

EXPANDED RTD TRAINING PROGRAMS ASSURE MANAGEMENT CONTINUITY

The Rapid Transit District is expanding its Employee Training Program and on-the-job training activities, to achieve a continuity and high calibre of future management.

According to John Wilkens, RTD's director of Industrial Relations, "promotion from within is a fundamental policy of the District. By qualifying employees with management potential through on-the-job as well as outside career training at selected colleges and universities, we increase their possibilities for advancement and assure the RTD a reservoir of management talent."

Wilkens said that on-the-job training activities are already in progress in many operating departments, and that these in-house programs would be increased.

"Our goal is the maximum development and utilization of the potentials and capabilities of all employees, regardless of their ethnic backgrounds," he said.

Wilkens is enthusiastic over the success of the intern or college student on-the-job training program, which has attracted qualified undergraduates to careers in the transportation industry and in other fields of public service.

"The Board of Directors," he said, "considers the District's employee training program and its intern project as two promising answers to the industry's perennial question: Where do we look today to find the transit executives of tomorrow?"

Program Offers Broad Spectrum Of Courses To All Employees

The District's employee training program has three separate categories:

1. Transportation Administration Certificate Program. This is a two-year course that provides District employees of demonstrated potential an opportunity to prepare for managerial positions. It is made up of eight quarters of instruction in such courses as Business Communications; Managerial Psychology; Management Accounting; Business Finance; Organization and Management; Legal Aspects of Public Transportation.

2. Special Courses Program:

Created to meet RTD's immediate need for qualified personnel in specific operating areas, all District employees are eligible to enroll. Includes courses in Principles and Methods of Supervision; Functions of Public Transportation; and Written Communications.

Certain classes within this program are designed for employees who are supervisors or managers, with courses in Managerial Psychology; Elements of Industrial Relations; and Organization and Management. For the District's secretarial staff, a course entitled Survey of Business for Secretaries is available.

3. Tuition Reimbursement Program:

For technical, supervisory and managerial employees requiring specialized courses that increase their competence and skills in carrying out their specific job requirements.

Tuition for the Transportation Administration Certificate Program and the Special Courses Program will be prepaid and necessary course materials provided without cost. Employees participating in the Tuition Reimbursement Program will pay their own tuition fees and course material costs. However, after satisfactory completion of the course, employees will be reimbursed in full.



"NICEST MAN IN THE WORLD"—RTD Operator William E. Steers (second from left) is saluted by directors of RTD after passengers of his Watts area bus line designated him "the nicest man in the world." With Steers are Mrs. Ida Owens, a passenger on the South Los Angeles-Pacific Palisades Line 176; Dr. Norman Topping, RTD President; and Jack R. Gilstrap, RTD General Manager.

Operator William Steers Honored "The Nicest Man In The World"...

Operator William E. Steers has been honored by the ladies who ride his 6:40 a.m. South Los Angeles-Pacific Palisades bus on Line 176. They recently treated him to a testimonial dinner at which Mrs. Ida Owens, hostess for the occasion, noted Steers goodwill ambassadorship saying, "Bill has been a catalyst that has turned strangers into friends. He is the nicest man in the world."

In recognition of this honor to one of its operators, RTD's Board of Directors saluted Steers at its May 25 Board of Directors meeting at RTD's downtown headquarters. Dr. Norman Topping, RTD's President, presented Steers with a scroll in which the District noted that "... William E. Steers has demonstrated an outstanding ability as a goodwill ambassador for the Southern California Rapid Transit District... Mr. Steers has won the admiration of his passengers... his efforts have produced a "club-like atmosphere" for the daily passengers on Line 176... therefore, be it resolved, that the Board of Directors of the Southern California Rapid Transit District commends William E. Steers for bringing credit not only to himself, but to the agency he represents as a public transit professional!"

Steam Powered Transit Buses To Run In California This Year

Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe announced May 28 that steam-powered transit buses will be operated experimentally in public transit service in the fall of '71. The project will be funded under a supplementary federal grant of \$409,448 to the State Legislature. The grant, made by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration, along with a local contribution of \$204,724 will cover the second phase of the California Steam Bus Project.

Under the project, three different steam engine systems are now being built and installed in three transit buses which will be operated by cooperating public transit companies in Oakland, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

The purpose of the project is to demonstrate in regular service that a low-pollution steam-power plant can serve as a practical engine for a transit bus.

AB 544 Passes Assembly Bill; Now Goes To Senate

Assembly Bill 544, which will extend a 5% sales tax on gasoline with most new revenues earmarked for financing public transit systems, was approved June 3 by the California State Assembly by a 46-21 vote.

As outlined in RTD FLYER, June 1, the Deddah bill removes gasoline from the current list of items exempt from sales tax and will raise an estimated \$178 million yearly by the addition of the uniform state sales tax of 5% to the price of gasoline. Of this total, \$142.5 million will go into a special state public transportation fund. Local transit districts

could apply for funds from the state not to exceed 50% of their operating costs.

The other \$35.5 million will be returned to cities and counties of origin, which could use it for any purpose they desire, including property tax relief.

American Cancer Society Commends RTD Employees For Acme Participation

The District has received a letter from Dr. James T. Helsper, president of the Los Angeles County Branch of the American Cancer Society, in which he extended his appreciation to District employees for their support of the ACME Club. "You are making a very valuable community contribution," he said. "Your giving is most important and greatly appreciated."

Washington Says: "All Systems Go" On New San Bernardino Freeway Busway

The El Monte-Los Angeles Busway project was approved by the U.S. Department of Transportation in Washington Wednesday, June 23.

Transit experts agree: approval of the Busway will be a major step in bringing rapid transit to Southern California. "The Busway itself," said Dr. Norman Topping, president of RTD, "while not a total solution to our transportation problems, represents a great leap forward."

Construction of the project will begin soon and it is planned to have the first eight-mile segment of the 11-mile project completed and in use by fall, 1972.

As approved by DOT, the Busway will consist of one inbound and one out-bound exclusive express bus lane for travel at sustained high speeds along the San Bernardino Freeway from a terminal at Santa Anita Avenue in El Monte to Mission Road in Los Angeles.

Minibus "All Around Downtown" Service For Los Angeles-Central City Planned For Winter Of '71

The Southern California Rapid Transit District will begin operation of an experimental "Minibus" program this fall. The program was conceived to improve "people-circulation" in the highly congested Central City/Civic Center area.

According to Dr. Norman Topping, RTD's president, "The District's Board of Directors believes that the visitors and other people with business to transact in downtown Los Angeles deserve a pleasant, convenient and economical alternative to driving their automobiles in this high density area."

The new service will use 19 small buses of a new and innovative design. Each Minibus will have 20 seats and a wide, easy-to-negotiate aisle area. Seats will be cantilevered from the bus walls for convenience of placing packages under seats. The new buses will be brightly painted, colorful, airy and comfortable. In the summer the windows can be taken out to provide a sort of cable-car effect.

Minibus will link Civic Center with the high-rise complex of buildings on Bunker Hill and will provide bus service for both these areas to the retail complex along Hill and Broadway in Central City.

Dr. Topping emphasized that the Minibus program was a cooperative venture. "It was financed jointly by the District, the City of Los Angeles, the County of Los Angeles, and the Community Redevelopment Agency. The City Council authorized \$219,000 as its contribution in setting up the \$725,000 program. The County Supervisors and the Community Redevelopment Agency each approved \$73,000 for the project, thus assuring sufficient funds to implement the program.

"The largest share," Dr. Topping continued, "was the \$360,000 provided by the Rapid Transit District from monies received as a direct result of the temporary one-half percent sales tax made possible by the Lanterman Bill in 1970.

"Improved means of circulation for people within the central business district has been a pressing need for years," Dr. Topping explained. "We believe the Minibus program will deliver substantial benefits to the downtown area in the form of increased retail sales and in a measurable decrease in the number of cars, which will reduce congestion and air pollution."

Transit Lanes Urged For All New Freeways In Orange County

Exclusive public transportation lanes on all new freeways built in the county has been requested by the Orange County Transit District. The request, made directly to the state Division of Highways, is believed to be the first of its kind from any county in the state.

Members Of The Park Service Learn About Housekeeping During South Park Tour

The District has received a thank you letter from Charles F. Adams, Jr., environmental interpretive specialist with the United States Department of Interior, National Park Service, concerning a tour of transit property by 20 members of the Park Service on May 7.

The group toured the maintenance facilities at Division 2 and South Park Shops.

Adams noted in his letter, "the time spent with you was the highlight of all the tours attended for the week. The maintenance trainees, especially in our group, learned a lot about housekeeping and how a maintenance facility can be so well organized. Others gained an inside knowledge of your management and protection problems."

Tours such as this are a function of the District and are designed to give others an insight on the operations of a major transit system.

Do you know that RTD buses are now carrying over 193,000,000 passengers annually.

Division 9 And 13 Tie For First Place In "Drive With Pride" Contest

Award ceremonies were held June 11-17 for winners in the 1971 "Drive with Pride" Contest.

Divisions 9 and 13 tied for first place with a 47.6% reduction in accidents for the month of April. Division 3 was second with 20.1% and Division 11 third with 18.9%.

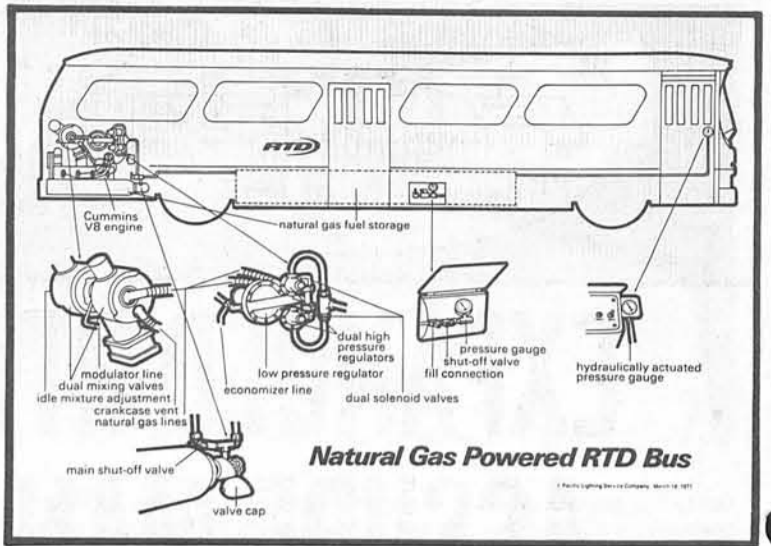
Max Rise, general superintendent of transportation, hosted the award ceremonies and briefed the operators on what RTD is doing to improve and upgrade its equipment.

Local union representatives made the trophy presentations with "Safety" Joe Prutzman of Transit Casualty breaking down the contest figures on safety compared with 1970 and 1971.

Also on the safety program during the first two weeks of June was the presenting of the new safety award pins and a Rand McNally Road Atlas and Travel Guide of the United States, Canada and Mexico for operators driving the entire year of 1970 without a chargeable accident.



BROADWAY FEDERAL SAVINGS AND GOLDEN STATE MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMMENDED BY RTD—Peter W. Dauterive (center), executive vice president of the Broadway Federal Savings and Loan Association, and Ivan J. Houston (left), president of the Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company, were saluted by RTD's Board of Directors June 2. Their companies purchased 500 District Student Identification Cards and gave them to the students at Centennial High School. The cards enabled the students to ride RTD buses at a reduced fare. RTD vice president Thomas G. Neusom (right) presented commendatory plaques to the two men, saying their firms responded to "a critical human need." In accepting the plaques both men told the Board that this is just part of their companies' efforts to assist the young people in their neighborhood.



NATURAL GAS FUEL SYSTEM—RTD Bus 6099, operating on natural gas instead of diesel fuel, uses a system developed by the Pacific Lighting Service Company. Drawing shows the major components used to change to the new fuel system. The RTD bus is the first in regular public transit operation to use the clean-burning fuel.

Natural Gas Bus Now In Operation On Line 83

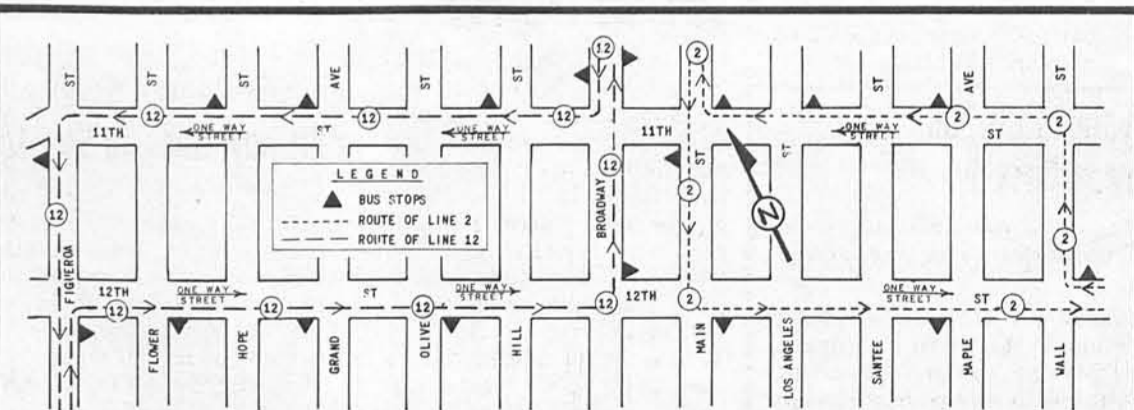
The natural gas powered bus was unveiled at Division 2 in March, and was put into operation on Line 83 in April. It now makes daily trips from downtown Los Angeles to Santa Monica—two round trips in the morning and two in the afternoon.

The bus—6099—contains an experimental natural gas engine (see diagram) manufactured by the Cummins Engine Company of Columbus, Indiana. The testing of this bus is a joint undertaking by the District, the Los Angeles County Air Pollution Control District, Cummins Engine Com-

pany and the Pacific Lighting Service Company.

For three months the exhaust emissions of 6099 will be studied and measured. If the results, compared with the emissions of a regular diesel powered bus, show a potential for air pollution abatement, along with a feasibility for operating natural gas-equipped buses on a larger scale, the test will be expanded.

Should the expanded test be undertaken, RTD may file an application with the federal Department of Transportation (DOT) for a federal research grant to cover the tests.



New One-Way Street Configuration For Downtown Los Angeles...

SECTIONS OF 11TH AND 12TH STREETS GO ONE-WAY JUNE 20—The above map outlines the new one-way configuration on 11th and 12th Streets and the new routing in that area of Line 2 and 12 buses. RTD has been working closely with the Los Angeles City Department of Traffic, and the Board of Public Utilities and Transportation to help effect an orderly changeover in street traffic patterns for improved mobility downtown.

"Queen Mary" Commands Bus Service To Long Beach

The Long Beach Transportation Company is now operating London-type double-deck buses from Third Street and Long Beach Boulevard, Long Beach, to the Queen Mary and return. The double-deck bus service will start at approximately 9:00 a.m. and operate every ten minutes until 6:30 p.m.

RTD passengers should be directed to ride Lines 36, 61, 66 or 124 and alight at Long Beach Boulevard and Third Street. Signs are posted at this bus stop, directing passengers to the boarding location of the double-deck buses destined for the Queen Mary.



Utilityman Howard Johnson cleans off fingerprints and hair oil from the windows of 5937. These are the prime reasons for dirty bus windows and even the cleanest windows succumb to these two offenders.

How Do You Clean A Bus?

When a passenger steps aboard a dustless, rustless bus, that's no accident.

RTD buses are inspected daily for cleanliness as well as for wear and tear and some buses, due to their operating areas, need more attention than others. Some, because of their operating areas, don't stay clean very long, either.

For the bus that doesn't stay clean very long, like 5937 at Division 2, there's a special vacuum cleaner and wash rack especially built for buses.

The first step in the "beauty treatment" is the vacuuming. A huge box-like section clamps onto the front door of the bus and creates a hair-raising 40-mile-an-hour man-made tornado that roars through the bus sucking up loose papers, dirt and debris. For the stubborn dirt and sticky papers, etc., an air hose with a long nozzle is used to reach under the seats and nudge that stubborn debris loose. Then a quick inspection inside to see if everything's clean—maybe a window needs "touching up" or a smudge of dirt that escaped the original tornado needs attention.

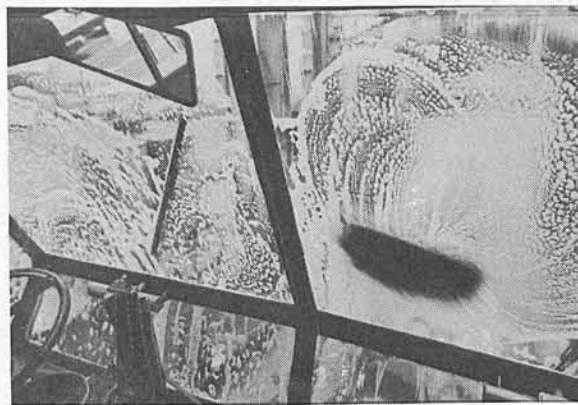
With everything clean inside now, maybe the bus needs its exterior cleaned too. If so, its scrubbed down, then driven through RTD's "Transit Falls"—a giant version of the local car wash and in less than three minutes 5937 emerges neat-as-a-pin, ready for another days service.



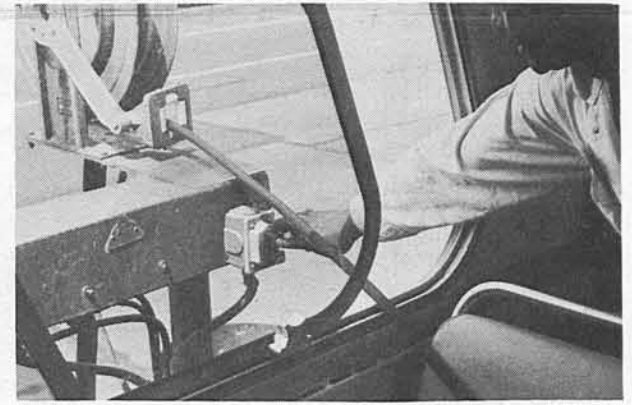
Beauty treatments like this help keep RTD buses rustless and dustless and have added many months of life to them. The mechanical and utility team have made RTD's bus fleet one of the best maintained in the nation. Every division has at least one of these beauty parlors.



A fine steady spray of water keeps the dust from 5937 from polluting the surrounding area. As the debris is sucked from the bus it all goes into the wire-like cage at left.



It takes lots of elbow grease and plenty of soap and water to cut the grime of a days operation from the windows of 5937. Good visibility is a must for safe driving.



The red button is pushed and before Curtis Johnson has time to pull his hand back through the window he feels the 40-mile-an-hour man-made tornado roaring through the bus.



A deafening roar and papers begin to fly in 5937. If they don't, Utilityman Curtis Johnson nudges them with an air hose and blasts them free. Even with that 40-mile-an-hour tornado some papers just don't want to let go, but they just can't resist the air hose.



Bus 5937 moves into "transit falls" for a good scrub down. In a few moments she will be neat-as-a-pin and ready for another day of helping move her fair share of 725,000 daily passengers.

PROMOTIONS

In recognition of their achievement and capabilities the following employees were recently promoted:

- "J" "C" ANDERSON**
Traveling Janitor to Utility "A"
- WILLIAM T. BEAL, JR.**
Temporary Schedule Maker I to Schedule Maker II
- MOSES BENJAMIN**
Utility "A" to Mechanic "C"
- JACK BILLINGSLEA**
Utility "A" to Mechanic "C"
- HOY G. W. BILYEU**
Temporary Schedule Maker I to Schedule Maker II
- HELEN BOLEN**
Secretary II to Administrative Assistant
- EDDIE BROWN, JR.**
Utility "A" to Mechanic "C"
- JOHN S. BURTON, JR.**
Mileage Clerk to Schedule Maker I
- RAYFORD C. CHAPMAN**
Supervisor of Transportation Statistics to Assistant Supervisor of Schedules
- EDGAR G. DAVIS**
Relief Janitor to Utility "A"
- EMMETT E. GRAYSON**
Utility "A" to Mechanic "C"
- ALVIN HARRIS**
Utility "A" to Mechanic "C"
- LENWARD HAWKINS**
Utility "A" to Mechanic "C"
- DAVID W. HEILMAN**
Operator-Extra Supervisor to Supervisor
- ELDRIDGE HENICK**
Mechanic "A" to Mechanic "A" Leadman
- ARTHUR C. HOWARD**
Mechanic "A" to Equipment Foreman I
- CHARLES IRVIN**
Relief Janitor to Traveling Janitor
- VIVIAN S. LIEBERMAN**
Administrative Assistant to Transportation Planning Analyst
- FRANK H. LOPEZ**
Mechanic "A" to Mechanic "A" Leadman
- JOSHUA M. MENDOZA**
Assistant Engineer to Architectural Draftsman
- TEICHI NAMATAME**
Division Clerk to Staff Assistant I
- LYLE H. OWEN**
Mechanic "A" to Mechanic "A" Leadman
- JAMES H. TAYLOR**
Assistant Supervisor of Schedules to Supervisor of Schedules
- CLINE A. TOLLEY**
Schedule Maker II to Supervisor of Transportation Statistics
- BOBBIE L. WARD**
Utility "A" to Mechanic "C"
- CAREY WYATT**
Mechanic "C" to Mechanic "B"

RETIRED

Climaxing many years of work in the field of public transportation the following District employees recently retired:

- JARED L. SMITH**
Director Purchasing & Stores
Emp. 5-9-30/RETIRED: 5-21-71
Years of Service: 41 years
- CUNEY E. THOMPSON**
Watchman
Emp. 11-12-42/RETIRED 5-10-71
Years of Service: 28 years

VITAL STATISTICS:

In memoriam to employees who have devoted much of their lifetime in a profession designed to move people.

- MORRIS L. ANDERSON, Operator**
4-26-71/age 75
Years of Service: 30
- JOSEPH S. CARDAMONE, Mechanic "B"**
5-2-71/age 54
Years of Service: 1
- MAX CHRISTIANSEN, Mechanic "B"**
5-7-71/age 81
Years of Service: 30
- CHARLIE J. SCHNEIDER, Mechanic "B"**
5-14-71/age 84
Years of Service: 41
- WILLIAM R. STARKEY, Operator**
5-9-71/age 61
Years of Service: 25
- JOSEPH S. WEINSELBAUM, Operator**
5-18-71/age 58
Years of Service: 16

RTD Directors

- DR. NORMAN TOPPING, President
 - THOMAS G. NEUSOM, Vice President
 - Kermit M. Bill
 - Charles E. Compton
 - A. J. Eyraud, Jr.
 - Leonard S. Gleckman
 - David K. Hayward
 - Herbert H. Krauch
 - Michael E. Macke
 - Don C. McMillan
 - Douglas A. Newcomb
 - Virginia Rees, Secretary
- Published by and for the employees of the Southern California Rapid Transit District.
- JACK R. GILSTRAP
General Manager
 - GEORGE F. GOEHLER
Manager of Operations
 - ROBERT R. SCHOLL
Director of Public Information
 - WILLIAM A. REASON
Editor

American Transit Association Meet At Disneyland Hotel For Western Conference

The Western Conference of the American Transit Association was held May 23-26 at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim with executives from many of the nation's top transit properties on hand.

Co-hosted by William F. Farrell, vice president and general manager of the Long Beach Public Transportation Company, and RTD's general manager, Jack R. Gilstrap, the conference actively pursued the subjects of operating subsidies, transit ecology, present and future technological advances in people moving, and new approaches to marketing and maintenance.

On Monday, May 23, Gilstrap chaired the general sessions on operating subsidies and emissions. On Tuesday, May 24, Farrell chaired the general sessions on west coast innovations for moving people, marketing and maintenance.

Among those attending the conference were Carlos Villarreal, administrator for the Urban Mass Transportation Administration, and Assemblymen Wadie P. Deddah, D-Chula Vista and John Foran, D-San Francisco.

Villarreal, who spoke at the Monday luncheon, maintained that unless the citizens of Los Angeles get behind rapid transit, nothing will be achieved in that area. "You have to do something about the automobile in Los Angeles," Villarreal said. "I have nothing against the automobile, but they are choking your city." He noted that 52 million residents of the United States, 26 per cent of the population, don't drive cars for one reason or another. "The

community owes something to those people, too," he added.

Assemblyman Deddah, also speaking at the luncheon, explained his bill (AB-544) which would permit a 5% sales tax on gasoline to finance rapid transit (RTD FLYER June 1). "I believe we have an excellent chance of getting some form of the bill to the governor's desk," Deddah added.

During the four day conference many facets of the problems facing public transportation were examined. California's clean air standards were defined by Assemblyman Foran and RTD's principal design engineer, George Heinle, talked about catalytic mufflers and their potential in exhaust emissions.

A progress report on the Bay Area Rapid Transit System (BART) was made by Phillip O. Ormsbee, administrative assistant to the general manager of BART. Donald A. Morin, chief, public transportation branch, Federal Highway Administration, addressed himself to the new highway act and bus transit and Warren E. Robinson, transportation engineer for A.C. Transit, talked about the exclusive bus lanes on the San Francisco Bay Bridge.

Max Rise, RTD's general superintendent of transportation, chaired a session on safety involving transit operations and district safety programs. RTD's chief engineer, Richard Gallagher, made a presentation on the exclusive express busway project and a comprehensive report on transit maintenance was given by George Wells, deputy superintendent, maintenance and equipment for RTD.

"Courteous, Pleasant And Well Groomed" ... Operator Of The Month, Pal W. Stringer



COURTESY HONOREE — Operator Pal W. Stringer was named RTD's "Operator of the Month" for May during special ceremonies at RTD's June 2 Board of Directors' meeting. Director David K. Hayward presented the award plaque, commending Stringer on the fine example he has set for "all of us" to follow. Stringer, an operator on the Melrose-West Olympic Line 4, was nominated for the courtesy honor by a passenger who praised his total outlook. "I have never come in contact with a person more courteous, pleasant and well-groomed," the passenger wrote the District.



UTILITYMEN GRADUATE FROM MECHANIC SCHOOL—Climaxing 32 weeks of intensive classroom and on-the-job training, seven RTD Utilitymen graduated recently from the mechanic training program at South Park Shops. The graduates, with RTD officials, are: Emmett E. Grayson, Jack Billingslea, Alvin Harris, Moses Benjamin, Lenward Hawkins and Bobbie L. Ward; George F. Goehler, manager of operations; Jack R. Gilstrap, general manager; graduate Eddie Brown, Jr.; John Wilkens, director of industrial relations; Jerry Long, Amalgamated Transportation Union president; Fred Klett, instructor and foreman at South Park Shops; and George H. Powell, general superintendent of maintenance and equipment. This educational activity is one of several employee training efforts being undertaken by the District. Within 10 days following their graduation all seven of the men were promoted to Mechanic "C."

Earl Stanley Named New Director Of Purchasing And Stores

Earl W. Stanley, a veteran of 18 years with the District, has been appointed Director of Purchasing and Stores.

In his new position Stanley is in charge of purchasing all supplies for the District, and preparation of specifications for bids, the maintenance of supplies and the resale and disposition of obsolete and surplus materiel.

Stanley has been with the Purchasing Department since 1953.

Southern California Rapid Transit District
1060 South Broadway, Los Angeles 90015

District Hires Local Attorney To Be New General Counsel

Richard T. Powers, an attorney for nearly 20 years, has been named General Counsel for RTD.

Powers will be responsible for the varied legal affairs associated with RTD's operation of bus services and the agency's development of mass rapid transit.

A La Mirada resident, Powers previously served as Director of Law for Western Air Lines. A former Marine Corps captain, the new RTD General Counsel is a graduate of the University of Buffalo School of Law and also attended St. Bonaventure University.

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