the nation's economy and/or security, with none dissenting.

108 said railroads must remain under private ownership and operation, with none dissenting.

565 said railroads are over-regulated or regulations outmoded, with none dissenting.

313 said railroads should have greater freedom to make competitive rates, with only 7 dissenting and 3 neutral.

422 said railroads are hurt by union "featherbedding" or outmoded work rules, with none dissenting and 5 neutral.

209 said the report of the Presidential Commission which studied the outmoded work rules problem is in the public interest and should be adopted, with non dissenting and 1 neutral.

509 said President Kennedy's transportation message to Congress (which recommends greater reliance on competition and less on regulation) is on the right track, with only 4 dissenting and 19 neutral.



The Maine Central MESSENGER is published monthly at Portland, Maine, by employees of the Maine Central Railroad Co., and the Portland Terminal Co. It is circulated without charge to active and retired employees of these companies, and to customers and other friends throughout the Nation.

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Waterville Shops

Lewiston

Train Crews

Retired Employees

Rigby Engine House

Rigby Yard Office

General Offices

General Offices

General Offices

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General Offices

# The Centennial in Pictures



Second prize went to the Sons of Union Veterans for their float, one of 16 in MeC Centennial parade.

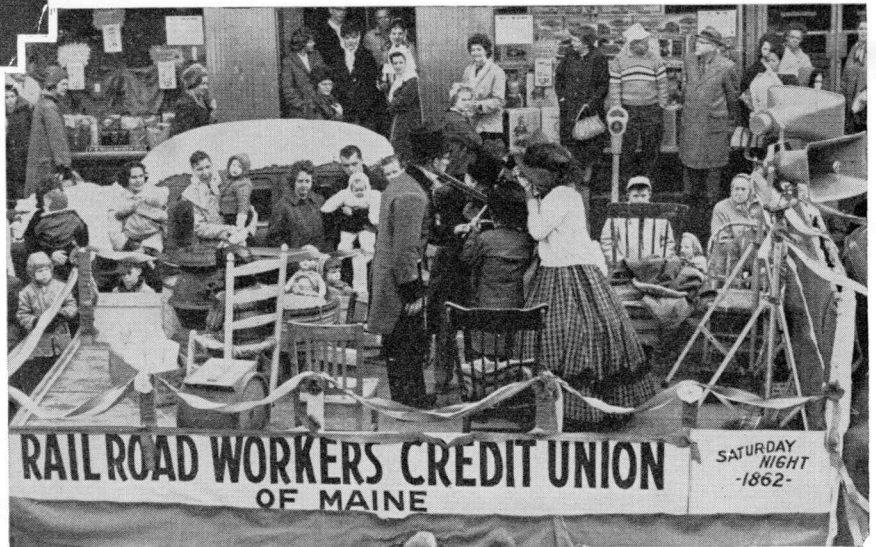


An attention-getter . . . float of the Federated Crafts.



Above, President Miller was in the engineer's seat, while Waterville's Mayor Cyril M. Joly, Jr., rode the tender.

Below, a MeC piggyback, entered by the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen.





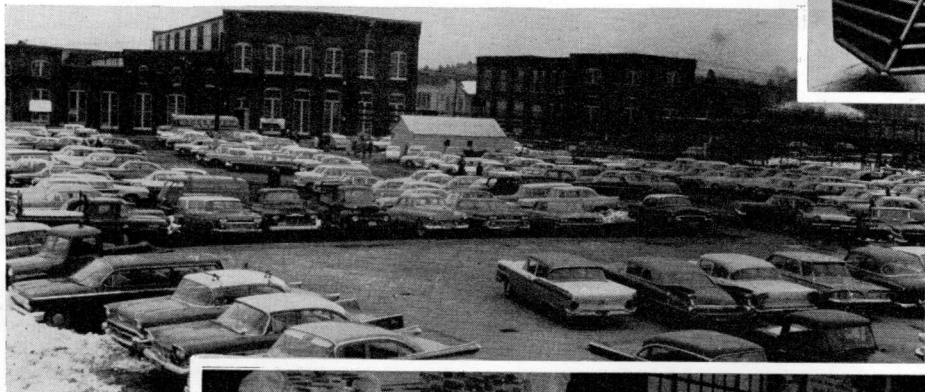
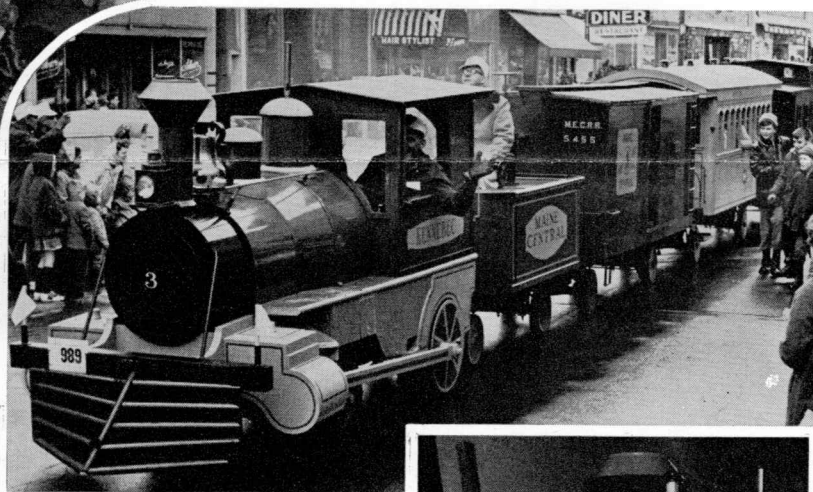
Veteran employees from the system were guests at the dinner. Above, behind table number, Conductor and Mrs. T. H. Allen of Calais.



Above, Horatio T. Clark, left, 91 years old, who represented the Veterans, and Fred Jordan, with long Accounting Dept. service, were introduced. Below, the parade highlight, the MeC miniature train.



Two of the ten tables at the Centennial Dinner.



Left, the parking lot at the Shops, jammed with cars for the open house.

Right, a few of the hundreds of guests in the mill at the Shops.



Painter Charles Lowry works, supervised by Mark DeRose, grandson of John Larracey.



Despite a six-inch snowfall, the Waterville Street Department had Main Street bare. Crowds braved a biting wind to watch the marchers.



Right, the float entered by Waterville's Central PTA.



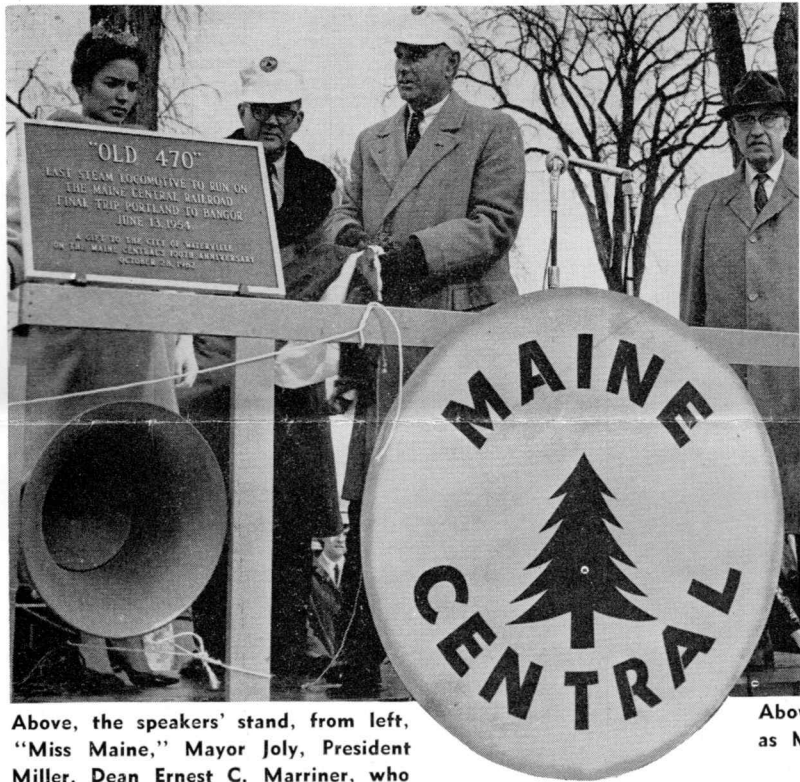
Here they come! Winter clothing and warm expressions were the rule.



This old time fire engine and horses from Fairfield were parade favorites.



Before and after . . . "Old 470" had been gift-wrapped for its presentation to the City of Waterville, and was revealed in its mantle of new snow when pretty Barbara Jean Orr, "Miss Maine," unveiled it. It was the world's biggest gift package.



Above, the speakers' stand, from left, "Miss Maine," Mayor Joly, President Miller, Dean Ernest C. Marriner, who served as master of ceremonies.



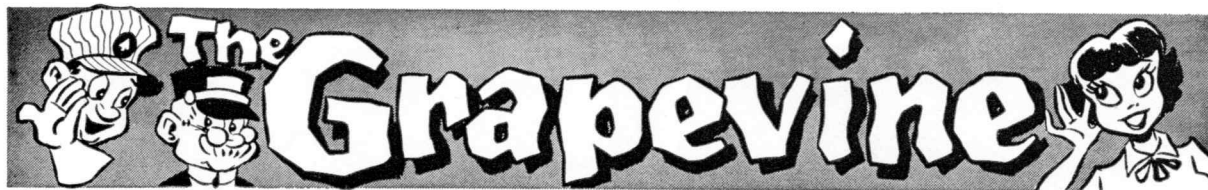
Above, Governor Reed hands "Railroad Week" proclamation to McC's J. H. Cobb, as Mayor Joly looks on.



Voting for standard box car color scheme.



The Waterville Sentinel office staff in Centennial caps and kerchiefs. Store clerks all over the Waterville area also wore the caps and kerchiefs.



# The Grapevine

## GENERAL OFFICES

Marion ("Perkie") Perkins, data processing, has a new green Biscayne Chevrolet. Ruth Kelley, secretary in assistant comptroller's department, has a Chrysler Newport, very pretty in light gray with maroon interior.

**Horace M. Budd, assistant treasurer of the Maine Central, has announced his candidacy for the Portland City Council. He will oppose J. Weston Walch of Portland for the District 5 Council Seat in the Dec. 3rd elections.**

**Budd joined the Maine Central in 1924, serving in several Accounting Department posts before appointment as assistant treasurer in 1943.**

**We understand a large group of Maine Central employees is working in his behalf, along with many of his other friends.**

Joe "Red" Murray of Disbursements Office spent some vacation time in New York City.

"Lou" Davis, head clerk timekeeping bureau, and wife Marcella, attended the Railroad Veterans Convention in New York City the week-end of October 26.

Stephen and Ernestine Miller spent a most enjoyable weekend in Brewer and visiting at the trailer camp of Larry and Ruth Severance in Beddington. The Millers also celebrated their seventh wedding anniversary during a vacation trip to Bar Harbor, Bucksport, and Boothbay Harbor, and attended the Maine Central centennial in Waterville later in October, spending the same weekend in Hallowell.

Dorothy Hollywood, disbursements office, has been at home recovering from injuries suffered in a fall.

Alice Eliason, engineering department, has returned to work after several weeks illness.

They thought it was just "trick or treat" when the doorbell rang on Hallowe'en, but it turned out to be much more pleasant. Seems Mr. and Mrs. John McDonough and son Steven of Cleveland, Ohio, had arrived to spend two weeks with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Martin McDonough and Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Connolly.



The Maine Association of Railroad Veterans met at Theodores Lobster House, Commercial street, Sunday, October 21. The speaker was Joseph H. Cobb, Maine Central Director of Public Relations, who outlined the events of the Maine Central Centennial observance at Waterville.

Howard and Mrs. Burnham, retired Boston-Maine Engineman, made a trip to Presque Isle by auto with their daughter Virginia, who is supervisor of the new school of Practical Nurses in Maine.

Don't forget Warren Bly, who likes

to receive cards and letters from his friends. His mailbox is at 28 Gilman Street, Portland.

Retired Conductor Edward Clark, who was a patient at the Maine Medical Center for medical observation, is home and convalescing.

Sorry to report that Mrs. James Fay, wife of Engineman Fay, is back at Mercy Hospital for medical observation.

Retired Telegrapher Horace Knowles, who was a patient at Mercy Hospital for four months, has returned home and is feeling better. Just stay that way, Horace.

John J. Burke of the Canadian National Railroad and Mrs. Burke, made a trip to Bermuda recently, and planned to attend the United Veterans Convention in New York on their return.

Retired Yardmaster Adelbert Wright from Waterville was a visitor at the regular meeting of the Maine Association of Retired Veterans, Sunday, Oct. 21.

## TRAIN CREWS

Yard Brakeman Leland Caldon of the Livermore switcher suffered a broken foot recently and will be off for several weeks.

Sympathy is extended to Trainman Russell Bickford of Burnham, on the recent death of his wife.

Transportation Assistant Cliff Ball and the Mrs. are currently expecting their ninth grandchild and are very much elated.

Conductors Glen Morrell and Johnny Keating have made their annual hunting expedition and as in the past have taken the girls along to show them how to hunt deer.

Received a nice letter from retired conductor Archie Butler. He wants to be remembered to all his old associates. He recently was paid a visit by Mr. and Mrs. John Lyden who was Ass't Supt. of the Eastern Division when he retired.

Trainman Emile Morin is hoping one day to own a large fishing boat to take out parties deep see fishing, when he retires sometime in the near future.

Trainman and Mrs. Harry Searway recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary.

Conductor Jim Hayes has bid off one of the Merchandise trains and Conductor Frank McNally took the running on RD1 DR2.

Conductor Joe Meehan has traded cars and bought a nice Chevy convertible.

The report that Trainman Ernest Everett has taken his pension was erroneous and at this writing is planning to return to work shortly.

Conductor Barney Cross recently made a business trip to Washington, D.C.

Conductor Hank Harradon recently underwent another minor operation at the Mercy Hospital and is not expected to remain as long this time as before.

Three retired conductors who were very well known here for a long time were presented with 55-year continuous membership pins in the

Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen. They are Charlie Lovejoy, Freddie Eaton and Eddie Clark.

We hear that Conductor Dick Green has his property in Portland for sale and is planning to move down country.

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By Al Kennedy

Your new Sports correspondent will endeavor to replace Jerry Shea, who has done a tremendous job writing this column. Jerry has just recently been promoted in the Car Accounting office and we all wish him the best in his new position.

As the golfing season came to a close, we found that some of the General Office building hackers were still at it with golf club in one hand and a rake in the other to rake away the many leaves covering the greens and fairways.

We were surprised at the number of sons of employees who are playing high school football. In the Auditor of Disbursements Office, we found that Walter Provencher's son, Jimmy, is playing backfield for Portland, and Bill Welch's son, Bill, is also playing backfield for Portland. The Engineering Department's Harry Blackmore's son plays in the Westbrook backfield. Frank Cameron in Auditor of Disbursements Office has a son, Frank, who is a Freshman at St. Francis Xavier University, Canada, and plays in the backfield for the Varsity Squad. Frank was a former Chevrolet star.

Charlie Anderson, Auditor of Disbursements Messenger, spent his vacation on a deer hunting safari in Twin Forks. Charlie came home with the biggest partridge you ever saw. Better luck next year, Charlie.

The Women's Bowling League is well underway. Peggy's Pluggers, with P. Dorsey, A. Tessier, P. Cary and D. Conley are in first place, winning 16 and losing 8. The record holders are B. Crawford with a high average of 92 and high single of 114. The high three record holder is A. Tessier with 282.

## WATERVILLE SHOPS

The Major, bless his curly gray head, has recently purchased a new electronic organ as a relaxant and tranquilizer. In his youth he showed exceptional talent in the musical line and played first rivet hammer in Session's Symphony and the sledge in the Anvil Chorus. He also composed that hauntingly sad railroaders' lament, "Ode to the Credit Union."

Carman Jimmy Steeves is a patient at a local hospital for observation and possible surgery.

Compacts seem to be the coming thing for Shop men as Foreman Don Russell, Blacksmith "Little Pete" Gagnon, Machinist Bob Young and Electrician Dan Giroux have recently purchased Comets.

Miss Shirley Noel RN and Edward L. Gurski of Waterville are planning a January wedding. Gurski is the son of Laborer and Mrs. Edward A. Gurski.

Supt. George Silva has recently invented another electronic dudidjet for his car's dashboard and calls it WASP. (Watch All Spark Plugs). As we recall his explanation of the monster, he regastified an integulating grapholator and crosscirculated it with a mepolated bossard and hooked it to 6 neon lights on the dash and consequently can see the firing action of all the spark plugs in the car engine. And I hope it's as clear to you as it is to the writer. (anyway, it works)

We wish to be on record as among those offering congratulations to Carman Sid 'Big Man' Brown.

Isn't it amazing how a Chief Clerk, who is a whiz on statistics and figures, and has a phenomenal memory for shop orders, rules, time cards and payrolls, can forget to buy gasoline for his car?

Electrician Roy Keyes, who retired in 1944, died at his home in Fairfield recently.

James Colford, a machinist here for many years, in retirement for a long period, died Oct. 2 at the age of 87.

A2C Shelley C. Mobley, USAF, left Charleston AFB, S.C., Oct. 25 on a MATS plane for Sidi Silmane AFB, Morocco, where she will be stationed with her husband A2C A. S. Mobley. They are in the Air Force Medics and are in the base hospital clinic. She is the daughter of Paint Foreman and Mrs. G. K. Stevens.

Pfc. Betty Cerone, WAC, has received her discharge and is living at Ft. Bragg N. C. with her husband Pfc. Daniel Cerone. She is the daughter of Millman and Mrs. Dick Boucher.

Machinist Percy Butler collapsed recently at work and is confined to the Sisters Hospital.

General Agent Basil Higgins, well known at the Shops, has been a recent surgical patient in a local hospital.

Miss Betty Craig, daughter of painter and Mrs. Chester C. Craig, has accepted a position as Administrative Dietician at the Veterans' Administration, Togus.

Carman Jimmy Walker has been a recent patient at the Sisters.

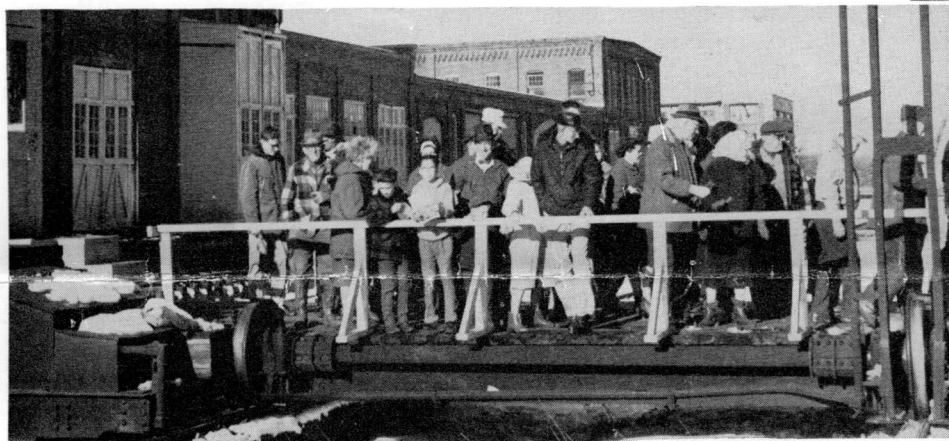
Eddy Reny, young son of Laborer and Mrs. Ray Reny was hit by a car recently near his home in Winslow. After a short stay in the hospital he was discharged. No serious injuries.



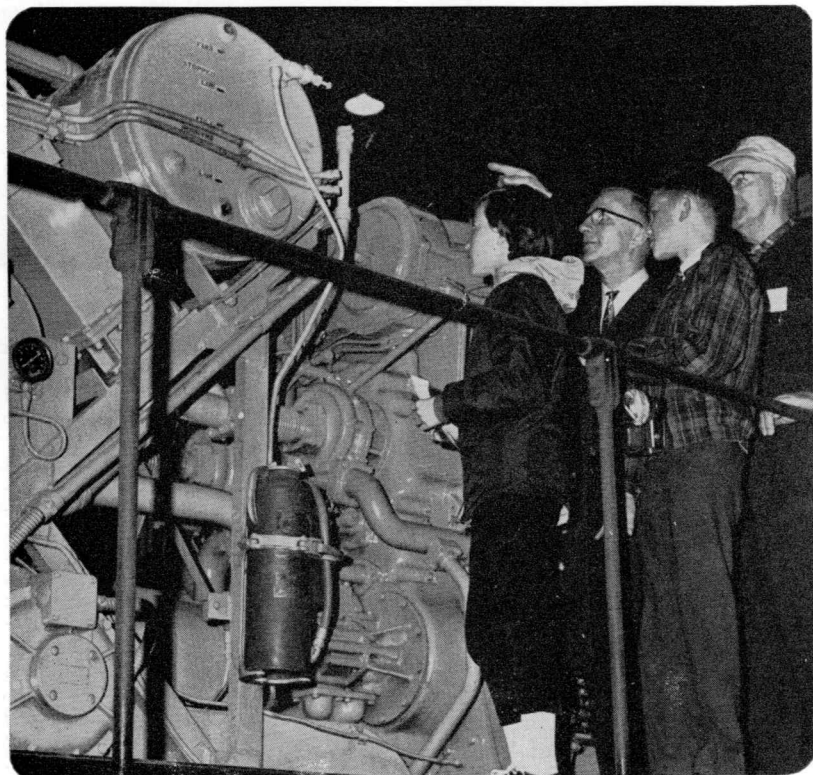
The refreshment table at the Shops was manned by volunteers including feminine employes and wives of Shops workers.



An antique item of railroad equipment gets a smile from a young Shops visitor.



Above, a Shops tour group rides the transfer table. Below a Bethel family inspects a Diesel locomotive.



### Centennial Brochure Available

A few copies of the Maine Central Centennial brochure, a collection of pictures and historical sketches prepared for the Centennial observance in Waterville, are still available. If you're interested, drop a card to the editor at 222 St. John Street, Portland, and one will be sent to you as long as the supply lasts.

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