

EDITORIAL

Departure Posters

A stock of Eastern National departure posters has been acquired. These are available for all areas (except Braintree) and cover the period 1957-64. They are obtainable from the Secretary at 2p each (12 for 20p), please add postage and package as follows: 3p (for up to 3), 5p (up to 8) and 8p (up to 12).

EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

|                 |         |                 |              |        |           |       |
|-----------------|---------|-----------------|--------------|--------|-----------|-------|
| 1539            | PEV501K | Bristol RELL6G  | 3/1592       | E.C.W. | B53F      | 19237 |
| 1541            | PEV503K | Bristol RELL6G  | 3/1594       | E.C.W. | B53F      | 19238 |
| 3023            | OWC296K | Bristol VRTSL6G | VRT/SL/2/223 | E.C.W. | LD39/31FD | 18892 |
| Delivery dates: |         |                 |              |        |           |       |
|                 |         |                 | 1539 -       | 10.71  | 3022 -    | 10.71 |
|                 |         |                 | 1541 -       | 10.71  | 3023 -    | 10.71 |

Please note revised date for 3022. This, and the vehicles above, were delayed by a recent industrial dispute at Eastern Coach Works. The Bristol VRT's are in bus livery and are not fitted with T-type destination blinds. They have single level blinds as fitted to the Bristol RELL saloons and to the double deckers of certain other operators, notably Eastern Counties.

Acquired Vehicles

|      |        |                 |            |        |           |       |
|------|--------|-----------------|------------|--------|-----------|-------|
| 3005 | SMS31H | Bristol VRTSL6G | VRT/SL/245 | E.C.W. | LD43/34FD | 18838 |
| 3006 | SMS34H | Bristol VRTSL6G | VRT/SL/306 | E.C.W. | LD43/34FD | 18831 |
| 3009 | SMS35H | Bristol VRTSL6G | VRT/SL/307 | E.C.W. | LD43/34FD | 18825 |
| 3011 | SMS37H | Bristol VRTSL6G | VRT/SL/309 | E.C.W. | LD43/34FD | 18830 |
| 3012 | SMS38H | Bristol VRTSL6G | VRT/SL/316 | E.C.W. | LD43/34FD | 18826 |
| 3014 | SMS40H | Bristol VRTSL6G | VRT/SL/318 | E.C.W. | LD43/34FD | 18833 |
| 3015 | SMS42H | Bristol VRTSL6G | VRT/SL/320 | E.C.W. | LD43/34FD | 18836 |

These vehicles were new in 1970 and are equipped for O.M.O. operation.

Acquired 9.71/10.71 ex. W. Alexander & Sons (Midland) Ltd., Falkirk, Nos. MRT 1/4/5/7/8/10/2.

Delivery dates of the complete batch of acquired Bristol VRT's are as follows:

|        |         |        |          |        |         |        |         |
|--------|---------|--------|----------|--------|---------|--------|---------|
| 3005 - | 29.9.71 | 3009 - | 6.10.71  | 3013 - | 15.9.71 | 3017 - | 25.8.71 |
| 3006 - | 8.9.71  | 3010 - | 8. 9.71  | 3014 - | 22.9.71 | 3018 - | 1.9.71  |
| 3007 - | 15.9.71 | 3011 - | 13.10.71 | 3015 - | 1.9.71  | 3019 - | 25.8.71 |
| 3008 - | 22.9.71 | 3012 - | 6.10.71  | 3016 - | 29.9.71 |        |         |

With reference to the notes published last month the Chief Engineer has informed me that the acquired Bristol VRT's did not enter service still bearing Midland fleetnames, however, it is possible that such fleetnames were still displayed when the vehicles were noted on delivery or on test. The vehicles may not necessarily be retained in their blue livery until their next repaint, since consideration is being given to their retaining the Alexander colours in order that when operating limited stop services they may be readily distinguished from other vehicles in the fleet. The vehicles are now LD39/31FD as presumed last month, the front nearside longitudinal seats have been replaced by luggage space. The vehicles have E.N. bus fleetnames on the sides and a small coach fleetname (sloping capital letters) on the front below the windscreen and above the illuminated P.A.Y.E. sign. The vehicles are being fitted with special "Limited Stop" signs consisting of black letters on a yellow background,

Withdrawn Vehicles

|            |                |                |                |                |
|------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 9.71       | 2408(XVX 23)M  | 2411(XVX 30)H  | 2452(35 ENO)S  | 2471(818 HNO)S |
|            | 2409(XVX 24)H  | 2415(207 BPU)S | 2467(883 GVX)S | 2475(507 HTW)S |
|            | 2410(XVX 25)M  | 2430(564 CTW)S | 2469(885 GVX)S | 2476(508 HTW)S |
| 10.71      | 2426(885 CEV)S | 2431(565 CTW)S | 2451(34 ENO)H  | 2493(1838 F)   |
|            | 2428(562 CTW)S | 2432(566 CTW)  | 2458(320 GPU)S |                |
| 9.71/10.71 |                | 2866(RVH392D)  | 2878(SVX277D)  | 2882(UEV220E)  |
|            |                | 2871(RWC943D)  | 2879(SVX278D)  | 2883(UEV221E)  |
|            |                | 2872(RWC944D)  |                |                |

Many of the above Bristol LD's which have been withdrawn have been noted in the disposal livery, i.e. the central cream band painted red. These LD's have not been disposed of to other M.B.C. companies.

2-

Dates of transfer of the Bristol FLF's transferred to Alexander (Midland) are as under, (some of these are corrected dates to those shown in NS91):

|                |                |                |                 |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 2865 - 24.8.71 | 2869 - 14.9.71 | 2873 - 31.8.71 | 2881 - 24.8.71  |
| 2866 - 28.9.71 | 2870 - 14.9.71 | 2878 - 21.9.71 | 2882 - 5.10.71  |
| 2867 - 7.9.71  | 2871 - 21.9.71 | 2879 - 5.10.71 | 2883 - 12.10.71 |
| 2868 - 7.9.71  | 2872 - 28.9.71 | 2880 - 31.8.71 |                 |

Further to the notes given last month the allocations of the Bristol FLF's which passed to Alexander (Midland) are to be as follows:

|                    |   |                       |
|--------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Bannockburn (BN)   | : | MRD 197, 202/7/9.     |
| Kirkintilloch (KH) | : | MRD 200/3/6.          |
| Larbert (L)        | : | MRD 201/4.            |
| Stirling (S)       | : | MRD 195/6/8/9, 205/8. |

Before entering service the rear destination and route indicator panels have been filled in. The width of the front destination blind aperture has been reduced to 36" to facilitate fitment of standard Midland blinds. It is also intended to convert the remaining FLF's still with air suspension to coil spring suspension at the rear to standardise them with the remainder of the Midland fleet.

(We are indebted to R. McLeod, Chief Engineer, Alexander (Midland) for the above notes)

#### Allocations & Transfers

10.71 306-D/L, 308-D/L, 309-D/L, 345-D/L, 346-D/L, 347-D/L, 348-D/L, 349-D/L, 364-D/L, 365-D/L, 367-BE, 385-D/L, 393-D/L, 425-D/L, 1001-D/L, 1227-D/L, 1307-D/L, 1331-D/L, 1352-BE, 1439-D/L, 1540-HD, 1606-D/L, 1607-CN, 1610-BN, 1612-HH, 1613-CN, 2378-D/L, 2379-D/L, 2382-D/L, 2383-D/L, 2384-D/L, 2386-D/L, 2405-SD, 2415-D/L, 2424-BN, 2427-BN, 2430-D/L, 2460-BN, 2465-BN, 2475-D/L, 2499-BN, 2502-IN, 2507-HH, 2508-BN, 2509-BN, 2511-D/L, 2513-HD, 2517-HH, 2710-HH, 2742-CF, 2841-CF, 2860-CF, 2897-SD, 2907-SD, 3006-SD, 3007-CY, 3008-WG, 3010-BN, 3013-WG, 3014-SD, 3020-D/L, 3021-D/L.

17.10.71 1000-D/L, 1221-D/L, 1222-D/L, 1224-D/L, 1225-D/L, 1232-BN, 1539-D/L, 1541-D/L, 1602-CN, 1613-D/L, 2422-BD, 2488-BD, 2497-BD, 2498-SD, 2511-MN, 2755-BN, 2768-BD, 2795-SD, 2797-SD, 2894-HH, 2897-HH, 2899-HH, 2907-HH, 3005-WG, 3009-WG, 3011-D/L, 3012-BN, 3016-BN, 3022-D/L, 3023-D/L.

Hadleigh now has an allocation of semi-automatic Bristol FLF's.

All the Bristol VRT's are allocated for use on service 400, the VRT's allocated to Wood Green are to be maintained by Southend.

#### Service Revisions

The following revision to services has recently been applied for:

82 Terminal in Great Tey to be Greenfields Estate.

#### Service Vehicles

##### New Vehicles

|         |                  |              |     |               |    |
|---------|------------------|--------------|-----|---------------|----|
| AJN636K | Morris Mini 1000 | XAV1/413856  | Van | Pink/Cream    | TT |
| AJN637K | Morris 8 cwt     | MAV5/313277  | Van | Glacier White | HO |
| AJN639K | Morris 8 cwt     | MAV5/312060  | Van | Antelope      | CR |
| OEV995K | Austin 10 cwt    | AHV6/254193A | Van | Antelope      | HO |

Dates of delivery to follow.

#### Acquired Vehicle

HFA 27E Austin 5 ton 295902 Lorry CW

New in 1967, acquired in 6.71. The vehicle was originally owned by Ind Coope, Burton-on-Trent but was not acquired directly.

#### Withdrawn Vehicles

|                                     |                |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| EBD 238 - date to follow (ca. 6.71) | UEV493E - 9.71 |
| KEV856C - 12.70                     | RJN542G - 9.71 |
|                                     | TJN506H - 9.71 |

EBD 238 has been acquired for preservation by personnel at Basildon garage on behalf of the Eastern National (Basildon) Bristol Preservation Group.

Remainder of notes held over due to lack of space.