

THE BIG JOB

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THIS IS REALLY A SWING SHIFT

Speaking of inside jobs how would you like to lay bricks inside a barrel? A real tall barrel? McNeil bricklayers are doing it.

There are a lot of wash-towers on this project. Each must be lined with layers of brick. When the bricks are laid the inside diameter is just two feet. One of the hardest jobs was to

find slim bricklayers. Most of the boys on the job were too broad amidships. But after diligent search and some dieting, they found enough of the streamlined variety. Then carpenters made a number of three-foot tables.

Now everything is ready. First Slim lays bricks chest high from the bottom. Then a table is lowered into the tower. Then bricks are lowered to Slim on a rope--one by one--all buttered. When three feet of bricks are laid they haul Slim up for air and lower another table down on top of Table No. 1. Then down goes Slim again like the Old Oaken Bucket. When laying the last tier he is standing on 17 tables.

The new trailer camp, now rapidly filling up and being expanded, is one of the best in the United States. Electricity, water, showers, laundries and toilets are within easy access to each trailer. Rates are \$4 a week for a trailer with two persons and 25 cents for each additional person.

NOW WE'RE GOING TO BAT



AND HIROHITO WILL PAY THE PIPER

When you write home about the pipe job here at BMI, the folks will probably think you've had a touch of sun. But here's the story--with apologies to Bob Ripley and Paul Bunyan.

There are 305 miles of pipe inside the fence. The order for cast iron pipe broke a world's record. In each cell building alone there

are 350 tons, or 700,000 pounds of cast iron pipe, not counting other varieties. That makes 7,000,000 pounds for the ten cell units. One installation is taking nearly five miles of 20-inch cast iron line, each section of which weighs more than a ton.

Plumbers have put in 355 fire hydrants, enough for a good-sized city. There are 800 manholes on the job. The plumbers will use two carloads or about 100 tons of welding rod.

Every kind of pipe is being laid. And some kinds never before used in this country. There is rubber pipe, glass pipe, stone pipe, brick-lined steel, pure nickel pipe, 12 kinds of tile line, porcelain pipe of spark-plug quality.

A BUMPER CROP OF RECORDS

Plumbers here take new world's records in stride like Whirlaway heading for the payoff. To mention a few: they are installing six miles of duro iron acid resistant pipe, ranging from 2 to 10 inches; 15 miles

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of ceramic acid resistant pipe from 4 to 21 inches; 22 miles of sewer line; 20 miles of storm sewers from 24 to 72 inches; 22 miles of rubber-lined steel pipe. Plumbing on this project is below the ground, on the wall, in the air and on the roof.

SAVING STEEL TO MAKE MAGNESIUM

Structural steel men--and they're a breed by themselves--say this is the most interesting job they've ever worked. Design of all steel structures here is unique. Engineers worked like terriers to save every possible ounce of steel. Designing for economy they conserved thousands of tons of this all-important war metal. Despite this, and even in terms of tonnage--it's the biggest structural steel job ever tackled west of New York; and the largest now under way in the United States--possibly in the world. The whole project is taking just about 50,000 tons of structural steel.

That amounts to 1,000 carloads. There are as many lineal feet of structural steel on this job as went into the Empire State Building, which, next to Radio City, was the biggest ever completed in the United States. The BMI project inside the fence alone is requiring 300,000 rivets and 200,000 permanent bolts.

You know now, maybe, why the American Bridge Company sent here to take charge of the work the man who was superintendent of the great Bay Bridge at San Francisco.

1,000 PUPILS AND TWELVE GRADES

Action to insure school facilities for children of project families is taking place rapidly on all fronts. The Railroad Pass School District has been officially expanded to include Basic Townsite, the new trailer camp, and Pittman. A new Board of Trustees, including two project employees, has been legally established. A superintendent, principal and teaching staff will soon be selected. McNeil crews are already at work on construction of the 12-grade school building and auditorium. The auditorium will be available for use by the community at night and for church services on Sundays. A preliminary survey by the Trustees indicates that there will be approximately 1,000 pupils of school age in the district when school opens in the fall.

TO THE LADIES!

Two communications to the Big Job this week call for comment. One said we should tell the world about the hardships of the women who are living here in trailers, shacks and lean-tos, giving up those precious little luxuries that women love, so that their men can build this plant. The letter writer thinks they deserve even more praise than the men. The writer is right. Men here, nor any other place, ever did anything worth while without the inspiration, help and abiding patience of women. Ladies, the crews on the project, give you a cheer.

A CONCRETE CORRECTION

Another informant says we were too modest in the matter of concrete. The Big Job said that concrete poured here would build a six-foot wall a foot thick from the plant to Vegas four times. As a matter of fact, it would put up such a wall to Vegas more than 13 times--or halfway to Los Angeles--or some 163 miles, in any direction.

MAGNESIUM IN BOTTLES AND BOMBS

It may seem a far cry from a bottle of Epsom Salts to an incendiary bomb dropped out of an American airplane on the city of Tokio. But it isn't. They are both made of magnesium.

Way back in 1695 a scientific searcher named Grew discovered a certain sulphate in the mineral waters of Epsom, England. He named it Epsom Salts. In 1700 one Hoffman found a similar salt in the waters at Seidlitz. So the world got Seidlitz powders. In 1717 a Count di Palma produced a white powder which he claimed would cure anything. He named it magnesia alba. All of these products were salt of magnesium. Each was mighty effective medicine for certain purposes.

You and I at BMI have full confidence that modern magnesium, in bombs instead of bottles, will be equally effective in Uncle Sam's war of movement against the Axis.

BIG BASIC FROLIC FRIDAY NIGHT

Basic employees will get together in their first social event Friday night, July 25. It will be a dinner dance--floor-show and all--at the Colony Club and Restaurant at 8:30 p.m. The event is being sponsored by the BMI Recreation Club--Ray Douthit, president and John Tufts, secretary-treasurer. Tickets at \$1.75 each may be purchased at the Basic Reception Desk.