PAYS WARM TRIBUTE TO VETERAN ENGINEER’S RECORD

The accompanying account of the career of Milo H. Carlton, veteran engineer of the Jefferson division, who has retired after 45 years service, was written by B. Regan, a fellow veteran of the throttle on the Jeff, who began with the Erie 50 years ago as a wiper at the Carbondale roundhouse, and who’s motto is to give the veteran of the rail all the honors we can while they are living.

The average American youth, when thrown upon his own resources, rises to the occasion and acquires himself in a manner that gains the praise of the world. There is room at the top in every trade and profession and it is reached only after years of painstaking efforts and thorough competency in every branch of the work that leads up to such a position. If a boy expects to reach the highest rank in his chosen calling he must make the start by being thorough at the outset of his career.

This very thing was accomplished by Engineer Milo H. Carlton, affectionately called Doc, who has been retired as an engineer on the Erie’s Jefferson division after 45 years of faithful service, having reached the age of three score and ten and standing No. 4 on the engineers’ roster at his retirement.

Engineer Carlton was born in Green township, Pike county, Pa., the son of David H. Carlton, one of the pioneer farmers of that region, who died when Milo was but 4 years of age. Engineer Carlton attended the district school and by close application to his studies obtained a good common school education. After leaving school he worked for several years in a clothes-pin factory in his native town, but soon found this class of work not to his liking, and so in February, 1888, when he was given the opportunity, he left the village of his birth and went to Carbondale, Pa., where he secured a position as car repairer under the late George W. Norris, who was then general foreman on the Jefferson division of the Erie at Carbondale. He held this position until September, 1889, when he was advanced to fireman in freight service on the Jefferson division.

After 10 years of faithful and efficient service as a fireman Mr. Carlton’s hopes were realized on August 11, 1899, when he received a merited promotion to engineer. From the time of his promotion 34 years ago to the right side of the cab, until he retired, he has been one of the most reliable engineers on the Erie system, running between Avoca and Susquehanna, being in pusher service out of Carbondale at his retirement.

In the early years of his railroad career he became affiliated with Van Bergen lodge, No. 62, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, located at Carbondale, and was a member of this organization for 16 years. During this time he filled the various elective offices in the lodge and for 6 years was local chairman. During that period he handled the grievances of his brother firemen in such an efficient manner as to win the esteem not only of his brother firemen but also the complete confidence of his superiors.

In 1907, when the Jefferson division engineers organized John Wonderly division, No. 722, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Mr. Carlton became a charter member. In this organization Engineer Carlton has been honored with all elective offices. For many years he was chief engineer and was also the first pension agent of the above division, after the pension plan became operative. He is also affiliated with the Erie Veterans’ Association and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

(Continued on page 38)
Pays Warm Tribute

(Continued from page 23)

Engineer Carlton lives at 19 Dorte avenue, Carbondale, and is not only held in high esteem by his co-workers on the Jeff., but is also considered one of Carbondale's most substantial citizens, as a Christian gentleman whose character is beyond reproach and whose integrity has always been of the highest standard, and it is our wish and our prayer to the Creator that Engineer Carlton will be spared for many years to come to enjoy the fruits of his well-earned vacation, after 45 years of faithful service to the Old Reliable, the Erie railroad.