

# CINDERS

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## SEASONS GREETINGS

The Officers of the Philadelphia Chapter and the Editors wish to take this opportunity to extend a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY, THURS., DEC. 16th

A very interesting program has been planned for our Annual Christmas Party as outlined on the enclosed sheet. Plan to come and bring the wife.

## ARMY-NAVY GAME RAILROADING AT A GLANCE

With a blast of an air horn, the growl of electric locomotives and the clatter of cars crossing switch-points, the show was on. Once again the Army-Navy game brought forth Philly's biggest railroad spectacle of the year.

The statistics show the Pennsy hauling 467 cars in 36 trains. Foreign equipment was noticeably lacking, except for some Seaboard and New Haven diners. All trains were hauled by GG1's, except for a 15 car item hauled by K4s #3739 and #5022.

The B & O overtaxed its rusty branch with 9 trains totalling 107 cars. If the amount of rail equipment is an inspiration to victory it's no wonder the Navy tied Army - they had 56 cars as against Army's 37.

PTC, as usual, had fewer cars and more buses than ever. The special lineup this year contained only 63 cars. One car, #6912, met its untimely end during the game when the rear end was swept by fire.

## BOSTON MUNICIPAL SYSTEM IN FINANCIAL TROUBLE

The Metropolitan Transit Authority's huge deficit has had one excellent effect for car fans. Since there is no money all work has now stopped on the trolley-bus conversions in the Dorchester area. Despite the fact all wire installations are up the cars will be used for some time to come. Carefully laid cement in Fields Corners yard is being ripped up and tracks again installed. Long live the MET's poor management.

## ST. J & L C BECOMES ST. J & L C

The much-publicized St. Johnsbury & Lake Champlain is no longer operating under its old moniker. Its new name is the St. Johnsbury & Lamoille County. New name, old initials. A group of local citizens purchased the line from the Boston & Maine. The route features a covered bridge as it leaves Swanton, Vt.

## ILLINOIS TERMINAL RECEIVES ULTRA-MODERN STREAMLINERS

On Oct. 19th the Illinois Terminal System received the first of 3 new 2 and 3 car MU trains. Fluted aluminum panels below windows and Royal Blue paint above make up the exterior appearance of the new cars. Each car has 4, 140 HP motors, 80 MPH top speed, with all electric control.

The first train, of two units, named "City of Decatur", will run between St. Louis and Decatur on a 3 hour and 15 minute schedule. This inaugurates first thru service between these cities.

The de-luxe train will use a new route thru Granite City via a belt line which saves 20 blocks of street running. Shuttle bus from city center will feed passengers to new station on belt line at 22nd & Monroe.

## ELECTRIC ITEMS

Around the nation, Pittsburgh Rys now has a very successful 2-way radio installation on an interurban car. Shaker Heights Rapid Transit is receiving its PCC's from Pullman. Trolley cars operated for the last time on Williamsburg Bridge between Manhattan and Brooklyn on Saturday last. Over 100 new ACF subway cars are operating on IRT's 42nd St. Main St., Flushing line in New York.

PTC has removed the all-electric PCC's from Rt. 6 and substituted the pre-war PCC's. Rough roadbed was too hard on the cars. The switch was made with Rt. 56. Semi-automatic switches are now at 8th & 9th and Walnut to facilitate cutting back Rt. 47 cars. The Xmas rush has produced quite a few 6000 cars on Market St. lines.

Our last Birney trip was held Oct. 16th as the little cars were hauled away Dec. 8th to the final resting place of all faithful street-cars, the junk yard. No one found a storage space away from PTC property and so we have no pleasant reminder of days gone by.

The PTC system is finishing the rail work on 49th St. and Rt. 36 from 49th to 56th. Rising Sun Ave. rerailling is also finished. A new safety island is now at 54th & Baltimore.

As the sweepers left 32nd & Ridge for the various depots they were treated this year to a new coat of paint.

Our sincere thanks to Bill Blakslee for the two color headings this month