From Gotch to Gable: a History of Wrestling in Iowa

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information on the hundreds of track miles no longer being traveled by Milwaukee rolling stock in Iowa, the Dakotas and the other states once served by the company, is sadly disappointing.

The book, then, is a pictorial review of Milwaukee rolling stock of recent years with an abbreviated text and virtually no analysis of the company’s history or operations with the possible exception of post-war passenger service. For the died-in-the-wool rail enthusiast this will be more than enough reason to warrant adding it to a library; for the serious rail historian or the general reader there may be other, more useful, alternatives.

NORTH DAKOTA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

BOOK NOTICES

From Gotch to Gable: A History of Wrestling in Iowa, by Mike Chapman. (Iowa City: The University of Iowa, 1981. pp. 368, illustrations, charts, $17.50 cloth.)

The author, a sports writer for the Cedar Rapids Gazette, is widely recognized as a wrestling historian, with two previous books on the subject. The book itself contains everything the most ardent wrestling fan would want to know about the sport that has put Iowa on the map nationally. Iowa hosted the first NCAA meet, and is the only state to have had four different schools win the NCAA title. Beginning with Frank Gotch, a Humboldt native, at the turn of the century and going through the career of Waterloo’s Dan Gable (the present wrestling coach at the University of Iowa), this volume will astound the reader with the names and records of the all-time greats in amateur wrestling. Full of photographs; lists of state, national, and international events; place winners; and champions, plus lots of personal anecdotes, every wrestling fan in Iowa and the nation will consider this book the “encyclopedia” of the sport.


This is national history on a grand scale—blending the relationships between Native Americans and the whites who expanded their settlements from the East to the Pacific Northwest. This is the first composite