

LOCAL



NEW YORK, N.Y.

Local No. 1

It is unfortunate that I have to use this space to correct statements made by Manager Watson against me saying I am misleading you in the journal. This is not true.

We are about the only trade in the city without a dental and eyeglass plan negotiated with the manufacturers. So we have the second best plan. It doesn't cost a dime and I have found savings of 50% and more on work that I have had done.

In the third grade I learned 50% was 1/2 of 100. If my dentist charges \$22.00 for x-rays and I can have it done for the \$10.00 charge of the union dental plan that is better than 50% savings. If I pay between \$10.00 and \$12.00 for a filling and have it done for \$5.00 that is also better than 50%. If I pay \$20.00 to have a tooth pulled and only have to pay \$10.00 on the plan. These are just some of the examples of savings. I received two estimates from two different dentists one was for \$1300.00 and the other was for \$1140.00 and I paid at the union dental plan \$510.00 including x-rays. If this information is misleading, I must be dreaming. These are facts, not fiction.

From the meeting of November to the letter of December 17, Manager Watson said we can now borrow on paid or unpaid dental bills. This is a new change and I welcome it. At the November meeting I was told by Manager Watson, and Secretary Treasurer Tom Macchia from the podium, that was the way it had to be . . . a paid bill. The office staff also said it had to be a paid bill. The application for a loan also states you must have a paid bill. I am overjoyed that we do not now have to have a paid bill for dental work. Maybe we should tape the meeting.

A retirement party was held for Donald Gerlack, an elevator mechanic for New York City Housing Authority. Some 60 elevator me-

chanics, helpers and foreman were at the Castle Harbor Casino in the Bronx. Don retired after 31 years with the city and more than 15 years with Local #1. A portable television set was presented to Don. All those there had a great time and toasted Don to many more years of retirement. Our thanks to Ed Ostrouski for this information.

John and Joan Greene had number 7 on the hit parade . . . a girl, Kara Joy, 8 lbs. 3 ozs., born December 19th. Bob Prince and his wife had their first child. . . . a boy, 8 lbs. 7 ozs. Congratulations!



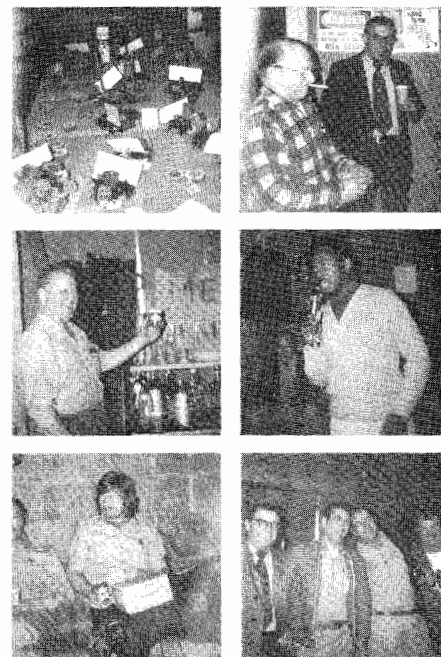
John Wallace, 2nd right, gets together with former building trade mechanics, while enjoying retirement.

John Wallace who started in the trade in 1914, is enjoying retired life in sunny Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. He worked for Otis for 45 years and was very active in the union. He was on the Executive Board and fought along with Ed Smith, Sr. for most of the conditions we enjoy today. His brother was Recording Secretary for 35 years. We must remember thanks to men like John Wallace, all we have today has been a slow and gradual fight to better working conditions in the industry. Enjoy sunny Florida, John. It was swell hearing from you.

Our sympathy to the family and friends of deceased member Jerry Mohalley and James Bagan. Jimmy was sick for quite some time. He was a man of courage and heart of gold. Truly a sad loss.

Those reported sick are Nick Stanton, Henry Usinger, John Diehl, Henry Hounsell, Ken Bone, Ed Brugel. Hope all of you are well soon.

An enjoyable Christmas party, organized by Tom Terminelli, mechanic-in-charge and John Greene, shop



Christmas 1973 at 55 Water Street.

steward, was held at 55 Water Street. Tom's children made the center pieces, which were raffled off as gifts. Each man received a decoration. A nice gesture.

John Greene was Santa Clause and gave out gifts. Construction Superintendent Ted Worth was also there. All had a good time. The food was good.

In closing, President Nixon doesn't like to hear from the press and some people I know don't like it either. The facts baby the facts. Please send all information to 15 Wittman Land, Brentwood, New York 11717. Telephone 516 273-3371.

I Remain

Ed Kristan