



Excursionists Say Whence

While waiting to board the interurban for a 188-mile ride to Champaign, Ill., Louisville's Dr. Howard Blackburn (left) and Baltimore's E. G. Hooper placed on the rear of a train in St. Louis railyards the platform sign of the Louisville chapter of the National Railway Historical Society. Hooper is the national group's president.

'Trolley Train' Fans Take 376-Mile Ride

Special to The Louisville Times

St. Louis, Mo., May 4.—A group of Louisvillians drove 250 miles to get here, boarded a train yesterday, traveled 376 miles and ended up right where they started in this city's downtown district.

But they didn't mind the 11 hours it took for the train ride. They are railroad enthusiasts, members of the Louisville chapter of the National Railway Historical Society.

The Louisville organization sponsored the junket from here over the Illinois Terminal Railroad Company and some 70 persons went along for the ride.

No Ordinary Railroad

Vitaly V. Uzoff, 3319 Utah, Louisville, who acted as trip coordinator, explained that the Illinois Terminal line is no ordinary railroad. It's the last of the major old-time interurban systems in the Middle West to operate both freight and passenger service.

The 188-mile one-way trip from

here via Springfield, Ill., and Champaign, Ill., is the longest interurban ride that can be taken today in the United States. The old two-car blue-painted train made many unscheduled stops for picture-takers aboard the train.

Among those from the Kentuckiana area on the trip were Dr. Howard Blackburn, Paul Johnson, William Hall, and James Calvert, all of Louisville; George Yater, New Albany; David Williams, III, Richmond, Ky., and William Hamilton, Berea, Ky.