

## Saga of Steve Callanen's Train Table - Addendum

When including the photo of the Post War, heavy-weight “Madison” coach in the PDF file entitled “Saga of Steve Callanen's Train Table,”<sup>1</sup> I commented, “Detailed plans with dimensions were obtained from the popular *Model Railroader* magazine.”



I distinctly recall working from detailed plans in a *Model Railroader* magazine & it bothered me that I was unable to identify the date of the Issue. I thought I might have saved the magazine, but after not being able to find it, I went to the Kalmbach Media Co. web site:

<https://www.trains.com/mrr/magazine/>

& surprisingly discovered that I could sign up for 30-days of free access to digitized copies of all *Model Railroader* magazines dating back to 1934. On this web site I started searching the contents of magazines, which had been published during & immediately preceding the year that I had built the “Madison” coach. I reviewed the contents of all magazines published from 1954 through 1957.

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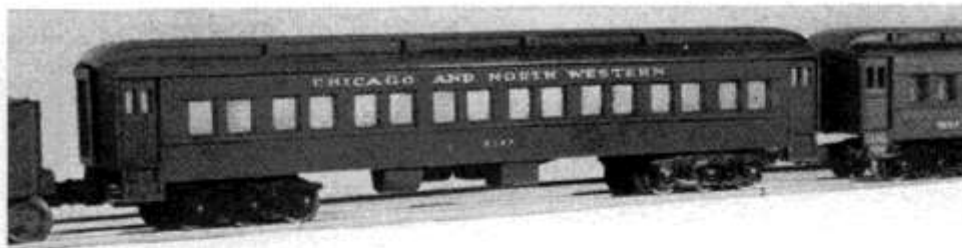
<sup>1</sup> Go to the Delaware SeaSide Railroad Club’s web site,

<http://www.delawareseasiderailroadclub.com/>

& click on the “Members Layouts” tab. Scroll down & click on the photo of young me & my Dad for my train table history.

In my stash of old RR memorabilia, I subsequently found four 1950 issues of *Model Railroader*. Guessing that I may have had other 1950 issues, I started searching through the *Model Railroader's* 1950 web site issues that I didn't have. I was elated to find, on Pages 50, 51 & 52 in the February 1950 issue, the plans I had been searching for. Following are those pages with the advertising removed.

Each issue of the *Model Railroader* magazines can be downloaded as a PDF file.



## TINPLATE & HI-RAIL

# Build a COACH to Match Your Lionel Pullmans

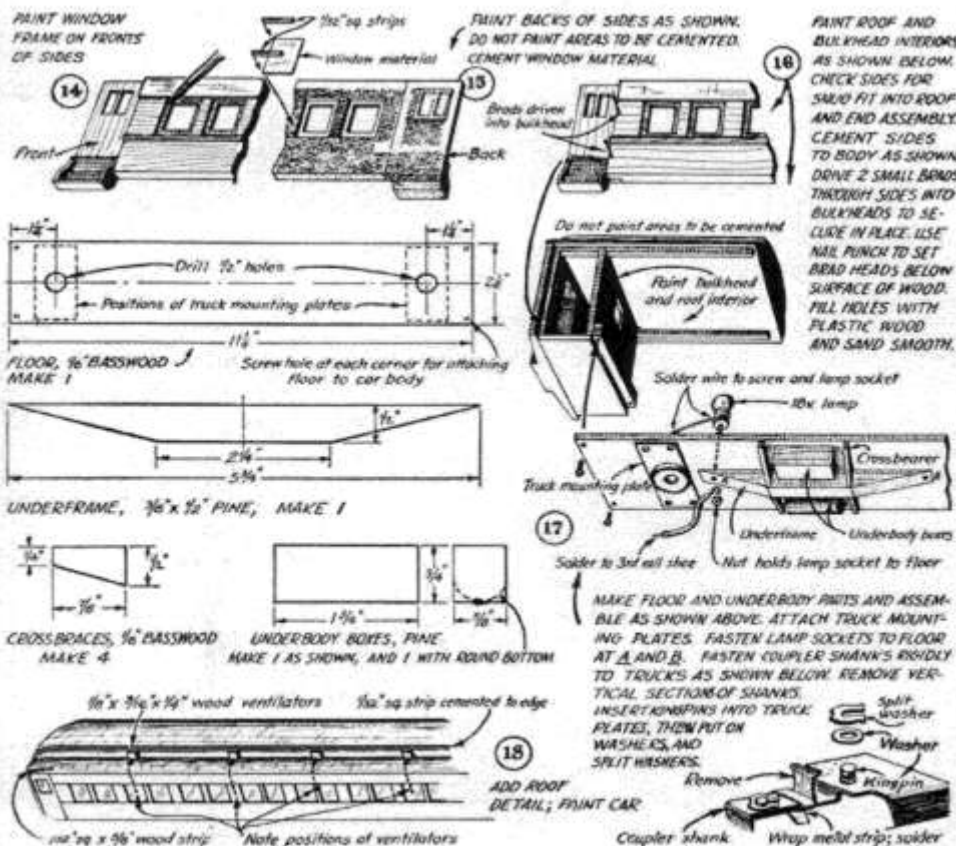
Follow the step-by-step instructions to construct this inexpensive passenger car from common materials

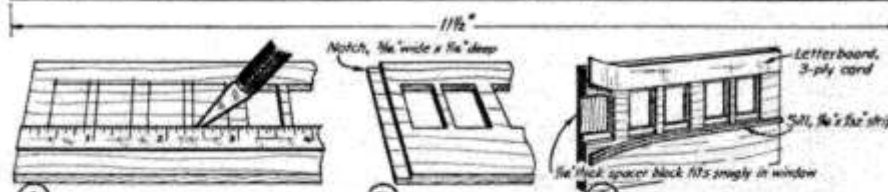
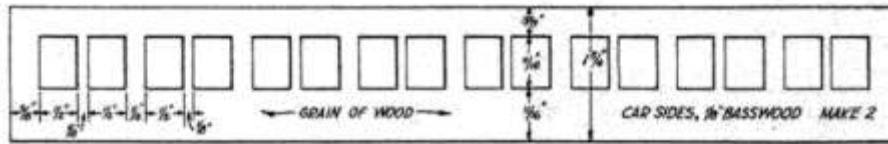
**H**ERE'S a coach you can build to match your Lionel O gauge Pullmans. Materials to make it cost about \$1, not counting the trucks. It is made of wood and you'll need only the simplest of tools.

Make your car sides first. Work carefully to avoid breaking the window posts. If any are broken out, save the pieces and cement them back in place. The vestibule ends, too, may

split while you are cutting out the openings. As before, save the pieces and glue them together again. The diaphragm strips at the front and the supporting strips at the rear will reinforce the ends.

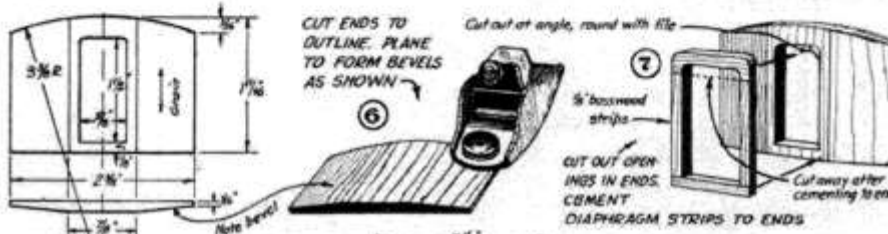
The car can be painted Tuscan red to match the Pullmans. Four prototype railroads use this color for their passenger cars: Soo Line, Pennsylvania, Norfolk & Western, and Cana-





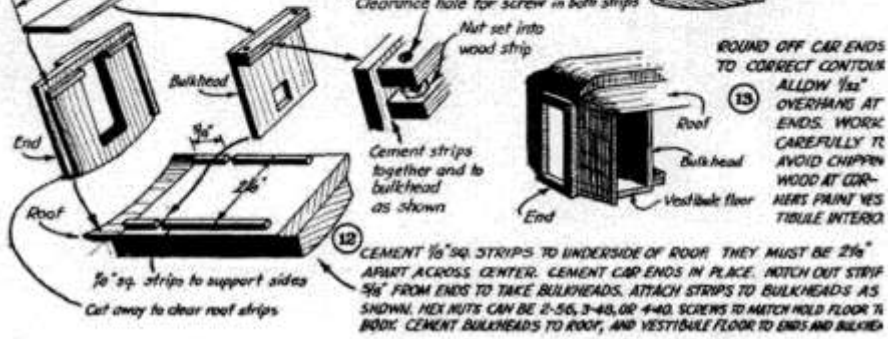
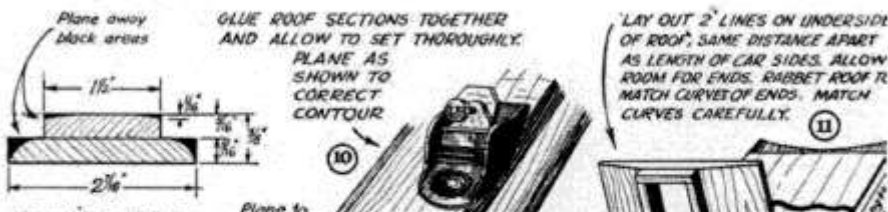
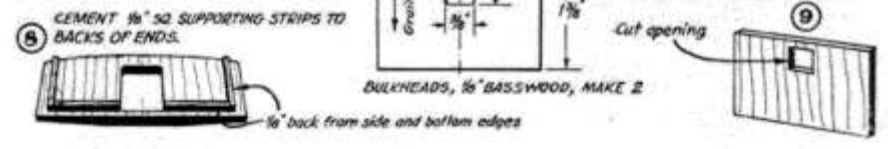
VESTIBULE DOORS, 1/2" PINE MAKE 2 RIGHT HAND AND 2 LEFT HAND

CEMENT STEPS TO DOOR BOTTOMS



CAR ENDS, 1/2" BASSWOOD MAKE 2

BULKHEADS, 1/2" BASSWOOD, MAKE 2



CEMENT 1/2" SQ STRIPS TO UNDERSIDE OF ROOF. THEY MUST BE 2 1/2" APART ACROSS CENTER. CEMENT CAR ENDS IN PLACE. NOTCH OUT STRIP 3/8" FROM ENDS TO TAKE BULKHEADS. ATTACH STRIPS TO BULKHEADS AS SHOWN. HEX NUTS CAN BE 2-56, 3-48, OR 4-40. SCREWS TO MATCH HOLD FLOOR TO BODY. CEMENT BULKHEADS TO ROOF, AND VESTIBULE FLOOR TO ENDS AND BULKHEADS.

dian Pacific. Of course, you can paint the car any color desired. The one in the photo on page 51 was finished in Pullman green and lettered C&NW.

Notice that the interior of the car is painted before the sides are attached. Be careful not to get any paint on the surfaces to be cemented. Cement will not stick to paint and, therefore, will not make a good solid bond.

Paint the window frames before inserting the individual pieces of window material. Then when the sides are painted, you needn't worry about marring the panes.

The accompanying sketches show 18 steps to be followed in building the coach, using materials listed in the box below. Start with Fig. 1 and finish each step completely before beginning the next. You will end up with a completed passenger car, ready to roll. —

*R. H. Wagner*

### *Bill of Materials*

[All these materials and parts are available at your hobby shop.]

- 3 pieces basswood,  $\frac{1}{8}$ " x 3" x 18"
- 1 piece pine  $\frac{1}{16}$ " x 3" x 18"
- 2 pieces pine  $\frac{5}{16}$ " x 3" x 18"
- 12 pine strips  $\frac{1}{32}$ " sq. x 24"
- 6 pine strips  $\frac{1}{32}$ " x  $\frac{1}{16}$ " x 24"
- 1 piece 1 x 1 lumber, 12" long
- 12 sq. in. window material
- 3 tubes slow-drying cement
- 1 pair Lionel six-wheel trucks
- 1 pair Walthers truck mounting plates for Lionel trucks
- 2 miniature base lamp sockets
- 2 18 v. lamps
- 2 2-56 x  $\frac{3}{8}$ " machine screws with nuts to match
- 4 machine screws (2-56, 3-48, or 4-40, all the same size)  $\frac{3}{8}$ " long with nuts to match
- 12" insulated hookup wire
- 1 piece good quality three-ply cardboard 3" x 18"

Some might wonder how I found time to build the “Madison” passenger coach in 1957 during my sophomore year at George Mason High School (GMHS) in Falls Church, VA.

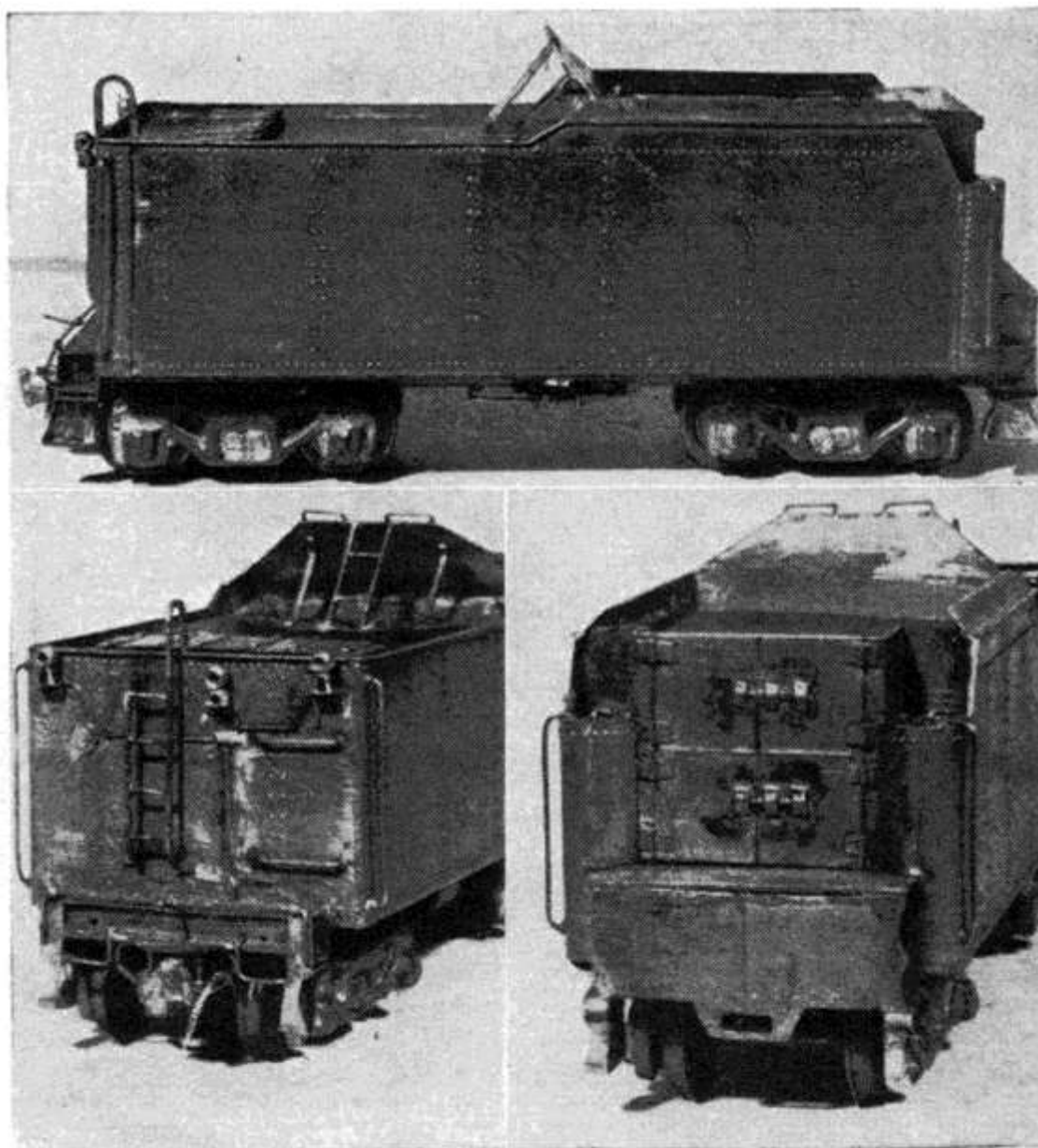
Before coming to GMHS, I had attended Franklin Delano Roosevelt High School in Hyde Park, NY, which had an outstanding mechanical drawing teacher. I recall that students who took his course often were able to find jobs as draftsmen after graduation. Since I was interested in pursuing studies in engineering, I had very much wanted to enroll in this drafting class. The closest course GMHS could offer was a shop (industrial arts) class, which included a few weeks of mechanical drawing. As part of that course, students were required to construct an item in the shop. I asked the shop teacher, Mr. Woodward, if I could build the model passenger coach as my shop project. He kindly & thankfully said yes. Mr. Woodward undoubtedly viewed the *Model Railroader* plans before approving of my project. I enjoyed working on the model. At the end of the semester, the car was exhibited in one of school’s hallway display cases. I doubt many of my classmates connected me to the model. I don’t remember calling it to anyone’s attention.

On page 59 of the same February 1950 *Model Railroader* issue I was in for another pleasant shock. This time, I was transported back in time to the 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> grade with the discovery of the plans for a K-4 Pacific tender, by Mel D. Thornburgh, which I had used, minus any dimensions, to fabricate the following pictured crude model. At age 81, I remain proud of this 1954 or 1955 “masterpiece.” I have no recollection of why the “Chicago **North Western** System” insignia was pasted on the tender.



A block of wood & the bottom of an old pre-War gray Lionel tender form the base of my model. The kingpin pivots for the trucks (wheels) were moved 5.25-inches apart on the centerline of the tender. The sides of the tender were fashioned from aluminum sheets. Vermiculite was used to simulate coal. I never was pleased with the result of my attempt to create rivet heads on the sides of the tender. My dear photographer wife, Sallie, requested credit for all the photographs of my cars contained in this Addendum.

Following, for comparative purposes, are the K-4 tender photos & illustrations from the *Model Railroader* magazine. The text that accompanied the article is not included because it relates to building the tender model exclusively from pieces of brass.



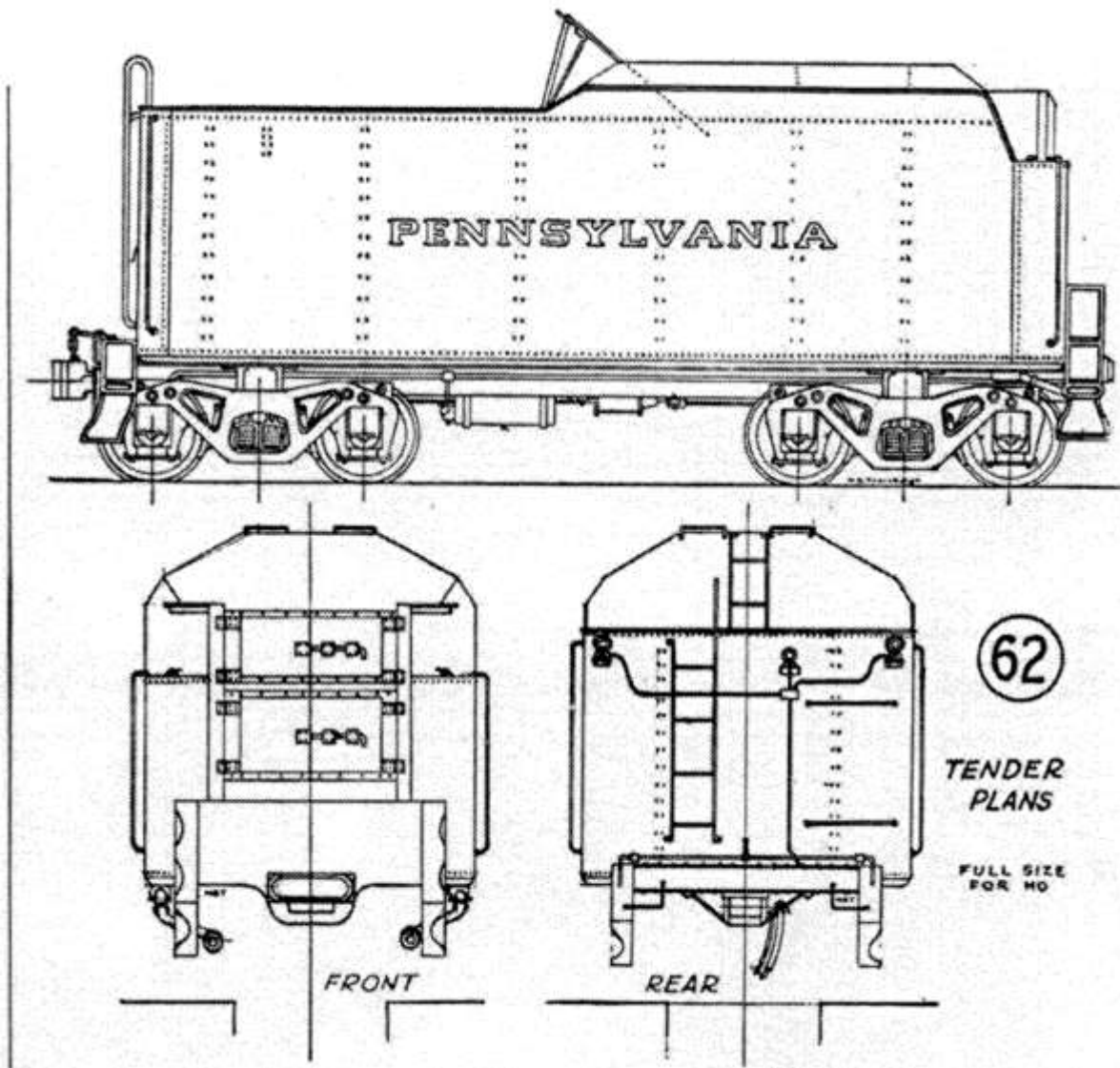
## BUILDING AN HO GAUGE K-4 PACIFIC

By M. D. Thornburgh

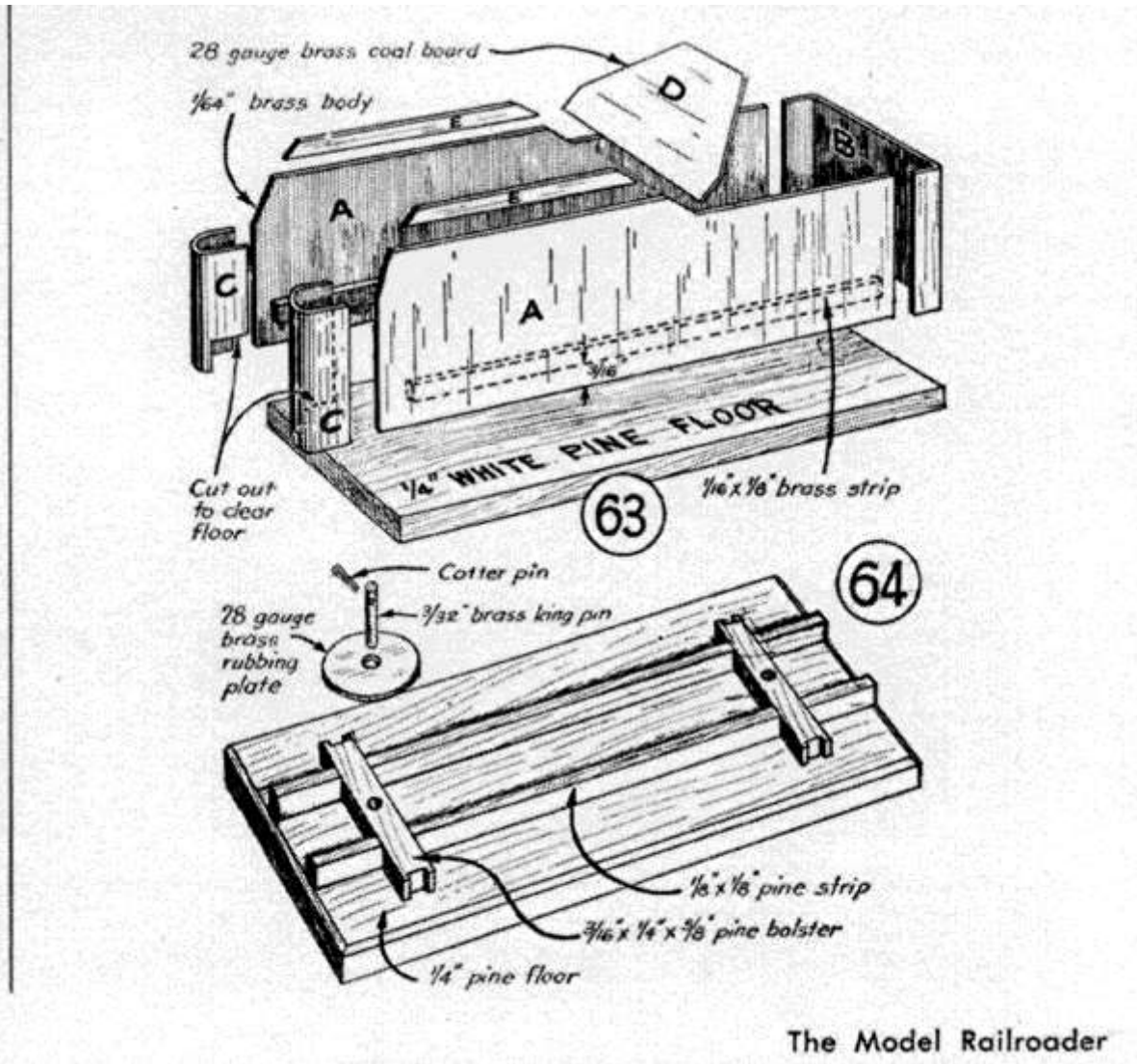
Part 5 — Tender

*Model Railroader*, Feb. 1950, Page 59.

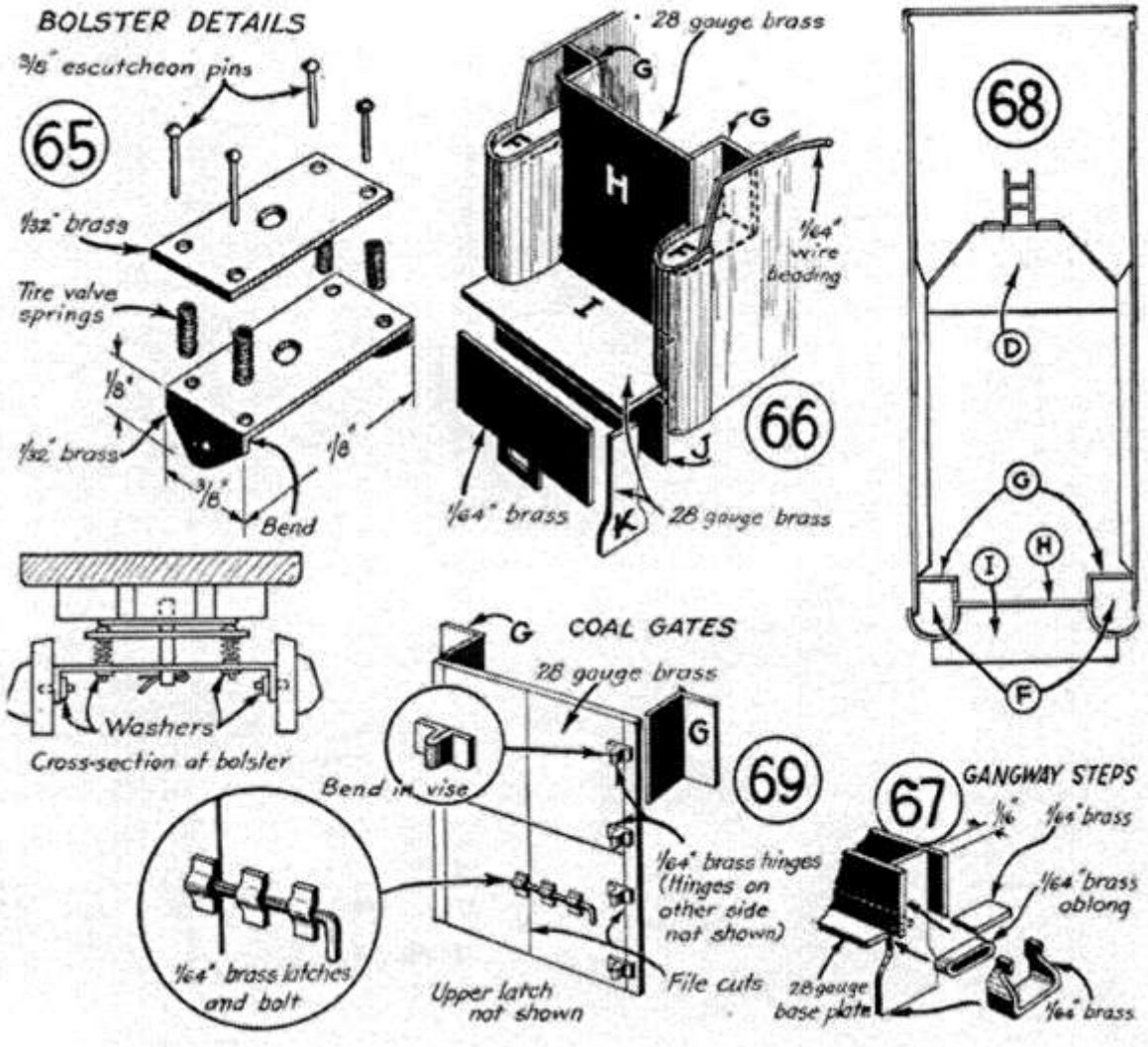




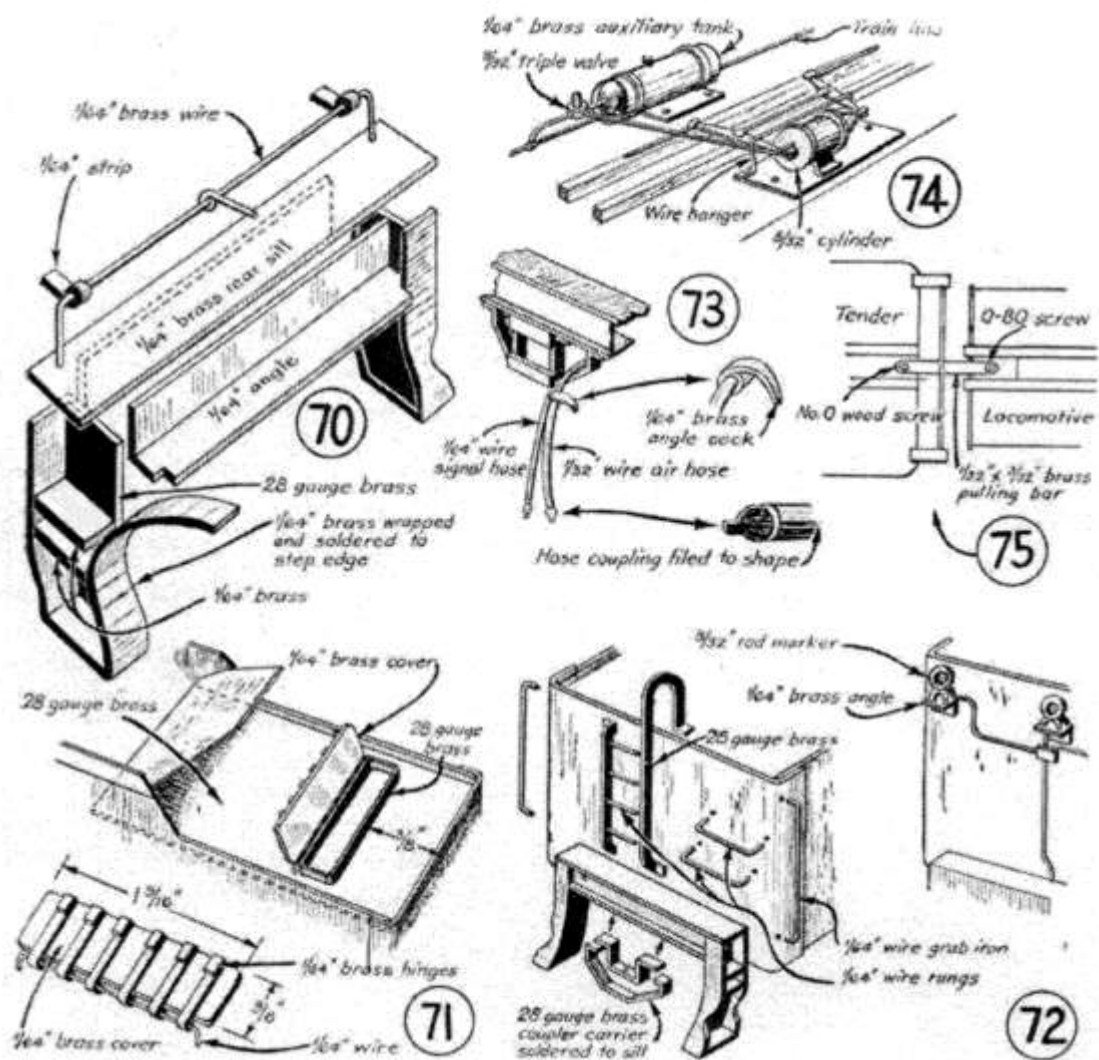
*Model Railroader, Feb. 1950, Page 60.*



*Model Railroader*, Feb. 1950, Page 60.



Model Railroader, Feb. 1950, Page 61.



*Model Railroader*, Feb. 1950, Page 62.

Now you can appreciate how *Model Railroader* magazine stimulated my boyhood interest in toy trains.



*My Model Railroader K-4 tender behind Lionel locomotive #2025*

The PDF file entitled “Saga of Steve Callanen's Train Table,” included this photo of a hopper car kit that I assembled in 1953 in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade.



After building this kit model, I fashioned another almost identical hopper car from wood that was not part of a commercial kit. The ladders on the ends of this second hopper car were fabricated from wire. Decals were never purchased. My Dad added the couplers & trucks. That’s all folks.

