

REPORT ON OPERATING RESULTS OF TEN LARGEST BUS COMPANIES ISSUED

From U.S. Dept. of Transportation

■ (WASHINGTON) The Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) recently issued a report comparing the revenues, earnings, and ridership of ten of the nation's largest intercity and charter bus companies for the quarter ending March 31, 1996, with the same period for 1995.

The report is based primarily upon quarterly reports submitted by the carriers to the Bureau. These ten companies account for between 80 and 90 percent of the total intercity and charter revenues generated by Class I bus companies.

Congress recently transferred to DOT responsibility for collecting financial and operational data from motor carriers of passengers and motor carriers of property, a function previously performed by the Interstate Commerce Commission. Because of the transition, the reports for the last three quarters were delayed.

Greyhound — the only transcontinental bus company — showed a substantial loss in earnings for the quarter ending March 31, 1996, accompanied by a rise in revenues and ridership. While the regional carriers had slight increases in revenues, net operating income, and ridership for the quarter, they experienced a decline in ordinary income compared with the same period in 1995.

The nine regional carriers, on a composite basis, experienced a very slight decline in their operating ratio between the three months ending March 31, 1996, and the same period for 1995, as revenues increased at a fractionally higher rate than expenses. For the same period, Greyhound reported a greater increase in its operating ratio. Because of Greyhound's size, compared with the nine regional carriers, its operating ratio increase resulted in a slight unfavorable increase for the ten carriers as a group.

To order a copy of any of the reports, contact the Bureau of Transportation Statistics by telephone on (202) 366-4383, Fax (202) 366-3383, or by writing to the Bureau at BTS/DOT, K-27, Room 4125, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590.

"The nail that sticks out is hammered down."

Japanese proverb

A PROCLAMATION

NATIONAL FARM CITY WEEK 1996

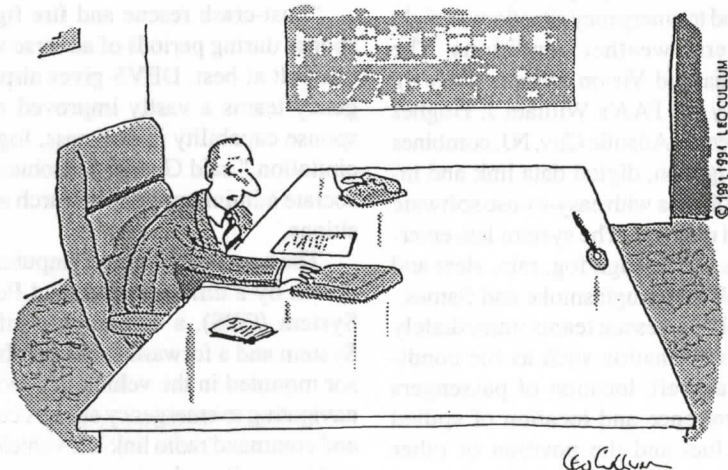
In 1840 Daniel Webster said, "when tillage begins, other arts follow. The farmers therefore are the founders of human civilization." We pause each year at this time to express our gratitude to American farmers and the millions of Americans working in agriculture-related jobs, and we recognize the importance of agriculture and the essential role that farmers play in our national life. Intertwined with our national history, culture, and economy, American farms continuously sustain us and people around the world with rich produce and crops. Thanks to the professionalism and care of American farmers, we enjoy an abundance of quality and affordable food.

American agriculture is among our Nation's most vital industries, alone generating more than 15 percent of our gross domestic product. Bolstering our economy with a bounty of healthful foods, American agriculture supports more than 21 million jobs, and agriculture-related industries continue to expand, producing good, high-paying jobs and creating \$1 trillion for the American economy each year.

The success of American agriculture is a testament to the benefits of farm-city partnerships that stretch all the way from the farmer to the consumer, with thousands of participants in between — researchers, extension agents, scientists, agribusiness companies, shippers, inspectors, processors, manufacturers, marketers, and retailers, all helping to guarantee Americans a safe, abundant food supply. For more than 40 years, Americans have observed National Farm City Week in celebration of these partnerships.

During National Farm City Week, we celebrate Thanksgiving when Americans will gather around the dinner table to count our Nation's many blessings. Among them is America's agricultural richness and the collaboration between rural and urban communities that helps guarantee our rich quality of life.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 22 through November 28, 1996, as National Farm City Week. I call upon all Americans in rural and urban communities alike to join in recognizing the accomplishments of our farmers and all the hardworking individuals who cooperate to produce an abundance of affordable, quality agricultural goods that strengthen and enrich our country.



"Andrea, would you please come in and hand me my pen?"