



Nestled in the Menominee River Valley, drawing room parlor car *Hiland* is parked at the Road's West Milwaukee Shops on August 30, 1938. Following the inauguration of the *Morning* and *Afternoon Hiawathas*, one parlor car was typically assigned to Train #s 5-6 and two parlors to Train #s 101-100. Parlor cars built for previous *Hiawathas* were named after characters or wildlife from Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's *Song of Hiawatha*. However, the six drawing room parlor cars and four Beaver-Tail parlor-observations constructed during 1938 were named after prominent Milwaukee Road

officials instrumental in the growth of the railroad. Chrome plated hinged safety handrails were installed for the first time in the vestibules of the 1938-built coaches and parlor cars. The retractable bars, located on either side of the end doors, were positioned between the interior and exterior bulkhead walls to aid passengers walking through the vestibule area from car to car between stations stops.

*The Milwaukee Road, W. F. Stauss collection*

## PARLOR CARS WITH DRAWING ROOM

### CHANDLER - HANSON - HILAND - MANCHESTER - SEWALL - WHITTEMORE

The 1939 *Hiawatha's* drawing room parlor cars included twenty-four over-stuffed chairs. Brown and gray patterned carpeting accented the warm wood-toned surroundings. Louvered lighting fixtures were employed to provide indirect lighting. The ceiling was painted aluminum. *The Milwaukee Road, John Grube collection*

The 6 foot women's lounge seated five passengers in plush upholstered sofa-style seating. The over-stuffed, Art Deco chair was upholstered in the Milwaukee's traditional old-rose velour, but was presumably styled by Otto Kuhler.

*The Milwaukee Road, John Grube collection*



Parlor car patrons were treated to luxurious chairs that rotated and reclined to any position. A foldout wall table was located at each seat to provide a place for beverages or reading materials. The exceptional woodworking craftsmanship of the Milwaukee Shops is exhibited in the bleached maple and walnut veneers applied above and below the windows. Elegant fluted black walnut was applied to the pilasters between the windows in each grouping. The outer corners of the walnut window sashes were also rounded to visually group the windows. Indian arrow-motif drapes were placed between the window groupings.

*The Milwaukee Road, John Grube collection*

