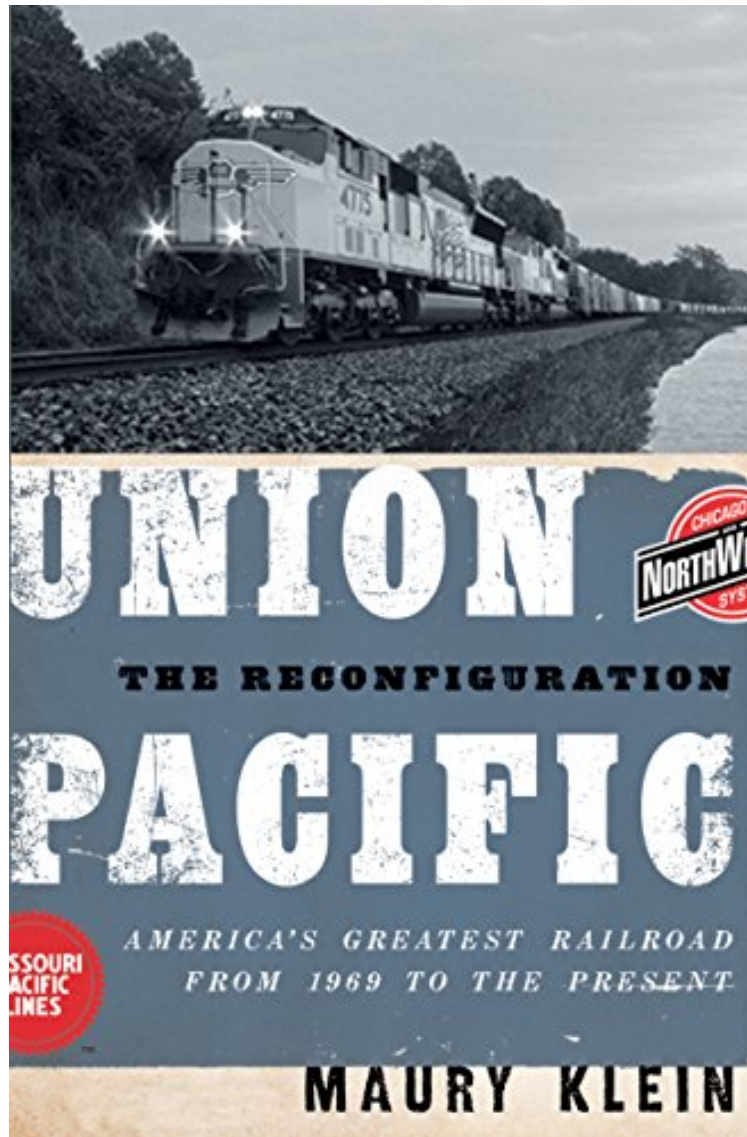


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Union Pacific: The Reconfiguration: America's Greatest Railroad from 1969 to the Present

Maury Klein

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Maury Klein : Union Pacific: The Reconfiguration: America's Greatest Railroad from 1969 to the Present
before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Union Pacific: The Reconfiguration: America's Greatest Railroad from 1969 to the Present:

24 of 24 people found the following review helpful. how a company was transformed By jim mcelellan I was a senior executive for Norfolk Southern, but worked for other railroads, DOT, Amtrak. Been around the block. For NS, did mergers among other things. Knew virtually all of the players in this book, as well as the events that transformed the

UP, and the railroad industry. While I might quibble with a few things, Klein has fairly captured an era that saved an industry. A must read for anyone interested in transportation or business in general. After all, railroads are one of the industries that almost died and were reborn; a story with a happy ending. We could use more success stories these days, couldn't we? Jim McClellan 11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Interesting, if you were there. By Ringo 523 This is the third book in the series, and I did not read the earlier two volumes. However, I have had a professional association with the Union Pacific Railroad for over 30 years and I personally know or knew many of the principals; so I found this well-written book to be very interesting and it brought back a lot of memories. However without that context, I could see how some may find this volume to be somewhat dry and filled with no longer relevant details. The best aspects for me were the descriptions of the personalities; some of whom were very colorful. Those sections were almost like reading a novel. If you are a hard-core railroad buff; or if you have direct knowledge of Union Pacific, then this book is for you. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I enjoyed the first two volumes in Klein's work on the ... By HighSierra49er I enjoyed the first two volumes in Klein's work on the Union Pacific, but this final volume to me has been the best yet. Starting with the Kenefick years many changes have evolved in the railroading landscape. This book brought to light so many behind the scene issues that clarified what was going on at the railroad through the many merger pains and meltdowns.. Well written, heavily researched, and a difficult book to stop reading once the drama begins. Living in Roseville it was rather easy to watch the transition issues on the SP-UP merger. Quite different from today with the new Davis yard operating in a very fluid and efficient manner. The behind the scenes decisions (good or bad) and operational errors didn't take long to manifest themselves into readily viewable elements of the Union Pacific Railroad. I appreciate Mr. Klein's clarity in writing and his obvious desire to do a thorough research on the subject. Great reading.....

Praised by the Chicago Tribune as "thoroughly and compellingly detailed history," Volumes I and II of Maury Klein's monumental history of the Union Pacific Railroad covered the years from 1863-1969. Now the third and final volume brings the story of the Union Pacific--the oldest, largest, and most successful railroad of modern times--fully up to date. The book follows the trajectory of an icon of the industrial age trying to negotiate its way in a post-railway world, plagued by setbacks such as labor disputes, aging infrastructure, government de-regulation, ill-fated mergers, and more. By 1969 the same company that a century earlier had triumphantly driven the golden spike into Promontory Summit--to immortalize the nation's first transcontinental railway--seemed a dinosaur destined for financial ruin. But as Klein shows, the Union Pacific not only survived but is once more thriving, which proves that railways remain critical to commerce and industry in America, even as passenger train travel has all but disappeared. Drawing on interviews with Union Pacific personnel past and present, Klein takes readers inside the great railroad--into its boardrooms and along its tracks--to show how the company adapted to the rapidly changing world of modern transportation. The book also offers fascinating portraits of the men who have run the railroad. The challenges they faced, and the strategies they developed to meet them, give readers a rare glimpse into the inner workings of one of America's great companies. A capstone on a remarkable achievement, *Union Pacific: The Reconfiguration* will appeal to historians, business scholars, and transportation buffs alike.

"Mr. Klein has written thoroughly researched and scrupulously objective biographies of the previously much maligned Jay Gould and E. H. Harriman, remaking their public images by presenting them in full. Now he has published the third and final volume of his magisterial history of the Union Pacific railroad, taking the company from 1969 to the present day."--Wall Street Journal "Klein's lively yet comprehensive business history is highly recommended for all readers interested in business or railroads."--Library Journal "One of the great contributions to railroad history is complete again with this wonderful account of Union Pacific since 1969...Personalities drive this story, and Klein's access to most of the participants, and his eye for human detail, make the book vivid."--Trains Magazine "This is an evenhanded, warts-and-all history. The Reconfiguration is the strongest of a commendable series...For those trying to understand how the industry has rebounded to the best of times it enjoys today, Maury Klein has provided a superb study of that transformation."--Railroad History About the Author Maury Klein is Professor of History Emeritus, University of Rhode Island and the author of many books, including *The Power Makers*.