

The



Emblem

76-77

DECEMBER, 1961

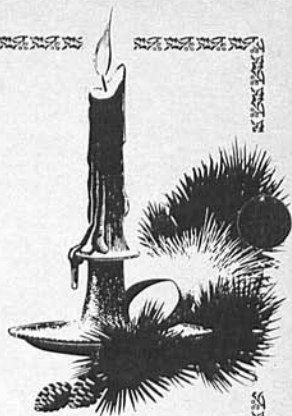


Merry
Christmas

(Cover story, page 15)

- Greetings from Messrs. Eyraud, Gilliss
- Their Happiest Christmas
- Lone Ranger at SilverLiner Preview (picture story)

Season's Greetings



From Our Chairman

ALL MEMBERS of the MTA Board join me in wishing each of you and your families a joyful Christmas and a New Year filled with happiness and prosperity.

We deeply appreciate your cooperation of the past and present, and feel confident that with your continued faithful help we shall soon be able to realize the dream of rapid transit for the Los Angeles metropolitan area.

From Our Executive Director

ON BEHALF OF the Executive Staff and myself, I wish to extend heartiest wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all of you and each member of your families.



CHRISTMAS CAROLS AT MTA DEPOT—Several MTA employees may be seen in the ranks of the Transportaires, transit-railroad choral group which each year for the last ten has sung at least once at Christmas time for commuters passing through the MTA Depot at Sixth and Main Sts., Los Angeles, on their way home. Just to left of piano is Odessa Carter,

Clerk, Ticket Office, MTA Depot. In next to back row, two singers at right are Marion G. Snowden, retired Clerk to MTA Secretary; and A. K. Hartman, Assistant Research Engineer. Just behind Mr. Hartman is Louis N. Velzy, Division 9 Clerk. Again this year, the group was to sing on Tuesday, Dec. 19, and Thursday, Dec. 21, at 5:00 p.m. in the MTA Depot.

My Happies



ROBERT RIGBY, Mechanic "A," Way and Structures: "It was last Christmas, when my wife and I had visiting us for dinner and the day several old friends—two couples from Canada. We had known them in Vancouver for 20 years. We didn't do anything important—just exchanged gifts, and sat and talked—mostly about old times in Canada."



SEREL L. JENSEN, Operator, Division 5: "I'll never forget the Christmas of 1929, when a doctor said, 'It looks as though you're going to be able to see again.' I was just a teen-ager, in a small town in South Dakota. For two weeks I had been completely blind as a result of watching the light from welding equipment being used on some streetcar tracks. Then one night the flash from my brother's camera lightened the darkness that surrounded me. That was what encouraged the doctor to give me those words of hope. Eventually the trouble cleared up."



CATHY MARTIN, Secretary, Business Development and Information Division: "I can't think of any Christmas that has been *happier* than any other—*every* Christmas is happy—but I can certainly remember the *worst* Christmas I ever had! It was when I was about 10 years old and my brother told me that there isn't any Santa Claus—that it was my parents who put the presents in my stocking and under the tree."



t Christmas



LOU COWARD, Elevator Operator, Transit Authority Building: "The happiest Christmas I can remember was in 1957—my first Christmas in the United States, where I came with my husband, Norman, from Canada to become naturalized. I was born in Toronto; my mother was Canadian; my father was a U.S. citizen born in Georgia. That 1957 Christmas was happy because it was part of the realization of a dream my husband and I had long had of becoming U.S. citizens. Although he's Canadian, he's just as eager as I am to become naturalized. Next year we go to school to learn about the Constitution."



WILLIAM D. BOURNE, Assistant Transportation Engineer, Office of Chief Engineer: "It was the Christmas I became engaged, in 1951. The novel part about it was the way we announced our engagement. A friend of mine had made me a drawing of the engagement ring I wanted to have made. We used the drawing on a Christmas card signed 'Bill and Louise' to announce our engagement." (Bill and Louise now have two children, Ann, 8; and Karen, 5.)



ALEXANDER WARD, Utility "A," Division 2: "The happiest Christmas I can remember was in 1952, when the company gave me a turkey for Christmas. There were three of us in my family at the time, and we didn't ordinarily buy a turkey."





"HI-YO, SILVER!"—The Lone Ranger, astride his horse, Silver, greets the new SilverLiners upon their first arrival in the San Fernando Valley. Martin Pollard, MTA Board member well known in the Valley, looks on from step of bus, as news photog snaps picture. The occasion was a specially arranged SilverLiner preview and MTA progress report luncheon on Nov. 13 for 150 Valley leaders. Buses went into service a week later—Nov. 19.

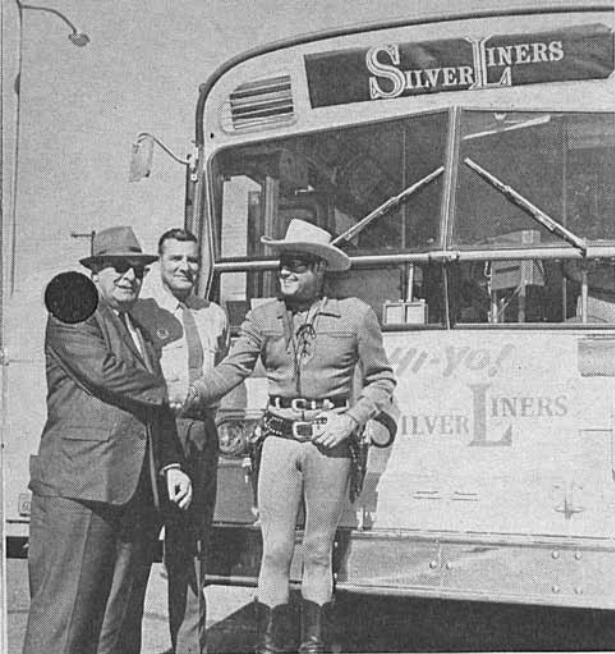
Lone Ranger and Horse, Silver, Feature Silver Liner Preview

**Picture Story of Advent of 35 New Buses
To MTA Lines in San Fernando Valley**

THE LONE RANGER (Clayton Moore) and his famous horse, Silver, helped Nov. 13 to celebrate the assignment of 35 SilverLiners (urban-type Flexible buses) on four MTA lines in the San Fernando Valley.

Foreknowledge of his presence drew news photographers to the parking lot of Chris' and Pitt's Van Nuys Bar-B-Q Restaurant, meeting place of several new Silver-





THE LONE RANGER (Clayton Moore) congratulates Earl Jardell, Superintendent, transportation, Division 8, Van Nuys, on acquiring the new SilverLiners. Operator Louis Warner, Van Nuys Operator who drove one of the SilverLiners in preview parade, looks on.

Liners which brought some 150 Valley leaders to a progress report luncheon.

Flash bulbs snapped as Silver and his master looked over the shiny new-fangled carriages that can carry 50 people faster and farther and in greater comfort than even Silver could carry one rider.

At the luncheon, Board Member Martin Pollard outlined MTA plans for rapid transit as it will affect the Valley.

"Once the Backbone Route is in operation, the San Fernando Valley corridor will receive careful consideration," he said.

(More pictures on pp. 8-9)

LINE-UP of five SilverLiners that brought Valley leaders to progress report luncheon.





THE HEAD TABLE, with Board Member Martin Pollard, who acted as emcee and principal speaker, looking directly at the camera from behind the microphone. In foreground, with backs to camera, are General Manager Cone T. Bass and Chief Engineer Ernest R. Gerlach.

SilverLiner Luncheon at Van Nuys

PARTIAL VIEW of the audience of 150 at luncheon. SilverLiner Operators were included.

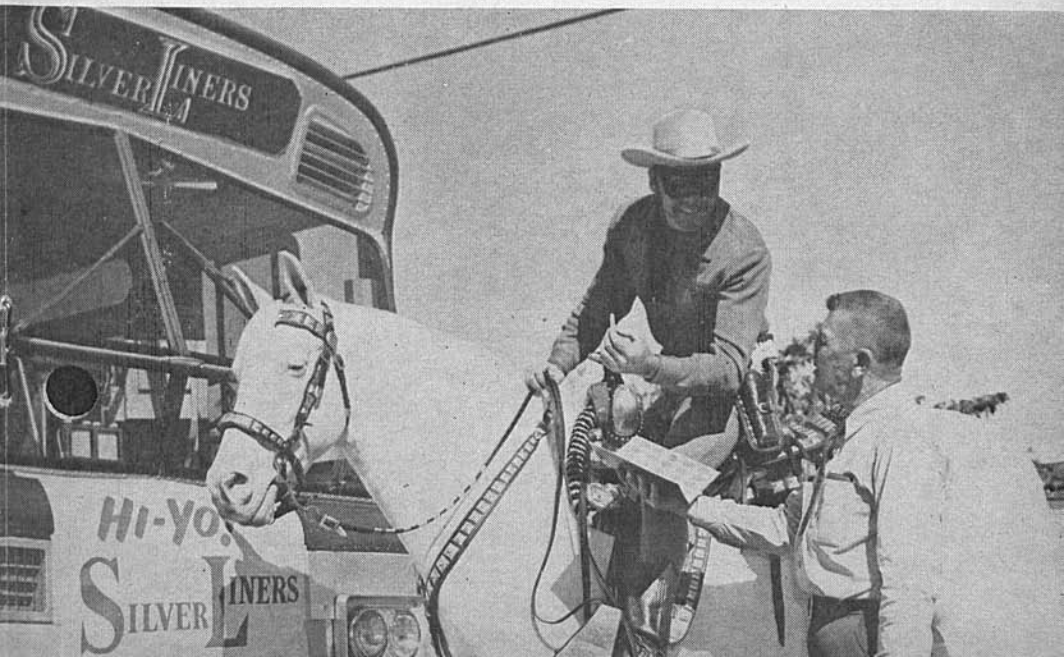




PARTICIPATING in the SilverLiner parade were these men—all Operators except as indicated. Left to right are S. T. Gehrke, C. L. Campbell (Supervisor), L. A. Davis, G. J. Boucher, L. E. Sires (Instructor), Carlos Guerra, Jr., L. H. Perea, Irving Modell, M. J. Van Veen, R. A. Crabill (invited in his capacity as Operator of the Month for December), R. H. Miller, Frank Shewmake, and L. E. Medlock (Instructor).

SilverLiner Preview (concluded)

SPEAKING OF SILVER—R. A. ("Bob") Crabill, December Operator of the Month, and an avid collector of coins, shows a part of his collection of U.S. half-dollars to the Lone Ranger, who, in turn, holds up for display one of his legendary silver bullets.



Commendations

R. A. Crabill Chosen Nov. Operator of the Month

HIS outstanding courtesy and his equally outstanding operating record won for R. A. Crabill, a Division 11 Operator working out



R. A. Crabill

of Pasadena, the title of Operator of the Month for November—and \$50 from the MTA Board.

A veteran of 35 years of service in and near Pasadena with MTA and its predecessors, Mr. Crabill

was praised by a woman passenger on his Pasadena-Los Angeles Line 71 bus for his assistance in enabling her to recover a suitcase. She described the incident and commended the Operator in a letter written to the MTA Courtesy Department.

She and another woman friend had been driven to the bus stop by their week-end host. In their haste to board Mr. Crabill's bus, they left a suitcase in their host's car. Meanwhile, he had begun to drive away. Excited because the suitcase contained their belongings and most of their money for a train trip, the women asked Mr. Crabill to flag down the automobile. He succeeded in doing so by the next bus stop.

Record-wise, Mr. Crabill wears a 16-year safety award, has a number of commendations to his credit, and has a clear record in every respect, according to his Superintendent, Thomas Arnott.

Judges of this month's contest from the Van Nuys Chamber of Commerce asked that the Operator of the Month be allowed to take

150 Operators Honored In November for Courtesy

CONGRATULATIONS to the following 150 Operators who received commendations during the month of November:

C. W. Adams, Division 7; Joe Aquirre, 3; S. M. Alexander, 3; K. C. Anderson, 5; R. E. Arnold, 8; A. J. Arnone, 3; Ray Bagby, 5; R. J. Balmes, 7; Harry Barrish, 7; R. L. Barth, 11; A. J. Bartholomew, 11; R. A. Beebe, 12; T. T. Benedict, 5; Homer Blair, 2; A. B. Bogartz, 7; D. L. Bolton, 2; R. L. Boyd, 5; M. R. Bragg, 7; F. O. Bridges, 5; G. R. Brink, 2; D. K. Brown, 6; H. A. Brown, 2; H. J. Burke, 21; C. T. Burris, 7.

V. A. Canupp, 7; W. E. Carr, 7; Linaker Cartwright, 2; S. F. Chabanik, 2; J. D. Cleveland, 3; Dayton Collins, 1; W. H. Coney, 5; E. E. Cook, 3; R. A. Crabill, 11; Phil Crawford, 6; C. V. Crosby, 1; F. E. Dahlstrom, 10; N. A. Daniels, 12; J. B. Dawson, 3; Theodore De Lora, 3; L. F. Douglas, 8; F. C. Fach, 20; Frank El Fattal, 20; Royal El Fattal, 3; E. J. Filek, 2; E. S. Fitzgerald, 9; G. T. Fitzpatrick, 5; H. E. Flanigan, 9; R. L. Fleming, 9; William Fleming, 8; H. H. Foster, 9; William Freeman, 2; F. D. Fresh, 3.

Frank Gardner, Jr., 5; Joseph Ginsburg, 5; W. H. Gohn, 6; D. L. Goins, 5; Osman Gonzales, 20; O. V. Gray, 20; W. J. Green, 9; J. B. Haining, 2; L. L. Haley, 2; G. A. Hall, 20; A. C. Harris, 2; W. E. Harrison, 8; W. T. Henderson, 5; P. B. Hill, 20; C. E. Hoddrick, 7; J. K. Hodo, 3; P. G. Hofelter, 2; H. H. Huber, 10; F. M. Huizar, 3.

A. M. Jacques, 7; J. M. Jernigan, 6; C. H. Johnson, 10; O. F. Johnson, 9; J. P. Jones, 3; Albert Judson, 20; T. E. Kerley, 5; C. D. Kidd, 7; Patrick Kiely, 20; R. D. Kornell, 20; Earl Karl, 5; E. M.

(Continued on page 15)

part in the SilverLiner festivities in Van Nuys. (See picture story, pp. 4-7). He was introduced at the luncheon and photographed with the Lone Ranger. (See p. 9.)



TEACHERS TAUGHT—Inglewood teachers hear the MTA story from Chief Engineer Ernest R. Gerlach, standing, right, on Inglewood Business-Industry-Education Day, Nov. 15. Standing at left is R. O. Christiansen, who, as Manager of Community Relations, acted as host for MTA on the occasion. Teachers gathered in the MTA Board meeting room. In foreground on table is a slide projector, used by Mr. Gerlach to illustrate his talk.

NEWS IN PIX

RETIREMENT GIFTS—Don G. Bailey, center, Van Nuys Operator who retired last April 19 but whose retirement party at the division was delayed several months by his illness and a trip east, shows salt-water fishing tackle given him by his colleagues. Division 8 Superintendent Earl Jardell holds the rod. At left is Mr. Bailey's good friend, A. E. Stowe, who has succeeded him as No. 1 Operator at the division. The retired man is proud of the fact that he worked for 41 years—his entire career—without a single missout.



ACCIDENTS ARE DOWN!

AN ENCOURAGING REPORT has come from the Safety Department of Transit Casualty showing a marked reduction in MTA accident rates for July, August, September, and October, 1961, compared with the accident rates for the same months of 1960.

"Traffic accidents are down almost 21%, passenger accidents down 13.7%," reports Chief Safety Engineer J. W. Prutsman. "Rear-end collision are down 33%, and passenger accidents due to quick stops caused by traffic ahead are down 24.5%."

"The number of witness cards per accident report has been substantially increased, and the number of accident reports turned in with no witnesses has decreased."

"An analysis of claim files also shows a substantial decrease in claims."

Delighted with the progress made in accident reduction, Assistant General Manager M. Edwin Wright said:

"My hat is off to all who have made this improvement possible. Prime credit goes to Operators at all divisions, for only through indi-

vidual effort by each person to better his or her own record could this fine progress be possible.

"Much credit is also due the members of the Transportation Department staff at all levels, from the General Superintendent to Division Superintendents, Supervisors, and Instructors, for their abiding interest in safety and their effective work in creating an atmosphere of safety consciousness.

"The cooperation of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen in participating in the joint LAMTA-BRT Impruv-Ur-Record Committee and in furnishing the roving trophy has also been most helpful—and appreciated.

"Too much praise can't be given the Safety Department of the Transit Casualty Co. for bringing safety-consciousness into focus with the Impruv-Ur-Record contest, and for the work of the Safety Engineers at the division level."

A check with the Greater Los Angeles Chapter, National Safety Council, shows that for the same four months, 1961 as compared with 1960, in Los Angeles County only, total traffic accidents show an increase of 2%; fatalities, 1.3%.

Division 5 Regains Safety Trophy

DIVISION 5, first (July) winner of the BRT's roving safety trophy, won it again in October by piling up 122 points against second-place Division 20's 97.

The best the September winner—Division 1—could do for the month of October was 48 points.

Divisions 3 and 9 were in a third-place tie for October, each having 95 points.

In the contest to date—including the months of July, August, September, and October—Division 9 led with 386 points; Division 1 was second with 375; Division 5 was third with 374.



OPERATOR Mel Van Veen helps the Christmas Seal campaign by putting a car card on the front of a SilverLiner for Tom Kizer, President, California Transit Advertising Co.

Board Adopts 1962 Budget

Also Approves Non-Contract Pension Plan, Purchase of Mirrors and Sun Visors for Buses

A 1962 BUDGET totaling \$46,496,000 was adopted by the MTA Board at its annual budget hearing Nov. 28.

The new budget makes provision for \$946,500 worth of improvements in buildings, facilities, and equipment (exclusive of automobiles, trucks, and transit vehicles) at numerous divisions and locations. Estimated operating expenses, including pensions, are \$39,112,000, with salaries and wages taking the

largest share: \$27,633,000. Adequate debt service is also provided for.

OTHER BOARD ACTIONS

The Board approved Nov. 28 a non-contract employees' pension plan said to be similar in operation and benefits to plans recently adopted for employees working under BRT and Amalgamated agreements.

(Continued on page 14)

New Faces

A HEARTY WELCOME to the following new employees who joined MTA between Oct. 16 and Nov. 15:

EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

Mechanic "B": R. L. Eckert, L. E. Hopper.

Mechanic "C": W. H. Holland.

PURCHASING AND STORES DEPARTMENT

Junior Stock Clerk: N. C. Martel.

*Re-employed.

REAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Information Clerk: Loretta L. Green.

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

Operator: Walter Aldridge, Division 7; R. L. Brown, 11; J. B. Carlo, 5; Daniel Cooper, 20; H. E. Daniels, 20; F. J. Gauch,* 11; H. C. Hammersla, 11; E. B. Harden, 2; Brady Keys, 2; D. J. Killmer, 7; G. H. LeMaster, 3; R. A. McCraw*, 7; R. R. Moore, 3; L. L. Moss, 5; R. P. Rush*, 7; Henry Spinelli, 5; G. E. Taft, Jr., 7; R. J. Ward, 5; C. F. Wheeler, Jr., 5.

Temporary Janitor: Mose Miller.

WAY AND STRUCTURES DEPARTMENT

Laborer "B": E. M. Chavez.

On Their Way Up

CONGRATULATIONS to the following employees, who took a step up the ladder between Oct. 16 and Nov. 15:

Marlene G. Allen from Assistant Insurance Clerk to Steno-Clerk, Personnel Department, Nov. 13. Employed May 8, 1961.

A. J. Bahr from Lost Article Clerk, Office of Chief Engineer, to Clerk, Accounting and Financial Department, Oct. 25. Employed Aug. 21, 1944.

Frank Blumenthal from Supervisor to

Supervisor-Extra Dispatcher, Transportation Department, Oct. 8. Employed Oct. 7, 1942.

J. F. Briggs, from Temporary Laborer "B" to Laborer "B," Way and Structures Department, Nov. 5. Employed Aug. 10, 1961.

R. C. Gonzales from Mechanic "B" to Mechanic "A," Division 7, Oct. 22. Employed Jan. 4, 1960.

Laszlo Vereb from Mechanic "B" to Mechanic "A," Division 5, Oct. 22. Employed Sept. 2, 1955.

J. J. Wagner from Laborer "B" to Substation Operator Trainee, Electrical Department, Nov. 5. Employed July 5, 1960.

In Memoriam

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

Victor E. Davis, 82, retired Conductor, Division 3; Nov. 6; service from 1916 to 1946. Survivors unknown.

Andrew C. Egan, 82, retired Assistant Engineer, Way and Structures Department; Nov. 3; service from 1903 to 1946. Survivors unknown.

Margaret L. Kelly, wife of Raymond M. Kelly, Operator, Division 2; Nov. 4. Survived by her husband. Mr. Kelly's service dates from 1933.

William Lane, 74, retired Conductor, Division 5; Nov. 15; service from 1920 to 1947. Survived by his daughter, Mrs. Lucille C. Lithgow; and his son, William C. Lane.

Roy A. Mitchell, 66, retired Flagman; Nov. 10; service from 1953 to 1960. Survived by his wife, Frances.

Board Actions

(Continued from page 13)

The purchase and installation on buses of 640 right-hand outside

mirrors, at total cost of \$14,500; and of 1455 sun visors, at total cost of \$16,500 were approved Nov. 28.

OUR COVER

SilverLiners on Parade

TEN SILVERLINERS parade up Cahuenga Pass Nov. 13 on their way to Division 8, Van Nuys, for service on four Valley lines: Los Angeles-North Hollywood Van Nuys Line 93; Central Valley Freeway Flyer Line 93F; Los Angeles-North Hollywood-Van Nuys Pacoima via Riverside Drive Line 86; and West Valley Freeway Flyer Line 35.

The parade started from Division 2, at 16th and San Pedro Sts., Los Angeles, at 9:05 a.m.

The buses were placed on display in nine San Fernando Valley cities Nov. 14-17. They were placed in service on Sunday, Nov. 19.

Commendations

(Continued from page 10)

Curtis, 3; A. G. Logue, 3; W. E. Lowe, 6; J. J. Lubak, 9; H. G. Lyons, 8; G. D. Mac Intyre, 1; E. H. Martin, 5; L. A. Maspero, 20; R. M. Melton, 8; W. H. Menges, 7; B. J. Mitchell, 1; J. F. Montoya, 3; J. A. Moody, 2; E. F. Morgan, 9; Henry Morrissey, 3; I. R. Murray, 7; Joe Napier, 1; H. F. Meador, 3; J. L. Neander, 2; D. H. Nicholson, 8; T. I. O'Brien, 2; O. A. Ortega, 20.

G. L. Parker, 7; O. F. Parker, 10; D. R. Parks, 12; L. G. Parrish, 1; R. J. Patton, 5; H. L. Pineda, 3; E. W. Pont, 3; O. W. Price, 2; E. H. Purnell, 2; AunFrance Reed, Jr., 7; L. M. Reinink, 5; W. T. Rhind, 10; R. B. Richardson, 2; C. L. Robbins, 6; R. J. Robinson, 7; M. D. Rogers, 20; Bob Root, 7; Wesley Sanders, 7; D. T. Scoggins, 5; H. W. Shaw, 2; E. M. Sheperd, 11; D. P. Slatkin, 8; N. J. Sleem, 2; Wilbur Smith, 3; W. L. Solomon, 3; H. R. Steyer, 2; U. T. Strong, 7; Edith Swanson, 20; Y. Swanson, 20.

W. P. Tezak, 3; J. F. Thomas, 7; A. E. Tooley, 7; W. H. Turpin, 1; N. T. Tummolo, 8; Sidney Wald, 7; E. V. Watford, 7; C. A. Watson, 3; W. S. A. Weary, 2; L. G. Wellington, 5; D. B. White, 7; B. F. Williams, 7; J. C. Williams, 1; L. G. Wilson, 2; C. J. Wyatt, 2; D. S. Varela, 9; G. F. Vogel, Jr., 2.

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* * *
C. M. GILLISS
Executive Director

W. Warren Silliman, Editor



OPERATOR C. G. Pollok compares one of MTA's 450 billboard Christmas ads with the ad on the side of his bus. The photo used on billboards and car cards is in four colors.

THE MTA EMBLEM
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