TESTS OF PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD ELECTRIC LOCOMOTIVES AT CLAYMONT, DELAWARE

In 1934 studies were made by the Pennsylvania of larger size electric motive power in anticipation of the heavier trains to come. A class R-1 locomotive was designed and built in 1934 with a 4-8-4 wheel arrangement. It was considerably heavier on the axles than the consulting firm which electrified the Pennsylvania deemed desirable, and they persuaded the Pennsylvania Railroad to borrow one of the new New Haven locomotives, which had a wheel arrangement of 4-6-6-4 and had a comparable axle load to the earlier class of Pennsylvania locomotives. The R-1 could not match the tracking flexibility of the GG-1, wheel arrangement of which was articulated. The GG-1 was safer and smoother riding at high speed with less destructive forces being exerted on the rail than the R-1.

Supplemental Notes:
From the book "The Locomotives that Baldwin Built".

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