



SUPERINTENDENTS of the three stations winning Station Achievement Awards for the third quarter of 1955 receive their plaques from *General Manager Walter J. McCarter* (second from left). They are, left to right: *E. C. Tocci*, 69th, *Edward Loughran*, Keeler, and *Frank T. Boland*, Laramie.

# STRESSING STATION SAFETY

SAFETY OF OPERATION was highlighted again with the naming of the three winners of Station Achievement Awards for the third quarter of the year.

The traffic type award went to 69th for the second time in a row for its continuing accident reduction record; the passenger type award was claimed by Keeler, and the combined traffic and passenger type award was won by Laramie.

The first two are surface system awards, and the latter a rapid transit system award.

To top all other surface stations in safety performance during the period, 69th achieved a 3.84 decrease in traffic type accidents. Keeler recorded a 2.15 decline to take the passenger type award, and Laramie came through with a 1.02 reduction to win the combined traffic-passenger award plaque.

The awards, established by CTA in 1953, are based on overall safety performance during quarterly periods as compared with the record for the same period over the three previous years.

# **Bonds Retired at Savings**

SAVINGS of \$53,811.99 in principal payments and \$628,750 in interest payments were achieved recently by CTA through the purchase and advance retirement of \$680,000 in principal amount of its three series of outstanding revenue bonds.

The new purchase, like those in the past, was negotiated for CTA by the First National Bank of Chicago, trustee of CTA's Series of 1947, 1952 and 1953 revenue bond issues, as part of CTA's program for retiring some of these bonds in advance of their scheduled maturity.

To date CTA has saved a total of \$3,058,160.78 (\$232,-

564.75 in principal payments and \$2,825,596.03 in interest payments) by purchase and advance retirement of its revenue bonds.

The purchase covered \$535,000 in principal amount of Series of 1947 bonds, \$112,000 in principal amount of Series of 1952 bonds, and \$33,000 in principal amount of Series of 1953 bonds. The purchase cost of these bonds, totaling \$680,000 in principal amount, was \$626,188.01.

Bonds totaling \$2,909,000 in principal amount, purchased at a cost of only \$2,676,435.25, have now been retired ahead of their scheduled maturity.

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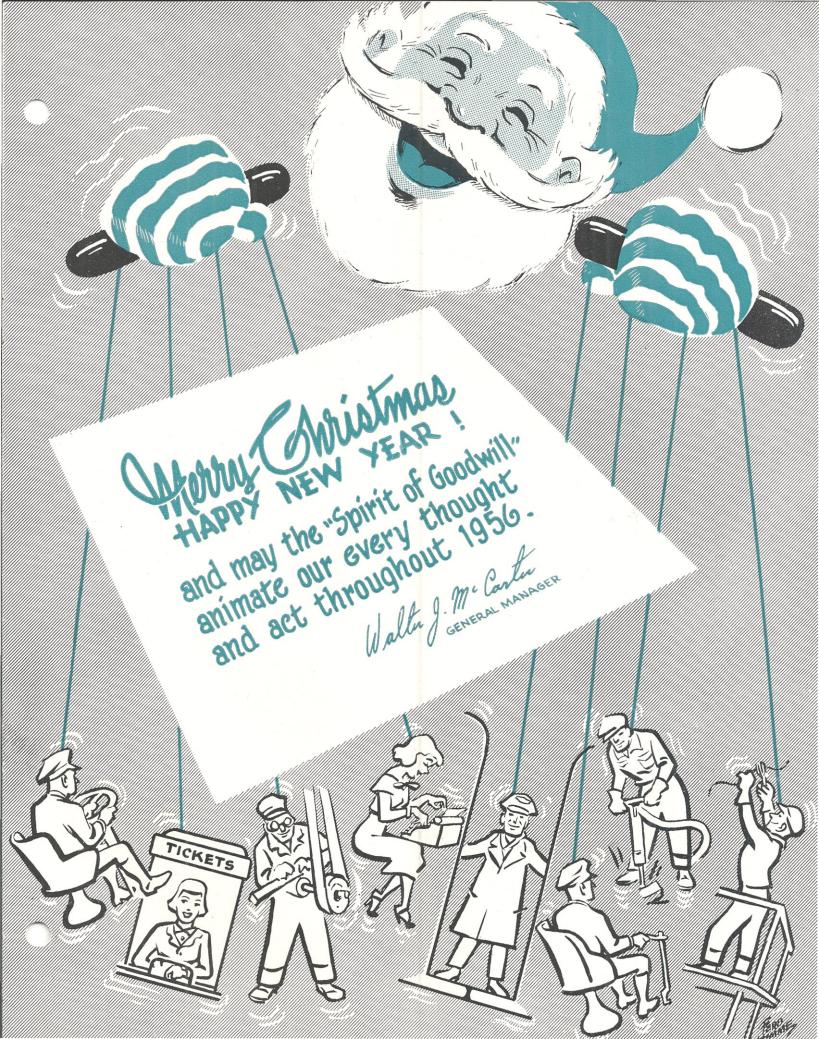
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Henry T. Wade-Transportation (77th)

# RETURNED FROM

#### SERVICE

Thomas Daily—Shops and Equipmen (Wilson Terminal)





GENERAL VIEW of Forest Glen bus terminal's service building is shown in this picture which was, as were the other pictures, taken during the latter stages of construction. In left foreground is the service area equipped with four undershelter islands for servicing and cleaning buses. In center background are the windows (just below roofline) of repair area, while underneath are the windows of the locker room and office area.

### **Third New Operating Station in Service**



APPROACHING washer area is a propane bus. Since this picture was taken, the terminal was put into operation and the door to this area, as do those of inspection area (right background), now opens automatically when approaching vehicle releases dangle switches upon contact. Regulating flow of vehicles through all areas are traffic lights, some of which are shown here.



MAKING FINAL checkup on washer for both motor and trolley buses are (left to right) Joseph Parhem and Roy Zechlin of the Ross and White Company. Vertical brush (left center) is one of two which wash sides and windows of buses. Brush in tilted position (right) is part of set used to wash roofs of motor buses only, while another set is used only to clean tops of trolley vehicles. CTA'S THIRD NEW operating station, named Forest Glen for a northwest section of Chicago, opened December 4 as the operating base for 12 trolley bus and motor bus routes.

Built at a cost of \$2,500,000, the new terminal facility is located on the north and south sides of Armstrong avenue, just east of Elston avenue. It consists of a service and maintenance plant and motor bus storage yard on the north side of the street, and trolley bus storage yard and a transportation office building (the latter is soon to be constructed) on the south side of the street.

Opening of the new Forest Glen facility will improve service in the northwest area because of the added efficiency with which equipment at the location can be dispatched and serviced. It will enable CTA to make additional mechanical department and bus mileage savings and will ease congestion at other northwest side stations formerly storing and servicing equipment transferred to the new station.

Covering 11 acres, the new installation, in addition to complete servicing facilities, has two completely-paved storage lots which, respectively, are capable of accommodating 175 trolley buses and 200 motor buses, enough to take care of expanded service requirements if necessary.

The new operating station incorporates many of the features of the two other new all-bus terminals erected by CTA since World War II — Beverly station at 1345 W. 103rd street, and North Park station, 3112 W. Foster avenue. In some instances, maintenance and servicing facilities have been improved at the new installation, based on experience gained from operating the other two stations.

The 12 northwest side routes transferred from other stations and based at the Forest Glen facility are Central, Lawrence, Montrose and Irving Park trolley bus operations, and Austin, Milwaukee, North-Narragansett-Irving Park, North Cicero, Higgins Road, Foster-Central, Harlem and Elston motor bus lines.

Coincidentally with the opening, new service in non-rush hour periods will be provided on the Central avenue trolley bus route for a distance of one-half mile from its present Milwaukee avenue terminal northward to the Forest Glen terminal. Service on the other 11 routes using the new terminal remain unchanged.

Production-line type of servicing is a major feature at the new bus terminal. Facilities provide for speedy and efficient handling of vehicles throughout all the operational procedures to maintain passenger equipment in day-to-day use.

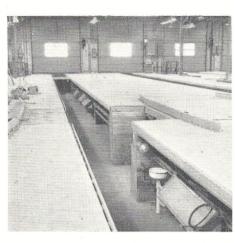
Four undershelter islands are available for checking fuel, oil and air in tires. Each is equipped with fuel dispensers and drop hoses for providing the necessary servicing. Each island also has a "king-size" vacuum unit for a quick cleanup of interiors of buses. Provisions are also made for steam and aircleaning of undersides in a nearby area. In addition, an automatic bus washing machine, inside the building, can quickly clean the exteriors of buses. A second washer of this type will be installed on the south side of Armstrong avenue when the Transportation building is constructed.

An area with four inspection pits, each capable of handling four buses at a time; a maintenance area with 10 hoists which can easily lift buses for servicing, including tire replacement, and repair and degreaser areas are located in the service building. Other features include a parts storage area, tire area, two battery-charging areas and a switchboard room.

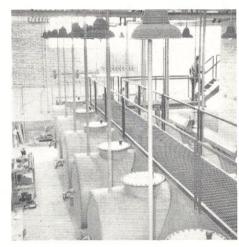
Safety was a paramount consideration in the designing of the building. Construction features include safety lighting in various parts of the building; a sprinkling system designed to work if the temperature rises above 140 degrees, and a fan system which channels all exhaust fumes out of the building.

Offices, a lunchroom with a capacity of 140 persons, and a locker room with shower and sanitary facilities are located

THE FOUR undershelter islands of the service area provide facilities for checking fuel, oil, and air in tires of buses, while four "king size" vacuum cleaners, one in each island, (right foreground) suck out all litter from the buses' interiors in a SAFETY AND CONVEN-IENCE of inspection area are graphically illustrated in this picture. In inspection pits are safety lights, oil drains, grease hoses, and sliding fluorescent lights. Retractable wing portion, operated by compressed air, (left center) allows complete access for servicing the lower side of a bus. In background are traffic lights and dangle switches, which open and close doors automatically.



MANY KINDS of fluids for servicing buses may be found in the tank room, located in the northwest corner of the service building. These fluids are pumped directly from this room to the service islands, inspection and repair areas.

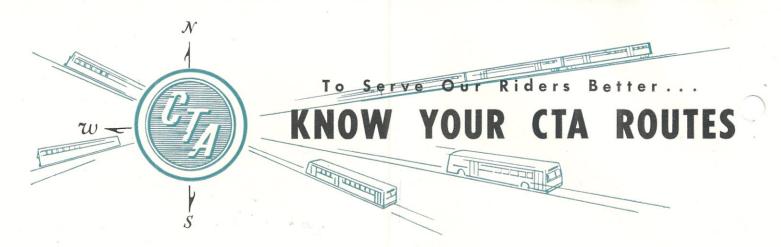


in the main portion of the service building, completing one of the most modern and efficient bus operating centers in the transit field.

In connection with the opening, all residents of the vicinity were invited to an "open house" as guests of the CTA management and employes who are working at the new location. Watch for a complete picture story in the January issue of CTA TRANSIT NEWS.

matter of minutes. In left background is the storage area for motor buses, which is completely paved and capable of holding 200 vehicles. There is sufficient space at the new station for expansion if necessary.





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

IN THE perspective of a map of Chicago, Grand avenue is one of four northwest side streets that fan out on an angle from the downtown area to the city limits.

Running straight east and west at 500 north from Navy



EAST OF Michigan avenue, Grand avenue penetrates an area of highly-concentrated commercial and light industry. Looking west from the upper level of Lake Shore drive, the outline of buildings along North Michigan avenue can be seen in the center background.



THE WESTERN terminal of the Grand avenue route is located conveniently adjacent to the Grand-Harlem shopping district which has sprung into prominence in recent years as one of the city's major outlying business developments.

Pier on the lake front to approximately Western avenue (2400 W), it then swings in a northwesterly direction to a junction with the city boundary line at a point near Fuller-ton avenue (2400 N) and Harlem avenue (7200 W).

The Grand avenue trolley bus route — No. 65 — follows the street for the entire distance, providing cross-town service over a measured round trip of 18.56 miles and affording direct transfer connections with north-south and east-west intersecting lines.

The route, briefly, is from the eastern terminal at Navy Pier (700 E) along Grand avenue to Nordica (7000 W).

Like so many city thoroughfares, Grand avenue has helped establish the pattern of growth of the community. Accelerating this growth has been the increasing availability of local transit service to all sections of the city. New areas have been made more accessible for residential and industrial expansion as transportation lines have increased the convenience with which people may travel between their homes and places of employment.

Available records show that the first section of the Grand avenue line was placed in service from Halsted to Western in 1875 — four years after the great Chicago fire which wiped out wide areas of much of the then established city from DeKoven street (1100 S) north to Fullerton avenue and from Halsted street to the lake.

Major extensions followed in 1892 and 1895. In 1904, tracks were laid as far west as Le Claire avenue (5100 W), and in 1912 service began to Harlem avenue.

Weekday schedules on the Grand avenue route provide for two-minute intervals during the morning and afternoon

THE VIEW looking east along Grand avenue from Franklin street provides another aspect of the business districts located on the route. This is in the heart of the near north side area in a section that was one of the first to be rebuilt after the great Chicago fire of 1871.





**PROMINENTLY** associated with a great national charitable cause is the Shriner's Hospital for Crippled Children, located at Oak Park avenue, just south of Grand. It is one of a number of such treatment centers in the United States.

rush hours. Headways during the midday and evening are eight and nine minutes, respectively. Sundays and holidays, when traffic is light, the schedules call for 12-minute intervals in the morning and 10-minute headways the remainder of the time. Thirty-minute "owl" service is in effect from 1 A.M. to 5 A.M. The running time between outer terminals varies from 49 to 59 minutes, depending on street traffic conditions and the time of day.

Forty-three trolley buses, operating out of North avenue station, are assigned to Grand avenue service.

The only variations from regular runs come during the morning rush hours when some short-run buses operate between Navy Pier and Halsted and return. A supplementary service to Navy Pier also is furnished by Wacker-Orleans (No. 128) buses which operate over Grand avenue from Orleans to the pier.

Three direct transfer connections with rapid transit lines add to the convenience of Grand avenue service. These are at Grand avenue stations on the Milwaukee-Dearborn subway, Ravenswood "L," and the north-south "L"-subway

Navy Pier, at the foot of Grand avenue, has long been one of Chicago's best-known lake front installations. Scene of business shows, water-sports events and other attractions for many years, it now houses the classrooms and facilities of the Chicago Undergraduate Division of the University of Illinois.



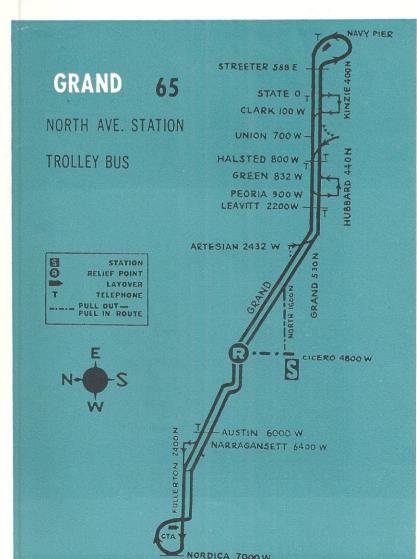
TWO CTA bus routes — Laramie and Armitage — use this off-street facility, located at Grand and Latrobe (5232 W), as a terminal. It also serves as an emergency turn-around for the Grand avenue route.



THIS OFF-STREET facility at Grand and Nordica (7000 W) serves as the western terminal of the Grand avenue route. It was established in 1951 and is one of 101 such facilities on the CTA surface system.

Following extension of the Grand avenue route, the period between 1920-1930 was an era of great growth in the far northwest side area. New dwellings went up rapidly. The important Grand-Harlem shopping district grew phenomenally during the 1920s, and it has continued to develop steadily until it now constitutes the main shopping center for surrounding communities and suburbs.

(The eighteenth in this series of articles on CTA routes will appear in a future issue.)



#### INQUIRING REPORTER: Walter J. Reich LOCATION: West Section

## What was your most memorable Christmas?

ALVIN LAWSON, Conductor: "Two weeks before Christmas, 1948, while on a run, I found a purse containing \$50 which a woman had left on my train. We were able to locate her and return her money and purse. Her gratitude in getting them back was worth more to me than the \$10 reward which she gave me."

















EUGENE NEIL, conductor: "Every Christmas takes me back to my childhood, when my brother and I waited for this event. I remember our first mechanical train, which ran on a circular track. We stayed up as late as we could to watch it run around and around the track."

ANGELO SALVAGGIO, motorman: "When I was living at home, before I was married, there were quite a few of us. At Christmas time we always received a large package from Europe. Everyone wanted to be the one to open it up and pass out the presents. We always had a very good time at Christmas, even though we were poor."

FRANK CHRISTENSEN, motorman: "When I was in the armed forces at Fullerton, California, I lived off the post with my wife and daughter. On Christmas Eve, carolers sang at each serviceman's home. I shall never forget how close their singing brought me to Christmas and God at a time when we were so far away from home and our friends."

WILLIAM J. GLASCOTT, conductor: "My wife and I always will remember best our daughter Diane's first Christmas. We spent a lot of time decorating the Christmas tree especially for her, and was she amazed and delighted with it and all the dolls, dresses and other gifts she received! A whole houseful of relatives celebrated the holiday with us."

# THE INSIDE NEWS

-AS REPORTED BY EMPLOYES OF THE CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

#### **Takes First Plane** Trip, Visits Old West

ACCOUNTING — Carmella Petrella, IBM. experienced her first plane ride when she flew to Tucson, Arizona, to spend her vacation at a dude ranch near there. Horseback riding and swimming, side trips to Nogales, Mexico; Tombstone, Arizona, for the Helldorado, and a visit to Boot Hill Cemetery, resting place of many notorious characters of the Old West, made her two weeks' stay fly also.

Josephine Yercich, voucher, was married to Joseph H. Sweda in St. Theodore's Church on October 29. Bridal attendants were her sister, Mary Ann, Transportation; Dorothy Klosowski, Material and Supplies; and Marie Coari, voucher. The reception at Gresham Hall was for 360 guests. Following a short trip, the newlyweds set up housekeeping in their new ranch home in Budlong Woods.

John Ruberry, general, and his wife spent two weeks in Miami Beach, Florida. Soaking up the sunshine and attending the American Legion Convention in that city provided a healthful and enjoyable vacation for them.

#### **Tour Southern States**

Rosemary Kenny, payroll, and her husband, Patrick, treasury, motored to New Orleans, Louisiana, where the famous French Quarter attracted them. St. Petersburg, Miami Beach and Cypress Gardens, Florida, and Lookout Mountain in Chattanooga, Tennessee, were stopovers on their return trip. Rosemary brought back a deep tan as a souvenir of the southern sunshine.

Valeria Bowman, payroll distribution, and her husband enjoyed an automobile trip through the northeastern states and Canada, visiting Quebec, Toronto and Montreal. A stay of several days in Washington, D. C., viewing the historical monuments and Government buildings, climaxed their vacation.

Anne Garrity, Material and Supplies, had a fine rest in Miami Beach, Florida. She took a side trip to Key West and visited with relatives in Hollywood and Fort Lauderdale.

Edward McEldowney, general, was called to Wessington Springs,

# Season's Greetings

#### from Your "Inside News" Reporters

Gilbert E. Andrews	Edith Edbrooke	Dagmar McNamar
Dan Aschenbauer	Everett E. England	Irving Metzger
Alfred E. Beck	William Feiler	Jack Moreau
Leo J. Bien	Joseph Feinendegen	Elvera Potensa
Frank M. Black	R. H. Fortier	Julie Prinderville
Violet Carnes	Simon Goldman	William Prokop
Evelyn Clark	David Gurwich	C. T. Rattray
Mary E. Clarke	Ruth Hanson	Walter J. Reich
Kitty Conroy	Joseph Hiebel	Ted Shumon
Tom Daniels	Helen A. Lowe	Joseph Smith
L. C. Dutton	Jeanne Ludman	C. P. Starr

#### CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR

South Dakota, on October 24 to attend the funeral of his father, Michael, aged 82 years. -HELEN A. LOWE

#### They Should Have **A Joyous Christmas**

ARCHER-Operator Bruno Kamien and his wife are walking around on clouds these days. After they waited for about three years, St. Vincent's Orphanage notified them that a little girl was waiting for them. I'm sure Linda Sue will be in the best of hands.

Operator Lyle Packard and his wife visited Los Angeles on their vacation recently and had a wonderful time.

Operator Jim Contant and his wife recently celebrated their 19th wedding anniversary . . . Your reporter and his wife celebrated their 18th wedding anniversary.

Operator John Kocher and his wife are going to be plenty busy next year. Their son, John, will be married to Rita Perini in the spring, and their daughter, Arlene, will march up the aisle in the fall with Edward Raciak.

Repairmen Dominick Babelus and Joe Mizus recently took their pensions.

Anthony Beranek, who recently took his pension, paid a visit to his buddies.

Repairman Joe Pastore has been on the sick list.

Operator George Dipple and Repairman Edward Chebo recently suffered the loss of their mothers for CTA as a bus operator. His

. . . Other deaths reported were those of the wife of Repairman Vince Piechocki and the father of Operator George Schmidt . . . The brother of Operator Ray Howe died recently, as did the mother of Operator William Lion.

-R. H. FORTIER

McNamara

#### Santa, Here's Some **Changes of Addresses**

BEVERLY-Operator James L. Hussey gave his family of six an early Christmas present-a new home into which they moved the first week of December. The children, Billy, Michael, Richard and Cathleen, were worried Santa might have trouble finding the new address ... The Laytons, Ralph, Florence, and daughter, Pat, also found a new home in which to hang up their Christmas stockings, as did Mr. and Mrs. Art Pinelli and family.

Mrs. Al Cermak visited Kentucky recently and Mrs. Emil Beck spent a week in Omaha, Nebraska. Charles and Isabella Glines and their children returned from a visit to Shawneetown, Illinois . . . John and Florence McMullen visited with their son, John Jr., a student at Peru State University. The couple saw their son, an all-conference guard on the football team, in action on the gridiron. They also made trips to Omaha and Boys Town, Nebraska.

Eugene Hoskins, after finishing his hitch in the Navy, began work

father, Ernest, is retired from the CTA Accounting Department, and his mother from the Accident Prevention Department. His brother, Bill, was a clerk at 77th for some time. Eugene and his wife, Vera, have a son, Mike, age four . . . Another new employe is Alfred Biglow who joined us this month after his discharge from the Army.

John E. McCarthy, repairs, returned recently from Monrovia, California, where he visited his aunt who operates a motor court there.

Arthur Beaucamp and Elmer Klatzbucher are back after being on the sick list, but at this writing John Hogan, Marinus Dykhuizen and Bill Bowen are still off sick . . . Rosemary Cantwell recently underwent surgery.

-FRANK M. BLACK

#### Mark Anniversary, Tell **Daughter's Betrothal**

CLAIM AND LAW-James Mahoney, attorney, and his wife, Marie, celebrated their silver wedding anniversary on Thanksgiving Day with a solemn high mass at St. Patrick's Church. Father Philip Mahoney, brother of James, celebrated the mass, and Father Thomas Byrne, Mrs. Mahoney's brother, was deacon.

At a reception for their many friends, Mr. and Mrs. Mahoney told of the engagement of their daughter, Patricia, to Edward Jacoby.

Welcome to our new employes, Stanley Rakauskas . . . David Munyer who was promoted to adjusters' record clerk and Mary Anne Pelko became an accident typist.

Louise Pruitt Dumetz had a freak accident when she fell and injured her hand and later found she had broken a finger . . . John M. Rau, adjuster, is recuperating nicely from an operation while Tom Zohlman, minus his appendix, is back on the job.

-EL-JE

#### **Operator Wins \$10 Suggestion Award**

DEVON-Jerome C. Weber, operator, won a \$10 award for his suggestion to install a metal shield from the dashboard to the fare box on the 500 series buses.

#### INSIDE NEWS • DECEMBER, 1955

#### WINTER IN NORWAY



**FROM FARAWAY Norway** comes this striking Christmas card received from R. B. Stockman, retired motorman, North Avenue, who is on an extended visit to his native land. It is a picturesque scene of the fantastic beauty of snow-clad pines in the mountains of the Scandinavian countryside, a paradise for skiers and winter sports addicts. Stockman has a fine collection of pictures of transit facilities in Norway, particularly in Oslo, where he stayed while visiting a brother. He retired on pension in 1954.

Your reporter hasn't written too much lately because of illness of his wife, Mrs. Pearl Goldman. However, she will answer any mail coming to their home, 4452 W. Gladys avenue, from Devon employes. Those with news also may call AUstin 7-3360 or EStebrook 8-4911.

Welcome back on the job to C. A. Kerr, assistant supervisor, who had been confined to the hospital with an illness.

Superintendent F. J. Smith retired on pension from this station on December 1.

-SIMON H. GOLDMAN

#### Vacationers Report Sunshine, Fishing Fine

ELECTRICAL—Operator's Apprentice Nels Larson vacationed in Masonville, Michigan. Theodore Wyncott, operator at 48th substation, fished in Grindstone Lake near Hayward, Wisconsin, and regrets that the big

one got away ... Joseph Connelly, assistant electrolysis tester, sent greetings from Miami, Florida.

Gerald Griffin, operator at Illinois substation and his brother, Daniel, operator at Lill substation. lost their father on November 11.

Frank Corrigan, operator at Franklin substation, underwent surgery recently and was at home recuperating as this was written . . . Harry H. Geier, chief operator of Homer substation, also underwent surgery on November 15 and at this writing is in the Norwegian-American Hospital.

Leo Davis, formerly chief operator at 82nd substation and now on pension, became a rail fan. He traveled via Santa Fe to Santa Ana, California, where he visited his brother, and on the way back stopped off at Dallas, Texas, where he visited his niece.

-GILBERT E. ANDREWS

#### Forsythe Family Holds Happy Reunion

GENERAL OFFICES—(Chief Engineering)—A happy reunion took place recently when Lt. (SG) Thomas Forsythe received his honorable discharge from the Navy and spent a week at the home of his parents, Chief Engineer and Mrs. Stanley Forsythe. Thomas and his wife, Marilyn, will take up civilian life again at their home in northern Indiana.

(Specifications) — Andy Barr, formerly a Specification Department engineer, while in Chicago on a business trip, stopped in to see us. He is now making his home in Long Island, N. Y.

Deanne DeSutter, daughter of Lee DeSutter, was capped at Alverno College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, October 2, in an "Investiture of the Freshman Class" ceremony.

John Cannady enjoyed a vacation in his home town, Danville, Illinois.

Frank Maguire's daughter, Judy, made her first communion October 30 at St. Anthony's Church, Cicero.

Cathy Ryan left CTA to make her home in New York City. At a dinner given in her honor at George Diamond's Restaurant, Cathy was surprised when she was given a rain-or-shine coat, a gift from the office . . . Jane Chivatero and her husband, Jack, spent two weeks in Miami, Florida . . . Victoria Lepek, formerly with revenue accounting, is a new member of our office force. (Staff Engineering)—Harry Hogan was recently transferred from the Claim to this department. Barney Trager who has been on the sick list for some time, is now much better.

Charles Lapp's son, Charles, Jr., recently became a teacher at Hinsdale Junior High School.

(Employment) — An announcement was recently received from a former co-worker, Mrs. Betty Paczkowski, of the birth of her son on September 22. The new heir has been named John Michael.

Geri Weiss was one of the fashion models in the Buyers Fashion Show held during September in the Merchandise Mart.

Genevieve Bagger vacationed in Waterloo, Iowa ... Ray Ruzich decided to utilize his vacation by painting his house, but rain put an end to this after his first week, so Ray took off for Washington, D. C.

(Personnel)—Toni Cardillo and her husband motored to Dallas, Texas, to vacation with relatives. The Texas State Fair proved quite enjoyable as well as the trip home through Missouri and Oklahoma.

(Training and Accident Prevention)—Burt Bosan's visit to the "Do-It-Yourself" show has provided him with a number of ideas for the recreation room of his new home into which he and his family recently moved.

(Stenographic)—We are happy to have Gene Sullivan back in the fold after five and one-half months' convalescence resulting from an automobile accident injury . . . John Hartnett left the department to join the forces of Uncle Sam. —MARY E. CLARKE

#### Return From Dakota, Land of Pheasants

GENERAL OFFICE (Transportation) Wanda and Jack Krause recently returned from their annual trip to South Dakota where Wanda visited her folks and Jack, his shotgun in hand, turned himself loose in the land of the pheasants.

Jim Luvisi, line supervisor, suffered the loss of his sister, Sister Agnes Mary of the Sisters of Providence, at St. Mary's of the Woods, Indiana. A former teacher at St. Sylvester's School in Chicago, she had completed 31 years as a nun.

James Tucker has been appointed chief clerk in the Transportation Department, the position vacated by Lou Bohlin, who retired. Instructor Bill Henn's wife recently entered a contest sponsored by the State Street Council and won for Bill and herself a trip to New York. For a week Mr. and Mrs. Henn tripped the light fantastic on the sidewalks of New York.

Wally and Ethel Gillies, winding up vacations for 1955, visited friends on a farm in a wee town in Missouri . . . Mr. and Mrs. George Roesing visited Niles, Michigan, but after a few days of snow and rain they headed back home to avoid being stormbound . . . Mr. and Mrs. David Flynn drove down New Orleans way to enjoy a quiet, southern holiday before the influx of Mardi Gras revelers . . . John and Clara Higgins returned to New England and were able to complete their Cape Cod colored film started on a previous trip.

(Insurance)—Rain failed to darken the bright spirits of a group of CTA lovelies and their special "dates" who met at Harlem and Ogden, then climbed aboard a covered hayrack and rode to a designated spot. "Change Your Partners" and "Do-Si-Does" rang gleefully

#### A HELPING HAND



HELPING CHILDREN across the busy intersection at 47th and Princeton is *Mrs. Ann O'Brien*, wife of *Operator W. J. O'Brien*, 77th Street, and formerly of Archer and Blue Island Depots. Mrs. O'Brien takes several hours each day from her duties as housewife and mother to make sure the children cross safely.

Reported by Joe Smith

#### INSIDE NEWS • DECEMBER, 1955

#### **40-YEAR EMPLOYES RECENTLY RETIRED**



Sixton L. Johnson, conductor, 77th, retired December 1 after 40 years of service.



ton. motorman, Devon, retired Deretired December 1 afcember 1 after 43 years ter 47 years of service. of service.



Edward L. Rook, motorman, West Section, retired December 1 after 42 years of service.



Clifford H. Knoess, conductor, Devon, retired December 1 after 42 years of serv-

John Turek. yard foreman, West Section, retired December 1 after 44 years of service.



Anton Wrobel, guard, North Section, retired December 1 after 44 years of service.

through the country air as weiners were roasted on autumn fires. Those from Insurance were Jerry Olemick, Zoe Petrin, Nancy Dal-Porto, Carol Huckin, and Marie McClaughry. From Public Information was Lillian Riendeau, and from Material and Supplies was Marilyn Wright.

While on vacation Marie Mc-Claughrey visited Lincoln's home and tomb in Springfield, then went on to Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

COUPLE CELEBRATE

-JULIE PRINDERVILLE



**CELEBRATING THEIR 45th** wedding anniversary recently were Victor Volenec, retired motorman, Kedzie, and Mrs. Volenec. They were married January 18, 1911, and now live at 1606 E. Waters avenue, Tampa, Florida.

Reported by C. P. Starr

#### Visit Son, Mark **34th Anniversary**

LIMITS-Board Member Harry and Mrs. Henry recently celebrated their 34th wedding anniversary while visiting their son in California. On their way out, the couple stopped off at the Convention in Denver, Colorado.

Edward Federowicz has had the cast taken off his hand.

Edward Larken enjoyed his recent vacation in New Orleans, where he took a sightseeing tour . . . William Austin had a fine time during his vacation in Denver, Colorado. He visited his daughter and Pensioner Charles Ritter at Boulder, Colorado.

Pensioner Gerald Barker is now residing in California. He reports he is in good health and enjoys the climate very much.

J. L. Beyer passed away recently. ... Operator Russell Oddo recently suffered the loss of his leg by amputation. He will be confined at Hines Hospital for quite some time. His address is Hines Hospital, Room 240-A.

Albert C. Berott, operator, suggested that a stop be made at Independence boulevard on Roosevelt road and received an award of \$5.00.

Keep the news coming, men. We will have some new faces after this system seniority pick and hope the newcomers will like our depot. We welcome all.

#### **Two Kedzieites Go** Into Retirement

ice.

KEDZIE-Janitor John Witt and Clarence Thompson, night relief station superintendent, retired on December 1

We welcome all the new men in the system pick who came to this station. We hope they will enjoy working with us . . . The system pick also brought a new clerk's pick, and we say "hello" to new clerks and receivers who chose this station.

-C. P. STARR

#### A Cook's Tour **Of The Far West**

LOOP-Mary Dye and a friend made a grand tour of the Far West. In driving to Portland, Oregon, they stopped at the Corn Palace at Mitchell, South Dakota, drove through Cedar Pass in the Badlands, viewed Mount Rushmore, General Custer's memorial, Mount Hood, and Bonneville Dam. They also toured Yellowstone National Park and drove along the scenic Columbia River. From Portland, they went to San Francisco where they got a scare from an earth tremor and to Los Angeles, where they visited Knott's Berry Farm and Art Linkletter's television show. Next on the agenda were Phoenix, Arizona, and El Paso, Texas, where they crossed into Old Mexico on a shopping tour. When they arrived home, they had covered over 6,000 miles.

The James Regans divided their -IRVING J. METZGER vacation between Miami and St.

Petersburg, Florida . . . Mary Brown and Nellie Kerns vacationed at Miami, Florida, the home of Mary's sister. They drove to Key West and other places.

janitor, Ked-

zie, retired

December 1

after 42

years of serv-

ice.

As this was written, Jean Verbrick was recuperating from an operation; John Newsom was recovering from an accident, and Ann Dunleavy, Gertrude McCarthy and James Loftus were on the sick list.

Glen Byers is a grandpa for the third time. His son, Raymond, became the father of Patricia May in September.

Elizabeth Russo and Mary Avallone spent their vacations at home . . . Michigan's cold weather sent Marie McInerny and her sister back to Chicago.

Elizabeth Hill again was elected executive board member of local 308 on November 15.

Elizabeth Docherty toured the French Quarter and other historical places in New Orleans. She took a boat trip to Biloxi, Mississippi, where she visited old Southern mansions and gardens. She then traveled to Longview and to Dallas, Texas, where she visited her son-in-law's family.

-EDITH EDBROOKE

If you've moved recently,

please notify

**CTA TRANSIT NEWS** 

#### CTA PERSONNEL, 100 STRONG, ATTEND RETREAT



A GOODLY portion of the more than 100 CTA personnel who attended the annual three-day retreat held recently at Notre Dame University, South Bend, Indiana, are shown in this picture. Chairman of the affair was Ernest C. Tocci, superintendent, 69th, and rector was Father John Reedy, C.S.C., (inset) who is editor of AVE MARIA, Notre Dame publication. The group, which has raised \$2,000.00 for a university building fund, to a man refer all praise for its accomplishments to Tocci, whom they fondly call "Mr. Notre Dame Retreat." Each year, says Reported by Tom Daniels Father Reedy, the group grows ever larger.

#### Did You Get A **Good Tan, Fellows?**

NORTH AVENUE-Florida, the land of sunshine, has attracted some of our boys. Those who recently returned and still have memories of a nice time are Pat Clancy, George De Gore, George Brazington and Matt Malina.

A successful hunting trip was enjoyed by Al Nehls, Bob Kraemer, Charley Conroy and Bill Miedema. They traveled to Woonsocket, South Dakota, to get their limit of birds.

Wedding bells rang out for Noreen Smith on November 19, when she exchanged vows with William O'Malley. The marriage took place in Our Lady Help Of Christians Church. She is the daughter of Operator Phil Smith.

Operator Mike Lucas celebrated his 20th wedding anniversary last month, while Operator Anthony Kopczyk observed his 29th on November 19.

Switchboard Operator Art Sieloff was a patient recently at Mercy Hospital for treatment of a heart ailment,

Last month Augie Johnson and Dan McNamara visited our trainroom. Both were looking fine.

We were all glad to see Louie Soduske back on the job after a long illness . . . Operator Roy Gaess, who was off from work almost a year because of injuries he received in an automobile accident, is back on the job.

John F. Kokoska retired on pension December 1.

Clerk John Miller has returned from military duty. He spent two years with the Air Force overseas and two years in Washington, D. C., as presidential guard.

Every year at Christmas time the Joe Hiebel family tours the city and suburbs to enjoy the beautiful Christmas displays. Many homes have lighted patterns and some pretty sharp displays surrounding their grounds. Maybe you make a specialty of decorating your grounds with Christmas displays. We'd like to have some photographs of the decorated homes of CTA employes, particularly night views. All pictures will be returned to you in good shape.

-JOE HIEBEL

#### Welcomes Visitor From Land of Heather

PURCHASING AND STORES-A VERY special event for Theresa Barry was the arrival of her sister, Alice McLeod, from her home in Glengarnock, Ayeshire, Scotland. We hope her visit will be a long and enjoyable one.

The Daniel Lombardos became parents of a daughter, Carolyn, on November 7.

Marie Sullivan, Stores Department, is now convalescing at home, while Joe Thaus, stock clerk, South Shops, and Phyllis Delaquila, Purchasing Department, are out sick Colleen, Twin Boys at this writing.

Arthur Thineman's wife passed away early in November . . . Tony Gorzkiewicz, West Shops, lost his mother recently.

Emily Krautsak, Purchasing Department, is now the proud aunt of four little nieces. The latest arrival, born on November 5, will be christened Annette.

Richard Hendricks, stock clerk, Montrose, suffered the loss of his mother-in-law in November.

#### Which Proves There's No Place Like Home

SCHEDULE-TRAFFIC-The late vacationers seem to have put in some good licks at home. This includes Bob Sedlack, Frank Iacono and Bernadette Kizior.

Laura Schrecke, Marie Shumon. Kathryn Batina, Bernadette Kizior together with Mary Isbrandt from staff engineers and Kay Corcoran from suggestions enjoyed a preholiday dinner feast at Allgauer's Restaurant at Touhy and Linoln.

Harold Andrews, who suffered a virus infection, and Fred Weber, who underwent an operation, are progressing satisfactorily.

We welcome John Bosacki to our traffic checking group.

-L. C. DUTTON

#### Make Davy Crockett Look Like A Piker

69тн — Ray Hammerschmidt is scoutmaster of a fine group of boys who would put Davy Crockett to shame when it comes to overnight hikes and living in the great outdoors.

We won another traffic award, and with winter here to stay for a few months, let's be extra careful on slippery streets and make every day "Safe-Driving Day."

Superintendent E. C. Tocci returned after a week's vacation in Syracuse, N. Y., and claims the added weight is from the fine meals on the train.

John Davis, clerk, suffered the loss of his mother.

-TOM DANIELS

# Join Skokie Family

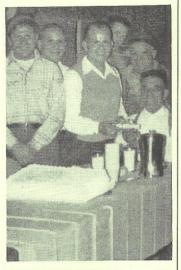
SKOKIE-John McGrail, carpenter, and Mrs. McGrail recently became parents of a girl, whom they have named Maureen . . . Ted Nienaber, development engineer, is the proud grandfather of twin boys.

August Feinendegen, machinist foreman, and family enjoyed motoring to California for a vacation.

Painter Reginald Hendricks, who recently underwent a major operation at the American Hospital, is -DAGMAR McNAMARA rapidly recovering from his illness

#### INSIDE NEWS • DECEMBER, 1955

#### **REPAIRMAN RETIRES**



RECEIVING WATCH upon his retirement is James Urban, car body inspector, Laramie Shops, (seated). Foreman Paul Lorimer (left) makes the presentation at a small party. Urban retired November 1 after 39 years of service, all of them at Laramie Shops.

Reported by Joe Feinendegen

because Painters Mitchell Faczek, Robert Metrow, John Kalinowski and Bill Little each donated a pint of blood.

Truckman Louis Harvet, who has been off sick for some time, would appreciate a card, phone call or a visit from his fellow workers. ... Development Engineer Robert Winther, who was on the sick list, is now back ... Walter Serzow, assistant industrial engineer, was in the Swedish Covenant Hospital recently as the result of an attack of pleurisy.

Charles Ceffalio suffered the loss of his mother on November 14.

Retiring from service as of November 1 with a combined 97 years of service were *Machinists Tony Kowalski* and *George Lundell*, and *Welder George H. Kern*. Each of these retiring men was presented with a gold wristwatch by *Superintendent Lester H. Reichard*.

Welcome to Skokie to *Electrical Workers John G. Dundovich, Clement Hammerschmidt* and *William Novotny* who recently were transferred from West Shops.

-DAVE GURWICH and in competition with EVERETT ENGLAND from his squadron.

#### Trainman Making Run Through Europe

SOUTH SECTION — Trainman William Munnelly dropped us a note which indicated that he was currently traveling through France. His intinerary included England and Ireland, and he was making plans to visit Belgium and Holland.

Switchman Frank Terrance, who was at one time associated with the Green Bay Packers, proudly relates how his son, *Leo*, is following in his dad's footsteps. Leo, who plays on St. Adrian's football team, recently scored three touchdowns on runs of 30, 50, and 65 yards.

*Tom O'Hara*, is currently recuperating in Little Company of Mary Hospital.

Agent Julia McCormick selected the west as her vacation spot and drove to Disneyland with two friends who are descendants of Davy Crockett. Miss McCormick made the return trip via plane.

Porter Clarence Sayles received a most pleasant surprise, a double one at that, when his wife presented him with twins, a boy and a girl. Clarence said all are doing well at his house, but that he is a little fagged from the experience.

Fish frys was the subject of those around 61st street and credit goes to *Bill Mount* who supplied all of us with the many tasty crappies. Bill rarely comes home with less than the limit.

Towerman Elmer Pipkorn, who is celebrating his 25th anniversary, decided that a trip to Florida with *Mrs. Pipkorn* was most appropriate. The latest report indicated that they immensely enjoyed lounging on the beach at Palm Beach in 92 degree temperature.

-LEO J. BIEN

#### Foreman, Wife Proud Of Airman Son

SOUTH SHOPS — Ted Wahlberg, senior foreman, and Mrs. Wahlberg are justly proud of their son, S/Sgt. Richard C. Wahlberg, who was named "Airman of the Month" at the Air Force base at Manzano, New Mexico. Richard, who is married and the father of a 16-monthold daughter, received this honor in competition with fellow airmen from his squadron. John Golden, woodmill, and Harry Baker, miscellaneous, with their wives, Phoebe and Martha, respectively, participated in the Sixth International Square Dance Festival held at the Stockyards Amphitheatre November 5. John belongs to the Chicago Area Callers Association and he and Phoebe also teach dancing. Their engagements number two or three evenings a week, teaching at various club, organization and church parties.

Stanley Janasek, bus overhaul, announced the arrival of Robert Michael on October 29. The proud mother is Justine Janasek who formerly worked at South Shops . . . Andy Draus, foreman, paint shop, is boasting of his grandson, Timothy, who was born on September 14.

Harvey Harders, car wiring, and his wife, Blanche, returned from their vacation in the Smoky Mountains just in time to welcome their first grandchild, Loretto Ann, on October 21.

#### **New Pensioners**

The following went on the pension list on November 1: Frank Mollath, machinist, 31 years service; Ted Slikas, painter, 26 years; and Sam Vickers, machinist, 27 years. All three men received cash gifts from their co-workers.

Our superintendent, R. H. Martz, and his wife spent their vacation in the Smoky Mountains indulging in hiking, their favorite hobby.

Grandpa Tom Thacker, woodmill, suggested the name "Tricks or Treat" for his new granddaughter, Diane Maureen, who made her appearance on Halloween. Diane's uncle, Ed Thacker, also works in the woodmill . . . Harry Ott and Roy Bovingdon, both of bus overhaul, are grandfathers again. Harry's newest grandchild is Colleen Gale, born October 19, and Roy's third grandchild is Michael Norman, born October 27.

Max Hamilton, bus overhaul, was installed as Master of Mystic Star Masonic Lodge on November 19.

David Poska, son of Pete Poska, bus overhaul, stopped to visit his father at CTA on his way from New London, Connecticut, where he is stationed with the Navy. David then headed for San Diego, California, for assignment to a submarine. The Ray Evans, bus overhaul, family welcomed baby Richard Eugene into the family November 4.

Charles Karko, automotive specialist, won a \$20.00 award for a tool to remove the cam or balance shaft out of an engine with its fly wheel housing in place.

-EVELYN CLARK

#### This Banquet Makes Scents

TERMINAL INSPECTION SHOPS — Herb Miller reports the boys will soon hold their annual limburger cheese banquet.

(Logan)—On October 1, Repairman Mike DeRobertis retired on a disability pension after 35 years of service. He was presented with a cash purse by his fellow employees . . . Pensioner Harry Shaner, who is some 80 years young, regularly visits Logan Shop . . . Liberato Suero, who is also on pension, sends his regards to his CTA friends.

(Douglas)—Cleaners Mario Lena and Harry Lekas returned to work recently after a siege of illness . . . Repairman Walter Hovald and his wife spent their vacation visiting New Orleans, Louisiana, and Biloxi, Mississippi.

Repairman Sam Salvaggio's son, Jim, was recently married. Many of the shop men attended the reception.

Marty Shannon, foreman, spent his vacation puttering around the house.



RECENT NEWLYWEDS are Kathleen McCarthy, South Shops, and Robert Keller, who were married at St. Sabina's Church. The couple spent a honeymoon in Colorado.

Reported by Dagmar McNamara

#### INSIDE NEWS • DECEMBER, 1955

THEY MADE IT



IT WASN'T EASY, but it was worth it. Oliver Lang, paint foreman at Skokie Shops, (right) and his friend, Jack Kirschner, in cutting a two and one-half mile road through the wilderness to a cabin which is their headquarters for hunting expeditions, ran into quicksand. However, they managed to pull their machine out, after a lot of work, and finish the job.

> Reported by Dave Gurwich and Everett England

 $(Laramie) \leftarrow Cleaner Clarence Williams, who was injured in an automobile accident, is still off from work at this writing.$ 

*Cleveland Clay* is the proud pappy of a baby boy, his seventh child.

Night Foreman Clarence Jennings. is presently on vacation which he generally spends deer hunting.

Pensioner Joe Domazewski, former cleaner at Logan Shop, died recently.

-JOE FEINENDEGEN

#### Joy Of Needy His Greatest Yule Gift

WEST SECTION—Logan Square Conductor Martin McCarthy gave me a nice Christmas story. He formerly worked for a concern as a clerk in the auditing department. One Christmas season, members of the department held a meeting to decide to do something for their employes. McCarthy suggested that they distribute baskets of food to needy families. Then, on Christmas Eve, his greatest thrill came when the driver was unable to deliver the baskets and they picked him to deliver them. He will never forget his joy in seeing the happy faces of those needy persons.

Herbert Elsner suffered the death of his mother recently.

Chief Clerk Walter Pitann recently underwent surgery at Ravenswood Hospital.

Thomas Babcock, formerly from the Lake street carhouse, returned from a 10-day vacation trip to New York.

Gatemen Frank Lampe and Frank Pietryka are reported in the hospital, and Otto Bouma is on a sick leave as this was written.

Richard Arrowood, clerk, returned from a four-week vacation in Florida.

On the new clerk's pick, in effect November 6, yours truly got the A. M. job at 54th avenue, Douglas Park Branch. Any one wishing to help me out with news or scoops, kindly call 2-463.

*Clerk Harry Gabel* returned to the P.M. clerk's job at Logan Square and *A. Braver* took over the A.M. job at Laramie avenue, Garfield Park Branch.

-WALTER J. REICH



THE TREE is trimmed and it won't be long now before Santa Claus pays his yearly visit to the home of Operator Martin Morrison, Sr., and Mrs. Morrison. The couple's children, (left to right) Martin, Jr., Steven, Judy and Sandra, can hardly wait. Harold Morrison, father of Martin, Sr., is an operator out of Kedzie.

Reported by Frank M. Black

#### Some Put On Airs, He Puts On 'Heirs'

WEST SHOPS—Putting on "heirs" is nothing new to *Tom Gilleran*, machinist, bus overhaul. On October 24, that old bird paid his fifth visit to Tom's house and delivered *Veronica Mary*. Tom now has two boys and three girls, all doing fine, thank you . . . The stork also paid a visit to the home of *Electrician Jack Kenny*, sometime in October.

On November 1, Welder Bill Enochs retired after 12 years of service . . . On the same date Carpenter Joe Jankowski went into retirement after 33 years.

George Hayes, automotive specialist, recently won two awards totaling \$30.00 for suggestions concerning modification of the carburetors on buses. This is Hayes' fourth award . . . J. E. Schiltz, mechanic, won an award of \$10.00 for his idea that a vise grip pliers and impact wrench be used to remove frozen brake block bolts.

-TED SHUMON

#### Makes Lone Touchdown For Losing Grid Team

WEST SECTION (Agents) — Tom Daly, son of Catherine Daly, made the only touchdown for St. Philip's High School in its game with St. Rita's High School which St. Philip's lost 19 - 7.

It was good to see *Marie Mc-Nichols* back on the job after her vacation. She spent part of it in Rome, Indiana.

#### WELDER HONORED



AN ENGRAVED lighter and smoking set was presented to Welder William Enochs (center) upon his retirement November 1 by West Shops welders and blacksmiths as Welder Willard Lucas (left) and Foreman Steve Yergovich (right) look on. Enochs was employed July 14, 1943.

Reported by Ted Shumon

Eileen C. Wright, former ticket agent and west side correspondent for the CRT Highline, passed away after a sudden illness.

Margaret Sheahan vacationed in Washington.

Nellie Reedy spent time waiting for her broken leg to heal . . . Catherine Rice and Della Dillon are back at work after being in the hospital . . . Kitty Conroy also is back after a fall in which she received ankle injuries.

> -KITTY CONROY and RUTH HANSON

# We Need Men

... for Surface Transportation Work

If you know of someone interested in a transportation job as a CTA transit operator, send him to the Employment Department, Room 750, Merchandise Mart.

**Hiring Requirements:** 

Good Physical Condition Ability to pass reasonable qualifying tests

# For And About Our Pensioners

BEVERLY—George Young, who retired from Burnside in 1948, spent about five years living with his son in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and then returned to Chicago to live with his daughter at 5744 S. Artesian. George has done plenty of hunting and fishing since leaving us . . . After spending last winter in Florida, *Tim McMahon*, formerly of 77th, is back in Chicago.

. . . Cornelius Keitkens of Burnside and 77th has divided his time between Indiana, and 252 E. 103rd place, Chicago . . . William Fournier, for 34 years a conductor at 77th, now lives at 540 W. 103rd place, Chicago . . . A card from Alfred Johnson, formerly of 77th, who now lives in Bridgman, Michigan, says he would like to be remembered to all . . . Martin Bengtson, who worked 39 years at 77th. in three and one-half years' time has visited Sweden, Denmark, Holland and Germany. He is now in the real estate business and lives at 7925 S. Campbell, Chicago . And now for some addresses: Patrick Enright (Archer, Cottage and 77th) 1339 W. 81st; Thomas Bradley (Burnside and 77th) 7837 S. Honore; James Fitzgerald (Burnside and 77th) 7155 S. Halsted, and Patrick Folliard (Burnside and 77th) 649 E. 87th place, all of Chicago ... Other addresses: John M. Gertzen (Burnside) 610 E. Main street, Dolton, Illinois, and Herman Anderson (Cottage Grove and 77th) 6643 Olive avenue. Long Beach, California.

#### -FRANK M. BLACK

GENERAL OFFICE - Nell Curry Moore, who retired on pension a few years ago after having been employed in the Rapid Transit Treasurer's office for over a half century, submitted a picture of herself and husband, Guy, seated on the patio of the home they recently purchased in Sauganash . . . A card from Mader's German Restaurant in Milwaukee signed by Charlie Gylling proves he is enjoying himself visiting his grandchildren. Another card just received from Charlie is postmarked aboard a Santa Fe train enroute to California to visit his new grandchild . . . Lou Bohlin, who resigned on pension October 1, loaded his new Pontiac station wagon with his wife, Floss, and their dog. Ricky, and set off for Arizona to start a new, carefree life, under the rays of a western sun.

-JULIE PRINDERVILLE

NORTH AVENUE-Last month William Kennedy came up with a photograph about four feet long which was taken back in 1923. It drew the attention of all the old timers. Now Bill was trying to get some one who could identify those on the picture. He got most of the names but there are about 30 more men whom no one seemed to know. Bill has many mementos and objects he has collected during the years showing progress and changes in our line of work. Gathered around the picture were such old timers as Herman W. Prafke, Jacob Mroz, Gust Herman, Walter Kuehl. Thomas O'Donnell, Walter Grapemthem, Alfred J. Wrasse, Jerry Cramer and Edward Zeh. On paydays the pensioners meet at North avenue or so it seems. Pensioners are always welcome at North avenue . . . Pensioner Emil Miller who was a patient at Walther Memorial hospital, passed away recently.

#### -JOE HIEBEL

PURCHASING AND STORES—After 46 years of service with the CTA and its predecessors, *E. G. Jensen* ("Eng" to his friends), former Divisional Storekeeper at the West Shops, took his retirement pension on November 1. In addition to a plaque and a pin commemorating his years of service, his many friends presented him with a lounge chair, knowing that, in this way, some of his most pleasant moments will be spent remembering them.

#### -DAGMAR McNAMARA

69TH—His former co-workers were shocked to hear of the death of Anthony Kamalik, formerly of Cottage Grove, who was shot during a holdup. Known as a "tough old man," he went down fighting to the end. Tony was a member of the Little Flower Society, Notre Dame Retreat League, and active in many organizations . . . Thomas Doran, who worked Racine avenue for many years, and was always the "extra man's friend," passed away recently.

-TOM DANIELS

SOUTH SECTION—Conductor Harry Metcalf, feeling spry for all his 85 years, stopped by to say hello. He related the experience of flying in a small plane outside of Oakland. California, with his grandson at the controls. While the pilot was getting ready to land, the fog closed in around them. With the visibility zero for some time the clouds suddenly opened up and they landed safely . . . Switchman Adam Strohmenger looked pretty good for himself and said that he has been taking it easy since going on pension. He spent the summer at Twin Lakes, cutting timber and painting the house . . . Conductor Wallace (Cy) Perkins, who now lives at 328 Hermosa avenue, Long Beach, California, stated that he always enjoyed reading the Inside News and invited all those who come out that way to drop in and visit with him. He extends kindest regards to all the boys on the "L" . . . Walter Crane, former switchman, would no doubt like to hear from his old friends, especially at this time since he is confined to his home with illness. Why not send him a note? Better yet, pay him a visit at 9934 South Throop street. -LEO J. BIEN

SOUTH SHOPS-John Tuveson, retired carpenter, and his wife have moved to 1215 Tennessee street, Michigan City, Indiana. John would like to hear from the boys and says the welcome mat is out when they are in the vicinity. Be fore moving, John and his wife took a trip to Florida, stopping at St. Petersburg and Tampa . . . Fred Mueller, retired pattern maker, and John Tranellis, retired carpenter, paid us a visit recently . . . Ed Miller, retired carpenter, took a trip to Salt Lake City, Utah. Ed is living in Augusta, Wisconsin ... Bill Hanna, assistant foreman, car wiring, said his men would like to hear from Harry Cade, retired electrician . . . Gus Jablonsky, retired upholsterer, is back in Chicago for the winter. He spends the summers at his cottage in Michigan.

#### -EVELYN CLARK

WEST SECTION (Agents) — Annie Gillespie has joined the Pensioners' club and calls on more of you gals to do the same. She said it

was a grand feeling to have that monthly get-together with the boys and gals enjoying their pensions . . . Augusta Kearns drove to Florida with her sister and brotherin-law. Her daughter is flying there for the Christmas holidays . . . Millie Brice, who underwent major surgery in September, is now home . . . Florence Todd spent three weeks in Florida . . . Minnie Woods called to say she is really enjoying herself.

> -KITTY CONROY and RUTH HANSON

SKOKIE—Visiting with us recently were *Pensioners Gus Hyde*, who will soon leave for his winter home

MARK ANNIVERSARY



CELEBRATING THEIR 50th wedding anniversary at a dinner recently given in their honor by their children were Joseph G. Hecht, retired paint shop supervisor, 77th, and Mrs. Hecht. Hecht, who retired two years ago after 45 years of service, has been active in the Auburn Park Masonic lodge since 1920. Mrs. Hecht is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, Auburn Park chapter.

The couple came from their native Austria when Hecht was 20 and his wife, the former *Rose Lange*, was 16. They were married in Chicago. They have two sons, *Joseph G., Jr.*, who is general foreman at South Shops, and *Ernest J.*; a daughter, *Mrs. Ann Kern*, and three granddaughters.

Reported by Evelyn Clark

# For And About Our Pensioners (Cont.)

in Florida, and John W. Smith, who goes to California . . . Henry Wieting, retired airbrake foreman of Wilson, recently visited Skokie Shops . . . Casey Imbur, pensioner, is recovering from a recent illness.

Pensioner Joe Rogges recently was married at Pell Lake, Wisconsin. Friends from Skokie Shops attended the wedding.

#### -DAVE GURWICH and EVERETT ENGLAND

Word has been received from Green Forest, Arkansas, that Fred J. Sirr, retired former district superintendent of CTA's north-south "L"-subway route, and Mrs. Sirr, are engaged in the real estate business and have a number of small farms, ranches, city property and income property for sale which are suitable for retirement homes or investments for CTA pensioners. These are available in the moderate wintertime climate of the beautiful Ozark country of northwest Arkansas where taxes are low. They invite inquiries from CTA people who are looking for an ideal place to live after retirement. Complete



FISH FOR DINNER

ONE AFTERNOON'S fishing on Leech Lake, Minnesota, produced this fine catch of walleye for *Howard L. Houston*, trainman, North Section, and *Mrs. Houston* during a twoweek vacation in October.

Reported by C. T. Rattray

to live after retirement. Complete writing the Sirrs at Hill Top Lodge, information may be obtained by Green Forest, Arkansas.

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:

Name		Badge No.				
Home Addr		Street and Num				
		(Zone)				
I am emplo	yed in the					
department,		ntly moved from				
Old Address		Street and Num				
		(Zone)	(State)			

#### RECENT DEATHS AMONG EMPLOYES

- J. L. BEYER, 79, retired motorman, Division. Died 11-5-55. Employed 5-6-04.
- MIKE BULICH, 48, retired watchman, Track. Died 10-13-55. Employed 3-25-29.
- W. E. CASEY, 83, retired conductor, West Section. Died 11-5-55. Employed 4-20-96.
- VERDA T. COX, 66, retired motorman, Devon. Died 10-17-55. Employed 3-31-23.
- JOSEPH DOMASZEWSKI, 71, retired car cleaner, Logan Square. Died 10-17-55. Employed 10-26-18.
- T. J. DORAN, 71, retired conductor, 69th. Died 10-16-55. Employed 9-30-22.
- ANDREW DUGGAN, 76, retired car cleaner, Kedzie. Died 10-20-55. Employed 3-5-43.
- C. D. FIDDYMENT, 69, retired conductor, South Section. Died 11-13-55. Employed 1-12-06.
- ELMER E. FUNK, 54, agent, South Section. Died 11-8-55. Employed 12-13-43.
- P. J. GEARY, 74, retired motorman, Lawndale. Died 10-13-55. Employed 5-24-07.
- P. J. GRIFFIN, 86, retired laborer, Electrical Department. Died 11-11-55. Employed 5-17-93.
- PAUL JACOBSEN, 78, retired motorman, North Avenue. Died 10-15-55. Employed 7-21-20.
- ANTHONY JOURON, 73, retired conductor, North Avenue. Died 11-14-55. Employed 3-23-21.
- R. E. JOYCE, 65, retired supervisor, North Section. Died 10-19-55. Employed 9-21-18.
- CHARLES A. KOEPP, 39, motorman, North Section. Died 10-23-55. Employed 8-18-47.

- FRANK KONISZEWSKI, 68, retired conductor, North Avenue. Died 11-7-55. Employed 12-16-11.
- G. A. MANDER, 76, retired chauffeur, Utility. Died 10-26-55. Employed 6-19-25.
- M. E. MARTIN, 89, retired motorman, North Avenue. Died 10-4-55. Employed 9-5-07.
- C. J. McCAFFREY, 66, retired motorman, Devon. Died 10-12-55. Employed 8-9-13.
- DANIEL O'KEEFE, 83, retired laborer, Track. Died 11-9-55. Employed 3-1903.
- C. J. PFAUS, 68, retired schedule clerk. General Office. Died 10-25-55. Employed 4-20-23.
- MILTON L. SANDERS, 53, conductor, Devon. Died 10-28-55. Employed 3-1-44.
- J. J. SCHOBER, 56, retired motorman, 77th. Died 11-11-55. Employed 5-1-23.
- R. A. STERNBERGER, 67, retired conductor, Cottage Grove. Died 11-5-55. Employed 6-7-12.
- P. A. VIRGILIO, 70, retired laborer, West Section. Died 11-11-55. Employed 7-26-29.
- W. H. VONDERHEIT, 70, retired armature winder, South Shops. Died 11-3-55. Employed 9-7-18.
- E. T. WALSH, 73, retired motorman, Devon. Died 10-15-55. Employed 8-1-07.
- A. J. WEGNER, 64, retired conductor, Lincoln. Died 10-14-55. Employed 9-4-13.
- FRANK J. ZITNIK, 55, conductor, West Section. Died 11-15-55. Employed 2-9-23.







# our pub

THE YEAR 1955 is coming to a close and a brand new year is on its way. During this past year many of our patrons have written letters commending our CTA employes for their courteous, efficient service. We hope the new year will bring many more. Reprinted below are a few of the letters recently received:

#### "Finds Way by CTA"

"By the time you receive this letter, my husband and I will be flying back to California, but we didn't want to leave without commending one of your bus drivers. My husband and I were here for a convention and wanted to visit the famous Stock Yards. Some friends drove us as far as 35th street and Michigan, but could not take us any further because they were late for an appointment. We took a bus, and asked Driver No. 1378 (Henry Yancy, Archer) for information. He was very kind, well mannered, neat and courteous and all business. This young man made us feel at ease and under his supervision, we were able to save cab fare and find our way by CTA."

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#### "Courteous and Very Helpful"

"It is my pleasure to commend two CTA employes who are putting into practice the Courtesy Caravan program. They are both young, neat men who operate buses on Ridge avenue. These men would be a credit to any organization employing them. They are courteous and very helpful to their passengers, especially when a person asks for

DECEMBER, 1955

a certain stop. They call out all stops. These two men are to be complimented for a job well done. Their numbers are 5692 (*Nick Vellis*, North Park) and 7380 (*Edward Weston*, North Park)."

#### 

#### "Doing a Fine Job"

"I am a truck driver covering the streets of Chicago and I believe that I am in a fine position to note the many fine courtesies that our city bus drivers and streetcar operators extend to driving vehicles on the streets. I say that they do a fine job of handling all their daily problems.

"However, in this instance, I would like to bring operator No. 9834 (*Rinaldo Fessenden*, Kedzie) to your attention for the act of courtesy he recently performed. He stopped his bus at the intersection of Madison and Western avenues, got off the bus and assisted a man to cross the street so that he might board a Western avenue streetcar. This man was very elderly and it made me feel good all day thinking of what this bus driver did."

#### REPRESENTATION CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR

LET'S ALL do our job by "hopping on" the Courtesy Caravan for 1956 to avoid letters like these reprinted below:

"I dropped a token in the turnstile at one of CTA's stations but the coin registered before it released the bar for me to go through.

"I spoke to the cashier, but she said there was nothing she could do about it. Her answer was very abrupt and rude. When I mentioned it to a guard downstairs, he was most courteous and suggested I write to you about what had happened to the turnstile and how the agent handled me."

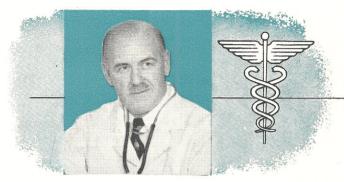
speaks

COMMENT: The maintenance department corrected the defective turnstile. If the agent had suggested writing to the Service Section, Room 742, Merchandise Mart, there would have been no cause for a discourtesy complaint being registered.

#### 

"After boarding a bus, I waited to hand my transfer to the operator because there were a few people ahead of me. When he took the transfer, he pulled it so hard it tore in half. I needed the transfer again and informed him of this, thinking he would isssue me a new transfer. However, he punched one-half of it and handed me both pieces. When I walked toward a seat, I dropped one of the pieces and could not find it, so I again went up to the driver and requested a new transfer. Instead of giving me a new one, he handed me a transfer someone else had just given him and when I boarded another bus. I found that I could not use the transfer because of the time element. I had to pay another fare."

COMMENT: In view of the fact that the conductor tore the transfer, he should have issued a *new* one immediately without having to have the passenger request one. Courtesy is an important factor in good public relations.



# medically speaking

By Dr. George H. Irwin CTA Medical Director

### HOLIDAY EXCESSES AND FATIGUE

WE ARE NOW approaching the time of the year when our mode of living predisposes to illness and accidents. The Christmas and New Year holidays bring much happiness and cheer, but by the same token they often bring excesses that lead to discomforting physical results. To illustrate, allow me to cite a few examples:

Over-eating and drinking in excess constitute two very common causative factors leading to the prevalence of ailments at this time of year. One is tempted to take extra desserts and beverages during the holiday season. Common colds, heart ailments, high blood pressure, stomach disorders, liver trouble and diabetes are medical conditions which are affected adversely by over-indulgence. If you want to stay on the healthy side, avoid these excesses.

Fatigue is another condition which can cause trouble. This may well be the result of the greater physical strain placed upon the body by the extra activities of the season. Avoid long and irregular hours and don't try to cram in too many social engagements during a short period. Fatigue brings lowered body resistance and increased accidentproneness. Don't work overtime trimming the Christmas tree or spend long hours on shopping trips or stay up late at night overdoing holiday celebrations. Try to get additional rest even if you have to miss some of the fun. You'll feel better after the holidays are over. Overcrowding in stores, theaters and other public places is common during the holiday season. These conditions are unavoidable but can create additional health problems. It would be wise to plan your activities to minimize this source of trouble. The prevalence of colds is a danger signal and, if you become a victim, your holiday season can be spoiled.

Holiday activities, likewise, contribute to heightened nervous tension and may sometimes precipitate more serious illness. Many factors combine to increase the normal stresses on your nervous system during the festive season, and it would be well to control, so far as possible, the extra activities you are planning.

The short, dark days at this time of the year lessen the amount of sunshine and fresh air we receive and help further to reduce our resistance. It is common knowledge that more traffic accidents occur after dark than in the daytime. This should be a warning to drive carefully on streets and highways congested with Christmas or New Year's traffic. Snow and ice create additional hazards and increase chances of injury. No matter whether you are walking or driving, it will be smart to be especially careful. It's better to be safe than sorry.

It is hoped that these few hints will help you and your family to a greater enjoyment of the holiday season and at the same time decrease the amount of illness and the number of accidents.

#### CHILDREN AID CLEANUP DRIVE

COOPERATION of parents of Chicago school children is being sought by *Mayor Daley's* Citizens Committee for a Cleaner Chicago in its campaign to sponsor cleanup activities in home neighborhoods of the city.

During November, every school child in Chicago was given a pledge card to be taken home to parents, urging their support of the drive through active interest and participation in community cleanup efforts. Return of the signed pledge card to the school was requested.

The committee reports that the campaign so far has made great strides and that with continued cooperation the objective of making Chicago the cleanest city in the nation can be realized.

#### **New Appointments**

IN A BULLETIN signed by Charles E. Keiser, superintendent of transportation, and T. B. O'Connor, general superintendent of transportation and shops and equipment, and approved by Walter J. McCarter, general manager, the following appointments were announced effective November 17: J. J. Hemzacek, was named acting superintendent of surface operations, and G. A. Riley, acting superintendent of instruction.



CHICAGO TRANSIT BOARD recently stepped-up CTA's current equipment modernization program by authorizing the taking of bids on leasing 100 buses for delivery next spring to supplement the contemplated purchase of 400 buses and 330 "Green Hornet" rapid transit cars during the ensuing five years.

Leasing of 100 buses will clear the way for the City of Chicago to proceed with its recently determined intention of launching an extensive program next spring in Western avenue to eliminate traffic congestion at important intersections by constructing overpasses and traffic channelization facilities.

Originally CTA had scheduled only 150 buses for purchase and delivery next spring to meet replacement and conversion needs on routes other than Western avenue. These 150 units cannot now be diverted from their intended use, and more buses than planned cannot be purchased for next year because the current equipment purchase program uses right up to the hilt CTA's annual equipment trust financing power for each of the ensuing five years.

### PROTECT YOUR HOSPITAL COVERAGE

WHEN AN employe, due to illness or other reasons, does not receive a paycheck in any pay period in which insurance deductions are made, it is the employe's responsibility to pay the insurance premium by check or money order not later than the tenth of the current month in order to maintain coverage.

When paying by mail, payment must be made only for the month due and only by check or money order. These should be made payable to the Chicago Transit Authority. In addition to name, the employe must indicate badge number and the month to be covered. Payment should be mailed to CTA's Cashier's Office, Room 7-160, Merchandise Mart Plaza.

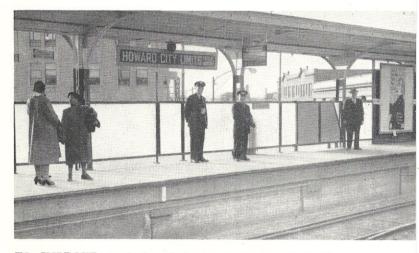
It also is the responsibility of each employe to notify the Insurance Department when there is a change in dependent status due to death, birth, or a dependent becoming 19 years of age. No refunds can be made on overpayments by employes because of dependent changes. Failure to make monthly payments will cause coverage to lapse. It can only be resumed by re-enrollment, including a physical examination. Construction of over-pass and traffic channelization facilities in Western avenue cannot proceed while streetcars are being operated on the route.

To enable CTA to convert Western avenue to buses ahead of schedule, and thus permit the city to proceed with its over-pass and traffic channelization program, *General Manager Walter J. McCarter* recommended the equipment leasing plan.

Under this plan, the buses to be obtained on lease will replace the one-man streetcars presently being operated on Western avenue. Eighty-two of these streetcars are not suitable for conversion to "Green Hornet" rapid transit cars, and therefore will have to be sold or scrapped. These cars were purchased in 1936.

All 250 of the purchased and leased buses are to be 51 or 52-passenger units.

It is hoped that the savings achieved by converting the Western avenue streetcar route to motor bus operation would be sufficient, or nearly so, to finance leasing of the 100 buses.



TO IMPROVE methods of fare collection and facilitate transfers between CTA "L"-subway and North Shore Line trains at Howard street station, a four-foot high fence has been installed on the southbound platform to provide a greater measure of passenger control during rush hours. Trains may now be loaded and unloaded with special attention to passengers being directed to paid or unpaid areas, causing less confusion in the collection of fares. The installation makes the first extensive use of corrugated fibre-glass panels as station platform dividers and brightens up the station surroundings considerably. The new installation is pictured above.

### **"SHOPPERS' SPECIAL" REVIVED**

THE POPULAR "Evanston Shoppers' Special" is back in service.

The new schedule provides a faster premium service at a premium rate of fare - 40 cents for a one-way trip between Chicago's Loop, and Evanston-Wilmette.

Running time between time points

CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY CONDENSED STATEMENT OF APPLICATION OF REVENUES TO FIXED REQUIREMENTS MONTHS OF OCTOBER 1955 AND 1954, TEN MONTHS ENDED OCTOBER 31, 1955 AND 1954 AND TWELVE MONTHS ENDED OCTOBER 31, 1955

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

	Month of October		Ten Months Ended October 31.		Twelve Months Ended
	1955	1954	1955	1954	Oct.31,1955
Revenues	\$10,228,071	\$10,349,693	\$100,333,336	\$100,214,098	\$121,258,753
Operation and Maintenance Expenses	8,452,612	8,568,306	84,831,081	85,572,613	102,670,005
Available for Debt Service	1,775,459	1,781,387	15,502,255	14.641.485	\$ 18,588,748
Debt Service Requirements:					
Interest Charges	409,199	417,592	4,132,666	4,206,357	
Deposit to Series of 1947 Serial Bond					
Maturity Fund	233,333(1)	) 200,000	2,133,333	1,700,000	
Revenue Bond Reserves (Note 2)	30,000	30,000	300,000	300,000	
	672,532	647,592	6,565,999	6,206,357	
Balance Available for Depreciation	1,102,927	1,133,795	8,936,256	8,435,128	
Provision for Depreciation - Current Period	818,246	827,976	8,026,667	8,017,128	
Balance Available for Other Charges (Note 3)	\$284,681	\$305,819	\$	\$418,000	
1	ASSENGER ST	ATISTICS			
Originating Revenue Passengers	53,196,069	53,527,351	517,578,554	532,744,666	626,000,389
STATUS OF EQ	UIPMENT MODE	RNIZATION	PROGRAM		
	as at October 3	1, 1955			

	Delivered to Date	Remaining to be Delivered	Total
1955 Orders:			
El-Subway Cars		80	80
Delivered under previous orders	3	,314	
Lass - P.C.C. Streetcars to be conver	ted		
to El-Subway Caps		80	3,234
			3,314

Equal monthly installaments to retire \$2,800,000 principal amount of Series of 1947 Revenue Boads maturing on July 1, 1936.

Logani, Linkshow J., 1956.
Available to pay interest on any interest payment dates of Series of 1952 and Series of 1953 Revenue Boods when amounts set aside for such purposes are insufficient therefor, or for accomplishing the final retirement or redemption of all outstanding Series of 1952 and 1953 Boods.
Deposite may be made in the Deprecision Reserve Fund only to the extent that monies are available therefor. The requirements for these deposits, however, are cumulative, and any balances swallable after the current period's provisions for Deprecision must be applied to cover prior period deficiencies which may exist in deposits to the Deprecision Reserve Fund. The Supplemental Trust Agreements covering Series of 1952 and 1953 Revenue Boods provide for quarterly deposits of 390. Funder' \$16,713.50, respectively (cumulative within any on yearing the required deposits to the Supplements of the Fundation of the exercise of 3900 000 are to be made to the Operating Expense Reserve Fund in any calendar year that earnings are available therefor. Deposits to the Meneret deposits in the Deprecision Reserve, Revenue Bond Amortization and Operating Expense Reserve Funda.

(Davis street, Evanston, and Madison Wabash in the Loop) is only 30 minutes.

The "Shoppers' Special" trains operate every half-hour, Mondays through Fridays. In-bound trains leave Linden avenue, Wilmette, every half-hour between 9:22 A.M. and 2:51 P.M. Outbound trains leave Madison-Wabash station every 30 minutes between 9:58 A.M. and 3:58 P.M.

The new service is being operated with all-metal cars on an experimental basis, its duration depending upon the volume of patronage accorded it.

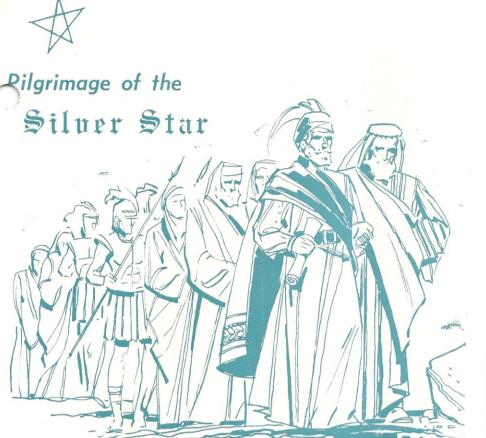
Through this experiment CTA is seeking to determine whether (1) the public will support a premium service at a premium fare; (2) what operating advantages and economies can be obtained from the four high-performance rapid transit cars recently developed by CTA in co-operation with the General Electric Company and the Westinghouse Electric Corporation.

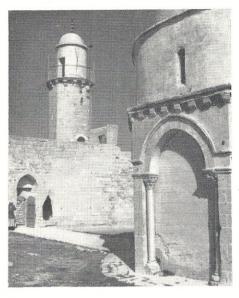
These four high-performance cars, which topped 75 miles per hour in recent speed runs, are part of the fleet assigned to this new service. In addition to high speed, these cars are capable of sustained rapid acceleration, and equally rapid deceleration.

Operating on the "L" route, Shoppers' Special train stops are limited to the following stations: Linden avenue, Wilmette (the north terminal), Isabella, Central, Noyes, Foster, Davis, Dempster, Main and South Boulevard in Evanston; Fullerton avenue, Merchandise Mart, and all Loop stations.

The shuttle service, operating between Linden avenue, Wilmette, and Howard streeet during off-peak periods, continues in operation, affording patrons a choice between the regular and the new highspeed service.

The results obtained from this experiment will undoubtedly be helpful in connection with possible extensions of CTA's existing rapid transit system, which may be provided in the future, either in superhighway median strips or on existing facilities not presently in CTA's rapid transit system.





THE CHURCH OF the Ascension on the summit of the Mount of Olives. This building marks the spot where Christ is believed to have ascended into heaven. During the Christmas season, the famed sites in the Holy Lands are visited by pilgrims from all corners of the world.

Pan-American World Airways Photo.

ON CHRISTMAS EVE, on the white ribbon that is the road from Jerusalem to Bethlehem, a stately procession will wend its slow way through the star-lit night to the place of Jesus's birth.

Led by dignitaries arrayed in cocked hats, plumes and silver swords, the procession will weave across the backbone of Judea, its long lines made up of pilgrims from throughout the world. On this night, soldiers will guard the caravan along the five miles from Calvary to the site of the Christ Child's birth.

#### The Bible Made Real

The route makes the Bible come real. It looks down on the fabled walls of Jerusalem. Relics of Old Testament times, such as the Tomb of Rachel, lie along the historic highway. Near the fields where shepherds watch their flocks by night, the route overlooks the Church of the Nativity, the site of the manger where Christ was born. Within the shrine at midnight the pilgrims will raise their voices in the words heard 'round the world:

#### "Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men."

Worshipers file into the sacred cavern beneath the Church of the Nativity to pay homage at a silver star, believed to mark the exact spot where the new-born Child lay on the first Christmas morning.

Within the walls of Old Jerusalem, the pilgrims visit the Holy Sepulchre, the church built over the traditional site of the empty tomb, the most revered site in Christendom. Everywhere in the area, the story of the Bible unfolds, and fabled names and places, caught in memory since childhood, come to life.

#### **Bible Story Unfolds**

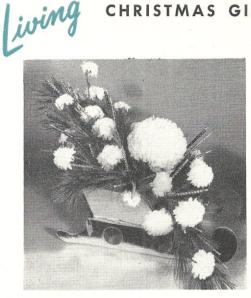
Here is the green oasis called the Garden of Gethsemane, scene of Christ's agony; the tomb of the Virgin Mary in the Church of the Assumption; Mount Zion, scene of the Last Supper, and the Mount of Olives. A short drive from Jerusalem is Bethany, home of Mary, Martha and Lazarus; Jericho where the famous walls "came tumbling down," before the Israelites 4,000 years ago; Hebron, the burial place of Abraham, and Samaria with the remains of the palace of Herod, where Salome danced and John the Baptist was beheaded.

Though Jerusalem is many miles away, the entire Christian world joins during the Christmas season in the retelling of the story of the birth of the Christ Child that occurred there so many centuries ago. And in the land of the Nativity there still remains much of the atmosphere as Christ must have known it. Shepherds tend their flocks in the rolling hills of Judea; nomads pitch their tents atop the sandstone mountains; the narrow, old streets are filled with bearded men in flowing robes, and donkey carts and peasants wend their way over the cobblestoned streets.

The Christmas pilgrimage of visitors from all corners of the earth highlights the lesser celebrations of the greatest of all holidays that take place in homes and churches all over the world.

# to the ladies from Ellen

### CHRISTMAS GIFTS and DECORATIONS



A GOOD IDEA is to place an arrangement like this in a cool room — 40 to 50 degrees — for a couple of hours before bringing it to its permanent place in the living or dining room.

A LITTLE proper care for your living Christmas gifts and decorations will pay for itself when it keeps the flowers alive and colorful throughout the holiday season. Here are a few important "tips" in caring for them.

If the Christmas roses or carnations

or other cut flowers are to be arranged in a vase or in your decoration of evergreens, let them spend two or three hours in warm water in a dark place in a cool room. When the blooms have had their rest and drink they are ready to go into the household container.

The new trick with cut flowers is temperature of the water. Moderately cold water used to be recommended, but research has shown that rather warm, or hot, water is the thing — as hot as the hand will stand. The reason for this is when the stem is cut, an air bubble forms almost at once at the point of the cut and this bubble can retard taking up moisture into the stem. Hot water travels more rapidly than cold water and hot water in the vase will enable the cut flowers to get a drink quickly.

Corsages, excepting orchids, are not kept in water but are best stored in the refrigerator when not being worn. This means the warmest part of the refrigerator. Gardenias or camellias should be kept in the florist's box and the blossoms covered with a light pad of damp cot-

#### Jolly Snowman Dessert



YOUR FAMILY and friends will be delighted with the happy countenance and delicious flavor of the Jolly Snowman. He'll add that finishing touch to any meal and blend in well with holiday decorations. A JOLLY dessert in the form of a snowman cake will brighten any holiday meal with its happy countenance and delicious flavor.

This cake is baked in a mixing bowl and a custard cup so the roundness is baked right in. The recipe fills the red bowl of your mixing bowl set, and three custard cups, so, unless you want a three headed snowman, you'll have two extra small cakes for before-bedtime eating.

Write Women's Page Editor, P. O. Box 3555, Chicago 54, for a free recipe leaflet for the Jolly Snowman. THE VITAL part of the rose stem is the two or three inches under the neck of the flower. To keep roses like these looking fresh and lovely, let them drink hot water first and then arrange them into a novel decoration.

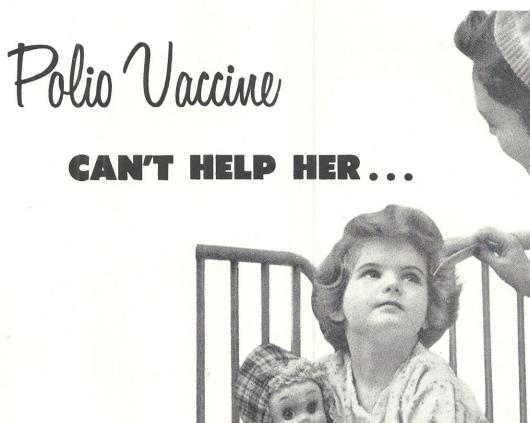
ton. Corsages of roses or carnations can be freshened by simply dunking the bloom in cold water once or twice, then shaking off the excess water and storing in the refrigerator in a wrapping of tissue.

A good idea for keeping your orchid corsage fresh is to remove the florist's tape from the stem and plunge in water until you wish to wear it. A half-pint cream bottle is just about right to keep the stem immersed and the bloom supported out of the water. Keep the orchid in the warmest part of the refrigerator, but never expose it to hot, dry air.

When the traditional poinsettia arrives, water it immediately. Water it again if the leaves begin to droop. If the lower leaves begin to yellow and drop, the plant is saying: "I have had too much water." Temperatures under 65 will cause the leaves to fall. Don't feed the poinsettia; it has already been well fertilized at the greenhouse.

For home decorations, bold, new arrangements get their clear silhouettes from real roses, carnations, chrysanthemums or gladiolas, each expressing ageold legends associated with the Christmas story. Fresh flowers in their complementary colors can be added to the decorative scheme in their own containers, or combined with the greens and ornaments. The trick there is a waterabsorbing, snow-like material that holds the flower stems and provides the needed moisture. This water absorbing material can be purchased in any florist's shop. The fresh flowers go into the arrangement the eve of the holiday.

If this proper care is given to your living Christmas gifts and decorations, they will remain fresh and colorful longer.





Your March of Dimes funds are providing the care she needs. For she is one of the tens of thousands of polio victims "born too soon" — before the epic polio vaccine. Today, March of Dimes funds which developed and tested the vaccine are financing research to improve it. But there still are polio victims who need help. And there will be tens of thousands more stricken before the nation has its blanket

of protection. March of Dimes plus the hearts and hands of polio fighters everywhere must continue to provide our main bulwark against polio.

NOTE: Over the past several years, 47 persons in CTA families have received a total of \$47,211.18 in benefits from the March of Dimes.



DECEMBER, 1955

