

BALTIMORE TRACTION LINES BUY 27 CARS WITH RUBBER SPRINGS

Baltimore, Md., Feb. 3.—[Special.]
—Twenty-seven noiseless trolley cars known as rubber trolleys have been ordered for the street railway system by the Baltimore Transit company. The trolleys now under construction will cost \$450,000. They will be ready for delivery within four months.

Officials of the transit company and the Maryland public service commission asserted the rubber trolleys to be the last word in noiseless street cars. The new car is the result of ten years of study and experimentation. Hundreds of pounds of rubber are used in the construction of the spring wheels and trucks. The bodies are streamlined, lightweight, with rounded sides, and the machinery of extraordinary fast pickup and quick braking.

The car body is literally hung on rubber bands. These rubber bands are the springs which are composed of thick concentric rings of rubber. The wheels also are virtually revolving springs. The tire which rests on the rail is of steel, while inside are rings of rubber to absorb vibrations arising from any irregularities in the track.

A passenger on the new type of cars will experience an almost complete absence of vibration, while the car's contribution to the roar, crash, and rattle of modern city noises will be virtually unnoticeable. Each trolley will have three sets of brakes, air, track, and motor. Other improvements said to be included will be more comfortable seats, better lighting, and roomier ailes. There will be indirect heating and ventilating systems.

From the motorman's point of view he will both operate and stop the car with his feet as in an automobile. This will leave the motorman's hands free for accepting fares and issuing transfers. The windshield in front of the motorman is to be the slanting type and equipped with windshield wiper and defroster.