



**TRAINS News Wire for October 24, 2006**

### **Railroad Development Corporation acquires coaches**

PITTSBURGH — Railroad Development Corporation, owner of the Iowa Interstate Railroad and two Chinese class QJ 2-10-2-steam locomotives, has acquired 20 coaches formerly used in Montreal commuter-train service. The cars were acquired from Canadian Allied Diesel after their retirement from service. According to RDC Chairman Henry Posner III, the open-window cars have 480-volt head-end power for lighting and heating, and RDC feels they might be valuable to tourist railroads, excursion operators, or as a strategic reserve emergency fleet for use around the U.S. on short notice. The cars will be stored on the Iowa Interstate, which connects with every Class I railroad, so they can be moved easily to another location. Each coach seats 109 people; they do not have toilets but for the most part are in good condition, Posner told TRAINS News Wire.

The cars, built by Canadian Car & Foundry in 1953 for Canadian Pacific and used in Montreal commuter service to Rigaud and Blainville, Quebec. They were acquired from CPR by Montreal's Agence Metropolitaine De Transport in 1982 and kept their 800-series CP numbers. The cars were converted to head end power in 1990.