On behalf of the 1025 drivers of AC Transit buses I want to express appreciation to our riders for their fine cooperation in the ready-fare plan.

And to those business firms which recognized the problem of robberies and assaults on bus drivers as a community problem and are cooperating in the sale of tokens, our special thanks.

R. P. LIVINGSTON

OPERATOR R. P. LIVINGSTON, who survived three gunshot wounds suffered June 10 when he was held up aboard his bus.
District gains
Continue strong

Year-end figures showed continued strength in District growth—highlighted by a $301,876 surplus of income over expenses—enabling the District to end the year in the black for the second year in a row.

AC Transit also recorded a 1.64 percent increase in total passenger volume, while operating expenses soared 7.12 percent, reflecting an upward trend in riding on East Bay lines, as volume moved up one percent.

Operating revenues increased 3.08 percent over last year, while operating expenses increased 3.12 percent, reflecting increased labor costs and additional service mileage.

### Actions of the Board

At a regular meeting July 24, the Board of Directors:
- Adopted resolution to give notification of election of three District Directors on general election day, Nov. 5, on motion of Director Coburn.
- Authorized District Secretary to receive qualification statements and deposits for handling of statements to candidates for Board of Directors, on motion of Director Warren.
- Approved the following recommendations of Finance Committee: creation of youth fare ticket books; preparation of specifications for requesting bids on order of additional tokens; evaluation of progress of "ready-fare" plan; and compensation of Operator Livingston for meritorious services, on motion of Director Warren.
- Authorized $600 reimbursement to Operator Livingston for meritorious services relating to promotion of "ready-fare" plan, on motion of Director Rinehart. (See story, Pg. 3)

At an adjourned regular meeting Aug. 14, the Board of Directors:
- Gave easement to City of Oakland for sewer construction at Seminary Division, on motion of Director Copeland.
- Approved creation of temporary position of Assistant Treasurer-Controller; position to be abolished when present Treasurer-Controller retires, on motion of Director Coburn. (See story, Pg. 6)

**Wounded driver goes on goodwill tour**

AC Transit driver Ralph P. Livingston, victim of a shooting aboard his bus on June 10, was back at work this month—but not driving a bus.

Although not fully recovered from his wounds, Livingston began a personal "goodwill" tour of the East Bay business community, thanking the hundreds of banks and stores participating in the sale of tokens for their help in making the "Ready-Fare" plan a success.

Everywhere he went, Livingston was welcomed by sympathetic well-wishers who seemed more anxious to personally commend the 15-year veteran driver for his heroic role than to receive his thanks for their help.

It was Livingston, 48, whose serious injuries—resulting from three gunshot wounds received during the June holdup—prompted the District to adopt the "Ready-Fare" plan starting July 14.

Over 400 business firms in the East Bay have volunteered to sell tokens—helping make tokens readily available to bus riders. "This unusual support by the business community has been a primary factor in the success of the program," says Alan L. Bingham, AC Transit general manager, "along with the tremendous cooperation shown by our customers."

Results promising
During the first 28 days the "Ready-Fare" plan was in operation, 3,164 redemption coupons were issued as refunds to patrons paying more than exact fares. They deposited $2,342 in the fare box, with $1,337 representing the amount of their overpayment. Only 470 coupons, worth $325, were redeemed during this 28-day period.

Sales of the new 20 and 40-ride ticket books for East Bay riding, which went on sale August 1, showed promise. Available by zone, the ticket books sell for $4 and $8 for 20 and 40-ride, single zone; $6 and $12, 2 zone; $7 and $14, 3 zone; $9 and $18, 4 zone.

The new youth fare ticket book, selling 10 rides for $1.00, went on sale August 19, and will be sold in most East Bay public and private schools beginning next month.

"Take-out" leaflets, listing outlets where tokens may be purchased, are available aboard all buses. Also included on the leaflet is a coupon for ordering the new ticket books by mail.

At the conclusion of the first month of the "Ready-Fare" plan, there had not been a single robbery attempt aboard an AC Transit bus.

Seminary wins treat
Drivers at Seminary Division tallied 13,843 miles per accident in July to beat the newly-revised higher safety goal of 13,000 miles. They celebrated with a treat of coffee and doughnuts.
If youngsters want to draw, encourage them—with crayons. And point them toward buses and other means of transportation.

The result, in decades from now, may be a scrapbook similar to one revered by trolley historians. It contains drawings of a lad known only as "W. McSorley"—and the date of May 4, 1900.

While the identity of the young artist is unknown, his ability is not.

Charles Smallwood, foreman at the Oakland Transit Co. car and trailer barns in 1932, believes McSorley was an East Bay boy, who around the turn of the century, occupied himself by drawing street cars seen on local streets, in San Francisco, and in car barns.

The boy’s eye for detail, which included numbering equipment, has proven invaluable for present-day historians. Many of the drawings showed East Bay cars after 11 independent electric railroads had been consolidated into Oakland Transit Co., one of predecessors of Key System—and AC Transit.

A list of numbers on the cover, with descriptions such as "smashed, badly wrecked, not badly," are cars which survived 1906 fire and earthquake and were sent to San Francisco "boneyard." One drawing, of an open car with a load of dirt in middle, long puzzled experts until photo finally confirmed accuracy. It showed car, same number on Ocean Ave. in San Francisco, 1907, working on after-earthquake road construction.

Workers hit retirement trail

In 43 years in transportation, there was hardly any phase of work missed by George L. Harrison, 65, retiring Sept. 1 as schedule analyst.

Harrison went to work for Key System in 1925 as a street car motorman at Northern Division in Richmond and later transferred to Central Division.

He moved from there to motor coach headquarters at 45th and San Pablo and subsequently worked as dispatcher, chief clerk and chief dispatcher. In the middle 1940’s, Harrison was made assistant superintendent at Division 2, serving until he moved "up stairs" as a schedule analyst in 1950.

Harrison, who lives at 1063 Via Palma, San Lorenzo, plans now to catch up on woodworking projects and on reading.

One goal is ancient history—right from the beginning.

T. E. "Tommy" Powers is turning in his "brass" Sept. 1, shortly before his 60th birthday to "go along for the ride" on a new house and "country squire" living in Cloverdale. Tommy ended his career on Line 59/76 after putting in a lot of years on "them all". He started as a motorman on the street cars in Jan., 1930, and started his seniority all over again as a bus driver at Western car barns in 1932.

 RECORD IN CRAYONS—"W. McSorley" made drawings left in Brooklyn car barn on 130th Ave., between East 41st and E. 12th about 1900. Drawing of car No. 1115 below puzzled historians until photo confirmed it was working on Ocean Ave. in San Francisco in 1907 after fire and earthquake.

RECORD IN CRAYONS—"W. McSorley" made drawings left in Brooklyn car barn on 130th Ave., between East 41st and E. 12th about 1900. Drawing of car No. 1115 below puzzled historians until photo confirmed it was working on Ocean Ave. in San Francisco in 1907 after fire and earthquake.

Powers worked as a supervisor from 1942 to 1949, spent the rest of the years behind the wheel. Powers lived at 5345 Shafter Ave., Oakland.

Retirement has given more time to R. L. "Lee" Brushwiller to tend the display of over 130 varieties of cactus plants he has in a dot-sized plot in front of his cottage at 1901 Rose St., Berkeley. He also is waiting patiently for one rare variety, the "Turkish Temple" from Africa, to bloom.

Powers worked as a supervisor from 1942 to 1949, spent the rest of the years behind the wheel. Powers lived at 5345 Shafter Ave., Oakland.
Treasurer-Controller to retire; New finance head named

Retirement of John F. Larson, District Treasurer-Controller for nearly nine years, and appointment of his successor was announced this month by Alan L. Bingham, general manager.

The newly-appointed replacement for Larson will be Robert D. Tough, 46, who has resigned his post as Treasurer-Controller for the Thee, Humm Brewing Co., St. Paul, Minnesota, to enter the transit field. Tough will assume District duties in September as assistant general manager for finance and will take over as Treasurer-Controller when Larson retires.

Tough, a 1949 graduate of San Jose State College, received his master of business administration degree in business from Stanford University in 1952. He is a native of Chicago, Illinois and was raised in Richmond, California. Tough joined Humm's in 1957 and served in several executive accounting positions in the San Francisco plant before being transferred to the St. Paul headquarters in 1962.

He previously served as senior auditor of the accounting firm of Touche, Ross, Bailey and Smart in San Francisco for four years. Prior to that time he was controller with a Palo Alto real estate concern.

Tough was commissioned a pilot by the Air Force during World War II and recently resigned as a director of the Northeastern State Bank of St. Paul, Minnesota.

John Larson

Larson, 67, who joined the District in 1959, is scheduled to retire December 31.

He was chief financial officer for the world-wide Winslow Engineering and Manufacturing Co., prior to joining AC Transit, and was formerly Treasurer-Controller of a major Los Angeles power transmission and hearing distribution firm. During World War II, he headed the accounting department of the busy California Shipbuilding Corp., active in government contracts. With nearly 50 years of accounting and financial experience, Larson has also been associated with Lahore and Hoover, a certified public accounting firm, Staufer Chemical Co., Santa Fe Railway, and General Petroleum Co.

"We are certainly going to miss the financial talents and good judgment of Mr. Larson," said Bingham, "however, we feel that Mr. Tough comes to the District with exceptional capabilities, particularly in the area of data processing and computers, and will offer a great deal to AC Transit in years to come."

District employees offered Free chest X-rays

The Tuberculosis and Health Association of Alameda County will have its Chestmobile at Emeryville Division on September 3, 4, and 5 for the convenience of District employees who wish a free chest X-ray. The service will be available between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on each of these dates.

AC transit PASSENGER REVENUE...COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEAR

Business activity holds steady

The District's pattern of steady growth leveled off in June, with passenger revenue showing a slight gain. The number of riders carried during the month decreased slightly, although transbay travel continued to grow.

Passenger revenue for the month totaled $1,133,876, an increase of $1,010,110 or up .49 percent over year-ago revenue of $1,113,701. Revenue on transbay lines was up 2.73 percent, while income from East Bay lines was down .48 percent. Commute book sales totaled $187,536 up 2.7 percent over sales of $182,694 recorded in June, 1967.

The number of passengers carried during the month reached 4,116,451, down 2.97 percent compared to the riding count of 4,171,136 made in the same month, a year ago. East Bay lines showed a passenger decrease of .68 percent, while income from East Bay lines made an increase of 4.57 percent over year-ago revenue of $1,060,000.

Operation costs during the month reached, $1,392,339, a decrease of $1,411,874 up 1.40 percent or $19,535 more than year-ago expenses of $1,372,839. The District operated 1,916,590 miles of service, a decrease of 18,740 miles or .97 percent over mileage for the same month, a year ago.

Total income of $1,562,345 was sufficient to cover all operational costs and depreciation but left a deficit of $36,583 with bond debt requirements.

The transit industry nationally indicated a riding decrease for the month of 4.57 percent.
Hop a park bus for vacation fun

AC Transit buses were flying pennants and wearing happy, summertime looks this month in separate activities designed to get people out into the parks to enjoy vacation fun.

In a new experiment, special direct bus service was being operated to Tilden Regional Park and Lake Chabot in Anthony Chabot Regional Park, under an agreement between the park and transit districts.

At the same time, the Oakland Park Department’s “Free Wheeler” was carrying capacity crowds around Lake Merritt on Sundays—sporting a smiling “face,” topped by a beanie and a propeller.

The regional park buses, called the “Tilden Tripper” and the “Chabot Clipper,” were operating seven days a week to encourage maximum use of the parks by youngsters in urban areas and by people unable to drive.

Regular fares were being charged, but no zone collections were being made on the special buses. If patronage fails to meet expenses, the park district is making up the deficit.

The Oakland Park Department bus offers free riding around Lake Merritt on Sundays to solve parking congestion problems. Visitors are invited to park away from crowded areas and use the “Free Wheeler” to reach attractions. Funds for the service is provided through promotion funds supplied by the concessionaires around the lake.

The popular bus took on its new look after park department craftsmen made a mouth, cheeks and nose from plywood, which can be fastened easily to the bumper. The headlights form the “eyes,” while the windshield represents the forehead. The face is topped by a perky plywood cap, which carries the “Free Wheeler” name on the bill. And on top is a whirling propeller.

The service runs into September.