

May 1, 1953

Mr. O'Connor:-

Having read in the papers recently of negotiations between the Union and the C.T.A. on the preparation of new working contract, I would like to call your attention to the Boulevard extra service, which you call "trippers" according to Mr. Budd's statement in the press.

These trippers have been operated for many years on the Boulevard System, and following figures obtained from Pick held on Boulevard System, effective April 3, 1953:-

	<u>Rosemont</u>	<u>Ravenswood</u>	<u>Keeler</u>	<u>52nd St.</u>	<u>Wilcox</u>	<u>Total</u>
A.M. Trippers (X's)	16	35	7	35	19	112
A.M. X's Assigned	<u>14</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>103</u>
A.M. X's Open	2	7	--	--	--	9
P.M. X's	21	28	11	21	20	101
P.M. X's Assigned	<u>13</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>84</u>
P.M. X's Open	8	9	--	--	--	17

We have a total of 112 A.M. X's on the System of which 103 are assigned, leaving 9 open.

In the P.M. the total is 101, of which 84 are picked, and 17 open.

Of the combined total of 213 runs, 187 have been assigned, and 26 open.

In connection with the open X's I might mention that Superintendents were instructed to leave a certain number of X's open at the pick, due to man-power shortage. If we had our full man-power quota we would have no trouble at all filling the X's.

As you know, under our existing union contract, these trippers may be cancelled upon 24-hours notice.

The fact that out of 213 X's, 187 have been picked, shows very plainly that Extra service is in favor with the personnel.

If, in our riding checks, riding falls off we occasionally cancel some X's, and when that takes place it never fails to bring complaints from the men whose X's have been cancelled. These men ask the Superintendent to place them on other X's according to their seniority order.

The trippers pay (at time-and-a-half) from 2 to 3 hours straight time -- the great majority at least 2½ hours or better, which means a man working trippers 5 days a week can increase his earnings anywhere from \$30.00 to \$35.00 per week. That is the chief reason these trippers are in favor by the employees, because it is entirely possible for a man working an 8-hour run and extra

trips 5-days a week to average \$100.00 per week salary. In fact, many Boulevard System Operators working extra trips average from \$125. to \$150. per week.

As you know, this extra work is not confined to the men at the top of the Extra Board as these X's are distributed as much as possible to the men working 40-hours per week.

All in all, our experience on the Boulevard System has been that these trippers are in great demand by the men. It not only gives them an opportunity to make additional money outside their runs, but has eliminated a lot of employment outside of C.T.A. in employees' off hours.

JPG:D

Joseph P. Gaynor