

THE BIG JOB

BASIC MAGNESIUM NEWS LETTER

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DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

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Magnesium Production Thrills Project

AND A LOT MORE IS COMING

Heard around the project when the first magnesium was being ladled out of the cells:

A PLUMBER: "I wouldn't have missed this for all the rubber in the Malay Peninsula."

THE BOSS: "Nothing to say. The job speaks for itself."

A COLORED LABORER: "Hot Damn. Another dipper full 'o fire for Tokio. Pour it on 'em boys."

A BRITISH TECHNICIAN: "It's been worth the struggle--and there's a lot more to do."

A STENOGRAPHER: "This oughta make a lot of doubting Charlies button up their lips."

A PLUMBER: "Now I get it. Those big cast iron pipes under the cells carry the chlorine made in the cells back to the chlorinators. Makes a complete cycle. No wonder those flanges had to be tight."

A ROOFER: "I been lining acid sumps for weeks. Now seein' that magnesium come out--all white and silver-like--feels like I've taken a personal punch at Hitler."

A TRAINEE TECHNICIAN: "Well--that's that. And brother--am I tired? Now tomorrow, we'll open up another cell and we'll keep on until the whole line is in operation."

A BRICKLAYER: "Yeah . . . I see now. I see why we have to lay that brick-lining so careful. Hmmm. We did it all right, too. She's workin' fine."

THE BIG JOB: "What did you do--weld pipes? Install bus bar? Rig steel or buck rivets? Make blueprints, write letters, run a comptometer or lay tile? Maybe you drove a bulldozer or dug ditches. Or painted pipe, or lined acid sumps. Possibly you helped on the big water line or the transmission towers. Maybe you just ran messages. Maybe you sketched some of the intricate design, or drove a truck. Makes no difference

YOU MADE MAGNESIUM.

There is something of your brawn or your brain in every drop of the molten metal

coming out of the cells on the first leg of its journey of destruction to Tokio and Berlin.

YOU MADE MAGNESIUM--in the world's largest plant--BUT--

Guys--even gals--would look like hell wearing orchids around here. So The Big Job isn't peddling any.

Besides--you had your surge of pride when word spread that the first magnesium met the light of day. It was worth more than orchids, real or woven of words, and if you didn't have it, you'd better see a doctor. There's something wrong with you--inside.

ON DISPLAY IN LOBBY

Two large "cheeses" of magnesium are on display in the Basic Reception lobby. They were poured from first production. One of the favorite sports around there is to lift one of these big "cheeses" and guess its weight.

BASIC AND UNIONS IN AGREEMENT

Negotiations which began in Washington between H. P. Fells, Jr., President of BMI, and William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, have reached a successful culmination in Nevada with the signing of an agreement covering the Las Vegas plant's production and maintenance workers.

Signatory to the document were the Company, the Metal Trades Department, and the Building and Construction Trades Department of the A.F. of L., and local and international organizations of 17 different crafts and two local trades councils.

This agreement--to continue for the period of the national emergency, and/or for two years--whichever is the longer--sets up complete machinery for adjustment and arbitration of all controversial matters; out-

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laws lockouts, and strikes of all types, and provides methods for the adjustment of all possible jurisdictional disputes.

LEADERS PRAISE RELATIONSHIP

From Washington, three top-flight labor representatives came to BMI to join in the final negotiations. They were Frank Fenton, a Assistant to William Green and Director of Organization for the A.F. of L.; Herbert Rivers, secretary-treasurer of the Building and Construction Trades Department, and Joseph McDonagh, secretary-treasurer of the Metal Trades Department.

After signing the agreement, these three leaders and representatives of the other locals and international organizations issued a statement which said in part:

"We are happy to report--that we have concluded one of the best agreements with Basic Magnesium, Incorporated, in the history of the west with 17 unions affiliated with the A.F. of L.

"The A.F. of L. always has enjoyed splendid relationship with this company. . . ."

IMPORTANT HIGH SCHOOL NOTICE

Parents of boys and girls of high school age are assured that all courses necessary for college entrance will be taught at the Railroad Pass High School, which will open in Basic Townsite early in October. Roy G. Petrie, school superintendent, meantime, wishes to meet all parents of high school students, so that all needs may be ascertained prior to the opening of school. Prospective students and parents are therefore invited to meet with Mr. Petrie in the Assembly Room, Industrial Relations Building (near Gate 1) in accordance with the following schedule:

MONDAY, September 14 at 7 p.m. for all those whose last names begin with initials from A to I, inclusive;

WEDNESDAY, September 16 at 7 p.m. for all those whose last names begin with letters J to R, inclusive;

FRIDAY, September 18 at 7 p.m. for all those whose last names begin with letters from S to Z, inclusive.

MORE RATIONING AHEAD

Everybody who thinks it's tough now--living under war conditions with sugar rationed, and tires getting thin had better tighten up the old belt. There's a lot more coming. Rationing of meat, coffee, tea, clothing, gasoline (to save rubber) and possibly a number of other items is "just around the corner" according to the most reliable advices from Washington.

PLENTY OF REASON, TOO

Sure--there's just as much meat as there ever was--but men in the armed forces are eating more than they did as civilians. And they come first. Also lack of shipping is cutting down meat cargoes to England from the Argentine and Australia, so we've got to send beef over there.

AND WE CAN TAKE IT

Best advices from the national capital say that as a people we are in for some first class self-sacrifice before the first of the year. It's going to be just about a case of work or fight. You and I had better get set for it.

BOOKS FOR YOU AT BMI LIBRARY

In addition to its supply of technical reading, the BMI library in the Basic Administration building now has several hundred volumes of non-technical books. These were donated to the library by two BMI men for the benefit of their co-workers. The donors wish to remain anonymous. The books may be taken home.

PURCHASE BIG SERVICE FLAG

Basic is buying a large red, white, and blue, satin banner to honor BMI men who have entered the armed forces. It will be placed in the lobby of the Administration building and will display the number of employees who have left the job to enter military and naval service.

One of the latest departures from BMI to the Army was Hal Shire, Director of Plant Protection, who enlisted.