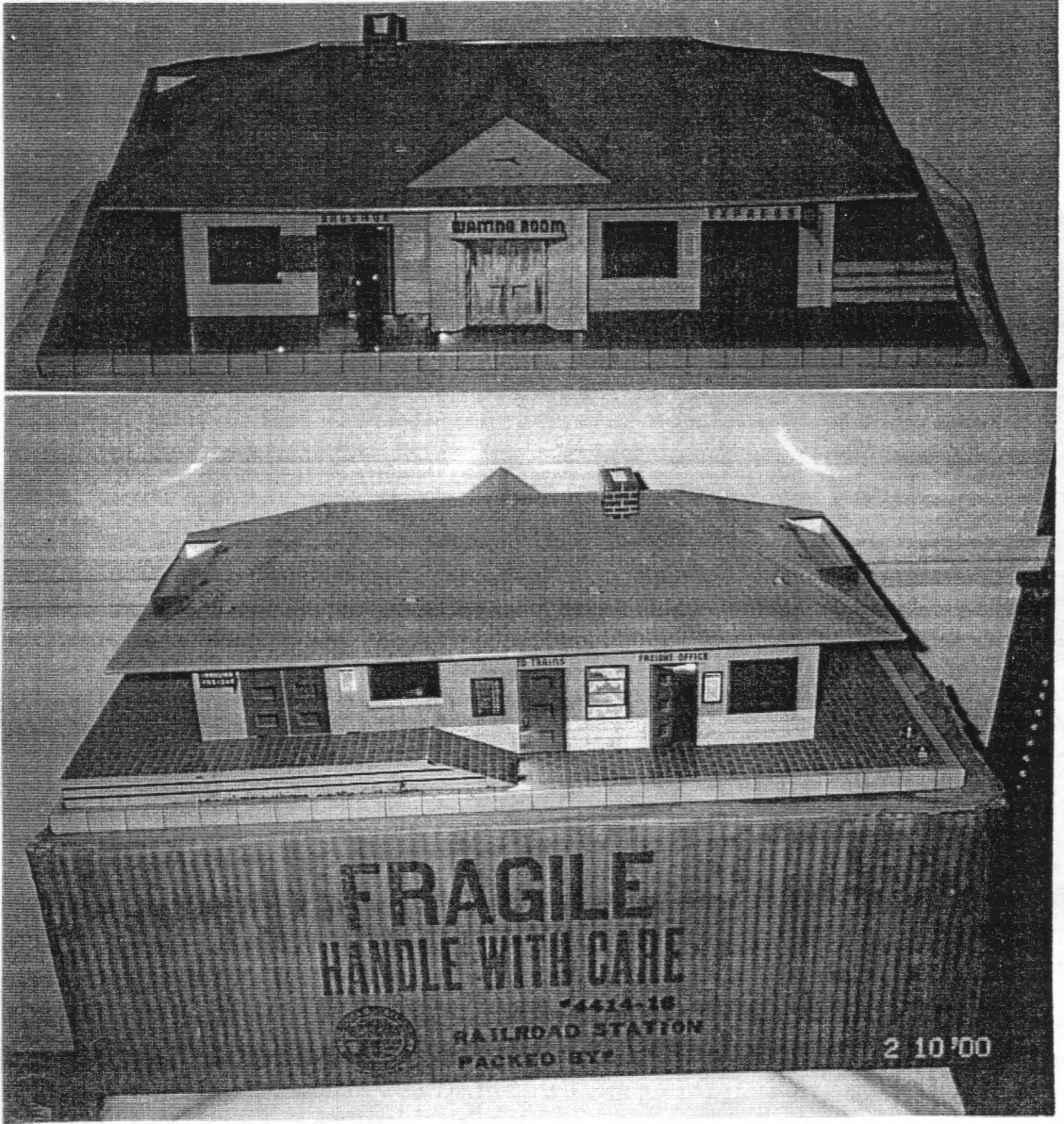


COLLECTING WITH
MAIRX

Issue 33

February



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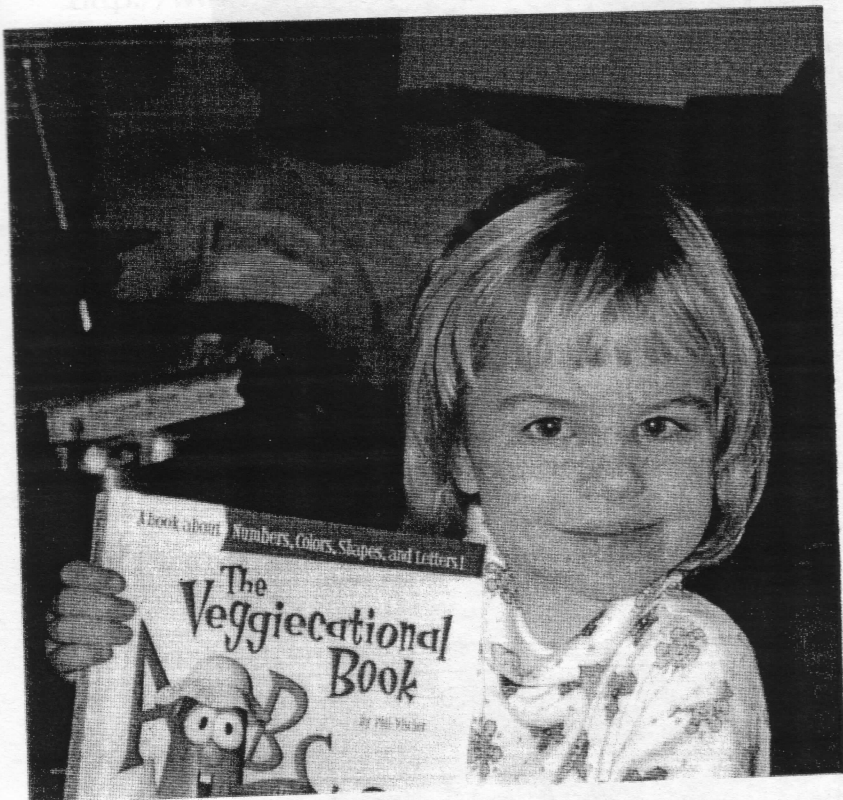
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Here are Louis and Lauren in the snow. We haven't had the weather that many of you have had. This was a very mild winter for us.

It's my sincere hope that all of you had a great new years and that health and all of life's best will follow you into this next year. Looking back over the last 1000 years of history in this world we can't really even imagine how far we as a humanity

have come. To me looking back over the past 100 years we see industry, technology and our everyday life change drastically. So where will the next 100 years take us? I know that Marx trains and toys took up much of the past century and the era of innocence is what draws my interest to this arena. In my opinion there hasn't been a toy story or toy company as unique and interesting as the Louis Marx toy company story.

Lately it has been my privilege to be able to purchase a neat little Linemar license plate dated 1959 (the year of my birth) mounted to it's original store display card. I thought it a bargain price of only \$15.50. I'm bidding on a few things on the internet and it is very difficult to buy anything on there because money is no object for this world wide audience.

I am watching a video that was made for me by Gary Anderson while I am writing this and it makes me think of a video Richard MacNary made a few years ago. On Richard's video he asks if there is anyone watching his video that would be willing to make a trade for a car he needed to please contact him. Well I want to do one of those ads right here. I have an English Coronation engine in very nice condition that I want to trade for either a green JoyLine engine or a red tender that goes with red engine and long red coaches with cream tops. You can reach me at 1-417-725-red coaches with cream tops. You can reach me at 1-417-866-1068 or e-mail at louismarx@worldnet.att.net or you can send a fax to above telephone number or write to me at Marx Claussen, 7475 E. St. Hwy YY, Springfield, MO 65802.

I want to announce that we have a new feature in the next issue of "Collecting With Marx" and we are going to have a regular feature by one of the Marx communities most knowledgeable collectors Allan Miller. Each issue Allan will be sharing what ever he feels we as a community need to see. Allan has a wealth of information available to him in various forms and has studied and enjoyed the hobby for many years while still one of the youngest Marx collectors with a collection surpassing most in quantity and quality. So please respond to what Allan writes and let us know what you think about what he thinks.

I want to encourage those of you who have nice collections to consider doing a regular feature or at least a feature every once in a while. There are so many people in our community who want to gain knowledge about Marx toys and trains. It is evidenced by the prices that are being paid for the Marx books being sold on the internet. As obsolete and as incorrect and as limited as they are we thank the authors of these books and encourage new ones because they are all we have.

It is strictly a pleasure to be able to share with you what is shared with me from issue to issue. I will possibly be at a toy and train show in Timonium, Maryland on March 18th. If you are going to be there please let me know and I will make arrangements to meet with you. For now please keep in touch and please let us know what you are finding.

Marx

Here's A Common Station-Well Maybe Not

This is another excellent, boxed, lighted number 4414-18 Glendale station. Well, yes you do see several Glendale stations at shows and train auctions etc. I think if the average Marx collector wants a Glendale station in his collection he can find one. One of the first Marx items I owned was a Glendale station and it baffled me at first because it does not have the Marx logo displayed on it. I knew however from one of the little Marx catalogues from the early 1950's where I had seen a picture of the Glendale station that it was a Marx piece. It was larger than I had thought it was because the picture gave no indication of size.

While the Glendale station itself may be a very common Marx accessory, the Glendale station that has a voice box with a crank is not quite as common. There is a voice box that announces "all aboard" and calls a list of cities. The voice box many times is there but doesn't work which is of no value at all. This is a very fun addition to a Marx layout because it is the closest thing to a modern electronic train station call for boarding the train that Marx trains ever had. I think what happened to most that don't work is that the heat of an attic melted the recording or since the casement holding the recording is plastic they simply cracked or chipped or maybe even scratched. Water and moisture couldn't do them any good either.

Well the one I really wanted to talk about is the lighted version. This to me is the hardest one to find. Everything is the same except the lighted version might be called the deluxe model. There are two posts to which power is attached and a bulb inside that really makes this station look nice. In my opinion this station is the best looking station to actually use with a Marx layout. It is closer to an appropriate scale and looks great with the trains.

Just for fun watch for the next Glendale station you see and see which one it is and how clean it is. I bought this extremely clean one at York about ten years ago for \$30.00. It was at what was called the Billy Bud or the Holiday Inn where pre-TCA festivities all began.

Today you could expect to pay as much as \$75.00 to \$150.00 for an excellent example in it's original box and possibly more. This station is shown in original catalogues with a group of plastic freight station accessories. These accessories are the ones that have wheels that are part of the molding and don't move. There is a 2-wheeler, a luggage cart etc. and a set of the little cream colored people in poses appropriate for a freight station.

What great fun this set must have been for an eight-year-old on Christmas morning in 1953. Forget that fun, how about the fun a 41-year-old has playing with it today. The neatest thing is to turn off all the lights and run a passenger set around the layout with the street lights on and the station light glowing. And people want to know why a grown man plays with trains.

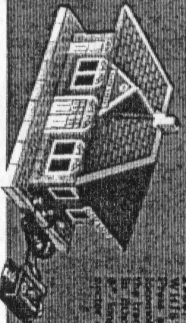
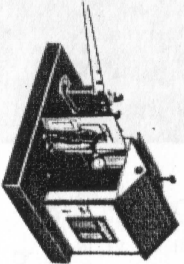


Hello, Fellow Railroader... We are happy to present you with a copy of our catalog of Louis Marx Company Train Accessories. You will find they are priced so low that you can build a bigger and better system year after year.

The modern railroads have kept pace with the latest developments in design and operation. Our Electric train accessories up-to-the-minute — they are very with the latest authentic — so critical railroads. Yet, they are very with the latest authentic — so critical railroads. Yet, they are very the best informed and most completely foolproof that youngsters simple . . . and so completely foolproof that youngsters and parents alike can operate them with full confidence. Your dealer will be happy to demonstrate any of the interesting and exciting accessories in this catalog.

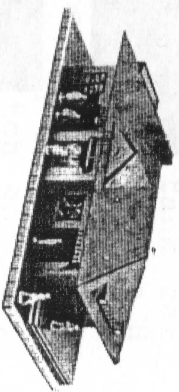
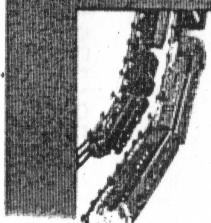
Sincerely,
GEORGE C. DESLER,
Sales Manager

**1440: AUTOMATIC
NAIL MAN.**
Promotes the crossing, site
man appears waving a stop-
sign. Motorized, runs on
with gate lowered 1 1/2".
All metal. Internally lighted.
Plastic grade crossing and
set included.

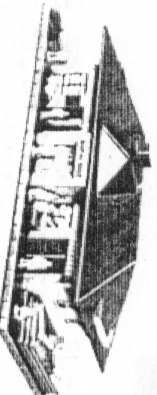
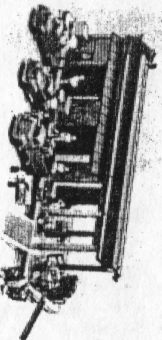


4411. RAILROAD STATION.
Beautifully lithographed with plastic
figures. Measures 10 1/2" long, 2 5/8"
wide, 6 1/2" high. \$2.50

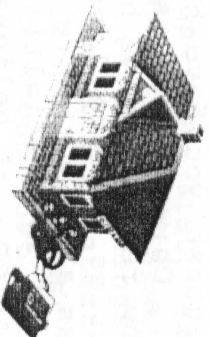
**1444: REMOTE CONTROL
WHISTLING STATION**
Press a button, locomotive whistles as it speeds around track.
Mechanism enclosed in lithographed steel station.
Long. Control panel, connector and wires included.



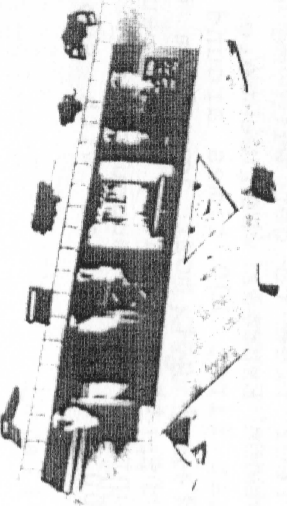
**1444. RAILROAD FREIGHT TRUCKING
STATION.** Beautifully lithographed with
plastic trucks, figures and accessories. Meas-
ures 28 3/4" long, 11" wide, 8" high. \$5.00



4412. RAILROAD STATION. Beautifully litho-
graphed. Complete with plastic figures in
action poses. Measures 20 1/2" long, 10" wide
and 6 1/2" high. \$2.50



2909—REMOTE CONTROL WHISTLING STATION. Press
a button, locomotive whistles as it speeds around track.
Mechanism enclosed in lithographed steel station.
Long. Control panel, connector and wires included.
\$2.90

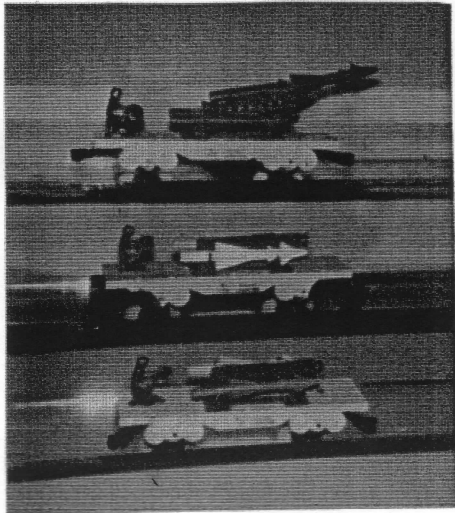
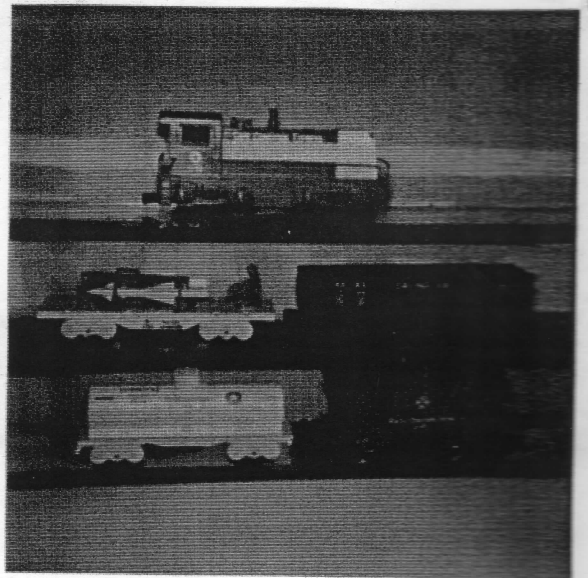
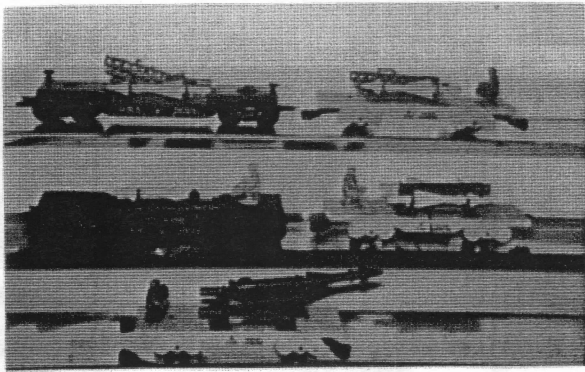


4411—RAILROAD STATION WITH VOICE BOX. The station
is authentically lithographed outside to depict Waiting
Room, Baggage and Express Rooms and Freight Office.
At each end of the roof is a station sign and running
alongside the Freight Office is a raised loading platform
with ramp. Steps lead from the loading platform to the
front of the station. Also included six flexible three-
dimensional plastic figures including passenger porter
and railroad workers. A special feature, a voice box on
the station's roof, hand cranks to emit familiar station
calls and sounds. 20 1/2" long, 10 7/8" wide, 6 1/2" high.
\$4.00

1958 with crank.

1955

1952



For Sale Marx Collection--Send LSASE for list to Marc Preston,
3017 W. Euclid, Spokane, WA 99205-2224. No calls please.

I received my first issue of Collecting With Marx and thoroughly enjoyed it. I had the Honeymoon Express when I was a kid, but I guess you have heard that so many times that you are tired of it. Oh well, it was a very memorable piece.

I am now retired and I have a small business repairing trains and accessories. Have been doing it since my father got me interested as a child. I've only been doing it for 40 years now. Marx is one of my specialties. I am interested in advertising in your publication. I believe that I can deliver a camera ready copy for you use. Also, could you please give me some idea on your circulation numbers?
Robert Barth

Bob, I am very happy that you enjoyed the magazine and hope that you can use it. Please feel free to get with me about it. It seems many of us had a Honeymoon Express when we were young and I guess they were a thrill that first 100 times around but they sure were boring after a while. I get most joy from them just looking at them and displaying them. They have such great lithograph. Circulation counting the museums and overseas mailings fluctuates around 300. It varies with subscription renewal. Thanks for writing.

Found some more interesting trains to add to my collection. First is a Japanese set which is identical to the 3/16 scale sets. Set includes a #301 cast steamengine (2-6-2), a black Hudson and Pacific wedge type tender, an H and P yellow pegasus tank car #752, an H and P gray and red pacemaker boxcar #174520, and an H and P gray gondola #153000, and an H and P yellow and olive drab caboose #201570. Are there any other cars out there?

Another good find was some Mexican Marx identical to the four wheel plastic cars. Included were two GE-70 ton switch engines, blue with yellow front. One has no number and one has #51010 on the side of the cab, a gray tank car, a white stock car, a blue box car, and a black caboose with Rock Island on the sides. All are in excellent shape and have black trucks and plastic wheels.

Also found a #572ST olive drab tank, a Sears trailer, two Allstate trailers, a dark blue Chrysler airflow sedan, a #416 yellow floodlight tower, a red #20053 seaboard boxcar and two four wheel plastic dump cars, one blue and one black. Also picked up some 034 switches for the layout I'm building.

My finds seem to come in spurts, but the Marx is still out there and the prices aren't bad. It helps to have connections with other Marx collectors. Try to make it to York and come to the show and tell on Thursday night and see some of my finds. Happy hunting!

Ray Cox

Ray, It is always good to hear from you. WOW, what a lot of finds! Both colors of the plastic side dump? It took me years to collect both of those. Don't you love those trailers? They are some of my favorite Marx things and they actually got me into collecting the small vehicles from early pressed steel, to fifties tin both Marx and Linemar and overlapping into the fifties and sixties plastic. However not on most lists as the best Marx collectibles going the Plastimarx plastic is a lot of fun to collect. Also one of the most favorite things to collect are those pressed steel vehicles and one of the cutest is the Airflow. I also find things come in spurts and that just seems to be the way Marx collecting goes. Now Ray about that set made in Japan. It is my understanding that this lot of trains has absolutely nothing to do with Marx. These are some trains that were made in Japan that are nicely done and fun to have in your collection but are in no way affiliated with the Louis Marx company. If anybody can substantiate pro or con.

2nd Annual Marx Toy & Train Collectors Convention! June 16 & 17, 2000 in Wheeling, West Virginia! For more information & registration packet, send SASE to:

Kruger Street Toy & Train Museum
144 Kruger Street
Wheeling, WV 26003

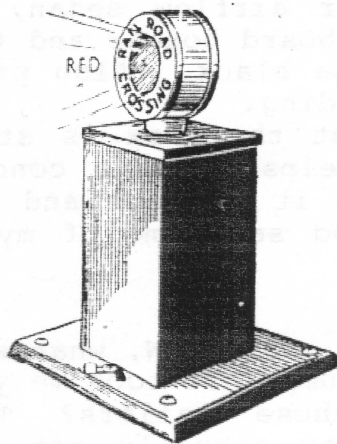
Or call 1-304-242-8133



MARX AUTOMATIC FL

LOUIS MARX & COMPANY, 20

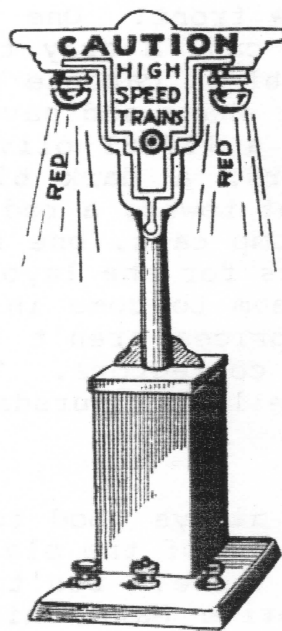
*Note—All these accessories will oper



No. 407—Automatic Flashing Signal

Measures $4\frac{5}{8}$ " high, square base measuring $2\frac{3}{4}$ ". When train runs by, it causes light to flash on and off.

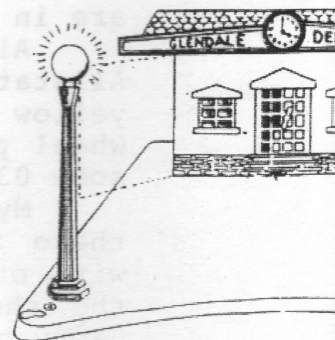
Price, \$1.00



No. 409—Automatic Crossing Blinker

Measures $7\frac{1}{2}$ " high. Base diameter $2\frac{3}{4}$ ". Heavy gauge construction. New Twin Light Blinker. As train approaches lights automatically blink on and off, having same effect as real railroad signal seen at high speed crossings.

Price, \$1.00



No. 2900—Aut

Heavy gauge base measu and detailed Railroad Dep equipped with stream-line ing gate arm attachment lowering and raising the caution light at the cross Station open.

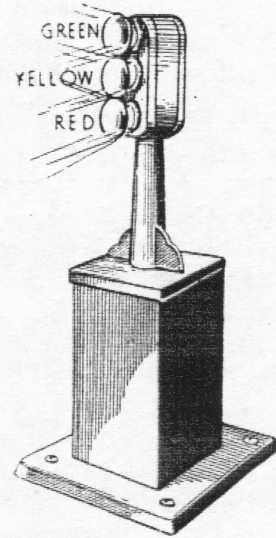
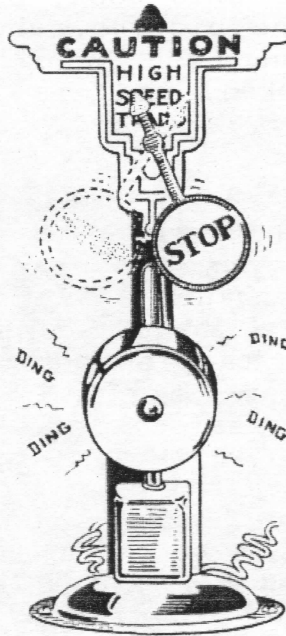
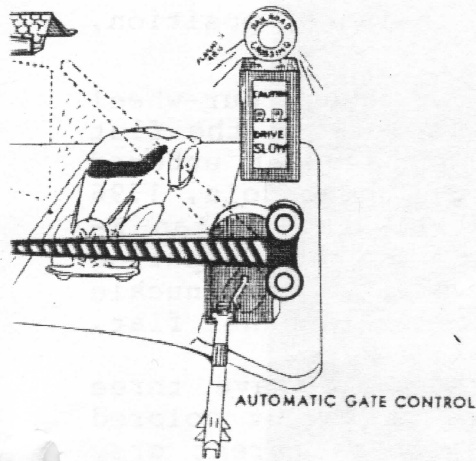
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Price, \$1.50

No. 417—Automatic Bell Signal

Measures 7 1/2" high, 3 1/2" wide, with a diameter of base 2 3/4". Equipped with a swinging arm. Bell rings and arm swings when train approaches crossing.

Price, \$1.50

No. 405—Automatic Block Signal

Measures 6 5/8" high with square base measuring 2 3/4". Stops train when signal light is turned red, train runs slow when signal light is turned to amber and train will run at normal speed when the signal light is turned to green.

Price, \$1.00

1/2" BS, LEAD WIRES AND TRACK CONNECTORS

Today I want to look at the number 1796 ROCKET LAUNCHER....A month or so ago, I was attending a train show (and that's fun) when, behold, there was this flat with red launcher--and more. Located on the launcher was an actual red, tube-type spring loaded launcher for rockets. Now, I have four of these flats (not all of them are white), or four-wheel launchers; plus several eight-wheel varieties--most of them with broken launchers. But only this one at that train show had an actual launcher tube. Well, it's mine now! Looking at the SETS book, page 107, a Cape Canaveral set is shown and under the picture, the caption reads "and the 1796 rocket launcher in uncommon "unbroken" condition." If that one is uncommon and unbroken, what is this one I've purchased? Here is one that could and does hold a rocket in launch position, as shown in the picture.

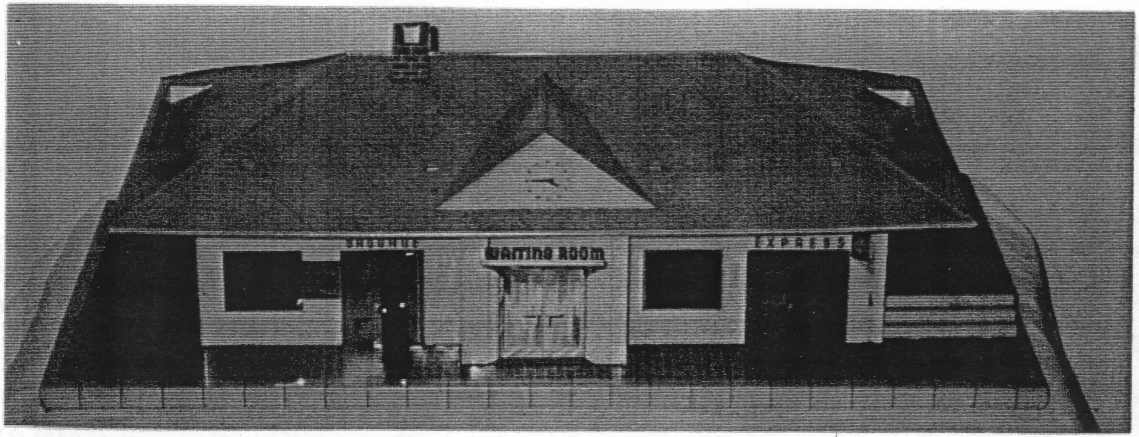
Further, there are some differences in the four-wheel launcher cars I have. I have three different colors in the flat itself. They are white, cream, and tan. I purchased an unboxed Cape Canaveral set (1798 engine, 1799 U.S.A.X. blue gondola, 1796 tan rocket launcher (with a turquoise original figure), a tan X-246 Chemical Rocket Fuel tanker, and an X467 Rocket Computing Center caboose). The cars are all four-wheel with knuckle couplers. I also have a cream colored 1796 rocket launcher flat, and two 1796 flats that are white.

Just to throw another "mix" into the issue: I have three rocket launchers with three, or parts of three, different colored original flag men. And this does not include two different grey reproduction men. I have the U.S.A. 2824 drop center OD rocket launcher that had an OD man. The figure has been broken off, but the base and one foot remain. Then there is the turquoise man noted above, and the blue man that appears on the white launcher flat.

I also have the U.S.A. 2824 drop center flat, though in incomplete or broken launcher condition, with both the type G and type F trucks.

Duane Ford

Duane in all of my collecting days these pieces have been extremely difficult to obtain in perfect, unplayed with condition. Which is exactly the way you had to find them to get them complete. All of the ones that I have that are in perfect condition were purchased by me in the original boxes and had very little appearance of having ever been played with. I am positive that they are all very easily broken and if played with a very little bit there is a good chance of them being broken. One of my favorite sets in the plastic line is the big combination playset-trainset. I have seen very few of these with all of the pieces in nice condition. My set is a pieced together set but I believe it to be in complete excellent condition with no broken pieces. Thanks for the note and let me know what you are finding!



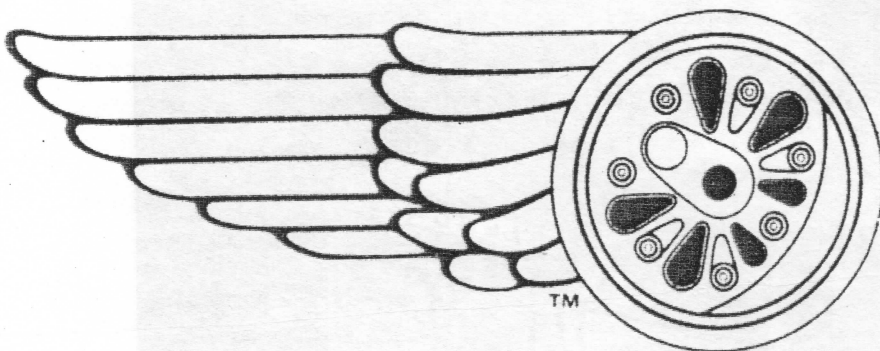
Enclosed are some pictures of a caboose which I came upon at an auction. Stayed two and a half hours to pay \$2.00 for it. The pictures were taken by Al Osterud.

In one issue could you write a few thoughts on cleaning up the old 6 inch stuff. I have some 6 inch 8-wheel which just need a little shine or sparkle to them, to help the wear marks and play wear not show so much.

I also enclose a picture of my layout. I run a 6-inch, 3/16, K-Line, trolley (from the L), and a Kusan on my 8x10.

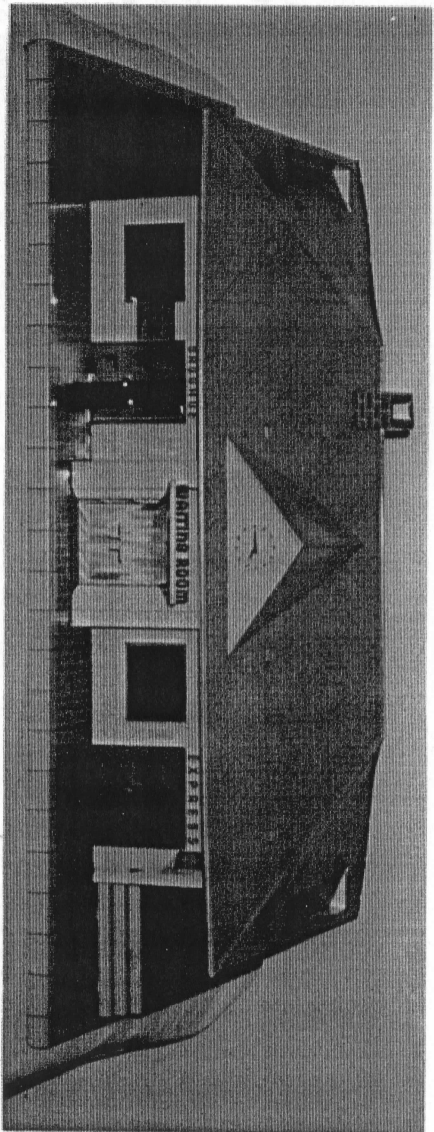
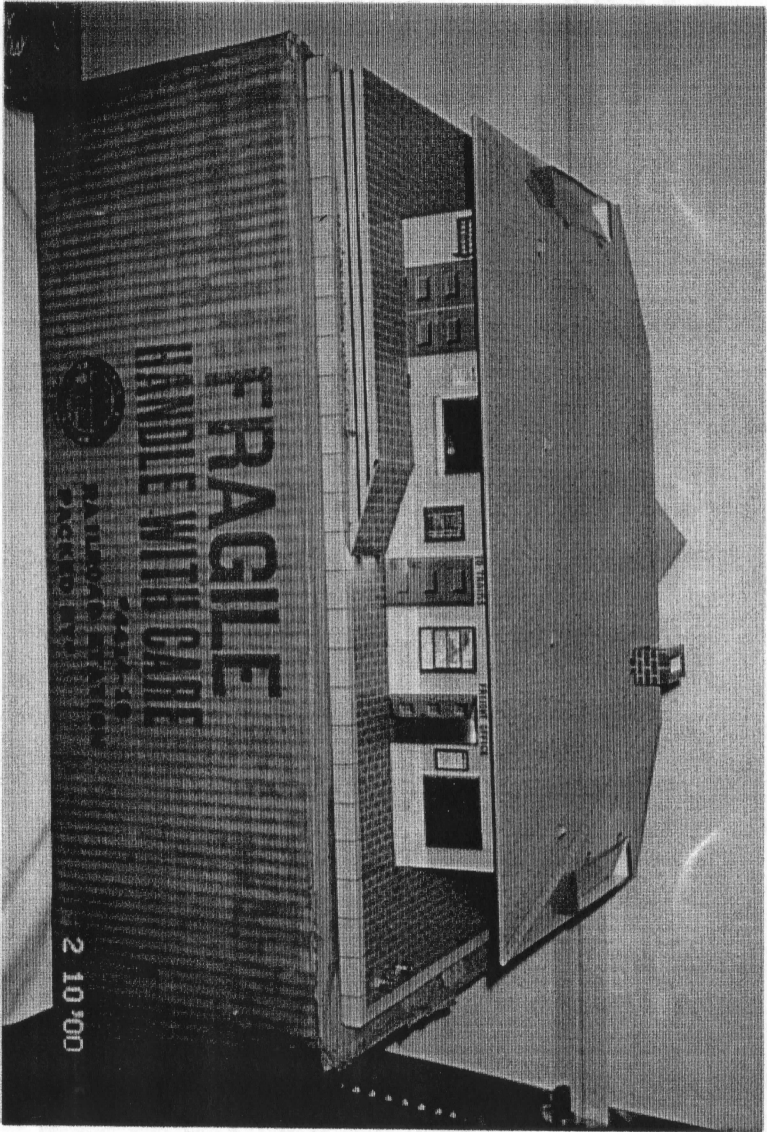
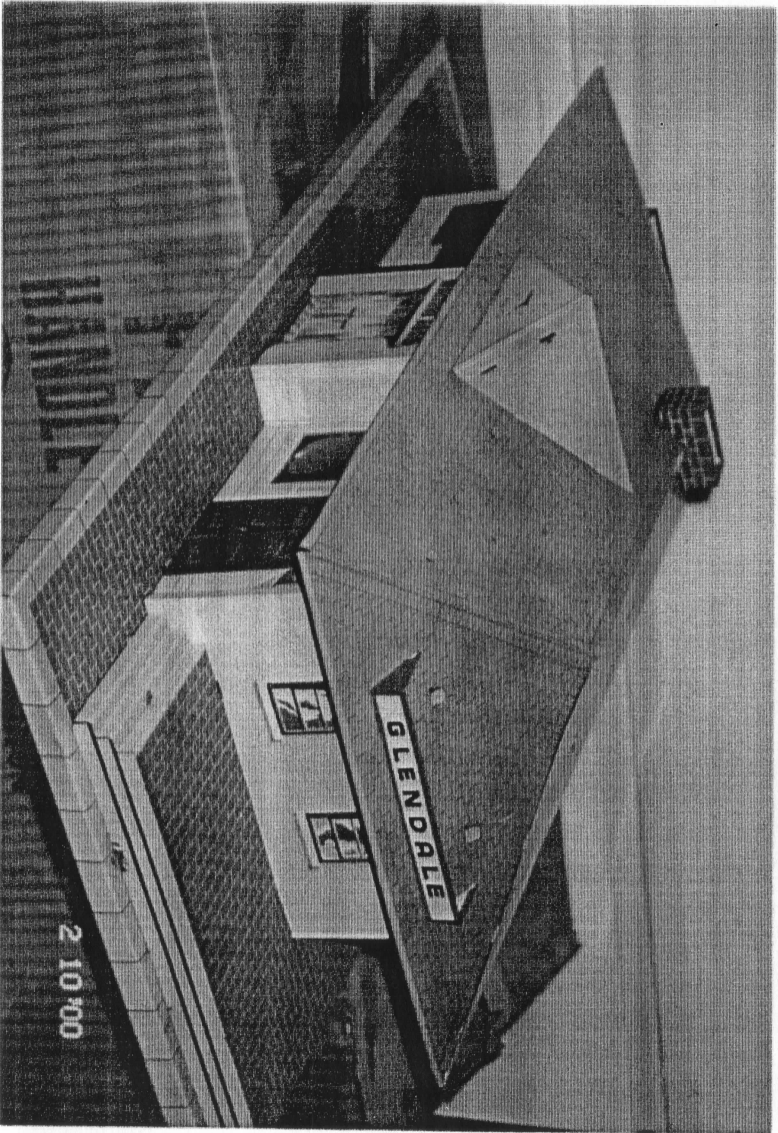
Robert R. Peterson

Robert thanks for sending the photos. I have seen this caboose a few times and the last time I saw it Larry Chernow had one he was showing. If you or the reader did not know where it came from it is out of a set that has the black plastic track and switches. The little plastic triangle on the back switches the has to do with making the train switches directionalize the train. It seems to be a piece that doesn't turn up very much. By looking at your layout I can see that you are another one of those hopeless tin lithograph fanatics. It looks like you are no discriminator of what time frame you collect from. You have some of the early stuff like the beautiful Grand Central Station and the double street lamp and you have some of the later stuff like the plastic cars and knuckle coupler State of Maine boxcars. This might be a good place to mention that I saw a desert house (on the order of size to the Station) that had three pieces of what my friend Jim Norton believes to be Tootsie Toy furniture. It looks like it to me too but haven't heard much about it. Can anyone elaborate? Thanks Robert for the pictures and keep in touch!



**The
Robert
Grossman
Company**

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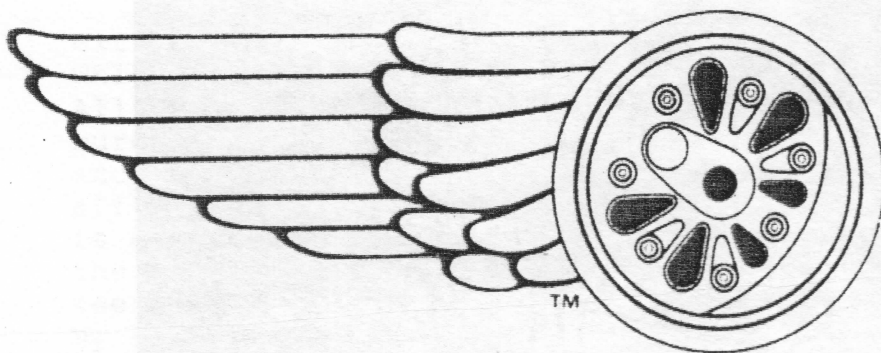
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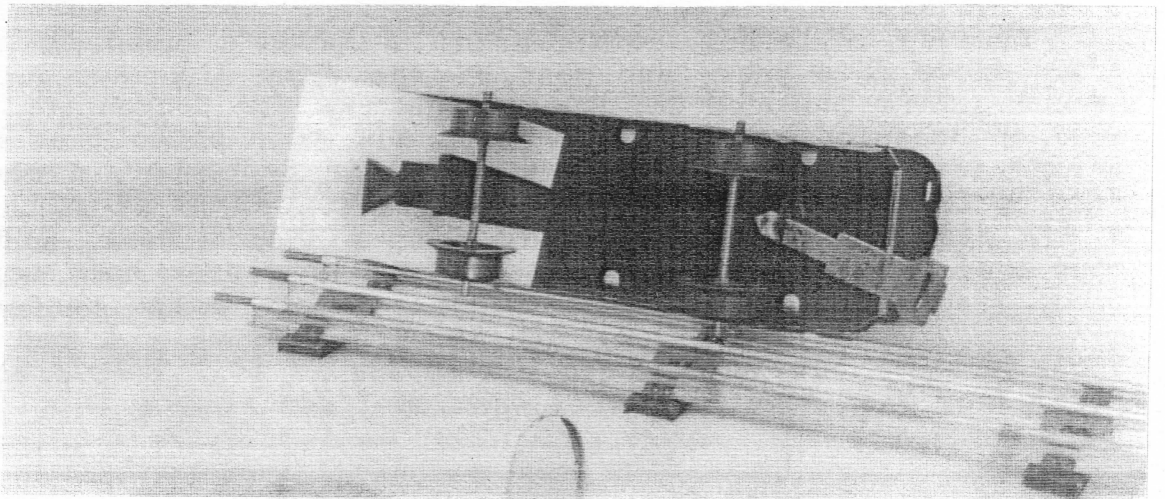
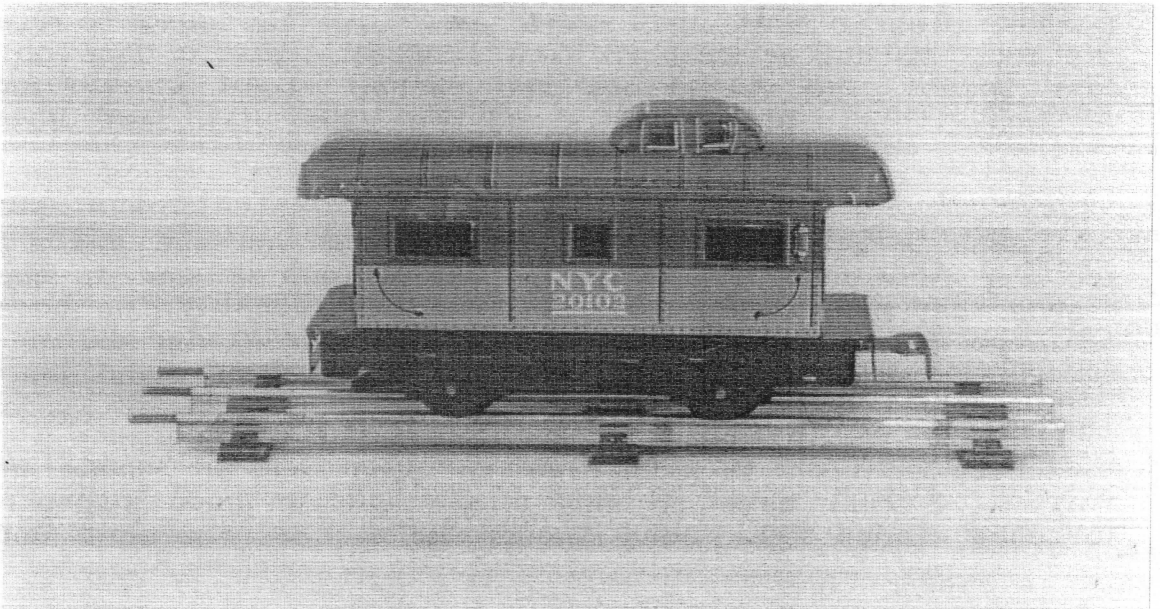
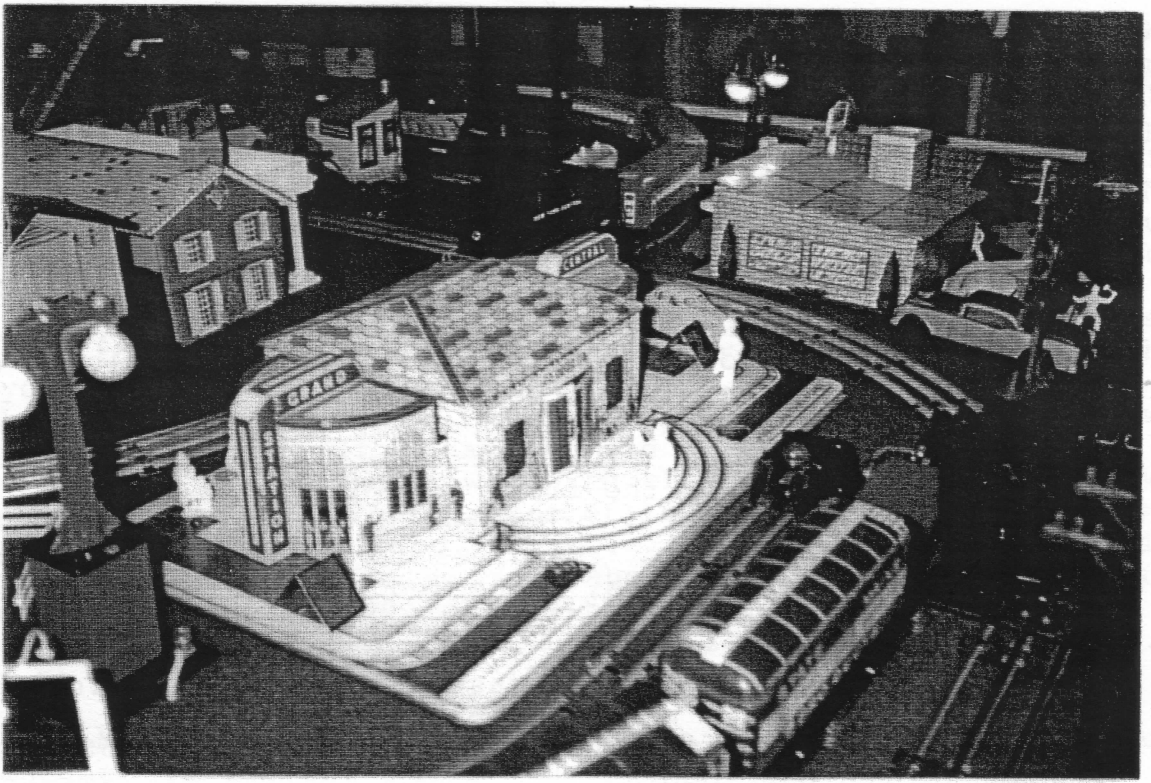
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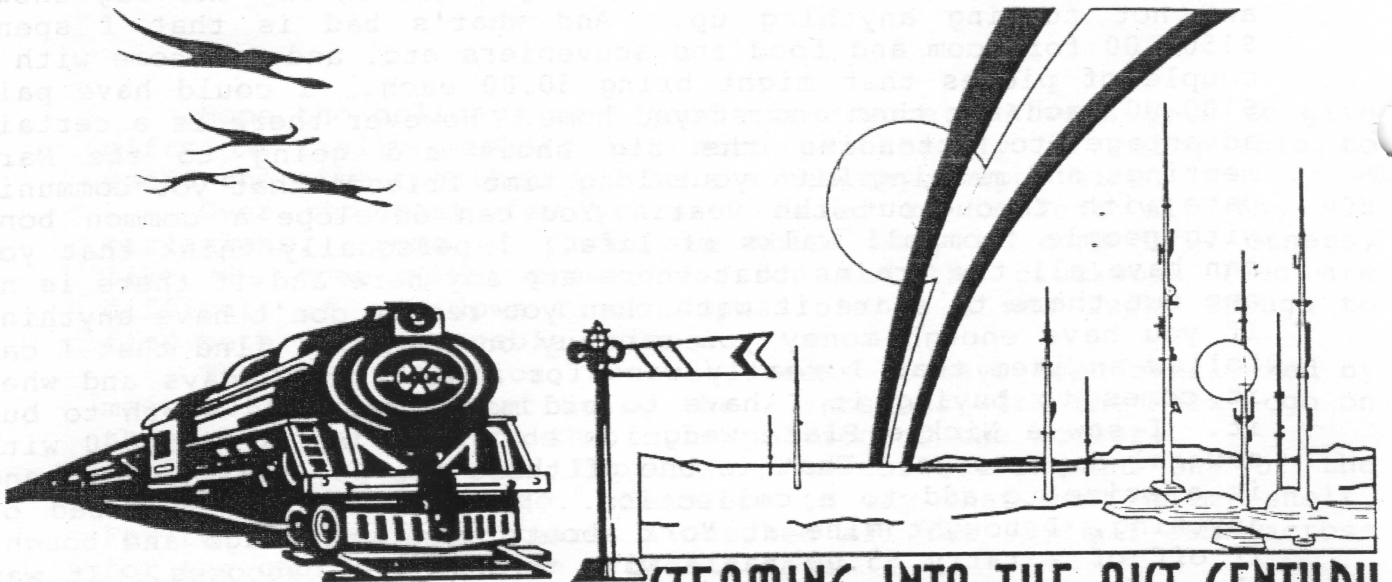
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