

FRU
The O Gayer

FEBRUARY 1950

15¢

FOREIGN 25 cents



SEMI-SCALE FROM TINPLATE THE MODEL RAILROADER'S WIFE
O-GAGE FOR YOU AND ME THERAPEUTICALLY SPEAKING

BIG NEWS for February

Box Cars and Reefers. NOW

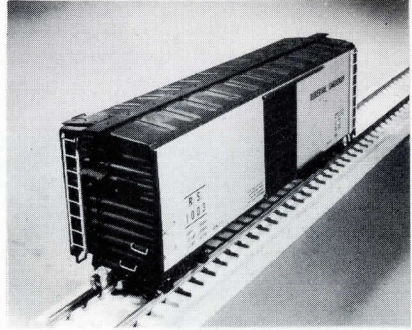
at the lowest price in Model Railroading History

Feature announcement for February under the new GMC "direct-to-YOU" sale policy is the great news about the famous "Photo-color" GMC box cars and reefers. Now all of the quality and detail that have made these cars standard on thousand of scale and tinplate pikes is brought to you at sensation-ally new low prices.

BOX CARS

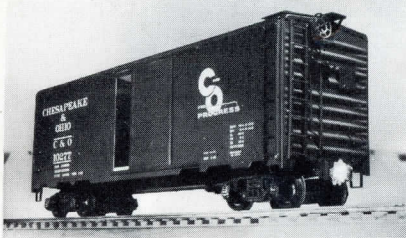
GMC box cars have become noted for their simplicity of construction and superior "Photo-Color" processed sides. These sides are made by a special photographic process that prevents chipping and peeling assuring you of years of sturdy operation.

\$2.95



Featured also in GMC box cars is actual metal thickness sides without unsightly wood or metal brace backing. This is accomplished by a special design "inner end" and constant roof and floor support. It is not necessary to spend hours of tedious cutting to chisel out a door opening. Because of the special "inner end" there is ample foundation for fastening ladders, grab irons and end detail.

Roof ribs are individually stamped and fit on the all metal roof. A metal channel underframe and cross braces add realism to the underbody and the basic floor is drilled so that measuring and spacing is eliminated. Now you have 15 colorful sides to choose from. Different serial numbers are available for most cars. Cars complete with Scale or Tinplate couplers, but less trucks.



NEW

Pictured above are two new additions to the GMC Box car line, Roberval & Sanguenay, a colorful Canadian car with silver sides, tuscan red roof and yellow ladders and grab irons. The Chesapeake & Ohio with the large block C & O letters. This is an all Tuscan red car that will give your freight string that "modern look". Each is available in two serial numbers.

All These

Pacemaker Box Car Kit	Cat. No. 3620	\$3.25
Union Pacific Box Car Kit	Cat. No. 3621	2.95
B & O (red) Box Car Kit	Cat. No. 3622	2.95
G. M. & O. Box Car Kit	Cat. No. 3623	2.95
Pennsylvania Box Car Kit	Cat. No. 3624	2.95
Burlington Box Car Kit	Cat. No. 3625	2.95
Seaboard Box Car Kit	Cat. No. 3626	2.95
Lackawana Box Car Kit	Cat. No. 3627	2.95
C. & O. (old style) Box Car Kit	Cat. No. 3628	2.95
Nickle Plate Box Car Kit	Cat. No. 3629	2.95
N.Y. - N.H. & H. Box Car Kit	Cat. No. 3630	2.95
Canadian Pacific Box Car Kit	Cat. No. 3631	2.95
B & O Sentinel Box Car Kit	Cat. No. 3632	3.40
Roberval & Sanguenay Box Car Kit	Cat. No. 3633	3.10
C & O (new style) Box Car Kit	Cat. No. 3634	2.95

When ordering, be sure to do so by name and catalog number. SPECIFY USE: SCALE or TINPLATE. Your care in writing your order will avoid errors in shipments and needless delays.

REEFER NEWS ON INSIDE PAGE

GENERAL MODELS CORPORATION

The O-Gager

Editor

Joseph R. Matthews

Staff

EMPLOYEES'

GENERAL MODELS CORPORATION

EDITORIAL

This is your introduction to the "O-Gager". We have long felt that O-Gage model railroading was a specialty all its own. The construction and detail problems of O-Gage are different from those of other gages and it shall be our aim to discuss these in the "O-Gager."

Your problems naturally become our problems and only by your telling us about them can we bring them out in the open for discussion and variation of opinion. Each issue of the O-Gager will cover one or more of the problems and we shall provide articles written by "people who know". So that we may discuss the problems of the greatest number of people first we ask that you write to us and tell us what you would like covered first.

Also, we invite your contributions to the "O-Gager" with regard to pictures which we may use, articles about some particular phase of O-Gage that you have discovered, layout suggestions, (ones for small space in particular) etc. In other words this will be a magazine for O-Gagers by O-Gagers.

It will be our pleasure to send you this magazine as it comes off the press. It is going to the thousands of you who requested a GMC 1949-1950 catalogue. In the event that you are not interested in receiving the magazine, we request that you send us a penny post card and so advise us so that we may remove your name from our mailing list. We hope those of you get this first issue will enjoy it and let us hear from you. Any matter submitted for publication or comments about the "O-Gager" should be sent to General Models Corporation, 703 Childs St., Wheaton, Illinois, Attention: Editorial Department.

Yes, this is just another way that GMC is helping to make 1950 the Biggest Year in O-Gage.

Vol. 1 No. 1

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COVER

Our first cover features Miss Jeanne Henderson adjudged Model Railroad Queen of 1950 by the World Hobby Exposition - Chicago. Miss Henderson is a young girl that started to work for General Models Corporation in the summer of 1948. She completed high school in 1949 and is now attending night school at Gregg College, Chicago. She is in charge of the stock room and inventory control at the GMC plant in Wheaton, Illinois.

Entered as third class mail, February 1950 at the post office in Wheaton, Illinois. Published by General Models Corporation, 703 Childs St., Wheaton, Illinois. Joseph R. Matthews, President and Tres. John R. Rockwell, Secretary.

O-Gaging for

You & Me

Edwin (Ed) P. Alexander

When my friend Joe Matthews phoned me and told me about this new publication just for O-Gagers, and asked me to write a few words (seeing as how I'd been with it for so long) I was most pleased at the opportunity.

Of course for most O-Gagers, I don't have to go into any song and dance about its being the gage or scale to work with. And don't get worried about its losing ground for only by comparison with the number of newcomers to the hobby of model railroading, might it seem that way. Actually, O-Gage will always be the ultimate for those who want the finest. In reality there are more O-Gagers today than ever before.

Naturally new products, new techniques of manufacturing and new construction methods make the gage more attractive for the newcomer and more exciting for the old-timer. Research in O-Gage is constantly progressing for smaller space requirements, so much so, that there are actually completely detailed and scale locomotives that will operate on radii down to 12". All of us manufacturers in the gage are planning new items. So don't think the producers are slipping and don't let the HO boys sell you a "bill of goods".

Today greater emphasis is being placed on scale equipment that will operate on tinplate track. It is the ambition of manufacturers to bring you this beautiful equipment so that, even tho you have three rail tubular track operation you may still enjoy the thrills of scale model railroading.

Being a real old-timer in model railroading, I have watched its evolution from the "make everything yourself" era to the modern production methods age. Sometimes it is very difficult to look at the products of today and learn of the thousands of dollars of cost in dies and engineering that are involved and realize that it was just a few short years ago that the same car or locomotive, when seen on the individual pike was fashioned from scrap brass and iron. Today there are expensive aluminum extrusion thirty and forth thousand dollar die cast dies, to say nothing of the hundreds of costly stamping dies. Your manufacturer of today has faith in model railroading and even greater faith in O-Gage, (as is evidenced by the much greater investment required for tooling).

No, he is not letting you down. He is building for your use and enjoyment. It is true that he does not turn out a new produce every other week, because many of these items require months of engineering and tooling. Nor is he getting rich. He is price conscious, just as you are and he is ever on the look out for ways to effect manufacturing economy so as to bring you greater value at lower costs.

It is my personal opinion that O-Gage today is on the verge of a still newer and greater era. For with all of these factors working for your benefit it will be possible for you and more of your friends to enjoy the ultimate - the finest in model railroading, O-Gage.





A hobby is something every man, woman and child should acquire. No matter how small or how big an acquisition it is, they will always find a time when it is helpful, not only as a pastime, but as a means of having something to do to while away the hours that are so long and lingering when convalescing from a period of illness.

This came to me very forcefully four years ago when I had to have an operation and was laid up for nearly a year. Model Railroading helped to pass the many uneventful hours and days that followed. Having an attic layout, and with the help of my two boys, we passed many enjoyable hours of contentment as well as constructiveness.

In my twenty years of practice, I have seen many a patient just sit and rock away the time when a hobby would have fulfilled the unrestfulness that comes from continued illness.

It is often asked, how many hours at this hobby without tiring? The answer is, one or many, especially with model railroading, for it is never finished no matter how extensive the layout or how small, for there is always something more to do or to change, or to even tear up the whole thing and start over again. With model railroading, one can leave it for days or months and return where he left off, for it is something that is never tiring and never completed.

As a final question, is model railroading restful and helpful, in other words is it healing? Definitely yes! Try it and see. Then the next time you have idle hours or days when recuperating from the 'Flu' or a cold or an operation it will be there to occupy your mind, hands and time. But possibly even better, learn to relax with your hobby, that you have developed before it actually became an order from your physician. Yes, Therapeutically Speaking, Model Railroading is great stuff.

THERAPEUTICALLY SPEAKING

by

M. Cole Seager, M. D.
Brown City, Michigan

Frankly, there is nothing in this world so helpful and useful as a "hobby," specially Model Railroading. I can say this from experience and from observation having been in the practice of medicine for twenty years, a hobbyist for thirty and a model railroader for sixteen.

THE MODEL RAILROADER'S WIFE

by

Mrs. Stewart Sheldon
Dayton, Ohio

When my husband started model railroading I put my tongue in my cheek and wondered how long and how expensive it would be. After a year of experience I have found the interest has become more intense and that our 5 year old son is as avid a fan as his daddy.

My husband joined the Dayton Model Railway Club about 15 months ago and after he had brought his first Diesel Switcher home and started to work on it, I found that it was easy for him to find excuses to stay home and work on his models. In January of last year he became ill and in talking with our doctor, learned that it was a case of all work and no play.

The doctor suggested that my husband should have some kind of a hobby so that he could forget business. I explained that he had his new hobby and was promptly told that had he had this hobby 2 or 3 years sooner, he would not now be in the hospital.

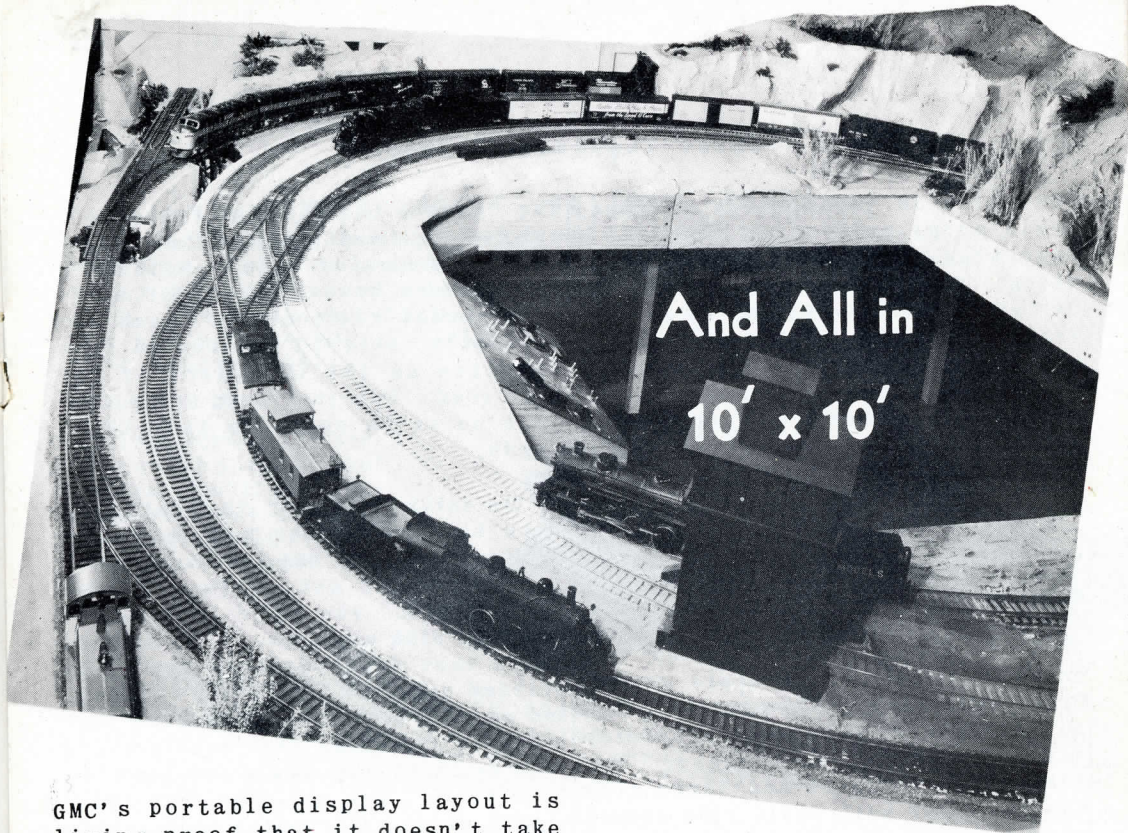
Since he came home last April, he spends as many evenings as he wants to in his shop in the basement and one night a week at the model club.

Our five year old son is as proud of his daddy's trains as his daddy is, and never fails to show everyone that comes in the trains which my husband has on the mantel over our fire place.

As far as it being an expensive hobby, we have found that it has not caused any stretching of the family budget. A car kit which cost \$3.00 or \$4.00 provides about two or three weeks of entertainment in building and painting. And then there is always repairs or "bad order cars" as my husband calls them. Also he has to "back shop" his engines occasionally. I of course, am beginning to learn some of the railroad talk now, and find it easier to understand what he is talking about.

Model railroading has other advantages also, one of these is of importance to any wife. It is easier to get many of those little repair jobs done around the house just by saying, "Will you get some of your tools you use on your trains and see if you can fix this for me?"

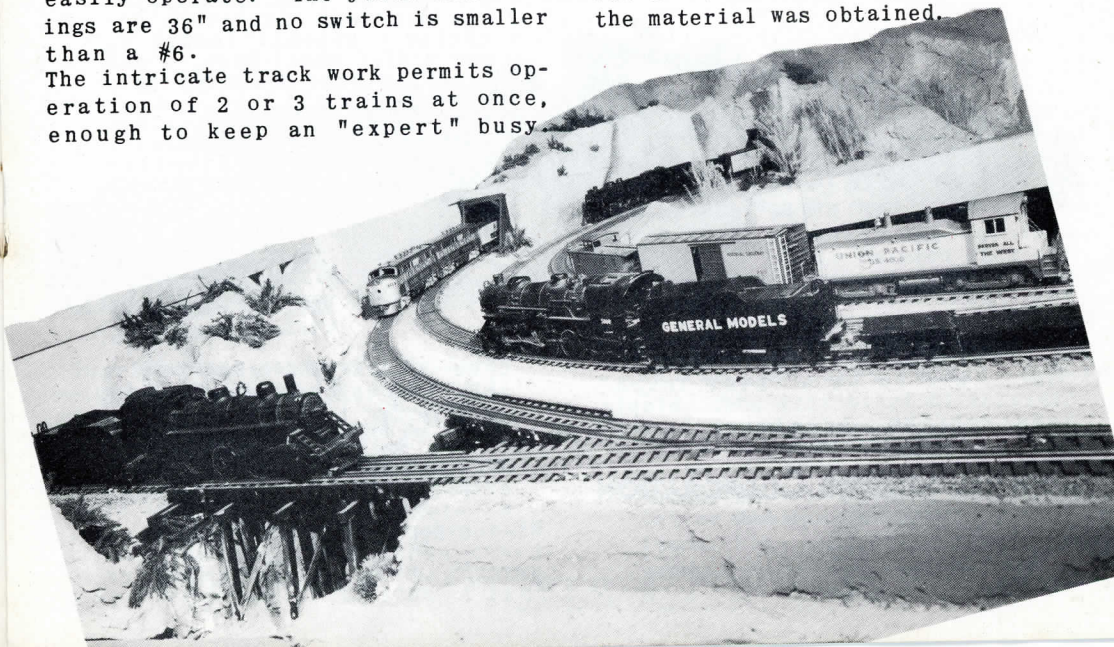
In summing up the title "The Model Railroader's Wife", I can only say that in our fifteen years of married life, my husband has found something that is not a fad or passing fancy but something that is constructive, educational, which has grown instead of diminishing. It has provided many hours of relaxation away from business worries and good medicine for bad nerves. I can do my part by encouraging this method of relaxation, by taking an interest in the models that are made and by showing that I understand that a portion of the budget for this type of relaxation is as essential as the paying of additional doctor's bills. This I guess, is the real responsibility of the "Model Railroader's Wife."



GMC's portable display layout is living proof that it doesn't take any more space to have an O-Gage pike - that has everything - than it does in the smaller gages. This layout for instance has a 44" minimum radius on the inside loop; 48" on the outside. This means that larger wheel base locomotives can easily operate. The yards and sidings are 36" and no switch is smaller than a #6.

The intricate track work permits operation of 2 or 3 trains at once, enough to keep an "expert" busy.

Variety is possible with mountains, trees, bushes, tressels, tunnels, creeks and even a coaling station. In a coming issue of "The O-Gager" we shall give you a layout plan of this display and tell you how this was done, how much it costs and where the material was obtained.



SEMI-SCALE

from

Tinplate

by
Frank Libuse Jr.
Chief Engineer at GMC

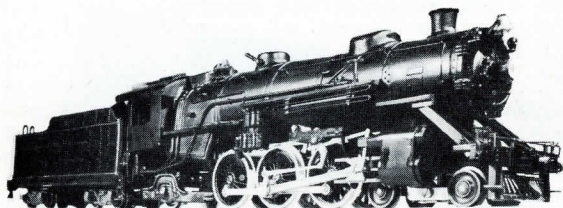
Somewhere in the history of every scale model railroader there is a time when he makes a decision to change from once a year, around the Christmas tree operation, to an all year round hobby. This step is one which we shall try, in a series of articles, to make easier for some, possible for others, and economical for all.

Usually the first manifestation of the model railroader is his desire to have some scale equipment to run on present toy or tinplate roads. Practically any scale car kit (take for example GMC box car and reefer kits) is ideal as a starter. The investment is small and these kits are available with scale side frames on the trucks, but with tinplate wheels and dummy couplers that couple with Lionel equipment. These kits may be used with a new adapter bolster that accommodates Lionel trucks.

The "Branch Line", "Way Freights", old time equipment, stream line cars, various types of steam engines -- all can now become a part of semi-scale model railroading. Each individual railroad becomes as distinctive as the equipment of the real road. For each road has equipment built to suit its individual needs.

In the early stages of the shift from toys to models, the building urge begins to develop and this is one of the strongest attractions of the scale field. You begin to view the prototypes with new eyes. You see details that meant nothing until you started your own "railroad" empire, and as your appreciation deepens your interest increases thus accelerating your swing to semi-scale and later to full scale. But remember that today - real model railroading is possible even with tin-plate track. So learn all of the thrills of semi-scale, for there are happy hours well within your purse confines, space requirements and constructive ability.

The PACIFIC



The most popular of all steam locos is the Pacific. And the GMC Pacific has been the most popular. It features a beautiful sand cast boiler, superbly detailed with much of the piping cast right on. You don't have to be a "Blow Torch" operator to build this one. Simple construction, precision parts.

GENERAL MODELS CORPORATION

"Transportation in Miniature"

703 CHILDS STREET



WHEATON, ILLINOIS

Features and Data: Powered by large DC or AC motor. Fire box backhead completely detailed. Overall length 21 and 3/4". Wheel Base, 9 and 1/32"; Driver diameter 70"; Draw Bar Pull, 20.8 oz.; Average speed with maximum load at 12 volts, 63 (scale) mph. Was \$67.50 complete with tender. Now only

\$47.50

Catalog Number 10
Minimum radius 36"

Available in three sections
Pacific Mechanism Kit
Cat. No. 11 \$25.50
Pacific Boiler Kit
Cat. No. 12 15.50
Pacific Tender Kit
Cat. No. 13 9.00

When ordering GMC products, use the handy order blank and be sure to specify catalog number and description. Quantity limited on Mountain type.

AT YOUR REQUEST

HELD OVER!!!

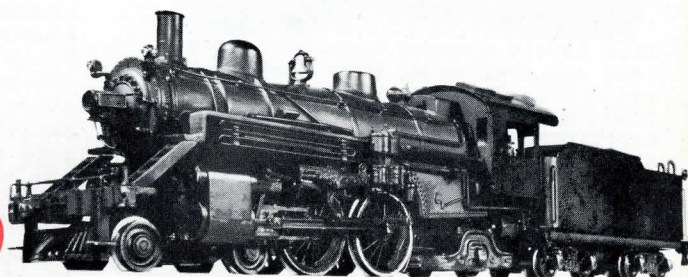
GMC's GREAT HOLIDAY SPECIAL

Yes, we've held over the Holiday Special on Atlantics and 10-Wheelers. This is because, as most of you know, there was delivery delay of the announcements due to the seasonally heavy holiday mail. Now you may take advantage of these low prices providing you act before March 31st. So don't put it off longer. Send in your order today.

ATLANTIC

Countless words have been written about the GMC Atlantic. You'll most certainly want one of these three time World Hobby-show winners on your layout.

\$39.50



Catalog number 5

The Atlantic locomotive is designed for scale operation, altho there are many "tinplaters" using it with Gargraves track, where they do not run thru the conventional type Lionel tubular rail switches. Wheel flanges are scale. Center third rail pickups may be added to the tender.

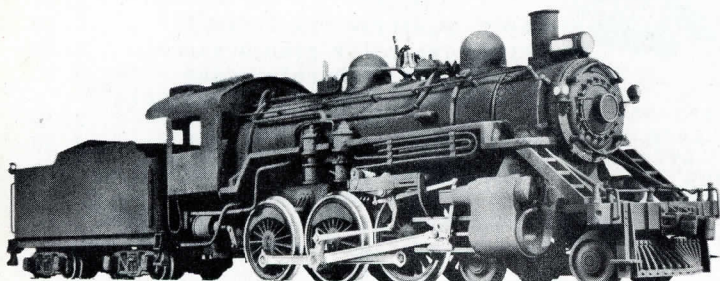
Locomotive data: Length from front coupler to tender coupler 18 1/4". Wheel base, 7 1/4"; Driver diameter, 70"; Draw bar pull, 17.6 oz; Average Speed with maximum load (12 volts) 55 scale mph; Powered with a 5/8" stack motor; Available in either AC or DC. Minimum radius 32".

May be purchased in sections as follows:

Mechanism Kit	(Catalog number 6)	\$23.00
Boiler Kit	(Catalog number 7)	12.50
Tender Kit	(Catalog number 4)	6.50

10-WHEELER

You may still obtain this famous locomotive that has made model railroading history. Like the Atlantic you'll find precision parts, die-castings, stampings, brass castings and turnings.



\$38.75

Catalog Number 1

May be purchased in sections as follows:

Mechanism Kit (Catalog

Mechanism Kit	(Catalog No.2)	\$22.05
Boiler Kit	(Catalog No.3)	12.00
Tender Kit	(Catalog No.4)	6.50

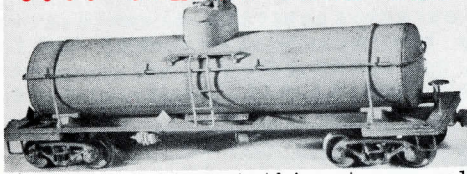
Locomotive data: Overall length including tender, coupler to coupler 18 1/4". Wheel Base 6 1/2"; Driver diameter 70"; Draw bar pull 17.6 oz; Average speed with maximum load (12 volts) 61 scale, mph; Powered with a 5/8" stack motor; Available in either AC or DC; Minimum radius 32".

GENERAL MODELS CORPORATION

Get "TANKED"

If you haven't one each of these well known Thomas tank cars, your pike is not complete. They will add color and variety to your freights. They're available at your dealers or if you like you may purchase them direct from GMC.

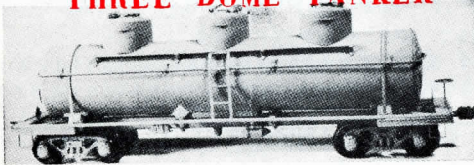
8000 GALLON TANK CAR



This is the nearest thing to a real tank car ever made. Dome has safety valves that mount separately for greater realism. Cover is hinged. Realistically sprung draft gear, self-centering couplers. Heavy rugged construction -- built to last, easy to assemble. Less paint and trucks.

\$5.95

THREE DOME TANKER



Here's another husky for you. Nicely proportioned for weight distribution, plus the usual wealth of extra THOMAS detail. All the same features as found in the above car. Less paint and trucks.

\$6.75

SIX DOME WINE CAR



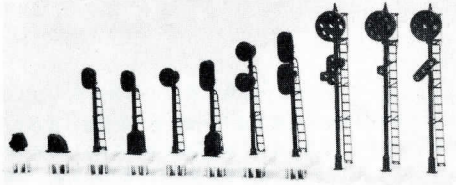
For the tops in detail, get one or more of the THOMAS six dome wine cars. All dome lids are operating, all detail is superb. You'll find in this kit the same, fine all-metal craftsmanship that THOMAS builds into all his kits. Available less paint and trucks.

\$7.75

When ordering thru GMC sales, be sure to specify clearly just which of these fine cars you want. They're all available for immediate shipment.



SIGNALS



Here are the BEST in signals - the first plug-in type, approved and used by the Eastern Railroads at the World's Fair. All types are instantaneously interchangeable for re-lamping or substitution. Coded wiring permits exchange of color light for position light, etc. 7 prong fully concealed plug-in base, all castings bronze. Permanent wiring is to flush mounted baseboard sockets. Use with N.M.R.A. developed block control system. Prices below are for scale signals using sub-miniature base lamps. Oversize heads using standard miniature base lamps available at 40% additional.*

SIGNAL KITS

Complete with blueprint, less lamps

S101	Two color dwarf	\$1.30
S102	Three color triangular dwarf	1.40
S103	Position light dwarf	1.50
S104	Two color ground signal	2.75
S104A	Same with relay case base	3.10
S105	Three color vertical head ground signal	2.95
S105A	Same with relay case base	3.30
S106	Three color triangular head ground signal	2.95
S106A	Same with relay case base	3.30
S107	Position light ground signal	4.75
S108	Same with marker	4.95
S109	Same with approach head	5.10
S110	Same with slow speed restricting head	5.25

Ed P. Alexander

Upper River Road

More BIG 1950 NEWS for O-GAGE

SCALE-CRAFT IS BACK

Yes, Scale-Craft is back home in Illinois and will soon be back in production. Once again the famous quality products from this pioneer model railroad company will be available to you and under the capable direction of

ELLIOT DONNELLEY, PRESIDENT

N. BURTON BARR, VICE PRESIDENT

All of the famous SCALE-CRAFT products will be available to you on a Direct Mail basis which will assure you prompt efficient service at greater savings.

Now in preparation is a new catalogue illustrating the line. It should be available in March and will list at 10¢. It is requested that you keep this in mind, but do not send for your catalogues yet. Watch for future announcements about the release date.

NOW --

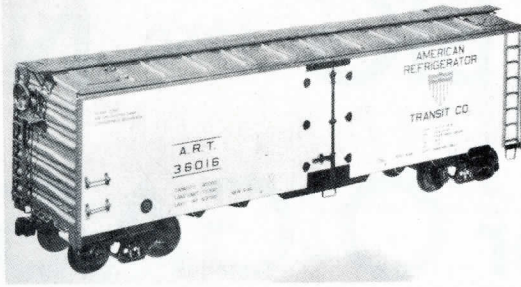
SEND for our FREE "house cleaning sales list"!

SCALE-CRAFT

Round Lake

Illinois

Athearn's STEEL REEFERS



These new features make Athearn Reefers an OUTSTANDING VALUE

- All metal exterior construction
- Blaw-Know metal roof walks
- Sprung trucks and draft gear
- Improved dreadnaught ends
- Pre-assembled spot welded under-frame, (fastened to wooden floor member.)
- Working ice hatches
- Accurate base point colors and rivets
- Highly detailed latch bar and door hinges
- Amazingly realistic processing of lettering and heralds
- New, complete easy-reading construction drawings

You'll be rewarded many times their cost in your satisfaction of having the finest steel reefers on any pike!

Available in all these sides:

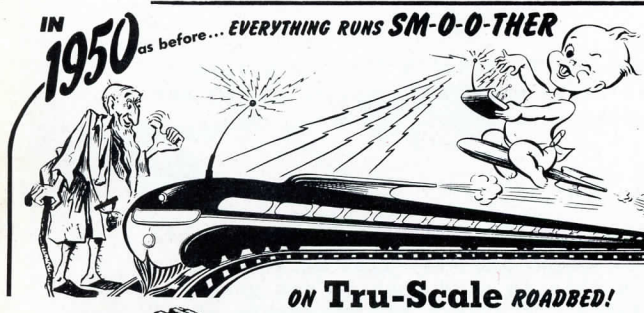
P. F. E., Orange N. P. Orange
A. R. T., M. P. Wabash A. R. T. Plain

\$5.75

P. F. E. Aluminum -- \$ 6.25 per kit

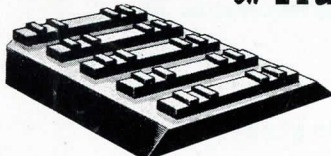
See these and other quality kits by Athearn at your dealers

IRVIN R. ATHERAN - 11129 VAN BUREN - LOS ANGELES 44, CALIFORNIA



TRU-SCALE ROADBED

Yes, one-piece ties, gauging tie plates and embankment, comprising all three features necessary in Good Track are all found in TRU-SCALE.



To aid you in your railroading problems and to help make 1950 the greatest year in O-Gage TRU-SCALE is now available thru GMC Sales.

We have all radii of curves from 36" to 72". These solid curves simplify the much dreaded task of curving laying. Straights in either two foot or three foot lengths. Price lists available upon request.

SYMBOL OF AUTHENTICITY

Tru-Scale



SAN DIMAS
CALIFORNIA

Above is a cross section of TRU-SCALE roadbed. With this roadbed, you'll solve that great problem of "stay-on-the-track" operation. So "get-on-the-track" Get TRU-SCALE from the source that has it - GMC Sales. Immediate delivery.

TRAIN SETS

At long last - a great O-gage need is filled. You now have a choice of three train sets to choose from....four car set, diesel switcher powered, F-3 A unit powered or B & O Ten Wheeler powered. Each set is complete with Tru-Scale Roadbed (36" radius circle and straight, pre-cut brass rail, spikes, rail joiners, a powerful locomotive, a sturdy box car, colorful reefer, drop center flat car and Model master caboose.



★ **DEISEL SWITCHER SET** **\$42.50**

This set was first introduced in the fall and was priced at \$59.50. It is now available on the direct by mail sales plan at this new low price. It's illustrated above and you get all of these items at a price less than some locomotives. It is ideal for the beginner. Catalog number 2200.

★ **F-3 A UNIT SET** **\$55.50**

Here is another train set for the novice or the old timer. It's powered with a famous Atwater F-3 A unit that will speed your freight to its destination. It is being introduced to the model fans for the first time in this magazine. Complete with cars as shown above, but F-3 Diesel powered. Catalog number 2210.

★ **B&O TEN WHEELER SET** **\$59.50**

For the steam type enthusiast this B & O Ten Wheeler train set is the answer. This is another first, but with a loco pulling that has proved itself time and time again. Cars and track are as described and illustrated above but with Ten Wheeler power. Catalog number 2211.

When ordering all items in the GMC line be sure to do so by name and catalog number. Make checks and money orders payable for the correct amount. It will help avoid error and speed shipment.

GENERAL MODELS CORPORATION

WHEATON,

ILLINOIS

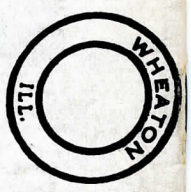
GENERAL MODELS CORPORATION

"Transportation in Miniature"

703 CHILDS STREET



WHEATON, ILLINOIS



SEC. 34, 66 P. L. & R.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 557

POSTMASTER—If addressee has moved and new address is known, notify sender on Form 3547 postage for which is guaranteed.

Third Class Matter—

—RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED. Postmaster: This parcel may be opened for postal inspection if necessary.

Handwritten initials in red ink, possibly "G G L".