

Rider's Reader

Vol. I, No. 5

December, 1948



Best Wishes
for a
Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year



Chicago Transit Authority

CTA Adds Service for Christmas Shoppers

FOR the convenience of Chicagoland Christmas shoppers, 600 extra vehicle trips were recently placed in daily service on Chicago Transit Authority's surface, bus and rapid transit routes. These vehicles will remain through the holiday season, as part of CTA's fleet of more than 5,000 vehicles that will transport thousands of holiday shoppers to and from the Loop and to and from outlying business districts.

Passengers can help CTA provide safe, fast and comfortable transportation during the busy days before Christmas by shopping between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. and after the evening rush hours, having the correct fare ready, moving to the opposite end of the vehicle after boarding, and leaving by the main exit doors.

Make your holiday shopping easier and more enjoyable by traveling via CTA lines.

RAPID TRANSIT TO TEST ELECTRONIC SIGNAL SYSTEM

FIELD tests of a new electronic method of providing signal safety protection for rapid transit trains will soon be made on Chicago Transit Authority property. A contract for these tests was recently authorized by the Transit Board at a cost of \$35,000.

If successful, it is estimated that this electronic signal system can be accomplished at a cost of \$2,500,000 to \$3,000,000 as compared to a cost of \$7,500,000 for the conventional type of equal efficiency.

Testing Area

The field tests will be made in the middle track in 63rd street between Dorchester and Calumet avenues. Tests will begin as soon as the contract is signed, and will continue through the winter. Final stages of the tests will be under actual operating conditions.

CTA Employees Given Safety Honor Cards

FOR their outstanding safety record of completing one year or more without a single avoidable accident, 5,208 streetcar and bus operating personnel were recently presented safety honor roll cards by Chicago Transit Authority. This figure represents 55 per cent of the Surface system transportation employees.

Of these men, 85 have had no chargeable accidents for the last 21 years, and 104 have maintained this record for 20 years.

Accidents Decrease

Despite an estimated increase of 3.7 per cent in traffic for the city of Chicago, the total accident record per 100,000 miles operated by the Surface system of CTA showed a decrease of 3/10 of one per cent for 1947 over 1946.

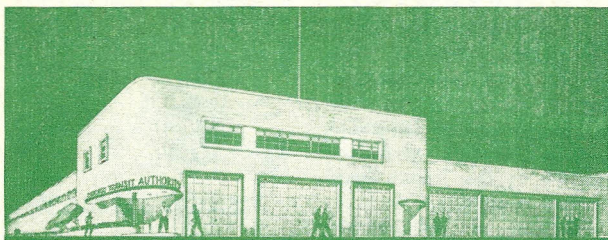
Every weekday, Chicago Transit Authority vehicles travel the equivalent of approximately 25 times around the world.

The Correct Way to Board and



SAFE way to board and leave CTA vehicles is demonstrated by Anne Cyr. When boarding, hold the hand rail with the right hand as you step onto the vehicle, leading with the right foot.

Work Started On New Bus Terminal



ARTIST'S sketch of Chicago Transit Authority's first all-bus terminal which is now under construction at 103rd street and Vincennes avenue.

It will accommodate more than 100 buses and cost \$856,000, and is scheduled for completion in about one year.

Irving Park Gets New Trolley Buses

A FLEET of 41 new, 44-passenger trolley buses has replaced streetcars on Irving Park road, providing more frequent, faster and more attractive service for the 63,000 riders on this route.

An increase of 50 per cent has been made in the number of units operating on Irving Park in the heaviest travel periods of the day, 41 trolley

buses replacing 28 streetcars. The scheduled frequency of service has also been substantially improved during rush periods, midday and evening hours.

Irving Park is the third streetcar line to be converted to trolley bus operation by the CTA during 1948. Early in the year the Montrose avenue and 51st-55th street routes were equipped with trolley buses.

d Leave CTA Surface Vehicles

STEP down on treadle to open exit door. After stepping on treadle, grasp hand rail with the left hand as you step to the pavement, releasing hold of rail as the right foot touches the ground.



\$26,521,600 CTA

Improvement Program for 1949

CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY will spend \$26,521,600 in 1949 for its new equipment and modernization program, it was announced recently by the Transit Board budget committee.

Purchase of 400 modern buses and 130 streamlined "L" cars will cost \$11,200,000. This equipment will be delivered during 1949. To speed rapid transit service, \$3,101,500 will be spent for modernizing equipment, the safety signal system, stations, track and other facilities.

With the delivery of this new equipment, CTA will have a total of 2,248 modern buses, streetcars and rapid transit cars—all part of its ten-year, \$150,000,000 modernization program. Approximately 50 percent of the Surface system will be equipped with new vehicles by the end of 1949.

Four New Terminals

Four new terminals for housing and maintaining 975 buses will be constructed at a cost of \$5,000,000. These terminals, along with improvements in other car shops and bus garages, will assure better maintenance of equipment and will substantially reduce operating costs.

To speed surface fare collections, 2,000 electrically operated fare boxes and 10,000,000 tokens are to be purchased, with delivery of 1,000 fare boxes expected early in 1949.



"Juniper doesn't care how many extra choruses we sing, now that he's found a good warm spot!"



Merry Christmas— 12 Different Ways

IT'S "Merry Christmas" to us—but how do they say it in other lands where this joyous season is observed? Christmas, and the happiness that goes with it, is not just an American celebration; it is observed by many foreign nations. They, too, greet each other with "Merry Christmas," and here's how a few of them say it:

Joyeux Noel (France), Frohliche Weihnachten (Germany), Buon Natale (Italy), Meli Kalikama (Hawaii), God Jul (Sweden), Glaedelig Jul (Norwegian), Vesele Vanoce (Bohemia), Hauskaa Honlua (Finland), Felices Pascuas (Spain), Wesolych Swait (Poland), La Multi Ani Cu Sanatate (Romanian), Sretan Bozic (Croatia).

