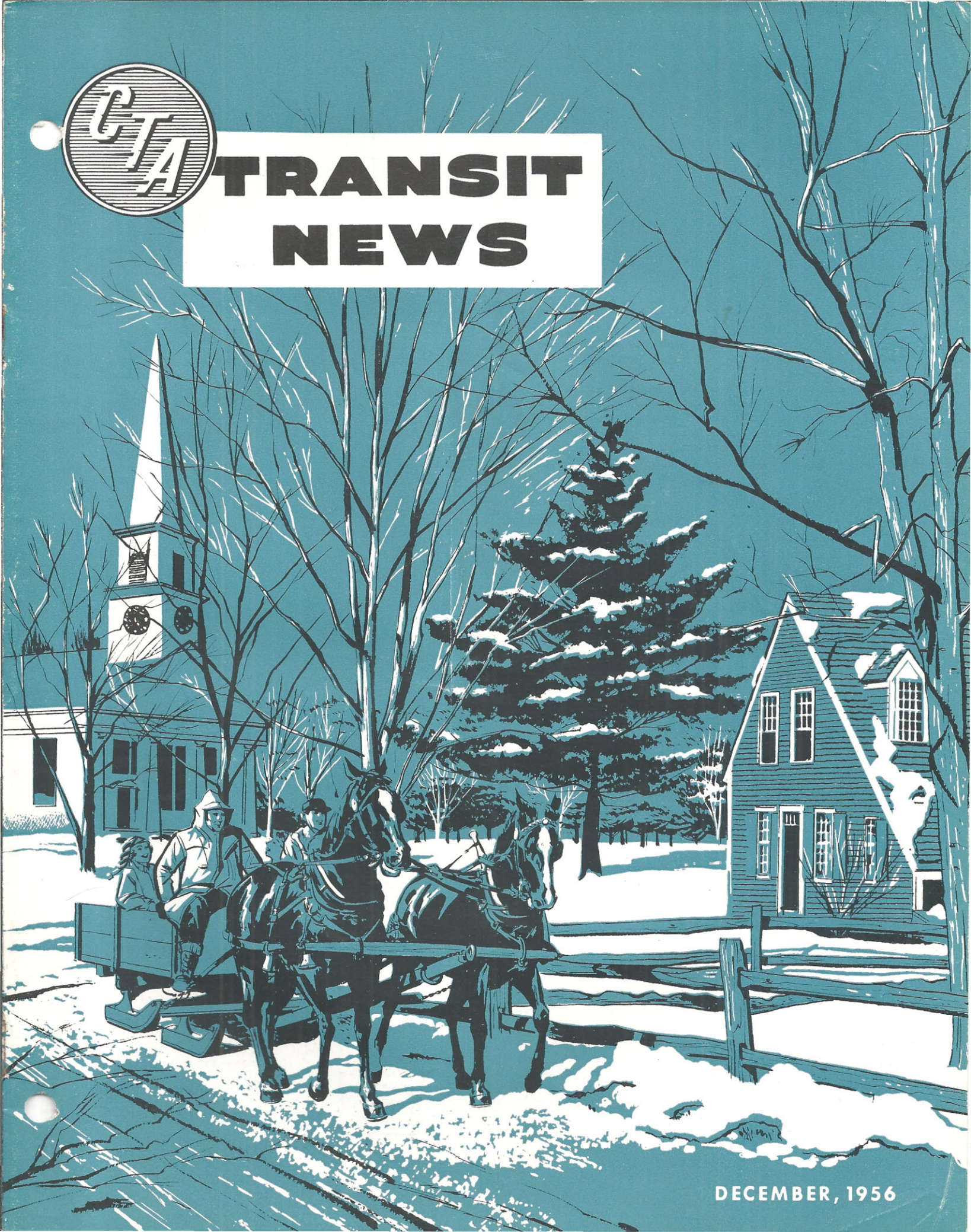




# TRANSIT NEWS



DECEMBER, 1956



THE NEWLY enlarged CTA off-street bus terminal on the east side of Halsted street between 79th and 80th streets was placed in service recently, providing improved facilities for four bus routes.

The enlarged terminal materially relieves street traffic conditions at 79th and Halsted by eliminating turns of buses at this busy intersection. It also permits routing of Halsted buses directly along Halsted to and from the enlarged terminal, which is about 300 feet south of 79th street.

The revised routing greatly reduces the number of bus movements on 79th street, Emerald avenue and 80th street, and centralizes and simplifies transfers between lines serving the 79th and Halsted shopping center area—Halsted-Down-town (No. 42), Halsted (No. 8), South Halsted (No. 42B) and Vincennes-111th (No. 111A).

The area added to the terminal is at the right in the above picture. At the left is the loading and unloading platform and the driveway used in entering and leaving the terminal.

## Cost of Living Allowance Increased

BEGINNING WITH the first payroll periods in December, the cost of living allowance for approximately 12,000 CTA employes was advanced from six cents per hour to seven cents per hour.

Payroll costs advance at the rate of \$300,000 annually for each one cent cost-of-living allowance. Thus the payroll costs for the total cost-of-living allowance will advance from the current annual rate of \$1,800,000 to \$2,100,000.

With this one cent per hour increase in the cost of living allowance, top operators' hourly wage rates are as follows:

Trainmen, two-man operation, after one year	\$2.095
Trainmen, one-man operation, after one year	\$2.195
"L" motormen, after one year	\$2.106
"L" conductors, after one year	\$2.061
"L" guards, after one year	\$2.034

The cost of living allowance, if any, is determined quarterly by computing the per cent of change, if any, between May, 1955, Cost of Living Index for Chicago. The per cent of change is applied to the basic hourly wage rate for one-man operators to determine the per hour cost-of-living allowance for all eligible employes.

Under this formula, computation disclosed an increase of

3.328 per cent in the cost-of-living index for Chicago between the May, 1955, index of 117.2 and the October index of 121.1, resulting in the one cent per hour advance in the cost-of-living allowance.

## Increased Service for Yule Shoppers

SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED service on CTA's elevated-subway and surface lines for the benefit of Christmas shoppers started November 23.

On that date 200 extra cars were added on the North-South "L"-subway route and 103 additional cars were operated on the Ravenswood elevated route.

On the West Side Division, after the morning rush period, four-car trains instead of two-car trains were operated during the day as long as passenger traffic volume warranted. The lines involved were the Milwaukee-Dearborn "L"-subway to Logan Square, Lake, Garfield and Douglas.

On the surface system additional vehicles as required were added.

Until Christmas, particularly on Saturdays and on evenings, when the stores are open, sufficient extra rapid transit trains and cars and surface buses and streetcars are being added for shoppers' convenience.

### VOLUME IX CTA TRANSIT NEWS NUMBER 12

Published monthly by and for employes of the Chicago Transit Authority, under the direction of the Public Information Department.

David E. Evans, Editor Ellen Miller, Editorial Assistant W. M. Runyon, Assistant Editor

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Annual subscription price: \$2.00. Distributed free of charge to all active and retired CTA employes. Address communications to CTA TRANSIT NEWS, Room 742, Merchandise Mart Plaza, Chicago 54, Illinois.

## RECENT CTA ADDITIONS TO THE ARMED FORCES

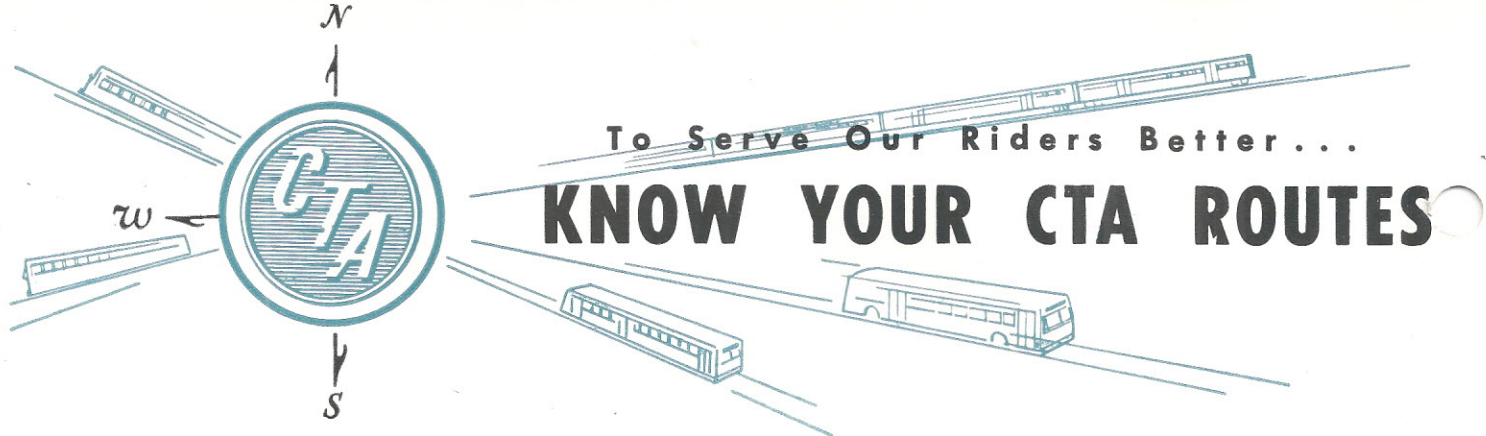
- F. J. Atlas—Transportation (Devon)
- C. O. James—Transportation (North Avenue)
- S. B. Robinson—Transportation (Kedzie)
- W. L. Tackett—Transportation (Keeler)
- M. F. Wilm—Transportation (Forest Glen)



*Merry Christmas*  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

May the friendly spirit  
of the Holidays.  
carry us through all of 1957!

*Walter J. McCarter*  
GENERAL MANAGER



To Serve Our Riders Better...

# KNOW YOUR CTA ROUTES

*(This is the 26th in a series on CTA routes)*



**THE TALL** spire of old St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church long has been an identifying landmark of the village of Skokie. The church, built in 1894, is located at the intersection of Lincoln and Niles Center road, where it looks down upon one of the suburb's main business streets.



**THE INDUSTRIAL** growth along the Skokie bus route has been marked by the construction of modern structures such as this one in the 2200 block on Howard street, Evanston. This serves as the warehouse and headquarters of a large wholesale hardware concern.



CTA'S NORTHERNMOST bus route, and one that is among the most recent to be added to the city-wide network of surface lines, is the Skokie (No. 97) route which serves a city and suburban area extending north and west of the Howard street "L" station and into the village of Skokie proper.

This route was established in March, 1948, to provide a replacement service when operation of the Skokie branch of the rapid transit system was discontinued.

Since the Skokie bus route was placed in service, the volume of traffic has greatly increased. Traffic potential also has been expanded due to vigorous home building activity and widespread industrial development. The bus route tapped new areas of Skokie and more frequent service and a far greater number of convenience stops have been provided under bus operation than before.

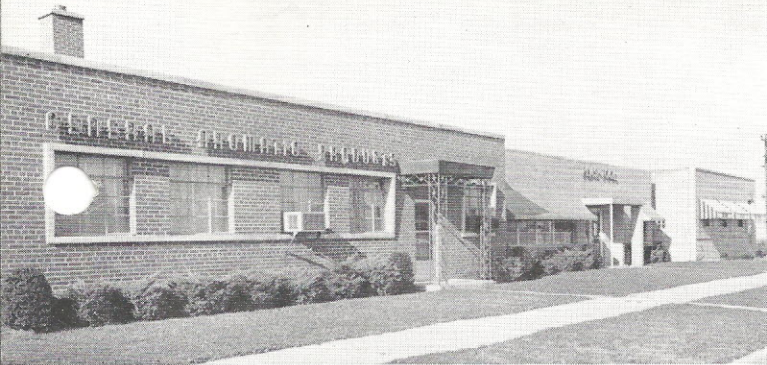
The Skokie route operates between terminal points at the Howard street "L" station, with which it makes direct transfer connections, on the east, and Cicero and Grove in Skokie on the west—a measured round trip of 12.74 miles.

The routing between these terminal points follows: South on Hermitage from Howard to Rogers, northeast to Ashland (1600 W), north to Howard (7600 N), west to McCormick boulevard, north to Oakton, west to Niles Center road, northeast to Dempster, west to Bronx avenue (5000 W), north to Grove (9000 N—Skokie), east to Skokie highway (Cicero-4800 W), south to Niles Center road, thence return over the outbound route.

Schedules, adjusted to meet the service needs of the area, provide for headways of four minutes east of Lawndale avenue and eight minutes west of that point during both the morning and evening rush periods on weekdays. On Saturday mornings, the intervals are 10 minutes, with 15-minute headways during the rest of the day and evening. On Sundays and holidays, with travel light, the buses operate on 25-minute schedules during the early morning and evening hours, and on 18-minute intervals the rest of the day. "Owl" service on one-hour intervals picks up the gap between 1:30 a.m. and 4:30 a.m.

The running time between outer terminals of between 18 and 31 minutes on weekdays is governed by street traffic

**A PIONEER** in the development of the suburb is the Skokie Shops of the rapid transit system, located at 3701 W. Oakton street. Final construction work on this facility was completed by the former Chicago Rapid Transit Company in 1931 when the community was known as Niles Center.



**SMALL INDUSTRY** also has found it advantageous to locate in Skokie and nearby areas. Examples of the type of factory construction being erected by various commercial enterprises are these neat, compact buildings on Lawndale avenue near Keeney (8100 N).

operating conditions, which vary with the time of day. Fourteen gas buses, based at North Park station, are assigned to the route.

During weekday morning and evening rush hours about one-half of the route trips terminate or start at Madison street (8350 N) and Central Park avenue (3600 W) more conveniently to accommodate employes of industrial concerns in the vicinity.

West along Howard street to that point the area served is largely residential. As in many outlying sections of Chicago and suburbs, extensive housing developments have taken place in comparatively recent years.



**ONE OF** the city's busiest shopping and commercial districts centers around the Howard street "L" station on the far north side, the eastern terminal point of the Skokie bus route. This is a view looking west along Howard street from the "L" station.

Direct transfer connections with the Lunt-Touhy, Clark street, Western avenue and California avenue surface routes add to the convenience features of the Skokie route. Along the Howard street portion of the route, connections also can be made with suburban motor coach lines serving downtown Evanston and points north to Wilmette, and west to Lincolnwood, Park Ridge, Niles, and Des Plaines.

*(The 27th in this series of articles on CTA routes will appear in a future issue.)*

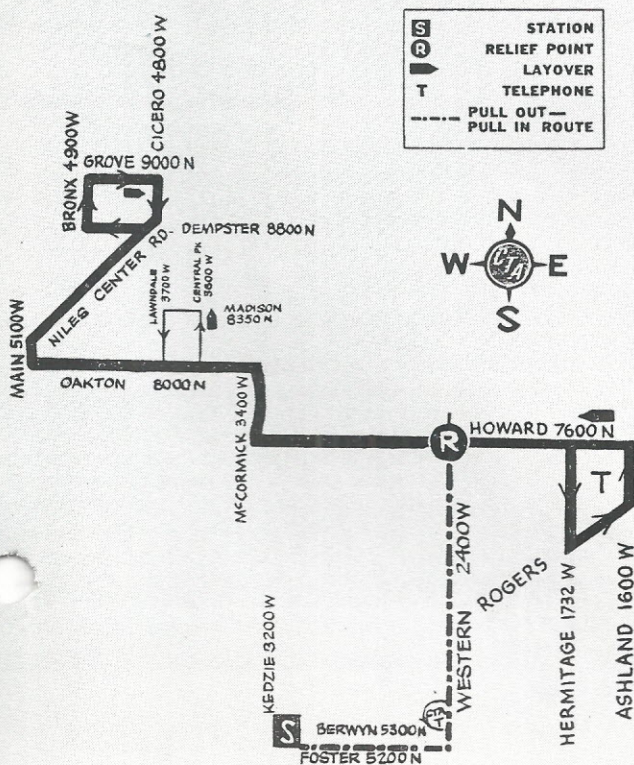
# SKOKIE

97

NORTH PARK STATION

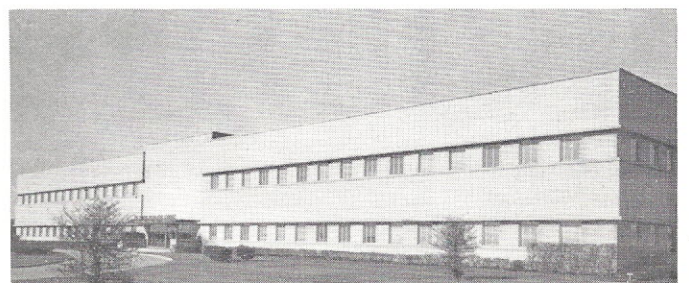
GAS BUS

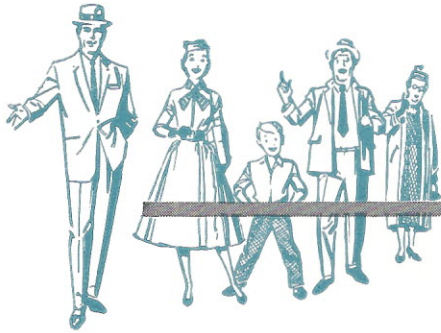
NOT DRAWN TO SCALE



**RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION** has boomed with the movement of industry outward towards the city limits and into suburban areas. Property values have been enhanced by the building of attractive homes like these located in the vicinity of Cicero and Greenwood avenues in Skokie.

**RESEMBLING** A swanky resort hotel or a modern apartment building more than an industrial plant is this building housing a manufacturing concern on Oakton street west of McCormick boulevard. Gone, indeed, is the old era in exterior design which made many factories eye-sores and a source of community criticism!





# Our Public

## SPEAKS

THE NEW year is the time for resolutions. Although many letters of commendation have been received in the Public Information Department during this year, it would be well if we all resolve to better the total number in 1957.

Most important in this respect is to resolve to do everything possible to avoid a loss of passengers. CTA depends entirely upon public patronage. Every action and reaction of operating personnel must encourage our customers to continue to ride with us. In the sharp competition with the auto there is no margin for error. Any inadvertence that results in the loss of even a single rider hurts. Every passenger is important, and any act that has undesirable effects reflects upon the overall volume of business throughout the entire system.

Reprinted below are a few recently received letters that may well set a fine example for all of us:

### "Courtesy Plus"

"I have met a driver who practices courtesy plus. His number is 13118 (*James Bittakis, Limits*). He thanks patrons when they deposit their fares, says the word 'please' when asking passengers to move to the rear of the bus, calls each and every stop and in ample time for a passenger to reach the exit door and calls places of importance such as '60th street, Englewood hospital.'"



### "Stopped and Waited"

"Yesterday I approached the corner of Western and Carmen avenues just as bus No. 5747 was pulling away. The driver (*Otto H. Paholke, 69th*) must



have seen me running and although he had already started his bus, he stopped and waited for me. This was a kind and courteous act for which I warmly thanked him. About five minutes later, an elderly lady, using a cane, boarded the bus and the operator kept his vehicle at an absolute stand-still until the lady was securely seated."

ALSO, WE must strive to eliminate letters like these reprinted below. If we all make an effort to perform our duties diligently, many of these letters will be avoided:

"When I boarded a bus I asked the operator for some information concerning the best point of transfer for me to get to my destination. He was very dis-

courteous and made no effort to help me. When I explained that I was new in Chicago, he said that his telling me wouldn't help very much since I am so unfamiliar with the streets."

COMMENT: Since service is the only commodity CTA has to offer, operating personnel should make that service as convenient and attractive as possible. If the operator had handled the situation in a courteous manner, perhaps this would have been a letter of commendation instead.

"Recently I had occasion to ride on a streetcar and the motorman on this car was very gruff with passengers, barking at them as if they weren't customers but people who should know better than to get on his streetcar.

"This man seemed to handle his car very carefully, but he certainly had the wrong attitude towards passengers. At one stop a mother and child started to enter at the front door and they were barked at by the motorman. Several lady passengers noted this and didn't think very well of the situation."

COMMENT: There is no excuse for a situation such as this to occur since several training programs have been carried on to impress our employes with the value of courtesy in maintaining good passenger relations. Any actions or words contrary to rules and regulations cannot be condoned.

SHOWN HERE is a comparison of complaints and commendations received by Chicago Transit Authority for November, 1956, October, 1956, and November, 1955:

	Nov. 1956	Oct. 1956	Nov. 1955
Complaints .....	1212	1078	1221
Commendations	77	83	82

## THREE RETIREES TOTAL 131 YEARS OF TRANSIT SERVICE



John J. McCarthy



Cornelius F. Loughery



Paul Murray

THREE CTA employes, who recently took their pensions, chalked up a grand total of 131 years of transit service.

They are *Paul Murray*, communications engineer with the Electrical Department, who retired November 1 after 47½ years of service; *Cornelius F. Loughery*, district superintendent, West Section, who took his pension December 1 after 47 years, and *John J. McCarthy*, North Side relief night superintendent, who, with 36½ years of service, went into retirement October 1.

Mr. Murray, a 1905 graduate of Pennsylvania State College where he received a bachelor of science degree in engineering, headed an electrolysis testing gang when he started his career back in June, 1908. He served in this capacity until July, 1933, when he was appointed a testing engineer. In April, 1942, as engineer in charge of radio equipment, he directed the installation of radios in certain surface system equipment.

Appointed to the post of communications engineer in April, 1945, he took charge of construction and maintenance of all surface system communications equipment for the former Chicago Surface Lines and, later, for the Chicago Transit Authority.

Beginning his long career in January, 1909, Mr. Loughery

held down a stoveman's job for the old Metropolitan West Side railroad in the first months of his transit service. Later, he was, variously, trainman, yardman, inspector, yard foreman and conductor. In April, 1940, he became a dispatcher for the Metropolitan Division of the former Chicago Rapid Transit company. He was made a trainmaster in June, 1943, and in June, 1951, assumed the West Section district superintendent's post.

Mr. McCarthy started out as a motorman for the former Chicago Surface Lines at Kedzie in June, 1920, where he later became a starter. His service as supervisor, which lasted about nine and one-half years, began in November, 1936. He was appointed assistant station superintendent at Kedzie in May, 1946. Taking over the job of night station superintendent of both Lawndale and the former Blue Island depots in September, 1949, he later served in the same capacity at the former Cottage Grove depot. He was named as relief night station superintendent for the South Side in July, 1952, and to the same post for the North Side in December, 1955.

All three men were honored with gifts, and Mr. McCarthy and Mr. Loughery were guests of honor at a dinner given by their co-workers.

CHICAGO'S ANNUAL "Santa Claus" Parade, held November 17 on State street, again attracted its usual jam-packed crowds of eager children and parents. An estimated 300,000 viewers lined the sidewalks from Lake street to Van Buren street to watch the annual spectacle. Participating in the hour-long parade were 70 bands, drum majorette platoons, Christmas floats and clown troops. Santa brought up the rear of the procession, riding in a float bearing a sleigh and eight white reindeer. Stressing the religious theme of the

season were the two floats shown in the accompanying photos. Stairways leading to elevated platforms at both ends of the parade route were crowded with youngsters and their elders who sought a better vantage point from which they could look down on the colorful proceedings. During the period of the parade, 21 CTA surface lines operating in State street or across State street between Grand avenue and Polk street were rerouted to enable the different segments of the procession to move down the street on schedule.



# TRANSIT IN THE NEWS

## ACQUIRE NEW TERMINAL SITE

IN A recent action by Chicago Transit Board, property was purchased at 7523-29 N. Hermitage avenue for use as a bus terminal and connection with the Howard street "L"-subway station. The purchase price was \$90,000.

The plans contemplate construction of an off-street terminal which buses serving adjacent Chicago and suburban areas will use.

## AWARD OF CONTRACT

A FURTHER step in the progress of the Congress street superhighway project was taken November 1, when the City of Chicago awarded a \$211,650 contract to the Lake States Engineering Corporation of Chicago for construction of substructures for eight rapid transit stations on the median strip.

Locations of these stations will be as follows; Lavergne to Cicero; Keeler to Pulaski; Homan to Kedzie; California,

Western and Damen to Ogden; Loomis to Racine, and Halsted to Morgan.

## SOUTH KEDZIE SERVICE EXTENDED

EXTENSION OF South Kedzie avenue bus service westward on 115th street from Spaulding avenue to Central Park avenue became effective November 11.

A recent check of the passenger volume on the route disclosed that week-day passenger traffic for the last two weeks of September was 20 per cent greater than during the corresponding weeks of 1955.

The area on and adjacent to West 115th street to be served by this extension has been developing rapidly, and the transit traffic potential consequently has increased, justifying operation to the new west terminal at Central Park avenue.

## CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF APPLICATION OF REVENUES TO FIXED REQUIREMENTS  
MONTHS OF OCTOBER 1956 AND 1955, TEN MONTHS ENDED OCTOBER 31, 1956 AND 1955 AND  
TWELVE MONTHS ENDED OCTOBER 31, 1956

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

	Month of October		Ten Months Ended October 31,		Twelve Months Ended Oct. 31, 1956
	1956	1955	1956	1955	
Revenues	\$10,841,861	\$10,228,071	\$100,212,461	\$100,333,336	\$120,776,309
Operation and Maintenance Expenses	9,021,851	8,452,612	85,191,869	84,831,081	102,848,979
Available for Debt Service	1,820,010	1,775,459	15,020,592	15,502,255	\$ 17,927,330
Debt Service Requirements:					
Interest Charges	398,660	409,199	4,033,054	4,132,666	
Deposit to Series of 1947 Serial Bond Maturity Fund	250,000(1)	233,333	2,400,000	2,133,333	
Revenue Bond Reserves (Note 2)	30,000	30,000	300,000	300,000	
	678,660	672,532	6,733,054	6,565,999	
Balance Available for Depreciation	1,141,350	1,102,927	8,287,538	8,936,256	
Provision for Depreciation - Current Period	867,349	818,246	8,016,997	8,026,667	
Balance Available for Other Charges (Note 3)	\$ 274,001	\$ 284,681	\$ 270,541	\$ 909,589	

## PASSENGER STATISTICS

Originating Revenue Passengers	56,243,782	53,196,069	517,953,086	517,578,554	623,868,180
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## STATUS OF EQUIPMENT MODERNIZATION PROGRAM as at October 31, 1956

	Delivered to Date	Remaining to be Delivered	Total
1955 Orders:			
El-Subway Cars	4	76	80
1956 Orders:			
Propane Buses	1	149	150
El-Subway Cars	-	120	120
	5	345	350
Delivered under previous orders		3,314	
Less - P.C.C. Streetcars to be converted to El-Subway Cars		200	3,114
			3,464

## NOTES:

- Equal monthly installments to retire \$3,000,000 principal amount of Series of 1947 Revenue Bonds maturing on July 1, 1957.
- Available to pay interest on any interest payment dates of Series of 1952 and Series of 1953 Revenue Bonds 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 Bonds.
- Deposits may be made in the Depreciation Reserve Fund only to the extent that monies are available therefor. The requirements for these deposits, however, are cumulative, and any balances available after the current period's provision for Depreciation must be applied to cover prior period deficiencies which may exist in deposits to the Depreciation Reserve Fund. The Supplemental Trust Agreements covering Series of 1952 and 1953 Revenue Bonds provide for quarterly deposits of \$300,000 and \$16,713.50, respectively (cumulative within any one year) to the "Revenue Bond Amortization Funds" to the extent that monies are available therefor after making the required deposits to the Depreciation Reserve Fund; also that deposits of \$900,000 are to be made to the Operating Expense Reserve Fund in any calendar year that earnings are available therefor. Deposits to the Municipal Compensation Fund may be made only from monies remaining in any one year after making all required deposits in the Depreciation Reserve, Revenue Bond Amortization and Operating Expense Reserve Funds.



NOT ONLY is Loop traffic snarled during the rush hours, but vehicles moving through outlying districts also encounter street congestion problems that hamper normal progress. Illustrative of the jams that develop at busy intersections in many parts of the city is this photo taken at Milwaukee and Lawrence avenues at about 5:00 o'clock of an afternoon. CTA buses, like other surface vehicles, are finding it difficult to get their share of street space in the heavy traffic. Conditions such as these cause service delays and disrupted schedules, and inconvenience CTA riders.



# THE INSIDE NEWS

—AS REPORTED BY EMPLOYES OF THE CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

## Engagement Ring Means Spring Wedding

ACCOUNTING—*Marge Scanlon*, Payroll Distribution, is looking forward to a spring wedding. She received a diamond engagement ring from *James Guenther* on November 8.

*Betty Suhr*, Revenue, went island hopping via airways during her vacation, visiting the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Haiti and Jamaica . . . *Lydia Haemker*, Material and Supplies, joined a conducted tour and did a lot of sightseeing in New Orleans, Louisiana; Biloxi, Mississippi, and Pensacola, Florida.

*Rosemary Kenny*, Payroll, and her husband, *Pat*, Treasury, enjoyed the fall foliage on a motor trip through the Cumberland and Smoky mountains. After a stopover at Gatlinburg, Tennessee, they continued on to Miami Beach, Florida . . . *Valerie Bowman*, Payroll Distribution, followed the same route through the Smoky mountains to her Miami Beach, Florida, destination.

*Clara Lawrence*, Vouchers, drove to Washington, D. C., where she toured the White House and public buildings. However, a trip to the restored city of Williamsburg, Virginia, impressed her most.

*Ann O'Brien*, Invoice, spent her time in Eureka Springs in the Ozarks, where the Fall Festival was in progress . . . *Oscar Leiding*, Vouchers, combined work and pleasure by doing things around the house and taking short motor trips to Indiana and Wisconsin . . . *Dorothy Glatzel*, Revenue, visited her parents in Freeport, Minnesota, with her husband and children.

*Lucy Winkler*, Payroll, visited her daughter in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and took short trips in that vicinity . . . *Albert C. Jann*, general accountant, and his wife spent a week in Hot Springs, Arkansas, and later drove down to New Orleans, Louisiana, where they saw famous places. They also enjoyed sightseeing in Gulfport and Biloxi, Mississippi.

*George Triunfal*, General, has been taking home a parcel from the baby shop almost every day

## Season's Greetings

from Your "Inside News" Reporters

Gilbert E. Andrews	Harold Davis	Joseph Hiebel
Leo J. Bien	Arthur Dickson	Helen A. Lowe
Frank M. Black	L. C. Dutton	Jeanne Ludmann
John T. Burke	Edith Edbrooke	Earl McLaughlin
Robert Caldwell	Everett E. England	Dagmar McNamara
Violet Carnes	William Feiler	Irving Metzger
Evelyn Clark	Joseph Feinendegen	Jack Moreau
Mary E. Clarke	R. H. Fortier	Elvera Potensa
Kitty Conroy	David Gurwich	Julie Prinderville
John Curry	Ruth Hanson	Herb Schmidt
Tom Daniels	Edward Stenzel	C. P. Starr

since his daughter and her husband adopted *Albert Fred*.

*Thomas McGrath*, supervisor, Material and Supplies, and his family had a collegiate weekend when they visited *Thomas, Jr.*, who is a journalism student at Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa.

—HELEN LOWE

## Promising Ballplayer Honored At Banquet

ARCHER—Operator *Al Colby's* son, *Dave*, received an honorable mention at a banquet recently for being the best player in the Pony league. A creditable pitcher, catcher and outfielder, he passed the try-outs for *St. Rita's* high school baseball team.

Operator *Ben Bruhnke* became the proud grandfather of twin girls on election day. Named *Linda Grace* and *Monica Lois*, they are the daughters of his son, *Gerald*.

Operator *Gordon McGrath* has a new member in his family. His daughter, *Dolores*, married *Billy Bolin* November 10 in a ceremony at Mt. Carmel church. The newlyweds spent their honeymoon in Birmingham, Alabama.

Your reporter's daughter, 5½-year-old *Lynn Ellen*, won a trophy for singing and dancing at a show sponsored by the Archer Road

Kiwanis club and the Kelly Park Talent Show troupe . . . Your reporter and his wife recently marked another happy event—their 19th wedding anniversary . . . Operator *Marvin Van Natta* and his wife celebrated their 24th wedding anniversary recently.

Supervisor *Roy Alford* was in deep mourning. His parakeet was flying around the house when suddenly it swerved, flew into a clock and broke its neck.

Supervisor *Herbie Johnson* and his wife enjoyed their vacation in Bayfield, Wisconsin. Herbie, who decided to try his luck at farming, drove a tractor, picked apples and maybe even milked some cows . . . Supervisor *Otto Janacek* and his wife had a good time during their vacation in Saratoga, Florida.

Operator *Leo Weiss* had to go back to the hospital . . . Operator *Herbie Mathes* has been off sick, too . . . *George Payne*, garage repair, also is sick at this writing.

After being off for about a month because of illness, Supervisor *John J. McCarthy* is back at his job.

*Roy Rehder*, formerly an operator at Archer and brother of Collector *Bill Rehder*, died recently . . . *Mrs. Mary Slavik*, mother of Operator *Joseph Slavik*, passed away.

Operator *Emil Feltz* and his wife celebrated their 26th wedding anniversary on October 26 . . . It was 25 years ago last October 16 that Supervisor *Ed O'Connell* and his wife walked up to the altar and said "I do."

Clerk *Jim Rittenburg* and *Mrs. Rittenburg* vacationed in St. Louis, Missouri.

Clerk *Eddie Krause, Jr.*, an institutional representative in the Boy Scout organization, went on an overnight hike with a Boy Scout group recently.

Operator *Grover* and *Betty Russell*, became parents of a girl, *Darryl*, on October 29.

—R. H. FORTIER

## There's Good Eating In This Man's House

BEVERLY—*Mrs. Mary Gertzen*, wife of Operator *Joe Gertzen*, is a newly-appointed correspondent for the newspaper "Calumet Index," and recently was chosen "Cook of the Week." Her picture appeared in a recent issue of the newspaper, together with other members of her family who were sampling one of her winning recipes.

While stationed with the Marines in San Diego, California, *Rapoll Fabian* made many friends whose kindnesses he never forgot. He and his wife, *Margie*, recently visited all those nice folks on a vacation, during which they also saw the sights.

The Beverly Bus Garage Credit Union will hold its annual business meeting and party on Saturday, January 12, at 7726 S. Ashland avenue at 8:00 p.m. All members and their families are invited. Refreshments will be served.

*Catherine Ann*, the daughter of *Bill* and *Ann Fadloff*, was married to *Thomas Daley* October 6 at St. Cajetan's church.

*Trevor Joike*, 13-year-old son of *Fritz* and *Barbara Joike*, spent two weeks with the Boy Scouts at Camp Owasippi, Michigan, recently.

Operator *Agis Bray*, who pitched and won two championship softball games in one day, is also a

**HELP CELEBRATE**



**GRANDCHILDREN** — 14 of them — of Eugene Burke, Purchasing, and Mrs. Burke were on hand when the couple marked their 35th wedding anniversary recently. After renewing their vows at St. Francis DePaula church, they were entertained at a surprise dinner at the Timberlane.

Reported by Dagmar McNamara

star basketball player. He recently celebrated his 41st birthday by showing youngsters how to play the game.

Harold and Mary Bradshaw toured all the buildings and other points of interest in Washington, D. C. Their greatest thrill was in seeing the stacks and stacks of currency piled up in the Treasury Department . . . Robert Blair and his wife, on a 10-day tour of the southwest, made stopovers at Hot Springs, Salt Lake City and the Ozarks . . . Supervisor Herb Johnson visited in Bayfield, Wisconsin, for two weeks.

Helen Volkart, wife of Instructor John Volkart, attended a cooking school and won first prize—a new gas range.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Glines, Sr., parents of Operator Charles, Jr., celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with their other children and friends out in California. While there, they planned to celebrate eight other wedding anniversaries . . . George and Wilma Mae Tidd marked 30 years of married life on December 2 . . . Mr. and Mrs. William Ammerall will celebrate 25 wedded years on December 24.

Two new employes, both of whom recently returned from service with the armed forces, are

Henry Chambles and Percy Slaughter.

Mrs. Hattie Miller, wife of Night Superintendent Rudy Miller, arrived home from the hospital, after surgery, in time to help Rudy celebrate his birthday on December 8 . . . George Johnson's lodge brothers threw a big party and presented him with a cash purse on his birthday . . . Neighbors and friends sneaked up on Clerk Martin Carey and gave him a birthday party . . . Val Kauk celebrated a birthday December 15.

Clerk Charlie Abt, during his vacation saw Notre Dame's Irish gridders win one and lose three.

Eddie Trost, who was off sick for a few days, won a Thanksgiving turkey at the South Highland Moose Lodge.

Repairman Mike Granger, who is in the Naval Reserve, recently was transferred from the Naval air station at Glenview to the Naval training center in Forest Park, where he is now taking a refresher course in radar.

—FRANK M. BLACK

**Down South, It's Bathing Suit Weather**

CLAIM AND LAW—Cards from Eleanor Garro, who vacationed in New

Orleans and points south, indicate she left Chicago at the right time —she used her Bikini bathing suit.

On November 10, Edward F. Weingartner, chief investigator, and Lillian Thompson were married in a quiet ceremony at St. John Nepomucene church.

—EL-JE

**Credit Union Slates Annual Meeting, Dance**

DEVON—The Devon Depot Credit Union will hold its annual business meeting and dance on January 19, 1957, at Vic Filips' lounge on Pulaski road.

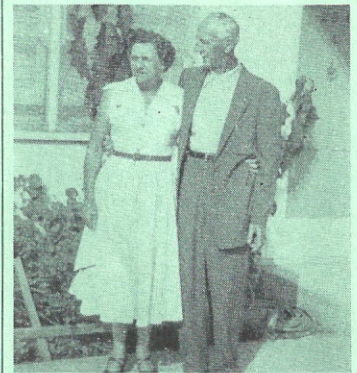
Operator Patrick J. Kane returned to work recently after being hospitalized for a month with a back ailment . . . Bob Benson is back on the job as good as new after being off sick for about a month.

Clerk Frank Koncar is back at work after vacationing during the month of November. Frank's wife was operated on and is at home convalescing at this writing.

Well, this is all the news I could gather up for now, but hope I can send in more in future issues.

—HERBIE SCHMIDT

**CALIFORNIA VISIT**



STANDING IN front of the home of Joe Seaman, former assistant foreman at Archer, in Chula Vista, California, are Repairman Leslie Paine, Beverly, and his wife, Emily. They called on Joe during a 6,200-mile tour they made of the Far West.

Reported by Frank M. Black

**Little Boy's Arrival Is Happy Occasion**

ELECTRICAL—Telephone Repairman Luke E. Howe is happy over the arrival of a little boy, Martin Patrick, on October 22. The Howes now have three girls and two boys.

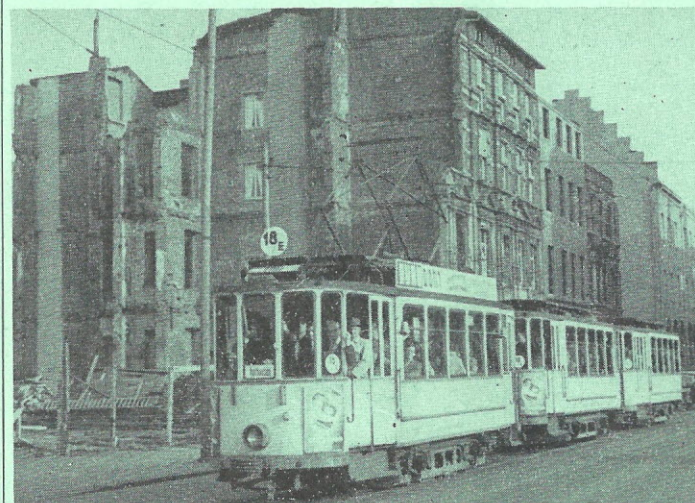
Lineman Ralph Jossi became a grandpa on October 23. The little granddaughter's name is Cynthia Lois.

Avid Wilmont, operator at Harding substation, motored approximately 3,000 miles. His itinerary included the Smoky Mountains and Ormond Beach, Florida. He also took a cruise down the Tomoka (Black Water) river.

George Nelson, of Grand and Leavitt, and his wife, Clara, traveled via train to the Pacific Northwest. Their itinerary included Washington, Oregon, California and Salt Lake City, Utah. They visited friends they had not seen for years . . . Harold Kramp, "B" electrician, vacationed in Lake Geneva and Round Lake, Wisconsin.

—GILBERT E. ANDREWS

**SURFACE EQUIPMENT, GERMAN STYLE**



AGAINST A background of buildings damaged during World War II moves this three-car train of motor car and trailers bulging with passengers. Transit equipment such as this is common in German cities, according to Charles E. Keevil, Engineering, who took this picture during a European trip.

**TRANSITAD**

FOR SALE: Three-grave lot in choice section near gate of Waldheim cemetery, Forest Park, Illinois. Price \$350.00. Telephone MOhawk 4-7200, extension 2316.

## Forest Glen People Take To The Country

FOREST GLEN—This station has become known as the "suburban station." Of some 535 employes, 111 reside in the various towns and villages that make up "Chicagoland." Des Plaines has 15 Forest Glen employes among her citizens, while Park Ridge and Palatine register seven each. In fact, some of our employes live as far away as Woodstock. Among other towns where employes live are Antioch, McHenry and Mundelein. Altogether, there are 43 outlying communities, in which one or more of our employes must travel to and from work each day!

Operator Leonard Kreft wrote us from Avalon, Santa Catalina Island, California, that vacationing in that state is simply superb . . . Operator Glen Malicki spent his vacation catching up on the chores about the house.

Operator R. J. Anderson at present is convalescing at Hines Veterans Hospital.

Operator Walter Schwarzer of North Avenue station passed away on October 24. He was the father of Operator Walter Schwarzer, Jr., of Forest Glen.

This month marks Forest Glen's first full year of operation.

—ROBERT F. CALDWELL

## How Kindness, Courtesy Pay Off

KEDZIE—Operators Charles J. Frascico and Nick Constantino, who were among those transporting members of the Chess and Chatter club in chartered CTA buses to Allendale for an outing on September 20, received personal letters of commendation for their cooperation, courtesy and kindness to the excursionists. "Without your help, the day would not have been so successful," wrote Mrs. Harry Dalton, a club member.

Operator Raymond Jablecki is the proud father of a boy, who was born November 8.

Clerk Edward O'Keefe and Mrs. O'Keefe, who spent their vacation down Florida way, reported a fine time.

As this was written, Instructor Edward Hawlicek was convalescing after an operation.

—C. P. STARR

## BASEBALL ACES



OUT OF the past comes this old picture of the 1909 Douglas Park rapid transit line's baseball team which made up part of the old Metropolitan league. Few of the men who played on the nine, which old timers referred to as a "rip roarin' outfit," are still alive today. Now the Lawndale surface station stands on the site of this old ballpark.

Reported by Arthur L. Dickson

## No Partisanship In This Household

GENERAL OFFICE — (Training and Accident Prevention) — Election night brought excitement to the home of Elliott Hirsch when four puppies were introduced to the Hirsch children, Lawrie and Betsey. The pups were promptly named Ike, Richard, Adlai and Estes. If interested in getting a puppy, contact El Hirsch.

John Donovan returned from a vacation at Hot Springs, Arkansas, following his election as Republican State Senator from the 17th District.

Preceding a luncheon honoring Willis Goodall and two other retiring superintendents, Mr. Goodall's former co-workers in this department presented him with a travel clock. Mr. Goodall, a district superintendent, retired November 1, after 37 years of service.

Ruth Havlik and her sister, Marie, who works in the Accounting Department, flew to Mexico City and Acapulco for their vacation. Their itinerary included the floating gardens at Xochimilco, the Aztec pyramids and ruins, the silver mines of Taxco, a Mexican bullfight, and at Acapulco, they watched an exhibition by the boy divers. Another highlight of the trip was a festival day celebrated with parades and fireworks.

Henry Boldt became a grandpappy again for the second time when his daughter, Kay Lois, presented him with a new grandson, David, on October 27. The baby's father, Fouad Al Bahrani, was born in Baghdad, Iraq. He came to the United States to study three years ago and liked it here so well he decided to remain and become a citizen.

(Specifications) — Zita Gyuricza, formerly of Revenue Accounting, came to this department as typist.

(Personnel) — Word was received that Toni Cardillo, formerly of this department, became the mother of a baby girl named Catherine Mary on November 11.

(Job Classification) — An announcement received by co-workers brought news that Wilma Lofthouse received a bundle from heaven on November 12, a baby son named James Raymond.

Carol McMahon was welcomed as a new stenographer in this department. Carol's dad, John McMahon, is a foreman in the Shops and Equipment Department.

(Employment) — On Saturday, November 10, Patricia Naughton, daughter of John Naughton, operator at North avenue, was married to John Karneck, at St. Angela's church. One of the bridesmaids was Typist Nancy Naughton, sister of the bride.

—MARY E. CLARKE

## Couple Mark 25 Wedded Years

GENERAL OFFICE—(Public Information)—Joseph Klein, Clerk II, and his wife, Cleo, celebrated their silver wedding anniversary with a party for friends and relatives at their home on November 17. Joe's son, Kenneth, who works part time as a ticket agent in the Loop, helped his parents mark the occasion.

—JULIE PRINDERVILLE

## Contribute 100 Per Cent To Fund Drive

LIMITS—Limits Depot personnel, including employes of the Transportation and Repair Departments, contributed 100 per cent to the 1956 Community Fund drive.

Superintendent and Mrs. Herman A. Erickson were presented with a grandchild by their daughter, Mrs. J. S. Simpson. Name of the little newcomer is Gail Elizabeth.

The men of Limits are very proud that this depot won the Station Achievement Award for the third quarter of 1956 for the greatest reduction in traffic type accidents on the surface system.

George Schwab was in the hospital for an operation, as we wrote this.

Elmer Hausler visited the Blue Mist resort while vacationing at Miami Beach, Florida.

Operator B. R. Martinez presently is in Michael Reese hospital . . . Operator William Austin will be confined to the National Jewish hospital, Denver, Colorado, for about six months. He would like to get a card or letter from anyone here who can find time to write.

The mother of B. Austin passed away . . . We also must report the death of Allen S. Francisco.

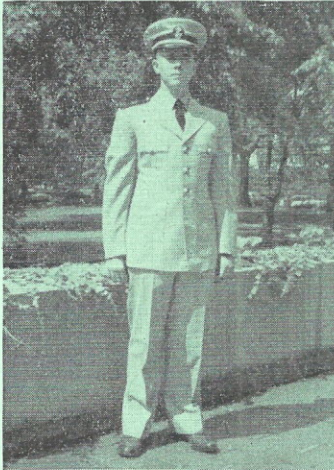
Operator Tom Thygesen took a 3,600-mile trip through the south. He drove over the Florida Sunshine Skyway, which runs about 11 miles over the waters of lower Tampa bay . . . Operator Ed Larke also spent his vacation at Miami Beach . . . Val Bleckhahn took his vacation and then his pension.

Operator Anthony Conova and his wife recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary.

Peter R. Colucer returned to his job November 1. He was off four months after breaking his ankle in three places.

—IRVING J. METZGER

**NAVY CADET**



**HOME FOR Christmas** will be *John Olson*, son of *Roy Olson*, street collector, 69th Street station, and *Mrs. Olson*, and there is sure to be a turkey dinner with all the trimmings to welcome him. John is a cadet at the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland, to which he was awarded a four-year scholarship after making the highest score in a competitive examination taken by a group of would-be cadets from the Chicago area.

Reported by *Tom Daniels*

**Fishing Grounds Lure Vacationists**

**LOOP—(Agents)—***Charles Semon*, maintainer, visited the Wisconsin fishing areas . . . *Towerman John Friedman* also went up to Wisconsin to try his luck for a muskie, but missed the big one.

*Ann Schneider's* son, *Richard*, enlisted in the Marine Corps and is presently in basic training at San Diego, California. From there he will be stationed at Camp Matthew.

*Henry Hoffmeister's* mother passed away November 12 . . . *Katherine Johnson* and *Marie Hayes* are on the sick list, at this writing.

*Edna Davies* vacationed at home as did *Theresa Jarvis*, whose husband, *Steve*, retired November 1.

*Lampman James Pavone* and his wife vacationed around Chicagoland . . . ditto for *James Loftus* and his family.

*Michael Barnas*, former Loop trackman, passed away after a long illness.

*Steve Dudasek*, towerman, spent part of his vacation repairing his home. He took the remainder of his time in Wisconsin, showing off his family to relatives . . . *Maintainer Victor Jasters* left chilly Wisconsin and motored through Colorado and New Mexico to visit friends. His return trip was through Kansas and Oklahoma.

*George Clark* drove to Mississippi to see his father who was ill. George recently transferred to the West Section.

*Lloyd Holmgren* was transferred here from Lake street.

*John and Ethel Wardrope* drove to New York and had the thrill of seeing *President Eisenhower* throw out the first ball to start the World Series at Ebbets field.

*Towerman Joseph Vargo* and *Richard Borthen* both had the same idea for a vacation—repairing their homes and visiting relatives in the home area.

*John McDonald*, supervisor, retired November 1. He had worked in transit as a boy and returned in 1944, after serving 20 years on the Chicago Police Force.

—EDITH EDBROOKE

**They Already Have A Complete Infield**

**NORTH PARK —** *Operator Louis Walker* and his wife have a budding baseball team. On October 26th, their fifth son was born. They also have one daughter.

North Park again won the Passenger Safety Award and the plaque was returned to us once again on October 31.

*Operator John Rusnak's* mother died recently . . . *Operator Stephen Allen* lost his brother . . . *Operator Carl Gerrish*, retired, passed away October 26.

*Operator Ewald Anderson* went on pension November 1.

*Operator John Henderson's* wife, *Dorselene*, presented him with a baby boy, their fourth child.

We received a card from *Operator Albert Giles*, who apparently couldn't wait for the snows to hit Chicago. He ran into several feet of the stuff on a Colorado vacation with his family . . . *Clerk Ed VanCleave* spent a day of a fall vacation living it up in Lake Geneva.

—EDWARD F. STENZEL and EARL W. McLAUGHLIN

**Instructor's Daughter Becomes Teaching Nun**

**NORTH AVENUE —** *Margaret Mary O'Shaughnessy*, daughter of *Instructor Al O'Shaughnessy*, has taken up the teaching profession as a sister in the Dominican Order of nuns.

*George Ley* became a grandpappy recently . . . *Joe and Florence Blaa* also were presented with a granddaughter who is named *Mary Beth*.

December 1 was a joyous day at the home of *Operator Jeff Mulvey*. Reason? It was a wedding anniversary.

—JOE HIEBEL

**Another Name For Gramp's Yule List**

**PURCHASING AND STORES —** *Herbert Mittel*, West Division, is now the proud grandfather of 19 grandchildren. The latest addition to the group is granddaughter *Sharon*, born November 7.

*Walter Miller*, West Division, is bursting with pride over the new look of his Storeroom 31. A guided tour could probably be arranged.

*Lawrence Carrao* is a new clerk in the Purchasing Department.

*Harold Stedman*, West Division, became the proud father of *Harold, Jr.*, born October 27.

*Carmen Cardomone*, West Division, and *Sam Canella*, Skokie, are off sick at present.

*George Nichols*, West Division, spent four wonderful weeks in New Orleans and other points of interest in Louisiana. From what we hear, this is highly recommended as a place to spend a vacation.

*Henry Hansen*, West Division, lost his brother on October 31 . . . *Gerald Gullery*, Skokie, suffered the loss of his father on November 1.

Latest addition to the Stores Department is *Marcia Tosh*, a typist.

—DAGMAR McNAMARA

**Former Employee Revisits Old Haunts**

**69TH—**We had a surprise visit from *Pensioner George Clancy*, who came here from his home in Phoenix, Arizona. He is looking very well and wishes to be remembered to all of his many friends.

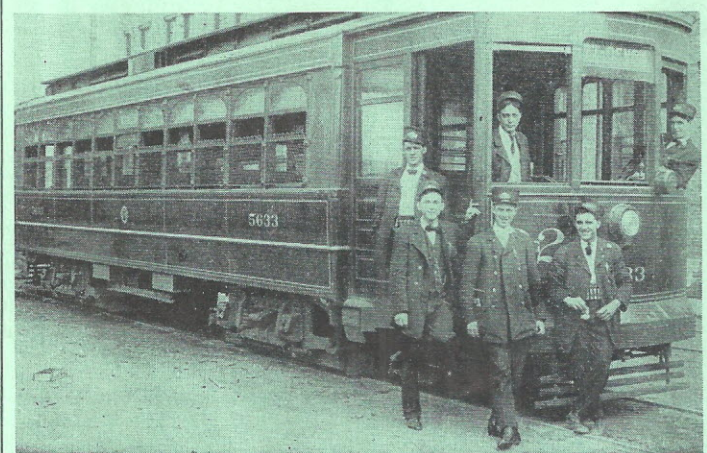
*Eugene L. Wright* is now back on the job after a prolonged absence because of illness.

*George Zerbian* was married recently. He and his bride journeyed to Bermuda for their honeymoon.

We hope for more news for this column next month.

—TOM DANIELS

**1913 TRAINMEN**



**A GROUP** of Chicago City Railway company motormen and conductors, who worked out of 77th Street station, paused a moment to pose for this picture back in 1913. This Clark Street car, which ran between 77th and Devon, was built by the J. G. Brill company three years earlier. Photograph is owned by *J. P. Gillespie*, 77th.

Reported by *John J. Curry*

### Former Homeowner Now A Cliffdweller

SCHEDULE-TRAFFIC—*Joe Werner* recently sold his home and with it, discarded all the chores of storm windows and snow shoveling. He is now enjoying apartment dwelling.

*Al Pfeiffer* will now be found in the Traffic Engineering Department . . . *Mike Shanahan* has joined the traffic clerical force and enjoys the desk job.

*Pat McBride* had an encounter with some virus which confined him to Loretta Hospital.

We welcome *Margaret Rosich* to this department . . . *Mr.* and *Mrs. Ed Reilly* announced the marriage of their son, *John*, to *Donna Marie Zene* on November 10 at Our Lady of Hungary church.

*Shirley DeStephano*, of the Budget Department, attired in the traditional white satin and lace, exchanged wedding vows with *Richard Giannini* at a nuptial mass at St. Peter Canisius church on November 17. Friends of the bride feted her at a luncheon and presented her with a nice card table and chairs.

Among the eight persons who were awarded prizes of turkeys at the CTA Post No. 1216, American Legion, social evening November 20 were *Renee Primeau* and *Bernie Kincannon* of this department.

—L. C. DUTTON

### Vacationists Still In The Headlines

SKOKIE SHOPS—Vacations are still in the news at Skokie Shops: *John Collins*, repairman, spent two weeks in Miami, Florida, where he did some deep sea fishing and seeing the sights . . . *Robert Binnie*, electrician, and his wife also vacationed in sunny Florida . . . *Frank Olszewski*, truck foreman, spent the last two weeks of his vacation around his new home . . . *Fred Feinendegen*, electrician and assistant foreman, enjoyed his last two weeks with a trip to Iowa with his wife.

*Erich Aach* was on the sick list at this writing.

*Oliver Lang*, paint shop foreman, was presented with a daughter, *Rosemarie*, recently.

—DAVID GURWICH and EVERETT E. ENGLAND

### RECEIVES DEGREE



**GREGORY E. EISIN**, son of *Stanley Eisin*, bus overhaul, *West Shops*, and *Mrs. Eisin*, received a bachelor's degree in music by proxy from the Egbert Academy of Music at the Eighth Street Theater on November 23. A graduate of St. Agnes elementary school and Quigley Preparatory seminary, he is now studying for the priesthood at St. Mary of the Lake seminary, Mundelein.

Reported by *John F. Burke*

### A Turnpike Ride For Southern Fried Chicken

SOUTH SECTION—*Motorman Victor Cerulli* traveled via the turnpike to Washington, D.C., and then headed south looking for the spots which served the best southern fried chicken, which Vic just loves . . . *Agent Walter Blankschen* took time out to paint his house while on his vacation. He also traveled to Champaign where he saw the Illini upset the Michigan State Spartans in a thrill-packed gridiron match.

Greetings were received from Catalina Island, California, where *Agent Kay Connelly* spent part of her vacation. After hearing about the fine weather Chicagoans were enjoying Kay decided to return here for the rest of her vacation.

*Lester Hickey*, North Section station superintendent, recently visited 61st Street where he was formerly stationed.

*Electrician Jack Shea* and his bride returned from Cuba where they spent their honeymoon. They visited many unusual places there.

The annual porters' party, which was held at the Trianon, turned out to be a huge success.

—LEO J. BIEN

### Chooses Sunny South For His Vacation

SOUTH SHOPS—(*Bus Body*)—*Oscar Klose* vacationed in Florida and South Carolina where he visited relatives.

*Bill Funai* was confined to Englewood hospital where he underwent surgery, as we wrote this.

(*Utility*)—*Foreman Tony Nutile's* son, *Ronald*, will be home for the holidays on a 20-day furlough. *Ronald* is stationed at Coronado, California.

(*Bus Overhaul*)—*Alex Barclay* is the proud father of *Clifford Paul*, who was born on October 27. Ditto for *Stephen Sluzynski*, who has a new son, *Stephen, Jr.*, who was born on October 31.

*Norma Tickell*, daughter of *Harold Tickell*, and *Edward Hendrich* were united in marriage at Grace Church on October 20. A small reception for the family and friends was held in the evening.

(*Office*)—*Superintendent R. H. Martz* spent two weeks of his vacation in the Smoky Mountains.

(*Miscellaneous*)—*Andy Pudik* vacationed at Miami Beach, Florida.

(*Building Department*)—*Jim Sinclair*, bricklayer, suffered the loss of his father on October 31.

(*Machine Shop*)—*Ray Walsh, Jr.*, and his wife welcomed their first child, *Raymond III*, on October 24. The newcomer's grandfather is *Supervisor Raymond Walsh*, 77th.

—EVELYN CLARK

### New Couple Spends Honeymoon In Florida

TERMINAL INSPECTION SHOPS—(*Wilson*)—*Pete Lemperis*, acting clerk, recently joined the ranks of the happily-married men. He and his new wife spent their honeymoon in Miami Beach, Florida.

*Clerk Walter Nowosielski* enjoyed his vacation, as did *Cleaner Lorenzo Sparacino* and *Night Foreman Jerry Jennings*. Jerry expected to do some hunting.

(*Logan*)—At this writing, *Repairman Louis Demarco* is confined to the hospital.

*Repairman Pete Gaza* planned to spend his vacation hunting.

With the holidays coming on, it seems news is scarce. Again, men of 61st, Lake street, Laramie, and Douglas terminals, how about sending in some items? Without news, this column can't be written.

—JOE FEINENDEGEN

### Homecomings To Add To Holiday Cheer

WEST SECTION (*Agents*)—The holidays will be joyous ones for *Margaret Queenan*, for her grandson will be home from St. Xavier's college, Cincinnati, Ohio . . . *Catherine Daly's* son, *Tommy*, will be home from Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Catherine was thrilled when Tommy was named captain of the Marquette football squad.

*Grace LaBel's* son, *Jimmy*, finished Marine basic training at San Diego, California.

*Jean Murnane* and *Sara Simmons* are back on the job after being off sick.

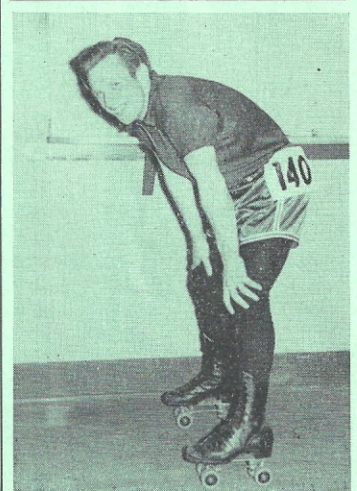
*Catherine Rice* celebrated her birthday on November 17 in St. Ann's hospital after suffering a leg injury in a fall.

*Marguerite McMahon* and *Margaret Sheehan* were vacationing as we wrote this . . . *Nellie Jennings* spent five weeks in the far west. She visited Las Vegas, Nevada, and points of interest in California and Mexico.

*William Walsh* took his pension November 1.

—KITTY CONROY and RUTH HANSON

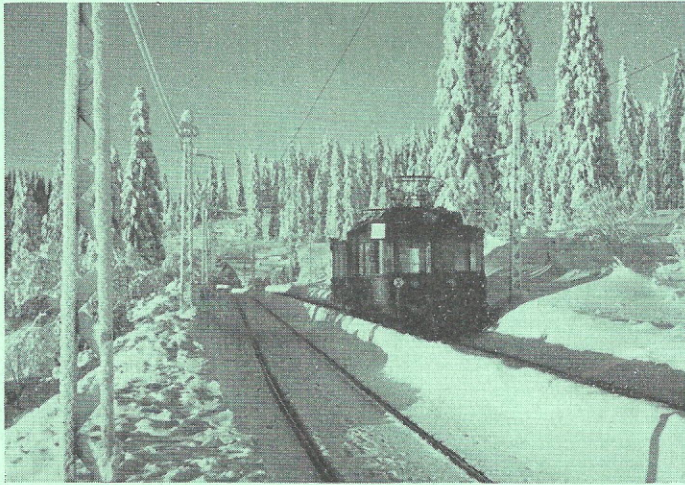
### FAST MAN ON WHEELS



AN ACE on roller skates, *Jackie Napravnik*, son of *Operator F. J. Napravnik*, North Avenue, has taken several speed skating titles during the last two years, including the 1955 and 1956 state skate titles, the 1956 mid-west and 1956 national race titles. He now is president of the Rollerway Speed Team of Melrose Park.

Reported by *Joe Hiebel*

**NORWAY SNOWS**



AMID THE beauty of a snow-covered mountain slope and a pine forest, a train of the Holmenkol Electric railway makes its way from Oslo, Norway, up to a point near the famous Holmenkollen ski jump. Space is provided for skiing equipment on these trains, according to *R. B. Stockman*, retired motorman, North Avenue, who submitted this picture. The former CTA employe is now on an extended tour of his native Norway.

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 Address.....  
(Street and Number)

.....  
(City) (Zone) (State)

I am employed in the.....

department, located at.....  
I have recently moved from:

Old Address.....  
(Street and Number)

.....  
(City) (Zone) (State)

**This Vacation Ended In Dew Time**

WEST SHOPS—*Al Windt's* vacation around the Kissamee and Lakeland, Florida, area, was ended suddenly by the "dew" which got to be a foot deep after flash floods hit the area . . . *Don Crandall*, office, journeyed out to sunny California to acquire a suntan for the coming holidays . . . *Mary Gibbons Corliss* and her husband honeymooned in New York and other points east.

*George Clark*, technical service, is back on the job after recovering from an operation.

*Al Bykowski*, machine shop, returned to work after a siege of illness.

*Dan Consalvo*, bus dispatcher, and *Norb Pierczyk*, office, received new assignments to the Staff Engineer's Department . . . *Stan Kaminski* took over the bus dispatching job.

*Joan Ward* and her husband moved into their new home.

*Marlene Shreeves*, daughter of *Charlie Shreeves*, technical service, received a beautiful ring from her intended spouse.

—JOHN T. BURKE

**Sings Praises Of San Francisco**

WEST SECTION—(*Douglas Park*)—*Motorman John "Ike" Eichinger* took a three-week trip through California, and also spent three days in Mexico. He especially liked San Francisco, where he rode on the cable cars, ate in Chinese restaurants and visited Fisherman's Wharf . . . *Motorman Norman Von Kaenel* spent a few days in Grand Rapids, Michigan, during his vacation.

*Motorman Franz Janata* received the news of his sister's death after he had just returned from a two weeks' visit with her out in Monrovia, California.

As we wrote this, *Clerk Ed Pfannkuche* was in St. Ann's hospital recovering from a hernia operation.

*Motorman Ardis Morris* was presented with a brand new daughter, *Cynthia*, on November 6.

*Receiver Richard Arrowood* vacationed in Florida in November.

(*Garfield Park*)—The new pick was in effect for gatemen and crossing watchmen as of November 16.

After 48 years of service, *Motorman William Tripp* went on pension November 1. He started his transit career way back in 1908 . . . *Supervisor J. B. McDonald* also took his pension on November 1.

*Conductor John Veltri's* son, *Gene E. Veltri*, a U.S. army captain, visited with John's brother, *Conductor Mike Veltri*, for three weeks while enroute from Germany to Fort Carson, Colorado.

*Milton Riecke*, shop, is now collector for the Laramie Credit Union.

*Conductor William J. Conley's* daughter presented him with a granddaughter on July 20 in Paterson, New Jersey, while Bill was there for a two-week visit.

(*Logan Square*)—*Night Receiver Jim Mulcahy* is back after being absent for some time.

November vacations were enjoyed by *Yard Foreman Miles Strickland*, *Towerman Phillip Lucas*, *Motormen S. Christ, Paul Bagato* and *B. Pyzik*; and *Harold Prosser*, extra man.

—ARTHUR L. DICKSON

**COLLEGE QUEEN**



RECENTLY CROWNED queen of DePaul university's College of Commerce's evening division, 18-year-old *Julia Riordan*, a typist in CTA's Employment Department, rode on the Commerce school's float in a campus parade December 6 and competed with other co-eds for the title of Homecoming Queen of the university. A freshman, *Julie* plans to major in business education. Her father is *Tim Riordan*, day foreman at Limits depot.

Reported by *Mary E. Clarke*

## For And About Our Pensioners

**BEVERLY**—Retired Motorman *Frank Claxton* and *Mrs. Claxton* stopped in Chicago recently on their way back from Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, where they attended the wedding of their son, *1st Lt. Charles Claxton*. The elder Claxtons now live in San Bernadino, California . . . We received word from *John A. Burgeson*, formerly of 69th Street, that his friend, *Leed Liden*, also of 69th, was ill at a hospital in California. Words of cheer from his old friends would be welcome and may be sent to his home, 9845 S. Garibaldi avenue, Temple City, California.

*Chief Clerk Bill Frank*, who talked with *Phil Vaillancourt*, reports that Phil sold his home near Steger, Illinois, and is making his new home in Florida . . . *Sam Vickers*, who retired a year ago from 77th shops with 27 years' service, recently returned from a voyage to Holland where he visited with his three brothers. Sam also visited many other places in Europe.

*Harry O'Connell*, who spent 30 years at 38th Street, and two at 87th before retiring, is now working in the stockyards . . . While visiting friends in Wilbur, Nebraska, *Operator Robert Blair* met Pensioner *John Smyth*, formerly of Burnside and 77th, who now lives there. John's last active duty was as a flagman in "Hogan's Alley" at 94th and Stony Island avenue.

—FRANK M. BLACK

**FOREST GLEN**—*Frank Lijka*, formerly of Armitage, who had just taken his pension September 1, died October 12.

—ROBERT F. CALDWELL

**LIMITS**—While vacationing in Florida, *Elmer Hausler* visited Pensioner *Lester Schmidt*, former conductor, who lives in Miami. Elmer told Lester that he would enjoy visits from his old friends whenever they happen to be down in the Miami vicinity . . . *Pete Porten*, former conductor at the Lincoln depot, was in Hines hospital, at this writing. Why not send him a card? . . . *William De La Barre* suffered the loss of his wife. He is now living with his daughter at 5525 N. Odell avenue and would like to hear from his old friends.

—IRVING J. METZGER

**NORTH AVENUE**—We received a nice letter from *Thomas P. Keaugh*, who is now living in Tampa, Florida. He sends his regards to all his old friends and also extends an invitation to any of them to visit him. He has just added another room to his house and has ample space. His address is 6901 North boulevard, Tampa 4, Florida . . . Another pleasant letter came from *A. M. Hansen*, who now makes his home in Norway. *Ralph Stockman*, who also lives in Norway, visits Hansen often and the two talk of old times. Hansen's address is Semsmaen, Hokksund, Norway.

*Niels Borek* and his wife marked their 57th wedding anniversary with a celebration at their home, 5656 N. Newcastle, Chicago, on November 23. Niels, who is 81 years old, retired nine years ago.

—JOE HIEBEL

**SCHEDULE-TRAFFIC**—*Frank Irvine*, formerly a schedule maker and former union representative, paid us a visit recently. He told us he was resting up after constructing a recreation room in the basement of his new home in Roselle, Illinois. Since his retirement January 1, 1955, Frank has kept active in many things. He spends his winters in Florida.

—L. C. DUTTON

**SOUTH SECTION**—*Conductor Bob Cullen* dropped in at 61st to say hello. Bob looks well, but takes things slow and easy . . . *Motorman Joe Hill* has finally seen his orange, grapefruit, and plum trees bear fruit. Why not drop him a line? His address is: 440 N.E. 20th avenue, Royal Palm Village, Boynton Beach, Florida. Incidentally, Bob Cullen said he plans to visit Joe next spring.

The following, who were visited by *Motorman Ed Hennessy* wished to be remembered to all their friends in both North and South Sections: *Fred Beck*, 4140 North 4th avenue; *W. A. Warneck*, 2845 West Pola Verda, and *Bill Garvos*, 7211 Tatum, all of Phoenix, Arizona, and *Vincent Haney*, 6615 Southside drive, Los Angeles, California.

*Peter McAnulty* is currently living in Grayslake, Illinois, and usually visits Chicago once a week . . . *John Hightower* stopped by to chat with his 61st Street friends.

—LEO J. BIEN

**TERMINAL INSPECTION SHOPS**—*Harry Shaner*, former repairman at Logan Square shop who is some 80 years young, regularly visits his cronies at the shop . . . *Former*

*Repairman Liberato Suero* wishes to be remembered to his friends . . . *Emil Friedlund*, who formerly worked at Douglas shop, looked the picture of health when he paid the boys there a visit recently.

—JOE FEINENDEGEN

**WEST SECTION (Agents)**—*Mary Rezac* will visit her niece and other relatives in California over the holidays . . . *Mary C. Tracey* spent several days in Chicago and then returned to her home in Eureka Springs, Missouri . . . *Anne Keane Fitzgerald* passed away recently after an extended illness.

—KITTY CONROY and RUTH HANSON

**WEST SECTION**—*George McMillan*, former work train conductor for many years, visited here recently. It's been a year since he took his pension. He looks great and is enjoying himself. He still lives in Cicero, Illinois.

—ARTHUR L. DICKSON

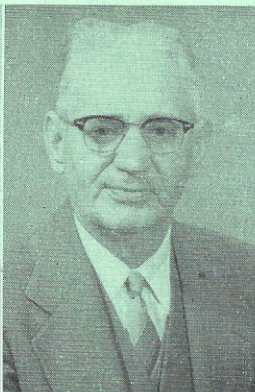
**WEST SHOPS**—*Stanley Walik*, carpenter shop, started his pension, after 35 years of service, on November 1 . . . *Joe Bolech, Sr.*, formerly of the carpenter shop, recently visited West Shops.

—JOHN T. BURKE

### 40-YEAR EMPLOYEES RECENTLY RETIRED



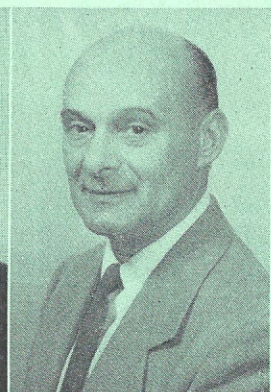
*Alfred Anderson*, motorman, Devon, retired December 1 after 42 years of service.



*John J. Meyers*, motorman, 77th, retired December 1 after 44 years of service.



*Paul G. Burandt*, conductor, 77th, retired December 1 after 44 years of service.



*Arthur Lavigne*, conductor, West Section, retired December 1 after 45 years of service.

**NEW APPOINTMENTS**

IN A bulletin signed by *Thomas B. O'Connor*, general superintendent of transportation and shops and equipment, and *Charles E. Keiser*, superintendent of transportation, and approved by *W. J. McCarter*, general manager, the following appointments were made effective December 1: *F. W. Till*, district superintendent, West Section, rapid transit system, and *W. J. Gillies*, night station superintendent, West Section, rapid transit system.

# 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**

**WED 30 YEARS**



THE THANKSGIVING season had special meaning this year for *Janitor Edward Glonke*, Kedzie, and his wife, *Martha*, for on November 24 they celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary. On hand to help mark the occasion were the couple's son, *Leroy*; daughters *Dolores* and *Patricia*, and three grandchildren.

*Reported by C. P. Starr*

**LATE NOTES**

*BILL RUNYON*, assistant editor of the *CTA Transit News*, and his wife, *Lillian*, welcomed their first child, *Stanley James*, on November 24. The baby, who weighed seven pounds, four ounces, was born at Ingalls Memorial hospital, Harvey, Illinois.

*Joe O'Connor*, formerly an engineering assistant in the Staff Engineering Department, recently was transferred to the Public Information Department as a service representative. He replaces *Patrick J. McStay*, who moved up to the post of public information assistant. *Burt Wright*, who formerly held this latter position, was transferred to the Transportation Department as assistant to the superintendents of operating stations.

If you've moved recently,  
please notify  
CTA TRANSIT NEWS

**RECENT DEATHS AMONG EMPLOYEES**

**EDWARD C. BELLING**, 58, collector, Kedzie. Died 11-2-56. Employed 6-18-24.

**C. E. BLACKMER**, 71, retired motorman, 77th. Died 10-16-56. Employed 5-4-21.

**JOHN BOHAN**, 70, retired motorman, 77th. Died 10-8-56. Employed 1-28-14.

**LUKA CAGALJ**, 75, retired paver, Track. Died 10-31-56. Employed 3-24-25.

**CHARLES DAUGHERTY**, 50, clerk, North Avenue. Died 10-17-56. Employed 10-16-33.

**BOZO DUKICH**, 75, retired laborer, Track. Died 7-31-56. Employed 4-19-21.

**A. M. FITZGERALD**, 63, retired agent, West Section. Died 11-10-56. Employed 10-30-26.

**ALLAN S. FRANCISCO**, 57, operator, Limits. Died 10-27-56. Employed 3-28-23.

**K. H. GERRISH**, 61, retired agent, North Section. Died 10-27-56. Employed 12-31-28.

**ERNEST GROTH**, 43, operator, Kedzie. Died 10-25-56. Employed 1-9-43.

**JOHN HERALD**, 81, retired motorman, Kedzie. Died 10-10-56. Employed 7-21-05.

**C. P. HOFFMAN**, 87, retired motorman, South Section. Died 11-5-56. Employed 9-19-04.

**E. A. HUMPHREYS**, 69, retired machinist, South Shops. Died 10-13-56. Employed 11-3-19.

**C. J. KOBIDA**, 70, retired carpenter, West Shops. Died 9-13-56. Employed 8-27-19.

**H. C. KUNZ**, 63, retired motorman, Devon. Died 10-13-56. Employed 4-11-27.

**F. C. LIFKA**, 60, retired operator, Forest Glen. Died 10-12-56. Employed 3-22-18.

**EUGENE A. LYLES**, 57, trainman, South Section. Died 10-22-56. Employed 9-14-44.

**ALEX McCALL**, 65, laborer, Track. Died 10-19-56. Employed 9-11-30.

**J. P. MICHELS**, 81, retired conductor, North Section. Died 10-12-56. Employed 3-26-02.

**HERMAN M. NEUHAUS**, 58, extra guard, North Section. Died 10-26-56. Employed 5-17-20.

**ARTHUR H. PIPER**, 55, operator, Lawndale. Died 11-8-56. Employed 1-12-26.

**W. A. SCHALKE**, 57, retired motorman, Devon. Died 10-25-56. Employed 5-6-26.

**WALTER H. SCHWARZER**, 58, operator, North Avenue. Died 10-24-56. Employed 1-6-30.

**J. A. SENESCHALL**, 69, retired conductor, Lawndale. Died 10-24-56. Employed 3-4-08.

**THOMAS STOKELL**, 80, retired carpenter, West Shops. Died 9-28-56. Employed 9-17-18.

**W. M. THOMPSON**, 64, retired motorman, 77th. Died 10-6-56. Employed 4-11-23.

**ANTONIO TREZZO**, 56, laborer, Shops and Equipment Department. Died 10-24-56. Employed 4-25-47.

**F. J. VACHA**, 68, retired motorman, Lawndale. Died 10-20-56. Employed 8-26-13.

**C. A. WATTERSON**, 67, retired janitor, 77th. Died 11-2-56. Employed 2-3-09.

**P. P. WILKINSON**, 80, retired motorman, Cottage Grove. Died 10-21-56. Employed 3-9-10.



## GOLDENS GO FOR DOS-A-DOS!

FOLK, SQUARE and round dancing, which grow ever more popular among people of all ages, add up to a lot of fun and a host of friends for *Carpenter John Golden*, South Shops, and his wife, *Phoebe*, who make this activity their hobby.

While John acts as caller for square and folk dances, Phoebe assists beginners in the steps of a dance and urges "wallflowers" to take part. And when John turns his microphone over to another caller for a few numbers, he joins his wife in making up a part of a "square set" or folk dance group and helping out novices.

From September to June, they help to officiate at dances held at various Chicago Park District fieldhouses on Wednesday evenings, while Friday or Saturday evenings often find them conducting dances for members of private clubs or groups throughout Chicago or in other parts of Illinois.

"At our dances, we try to develop a friendly atmosphere and see that everyone has a good time," John explained. Proof of their ability to do so are the steadily decreasing number of "sideliners" as an evening progresses, and the many persons who come back, time after time, to dances conducted by the couple.

John and Phoebe get people acquainted by starting off an evening with an "Irish Washerwoman," "Ach, Ja!" or similar "mixer" folk dances. Next, John calls such "squares" as the traditional "Arkansas Traveler" or the modern "Open Up Your Heart." Between lively numbers, they sandwich in round dances, such as foxtrots, rhumbas or tangos, as "breathers."

The Goldens taboo dances that are too intricate and the calling of dances at too fast a tempo, according to John. Rather, he said, they try to keep dancing at a level where everyone can enjoy it.

Because of the couple's ability and versatility at dancing, they have participated as dancers at the International Square

**UNDER THE** direction of another caller, (from left) Phoebe, John, Joyce Johnson, and the couple's son, *David*, go through the steps of a "Texas Star" square. The Goldens are strong believers in the theory that one can't call for and instruct in dances unless both teacher and caller also take part.



**CALLING FOR** the square dance, "Swinging On The Garden Gate," at the Chicago Park District's Gage Park Fieldhouse, 55th street and Western avenue, *John Golden* makes sure he maintains a brisk, steady rhythm. He uses cowbell in his right hand to alert people that a dance is about to start.

Dance Festival for the last seven years. At this year's affair, held November 3 at the Conrad Hilton Hotel, Chicago, they moved from one ballroom to another as members of a group of dancers who took part in square, folk and round dancing of all kinds, from the earliest to the most up-to-date types.

The 31½-year CTA employe traces his interest in dancing back to his boyhood in Manitoba, Canada, when he played the fiddle for square dances. Phoebe, as a girl, often participated in folk dancing in her native England. However, neither one had engaged in dancing actively, since their early years, until about 14 years ago, when Phoebe's doctor suggested it as a means to help correct a low blood pressure condition. They became so interested in it that John decided to try his hand at calling and Phoebe at instructing beginners.

"We couldn't find a better way than dancing, and helping others to dance, to keep ourselves healthy and happy," said John.

**WHILE HER HUSBAND** calls, *Phoebe Golden* helps *Joyce Johnson* through the steps of the square "Open Up Your Heart." The attention and expert help given to beginning dancers has earned them the warm friendship of dozens of people who attend the couple's dances week after week.



# A GALLERY OF Christmas ART

ON A December day in 1843 an English educator and art patron, *Henry Cole*, sat at the library desk of his London home addressing to his friends what were probably the first Christmas cards ever printed. The cards depicted a Victorian family assembled at the festive board and the traditional Christmas customs of giving to the poor. They bore the now-classic greeting: "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to You."

Cole, in a historic move, two months before had commissioned *John Calcott Horsley*, a Royal Academy artist, to design the card and had struck off a thousand lithographed copies which were then hand-tinted by a professional "colorer." Cole dispatched some of the cards to his friends that December and offered the remainder for sale in a London shop.

Greeting cards have advanced a long step in the century since 1843, but the original idea of expressing Christmas greetings with fine art has remained unchanged.

Not every person can visit the great art galleries, and few can afford to purchase original paintings for their homes, but almost everyone can collect fine art on Christmas cards—"the art gallery of all the people," as it has been termed. And that is just what the American people are doing. Some tell how they mount Christmas cards in frames for their walls, others classify them by style and school in scrapbooks and file boxes, and teachers and students bring them to art classes for study.

Collections embrace not only contemporary cards, but others that originated in the three decades from 1870 to 1900 when both English and American Christmas cards reached a high degree of artistic excellence.



AN ENGLISHMAN, *Henry Cole*, sent the first Christmas cards in 1843. Illustrated above, the card was designed by the then-famous British artist, *John Calcott Horsley*.

The appearance of Henry Cole's card in the London of the 1840s coincided, curiously, with a period of great interest in Christmas in England. *Prince Albert*, *Victoria's* consort, is said to have introduced the first Christmas tree to England in this era, and *Charles Dickens* published some of his greatest Christmas stories—"A Christmas Carol," and "The Cricket on the Hearth" in the same decade.

Christmas cards appeared in America only shortly thereafter. The origin of the first ones is clouded, but one story, which provides a nice American contrast to the British account, gives credit for the first Yule greeting to a New York state dry goods merchant, *R. J. Pease* of Albany. Pease designed, printed and mailed one of the first examples as an advertisement for his "Great Variety Store and Temple of Fancy."

The best early Christmas art in America came, not unexpectedly, from Boston in the 1870s. *Louis Prang*, a sensitive and art-loving lithographer whose ideas were years ahead of his time, published his first Christmas card in 1874 and his last less than 20 years later. But in that brief interval he established a collection among the most prized in the world today.

Prang reproduced the fine art of his day. Curiously, the great Currier and Ives lithographs depicting nineteenth century America did not appear on Christmas cards until well into the twentieth century, but their popularity today is unflagging.

Toward the turn of the century, a postal card craze swept the country, carrying Prang and most other card publishers before it. It lasted for more than a decade and it was not until about 1908 that Christmas cards of the type we know today were published. The resurgence of fine art on cards did not occur until the 1930s, when a leading greeting card publisher took the lead in featuring the world's great paintings on cards, but its hold on the tastes and imaginations of Americans has become more secure in each succeeding year.

That is not to say that Santa Claus, holly wreaths, candles, bells and Yule logs have been abandoned as Christmas card illustrations. On the contrary, these age-old symbols are the ingredients of the modern Christmas card artists and are as warm and appealing as when they were first used a hundred years ago.



NO ARTIST is more popular at Christmas than *Norman Rockwell*. At right is shown a new painting for 1956 Christmas cards by the famous magazine illustrator.

THE CHRISTMAS art of a young Philadelphia painter, *Robert Schneckberg*, is characteristic of the contemporary trend in Yule cards.



INQUIRING REPORTER: Mary E. Clarke

LOCATION: General Office

## What do you enjoy the most about the Christmas Season?

**HENRY BOLDT**, training clerk; Training and Accident Prevention Department: "As Christmas draws near, we find ourselves making many enjoyable preparations, such as shopping, the sending of cards and gifts, and decorating of the Christmas tree. Throughout all this runs the nostalgic strain of Christmas melodies. All these things I appreciate, but, most of all, I enjoy the youngsters' surprise and joy when they finally receive the gifts for which they have yearned."



**LEE DeSUTTER**, chief clerk, Specifications Department: "Christmas Day is the one day in the year that our whole family gets together and has a wonderful time. I love to see the happiness on my children's faces when they open their packages. This day is the happiest holiday in the year for me."



**ADA GUSTAFSON**, telephone operator, Transportation Department: "The spirit of friendliness so prevalent in the air, the aroma of tasty dishes being artfully prepared, and the voices of children as they gleefully open their long-awaited gifts from Santa Claus: all these things endear the Christmas season to me."

**HAROLD CUNNINGHAM**, paymaster, Treasurer's Office: "The festive spirit that seems to prevail everywhere brings me much pleasure. And this year I will be more than happy, knowing that more people than ever before will be allowed to worship as they see fit and thus gain lots of happiness."

**MARY BERRY**, hospitalization clerk, Insurance Department: "What I like most is Christmas Eve when our family gathers around the gaily-decorated tree and, later, attends midnight mass together. The fact that everyone is so friendly and happy makes me wonder why we can't have the Christmas spirit the year around."





## CHRISTMAS GIFT WRAPPINGS — THAT ARE SPECIAL

IT'S OLD, but it's new each year, that merry fun-filled Christmas season. In tune with the holiday spirit we go about our shopping. When the last purchase has been completed, our thoughts turn to gift wrapping. Experts offer these hints to make your Christmas wrapping more enjoyable.

For added color, try using bright red or green tissue to line the inside of the gift box. Pleat two sheets of the desired color through the center, fit one into the box and the other across it, allowing the ends to extend. Extra tissue may be crushed length-wise and placed around the gift in the box to keep it from shifting.

There will never be any bulges or sad looking ends on your packages if you measure the paper to fit each one. Place the box upside down on the gift paper—this is so it may be sealed on the under side. Measure the paper around it, allow an inch for overlap, fold back excess and cut off. There should be just enough paper at each end to measure up  $\frac{3}{4}$ ths of box depth. Cut away any extra. Remember to save all the "cuttings." There will often be enough to wrap small gifts.

If the box is too large for one sheet of paper—tape two or more sheets together before you start wrapping. Never try to piece the paper on the package.

Use ribbon to accent and highlight the colors of the paper. Choose one of the brighter and more prominent colors found in the design and match the ribbon to it. Make sure the ribbon you choose offers the most pleasing contrast to the background color of the paper.

The pattern and color of the gift wrapping is the most interesting part of the package—show it off by placing the tie around the edges or down one side of the box and add a simple bow. Always make the box for each package separately. Put ribbon round the box first, and knot securely. Then use a fresh length of ribbon to make a bow. Loop it back and forth several times, keeping the center pinched in tightly between thumb and fingers of left hand as ribbon is formed into loops with the other. Bend a short piece of spoolwire around bow center and twist the ends of the wire together tightly. Use the ends of the ribbon already tied around the box to attach the bow.

Try some of these special packaging effects pictured on this page—just for fun!



Santa's eyes are fairly popping over what he has inside. Roll bright red paper around the box and tape it neatly in place. Cut a mustache and fringed beard from white crepe paper. Tape on a tiny red tree ball for nose and cut large white paper ovals for eyes. Cut a jaunty cap from two pieces of red paper—paste edges together and trim with more white crepe.

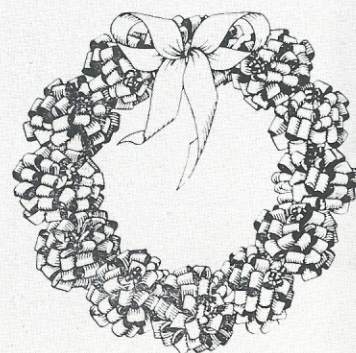
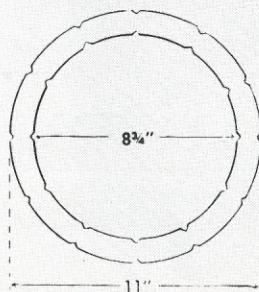
Wrap half a long narrow box in pale blue foil, the other half in dramatic Noel gift paper. Cut out the "Noel" script and tape one end to a pale blue ribbon bow—glittering with spiraled wires which have been dabbed with clear nail polish, dipped in flitter and topped with stars.

Wrap a gift for a "small angel" in a paper to match. Perch a green Christmas candle on a marshmallow—attach to top of the package and let two of the tiny angels cut from the pattern flutter around it.

Young and old—we all love to pull apart a party snapper. For a delightful dash of difference, roll hosiery, lingerie or other small items into an empty paper towel core. Cover with Merry Christmas paper, tie ribbon bows at each end and cut remaining paper into coarse fringe.

**POMPOMS HELP** make up an attractive gift package, but can also be used in making a shining, perfect-sized wreath, which can be made easily, used annually and kept almost indefinitely. For inside doors, windows, the mantel or as a table centerpiece—the wreath is as usable as it is fun to make!

**Materials:** A piece of cardboard (laundry shirt stiffener—or just any stiffer than paper material), 12 very full Pompoms, and a yard of  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch red ribbon for the large bow topping the wreath. For a 12-inch wreath, cut cardboard ring as shown in diagram: 11-inch diameter over-all, with a band  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inches wide. (Band may be narrower if cardboard is very heavy.) Notch the ring evenly on inside and outside of rim, notches opposite each other. Make 12 notches for this size wreath. Tie finished Pompoms to cardboard ring at notches, covering the entire ring. Top wreath with a large bow and hang just about anywhere in your home for Christmas sparkle!





# medically speaking

By Dr. George H. Irwin  
CTA Medical Director

IN RECENT years a large number of antihistamine drugs have come into popular use. For this reason it is well that we know something about their effects and reactions so that we can better understand their purpose.

Generally speaking, these preparations have the same effect, but in varying degree, as alcohol, carbon monoxide, sedatives, narcotics, anticonvulsion and vasodilating drugs. The bad feature about the use of antihistamines is that many of them may be bought over the counter at certain drug stores without a physician's prescription, thus leading to self medication which can cause trouble.

Associated symptoms which may or may not occur after these medicines have been taken are headaches, dizziness, inability to concentrate, disturbed coordination, drowsiness and the slowing of one's reactions. It should be remembered that the antihistamines actually do give relief when used for proper indications. Your personal physician will decide this. The unfavorable aspect is the self-use for conditions in which the drug is not indicated.

One medical writer reports that in a group of patients tested in 1955, unfavorable reactions such as those listed occurred in varying degree.

Antihistamine drugs are advertised as being helpful in the treatment of many diseases, but the most common uses are for allergies of all kinds, common colds, skin rashes especially those complicated by itching, hayfever, asthma,

nervousness and for unusual reactions from certain drugs and blood transfusions. The maximum effect of these drugs is usually obtained in two to six hours. Therefore, if the drug must be used, it is better and safer to take it at bedtime and not in the morning before going to work.

This subject should be of interest to all CTA employees. However, it should be of special interest and importance to those who operate such vehicles as buses and elevated trains. It has been the cause of accidents to repairmen and mechanics. In short, all industrial workers should be cautious about the use of antihistamine drugs.

So, in considering the use of antihistamine products, it would be wise to remember the following points: 1. Antihistamine drugs can cause unfavorable reactions and accidents as well as beneficial results. 2. Do not take antihistamine medicines without consulting your personal physician. 3. When you do visit your doctor it is only fair to him that you explain the nature of your work so he can be guided accordingly.

It is the sincere hope of the CTA management that the information contained in these articles has been of some help to CTA employees. Some of you may wonder why more detailed treatment of the disease under discussion is not described. The actual and specific treatment is a problem which should be taken up with your personal physician. This column is written solely to give you a better understanding of the more common diseases.

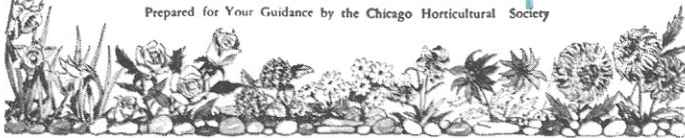
A SWEEPING view of the development of Congress street expressway looking east across Halsted street towards the United States post office building is presented in this panoramic picture. In the left foreground is the median strip in which rapid transit trains will operate when the project is completed. The strip leads into the new subway portal

visible beneath the Halsted street bridge. Beyond the bridge are the ramp approaches to the upper level of the highway which is routed through the post office building. Shortly after this picture was taken, CTA workers began laying track in this section of the median strip connecting with the rails previously placed in the subway tube.



# Garden Helps

Prepared for Your Guidance by the Chicago Horticultural Society



THE FREEZING weather of winter is slowly putting our gardens to sleep and there is little to be done outdoors. One important thing, however, is to see that certain tender plants receive protection after the soil has frozen.

In most instances we put protection over a perennial or other tender plant, not to keep it warm in winter, but instead to see that it remains frozen after the cold has once solidified the soil around the roots.

Last month we explained how to protect oriental poppies, primroses and delphiniums so as to avoid covering the crown and causing rot. As to all other perennials, when the ground has thoroughly frozen, cover them with fallen leaves, straw, excelsior or any other material that will cut off sun so that there will be no alternating freezings and thawing as so often occurs in this climate in January and February.

If you have a window box or any other outdoor container that is now bare of plants, dress it up with evergreen branches for the winter. Long needled branches like those of Scotch pine or white pine are inexpensive at the flower shops and will make a beautiful display outdoors. Trim the stubs of the branches so they will readily absorb moisture. Thoroughly wet the soil in the container so it is nearly a "mud"—yet firm enough to hold the evergreen branches upright. Do this on a cold day, using hot water if the soil is

already frozen solid. The evergreens will be firmly frozen into the container and will remain green clear through until March or April.

Proper care should be given your indoor plants during the cold weather. A container for indoor plants should be porous like the ordinary flower pot. If you use a metal or glazed container always put some large pebbles or crushed stone about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " deep in the bottom before filling with soil. This will permit the water you apply to pass through the soil and not drown the roots. After a heavy watering in a glass or metal container, tip it on its side in the sink to let excess water run out.

It is important to use the proper soil mixture for house plants. The best mixture is about one part of good garden soil with an equal part of peatmoss or leaf mold, mixed with one-eighth part of sharp sand.

Some plants must have plenty of light to thrive indoors, especially plants that bear flowers. Others, which are used mostly for their foliage, will not be happy in strong sunlight and can be grown indoors, if they receive natural light or artificial light. Keep the light at least a foot or two above the upper leaves, and if possible, keep light on at least eight or more hours a day.

Another requirement to grow house plants successfully is to provide humidity. If the container or pot is set in a tray with some fine gravel, about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " deep, and water kept in the bottom of the tray it will help to keep the plant humid. However, the water must not touch the bottom of the pot. Give indoor plants some plant food occasionally, but do not overdo this. A soluble plant food diluted as directed on the package can be used instead of the regular watering.



**NORTH PARK** operators came through with a fine safety record to win the third quarterly Station Achievement Award for a reduction in surface system passenger type accidents. Here a group of them form the background as *C. E. Keiser*, (left), superintendent of transportation, hands the symbolic plaque to *E. A. Guiles*, day superintendent of the station.



**WINNERS OF** the combined traffic and passenger award for the fifth straight quarter was Laramie station of the rapid transit system. *Frank Boland* (center), day superintendent, and *Fred W. Till* (right), night superintendent, and a group of station personnel were on hand to receive the award from *C. E. Keiser*, superintendent of transportation, at the presentation held early in November.



**THE TRAFFIC** type award for the quarter went to Limits station which topped all other surface system stations in the third period competition by registering a 1.35 decline in the accident rate per million passengers. Presentation of the award plaque was made to *Herman Erickson* (left), day superintendent, by *W. J. McCarter*, general manager, as a group of operators looked on.





"Remember Me"

Let's

Finish

the Job!



# Join <sup>THE</sup> MARCH OF DIMES

## IN JANUARY

COOK COUNTY'S polio toll last summer was more than 1,300 victims, and some 60 per cent of these cases are benefiting directly from March of Dimes funds. In addition, more than

850 patients from previous years are receiving continuing aid. In 1956 alone more than \$356,000 has been spent in Cook County for the medical, hospital and respiratory needs of po-

lio victims. Over the past several years, almost \$51,500 has been expended for 55 CTA employes or their family members victimized by polio. Five of these were stricken in 1956.

It's a fair exchange...  
**ANY TIME!**



THE CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
P. O. Box 3555, Chicago 54, Illinois

Form 3547 Requested

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