

TRANSIT NEWS

DECEMBER, 1954





250 CTA'ers Complete First Aid Course

APPROXIMATELY 250 CTA employes recently completed the American Red Cross first aid course and received certificates to that effect.

Largest of the groups was a class of 60 at West Shops which was graduated on November 16. Other classes were held at Skokie Shops, Wilson Shops, two at South Shops, two at West Shops, and two at the Division and Western training school.

In attendance at the classes were employes from carhouses and garages, from rapid transit inspection terminals and shops, from surface system shops and from the Stores Department.

The classes were sponsored by the Accident Prevention Department as part of the CTA industrial safety program. They were the standard nine-week Red Cross courses.

The accompanying picture shows the class at West Shops with members of the supervisory force.

New Type Bus Sign For Loop

FIRST INSTALLATION of a new bus route information sign, CTA's initial step in the installation of bus route information signs in the Loop area, was made October 28.

The new sign, an experimental model and first of the series to be installed, is located on the west side of State street just north of Monroe street.



The double-faced, weather-proof sign in four colors lists the numbers and names of the bus routes stopping at this particular bus berth, and describes briefly the routes over which the buses operate to their terminals.

In connection with this new sign program, which is designed to enhance the convenience and attractiveness of CTA services, the CTA is painting the kiosks at subway entrances in bright colors for easy visibility, and is installing subway route information signs atop each kiosk. The new signs will make it easier for patrons to locate transit stops quickly and to tell where the routes go.

The City of Chicago, through the Street Traffic Commission, the Department of Streets and Sanitation, and the City Traffic Engineer, is co-operating in the program.

Shown inspecting the new sign immediately after its installation are, left to right, *George L. DeMent*, commissioner of Public Works and chairman, Chicago Street Traffic Commission; *V. E. Gunlock*, chairman, Chicago Transit Board. and *Leslie J. Sorenson*, City Traffic Engineer.

RECENT CTA ADDITIONS TO THE ARMED FORCES

Thomas Corcoran—Shops and Equipment (South Shops)

RETURNED FROM SERVICE

Robert G. Bock—Shops and Equipment Charles R. Edwards—Way and Structures (Track)

- J. E. McCarthy, Jr.—Shops and Equipment (Beverly)
- J. P. McKenna—Transportation (Ravenswood)
- John F. Michaels—Shops and Equipment (Kimball)
- E. E. Montgomery—Stores

Jeremiah J. Scannell—Shops and Equip-

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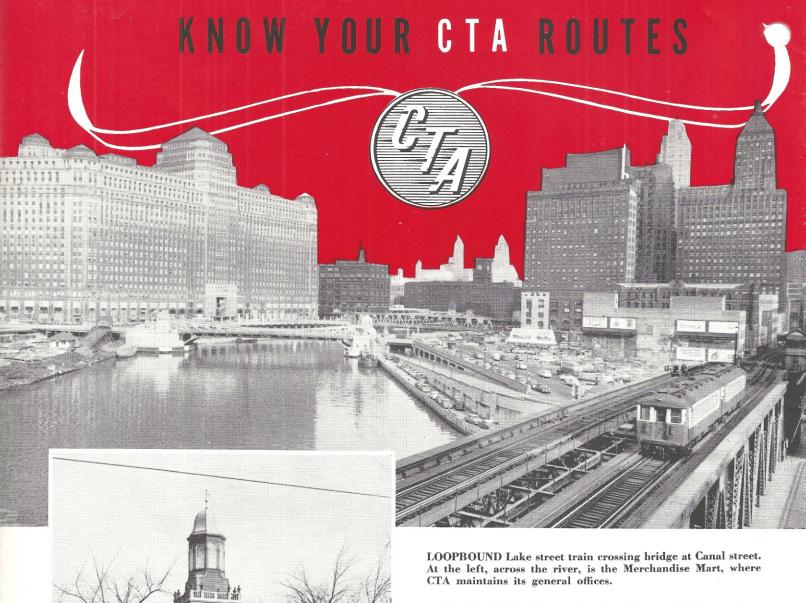
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To each of you, and to your families, holimy sincere wishes for a happy holimy season and good health and good day season and good 1955.

fortune throughout J. M. Carlor General Manager



(This is the fifth in a series of articles on CTA routes.)

TWO OF Chicago's busiest rapid transit routes fan out to the west and northwest areas of the city, serving not only neighborhoods near the Loop but also the suburbs of Oak Park and Forest Park and communities on the far western edge of the city.

On a map of Chicago, the route of the Lake street elevated can be described as a line running almost straight west from the north end of the Loop, while the Logan Square route, connecting with the Milwaukee avenue "L"-subway, veers generally in a northwesterly direction to terminate in the Logan Square district (2600 N—3200 W), some five miles from the Loop.

A round trip ride on the Lake street route, from its western terminal in Forest Park, including a circle of the Loop and back again to Forest Park, is 19.95 miles long. The one-way trip from the west terminal to the perimeter of the Loop is 8.99 miles. Express trains make the one-way trip from Forest

A LANDMARK on Chicago's west side is the Austin Town Hall at Lake street and Central avenue. Its architectural pattern resembles that of Independence Hall in Philadelphia.



Park terminal (7400 W—300 N) to the Loop in $23\frac{1}{2}$ to $28\frac{1}{2}$ minutes, depending on the density of traffic and time of day.

All-express "A" and "B" trains are operated during a considerable portion of the day on the Lake street route. Weekdays, eastbound from Forest Park, these expresses are run between 7:00 a.m. and 6:45 p.m. Leaving the Loop for the westbound trip, "A" and "B" express trains operate between the hours of 7:40 a.m. to 7:15 p.m. Saturdays, eastbound expresses operate from 6:51 a.m. to 6:05 p.m., and westbound, from 7:25 a.m. to 6:40 p.m. At all other times, on weekdays, Saturdays, and all day Sundays and holidays, all Lake Street trains are on a local schedule and stop at all stations between Forest Park and the Loop.

Schedules on the Lake street route provide for headways of 2½ minutes during weekday morning rush hours and as close as two minutes during the evening rush. Intervals at other periods of the day vary from five minutes at midday to seven minutes evenings. Saturdays, trains operate at three-minute intervals during rush hours; every four and one-half minutes at midday, and every eight minutes in the evening. Sundays, eight to 10-minute headways are maintained.



GROWING in importance as a shopping district is the far west side area in suburban Oak Park. This is a view looking west on Lake street toward Marion avenue on the Lake street route.

DECEMBER, 1954

THIS YOUNG lady visitor admires the beautiful floral specimens at the November chrysanthemum show which attracts thousands to the Garfield Park conservatory each year.

"Owl" service is operated from 1:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m., with trains every 30 minutes.

All-metal cars only have been operated on the Lake street route since July 6 this year. All Lake street stations west of the Loop to Austin avenue are transfer exchange points with CTA intersecting surface routes. Trains operate on elevated structure east of Long avenue, and over private surface right-of-way between Long avenue and the west terminal.

Milwaukee Avenue Subway

The distance from the Logan Square terminal (2600 N—3200 W) to the Congress street downtown terminal of the Milwaukee avenue subway route is 5.49 miles. "L"-subway trains make the trip in $17\frac{1}{2}$ to 20 minutes, varying with the density of traffic and time of day. Trains operate over a



HEAVIEST transfer point on the CTA system outside of the Loop proper is the Logan Square terminal, where passengers transfer between the Milwaukee avenue "L"-subway route and buses serving wide areas on the northwest side. Direct transfer can be made to five surface routes at this station. These are Milwaukee avenue local and express buses, Kedzie-Homan buses, Kimball and Logan-Diversey buses.

A KEY station on the Milwaukee avenue "L"-subway route is Damen avenue because it is located at the intersection of three busy traffic arteries—Milwaukee, North, and Damen avenues. The building in the background is located in the triangle where the streets converge.



Weekday schedules provide for two to two-and-one-half minute headways during morning and afternoon rush hours. These widen to six minutes during midday and eight minutes in the evening. Saturday schedules call for seven-minute intervals from the morning rush through the afternoon rush periods, and every eight minutes during the evening. Sundays, 10 to 12-minute intervals are maintained. Trains are spaced 30 minutes apart for "owl" service from 1:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m.

All stations on the Milwaukee avenue "L"-subway route are transfer points to CTA surface routes, and Logan Square terminal is the heaviest transfer point on the system outside of the Loop proper.

Within two years, possibly three, this route will connect with the "open cut" rapid transit line to be operated in the median strip of the Congress street superhighway. This median strip, high-speed rapid transit facility will connect with the subway portion of the routes in the vicinity of Halsted street, west of the south branch of the Chicago river, and will extend westward to Des Plaines avenue, Forest Park, a distance of approximately 10 miles from the Loop.

Subway Connections

Transfer facilities from the Milwaukee avenue subway to the north-south "L"-subway route are maintained through two transfer passageways at loading level. These are at Jackson boulevard and Washington street and they afford a direct link between the State street and Dearborn street tubes for passengers using both services. Pedestrian passageways, at mezzanine levels, connect the Milwaukee avenue subway with the State street tube at Quincy and Court place.

In the Loop area an island platform extends continuously for 2,500 feet from Lake street to Congress street. Island platforms at stations outside the Loop are 500 feet long.

In general, there are four sidewalk-to-mezzanine stair-ways—two on each side of the street—at each subway station. They are set back from street intersections to eliminate interference with cross traffic. A total of 17 wide, modern escalators provide fast, effortless access for passengers between station platforms and the mezzanine level.

Both the Lake street and the Milwaukee avenue-Logan Square routes serve areas of considerable population and extensive industrial activity. The former cuts through the suburb of Oak Park—known as the world's largest village—and extends into Forest Park, benefitting many residents in these communities who work or shop in Chicago.

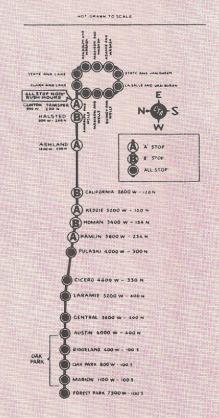
Garfield Park conservatory, near the Homan station on the Lake street route, is noted for its seasonal flower shows and is an all-year-round attraction. The Forest Park terminal is but a short distance from Thatcher Woods forest preserve. The Trailside Museum, with its living and mounted species of animals native to Cook County, also is easily reached by the Lake street "L" through transfer to a West Towns bus.

(This is the fifth in a series of articles about CTA routes. Other lines will be described in future issues.)

LAKE

RAPID TRANSIT

WEST SECTION



LOGAN SQUARE

RAPID TRANSIT

WEST SECTION





MAKE THIS A

CAREFUL

CHRISTMAS

ONE DAY last year 23 persons died as the result of fire.

In Flat Rock, Michigan, a mother and four children were burned to death in their home.

In Gloucester, Massachusetts, three young brothers were trapped by flames in their bedroom.

In Columbus, Mississippi, seven-month-old twins died when fire and explosions destroyed a tenant farm house.

In fires elsewhere, 13 others died.

The day? Christmas, 1953.

The next day and the day after 60 more persons lost their lives in fires. The total for the holiday week-end, according to the Associated Press, was 83.

The cause: The gayly-lighted Christmas tree? Holiday decorations of paper and tinsel? Defective wiring? A discarded cigarette? Or was it just carelessness?

Whatever the cause, the fact remains that the Christmas tree and holiday decorations are, according to the National Board of Fire Underwriters, potential fire hazards and caution should be taken in their selection, placement in the home, and maintenance.

Selecting a Tree

In selecting a Christmas tree, choose a small one. There will be millions on the market.

It's best to keep the tree outdoors until a few days before setting it up. During that time, occasionally throw water over it. This will keep it moist and fresh.

When you bring the tree inside, cut the butt slantwise to open the pores, then stand it in a tub of water. Be wary of chemicals or other substances sold for "fire-proofing" trees. In some cases this process is ineffective.

Placement and Decoration

In placing the tree, it's best to avoid "hot spots" such as those near the fireplace, stove, television set, radiator, or electric bulbs.





WHEN you bring the tree inside, cut the butt slantwise to open the pores, then stand it in a tub of water or moist earth.

Never use untreated paper ornaments or untreated cotton batting or gauze for decoration. Cotton and gauze can be made flame-resistive by dipping in a gallon of water mixed with nine ounces of borax and four ounces of boric acid.

Also, use only electric lights, never candles. Be sure, too, that wires are in good condition. Frayed electric cords are a fire hazard.

The switch for turning on the tree lights should be placed some distance from the tree. Never use an outlet or plug under the tree.

Last year, in a New York apartment, a mother, father, and seven-week-old baby were severly burned. The father, attempting to turn off the tree lights, pulled out a floor plug under the tree. A spark set off the blaze.

The day? New Year's Eve, 1953.

Over that holiday week-end 28 persons burned to death.

THE electric light should be at least six inches from the sides of the wreath in order to avoid heating the material. Under no circumstances use candles to illuminate window or other decorations.

ON THE outdoor tree and other Christmas decorations use wiring and lights especially designed for such purpose. Use of indoor wiring sets may cause short circuits and start fires.









our public speaks

REPRINTED below are a few letters of commendation which will be noted in the individual employes' records for courteous and considerate treatment accorded their passengers. Employes of this type help themselves by compiling a good record and also help sell CTA services by favorably impressing the riding public.

"My Good Fortune"

"It has been my good fortune to ride a bus several times with driver No. 2401 (Bruno Demko, Lawndale). He is always courteous. What is most wonderful is that he waits at the Kedzie station for passengers, who have alighted from the elevated to cross the street and board his bus. Even when there is heavy traffic, he will wait for us."

"Due Recognition"

"Please give due recognition to driver No. 6330 (Lynn McGuire, North Park) for the very courteous treatment and help he gave a woman passenger whose shopping bag of groceries had broken. Rather than scream and rave, he politely helped the woman pick up the items and assisted her to a seat."

IN CONTRAST with commendable notes are letters like these from patrons who feel they have not received the service due them:

"Upon boarding a bus, I handed the operator a dime and ten pennies as payment of fare. The operator sneered at me and said, 'Save your pennies for the grocerymen, lady! I don't have to take that change.' I immediately made it clear to him that pennies were as much a part of legal tender as nickles, dimes or quarters, but he interrupted me by repeating the statement about the pen-

Prompt Action Aids Passenger



JOSEPH M. SCHALLER

PROMPT ACTION by Bus Operator Joseph M. Schaller, Limits station, was credited with saving the life of a woman passenger who was stricken with a heart attack while riding a Southport bus.

Joseph telephoned the radio dispatcher for a fire department rescue squad

when the screams of the victim's daughter called attention to her mother's sudden seizure. After the arrival of the rescue squad, he detoured six blocks from his route to rush the woman to a hospital.

The passenger was Mrs. Victoria Fridrich, 43, who had slumped unconscious in her seat in the northbound bus at Irving Park road.

When the firemen arrived, they started to administer oxygen to the woman aboard the bus. Her breathing had stopped, but they revived her after 15 minutes. Deciding it would be dangerous to move her, the firemen requested the few remaining passengers to transfer to another bus. Then Joseph sped with a police escort to the hospital.

Two weeks later, Mrs. Fridrich's daughter boarded Schaller's bus and told him she was on the way to the hospital to bring her mother home.

nies being grocerymen's money. His attitude was most discourteous and moreover, embarrassing."

COMMENT: By simply accepting without comment the fare offered in this case, the unpleasant situation would have been avoided. Pennies are legal tender, and the operator was wrong in refusing them.

"When I got off a northbound bus on Vincennes avenue to transfer to a west-bound bus on 103rd street, I saw a bus waiting at the stop west of the Rock Island tracks. I hurried across the tracks and in front of the bus so the driver could see me. Just as I got alongside the entrance door, the light turned green,

but instead of opening the door to let me in, the driver pulled away and left me standing. I was absolutely dumbfounded."

COMMENT: Passengers are the most important asset CTA has. The lack of consideration described above causes patrons to seek other means of transportation. Such conduct is inexcusable.

SHOWN here is a comparison of complaints and commendations received by Chicago Transit Authority for Noveml 1954, October, 1954, and Novemb., 1953:

1700;			
	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.
	1954	1954	1953
Complaints	983	956	1229
Commendations	89	86	143

THE INSIDE NEWS

-AS REPORTED BY EMPLOYES OF THE CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Sounds Like A Busy Day For The Girls

ACCOUNTING-Gladys Shuflitowski, Claim; Mae Bujnowski, Payroll; Genevieve Bagger, Frances Haddix, Mary Blackmore and Irma Krown, all of Revenue, enjoyed the Burlington Railroad's one-day Indian Summer tour to Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, on October 2. They visited Villa Louis, which dates back to 1842, and is a museum now. Formerly it was the home of a partner of John Jacob Astor in the fur trade. Effigy Mounds, ancient Indian burial grounds, was next on the schedule, and a 15mile scenic launch trip on the Mississippi river followed. After dinner at the Blue Heaven restaurant, they entrained for home.

Flora Bland, Material and Supplies, became Mrs. Howard Wilcox on October 23. The couple's honeymoon was a motor trip around the lakes to Mackinac Island and Ste. Sault Marie, Canada.

Lawrence Francoeur, assistant general accountant, and Ben Ratner, supervisor, voucher department, were surprised to find that they were on the same train when they left on their vacations. They had a fine time together inspecting the diesel engine when they were invited up to the engineer's cab.

The Francoeurs got off at Phoenix, Arizona, where they spent a few days with relatives. A couple of weeks in San Francisco, California, touring points of interest with their son, *Ted*, who lives in San Bruno, climaxed a wonderful trip.

Ben spent a day in Tucson, Arizona, with Ernest Hoskins, formerly of the Voucher section, and his wife, Glee, formerly with Accident Prevention. The climate has done wonders for Ernest's health. From Tuscon, Ben went to Pacific Palisades, California, to visit his daughter and her family. On the way home, he stopped off at Cheyenne, Wyoming, to see his brother.

Roy Wilson, assistant supervisor, Material and Supplies, motored to Jacksonville, Florida. Enroute through the Smokies, he found mountain roads quite hazardous as

Season's Greetings

from Your "Inside News" Reporters

Gilbert E. Andrews		Helen Lowe
Alfred E. Beck	William Feiler	Dagmar McNamara
Leo J. Bien	Joseph Feinendegen	Thomas H. Mooney
Dante F. Brunod	R. H. Fortier	Jack Moreau
Violet Carnes	Walter B. Garbutt	Julie Prinderville
Evelyn Clark	Charles Greer	William Prokop
George D. Clark	David Gurwich	Walter J. Reich
Mary E. Clarke	Ruth Hanson	Ted Shumon
Tom Daniels	Joseph Hiebel	Joseph Smith
L. C. Dutton	Wilbur Jensen	C. P. Starr
Edith Edbrooke	Kitty Keegan	Henry C. Thelin
Everett E. England	Joseph Lebrecht	Toni Tortorello

a result of daily rains. He spent two days sightseeing in New Orleans, Louisiana. His trip covered 3.800 miles.

John Ruberry, Rosemary Kenny and Valeria Bowman also chose Florida for their vacations. The Ruberrys stayed at an ocean-front hotel in Miami Beach and enjoyed bathing in the Atlantic.

Rosemary and her husband, Pat Kenny, Treasury, drove to Miami Beach and stopped off at St. Augustine and Marineland. Returning via the everglades area, they enjoyed the glass-bottomed boat trip at Silver Springs.

Valeria and her husband flew to Miami Beach, where they leased a car and went sightseeing in addition to the usual sunning and swimming.

Sarah Reed returned from her vacation with a healthy tan acquired at East Loon Lake, where boating, swimming and fishing were pastimes.

Carl Martinson, retired, stopped in for a visit. He has been making his home in Tampa, Florida. The summer was so hot there that he came back to Chicago to cool off.

Helen Loftus and Ray Schramm had two callers on Halloween for

"tricks or treat." When unmasked, Joan Georgeson and Josephine Yercich were revealed.

George J. Seiler, supervisor of real estate, suffered the loss of his father, John F., on November 16, following a brief illness.

William Burns, Internal Auditing, passed away on October 31.

—HELEN A. LOWE

Everyone's A Star In Family Movies

BEVERLY—Operator Charles Glines and his wife, Isabelle, have quite a hobby. They take movies of the family and have recorded many memorable events and occasions. They bought an 8mm movie camera when their son, Jack, was only two months old. The camera has been rolling ever since, and Jack is now 14 years old. Judy Ann, 12, and Bobby, 7, are also stars in their parents' movies. Charles estimates that he has about 10,000 feet of color movies and it probably would take 24 hours to run all of the film.

A numismatist is a coin collector, and we have a special one at Beverly in the person of *Operator Frank Black*. He collects half-

dollar memorial coins. Included in his collection are the world-famous Columbian, 1892; Pilgrim Tercentenary, 1920; Lincoln Centennial, 1918; Monroe Doctrine, 1923; Stone Mountain, 1925; Oregon Trail, 1926, and a Booker T. Washington coin.

Frank also has almost a complete set of Indian-head pennies dated from 1856 to 1909, and a set of 1909 to 1954 Lincoln pennies.

The refrigerator at Operator Garfield Jenkins' home was overloaded recently. It seems that everytime he went to get a gallon of milk he would buy the special sale item of the week—eggs, four dozen for one dollar.

By the time he brought home the third gallon of milk, he had accumulated 12 dozen eggs. His wife soon put him on an egg diet. He had them hard boiled, soft boiled, scrambled, poached, coddled, shirred, omelet, scalloped, souffled, creamy, creole and just plain fried, sunnyside up, until the over supply was all gone.

Operator Henry Murray really has time on his hands. In the last few years he has been collecting watches. Prized possessions include an Elgin which is 45 years old and about an inch thick. He also has a watch about 85 years old which is the size of an alarm clock. It must be set and wound with a spe-

EXCHANGE VOWS



AFTER exchanging marriage vows recently, George Macek, engineering assistant in the Staff Engineer's office, and his lovely bride spent their honeymoon traveling through New York city, Niagara Falls and Washington, D.C.

Reported by Mary E. Clarke

cial key. Another one is a handmade watch, 110 years old, from Geneva, Switzerland. The outstanding thing about the watch is that all working parts are hand engraved with scroll designs. The face is made of copper and brass, and has scenery engraved on it.

Operator Ray Tonn and his family had quite a vacation touring the east coast. They visited Washington's Tomb and Arlington National cemetery. While at the cemetery, they saw the changing of the guard, which, they say, is quite an impressive ceremony. They also went through the White House, the Senate and the Pentagon buildings.

Your scribe would like to take this opportunity to thank each and everyone of you who so willingly contributed and related their stories so the rest could enjoy them through this column during the past year. In 1955, let's make Beverly news alive!

-DANTE F. BRUNOD

Leaves CTA For U.S. Assignment

CLAIM AND LAW — A luncheon, held recently at the Omar restaurant in honor of George D. Munyer, former statement man, was attended by many of his friends, including J. G. Nattinger, retired chief investigator. George left CTA to accept a position with the United States government. He and his wife, Ellen, are in Trans-Jordan, near Turkey.

Frank Vitale, formerly in the Claim Department, visited his friends in the office recently and expressed his delight at being a civilian again. He has received an honorable discharge from the United States Army after serving 23 months, 18 of which were spent in Korea.

Barbara Anderson is very happy over the fact that she and her husband, Harry, mixed business with pleasure on their recent vacation in San Diego, California, and purchased a beautiful home. They intend to take up residence there in the near future.

We have glad tidings of a wedding scheduled for January 29. Dan Perk, record adjuster's clerk, is the lucky man.

It's good to see Grace Johnson, chief clerk, back at work after her recent illness, and also to note the return of Alfred Chouinard, Photographic, who is again on the job following his recent confinement at Passavant hospital.

CAPS 54 YEARS OF SERVICE



CAPPING 54 years of service in Chicago's local transit industry, William C. (Billy) Becker, right, superintendent of electric substations and equipment, retired effective November 1. Just two weeks later, on the 14th, Billy celebrated his 85th birthday.

Preceding his retirement, on October 28, the long-time Electrical Department employe was feted by 107 friends and coworkers at a testimonial dinner held at Toffenetti's restaurant, 65 W. Monroe street. Electrical Engineer Carl Wolf, acting as master of ceremonies, presented Billy with a portable radio (pictured) and a leather wallet containing a cash gift on behalf of the gathering.

The following day, a group of co-workers surprised Billy with another get-together held at CTA's Grand and Leavitt location. On that occasion he was presented with luggage amid showers of best wishes.

Reported by Gilbert E. Andrews

Walter Krull is back at work looking well rested. He and his wife enjoyed a delightful vacation basking in the Florida sunshine at Miami Beach.

-TONI TORTORELLO

Reporter Writes Of Doings At Devon

Devon — Motorman A. Mueller, who has been on the sick list, has taken a disability pension. . . . Conductor C. Laurant, while doing a good deed, was struck by a hitand-run driver. He received severe leg injuries. . . . Assistant Superintendent Charlie Kerr spent his vacation in sunny Florida. . . . Frank Concar spent his vacation at home resting, as he was still in the recuperating stage after his recent operation.

The following men retired as of November 1: Motormen J. White,

E. Eckles, C. Kramer and A. Delis.

On November 6, at St. Elizabeth's hospital, Mrs. Thelin presented your reporter with a baby girl, Lillian Clara. That is one way to get something to write about in this column. Mother and daughter are doing fine.

-HENRY C. THELIN

Many Stops Between Mart And Mexico

ELECTRICAL — Theodore Kawol, Mart office, reports having had a very enjoyable trip while on vacation recently. He spent some time at Phoenix, Arizona; El Paso, Texas; New Orleans, Louisiana, and even ventured as far as Juarez, Mexico.

William Sabraska, retired, suffered the loss of his wife on October 21.

-GILBERT E. ANDREWS

Top Japanese Transit Engineer Visits CTA

GENERAL OFFICE — (Chief Engineer's Office) A visitor from Japan arrived in Chicago recently to look over CTA property. He was Yukichi Shinizu. chief engineer of the Teito Rapid Transit Authority in Tokyo. Emmett Shintani of this office had the pleasure of escorting the guest on a tour of CTA subways, Logan Square, and the undercut of the Congress superhighway.

Virginia Baldwin spent a vacation at Tryon, North Carolina, at the time hurricane "Hazel" whirled in around that part of the country. Virginia didn't relish this lady's company and returned to the peace and quiet of Chicago.

Home on leave after spending two years in the Philippines is Thomas Forsythe, Lt. (jg), son of Chief Engineer Stanley Forsythe. Tom, who is about the best looking officer in the Navy, has been serving on the staff of the Admiral in charge of the Philippine defense area, which includes Formosa. Though his homecoming brought joy to his parents, it added extra work for the gals in "Specs" who were continually picking up the buttons that popped off the proud dad's vest.

Welcome New Typist

(Staff Engineering) The department welcomed Mrs. Elsie Smith as their new typist. Elsie replaced Jennie Bell, who left CTA November 5 to take up full-time household duties in Rolling Meadows, Arlington Heights.

(Traffic Engineering) Edward Whiston, traffic operations and research engineer, surprised us recently by announcing his departure from CTA after 12 years of service and pleasant association.

(Accident Prevention) Patrick Cagney, our "Irish wit," transferred to the Electrical Department on November 15. To mark this sad farewell the A.P.D. gang gathered together in the CTA lunchroom and partook of a delicious cake baked for the occasion by Julie Willem, while C. M. Smith, superintendent, treated with coffee.

We were all pleased to see Fred Burtis, former artist in the Training Department, who paid us a visit recently, looking so well and prosperous.

-MARY E. CLARKE

What Is It Called—A Mechanical Quiz-Kid?

GENERAL OFFICE — (Transportation) The instrument used for recording calls in the information office recently clocked off 1,000,000, representing the number of inquiries answered under CTA management.

When Bert Wright traveled to Lafayette, Indiana, to watch his alma mater, the Boilermakers, play Illinois, on the occasion of Homecoming, he met up with Tom Forsythe, son of CTA's chief engineer. . . . Souvenir cards portraying the loveliness of the south in autumn were received by Transportation Department personnel when J. P. Gaynor and his family motored through the Carolinas and Tennessee.

Jack and Wanda Mallon Krause, on a recent week-end, went gunning in South Dakota. The conservation department now reports

"GOLDEN YEARS"



ENJOYING THE "Golden Years" after retirement are Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Scholz, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on October 1. Mr. Scholz, at the time of his retirement eight years ago, was staff photographer for the former Chicago Rapid Transit Company. He started with the "L" Lines in 1903 as a guard and later became a claims adjuster. He was made staff photographer in 1921. They now live at Spring Grove, Illinois.

several less pheasants in that neck of the woods.

Susan Lee has arrived to join her brother, Freddie Heaney. Their mother is Ida Lee, a former switchboard operator.

Minetta Connors' mother and dad, Mr. and Mrs. Rabig, have taken up residence with several other CTA pensioners at St. Petersburg, Florida. Mr. Rabig was formerly attached to 77th station.

Welcome back to Joe Kirk, who took a week-end flying trip to Philadelphia to confer with his medical advisor and returned with a clean bill of health.

Shower of Gifts

(Insurance) On a recent noontime, all the lassies of the Insurance Department descended on the refreshment center and surprised Nancy Meerman with a baby shower. The gifts were many and beautiful, and the wrappings resembled a maypole in a dazzling summer sun. A cake large enough to satisfy the appetites of all was the result of the culinary efforts of Mary Berry. Laughter and tears reigned as Nancy bade adieu to her friends and co-workers to devote all her time to the welfare of the little stranger who will shortly take up residence at the home of Nancy and Ralph.

Zoe Petrin, fresh from the radio waves and television channels of Motorola company, has signed in at the Insurance Department. . . . Ralph and Mrs. Umstot and their two youngsters, Marcia and Susan, took an autumn trip to Lake Itasca state park in northern Minnesota, down where the mighty Mississippi is but a trickle. They then went on to northern Wisconsin and northern Michigan, where they took up residence with thirteen others in a primitive hut called "Relatives Roost."

(Electrical) Art Lynge, lineman, passed away recently following a brief illness. He had served with the CTA and associate companies since January 26, 1913, and was a former commander of "L" post of the American Legion. He also was a member of the 40 and 8.

When Virginia Neubaum Ulis celebrated her recent birthday, Marge Kinsey was her hostess at a luncheon. Virginia recently severed her connections with CTA to devote fulltime to maintaining a home for Al.

—JULIE PRINDERVILLE

ANNUAL RIDING PASSES TO BE ISSUED FOR 1955

ALL CTA employes who now receive monthly riding passes will be issued annual passes for the year 1955.

The new cards, good for the entire year, will be laminated in plastic and will bear employes' photographs imprinted on the face side.

Photographing of employes for this purpose was started on November 19 when pictures were taken of personnel in CTA general offices in the Merchandise Mart. It will continue at other locations on the system under a pre-arranged schedule through December 19.

If possible, the new annual passes will be placed in use January 1. If that date can't be met, they will become effective February 1, 1955.

Kedzie Reflects Holiday Spirit

Kedzie—The superintendents and office personnel wish to thank each and everyone for their splendid cooperation during this past year.

Operator John Hayes has bought a new home in Bellwood.

Operator Bert Nash is confined in Hines hospital for what he hopes will be only a short time.

-C. P. STARR

Catching Up With News Of The Loop

Loop — Nellie Keating, pensioner, on return to her sister's home in Colorado, met with an accident. She suffered a broken wrist in two places, and also injured her back and shoulder.

Mary Rezab, agent, retired December 1. She was employed in May, 1944, on the Metropolitan division and later transferred to the Loop.

Theresa Jarvis was presented with a granddaughter, Patricia Joan, on September 26, by her daughter, Jerry.

Lottie Schrueder spent her vacation at home relaxing. . . . Delia Hayes just traveled in and around Chicago because of the health of her mother, age 91. . . . Harold Johnson, maintainer, and his wife, Colette, vacationed in Florida.

The Richard Barthens celebrated a wedding anniversary with a gathering of friends. They also visited his aunt's farm at Lake Geneva, and friends in Oconomowoc during their vacation.

Johanna Christensen flew to Odense, Denmark, to visit her 80-year-old father, and her brother and sisters whom she had not seen in 18 years. She reports that everything is very modern now, no wooden shoes.

Elizabeth Hill spent her vacation at home to enjoy the holidays. Elizabeth also received an award for suggesting an improvement recently.

Patrick Groark, nephew of Philip Groark, passed away suddenly on November 6.

-EDITH EDBROOKE

Hear The Patter Of Little Feet

NORTH AVENUE — A lusty yell could be heard clear over to North and Cicero from West Suburban hospital when Ronald Laurence Trojan made his appearance. In an exclusive interview he tells us, confidentially, that he intends making his home with his parents, the Peter P. Trojans. He seemed quite happy when told he already has a sister and three brothers.

JUST VISITING



HAVING a little get-together with two CTA pensioners is Art Muir, North Park, who called on John Hardigan, left, and John Hoban, center, both formerly of Devon station. Roy now lives at Paddock Lake, and John at Round Lake.

Reported by Jack Moreau

Received a "babygram" from Operator James Dohoney announcing the arrival of a new baby girl. This makes 3 girls for Jimmy, and, of course, makes Dan Finley a grandpappy again. . . . Don Szalonek joined the cigar passing brigade when he was presented with a baby girl. She was named Laura. . . . The stork made a special delivery of a boy to the family of R. P. Jones. The lad was named Donald.

After 45 years of service, Operator Emil Miller has decided to take his pension. . . . E. R. Steckel also retired on pension. He intends to make his home in San Bernardino, California. . . . Herbert A. Satterfield also retired recently. He, too, is moving to California.

Every year at Christmas time the Hiebel family tour the city and suburbs to enjoy the beautiful Christmas displays. Many homes have lighted patterns and some pretty sharp displays surrounding their grounds. We'd like to have some photographs of the decorated homes of CTA employes, particu-

BRIDAL PAIR



MAKING THEIR home on the west side after their marriage on October 30 are Rose Marie (Baratta) Tunis, Revenue Accounting, who exchanged vows with John Tunis at a nuptial mass at St. Mel's church. Marie Alice Donohue, Revenue Accounting, was one of the bridesmaids. A buffet supper for about 350 guests was served at Craftsman's hall following the ceremony.

Reported by Helen Lowe

larly night views. How about it, fellows? Let's get some good shots. All pictures will be returned to you in good shape.

Herbert Christensen recently underwent surgery. We're happy to report that he's making a nice recovery.

Earl Erland had two causes for celebration recently. On September 29, he became the father of a daughter, Patricia Alice, and on October 27, he celebrated his 25th wedding anniversary.

—JOE HIEBEL

North Park **News Notes**

NORTH PARK-Now is the time to acquaint yourself with our snow equipment and salt buses for bad days ahead. We don't want Santa to be held up enroute.

Clarence Weber reports that a fine time was had by everyone at the meeting of old and new rooters at the Union hall for the presentation of softball trophies to the West Shops team.

Leo and Ann Hara celebrated their 18th wedding anniversary on November 1. They have two fine boys, Harvey, 9, and Sherwin, 16.

It is reported that Ben Geach, scribe for the Union Leader, has passed his 40th year of service with CTA and predecessor companies.

Ted Basgall is now comfortably located in his new home. . . Clerk Charlie Davis bought and recently moved into a brand new home in McHenry, Illinois. . A pleasant visit was made to Earl and Irene Andrews' new home on the south side. Earl just moved in from Indiana, and is at Archer station. He formerly was at North Park.

Clerk Frank Carpino enjoyed a vacation with his wife, Elaine, and a brand new car.

-JACK MOREAU

Gets A Good Return On 25c Investment

Purchasing and Stores — Peter Kovolis, laborer, South Shops, recently donated 25 cents to a benefit for St. Leo's Parish and won a 1954 Ford mainliner.

Earl E. Montgomery, stock clerk, South Shops, returned recently after four years of military service in the Marine Corps, where he achieved the rating of staff sergeant. . . . After a serious ill-

40-YEAR EMPLOYES RECENTLY RETIRED



Robert Fullerton, motorman, Devon, retired December 1 with 41 years of service.



Axel E. Holmberg, dispatcher, West Section, retired December 1 with 47 years of service.



Dominick Burke. conductor, 77th, retired December 1 with 40 years of service.



George R. Goulden, conductor, 77th, retired December 1 with 40 years of service.



Emil W. Miller, bus operator, North Avenue, retired December 1 with 45 years of service.



Paul Scalise, conductor, West Section, retired November 1 with 43 years of service.

ness, Barney Nimkavage, stock clerk, West Shops, also has returned to work.

Robert E. Buckley, divisional storekeeper, South Shops, vacationed in Minnesota, visiting relatives. . . . Charles Matthews, yard foreman, South Shops, toured California and the northwest, then flew to Canada to visit his sister.

Bernard Fitzpatrick and John Kurgan, stock clerks, South Shops, have joined the ranks of home owners.

The sparkle of diamonds in the Stores Department is becoming very noticeable. On November 10, Kay McCarthy, typist, South Shops, announced her engagement to Robert Keller. On November 11, Gloria Babcock, addressograph service" bus to recite a special

operator, became engaged to Ken Wohlbedacht, a former CTA emplove.

A high mass at St. Edward's church, on October 23, was the setting for the marriage of Robert Galante and Rosemary Railton. Robert is the son of Tom Galante. Purchasing, and is himself employed in the Claim Department. After a reception at the Billy Caldwell post clubhouse, the newlyweds honeymooned at Miami Beach, Florida.

Chicago newspapers recently carried the story of how, during the month of October, a group of CTA employes from West Shops devoted part of their lunch period each day to assemble in a "not in prayer for peace. Ten or more Stores Department personnel were among those in daily attendance.

Norine and Richard Daly, stock clerk, Montrose avenue, became the parents of a baby girl, born November 9.

-DAGMAR McNAMARA

Operator's Son Stars As Freshman Athlete

RAVENSWOOD—Operator Jack Saxby is very proud of his son, Junior, who was an all-around athlete at Mount Olive, Illinois, high school. Junior is now starring as a freshman at the University of Toledo, Ohio, to which he received an athletic scholarship.

Now that the horse racing season is over, Operator Pete Buchanan, who has been on special duty to all tracks on charter service, is once again back on a regular route.

Another Sadie Hawkins' day has come and gone and Operator Eddie Collins still manages to hold onto his bachelorship.

The garage is so full of bags of salt and sand ready for the coming winter that it resembles an infantry combat training course. Some of the Army veterans are avoiding its sight.

Operator Al Beck has organized a Booster Club to support Niles Township high school teams in Skokie. He invites all personnel who have big families, especially lots of big boys, to move out there and bring the kids.

—AL BECK and GEORGE D. CLARK

Takes It On Chin In Battle With Windows

Schedule-Traffic and Budget — The battle of the storm windows is about over for most home owners, but *Frank Irvine* has a sevenstitch scar on his chin to show that he won over the wind and a ladder.

Al Pfeiffer is mourning the loss of his grandmother.

Pete Donahue "enjoyed" a vacation spent doing some decorating at home.

Mike Shanahan should be well on the road to recovery after his operation recently in St. Bernard's hospital.

Ray Primeau had a bout with the little virus that caused so much discomfort recently.

Bill Hodges, who has been on

MACHINIST FOREMAN RETIRES



CLIMAXING a 31-year service span, Fred Plattner (accepting gift, left), machinist foreman at Wilson Shops, retired effective November 1. To mark the occasion, L. H. Reichard, superintendent of rapid transit main shops, presented Fred with a wallet and cash gift on behalf of fellow employes at a gathering held at Wilson on October 29. Also on hand to extend congratulations were L. G. Anderson (front, second from right), superintendent of rapid transit shops and terminals, and Anthony Antonucci, Wilson general foreman (front, right).

Reported by Everett England

extended sick leave, paid a visit to the office recently.

M. B. "Barney" O'Neill is the latest addition to the grandfather's club. He's boasting about a bouncing grandson born November 5.

(Budget)—W. S. Comstock suffered the loss of his father recently.

Bob Baxter, newly appointed budget clerk, recently was warmly welcomed into the department.

We hope to hear the good news of a speedy recovery for *Bill Fol*ta's wife, who recently underwent surgery.

-L. C. DUTTON

Perhaps He Should Space Them Out More

77TH—December is a month of anniversaries for Bus Operator Bernie Zesch, who had three coming up this month. With his wife, Frances, he celebrated a wedding anniversary. He also celebrated his birthday, and his 21st anniversary in transit work.

Roscoe Wakefield drove to Urbana, Illinois, on November 8 to visit relatives for a two-day vacation. When Roscoe goes on a vacation he merely waves his wand, chants a few choice magic words, and he is transported from where he is to where he wants to go. Likewise, if he wishes to correspond with someone, he sends a short note telling them to turn their thinking apparatus in his direction at a certain hour. He then concentrates on what he wants them to know, thereby making it top secret and saving gallons of ink.

Supervisor Gene O'Rourke is back on duty at 92nd street and Commercial avenue after six months of treatment in Billings Memorial hospital.

Supervisor Otto Krueger is on his way to recovery after serious injuries incurred when an automobile hit him. The force of the automobile was great enough to throw him about 30 feet.

Lucille Vraney, wife of Bus Operator Frank Vraney, and their daughter, spent a week visiting their 92-year-old aunt, Susan Walsh, whose birthday celebration on Halloween started the week's vacation for the Vraneys.

The sister of Anthony Thome, trainman at 77th, passed away on November 9. She was also related to Mrs. Marie Johnson and Johnny Weber of South Shops, and to Tom Cashin of 69th station.

Bus Operator Joe Minga spent his vacation in Tuscon, Arizona, missing the cold snap we had here in October.

Bus Operator Harry Barry and his wife, Mary, were presented with their second grandchild on September 18 by their son and daughter-in-law, Harry Barry, Jr., and Carol. Little Terrence, the new boss, was born in Arlington, Virginia. Harry's son is an electrical engineer for the U.S. Navy.

Chief Clerk Percy Atkinson received a postal card, large economy size, from Rudy Kopowitz, keeper of the tools for sanitary engineers, from St. Petersburg, Florida. It illustrated the best place in an apartment house to keep pet frogs.

WILBUR JENSEN and JOE SMITH

69th Reporter Capsules The News

69TH—Hope you enjoyed our notes in the last issue. Now that the ball is rolling and 69th is in print again, please keep the personal items coming in.

Marco Locasto recently went to the hospital expecting to undergo surgery. However, the operation was postponed because he suddenly developed pneumonia.

Supervisor Otto Krueger had the misfortune to be hit by an automobile and received serious injuries.

Instructor John Lynch suffered the loss of his father recently.

We regret to record the death of three of our pensioners: James Liston, Patrick Devitt and Ira Versailes. . . . The wife of W. Krueger, retired, also passed away recently.

—T. J. DANIELS

New Homeowners Make Their Moves

SKOKIE — Machinists "Singing Sam" Cicero and Al Krezminski, and Truckman Dominick Diorio have recently moved into new homes.

Joe Perillo, electrical worker,

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



"WHERE is my leader?" That could well be the perplexing question in the eyes of Clyde Emerson Roy. The three-month oldster is the son of North Avenue Operator Ralph and Doris Roy. His grandfather is the late C. E. Roy, formerly of Devon station. Young Clyde's uncle, Ronald, is also a North Avenue operator.

CTA TRANSIT NEWS accepts photographs for the "Picture of the Month" for publication in the Inside News section of the magazine. Selection of the photographs will be made from those submitted by CTA employes. Any type of picture may be submitted, including scenic, action, portrait and still life. Entries should be given to your departmental reporter or sent direct to the CTA TRANSIT NEWS, Attention: Photo Editor, Room 742, Merchandise Mart, Chicago 54, Illinois. Be sure to include the story relating to the picture and the full names of individuals in the picture.

and his son, Joseph M., laborer, suffered a tragic loss when Joe's wife, Mary, was killed November 3 on her way to pick him up from work. . . . John Holbay, armature winder, was saddened by the loss of his six-month-old son, who died October 25.

Sigmund Lucas, shopman, and Bill Michalik, assistant airbrake room foreman, are hoping for a speedy recovery from their recent illnesses.

In a recent letter from pensioner John Fleischman he enclosed his address and expressed hopes that his friends will visit or write him. He is located at 915 Lincoln avenue, Melbourne, Florida.

The Red Cross first-aid class was honored to have at its final meeting C. M. Smith, superintendent friends.

of accident prevention; Dr. George H. Irwin, medical director, and L. G. Anderson, superintendent of rapid transit shops and terminals. Red Cross cards were presented by Mr. Anderson.

Larry King, assistant armature foreman, reports winning two games with his Thursday night bowling league. His team is trying to hold first place.

Marian Wilson, stenographer, has changed her bowling form, hoping for better scores. Marian is now throwing a curve ball.

—DAVE GURWICH and EVERETT E. ENGLAND

Award Presentation Big Event At 61st

SOUTH SECTION—November 1 was a very eventful day for those working out of 61st street. About 50 employes witnessed the presentation of the third quarter Station Achievement Award by General Manager Walter J. McCarter. Superintendent Ralph F. Wenstrom accepted the award on behalf of the employes whose fine cooperation made winning the award possible. Refreshments rounded out a big day.

Porter Henry Hughes and his wife realized a wish of long standing when their second offspring arrived. Originally they planned on a boy, and when a baby girl arrived the name of Henrietta had to be quickly decided upon. The recent addition was a boy, and at last the name of Henry, Jr., was used.

Lester J. Hickey, district superintendent, celebrated his 35th wedding anniversary October 22. In addition, he became a grand-dad for the seventh time on that date.

Hot Springs was selected by Clerk Alvin Lipke as the place to spend his vacation.

Motorman Shepard Heard proudly announces that a five-pound, 14-ounce baby girl arrived at his home. . . . It appears that the current month's news features the stork. Not to be outdone, Clerk John Heffernan nonchalantly professes that he became a grand-pappy for the 17th time.

Towerman Patrick Hickey decided that Excelsior Springs was a good place to spend his vacation.

Pensioned conductor *Tom Christy* sent a line from California, stating that he was feeling fine, and wished to be remembered to his friends.

Yours truly, who observed his 20th anniversary November 10, hopes that this column brought a small measure of information, humor and in general kept you all posted on the goings-on throughout the past year.

-LEO J. BIEN

Bells Ring For Nutile Nuptials

SOUTH SHOPS — The bells were ringing on October 30 for *Patricia*, daughter of *Tony Nutile*, foreman, utility, and *Richard Fundarek*, who were married in St. Patrick's church. The happy couple spent their honeymoon in Florida.

Frank Brady has become quite a mountain climber since he joined the Army. Frank, who is stationed at Colorado Springs, expects to be discharged in a few months.

A triple celebration was held in the home of Mike Lavin, clerk, Industrial Engineering, on November 24. Mike celebrated his birthday and he and his wife, Katherine, marked their 26th year of wedded bliss. Their daughter, Kathleen, and her husband, Bill Kleinick, celebrated their wedding anniversary on the same day.

Jim Hesler, upholsterer, and Stanley Pocius, carpenter, car repair, retired on November 1. Jim had 34 years of service and Stanley had 26 years of seniority. Both received cash gifts from their coworkers.

Mike Rubey, machinist, has a new hobby called lapidary, the art of cutting and polishing precious stones.

Joe Sanders, bus overhaul, and James Workman, machine shop, who have been on the sick list, are reportedly on the road to speedy recovery.

R. H. Martz, superintendent, and his wife recently returned from their vacation and reported a wonderful time in the Smokie mountains area.

After 36 years of service, *John Jusis*, trolley tender, retired on December 1.

On October 9, Bernard Draus, son of Andy Draus, foreman, paint shop, and Jewel Dimmer were united in the holy bonds of matrimony. Later, Andy, who was on vacation, and his wife, Ann, drove to Florida, stopping off at various points. While in Orlando, they had a nice visit with Joe Gamen, retired car house foreman, who is now residing there.

Bill Landeck, assistant pressman, print shop, retired on November 1 with 26 years of service. Bill's co-workers had a luncheon in his honor at which he was presented a rod and reel along with their best wishes. Bill bought a home in Rhinelander, Wisconsin, while on vacation and now he and his wife are living there.

Jerry Moriarity became the proud father of Daniel Patrick on November 7. . . Leslie Byrnes, truck repairman, and Ben Garzynski, bus overhaul, have moved in to new homes which they purchased recently. . . Another late vacationer, Andrew Pudik, machine shop, spent his time in Florida. —EVELYN CLARK

Proud Pop Nearly Pops His Buttons

TERMINAL INSPECTION SHOPS -(Douglas Park) Repairman Joe Serritella's chest swelled up after a picture of his son, Danny, appeared in a paper recently. . . . Walter Hovald, repairman, has been passing out cigars, but not because of a blessed event. He brought them back from Mexico, where he spent his vacation. . . Carmie Raguso, repairman, will walk down the center aisle soon. Lovely Mary Tangney is to be his bride. . . . Salvaggio and John Laperuto, repairmen, are back at work after having been off because

BIG HAUL



THIS HAUL would be the pride and joy of any fisherman and it represents a one-day catch of Retired Motorman Victor Volenes, Kedzie. He and his wife, who now live in Lutz, Florida, are shown here at Tarpon Springs, Florida, where they hooked all these fish.

Reported by C. P. Starr

of illness. Some time back, John misplaced his brace and bit. It turned up recently in a car on which he was working.

(Wilson, Howard and Linden)
The following men recently completed the first aid course: Tony
Drapp, Ralph Sullivan, Bill Moser,
Tom O'Leary, Rudy Gucwa, Walter Loewecke, John Birmingham,
Tom Wilson and Tony Ruane.

(Logan) Emil Friedlund just made his 18th trip to Washington, D. C. Emil, along with Harry Shaner, Ciro Romano and Liberato Suero, all pensioners, asked to be remembered to their many friends. . . . Louie Demarco and Mike DeRobertis are both on the sick list. . . Tony Mosco retired on December 1, after 40 years of service.

(Kimball) Repairman John Kennelly recently became the proud pappy of a baby boy. . . . It has been reported that Walter Nowosielski has an unusual hobby. It is breeding and racing pigeons.

(Laramie) Ray Catanese, repairman, is passing out cigars in honor of a new son, John Nicholas.

—JOE FEINENDEGEN

Southern Chicken Really Rates

West Section (Acents)—Agent Margaret Sheehan spent the first part of her vacation visiting relatives in Washington, D. C., then went on to visit with her daughter, who is a Nun in the Providence Order at Fayetteville, North Carolina. Reports are that she really enjoyed the chicken dinners served there.

Porter Ernest Caldwell and wife started their vacation by visiting Ernest's brother in Detroit, Michigan. While there they went through the Ford plant. They then went to Niagara Falls, and from there on to New York. On their way back they stopped in Washington, D. C. Their report was wonderful weather and a wonderful time.

Agent Elmer Hanes and his family spent their vacation at Hot Springs, Arkansas. . . . Agent Bess Slavey spent part of her vacation at Indianapolis, Indiana. . . . Agents Dorothy Davis, Nonie Murray, Nora Hayes and Raymond Keith have all returned well rested from their vacations.

Agents Catherine Rice, Pearl Waite and Ruby Pierson have been on the sick list. . . . Agent Mary

CAKE CUTTING



THERE WAS a double reason for celebration when Roland Hartney, clerk, south section rapid transit, was wed to Verna Rothschild, stenographer, 61st, on August 14. The date also was the bride's birthday. Here they are, cutting the cake.

Reported by Leo J. Bien

ReZak retired on pension December 1 amid wishes of best luck from co-workers.

George Smith, brother of Catherine Smith, Douglas Park agent, passed away suddenly.

Mollie McGuire, pensioned assignment agent, is at the Oaks Nursing Home, 91st and Route 83, in Hinsdale. She is recuperating from a broken hip and is able to receive visitors. How about dropping a card if you can't get out to see her in person?

-KITTY KEEGAN and RUTH HANSON

Here's A Real Scoop; Men Bite Dogs!

West Shops—On the evening of October 23, Jean Panek of Ed Wendt's office led the Shops and Equipment office force on their annual weiner roast. This year's roast was held at Maple Lake, East Grove. About 30 persons attended and consumed about 12 pounds of hot dogs. John Schwartz was chief weiner roaster.

Dan Cupid has scored another bull's-eye in the bus overhaul department. On October 23, Electrician Jack Kenny marched down the aisle of Our Lady of the Angels church, with Marilyn Joan Dooley and solemnly said "I do."

Machinist Al Grolig suffered the loss of a brother recently.

Machinist Sam Cearing, bus overhaul, is one of the most active men in the West Shops, taking a leading part in several organizations. He recently was elected president of one of these organizations.

At this writing Joe Cebis, John Kolin and Foreman Joe Sargent, all of the carpenter shop, are recovering from operations.

Leonard Bowman, armature room, is back on the job after a three-week bout with the flu.

John Romancik, machine shop, was confined at home recently on account of illness.

Robert Arendt, armature room, became the daddy of a baby girl on October 8. The little lady was named Jane Roberta.

Jerry Vondras had a very unpleasant vacation this year. The day his vacation started, his grandson died of leukemia. After that came the rains, and, living on the south side, Jerry really got flooded. He spent the rest of his time off cleaning up the debris. He certainly has the sympathy of your reporter, who went through the terrifying 1913 flood at Columbus, Ohio, which left 18 feet of water in the streets.

Machinist Apprentice Donald

McCarthy will spend this Christmas in his beloved home at Bantry, County Cork, Ireland.

John Kosmach, truck shop, has become a grandpa for the fifth time. On October 26, John's son, Fred K. Kosmach, became the father of a baby boy at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri, where he is serving in the 119th Engineering unit. The youngster has been named Fred David.

Ted Panek of the bus overhaul is now a grandpa. On November 5, Ted's daughter, Veronica Miller, presented him with his first grandchild, a little girl. Veronica is living in Kansas, where her husband, Harry Miller, is serving in the Air Force. Ted is planning a visit to Kansas to see the new arrival.

Vincent Consolvo, our former mail boy, paid us a visit recently. Vince was home on leave from Camp Chaffee, Arkansas, where he is serving in Uncle Sam's Army.

Switchman Ed Karvanek retired on December 1 after 43 years of service. . . . December 1 also was retirement day for Machinist Morris Mantell of the bus overhaul shop. He had 15 years of service.

-TED SHUMON

ARKANSAS TRAVELERS



WHEN Dorothy Vail, center, stenographer at 54th Douglas Park office, and her husband, Rod, second from left, decided to go south for their vacation, they headed for Green Forest, Arkansas, to visit Dorothy's two sisters and their husbands. They found plenty of sunshine to pose for this snapshot with Fred J. Sirr, left, and Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Hardin, right, CTA pensioners now residing in Green Forest.

Reported by Kitty Keegan and Ruth Hanson

A Get Well Wish For Christmas

WEST SECTION-Now that the vacation periods are about over, everybody is getting set for the holiday season. Here's hoping all those on our sick list will have recovered in time to enjoy the holidays with their families.

At this writing, Receiver Laddie Kiery is still on the sick list, but we hope to see him back at work soon

Switchman Ed Wahl paid a visit to the boys at Logan Square recently. He is still on the sick list.

Motormen Leo Seneke and James Tramutola, and Switchman Alex Schneider are among those recovering from recent illnesses.

The following men have been on our sick list recently: Lake street Ed O'Brien, Ed Fowler and Harry Dixon. Garfield Park-Raymond Gordon, R. Winger, Rudy Sestak and William Pugh. Douglas Park - Jerry Kostal and Arthur Willert.

Receiver Leonard Kukowinski took a late vacation this year, during November.

-WALTER J. REICH

BUSMAN'S HOLIDAY



HEADING EAST on a recent trip, Operator Frank Vraney, 77th, and his wife, Lucille, were snapped on the occasion of their visit to Bimmington, New York.

> Reported by Wilbur Jensen and Joe Smith

RECENT DEATHS AMONG EMPLOYES

HOWARD B. ANDERSON, 47, | JAMES K. KRUEGER, 42, bus motorman, North Avenue. Died 11-10-54. Employed 11-17-26.

J. M. BREIT, 59, retired car cleaner, Devon. Died 10-21-54. Employed 12-31-35.

WILLIAM P. BURNS, 63, timekeeper, Internal Auditing. Died 10-31-54. Employed 6-16-

GUST CARLSON, 64, motorman, Limits. Died 11-16-54. Employed 6-14-16.

H. J. CLARK, 79, retired conductor, 77th. Died 10-25-54. Employed 9-19-07.

JOHN FARMER, 75, retired switchman, South Section. Died 11-7-54. Employed 6-9-15.

G. J. FLEMING, 77, retired motorman, Archer. Died 10-16-54. Employed 1-2-06.

JOHN FREY, 76, retired police officer, CTA Department of Police. Died 10-30-54. Employed 3-1-41.

R. N. GRIFFIN, 85, retired superintendent, Loop. Died 10-26-54. Employed 8-5-92.

M. E. HALEY, 64, retired conductor, 69th. Died 10-29-54. **Employed 8-12-10.**

HARRY HANDY, 47, bus operator, Kedzie. Died 10-25-54. Employed 3-6-51.

J. E. JACOBSON, 67, retired motorman, 69th. Died 10-18-54. Employed 8-29-16.

operator, Archer. Died 11-15-54. Employed 12-9-36.

J. J. LISTON, 76, retired conductor, 69th. Died 11-3-54. Employed 6-6-04.

ARTHUR LYNGE, 56, lineman, Electrical Department. Died 11-10-54. Employed 1-26-14.

G. G. LYONS, 82, retired blacksmith helper, West Shops. Died 10-29-54. Employed 6-15-26.

ELLEN MORAN, 86, retired agent, Lake Street. Died 10-23-54. Employed 7-8-09.

P. H. OTIS, 67, retired conductor, Kedzie. Died 10-14-54. Employed 8-22-10.

H. E. PETERS, 73, retired conductor, Lawndale. Died 11-2-54. Employed 10-22-01.

J. A. RUF, 68, retired motorman, Armitage. Died 10-28-54. Employed 5-23-16.

JAMES RYAN, 64, retired car repairman, Ardmore. Died 11-1-54. Employed 4-23-20.

MARTIN STRICKICH, 67, retired paver, Track. Died 10-28-54. Employed 10-21-30.

I. A. VERSAILLE, 62, retired motorman, 69th. Died 10-23-54. Employed 9-13-29.

STANLEY WALENSA, 45, operator, North Avenue. Died 11-6-54. Employed 8-19-41.

S. H. YOUNGLOVE, 65, retired motorman, Devon, Died 10-20-54. Employed 7-7-22.

IF YOU KNOW a CTA employe who is not receiving his copy of CTA TRANSIT NEWS, please have him fill out the following form and return to the Public Information Department, Room 742, Merchandise Mart, Chicago 54, Ill.

I am not receiving my copy of "TRANSIT NEWS" through the mail. Please send it to:

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departmen		cently moved from	
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(Zone)

(State)

(City)

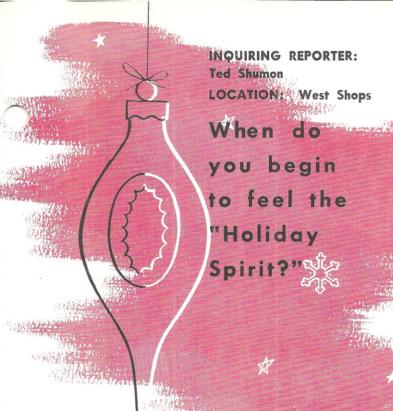
CTA CASHIER DIES

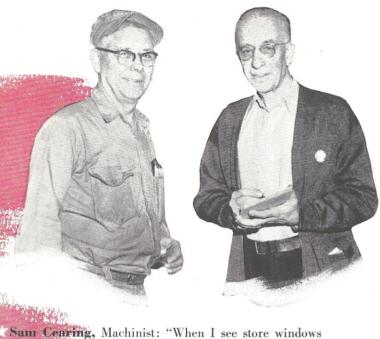
FUNERAL services were held November 29 for Harry N. Vanden Berg, 45, cashier, Treasury Department, who passed away November 26 after a long illness.

Vanden Berg, who had completed 30 years of transit service, joined the old Northwestern Elevated Railroad Company as an office boy in the Transportation Department on August 29, 1924. He subsequently became lost property clerk in November of 1925. and stock record clerk in October, 1927.

He was appointed assistant cashier of the former Chicago Rapid Transit Company on January 16, 1937, and was named cashier on February 16, 1943. He held the same position with the CTA at the time of his death.

Surviving are his widow, Ann, a son, James, and three sisters. Funeral services were held at Grace Lutheran Church, Westchester, of which he was an active member, with interment at Glen Oak ceme-





decorated and my mail box stuffed with Christmas advertisements, I begin to realize that the jolly old fellow behind the whiskers is just around the corner. Then, when my wife and I start mailing out a long list of greeting cards, we really begin to feel the spirit of

Frank Martello, Paint Shop: "With three lovely grandchildren around, the spirit of Christmas usually starts with the first snow fall. Then begins the rush of buying presents and making plans. I play the part of Santa Claus for our family gathering and my wife usually takes movies of the festivities. It's the

one season to which I really

look forward."



the season."

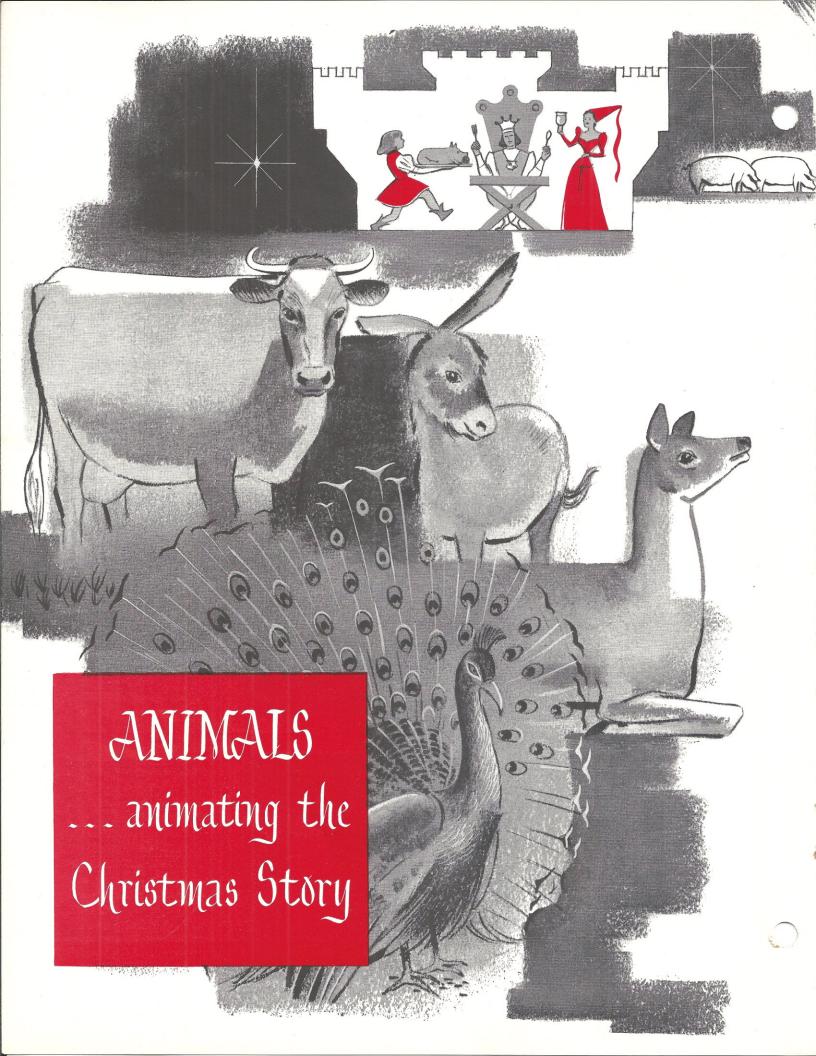
Willard Lucas, Welder: "At Thanksgiving time, I begin to feel the holiday spirit. All of our children, wherever they may be, manage to get home for Thanksgiving dinner. I give a prayer and am truly grateful for my lot. A few days later we begin to plan gifts and envision the pleasure of Christmas when our family will all be together again."

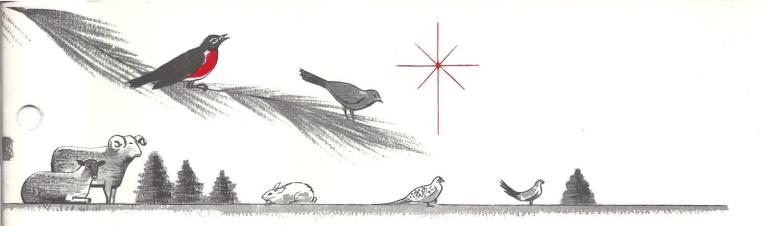
Robert Hackbarth, Electrician: "Usually right after Thanksgiving our children start reminding me that it's only a few days more until Christmas. Then my wife and I start buying presents. We have a mailing list of about 150 and it takes a lot of time to get the cards ready, so the holiday spirit usually lasts from six to eight weeks at our house."





Carmella L. Ritrovato, Typist: "After Thanksgiving, shopping for gifts and the sending of greeting cards seem to bring the holiday spirit into full view. The beautiful decorations in store windows are something that I wait for each year. And, of course, the people around me, who seem to be bubbling with the excitement of the season, have a catching influence."





ANIMALS most closely associated with the Christmas story are the reindeer and the camel because the former has been so frequently pictured galloping through the sky pulling Santa's sleigh and the latter so often depicted plodding across the desert carrying a Wise Man on its back.

But down the halls of time and from other countries have come many living creatures to take their place among the traditions and customs of the holiday season.

Three birds—the wren, the peacock, and the robin—have a symbolic role in the legends of some countries.

The wren has particular significance in Scandinavia, where special Christmas trees, covered with crumbs and suet, are erected for wrens and other birds. And in Belgium, young wrens are said to return at midnight, Christmas eve, to the nests where they were born, just as children gather at the homes of their parents.

Peacocks no longer play a part of Christmas celebrations, but in medieval England they frequently ended up under a pie crust, the head protruding from the crust at one end of the dish, the tail dangling to the floor from the other end. As an added touch, the beak was sometimes gilded and a flaming, brandy-soaked sponge popped into its mouth.

Robin Red Breast

Out of the realm of legend comes the robin's association with Christmas. It is said that his breast is red because he fluttered his wings to quicken the dying fire which had been built to warm the Christ Child in the manger. As the fire grew warmer, the feathers on the robin's breast reflected the glowing flames and have remained red ever since.

No medieval Christmas feast worth its salt was complete without a European wild boar's head carried in on a silver platter, a lemon or an apple in its mouth, its ears and snout decorated with garlands.

The roasted head of the boar was more than an article of food. It symbolized a belief that extended back beyond Christianity. Northern peoples had always felt that the spirit which made grain grow—the "corn-spirit"—was found only in hogs. So, at Yuletide, which corresponded roughly with the 25th of December, they sacrificed and ate a boar, thinking that this would surely bring good crops in the coming year.

The custom, however, has died out, and in place of the boar's head, little cakes or loaves baked in the shape of a hog are eaten in Scandinavian countries, and the English content themselves with eating suckling pigs.

It should not be assumed that boars and peacocks were the only wild creatures eaten at Christmas feasts. After the Yule log had been dragged in from the forest, the merry-makers frequently sat down to meat pies that were staggering in size. One pie on record was nine feet in circumference and weighed 165 pounds. It had to be pulled into the dining hall on a special cart. Among other things it contained four geese, two rabbits, four wild ducks, two woodcocks, six snipes, four partridges, six pigeons and seven blackbirds.

Cattle have played a great part in the Christmas legend. In Spain it was believed that at the Nativity cows breathed upon the Christ Child to keep Him warm. People in many countries thought that farm animals could praise God in human words on Christmas eve, and stories circulated about farmers entering their stables at midnight to find their cattle devoutedly kneeling. By the same token, deer in northern countries were believed to fall to their knees in the moonlight and look upward.

Domestic animals were also thought to praise the infant Christ in other ways. It was sworn that in every flock of sheep, on Christmas Eve, at least one lamb was born. Roosters were said to crow at all hours on Christmas Eve.

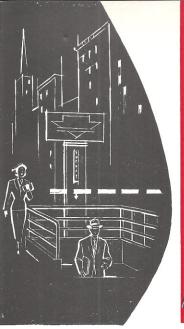
Werewolves and Banshees

These are some of the gentler animal legends. Some of the others take contrasting forms. The Vikings burned Yule logs to frighten away the frost giants, and when they huddled around the blazing fires toward the end of December, they told tales of werewolves, and the people of Ireland whispered about banshees. Werewolves were mythical creatures, half human, half animal, that crept through the brush and sprang upon the unsuspecting. Banshees were animals of such horror that no one ever got around to describing one.

These are not the only creatures, other than the standard reindeer and camel, associated with Christmas. There is a mythical dragon—representing Satan—making its writhing appearance on the scene. In England and France it was given the knockout punch by an actor dressed to resemble St. George. In the Far East the monster is frightened away by merry-makers clanging cymbals.

Many scenes portraying the Nativity depict cows, sheep and donkeys standing around the Holy Family in the stable. Shepherds tending their flocks in the field contribute to Christmas songs and stories.

So, all in all, animals, and to a lesser extent, birds, have figured in the seasonal celebrations, though the reindeer and the camel, because of their appearance on numberless Christmas cards, have come to be the best-known symbols of the Christmas theme.





Quarterly Award Winners



PROUDLY ACCEPTING the Safety Achievement Award plaque for the third quarter of 1954 from CTA General Manager W. J. McCarter (left), are C. A. Sonders (center), day superintendent, and R. K. Keag, night superintendent, of Blue Island station. This location won the passenger award for the Surface System.

ANNOUNCEMENT of Safety Achievement Award winners for the third quarter of 1954 finds Blue Island station taking the passenger plaque for the Surface System; Cottage Grove station coming through with the traffic award for the Surface System, and 61st station winning the combined traffic and passenger award for the Rapid Transit System.

Blue Island cut its accident rate from 5.90 to 2.95 accidents per million passengers carried to qualify for its award;



WHILE MEMBERS of prize-winning crew look on, R. F. Wenstrom, day superintendent of 61st station, receives the Rapid Transit System award from Mr. McCarter. The plaque for the rapid transit system is a combined passenger and traffic award.

Cottage Grove scored a reduction of 7.08 accidents per 100,000 miles operated to claim its award, while 61st won the Rapid Transit System award with a frequency rate of 0.84 accidents per 100,000 miles operated. This is a decided improvement over the 2.16 rate 61st station recorded during the previous three years.

The Station Achievement Award plan was established October 1, 1953, and is now in its second year of competi-



IT'S CONGRATULATIONS all around as G. J. Dorgan (front row, right), day superintendent at Cottage Grove station, is handed the traffic award for the Surface System by Mr. McCarter.

tion. Announcement is expected to be made soon of the winners of the first annual awards—two to Surface System stations and one on the Rapid Transit System.

The Accident Prevention Department compiles the statistics and computes the rates upon which the awards are made.

CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF APPLICATION OF REVENUES TO FIXED REQUIREMENTS MONTHS OF OCTOBER 1954 AND 1953, TER MONTHS ENDED OCTOBER 31, 1954 AND 1953 AND TWELVE WONTHS ENDED OCTOBER 31, 1954

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

	Month of October			oths Ended her 31,	Twelve
	1954	1953	1954	1953	Months Ended Oct. 31, 1954
Revenues\$	10,349,693	\$10,660,283	\$100,214,098	\$103,739,442	\$120,578,618
Operation and Maintenance Expenses	B,568,306	8,967,693	85,572,613	87,966,280	103,903,238
Available for Debt Service	1,781,387	1,692,590	14,641,485	15,773,162	\$ 16,675,380
Delst Service Requirements: Interest Charges	417,592	424,064	4,206,357	4,043,350	-dimensió pro-
Deposit to Series of 1947 Serial Bond Maturity Fund	200,000(1	150,000	1,700,000	1,100,000	
Revenue Bond Reserves (Note 2)	30,000	23,000	300,000	230,000	
	647,592	597,064	6,206,357	5,373,350	
Balance Available for Depreciation	1,133,795	1,095,526	8,435,128	10,399,812	
Provision for Depreciation-Current Period	827,976	852,823	8,017,128	8,299,155	
Balance Available for Other Charges (Note 3)\$	305,819	\$ 242,703	\$ 418,000	\$ 2,100,657	

PASSENGER STATISTICS

Originating Revenue Passengers. 53,527,351 59,499,381 532,744,666 574,794,583 647,510,159

STATUS OF EQUIPMENT MODERNIZATION PROGRAM

1952-53-54 Orders:	Delivered to date	Remaining to be Delivered	Total
Propane Buses	400	100	300
El-Subway Cars		120	270
	550	220	770
Delivered under previous orders Less—P.C.C. Streetcars to be converted		113	
to El-Subway Care		270	2,544
			3,314

NOTES:

(1) Equal monthly installments to retire \$2,400,000 principal amount of Series of 1947 Revenue Bonds maturing on July 1, 1955.

amounts set saide for such purposes are sosufficient therefor, or for accotion of all outstanding Series of 1952 and 1953 Bonds.

Depaits my be made in the Depreziation Enerce Fand only in the extent that somine ore cordible therefor. The conjuments for these depaits, between our cumulative, and my histories vanishing either the current period previous for Depreziation must be applied to care prior period deficiencies which may exist in depaits to the procession of the procession

SERVICE REVISIONS

BEGINNING October 27, the south terminal operation of the CTA Lincoln-Wells bus route (No. 10) was permanently revised in the south end of the Loop area.

The new, improved routing, which is occasioned by completion of Congress superhighway construction at the Franklin street intersection, follows:

Lincoln-Wells buses operate south in Wells to Harrison street, west in Harrison to Franklin street, north in Franklin to Congress street and east in Congress to Wells, then north over the established route.

The buses now begin their northbound runs, starting at scheduled time intervals, from a point on Congress street just west of Wells street.

DUE TO construction of a new viaduct by the State of Illinois at 53rd street and Cicero avenue, Archer express buses that terminate at 63rd-Cicero (No. 62) and South Cicero buses (No. 64) are being detoured for about a year, starting November 1.

During this period, southbound Archer express and South Cicero buses will operate west in Archer, from Cicero to Laramie, south in Laramie to 55th street, east in 55th street to Cicero, thence south over regular route.

Northbound, these buses use the same routing in reverse.

Add New Terminal Facility

A NEW off-street terminal for the Ashland avenue bus line was placed in operation at the south end of the route on November 4.

Under the new arrangement, Ashland avenue buses are operating south in Ashland to a private drive about one-half block south of 95th street, west in the private drive to Beverly, which has been made a dead-end street, southeast in Beverly to Ashland, and then north in Ashland.

The former farside, northbound bus loading zone is being retained in Ashland avenue just north of 95th street.

Formerly these buses operated south in Ashland to 94th street, west in 94th to Beverly, south in Beverly to 95th street, east in 95th to Ashland, then north in Ashland.

This is the 97th off-the-street terminal established by CTA as part of its contribution to improving street safety and expediting the flow of street traffic in the Chicago area. Terminals such as these eliminate the necessity of wyeing buses or cars in the street or turning back vehicles by around-the-block operation.

SION In For Christmas

WHEN THE jingle-bell season rolls around, 'sno need to bank on the weather for a white Christmas. The whole family can "get snowed in" with the prettiest decorations this side of Santa Land—all made from glistening drifts of soapsuds.

One of the greatest joys of soapsuds "snow" is that cleaning up doesn't plow you under when the festivities are over. This "snow" melts off mirrors and windows at the touch of a wet cloth and leaves them as bright and shining as the new year. And because this decoration won't shed, your floor and rugs stay neat—giving you a holiday from the vacuum cleaner.

Besides being inexpensive, trimming with soapsuds allows the children to take an active part in bringing a cheery yuletide glow to your home, for the whole frothy business is child's play.

Use a rotary egg beater or electric mixer to whip up the suds in a pitcher or in a deep, narrow bowl. A very minimum of warm water should be added to the soap before beating. Whip until the suds are "dry" and the consistency of thick cream.

These are some of the things kiddies can do with suds and a paintbrush: Decorate windows and mirrors with a jolly Santa face, "Merry Christmas" lettering, snowmen, icicles, candles, and many other signs of the season. Supply the children with sharp slivers of soap, so that they—or you—may make preliminary sketches on glass surfaces which then can be traced with soapsuds for greater accuracy of design. When applying soapsuds, allow the first coat to dry, then add one or two additional coats, with gentle touches, to give the design richness and depth. Little cylinders of sparkle-sprinkles add glitter.

Soapsudsing A Tree

When applying soapsuds to a tree, use a long-handled wooden spoon or wide paintbrush. Work from the top to bottom of the tree, and from trunk outward to branch tips. Let dry, then heap on another coating. If you like, decorate the little wet snow-puffs on the branches with holly berries or sequins which will "dry in." The soapsuds "drift" enough to look natural.

Evergreen twigs are often difficult to place gracefully in a vase. But they can be used attractively for the mantlepiece or table centerpiece if twigs are driven deep and firmly into a cake of soap—something else the youngsters can do with ease. They also can treat candles to prevent smoke or drip—by rolling each candle between their well-soaped palms.

So gather the clan and dip into drifts of snowy soapsuds for the merriest holiday of all—for all!

SOAPSUDS drift like snow on this gay and festive tree, keyed to holiday spirits. Apply thick suds from top of the tree to the bottom, and from trunk outward to the tip of the branches. Suds stay firm and won't shed.

FOR LOUNGING around or entertaining holiday guests, these fancy pants are comfortable and fashionable.



Casual Hostess Attire

ENTERTAINING guests during the holiday season can be a problem. It isn't easy to spend a long day at the office or in the home and still look fresh and comfortable when the guests arrive in the evening. But today's fashions permit a hostess to look her very best by sprucing up in a casual blouse and skirt or fancy pants and a pretty top.

The elongated silhouette and other new style trends, color combinations and fabric interest make at-home fashions something to rave about. In fact, sports clothes, particularly resort wear, get gayer and giddier as designers travel 'round the globe for inspiration—even to Africa and little-known places in the Far East to search for new ideas.

Gondolier Pants

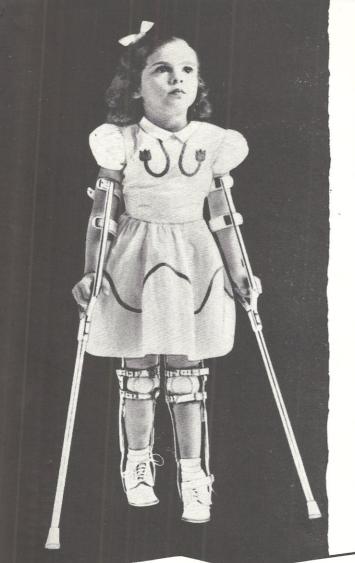
But, the major source of devastating sportswear is sunny Italy—the land of colorful people, colorful music and colorful scenery. The charm of the Riviera is featured in many of the Italian fashions that have come across the seas. Popular all along has been the striped, belted or unbelted tunic over tight pants. The new Gondolier pants or planter's pants will cause just as much a sensation as the popular Bermuda shorts and the new short skirt or "kilt." Unlike the shorts or the "kilt," they just cover the kneecap and look wonderful with the sleek middy top.

Who would ever think that blue jeans started this whole business of gals wearing pants for leisure hours and entertaining guests. Eventually sportswear designers dreamed up fancier, more glamorous pants to wear at home and around. Pants have gone as delightfully feminine and colorful as the prettiest sunset.

For the coming holiday festivities, fancy pants, vividly colored and gay, will add comfort and fashion to the entertaining hostess.

CTA TRANSIT NEWS





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JANUARY 3-31

The crippled child who is cut off from her playmates lives only half a life. The disabled wage-earner needs more than just plain courage to carry on. Only the stricken overcome crushing handicaps. These are the things money can buy.

they are rebuilding lives that are saved.

DECEMBER, 1954

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