

BASIC BOMBARDIER

VOLUME 11, No. 19

HENDERSON, NEVADA

April 14, 1944

COATS OFF -- SHIRTS ON

(The following statement has been approved by Management)

Last issue the Bombardier printed pictures of the new hot metal transport - told how it would cut costs and reduce the pound price of magnesium. This week on this page are printed pictures of an intricate setup made obsolete by the new peatless pellet method, now being sped to 100 percent use. These two economies bade fair to make BMI highly competitive as a producer of magnesium by July.

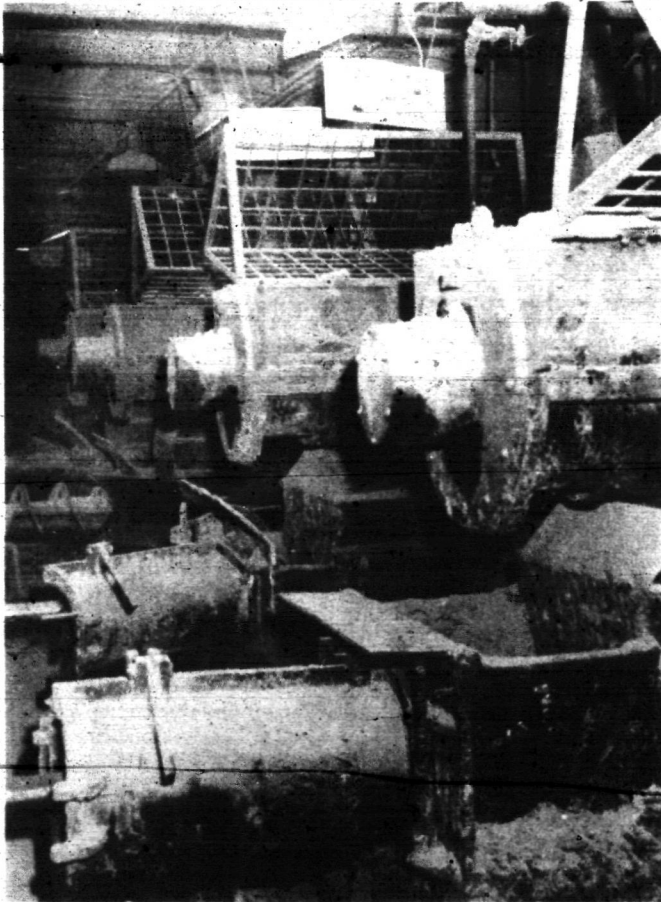
Then along came the order to switch off four units. That order was a natural disappointment to the men and women of Basic who for months have been battling with brain and brawn to bring down those costs. At the same time it did not and it must not disappoint anyone to the point of discouragement. Six units is a lot of magnesium plant. The same American brains and techniques which have brought pound costs here down below the point, which wisecracs said never could be reached, can come into play to make those six units sing a song of still more economy.

All employees should know that the switchout is not going to cause any widespread layoff. Induction is draining away a lot of personnel at BMI. Normal terminations will take out some more. Moreover the switchout order provides that the four units be kept ready for immediate resumption of production when and if needed.

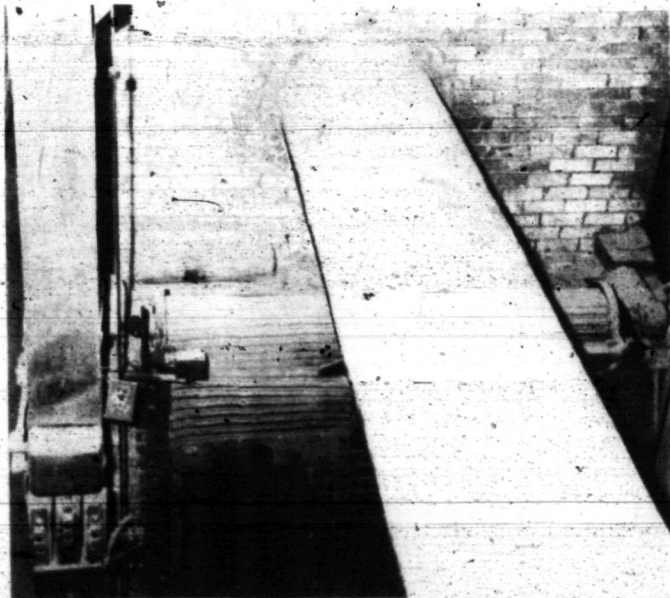
Production at Gabbs will remain uncurtailed for at least two months.

This is a sound plant. It's really a new American industry. American technology is not going to toss magnesium out the window. The light metals age is here.

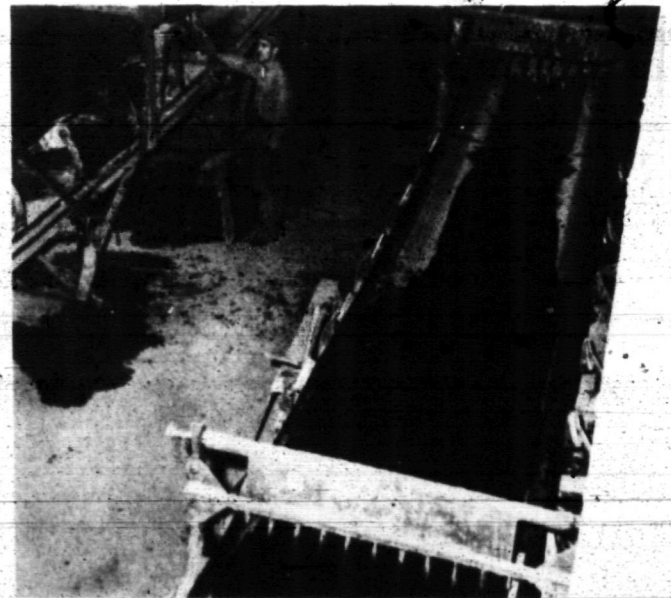
So -- let's take our coats off -- but keep our shirts on!



This shows part of the battery of eight big Hawkes extruders which, together with their mixing apparatus have been made obsolete by the introduction of peatless pellets in the Prep. plant. The peatless method makes briquettes no longer necessary here.



Six tunnel kilns, pre-cooling section of which is shown above are also no longer to be used when peatless pellets for all rotary kilns in the Prep. plant are available. Old method sent briquettes through long kilns in this heating process.



Here's the new way, devised by BMI experts. Peatless mix is dumped on long conveyor belts. As it moves along it is cut by stationary knives, as shown above. Belt moves over hump and mix is broken up. It then passes into rotary kilns.

GENERAL OFFICE

All the alphabet groups have been pouring in to see us lately. Our visitors represented WMPC, RFC, DFC, FEPC, ALCOA, even BMI (New York Office).

Bill Gale writes that he's now back at his old game—insurance. Selling it for the super cemetery association in California, Forest Lawn. Yep, that's a side line of that company—life insurance. A good place for a deep-chested laugh like Bill's.

Billie Puryear, Accounting, has been thoroughly hazed by us. Her first check had a poll tax deleted (strictly for male voters) and her pass says she was born Sept. 1944. Loosen up, gang, she's had her share.

Man on roof comfortably reading newspaper during his lunch period—new paint job on trash can caused self-conscious smirks. Here it stood on the front porch labeled boldly "ADM. TRASH"—We hear that Walter Hoover, Engineering, when he was young (and handsome) used to be champion oarsman—while Tom Fennessy, Accounting, used to sing in opera.

Have seen a comic questionnaire (in Frazer's office) which is a take-off on all the papers John Q. Public is buried under. There's a hole in the middle with the inscription "We have designed this report so that even you can see through it".

PLANT PROTECTION

Luther Horner, of Identification, has been seriously ill and will be confined to the Las Vegas City Hospital for some time.

Sergeant Jolley is on thirty days sick leave from the Guard Section and is at the Hot Springs, in Hurricane, Utah. Just in time for those luscious Hurricane strawberries too.

Guard George Lyon, likewise on sick leave, is in Southern California, following Doctor's orders.

Captain Nichols and Lt. Gruenbaum, of the Ninth Service Command, were visitors at BMI Guard Section, checking on the Guard Dogs.

Capt. Dryden Carver, Guard Section, has reported for induction into the U. A. Army—looks like Military Police's gain.

Speaking of priorities—Records Section's own Frances McCrea flew both ways on her recent trip to Montana, reports marvelous flying weather and no difficulties either way.

Frances Lee Craven is in Gabbs helping bring their records section in line with BMI system.



Sgt. Jim Taft, age 21, three major engagements, two at Guadalcanal and one at Munda, for which his outfit received the Presidential Citation. Jim was home on a 30-day furlough recently, visited his folks at BMI. His father, Julius Taft, shown here with him, is fuel serviceman in Combustion.



If you see a fork truck with a cameraman and movie camera on top, it isn't Hollywood moved to BMI. It's just Joe Ruiz doing a Hollywood job at the plant here. The film is 16mm—color—for a permanent moving picture of the project and process.

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT

The Electrical crew in the Metals Plant brags that their bowling team is in first place and they feel sure they will take top money in the Friday night league. The players are: John Bradley, L.H. Deal, Glenn Fox, S. H. James, Cecil Nellis and T. H. Owens. At present they are leading by two games.

Mr. S. W. Johnson of the Electric Shop is attending the quarterly General Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormon Church) at Salt Lake City. These conferences previously were attended by members from all over the state but due to gasoline rationing, only church officials are requested to attend.

Mr. Charles Ballmer, 17 year old son of L. F. Ballmer, Chief Dispatcher, has enrolled in the University of Idaho, in Moscow, Idaho, to study Aeronautical Engineering. On his 18th birthday (which will be in August) Charles will automatically transfer into the regular army. This University is more or less a special training for boys under 18 years of age who wish to become a member of the Army.

Mr. Russell Randall, former Electrical Tester, left Wednesday, April 5, for active duty in the Navy. He reports first to Chicago where he will enter school and at the end of his training will come out as a 1st Class Seaman.



BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Gilliland were apparently more concerned with the state of office help than the manpower shortage as they weighed in a new secretary April 5. Incidentally, this is the first baby girl in the Gilliland clan since 1860.

All signs notwithstanding, James Sims gives notice officially he is not in the loan business. As a matter of fact he sincerely hopes this is the last word.

Mac McCoy showed up Monday looking as if he should have been hospitalized. A slight argument with a roll of barbed wire while trying to show his son there was no trick at all in building a fence for his new horse.

It really is a paint shop even though three cars and a jeep are parked there—but what about that baby crib in the corner!

Yes, we did our bit in the last draft too—and we don't mean we left a door open.

TRANSPORTATION-SAFETY

Prize April Fool joke in our department was a coffee and donut open house scheduled for that day, which actually took place. Some of the more skeptical were afraid of the refreshments, but did a good job once started.

First Aid Students are urged to do a little cramming as Emery Olsen arrives soon to give the finals.

SAFETY FASHION FORECASTS: Greet the bright, sunny days with cool, eye-relaxing green face shields.

Replace that worn asbestos apron with our latest canvas ones. They're new this season and fashion authorities indicate that asbestos is definitely on the way out.

The well-dressed man wears comfortable, steel-toed, safety shoes at work. Rubber shoes are out for the summer months while wooden sole sandals step into the limelight.

SAFETY SUE SAYS: "Don't chew tobacco while in the Units. You might slip on the wet floors and swallow the quid"—authority Reg Rowand.

TO WIN WAR COSTS MONEY.
PUT YOURS IN WAR BONDS!

BMI OPENERS

By PETE MOSS

Joe Stewart, Lee Harris' right eye and arm slipped a card into the breast pocket of his work shirt and it fell to the ground. Joe's good wife had patched a tear in the shirt with the pocket. Joe's got no place to carry his seegers. Most folks riding in Courtesy car with Bea Whitehill notice her big gold ring. It is a fine water-gate set in hand wrought native Alaskan gold. Bea's mother had it made in Alaska. And you needn't try to buy it. It's definitely not for sale. Allen Black, Chlorine-Caustic maintenance—slipped the other day and fell in a brine tank. There's so much salt in that brine he bounced back out, like an inflated rubber ball. He bobbed out so fast that the billfold in his hip pocket didn't even get wet. My Grampa Slugg who is visiting me here said that ain't nothin'. Grampa says he discovered a salt Lake in Africa when he was exploring once that had so much salt in it that when you dove into it off a cliff you never went under water at all. Grampa says he made a pair of skis out of cactus bark and taught the natives how to ski on this salt lake. Grampa tried to go fishing on this lake but it was no soap. He threw out the anchor, he says; and it bounced back into the boat killing three natives. Grampa says the winter rains in that region were something fierce. He says when it rained the natives used to weight themselves down and get into this salt lake to keep dry. Grampa says Frank Woodman and Ralph Lamie don't know nothing about heavy salt solution. Grampa may go to work here and if he does I'll tell you about it. Maybe you don't know it but Tony Martin has the highest bowling average at the ACM Club alleys in Great Falls, Montana—made since the alleys burned down. It's four down and six to go here at BMI—so let's make those six really go.



LeRoy George has lots of tricks from calling Squares to laying bricks. Oldest member of Muller's crew twenty-six months with layoffs few. By day he lays 'em straight in rows. At night he calls those do-see-dos. Calls 'em loudly so they're heard. "Six hands round and cage the bird." He called 'em clear at Chicago's fair: "Set that lady in a rockin' chair."

First Aid is now rendering field service for minor injuries. Call 399 for minor injuries. In case of other than minor injuries employee should be sent to First Aid station or the hospital, as the case requires.

TECHNICAL SERVICE

Local members of the American Institute of Mining Engineers are organizing themselves for an anticipated visit on May 18 by C. A. Fulton, President, and A. B. Parson, Secretary of the Institute. Plans have been made for a get-together dinner followed by a talk by J. A. Carpenter, Director of the Mackay School of Mines on "Western Cooperation in Present Problems of the Mining Industry."

Ellis C. Lyons, inventor in the Metallurgical Division spent Easter in Boston with his mother and brother whom he had not seen for nine years.

We think our attendance record is not to be sniffed at. One-third of our personnel have earned eight-months badges.

Harriette King has returned from Mexico full of enthusiasm for Guadalupe, to which she would like to return sometime. She will let us have Mexico City—it's very much like Los Angeles, though more compact. As a momento of the country she wears a carved onyx burro with towering ears.

News comes from Chicago of the marriage of Ann Jocius and "Dee" Danks, whose romance began in our Metallurgy Dept. Danks is now with Howard Foundry.

NEW PIANO INSTALLED AT PLANT CAFETERIA

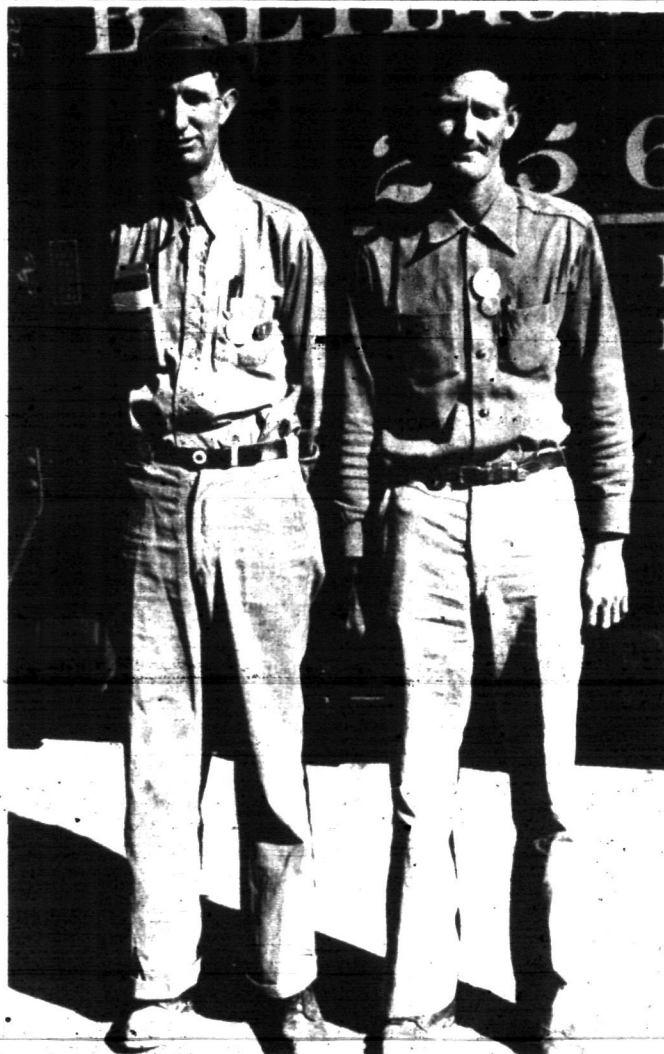
Noticed the piano in Andersons Cafeteria recently? It's all ours—we don't have to borrow the school's any more. The Foremen's Club voted to go 50-50 with the Recreation Council and purchase one, badly needed for their once-a-month parties.



Evelyn G. Sharp of the Flying Ferry Command under General Ferry was killed on April 4 at Harrisburg Municipal Airport, New Cumberland, Penn. Miss Sharp was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Sharp, both of whom are employed at BMI. Mr. Sharp is in preparation and Mrs. Sharp is at the Hospital. Miss Sharp had a wonderful record—over 4000 flying hours and had helped 354 boys to obtain their private licenses in the CAA program. She was the first woman to receive her transport license at the age of 18 and the first to ferry an A-20 from coast to coast, of which she made 12 deliveries. She was flying a P-38 en route to Newark, N. J. when the accident occurred which cost her life.

SAFETY NOTE

Safety equipment for loan to BMI employees is now easier to get. It is all housed at L and 8th Streets, where Purchasing used to be. A Bulletin, No. 87 sets forth details on procedure. Safety shoes and canvas gloves are for sale to employees at the Safety stores, too. Shoes require a requisition. Not so gloves.



General Service has two long lean Texans, Ray Williams and Bob White. They both went to work for BMI on the same day—July 10, 1942, both started in General Service and both are now foremen in that department. Often mistaken for the other, both nicknamed "Slim" they are fast friends and hard workers on the job—and always a smile.

SONS OF BMI COUPLE MEET IN SOUTH SEAS

Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Hickman have received word from their son, Corporal La Von Hickman of the Army Medical Corps that he had met his brother Corporal Erwin P. Hickman of the U. S. Marine Engineering Battalion somewhere in the South Pacific. La Von wrote that he had had a feeling his brother was close by some place, and that he had walked within 200 yards of his tent twice a day for seven days on his way to and from duty. One day they just bumped into each other—and were they tickled?

Erwin worked at BMI for American Bridge as a rigger before he enlisted in the Marines in 1942. He has been overseas 14 months. The father has been employed with BMI Timekeeping for more than two years.

INSTRUMENTS

Louis E. Mannots satisfied with desert climate. Leaving us to try the climate of Persia. R. A. Brodie back from farming, New Mexico. Called there because of the serious illness of his mother. Reports she is much improved. Bob Fitkin back at work again after being confined to Basic Hospital for a few days.

Corinne deRossette returned from Dallas, Texas, where she was called by the illness of her father. Says everything in Texas is just wonderful.

GABBS

Cliff Kaufman, who has been ill for the past three weeks, has left for Southern California to recuperate. Mrs. Kaufman accompanied him.

Lots of blessed eventing in Gabbs—the feline population. Six litters within one week—some record.

Mill Correspondent Velma Johnston has left for Reno with her husband, Charlie, for a short stay. When she returns she plans to be just a housewife, but we are trying to persuade her to continue to have a column in the Gabb.

Mr. L. E. Terry is the new Mill Correspondent and doing a fine job, too.

Young Snooky Sullivan back from Reno after a bout with hospitals, doctors and such. Not feeling quite up to snuff, but staging a fine comeback. Ma and Pa Sullivan pretty worried there for a while, but managing to smile again now.

Word has been received that our former Fire Chief, Bill Orman, now in the Army, is in Ireland waiting for the invasion. He doesn't like the climate which is always wet and dreary—and often longs for "dear old Gabbs".

If lame backs are any indication Gabbs should soon be a paradise of lawns, trees and gardens. Much activity these weekends putting in fences to thwart "Mr. Dog", and putting Mother Nature to work.

BMIFULS

By BASIC MAGGIE

Had a little chat with Mrs. Winona Wells last week. She's the new coolerman in J-2, the first woman to replace a man in this kind of work. She takes temperatures, moves the pots of liquid magnesium on at the proper moment. It's hot, it's dangerous, it's darned hard work, but she's making a real job of it—as are the girls who are stacking the hot metal. Mrs. Wells had not worked previously—she says she was "just a housewife."

If any of you girls sitting at your desks are bored with it all, feel you are overworked or underrated, just spend a half hour in the Refineries. Watch those girls work in the deafening din, in heat and fumes and alert to all safety rules.

You'll come back to your nice, cool, clean office singing "Oh what a beautiful job" I betcha.....Any of you gals got time on your hands? If so why don't you volunteer to do a little knitting for the Red Cross? It's simple and easy—if you can knit. And they furnish everything, even the needles.

There is good apple pie and bad apple pie and of course there is Andersons apple pie, but I didn't think there was a different kind of apple pie until I found this one. It's a one-crust pie, which saves (1) time, (2) shortening and (3) your figure. So here it is, Maggie's Wartime Apple Pie: Take 3/4 cup sugar and 3/4 cup water and bring to a boil. Add about five apples peeled and cut into eighths. Cook in syrup until barely tender. Remove from syrup. Add grated rind of two oranges and 1/2 cup of orange juice to syrup. Blend 1 tablespoon of sugar and 2 tablespoons flour and add to syrup, stirring over direct heat until syrup is thickened. Make a pie crust for an 8 inch pie pan. Fill crust with syrup and apples and sprinkle top with 1 tablespoon of sugar. Bake in hot oven (425 degrees) for 35 minutes. If you have a little pastry left over make strips across the top, or just drop bits of dough over it. Other toppings are Philadelphia cream cheese fluffed up with a little milk, chopped nuts, or real whipped cream if you can get it. Anyway you fix it, it sends you!

PURCHASING-WAREHOUSE

These long distance calls are going to hold up production if Louise Hille doesn't tell Paul Hoyt of the Navy, a former BMI'er, that she does—(you know what). Earl Keenan of Surplus Stores was the lucky person to overhear the latest conversation and reports that everything is satisfactory. SPLASH!!! Tom Hacey swimming in the pool at the Last Frontier with a pretty pink bow tied around him—that is all! Clyde Earl was guest of honor at this large event.

Purchasing has a record for birthdays, or so we think. Within a week we celebrated four of them. Can anyone tie this record? Jean Cayfor, Carol Freeman, Carl Sonnenberg and Gil Myers are one year older—confidentially, it shows too.

We have a temporary addition in our department for the duration of inventory. Four beautiful little "smooth jills", namely: Shirley Nelson, Joan Wuth, Eva Anderson and Juan Matzinger.

QUICKIE QUIZZES

By BASIC MAGGIE

SHOULD WOMEN REMAIN IN INDUSTRY AFTER THE WAR?



ALICE



MARY



LOUISE



EMMA

ALICE BYRNE, Foreman in J-2 Refinery: Definitely not! No sir! They should clear out and give the boys home from war a break. My husband is in service. Maybe that's why I feel that way. And will I be happy just to stay home and be wife and mother again! A place like this is no tea party, and I'll be glad when the war is over and I can quit.

MARY BLAKEMAN, Weigh girl in Refineries: I believe women should fill in where and when needed, but their place is home after the war. I will be glad to go home and stay home then. All these boys returning should have the jobs. (Mrs. Blakeman has missed only one day in almost a year at BMI.)

LOUISE RACEY, Bindery Clerk in Print shop: There will be so many men coming home for jobs I think women should be at home to be good wives for their men. The men must have pleasant home life when peace comes. We may not like to give up good salaries, but women in love with their husbands will want to stay home.

EMMA WILSON, Stockroom helper in Warehouse: I think women should keep on working. I like to work. I like to keep busy and I like money, too. While the war is on I want to do what I can to help. But after the war, well, I guess I'd rather raise a family.

CHEMICAL SECTION GETS CHARTER FROM NATIONAL

Boulder Dam Section has received a charter from American Chemical Society. H. C. Lee and 20 other BMIs formed the section in co-operation with men from Manganese Ores and the Bureau of Mines. Hillard Smith is chairman; C. K. Stoddard, vice-chairman; John M. Hiegel, secretary and Pete Fitchett, treasurer.

Persons in Chemistry or Engineering who wish to join should write Hiegel, Box 22, Henderson, for information. Tuesday night, at 8 o'clock, April 25 at the high school Pete Fitchett will address the section's first meeting on "Gallium and Indium." You are invited.

LIVE BAIT FOR SALE

Goin' fishin'? Then, if you want live bait for bass see Tex Maynor. Tex is keeping a good supply of minnows at his home—39 East Pacific. Just take your own can and go up and buy 'em—day or night.

FREE DANCE SLATED FOR BMI SOFTBALL LOOP SPONSORS ON SATURDAY

There will be a big free dance at Anderson's Plant Cafeteria Saturday night, April 22 from 9 to 1. At least it will be free to all who present at the door BMI Softball League Sponsors' tickets. These dollar tickets will admit to all softball games on the BMI lot this summer and will let bearer and lady in free to the dance, in which the Foremen's Club is co-operating.

The Softball league this year promises to be hotly contested. Six BMI teams and two from Manganese are set to go. The tickets are being sold to finance the season. The Toastmasters Club has volunteered to announce the games, play by play, each night. At a recent meeting John Hiegel was elected president of the Circuit. Captain Littlefield of the Fire department has been named the "Judge Landis" of the loop. If you haven't yet bought a Sponsors' ticket you can get one at the dance.

SCHOOLS HERE GET U.S. FUNDS FOR OPERATIONS

Henderson school officials are wearing grins of relief. They have just received word from Washington that \$120,500 has been allocated to the local school district for operations and maintenance. The school district has been straining its credit to keep going this year. The Federal allocation will pay off debts and care for other necessary finances, so that next year the district will be able to operate out of tax revenues, it is announced. Senators McCarran, Schrugam and Representative Sullivan all helped a lot in getting the application for funds approved, the local board announces.

PAT McCARRAN GIVES FIGHT TALK BEFORE BASIC FOREMEN'S CLUB

Foremen's Club party last Friday night brought out about 200 to hear Senator Pat McCarran. The Senator put on a strong fight talk which was roundly applauded.

Julian Stackiewicz, peat truck driver entertained with his sword-swallowing act. The climax was the swallowing of a sword 23 1/2 inches long. Then Julian ate a lot of fire. Julian is training two lions and a bear up in Vegas and promises a big show later on.

Rev. Simmons, head janitor at the Hospital brought five soldier singers to the party.

FINAL RED CROSS DATA SHOWS AREA GENEROUS

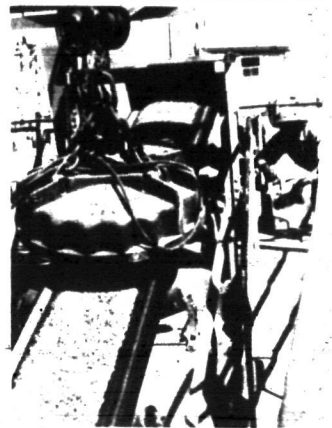
Final checkup on the Red Cross Campaign in this district reveals that \$16,665.08 was subscribed against a quota of \$12,000. That put the area 38 percent over the top. Employees of BMI gave \$11,460.45 with 90.6 percent contributing. Average donation from employees was \$2.92.

BMI gave \$1500; vendors dug up \$160 and the BMI Foremen's Club donated \$50. The plant total was \$13,170.45.

Other donations in the district aggregated \$3,494.63, bringing the area contributions up to \$16,665.08. These other donations have been previously listed in the Bombardier.

BMI EXHIBIT ATTRACTS CROWDS AT AVIADA SHOW

Ralph Weeder arranged the fine BMI exhibit at the Aviada. The display, featuring fabricated parts made from Basic metal attracted big crowds all during the show. Sue Ward, the sign shop and various sections in maintenance all helped get the exhibit ready.



Clank! A railroad spike hits the magnet—and doesn't get into the brine tanks. Picture shows the magnet suspended over the salt conveyor belt. A man used to sit here and pick out scrap iron. Now the big magnet does the work.

ENGINEERS WORKED ON HOT METAL TRANSPORT, TOO

Had a story in last week about hot metal transport. Seems that there is more co-operation hereabouts than the reporter knew. Credit for the design and experimentation which made this new economy possible is pretty widespread. Engineering design did a lot of work on it. Process Control did the field experimental work. Both, of course overlapped. The Bombardier is glad to correct the omission.

Tom Russell and C. P. Donohoe from Gabbs were here on business this week.

Gene Grant heads for Peru and a job with Cerro de Pasco come May 1. Gene's going to run a railroad.

Bill Ifethaway and company have made a neat gadget to crimp that steel tape used in packaging ingots in the Shipping dept. A lot of magnesium went into the new tool—but it weighs only about five pounds.

Roy Thomas is back. He's new chief engineer. Good to see his smiling face around and about.

Those midget trees gracing the front of the Ad building drew from Lieut. Carne, Army visitor the remark: "Hmm. Looks like post-war planting."

NOBODY AWOL IN GERMANY!

BASIC BOMBARDIER

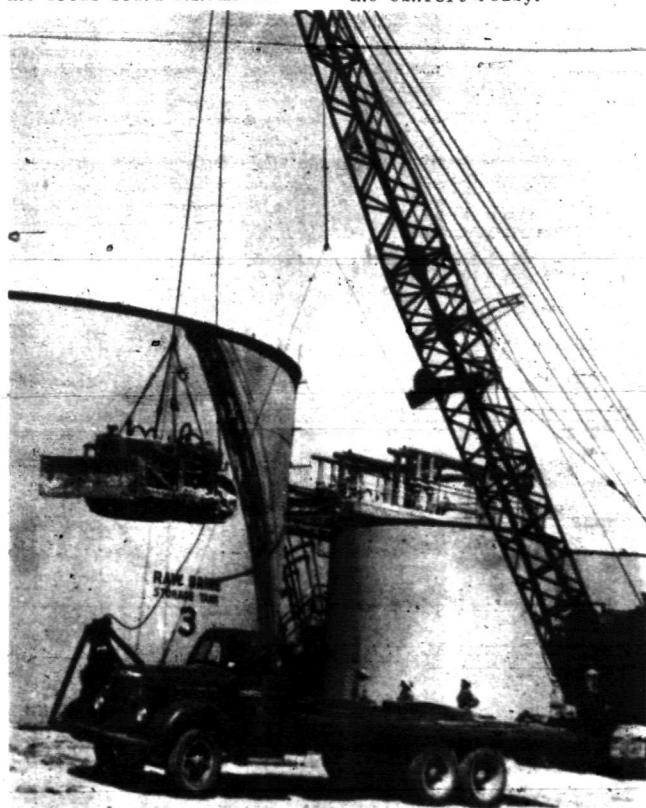
PUBLISHED EVERY OTHER FRIDAY BY BASIC MAGNESIUM, INCORPORATED IN THE INTEREST OF EMPLOYEES OF WORLD'S LARGEST MAGNESIUM PLANT P. O. BOX 1150—HENDERSON, NEVADA

EDITORIAL OFFICE 6-B BMI ADMINISTRATION BUILDING PHONES 55 AND 55

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It's a bit of housecleaning a la Basic. Brine tank needed lot of dirt taken out. Crew just swung a 30-ton cat and blade into the tank with a 105-ton whirlic. Down went the cat skinner. He scooped the dirt into piles and it was shoveled out. Thus 200 yards of California soil (salt comes from Arroyo, California) found its way to the Nevada desert. That's the way California real estate is moved in Clark County.