

THE BIG JOB

BASIC MAGNESIUM NEWS LETTER

NUMBER 21

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NOVEMBER 19, 1942

JOB GATHERS SPEED

The biggest refractory brick job in the world is establishing some new records in the field these days. And they are records that are typical of what other crews are doing, too. When the various crews tackled the No. 1 Metals building, they tied into a job the like of which none of them ever saw before. Plumbers, roofers, brick-layers, carpenters, painters found themselves faced with work never previously encountered. So No. 1 was in a large sense, a kind of a training job. The boys didn't even know what the various installations were for, nor how they worked. Things are moving a lot faster now. And the figures on bricklaying labor costs in chlorinators, electrolytic cells, and wash-towers tell the story.

LOTS OF MAN HOURS SAVED

Bricklaying labor on No. 1 cost \$296,610. The same work in No. 2, cost \$250,643 or \$45,976 less. Costs on No. 4 are going to be still lower when the final figures are in. There will be a saving of about \$12,000 on the cells, and nearly \$7,000 on the chlorinator wash-towers.

SPEED MAGNESIUM FLOW

All this means less outlay for Uncle Sam, and what is more important, more speed in getting the job completed and magnesium flowing out to our armed forces.

That precision bricklaying in the metals units is about half completed, and moving faster every day. Chlorinators in four units are all finished and cells finished in three and a half.

Keeping pace, of course, are the plumbing, painting, electrical installation, and some of those underground jobs performed by roofers.

MARY GETS FAN MAIL

Mary Carolyn Simon, whose picture was published in The Big Job a few weeks ago, is just about the busiest little girl in these parts. She is getting a lot of fan mail. Harry Van Dyke, McNeil bricklayer sent a copy of the paper to his sister, a teacher in the Harriet Beecher Stowe school in Chicago. The children in the school wrote letters to Mary. Other letters came from several different states.

So Mary is a busy little girl. Though armless, she is answering every letter--writing with her toes.

SO LONG, HARRY

Harry Atkinson, Congressional Medal of Honor man, who single-handedly captured 123 Germans in 1918, and whose son lost an arm and a leg in Bataan, is going into the Army again. Harry is quitting his job as Casey Jones of the BMI locomotive on the Graveyard shift to accept a commission as Major with Uncle Sam. Harry hopes it will be Japs he fights this time. He has a little score to settle in the Orient--that son of his, you know. With Harry goes the Godspeed of every man and woman on this project. Give 'em hell, Old Timer.

ABOUT NIGHT SCHOOL HERE

Registrations for night classes at the Basic Townsite school were insufficient to permit instruction. Fifteen registrants are needed to start a class. If you are interested in taking any of the following subjects, register at the school office: Typing, Spanish, English, Algebra, Metallurgy, Book-keeping, French, Shorthand, Trigonometry. Heaviest registrations were for typing, shorthand, English, and algebra.

SON IN SOLOMONS

J. M. Odell, sampler in the Chlorine plant, is proud. His son, Larry, who enlisted on January 21 with the Marines in the Solomons. Larry wrote recently, saying among other things:

"I got my crack at the Japs and came through without a scratch. We downed 21 Jap planes in less than two minutes, which is a world record up to now. In a Naval battle that night we cleaned their plow and sent them scurrying back home. All in all, we didn't do half bad."

Larry wrote recently that the Japs won't recognize the 40-hour week.

WHAT'S COOKIN' AT BMI

(All Events at School Auditorium, Unless Otherwise Specified. Everybody Welcome. Unless Stated to the Contrary.)

THURSDAY, NOV. 19--Movies, 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Adults 25 cents; Children under 12, 10 cents.

FRIDAY, NOV. 20--Dance for High School Students, 8 to 12 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOV. 21--Movies for kids only, 2 p.m. Admission Free this show only; Compliments of USO.

SUNDAY, NOV. 22--Church Services: Catholic, Room 12, 10 and 11 A.M.; Latter Day Saints, 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.; The Community Church (Inter-denominational) Sunday School 10:45 Services, 12 noon and 7:30 p.m.

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MONDAY, NOV. 23--Progressive Bridge Party. Admission 25 cents; Defense Stamp Prices; Pinochle, checkers, chess, cribbage, etc., free.

TUESDAY, NOV. 24--Square Dancing, 8 to 12 p.m. Admission 25 cents.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 25--Badminton, 7 to 10:30 p.m. Adults. Admission 25 cents. Birds, Racquets furnished.

SPECIAL FOR SWING SHIFT

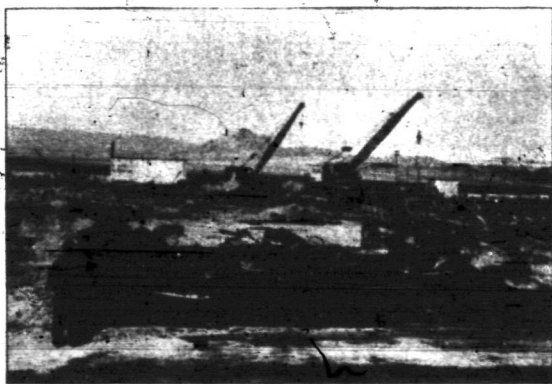
Midnight to 3 a.m.--Nov. 25-26--Badminton for Swing Shift, Admission 25 cents. If response is sufficient this will become weekly event. Birds, Racquets furnished.

THURSDAY, NOV. 26--No motion pictures will be shown this day.

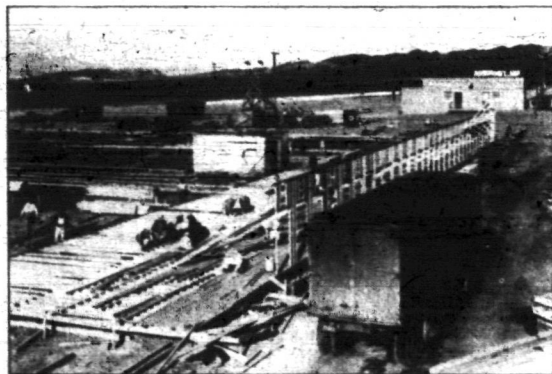
In response to a wide demand from employees who are keeping a record of events on the Basic Project, The Big Job publishes herewith a picture story of the world record construction of the Basic Administration building after the fire on March 6. The day after the fire, the Board of Fire Underwriters approved clearance of the site. McNeil crews went into action. Just 146 hours after the start of construction the building was finished and the staff at work again. The new building contained 56,000 square feet--equal of an eight-story office building 50 by 150 feet, and partitioned into 90 separate offices. The willingness of crews to disregard hours, the flying of a telephone PBX board by bomber from Chicago, were features of this building event which made history.

THE BASIC FIRE ----- AND A BUILDING MIRACLE

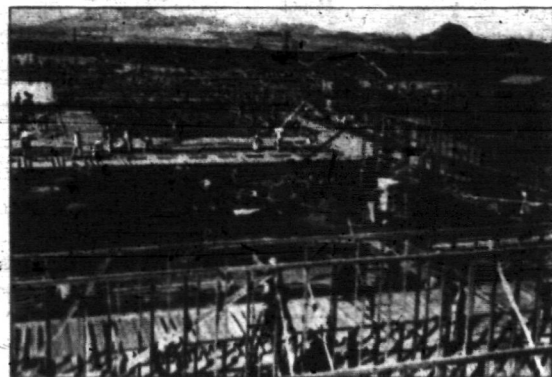
CLEARING OFF--3 P.M., MAR 7



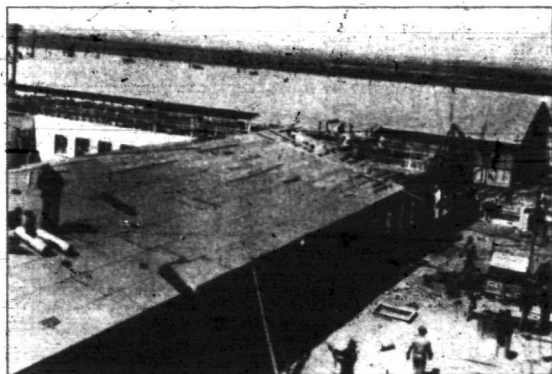
UNDER WAY--NOON, MAR. 8



GOING UP--NOON, MAR. 9



ROOFERS--NOON, MAR. 11



AS SHE STOOD--4 P.M., MAR. 11

