



TRANSIT NEWS



DECEMBER, 1953

The Big Flash!



A THOUSAND flash bulbs, simultaneously lighted, were used to make possible this once-in-a-lifetime photo of Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry. Camera enthusiasts throughout the entire area were invited to take pictures of the big flash, which was engineered by a nationally known electrical products manufacturer who also supplied the 1,000 bulbs. Because of its location, the front of the Museum has never before been photographed clearly, even during daylight hours.

CTA Photographers Fred Chouinard and Ed Evenson were among more than 3,000 other camera enthusiasts who turned out for the event on the evening of September 24. They returned with the accompanying photo. The famed Chicago museum, which is a "must" for visitors from all over the world when in our city, can be conveniently reached by CTA Surface, Boulevard and Rapid Transit routes. It is open daily, except Christmas, and features extensive exhibits relating to scientific, engineering, industrial and medical progress. Admission is free at all times.

CTA Bonds Purchased For Early Retirement

WITH A third-quarter deposit of \$300,000 cash in its bond amortization fund, CTA recently purchased for retirement

\$326,000 in principal amount of its 1947 and 1952 term bonds.

A total of \$299,854.70 was paid for the \$326,000 in bonds, the purchase price averaging 90.492 for \$271,000 in principal amount of Series of 1947 term bonds, and 99.3007 for \$55,000 in principal amount of Series of 1952 term bonds. The purchase was made for CTA by The First National Bank of Chicago, trustee for the two bond issues, as the result of tenders advertised for and opened October 26, 1953.

Including this latest purchase, CTA this year has bought for retirement a total of \$990,000 in principal amounts of 1947 and 1952 bonds at a cost of \$899,532.40.

Through the accelerated retirement of these bonds, CTA is saving in interest charges an amount approximating the purchase price of the bonds. Series of

1947 term bonds are not due to be retired until 1978, and Series of 1952 term bonds not until 1982.

RECENT CTA ADDITIONS TO THE ARMED FORCES

Thomas Daly—Shops and Equipment (Wilson Terminal)

RETURNED FROM SERVICE

M. C. Alsing—Transportation (Devon)

J. M. Birmingham—Shops and Equipment (Wilson Terminal)

J. Casey—Transportation (Lawndale)

J. A. Chunowitz—Shops and Equipment (West Shops)

H. F. Cutler, Jr.—Electrical

R. M. Donohue—Transportation (Rapid Transit)

R. M. Evans—Shops and Equipment (Lawrence Bus)

D. E. Martorelli—Claim Department

M. Masterson—Boulevard System

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David E. Evans, Editor

R. H. Torp, Editorial Assistant

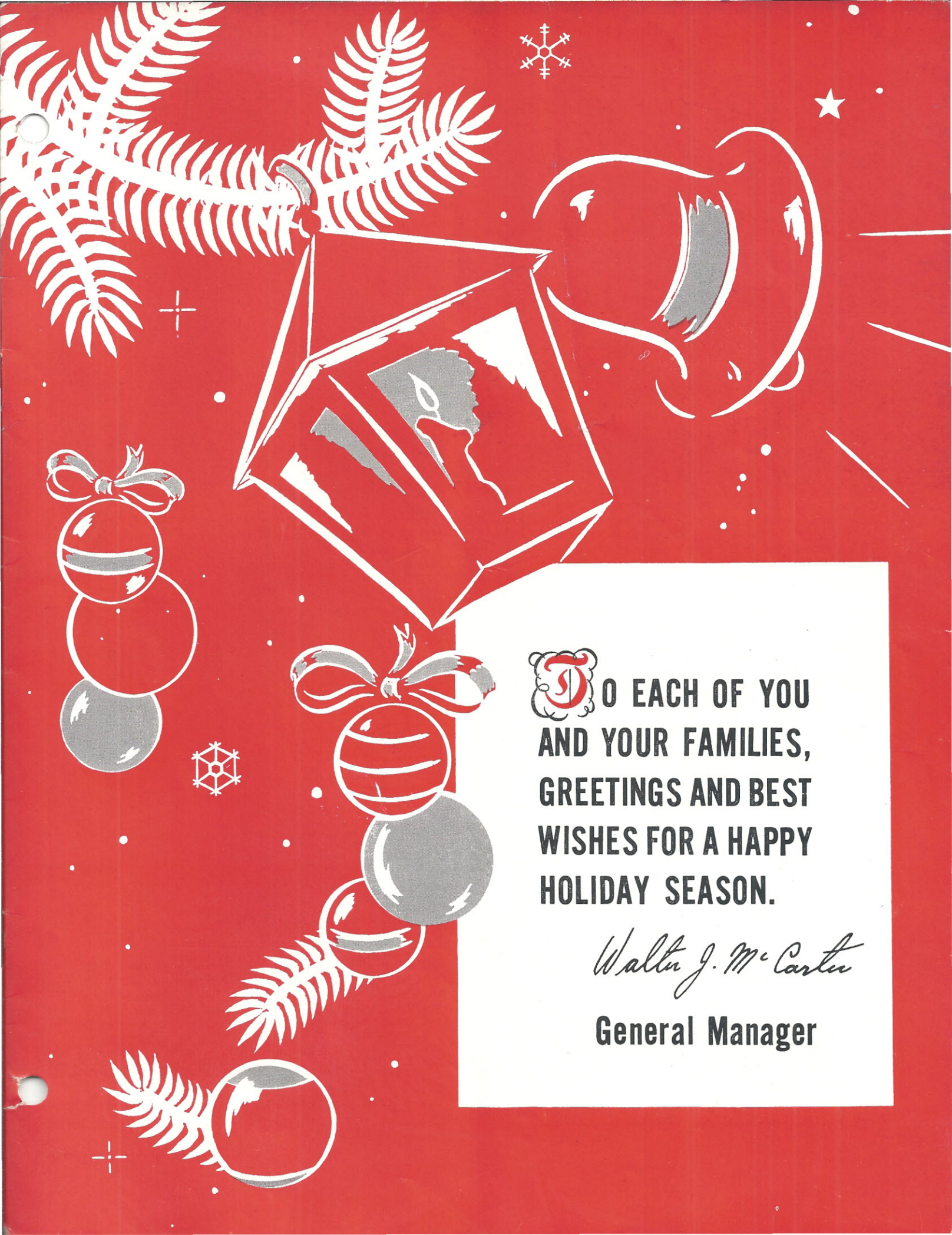
Joan Peacock, Editorial Assistant

W. M. Howlett, Supervisor of Publications

John J. Bowen, Supervisor of Production

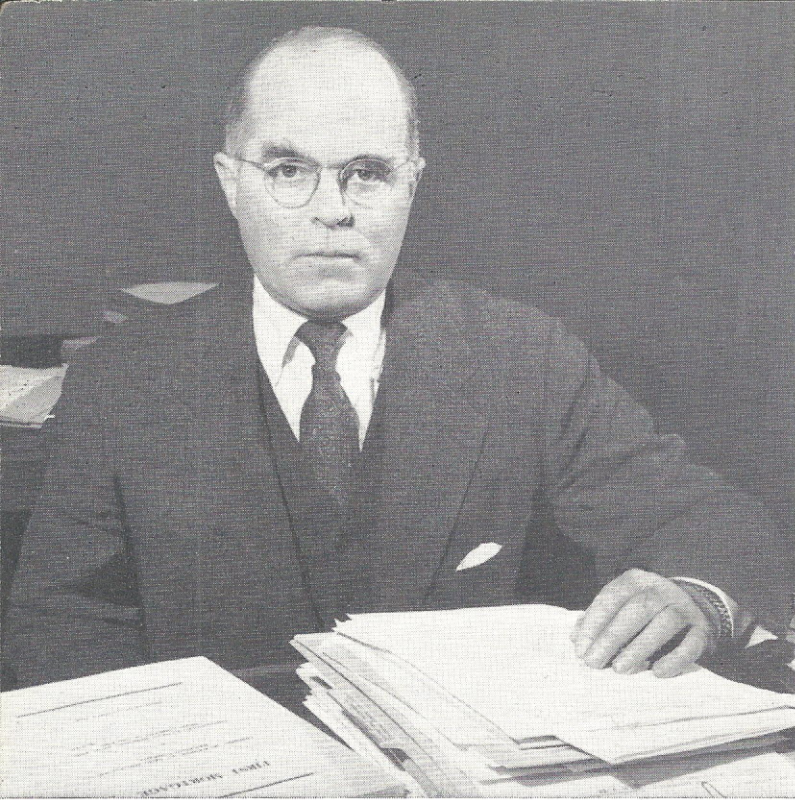
H. L. Pollard, Director of Public Information

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**DO EACH OF YOU
AND YOUR FAMILIES,
GREETINGS AND BEST
WISHES FOR A HAPPY
HOLIDAY SEASON.**

Walter J. McCarter
General Manager



THE head of the CTA Law Department, *Thomas C. Strachan, Jr.*, was appointed to his position of General Attorney by Chicago Transit Board on June 7, 1951. In addition to directing the overall activities of the department, he personally attends all pre-Board and Board meetings.

"LET'S talk to a lawyer about this." Quite likely, at some stage of his life, practically every adult you know, or some member of his family, has used those or similar words. They had reached the point of the matter at hand where they had found it necessary to secure the services of a lawyer to interpret the law or advise proper action to take in connection with some personal matter or business transaction.

All organizations, large and small, likewise, need legal advice and guidance in conducting their business affairs.

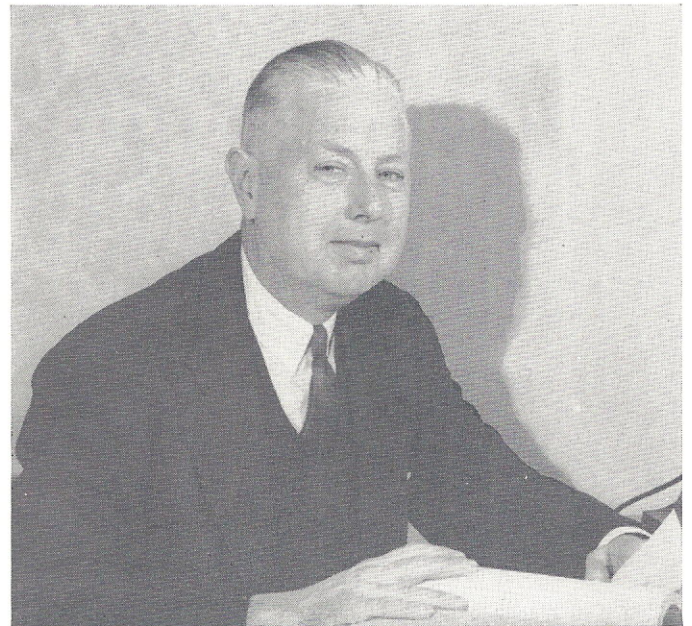
Chicago Transit Authority, employing approximately 17,000 people, has activities in every department which raises questions for lawyers' opinions.

These legal questions are handled by the CTA Law Department, under the direction of *Thomas C. Strachan, Jr.*, General Attorney, who reports directly both to the General Manager and to Chicago Transit Board, the governing body of CTA. Mr. Strachan has a staff of 15 attorneys, eight stenographers, a docket clerk and a Municipal Court man. Their office is located in Room 7170, Merchandise Mart.

In addition to this permanent staff, the CTA uses the services of outside attorneys. These are attorneys engaged in general law practice. They maintain their own offices and are paid for the CTA work they do on a daily fee basis.

The Metropolitan Transit Authority Act which created the Chicago Transit Authority defines the powers and duties of the Chicago Transit Board and the Authority. An ordinance of the Chicago City Council, which granted a franchise to Chicago Transit Authority and which was accepted by

"Let's talk to a



HANDLING general legal matters, other than claims, is the responsibility of *William S. Allen*. He also is present at all meetings of Chicago Transit Board.



BRIEFLY stated, the duties of *James O. Dwight* consist of advising with trial lawyers (outside attorneys representing CTA in connection with lawsuits), the Claim Department and the Settlement Committee.

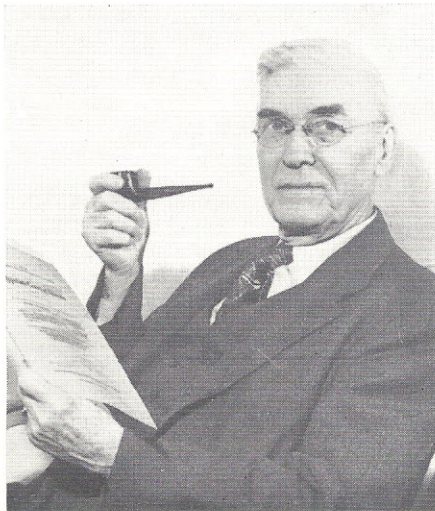
CTA, governs the relationship between the City and CTA. These two legislative acts form the basis upon which CTA functions.

It is the function of the Law Department to interpret these acts as legal adviser to the Board and Authority, to advise on

Lawyer about this"....



THE principal duties of *David R. Watson*, Pleading Attorney, are handling pleadings in Circuit and Superior Court. He prepares and dictates answers to lawsuits. Mr. Watson also reads all leases and all purchase contracts and closes all Real Estate deals.



HEADING the appeal section of the CTA Law Department is *Arthur J. Donovan*. In the Appellate and Supreme Courts, he has charge of all cases which are appealed by either side. Outside attorneys do appeal work under his supervision.



IN CHARGE of all arrest cases is *George L. Griffin*, left, Arrest Attorney. His assistant is *Merritt Kotin*. These two defend all CTA men arrested in the regular course of duty and prosecute persons who violate the law affecting CTA property. They also handle all extra civil remedies, such as garnishments, assignments, etc., in the Municipal Court of Chicago.

other questions of law and to represent the Authority in litigation to which it is a party.

The questions of law which arise are many and varied, as the Authority owns a great amount of property, real and

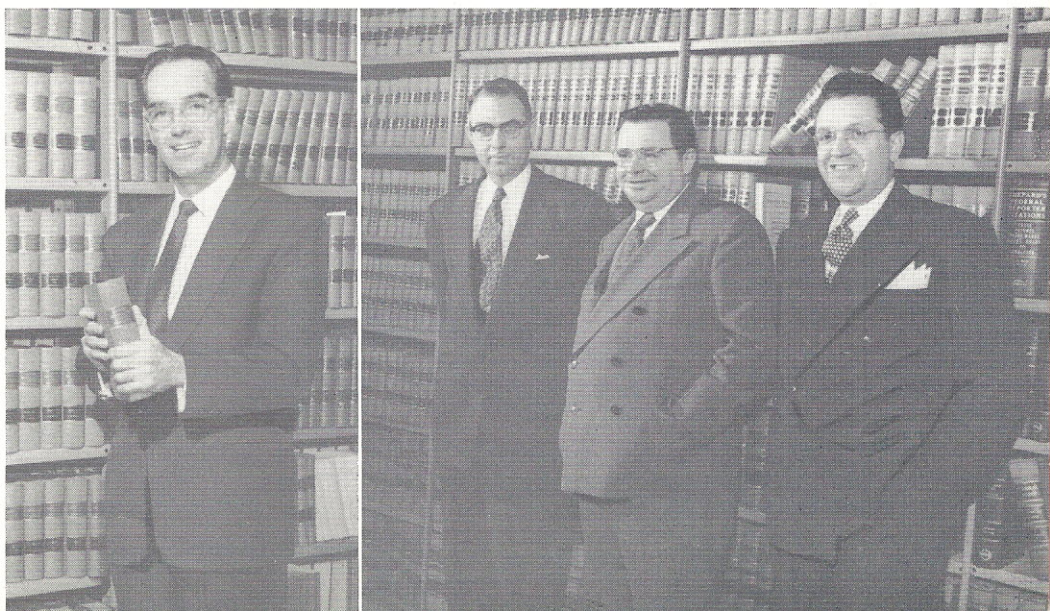
personal, and its operations create many legal problems which must be acted upon by the Law Department.

Although the handling of injury litigations is the most widely publicized activity of the Law Department, it is but



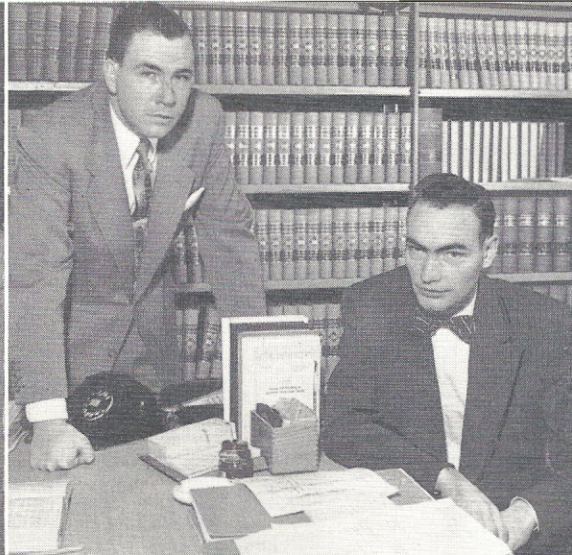
FRED W. KINDERMAN, assistant chief of accident section, CTA Law Department, reviews lawsuits and analyzes and assigns them to various lawyers. He also reviews all the latest decisions and counsels and advises other attorneys in the department.

ALL claims that develop into lawsuits are assigned to these four CTA staff attorneys. They take the cases into court for pre-trial in attempts to dispose of them at that point. If the cases are not settled at these pre-trials, they are assigned to outside attorneys for trial. Left to right are *Edward R. Reichard*, *O. R. Hamlink*, *James A. Mahoney* and *Philip A. Comiano*.

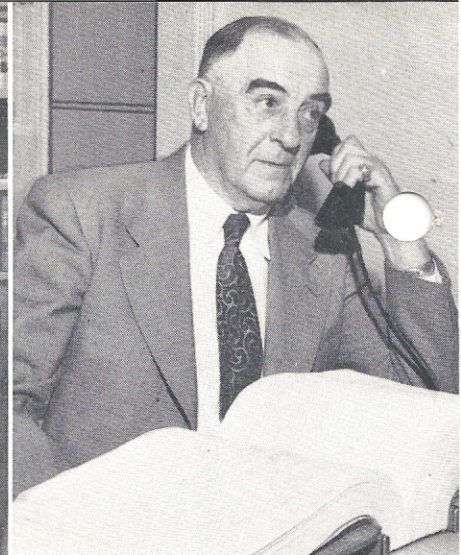




ATTORNEYS William D. O'Neill, left, and Wilbur Hamilton spend most of their time in courts on motions and on the assignment call of all CTA personal injury cases. They report to the General Attorney relating to the progress of such cases on the calendar call and on the progress of cases tried before juries.



THESE two attorneys, Joseph Roth, left, and Frank Mullen, handle Municipal Court work. They review Municipal Court suits and make determination whether or not they should be settled or tried. They also handle property damage collection work where CTA property is concerned. These two men also file and try such suits as well as handle some inquests (in emergencies) and other general law work as may be assigned.



AS Chief Municipal Court man, Jules V. Lellinger is in charge of all Municipal Court civil suits against CTA, including preparation of files and docket and diary records. He also prepares daily trial call and confers with CTA pre-trial attorneys and plaintiffs' attorneys. Mr. Lellinger appears in court each day to check call, file papers, and, at times, dismiss or non-suit cases.

"Let's talk to a Lawyer about this" (continued)

one of the principal functions of the department. The Board acts by ordinances prepared by or under the supervision of the Law Department. Each ordinance represents a decision of the Board, the legality of which must be explored and determined by the Law Department.

In a typical meeting, the Board may act on bids for the purchase and sale of materials and property. Contracts are then prepared which must be approved by the Law Department.

The Board may pass ordinances submitted by the Real Estate Department with respect to the purchase, sale or lease of real estate. These have been prepared by or under the supervision of the Law Department after the questions of law involved have been decided.

The Board may be considering the financing of purchases of buses or other new equipment. The final action is taken only after the Law Department has prepared the necessary documents and determined questions involving the trust indenture under which revenue bonds have been or may be issued, as well as the various equipment trust agreements, leases, etc. The final ordinance represents only a small part of the preliminary work required to consummate the transactions.

There may be ordinances relating to a change of routing or changes in rates of fare. These rate and service changes have resulted in many lawsuits which the Law Department has had to defend. These illustrations give only a few of the instances in which the Law Department has a hand.

Many questions are submitted to the department for decisions affecting legality and the proper method of action. Some of these require written opinions, others oral opinions. They cover a wide range of subjects—from the question whether property leased by CTA is exempt from taxes to the applicability of the Social Security Act to employees of CTA.

All answers in personal injury lawsuits are prepared and filed (an average of about 150 per month) by the Law Department after being docketed for our records. At later dates pre-trials are held. These are handled by four attorneys in the department. Many cases are settled by this procedure, but those not settled are assigned to outside attorneys for trial. Cases resulting in a verdict and judgment against CTA are analyzed and some are appealed. The appellate proceedings are usually conducted by outside lawyers who prepare the briefs and arguments under Law Department supervision.

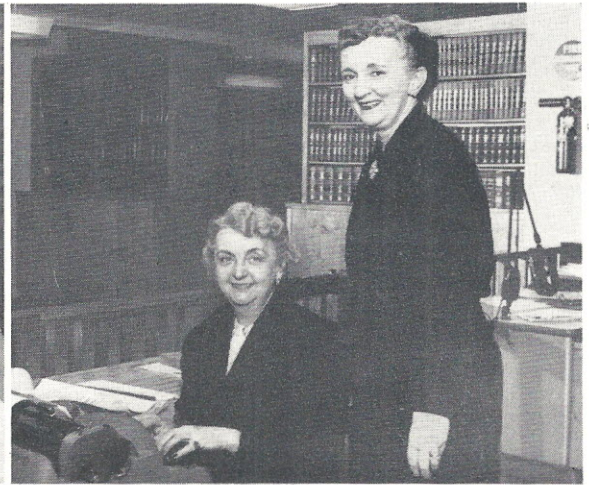
Suits are also pending in the Municipal Court in which the Authority is defendant. Again, decisions must be made as to whether to settle or prepare such matters for trial. In addition, the department handles the claims and lawsuits in which Authority property has been damaged. If these cases cannot be settled amicably, they are placed in litigation. As an example of the scope of this work, approximately \$4,000 was collected during the month of October, 1953, alone. Three attorneys in the department are assigned to handle these matters.

All pending litigation is followed by several persons in the Law Department so that assignments can be made to



THE duties of *Val Nessinger*, Docket Court Clerk, consist of checking law bulletins for new suits and orders entered the day before and noting all orders in docket book. He calls at Superior and Circuit Courts daily to check and pick up copies of complaints and summonses in all new lawsuits and checks court records on various matters. Mr. Nessinger keeps a record of all lawsuits against CTA in Circuit, Superior, County and U. S. District Courts and is responsible for seeing that appearances and answers are filed in due time so that a default is not entered against CTA.

DEVOTING full time to stenographic duties in the CTA Law Department are, from left to right, *Jessie Reed*, *Erna Buchholz* and *Ceile Baggs*. They handle the general stenographic work as called upon by the various attorneys in the department.



trial lawyers in time for preparation and trial. During trials, the trial attorneys are in constant communication with the department so that progress is known at all times and advice can be given as to what course to be taken.

Cases in the police courts and felony court in the Criminal Court building as well as Corner's Inquests must be followed when they affect CTA. These are watched carefully since the results may have a bearing upon the outcome of litigation.

From the foregoing brief description of the Law Department, it is seen that its activities cover a wide range coincident with the field of Chicago Transit Authority operations and its employees.

ON entering the CTA Law Department offices, callers are greeted by either of these two stenographer-receptionists. In addition to handling stenographic work, *Jerry Campbell*, left, and *Margaret Cepek*, take phone calls for lawyers who are in court, interview visitors and direct them to the proper people.



IN charge of Law Department files in Superior, Circuit, County and U. S. District Courts is *Julia Lellinger*, Pleadings Clerk, left. As and when necessary, she also apportions work to the stenographers in the Law Department and prepares amended answers and interrogatories as well as gives final checks on all answers filed. *Bernadette Bonk*, typist and dictaphone operator, handles work as assigned to her.

STENOGRAPHER *Eleanor Garro* handles and prepares daily trial calls from CTA attorneys in Superior, Circuit, County and U. S. District Courts. She is in charge of complete new suit card file and keeps a daily diary on every case coming up.





AFTER the Christmas presents have been opened, remove the gift wrappings from the tree area.

OBTAIN a live Christmas tree, if possible, and decorate the base with a non-flammable material, such as the silver foil used here, rather than highly flammable cotton snow or the like.



THE happiest season of the year, Christmas, is only a matter of days away. Probably your shopping and most of the other incidentals connected with the season are pretty well taken care of by now, and you're ready to begin enjoying the seasonal festivities. The only major requirement remaining, to complete the holiday setting, is the purchase, placement and trimming of the traditional Christmas tree.

In that regard, the National Board of Fire Underwriters offers some timely and helpful hints—so that all CTA employees and their families will enjoy, to the fullest extent, this happiest time of the year.

All too often, and especially around the Christmas season, newspapers carry the grim stories of tragedies which might have been averted—"The child was burned badly . . . Somehow her dress caught fire." It happened last year. It happened the year before. And it will happen again this year. But make certain it doesn't happen in your family.

The reason that a tree burns so fiercely and rapidly is because it's filled with pitch and resin—among the most combustible substances known. Give the following hints some careful consideration:

1. Choose a small tree. It's less dangerous than a large one.
2. Don't set your tree up until a few days before Christ-

Make Certain Of A Merrier Christmas

mas. Until then, keep it outdoors.

3. Place it in the coolest part of the house, away from fireplaces and radiators. And don't let it block an exit.

4. Stand it in water, or, if possible, use a live tree planted in a tub of earth.

5. Never use cotton or paper for the decoration on or around the tree.

6. Do not put electric trains under the tree.

7. Use only electric lights, never candles, and check to see that wires are not frayed. Be sure that the wiring sets for lights you choose have been tested for safety.

8. Provide a switch some distance from the tree for turning tree lights off and on. Don't plug or unplug them beneath the tree.

9. Throw away all gift wrappings as soon as the presents have been opened. Don't let them pile up and remain near the tree.

10. Do not leave the tree lights burning when no one is home.

11. If needles near the lights turn brown, move the lights.

12. When needles start to fall, take the tree down and discard it.

Flameproofed Costumes

Consider also, that many of the holiday season costumes which children wear in school plays and pageants are made of loosely-woven material. Such clothing catches fire easily and burns rapidly, offering little or no resistance to flames.

Safety for the children attired in such costumes lies in a simple flameproofing process for the material. Here's how it's done:

First, prepare a solution of 9 ounces of borax and 4 ounces of boric acid to a gallon of warm water. Mix the solution well. When the ingredients are thoroughly dissolved, dip the material or clothing you wish to flameproof into the solution. Then wring it out and hang it up to dry.

This method can be used on any washable fabric. Moreover, the material can be ironed without affecting the flameproofing. The fabric will remain flameproofed until it is washed.

The heat of a direct flame, of course, will char the material in the area which it contacts. However, when the flame is removed, the charring will stop. The result is no sudden flash fire to turn your child's holiday fun into tragedy.

Whatever the circumstances in your particular family may demand, it is hoped that through the observation of some of the hints offered here, each member of every CTA family will enjoy a safer and merrier Christmas.

THE INSIDE NEWS

—AS REPORTED BY EMPLOYEES OF THE CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Wedding in Spring— She's Planning Things

ACCOUNTING—*Barbara Kuta* is busily making plans for an early spring wedding. The lovely diamond on her third finger, left hand, was placed there by *Richard Kuzma*.

Sympathy of the department is extended to *Carl Martinson* in the sudden passing of his wife, and to *Joan Fitzgerald*, whose father succumbed after a long illness.

Sophia Danielson returned from her annual sojourn in Gulf Beaches, Florida, with a glowing sun tan, to the envy of her winter pallid associates.

All good wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all from your scribe.

—HELEN A. LOWE

Picture in News Brings Response from Tucson

BEVERLY—*Bus Operator Fred Riecke* made a return trip to Tucson, Arizona. This time in the form of a picture in CTA TRANSIT NEWS, May, 1953 issue.

Reicke had personally been to Tucson earlier. Pensioner *Charles Beyer* wrote Fred from Tucson, saying he had seen his picture in the magazine.

Beyer is enjoying the Arizona sunshine and has an acre of land on which he grows oranges, grapefruit and tangerines.

He expects to visit Chicago and all his friends here from December 18 to January 3 while on his vacation, and has extended an invitation for CTA friends to drop in and visit him. The address: *Charles Beyer*, 3415 North Stone Ave., Tucson, Arizona.

Looking through the want ads together one day, the same ad caught the eyes of *Bus Operators Harry Scofield* and *Edward Cavanaugh*. The ad was for a driver to drive a 1953 model car to California.

The next thing you knew, vacation time rolled around and the bus operators answered the ad.

Three days later and 2,600 miles from home found them visiting some of the larger Hollywood movie studios, *Art Linkletter's* show, and *Grauman's Chinese* theater.



ELECTRICAL RETIREMENTS

ILLINOIS Substation served as the gathering place for this group of Electrical employees to extend best wishes when two of their coworkers retired recently after compiling a combined total of 68 years of service.

In the right foreground, *Denis Shannon*, chief operator of 63rd substation, is shown accepting a wrist watch presented him on behalf of fellow employees by *Supervisor of Substations George Nelson*, extreme right. Shannon retired effective November 1 after 43 years service. A trip to Ireland is included in his future plans.

Machinist David Van Dreese, third from right, was presented a matched set of luggage by *George Becker*, armature foreman, also on behalf of coworkers. Van Dreese retired December 1 after 16 years of service. He intends establishing new residence in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Reported by *Gilbert E. Andrews*

Their return trip home was by bus. The same bus was used but had to have ten different drivers. Florida is on their next year's list.

Bus Operator Leonard Marsh got away from the city for a few days. He visited on his uncle's farm in Kansas City, Kansas.

A little hunting resulted in a good dinner for all—six coons and two rabbits.

The catch wasn't as good as it should have been on account of the dog, a rare species called Kansas hound, who ran so fast he

was chasing the rabbits away before Leonard could get to them.

Bus Operator Gabriel DeJonge and his wife had a wonderful vacation. They enjoyed every 3,200 miles of it.

First, they went to the Atlantic Coast, then Florida, Gulf of Mexico, and back to Chicago by way of Silver Springs, Missouri.

On his trip he ran into a new hobby, collecting book matches of the places they visited. Ask to see them. He always has a pocketful of them.

Our relief receiver, *Lyman Goss*, and wife, *Clementine*, spent their vacation traveling. First day was spent at the University of Illinois, where their son, *Lyman*, is studying. The occasion was the Illinois and Purdue football game. The last day they saw another great football game between Illinois and Northwestern at Evanston. In between the games they toured the south and Florida, stopping to visit some friends at Fort Lauderdale.

William Barowsky and *Robert Arseneau* are in the U. S. Navy aboard the *Quincy*. The fathers are both bus operators, *Joe Barowsky* and *Lomer Arseneau*. At present the sons find themselves on the way home after duty in the Pacific, taking in Hong Kong, Korea and Japan.

—DANTE F. BRUNOD

Homecoming for Christmas

CLAIM AND LAW—*Assistant Chief Adjuster Mike McDermott* is looking forward to seeing his son, who will be home for his Christmas vacation from Clark Summit, Pennsylvania.

Margaret Cepek's son was home on leave prior to his departure for Japan.

Welcome back to *Danny Martorelli*, who recently returned from the service. Danny is presently on the D.P. list and is working in Job Classification.

Marty Garrity, "the Smiling Irishman," adjuster, passed away in his sleep on the afternoon of November 17. Marty was well known by all for his friendly manner and casual wit.

Lou Altemus, retired, passed away in California and was returned to Chicago for burial.

Don Curtin retained his position as executive board member for the Union in the recent election.

Belated congratulations to *Elaine Wanderski* on her engagement.

Wedding bells are ringing out on the double these days as *Mary Kay Rowland* and *Grace Sheahan* are becoming brides on December 26 and January 9, respectively.

GERMAN GARDENS



WHILE on a recent vacation to West Germany, *Joseph Miketta*, Inspection Crew at Keeler Garage, and his wife enjoyed the trip of their lifetime. The couple flew, for their first time, to West Germany. Joe visited with his five sisters and two brothers, whom he hadn't seen in 27 years. This picture, showing Joe in the extreme background, was taken in the famous gardens at Düsseldorf, Germany.

Reported by *Joseph Lebrecht*

Judy Weingartner, lovely daughter of *Edward Weingartner*, assistant chief adjuster in the Claim Department, was elected senior class President at St. Anthony's High for girls.

—G & M

Recipe Wanted For Boiled Owl

COTTAGE GROVE—When the hunting season opened our good friend, *Elmer (Mustache) Peterson*, set happily out in search of pheasants. He has requested us to ask if anyone knows a good recipe for boiled owl, or even a fricassee.

As it has been so long since Cottage Grove Depot has had a column in *Transit News*, we are going to see what we can do. With the co-operation of the men in helping us get news items, perhaps we can make the column a success. Anything you have for us, leave with the clerk or give it to *Walt Garbutt*.

Two of our old timers from down stairs took their pensions on the first of December. *Sam Londos* has been our car placer for 35

years, and *Sylvester Milchy* has been a mechanic for 30 years. To both of them our sincere congratulations for a job well done, and may they both have many happy years in retirement.

We wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

—WALTER B. GARBUTT

Here's a Job Well Done

DEVON—Supervisor *Alex Chisholm* was a hero when he recently chased, trapped and caught a pick-pocket in the Devon terminal parking lot. We're all very proud of him. . . Rumors have it that Operator *Bob Williams* will take his pension in the near future. . . Operator *Bill Yates* has been off work due to a stomach ailment. We wish him a speedy recovery. . . Operator *William Head* and his wife moved into a brand new home in Evanston.

Supervisor *Bill Madsen* is building himself a home out Lake Bluff way. Any and all spare hands are welcome. . . Superintendent *Bill Hornkohl's* daughter, *Tomi Thurston*, is going great guns on radio and TV these days. . . Operator *Ray Didier* reports that his son, *Richard*, presently serving in U. S. Army, was married recently to *Joyce Bieschke*. After a short honeymoon trip, Richard returned to Camp Gordon, Georgia, where he is attending school.

We have two new board members following the recent election, *Carl Elmer* and *Pat Sullivan*. Our best wishes for their success are heartily extended. . . Conductor *James Wallace* and Motorman *Ira Sadler* have left Devon for new positions. We certainly will miss them both.

News is a little light this time, so we'll close with our best wishes for a very merry and blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

—AL BECK and
HENRY C. THELIN

Sunny South Seems Big Attraction

ELECTRICAL—*Fred Damrow* motored some 3,500 miles to the sunny south and spent most of his time in the central part of Florida. He brought back some of everything that grows in those parts, from citrus fruits to sea shells, cypress leaves and driftwood.

A card received from *Daniel Kelly*, chief operator of 48th Substation, read, "In Miami Beach-Weather is ideal; enjoying the sunshine and doing a lot of sight-seeing."

Sympathy is extended to *Le Roy Kutchinski*, who sustained the loss of his father on October 25.

William Rappold, operator at 42nd Substation, proudly announced that *Richard William* arrived November 9—in time for that extra income exemption.

Another new arrival, *David William*, was presented to *William Timmerman*, "A" helper, by his wife, *Mary Ann*. Little David weighed in at eight pounds, five and one-half ounces on November 18.

—GILBERT E. ANDREWS

Former CTA-er Named Bishop of Rockford

GENERAL OFFICE—ACCIDENT PREVENTION—CTA folks who remember *Ray Hillinger* who worked in Accounting Department, were delighted to read the newspaper story of his appointment as Bishop of Rockford, Illinois. Father Hillinger for the past 3½ years has been rector of Angel Guardian Orphanage at 2001 W. Devon.

Mrs. Marie Crowe, heroine of recent newspaper headlines—"Hello Girl' Saves 7 Overcome by Fumes," is the sister-in-law of *Bill Goodall*. Her brother is *Kap Hannermann*, a bus operator at Lawrence Garage.

We received news that *Audrey Pryor*, recently welcomed in A. P. D., will be married to *Patrick J. McCain* on January 2 at St. John Fisher Church. Patrick is with the U. S. Air Force, stationed at Victoria, Texas.

STAFF ENGINEERING AND SPECIFICATIONS—*Anne Schleiter* started it all when she introduced *John Burgman* to *Helen Doherty*. The budding romance that followed recently reached the engagement stage with Helen blinding co-workers with her beautiful diamond ring.

Dixieland has its beautiful southern belles, but so has Staff Engineering. She is *Mrs. Jennie Bell*, recently welcomed to the department. She hails from West Virginia—yo all!

BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES—Down from the clouds came *Jeanie Sehring* to be the bride of *John Gagyi*, recently returned overseas veteran. Their marriage was celebrated November 28 at Grace Evangelical Church.

—MARY E. CLARKE

Gets Tan, Has Fun, Underneath Florida Sun

GENERAL OFFICE—From her two weeks Floridian vacation *Mary Miller* came back home sporting a marvelous sun tan.

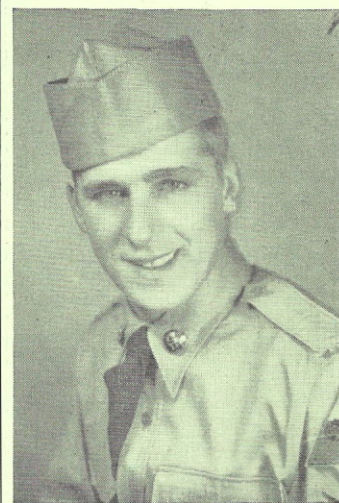
One of *Mrs. Jones'* boys—*Bill* to be exact—has arrived in Purchasing Department to take up duties where *Tom Coleman* left off. Tom has transferred out to West Shops.

We extend to *Jane Mitchell Garrity* our deepest and sincerest sympathy on the loss of her husband, *Martin J. Garrity* of the Claim Department.

From Real Estate the word has been received that *Delores Zotto* has traded in her riding pass for a bright and shiny perambulator.

Carol Clendening has now taken up residence down in Real Estate, following *Delores'* departure.

ASKS LETTERS



PRIVATE *Bernard J. Lucansky*, formerly a "B" helper in the Electrical Department, is now serving in Korea. News from his friends at home would be very acceptable. His address is: U. S. 55-377-573, 822nd Engineers Armed Group, Co. C., A. P. O. c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California.

Reported by *Gilbert E. Andrews*

DECEASED



MARTIN J. GARRITY, Claim Department adjuster, died unexpectedly at his southside residence on November 17. A member of the department for

nearly 19 years, Garrity was widely known among co-workers for his keen wit and friendly manner.

Born October 4, 1903, Garrity was employed by the former Chicago Surface Lines for a three year period, from 1926 to 1929, in the Stores Department. He returned to work for that company in January of 1935 as an accident investigator, remaining in the department until the time of his death.

Interment was at St. Mary's cemetery on November 21. Surviving are his widow, *Jane Mitchell Garrity*, who is employed by CTA as secretary to General Manager *Walter J. McCarter*; one brother, *James*, and two sisters, *Ann Miles* and *Mary Flanagan*.

Our information receptionist, *Mrs. Burke*, spent her three-week vacation wending south to North Carolina. —CATHY O'MALLEY

Rainmaker's Charm Returns

KEDZIE—We thought for a while that our rainmaker, *Ernest Tocci*, had lost his charm as we had no rain for some time even though he continually sang. Of late, the charm must have returned.

Our sympathy is extended to the families of Conductors *Edward Fitzgerald* and *John Cribben* and Motorman *Vincent Ford*, all of whom passed away on November 21.

Casimer Kotara has left us for duties in the signal department of the CTA. We wish him success in his new position.

Operator *William Carlander* was presented with an eight-pound, four-ounce boy November 3. Congratulations to the happy parents.

Our sincere wishes to all for a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

—C. P. STARR

Did Anyone Contest His Claim?

KEELER—*Russell Kershaw*, operator, is claiming to be the youngest grandfather at Keeler. He has proudly announced the arrival of a bouncing baby daughter named

Donna Jean, six pounds, six ounces, to his charming daughter, *Mrs. Roberta Earlandson*.

John Hegarty, mechanic, proudly announced the coming ordination to the priesthood of his son, *Marty*, who formerly worked for CTA on the elevated. Marty graduated from Quigley Preparatory Seminary in 1947. He was ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacon.

Dave Mitchell recently took himself a bride and also acquired a Ford.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to *John Haley* on the recent loss of his wife.

Edward Loughran, superintendent at Keeler, has been home ill recently. Let's hope that he returns soon to his office.

Charles Phylfrier, operator, has been very ill the last few months at Hines Hospital. Charlie would appreciate it very much if some of the boys would either write or come to see him. Come on boys, let's not forget our old buddies.

The holidays are upon us. Our best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

—JOSEPH LEBRECHT
and JIM EGAN

Looping the Loop!

LOOP—The spirit of *Mary Dye* was not dampened by the fog and smog on her trip to California. The sunshine finally caught up

with her at Riverside. Mary visited friends and relatives and also stopped at the Grand Canyon, Arizona.

Jerry Jordan visited his mother in Cleveland and friends drove him to Detroit to visit an aunt he had never seen.

We are anxiously awaiting the return of *John Wardrobe* and *Robert Kubieck* who have been in the hospital for observation, John at Billings and Robert at Norwegian American.

Richard Barten spent his vacation in and around Chicago.

The old saying that everything happens in threes is proven by *Joseph Vargo*. In May his son was in the hospital with rheumatic fever. His mother at the grand age of 92 passed away in July and his father at 94 in August.

Retirement agrees with *George Pittman* as everytime his friends see him he looks better and better.

Glad to welcome back *Andy Nielson* after nine months of disability.

Katherine Leahy and her daughter, *Betty*, flew to Palm Springs, California. They also attended a football game in Los Angeles.

Lillian Scott visited *Bertha Hand*, who is enjoying her retirement and spends her leisure time beautifying her garden in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Helen Quinlan is borrowing her son's car and taking short trips around Chicago.

Helen Rogan, employed since May, 1921, decided after about 33 years service it was time to take life easy. Helen is traveling, using as home base her sister's address in Wisconsin.

Bridget O'Donnell, with the company since 1944, has changed positions from agent to role of full-time housewife. Bridget, who loves food, is trying out her culinary art on husband *Anthony*.

Robert Donohue has donned civies after four years with the Marines . . . *Jimmy Howe* has gone to the Tribune with our best wishes . . . *Marie Blanchfield*, *Margaret Neary* and *Marie McInerney* are on the sick list . . . Welcome back to *Katherine McKenny*. —EDITH EDBROOKE

Bags Two Pheasants on Season's Opening Day

RAVENSWOOD—*Thomas Thygesen* opened the pheasant season with a bang. Tom went hunting on a

farm near Lake Villa and got two ringnecks fifteen minutes after the season opened.

Mechanic and *Mrs. James Hallen* recently moved into their new home on Cedar street in Desplaines.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Reed are expecting their son, *Richard*, home for the Christmas holidays. Richard, who is in Uncle Sam's Navy, was injured in an auto accident some time ago and is recuperating at Philadelphia Navy hospital.

Supervisor John Granahan was confined to his home the week of November 15 with a bad cold.

Superintendent Erickson congratulates all of you on your splendid reduction in accidents. There was a marked reduction of 30 percent in October and 20 percent in November. If we can continue that pace for December, it will put Ravenswood over the top and be the first winner of the S. A. A. plaque. So let's be a winner with our Safety First, Last and Always operation.

Ravenswood Garage welcomed new Operators *Robert V. Erickson* on October 22 and *Gilbert M. Belardinelli* on November 24.

Our heartfelt sympathy to *Eddie Collins*, whose mother passed away on November 15. *Mrs. Collins* died at her home in Detroit, Michigan, at the age of 83. She had enjoyed good health up until five hours before her death.

This is the twelfth month of 1953 and also our twelfth column. Season's greetings to all.

—GEORGE D. CLARK

The Luck of the Irish Holds Up—Gets Gobbler

77TH—*Danny Stewart* is still on the sick list, but being there didn't keep his Irish luck from popping up. He won a gobbler for Thanksgiving at his Holy Name Society. *Pat Geary* headed the committee that delivered the bird.

Instructor John Volkhart is in Illinois Research Hospital and has been off and on the critical list for the past several weeks. We hope he will spend Christmas at home.

There is a way to make the family eat cereal—if not for breakfast, a bingo game played with cheerios as markers. *Joe* and *Ruth Smith* discovered this method one Saturday evening when they could not locate the markers and Ruth substituted various cereals. By the

RENEW VOWS



MARKING their golden anniversary, *Louise and John Meseth*, retired motorman, participated in a re-enactment of their wedding ceremony on November 1 at St. Paul's Lutheran church on the northwest side.

Following the church service, a reception was held in their honor at Central Park hall. Approximately 260 guests, including a number of CTA employees, were in attendance. *Meseth* retired from North Avenue station July 1, 1943, after completing 35 years of service.

third Bingo call one box of cereal disappeared.

Jack McElwee is at Norfolk, Virginia, and has been corresponding with his mother and dad, *Mr. and Mrs. John McElwee* of the bus garage office, to the effect that he might be home in December, but his leave will not include Christmas. In any case, they'll be very happy at his homecoming.

Clerk John Theis has recently been under physician's observation and found to have ulcers.

Clerk Frank Rooney returned from his vacation which was spent taking care of the youngest *Rooney* and *Mrs. Rooney*, who broke her wrist when she fell from a chair. The *Rooneys* are back to normal and looking forward to next year's vacation and a possible trip.

We at 77th wish all the Joys of the Christmas Season to you. May its blessings shower you with a glow of good will that springs from the heart and touches all.

—WILBUR JENSEN AND
JOE SMITH

Pensioners Just Can't Stay Away from Old Jobs

MET INSPECTION TERMINALS—Recent visitors to Logan Shop were *Pensioners Harry Shaner and Ciro Romano*. Both looked the picture of health, indicating the easy life agrees with them . . . *Joe Domuzewski*, also a pensioner, was another visitor. He is recovering from an operation, but looks O.K.

We are sorry to report *Carmen Maskeri*, who retired a year ago, passed away. Our sympathy to his family . . . Also to *Felix Wisner*, Douglas, who recently lost his father.

Mike DeRobertis, Logan, received quite a surprise when his children and grand children gave a birthday party for him. Although a grandpa, *Mike* claims he is 39.

Since attending air school, *Al Long*, Logan, has become quite an authority on triple valves. *Sheldon Rita*, Douglas, who also attended air school, is asking this question "What operates the brake valve?" Think twice before you answer that one. You could be wrong.

Joe Serritella, Douglas, spends all his spare time working on his "Palaze"—house to you.

Elias Serrano plans to visit his folks in Laredo, Texas, during the holidays . . . *Jim Hill*, Logan, will travel to Canada. . . *Tony Odrowski*, Logan, tells quite a story about his trip to the country.

A thanks to *Herman Izzo*, who supplies the Douglas News . . . How about some news from Garfield Shop? . . . Anything at all will be appreciated.

Mike Kristman, Logan Square, and his wife, *Ruth*, have adopted a six-month old youngster, *Michael Harland*, and are very happy.

—JOE FEINENDEGEN

North Avenue Gets Out Vote

NORTH AVENUE—An enthusiastic crowd of over 8,000 members of Division 241 stormed the polls to elect officers and board members last month. The heavy vote from North Avenue was largely due to *Dan McFadden*. After the ballots were counted, we found they chose *August E. Johnson*, North Avenue, the new recording secretary. *James "Joe" Hill* was unopposed for financial secretary and treasurer. *Joe*, as he is better known, also is a North Avenue man. *Jerry Blake* was re-elected board member and *Walter Straubing* is our new board

member who fills the vacancy left by *Johnson*.

Last month I goofed. I had *Operator Cal Ash* in Canada when he should have been in California.

Operator Henry Umlauf, who really spent his vacation in Canada, never got a mention. "Calsey," as he is better known, also visited Niagara Falls.

Superintendent Myles Harrington ran into a lot of rain while visiting in Miami, Florida. He should have consulted *Florence Blaa*. She would have steered him to Clearwater where it is always clear.

Congratulations to *Operator Ray Ebel* on his silver wedding anniversary which was celebrated last month. You can add the name of *Ebel* to the long list of grandpappies. Being a grandfather hasn't changed Ray one bit.

Congratulations also are due *Operator Ralph "Gabby" Hartsell* on his 28th wedding anniversary which was celebrated last month.

Our "golf pro," *Clerk Ted Hoellen*, has hung up his clubs for another season. He is eyeing the calendar and looking at travel folders.

—JOE HIEBEL

Three and Three Make Him Six Times a Grandpa

NORTH SIDE—*L. J. Ruhlach* called to tell us that he had become a grandfather for the sixth time. He

says that the score is tied now as each of his children have three. He smokes the cigars himself.

Motorman A. J. "Tony" Bialk has been in Highland Park Hospital, but is home convalescing now. . . *Motorman A. Nechi* and *Towerman E. Schuster* have both been off sick, but expect to be back working soon.

Extra Motorman Melvin Jones was selected by his draft board and left November 24 for service. He says that he will see us in two years.

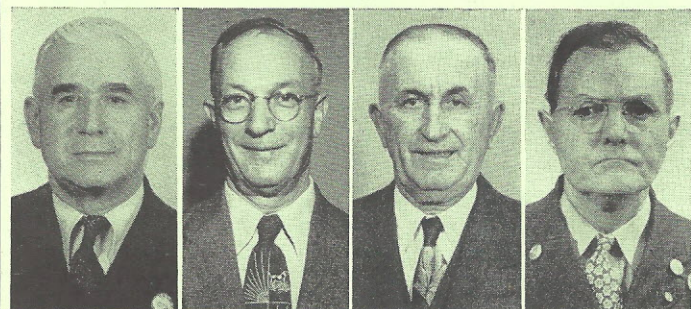
G. "Joe" Adelizzi is leaving on his pension on December 1 although he is only fifty-nine years old. He is going to California where he has relatives and where he hopes his wife's health will improve. We all hope that he and his wife enjoy many years of health and happiness while they are there.

Help! Help! *R. M. Sanford*, Station Superintendent at Kimball Avenue, and *J. P. "Pat" Hallahan*, P.M. clerk at Howard Street, are in need of apartments. Anyone having any knowledge of one that is available let them know.

We want to wish everyone the best of everything for the holidays and may you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Fischoff's drug store again served Thanksgiving dinner to many of the men working at Kimball Avenue on that day. He has furnished a full turkey dinner for

40-YEAR EMPLOYES RETIRE



Frank A. Pochylski, conductor, Devon, retired December 1 with 40 years service.

Thomas Bennett, emergency service helper, Way & Structures, retired Oct. 17 with 47 years service.

Frank Bosnak, foreman, Way and Structures Track Division, retired October 1 with 41 years service.

Martin J. Dever, motorman, 69th, retired December 1 with 42 years service.

the past four years and deserves a real vote of thanks for this thoughtfulness and consideration of the men who have to work that day.

Don't forget that if you have any news for this column just—

C. BOB BLANEY

One More Makes Four for the Reillys

SCHEDULE-TRAFFIC — Ed Reilly passed the cigars and candy in celebration of Helen presenting them with six-pound, 13-ounce Peter Michael on November 15. This makes the Reilly family a four-boy group. . . . On November 7, John Franzen gave his daughter, Ruth, in marriage to Joe Nichols at St. Dorothy's Church.

Bob LaVoie reports his daughter is making a slow, but successful, recovery after being struck by an automobile. Richard Goldstein has talent in his family in the person of his son, Henry, who entertained the National Honor Society of Steinmetz High School with a vocal solo entitled, "Bless This House."

Frank Neumann became a surgical case at Resurrection Hospital recently, and Eugene Jania is on the "sick at home" list. We hope the health of both improve very rapidly. Ten years ago, we were wishing you all a "Merry Christmas" in Surface Service Magazine and we take this opportunity to repeat our best wishes for a Merry Christmas.

—L. C. DUTTON

Good Reason for Driving Carefully

SKOKIE — Carpenter Robert Buerger is sporting a brand new 1953 Belair four-door Chevrolet sedan equipped with everything one could want in a car.

Machinist Foreman August Feinendegen and his immediate family have recently returned from a three-week vacation in Miami Beach, Florida.

Congratulations and best wishes to Air Brakeman and Mrs. John Redman, to whom on November 4 the stork delivered an 11-pound three-ounce girl whom the proud parents have named Cathryn Anne.

We wish a speedy recovery to Painter Foreman Arthur Keiner who has been ill for quite some time now.

Welcome to Skokie to Armature Winders Johnny Siska and George Doerr.

—DAVID GURWICH

LINDELL RETIRES



THE boys in the Electrical Department construction crew said farewell to "B" Electrician Carl H. Lindell, left, when he recently retired after 46 years of service. On behalf of fellow employees, William King, superintendent of construction, presented a wrist watch to Carl as a parting remembrance.

Reported by Gilbert E. Andrews

Girls Visit Deep South

SOUTH SHOPS—"Nothing like the good ol' South"—Those had been the words of our Kay McCarthy, Stores Department, and Mary Ann Yercich, South Shops, after their tour of New Orleans, La., Biloxi, Miss., and the Bellgrath Gardens. From all indications the vacation was a very gay one—the girls are still in a dream.

Another proud new daddy at the South Shops is Stanley Sarna, Car Repair, who became the father of little Sharon Louise on October 24, 1953.

Carl Anderson, Bus Overhaul, after an absence of several weeks, which was spent at Loudonville, Ohio, on company business, finally returned to his post.

We are all sorry to hear of Frank Rothman's illness. He has been confined to the Englewood Hospital since November 16, 1953. We wish him a speedy recovery, and hope to see him back soon.

Deepest sympathy to the family of John E. Malmgren (Retired) who passed away on Oct. 27.

The best of luck and health for a happy retirement is wished to A. Neuhaus and J. Tocik, Machine Shop, and Dominick Chesna, Car Body.

—FRANCES LOUWARD
AND MARY ANN YERICICH

Pensioner Celebrates Golden Wedding

SOUTHSIDE—Tony Meccia, one of our amiable pensioned motormen, recently celebrated his golden wedding anniversary. He sure looks like a prosperous business man and no doubt being on pension agrees with him.

Wishes for a speedy recovery are extended to Switchman Bill Hickey who was recently injured. We're all pulling for him, and hope he will be back at work real soon.

Is Trainman Mike Duffy proud? Well, why shouldn't he be as he was presented with a baby daughter, the first one, too. . . . Yard Foreman Robert Adler is another proud dad as his home was blessed with an infant son.

Night Station Superintendent Matthew Feaheny, who has been confined to his home due to an illness, is recuperating nicely. He wishes to thank all for the cards which were sent to him as they do bolster you up.

Congratulations to Motorman Frank Ponziano, who was beaming all over when he informed us that the stork delivered a baby boy to his home.

We are going to miss Towerman Otis Young who went on pension

November 1, 1953, after 34 years service. A surprise check was handed him by his fellow workers and Otis was deeply appreciative.

Motorman Tom Beggan, who gave out cigars very freely, was being congratulated and then someone inquired if it was a boy or girl. He replied, shouldn't a grandfather be just as proud?

Yours truly, who observes 25 years service, this month, hopes that this column has been interesting throughout the year, and that all looked forward to receiving their CTA TRANSIT NEWS. May the New Year be good to all.

—LEO J. BIEN

Son Number Three for the Marasovichs

STORES—John Marasovich, stock clerk at West Shops, became the proud father of a little boy, Thomas Leonard, on November 12, weighing seven pounds, ten and one-half ounces. This makes son number three for the Marasovichs.

Howard George, reclamation engineer in general office, and wife enjoyed their vacation by taking a motor trip to Tucson and Phoenix, Arizona, and Nogales, Mexico. They both think that part of the country is very beautiful.

James Beegan, chief clerk in general office, became a grandfather for the first time on November 16. The baby's name is Barbara Ann Surprenant, weighing six pounds, eight and one-half ounces.

Roy Croon, laborer at West Shops, vacationed in northern Michigan, enjoying the hunting season.

We welcome to our department Richard Lemons, laborer at West Shops, Anthony Koncel, crane man, transferred from Shops and Equipment Department to our South Shops, Irene Zalewski, typist at our West Shops, and Bob Sharp and Fred Loitz, who were recently transferred to our department from Accounting. —JEAN O'NEILL

Flying Rooneys Back From Fall Vacation

TRANSPORTATION AND INSURANCE—The Rooneys, Mary, Brian and Bill, recently returned from a vacation spent with the family at Pittston, Pennsylvania. When Brian becomes of age he will have as many flying hours to his credit as "Wrong Way" Corrigan. . . .

PROUD PAPPY



CONDUCTOR Paul Downey, South Side, is very proud of his son, **Gerald**, who during the war in Korea was a radio chief. On one of the missions his group was isolated and Gerald continued to maintain a constant vigil relaying and receiving radio messages while under intense artillery and mortar fire. For his action and leadership, Gerald received an impressive commendation ribbon and a medal.

Reported by **Leo J. Bien**

Larry Stephens, who is located up Limits way, is looking forward to a trip to Arcadia, California, where his daughter and family have moved into their new home. Larry's wife, **Jean**, is now greatly improved in health.

Jim Roche, who has been superintending for the past six weeks covering vacation schedules, has again donned his instructor's uniform and has returned to Limits. . . . **Miss Reggie Kuzius** has moved into Pension and Insurance office, performing the duties of a medical stenographer under **Dr. Irwin**.

Charlotte Hoyer, who spent so many months commuting between Valparaiso, Indiana, and Chicago, and who was so well pleased when her husband was transferred to Chicago, has decided to leave CTA to become a lady in waiting. Her coworkers have planned a shower on Charlotte, with our recent bride, **Nancy Meerman**, playing the part of hostess. . . . **Jim Kehoe**, who served in the transportation department for many years, has left the organization and his duties

have been taken over by **Max Willauczus**, transferred from M and S Accounting.

Miss Mary McCarthy, Telephone Operator, recently retired from the Boulevard Division, was presented with a diamond wristwatch as a remembrance from her many friends here. A dinner, tendered her at the Illinois Catholic Women's Club by girls closely associated with her, was the occasion for the presentation of the watch and an orchid. We all hope the time-piece will tick off many future happy hours for Mary.

—**JULIE PRINDERVILLE**

Two Plan Long Trips After Recent Retirement

WAY & STRUCTURES—We want to wish the following men happiness and good health in their recent retirement from the Utility and Emergency Service Division:

Joseph Heiseman, chauffeur, who has been with the company since January, 1919, is planning to take an automobile trip with his wife to the west coast. They will spend their Christmas holidays in the warm sunshine of California.

Joseph Civic, an emergency service helper since 1913, plans to take a trip to his native country as soon as warm weather returns.

—**VIOLET CARNES**

Proviso Football Star Son of "Met" Motorman

WESTSIDE—Garfield Park **Motorman Pete Fiorito** has a son who plays football with the Proviso team. Some 4,000 fans saw the league champions beat the "Huskies" of Oak Park-River Forest High School in a 20 to 19 victory which completed an undefeated season. **Fiorito** bulled across for the winning touchdown, from about one foot out. This was a heart-breaker for the "Huskies."

Conductor Walter Ganger is going to move from Cicero, Illinois, to 8700 south on Knox avenue.

—**WALTER J. REICH**

Election Results — A Damaging Fall!

WEST SIDE—(MET.)—November 17, when we were electing new union officers, will long be remembered by **Beatrice Kerins**. She caught her foot in the floor covering in the union hall and fell, fracturing her wrist and bruising herself.

Agent Dorothy Davis spent her vacation visiting her daughters. She spent one week at Fort Sheridan with one daughter and another week at Mason City, Iowa, visiting a second daughter and family.

Nancy Fogarty flew to Arizona with her mother and niece, visiting relatives. They spent a very enjoyable three weeks. . . . **Nellie Jennings** spent her four weeks in California and she had a wonderful time. . . . **Rose Stritesky** flew to Washington to visit her daughter and family. She had never before seen two of her three grandsons, so a very happy Thanksgiving was spent by Rose and daughter.

Mary Dalton has returned from a very enjoyable three weeks in sunny Florida. . . . **Agents J. Leahy, C. Schildt, E. Davies and A. Metzger and Porters J. McKenzie and E. Everett** have all returned from their vacation.

Agent Laura Sullivan's mother is now at the Haven of Rest Nursing Home in Beaverville, Illinois, and is feeling much better. . . . **Agent Iola Barnes' granddaughter, Linda Denise Wallace**, was born on September 29. One more grandmother for that agents' grandmother club.

Our sympathy is extended to **Rose Janacek** upon the death of her sister, and to the families of **Pensioners N. P. Hanson, E. Mortimer and W. Townsend** in their deaths.

Lena Montesano Comita has left the CTA to make her home in Pennsylvania.

—**KITTY KEEGAN AND RUTH HANSON**

Coffee and Planned, But They Settled for Cake

WEST SHOPS—On Monday, November 2, **Switchman Ed Karvanek** celebrated his birthday with a noon-time party, at the West Shops. Music was furnished by **Welder Duncan Robbie** and his accordion. The caterers arrived too late with the coffee, so we had to be satisfied with cake. On Thursday evening, November 6, the Paradise Ballroom gave another party in honor of Ed's first wedding anniversary. Coffee and cake was served to all guests.

Art Gburek, bus overhaul machinist, resigned the latter part of October, to work in another field, closer to his home.

Bus Overhaul Machinist Frank Vonstatten took his wife and a neighbor lady to a party a short time ago. Then Frank got busy selling tickets on a turkey raffle.

Frank's wife and the neighbor lady won three of the turkeys.

In another chance contest a week before Thanksgiving, **Frank Farito** walked off with \$500.00. Frank bought coffee for nearly every one in the bus overhaul department.

Frank Smerz, a painter since 1929, and **William Jackusak**, a laborer since 1918, retired on pension on December 1. Our best wishes go with them.

We all extend our sympathy to **Cy Baldwin** of the bus overhaul, whose mother passed away recently.

—**TED SHUMON**

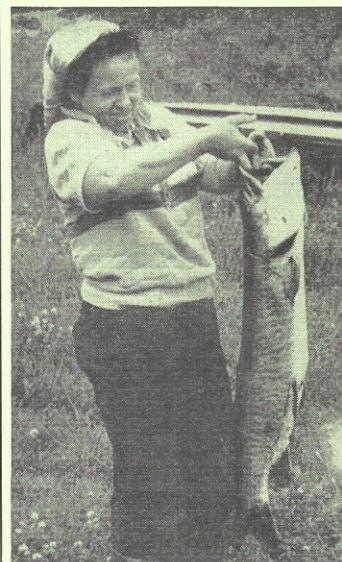
Did They Get the Right Directions?

WILSON SHOPS—**William Herrmann** and family enjoyed their vacation at their McCullum Lake home. Bill thought that a duck or two would fly his way, but from all reports, they flew the other way.

Joseph Lelakes and wife spent a week of their vacation in and around Springfield, Illinois, visiting relatives and enjoying the beautiful autumn sights.

We welcome **A. Viane and J. Dundovich** to Wilson Shops. They recently transferred here from the West Shops.

CANADIAN CATCH



USING both hands to hold up her prize catch, Ardaph, wife of West Shops Machinist Horace Regnier, bus overhaul, happily displays the big fish she caught in Canada.

Reported by **Ted Shumon**

Best wishes for a very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

—EVERETT E. ENGLAND

Folksy Notes About Folks

WILCOX—Operators *Frank Calderon* and *Harry Kaufman* and their wives are just back from their Florida vacation.

Operator *Frank Ventre* and his wife have a new addition to their family. The mother and *Frank, Jr.*, are doing fine, but the father passed out—cigars.

Your reporter wishes to take this opportunity to wish one and all a very happy Christmas and a merry New Year.

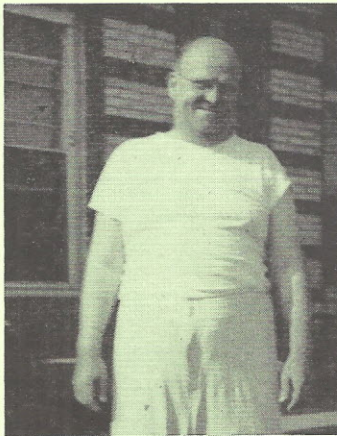
We were all shocked at the sudden death of Operator *Julius Olsen*. On behalf of everyone in the depot we wish to extend our deepest sympathy to his family.

Operator *Marty Mulvihill* and his wife are very satisfied with the scholastic efforts of their daughter, *Nancy*.

Everyone is very happy to see Supervisor *Ed Billings* and Operator *Art Ohm* back at work again.

—THOMAS H. MOONEY

FEELING FINE



THE latest report from *Ernest Haggstrom*, formerly of *Kedzie*, who is pictured here, is that he is feeling better than ever and would like to hear from his old friends. *Haggstrom* is convalescing at *Oak Forest Sanitarium* and is in cottage No. 10.

Reported by *C. P. Starr*

TRANSITAD

FOR SALE—2 pair of *Loboy* girl's shoe hockey skates with guards. Size 7, black—One pair of men's hardtoe hockey skates. Size 9. \$5 per pair. Call *C. J. Snow*, Avenue 3-0572.

RECENT DEATHS AMONG EMPLOYEES

L. R. ALTEMUS, 66, retired investigation supervisor, Claim. Died 10-24-53. Employed 3-8-18.

O. F. BATZLAFF, 67, retired conductor, North Avenue. Died 10-28-53. Employed 2-16-23.

F. E. BROBERG, 65, retired conductor, Lincoln. Died 11-1-53. Employed 1-14-20.

EDWIN V. DIKEMAN, 46, bus operator, North Avenue. Died 10-27-53. Employed 1-9-29.

CHARLES J. ERNST, 47, district engineer, Electrical. Died 10-16-53. Employed 6-28-26.

R. FERWERDA, 68, retired conductor, North Avenue. Died 11-7-53. Employed 10-30-06.

J. J. FLEMING, 82, retired flagman, Burnside. Died 10-16-53. Employed 4-12-04.

ANDREW FORBES, 61, superintendent of garages, Boulevard. Died 10-30-53. Employed 7-15-21.

JOHN FRITZ, 66, retired gate-man, Westside. Died 10-25-53. Employed 9-30-35.

C. R. GILMOUR, 69, retired conductor, Cottage Grove. Died 10-16-53. Employed 10-6-15.

HUGH GINAPP, 59, porter, Southside. Died 10-14-53. Employed 12-22-43.

P. R. HAHN, 85, retired conductor, Lincoln. Died 10-10-53. Employed 12-30-95.

HARRY HALBERT, 54, motorman, 77th. Died 11-11-53. Employed 2-3-43.

J. J. HAMMERSMITH, 64, retired motorman, Devon. Died 11-1-53. Employed 9-12-12.

N. P. HANSON, 83, retired supervisor, General Office. Died 11-2-53. Employed 1-8-96.

GUY H. HECKELMAN, 62, motorman, 77th. Died 10-17-53. Employed 3-5-20.

LOUIS A. HENRY, 62, crane operator, Stores. Died 10-27-53. Employed 10-27-13.

T. F. HOPPE, 75, retired conductor, Devon. Died 10-25-53. Employed 11-25-19.

MICHAEL F. JOYCE, 54, motorman, 77th. Died 10-18-53. Employed 12-14-26.

P. J. JOYCE, 65, retired car cleaner, Devon. Died 10-17-53. Employed 9-24-19.

F. KELLEY, 81, retired steam fitter, South Shops. Died 9-18-53. Employed 10-20-02.

J. A. KRIEGER, 75, retired machinist, West Shops. Died 10-16-53. Employed 12-01-21.

JOHN LAMONT, 64, motorman, 69th. Died 10-31-53. Employed 11-13-09.

WILLIAM L. LUTTMER, 54, conductor, Devon. Died 10-16-53. Employed 5-3-27.

J. E. MALMGREN, 68, retired carpenter, South Shops. Died 10-27-53. Employed 6-29-23.

MARGARET C. McMAHON, 67, agent, Southside. Died 10-17-53. Employed 11-20-28.

J. K. MILLER, 64, retired attorney, Law Department. Died 10-22-53. Employed 2-1-16.

E. MORTIMER, 80, retired agent, Westside. Died 11-01-53. Employed 7-13-14.

A. J. MUELLER, 81, retired car cleaner, Northside. Died 11-06-53. Employed 4-25-21.

JOHN O'HERON, 84, retired conductor, Devon. Died 10-11-53. Employed 9-16-93.

J. OLSON, 52, bus operator, Wilcox. Died 11-6-53. Employed 3-18-24.

J. J. O'NEIL, 72, retired inspector, South Shops. Died 10-26-53. Employed 5-09-11.

ANTON B. OPICKA, 45, repairman, Lake Street Shops. Died 10-27-53. Employed 12-22-41.

JOHN OTTO, 88, retired towerman, Northside. Died 10-10-53. Employed 5-23-94.

MAURICE T. OVERGAARD, 50, bus operator, North Park. Died 10-17-53. Employed 12-10-28.

J. H. RICHARDSON, 70, retired flagman, 77th. Died 10-16-53. Employed 11-25-19.

MICHAEL J. RYAN, 65, machine operator, Internal Auditing. Died 10-15-53. Employed 9-20-25.

HENRY SEAHOLM, 60, retired motorman, Devon. Died 10-16-53. Employed 9-8-27.

JAMES SELLAS, 48, assistant day foreman, 69th. Died 10-27-53. Employed 4-14-20.

H. SWANSON, 68, retired conductor, 77th. Died 10-07-53. Employed 2-14-07.

H. W. THOMPSON, 75, retired maintainer, Electrical. Died 11-11-53. Employed 11-07-12.

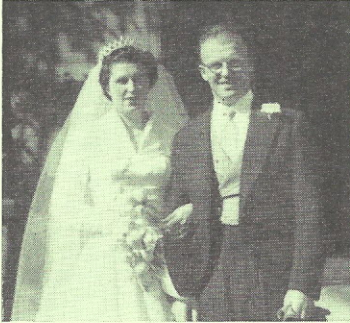
WILLIAM S. WOSS, 42, machinist, West Shops. Died 11-08-53. Employed 2-27-46.

PRESENTATION



ON THE occasion of his retirement on November 1 after 33 years of service, *James Denwood*, switchman at *Logan Square*, was presented with \$75 in government bonds and a cash purse by his fellow workers. *Edward Schmidt*, yard foreman, makes the presentation while other employees look on.

Reported by *Joe Feinendegen*



MEET Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Drislane, who were married October 10 in Ottawa, Canada. Dennis and Willa honeymooned in the eastern United States. Dennis is a stock clerk at West Shops.

Reported by Jean O'Neill



PRETTY Jean Olson, addressograph operator, became Mrs. John M. Sweeney on October 10. The wedding took place at Saint Sabina Church. She and her husband are pictured here just before they left for a honeymoon trip to New York.

Reported by Jean O'Neill



CRYSTAL stemware was presented to Bessie Borkovich, Accounting, as a wedding and farewell gift from her CTA associates. After her marriage on November 15 to Samuel Nujovich, Bessie left Chicago to make her new home in South St. Paul, Minnesota.

Reported by Helen Lowe



LOVELY Antionette (Toni) Bovino of Personnel Services is pictured with her husband, Vincent Cardillo, as they were leaving Our Lady of Sorrows Church following the wedding ceremony on October 12. The happy couple spent their honeymoon at Miami Beach.

Reported by Mary E. Clarke



ANOTHER October bride was Patricia Hawley, daughter of Lake Street Supervisor Byron Hawley, who was married October 31 to Fred Glenn, a student at Coe College.

Reported by Walter J. Reich

CTA FALL WEDDINGS

JUNE, the traditional month of weddings, almost rated second best to October this year with CTAer's as these pictures recording the happy events prove. With the help of Transit News reporters we are pleased to present this pictorial review of the brides and grooms of the season. We're sure the whole CTA family joins in wishing them many years of happiness together.



THE FORMER Joan Riordan, Revenue, daughter of Cornelius Riordan, South Side Shops, chose October 24 for her marriage to Edward Rafa at St. John the Baptist Church. They are pictured here at the wedding breakfast which followed the ceremony.

Reported by Helen Lowe

LEAVING St. Therese of the Infant Jesus Church following their wedding are Mr. and Mrs. Albert Granholm. She is the former Lorraine Curry, Payroll, daughter of Julia, Loop agent. The nuptials took place October 24.

Reported by Helen Lowe

PEGGY McIntyre, General Office, became the bride of Don Reddman on September 26 at St. Bonaventure Church. An afternoon reception was held at the Belden-Stratford hotel.

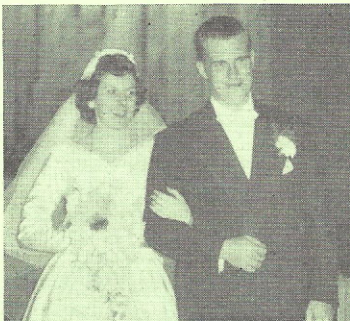
Reported by Cathy O'Malley

BEST WISHES for lots of luck and happiness were extended by their friends to Mr. and Mrs. Patrick McCanney on October 31, following their wedding at Sacred Heart Church, 70th and Aberdeen. Pat is a stock clerk at South Shops.

Reported by Jean O'Neill

A RECENT bride is the former Phyllis Wierzbicki, who was married to Ted Sutkowski, Beverly Bus Repair, in ceremonies at the Graham Taylor Chapel, on October 25. Their honeymoon trip took them to Canada.

Reported by Dante F. Brunod



MICHIGAN AVENUE REOPENS ... Two Routes Revised

REOPENING of Michigan avenue to through traffic on November 9, following partial completion of the construction of the Grant Park underground parking facility, permitted the restoration of normal, more convenient transit service for the affected portion of the famous lake-front boulevard.

Coincident with the Michigan avenue reopening, the routings of two CTA lines operating in that area—Diversey and Ohio Street-Depots—were revised as follows:

Northbound Diversey (No. 134) buses operate in Wabash avenue to Lake street, east in Lake to Michigan boulevard and north in Michigan over the regular route.

Ohio Street-Depots (No. 157) buses operate eastbound in Washington street to Michigan boulevard, and north in Michigan over the regular route.

• • •

Walking Transfer Privileges Increased

ADDITION of a special group of 22 transfer locations to CTA's universal free transfer system was authorized and became effective November 15. Each of them exceeds the one block walk generally permitted for transfers between adjacent routes at the beginning or end of adjacent operation.

Objective of the action is to increase the usefulness of CTA's already convenient universal transfer privilege, and to encourage riders to make greater use of surface and "L"-subway routes in combination. Most of the added transfer locations provide for transferring between rapid transit and surface routes.

A convenient, pocket size folder, outlining the locations where walking transfers of more than one standard city block are permitted, has been published and distributed by the CTA Public Information Department. Individual copies of the folder are available upon request.

• • •

Establish Experimental Extension Bus Route

EXPERIMENTAL operation of a feeder bus extension of the Devon-Sheridan route was inaugurated on November 15. Designated the Devon-Pratt route, the new bus line was

established to serve growing residential areas on the northwest side and in Lincolnwood.

The experimental feeder buses operate from the west terminal of the Devon-Sheridan line at Kedzie and Devon avenues over the following route:

West in Devon to Lincoln avenue, northwest in Lincoln to Pratt avenue, and west in Pratt to an off-street terminal near Niles Center road (Central avenue) in Skokie, returning to the east terminal over the same streets.

Service is provided seven days a week. Buses operate at 15 minute intervals during weekday rush hours. For the remainder of the daily operating period, weekdays, Saturdays and Sundays, a 30 minute operating schedule is maintained.

Riders traveling between points east and west of the terminal at Kedzie and Devon avenues pay the regular CTA interzone fare of 25 cents each way. For a local ride, originating and terminating west of the Kedzie-Devon terminal, CTA regular local rates of fare apply.

Traffic checks on the new route were conducted after 30 days and will be conducted again after 60 days of operation to determine whether riding justifies continuation of the service.

• • •

Editors Tour Town

ON TWO occasions during their annual fall convention, members of the Associated Press Managing Editors Association called upon CTA Charter Service buses to aid them in taking in Chicago highlights. Eight buses met the group of approximately 350 of the nation's top editors on November 5 to transport them on a southside tour, which took in Chinatown, museums, the aquarium and wound up with a steak dinner at the Saddle and Sirloin Club in the stock yards. Then, on November 7, the editors turned sports minded. Five CTA chartered buses were required to move the group to Dyche Stadium, Evanston, for a Saturday afternoon display of football featuring Northwestern and Wisconsin.



CLEARING THE WAY



REMOVAL of portions of the Garfield Park "L" structure, clearing the way for continuing Superhighway construction work, began during the early part of October near Van Buren and Rockwell streets. The razing operation eliminates the portion of structure between Paulina street and Sacramento avenue.

Razing of the structure was contracted to the John F. Beasley Construction Company, whose bid was the best of nine received on the job by the Chicago Transit Board. Terms of the contract provide for the removal of the structure involved by the contractor at his expense and payment of \$12,000 to CTA for the scrap involved. Rails and other operating facilities on this portion of the structure remained the property of CTA.

Twelve CTA Routes Revised In Expansion Of One-Way Streets

REVISIONS in 12 Surface routes, required by the addition of four more one-way streets to the City's expanding program, were authorized by the Chicago Transit Board on November 5 and became effective on November 15.

The four additions to the one-way street system are:

(1) Adams street—Westbound only from Michigan avenue to Campbell avenue. (2) Clark street—Southbound from Kinzie street to Harrison street. (3) Dearborn street—Northbound from Polk street to Kinzie street. (4) Jackson boulevard—Eastbound from Campbell avenue to Michigan avenue.

New routings of the 12 CTA lines affected are as follows:

Ashland-Downtown (No. 45—Rush Hours Only)—North in State to Polk, west to Dearborn, north to Kinzie, east to State, south in State.

Blue Island (No. 60)—East in Monroe from Canal to State, south to Adams, west to Clinton, south in Clinton.

Clark-Wentworth (No. 22)—No southbound changes. Northbound in Clark to Harrison, east to Dearborn, north to Kinzie, west to Clark, north over regular route.

Douglas (No. 136)—Westbound in Adams to Ashland, south in Ashland via regular route.

Elston (No. 55)—South in Wells to Wacker, east to Clark, south to Randolph, west to Wells, north in Wells.

Harrison-Adams (No. 7)—East in Harrison to Racine, north to Monroe, east to State, south to Adams, west to Racine, south over regular route.

Independence (No. 127)—East in Jackson to State, north to Quincy, west to Dearborn, north to Adams, west to Campbell, south to Jackson, west over regular route.

Jackson (No. 126)—West in Van Buren to Franklin, north to Adams, west to Campbell, south to Jackson, west over regular route.

Lake Street (No. 16)—East in Lake to a crossover terminal at Clinton and return west.

Madison (No. 20)—East in Washington from Franklin to Clark, south to Madison, west over regular route.

Morgan-Racine (No. 23)—North in Racine to Jackson, east to Sangamon, north to Grand.

Ogden-Randolph (No. 58)—East in Lake from Jefferson to State, south to Randolph, west in Randolph.

CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF APPLICATION OF REVENUES TO FIXED REQUIREMENTS
MONTHS OF OCTOBER 1953 AND 1952, TEN MONTHS AND TWELVE MONTHS ENDED
OCTOBER 31, 1953

(Revenues applied in order of precedence required by Trust Agreement)

	Month of October		Period Ended Oct. 31, 1953	
	1953	1952	10 Months	12 Months
Revenues	\$10,660,283	\$11,251,747	\$103,739,442	\$125,068,908
Operation and Maintenance Expenses.....	8,967,693	9,381,726	87,966,280	106,490,684
Available for Debt Service.....	1,692,590	1,870,021	15,773,162	18,578,224
Debt Service Requirements:				
Interest Charges	424,064	404,253	4,043,350	4,351,856
Deposit to Series of 1947 Serial Bond				
Maturity Fund (Note 1).....	150,000	83,333	1,100,000	1,266,667
Revenue Bond Reserve (Note 2).....	23,000	—	230,000	276,000
	597,064	487,586	5,373,350	6,394,523
Balance Available for Depreciation.....	1,095,526	1,382,435	10,399,812	12,183,701
Provision for Depreciation—Current Period..	852,823	900,140	8,299,155	10,005,513
Balance Available for Revenue Bond Amortiza-				
tion Fund (Note 3).....	242,703	482,295	2,100,657	2,178,188
Revenue Bond Amortization Fund.....	242,703	300,000	1,216,713	1,216,713
Balance Available for Other Charges (Note 3) ..\$	—	\$ 182,295	\$ 883,944	\$ 961,475

PASSENGER STATISTICS

Originating Revenue Passengers.....	59,499,381	62,320,915	571,794,583	689,499,331
Transfer Revenue Passengers.....	2,547,156	2,377,351	24,039,488	28,650,745
Total Revenue Passengers.....	62,046,537	64,698,266	595,834,071	718,150,076

STATUS OF EQUIPMENT MODERNIZATION PROGRAM as at October 31, 1953

1952-53 Orders:	Delivered to Date	Remaining to be Delivered	Total
Propane Buses	80	320	400
El-Subway Cars	—	250	250
	80	570	650
Delivered under previous orders.....	2,814		
Less—P.C.C. Streetcars to be converted to El-Subway Cars...	250		2,564
			3,214

NOTES:

- (1) Equal monthly installments to retire \$1,800,000 principal amount of Series of 1947 Revenue Bonds maturing on July 1, 1954.
- (2) Available to pay interest on any interest payment date of Series of 1952 Revenue Bonds when amounts set aside for such purpose are insufficient therefor, or for accomplishing the final retirement or redemption of all outstanding Series of 1952 Bonds.
- (3) Deposits may be made in the Depreciation Reserve Fund only to the extent that monies are available therefor. The requirements for these deposits, however, are cumulative, and any balances available after the current period's provision for Depreciation must be applied to cover prior period deficiencies which may exist in deposits to the Depreciation Reserve Fund. The Supplemental Trust Agreements covering Series of 1952 and 1953 Revenue Bonds provide for quarterly deposits of \$300,000 and \$16,713.50, respectively (cumulative within any one year) to the "Revenue Bond Amortization Funds" to the extent that monies are available therefor after making the required deposits to the Depreciation Reserve Funds; also that deposits of \$900,000 are to be made to the Operating Expense Reserve Fund in any calendar year that earnings are available therefor. Deposits to the Municipal Compensation Fund may be made only from monies remaining in any one year after making all required deposits in the Depreciation Reserve, Revenue Bond Amortization and Operating Expense Reserve Funds.

Our Public Speaks...

ONCE AGAIN this month, we have received letters of thanks and commendation for our many trainmen and operators who have rendered courteous and friendly service to passengers. Especially gratifying were the ones received from out-of-towners who were so impressed with the transportation system in Chicago, they wrote and told us about it. Following are some of the letters received recently:

Montreal, Quebec, Canada

"My wife and I visited Chicago for the first time recently. Having traveled Canada and the U. S. A., we have yet to meet anyone as helpful and friendly as the drivers of the CTA system. We would like to bring your attention to one particular driver on the Roosevelt route (Leroy Jackson, 77th). Without his help we would have been hopelessly lost and although he was very busy, he found time to direct two strangers."

THE letter reprinted below appeared in the editorial column of Oak Leaves, a suburban newspaper:

Courtesy Always Pays

"Altogether too often we hear about how rude conductors and motormen are. The many times a conductor or motorman befriends someone never makes news, but it usually serves as a tonic for those of us who sometimes fail to recognize or consider the other fellow.

"The other night we boarded a loop-bound 'L' train here in Oak Park. As soon as we stepped into the train, a conductor informed passengers they must enter the cars ahead for loop stops. Our destination was the loop and we began the trip ahead to the forward cars. As we reached the doorway of the car we had boarded, a CTA employe rushed to the door, opened it and held it open

as we walked through. We turned to say thank you and he replied, 'Think nothing of it,' with a smile. We moved forward convinced that CTA employe was 'one in a million.' We kept walking and soon ran into the 'second in a million' for another CTA employe rushed to open the door for us.

"We continued on our way with a feeling of gratitude. We realized that those men were completing their day and were just as tired as we were. Those men awakened our sense of courtesy and we appreciate it."

THE letter below was received following a recent visit of John Baxter of the Traffic Division of the Pittsburgh Railways Company. While in Chicago he visited the offices and various locations of the Chicago Transit Authority.

"Many thanks for the many courtesies extended to me on my visit to Chicago last week. I enjoyed every minute of the time spent both in your offices and out on the lines. Despite my being impressed by the modern rolling stock and apparatus which you use, I seemed to be even more aware of the progressive attitude and planning. I would be happy to be of any service to you here in Pittsburgh if you ever have need of it."

PASSENGERS who are dissatisfied with the service they have received on CTA vehicles, let us know about that, too. Here are two of the letters we have received:

"Recently boarding a bus, I handed the driver a one-dollar bill, which he begrudgingly accepted, and asking for tokens only made him angrier. He is ill-tempered and doesn't realize that bus patrons pay his salary."

COMMENT: CTA employes are instructed and expected to perform their duties in a courteous and ac-

commodating manner at all times in an effort to eliminate complaints of this nature.

"While waiting to transfer to a south-bound bus on LaSalle street I was unable to board the first bus that came along because it was crowded to the doors. I saw a fairly empty bus about a block behind so waited for it. I stood there, transfer in hand, expecting to board this bus which was comparatively empty, but he deliberately drove right past without stopping at all."

COMMENT: CTA vehicles are operated for the convenience and accommodation of its patrons. Whenever an employe fails to stop to permit patrons to board or alight, he is performing a disservice not only to the patron but to the CTA and himself as well.



Grateful Student

"I am writing this brief note to thank you for the CTA passes which we have received at the beginning of this semester. It is wonderful that we can have a student rate when coming and going to school, but this year all the students are grateful for the extra privilege of being able to also ride on the weekends with the same fare. I would like to thank the CTA and all the patient drivers of the CTA who many times will wait for a student a few seconds so that he will not be late for school."

SHOWN here is a comparison of complaints and commendations received by Chicago Transit Authority for October, 1953; September, 1953; and October, 1952:

	Oct. 1953	Sept. 1953	Oct. 1952
Complaints	1,128	1,104	1,322
Commendations	139	111	86

Legends of Christmas

...as old as time

MANY of the Christmas customs which we CTA'ers observe in our home today are also practiced by peoples the world over. They're as old as time itself. And their origins, unknown to us for the most part, are now legendary. Yet these customs, handed down through the generations, are largely based on factual beginnings from a much earlier day.

Collecting these fascinating Christmas legends has become the unusual pursuit of *Mr. Wrightson Christopher*, who is associated with a nationally known firm which manufactures greeting cards for all occasions. He has found that the roots of Christmas customs we practice today go very far back into the folklore of the Scandinavians, the Europeans, the Romans and even into prehistoric Druid times.

Take the word "Yule" itself—this word originated with the ancient Northern peoples who thought of the sun as a wheel revolving around the earth and which reached its solstice in the winter. This cycle of the sun was known to them as the "Hweol."

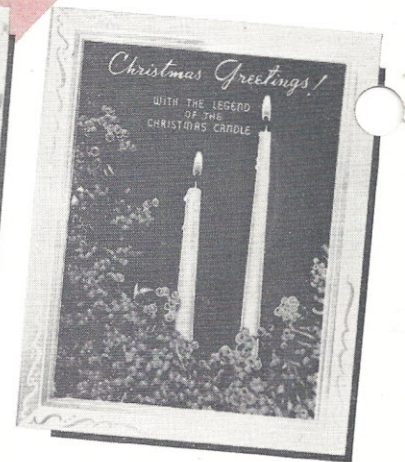
Peering further into the history of the Druids, priests among this ancient people were among the first to celebrate the Yule period by burning a log, which they blessed with much ceremony. Every year a brand was saved to rekindle the new fire.

Among other Europeans, the Romans were the first to celebrate the season in a pagan ceremony consisting of a procession and the lighting of candles. Later the Christians merged this ceremony into the festivity commemorating the birth of Christ. And, as it happens, this was later merged in other parts of Europe with the winter solstice festivities.

The story of St. Nicholas, patron saint of children, is one rooted in fact. A man named Nicholas was born in Asia Minor back in the 9th or 10th century. When his parents died, Nicholas gave away everything his parents left him. After his death he was named as the patron saint of children whom he particularly loved.

Our traditional Christmas trees are not commonplace the world over. Rather, it is the Christmas *crib* which is more widely known as a symbol. It is the *Creche* in France, the *Nacimiento* in Spain, and the *Krippe* in Germany. In many European countries the crib is carried through the streets by groups of singing children and is a feature in many homes, just as the tree is here and in Northern European countries.

Christmas gifts are the result of the custom instituted by Roman emperors who "invited" their subjects to make gifts to the monarch at this season. It was less a religious celebration and more a means of obtaining these emoluments



for themselves. But it is a custom we have taken over in a completely different spirit today.

It is interesting that Santa Claus is not widely known around the world as a gift-bringer. Mostly, it is the Wise Men who arrive bearing gifts, especially in Eastern and Southern Europe. In Hungary the gifts come from the Angels; in Poland from the Stars, in Greece St. Basil is the gift-bestowing patron saint, while in Denmark it is an elf—Jule-nissen.

Among the ancient legends is that of the Christmas candle. It tells of a shoemaker who lived on the edge of a village. Although poor, he placed his candle in the window each night to guide travelers. Despite wars, hardships and illness his light never wavered. This so inspired the villagers that at the Christmas season nearly everyone placed a candle in his window. The custom grew until it became universal.

Another undying tale is the legend of the Christmas rose. A little shepherdess watching from afar wept because she had no gifts to offer the Christ Child. As her tears fell to the ground, flowers sprang up. These she gathered and hastened to bring to the infant Jesus to add to the gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh brought by the Wise Men.

Still another legend is the origin of Christmas bells. In the town of Lochen, Holland, there once hung in the church tower two bells with an unforgettably clear tone. However, these bells had never been baptized and one night, so the story goes, they disappeared from the church tower. At midnight on the eve of Christmas, the familiar bell tones were heard through the town. Though the bells were never found, their chimes continued to ring out over the town each Christmas at midnight.

Many of the well known legends have been portrayed in Christmas cards. One legend has it that when Christ was born all the trees burst into blossom and bore fruit. Birds sang and all the forest was transformed into a magic garden. There was a sound of bells and a multitude of angels singing.

Thus, today our traditional Christmas cards often show stars, tinkling bells, trees trimmed with shining balls, glittering tinsel and candy canes, all proclaiming the happy message.



FRANK J. SALANDRA, Operator: "With three children, Christmas is a great holiday at our house. We usually put our tree up the day before Christmas and leave it up until after my daughter *Patsy's* birthday, which is January 3. Since our custom is to have a large tree, we often have to considerably rearrange our furniture to make room for it."



INQUIRING REPORTER: Joe Hiebel
LOCATION: North Avenue

"What customs do you usually follow in connection with your Christmas tree?"

↑

CORNELIUS P. O'CONNOR, Clerk: "Christmas Eve is the time we customarily decorate our tree. My children really enjoy helping with the project and always make the job last until it's time for them to go to bed. The tree traditionally comes down on 'Little Christmas,' which is the 6th of January."



MICHAEL J. O'GRADY, Operator: "Christmas is a great day when you have six children and seven grandchildren. They always help with putting up the tree and love to decorate it. Our custom is to have everyone gather around the tree on Christmas night, which usually requires moving out the front room furniture to make enough room for all."

WILLARD K. RAKOW, Operator: "Our custom is to have the children help trim the Christmas tree. The festivity makes them feel important, and Christmas is an important time in everyone's life. By helping us think of others first and ourselves last, it serves to bring our family much closer together."



JOSEPH J. BORK, Operator: "The custom at our house is to let the children help pick out the Christmas tree. They decorate it by themselves, which really makes it an important day for them. On Christmas morning, when the kids get up and see their presents under the tree, it's a wonderful surprise and usually their biggest time of the year."

TO THE Ladies

... from JOAN

How to Display Your Christmas Cards



FOR a really novel way to display your prettiest Christmas greeting cards, make this modern Christmas tree.

"MERRY CHRISTMAS," in the form of greeting cards, pours into thousands of homes these days. It is the one season of the year when neighbors, friends and relatives, far and near, send messages of good will and cheer.

With their color, charm and good wishes, the cards now are as much a part of our Christmas custom as the holiday turkey and the yuletide tree. It is only recently, however, that people have discovered that Christmas cards, properly displayed, can provide the holiday decorations in the home throughout the festive season.

One effective and simple way of showing off the greeting cards to advantage is to make a "Friendship Tree." This is done simply by fastening the choicest cards to the branches of your holiday tree with cellophane tape. The cards may be hung from top to bottom of a big old-fashioned tree or on a small table model. The cards provide a bright

splash of color and are easily identifiable by family and friends.

An ingenious and economical way of displaying your prettiest Christmas greeting cards is to use cellophane tape to fasten them to a few small branches taken from a tree growing in your own back yard. Choose the branches which

have the most twigs. To give the branches a Christmasy look, paint them with aluminum paint (the kind you use on radiators) and firmly anchor them in a flower pot with plaster filler. Wrap aluminum foil around the flower pot for a glittering effect. Any number of cards can be suspended with cellophane tape.

Christmas-Time Treat

CHRISTMAS is the season when your oven yields wonderful treats so often forgotten the rest of the year. Some are holiday specials—for Christmas only—designed to make your days more cheery.

Here is a recipe for mincemeat pie, covered with pastry stars, just for the Christmas season. It will make you star as a cook when you serve it to guests and family. Even though you choose fruit cake for dessert at Christmas dinner, keep a spicy "mince" pie on hand to serve with coffee to holiday callers. If you don't have time to bake, your bakery has a wonderful array of mincemeat and pumpkin pie. But this recipe is so simple to prepare, you'll want to make your own.

Pastry can be prepared in short order. And the filling is just a combination of prepared mincemeat and finely chopped apples, mixed together and arranged in the pie shell.

Mincemeat Pie

1½ cups sifted enriched flour

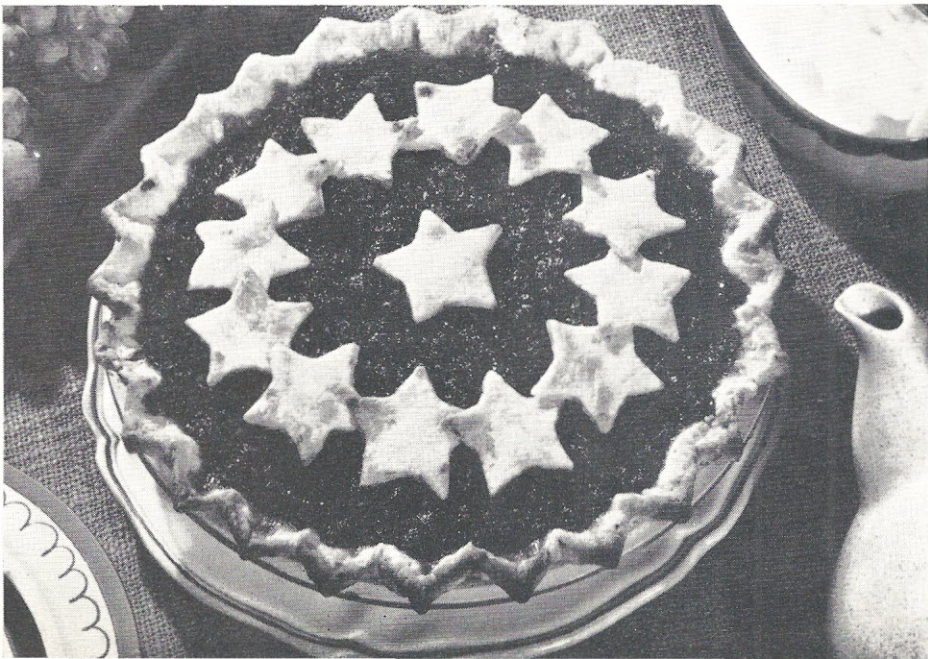
¾ teaspoon salt
½ cup shortening
3 tablespoons cold water (about)

Sift together flour and salt. Cut or rub in shortening. Sprinkle with water, mixing lightly until dough begins to stick together. Turn out on floured pastry cloth and press dough together. Let stand a few minutes while preparing mincemeat filling. Cut off about ⅓ of pastry. Roll out larger portion of pastry to circle ⅛-inch thick and line pie pan with it. Trim fluted edges. Fill with mincemeat filling. Roll out remaining pastry ⅛-inch thick and cut with star-shaped cookie cutter. Arrange stars in circle over mincemeat filling. Bake in hot oven (450°F.) 10 to 15 minutes. Reduce to moderate oven (350°F.) and continue baking 30 minutes longer.

Mincemeat Filling

3 cups mincemeat
1 cup finely chopped apples
Mix together mincemeat and apples. Arrange in pie shell. Makes 1 9-inch pie.

YOU'LL be treating your family and friends to a starring dessert when you serve this mincemeat pie. It is an excellent choice for holiday parties. Serve with a spoonful of whipped cream sprinkled with cinnamon.



IT WILL TAKE
MORE IN '54!

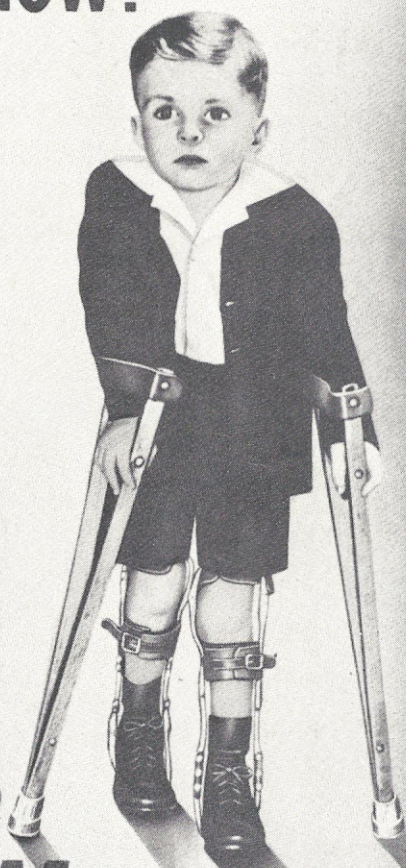
Join the

MARCH OF DIMES

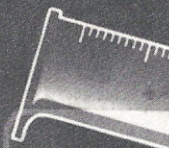
January 2 to 31



HELP NOW!



RESEARCH WILL WIN



*Join
the March
of Dimes*

THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION
FOR INFANTILE PARALYSIS



FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT,
FOUNDER

DURING 1954, the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis expects to shoulder the heaviest financial burden in its history. More gamma globulin must be provided and tests on an experimental polio vaccine are to be conducted. Your help is critically needed and will be sincerely appreciated.

LET'S TRY TO KEEP IT ALIVE
THRUOUT THE YEAR....

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