

2313

Local Midlands

Birmingham- New Diesel Trains-

March 2nd. '56.

Railway history was made in Birmingham- with the introduction of the first diesel train ^{on} regular passenger service, **IN THE AREA.**

~~And~~ Making the inaugural run to Sutton Coldfield and Lichfield was the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, **DURING** ~~who enjoyed~~ the 16½ mile ^{OF} ~~journey~~ the new ~~train~~ two-car light-weight train;

The Lord Mayor watched the driver at the controls, ^{Then he} ~~and then-~~ took his seat in one of the ~~air~~ coaches, where passengers almost felt they were in the driver's seat themselves. /

With its great acceleration, the train is ideal for suburban routes- and will clip from two to six minutes off the steam schedule. /

Journey's end at Lichfield- which will now enjoy more trains in each direction.

And the civic heads of Birmingham, Sutton and Lichfield voiced their peoples' ~~thanks~~ appreciation of ^{a new service.} ~~an outstanding railway contribution.~~ /