

S. R. U. B. L. U. K.

Society for the Reinvigoration of Unremunerative Branch Lines
in the United Kingdom

BRANCH LINE REINVIGORATION SOCIETY

Progress Report - June, 1958.

The Annual General Meeting Took place as already notified on 19 April, 1958, at 3 p.m., and as in the previous year, it was disappointing that not more members had been able to attend, in view of its being arranged for a Saturday, to help those members who live out of London.

The Secretary in his report referred to increased activities during the past year in every way, and that although the membership was down, no active member had resigned. It was announced that the proposed merger of S.R.U.B.L.U.K. and the Railway Development Association did not mature, as it was found impossible to agree on a formula acceptable to both parties, and S.R.U.B.L.U.K.'s representatives did not feel justified on behalf of the members agreeing to terms which would have meant the complete loss of S.R.U.B.L.U.K.'s identity as such. The two Societies still liaise, however, on matters of common interest.

The last Public Meeting was much better attended than the previous one, and we had speakers from both the Festiniog Railway and from the R.D.A.; both the addresses were interesting and much appreciated.

This year's Reinvigoration Party was most successful, and we received much valuable publicity, not only on the Lewes - East Grinstead Line, but also through the medium of the Television appearances.

Mr. Mair has done invaluable work in connection with the proposed Ashburton-Totnes line closure. We are much indebted for a wealth of technical advice to Mr. Hurst in this connection, and for his invaluable assistance in other ways during the year. The case that the Society presented for the retention of this line was one of the most convincing ever made by the Society, and it caught Western Region completely unawares at the preliminary enquiry.

The matter of a new President is being adjourned sine die, as we appear to be progressing quite favourably without one.

The Accounts and the Treasurer's Report are attached.

The Membership Secretary gave a resume of the trend of membership during the past year, and of the reasons where ascertainable, for those who have resigned.

Messrs. Wright and Bluett (The North-Eastern Committee) then gave their report, and stated that the area consisted largely of lines that were already closed, and therefore it was a question of selecting one or two which seemed to offer the best chances of a successful re-opening campaign. The Weardale and Rothbury Lines have accordingly been selected. Much spade work has been done, and proposals have been placed before the authorities, including timetables. It is hoped to present the full case early in 1959.

A discussion took place between Mr. Trinder of the London and Home Counties Electric Traction Society, and S.R.U.B.L.U.K. regarding liaison between the two Societies, but it was agreed that in view of the differing aims, it was difficult to apply closer integration.

The New Committee is as under:-

Chairman - Mr. G.F. Manley, 42 Hillsborough Court, London, N.W.6.
Secretary - Mr. E.V. Davis, until approximately October, 1958;
117, Byron Avenue, Cranford, Hounslow, Middx.

Mr. W.G. Falchikov, from approximately October, 1958, the date of which will be announced in a subsequent circular -

47, Valley Road, Welwyn Garden City, Herts.

Treasurer - Mr. P.E. Postgate, 173, Barnsbury Road, London, N.1.

Publicity Officer - Mr. E.V. Davis, as above.

Membership Secretary - K.G. Judd, 68, Mayfield Avenue, Orpington, Kent.

Other Members of the Committee:-

Mr. David Freeman, 24, The Avenue, Loughton, Essex.

Mr. Geoffrey R. Hooper, 124, Queen's Road, Buckhurst Hill, Essex.

Mr. Adam Kendon, Balliol College, Oxford.

Mr. N.J. Watt, Watt's Folly, Arkesden, Saffron Walden, Essex.

Miss Elizabeth A. Paul, The Thatched Cottage, Great Henny, Sudbury, Suffolk.

Owing to an increase in the work of the Society a further member of the Committee would be welcomed, and any member of the Society living in or near London who is able to attend monthly meetings and is able to take over certain matters on hand should communicate with the Membership Secretary.

**ATTEND MALDON
BRAINTREE
REINIG, PARK.**

E.V. DAVIS
Secretary.

**SATURDAY
23 AUGUST**

**CHEAP FARES
WRITE TO
SECRETARY**