

500 New Coal Cars

Purchase of 500 steel coal cars of 70-ton capacity each and of the latest self-clearing hopper-bottom type by the Boston and Maine was recently announced. The new cars, due next March, will be used to deliver with new dispatch a high percentage of New England's domestic and industrial coal supply, the haulage of which constitutes nearly 22 per cent of our total freight tonnage. The four-door self-clearing feature of the cars, it is estimated, will constitute a big saving to receivers of coal, running for those equipped to gain the full benefit as high as \$6 to \$10 per car.

The 70-ton capacity will increase the potential load per train, permitting more efficient and economical transportation. During the slack season in the coal traffic, the new cars will expedite the Boston and Maine's big program of rock-ballasting.

The new cars, first to be ordered in ac-

cordance with the latest approved American Railway Association specifications, will have special reinforcement and durability features. The builders will be the Standard Steel Car Company of Butler, Pa. They will cost \$1,200,000.

Per Cent of Passenger Train Schedules Maintained

Operating Division	Month of November		Improvement over 1927
	1927	1928	
Portland	93.7	97.9	4.44
Southern	86.7	96.8	11.64
Fitchburg	70.0	96.4	37.70
Conn. River.....	66.0	96.9	46.80
W. Mts.....	95.4
System	87.5	97.4	11.54

Note: White Mts. Div. now divided between Connecticut River and Southern divisions. November, 1927, reflects adverse conditions during flood period.