

THE BIG JOB

BASIC MAGNESIUM NEWS LETTER

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"YIPPEE--IT'S PAYDAY AT SCHOOL--AT LAST"



Said the Governor of North Carolina to the Governor of South Carolina: "It's a long time between---paydays."

At least that's what he would have said if he had been talking about teachers at the Basic Elementary school.

These teachers went to work early in October. So did the janitors. Superintendent Roy G. Petrie took over his duties on July 15. None of them had been on a payroll since last June. Funds with which to pay for operation of the school have not yet been received from Uncle Sam. But the school board, with the approval of Nevada's Board of Finance, borrowed \$25,000 from the First

National Bank of Las Vegas--so the teachers could be paid before Christmas. They get their first pay on December 9.

The picture shows a number of members of the staff--just after they had received their first checks since coming to work nearly three months ago.

Said Petrie (at extreme right)--"Your patience while working in crowded classrooms without pay, and without even knowing when you would be paid, represents the highest type of patriotism. Not one of you has complained. Your ability to 'take it' without kicking sets a fine example to every person on this great war project. We are all proud of you."

BMI GROUPS PLAN OLD-TIME CHRISTMAS PARTIES

With all the plant activities shut down from Thursday night, December 24 to Monday morning, December 28--excepting of course necessary operations and essential office work--BMI and its residential neighborhoods were ready today to establish a Yuletide tradition with an old-fashioned Christmas observance.

TOWNSITE. The Community Church in cooperation with the BMI Post American Legion, the Masonic Club, Latter Day Saints and members of the Catholic congregation will stage a Christmas party for children at the School Auditorium Christmas Eve. Santa Claus will be there with gifts for all.

TRAILER CAMP. Residents of this most unique area are already busy decorating their

trailers. A prize of \$10.00 in defense stamps has been offered for the trailer "most ingeniously" arrayed to welcome old Saint Nick.

N. R. Snyder, in cooperation with the USO, is conducting a turkey raffle and went out with his axe and brought back a large tree which is being decorated.

On Wednesday night, December 23, Santa Claus will arrive in style with presents for all the boys and girls.

ANDERSON'S CAMP. Jack Walsh at Andersons' is prepared to create a real Christmas atmosphere in the Commissary and Dining Hall. On Christmas Eve children will sing carols in the Commissary and throughout the camp.

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HOLIDAY DINNERS FOR SOLDIERS

Share your home on Christmas and New Year's day with a lonely lad in uniform!

Men and women of Basic Townsite--it's a program--and you are urged to help!

Here is the plan:

A bus load of soldiers will be transported from the gunnery school to Basic Christmas day--arriving shortly before noon. Another bus load will arrive on New Year's day.

Will you invite two of them to dinner? If you will, phone W. Harold Kingsley at Basic 105 or call at D-12, Administration Building. You will be assigned two soldiers and told where to meet them and at what time--There are thousands of kids in these parts--a long, long way from home--and it's Christmas and New Year's that are coming--so---get your reservation in at once--will you?

GABBS GABB

By Paul Lorence

Things move so fast up here that Christmas came ten days early. Yep--with Santa Claus and everything. Basic, MacDonald, Womack, Commissary and Basic Refractories joined in a Yule party for the kids Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 15 and for the old folks at night. Cheer up, Vegas--S. Claus told us he'll get down your way sooner or later--if you're good.

DID YOU KNOW

That the I. Q. of the 105 pupils in our school is above the Nevada average....that Basic's Employee Activities outfit at Vegas has sent a lot of cards and games equipment up here and that it's available at the Post-office in the recreation hall...that church services, non-Catholic and Catholic are possible if demand is sufficient. (Let Personnel know what you think.)...that you can get Express money orders now at the Cashier's office in recreation hall.

GET YOUR SCRAP INTO THE SCRAP

H. H. Whiteley, McNeil's is in charge of the scrap drive in this area. It's part of the Civilian Defense Program. Scrap metal should be deposited at sites designated by signs near Gates 1 and 2 and in the business area of the Townsite. Save every tin can, first removing label, washing can, opening both ends and squashing can flat. Take cans to salvage piles. Remember--250 old cans will make 200 new ones. Pick up all metal scrap and turn it in.

RED CROSS UNIT FORMED

BMI Red Cross Independent Unit is organized and already working. First task undertaken by unit is preparation of 100 soldiers' and sailors' kits, hospital robes and pajamas.

OVER THE MOUNTAINS BY BOAT



Residents of Ocean Avenue woke up one morning to find a 22-foot cabin cruiser tied up at the home of Mr. Henry C. Hostetler. This barnacle-bottomed pleasure craft had been towed from Long Beach through the California valleys, over mountain passes and down into the Nevada desert. It hove into BMI territory skippered by Hostetler himself, and carrying as super-cargo Mr. and Mrs. William G. Scherer, their pooch and their household effects, stowed on the after deck and in the cabin.

Mr. Scherer offers 100 to 1 odds that he is the only man who has shipped his worldly goods from the West Coast to BMI by boat. Any takers? If so, get in touch with Bill in Metals 1 and 2. Bill, by the way, comes to Basic from Hollywood where he played reporter and gangster parts for Warners. He knew how--because he was police reporter for the Chicago Tribune when Al Capone was cutting up.

HELP BUY THOSE STAGE FITTINGS

The PTA has volunteered to raise \$1400 for purchase of curtains and stage fittings for the school auditorium. First event to raise funds will be a big dance Saturday night, Dec. 19 in the school auditorium. Everybody should buy tickets--have a good time--and help a worthy cause.

WHAT'S COOKIN'

All recreational programs in the school auditorium have been cancelled for Christmas week--from Monday Dec. 21 to and including Christmas day.

THERE WILL, HOWEVER, BE MOVING PICTURES FOR CHILDREN SATURDAY AFTERNOON, DEC. 26 AT 2 O'CLOCK.