

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, 1 NOVEMBER, 1957

S.R.U.B.L.U.K. was in the news again in the May 15th issue of "Punch" when an extract from a recent progress report was quoted in an article about the Festiniog Railway. Also, during September, the "Evening News" ran a paragraph in connection with the Society's investigation into the patronage of Turvey (Beds.) Station. Our affiliated Society, the Northern Ireland Branch Railways Society attracted considerable press notice in the Irish Newspapers in their recent publicity campaign.

There has been a steady trickle of new members joining during the year amongst whom the most noteworthy was Brixham Urban District Council. So long as too many people do not fail to renew their membership at the end of the year, S.R.U.B.L.U.K. should start 1958 in a much healthier condition than it started this year. The raising of the subscription, though meeting with considerable opposition when first mooted, has proved, in the event, to have been a most successful move. It has, in fact, "re-invigorated" S.R.U.B.L.U.K! In this context, it is hoped that the sale of Christmas Cards, of which further details follow, and the attendance at our next Public Meeting in February will both meet with a good response. The Society's need for funds grows as its activities extend, and postage charges in particular, which are our main expense, have, as members will know, recently been raised.

Relations with R.D.A. and the Branch Line Society are excellent at the moment, and the close co-operation existing amongst us is proving beneficial to all concerned. Unfortunately, the attempt, authorised by the A.G.M. to form a merger between S.R.U.B.L.U.K. and the R.D.A. seems to have fallen through, but negotiations are now in progress to form a Joint Council of the two Societies to co-ordinate their work and prevent wasteful duplication of effort.

Although the Branch Line Society is primarily a study group, and does not agitate for retention of lines, they provide us with much valuable data; and their Secretary, Mr. I. Hurst, attends our Committee meetings in an advisory capacity, for which we are under a considerable obligation to him.

P.T.O.

I am closing this Progress Report with a list of Branch Lines on which the Society is at present working, together with the name of the Committee Member responsible, to whom any relevant correspondence should be addressed.

Hull - South Howden	Mr. Manley
Churston - Brixham	Mr. Manley
Bedford - Northampton	Mr. Freeman
Wensleydale,	Mr. Freeman
Beccles - Yarmouth	Mr. Freeman
Buntingford - St. Margarets	Mr. Freeman
Mildenhall - Cambridge	Mr. Watt
Ashburton - Totnes	Mr. Kendon
Arbroath - Forfar - Dundee	Mr. Mair
Alton - Winchester	The Secretary

In addition, a provincial member, Mr. Mark Wright, of Caffinites, Durham School, Durham City, is dealing with the Weardale and Rothbury Branches from Bishop Auckland, and the Loftus - Whitby line.

E.V. DAVIS
Honorary Secretary.

CHRISTMAS CARDS, 1957

We are selling Christmas Cards again this year. They will be the same as last year - M. & G. N. Tank Engine and train printed in red on a pale blue background. We have a large number left over from last year, and they will be 4d each, with postage free on orders of 1 dozen or more. Send orders as early as possible to:-

N.J. WATT, ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

An order form is given at the foot of this circular.