

CONTENTS (from about p 55 only more im-
portant contents are listed.)

Page 2.	Author's Note.
" 4.	The Wrexham - Ellesmere Branch.
" 8.	The Border Counties Railway II
" 27.	The Lakeside Branch.
" 31.	Camp at Osenholme.
" 33.	Windermere - Osenholme - Tetray - Kirby Stephen - Barmard- Castle.
" 45.	Weatherhill, - Wastberley - Burnhill - Rasley.
" 55.	Various journeys.
" 56.	Walk from Shieldhill to Lorethie.
" 58.	Various journeys and Llanfillin branch.
" 59.	Shrewsbury - Ruabon - Bala Bala Junction - Ruabon - Shrewsbury.
" 61.	More journeys & the C.K.P. - Photographs.
" 62.	The Third Hike - Alnwick - Coldstream.
" 86.	Journeys and Railways in Ireland.
" 91.	Larne Harbour - Stranraer Harbour - Carlisle.
" 94.	Various Journeys & Keswick - Penrith log, Carlisle - Kirkcubridge Log.
" 96. f	SOLWAY JUNCTION RAILWAY No 2.
" 101. f	Journeys and GORTON LOCOMOTIVE WORKS.
" 104.	Journey Shrewsbury - Welshpool - Castle Carineon.
" 106.	" Welshpool - Oswestry - Gorton - Shrewsbury.
" 109. f	Running logs between Preston and Carlisle.
" 111	Journey Halt Whistle - Carlisle - Silloth - Carlisle.
" 112. f	" Manchester Vic - Colne - Skipton - Morzambie - Lancaster - Whitehaven Barmby - Carlisle - Bardon Mill.

AUTHOR'S NOTE

Well here comes the second volume less than a year after the first. It just shows how much one can write on photographs and railways. In fact there are only about 60 pages of writing, but photo's (of which there are almost exactly 100) gaps for history and maps have spread the book out over most of its 154 pages. It is interesting to note the change in character of the book both in the method of setting out the notes and in the type of exploration. Starting with closed railways with the track removed and attempting to find interest in such grand railways as the Stafford m. line we have worked up to the stage of considering to apply for permits. The maps have also changed in style. Carbon paper has been tried and given up, for the better "press" method. The idea of having a section devoted to photo's was given up because the book spread too much at these points. The idea of putting scrap in at all was given up for this reason also in favour of a proper scrap book. I did consider changing the type of book for this second volume so that I could stick an unlimited amount of stuff in, but it seemed to me that if the two volumes were not uniform they would not be one, as I intend them to be.

I am still adding photo's to the volume one and putting in history when I can find it (which is no easy matter). When I am in ^{an} area that we have been to, or to one that we intend to visit I take photo's and also ask local people about the line. This is especially necessary with some of our early exploration for we hardly ever had cameras then. And even when we did start taking more interest in this field the photos didn't come out (Weatherhill & Rockhope and Midgeholme railways).

3.
In most cases this history will be quoted as there seems little point in cutting and rewording it when there is plenty of space. I am trying every method to get this history from books, by writing letters to local authorities and so on.

When finished perhaps this book will show the same change in character of exploration and style as the former book so I shall not try to keep the notes uniform. There will, however, be nothing but notes and photo's etc. in this book and no appendix's and so on - I think there is enough room left in the old book.*

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F.N. Clark-Lowes

11-5-60

* Perhaps I'd better take that back!