

Water
Under the Bridge

July-August 1987

\$3.00

GARDEN RAILWAYS



Flagman's Box Editorial

Scratchbuilding

Scratchbuilding - and in a somewhat lesser sense, kitbashing - rolling stock and structures is one of the most significant ways to give your railway character. The things that you build, particularly if you thought them up yourself, are unique and will not be found anywhere else. If you read the British magazines (where garden railways abound) with any regularity, you will know that just by spying a single distinctive artifact in a photograph you will recognize whose railway is featured. You've seen the same object before in other pictures, and coming across it again brings a pleasant sense of familiarity, like seeing an old friend. That's what giving our railways character is all about.

Building projects from scratch need not be difficult. If you think it must be, look at Terry Stone's article on flatcar building, and then give scratchbuilding a try.

We have printed scale rules for the five most commonly used scales in garden railways in the margins of this issue of GR. You can pick the one which best suits your needs.

To use a rule, start at the "0" point on the scale and measure scale feet to the right from the "0". To the left of the "0" are scale inches. If you have a dimen-

sion of say 5'6", set the "0" of the rule at your starting point and then slide it six scale inches to the right of that point. Then measure out five scale feet to the right, and your final measurement will be a scale 5'6". Have fun.

The Convention

Just a reminder that this will be the last Garden Railways you will receive before the Garden Railway Convention convenes in Denver. If you are planning to come please register soon. The hotel has set aside a limited number of rooms at the special rate for attendees, and that number is rapidly diminishing.

Water

You may have noticed that this issue is immersed in the subject of water for the railways. We urge you to take the plunge - dive right in and add a water feature to your line. The articles, fluidly written, are awash with good ideas; we hope for a flood of mail from you showing the results of your streams of thought. Our Authors' understanding of the subject is deep, and the articles herein were neither abridged nor watered down. It won't be difficult to keep afloat while sailing through this current topic!

Marc & Barb

Marc & Barb

Cover Photo: A mixed train running through the desert on Gary Nelson's Rock River Railroad. Turn to p. 8.

PHOTO: G. Nelson

Hotline

If you have any questions about garden railways, small scale live steam, or related topics, or if you would just like to chat, we invite you to use our **Monday Night Hotline**. Just call (303) 377-4777 between 6pm and 9pm, Mountain Time, on any Monday night. We regret that we are unable to accept collect calls.

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NOTICE: As of June 1, 1987, the 3rd Annual Garden Railway Convention is solely sponsored by the Denver Garden Railway Society. Garden Railways Magazine is no longer involved in the sponsorship of the Convention.