



MOON ROUND

NEW YORK, N.Y.

Local No. 1

Brothers:

Greetings From the Big Apple:

The cost of living is up again this month. In New York, to feed an average family of four, it now costs over \$81.00 a week. Most Elevator Constructors are not average so therefore it costs us more. I know it runs about \$120.00 for my family of six and that's just for food. A maintenance mechanic, without overtime receives \$388.00 gross and nets about \$250.00—\$260 after Federal, State and City taxes. After deducting your mortgage or rent, transportation expense to and from work, lunch money etc., there's not to much (if any) left of your pay. Our contract will be expiring in a few weeks and in order to keep up with our standard of living we will need a substantial raise to bring us back to where we were three years ago and then we should have an opportunity during the next contract to have wage reopeners for cost of living increases. When we settled on 15.5 cents per mile, the only stipulation for increasing the mileage was if the gas prices went up. The gas prices have remained fairly stable but everything else has gone up, i.e. tires, car insurance (has doubled) repairs. I think that the fair and equitable thing to do would be take all expenses of a car and come to a settlement. I understand there are locals on the west coast that are receiving 20 cents a mile. I have dwelled long enough on what I want in the next contract, I hope you have written your letter to the Negotiating Committee reflecting your ideas.

We all complain we are not receiving enough expenses etc., but we do forget our Brothers who are unemployed who are only receiving the unemployment check, and an occasional day on the handle. Well for them things are starting to look up. There are many small jobs cropping up on Long Island and in New Jersey along with the new Palace Hotel

on Park Avenue in the city. At this time the Chrysler Bldg. is looking for bids on modernization as well as Rockefeller Center. I just heard on the News last night that the West Way has been approved so has the Convention Center on 34th Street. So all these signs lead up to less unemployment. However, the jobs are not coming fast enough to get all our Brothers employed at one time, but with summer and vacations coming on there should be plenty of part-time filling in for the Maintenance and Repair men going on vacation.

As a point of information: I would like to ask a favor of the other correspondents around the country. If it would be at all possible, in your next article would you be so kind as to include the pay scale for a mechanic and how much you receive per mile for driving your own personal car and the approximate percentage of unemployment. I'm sure the Brothers in Local No. 1 would be quite interested and would settle a lot of arguments.

A REMINDER TO CORRESPONDENTS

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

All correspondence 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 permits.

Address all communications to Jerome A. Mullett, Editor, Clark Building, Ste. 332, 5565 Sterrett Place, Columbia, Md. 21044.

At this time I would like to thank Artie Miller, our Day Secretary, for his half century of dedicated union work. Artie has reached his 70th birthday and felt it was about that time to pack in the old tool bag. Thanks from all of us for a job well done Artie. Brother Al Caracciola, has been appointed as interim Day Secretary until the election which will be held on the second Thursday, in June.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE: The Downtown Derilicts meet the Dirty Dozen at their annual picnic on June 17th. This time the girls will be playing instead of sitting on their lawn chairs, but more on that in two months. . . . Don't forget to get your reservations in for the Annual Local No. 1 picnic. It is tentatively scheduled for August 12th, the second Saturday of the month.

In closing, I would like to add **STAY ALERT AND STAY ALIVE.**

Please send all correspondence to: Frank Dolan, P.O. Box 1091, G.P.O. Brooklyn, New York 11202

Fraternally,
Frank Dolan