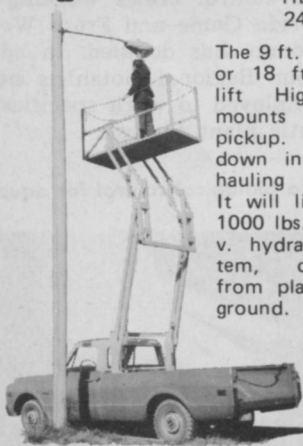


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Dressed for the occasion, Mrs. Rita Stevens of Cleveland patrols N&W tracks and rights-of-way for refuse. She was one of nearly 27,000 persons who participated in "Operation Clean Up."

## Railway Cleanup Campaign Nets Tons of Refuse

With the energy of a diesel locomotive pulling a freight express, nearly 27,000 employees of the Norfolk and Western Railway began "Operation Clean Up" in early June.

Armed with trash bags, paint brushes, rakes, trucks and other assorted equipment, men and women cleaned the railroad's rights-of-ways which cover 8,000 miles and 14 states.

The campaign was designed to help improve the ecology by removing refuse, particularly in areas where N&W tracks went through cities and residential areas. One official pointed out that as far as could be determined, the N&W was the first railroad to undertake such a program — certainly one on such a massive scale. Excellent cooperation was received from railroad management, various railroad crafts and from labor organizations.

"It is a joint effort of labor and management to improve the appearance of our railroad," said John P. Fishwick, N&W president and chief executive officer. "We believe that

a united, cooperative effort by all employees can change the face of the company, especially those yards and areas that are visible to the public."

In the Cleveland area, 200 employees, some of whom were wives of employees, policed western Greater Cleveland and surrounding suburbs.

"We believe that this campaign to clean the rights-of-ways brings us to a closer realization that ecology is everybody's business," said Mrs. Rita Stevens whose husband is superintendent of the N&W Cleveland Terminal.

Results of the campaign in Cleveland totaled more than 130 tons of debris. Five railroad gondola cars were needed to remove the refuse to the disposal area.

The significance of the June 1 campaign was noted by railroad historians. In 1886 N&W employees changed the gauge of the railroad from Bristol, Va. to Norfolk, Va.—a distance of 408 miles—in one day. On that date all train traffic was halted for the day to give crews absolute freedom to accomplish the job. This year the trains operated as usual.