

# **STUDENT COURSE IN RAILROADING**

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Student Course in Railroading by Fred G. Athearn

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**FRED G. ATHEARN**

# **STUDENT COURSE IN RAILROADING**



# Student Course In Railroading

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By FRED G. ATHEARN

Manager of the Bureau of Economics of the  
Southern Pacific Company

WILEY &  
SONS, INC.

## INTRODUCTION.

This outline of work and reading in railroading is not designed to be a complete and exhaustive study of the subject. Its aim is to be a "laboratory" course, as it were, to fit young men to assume positions of responsibility in the management of railroad affairs, and to prepare them in such a way that they may have a working knowledge of the several departments and their inter-relation, so that they may be able to conduct the particular duties assigned to them in harmony with the scheme of railroading as a whole.

For constructive criticism, I am indebted to Mr. William Sproule, President; Mr. E. E. Calvin, Vice-President in charge of Operation and Construction; Mr. A. D. McDonald, Auditor; Mr. E. O. McCormick, Vice-President in charge of Traffic; Mr. W. R. Scott, General Manager; Mr. G. F. Richardson, Superintendent of Transportation; Mr. J. M. Davis, General Superintendent; Mr. J. M. Brewer, Freight Claim Agent; Mr. Thomas A. Graham, General Freight Agent; Mr. W. F. Taylor, Assistant General Freight Agent; Mr. W. C. Dorsey, Chief Clerk, Auditor of Disbursements; Mr. Norman Collyer, of the President's office; and Mr. L. A. Giamboni, Assistant in the Bureau of Economics; all of the Southern Pacific Company; Mr. Paul Shoup, President, Pacific Electric; and Major Charles Hine, Vice-President and General Manager, Southern Pacific of Mexico.

F. G. A.

*San Francisco, December, 1912.*

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### **DESIGN OF COURSE IN RAILROADING.**

The course is so designed that the first two years will cover the entire field of railroading in a general way. The work of the railroad is divided into three main groups, Operation and Maintenance, Passenger and Freight Traffic, and Accounting.

After the completion of the first two years, there follows one and one-half years of special work in each of the several main divisions.

This plan has the merit that it gives a general training in all of the principal departments of the railroad. This gives the student the knowledge that is so necessary to conduct properly the work of any given department in which he may later specialize in harmony and in co-ordination with all the other departments of the road.

At the end of the first two years of the course, the student is assigned to special work, for one and one-half years in one of the three main divisions. The particular division to which he is assigned depends upon the student's own inclinations, coupled with his qualifications as determined by his record and the observations of the Officer in Charge of Students.



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