

Rail Exhibit to Top Celebration

Robert English

(Columbus Evening Dispatch, April 29, 1960) Plans for commemorating anniversary of arrival of the first train in Columbus 110 years ago were disclosed Friday by the Railroad Community Committee of the Columbus Area which will sponsor a million-dollar exhibition of railroad freight and passenger equipment in the downtown area.

The exhibition is planned as the kick off of National Transportation Week which will be celebrated May 15-21. It will be staged in Pennsylvania Railroad's Little Miami yard south of the Union Station on Saturday and Sunday May 14-15.

Don F. Rehl, chairman of the rail group, said every piece of freight and passenger equipment available will be exhibited, along with New York Central's jet engine snow plow which made its debut during the past winter.

A century-old antique business car will be loaned by the Pittsburgh and West Virginia Railway for the occasion.



Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad No. 377 was the center of attention at the 1960 reenactment of the 1850 first train to Columbus. In this photo No. 377 is shown retired at the B&O Railroad Museum in Baltimore. Photo from the Dave Henderson Collection.

1850 DAY RECALLED

Reenact Arrival of First Train

(Columbus Evening Dispatch, May 8, 1960) Arrival in Columbus of the first train 110 years ago will be re-enacted Friday with a 19th Century locomotive and a 100-year-old business car.

Welcoming the train will be “officials” clad in 1850 costume. Aboard will be railroad officials and others similarly costumed.

THE OCCASION marks the observance here of National Transportation week – May 15-21 – and opening to the public Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m., of a \$1 million exhibition of freight and passenger equipment.

The scene will be the Little Miami Yards of the Pennsylvania Railroad, immediately south of Union Station at Naghten and High Sts., where the old Chesapeake & Ohio locomotive and the antique car, borrowed from the Pittsburgh and West Virginia Railway will be displayed.

The old locomotive and car will crash through a huge paper sign within a few feet of the actual first railroad passenger terminal.

THE LITTLE Miami Yards of the Pennsylvania Railroad are named for the Little Miami Railroad which absorbed the Columbus and Xenia Railroad, first railroad to serve Columbus.

Railroad and other dignitaries made the first trip from Columbus to Xenia aboard a train which left Feb. 21, 1850, on a trial run. The speed averaged 18 miles an hour. After a night in Xenia, they returned the next afternoon in two passenger cars drawn by a new locomotive named “Washington.”

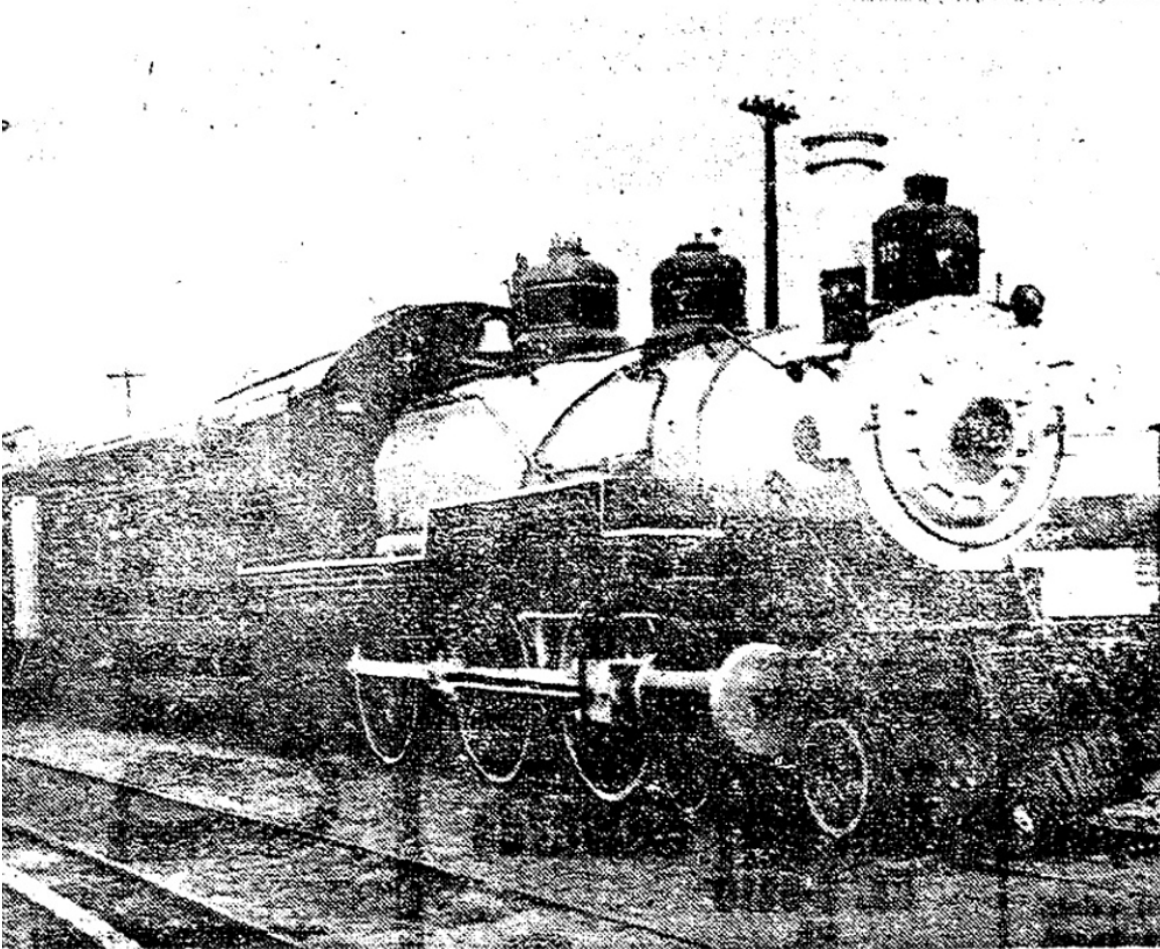
Observance here of the anniversary is sponsored by the Railroad Community of the Columbus Area of which Don F. Rehl of the New York Central System is chairman.

Victor Ketcham’s video of the 110-year anniversary celebration at Columbus Union Station on May 13, 1960.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ME3GPya_7kM

The 110-year anniversary celebration starts at **51:30**.

MARK ARRIVAL OF FIRST TRAIN IN COLUMBUS



(Columbus Evening Dispatch, May 13, 1960) An 1890 steam locomotive of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway and an antique business car of the Pittsburgh and West Virginia Railway re-enacted Friday the arrival in Columbus 110 years ago of the first train. Both are part of a \$1 million exhibit of modern railroad equipment on display in the Little Miami yards of the Pennsylvania Railroad immediately south of Union Station. Hours for public inspection are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 1 and 5 p.m. Sunday. The Railroad community of the Columbus Area is sponsoring the event.

WELCOME ANCIENT TRAIN



(Columbus Evening Dispatch, May 14, 1960) Dressed in garb of a century ago, two score "passengers from Xenia" rode into Columbus Friday on an antique car pulled by an 1890 locomotive, opening an exhibit of modern railroad equipment which will be open to the public south of Union Station Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. Among those who greeted the "train" representative of the first in 1850 were John W. Bricker, left, former U.S. senator, and Kyle C. Sult, 3710 Kirkwood Rd., terminal trainmaster for the Norfolk & Western Railway, who climbed on front of the locomotive. The event is sponsored by the Railroad Community of Columbus as a part of National Transportation Week observance.