

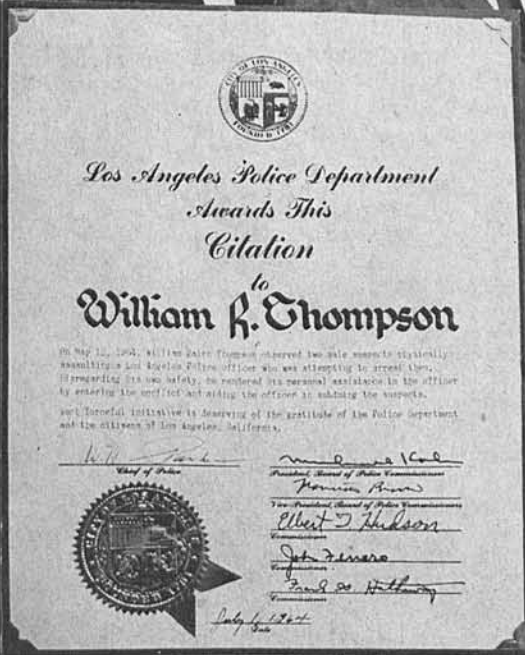
The



# Emblem

76-147

JULY, 1964



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- Important Promotions in Equipment Maintenance (pp. 12-13)

# The Emblem

Vol. 6 July, 1964 No. 9

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## OUR COVER

AN ACT OF HEROISM by the Operator in the picture brought this smiling group together for an award ceremony at the Los Angeles Police Department headquarters. (See the story on page 10.)

Left to right are Police Capt. Robert W. Richards, Commander, Foothill Division (the assaulted officer's division); Michael Kohn, President, Police Commission; Thomas Arnott, Superintendent, MTA's Division 8 (Van Nuys); William R. Thompson, the heroic Division 8 Operator; and William H. Parker, Chief of Police, Los Angeles.

Inset: the citation enlarged.

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### MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY

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## Seven Now Named to SCRTD Board

FOUR MORE of the 11 members of the new Southern California Rapid Transit District Board have been nominated since the last report in THE EMBLEM for June.

Mark Boyar, member of the present MTA Board, has been nominated by Los Angeles County Supervisor Ernest E. Debs.

Gordon Hahn, former State Assemblyman and former Los Angeles City Councilman, has been nominated by his brother, County Supervisor Kenneth Hahn.

Martin Pollard, member of the present MTA Board, has been nominated by Mayor Yorty.

Douglas A. Newcomb, member of the present MTA Board, has been nominated by County Supervisor Burton Chace.

The three previously reported nominated were Howard P. Allen, Don C. McMillan, and Norman Topping.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors has selected all five of its proposed members, and Mayor Yorty has selected both of his (two are to be selected by the Mayor, with Council approval, to represent the City of Los Angeles). As THE EMBLEM went to press, no reports had come in of any of the four nominations to be made by the cities in Los Angeles County outside the City of Los Angeles.

## MTA Accidents, January-May, Show 9.5% Decline


DESPITE official police reports showing *increases* in several accident categories in Los Angeles during the first five months of 1964 as compared with the same period of 1963, Transit Casualty records show that cautious driving by MTA Operators has brought about a *reduction* in both traffic and passenger accidents, according to Supervising Safety Engineer J. W. Prutsman.

In this five-month period, MTA passenger accidents show an 18% decline over the same five months of 1963, and traffic accidents, a 6.1% decline; combined, the two classes of accidents have been reduced by 9.5%, he wrote in a letter to Manager of Operations Cone T. Bass.

Moreover, he said, the cost of accident repairs to company vehicles has gone down \$9,000, blind claims have been reduced 26.4%, and passenger complaints have gone down 11.8%.

On the other hand, he pointed out, LAPD figures show a 24% increase in fatal accidents, a 3% increase in personal injury accidents, and an 11% increase in freeway accidents (although accidents on city streets show a decline). Also, in this same period of time, motor vehicle registrations in Los Angeles County show an increase of 167,000, according to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

"I think when we consider that a large percentage of MTA vehicles operate in the same general area where the city accidents have increased the most, we can more fully appreciate the fine job done by MTA Operators, other Transportation Department employees, the Equipment Maintenance Department, the BRT, and other departments and employees who have contributed their help in making it possible for MTA to experience, no doubt, the safest five-month period since it was organized in 1958," Mr. Prutsman concluded.



Glistening  
New  
Riverside  
Division  
Opens

THE FIRST entirely new division facility to be built by MTA opened at Riverside on Saturday, June 27; and the first regularly scheduled bus rolled out of the lot at 4:36 Sunday morning on Line 60, with Operator F. W. Lenard at the wheel.

Proudly surveying the glistening new buildings and the cleanliness of the paved yard, Foreman James W. Witt, who with his 48 Operators and nine maintenance men had just moved out of the old division with its ramshackle corrugated metal building and dusty unpaved yard, said, with emotion in his voice:

"This is one of the greatest things that ever happened to me—to be in charge here. I feel proud of the honor. It's a perfect set-up from all angles."

#### MODERN GARAGE

An air-conditioned Operators' room and modern washroom, restroom and locker facilities for both Operators and Mechanics are included in the cement-block garage building, which is equipped throughout with fluorescent lighting.

Two well-lighted one-bus pits, plus floor space for one other bus, are provided in the garage proper. Each pit has an exhaust eliminator and overhead oil and water reels.

At each end of the garage are automatic overhead doors which sound a safety alarm while closing.

Just off the garage floor are a well-equipped stock room and an office for the Foreman. In the office are a public address system by which anyone in the yard may be reached, and a two-way radio.

For the first time, Riverside maintenance men have an automatic washer to clean the 30 buses stored at the division. The washer is located at the end of a shed long enough so that handwashing of fronts and backs of buses may be done in the shade.

A service station and a small building for tire and grease supplies are among the important maintenance facilities.

Sixteen mercury-vapor lamps set on poles around the perimeter of the yard provide the most modern illumination at night. Lights are governed by an automatic timer.

Riverside also scores another "first" among all divisions. Close to the entrance on Mulberry St. stands a tall flagpole flying the U. S. and the California State flags.

"I'd been wanting a flagpole for years," said delighted Foreman Witt.

*(Text continued on page 7)*

(Pictures on pages 4, 5, 6)

**BRAND NEW DIVISION AT RIVERSIDE, as seen looking east from Mulberry St. entrance. Inset: Foreman James W. Witt proudly hoists American and California flags on new flagpoles he asked for—first such pole at any of the MTA divisions.**





**AIR-CONDITIONED OPERATORS' ROOM** is visited by Executive Director C. M. Gilliss, standing, center, and his guest, Henry Coil, Jr., Mayor pro tem. of Riverside, under the

guidance of Foreman Witt. Operators at table are, from left, Ross Shappell, E. L. Worsham, and R. A. McClelland. Note television, fluorescent lighting, bulletin boards, spaciousness.

## Riverside Division

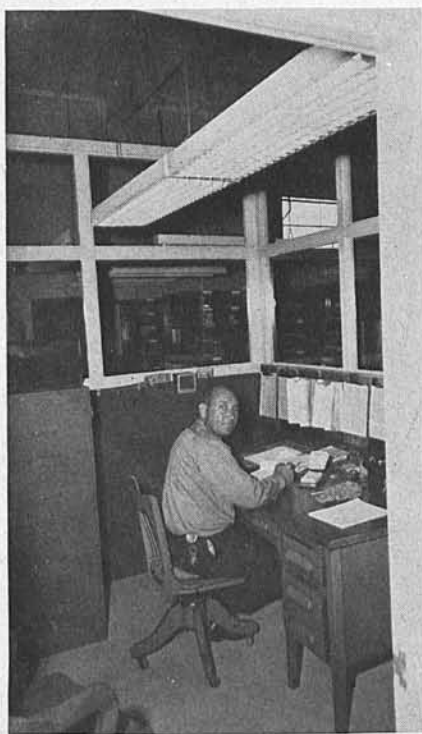


**ABOVE**—Operator E. L. Worsham, tops in Riverside seniority (5-29-26) shows off combination heater-air conditioner. **AT LEFT**, a glimpse of the new lockers. **AT RIGHT**—Operator H. E. Anunson cleans up in the bright new washroom.





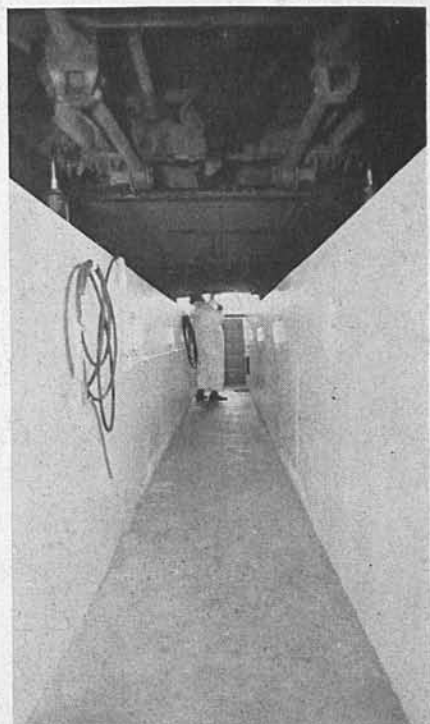
**GARAGE INTERIOR**, showing Mechanic Mike Duvigneaud working on a bus over one of the two pits. Note overhead doors (automatic) at each end; overhead oil and water reels; exhaust eliminators (curved pipe); fluorescent lighting.



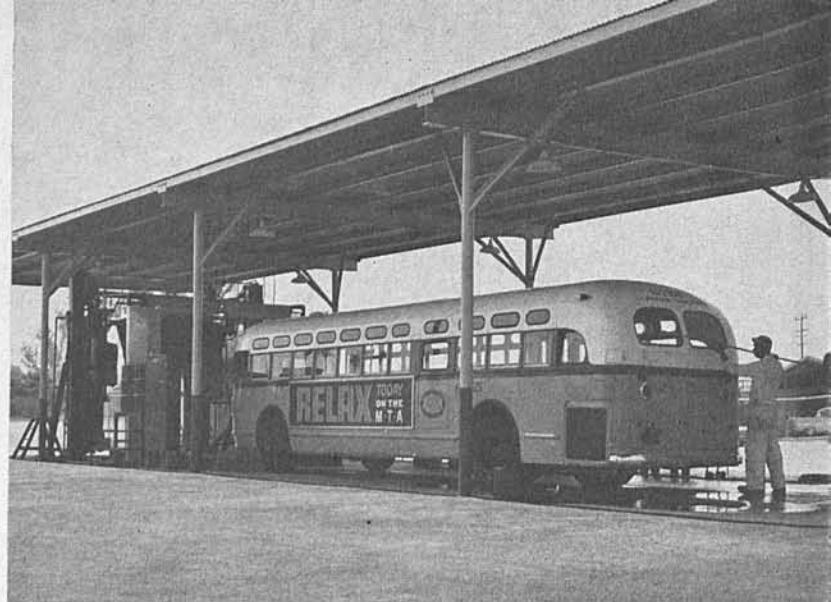
**NEW OFFICE** for Foreman Witt. Note two-way radio on wall beyond head.



**STOCK ROOM**—a partial view of some of the clean, brightly lighted shelves.



**ONE OF THE PITS**—a worm's-eye view showing method of lighting under bus.



## At the New Riverside Division

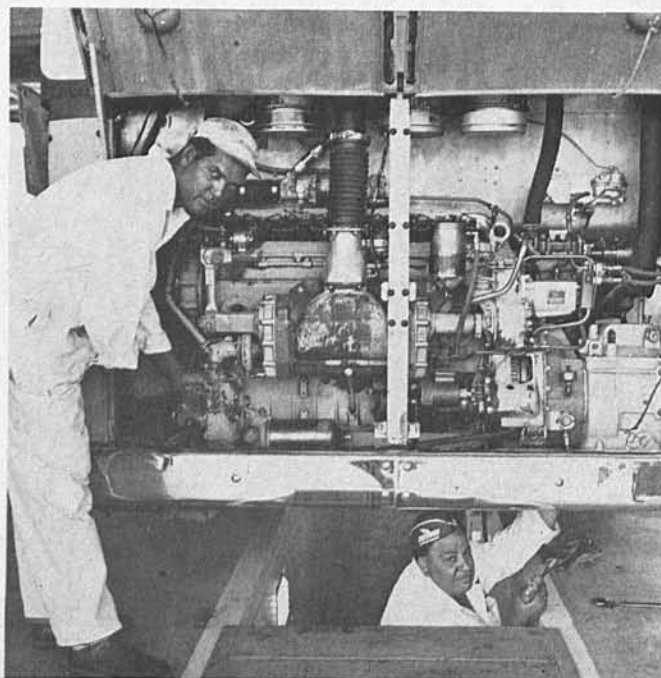
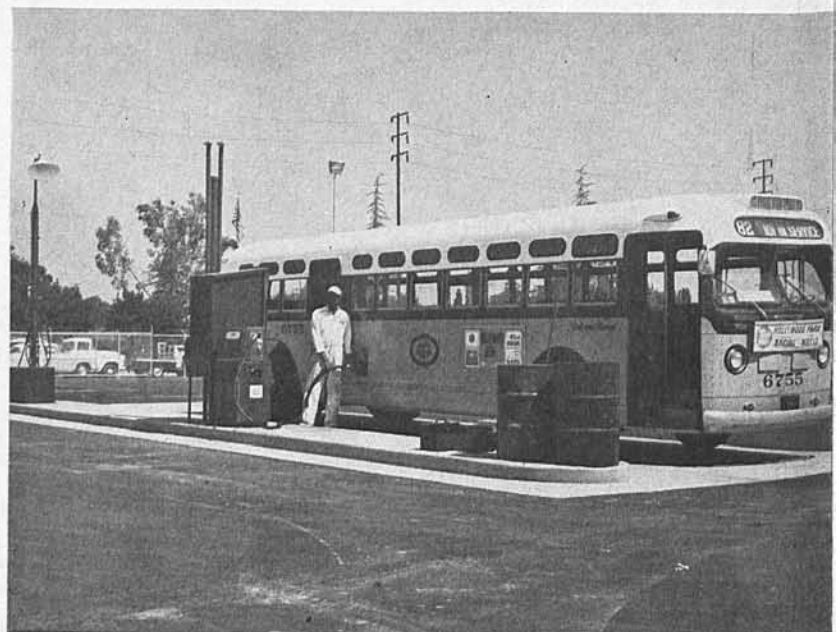
**TOP LEFT AND RIGHT**—Two views of the bus washing shed showing, left, the automatic washer in operation, and, right, Utilityman hand-washing bus under shelter.

**AT RIGHT**—Bus is fueled at the service station.

**LOWER RIGHT** — Sam Taylor cleans windows of bus.

**LOWER CENTER**—Paul Villery, left, and Mike Duvigneaud work on bus drawn over one of the new pits in garage.

**LOWER LEFT**—Operator Owen Whitaker at entrance of new Operators' room. The doorway is protected by roof.



## New Riverside Division

(Text continued from page 3)

"So when I heard we were going to have a new division I asked Mr. Powell (George H. Powell, General Superintendent of Equipment Maintenance) if I could have a pole and a flag, and one day they arrived."

### EMPLOYEE COMMENTS

Employees were enthusiastic about their new division.

Among the maintenance men, *Sam Taylor* and *Paul Villery* liked "the conveniences: the new washer and cleaning buses under shelter; the new underground oil tank that makes changing oil drums unnecessary."

Mechanic *Mike Duvigneaud*: "It's a lovely place—nice and cool, and centrally located for freeway access—a fact that will cut dead travel time."

According to Mechanic *Edward Richardson*: "This is it. Everything is handy. It's a garage made for buses, so nice it makes me feel like keeping it really clean."

Mechanic *T. E. Wright*: "Having a nice place to work gives you more initiative."

Operators were as enthusiastic as Mechanics in comparing the old with the new division.

"There's no comparison between this and the old place," declared *Hal Doig*. "Facilities here are all nicer—the drivers' room, washroom and restroom, and parking. You don't have to park in the dirt."

*O. L. Gardner*: "It's clean and much handier."

*Archie Bryson*: "The air conditioning is fine."

*H. E. Anunson*: "A beautiful job of paving makes it possible to keep clean now."

*Fred W. Taylor* and *M. S. Chapdelaine* also agreed on the improvement in cleanliness made possible by the new facilities and the paving.

The new division is on a three-acre lot just west of the Riverside Freeway. It is bounded on the north by Spruce St., on the west by Mulberry St., and on the south by Holding St. Driveways are to and from Mulberry St. Cost of the lot was \$68,170.

Construction was by the local firm of Reeder-Younglove. Total cost of buildings and facilities was \$175,000.



**MAYOR HONORS RETIRED MTA EMPLOYEE**—Mrs. Deane H. Koch, who retired Aug. 4, 1961, after service since 1942 as Information Clerk, receives a Senior Citizen Oscar Award from Los Angeles Mayor Samuel W. Yorty for her outstanding record of public service to the community. She is organizer and leader of the Sunset Senior Citizens Center, serves on the Mayor's Committee for Senior Citizens, is program chairman of the Dinner Club, and with the help of her groups has made thousands of useful and joyful gifts for children's hospitals. Mrs. Koch was one of 10 awarded an Oscar at a Senior Citizen luncheon in May. Among the 10 were such celebrities as Joe E. Brown and Francis X. Bushman, famous movie stars of yesteryear.

**LEFT BEHIND**—The old Riverside Division at First and Market Sts., with its dusty, largely unpaved yard and its ramshackle garage. According to A. L. Bristow, now Superintendent, maintenance, at Division 8, but a Car Repairer in Riverside at the time, the building was erected in 1926 to service streetcars. Two tracks entered the barn and there were storage tracks alongside the building. When streetcars were replaced by buses in the early 40's, the building and grounds were altered to serve as a bus maintenance facility. The property has reverted to its original owner, the Pacific Electric Railway, now entirely a freight carrier.



# Divisions 3, 11 Win Firsts for

At Coffee-and-Doughnut Sessions, Goehler Praises Operators for Fine Safety Record, January-May; Prutsman Urges Fewer Rear-Enders

## Group I

*Inst. Geo. Grazier*



FIRST PLACE—Division 3.



SECOND PLACE—Division 5, whose Operators also won an ATA award (see story).

THIRD PLACE—Division 2 (shown) and Division 10 tied. Division 10 men had coffee, cake with Division 3 men (top picture).





# May in New Safety Contest

"LET'S AIM at reducing rear-end collisions, passengers falling on board, and employee injuries in this new contest," urged Supervising Safety Engineer J. W. Prutsman as award ceremonies for May (first month) place-winners in the new nine-month Impruv-Ur-Record safety contest were held at divisions in mid-July. (Place-winners are named in photos.)

"Of course, we want to keep on improving in the five other categories of the contest, too, but these three are the most costly," he pointed out.

At the ceremonies, General Superintendent George F. Goehler complimented Operators highly on making

the first five months of 1964 the safest in MTA history. He also stressed the need for all employees to do everything in their power to bring back passengers lost during the recent work stoppage.

"Courtesy will help, and so will keeping accidents at a minimum," he declared.

Cooperating fully with safety efforts by MTA and Transit Casualty, the BRT has once more supplied trophies for the current Impruv-Ur-Record contest. These are five framed certificates—one for each place-winner, with space on each certificate to add the name of the new place-winner each month.

## ATA Bronze Certificate To Division 5 Drivers

FOR WORKING 332,290 man-hours without a disabling injury between Oct. 15, 1963 and May 15, 1964, Division 5 Operators received the American Transit Association's Bronze Certificate. It was presented at the same time as their second-place Impruv-Ur-Record award.

The Bronze Certificate is given to groups working 250,000 consecutive man-hours without disabling injury. Division 5 drivers, the Certificate said, exceeded the minimum by 82,290 hours.

AL  
DRAZIN  
↓

Group II  
Supt. Div 1-11 ↓ Jimmy Shultz



FIRST PLACE—Division 11.

John Micklos

PAUL ↑  
KNOLL

SECOND PLACE—Division 6.



# Commendations ♦ ♦ ♦

## Operators Honored for Courtesy in June

CONGRATULATIONS to the following Operators who received commendations during the month of June:

### FROM THE PUBLIC

J. H. Abernathy, Division 12; U. V. Adams, 2; R. J. Alexander, 2; A. J. Alvarez, 1; E. L. Amundson, 10; A. J. Arnone, 3; W. R. Ashton, 7; R. L. Bass, 11; T. F. Benedict, 7; J. C. Biggs, 6; Estelle Black, 7; A. E. Bliss, 5; G. F. Border, 2; J. W. Brennan, 4; E. L. Brentham, 7; J. W. Briscoe, 2; A. R. Brown, 7; T. H. Brown, 7; O. C. Buckner, 4.

J. J. Campbell, 3; R. J. Cannon, 1; E. E. Capek, 3; D. R. Case, 8; K. H. Caufield, 9; H. E. Celestine, 4; J. T. Chams, 4; W. S. Churchill, 8; E. L. Combs, 11; C. F. Conrad, 11; D. J. Cornish, 2; D. L. Correll, 2; Marvin Crook, Jr., 4; C. V. Crosley, 10; D. L. Cruz, 2; M. A. Curovich, 2; H. A. Douglas, 8; J. H. Dunn, 4; E. A. Evans, 7; L. A. Finn, 12; M. H. Fisher, 1; H. H. Foster, 9.

G. N. Garrison, 2; H. M. Geno, 6; Fred George, 10; C. V. Goodwin, 7; E. M. Greathouse, 7; W. J. Greene, 4; W. Y. Guntharp, 7; A. S. Guskos, 7; D. L. Hall, 8; O. G. Hatfield, 2; J. R. Hernandez, 1; R. L. Hinton, 2; W. K. Holsberry, 12; F. M. Huizar, 3; John Ingram, 7; L. D. Jensen, 4; J. M. Jernigan, 10; H. M. Johnson, 1; M. H. Jones, 7; W. J. Kelley, 12; J. H. Kosman, 12.

Cliff Lamb, 12; E. D. Lee, 2; E. P. Lewis, 7; J. E. Lewis, 10; C. C. Lindberg, 6; Cliff Long, Jr., 2; A. K. Lopez, Jr., 5; W. D. Lowe, 6; L. E. Lucia, 10; P. R. Marwick, 3; W. G. McBain, 9; J. W. Menzies, 7; D. C. Moore, 3; W. D. Morehead, 4; H. C. Nields, 10; H. G. Norie, 5; R. E. Oliver, 7; Dozier Parker, 4; S. O. Parker, 2; J. V. Patterson, 5; Abe Picovsky, 2; V. D. Powell, 7; H. W. Pratt, 12; O. W. Price, 2.

L. B. Rees, 1; W. J. Ritter, 2; Jimmie Roberts, 7; D. S. Rocha, 11; M. D. Rodgers, 8; C. E. Saddler, 4; A. R. Sattler, 2; P. D. Schmidt, 4; T. R. Sims, 12; O. L. Smith, 4; H. J. So-

## Operator Gets Police Citation For Rescuing Assaulted Officer

(See cover photo)

FOR COMING TO THE RESCUE of a Los Angeles policeman who was being assaulted by two men, Division 8 Operator William R. Thompson was honored with a citation by the Los Angeles Police Commission on July 8.

Off duty, Mr. Thompson was driving his wife, Evelyn, and 11-year-old son, Sandy, shopping in the family car last May 12, when, at Terra Bella St. and the Golden State Freeway, in the Pacoima area, he noticed a uniformed policeman in a knockdown struggle with two men whose car he had apparently stopped.

The Operator quickly pulled over, stopped his own car, jumped out, and joined the fray.

"I've always found police officers to be gentlemen," he explained, "and I just knew it wasn't right for one to be attacked.

"The policeman had broken his club, and, though armed, had not drawn his gun. I was afraid one of the assailants might get hold of it."

According to Mr. Thompson's story, another civilian soon came along and joined the battle, and in "about 10 minutes" the attackers had been subdued and handcuffed.

"Somebody had evidently called the police, because about 15 officers arrived just as the fight ended," the Operator stated.

A subsequent police report indicated that one of the assailants proved to be an ex-convict.

Presented by President Michael Kohn at a meeting of the Police Commission, and with Chief William H. Parker in attendance, the citation states:

"On May 12, 1964, William Ralph Thompson observed two male suspects physically assaulting a Los Angeles Police Officer who was attempting to arrest them.

"Disregarding his own safety, he rendered his personal assistance to the officer by entering the conflict and aiding the officer in subduing the suspects.

"Such forceful initiative is deserving of the gratitude of the Police Department and the citizens of Los Angeles, California."

Signatures of all the Commissioners follow, and the seal of the City of Los Angeles is attached.

berg, 9; E. A. Sorenson, 11; C. H. Steadman, 1; J. W. Stevens, 6; T. A. Sutton, 8; S. C. Swanson, 8.

I. F. Thomas, 5; E. D. Thorne, 12; E. E. Tillitt, 1; Jack Vaughn, Jr., 7; B. H. Washington, 2; W. F. Westfall, 3; B. D. Whittington, 7; E. H. Williams, 2; J. K. Williams, 7; Willie Williams, 5; F. D. Wilson, 7; J. J.

Wolfe, 11; T. H. Wolfe, 8; H. C. Woodie, 11; M. C. Young, 2; Harry Zipper, 7.

### FROM SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL

Supervisor Eugene Barnett, Jr., commended Division 1 Operator *Thomas Juarez* for giving up part of his split and lunch period to relay a coach on another run on Line 92, July 6.



**CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** is presented by MTA Chairman A. J. Eyraud, left, to July Operator of the Month John H. Seabron, of Division 8, as 14-year-old daughter, Genie, and Mrs. Seabron watch. Ceremony occurred at the Authority meeting held Tuesday, July 21.



**J. J. STEVENS**  
Division 9  
Runner-Up

Residents of Sepulveda, Mr. Seabron, his wife, Louise, and his daughter, Genie, 14, spend much spare time taking trips in their camper into the mountains and woods. On the back of his camper is a carrier bearing a motorcycle equipped with mountain-climbing tires and a special low gear. On this, he explores many trails in the wilderness.

The Operator of the Month says his guide to conduct is "to be as courteous and nice to passengers as possible, answer as many questions as you possibly can, and take a little extra time to please."

**RUNNER-UP**

For July, only one runner-up was recommended: J. J. Stevens, of Division 9. With service since 1948, Mr. Stevens has had several commendations, wears a 10-year safety award pin, and has an otherwise good record.

"Never in my life have I seen anyone so patient with Little Old Ladies," wrote an observer, Mrs. Mary E. Godfrey. "If he has to tell them three times where to get off or where to board another bus, he tells them, never giving the least show of annoyance."

Judges were three members of the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce.

## Seabron, July Courtesy Winner, "A Credit to the Human Race"

### J. J. Stevens, Division 9, Is Runner-Up

"HE IS A CREDIT to MTA and . . . to the human race," wrote a passenger of Division 8 Operator John H. Seabron.

For this and other comments in the letter of commendation, plus his good record, Mr. Seabron was selected as July Operator of the Month.

"He has a genuine sense of humor and does in fact perform services above and beyond the call of duty," added the writer, Miss Betty L. Lewis, a resident of North Hollywood who observed his operation over a period

of several days, when she boarded his Line 86 schedule.

An employee of MTA for less than six years, Mr. Seabron nevertheless wears a five-year safety award pin—he's never had an avoidable accident.

He had a variety of job experiences before coming to MTA in 1958: taxi driver in Columbus, Ga., for five years; night shift foreman for a plastics company; worker at the Ford plant at Dearborn, Mich., and at the General Motors plant in South Gate, Calif.

**KAUTER HONORED FOR JUNE** — MTA Chairman A. J. Eyraud, left, presents Certificate of Merit to David E. Kauter, right, June Operator of the Month, as Mrs. Kauter, second from left, and Mrs. Thelma Weston, writer of the winning letter of commendation, watch. Ceremony was at July 7 Board meeting.





**GEORGE H. WELLS**  
Assistant General Superintendent of  
Equipment Maintenance



**EARLE N. WETZLER**  
Assistant to General Superintendent of  
Equipment Maintenance



**EARL G. ZWIEBEL**  
Superintendent, Division 6  
Equipment Maintenance Department

## Wells Appointed No. 2 Man In Equipment Maintenance Dept.

**Wetzler Made Assistant to General Superintendent;  
Zwiebel, Andrus, Meeker, Walker Also Promoted**

A NUMBER OF PROMOTIONS in the Equipment Maintenance Department have recently been announced by General Superintendent George H. Powell:

*George H. Wells* from Assistant to the General Superintendent to Assistant General Superintendent, effective June 1.

*Earle N. Wetzler* from Equipment Superintendent I to Assistant to the General Superintendent, effective June 1.

*Earl G. Zwiebel* from Foreman to Superintendent, Division 6, effective May 17.

*Gail O. Meeker* from Leadman to Foreman, Division 6, effective May 17.

*Clifford M. Andrus* from Leadman, Division 9, to Foreman, Division 5, effective May 18.

*Jack R. Walker* from Mechanic A to Radio Technician, effective June 1.

### Wells Rose From Auto Repairer

Mr. Wells started as Auto Repairer at Macy Street Garage in 1945, and became successively Auto Machinist, Leadman, Equipment Maintenance Supervisor, General Foreman of Division Garages, and, in 1958, Assistant to the General Superintendent.

During a term of service in the Coast Guard he studied and later taught various aspects of diesel and gasoline engine theory and maintenance; and was honorably discharged in 1945 as Motor Machinist Mate 1c.

The new Assistant General Superintendent and his wife, Ruth, live in Pomona with their four children: Ruth, 20; George, Jr., 18; Dorothy, 17; and William, 13.

For the past 20 years Mr. Wells has been active in youth work, particularly with the Southern California



**NEW FOREMEN**—Clifford M. Andrus, left, of Division 5, third shift; and Gail O. Meeker, Division 6, third shift.

**JACK R. WALKER**, new Radio Technician, mounts four speakers on a board for the Dispatcher's Office—one speaker for each of MTA's three transmitters; the fourth for police and sheriff calls, as well as sigalert. He also installs and maintains mobile two-way radios.



# On Their Way Up

CONGRATULATIONS to the following employees who have taken a step up the ladder in recent weeks:

*Kenneth Barcenilla* from Typist Clerk to Clerk, Personnel Department, June 1. Employed Jan. 20, 1964.

*Charles H. Beatty* from Schedule Maker I to Schedule Maker II, Transportation Department, June 22. Employed Oct. 2, 1954.

*Charles J. Cremer* from Revenue Clerk, Accounting and Fiscal Division, to Print Shop Clerk, Transportation Department, June 29. Employed Oct. 16, 1957.

*Roy L. DeMoss* from Typist Clerk to Clerk, Personnel Department, June 1. Employed Aug. 8, 1962.

*James D. Endicott* from Mechanic A to Mechanic A Leadman, Equipment Maintenance Department, Division 12, May 31. Employed Feb. 17, 1959.

*Raymond H. Freiburger* from Mechanic A to Mechanic A Leadman, Equipment Maintenance Department, Division 6, May 31. Employed Oct. 9, 1944.

*Manual S. Gonzales* from Mechanic C to Mechanic B, Equipment Maintenance Department, Division 2, May 31. Employed Feb. 29, 1960.

*Lee T. Horton* from Utility A, Division 7, to Mechanic C, Equipment

Maintenance Department, South Park Shops, May 31. Employed Oct. 28, 1957.

*Johnny H. Howard* from Utility A, Equipment Maintenance Department, Division 2, to Mechanic C, Division 3, June 14. Employed May 15, 1962.

*Bobbie G. Hurst* from Operator-Extra Division Clerk, Transportation Department, Division 9, to Division Clerk, Division 1, May 31. Employed Oct. 16, 1956.

*Bernard G. Kadel* from Multilith Operator to Assistant Superintendent, Print Shop, Transportation Department, June 1. Employed Jan. 12, 1950.

*Delmar L. Kuntz* from Mechanic B to Mechanic A, Equipment Maintenance Department, Division 6, June 14. Employed Sept. 28, 1960.

*Robert R. Long* from Mechanic C, Equipment Maintenance Department, Division 2, to Mechanic B, Division 12, June 14. Employed June 9, 1964.

*Robert E. Miller* from Operator-Extra Service Director, Transportation Department, Division 11, to Vacation Relief Service Director, Main St. Station, June 7. Employed Dec. 3, 1943.

*Wilhelmina F. Orth* from Secretary II to Secretary III, Transportation Department, May 31. Employed Oct. 16, 1952.

*Jesse A. Pimentel* from Laborer B to Laborer A, Property Maintenance Department, June 1. Employed Sept. 28, 1937.

*Philip F. Podrasky* from Multilith Operator to Printer, Transportation Department, June 1. Employed May 21, 1942.

*Chester L. Renner* from Mechanic C to Mechanic B, Equipment Maintenance Department, Division 7, June 28. Employed Jan. 19, 1962.

*Luchus P. Smith* from Utility A to Mechanic C, Equipment Maintenance Department, South Park Shops, May 31. Employed Jan. 21, 1963.

*Jack R. Walker* from Mechanic A, Equipment Maintenance Department, Division 2, to Radio Technician, June 1. Employed July 9, 1946.

*George H. Wells* from Assistant to the General Superintendent of Equipment Maintenance to Assistant General Superintendent of Equipment Maintenance, June 1. Employed Nov. 8, 1945.

*Earle N. Wetzler* from Equipment Superintendent I to Assistant to the General Superintendent of Equipment Maintenance, June 1. Employed Dec. 12, 1926.

*Walter Whiteside* from Joint Pole Representative to Chief Clerk, Property Maintenance Department, June 1. Employed July 2, 1928.

Bible Conference, Inc., a non-profit organization providing summer and winter camps for boys and girls. He is a member of the Board of Directors and of the Advisory Board. In his spare time he is helping to build a couple of dormitories at the camp at Verdugo Pines, Wrightwood.

## Wetzler Rose From Mechanic

Mr. Wetzler started as Mechanic at Division 2 in 1926, rose to Leadman at that division, and became Paint Shop Foreman at South Park in 1946.

In 1947 he was on loan to Pacific City Lines as District Superintendent of Maintenance for Pasadena, Long Beach, and Glendale City Lines.

In 1948 he returned as Superintendent at Division 3 and later at Division 2. For the past several years before his new appointment, he had been on special assignment.

During the course of his career, he studied business administration for two years at UCLA Extension evening classes.

Mr. Wetzler and his wife, Marie, have two children: Joan, a married daughter, and Barbara, a teacher in the Los Angeles City junior high schools.

Owner of a 16-foot outboard motorboat, Mr. Wetzler is an avid fisherman and bowler.

## Zwiebel Rose From Machinist

Mr. Zwiebel (he pronounces it ZWEE-bul) began his transit career as Auto Machinist at the Torrance Shops in 1945, and worked at several points in various capacities until he went to Ocean Park (Division 6) in 1958 as Night Foreman. From this position he was promoted to his new position as Superintendent.

A graduate of Westchester High

School, he studied auto mechanics at the Los Angeles Trade School, and has also taken courses in psychology and public speaking at Loyola University.

During World War II he worked in a foundry and machine shop setting up lathes and other machines and teaching men and women how to operate them to make aluminum and magnesium aircraft parts.

Married since 1938, Earl and Frances Zwiebel have one son, Larry, 25, who worked for two years as Mechanic for MTA at Divisions 2 and 5.

## Meeker Rose From Car Cleaner

Mr. Zwiebel's former Leadman, Gail O. Meeker, stepped into the position of Foreman, having risen from his first job as Car Cleaner at West Hollywood, in 1936, through the ranks as

(Continued on next page)

# New Faces

A HEARTY WELCOME to the following new employees, who joined MTA between June 1 and June 30:

## Equipment Maintenance Department

MECHANIC B: Joseph S. Cardamone.

MECHANIC C: Roy G. Guzman.

UTILITY A: Elmer B. Brandon, Prewitt Kinermon, Sylvester Loggins, Jr., Charles D. Mosby, Robert E. Patton, Ossie O. T. Townsend.

## Purchasing and Stores Department

JUNIOR STOCK CLERK: Stanley Yee.

## Real Property Management Department

INFORMATION CLERK: Pamela J. Dunnette.

## Special Agents Department

PATROLMAN: Edward Hamm, Jr.\*

## Transportation Department

KEY-PUNCH OPERATOR: Helen C. Romero.

OPERATOR: Hugh M. Biggs, Division 1; Theodore E. Evans, Jr., 10; Gary L. Fotheringham, 1; Roger A. Gordon, 10; Patrick J. Higgins, 10; Frank J. Huston, 7; Edward M. Jackson, 7; Roger L. Johnson, 7; Frasier L. Lawson,\* 6; James M. Madden, 7; Wardell Morehead, 7; Ladue A. Nease, 7; Charles J. Osborne, 1; Morris W. Taylor,\* 2; Phillip Tumminia, 7.

RELIEF RED CAP PORTER: George R. Fox.

\*Re-employed.

# In Memoriam

WITH REGRET, THE EMBLEM reports the death of the following:

*Hans N. Christensen*, 72, retired Operator, Division 12; June 24; service from 1920 to 1956. Survived by his wife, Della, of Long Beach.

*Ira Coffey*, 64, Mechanic A, South Park Shops; July 9; service from 1934. Survived by his wife, Corrine, of Los Angeles.

*Frederick E. Domke*, 62, Mechanic A, Division 2; June 30; service from

1939. Survived by his wife, Kathrin, of Big Bear City.

*James A. Johnson*, 90, retired Conductor, Division 5; June 23; service from 1919 to 1940. Survived by his granddaughter, Mrs. H. Baumgartner, of Fullerton.

*Fred L. Morris*, 61, Operator, Division 11; June 24; service from 1943. Survived by his wife, Hazel, of Los Angeles.

*Mrs. Katherine Padgett*, wife of retired Mechanic William B. Padgett;

June 23. Survived by her husband, whose service was from 1922 to 1952.

*Edward J. Roche*, 75, retired Flagman, Transportation Department; June 11; service from 1926 to 1961. Survived by his sister, Mrs. Anais R. Fischer, of New Orleans, La.

*Claude F. Wheeler*, 61, Utility A, Division 3, Equipment Maintenance Department; July 11; service from 1933. Survived by his wife, Dorothy, of Los Angeles.

## Promotions in Equipment Maintenance

(Continued from page 13)

Laborer, Helper, Car Repairer, Auto Repairer, and Machinist.

Mr. Meeker and his wife, Lorene, have 21-year-old twins, Susan—married—and Stephen, a student at Santa Monica City College. Trailer owners and fans, the Meekers spend much spare time traveling to the mountains and deserts.

### Andrus Rose From Auto Repairer

Mr. Andrus began in 1948 as Auto Repairer at the Macy St. Garage, rose to Leadman at Macy and later at Division 9, and held that position at Division 9 until his present appointment as Foreman.

Although his seniority is reckoned from 1948, he spent some 20 years before that time with the Bridge and Building Department of Pacific Electric, and then resigned as Steam Engi-

neer to start his own garage in Idaho. Ending this successful venture after three years because the cold Idaho weather and his family didn't agree, he went back to work for PE, this time in the Mechanical Department.

Married 37 years, Mr. Andrus and his wife, Belsa, who live in Covina, have a son, Dale, a former MCL Mechanic, now a captain in the West Covina Fire Department; and a daughter, Maridean.

In his spare time the new Foreman enjoys woodworking in his well-equipped home workshop.

### Walker Rose From Mechanic C

"For 12 years I've had a radio license in the hope of getting into my present work," said Jack Walker, the new Radio Technician.

His work has actually been in streetcar, trolley coach, and bus maintenance since he was first employed in 1946 as Mechanic C. But after his graduation from Inglewood High School, he studied radio at National Schools until he could get his license. Although not a "ham," he spends much spare time making and tinkering with his own hi-fi and other electronic equipment.

During part of his spare time, he also serves as scuba diving instructor for Los Angeles County and the Whittier YMCA, as well as instructor for the Red Cross in water life-saving techniques. His wife, Adele, is a swimming instructor at the YMCA. Married 20 years, the couple have two children; a boy, Gerry, 17; and a girl, Julie, 12.

## Passenger of the Month

# "Wedded to Buses," Housekeeper Finds Operators Always Right

"I CAME TO REALIZE that you can get nearly anywhere on the bus just as fast as you can (and probably in the end faster) trying to inveigle rides out of your long-suffering friends.

"Rather than be a pest to people, I just hop a bus and everyone is amazed at how I get around and know the city and its environs better than many a native with a couple of cars at his disposal," Buffalo-born Mrs. Mary E. Godfrey took the occasion to write in her letter of commendation for Operator J. J. Stevens, of Division 9 (see the Operator of the Month story on page 11.)

"I'm all for the buses and can't praise them enough," she concluded, never dreaming that her words might make her Passenger of the Month.—She was, in fact, totally unaware that such a title existed until she was interviewed at a later date for more information.

Mother of a grown son and daughter, and housekeeper for a woman doctor in Pasadena, carless Mrs. Godfrey lives in Westchester with friends.

Although her friends would gladly permit her to drive their cars on occasion, she always rides MTA buses to and from her employer's house as well as elsewhere.

"I find it infinitely preferable to making a pest of myself with my friends or son or daughter," she stated.

"I am completely wedded to the idea of using your fine bus lines and can get anywhere with a minimum of crashing about.

"Your drivers to a man have shown themselves to be courteous and resourceful and have often displayed what anyone would term 'a neat bit of driving.'"

Although she keeps timetables for several lines in her purse, Mrs. Godfrey says she prefers to trust the advice of Operators when she wants to travel to some point and does not know the proper route to take.

"I just get on a bus headed in the general direction of where I want to go and then tell my destination to the Operator, giving the complete address when possible. Then I follow to the letter his directions about transfers to



**SHE LIKES BUS TRIPS**—Mrs. Mary E. Godfrey, our Passenger of the Month, boards bus in downtown Los Angeles.

make and lines to take—and I've never had a bum steer yet!" she asserted.

Her confidence in MTA drivers is such that she'd like to ride in the private automobile of some Operator who may be taking his family to the World's Fair in New York about Sept. 1.

"I would be honored to ride along if one of your drivers could put up with a paying passenger," she said. (Anyone interested may call the office of THE EMBLEM for her telephone number.)

## Masonic Club Banquet

**PERFUME AND FLOWERS** are presented to Mrs. E. A. Abbott, wife of the Operator, at the MTA Masonic Club dinner held June 26, for her helpfulness over the years in preparing many such dinners. Men in photo from left are Vice-President Henry Monroe, President L. S. ("Cap") Hendricks, Past President George Graeser.

*(See the next issue for more pictures of the banquet. Lack of space prevents further display in this issue.)*





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