

IRISH: They Are Transit's Traditionals

and Prominent in CTA's Past, Present, and Future

By Arline Datu

There has been a strong Irish accent to the transit industry in the United States since every trolley car had a two-man crew.

Chicago's transit industry is characteristic.

The fathers have followed the grandfathers and the sons have followed the fathers as conductors, motormen, bus operators, maintenance workers, and office personnel -- and you can add sisters and female cousins to the mix.

And, today -- in this year of 1976 -- nearly eight percent of CTA's job-holding population are Irish either by native birth, extraction, or immigration.

In typical Irish names on the CTA payroll, Murphy is the current leader with 24.

If you walked into CTA today and said, "Has anybody here seen Kelly?", you could be inquiring about any one of 19 people.

There are 14 Kennedys and a like number of McDonalds. There are 11 Rileys, 10 Murrays, 10 Sullivans, 10 McCarthys, 9 Fitzpatricks, 9 McGills.

Perhaps the most famous Irish clan of recent vintage is the O'Connor group, most noted for the retired Tom O'Connor, immediate predecessor to George Krambles as General Manager.

O'yes, there are a goodly number of O'thises and O'thats. For example: O'Connell, O'Day, O'Dell, O'Donnell, O'Dowd, O'Grady, O'Hare, O'Keefe, O'Kray, O'Leary, O'Mahony, O'Malley, O'Nan, O'Neal, (and O'Neill), O'Riordan, O'Rourke, O'Shaughnessy, O'Shea, O'Sullivan, and O'Toole. And, there are 17 O'Briens.

There are three Daleys.

There is one McDonough, but it's a rather important one -- the name of the acting chairman.

And, there is the vice-chairman, James Quinn, who has long been a generator of CTA progress as a member of the Transit Board (see TRANSIT NEWS, January, 1976).

What accounts for the propensity of the Irish for public service jobs? When the Irish came to this country, they brought no trade skills with them. They were farmers, for the most part. There were few ready made opportunities for them in the industrial revolution.

For jobs, therefore, the Irish turned to the developing community service needs in the big cities where so many of them settled -- the police force, the fire brigade, and the transit system.

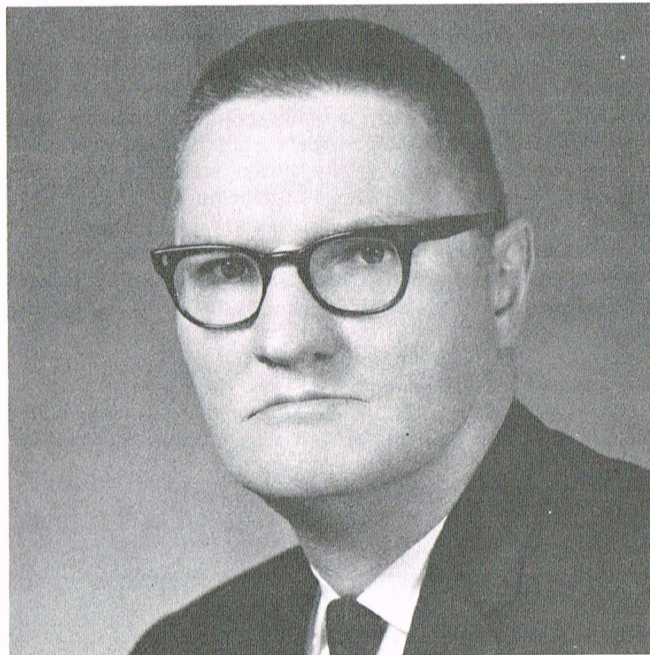
According to Jack (Personnel) O'Connor, who was especially helpful in digging out Irish lore and traditions for this TRANSIT NEWS staffer's benefit, there was once a saying at CTA that Irish immigrants arrived at CTA terminals with a bag in one hand and a badge in the other.

Evidently, CTA jobs were success stories at the family dinner table. A goodly number of third and fourth generation CTA employees are represented in today's roster.

"I think it speaks well of a company when employees recommend their sons and daughters," says Jack O'Connor.

We went out to talk to some of these CTA Irish as they got ready for St. Patrick's Day. (Continued Page 2)

New CTA Operations Chief Named



Harold H. Geissenheimer

Harold H. Geissenheimer, a Pittsburgh transit executive with 26 years experience, is the new Manager of CTA's General Operations Division. His selection is described by Acting Chairman James J. McDonough as a "further step in the formation of a new management team of the CTA." Geissenheimer fills the vacancy created when George Krambles was elevated to the top administrative position of General Manager.

Geissenheimer, who is 48, has been Acting Co-Executive Director and Director of Transit Operations of PATransit, the bus, suburban streetcar and suburban railroad system operated by the Port Authority of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. It is the nation's seventh largest.

At Pittsburgh, Geissenheimer was responsible for developing the unified PATransit system, consolidating the routes of 33 companies. He was active in the planning of a proposed rapid transit system and for a new "busway" system (now in the initial stages of construction) for providing exclusive roadways for bus operations. In the last two years, under his direction, PATransit ridership increased by 19 per cent and revenues by 10 per cent.

Geissenheimer was graduated in 1949 from New York university with a degree in transportation and economics.

In the transit industry, he has been active both nationally and internationally. He is a member of the rapid transit committee of the International Union of Public Transport, headquartered in Brussels, Belgium. With the American Public Transit Association, Geissenheimer is chairman of the Light Rail Task Force and the Advertising Standards Committee, vice-chairman of the Bus Operations Committee, and a member of the Marketing Advisory Board and the Rapid Transit Technical and Operations Committee. (Continued on Page 2)

CTA TRANSIT NEWS

FOR CTA EMPLOYEES
AND RETIREES

MARCH, 1976

IRISH: (Continued)

Robert W. McCarthy, conductor, of Harlem/Lake is "thoroughly" Irish. His mother's name was Duffy and both sets of grandparents lived on the Emerald Isle. Irene, his wife, works at the Mart. His favorite tune is "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling" -- and his do.

Bus Operator Martin Keane of Limits says "you can go anywhere in the world and meet another Irishman." That, he thinks, is why they get along so well with everybody. Keane gets his corned beef and cabbage at his mother's rather than at home. He's married to a Mexican girl, Josephine, who is a teacher's aide for the Board of Education.

Eileen Murphy Neurater, Customer Service (and a TRANSIT NEWS reporter), says her gift of blarney enables her to talk faster than she can write. She handles customer concerns by phone and says she always wants the caller to feel it was worth calling. Her non-Irish husband, Rudolph, drives a bus out of Forest Glen.

Throughout this issue of TRANSIT NEWS you will find additional profiles of just a few of the many fine Irish names that are represented on the circulation list of the publication.

And, on the back page, you will find some of the facts about Ireland itself that we learned from these people.

We didn't learn Gaelic since few of our Irish speak it. But, we did learn one phrase that makes an ideal close for this story:

A cara delis bennact naom padraig leib ur fad.

Translation: Sincere friends, the blessings of St. Patrick be with you all.



IN THE CTA CLAN--

Edward O'Rourke

Ed O'Rourke, supervisor of I.D. cards in Sales, can't claim native Irish birth, but he can put on a brogue that would make you think he'd just come from the heart of Ireland.

Of course it helps to have parents who were born in southern Ireland--County Cavan. But Ed's is a talent that's been well groomed through his activity in community theater. He's a character actor whose specialty is dialects.

Ed, however, insists that the Irish in general have a flair for theater. "We're extroverts all the way through."

Though he's never been to Ireland, Ed says if he ever went back, he thinks he'd fit in. His reason, "I hear it's very characteristic of the Irish that they enjoy talking a lot."

Geissenheimer (Continued)

Among civic activities he has been a director of the Pittsburgh Branch of the Pennsylvania Association for the Blind and a member of the Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce, the Shrine Syria Temple and the Pittsburgh Rotary Club. He also has been a major in the Pennsylvania National Guard, serving as commandant of the Pittsburgh Branch of the Guard's Officer Candidate School.

"There's no green like the green in Ireland. I love it," says Alice Dungan, who as a child, "always talked about going back there."

As good as her word, Alice, a secretary in Human Relations, has already visited there five times.

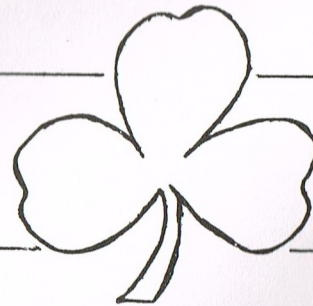
"I like to go to Ireland for the weddings," she says. "They really do them up big--singing and dancing till six in the morning."

The Irish don't brag, she says, but she found the blarney to be more prevalent among the men. "They always tell you they're shy, but then they come out with these great lines."

Alice labels herself typically Irish because "I like to laugh a lot."

Her father, an adventurer and a man who liked to travel, came to the U.S. 40 years ago from County Kilkenny. Alice says, "He started to Australia, but landed in Boston and decided to stay."

Alice Dungan



IN THE

CTA CLAN

Edward McDonnell

Edward McDonnell came here from Ireland's County Mayo in 1948 because "in fact it looked a better place to make a living." It was.

McDonnell, a bus cleaner at Limits Garage since the year he landed, admits, "I have a pretty nice life over here."

Though time has done much to adapt Ed to life here, it hasn't touched his rich, thick brogue. But he'll protest anyway, "I haven't the brogue as much as some other guys."

His observations of his native countrymen are delivered with typical Irish flavor--"They're a good-hearted race o' people. Nobody deprives anyone else of anything that's comin' their way."

Ed lives with his wife Agnes and their three children on Chicago's Northwest Side.

MULLIGAN

That's Me!

A Bicentennial Bus Biography by ANIT LEPPIKS

Ever meet an Irishman who didn't tell you straight off what he thought about those bloomin' English rulers?

Revolutionary War hero Hercules Mulligan didn't talk that way.

He was too busy listening to the conversations of British officers as he tailored their waistcoats. In short, he was spying on the British.

His alertness saved General George Washington's life more than once as Mulligan learned of British plots to seize the Revolutionary commander-in-chief.

Mulligan, known in New York as "the fashionable clothier," emigrated, with his family, to America when he was six years old.

Like his family in Ireland, who belonged to the Society of United Irishmen, a group devoted to the independence of Ireland, Mulligan was no lover of British rule. He was a member of the Sons of Liberty.

Mulligan was responsible for turning Tory sentimentalist, Alexander Hamilton (who lived with him when he first came to America), into so much of a patriot that Hamilton, too, joined the Sons of Liberty.

Mulligan recruited and drilled the youth of New York City; he organized public meetings opposing the loyalists; he led a raid on a British armory; and, on July 9, 1776, he and Captain Isaac Sears rallied



patriots in destroying a leaden statue of King George. (The statue was later remelted into 50,000 bullets for the Continental Army.)

He also was a member of a committee which tried loyalists conspiring against the revolutionaries.

Saved G. Washington

In the meanwhile, Mulligan had married Elizabeth Sanders of New York, allying himself with a distinguished American family, one of whose members, Philip Livingston, was a Signer of the Declaration of Independence.

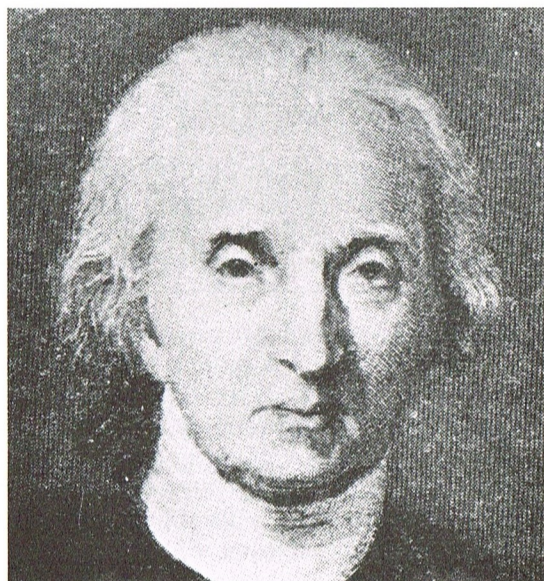
Upon meeting Hamilton again in 1777, Mulligan was appointed "confidential correspondent" to Washington, upon Hamilton's recommendation.

In this effort, Mulligan was assisted by his brother Hugh, whose company was a principal supplier of the British commissariat. Hugh introduced Mulligan to General Clinton's subordinates, many of whom patronized his clothing shop. With such connections, plus the billeting of British officers in his home, Mulligan had ample opportunity to (Continued on page 23)

--and here's another Irish patriot for whom a CTA bus is named--

Charles Carroll

Although his Roman Catholic faith barred Charles Carroll from participation in political affairs, he could not resist. In 1773, this country gentleman engaged in a newspaper debate on the issue of colonial rights in Maryland. His involvement gave him recognition as a leader and he was elected to serve in the first Maryland convention, 1774-76. He was a member of the party which traveled to Canada to seek support for the colonies and was a signer of the Declaration of Independence. He was elected as one of the first two U.S. Senators from Maryland in 1789 and an original director of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. At the time of his death in 1832, he was the last surviving signer of the Declaration. American Catholics generally supported the war for independence and Carroll's leadership is credited with being the major influence.



Historical Pictures Service - Chicago

The CTA Chef

Food and drink form the basis for good times in any country. Here Irish CTA employees share a few recipes long popular in their families. The Michael G. Kelly (Engineering) family top off an Irish meal with chocolate lime (for green) parfaits:

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| 1 pkg. 3 oz. lime gelatin | 12 chocolate wafers |
| 2 tbsp. lime or lemon juice | 1 pint lime sherbet |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ cup instant non-fat dry milk | |

Dissolve lime gelatin in cup of boiling water. Add juice. Chill in refrigerator until mixture is consistency of egg white. Sprinkle dry milk on mixture and beat with mixer at high speed until light soft peaks form. Fold in lime sherbet. Crush chocolate wafers. Alternate layers of whipped mixture and wafers in parfait glass. Chill in refrigerator. Garnish with few wafer crumbs before serving.

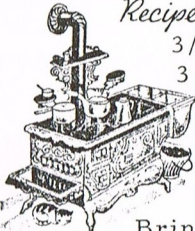
Recipes for Irish Soda Bread vary, says Alice Dungan (Human Relations), mainly because U.S. flour is different from that available in Ireland. Her preference:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 2 cups unsifted flour | 3 tbsp. butter |
| 2 tbsp. sugar | 1 cup raisins |
| 2 tsp. baking powder | 1 cup sour milk or |
| 1 tsp. soda | buttermilk |

Combine dry ingredients and cut in butter and milk. Mix together. Add raisins and knead into round loaf. Put in a greased tin. Cut a cross in the bread with a knife. Bake at 375 for approximately 45 minutes.

The soda bread of Edward O'Rourke (Sales):

Here's what's cookin' IRISH SODA BREAD Serves
Recipe from the kitchen of "EDDIE O"

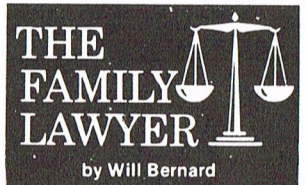


$\frac{3}{4}$ package raisins - $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar
 3 cups sifted flour - 3 teaspoons baking powder
 1 teaspoon baking soda -- 2 eggs
 pinch salt; sprinkle of nutmeg
 1 pint sour cream -- $\frac{1}{2}$ box caraway seeds

Bring raisins to boil in a little water; drain & let cool. Mix sugar, flour, baking powder, soda, salt & nutmeg. Blend eggs & sour cream, add to dry ingredients & mix thoroly. Add cooled raisins & caraway seeds. Bake one hour at 375 degrees.

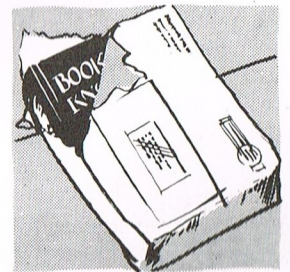
What to top off a meal? Irish coffee, of course. Here's Alice Dungan's brew:

- Into a large warm whiskey glass:
 Pour 1 jigger of Irish whiskey
 Add strong black coffee up to $\frac{3}{4}$ full
 Add plenty of sugar (average 3 cubes)
 - natural sugar preferred
 Top by adding pure or whipped cream poured gently over a teaspoon. Do not stir.



Unordered Merchandise

Suppose you receive in the morning mail a brand new dictionary that you haven't ordered. Enclosed with the dictionary is a bill for \$25. If you leave the dictionary on a shelf, unused, you cannot be held legally liable for the price.



But suppose you do start using it. Or give it away to a friend. Or toss it into the ashcan. Then, according to an old common law doctrine, you have "exercised dominion" over the book and must pay for it.

Under this doctrine countless consumers, over the years, have paid for things they did not really want.

But now most states as well as Congress have passed special statutes changing the common law. These statutes usually allow the recipient of unordered merchandise to simply treat it as a gift.

This does not mean, however, that the recipient can take unfair advantage of his new privilege. Say a delivery boy leaves a carton of groceries on your doorstep by mistake. And you know perfectly well that the groceries were meant for the people next door.

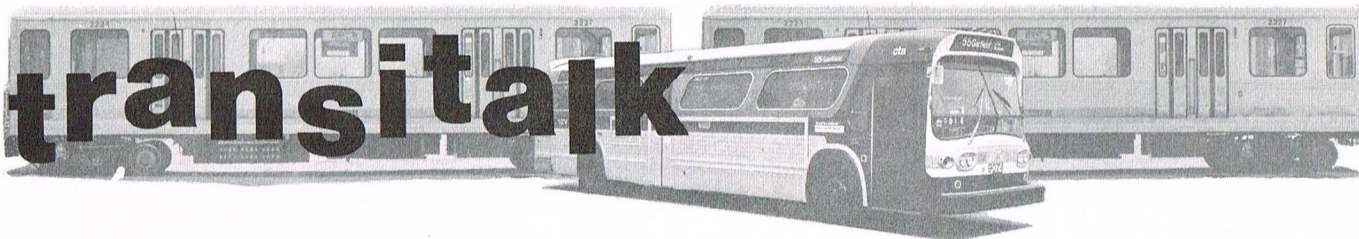
You might argue that this was "unordered merchandise," hence yours to keep for nothing. But chances are that the statute would not be held applicable in the event of an honest mistake.

In one case a man received the annual renewal of an insurance policy from his broker. For two months he kept it, making no response. Then he informed the broker that he was not taking the insurance.

But in these circumstances, a court ruled later, the man could be held liable for at least the two months' insurance. The years of previous dealings, said the court, had justified the broker in assuming that "the retention of the policy implied acceptance."

An American Bar Association public service feature.

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IF YOU ARE SIDELINED BY ILLNESS: In the wake of reported absences due to influenza, the CTA Insurance Department would like to remind employees that if they are off more than seven days because of illness, they must report to and be approved by the Medical Department before being allowed to return to work.

The Insurance Department also said that when employees submit their medical bills, they must send them in with a completed red, white and blue Notice of Claim form GI-50691. This form is absolutely essential in order to process the bills, and is available at all CTA locations.

QUARTERLY SAFETY WINNERS SALUTED: Vehicle Maintenance shops at both 52nd St. Garage and Kimball Terminal had perfect no-injury accident records during the last three months of 1975 to win the Fourth Quarter Employee Safety Contest in their respective areas of competition. Skokie Rail Vehicle Shops also won out over Bus Shops in their two-team contest and returned to the South Siders the uncoveted Raspberry Award.

Representatives of Maintenance Department management presented the awards to both day and night crews at 52nd St. and Kimball. In congratulating 52nd St. foreman Jim Ward and Kimball's Anthony Odrowski, they said the competition had been very tight. They pointed out that the first five of the 10 garages in the contest had a combined total of only six injuries per 168,796 man-hours worked.

After the presentation ceremonies, coffee and rolls were served to all Vehicle Maintenance employees on the winning teams and \$5 gift certificates were given to those whose names were picked during special drawings. For the year 1975 as a whole, Forest Glen Garage, 98th St. Terminal and South Shops had the lowest overall accident frequency rates per man-hours of exposure in Vehicle Maintenance activities.

JANITOR HELPS SUBDUE UNRULY RIDERS: A janitor gang worker helped bring about the arrest recently of two unruly Rapid Transit riders who were assaulting other passengers and damaging property on a West-Northwest Route train. Otis Richards, the janitor, was on his way to work at the Jefferson Park Terminal. The two offenders boarded the train at Damen Avenue and began soliciting cigarettes and money from other riders. When they were refused, they became abusive.

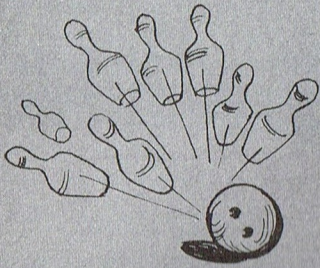
Richards saw what was happening and alerted the motorman, James E. Pearson (West Section), who called for police to meet the train when it pulled into Jefferson Park. Richards then went back to confront the unruly pair and protect other riders while keeping the two men from leaving the train.

On the platform at Jefferson Park, Maintenance electricians Nick Nickolas and Miguel Rios helped Richards and police take the two offenders into custody after they had kicked out windows on the train. The two were charged with assault on passengers and on Richards, damage to property and resisting arrest.

CONCERNED ABOUT EVERYONE: Mrs. Stella Jackowski, of West Chestnut St., thinks Milwaukee Ave. bus operator Wallace Cochrane (Forest Glen Garage) is "the most courteous person ever. She called all the streets and told everyone to be careful getting off the bus. I've never heard or seen such a person who was concerned about everyone," Mrs. Jackowski said. "Please reward her for effort and kindness to others."

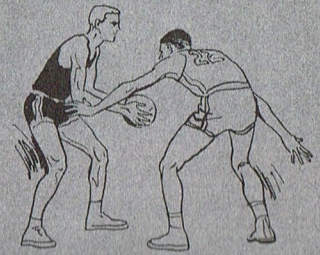
The retreat captain at St. Alphonsus Church on West Wellington Ave. wrote to commend charter bus operator John J. Jearas (Limits Garage) for "his interest and concern for passengers." Mrs. Jacqueline S. Price said she always asks for Jearas when chartering a bus to the church retreat in Glenview. "Many senior citizens make this annual retreat, and I'm sure one very important reason is that Jerry will be driving us."

Ms. Elizabeth A. Eklove, of West Windsor Ave., said she is a frequent user of CTA and "I've never had such excellent service as I get on the 85 Central bus and by driver Number 3277 (Edward Chew, of Forest Glen Garage) in particular. He says 'Good morning' to each one of his passengers, and they even reply and wish him the same. The most important thing is he's always on time, no matter what the weather is like. It's a pleasure riding on his bus."



CTA Sports News

MEL ALEXANDER, Sports Editor



North Park Wins Basketball Tournament

In what might truly be called a "barn burner," smooth North Park cooled off the upstarts from Archer to take the CTA basketball championship at Washington Park Fieldhouse by a score of 76 to 69.

The game was probably the finest of the season and featured the "very best ever" performance of North Park's guard Billy Standback. Billy, high scorer for the night with 38 points, played a superb game and motivated his team to victory with his skillful passing and ball handling.

Actually Archer got off in front. But the valiant North Park team fought back to take a half time lead, 37 to 29.

In the third quarter North Park opened up a 15 point lead--only to see it fade in the fourth quarter when Archer scored 31 points to come within two of tying the game. But North Park "snapped back" with

Standback to stop the Archer drive to take the championship.

Archer, playing a zone defense, couldn't stop the sharp outside shooting of Standback. But by the same token, the man to man defense of North Park couldn't contain center R. Garner who scored 27 points, and guard W. Jones who scored 18.

The team that was supposed to be in the final game--69th Street--wasn't there at all.

In a surprising upset, the 14-0 season record 69th Street Raiders were scuttled by Archer in the semi-finals.

All in all, the season was filled with suspense as to which teams would qualify for the playoffs. There was never any doubt about the Raiders, of course, but the standings of 77th Street, 52nd Street and South Side "L" were identical so that playoff selections had to be made on the basis of who had beaten whom.



THE 1975-76 BASKETBALL CHAMPS! North Park Garage. Pictured left to right, standing: J. Towns, J. Boyd, B. Barry, E. Jenkins, D. Lewis, J. Hadley, M. Cohen and Coach J. Nelson. Kneeling: D. Washington, B. Standback, R. Miller, R. Spann, W. Fitzpatrick, R. Richardson, B. Barnes.

CTA BASKETBALL LEAGUE

(FINAL STANDINGS)

| South Division | W | L | North Division | W | L |
|----------------|----|----|----------------|----|----|
| 69th Street | 14 | 0 | North Park | 11 | 3 |
| Archer | 10 | 4 | North Avenue | 10 | 4 |
| 77th Street | 7 | 7 | Forest Glen | 9 | 5 |
| 52nd Street | 7 | 7 | North Side "L" | 9 | 5 |
| South Side "L" | 7 | 7 | Kedzie | 6 | 7 |
| West Side "L" | 5 | 9 | Limits | 4 | 9 |
| 77th Shops | 2 | 11 | General Office | 2 | 11 |
| Beverly | 0 | 13 | | | |

NORTH PARK (76)—Miller 3, 0-0, 6; Standback 19, 0-0, 38; Spann 1, 0-0, 2; Barry 3, 1-1, 7; Boyd 1, 0-0, 2; Hadley 2, 2-2, 6; Jenkins 4, 1-2, 9; Lewis 3, 0-0, 6. **Totals:** 36, 4-5, 76.

ARCHER (69)—Garner 9, 9-3, 27; Reynolds 2, 3-0, 7; Collins 2, 0-0, 4; Jones 9, 0-0, 18; Dorsey 0, 1-1, 1; Brown 2, 0-0, 4; Golden 4, 0-2, 8. **Totals:** 28, 13-6, 69.

| | | | | |
|------------|----|----|----|-------|
| North Park | 16 | 21 | 18 | 21-76 |
| Archer | 15 | 13 | 21 | 20-69 |

Fouled Out: None. Total Fouls: North Park 17, Archer 16.



W. Jones, 15, Archer, dribbles past a North Park defender on his way to scoring 2 of his 18 game points.



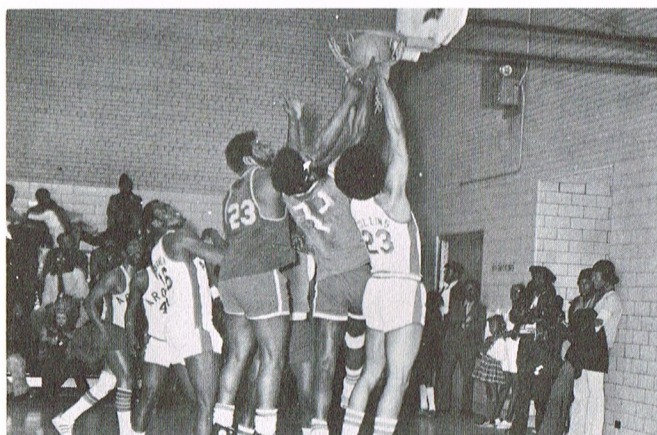
R. Garner, 16, Archer, seems to have the tip-off as T. Collins, 23, and J. Hadley, 7, wait for ball.



R. Garner, 16, goes high as he tries to block a shot by North Park's D. Lewis.



The Archer team, second best in the tournament playoffs includes, standing, left to right: R. Pritchett, B. Spanks, J. Reynolds, R. Garner, Coach H. Bankston, T. Collins, H. Johnson, E. Dorsey and W. Jones. Kneeling: C. Brown, G. Golden, W. Lewis, C. McGee and B. Hall.



It's all hands as D. Lewis, 23, B. Barry, 22, and T. Collins, 23, reach high for rebound.



D. Lewis, 23, goes in for easy layup over C. Brown, 44, as W. Jones, 15, awaits outcome.

Interest Booming In CTA Sports

By W. B. Wolfan

Sports is a common denominator for the American public and the Chicago Transit Authority is no exception to the general rule.

For concrete evidence of the remarkable present day phenomena of intense spectator-player interest, one needs only to visit the Washington Park field-house and sit in on a typical CTA basketball league night.

There is as much tension and excitement in a CTA basketball game as there is in an NCAA championship playoff, and the fans roar just as loudly at a spectacular play. The same story of unbridled enthusiasm marks a softball game for CTA players at the Grant Park diamond during the spring and summer.

The overall CTA sports program, inaugurated in 1969, has expanded rapidly in general interest and participation. Praise is due to a few dedicated individuals who put in many hours on their own time to keep the leagues going in basketball, softball and on the bowling lanes.

Within the last year, the addition of bowling leagues for both men and women, has proved to be a popular innovation, and further tenpin growth is anticipated.

Three CTA employees, Jackie Robinson, one time assistant to Agis Bray, former sports director for the CTA; John Eckel, and Mel Alexander contribute greatly to CTA sports activities. Eckel and Robinson are co-ordinators of the sports program, the former for the softball league and the latter basketball co-ordinator.

Eckel (General Office) has worked for the CTA 22 years. He has been associated with the CTA sports program for four years and directs softball play. He also handles sports liaison with the Chicago park district. John is well qualified for his softball role. He has been a member of the Softball Umpires' Association for six years, and also belongs to the Grant Park Recreation Association.

A catcher, Eckel was a star player as a member of the championship club in the Merchandise Mart league (Pino's Lounge) for four years. Eckel also played with the Mart Motors club in the same league in 1961.

The basketball co-ordinator, Jackie Robinson, has been involved in the CTA sports program since its inception. A bus driver out of the Kedzie Garage, Robinson is responsible for organizing the basketball league program and scheduling the games. He sees to it that the league machinery operates. Oddly enough Robinson was never a basketball player. He was the starting right halfback (weight 145 pounds) for Hirsch High School and also was a member of the wrestling team.

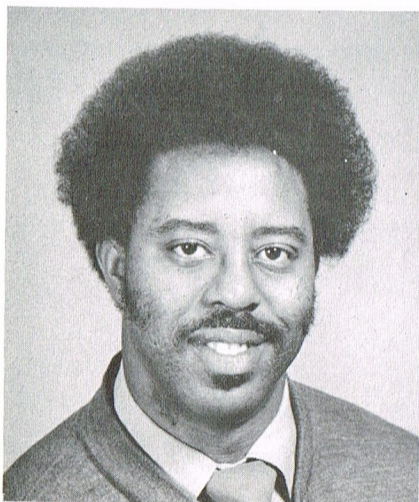
Today Jackie, who has been a CTA employee for 10 years, plays softball with the General Office team.

Another who plays an important role in CTA sports is Mel Alexander, sports editor of Transit News. Mel regularly chronicles all major CTA sports events. He was a bus driver before joining public affairs, and has 20 years service with the Authority.

No longer active athletically, Alexander was an outstanding softball second baseman for the Esquire Magazine team in the Chicago Industrial League some years ago.

Another early booster of the CTA sports program was Tom Stiglic, CTA director of instruction.

Present CTA sports officials are looking forward to a banner 1976--and from all indications, it promises to be a year of even greater individual participation by CTA employees and larger game attendance.



Jackie Robinson



John Eckel



Mel Alexander

This, Too, Is Public Service--

Transit Guidance For Soviet Jews

by Anit Leppiks

It's a long way from Russia to Rogers Park.

The transition takes longer still when you don't know how to get where you need to go on a daily basis.

But CTA's Community Relations department is beginning to make the trip easier for the estimated 175 Soviet Jews who are immigrating to the city this Bicentennial year.

Community Relations is trying to translate CTA service to riders on a personal basis. Therefore, when Community Relations Coordinators Jim East and Steve Hastalis of CTA's Community Relations Section visited the Rogers Park Jewish Community Center recently, it was not merely to pass out information on CTA service. It was to explain the CTA system and solve the transit problems of recent Soviet Jewish immigrants.

"There's nothing lonelier than being a stranger in a big city and we want to show these immigrants that Chicago deserves its worldwide reputation as one of the friendliest of American cities," explains East.

Hastalis reports that the basic question asked by many of these immigrants is how to commute to work.

"They were very, very pragmatic, asking few questions about traveling to entertainment," Hastalis says.

They have to be. One immigrant reported he worked at a job for three months - but lost it. One reason was his confusion over how to reach the south side from the north side of Chicago.

While all ages were represented in this group, teenagers asked specific questions such as what the A and B labels on rapid transit trains meant and how to use the Super Transperpass. The older people were interested in the layout of the city and how city government works.

Most rode the 'L' rather than buses, notes East, since they live only a few blocks away from the Loyola station.

They also were concerned about language difficulties since many have not yet learned English.

The community relations coordinators told them, how-



CTA Community Relations Coordinators Jim East, pointing, and Steve Hastalis, next, show Soviet immigrants at the Rogers Park Jewish Community Center how CTA service links them to any part of the city they would travel to for work or recreation.

ever, of CTA's travel agents who speak Hebrew and will convey travel information when called at 670-5000.

Although the Rogers Park immigrants had ridden the CTA system at least once, they were unaware of the shortcuts of CTA travel. Each recalled taking the train to the Jewish Vocational Service at 1 S. Franklin. However, most said they took the north-south route, leaving the subway at Madison and State, and walked west to Franklin, about six blocks. They were surprised, said Hastalis, when told they could transfer to the Ravenswood rapid transit line at Belmont or Fullerton, get off at Madison and Wells, and walk only one block to Franklin.

There is another language which all of the Soviet Jewish immigrants understand - that of CTA route maps. Ticket agents at the Loyola station report these are in constant demand.

Smokey Hollow is where James Garrity, son of Dublin born parents, grew up. But, however hard you may look, you won't find Smokey Hollow on any map of Ireland.

That's Jim's old neighborhood around Chicago and Sedgwick streets.

"It was an Irish neighborhood back then, and Smokey Hollow is the name people gave it," he says.

The old turf has a special significance for Jim. That's where he met his wife, while playing baseball in an alley.

Jim's boyhood memories are of his mother's kidney stew. Although his wife, Adeline, is Swedish, he says, she'll try cooking an Irish stew for him once in a while.

Since 1950, Jim has been working as a bus repairman out at Limits garage.

"I haven't been to Ireland yet, but I'd like to go," says Jim. "It's always been a proud country with people taking an interest in what they're doing and doing it right."

James Garrity

IN THE



CTA CLAN

Patrick Doyle

In 1955, Patrick Doyle left County Wexford in southern Ireland for the U.S. on a mission of mercy.

An aunt in Chicago had taken sick, and he'd come to take care of her for the duration of her illness.

But while ministering to the sick, Patrick decided to stay on, and so became a U.S. citizen in 1961.

"I thought it a very good country to make a living in," he says.

Patrick joined the CTA in 1965 and is now a janitor at the Harlem and Lake terminal in Oak Park.

Reading up on Irish history is one of Patrick's favorite pastimes. He can easily give you a rundown on all Ireland's national heroes.

But he takes particular satisfaction in mentioning that the famed Kennedy clan hails originally from his county.

Coming from a family of sheep raisers, Patrick has lasting memories of "that time of year when we'd be cutting the wool."

Patrick is presently living in Forest Park with his sister, a retired CTA ticket agent.



Time out

with Anit Leppiks

Things to do in the Chicago area

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ARTISTS, INC. Exhibit of Photography by the late Lee Simpson. April. Mon-Fri from 11-4; Sat from 11-3. Suite 205, 700 N. Michigan.

ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO—Photographs by Josef Koudelka thru April 4, Lacy Armour Gallery. 72nd American Exhibition thru May 9, Morton Wing, admission charged. Watercolors by American Masters including Homer, Prendergast, Sargent, Marin, Demuth, Wyeth, and Dove, thru May 16, Gallery 108, Photographs from the Permanent Collection, continuing, Gallery 106. T'ang Dynasty Pottery from the Permanent Collection, continuing, Gallery 116. Italian Master Drawings, continuing, Gallery 109A. Mon-Wed, Fri-Sat from 10-5; Thurs from 10-8:30 (free); Sun, Hol from 12-5. Suggested fee: \$1.50; students, seniors: 50¢; members free. Michigan at Adams. 443-3500.

AUDITORIUM BUILDING EXHIBIT tracing history of the building and its impact on Chicago architecture, opens April 17, Michigan Avenue Lobby. Daily from 9-6; Sun, 9-5. Free. 430 S. Michigan. 341-3510.

"CHAUTAUQUA!" thru March, Dinglefest Theatre Co. \$2-4.50. 2261 N. Lincoln. 871-3000.

DESON-ZAKS GALLERY--Artists Stoppert, Martyl, Bolduc, and Blum included in exhibit of abstract drawings, paintings, thru April 6. 226 E. Ontario. 787-0005.

"DREAMS," April 2-4, 9-11, Evanston Theatre Studio. \$4.50. 816 Church St., Evanston. 869-7278.

"FORTUNE IN MEN'S EYES" opens April 3, Barry Street Loft Theatre. Fri-Sun, \$2.50. 656 W. Barry. 271-3119.

"GENTLEMAN AND A SCOUNDREL," comedy with Bill Daily, thru April 4, Pheasant Run Playhouse. Dinner-theatre tickets. Rte. 64, St. Charles. 261-7367.

GOODMAN STATE 2--"Statutes" and "The Bridge at Bel Harbour," April 15-18; 23-25. Ruth Page Auditorium, 1016 N. Dearborn. 443-3800.

GOODMAN THEATRE -- "Our Father's Failing," opens April 1. Backstage tours thru June 12, Wed at 12:15, Sat at 1. 200 S. Columbus Dr. 443-3800.

"GREEN JULIA" thru April 8, Magic Circle and All-Media Drama Workshop. Thurs-Sat at 8. 615 W. Wellington. 929-0542.

"HERITAGE," Wed at 2 thru March, Dream Theatre. Of special interest to senior citizens. \$1.50. 2261 N. Lincoln. 871-3000.

"MAKING MONEY & 19 OTHER VERY SHORT PLAYS," open April 22, Magic Circle Theatre. Thurs-Sun. 615 W. Wellington. 929-0542.

POLO indoors Sun at 7 thru March, Water Tower Armory. All-Star Game, Match Game March 28. \$2-5.25; tickets available thru Ticketron and at door. 234 E. Chicago.

SECOND CITY--"East of Edens" Tues-Sun continuing. "Land of the

Stage II" opens April 13. Children's show every Sun at 2:30, \$1.50. 1616 N. Wells at Piper's Alley. DE7-3992.

"THE HITLER MASQUE" with William J. Norris thru March, Victory Gardens Theatre. Fri-Sun. 3730 N. Clark. 549-5788.

"THE HOUSE OF BLUE LEAVES," April 2-3, 7-9, Patrick O'Malley Workshop Theatre. \$2.50; students, seniors, \$1.50. Roosevelt University, 430 S. Michigan. 341-3555.

"THE RIVER NIGER," April 7-10, Kennedy-King College, 69th & Wentworth. 962-3301.

TRANSPORTATION IN SWITZERLAND -- Exhibit by the Swiss Museum of Transport & Communications in Lucerne examines the role of transportation in Switzerland's development and its importance today to that nation's economy. Thru April 15. Museum of Science & Industry. Weekdays from 9:30-4; weekends, hol, from 9:30-5:30. 57th & Lake Shore in Jackson Park.

VAN STRAATEN GALLERY -- "Imaginary Worlds" exhibit of the bronze sculptures of William Ludwig and prints by Erik Kesmazieres and John Martin, thru March. Printmakers Barbara Apitz and Charles Klabunde exhibit opens April 2. Mostly etchings with a surrealistic tendency. 646 N. Michigan. 642-2900.

"WHEN YOU COMIN' BACK, RED RYDER," April 1-11, The Studio, Goodman Theatre Center. \$3. 200 S. Columbus Dr. 443-3800.

"WIZARD OF ID" thru March, Wisdom Bridge Theatre. Thurs-Sun. 1559 W. Howard. 743-6442.

"YANKEE DOODLE," thru May 16, Goodman Children's Theatre, 200 S. Columbus Dr. 443-3800.

Salute To A Hero: Alert Bus Driver Saves Lives In Fire

It was 6:20 on Sunday morning, February 1. CTA bus driver Bruce Beck, out of Forest Glen garage, had just completed a run. He was having a coffee break in the Jefferson Park terminal.

Beck heard what sounded like a small explosion. He looked across the street and saw a cloud of black smoke coming from a building with a restaurant (Sir George's) and apartments. Beck and Kenneth Chrabasz, CTA bus supervisor, dashed to the street for a better view of what was happening.

"The whole place seemed to be in flames, upstairs and down," says Beck. Chrabasz ran back into the terminal to call the fire department.

Beck saw a young man drop from a second-story apartment window. The young man, who apparently was not injured, was advised by Beck to summon help from the police station around the corner.

Beck then ran to the back of the burning building. A woman standing in a daze on a porch heeded his call to come down and get away from the building.

He then dashed upstairs and began knocking on apartment doors, shouting to people to get out.

"I kept going to each door," says Beck, "and came upon a little girl about 10 years old. She said her two sisters and brother were still in a bedroom. The place was full of smoke and I couldn't see anything inside. I carried her downstairs and put her in the snow. She then told me they were all the way in the front of the building.

"So I went back," he continues, "and kept calling to cry out so they could be heard. I heard a little voice and found a girl. I took her to a police sergeant who was coming upstairs, then went back and found another girl. I brought her out and she said her brother was still in the bedroom. A fireman on a ladder called out that he would be able to get the little boy."

Before returning to the CTA terminal for his next run, however, Beck helped to escort residents of the building to the nearby police station. The fire claimed the life of a 20-year-old woman. Beck, who lives in Wheeling, has been a CTA bus driver for 11 years. His supervisor, George Daubs, says that he has a perfect record and was named "employee of the year" at Forest Glen for 1974-75.



Bruce Beck

A Special "Times Out" Opportunity

As a companion to Time Out, CTA Transit News is informing CTA employees of a new approach to audience development that provides an opportunity for CTAs to enjoy live theater, music, and dance events at substantially reduced rates.

The Voucher Ticket Program of the non-profit Chicago Alliance for the Performing Arts (CAPA) is endorsed at both city and state levels as a measure to increase cultural opportunities for the employees of major Chicago organizations.

Vouchers may be purchased in sets of five only from the non-commercial CAPA. Each voucher provides one admission to a regular performance by any one of 50 groups in the Chicago area at a pro rata cost of only about a dollar.

CTA employees who wish to take advantage of the program must first obtain a formal Voucher Application from CAPA, together with full information on costs. The coupon at the right is for your convenience. It may be taped for use as a self-mailer as indicated or placed in a regular mailing envelope.

Please do not write CTA. The program is entirely under CAPA's administration and this announcement in Transit News is purely for your information.

Participating Groups In CAPA Voucher Program

(current performances of some are marked with an asterisk in this month's "Time Out")

Academy Festival Theatre
Alice Liddell Theatre Company
All-Media Dramatic Workshop
All The Chicago Fog Performing Gallery
Alternative Theatre Company
Amaranth World Theatre Company
At The Drama Shelter
Bread and Roses Theatre
Chicago Ballet
Chicago Black Ensemble
Chicago City Theatre Company
Chicago Civic Orchestra
Chicago Contemporary Dance Theatre
Chicago Moving Company
Chicago Opera Studio
Chicago Symphony
Chicago Theatre of the Deaf
Community Discount Players
Condominium Theater
Dance Center
Dinglefest Theatre Company
Domestic Blend
Dream Theater
Evanston Concert Ballet
Evanston Theatre Company
William Ferris Chorale
Gallery Theatre
Goodman Main Stage
Goodman Stage 2
Joel Hall Dancers
Immediate Theatre Company
Just Another Group (JAG)
Lyric Opera
Magic Circle
Moming Dance Collection
Mordine and Company
Museum of Contemporary Art
New Concept Theatre
Northside Symphony
Old Town School of Folk Music
Organic Theater

Chicago Alliance
for the Performing Arts
176 W. Adams/Suite 1810
Chicago, Illinois 60603

Place
13¢
Stamp
Here

Please send me a voucher application form for the Chicago Alliance for the Performing Arts as announced in "CTA Transit News."

Name _____

Address _____

City & State _____

Zip Code _____

Cut out form, fold along dotted line, and tape together before mailing.

Pary Productions
Peripatetic Task Force
Puppet Place
Quicksilver Theatre Company
Ravinia Festival Association
Razzle Dazzle Production Company
St. Nicholas Theater Company
Self Performing Arts, Inc.
Julian Swain Innercity Dance Troupe
Taurus Productions
Travel Light Theatre Company
Victory Gardens
Wisdom Bridge



IN THE CTA CLAN-- Patrick J. O'Malley

They thought the grass was greener on the other side, so Patrick O'Malley's parents came here from County Mayo in the early 1900's.

That's the way Pat, assistant superintendent at Howard Street, tells it.

Pat grew up on Chicago's West Side, and the one thing he recalls about those early days are the Irish dances--especially since he met his wife at one.

"The Irish in my esteem are a happy, gay, friendly people," says Pat, who can easily be included in that definition.

A sociable person who enjoys get togethers with the neighbors, Pat helped to form a little league baseball team in his community, comprised of 220 boys and 40 adults.

Pat likes to refer to an old saying about the two kinds of people in the world--the Irish and those who wish they were.

But he admits, "I like Irish, but I like people...to me, everybody's the same."



IN THE CTA CLAN-- John P. O'Connor

If there is any family that typifies the affiliation of O'Connor with CTA transit, it's this one.

John P. O'Connor is director of Passenger Controls and Graphics in Operations Planning. He was preceded in CTA by his father, John Sr., a chief clerk at North Avenue. Working in the Maintenance Department now is a third generation O'Connor, Timothy.

"Danny Boy" is John's favorite Irish song.

"I like to sing it to a Jewish friend," he says.

The Irish, John explains, have a fun-loving personality as well as a sense of humor.

Though John's family has been firmly established in the U.S. for four generations, without a doubt the Irish heritage still exerts a subtle influence in his case.

"I'm proud of being Irish," says John.

St. Patrick's Day in the O'Connor home traditionally means corned beef and cabbage, which John says he cooks himself.



IN THE CTA CLAN-- John Meehan

What do Irish stew and Chinese food have in common?

John Meehan, a rapid transit car repairman at Wilson Maintenance, will tell you Irish stew has all its ingredients "mixed up together . . . just like chop suey."

Born in County Donegal, John came to the U.S. in 1950 "to make a better living." He settled in Chicago with two sisters and began working for the CTA in 1962.

A man of musical talent, John claims an expertise on the bagpipes. In past St. Patrick's Day parades, he says, he marched in a pipe band, outfitted in kilts and playing "Wearin' of the Green."

He's since put away the kilts and the bagpipes, but he still gets out to the Irish dances on St. Patrick's Day.

John keeps in touch with family and friends back home through frequent visits - - he's made six so far, the most recent one just last summer.

For special friends, John reserves the Gaelic phrase "la deas" which means "have a nice day."



IN THE CTA CLAN-- John C. O'Connor

County Cork's native son John C. O'Connor can tell you about the beauty of the Lakes of Killarney. Yet it was "all the praise" he'd heard about this country that lured him to the U.S. in 1964.

But he still maintains, "Ireland means my homeland. . . where I was born. I'll always think of it as that."

John's a rapid transit car repairman at Wilson Maintenance Terminal--a job he's had ever since he got here.

St. Patrick's Day usually finds John marching in the parade, if the job permits, or taking his wife out to an Irish social in the evening.

There's never a lack of good Irish cooking around the O'Connor household--everything from soda bread to lamb or boiled beef and cabbage. John admits, however, that his favorite dish is steak.

John makes his home on the South Side with his wife Patricia and their 7-year-old son, Brendan.

CTA TRANSIT NEWS

Supplement

TRANSIT BOARD REPORT
MARCH, 1976



Innovation featured the first meeting of the Chicago Transit Board under its new leadership: (1) a new meeting day, the first Wednesday of each month; (2) a comprehensive presentation by the CTA staff as the prelude to each meeting.

CTA Transit News will be bringing you highlights of each month's meeting on a regular basis. For March:

... An increase in riding of 4.2 per cent in the first two months of this year was reported by Paul Kole, General Finance Manager. Part of the increase, said Kole, is due to improvement in the city's employment situation. A major factor also, he said, was the warmer February which produced increases in Sunday ridership from 15 to 31 per cent over a year ago. Riding for the two month '76 period totaled 63 million originating riders and 44,100,000 transfer sales.

... A plan to equip the entire rapid transit system with modern air-conditioned trains in the next 10 years was approved. The proposal, ultimately re-

quiring more than \$222 million in public funding, calls for the acquisition of 550 new cars under an on-going annual delivery schedule - all in addition to the 330 modern cars now in operation and 200 new cars on order for delivery over the next two years.

... General Manager George Krambles announced that pre-departure test equipment for cab signalling has been developed by the Signal and Maintenance Department and is being placed in use in the yards at the Jefferson Park Terminal (see back page of Supplement).

... The nationwide task force for Project FARE (Financial Accounting and Reporting Elements) to study and develop uniform financial reporting standards for urban transit systems selected a tour of CTA under the CTA Technical Institute itinerary as "the best way to become thoroughly familiar with the operations of a transit system." The task force includes Peter J. Meinardi, retired CTA manager of finance.

Presiding at the Board meeting, James J. McDonough, right, listens to update on CTA economics by Paul Kole. Other Board member is Edward Brabec.



CTA revenue for first two months this year totaled \$17.8 million, Paul Kole reports, representing an increase of 1.6 percent over comparable period a year ago. Ridership increase outgained farebox increase because of greater public use of Sunday bargain fares.



Newly-named General Manager George Krambles moderates monthly staff presentation, reports personally on progress in operations and safety, cites Bruce Beck for fire heroism (page 10), introduces new operations head (page 1). Sal Bianchi, right, serves as Board secretary.



Asked by General Manager to report on FARE group's tour of CTA (page A of supplement), Terrell Hill, General Development Manager, participates in staff meeting for first time since serious accident.

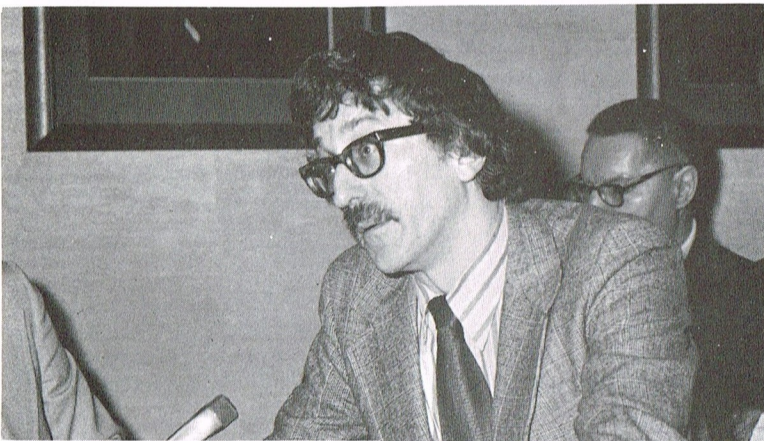




James Blaa, Manager of Transportation, reports absence of traditional snows in Chicago reduced operating problems during winter.



Joseph Replinger, Director of Vehicle Maintenance, reports continuing progress in renewal of CTA escalators at rapid transit stations and terminals.



Harold Hirsch, Manager of Operations Planning, reports that sites for bus shelters approved by Board at recent meeting are now before City Council for approval. Meanwhile, bid award has been made and, with Council's early approval, first shelters can be delivered around June 1.



John L. Aurand, Manager of General Administration, reports proposal of Regional Transportation Authority to purchase services of Transit Information Center established by CTA, expand its personnel for wider telephone coverage of area, and manage the facility.

In early afternoon of Board meeting day, Krambles stages demonstration of CTA-developed cab signalling test unit for Chicago transportation editors, telecasters. Demo is held at Jefferson Park terminal. Equipment consists of a wayside unit that runs train through all possible aspects of automatic signalling and controls while train is still in the yards before it has departed on a run. Tests include automatic braking as well as sound and light signals. If train fails any phase of test, it is not brought into service. Another train is substituted. By-passing of cab signal system because of malfunction is obviated.



Fast engineering teamwork by these three CTAs developed the wayside pre-departure test device for cab signalling that may well be of value to rapid transit systems throughout the nation as well as on the Chicago system. Shown at the showcasing demonstration for media are, left to right, Helmut Schweitzer, signal engineer; Ted Szeewc, supervisor, signal, telephone, radio maintenance; and Ken Bisset, recently promoted to superintendent of signals and communications in the CTA's engineering department. Bisset's first experience with CTA was as a co-op student trainee from the Illinois Institute of Technology in 1968.



THE INSIDE NEWS

AS REPORTED BY EMPLOYEES OF THE CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

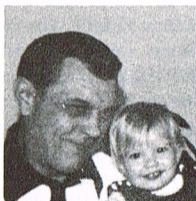
ACCOUNTING -

Congratulations to JOHN F. BILLIS on graduating with honors from DePaul university. He will receive a B.S. degree in accounting. John has been carrying 16 hours at night for the past two years while attending DePaul. I am sure he will be happy to be able to go home at night and not have to study. This coming summer will be the first time in five years he did not attend school. John says he will start working toward his masters degree in taxation in September 1976 at DePaul. John also graduated with honors from Wright Junior college and attended Loop Junior college where he received a trophy and a certificate of honor for being the outstanding student in the field of accounting for the year.

- Judy Weiser

ARCHER -

Our women operators surprised everyone when they presented a cake to our instructors. We wish to thank R. ADKINS, C. WHITE, C. SYKES, J. COUSINS, E. RAYNOR, M. WILLIAMS and I. TUFF for being so thoughtful...Operator JOHN F. MUSSER and his lovely wife, MADELYN, jetted to Florida for five weeks. John, you timed your vacation right...Congratulations to Superintendent JAMES E. OHSE, District B, who completed 29 years of service on Feb. 14 and celebrated his birthday on the 20th...Congratulations to Operator VALON BROWN who completed 20 years of service on Feb. 9...Celebrating his first birthday on Jan. 13 was STEVEN LABAHN, the grandson of Area Superintendent WILLIAM MOSER. On Jan. 30, Steve helped grandpa Bill celebrate his birthday, but grandpa wouldn't tell how many years... There is one family CTA can be proud of--the METKE's--their father, the late ALEXANDER METKE, retired in 1944 from the 38th Street Station with 42 years of service; his son, EDWARD, retired in 1972 with 36 years of service; another son, JOHN, retired on Feb. 1 with 36 years. In total, the Metke's have worked 114 years for the CSL and CTA. The sons retired from Archer... Congratulations to these fine gentlemen who took their pensions in January and February: T. DRYIER, 29 years; W. DINEEN, 35 years; L. DUDEK, 31 years; J. SLAVIK, 28 years; JOHN KENDER (garage), 17 years; A. PETER-



Bill and Steven

SON, 34 years; R. JANKOWSKI, 43 years, and J. METKE, 36 years. We wish them all a pleasant retirement and the best of everything...Our good friend, DANIEL E. COUGHLIN, moved to Clearwater Beach, Fla. Dan, we wish you nothing but the best. ..Operator G. KUBIN was really surprised on his birthday. His wife and daughter put one past him and surprised him with a party. George was so overwhelmed he wanted to cry, but didn't have the nerve... A speedy recovery to Operators C. CORBUS, C. WHITE, W. BERNAL, F. MICHAEL, P. LESLIE, C. C. JONES and T. IRELAND. Hope you are up and about by the time we go to press...Operator BILLIE JETT has returned to work after recovering from her illness...Our belated and deepest sympathy is extended to the families of the late Pensioners FRED KAHLFELDT and THOMAS WALSH. Also to Operator MOSES JOHNSON in the passing of his son...What has happened to our accident record? Let's get with it! Instead of being last in the standing, we should be number one...Save with your credit union--it will pay you in the long run.

- Owen Hosenbave

CTA PIONEERS -

For anyone reading this column and wondering who or what the CTA Pioneers are, they are a group of CTA retirees, mostly from the North Side of the city. The club was established through the efforts of seven pensioners from various departments of CTA: GEORGE MAY, former Limits superintendent; FRANK LASKE, former North Avenue bus operator and Division 241 board member; WILLIAM PINASCO, former chief clerk of Forest Glen; RALPH KUGELARD, former District D superintendent; CARL LARSEN and MAYNARD MORAN, former dispatchers in the Control Center, and WILLARD LYONS, former Forest Glen bus operator and paymaster. The first luncheon and meeting held on Dec. 16, 1975, had an attendance of 88 CTA retirees. At the second meeting on Jan. 13, there were 95 retirees in attendance. It was agreed that we would call our organization the CTA Pioneers and that all luncheons and meetings were to be held at the Golden Flame restaurant, 6417 W. Higgins Road, starting at 12 noon the second Tuesday of each month. Membership fee is \$1, and all CTA retirees are welcome to join. At the January meeting each of the club founders was elected to an office--Laske as president, Pinasco as vice-president, Kugelard as secretary, Larsen as treasurer, and Lyons, May and Moran to the board of directors. MICHAEL



IN THE CTA CLAN-- John McCarty

No longer does John McCarty, motorman, sniff the Irish stew on the stove. It's not there. His request. He was fed too much of it when he was a kid.

John's grandparents came to the U.S. from the old sod in the 1860's. John grew up on Chicago's West Side, now lives in Bellwood.

Mrs. McCarty (Shirley) is a school teacher. She has also raised three children. One son, 19-year-old Barry, works for CTA as a ticket agent.

When the kids were growing up, John found Irish blarney to be a useful technique in getting the children to do their homework, keep themselves neat.

The most famous Irishman he can think of? John F. Kennedy.

John has worked for CTA for 28 years.

KOMPANOWSKI, former Transit News reporter for Forest Glen, was appointed as the scribe for the CTA Pioneers...Mr. BILL POWELL, a club member, was confined to St. Joseph hospital but is now home recuperating. All the members wish Bill a speedy recovery and hope to see him soon at the meetings.

- Michael J. Kompanowski

CLAIMS LAW & REAL ESTATE -

In our last issue I forgot to mention that JOHN B. DALY took his pension on Feb. 1 after more than 31 years of service. We wish John and his family a long and healthy retirement. About a week after his retirement party, John called me and wished to express his thanks and appreciation to all those who helped make his last day here a memorable occasion. On behalf of

CTA TRANSIT NEWS

Volume XXIX

Number 3

Published for employees and retirees of the Chicago Transit Authority, under the direction of the Public Affairs Department.

J. H. Smith, Director of Publications

Robert D. Heinlein, Editor

Mel Alexander, Editorial Assistant

Jack Sowchin, Art Assistant

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NEW PENSIONERS

JOINING THE ranks of the retired on March 1 were the two employees pictured below who had 40 or more years of transit service each with CTA and its predecessor companies.



R. J. BLAU
40 Years



H. W. HIGLEY
40 Years

BERNARD BECKER, Chief Clerk,
69th Street, Emp. 12-31-38
THOMAS BELSHAW, Operator,
Forest Glen, Emp. 10-23-45
RAYMOND BLAU, General Supervisor,
South Shops, Emp. 4-26-35
ARTHUR CALDER, Controller,
Transportation, Emp. 8-19-41
ALESSANDRO CARELLO, Painter Fore-
man, Maintenance, Emp. 1-29-45
OLIVER CARROLL, Trackman I,
Maintenance, Emp. 4-29-49
ANNE CINCETTI, Ticket Agent,
West Section, Emp. 7-24-54
MELVIN CLAUSEN, Right-of-Way Inspctr.,
Safety, Emp. 11-16-36
PETER COLUCCI, Operator,
Limits, Emp. 12-12-42
GEORGE CROFOOT, Stock Clerk II,
Materials Management, Emp. 10-22-41
ANDREW DIANOVSKY, Operator,
North Avenue, Emp. 10-11-45

all of us, John, it was our pleasure!..A sad but fond farewell goes to DAN FARRELL who left CTA on Feb. 13. Best of luck to you, Dan, and we certainly are going to miss you and your Pepsodent smile...GAIL GRIES just returned from a little trip to the hospital. She had her tonsils removed and is now talking just as fast as ever...JOHN HENNESSY and JIM MCCOY each celebrated their 35th anniversaries with the CTA. Congratulations, guys...And while we're on the topic of anniversaries, BILL and MARGE LEMBACHNER celebrated their 36th wedding anniversary on Feb. 10. Marge, how did you ever make it? Just kidding, Bill. Congratulations to you both...Happy birthday wishes go to JOE GRANATA, March 4; BILL LEMBACHNER, March 11, and PETE SEPIC, March 24, a few of the younger fellows in the department...Get well wishes once again to MARGE SCHINTZ, MIKE SHANAHAN and DON

FRED DIEBOLD, Operator,
Forest Glen, Emp. 12-15-55
HAROLD DIXON, Motorman,
West Section, Emp. 2-5-51
DANIEL DOYLE, Clerk,
West Section, Emp. 6-26-43
GONZALO GARZA, Operator,
Beverly, Emp. 10-27-55
JOHN HANNING, Chief Clerk,
West Section, Emp. 1-24-46
HENRY HIGLEY, Operator,
North Park, Emp. 2-20-36
WILLIAM KENNEDY, Operator,
Forest Glen, Emp. 10-31-46
ALBERT KLOPACZ, Operator,
North Park, Emp. 1-28-48
JOSEPH LACKI, Substation Attendant,
Maintenance, Emp. 3-10-45
GUSTAF MELANDER, Operator,
69th Street, Emp. 12-5-40
MARY MORGAN, Ticket Agent,
West Section, Emp. 11-23-43
WILLIAM O'BRIEN, Operator,
77th Street, Emp. 1-27-43
HARON RAMBO, Operator,
North Park, Emp. 11-14-45
GEORGE RASCH, Operator,
Forest Glen, Emp. 12-26-68
GEORGE REZMER, Ticket Agent,
West Section, Emp. 7-14-37
ARTHUR SHARPE, Auditor I,
Internal Auditing, Emp. 2-12-30
FRANKLIN SPECHT, Operator,
North Avenue, Emp. 7-11-52
JOHN STAHULAK, Operator,
Kedzie, Emp. 6-3-54
EDWARD SZAREK, Operator,
North Avenue, Emp. 11-24-36
EDWARD THORNE, Addressograph Oper.,
Materials Management, Emp. 11-28-41

DISABILITY RETIREMENTS

ARTHUR DAVIS, Instructor,
77th Street, Emp. 7-2-56
LEON DREWNIKOWSKI, Service Truck
Chauffeur, Utility, Emp. 2-7-36

BURTON. Hope to see those smiling faces soon.

- Michelle Vitale

CTA SECURITY -

Congratulations to MARGUERITE LONGO and Sergeant BRUCE HENDERSHOT who exchanged marriage vows Friday, Jan. 16. ..A graduation party was given Saturday, Feb. 14, by TOMMY BOSLEY's lovely wife, SHOPIE, in honor of Tommy's completion of his basic law course at Lisle, Ill. Two other guests who were also honored at the party were ISAIAH BROWN and JAMES GAGE...On Feb. 11 a department meeting for the uniform personnel, conducted by Manager of Security EDWARD M. JORDAN, was held at the Lawndale Training Center. Such topics as the seniority picks and working assignments were discussed by JOHN SHEEHY, director of

Uniform Division...FOP Lodge 89 president DANIEL MARTINIAK and vice-president ANTHONY NOVAKOVICH would like to mention that the 1976 membership is still open...Everyone wishes a speedy recovery for ROY JACKSON and JAMES LaFOLLETTE of the West Section Unit, who are still on sick leave...During the month, Officer RONALD MILLER of the South Section Unit was commended for his alertness while patrolling the elevated stations on the far South Side. Patrolman Miller apprehended three men who boarded the bus at the 63rd Street Terminal smoking marijuana cigarettes and causing a loud disturbance. After the arrest was made, a large amount of green crush plants believed to be marijuana was found in their possession. That same night, Officer Miller apprehended two youths selling transfers at the 69th Street Dan Ryan rapid transit station. Officer Miller joined the department in July, 1975, after serving four years with the United States army as a military police officer. He completed his basic law course at Champaign, Ill. Officer Miller was also a special agent with the John T. Lynch Security company in Oak Park, Ill. Keep up the good work, Ron.

- Frank Pickett Jr.

ELECTRICAL (Electrobay W) -

Don't be alarmed; it's only me--the short person with the dark rimmed glasses--wandering around the Electrobay like a lost soul. Received some strange looks as I poked my nose into doorways and byways, to see what was what and who was where. It was my first visit to the new electrical shop and I was just trying to get acquainted with the new surroundings. At least nobody threw me out. I ran into all sorts of people I haven't seen for a long time...Since you brought the subject up, there are many of you I don't know, so why don't you phone in or write any news items you may have. Tell DON CRANDALL or BOB BOOTH and they will get the news to me...BILL PARKS has been off for awhile because of surgery. He is home now resting and recuperating...LARRY SHELBY, who has been flying off and on (or is it up and down) for the last 35 years, has finally decided to go to aviation school. He is going to learn about the mechanics and construction of aircraft so he can build his own plane. Guess it beats flapping his arms...Saw an old friend of mine, ART MAXWELL, looking as brown as a berry after a three-week vacation in Florida...ED DEVLIN and his wife have been to and by now are back from a motor trip to Albuquerque, N.M., visiting his wife's family...BILL SHEAHAN and his wife went to Tucson to visit their daughter. They also took a side trip down to old Mexico where they had a pretty good fish dinner. Right, Bill?...The tremendous group I saw on Jan. 23 weren't plumbers, but the way the



IN THE CTA CLAN--

John J. O'Connor

Pat O'Brien may be just another actor to some people, but to Jack O'Connor, he's something of an Irish hero.

"One of the things that impresses me about him is he's so warm. He reminds me of the man next door or the man you'd want to have next door. I think he's very representative of the Irish race," says O'Connor, Director of Personnel.

Jack's ties with Ireland are rooted in Kerry and Limerick counties. His grandparents left those parts in the late 1800's to settle in the U.S.

Though separated from Irish culture and customs by two generations, Jack still retains the old ties.

"I'm proud of being Irish. Everything you read about the Irish tells you they're warm, friendly people--I'd like to be part of that definition."

The name O'Connor is probably one of the better known Irish names in the CTA. Besides Jack, there's John in Operations Planning, Joe in Engineering, and Phil in Maintenance.

Says Jack, "We call each other cousins, but we're really not."

St. Patrick's Day is an event in Jack's household.

"Ever since I was old enough to know that I'm Irish, I've looked forward to St. Pat's."

By Jack's special request, one of the family traditions around St. Patrick's Day is corned beef and cabbage--he calls it Irish turkey.

"My wife cooks it for me, but she doesn't like it herself," he says.

liquid refreshments flowed, surely much plumbing was put to use. The occasion was the annual Old Timers' party sponsored by the officers of IBEW Local 9. It must have taken tons of corned beef and gallons of beer to satisfy the 800 guests. If there had been any more people there, they would have had to sit out in the hall. The 1975 pensioners from Local 9 were presented with a (not empty) gift wallet. Pensioners I saw there were: CICHON, SCHUMACHER, BRONZELL, BRINDL, WATERS, GABAUER and GABY. Later there was a short greeting from Secretary of State Michael J. Howlett...JIM ROEBER and VIC ROSENDAHL are now two of RACANELLI's night riders...Just met a new man in the Electrical Department. Please welcome JIM SCHUMPP, formerly of the General Office...Pensioner JOE NAGRODSKI, former chief substation operator, and his wife, GRACE, spent three weeks touring the Florida east coast to Key West, then returned via the west coast. En route they stopped for a visit with Pensioner JOE HERMAN in Boca Raton, and Pensioner ART HANSEL in Homosassa.

Both enjoy retirement and are in good health. They send their best wishes to all the substation gang they formerly worked with.

73

- Ben Nielson

(Rapid Transit Signal Division) -

An "Old Timers" party was given in January by IBEW Local 9 for its retired and retiring members. This was the Local's 10th annual event, and one that was very well attended. Our signalmen joined in with about 800 other men in downing countless steins of suds, and at the same time consuming a tasty corned beef and cabbage dinner. The Plumbers Auditorium on west Washington Boulevard was filled with music provided by the Shannon Rovers. Speaking a few moments at the microphone amidst the noise and laughter was Secretary of State Michael J. Howlett. Topping the list of our men were: RONALD SWINDELL, superintendent of Electrical Maintenance; TED SZEWC, supervisor of Signal, Telephone, and Radio Maintenance, and GEORGE MATEJOVSKY, unit supervisor of Signal Maintenance. Also present were Pensioners BILL (The Gypsy) BAKER, PAT (White Top) DOYLE and FRANK (Newspaper) GUAGENTI. Doing their share of food removal were: Big DAN MORIARTY, ROY WILLIAMS, FRANK HALPER Sr., FRANK HALPER Jr., DENNIS DOBBYN, DAVE GREIG, VICK ZASTERA, CLYDE YOUNT, FRANK BONK, R. BUSHBAUM, JIMMIE NESBIT and DANNY WATERS. Our thanks to Local 9's staff for such a wonderful evening...Signal Helper ART LOWDER is off on a one-week vacation. He will take in the bright lights and sights of the desert city of Las Vegas, Nev. He also expects to do a bit of skiing before returning. (Make it an arm or something else this time, Art, but please don't break another leg.) Pardon me, Art, your brother, JIM LOWDER, is going with you on vacation, isn't he? Good, he'll see after you and get you home safe...Your reporter was privileged to attend CTA's multi-media first aid class recently. The venture was very interesting, informative and hopefully not necessary. I promised I would not tell who I practiced mouth-to-mouth resuscitation with, but I will say to the guys I work with: if you plan to pass out or something, you'd better do it soon before I get rusty with my procedures...KENDRICK BISSET has been promoted to superintendent of Signals and Communications. Mr. Bisset, formerly supervisor of Signal Design, was promoted to fill the vacancy created by PAUL CLEAVER's retirement. Congratulations, Ken, and lots of luck in your new position...Congratulations to Signal Maintainer JIMMIE NESBIT who reached his 40th anniversary with the company. That's quite an accomplishment, Jim, what's your secret?.. We extend a hardy welcome to our newest group of go-getters. They are Signal Helpers GREGORY CRAIG, JAMES WAR-

CHOL, JOHN SARA, CHARLES GUSICH and DONALD VILLA. There are switches that need you, and dirty signal lenses that long for your touch. So what else, go get it!..Regretfully we report the death of RAMOND TOPOLINSKI, the father of Signal Maintainer DON TOPOLISNKI. To the bereaved family, you have our prayers in your hour of sorrow...CLYDE YOUNT reached his 30th anniversary with the CTA. Gee, that's exciting. Just look at him, he is still moving along briskly at a meter per minute. Congratulations are on the way, Clyde...We congratulate NOREEN KEATING, the daughter of Blacksmith JEFFREY M. KEATING, who recently graduated from the Ravenswood School of Nursing. Ms. Keating is presently working as an RA with the State of Illinois. Jeff, I understand your other children are doing fine in school as well: JEFFREY JAMES is now a freshman at I.U. Circle Campus; KEVIN graduates next June from Lane Tech.; EILEEN is a junior at Amerson High school; DANNY is attending 7th grade at St. Benedict Grade school, JOHN is in grade 5, and BRENDAN in grade 1. I still have the pen in my hand, Jeff, if you and your wife, KITTY, have some more names for me...Signal Helper WILLIAM KURTIN is home recuperating from a major illness. He told me he is very pleased to be at home where he can mingle with the family, even if he is under regular care of his doctor. Sure, go ahead. Call him up and talk with him. Bill said he would enjoy talking with you guys...Signal Maintainer DAN MORIARTY will be leaving on disability pension. Big Dan presently is re-



IN THE CTA CLAN--

Tom A. DeVaney

He was born in County Mayo in 1922 and came to Philadelphia in 1948. He had heard about the opportunities in America. The trail led him to Chicago in 1956 and to CTA two years later. Tom DeVaney is a ticket agent.

His face is a map of Ireland, Tom says. "Everywhere I go, people say there's a Mick!"

Still loyal to the home country, Tom's favorite Irish songs are Galway Bay, Moonlight in Mayo, Home to Mayo.

Tom and his wife, Cecilia (who is part Irish), live in Villa Park. Tom is a member of the West Suburban Club, DuPage Area, where he helps with charitable events for Irish causes.

Tom remembers his school days in Ireland with a great deal of fondness. If you should travel to Ireland, he recommends, don't miss Dublin and Phoenix Park.

Corned beef and cabbage is a regular meal in the DeVaney home. Eamon de Valera is Tom's Irish idol. And marching in the St. Patrick's Day parade is traditional whenever he does not have to work on the 17th.



IN THE CTA CLAN--

Mike Joseph McCarthy

Riding the Hercules Mulligan Bicentennial bus in the St. Patty's Day parade is CTA public safety analyst Mike Joseph McCarthy.

Mike grew up on Chicago's South Side--the son of parents whose ancestry traces back to County Cork. When Mike was in service in Germany in 1956, he made a trip to Ireland to see County Cork--and to kiss the blarney stone. 'Tis said the McCarthy family once owned the castle.

With a trace of the Irish brogue he inherited from his parents, Mike says he likes the songs of "the trouble" in Ireland. He has read a great deal of Irish history.

The Irish contributed greatly to the development of this country, Mike testifies. For one thing, they were prominent in the building of the railroads.

The McCarthys have four children. The wife's name is Elaine.

cupering from an annoying and persistent illness. We all were very glad to see you at the Old Timers' party, Dan...For better or worse, Signal Maintainer JOHN LONG has been away serving on jury duty. Your partner, DAVE BATTERSON, said he misses you, John. That welcome sign that he was preparing for you? Forget it. He has now changed the lettering into smaller words...I've been campaigning heavily and have lined up quite a bit of support for our "year older club". Each of you guys mentioned here will be given a "happy birthday greetings" button. Wear it proudly. You are: RICHARD GAVRYS, Feb. 14; JERRY GUTH, Feb. 16; DANNY HAMMOND, Feb. 20; RICHARD VIETH, Feb. 1; ART LUPESCU, Feb. 20; CARL SIMMS, Feb. 18; ROY WILLIAMS, Feb. 13; J. BALCAUSKI, Feb. 12; JOHN LONG, Feb. 11; DANNY WATERS, Feb. 7, and Retired Signal Maintainer FRANK GUAGENTI, Feb. 23. And bringing up the rear (puff, puff, almost didn't make it) is your reporter, Feb. 29. I had to make quite a leap to get this day.

- Tommie Lowery

FOREST GLEN -

Our credit union party was quite a success, and I want to thank all the members who made it possible. In fact, each year it has been improving. I can't see how it can get any better. Many thanks for a fine evening from all who attended... Operator TED KAZANIS recently turned in a six pack which was left on his bus. After the usual length of time required for lost and found, it was turned over to him. I wonder what happened to it? Three of his friends left with him and the six pack...Congratulations

to Operator JOHN LOVARZ who was married on Feb. 6, with a reception at the Millionaire's club in Golf Mill...Mr. and Mrs. PEMENKO became the proud parents of an 8 pound 9 ounce baby girl named CHARMAIN ELIZABETH. He was so proud that he was caught passing out cigars to our lady operators...Who's new in the A.M.? TOM LYNCH and DAN MURPHY, in charge of assigning buses. They're very friendly young men who always have a smile for all, even with all the tricks yours truly plays on them. Every once in awhile they will find their coat sleeves tied and their hats filled with paper clips...Retired Operator ED KRUSER and his wife, EMILY, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on Jan. 23. A beautiful party was given by their three children at Antoine's hall. Here's hoping you both have many more happy years together...A belated happy birthday to Operator DAVE KESKE. He sure cheers up our table each morning. In fact, he's half asleep till noon...Retired Operator BILL LYNAM recently spent some time in the hospital due to a little leg trouble. Bill will be retired two years in June. We wish to report to all his old buddies that he is looking mighty fine. Also a belated happy anniversary to Bill and his lovely wife, who were married 44 years last Thanksgiving...Pensioner AL CHIODO says hello to all his old friends. Al worked Harlem Avenue for years, and some of his old passengers still ask about him... Operator JOE MOTYKA recently celebrated 29 years of wedded bliss. Also a happy birthday Joe. Do be careful when you have to drive home--I understand those trees are hard to move... Operator W. MELFI states his beautiful daughter, KATHY, will be graduating from high school this May and has plans to attend Southern Illinois university... Operator PONDEL, we missed your wife at the dance. Sorry to hear she's on the sick list... Hats off to Supervisor JAMES THAXTON who forgot to mention he has a

son now who is 20 months old. Can't see how the old boy forgot--maybe it's age. None of us would have found out if it hadn't been for his lovely wife...Garage Foreman J. JOYCE says his wife is expecting again. Come off it, Joyce, are you planning on a baseball team?...A belated happy 33rd wedding anniversary to ALBIN and STELLA POWLICKI. Also many thanks for the slice of cake. Do you know, Al, my wife ate both slices?...A belated happy birthday and wedding anniversary to Operator JIM COBURN. Jim states he was married on his birthday so he couldn't forget their anniversary...HERBIE SCHMIDT is down in sunny Florida visiting his daughter... Retired Chief Clerk BILL PINASCO's wife, PAT, is at present in the hospital. Here's hoping she will return home soon...Pensioner AL RAHN is looking fine. In fact, I do believe he's looking better than when he was working. Of course the clothes make quite a difference. Right, Al?... Thanks, TED WODARSKI, for your nice card. It was very kind and thoughtful of you...District C Superintendent TOM HILDEBRANT is still rated number one. Keep up the good work, Tom...DAVE KNOERR is now working at Skokie Shop. Sorry to lose you, Dave, you always did an excellent job...Superintendent JAMES BROGAN will drive west for a month's vacation. Have a nice trip and come home relaxed...Superintendent V. JOHNSON is now the boss at Limits Garage. Forest Glen's loss is Limits' gain. Good luck...By the way, do any of you old timers have an old union button from November 1942? If so, please contact WILBUR at Forest Glen.

- W. A. Henry (Don't call me Wilbur)

KEDZIE -

It's always nice to hear from our retired friends. I received a letter from Former Superintendent JOHN FRUGO who says he is doing fine. His wife underwent surgery

Joe Tunzi: Bye - Bye Boy

Joe Tunzi holds the title for saying good-bye.

Tunzi, a transportation clerk, sees some 300 CTA employees off every year when he gives them their pension packets and processes their retirement forms.

Tunzi, who himself is in the midst of building a pension nestegg (he was hired by the CTA in 1950 when he was 17 years old), describes his job as a daily challenge of meeting people. This is particularly true near New Year's when he sees almost 100 new faces as employees stand in line to muster out.

"Most like to finish off the year," he explains.

Tunzi says pensioners hate to go - they really enjoyed their jobs.

"Can't think of one who didn't," he says.

Of course, Tunzi's job doesn't end with wishing employees good-bye, since many come back to visit.

Any take an early pension just for the fun of it?

"Only one," says Tunzi.

"A bus driver - at 55, he married rich."





IN THE CTA CLAN-- Mary Berry

You don't have to be born there to love Ireland--at least, in Mary Berry's case that's true.

"I think about Ireland and going back there all the time. My parents were born there. It's the ancestral home," says Mary, a clerk in the Claims Law Department with 24 years service.

For Mary "going back" is more than wishful thinking. She's already made the trip four times, taking in her parents' home in County Galway as well as traveling all over Ireland.

"The people there will say, 'when you go back, you're home'," says Mary. "They make you feel warm and welcome. Even strangers--they treat them as their own."

The lifestyle in Ireland, she explains, helps to build a feeling of congeniality and hospitality among the people.

"There are no telephones. Everyone exchanges conversation in the pubs, and those are very friendly places. You can really feel at home," she says.

Like all good Irish, Mary's a socializer.

"I like to go to Irish dances...doing the jig or the reel. We all sing and dance a lot."

The spirit of Ireland lives even in Mary's home on Chicago's Northwest Side. There her parents still speak Gaelic, and she bakes Irish soda bread almost every week.

You'll even find a blarney stone there because Mary admits to having a small piece of it.

and is doing good. She is confined to a wheel chair, but John says he takes her shopping and anywhere else she wants to go. It is hard to believe that Mr. Frugo has been on pension for 10 years. How time flies...I had Pensioner ART LASK and his wife on my bus and they really look great. They said they are really enjoying the retired life. Art entered his dog in a dog show (he didn't mention which one) and won first place. Congratulations. ..I also had Pensioner BERLIN ride my bus and he said to tell all his friends hello...KATIE RICHARDSON, the wife of Pensioner J. RICHARDSON, was in the hospital but is now home and doing well...MARGIE BROWN, the wife of C. BROWN, repair department, was in Michael Reese hospital for surgery. She is now home recuperating...Collector J. FOLEY is now home after undergoing eye surgery and doing fine. We all wish you a speedy recovery and a quick return to work...D. KISSANE and his wife, RUTH, vacationed in Florida and took in all the sights. Dave went fishing off the Keys and caught a big 25-pounder--and that's no fish story...Operator W. RUSCIK said he saw Retired

Supervisor F. CLANCY and said he looks really great. Clancy said he is feeling fine and sends his best regards to all his friends at Kedzie... Operators W. McKNIGHT, J. YOUNG and D. GARRISON passed their supervisor exam and are now in school. Hopefully by the time this issue comes out, they will have completed the course and been placed in the supervisor pool. Congratulations, fellows... Operator JACKIE HAYES took his vacation and said that he and his wife, CHARLOTTE, "dog-sat"--with their daughter's big Eskimo dog--while she and her husband vacationed in Jamaica... Our deepest sympathy is extended to Operator G. JONES in the loss of his mother, Mrs. M. JONES... Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Pensioner HERB GRABE who passed away in Mesa, Ariz... Our sincere condolences to FRANK GRIMALDI, assistant foreman, North Avenue, in the loss of his sister, RAFFALLA CANIANO; to J. FINLAY, repair department, in the loss of his sister, EILEEN FINLAY; to L. JONES, repair department, whose father passed away, and to E. PORTER, repair department, in the loss of his mother who passed away in Arkansas... We wish all the operators on the sick list a speedy recovery and hope to see you back on the job real soon... Softball season is almost here, and anyone interested in playing this year can contact C. WILLIAMS and he will give you all the information... Don't forget your credit union--save a little each payday and watch your happiness grow.

- Raymond Graham

LIMITS -

Greetings!.. Well, to start this month off in good spirits, our bowling team is in second place. How about that! Hang in there, gang... Heard from Retired Janitor STANLEY TUREK. He's living in Wisconsin now and enjoying every minute of his pension, fishing, hunting, doing all the things he's wanted to do for a long time--like chasing those North Country chicks around (ha, ha). He sends his best to all his friends at Limits... Pensioner R. BENSON tells me he's a grandfather for the eighth time. His oldest son, DAVID, and his wife, JACQUELINE, became the proud parents of a baby boy, KEVIN SCOTT, born Jan. 8 weighing 9 pounds 8 ounces. David is an operator out of North Park... We heard that Janitor DON MARR has been hospitalized at Columbus hospital and is in need of blood donors. If you can find the time, please stop in there. I'm sure it would be greatly appreciated. Get well, Don, we miss you here... Get well wishes also to Operators BROWN, THOMPSON, GREEN, ANDERSON, GIPSON and HANNON. Hurry back, we all miss you... Our sincere condolences to Operator CARL (Andy) ANDERSON in the passing of his mother... Our annual credit union dinner and meeting were wonderful as usual, and there were

door prizes galore. Keep saving at your credit union, and you'll have smooth sailing. See you next month.

- Charles Turner

NORTH AVENUE -

The members arrived early. The cocktail bar and the registration book opened simultaneously at 8. The gavel rapped at 8:45, and the meeting came to order. The members listened to a compendium of statistics and committee reports and re-elected three members to the Board of Directors. Then they formed an orderly line at the buffet tables that consisted of an array of three meats, salad, vegetables, gravy and dessert. Immediately following dinner 52 door prizes, 12 fifths of Canadian whiskey and 40 cash prizes of \$5 each were raffled. A motion to adjourn was entertained, seconded and carried and thus came to an end the 38th annual membership meeting of the North Avenue Depot Federal Credit Union. Operator HORACE BROWNING was elected president at the board meeting as Operator JOHN M. WEATHERSPOON declined to seek re-election. There were no other changes in the offices held. . . Sorry we missed the last issue with this: Superintendent WARD CHAMBERLAIN and Superintendent ARTHUR TABEL of 69th Street completed 30 years of service with CTA in January... The ladder of promotion was set out and the following were rewarded: from assistant superintendent of North Avenue



IN THE CTA CLAN-- John F. Carolan

Chief clerk John Carolan administers an office of 13 people at the Jeff Park terminal. He began with CTA in 1920. His son, Michael, 26, who is an iron worker at West Shops, makes the Carolans a three generation CTA family.

John was born in the U.S. and has never been to Ireland, although he hopes to make a trip there this year. His mother was from County Mayo, his father was from County Meath, and he is as Irish as a native.

One song by Johnny Cash that "really moves" him is "40 Shades of Green." To him, it signifies the allure of Ireland that he has felt since he was a boy.

They say John looks like a young Pat O'Brien and speaks with a bit of an inflection. He's fond of Irish soccer and a great fan of Notre Dame sports. He still savors the taste of his mother's lamb stew.

John admires the Irish people for their strong religious faith, their talents, and their generosity.

"Shulanta," says John, to show off his Gaelic. For us, it's a toast from him-- good health.

Service anniversaries in March

40 years



E. A. Hess,
Capital Development



E. J. Hays,
Claims Law



W. F. Sheahan,
Electrical

35 years

J. E. Cannon, Accounting Operations
G. W. Frailey, Track & Structures
A. Fritzler, North Park
J. Grady, Beverly
E. W. Maloney, South Shops
W. J. Rappold, Electrical
R. L. Shea, Kedzie

to superintendent of 69th Street, ARTHUR TABEL; from instructors to assistant superintendents: EARL BURKETT, JOHNNY BORK and JAMES HENDERSON; from instructor to "night rider", KENNETH ZACHOWSKI...Many happy returns of the day to Assistant Superintendent JAMES HENDERSON and his wife, JACKIE, on their 30th wedding anniversary Feb. 3. . . We welcome Operators JOHN JOHNSON and WILLIAM NANZ back to work after being off ill and hospitalized...Operator BEATRICE RICHARD is visiting sick relatives in New Orleans...We were recently visited by Pensioner WILLIAM MIEDEMA, former reporter of this column. We found out that Bill, who retired last year, was in the hospital for a brief period and is doing splendidly now. Bill also mentioned that

30 years

C. Bareishis, South Shops
L. E. Conklin, North Park
J. S. Fietko, Archer
F. H. Frieb, West Section
W. J. Frieb, North Park
R. M. Geiser, District D
J. L. Grojean, District D
J. B. Hayes, Kedzie
E. F. Howe, 69th Street
G. L. Jarrell, Buildings & Grounds
A. Johnson, North Park
F. Katkus, Forest Glen
F. A. Kolcz, North Avenue
J. J. Lahey, Training Center
J. F. Leahy, Control Center
M. S. Mariano, South Shops
F. A. Mathiesen, North Avenue
W. K. Mobley, Transp. Support Serv.
W. H. Oglesby, 77th Street
V. J. Priolo, Limits
W. A. Schweitzer, 52nd Street
M. Simpson, Buildings & Grounds
J. J. Vitale, Forest Glen
W. M. Zawacki, Buildings & Grounds
T. J. Zdeb, Forest Glen
F. E. Zeiger, Transportation

25 years

J. F. Bork, Limits
R. E. Cleveland, West Section
P. J. Clifford, Property Accounting
H. D. Dillard, South Section
E. T. Dural, Electrical
W. L. Hester, 77th Street
C. R. Hickman, District C
A. J. Hymel, 69th Street
D. Jackson, North Avenue
S. L. Jones, South Section
J. J. Milan, West Section
B. Perkins, 77th Street
D. Smith, Stores-South
J. Smith, Track & Structures
J. T. Walker, South Section

he receives mail from several pensioners who would like to send news to be printed in this column. For all pensioners who wish to correspond with this reporter, please address all correspondence to Transit News Reporter, North Avenue, 4801 W. North Avenue, Chicago, Ill. 60651. We welcome mail and news from all of our readers...Repairman JOHN RUDDLE visited his daughter, Sister MARIANNE, in Lodi, N.J. We are told that Ruddle found out it does not pay to park in a tow zone as his car was towed away...We welcome JAMES P. (Whitey) BRISON of the repair department back to work. Brison is a third generation employee of the CTA. His grandfather recently retired, his father is employed in the electrical department, and his twin brother, JOHN, is in the repair

department at another garage. By the way, Whitey, thanks for your help in getting news from the repair department...Pensioner WALTER BARAN paid a visit to the repair department after retiring recently. ..Our deepest sympathy is extended to Assistant Foreman FRANK GRIMALDI in the death of his sister. . . Operator FLOYD BANKS JR. is home recuperating after being hospitalized for a broken ankle... North Avenue operators broke their all time low accident record and were served coffee (furnished by the CTA) and rolls and doughnuts (furnished by the North Avenue Credit Union) on Feb. 18...Pensioner JULIUS TEDESCHI had to postpone his trip to Florida to have an operation for the removal of a cataract. Operator CHARLIE KING was also operated on for cataract removal. Hope you fellows are on your feet soon!

- Aaron Pruitt

MATERIALS MANAGEMENT -

We welcome MANUEL (Manny) SEGURA, government project coordinator, and ISABELIA BOCHENEK, Specifications Section stenographer, to the department...Commendations go to JOHN GILL and ROBERT GORZ of Storeroom 20 for outstanding performance. On Jan. 20, a fire broke out in the storeroom and the swift action taken by these two gentlemen in utilizing 20 pound dry chemical fire extinguishers to put out the fire was instrumental in preventing it from spreading to material located in the storeroom...We sure envy TINA RODRIGUEZ and RITA KRUEGER, who got away from the lengthy winter we're having and took a trip to Acapulco... Congratulations to MARY BLATCHFORD who moved into her new home...Happy birthday to VIC JOHNSON and LEON HARRIS who celebrated last month...We join in with the guys in Storeroom 42 who honored SAM CANELLA with a surprise cake celebrating his 35th year with the CTA...Tears go to ANDY CUNNINGHAM, Storeroom 61, whose beautiful car was stolen...We certainly hope to see our own BOB PIEPER up and at 'em before our next copy deadline...We BEG for more new!

- Delores Duff

NORTH PARK -

The CTA Pioneers invite all pensioners and old timers to attend their monthly social meetings held the second Tuesday of each month at the Golden Flame restaurant, 6401 W. Higgins Road, where a luncheon will be served at a nominal cost. Planned events for future meetings will be discussed...PATRICIA KNIGHT, the daughter of Operator BILL and ELKENA KNIGHT, was married on Feb. 15 to RICHARD KAMIEN Jr., at the Kimball Avenue church. The reception was held at the Swedish Manor restaurant and was

WELCOME ABOARD!

New Members Of The CTA Family

PAULO AGUILAR, Transportation,
Bus Operator, Archer
RICHARD BEE, Transportation,
Ticket Agent, North Section
GONZALO CACERES, Transportation,
Conductor, West Section
JOHN CRUZ, Transportation,
Bus Operator, 69th Street
ARMANDO CUESTA, Transportation,
Bus Operator, North Park
JULIO DIAZ, Transportation,
Conductor, West Section
ELEANOR DRISCOLL, Executive Secretary
& Supervisor, Chief Executive Office
RAYMOND DUDRA, Transportation,
Bus Operator, Beverly
JESUS FERNANDEZ, Transportation,
Bus Operator, North Park
ANGEL FLORES, Transportation,
Bus Operator, Forest Glen
ROBERT FLORES, Transportation,
Bus Operator, North Avenue
ANNA GONZALES, Transportation,
Bus Operator, 69th Street
RADOJE ILIC, Plant Maintenance,
Machinist Apprentice, West Shops
WILLIAM JONES Jr., Transportation,
Conductor, West Section
RAFAEL JUSINO, Transportation,
Bus Operator, Limits
GANI KACIJA, Transportation,
Bus Operator, Archer

LUIGI LOMBARDI, Transportation,
Bus Operator, Archer
STAN MIHAJLOVIC, Transportation,
Bus Operator, Forest Glen
DENNIS MILICEVIC, Maintenance Tech-
nical Services, South Shops
ROBERT O'DONLEY, Maintenance Tech-
nical Services, South Shops
CECIL O'QUINN, Transportation,
Conductor, South Section
FELIX RAMOS, Transportation,
Bus Operator, North Park
MARILYN REYES, Transportation,
Bus Operator, 69th Street
PEDRO SANTOS, Transportation,
Conductor, North Section
ANGEL SOTO, Transportation,
Bus Operator, North Park
CHARLES STROM, Engineering,
General Office
ADOLPH TAYLOR, Plant Maintenance,
"B" Electrician, West Shops
IRENE THOMPSON, Transportation,
Bus Operator, Beverly
IRMA UGAZ, Transportation,
Bus Operator, North Park
VICTOR VACA, Transportation,
Bus Operator, North Park
PETE VESIC, Maintenance,
Car Serviceman, West Pool
SERGIO VILLANUEVA, Transportation,
Bus Operator, North Park

Jacqueline E. Benson, production
manager.

Dr. Raphaeli, technical assistant.
Model released at 11:30 P.M., Janu-
ary 8.

Two lung power, free squealing.
Scream line body, water cooled
exhaust. Changeable seat.

Model on exhibition at 4435 N. Avers,
Chicago, Illinois 60625

Repair Department Chit Chat: Best
wishes to Repairman DAN PRISBLE and
Serviceman JAMES McPARTLAN who re-
tired on Feb. 1. A party was held in their
honor and gifts were given to these two
fine employees...The garage sends best
wishes to Repairman ROBERT KAPLAN
who has been on sick leave. We hope to
see him back at work soon... Engine
Washer DENNIS COOK was married on
March 6 to Miss CHERYL FOLZ at St.
Andrew's church in Cicero, Ill. The re-
ception was held at the Diplomat Banquet
hall and was attended by 250 guests. The
young couple honeymooned at Disney
World in Florida...Enjoying March vaca-
tions were Repairmen PAUL SCHREVES
and ART CARLSEN, Serviceman ROBERT
BOTH and Engine Washer DENNIS COOK.

- Melvin Horning

OPERATIONS PLANNING (Schedules) -

SHARON SPOONER, the wife of BOB
SPOONER, gave birth to a baby boy, TIM-
OTHY ALBERT, on Jan. 26 weighing 10
pounds 7 ounces. That makes number two
for the Spooners. Congratulations...KEN
MAREK retired on Feb. 1 after more than
33 years of service. A surprise party was
held at Villa Toscona for Ken attended by
many of his friends. A good time was had
by all. Congratulations and many happy
and healthy retirement years, Ken...The
department extends its deepest sympathy
to CHARLES MYERS, traffic checker,
whose uncle passed away, and to JOE
TERRY whose sister passed away...The
Schedule Department was well represented
at the recent credit union party. The four
lucky winners were ED JURIC, JOE CAP-
PELLETTI, JOHN KOLON and WALTER
THOMAS...EUGENE WROBEL became a
grandfather again when a grandson was
born recently. That makes five grand-
children for the Wrobels. Congratulations.

- Kay Batina

SOUTH SECTION -

Now that the baseball season is getting
close I feel that spring is not too far off...
Our South Side "L" basketball team is
doing great. As of now they are in third
place and will surely make the playoffs.
Go go team!..You South Siders are doing
us proud. Ashland and 61st Street Termi-
nals had their safest year in 1975 and will
receive free coffee...We had a change in

attended by 150 guests...Operator BEN
SECLER and his wife, NATALIE, cele-
brated their 25th wedding anniversary with
a trip to Acapulco, Mexico. Ben enjoyed
his first winter vacation in 24 years with
the temperature a warm 88 degrees...As-
sistant Superintendent LOUIS MUELLER
and his wife, MARGIRITE, vacationed in
Puerto Rico with a seven-day cruise
aboard a Cunard Lines adventure ship,
with stops at the Islands of Grenada, Bar-
bados, St. Louisa, St. Thomas and San
Juan. . . Relief Superintendent HENRY
ZIOLKOWSKI is wheeling a 1976 Cadillac
de Ville around the city. His daughter,
BONNIE, has become a member of the
Chicago Police Department working out of
the Shakespeare District...Operator SEY-
MOUR STEINBERG at this writing is re-
cuperating at Swedish Covenant hospital,
where he has been confined for observa-
tion. Our prayers are with Seymour for a
complete recovery...Commendations are
extended to Painters RICHARD KRUEGER,
PAT WHITE and DAN DIGNAM for the ex-
cellent decorating job around the depot and
offices...Operator GINO PAOLI of TV
fame, the operator of the last propane bus,
has a new hobby. He is now working as a
line instructor. We are sure the students
will learn much from Gino...Pensioner
SY GOLDMAN, whose address is 343 Smith

Street, Columbus, Ind. 47201, invites his
many friends to stop by and visit with him
and his wife, NELLIE...Pensioner JOE
EIFFES who is living in Clearwater, Fla.,
writes that he recently bowled a 614
series. Joe was one of CTA's top bowlers
when he was active, and he still has the
touch...Our sympathy and condolences to
Operator WALTER PETERS and his wife,
MARIE, in the loss of Marie's mother,
Mrs. HELENE ARNES, in the tragic fire
at the Wincrest Nursing home...Operator
ROBERT RZADCZYSKI and his wife,
PATRICIA, became parents of a son
named AARON MATHEW, born on Nov. 30
at Central Du Page hospital weighing 8
pounds 12 ounces...This is the birth an-
nouncement Operator DAVID BENSON sent
out to all his relatives and friends when
his son, KEVIN SCOTT, was born on Jan.
8:

The Benson Production Co., 4435 N.
Avers Ave., announces the 1976
model, Kevin Scott.

Model number four, standard equip-
ment.

Weight without accessories, 9 pounds
8 ounces, length 22 inches.

David R. Benson, designer and chief
engineer.



IN THE CTA CLAN--

Tom Dunleavy

Tom Dunleavy's first love is trains. It's a fondness for them he's had, dating as far back as his boyhood days in County Mayo in west Ireland.

"I was born and raised beside the railroad, so it does have its appeal," says Dunleavy.

When he became a CTA motorman in 1950, what might have been just a passing fancy, turned into a firm commitment. In Dunleavy's own words, "I ended up in a job I really love."

Next to trains, hotfooting it 'round the globe runs a close second in gaining Dunleavy's affections. Seems wanderlust overtook him at the age of 25, and he left Ireland to "see the places there are to see."

"I love to travel," says Dunleavy. "I've traveled all the way from Newfoundland to New Orleans; from New York to New Mexico."

London was his first port-of-call. He spent seven years there before crossing the Atlantic to go to Canada, where he worked for three years on Toronto's transit system, the TTC.

The United States was next on his list, and he decided to settle in Chicago. "I had some relations in the city, and they told me what a wonderful place it was." He's been here ever since.

Although he's made Chicago his permanent home, "Ireland still rates very high," Dunleavy says--so much so that he has been back there at least once a year since 1962.

In one breath, Dunleavy can rattle off names of places he's visited like the Grand Ol' Opry, the Kentucky Derby, or Glacier National Park while in the next breath he'll tell you, "I wish I had more time to travel."

But as Dunleavy explains the fact that the Irish are drawn to travel is just another of their long-standing traditions.

"The Irish have traveled all over the world," says Dunleavy, "and they've always been able to hold their own in any department, including in this country."

Sure and begorrah, Tom!

superintendents as of Feb. 1: ALEX WILSON was transferred to assistant superintendent of North Section, and JAMES McLANE was transferred to assistant superintendent of South Section. Good luck, Alex, we sure will miss you. Welcome back, Big Jim...We sure are glad to see these employees back from the sick list: Motorman LEROY GROCE, Conductors DAVID STRONG, MICHAEL McDONALD, LAWRENCE JACKSON and EDWARD MEANS, Switchman RICHARD COLE, Agent SHIRLEY ANDERSON and Clerk

LUDARISH BUTLER... Received a card from the traveling JAGLA family--Motorman TONY and his wife, MARIE. This time they went to Rio de Janeiro and took in all the sights. They said they had a wonderful trip...Everyone is happy to see Assistant Superintendent ARDIS MORRIS, 61st Street, back at work after being off sick... Ashland Avenue had a nice get-together for two of our finest motormen, ROBERT BUTLER and HERMAN DUKES, who retired Feb. 1. Coffee and rolls were served and Superintendent STAN CHRIST,



Robert Butler & Herman Duke

95th Street, and Assistant Superintendent DAVID MARTIN, Ashland Avenue, presented each of the men with a gift from their friends and co-workers. Met Dukes' wife and she is a charming woman. The day of the party was also Robert Butler's birthday--so it was a double celebration for him. VIC COLEMAN, special assistant to the manager of Transportation, was there to give them a nice send-off. Pensioners WILLIAM BROPHY and JOHN BURNS also stopped by. Bill Brophy, who had been sick for quite awhile, is looking good and said to tell everyone he is fine now. Many good wishes and much happiness is wished Robert and Herman in their retired life...Motorman DAVID MOORE, 95th Street, broke his foot and is still on the sick list. Hurry up and get that foot well, Dave... Retired Supervisor DAN HAYES stopped in at 95th Street to say hello. He had two operations but is doing fine now and feels good...Switchman MOSES WILSON's mother passed away recently. Our sincere condolences to Moses in his loss...The South Side "L" credit union will have its annual meeting and get-together on Sunday, April 4. The time and place have not been decided yet. Please watch the bulletin boards for the information. Try and attend as I'm sure a good time will be had by all...Supervisor SIDNEY EDWARDS was in the hospital for an operation but is now home recuperating. We hope he will be back to work real soon... Clerk ED GREEN had a good mid-winter vacation. He went down to New Orleans to enjoy the warm climate and visit his relatives...My hubby, RON, and I are sorry we missed the North Side "L" credit union meeting and dinner on Feb. 8, held at Johnnie Weigelt's hall. We are sure that everyone who attended had a good time...

Agent BESSOLA JAMES wishes to personally thank Towerman RICHARD CURRY in this column. Recently she had her purse snatched and Richard found her wallet with her pass in it. Not knowing it was hers, he returned it to her house. Now that's what I call a good deed...Just heard that Director of Support Services GEORGE RILEY is in the hospital. Hope by the time you read this you'll be home recuperating, Mr. Riley...Received a card from Retired Towerman LEONARD DeGROOT who is down in Hot Springs, Ark., enjoying the baths...Receiving a passenger commendation recently was Conductor JOSEPH DOYLE, for his clear station announcements.

- Verna Hartney

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE (Skokie Shop) -

All it took was a few warm days and presto, all the snow and ice disappeared. With its disappearance can spring be far be-



IN THE CTA CLAN--

Mary Gallagher

"Anything you want to know about Ireland--I can tell you--from north to south, from east to west," says Irish colleen Mary Gallagher.

Born in County Donegal in Northern Ireland, Mary, who actually speaks Gaelic, says she only learned to speak English when she was 16.

In 1963, Mary came to Chicago to live with a brother.

"I came here just to try it out for a year, but I decided to stay...I liked it so well," she says.

A year later, Mary became a CTA ticket agent, a job she chose over that of a TWA airline hostess.

"My brother worked for the CTA at the time, and he told me what a good place it was," she gives as the reason for her choice.

Still at the same job today, her present assignment is the station at Central and Lake streets.

With roguish charm Mary will tell you she's undeniably Irish because of her fair complexion as well as her general good looks.

Redheaded Irish that she is, Mary has you thinking twice when she first admits, "I must be the only Irish person I know who doesn't drink."

But then, if you want to know what she does on St. Patrick's Day, she'll say, "Well, I usually remember a week later what I do."

Has Mary Gallagher ever kissed the blarney stone?

She answers, "I'm sure you can tell from what I've said so far that I have."

hind? Of course, there are some people we know who chickened out and beat it to the Sunshine State of Florida. BEA SUSMAN, unit supervisor, spent two weeks there visiting with her son and daughter-in-law. JOE BOLECH, retired superintendent of Skokie Shop, is the other turncoat. Joe and his wife, LOUVERNE, plan on staying in Florida and other warmer climes for several months. They're going to make darn sure there isn't any more snow when they return. I have news for them--I have two nice big snowballs in my freezer just for them...Baby news is always happy news. We offer our congratulations to CHRIS and TONI MISETIC on the birth of a bouncing baby boy, MICHAEL ANTHONY, who arrived on Jan. 28, weighed 7 pounds 14 ounces and was 21 inches long. Chris is an electrical worker at Skokie Shop and Toni formerly worked in the Insurance Department at the Mart... JOE PUTHAMANA, Methods & Standards, loves to make snow sculptures in his front yard in Marengo, Ill. With the help of his daughter, JEELA, he made a replica of



Joe and Jeela Puthamana

President Lincoln sitting at the entrance to the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. Making different sculptures is an annual family project. Keep up the good work, Joe...Those wedding bells rang out loud and clear for STANLEY WARCHOL, electrical worker, on St. Valentine's day, Feb. 14. Stanley and BERNADETTE WORNIA exchanged marriage vows at St. Ladislav church. After their reception, which was held at the Fontana D'or, the happy couple flew to Florida for a honeymoon and to bask in the lovely sunshine and warm weather. Their plans also included a visit to Disney World. We all extend our heartiest best wishes to Stanley and Bernadette for many years of happiness...Don't go away--we have another St. Valentine's day wedding to report. GREG BABICZ, electrical worker, and LENORE PROKOPCZYK exchanged marriage vows at St. Boniface church and had their wedding reception at the Diplomat. Our best wishes to Greg and Lenore for many years of happiness...Here's the latest on our office remodeling. The partitions were finally delivered and are being installed as of this writing. Things are really shaping up nicely. Come in, come out, from wherever you are and see how nice Skokie Shop

IN MEMORIAM

MICHAEL ANZELMO, 92, North Avenue, Emp. 9-4-20, Died 1-5-76
 ARTHUR DEUTSCHER, 78, North Avenue, Emp. 2-15-27, Died 1-10-76
 PETER FLAHERTY, 72, Division 241, Emp. 7-29-26, Died 1-23-76
 HERBERT GRABE, 78, Forest Glen, Emp. 3-27-24, Died 1-23-76
 CHARLES HOLMES, 90, West Section, Emp. 12-22-04, Died 1-25-76
 GEORGE JENKINS, 77, North Section, Emp. 10-11-43, Died 1-25-76
 PATRICK JOYCE, 81, 77th Street, Emp. 1-7-20, Died 1-27-76
 FRED KAHLFELDT, 63, Schedules, Emp. 5-6-41, Died 1-3-76
 THOMAS KAY, 67, North Avenue, Emp. 5-19-42, Died 1-29-76
 JOHN KEARNS, 79, Limits, Emp. 4-29-26, Died 1-16-76
 HARRY LAMERDIN, 67, North Park, Emp. 10-23-45, Died 1-6-76
 PATRICK NALLY, 52, South Shops, Emp. 8-23-45, Died 1-31-76
 HUGH NAUGHTON, 73, North Section, Emp. 10-6-44, Died 1-20-76

GUISEPPI NOVELLI, 87, Throop Street, Emp. 5-10-12, Died 1-8-76
 WALTER ODOM, 34, 77th Street, Emp. 11-18-66, Died 2-6-76
 PASQUALE PONTORIERO, 92, Armitage, Emp. 11-19-11, Died 1-19-76
 FRANK PRAZAK, 73, West Section, Emp. 6-6-23, Died 1-25-76
 SIMON SCANLAN, 71, 52nd Street, Emp. 1-13-43, Died 1-27-76
 JOHN SCHILTZ, 67, South Shops, Emp. 9-17-46, Died 1-25-76
 ROMOLDA STASIUNAS, 87, 69th Street, Emp. 5-3-27, Died 12-17-75
 ANTHONY TRANCHITA, 57, Archer, Emp. 2-10-43, Died 1-3-76
 JOHN TRANELIS, 87, South Shops, Emp. 7-17-25, Died 1-18-76
 DAVID WATSON, 80, Law, Emp. 11-19-28, Died 1-14-76
 HOWARD WEIDER, 71, Limits, Emp. 2-17-43, Died 12-11-75
 WALTER WRIGHT, 71, Special Invstgs., Emp. 9-19-35, Died 1-17-76

looks...This is all the news I have for this month. With your help we can do better next month. So until then have only good days.

- Mary Hendrickson

(South Shops) -

Congratulations to JACK MURRY and his wife, MARGARET, on becoming grandparents again. Their daughter and son-in-law, KATHY and TONY MULIZIO, welcomed a baby girl, CARLA, into their family, weighing 7 pounds 10 ounces on Jan. 23. Congratulations also to DENISE and RICH COX on becoming parents for the first time. RICHARD DARYL COX Jr. was born Feb. 6 weighing 7 pounds 9 ounces...GAIL HATHAWAY spent a weekend skiing in Alpine Valley. I think she spent more time on the bar stool than on the ski slopes. Right, Gail?...Happy birthday to DON TARNOWSKI who celebrated on Feb. 16. We won't go into how old he is. Let's just say he is still young at heart...We would like to welcome ROBERT L. O'DONLEY to South Shops. Bob is a technical service technician. We also welcome ROBERT KIEHN as technical service technician. Happy to have you aboard. ...Methods & Standards also has a new face, that of DENNIS MILICEVIC. Welcome, Dennis...Welcome back to RAY BLAU who has been off sick for awhile... TOM ALFRED just returned from his vacation. He spent 10 days in St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands, and said he had a beautiful time. Tom bought a few things, went

sightseeing, got a fantastic tan, etc. Next year he said he will go back, but this time on a cruise...TED PIETRUS just purchased a CB radio. Watch out you truckers! Just call Ted "Teddy Bear" or "Orange Bottom", right, Ted? ..Congratulations to JUSTINE JANASEK on her new job. Justine filled the clerk's job left vacant when DENISE COX left to await the stork.

Six happy faces joined the working class here at the South Shops. The new fellows are Journeymen MIKE REGAN, JIM DALY, LUTHER MURCHISON, ROBERT TURNER, RENE SAURIOL and HANK KANIA. I'm sure I speak for everyone here in welcoming them to the South Shops...An entrepreneur is WAYNE MATEJKA. He's giving household painting and maintenance classes during his lunch hour each day...Mechanic Helper IKE WOODS is recuperating at Veterans hospital at 820 S. Damen, Room B-809, where he's warding off his recent illness...JAMES LAMONT is doing well at home after his recent operation. He's looking for the first sign of spring--an open golf course!..."Shoes" is still living it up at home itching to get back to work after his recent injury...Congratulations to CECIL WOOD and TOM PORTER on making journeymen Feb. 1...Our condolences go out to the family of PAT NALLY of the Tin Shop. Pat passed away while on vacation in early February. He will be missed by his friends and co-workers alike.

- Jeanne Diehl & Lawrence Bernas



IN THE CTA CLAN--

John Fergus

"I'm what they call once removed," says bus operator John Fergus, whose parents came to the U.S. from Ireland's County Mayo in the early 1900's.

Although he's not yet been to Ireland, Fergus is making plans to get over there as soon as he retires in April, after 25 years of service.

"I want to see the family land. We have a farm there which has been in the family for 140 years," he says.

When it comes to eating, Fergus' palate is truly Irish bred, with tastes that run toward the likes of Irish beef stew.

"It's got more vegetables and is a lot thicker than regular beef stew. It's what they call a sticking to your ribs type meal," he explains.

Fergus grew up in St. Vincent's parish on the near North Side where one of the landmarks is Kelly's tavern.

He insists that if you were to go into Kelly's today and mention his name, they'd more than likely remember him.

Fergus admits the Irish can be a boisterous lot, but they know how to have a good time. He recalls a St. Patrick's Day dance in 1945, held in a hall near Clark and Belmont, where the people stomped around so much, the floor caved in.

Though proud of his heritage in many respects, his singular boast is that his is a singing family, and singing oftentimes is what brings them together.

Says Fergus, "We drink a little bit and we sing. On my mother's last birthday, there were 125 of us--just family--to sing for her."

And what better song to sing to the dear old lady than one of Fergus' Irish favorites, "Mother's Love is a Blessing."

77TH STREET -

Hi ladies and gents. Spring is here at last...Operator and Mrs.

CLAUDIS TORAN are so proud of their eight month old son, MARLOW DUANE, they wanted everyone to see his picture. Take your bow, Marlow. Congratulations to the Toran family...The sports activities are attracting quite a few amateur athletes at 77th Street. We have bowling, softball and basketball. But according to Operator WILLIS, there's room for one more--tennis. Willis would like to see a tennis league established and would welcome any and all support. Tennis, anyone? . . . Operator JOHN (Ditty) JAMES was recently hospitalized. We send our best wishes for a speedy recovery



Marlow Duane

and hope to see him back on the job soon. James is a good friend and a fine gentleman. Get well soon, Ditty...I would like to thank Clerk WANDA BLACK for her help in gathering news items for this reporter. . .Support your union, Division 241.

- Allison De Bonnett

69TH STREET -

Let's get this straight, fellows. What you see hanging under my nose is not sagebrush. I, ART BUESING, have given nine weeks of undivided attention to raising it. To you, "Scratch" BELL, and that shoe mop you wear, you had just better watch your butterflies or you will never get to drive a new bus...Speaking of butterflies, that is what I had when I rode with my first female bus driver, YVETTE SULLIVAN. You know, she has been driving for only four months, but she handles herself like a pro...Congratulations to FLENARD PORTER, the newly elected president of the CTA softball league...JOHN (the fire-eating Greek) KOCHOPOLUS, Archer Garage repair department, now lives in my town and says hello to all his friends at 69th...ART TABEL is our new superintendent, with J. STEINBACH coming in early, J. C. WHITE on the p.m., and F. MOORE on relief. We hope they will enjoy being at the top ranking garage in the system...We lost one of our heavyweight instructors when LES ROSS was transferred to the ground level at Archer. Good luck, Les...Instructor MAURICE O'DONNELL and his pretty wife, DOROTHY, celebrated their 34th wedding anniversary on St. Patrick's day, March 17...The 38th annual meeting of the 69th Street Federal Credit Union was held at the Rosewood Inn. Elected to the credit committee were RAY HAMMERSCHMIDT, DONALD WILSON and L. RILES. Some of the raffle winners were: VITO PALUMBO, M. ENSWORTH, C. LORENZEN, C. A. HAYES, DOROTHY LEVEE, HELEN WILSON, R. RILES, B. ERICKSON, J. STEINBACH, Mrs. COLEMAN, H. LIGON, Mrs. FRAZIER, M. KLUG, ANDY KOHLSTEDT, MARY HAMMERSCHMIDT, MARY HIMEL, MARGARET PULICK and A. J. HEZMIL. Sitting at the table with my wife and I were Pensioner M. LEVEE and his wife, my gal ELEANOR and MICKEY YOUNG, JOE and ROY HORNING, and not to say the least, Division 241 president E. BARLEY and treasurer CHARLES HALL. DUBINSKI, the Western Avenue wizard, was with his pretty little friend, DOROTHY CUCULICH. . .ROSE SEHRING, the daughter of CAL CLAUSSEN, gave him a surprise retirement party at Senese's Kings Inn attended by approximately 130 people. The food and drinks were terrific and they danced until the wee hours of the morning. All your friends wish you a healthy and happy retired life, Cal...Special thanks to BILL ERICKSON for contributing news to us. Keep it coming, folks.

Father PATRICK LEE, who will be ordained May 12, is scheduled to serve his first mass on May 30 in St. Terrence church in Alsip, Ill. He is the son of a jubilant JAMES LEE, our body shop repairman...FRANK YERMAN, SAM VONHUBEN, RAY SCHEID and MIKE MORAN, a few of our pensioners, have reported in and all seem to be in good spirits, especially Mike who has been "back-ing" it for a while. His wife is vacationing in Australia. Ray Scheid still has his gift of gab. He said he talked Archer Garage Foreman BILL TOOMEY out of some of his venison. Bill shot a big buck deer in Wisconsin this past February. . . LOU VAUGHN, our relief foreman, is on the injured list. His broken ankle required surgery, but we hope he will be back on his feet soon...JERRY (J.J.) JONES is in the hospital at this writing. Hope his stay isn't a long one, as we need him on the trouble track...To end with a sad note, JOE JANECKO's father passed away on Feb. 10. Our most sincere condolences are extended to Joe and his family.

- Art Buesing & Tom Moore



IN THE CTA CLAN--

Phil O'Connor

"They say there's 40 shades of green in Ireland," says Phil O'Connor. "There are you know....It's always green."

Phil, a bus garage foreman at North Park, speaks from the heart as well as experience. He's a native son of County Kerry, considered one of the most beautiful areas in southern Ireland.

A love of travel sent Phil off to the U.S. at the early but adventurous age of 19. He settled on the West Side of Chicago which soon cut short his wandering days....he had found his new home to his liking.

And well he might. According to Phil, "I married a good Irish cook, and I met her the first night I came here."

Another mainstay in his life here is his 26-year association with the CTA. Phil attributes Irish friendliness and fairness to the good rapport he has with his co-workers.

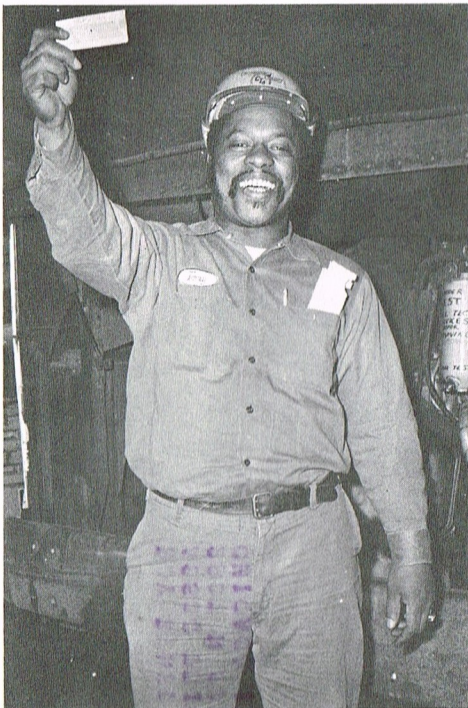
Phil strongly professes, "I'm proud to be Irish but also proud to be American."

Yet his fondest memories are of "the old homestead."

"People live longer there 'cause things are a little slower. One thing I enjoyed was to go out at night...it was so quiet and peaceful, you couldn't hear a sound," he recalls.

But there are some things that do stand up to comparison--the blarney for one. Not a believer in the Irish having sole claim to the blarney, Phil says, "I'm in with a mix of people, and when you work around these garages like I do, you find almost everyone has a touch of the blarney."

cta window



TURNAROUND SITUATION: At dedication of new CTA bus turnaround at Division and Austin, Alderman Thomas Casey of the 37th Ward is shown greeting Al Lawson, driver of first bus to use the facility. Left are State Senator Philip Rock and, in white coat, Ed Doyle of the Alderman's staff.

THE \$300 GRAND SMILE

What do you do when you win \$300,000 in the state lottery?

"Keep on working," says Talmadge Wilmington, Jr., repairman at the 77th Street Garage, who won the bonanza drawing February 8. Wilmington is the second CTA employee to win a substantial purse in the lottery. Elaine C. McGregory, timekeeper at South Shops, won \$100,000 March 5, 1975.

Wilmington says that the money will help educate his three children, allow his wife to quit working, and -- oh, yes -- provide for a Caribbean cruise.

Mulligan (Continued)

learn of British military plans.

Hamilton's son, John, wrote:

"(Washington) had appointed to meet some officers at a designated place. Information was given by a female in the Tory interest and the necessary arrangements were made to seize him, but timely intelligence frustrated the attempt. A partisan officer, a native of New York, called at the shop of Mulligan late in the evening to obtain a watch-coat. The late hour awakened curiosity, and after some inquiries, the officer vauntingly boasted that before another day they would have his rebel General in their hands. This staunch patriot, as soon as the officer left him, hastened unobserved to the wharf and dispatched a billet by a negro, giving information of the design."

In another instance, Hugh received a hurried order

for supplies for a British march. As soon as the provisions were delivered, he told Hercules of the nature of the movement. Mulligan conveyed the message to Continental Army headquarters, and the British plans to capture Washington were foiled.

A Clever Agent

That no one discovered Mulligan's activities is due to his cleverness in destroying all evidence of his covert operations.

One time Benedict Arnold, newly-turned traitor, tried to have Mulligan hung for espionage, but lacked proof to back up his accusations. The worst that happened to Mulligan was that he lost his business, probably while he was in prison awaiting trial.

But, lest anyone suspect Mulligan's loyalty to the patriotic cause, Washington thanked him publicly for his work by sitting down to breakfast--no doubt complete with a toast of Guinness--with the Mulligan family at the successful end of the Revolutionary War.

Next to Chicago, I Like Ireland Best

a few facts about the Emerald Isle from our St. Patrick's celebrities

The Blarney Stone some CTAers have kissed tastes like limestone. Legend says the owner used flattery to save Blarney Castle (in which the stone is located) from its attackers. The "gift" for kissing the Blarney Stone is the "power of sweet, persuasive, wheedling eloquence."

— CTA —

The reason the shamrock is the national flower of Ireland is that St. Patrick is supposed to have planted it on the island. The three small leaves of the shamrock represent the Holy Trinity.

— CTA —

The favorite transportation around the Lakes of Killarney in Ireland is the jaunting car. It is somewhat slower than the rapid transit. It is the modern version of the horsecar combined with the nostalgia of the surrey. Fun, too, they say.

— CTA —

Ireland is divided into 26 counties and four county boroughs. The latter compare with our U.S. cities that are independent counties by themselves. The Irish county boroughs are Cork, Dublin, Waterford, and Limerick.

— CTA —

Hurling, one of the most popular Irish sports, has nothing to do with baseball. It is much like the field hockey played by high school phys ed groups, but rougher. Boxing and Gaelic football (soccer) are the other two leading Irish sports.

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