

30, 1945

Sept 30, 1945 - Enclosed in Charles L. Thompson to
James H. Hester, 1084 1945

Veteran of Mulecar Days, Now 71, 'Collects Last Fare as Conductor'

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Maurice Verges, 3036 Bienville street, who started in the transportation business 49 years ago as a stableboy for what is now the New Orleans Public Service Inc., rang up his last fare Saturday as conductor on the Desire streetcar line.

He was 22 years old when he started slicking up the mules that drew streetcars in New Orleans and retired Saturday at the age of 71 after receiving his last fare from Mrs. Mary Prindaville, 3968 Cambronne street.

"It will be fishing and hunting for me from now on," he said. "I'm going to Eunice for a stay with my son, Thomas J. Verges and I expect to have a good time and look in on my seven grandchildren."

When Verges started with a currycomb in one hand and a stiff brush in the other the public

transportation system consisted of about 10 mule-drawn cars. "Feeding mules and using the currycomb was a lot of fun in 1896," he said, "and it has been a nice life to watch the kids who used to ride the mule cars grow into manhood and womanhood, and now have their children and grandchildren tell me the stories of what their parents and grandparents said about the good old days."

SAM RACHELSON DIES

(The Associated Press)

Atlanta, Sept. 29.—Sam Rachelson, 41, founder and president of the Southern Merchandise Company, died in a hospital today after a sudden illness. Funeral services will be held Monday.

Gold was first found in Idaho in 1860.