STATE OF THE RAILROAD

Preparatory to having company officers call on stockholders to discuss the state of the Pennsylvania Railroad, a meeting took place in Philadelphia on Wednesday under the auspices of the Financial Department.

D. C. Bevan, Vice-President---Finance, presided, and the officers heard from President J. M. Symes on major problems facing the company, from Vice-President J. F. Newell on the principal aims of the Operating Department for 1959, from Vice-President Fred Carpi on the business potential for 1959, the immediate objectives of the Sales Department, and company policy regarding the passenger business.

Vice-President J. W. Oram discussed featherbedding, employee morale and employee handling of the public and the current publicity programs of labor unions. Vice-President J. E. Frizer talked on the status of important litigation, the Transportation Act of 1958, and legislation to be sought in 1959.

Mr. Bevan reviewed thoroughly the financial situation. Vice-President J. B. Jones explained real estate policy and the status of Penn Center and Pennsylvania Station in New York. Secretary B. H. Roberts outlined procedure in making stockholder calls and related the success that had been experienced with this device.

Questions submitted by those in attendance were then answered by the appropriate officers.

0--0

Churn Elected

J. B. Churn, agent at Oak Hall, Va., has been elected president of the Rebel Group of the Pennsylvania Railroad Agents' Association.

He and the other officers named to his administration will take charge at the next meeting, February 2, details of which will be announced.

H. E. Brooks, agent at Nassawadox and Wierwood, was elected vice-president, H. A. Dodd, relief agent, secretary-treasurer and B. J. Shockley, agent at Exmore, chaplain.

The Rebel Group is undertaking a membership drive to add as many eligibles to the roll as possible.

0--0

How Unfair Can You Get

Kicking the railroad passenger service around is something of a fashion or habit, but one recent instance is about the limit.

An airline, faced with an emergency diversion of a plane to Friendship airport, alerted our passenger people here about the possi-
bility of having to take care of extra passengers. A car was added to the appropriate train, and two minutes before departure from Washington, the airline sent word it would not need the space, and hinted it was flying. The daily paper brought out the truth—the passengers were taken by bus to New York! We ran our car empty.

---0---

Parkton People

This is not to be any attempt to try our case before the Public Service Commission in this little weekly, but we do feel we should point out something that took place the first day of the hearing.

The people of the area—all claiming to be riders, daily or "frequent"—jammed the small hearing room, and received newspaper notice, with pictures, which is all normal and natural in covering news at such times. But after lunch, the meat of the hearing proceeded with the railroad and the bus company well represented but counsel—almost alone—carrying on for the commuters. In other words, they were interested enough to respond to the call to make a showing, but not interested enough to remain and listen to the facts as the case was presented.

---0---

AROUND THE HORN

Iron Hill, Md.—D. J. Moynihan, Manager Freight Sales & Services, announces the change of the station here from a non-agency freight station to a non-agency freight station for carload freight only, discontinuing the handling of less carload service.

---0---

Wilmington, Del.—Leon S. Bacon, City Auditor of this city, was presented a 40-year button by R. H. Hance, Superintendent of Stations. Mr. Bacon was granted a leave of absence from duty as agent at New Castle on July 1, 1957, to take over the municipal position.

---0---

Norfolk, Va.—They knew Howard was coming so they baked a cake—for Frank. This was the occasion of awarding C. Frank Dawley, clerk in St. Julian Avenue Freight Station a 40-year button. Howard Hance made the presentation to Frank who entered service at the ripe old age of thirteen as a Notice Boy, a job which no longer exists.

---0---

Baldwin, Pa.—Kirk Russell, Pennsylvania car inspector who serves the plant here, was commended by Bob Johnson, Traffic Manager, to R. E. Meyer, District Sales Manager, for the cooperation he shows in helping provide adequate and proper blocking for outbound loads. Mr. Meyer relayed the message to D. J. Moynihan as an example of what the man on the ground, and from another department, can do to help promote good customer relations.

---0---