

# COLLECTING WITH MARX

Issue 5

June 1995



*The Old...set #5122*

*and the new...Introducing  
Louis Marx Claussen*

**COLLECTING WITH MARX**

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NOVEMBER 5 -----	DECEMBER
JANUARY 5 -----	FEBRUARY
MARCH 5 -----	APRIL
MAY 5 -----	JUNE
JULY 5 -----	AUGUST
SEPTEMBER 5 -----	OCTOBER

COLLECTING WITH MARX  
P.O. BOX 614  
SPRINGFIELD, MO. 65801-0614  
417-833-3840  
6-10 P.M. CST or leave message  
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**ON THE COVER....**

Louis Marx Claussen our new addition and an uncatalogued set #5122. Both have become permanent fixtures at our house.

Hello again everyone! It's been a very hectic two months since last we were able to meet through "Collecting With MARX" and I don't know if my life will ever be the same. You see Louis Marx himself has come to live with me! Smoking cigars and drinking highballs are but a few of the crude manorisms we will have to put up with. Just kidding! Louis Marx has come to live with us but he's my new son! His only bad habits are crying at 2:00 a.m. and dirtying diapers at a pace of about 10 a day. He's named for me, of course, and Louis Marx. Guess what we do in our spare time, we play trains. You can tell by the picture on the cover that he already enjoys an early Joyline clockwork swingpin train set. Obviously he prefers the green Commodore with the lithographed frames. He'll be out and about to shows and flea markets with Mom and Dad real soon.

I'd like to thank those of you who submitted items for this issue. It has been a lifesaver as my time has been very limited. Also, if anybody wants back issues of any "Collecting With MARX" magazines please send \$2.50 per copy along with 55¢ for pastage to the address in the front of the magazine. Three of the four are getting very low in quantity, so don't hesitate. When they're gone they're gone!

Around April 1st my friend Jim Norton and his wife came for a visit and along with my wife and myself loaded into the van and headed to some of the nicest flea markets in our area. I hadn't been there for a while, but I keep pretty close tabs on them as far as knowing what MARX comes and goes and was reasonably sure there wasn't much to be found. We finished the three large ones with empty arms, and we were leaving the area when we passed one flea that I rarely go into because none of the dealers ever have anything I buy. I asked "Do we want to look here?" "Oh we might as well. We're here after all." We looked the place over leisurely and strolled to the back isle where a dealer has several toys that have been in the same place at the same price for years. Of course we looked because he had 20% off of regular prices. I had seen enough and was heading out when Jim said, "I think I found the bargain of the trip!" It was a red, prewar, pressed steel, two piece bus in excellent condition. The one that's the size of a load vehicle. WOW! We were so excited we couldn't get the woman to let us in the case fast enough! Anyway, it has found itself to Jim's all-MARX layout along with all of the other coveted items that any MARX collector would love to have.

Keep sending set numbers as we have a feature this time and may have another one coming up. I will continue to list them as long as we have them coming in. There, no excuses. You now have an opportunity to submit those that haven't been listed. Take time sometime and just list them.

Enjoy this issue! Keep in touch! I am going to attempt to contact people better. You can reach me best any morning between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m..

Also a big thanks for all of the baby cards and gifts and phone calls for Louis. It's good to know people are still concerned for other people. Thanks again and happy collecting!

Marx



Top of the box has green border and green circle in middle with the letter M. (S. Anderson collection)

#### CHAPTER IV

##### 41262 Diesel Freight Set 2

**Locomotive:** 99, Rock Island A-B.

**Boxcar:** 3280, Santa Fe.

**Flatcar:** Brown with 2 autos.

**Gondola:** 347100, Penn., red.

**Caboose:** 17858, Rock Island. (T. Valis collection)

##### 52272-P Steam Freight Set 3

**Locomotive:** 1666, with smoke.

**Tender:** NYC, slope back.

**Crane:** NYC, gray.

**Flatcar:** Erie, with NYC tractor and trailer.

**Caboose:** NYC, brown. (T. Valis collection)

#### CHAPTER V

##### 4822 Steam Freight Set 1

**Locomotive:** 400.

**Tender:** NYC.

**Gondola:** Wabash.

**Boxcar:** Mer. Service.

**Caboose:** NYC pacemaker.

All cars 7" 4-wheel. Set includes 1954 acc. catalog. (T. Valis collection)

##### 6552L Steam Freight Set 1

**Locomotive:** 591, Die cast boiler front.

**Tender:** 951, plastic top.

**Boxcar:** PRR, 37958.

**Gondola:** Wabash.

**Caboose:** NYC, 20123.

All cars 7" knuckle coupler with die cast wheels. Box white with brown letters. (S. Anderson collection)

##### 9544 Diesel Freight Set 2

**Locomotive:** B&O, A-A.

**Gondola:** Wabash.

**Boxcar:** Ser. Mer.

**Caboose:** B&O, 505.

White box brown lettering. (M. Claussen collection)

#### CHAPTER VI

##### 35200 Steam Freight Set 2

**Locomotive:** 333, no smoke.

**Tender:** 3991, Die cast.

**Boxcar:** 70311, Penn.

**Gondola:** NKP, 71499.

**Tank Car:** 256.

**Caboose:** 20102, NYC.

Box brown with red lettering. (C. Scheltens collection)

#### CHAPTER VII

##### 530 Steam Freight Set 1

**Locomotive:** 401, gray windup.

**Tender:** 1951, Santa Fe.

**Gondola:** SCL, 131000, yellow.

**Caboose:** 1977, Santa Fe.

Cars have metal hook couplers. Track is all plastic.

(C. Scheltens collection)

##### 4751 Steam Freight Set 2

**Locomotive:** 490.

**Tender:** 1951, NYC.

**Hopper:** LV, 21913, green.

**Tank Car:** X246, Rocket fuel.

**Caboose:** Pacemaker, orange.

Set includes paper acc., telephone poles, two autos, and figures.

(S. Anderson collection)

##### 4950 Steam Freight Set 1

**Locomotive:** 490, with light and reverse.

**Tender:** 1951, NYC.

**Gondola:** 715100, NYC blue.

**Caboose:** 18756, NYC pacemaker. (S. Anderson collection)

##### 8955 Diesel Freight Set 4

**Locomotive:** Kansas City So. A-A.

**Boxcar:** B&O, red.

**Tank Car:** CSOX, green.

**Side Dump Car:** 967, NYC, blue.

**Caboose:** KCS, red.

Set includes telephone poles, gray shack with blue man in a wood grain box.

(M. Claussen collection)





9365 Steam Freight Set 4  
Locomotive: 994, with # under window.  
Tender: NYC.  
Boxcar: B&O, red.  
Side Dump Car: 967, black.  
Boxcar: SFRD, white.  
Caboose: NYC, white.  
Box white wood grain with brown lettering.  
(M. Claussen collection)

14350 Steam Freight Set 2  
Locomotive: 400, Electric.  
Tender: NYC.  
Gondola: Penn, gray.  
Flat Car: Erie with burlington tractor trailer.  
Caboose: NYC, tuscan.  
Box red and black on cream.  
(M. Claussen collection)

#### CHAPTER VIII

9735 Steam Freight Set 1  
Locomotive: 490, with chug sound.  
Tender: 951, NYC, Slope back.  
Log Dump Car: Erie, manual.  
Boxcar: 467100, blue B&O.  
Gondola: 347100 Gray.  
Caboose: 18326, NYC, tuscan.  
Set has knuckle couplers and square Allstate set box.  
(C. Scheltens collection)

33984 Diesel Freight Set 5  
Locomotive: RI diesels, black lettering gray trucks.  
Crane Car: NYC.  
Boxcar: RI red.  
Tank Car:  
Gondola:  
Caboose:  
This is the set that I took out of the box and did not record what was in it. Can anybody help?  
(M. Claussen collection)

41825 Diesel Freight Set 3  
Locomotive: New Haven A-B.  
Crane Car: NYC, gray.  
Flat Car: CB&Q, with NYC white trailers.  
Boxcar: 176893, NYC, green.

Searchlight Car: 4581BKX.  
Caboose: NH - tuscan.  
Box green and black on cream.  
(M. Claussen collection)

52290 Steam Freight Set 2  
Locomotive: 1666, 2-4-2.  
Tender: 961, Penn. Central.  
Auto Carrier: 51100. maroon and gray.  
Gondola: 51170, Erie black.  
Boxcar: 43461, operating.  
Caboose: 18326, Penn Central green.  
Set includes boxcar platform.  
(S. Anderson collection)

#### CHAPTER IX

5926M Steam Freight Set 5  
Locomotive: 500.  
Tender: 500 Army Supply.  
Searchlight Car:  
Gun Car: Anti-aircraft (smallest barrel).  
Flat Car: Olive drab tank.  
Observation: lighted.  
Brown box with blue lettering "Army Train".  
(M. Claussen collection)

#### CHAPTER X

1753 w/hand written W 5 Diesel Freight Set  
Locomotive: M10005 reversable windup.  
Pass. Car: Omaha.  
Pass. Car: REA.  
Pass. Car: Diner.  
Observation: Squaw Bonnet.  
Box bottom has extra box stapled on end for track to be able to accept extra car.  
Box top has picture of three trains and red airflow.  
(M. Claussen collection)

5902 Diesel Freight Set 3  
Locomotive: M10005.  
Set includes two articulated passenger cars and an obs.  
Early box front shows three trains and set is brown and yellow as above.  
(T. Valis collection)

CHAPTER XII

2876 The 49er 4

Locomotive: 49.  
Tender: Marlins.  
Gondola: Yellow plain.  
Caboose: Red bay window plain.

All cars soft polyethylene.  
Track is gray. Box is blue and black on cream.  
(M. Claussen collection)

No # Steam Freight Set 5

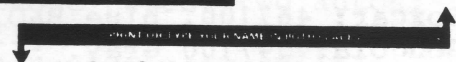
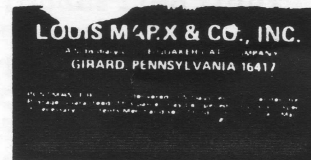
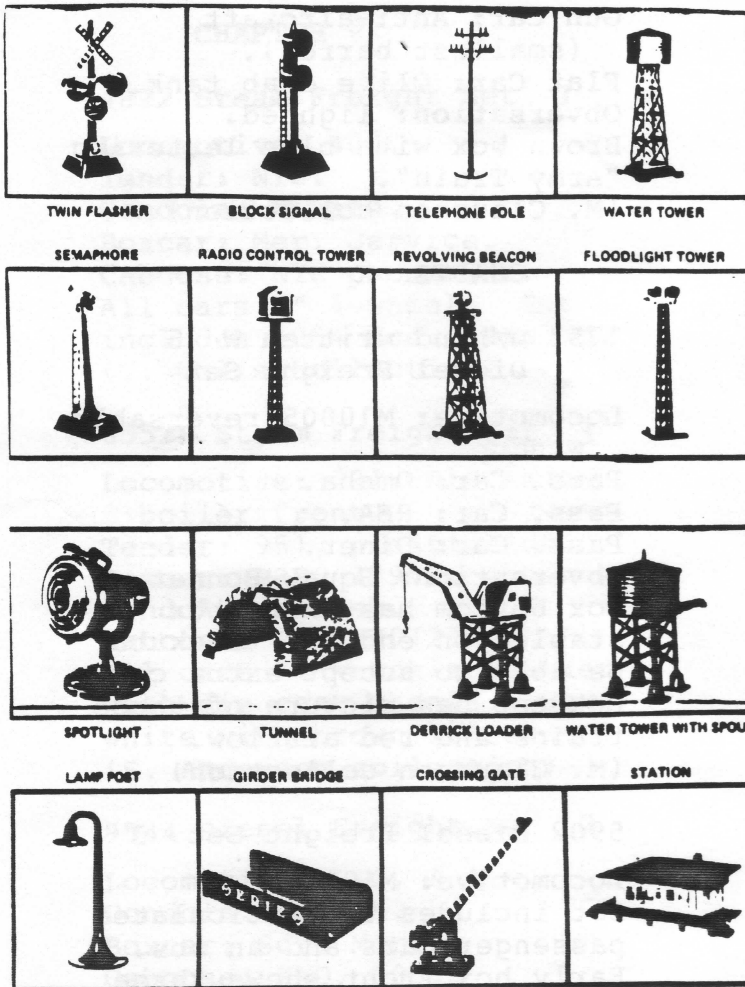
Set contents same as above.  
Box mostly red with western scene and Magic Marxie on the front. Made in Great Britian.  
(M. Claussen collection)

The following are set numbers on boxes that we do not know the contents of. If you can help please send in the info.

8955	4012
3990MR	52362
35864	25376
5622	361
8624	

We have also reported set number 50385 which was previously reported an Allstate set in a Montgomery Ward set box.

\*\*\*\*\*



**LOUIS MARX & CO., INC.**  
GIRARD, PENNSYLVANIA 16417  
027 GA. ELECTRIC TRAINS WITH KNUCKLE COUPLERS  
PARTS AND ACCESSORIES  
**ORDER FORM**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY, STATE & ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

BUY FROM YOUR DEALER  
Many of these items may be shipped from your local dealer or their order service if they cannot supply the items you need then MAIL THIS ORDER TO LOUIS MARX & CO., INC. SERVICE DIVISION GIRARD, PA. 16417

ITEM NO	NAME	PRICE EACH	QTY	AMOUNT	ITEM NO	NAME	PRICE EACH	QTY	AMOUNT
	027 GA. TRACK				TOTAL BROUGHT FORWARD				
0505	Dead End Bumper	1.00			ACCESSORIES				
800	Trach Connection Terminal	.40			081	Telephone Pole		15	
801	Straight Track	.25			082	Lamp Post		50	
802	Curved Track	.25			083	Semaphore		50	
807	Crossover	2.00			084	Crossing Gate		50	
740(810)	Manual Switch Set (Pair)	8.50			085	Water Tower with Spout		1.75	
1709					086	Grade Crossing		50	
1818	Remote Control Switch Set (Pair)	17.00			087	Crossing Signal		50	
	CARS WITH KNUCKLE COUPLERS				072	Lighted Lamp Post		1.00	
0928A	Flat Car with Side Racks (Eral)	1.25			0181	Telephone Poles (Set of 12)		1.75	
0941A	Tender (Penn Central)	1.25			0214	Crossing Signal		1.00	
09527A	Gondola (P. R. R.)	1.25			0217	Crossing Gate		1.00	
09527A	Gondola (N. Y. C.)	1.25			0405	Spotlight		1.50	
09527A	Gondola (S. C. L.)	1.25			0442	Derrick Loader		3.00	
09531A	Tank (Chem. Recker Fuel)	1.25			307/8	Trach Lacks (Set of 8)		.25	
0954 A	Hopper (Lehigh Valley)	1.25			376/12	R. R. Figures (Set of 12)		1.00	
0955 A	Box (B & O)	1.25			382	Tunnel		2.00	
0956/5A	Caboose (Penn Central)	1.25			418	Floodlight Tower		4.00	
0962 A	Lumber (Erie)	1.50			421	Twin Flasher (Automatic)		4.00	
0965 A	Refrigerator (AT & SF)	1.25			424	Radio Control Tower		4.00	
0975 A	Cattle (AT & SF)	1.25			426	Crossing Gate (Automatic)		5.00	
					430	Semaphore (Automatic)		5.00	
TOTAL FORWARD					TOTAL FORWARD				

An example of an early 60's accessory sheet (submitted by Joe Fanara) and an order blank that could be sent to receive merchandise by mail.

## MARX TRAINS -- REPAIR MANUAL

At last, a "do-it-yourself" repair manual for 0-27 MARX trains and accessories. Julio del Castillo, M.D., the author has approached the subject with the precision, accuracy and care that permits the restoration and repair of MARX items that previously would have been discarded. As Dr. Castillo states, the book is designed for the user to hold the item, follow the steps of dis-assembly, repair and re-assembly. By following the given sequence of actions many pitfalls can be avoided. Not only are logical sequences of actions given, but many photographs and diagrams are provided that permit a rapid identification, location and repair.

The book is soft-bound, 200 pages, with 270 photos and 85 diagrams. The price of \$29.95 plus \$3.50 shipping and handling is a real bargain in comparison to the cost of previously published reprints of instruction sheets, etc.

The book is available from: Top Hat Hobbies, Inc., 126 North 5th St., Quincy, IL., 62301. Or call 217-222-0040 for information or to order with a credit card.

### REPAIR PARTS

Another source of repair parts, both reproduction and original has been located. Toy Train Parts, P.O. Box 91575, Louisville, KY., 40291 has approximately 200 reproduction parts and more in the planning stage. Some original parts are available, but are not listed in the catalog. Availability can be determined by calling 502-231-1370 or by writing with a SASE.

### CARMARX THE SWAMI PREDICTS

By: Jim Norton

Admittedly, the crystal ball is not always as clear as it should be, or that we always like to hear a prediction of doom, disaster or turmoil. The present day resurgence of interest in the collection of MARX trains and toys has resulted in an increase in publications, reproduction of parts and loads, and the production of new MARX trains.

As in the pricing of all collectibles; condition, completeness and scarcity determine the value. Many MARX items can readily be converted from "common" to "rare" by repainting, adding items or adding reproduction loads. For example, the value of a green Commodore Vanderbilt is considerably higher than a black one. Or, consider the price increase of the dairy gondola by adding a cardboard insert with 4 wooden cans. But, how do you tell an original wooden, plastic or cardboard piece from a reproduction? How do you tell if a painted engine shell is original?

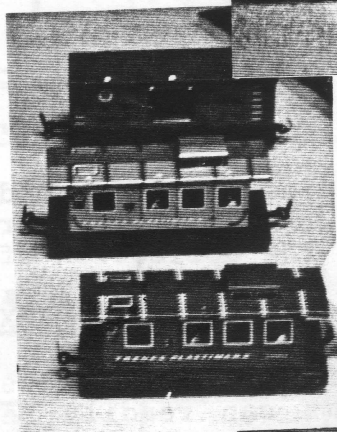
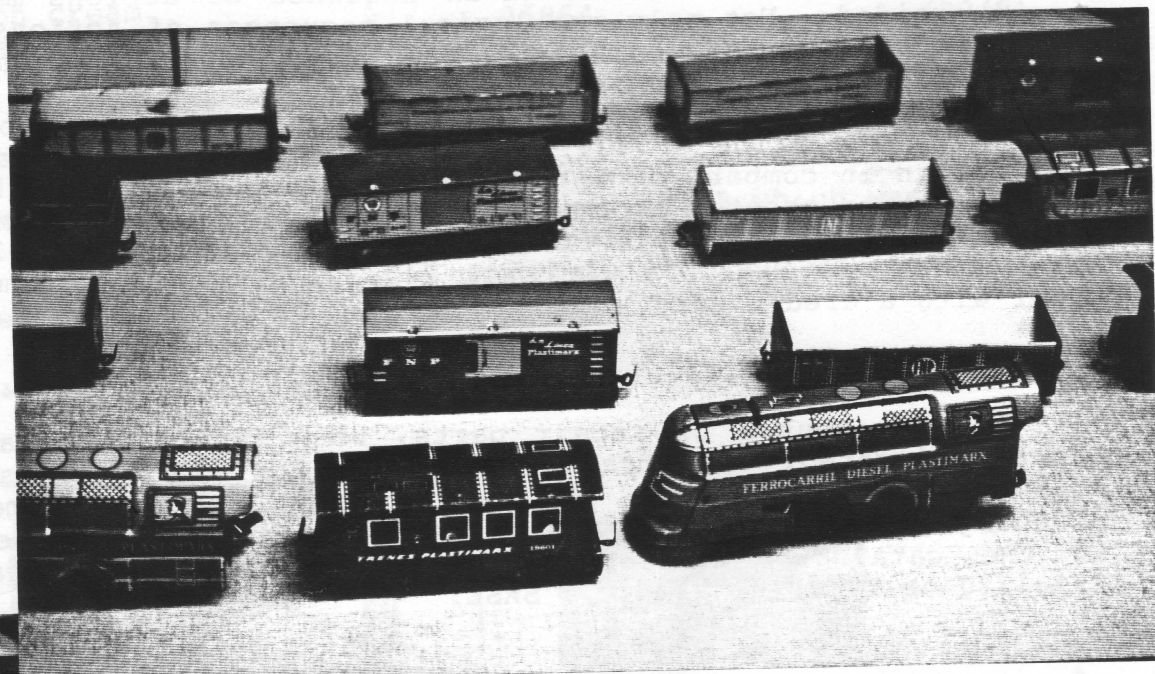
### CARMARX PREDICTS:

There will be a period of turmoil in the value of MARX trains. Those items that are currently scarce and not susceptible to modification or change will remain stable. The problem will exist for those items that can be modified by adding or deleting parts, changing colors or by adding loads.

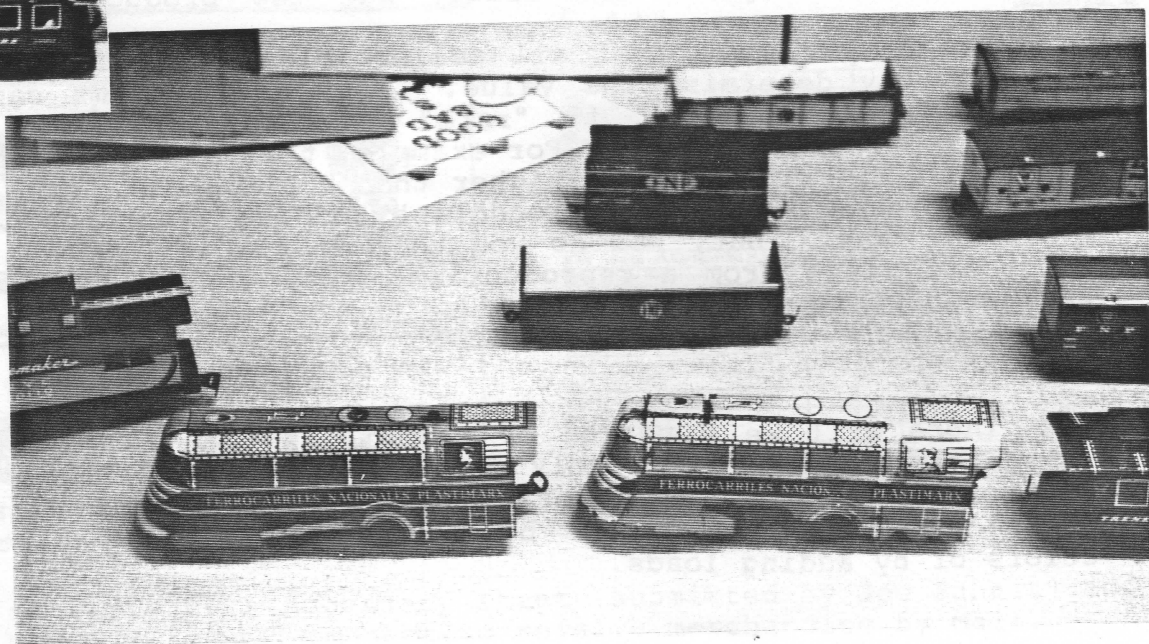


From the desk of Allan Miller:

As to my observations about this year's York meet, I feel that the quantity of Marx available was up. There was some quality there, but invariably at horrendously inflated prices. If the tags at the meets carry any validity, the new Greenberg pocket guide is already as obsolete as the one it was meant to replace! Most, if not all, of the drastically overpriced Marx went home with its original owner, indicating that some restraint is coming into the picture.



Shown here is a collection of tin lithographed "Plastimarx" rolling stock produced in Mexico from the early Wyandotte machining. The engines shown are in three colors. Above, silver and orange. Below, silver and blue and silver and green. These cars showed up at the Marx meeting and have a distinctively different look from American Marx but the litho colors are very much like American Marx.



## THE MERCURY MYSTERY CONTINUES

By: John Torgerson

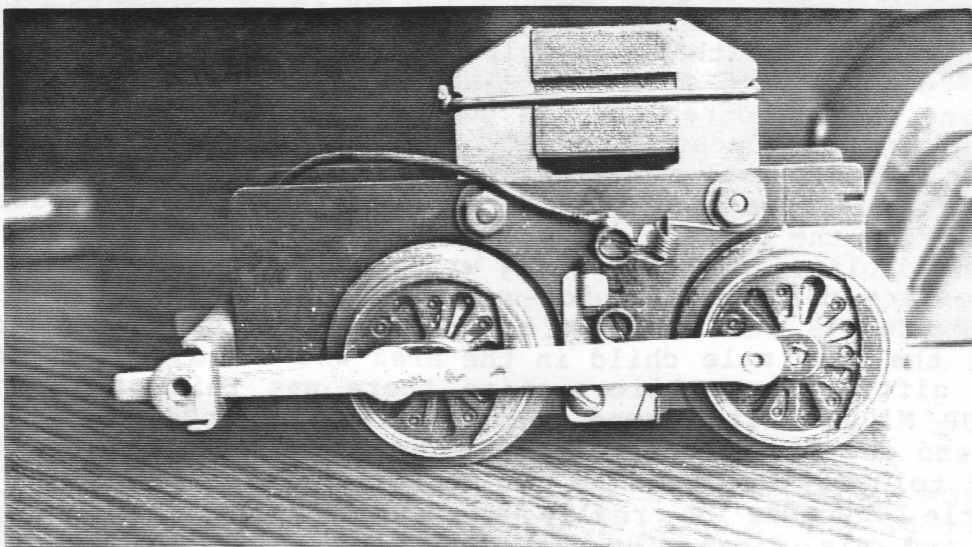
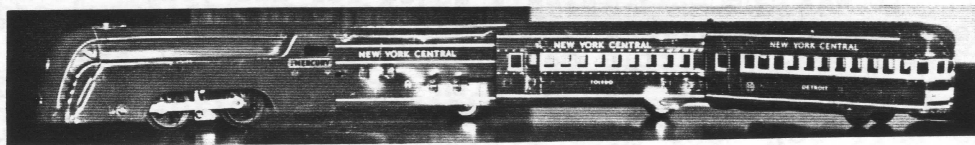
In Issue 3, Lee Reynolds brought to our attention his unusual 3 dome Mercury. I wonder if everyone knows about the 1 dome?

It would appear the number of domes indicate the power supply. Lee's engine, a 3 dome, is electric, the 2 dome's I've seen have all been clock work and I didn't realize the third variation until Lee wrote the article.

I had a DC powered or battery operated loco with the battery container sitting on my shelf for several years and never noticed it only had 1 stack.

Looking at the motor, there is an obvious difference between the AC version and the DC pictured. Naturally, the DC does not need a reverse unit. Just reverse the polarity and the train will run the other direction.

Could Marx have used the "dome" quantity to distinguish between electric, clock work and DC? Will all the questions ever be answered?





## MY FIRST ELECTRIC TRAIN

By: Bob Walker

My first electric train was a green and cream colored Union Pacific Marx articulate M10005. In addition to the power car it had the Railway Express, the Los Angeles, and the Squaw Bonnet cars. Today it sits on my shelf among my other Marx collection. Now that does not seem extraordinary, but the fact that this train had been sold in 1955 to my sister-in-law, and played with by her two young sons, and then disappeared and finally came back into my possession is a story I like to share with people who come to see my collection.

I don't remember when this little train first came into my life. It seemed as if it was always there for Christmas, under the tree, and I would enjoy running it forward and backwards, and for extra excitement I would disconnect the cars from the loco, and take the body off of the motor and run it like a little hand car around the track. Forward and reverse were manual settings, but I didn't mind stopping it in front of me and making the changes. I ran that little train until a deep grove was rubbed into the copper pickup. My neighbor Mark received a new train for Christmas, so the following year I wanted a new Lionel. It was the only thing I asked for all year. On Christmas morning you can understand my disappointment when I came down the steps and there sat my little Marx, ready for another season of fun, but I was having nothing to do with it. Mother kept trying to encourage me to plug in the transformer and run my train, but I was not in the mood. We had made a long tunnel on the platform, and Mother and Dad knew what that tunnel concealed. After much coaxing I plugged in the transformer, and was so unhappy I hadn't noticed the larger Lionel power pack that would have sent my little train at jumping the track speeds. Dad had fixed the little Streamliner so it would not run. And, out of the tunnel came the powerful freight train. The little Marx was very rarely run after that.

The years past, college, marriage, and a new profession, and a family left little time for trains. By then the HO gauge was becoming very popular and I thought a hobby that would fit into a small space would be great. To acquire extra money to make my purchase of a Varney Casey Jones kit, I sold my Lionel and Marx to my sister-in-law, Adeline for twenty five dollars. There was no emotional attachment, and I thought I would never see the train again after her sons had finished with them. Frankly I didn't really care I was into HO. But even this hobby took a back seat to increasing demands of living. One day we were helping my mother-in-law break up housekeeping to make a move with one of her daughters. We came across two trains, a windup Marx that had belonged to my wife's family and this little Cream and Green Electric. No one knew from where it came. Even Adeline had forgotten she had purchased this train from me.

Right at that moment I pulled out twenty five dollars and bought back a lot of fond early memories. Interest rates and increase in the value of the train was not considered by either of us, besides I was only purchasing the one train. The Lionel had been destroyed through a lot of hard play. The only thing wrong with the little Marx was the need to replace part of the pick-up unit, to clean and oil it and to insert new brushes. It runs now as good as new. Last year I discovered I was not the only male child in the area who was disappointed by his Christmas gift. At a public auction there was this green and cream colored UP M10005 with three Denvers, two Los Angeles, one Railway Express, and one Squaw Bonnet in mint condition original box and all. The owner told me that when he got it for Christmas he played with it very little, because he really wanted a Lionel. I now have my original and his disappointment, and many others of the marvelous (what I call) poor boys trains. They may not have the value, nor the detail of Lionel, but I believe they will continue to out run them any day of the week.



### SERVICE WITH A SMILE

Those of us who grew up in the early 50's and 60's remember the many plastic toys Louis Marx produced. Some of the toys I don't remember very well are the plastic buildings that were produced as accessories for MARX trains. One of those plastic buildings is a service station. Over the years I have collected many different colors in the different structures but the only two variations I have found in the service station are blue with yellow trim and yellow with blue trim. I feel confident, however, that there are other colors available, simply because I have seen so many colors in some of the other structures.

Each service station had a couple of vehicles and a couple of sets of gas pumps. It also had a hydraulic rack or lift and several figures. This set was quite a value priced from 49¢ to 89¢.

This particular piece is stamped with the MARX logo on the under side of the roof. Some of the other buildings have no logo on them but all of the MARX service station buildings I have seen have the identifying logo as well as the MARX marque on the front over the door between the "washing" bay and the "lubridorium" bay.

The service station can be found occasionally at toy and train shows from \$10.00 to \$100.00 --- depending on condition and whether or not it's in the original packaging. It's difficult however, to get all of the original accessories with them when you find one. These are still available on occasion so keep your eyes open.



There have BING many people ask about us so MARKLIN my word there'll be many more. You HAFNER be pretty UNIQUE to be a MARX collector.

AN INTERESTING -- "WHAT IF" -- ?

by:  
Jim Bennett

IN 1936 the UNITED DRUG COMPANY, manufacturers of REXALL PRODUCTS, decided to operate a coast-to-coast goodwill train in lieu of its state and national conventions of druggists and sales people. This enabled the company and its officials to go directly to its local dealers and sales people, serving not only as a convention and meeting headquarters, but as a novel traveling exhibit and a smart publicity venture as well.

THE REXALL TRAIN, stretching some 1,088 feet in length, was strikingly attractive in its "Rexall" blue and white color scheme with THE REXALL TRAIN in script lettering displayed along its car sides. The 12-car train traveled some 30,000 miles across the United States and Canada, playing host to some 10,000 druggists and 20,000 Rexall sales people in over 200 cities (including Little Rock, Arkansas), all within the space of eight months, March to October.

THE 12 HEAVYWEIGHT former Pullman Parlor cars had been put through the Pullman Company shops where they had been extensively remodeled, modernized, streamlined and air-conditioned, emerging in the "Rexall" blue and white color scheme with script lettering, bearing new and fresh "Rexall" brand names which were welcomed by a depression-weary America. Among names applied to the car sides were:

KANTLEEK, FIRST-AID, AD-VANTAGES, RESEARCH, BISMA-REX  
CARA NOME, KLENZO, SYMPHONY and ADRIENNE

A HEAD-END POWER CAR contained two specially built gasoline engines and dynamos providing electricity for lights, mechanical displays, and (new in 1936) air-conditioning. One of the four "Century of Progress-style" exhibit cars featured a "Model Drug Store" complete with "Soda Fountain"--! Two daytime lecture-conference cars could be converted in the evening for socialization and dancing, as the train carried its own dance band. Local radio stations could plug into the train for direct broadcasts. A lounge car complete with bar was provided for fraternization, and a dining car served meals "buffet-style". Two sleeping cars provided space for personnel traveling with the train. The last car, an open-platform Business Car was named "PURETEST" and reserved for United Drug Company president Louis K. Liggett.

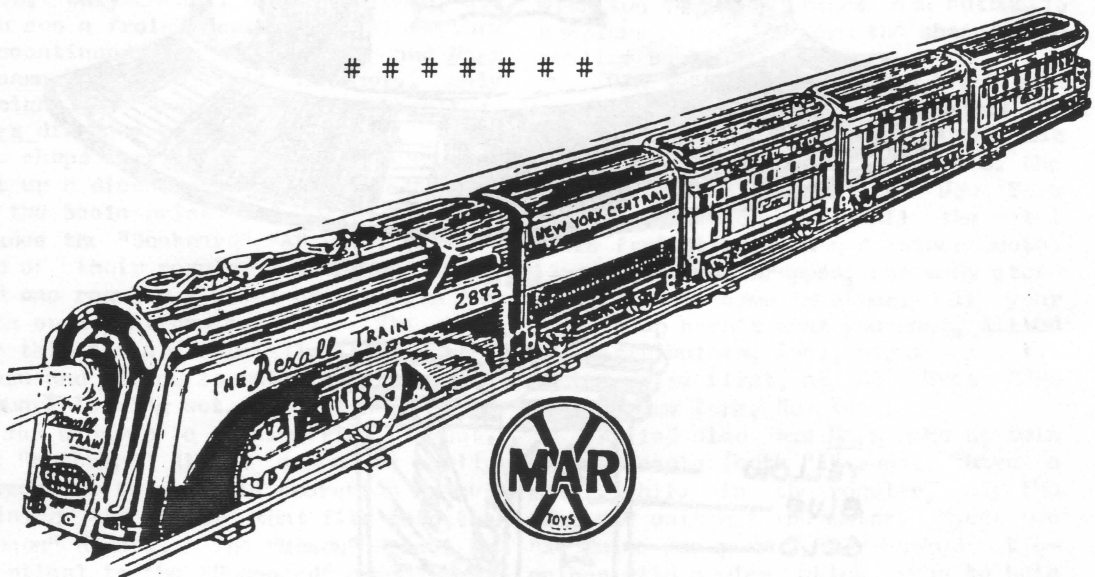
POWER FOR THE TRAIN was provided by New York Central 4-8-2 steam locomotive No. 2873, a Class L-2c "Mohawk" type that had been converted to burn oil and fitted with a streamlined "Commodore Vanderbilt" shroud, painted in blue and white and boldly lettered to Match the train. The 12-wheel matching oil and water tender was lettered for owner New York Central.

WHAT IF - ? (CON'T) - ENTER LOUIS MARX & CO.

IN 1936 MarX's durable and authentic "Commodore Vanderbilt" 0-4-0 steam locomotive and matching six-inch tin lithographed "wagon-top" (coffin) #551 tender, along with the matching six-inch lithographed "Montclair", "Bogota" and "Observation" cars were being turned out by the thousands in the MarX factory. How perfect and timely would have been the decision by Louis Marx, by using existing tooling and dies, to simply alter the lithography process and produce a "MarX version" of the famous REXALL TRAIN then touring America. MarX could have successfully marketed the neat train sets exclusively through the many hundreds of family-oriented neighborhood Rexall Drug Stores all across the nation.

TODAY, nearly sixty years later, MarX Collectors can only ponder the success had such a venture been undertaken by Louis Marx & Co., and "dream" of owning such a novel, rare, valuable and highly collectable MarX train set! Certainly, the "infamous" but highly collectable "Bunny Train" would today have had a wonderful companion had MarX produced THE REXALL TRAIN.....

# # # # #



MADE IN U. S. A. BY

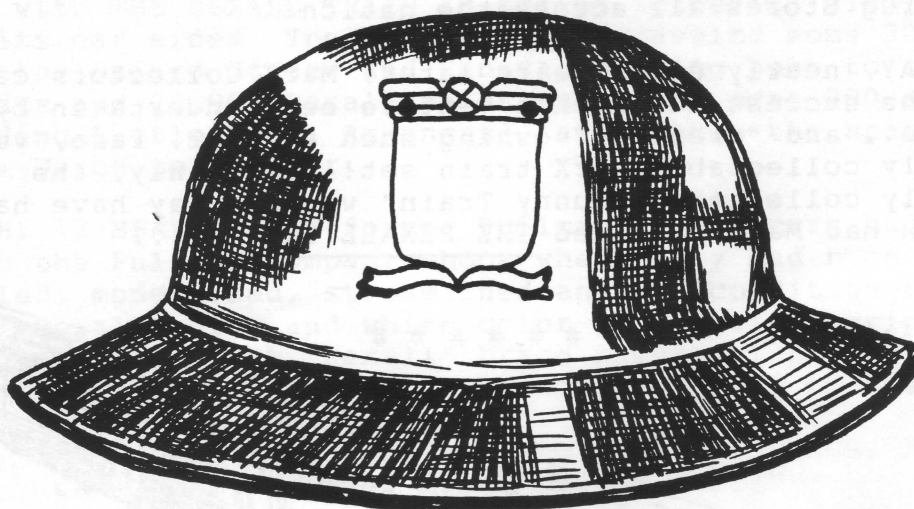
**LOUIS MARX & CO., INC.**

All inquiries regarding repairs or service, should be addressed to  
SERVICE DIVISION, GIRARD, PA.



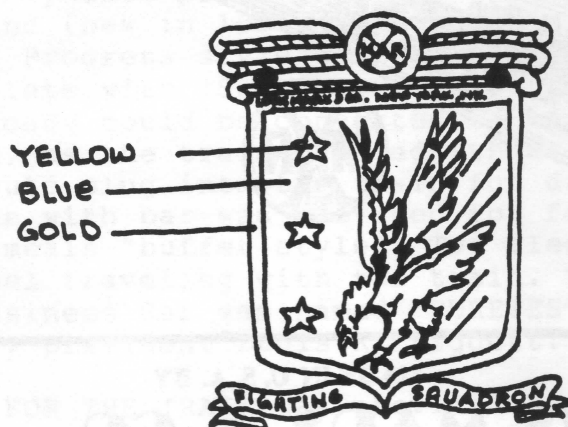
**MARX TOY HELMET**  
By: Fred B. Fillers

A few weeks ago, my friend and fellow train collector, Boyd Pyle, and I visited a flea market up in southern Missouri. Although we didn't find any trains, I did find a metal child's toy helmet made by Marx. Normally I don't buy anything but trains, but since the price seemed right, and as my wife said later, "it's cute", I decided to go ahead and buy it. Later that evening, back at Boyd's house, my wife, while looking thru Greenberg's Guide to Marx Trains, Volume II, came upon the section on military sets, and on page 121 it states that, "one set reportedly came with a helmet for the youngster to wear." What a coincidence! She happened to read that very section the day we bought the helmet. I am assuming that the helmet I bought is the one mentioned above. Below is a drawing of the helmet and a detailed drawing of the insignia on the front. If indeed the set did come with a helmet, is this it? I would like to hear from anyone with information on this. Thank you. Fred B. Fillers, 29009 Bandy Rd., Little Rock, AR 72211. 501-821-2026.



4" HIGH  
9 1/4" WIDE  
9 3/4" LONG

SILVER HELMET



INSIGNIA

Fred,  
This is the helmet photographed with Jim Flynn's set in the MARX set book. I have a silver one and an OD one. There are at least two different decals and it is also known to come in red.

# MARX TINPLATE NEWS

by J. Harry Vincent

THE CHRISTMAS catalog of Sears Roebuck for 1956 (Philadelphia) contained many new Marx items that as far as I can find out are unavailable elsewhere. As is usual the procedure, they should be generally available during 1957. This is the way it works out except for items that just don't sell.

One Marx set contained a twin switcher diesel locomotive. Two Union Pacific switchers hooked together, but only the lead one has a motor. A cattle car (the full-size scale plastic item, not the smaller plastic one) with sliding doors. (Allied Distributors had this one for a short time). A plastic cattle corral, and a bay-window cabooso.

Another set had a trestle set included.

None of these items were sold separately.

For the first time in about 30 years, we saw a "Wind-Up" Passenger set on sale in the local stores. It used to be in the twenties to see nothing but American Flyer "Wind-Up" sets for sale. Only once in a blue moon, did you see a freight set. But since they discontinued the "Wind-Up" and Marx became King in this category, only freight sets have been available. Yes, Marx did make up passenger sets, but few shops carried them. This year Marx put up a diesel passenger "Wind-Up", and at the basic price of \$2.98. It includes the "Seaboard" "A" unit, plus two of their regular 4-wheel pullmans, and one regular 2-wheel observation car with open platform and all. The cars for this set are specially lithographed green and yellow to match the loco. Its a smart looking set, that can be added to any wind-up or electric layout. The "seaboard" diesel can be easily converted to electric operation by obtaining the motor that fits into the "Monon" diesel. The "Monon" diesel is identical to the "Seaboard" except that it contains an electric motor. Allied Distributors has the motor for you.

The full-length dome car with Santa Fe markings that Marx was going to produce in 1956, never was. Only the sample models were done. I have a picture of this item and it's a real looker, way ahead of any tinplate dome car on the market (Marx had a dome car on

sale for over 5 years before the other Tinplate companies brought theirs out). If and when it does come out, they plan to drop their regular dome car. Maybe 1957 will be the year.

By now Marx has dropped all their metal scale cars and replaced them with plastic ones. The only metal scale cars now being produced are the passenger cars. It was in 1953 that they introduced their plastic freight scale cars. The movement into plastic has also been carried out into the numerous accessories they produce. The only place that metal cars are still being produced are in the 4-wheel series (both electric and wind-up). Yet it was in the 4-wheel series that plastic cars were first introduced. In 1952, a whole new series of 4-wheel cars in plastic were brought out. But a season later they were gone, and the older metal cars were reintroduced with new markings and dummy knuckle couplers in place of the hook and eye (the hook and eye are still retained in the wind-up sets). The plastic 4-wheel cars with two 4-wheel trucks and automatic couplers added new form to the cheaper and smaller scale plastic cars.

Old #999 2-4-2 loco, the B & O twin metal diesel (both in auto couplers and hook and eye), the New York Central twin diesel, the Canadian Pacific 0-4-0, the plastic "Hudson" 4-6-4, the New York Central passenger cars, all the metal scale freight cars and other metal items have been dropped, but many stores still have some in stock. If your local shop hasn't what you want, Allied Toy Distributors, Inc., might have it. Better write first, at 22 West 23rd Street, New York, New York.

Allied also has Marx make up twin motor diesels (both "A" units have a motor, while in the regular, only the lead "A" unit has the motor. These two "A" units are permanently hooked together with a wire which runs to both motors and only one "B" unit, so that both motors reverse, etc. together). These twin-motor "A-A" units are made with the familiar Santa Fe markings, the now Western Pacific markings, and Allied might still have some left in the new discontinued New York Central markings. These sell for \$20.00 per set of "A-A" locos.

This article was found in an early 1957 "Tin Plate News" magazine which was very similar to "Collecting With MARX". The publication included other manufacturers but contained a regular column on MARX. (And we thought nobody cared about MARX until the past few years!)

MARX FOR SALE - 201-579-5308 7-9 P.M. EST

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) 51350 Big Rail Work Train, OB, C-7+ - \$125.00                                    | 15) 20053 Box, C-7 - \$75.00  |
| 2) 1666 Grey Smoker w/ Sound of Power Tender, one step reglued, C-7 - \$65.00        | 16) 897 litho windup w/Pennsylvania 4-wheel tender, C-6 - \$125.00      |
| 3) 490 white stripe C-6 w/ Bessimer tender, missing couplet, no breaks C-7 - \$65.00 | 17) 555 4-wheel man-in door box, blue roof, C-6 - \$100.00              |
| 4) 666 OD, USA tender, 234 caboose, C-7 -\$115.00                                    | 18) 247 Toronto 8-wheel, 2" rust spot, C-5 \$95.00                      |
| 5) 333 no smoke C-7, Diecast tender C-6 - \$125.00                                   | 19) 1404 block signal w/control, C-7 - \$120.00                         |
| 6) Blk Merc w/whistle, grey band NYC tender, C-7, \$125.00                           | 20) Blue Mercury set w/2 Montclairs and one Bogota, C-6 - \$775.00      |
| 7) 391 all balck CP/wedge tender C-6 \$125.00  | 21) Scale 70311, PA, C-6 - \$30.00                                      |
| 8) Grey Merc/NYC grey band tender C-7 \$95.00  | 22) Scale 35461 PFE, C-6 - \$45.00                                      |
| 9) Grey Commodore, paint touchup one side, 551 tender w/tinned frame C5+ - \$95.00   | 23) NYC slope back tender with sound of power installed, C-6+ - \$35.00 |
| 10) 5590 Floodlight Crane, no hook , needs rewire, C-6 - \$65.00                     | 24) Scale 3200 NY NH & Hartford Box, C-6 - \$25.00                      |
| 11) Short Erie Flat with red tractors, C7 - \$65.00                                  | 25) Scale 13079 LNE, C-6 - \$55.00                                      |
| 12) Allstate flat w/2 white tanks, C-7 - \$90.00                                     | 26) Scale 174580, Pacemaker, C-7 - \$35.00                              |
| 13) 90171 B&LE, red/silver, solid doors, C-7 - \$35.00                               | 27) Scale Niax 256 tank with silver frame, C-6 - \$55.00                |
| 14) 3591A scale searchlight, C-7, \$95.00  | 16) 246 Montreal 4-wheel, C-6 - \$125.00                                |

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FOR SALE

BOXED SETS

1. Set #8935: 7" Monon Set: Monon A-B, State of Maine Boxcar, Wabash Gondola, Monon Caboose, track, transformer, IS, some tape on box. C-7. \$160.00.
  2. Set #10000: Black Commodore Vanderbilt, Wagon top tender, 554 hopper w/white lettering, 553 tank car w/bullet ends, 556 caboose, track, transformer. C-7. \$85.00.
- \*\*\*\*\*
1. 1934 UP Lucky Piece came in some Marx M10000 Streamline sets. \$25.00.
  2. Monon A-A engine. C-6. \$65.00.
  3. 397 Copper O-4-O engine. Sm. hole in top of boiler. C-6. \$45.00.
  4. Canadian Pacific Marlines O-4-O engine. Slight touch-up but overall C-7. \$45.00.
  5. Early Commodore Vanderbilt w/black sideboards, repro stack, wagon top tender. C-6. \$50.00.
  6. 6" Brown #738701 Pennsylvania Hopper. C-8. \$35.00.
  7. Scale Pennsylvania Boxcar #7311. C-7. \$25.00.
  9. Early Green Battery OPERated twin tower, converted to electric. C-7. \$25.00.
  10. Marx Bagatelle State Fair Pin Ball Game. Sm repair. Colorful litho. C-7 \$25.00.
- All prices plus shipping. All engines run.  
 Larry Chernow, 12 Newmarket Rd., Syosset, NY., 11791. 516-496-8422.



TRADE

Time Magazine, December 12, 1955, with Louis Marx article/cover, no mailing label (sold at newstand), ex. Jim Tucker, 490 Valroy Ct., San Jose, CA., 95123-4949. 408-972-2420.

FOR SALE

Post War English Passenger set - no box. #3978 - blue black cream electric - USA motor/rev scratches VG "made in GT. Britian". Marlines same colors 4 wheel tender tab and slot couplers VG. 2 - LM Marlines 8 wheel coaches cream, maroon black - black under frames roofs well scratched VG - sides better VG. These are hard to find pieces - how often do you see them. \$250.00. I still have some Santa Trains for sale. Gary Anderson, Box 143, Stephen, MN., 56757. 218-478-2711.

4 piece Red Mercury C-6 \$200.00. Set #41822 (B) Missing Trailers, auto's, C-9 \$160.00. Much more. Send LSSAE for list. Vince Baniewicz, 4765 Richmond St., Philadelphia, PA., 19137. 215-288-7357.

Collection Marx Tin Toy Trains; 286 individual pieces plus 12 boxed sets; Pre and Post war; 65+ engines; some duplicates; 10% Deluxe Plastic; 95% in good condition; 5% fully restorable. Lot (US) \$2350. Send \$1 US for lists to: Colin Chaplin, RR#1, Belleville, Ontario, K8N-4Z1.

Marx New old stock. Mystery Space Ship all original no key. repro key enclosed. 1962. \$350.00. Marx new old stock. Shop king about 1962. Battery powered toy workshop. Boxes excel +++. \$350.00. Mary Jane Carver, 305 Buford Ave., Gettysburg, PA., 17325. 717-334-6937.

WANTED

All early 6" cars, especially NYC crane, Refrigerator car and flood-light car. Regular 6" wrecker, car for #5 tank, good to excellent condition. Fred Fillers, 29009 Bandy Road, Little Rock, AR., 72211, 501-821-2026.

Deluxe Delivery 4" Truck. John Torgerson, 2712 Del Ray Ave., LaCrosse, WI., 54603. 608-783-3785.

Wanted in C6-C10 condition. 597-black sideplates. 461-blue/yellow. 551-early 6". Wm Crooks mechanical (C8). 734-MM. 941-MM. 1476-MM. 13079 (end brace only). 174580 and 44572 (no rivits). Chuck Scheltens, 1532 N. Oak, Round Lake Beach, IL., 60073. 708-546-3784.

6" FGEX refrigerator box cars; 6" Pacemaker box cars; 7" KC southern cabooses. Bob Rosenberg, 37 Turner Avenue, Edison NJ., 08820. 908-494-2164.

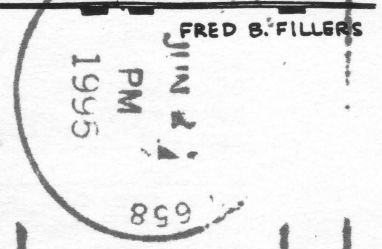
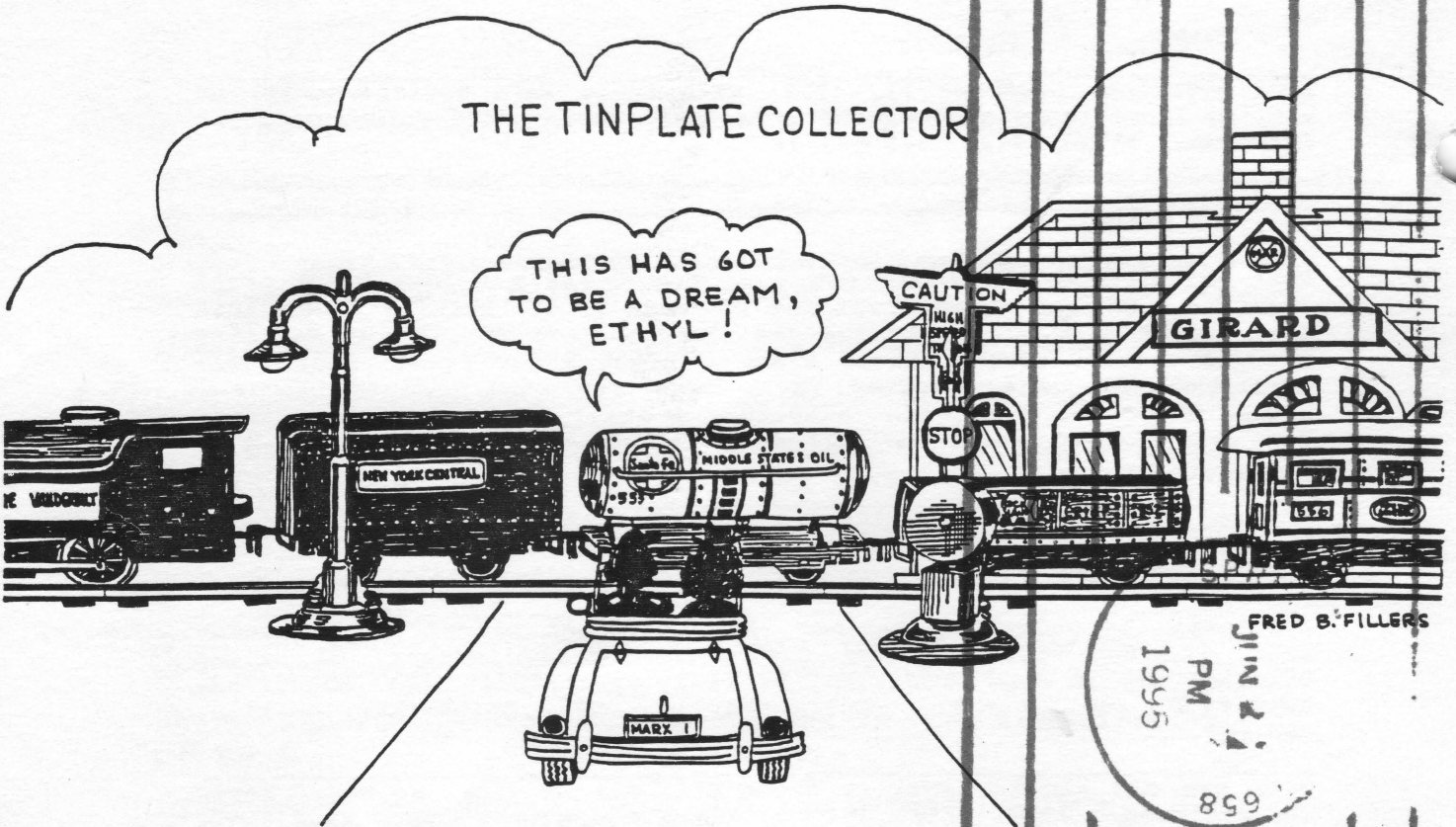
Blue trim C/P tender; wedge Army supply tender; 6" Kansas City caboose; off color olive #5 tank. Ron White, 6114 N. 129th, Litchfield Heights, Arizona, 85340. 602-935-5256.

Sell me the odd trains you pick up in your search for MARX! Especially interested in DORFAN anything. Also any early trains. Sell this stuff and buy more MARX! Richard D. Fletcher, 60 Fredonia Road, Newton, NJ. 07860. 201-579-5308.

Bogota and observation cars on black frames with T&S couplers (prefer illuminated). #552 red with black detail. #556 8-wheel with automatic couplers. VG or better. Dan Schmatz, 238 E. Lawrence, Royal Oak, MI., 48073.

BAR State of Maine 6" car, ex., in one of the following numbers--4485, 86, 87, 89, 96, 97, 98, 99, 4500. Jim Tucker, 490 Valroy Ct., San Jose, CA., 95123-4949. 408-972-2420.

THE TINPLATE COLLECTOR

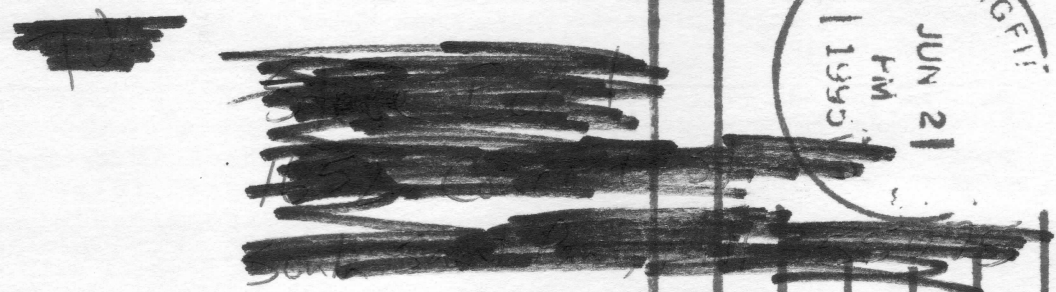


From  
**LOUIS MARX & COMPANY**  
 GIRARD, PA.  
 16417

COLLECTING WITH MARX  
 P.O. BOX 614  
 SPRINGFIELD, MO 65801-0614



**FIRST CLASS**



**FIRST CLASS**