

L LOCAL

NEW YORK, N.Y.

Local No. 1

A job action was instituted against Otis Elevator Company in all departments; maintenance, repair, modernization and construction. We were out two days because a card carrying helper was laid off in lieu of a permit man. There are pros and cons, but a card has to mean something. It should, and will, till death do us part. We are brothers, like it or not. The outcome, at this writing, is not determined.

The Big One United Association will hold its 3rd Annual Dinner Dance at Dante, 7507 31st Ave., Jackson Heights, March 15, 1974. The cocktail hour is 8:30 until 9:30 and dancing till??. Tickets are \$15 per person. Dinner will be prime ribs of beef. I know it will be a fabulous time so come on out.

The Big One United Association is offering a deluxe Caribbean trip for two, all expense paid or the cash equivalent, to be raffled off the night of the dance. A great chance for a \$1. Last years winners are still smiling. Try one, you'll like it.

We have talent in our business. Brother Russ Kunz was elected to the office of Council in Northvale, N.J. He was also assigned Commissioner of Department of Public Works and Assistant Fire Commissioner. Brother Kunz is a prime example of a man working for his family and his community.

I have been told that a lot of you brothers are being misled into believing that your *Journal* Correspondent is, and has been receiving expenses. This is not true. What you see on the financial report is money sent from the Local to the International for the *Journal*.

Now, if you want the facts, here they are: I have spent, out of my own pocket, for expenses, approximately \$250 in three years. These expenses were for film, flashbulbs, developing, carfare, postage, stationery and phone calls. I have not received one 8¢ stamp from Local

#1. I did ask, in September 1973, for \$100 to cover my expenses for 2½ years. I was told to itemize all expenses and the occasion for each incurred expense. This ought to make all of you other correspondents laugh and giggle, because it would take three years to make out a list. I never sent in a list because I thought it was ridiculous.

I like my job and I will continue to give you honest, factual reports no matter who likes it or not. You can please some of the people some of the time, but not all of the people all of the time.

Sure is funny at this time in an election year. The mud starts flying. Where were these brothers . . . sleeping for three years? I hope I don't have to use any more space to get out the truth.

Manager Watson, when questioned by Brother Jim McGoldrick as to why the manufacturers were not paying half of the \$70 thousand to investigate the annuity fund and to find out why we never get our annuity statements on time, said it is our money and we have to foot the bill. Yet they have three board member, just like us, and have half power in running it.

The annuity fund Board of Trustees said, as of January 1, we have to pay back any loans out of pocket instead of coming out of future payments. If we didn't pay interest and principle they would send a bill collector after us. Also, if you failed to make a payment, you could not take out another loan. They say that this is the way it has to be. This is ridiculous. This is our money. Each and every person belonging to the fund should have a say in it. Manager Watson and Secretary-Treasurer Macchia say this is the way it has to be. This is nonsense! The only thing you have to do is eat, sleep, die and pay taxes.

We voted on this plan and I feel this membership has a right to vote on any such drastic change, such as that taken place Jan. 1, and not be

told "this is the way it has to be". Baloney!

I have been studying two plans, Local #638 of the Steamfitters can borrow \$2,500 a year if they want it for any reason. They pay taxes on doing so instead of delaying it like we do. Local #3 of the Electricians can borrow \$1,000 per year for any reason. Now, when you tell me that we have to have what we have, without consulting the general membership, I say baloney again.

Before the next contract comes around, I will get petitions out so the majority voice can be heard.

Those reported sick to the union are, Pete Ward, Richard Black, John Diehl, Art Johnn, John McGonegal, John Stack, Henry Usinger. We hope you are all well soon.

Our sympathy to the family and friends of George Jodry.

Leon Dabreau is retiring after many years of service. Good luck, and let us hear from you.

Nick Clifford and his wife of 25 years are celebrating their Silver wedding anniversary. We wish you both many, many more.

Barbra and Bob Slone had # 3. Kelly, a girl, weighed 9 lbs. 3 ozs. She might be an elevator constructor some day. Congratulations, Barbra and Bob.

As my wife is typing this, we received very sad news on the passing of Joan St. Clair, wife of Jack St. Clair. A loving mother and wife, she will surely be missed and we all mourn her passing. She will always be remembered in our prayers.

Please send all information to 15 Wittman Lane, Brentwood, New York 11717. Tel. 516 273-3371.

Ed Kristan