gested [Photo 20, inset]. Place the remaining three on each side. Form the handrail by bending 0.015" wire using the jig provided, or by eye. There will be two pieces, with each running down one side of the tank to the wide stanchion and including one curved end. Trim the ends of the pieces so that the ends of each meet within the wide stanchions. When satisfied, slide the two remaining stanchions around each end and attach them in the ends of tank holes. Fix the wire ends inside the wide stanchion castings with glue. Soldering with a low wattage iron also works. Straighten the handrails as necessary by adjusting the angle of the stanchions.

g. The dome platforms are composed of the cast wood plank and brackets made from A-line stirrups attached to the tank sides. There are four square "gussets" with rivets on them on each side of the dome and on both sides of the tank. These are the attachments for the platform brackets. Drill #76 holes just under the two top "gussets" as shown [Photo 19]. Now there are two ways of forming the platform support. One is to straighten and cut the "A-line" stirrups in half. Install them into the tank side in the drilled #76 holes. After the platform boards are installed, trim the "A-line" stirrups flush with the side of the platform. Use scrap 0.010"x0.030" styrene to finish the platform support from the bottom gusset to the "A-line" stirrups. The other method is to bend the "A-line" stirrup into

the shape of the bracket and attach

to the tank side [Photo 21].

3. Complete the Detailing.

Before proceeding we recommend that you use a cradle of foam to hold the model in order to ease installation of the final components.

- a. Install the etched placards using the photos as guides [Photos 17, 19, 20].
- b. Attach the tank top to the bottom by running some CA on the inside of the top section of the tank and pressing together.
- c. Install the etched stirrups centered under the frame grabs. These





are bent out slightly from the sideframe.

d. The cars had two styles of cut levers, top and bottom. Form with 0.0125" wire and install as per the appropriate arrangement for the car being modeled. Parts are provided for either installation with the etched eyebolts being used to attach the cut levers to the frame.

- e. Install the vertical brake staff and brake wheel. The top of the wheel is 2'-5" above the running board.
- f. Make four tank bands with scrap 0.010" x 0.030" styrene (about 1' long)

and 0.015" wire using the photos and drawings as a guide. Insert the 0.015" wire through the previously drilled holes. Attach the styrene to the tank side.

g. Before cleaning the ladders, drill #76 holes at right angles to the ladder where the ladder attaches to the handrail. Clean out the back side of the hole to create a slot to fit the ladder over the handrail. Clean out the ladder from the parts fret. Center the ladder on the car to locate holes in the running board for the ladder attachment points. Drill #74 holes through the running boards. Slip the ladder through the drilled holes and over the handrail. Cement in place and, when dry, remove any protruding parts of



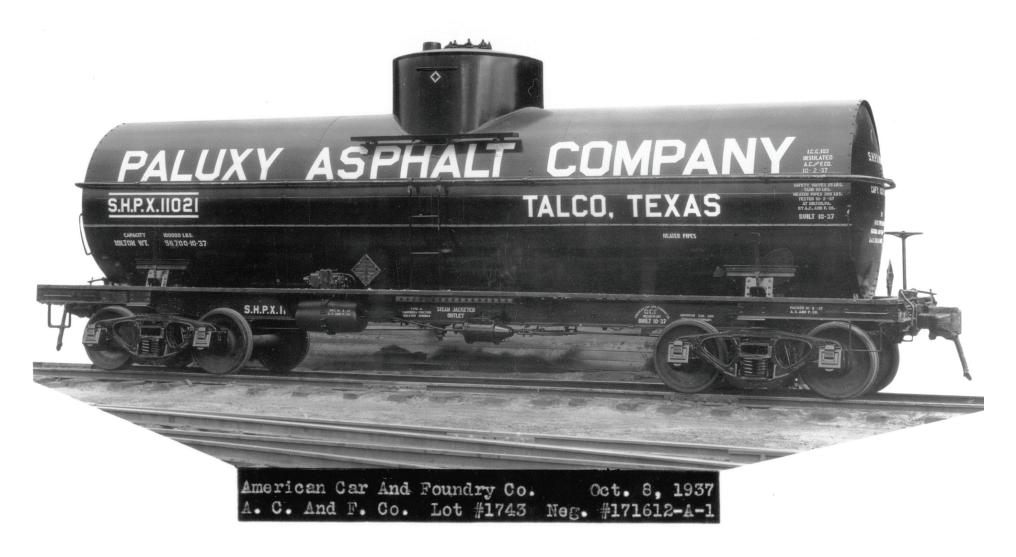
the ladder from below the running board.

h. Install the Precision Scale air brake hose hangers at the ends of the underframe after first flattening them a bit with pliers and drilling out the hanger loop to accept the cast brake hose. The installation pin should rest against the inside of the end sill and the hanger should be 15" off the center of the car. This will pretty much put it up against the draft gear. Attach the brake pipe to the hanger. Trim the wire so that the ends come to rest on the flat underside of the hose hangers where these ends will come together with

the hose castings. Install the air hoses into the hangers, trimming to fit. i. Install couplers of your choice and draft gear covers.

Painting and Lettering

Wash the model again with Dawn and allow to thoroughly dry before painting. The entire model, including the trucks, is black. I like Scalecoat 1 No. 10 black as it provides a glossy surface for decals. Once decals are applied and all the air bubbles have been removed, spray with flat glaze.







Trucks

Read the note below before installing trucks and finishing the car with the desired amount of weathering.

A Note on Trucks:

We asked Brian Leppert of Tahoe Models to match the offered cars with available modeled trucks. Brian comments are that the United States Rubber, plain SHPX and Paluxy Asphalt cars all had the same truck. These are "conventional" with spring planks and four springs grouped close together per side frame. The Tahoe #006 "Buckeye" truck is a good match and is the one supplied with these kits.

The Cities Service car had a double-truss spring-plankless self-aligning truck. These are close to the Tahoe #007 double truss truck, which is supplied with this kit. However, there's a difference in the spring grouping between the Tahoe truck and the ones on the prototype car. The Cities Service truck had five springs per side frame in a 2-1-2 pattern, with the springs placed close together. The Tahoe truck has five springs that are spread as far apart as possible, creating a noticeable gap in the front. Roads that did use



the Tahoe truck with the wide spring spacing include the Western Pacific, Northern Pacific (Yarmouth's NP steel box car needs this Tahoe truck), SP (notably square cornered box and auto cars), UP, the Missouri Pacific family of roads, the Van Swerigan roads (NKP, Erie, C&O and PM) and WM. Both Proto 2000 and Tichy attempted to model this truck with the close spring grouping. An alternative to the Tahoe truck for the Cities Service car would be Tangent's 50-ton ASF truck. The Tangent truck has the side frame, bolster end and spring grouping that we want, but it also has spring plank details that we don't want. So there's no perfect match of a modeled truck for the Cities Service cars. We've provided the best and closest truck that is available in our kit.



