

NEW YORK, N.Y.

Local No. 1

Hi Brothers:

June is here and contract negotiations are winding down. If all goes according to plan (I'm writing this on May 1) negotiations are continuing on a three-day-per-week schedule.

On January 30, 1973, Local 1 signed the present contract with the manufacturers after a seven-month lockout (commonly referred to as a strike). At that time we were forced to accept approximately a 5% pay increase due to Nixon's wage freeze. This was never a strike issue, even though our manufacturers tried to offer us less than the 5%. In this light, it seems to me that we are talking about a wage increase not only covering a period commencing on July 1, 1975, but an increase which should have commenced when the construction wage freeze was lifted on May 1, 1974.

Professor John Dunlop, our Secretary of Labor, who sat in on much of our negotiations as head of the Construction Industry Stabilization Board, made the following observations concerning wage settlements in 1975. Dunlop commented that: cost of living, the relative standing of one employee group to another and the company's profit and productivity performance are of great bearing in wage settlements.

So, a raise that would keep up with the rising prices from May 1, 1974 through June 30, 1977, consistent with wage settlements in the construction industry locally and not so much as to put our companies in hock, would seem fair to me.

Vinnie Watson, our Business Manager, would like to thank the Brothers from Local 10, Washington D.C., for the hospitality shown him and the other Executive Board members while attending the Jobs Conference in Washington.

Governor Carey has a "hotline" to call for information on food stamps. The toll free number is: 800-342-3710 (7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.).



Local #1 Business Agent John Green (left) with TV announcer Jack McCarthy during New York's St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Members are still required to attend at least five meetings per year or be fined \$10 per meeting missed, due to the vote at our regular April 10th meeting.

The annuity statement finally came out and, as expected, we lost money on our investments from July 1, 1973 to June 30, 1974. Most guys, including myself, have trouble figuring out the statement which was almost a year late. Maybe things will improve, since the trustees of the annuity fund hired a new administrator to replace Gallagher Associates. Our new administrator is Benefit Services, 17 Battery Place.

On the Sick List: Tom McCartin, Charles Leeds, Paul Wiemers, Walter Trzaska, Vern Hoff, Frank Damasiewicz, Don Smith, Karl Drehwing, Walter Czerwinski, Eugene Derrick, George Peterson, Matthew Kozikowski, Ziggy Gasiewicz, William Lutz, Bob Bottomley, John J. Walsh, Rudy Kaser, Tom Cullen, Tom Coleman, Frank Shallis, Tom O'Brien, Walter Bilski, Jack Caci, Artie Mandick, Kurt Guthy, Ray O'Keefe, Ed McElroy, Charles Wiebalch, Frank Wolf, Jim Post, and Dan Haggarty. That's a long list. Get well soon brothers.

I neglected to mention that **Jim Gurney**, Card #12, who retired early this year, had 55 years service under his belt. I hear he started when he was 15 years old as an apprentice. That was the procedure in those days; ask Tommy Duke.

John Carey, Artie Kedidji and William Predue have retired since the last article. **Eddie Olsen**, Otis super,

returned recently. Eddie always treated his men fairly and with respect. From the old school, Ed likes to mention that he helped his father in his early years in business. A retirement party was held on Long Island on his behalf.

Just found out: There is a **new W-4 Form** that enables us to increase the amount of dependents or allowances to decrease the amount of Federal tax taken out of your pay each week. It's only helpful to those who would rather have more cash in the envelope each week than a sizeable tax refund. They allow one extra allowance if a person has only one job and their spouse doesn't work. The other allowances are based on your estimated itemized deductions for the year. For example, if you had \$4,200 in itemized deductions in 1974, they would allow two extra allowances. You should be able to get the new 1975 W-4 Form from your employer.

Congratulations **Dan and Virginia Cunningham**. Their third boy, Christian, weighed in at 9 lbs. 9 ozs.

Brothers who are out of work or on a short work week will be qualified for a government mortgage loan if the bill is passed by Congress.

Ed Dempsey

Help us to get news of your local to I.U.E.C. brothers, and get it there faster.

All correspondents should be in the International Office by the **FIRST** day of the preceding month to appear in the current issue of *The Elevator Constructor*. Copy should be typed, double spaced and on one side of the paper only.

Keep articles to about 600 words. Due to space limitations, it is sometimes necessary to delete portions of articles, but we try to do this without destroying the continuity of the article. Photos will be used when space