

# Many Lose Friend in Death of Chas. S. Fee

Widely Known Passenger Traffic Manager Passes Away After Short Illness.  
His Career is a Striking Record of Service to the West

**I**N the death of Charles S. Fee, Passenger Traffic Manager, on September 25, 1923, Southern Pacific Company lost an able official and many railroad men of all ranks a valued friend. Mr. Fee had been ill for several weeks, but his condition was reported improved and his death therefore came as a greater shock.

Mr. Fee was recognized as the dean of western railroad passenger traffic men and probably no individual has done more to make western scenic wonders known to the world. He had been with the Company since 1904 and during his nineteen years of service with Southern Pacific had the respect and the affection as well of all those who worked with him.

It is indicative of Mr. Fee's kindly personality that he preferred to say that the members of his department "worked with him" rather than "worked for him."

Mr. Fee was born at Laurel, Ohio,

September 24, 1853, and received his education in the public schools. He began his railroad career with the Michigan Central as secretary to the General Superintendent. This was in the days when stenographers transcribed their notes into longhand and Mr. Fee's "copperplate" writing in his later years as a railroad official was due partly to his early training as a stenographer, and also to his care and thoroughness as to details.

In 1875 Mr. Fee became chief clerk to the General Manager of the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad and in 1877 was appointed chief clerk to the General Manager of the Northern Pacific Railroad. In 1883 he was promoted to general passenger and ticket agent of that line, remaining with the Northern Pacific in that capacity until 1904 when he was appointed passenger traffic manager for the Southern Pacific Company.

Mr. Fee was a lover of the out-of-

## Strong, Modest and True; A Man of Broad Vision

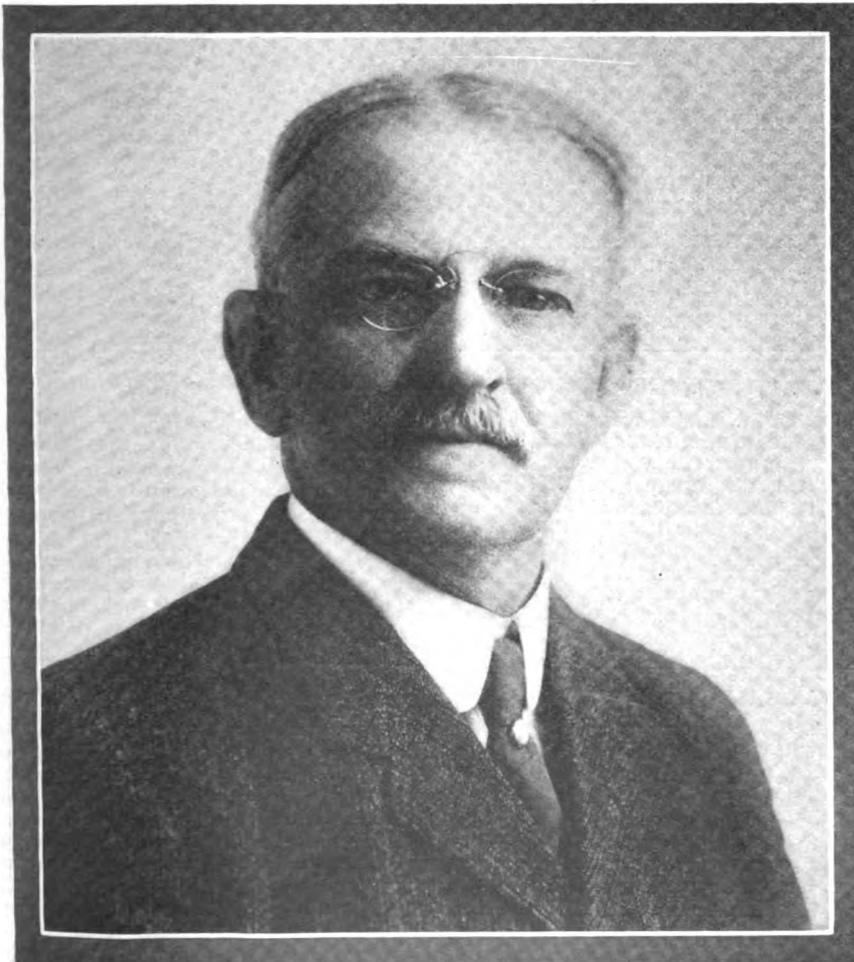
*The high regard in which Mr. Fee was held by all of his associates is expressed by Wm. Sproule, President, Southern Pacific Company, in the following tribute:*

**I**N the death of Mr. Fee the Company has lost an able officer. By his fellow officers and associates generally in the service Mr. Fee was held in the highest regard. He was respected for his force of character and liked for his friendly sincerity. He was strong and modest and true.

Besides all this, he was a worthy citizen. He had no doubt of the destiny of this Coast and his convictions found expression in his constant efforts, extending over twenty years, to further its interests.

He had the broad view. The smaller questions of geography did not confuse him. Hence he had a firm working basis upon which to build, believing that the prosperity of every State on this Coast, and of every city in each of these States, meant reciprocal prosperity for all and made united progress sure.

He was a man without vanities and did his work without display, but was persistent and effective. His passing breaks a link in the long chain of association we gratefully remember.



CHAS. S. FEE

After Reading Your Bulletin, Pass It Along

doors and was greatly impressed by the scenic wonders of the west. It was characteristic of him that after visiting some beauty spot along the lines of his company he immediately wanted his friends to visit it, and it was this desire to have his fellow men see what he had seen and feel what he had felt which moved him in exerting every effort to bring people to the Pacific Coast. His influence was an important factor in fostering tourist travel and colonization in the west.

### Directed Advertising

After coming to the Southern Pacific Company in 1904 Mr. Fee directed the wide flung and extensive advertising of the Yosemite, the beautiful lakes of the west, the big trees, the Apache Trail and many other attractions and established rates which made it easy for people to travel to these points of interest. He also worked to the substantial development of the west through interesting people

in what the west had to offer to the settler.

Mr. Fee had a lovable personality which endeared him to his fellows in railroad work. He was widely known to railroad men all over the United States and was generally spoken of as "my friend 'Charile' Fee" by them. He was never given to caustic criticism in his dealings with those under him, preferring to correct through suggestions. He treated those of his department as members of his family, calling them by their first names.

#### Knew All Details

Mr. Fee was an authority on the passenger rate structure through his lifelong work in passenger traffic work and because of his habits of thoroughness as to all details of the work. He was a member for many years in the Fraternal Society of the American Association of Passenger Traffic Officials and of the Traveling Passenger Agents Association, in which he was a moving figure.

Mr. Fee was a director of the Panama Pacific International Exposition at San Francisco in 1915 and took a great interest in helping to make it the success that it was.

He was a member of the Bohemian, Pacific Union, Commercial Commonwealth and Transportation Clubs of San Francisco, belonged to the Claremont and San Jose Country Clubs and was a member of the Salt Lake Commercial Club. He was a life member of the Elks Club of St. Paul.

Mr. Fee is survived by his wife, two sons, Charles W. Fee, trainmaster for the Northern Pacific at Tacoma and Donald Jerome Fee, civil engineer with the Pacific Gas & Electric Company, and two daughters, Marcia Gayle Fee and Elizabeth Fee, residing at the family home at 2616 Buchanan Street, San Francisco, and by two sisters.

Funeral services were held Sept. 28 from Grace Cathedral, San Francisco. Friends from up and down the Pacific Coast gathered to attend.

The active pallbearers were members of Mr. Fee's staff: J. H. R. Parsons, C. L. McFaul, F. C. Lathrop, E. E. Wade, N. Kinell, and Geo. B. Hanson.

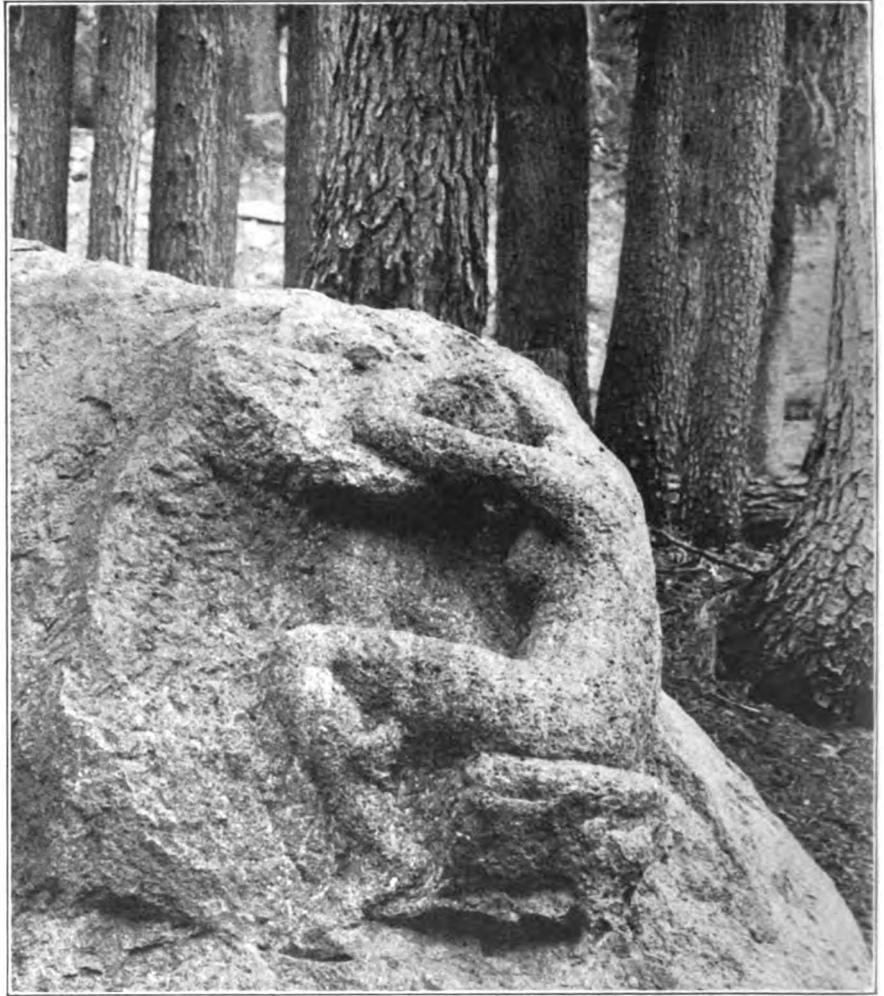
Honorary pallbearers were: Wm. Sproule, General C. A. Devol, J. H. Dyer, G. W. Luce, T. A. Graham, J. C. Pond, E. Godchaux, Dr. Redmond Payne, E. W. Clapp, C. J. Millis, C. W. Durbrow, H. A. Hinshaw, H. A. Buck, Jas. Horsburgh, Jr., R. A. Donaldson, H. R. Judah, J. M. Fulton, H. C. Tibbits, T. O. Edwards, A. T. Mercier.

Southern Pacific General Offices at San Francisco were closed the afternoon of Sept. 28 out of respect to the memory of Mr. Fee.

#### OUTING PARTY PLEASSED

L. F. Rosler, traveling passenger agent, San Francisco, who recently accompanied an outing party into the Yosemite Valley, has received the following commendation: "His efficiency, courtesy and unobtrusive good fellowship contributed to the success of the trip."

## Strange Art In Oregon Forest



Thousands wonder whether man or nature was the artist.

RECENT discovery in the heart of the Oregon forest of the figure of a woman in stone has aroused the interest of artists, scientists and the general public over the Pacific Coast. The "stone woman," as the figure is sometimes called, was found about one mile from Crater Lake near the line of railroad being constructed by Southern Pacific from Kirk to Oakridge.

Whether the figure was fashioned by human hands or by the action of the elements is not known. Various theories as to its origin have been advanced but as yet none of them has been verified.

The figure, as shown in the photograph above, is that of a seated woman leaning against a rock, with her head resting in her arms.

#### DAYLIGHT LIMITED BOOST

Ralph Parlett, noted lecturer and magazine editor, wrote the Passenger Department, from Los Angeles: "I want to congratulate you on behalf of the tourist public for putting on this Daylight Limited train. It is the finest, cleanest, most comfortable trip of the many I have made between the two cities. The service in every way is ideal from cars to trainmen. I have heard a score of delightful comments today on this train."

#### REVERENCE OF ENGINEER

J. D. Stephens of Fresno, wrote President Wm. Sproule to express his appreciation of the reverence shown by Engineer V. Gazzolo, Stockton Division, when he slowed up his train considerably on leaving Fresno to allow a funeral cortege to cross the tracks uninterrupted. "Death is a serious thing in life, and the sorrow of a bereaved family is surely entitled to due respect. The consideration shown by your engineer was greatly appreciated."