Steam locomotive makes final runs

Belching clouds of white smoke, old steam locomotive No. 6218 chugged along the tracks last Sunday on her final run, a charter trip from Toronto to Paris Junction to return again via Brantford.

Born in September, 1942, 6218 was a 4-8-4 northern type engine, built by the Montreal Locomotive Works. She has been forced into retirement because there are no longer any major rallway repair shops left in Canada in which steam locomotives can be overhauled, the past one, at Stratford, Ontario, having been closed down and sold just after no. 6218 herself had been completely rejuvenated in December, 1963. Other problems also played their role in her retirement as replacement parts for the aging engine had to be custom made in special machine

Tour miles

One of the many locomotives of her type, No. 6218 had played a heavy part in the drama of World War Two when troop trains were continual operation transporting service personnel to Montreal and on to Quebec for

overseas duty. Old 6218 again made a special name for herself, according to her train buff admirers, when, dating from September, 1964 ur di March 1971, she has pulled over 50,000 miles in rail fan excursion trips to equal her number of miles in passenger service.

Place of honor

Over the weekend, numerous conjectures were bandled as to her final fate and close listening revealed considerations of a multi-million dollar compound slated for Toronto's waterfront some time within the next six years in which the present Union Station will be enclosed with steam locomotive no. 6218, standing in her place of final glory as the central figure. "Pure speculation" said one wellinformed member of the U.C.R.S. whose educated guess is that she will either be transferred to the government-operated steam museum, "The National Museum of Transportation" in Ottawa for posterity, or sent on to Stratford and housed indoors out of the elements.

Nostalgic memories Whatever her future, old 6218

has done her job well and last weekend's two-day excursion runs revealed the nostalgic memories which her penetrating steam whistle sound aroused in the thousands of spectators who waited to view her from the various points between Toronto and Paris, Ontario.

Nothing will ever convey or replace Saturday's reactions when, at approximately 10.45 a.m., the loud triple too-t too-t tooo-t of Canada's only remaining steam engine, still owned by the Canadian National Railway, alerted its viewers that it was making its second to last final

Line track

People were gathered all down the track beyond the Rockwood station and right on through to Guelph at focal spots where they could best observe and take nictures of the historical event. Maryland, St. Petersburg, Buffalo, fans gathered from the United States and from many parts of Ontario; exuberant train enthusiasts who had come to watch old 6218 round her final track. Excitement, delight, unabashed remourse with, in some cases tears of nostalgia, were registered on the countenances of the congregated throngs, many manned with cameras while others lugged tape recording equipment in an effort to pick up the wistful whine of the aged machine and record every sound.

Full load She was loaded with passengers on both of the twodays excursion trip and on Saturday 600 people composed of friends, members of the Upper Canada Railway Society, and other investors in the event, hailed the onlookers and gales of cheers went up as No. 6218 passed through hamlets, villages, and towns, to roar past small groups

of admiring spectators. The Rockwood assembly were only slightly rebuffed when the scheduled five minute stopping time, with amateur and professional photographers all primed to take pictures, didn't come off. Instead she sped on past the village station at approximately 55 m.p.h. to stop at the Rock cut just beyond and, not to be outdone, avid trainsters fled to their waiting vehicles to chase her to her stopping point and the No. 7 Highway, from the Rockwood Station to the City of Guelph, was at one point lined bumper to bumper with automobiles of every sort, many of which continued their train chasing exploits right on through

Passengers on the Sunday run had a special attraction when the locomotive, having stopped at the

to London. Banquet beld regular stations as announced by rather than being pulled home by P.A. Systems installed by the a diesel. That would definitely be U.C.R.S., finally reached Paris Junction. There, officials turned No. 6218 on the Y, coaled up her tender, lubricated her wheel

journals, and then, diverted to another line, she proceeded to Onondaga and Caledonia, to continue on through the back way to Hamilton where the Sheraton Connaught Hotel was the scene of much reverte as members of the U.C.R.S. had their banquet honouring the valiant engine before turning homeward to

escapade really be the last run for 6218? Many hopefuls remember that she was taken out ot wraps after her publicized "final trip" of approximately one year ago and feel that she will someday be seen on the tracks layouts, signalling, photo-

But those in the know, recall recording train sounds. her last appearance when she made the October 10 run from Toronto to Kitchener for the October Fest. Homeward bound, she sprung a part on her wheelbearings and, almost crippled permanently, limped into the Union Station at about 5 miles per coming out sometime in the

Own steam "She's lucky to be running today" said a local buff, "And, although I hate to see her put, locomotive will take the C.P.R. away, I'm glad to see her return back lines from Ontario through

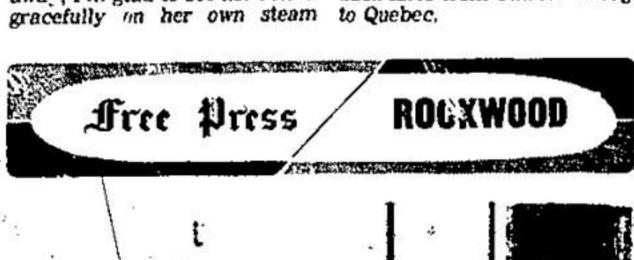
most embarrassing."

More trips via steam engine for railway fans? That too remains to be seen. The 6218 is the only one of its type still owned by the Canadian National Railways, others having been sold either privately or to be used as museum pieces decorating cities and towns throughout Canada.

Others on display No. 6218's sister engine. No. 6167 is presently to be seen outside the Guelph Station with some others on display in Sarnia, Will Saturday and Sunday's Barrie, Palmerston, Orillia, and Kingston.

The function of the Upper Canada Railway Society is to encourage studies of railways in Canada including field trips to different junctions to study track graphing old stations, and tape-

More trips Chiefly however, the U.C.R.S. promotes steam train trips for rail enthusiasts and one of its knewledgeable members speculates that a Canadian Pacific Royal Hudson will be spring of '71 for a few fan trips but on this venture, the Canadian National will not be involved when one other aged steam





IT'S NO BLARNEY that the St. Patrick's Irish Stew night held at Rockwood United Church hall was cooked with elegance by the Board of Stewards, faithfully assisted by their wives and other members of the congregation. Latecomers to the dinner, Mr. Gordon Harris of R.R. 1 Guelph, waits while son Wesley hungrily devours his delicious homemade cake and ice cream dessert.—(Photo by Lorraine)



SANDY McPHERSON of R.R. Rockwood serves Mr. William Plumber of R.R. 5, Rockwood, who has come back for seconds seconds at the annual United Church "Irish Stew" night. In the background Susan Tosh and Rose Marie Harris assist in tidying up the tables.—(Photo by Lorraine)

Pony recovering from heart attack

A 30-year-old Shetland pony had a whacking heart attack last Saturday morning but today is merrily running about chasing race horses around the field.

Jingle Belle, an adorable palomino coloured pony belonging to little 6-year-old Patrick Barr of R.R. 4 Rockwood, keeled over in her stall last Saturday morning and, to all indications, looked as if she was past recovery.

Seems fine

The vet was called and Jingle Belle was given an injection with little hope of survival. Today, however, the valiant tiny animal is back to normal. Her supposed rest period came to a quick end when she was steaming up the stable with her energy and so Patrick's mother, Jenny Barr, let her leave her confinement and Jingle Belle is now running about

having a great time. A show pony from Milton, Jingle Belle's original name was

Sheila and, during the '40's she was a well-known figure in harness with a small stallion of the same colour. She converged on the Barr family when they wanted an older pony for their young son and Jingle Belle was chosen. Enjoying tremendously great health it is difficult to realize that the small pony is at least 30 years old as she exuberantly jostles and kicks about, constantly taking pieces out of her baby donkey

companion, Anna Belle. Steals show

Last year, during the Rockwood Trail Rider's entry in the Rockwood Carnival, Jingle Belle attempted to steal the show, insistent that she should lead the entire parade. Right now her happy owners feel secure that everything is line with their star pony and already plans are being made for both Jingle Belle and Anna Belle to participate in this year's local village procession.

Rockwood **Bowling** Low scores made the Rockwood bowling ratings look like a stand-still from the previous week's competitions but right now the 12 team league shows: the Clippers and Pacers tied for 1st place with 109 points; 2nd is the Stratton's team with 108; 3rd the Guelphites with 102; 4th Neighbours 101; 5th Nortons Bluebirds with 94; 6th

Justtwo

Whitewashers with 86; 7th

Carney's Plumbing and Heating

with 84 tying with Four Corners

who also have 84 points; 8th

shows Elmer's Alley Cats with

72; 9th is the Gooyer Bros. team

with 61 and 10th place has the

Ospringe Slow Pokes with only

Norton's Bluebirds made only two points last Tuesday night and the Four Corners ran up five with with Tony Stokman the high man with a 620 triple score. Jack Parkin's high single was 217 and Ralph Wright 219 and Ann Parkinson made a 210 single. Fred Nightingale rang through on a 227 single, Viv Nightingale a 572 triple and Mary Stahlbaum bowled a 206 single game.

The Carney's Plumbers and Heaters took only three points when John Carney made a 225 and May Swackhammer a 210 single from the Strattons who took 4 points on Dick Dupuis' 157, 211, 225 to triple a 593 and Dunc Kingsbury made a 208 single.

Whitewashed

Don Archibald showed a 156. 271, 220 set of singles to triple with 647, Garry Parks rang up a 659 triple score for the Guelphites who were defeated by the Whitewashers with a 5 to 2. Art Nightingale bowled 216, 181, and 245 to triple 637 points as Brian Robertson took 236, 135 and 210 singles to triple 581.

The pin s

The pins wouldn't fall and everyone was disgusted but the Neighbours managed to outbowl the Clippers with a 5 to 2 lead. Bill Garner knocked off a 293, 179, 268 set of singles to triple in at 740; Harvey Bayne showed a 590 triple, Ellen Garner a 213 single and Sandy McPhedran a 214 single score. Bert Archer for the Clippers raised 289, 189 and 198 in that order to show a final triple of 676; Doug Chandler rang in a 195, 249 and 168 to triple 612; Harv Jestin made a 631 triple and T. D. McCutcheon a set of singles with 207 in each.

Pokes

Elmer's Alley Cats took a 4 to 3 point lead over the Ospringe Slow Pokes as Ward Bruce poked a 196 single and Ross Ferguson a 216 single; Elmer Allan showed for the Alley Cats with 263 single and Arnold Duffield made a 200 single.

Winnie Hilts tried for the Gooyer Bros, team and bowled a 194 single along with Jim Sutton's single but their team was outfoxed by the hotrodding Pacer's who lead the battle with their 5 to 2 points and Mike Martin made a 272 single and Lorne Gardon a 209 single.

Top scores

Women over 500-Ellen Garner 575, Lois Jestin 573, Vivian Nightingale 572, Maureen Campbell 563, Mary Stahlbaum 562, Nellie Stokman 539, Ann McCormach 535, Irene LaVole 524, Gloria Alton 524, May Swackhammer 521, Ivy Ritchle 505, Ann Parkinson 500,-

Men over 600-Bill Garner 740, Bert Archer 676, Garry Parks 659, Harv Jestin 651, Don Archibald 647, Art Nightingale 637, Ted Jestin 631, Tony Stokman 620, Doug Chandler 612.

Only one man in a million really understands the international situation, but isn't it odd how you keep running into





billowing CROWNED IN white steam, locomotive 6218 makes its final run through Rockwood, photography buffs lined the train's route Saturday and Sunday as two charter trips went through. the engine is forced into retirement since there are no longer any major railway shops left in Canada where it could be repaired. Its unique whistle signalled its approach from miles away. -(Photos by Lorraine)

TEDDY KNEGT, Tim Hartman and Wanda Gray are ready to pounce as Greg Strong tosses the ball to centres Steve Hartman and Rob Drijber at the Wednesday athletic night held every week at the Rockwood Centennial School gymnasium. It's become a popular evening for high school students and the big game is basketball in which mixed teams play with zest and energy.

County apportionment shows little change

Recently released figures smallest portion at 1.919 per cent.
revealing actual apportionments Burlington pays more than any the municipalities will pay towards the county budget show Milton paying 3.148 per cent while 4.168 per cent while Nassagaweya will carry the against last year.

Burlington pays more than any other town or township in the county, a total of 42.581 and Oakville is second highest on the list Acton pays 2.025. Esquesing pays at 39.551 per cent. Only very minor changes are reflected

"BUY A COOKIE MISTER?" and little Ruth Hartman, of Alma Street, Rockwood was one of the 25 brownies canvassing for cookie sales the proceeds of which will be converted into craft materials and supplies for the annual Mother and Daughter banquet to be held this year sometime in May. The drive is over now and only a few extra cookies will be on hand for last minute sales. This year the girls did a terrific job and their leaders are pleased with the results. -(Photo by Lorraine)



ROBIN DRIJBER leaps high to get control of the ball against the opposing team-centre Steve Hartman. Teddy Knegt waits to grab the ball and Wanda Gray is ready to take it down the floor. The Wellington County School Board has opened all the schools in the area and, under supervision, the otherwise afterhour neglected facilities are available to groups who make arrangements to use them. A whole new door has been opened and the School Board assures us that "school's are for people."-(Photos by Lorraine)

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