

Transport/Central

VOLUME TWO, NUMBER FOURTEEN

MARCH 22, 1968

Interurban

ROUTE RECOMMENDATIONS -- A Civil Aeronautics Board examiner has recommended the award of new air routes between the Pacific Northwest, the Southwest and areas as far east as New Orleans. CAB examiner Ross Newmann, in the reopened Pacific Northwest-Southwest service proceedings, made the following recommendations:

TWA: Service to be extended from Kansas City to Portland and Seattle-Tacoma.

UAL: Service to be extended from Denver to Dallas/Fort Worth and New Orleans.

Continental: Should be authorized to serve the New Orleans-Houston route, and beyond to the Pacific Northwest via (a) Shreveport-Oklahoma City-Tulsa-Wichita-Colorado Springs-Denver, and (b) San Antonio-Midland/Odessa-Lubbock-Albuquerque-Colorado Springs-Denver.

Braniff: Should be authorized to also serve Houston from the Pacific Northwest. The airline was previously awarded routes from the Pacific Northwest to San Antonio and Fort Worth/Dallas.

Frontier: Should be authorized to operate between Dallas/Fort Worth and Denver and Salt Lake City via Oklahoma City-Tulsa-Wichita.

West Coast: Service to be extended from Denver and Salt Lake City to Boise, and on to Seattle, one leg operating via Spokane.

Trans-Texas: To receive a new route between New Orleans and Denver and Salt Lake City via (a) Lafayette-Lake Charles-Shreveport-Longview/Kilgore/Gladewater-Tyler-Abilene-Lubbock-Amarillo, and (b) Lafayette-Lake Charles-Beaumont/Port Arthur-Houston-San Antonio-Austin-San Angelo-Midland/Odessa-Lubbock-Amarillo.

Examiner Newmann estimated that the new routes would reduce the subsidies given to the three level II (regional) carriers (Frontier, West Coast and Trans-Texas) by \$2,907,000. A recommendation of this nature becomes final unless action is taken by the full board within 30 days. Increased long-haul competition would also result from the proposed awards.

AIRLINE ACTION -- The Irish Air Force is selling its entire fleet to the highest bidder. A trio of World War II Spitfires make up the roster, and they come complete with cap and goggles (ah there, Snoopy!). Just write Fleet Sale, Irish Air Force, Dublin; so says WNUS radio in Chicago, owned by Auld-Sodder Gordon McLendon....You can get a free copy of Continental's picture history, which appeared in local newspapers throughout the CSA recently. Just send a card to Advertising Dept., Continental Air Lines, 7300 World Way West, Los Angeles 90009 for the colorful poster....Level III TAG Airlines, air taxi operator in the Detroit-Cleveland area, has been given exemption authority to operate a Fairchild F-27 on its route between the two cities due to continued growth in patronage, now at 80,000 annually. Air taxi operators are normally restricted in the size of equipment they can operate....The Gary city council has appropriated \$340,000 for improvements to its municipal airport....Air Canada is instituting a 50% fare reduction for foreign visitors to the Dominion. The cut, to be effective April 28, will apply to North American trips of foreign visitors who make three or more stopovers in Canada and the United States....Illinois, with 433 landing facilities, ranked fifth in the number of airports in the U. S. and its territories last year. Texas, with 900 such airports, led all other states.

ICC ITEMS -- The Interstate Commerce Commission has rejected Penn Central's petition to discontinue #94/95, the Kentuckian, Logansport, Indiana - Louisville, because the train does not fall within the interstate requirements of Section 13a(1)....Seaboard Coast Line may discontinue #53-54, Florence, S.C. - Augusta, Ga., on March 23 as scheduled (no protests)....The same for UP #69-70, Kansas City - Salina, Kan. Last runs were made March 18....The ICC will hold hearings on Milwaukee Road #117/118, the Varsity, Chicago-Madison....Penn-Central has been given okay to discontinue their last St. Louis (via ex-NYC lines) passenger service as well as two Chicago trains; #312/341, St. Louis-Indiana/Ohio state line; and #57-96, Chicago-Indiana/Ohio state line. Both made their last runs March 18....And P-C (again) wants to remove #50, the Admiral, Chicago to New York; and #53, the Fort Pitt, Pittsburgh to Chicago. A quotable quote from P-C: "It is now possible to drive from Chicago to New York without encountering a single traffic signal. With these highways available, most travelers give little thought to public transportation—least of all rail service."

ONCE OVER QUICKLY -- The railroad to be created by the merger of the Great Northern, Northern Pacific, Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, Spokane, Portland & Seattle and the Pacific Coast Railway will be named Burlington Northern, Inc....A quote from Paul Reistrup, vice president, passenger service, of the Illinois Central (part of a new passenger-oriented ad campaign by IC): "They say the IC is crazy to go after more passenger business. BrainFare says we'd be crazy not to."...Wisconsin-Michigan Coaches has sold its Green Bay-Sturgeon Bay, Wis. line to Bay View Coach Line.

Urban/Suburban

AND MILWAUKEE MAKES THREE -- The Milwaukee Road has joined the Burlington and the North Western in asking for commuter fare increases for its Chicago area suburban operations. The petition to the Illinois Commerce Commission calls for boosts of 10% within 25 miles of Chicago, and 5% increases beyond. The minimum fares between Chicago and close-in stations would go up to 70¢ from 55¢, and the minimum fare between two intermediate stops would rise to 40¢ from 35¢. The average increase per ride on a monthly ("flash") ticket would run between 4¢ and 7¢. The effective date asked for the hikes is May 1.

SKY RIDE -- That Continental Air Lines nocturnal tour over the Windy City mentioned here last week (T/C - 3/15/68) comes a little steeper than originally reported (and as even the air line quoted in its ad announcing the evening flights). If your date happens to be your wife or mother, both can travel for \$15. As the special rate is quoted on the family plan, all others, dates or not, fly for \$10 each. All of which brings up the competition's plans for a share of the business; on March 16, American Airlines began a series of three Saturday afternoon flights over the Chicago area that will continue until April 6. At noon, 1 and 2 PM, just \$6.95 will get you a seat on a 727 Astrojet on the airline built for professional travellers. AA calls it a Flight-seeing ride.

FINGERS -- On March 20, the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission approved a comprehensive plan for the development of the six-county Chicago metropolitan area. Future growth would be channeled in a finger-like pattern through suburban areas along existing and planned lines of public transportation. Parks, open land and recreational facilities would separate these development corridors. The plan is advisory, and imposes no mandatory compliance by any municipality in the region, though federal aid requirements will exert a certain amount of pressure for compliance. (As the existing area planning agency, NIPC must review and comment on all applications for federal funds for local and area-wide improvements). NIPC was established in 1957 by the Illinois General Assembly and began work on the comprehensive plan in October 1964. It affects Kane, Cook, Will, DuPage, Lake and McHenry counties in Illinois. The commission is basing transportation recommendations on the 1962 plan of the Chicago Area Transportation Study, and is working closely with the Lake-Porter Regional Transportation and Planning Commission in co-ordinating interstate transport projects that affect those two adjoining Indiana counties as well.

PAT'S PET PROJECT PROGRESSES -- The South Park Transit Expressway (SkyBus), successfully tested last year in Pittsburgh with the aid of a HUD grant, is to receive an additional \$1.6 million from the department. Said HUD Secretary Weaver: "HUD is continuing to support tests of the innovative system with approval of this second demonstration grant to the Port Authority of Allegheny County. Initial tests of the South Park Transit Expressway clearly showed the engineering and economic feasibility, as well as public acceptance, of this type of transit equipment." The work proposed under the second demonstration grant now will prepare the Transit Expressway for actual operation as a commercial system; total cost is estimated at \$2.4 million, with the balance to be provided by the Port Authority, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Westinghouse Electric Corporation.

TRANSIT TALK -- The Chicago suburban area's Glenview Bus Company dropped all weekday evening service January 6. GBC links Glenview, Northbrook, Northfield, Wheeling and Willmette with shopping centers and the rapid transit in Evanston....The Kitchener, Ontario Public Utilities Commission is recommending a 5¢ increase in adult fares. KPUC has authorized the purchase of 10 new GMC TDH-3501 diesel units, for delivery by October 1. The system operates trolley coaches and motor buses in the twin cities of Kitchener and Waterloo....The Control Data Corporation has asked Twin City Lines of Minneapolis-St. Paul to provide special bus service to assist residents of low-income areas to get to jobs at its suburban plants. The program could be aided with HUD funds and would be administered by the Metropolitan Transit Commission, which has authority to undertake demonstration projects in the seven-county Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area.

FAST FACTS -- A quotable quote by the consulting firm of Simpson & Curtin (from a report recommending rapid transit for Calgary and Edmonton): "There has never been an unsuccessful rapid transit system. Toronto believes their system would be a financial success even if they collected no fares from passengers—land development and rising tax assessments are returning the investment"....The new Public Transportation Corporation of Fort Wayne held its first meeting recently and began to take steps to assure continued public transportation in that city. Pending acquisition of the system, the Corporation hinted at subsidization of FWT until financing is arranged. FWT will otherwise cease operating June 15....DOT is financing a study with HUD of the effects of CTS' Airport Extension on airport automobile traffic.

A SPECIAL NOTICE TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS: If you have not received T/C's last mailing containing the March 15 issue of Transport/Central and the March 1968 issue of Transport magazine, please notify us at once. Although the mailing was completed March 18th, some readers have not received their copies as of Thursday, March 21. We will arrange for replacements if necessary.

TRANSPORT/CENTRAL is published weekly by Transport Central, 416 North State Street, Chicago, Illinois 60610. Telephone (312) 828-0991. A subscription to T/C (which includes its companion TRANSPORT magazine monthly) is \$6.00 yearly. Sample copies of each are available.