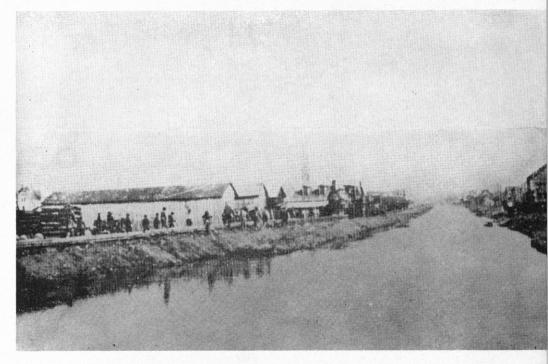


HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR FIRST HALF CENTURY

OHIO-MIDLAND LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
CANAL WINCHESTER, OHIO

1899 - 1949

Our First Half Century . . .



Track laying gang and work train, East High Street, Canal Winchester, 1903

Ohio-Midland's first half-century is complete. Much has occurred through the rich town and country area served by a parade of workers associated with the firm since the day just ahead of a new century when men banded together to supply a service sought by many.

The Ohio-Midland Light and Power Company was originally incorporated on September 8, 1899, under the laws of the State of Ohio as The Scioto Valley Traction Company, On June 1, 1923, the name was changed to the Scioto Valley Railway and Power Company, and on March 12, 1932, to its present name. Under terms of its original charter, and a certificate of amendment filed on June 26, 1930, the company has the right, among other things, to engage in a general electric light and power business and to conduct general transportation service

The general offices of the company are located at 10 South High Street, Canal Winchester. Ohio, and the principal officials and operating personnel are as follows:

> H. Newell Stevenson President Charles F. Helser, Vice-President John W. Eakin, Secretary-Treasurer J. Edgar Cathers, Manager and Asst. Secretary-Treasurer Mascal A. Haynes, Office Manager Ray D. Blackstone, Purchasing Agent William F. Ridge, Electrical Engineer Glenn E. Wolfe, Superintendent of Power Dwight E. Pierce, Asst. Superintendent of Power William R. Walker, Superintendent of Railway Department Lawrence M. Hatlestad. Supervisor of Public Relations DIRECTORS

H. Newell Stevenson, John W. Eakin, C. F. Helser, Ralph D. Head, George Ruble

OHIO-MIDLAND LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT Edward L. Allen, Jr. Meter Reader Paul T. Alspach, Groundman Ralph M. Alspach, Lineman Marilyn A. Benson, Ledger Clerk Robert D. Bitler, Appliance Repair Supervisor Rae D. Bradley, Storekeeper Edgar M. Brinker, Substation Operator Reber F. Brown, Service Man R. G. Carruthers, Tree Trimmer Mary C. Caslow, Office Secretary Donald E. Cathers, Load Dispatcher Earl W. Cathers, Meter Reader Ellen E. Cathers, Accountant Robert C. Cathers, Staking Engineer Alfred G. Christian, Service Man Charles, Conklin, Auto Mechanic Dale R. Darby, Service Man. James R. Davis, Service Man W. E. Ferrell, Chief Load Dispatcher Harry W. Finks, Service Man. Floyd E. Fisher, Service Man Audrey W. Graham, Substation Operator Paul H. Harman, Line Foreman Jan Havnes, Ledger Clerk T'ayd F. King, Line Foreman Corge W. Kruskamp, Substation Operator T th E. Lawson, Ledger Clerk Kathryn I. Lisle, Clerk - Supt's, Office

Robert H. Morris, Lineman Glenna E. Oesterle, Chief Cashier Jesse R. Ramey, Lineman Robert W. Reinhard. Accountant Reno E. Robinett, Lineman John W. Schumacher, Lineman Leslie E. Smith. Load Dispatcher Miriam I. Smith Stenographer Kenneth M. Snyder, Tree Trimmer Theodore Stevenson, Groundman Lawrence I. Strait, Lineman Clarence C. Vance, Groundman John E. Walker, Lineman Millard F. Williams, Foreman, Tree Trimming Floyd Young, Lineman Theodore Zarbaugh, Lineman Gail R. Zeiher, Lineman RAILWAY DEPARTMENT

Joseph T. Brodnax. Motorman Charles W. Fields, Track Laborer Clarence H. Fields, Track Laborer Bernice M. Herron, Freight Clerk Claude E. Herron, Conductor Chester E. Lytle, Track Laborer and extra conductor Frank W. Sites, Track Laborer Claude H. Vance. Section Foreman Walter E. Wagner, Motorman

INCORPORATORS OF THE COMPANY Wm. F. Burdell, Thomas King Wilson, Wm. J. Weaver, Alexander Renick Edward K. Stewart, Herbert D. Bennett

FIRST BOARD OF DIRECTORS B. Mahler, Cleveland; Edwin R. Sharp, Columbus; Wm. F. Burdell, Columbus; Thomas King Wilson, Chillicothe: Wm. J. Weaver, Circleville

SURVEYS . . .

. . . were made by A. W. Jones, who was employed as engineer for the Scioto Valley Traction Company in December, 1900 and who was in charge of all surveys and construction work on the Chillicothe and Lancaster Divisions until September 1905, when the line to Chillicothe was completed and in operation.

In December of 1900, the Scioto Valley Traction Company opened an office in the Board of Trade Building in Columbus.

The first preliminary survev for the Scioto Valley Traction Company, east of the Scioto River, Chillicothe to Circleville, began at Chillicothe December 28, 1900. Another preliminary survey, for a proposed line west of the Scioto River, Chillicothe to Circleville, began at

Chillicothe on January 5, 1901.

On January 30, 1901, an office for the engineering force was opened in the Carlisle Block, Paint and Main Streets, Chillicothe.

In the spring of 1901, the first grading on the line as built, was started by W. N. Luchtenberg Company, the contractors, at the sandstone cut near North Columbus Street, Lancaster. Actual earth moving was preceded by a parade of the contractor's equipment, headed by a band. The first furrow was plowed by Col. L. G. Silbaugh, Mayor of Lancaster.



Early Official Man

Grading work was done, Culverts, piers and bridges built during 1901. 1902 and 1903, and steel bridges were erected in May, 1903. The power house was built in 1903 and the first track was laid in South Parsons Avenue and Smoky Road on March 19, 1903.

John T. Adams began laving track on the Lancaster Division at Rager on June 10, 1903, and on July 30, 1903, track was laid through Groveport. Track was laid on the Chillicothe Division in the summer of 1903. On the Lancaster and Chillicothe Divisions, track was ballasted in October, 1903.

FIRST OFFICERS B. Mahler, President; Wm. F. Burdell, Vice-President; Edwin R. Sharp, Secretary-Treasurer



Groveport Station 1923

The first electric car over this new third rail system was run over the Columbus - Lancaster Division on Tuesday afternoon, July 19, 1904. The car reached Canal Winchester at 3 o'clock, and was soon the object of interest to a large crowd of spectators. Aboard the car on this initial trip were: Messrs. E. R. Sharp and Frank A. Davis, of the Scioto Valley Traction Company; E. W. Baker, of the E. W. Baker and Company, General Contractors of New York: N.

F. Clark, B. C. Edgar, G. M. Barrall, electricians; P. C. Tussing, foreman of the rail bonding crew; and Charley Warner, car attendant.

The car was in charge of Mr. Clark as a motorman, and the trip to Canal Winchester was made without a hitch or hindrance of any kind. At Canal Winchester, a representative of the Times boarded the train and it continued on its way to Carroll with "the ease and grace of a bird and showing astonishing bursts of



Station at Canal Winchester 1907

speed." A few miles below Carroll the trip ended, since the third rail was not connected up below the Jackson Road.

When the car reached Canal Winchester on the return trip, Mrs. Mary E. Bailey, Mrs. B. F. Gayman, and Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Shook were taken aboard and enjoyed a delightful four mile ride to Rager and return. The car then made the return trip to Columbus and "astonishing" speed was recorded. The four miles from Canal Winchester to Groveport was covered in 54s minutes. At one

place, the car registered a speed of 62 miles an hour. From Canal Winchester to Obetz Junction—a distance of 8½ miles—the time was only 13 minutes. This trial trip was concluded with a run to the power house at Reese, then to Parsons Avenue and return. The following were the village officers of Canal Winchester, Ohio at the time the right-of-way was granted and when the first car ran through the town:

Members of Council—D. E. Alspaugh, A. A. Chaney, J. D. King, S. H. Saylor, R. J. Tussing, Phil Weber.



Obetz 1905. Obetz Junction the junction point of Lancaster and Chillicothe



No. 105 at Carroll Station, 1910 At the right—Time Table

Mayor—O. P. Gayman (who rode the first and last car) Treasurer—E. C. Chaney Clerk—W. D. Beeks Marshall—Sam Rush

All members of the Council worked for the road, although it was opposed by some citizens who believed it would ruin business.

On July 21, 1904, the first train sheet for the Scioto Valley Traction Company was made and on July 27, 1904, Thomas B. Singrey, who had been working for the Company on work trains since June 21, 1903, was employed as motorman.

The first regular interurban service was established every two hours the afternoon of July 21, 1904 between South Parsons Avenue, Columbus, Ohio and Canal Winchester. The first regular car was in charge of Conductor Fred E. Abbott and Motorman William S. Brobst. It left Obetz Junction at 12:09 p.m. and returned from Canal Winchester to South Parsons Avenue at 1:00 p.m.

THE SCIOTO VALLEY TRACTION CO.



OFFICIAL TIME TABLES

IN EFFECT AT THE DATE OF THIS PUBLICATION,

DECEMBER 1st, 1907.

Trains Every Hour Between COLUMBUS,
CANAL WINCHESTER.

LANCASTER, CIRCLEVILLE, CHILLICOTHE

AND LOCAL POINTS

FRANK A. BAYES,
General Monoger.

J. O. BRADFIELD, G. F. A



Circleville station between 1906-1910



No. 105 at Ashville Station ground 1910











Pictures on opposite page—

Top—Car No. 41. In Columbus yards 1918. Car 50 feet 3 inches long

Middle—Sub-station and temporary freight and passenger station, Chillicothe 1905

Bottom—Depot of S.V.T. at Third and Rich Sts.,
Columbus. This had been school house and play yard before purchased. Passenger car at side. Picture taken 1905 Pictures on this page—

Top—Trailers No. 54 and No. 56, Coumbus yards Third and Rich Streets, 1905

Bottom—Lancaster Station, built 1906, photo

General Pershing's car on Big Walnut Bridge,



Picture below is the Power Plant at Rees. In service 1904-28, abandoned March 1, 1928. Torn down summer of 1941. Picture taken 1906

The first special car with officers and stockholders aboard ran from South Parsons Avenue to Carroll the afternoon of July 23, 1904, and a special car testing the third rail was run through to Columbus Street, Lancaster, Ohio, on July 24, 1904.

The first regular car ran through to Lancaster from Columbus on July 25, 1904, leaving South Parsons Avenue at 10:00 a.m. and arriving at Columbus Street, Lancaster, at 10:51 a.m. Conductor Abbott and Motor. man Downing were in charge and service was continued every two hours. Hourly service was established between these two points on July 28, 1904

A special car for officials and guests was run to Lancaster, Thursday, July 28, 1904, leaving South Parsons Avenue at 5:12 p.m. Upon arrival in Lancaster these officials and guests





Electric Locomotive No. 511, equipped with four 125 horsepower Westinghouse motors, hauling coal from the N & W Railway Company transfer track at Obetz, Ohio to the Picway Power Plant of the Columbus and Southern Ohio Electric Company on September 10, 1949.

were entertained at a dinner given by Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Davis, at the Mithoff Hotel.

On August 2, 1904, an observation train of three flat cars, drawn by an engine, was run from South Parsons Avenue, Columbus, to Circleville with officials and guests aboard. Two days later, on August 4, a special car was run to Circleville with Superintendent Luke C. Bradley and officials on board and on August 5, two-hour service was established from South Parsons Avenue, Columbus to Circleville, Ohio.

Contracts were let for extension of line south of Circleville, September 30, 1904, and the grading began in October, 1904. Work on the Chillicothe bridge began October 7, 1904, and was finished August 7, 1905. On Saturday, December 3, 1904, a special car carried Governor Myron T. Herrick from Columbus to Lancaster on a visit to the Boys' Indust-

The Scioto Valley Pool turned property over to The Scioto Valley Traction Company in March, 1905, and on March 21 Frank A. Davis, was elected President; W. S. Courtright, Vice-President and Edwin R. Sharp, Secretary-Treasurer.

The laying of track between Circleville and Chillicothe began at Kingston on March 3, 1905.

The first rails were laid to and on





rial School



GROUP PICTURE TAKEN AT KINGSTON SUB-STATION-AUGUST 11, 1905

Walter C. Darst, Circleville, Ohio; George Peters, Eugene Gray, Rutherford Fullerton, N. E. Rees, Passenger Agent; Hal Thompson, David Logan, Fred Larray, James Gordon Battelle, C. C. Chappelear, Frederick Prentiss, L. K. Liggett, Train Master (Colvin Skinner, Master Mechanic; Cyrus Holing, W. J. Weaver, Edwin R. Sharp, I. B. Cameron, Dr. Rankin, Dr. Clivis Taylor, Frank Dawson, M. A. Hanna, Curtis I. Williams, M. Frantz, L. C. Beardley, Superintendent; John T. Adams, John E. Todd, E. L. Spatnagel, Banker, Chilicothe, Ohio; Henry B. Peters, Banker, Lancaster, Ohio; Frank A. Davis, President; Frank K. Young, Auditor; W. S. Robb, Clerk; George Lathouse, Conductor.



First traction patrons also ride last car, Lancaster, Ohio, October 1, 1930

the Chillicothe trestle by July 30, and the first engine and work train ran to Chillicothe bridge with Messrs. Davis, Daugherty and Bradley aboard on July 31.

On August 5, electric current was turned on from Ashville substation to Kingston. The first special car on the extension, with officials and guests on board, was run to Kingston on August 11, under power from Ashville substation, and on August 14, regular hourly service to Kingston was inaugurated.

On August 25, 1905, the first special car with officials was run to Chillicothe, and regular hourly servicie to Riverside Street, Chillicothe, began Saturday, August 26.

On October 21, the general offices were moved from Obetz Junction to Third and Rich Streets, Columbus, Ohio The old Circleville station was opened on November 15, 1905 and the new station on January 4, 1909. Joe Amicon received the first car of freight to Chillicothe on December 4, 1905

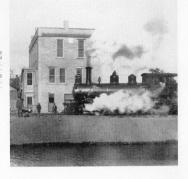
The Scioto Valley Traction Company began using the Third and Rich Streets station for passengers and regular freight service on Tuesday, December 5, 1905.

A special car was run by Superintendent Luke C. Bradley and Ned E. Rees for the Hon. Albert Douglas from Lancaster to Chillicothe in 1906, making a record run of sixty-four miles in 92 minutes.

In 1905-1906, a survey was made for a proposed extension from Carroll to Buckeye Lake by Arthur J. Wolfe and Julian Grigos.

In 1906, the Lancaster station was built.

Steam engine used during construction of road bed and track along Ohio-Erie Canal, Canal Winchester, Ohio during summer of 1903. Building in background is the TIMES, home of the weekly publication.



Car No. 124. Columbus Yard. September 30, 1930 Wm. Rigney, P. F. Thompson, Gregg D. Wolfe, Frank Goff



Lancaster to Nelsonville surveys and maps were made in 1906-1907 under the direction of Julian Griggs as Chief Engineer, for a proposed extension.

Track was extended to Main Street on Bridge Street in Chillicothe in 1908 and the first car ran to Main Street on October 15, 1908.

The Chillicothe statistic was built in 1911-1912 and was opened for passenger business on June 27, 1912.

The Ohio Electric Railway station was opened at Third and Rich Streets, Columbus, Ohio on January 6, 1912. In 1913, the Parsons Ave-

In the winter of 1917-1918, the Obetz Junction station was built and was opened on March 18, 1918.

nue viaduct was built.

On December 17, 1919, General J. J. Pershing rode a special car, Motor No. 117, from Columbus to Chillicothe with George Gallegher as motorman in service uniform.



Miller, 1925



Undercrossing with N & W Railway at Kinnikinik, Scioto Valley

In September 1926, the Picway generating plant of the Columbus Railway Power and Light Company began operation.

Limited parlor car service began on the Chillicothe Division on January 7, 1927, with one car making three round trips daily except Sunday. On July 31, 1927, Chillicothe Division limited parlor cars were changed to two-hour service, five and one-half trips daily. On this same day, limited parlor car service began on the Lancaster Division with one car making



Valley Crossing double track, 1905. Now Groveport Pike



New Station, Chillicothe, built 1912

Original Sheet No. J.

P. U. C. O. No. 1. First Filling.

Contract for Electric Service

The Scioto valley Traction Company (hereinatte	er called the Company) and
	8. Dill
(Hereinafter ca	illed the Consumer)
The Company agrees to furnish to the Consume	er at
Miner,	Ohio
)-watt Range
for a period of One year from the dat	e service begins under this contract, and thereafter unti
hirty (30) days' written notice to discontinue shall l	have been given by either party to the other.
The Consumer agrees to pay monthly for all elect	tric service at the rates specified in Schedule. "G"
of the Company's rates on file with the Public Utiliti	ies Commission of Ohio.
The contract cannot be transferred or assigned l	by the Consumer.
All agreements, terms and conditions on the bac	k of this contract shall be deemed a part barned
All agreements, terms and conditions on the bac	k of this contract shall be deemed a part hereof.
All agreements, terms and conditions on the bac	48 Dill
	48 Dill
All agreements, terms and conditions on the bac The Scioto Valley Traction Company By Jacob Follows	F. 8. Dill
The Scioto Valley Traction Company By Tracket & James	48 Dill
The Scioto Valley Traction Company By Fauth + S) acro Chico. Sills to F. E. Dill. fall address. Lookbourne, Ohio.	F. D. Dill Commer.
The Scioto Valley Traction Company By Jacob Valley Traction Company By Jacob Valley Traction Company Bills to F. E. Dill, Lookbourne, Ohio.	F. D. Dill Commer.
The Scioto Valley Traction Company By Frank + S a co	F. D. Dill Commer.

Effective June 1, 1916.

Photographic copy of the First Electric Range Contract

four round trips daily. Limited parlor car service was discontinued in the Lancaster Division after March 30, 1929

Issued May 1, 1916.

On March 1, 1928, the power house of the Scioto Valley Railway and Power Company was abandoned and power was purchased from the PicMr. and Mrs. Frank E. Dill purchased and installed, in June, 1916, the first electric range on the power lines of the Scioto Valley Traction Company, and it was the first one installed on a form home in the State of Ohio.



way plant of the Columbus Railway, Power and Light Company, and the current was changed from 25 to 60 cycles.

Limited and regular service was reduced on the Chillicothe and Lancaster Divisions in March of 1929 and limited service abandoned to Chillicothe in April. 1930.

On June 20, 1930, stockholders of the Scioto Valley Railway and Power Company voted to abandon passenger and freight service, except freight haul between Groveport and the Picway Generating plant of the Columbus Railway, Power and Light Company.

Passenger and freight service was discontinued on September 30, 1930. The last car, No. 114, left Columbus

for Lancaster at 5:35 p.m. When this car left Lancaster for Columbus at 7:05 p.m. in charge of Conductor James E. Newlove and Motorman H. R. Carroll, there were among the passengers, Ben Antil Confectioner and Frank Wright, 621 N. High St., Lancaster, who rode on the first trip on July 25, 1904; Col. L. G. Silbaugh, former Mayor of Lancaster, who turned the first earth for grading of the railroad in the spring of 1901; T. B. Singrey, a motorman who was with the company from the start and Chief Engineer, Gregg D. Wolfe.

It was estimated that 300 were present at the Main Street station when the last car pulled out and the crew of the last cars were presented with bouquets of beautiful dahlias by residents of North Columbus Street, and people in the neighborhood gave them a big farewell greeting at the big curve.

As this last car went through Canal Winchester—enroute to Columbus at 7:45 p.m.—the following citizens took a ride: Mrs. Barker, who stopped at Groveport; Miss Famah Ricketts, who stopped at Obetz; Mrs. H. D. Hartman and sons Masters Billy and Jerry; Mr. and Mrs. O. P. Gayman who went to Columbus. Conductor James E. Newlove; Motorman H. R. Carroll; T. B. Singrey, Motorman and Chief Engineer; G. D. Wolfe, autographed the receipts for fare to Columbus.

The last car from Chillicothe left for Columbus at 11:30 p.m. in charge of Conductor Frank Goff and Motorman William Lytle and Conductor George Gallagher were on the last car out of Chillicothe at 7:30 p.m.

After 26 years of service the cars were discontinued because other means of transportation superceded them. The service's relatively short existance was evidence of the swift-



St. Louis Fair Prize Cor, September 13, 1930
Picture on Opposite Page is a Section of transmission line from Midway to the Conal Winchester Sub-station, constructed during the veer 1948. Picture taken Seatember 10, 1949

Conductor's Cash Fare Receipt

NºA 806639

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CHILTHE	1926	Nov. Dec.	30	14	I	Will Ber
	-	Dec.	31	15		

moving advances of the times. The Scioto Valley Traction line is a significant chapter in the history of Ohio's development and progress.

The administrative and accounting offices of the electric department of Ohio-Midland Light and Power Company moved to the remodeled old freight and passenger station at Canal Winchester on June 24, 1932. The old school building at Third and Rich Streets, Columbus was abandoned entirely after being used as a station and for offices since October 21, 1905. The old building was torn down in the fall of 1933. A filling station was built on the site and opened for business by the Gulf Refining Commany on February 3, 1934.

The only part of the Scioto Valley Traction line now in operation is that from Groveport to Picway power plant of the Columbus and Southern Ohio Electric

Company. All coal and other material for the Picway plant, coming to Groveport on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad and to Obetz on the Norfolk and Western Bailroad A lone primary purpose for organization of the Scioto Valley Traction Company, now Ohio-Midland Light and Power Company, was construction and operation of an electric third-rail interurban railway system. The company did not engage in the sale of electrical energy until 1916 when distribution lines and facilities were installed in rural areas and the following villages located along the traction lines: Canal Winchester, Groveport, Carroll and Lockbourne. However, the company did sell electrical energy to the following customers, also located along the traction line, before the year 1916. Columbus Railway Power and Light Company of Columbus, Ohio; current sold for the operation of street cars over the Central Market lines. Allen D. Newmeyer of Ashville, O., for resale to the citizens of Ashville Villages of Ashville. Carroll, and Lockbourne for street lighting.

Farm use has been a deciding factor in the growth and prosperity of the company and the average consumption of the farm customer is substantially more than the average consumption of the consumers located in the villages, and it is anticipated that the use of electrical energy on the farm will continue to show an increase per customer during a number of years to come.

The company owns and operates 79 miles of 40,000 volt transmission lines, 7 step-down substation from transmission to distribution voltage, 796 miles of distribution lines, all

located in the rural areas of Franklin, Pickaway, Fairfield, Ross and Hocking Counties, Ohio.

All of the electrical energy sold to our customers and used in the operation of the electric railway system of the company is purchased from the Columbus and Southern Ohio Electric Company at their Picway Generating Plant south of Columbus, Ohio.

During the twelve months ended July 31, 1949, the company purchased 51,367,200 kilowatt hours for resale to its customers and for the operation of its electric railway.

LINE BY LINE, this Golden Anniversary booklet has recounted a significant saga of progress. By text and pictures, we have attempted a review of a worthy quest for service by a few for their fellow men. These pages must of sheer necessity disclose but a few of the highlights in a long and fact-filled story. Many a reader will himself, read much between the lines. Associations related to pictures will be recalled by as many more. And through a whole series of reactions, there can come but one conclusion. Service has been the watchword of Ohio-Midland for 50 years. Strictly by virtue of what has been accomplished in the past, the trust of the future must and will be fulfilled with the same sincere drive to render satisfactory services for all customers. This is the continuing goal of all who work to maintain the reputation of Ohio-Midland. We trust those we serve will always share our pride in progress.