

# THE BIG JOB

## BASIC MAGNESIUM NEWS LETTER

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### WORK TO START AT ONCE ON 300 HOUSES

From Eisenhower, Doolittle, Montgomery in Africa and from MacArthur in Australia flows an insistent plea for magnesium. The eyes of the Allied command are on BMI. But---- To get more magnesium you've got to man the new units as they open up. And to man them you've got to have more houses. So----no houses, not enough men and then not enough magnesium.....

In essence that is what management told Washington. The situation was so important that it went directly to President Roosevelt. And last week the crisis was met. Bids were opened Saturday at San Francisco for construction of 300 apartment-type dwelling units to go up east of the main highway and south of Anderson's camp. They will be one, two and three-bedroom apartments, with living room, kitchen and bath. O. J. Scherer of Las Vegas put in the low bid. It was \$690,133. Work will start as quickly as final details are completed. The houses will be financed, supervised and managed by the Federal Public Housing Authority. An attractive feature of this new project will be a spacious community house, with assembly hall, play room, and several smaller rooms for social and civic gatherings. Two hundred additional units are planned for later construction. The new town will be landscaped.

#### MORE HOUSES FOR GABBS, TOO

In addition to the 80 houses now under construction at Gabbs, Federal Housing will build 214 more. These will be one, two and three bedroom units. About 80 percent of them will be allocated to BMI employees with the rest going to workers of Basic Refractories, Wells and West Vaco. Thirty dwellings will also be erected at Luning. These will also be assigned to employees of the four companies, with Wells people getting the majority.

#### CALL FOR RED CROSS WORKERS

Wives of Block Captains in the Townsite are requested to give Mrs. Robert M. Finlayson, 147 Manganese Street the names of women in their respective blocks who will do work for the Red Cross--sewing, knitting, motor corps activity, home nursing or nutrition. Individuals who are interested and who are not reached by her block captain are requested to communicate with Mrs. Finlayson. Mrs. F. O. Case, Red Cross chairman and Mrs. Finlayson plan organization of groups as quickly as possible. The need for Red Cross work is urgent.

#### BMI WORKER IS NOVELIST

Monday, Jan. 18 will be a big day for Jonreed Lauritzen, chem. lab. sampler. But, though on that day his first novel will be released by Alfred A. Knopf, he will spend the day as he says, "just helping make magnesium." Jonreed's book is "Arrows Into the Sun" a colorful and fascinating novel of the Grand Canyon country about 1870. "We of the West know freedom" says Basic's novelist. "Our obligation is therefore the greater to help preserve it. They won't let me fight--but they will let me help make magnesium, I consider that a privilege."



#### NOTIFY YOUR OLD RATION BOARD

All employees who received food and gasoline ration books from other than local boards should notify their old boards of their change of address so that their files may be mailed to the board here.

#### PARTIES FOR SWING SHIFT

Introducing the Swingeros. First one was staged this week. They'll take place Monday nights--or rather, Tuesday mornings--from 1 to 5 a.m. A Swingeroo is a dance, in case you didn't know. All swing shifters are invited. Place: the school auditorium. Starting Thursday, Jan. 21 at 1 a.m. badminton will be played by swing shifters at the auditorium. Birds and racquets will be furnished.

#### CARDS OUT--VOLLEY BALL IN

Attention Volley Ball Players and all who would like to be. Volley ball will be played by all comers in the school auditorium every Monday night from 7:30 to 10:30 starting January 18. Due to diminishing attendance at Monday night card games the BMI-USO Committee substituted Volley Ball in response to wide demand.

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WHERE PACIFIC AND ATLANTIC MEET



Lillian Presnell of Personnel consented to be the attractive (we think) atmosphere in her apartment--one of the recently completed units for Basic's busy business gals. When we asked Lillian about the current rumors, such as lights being turned off at 10 o'clock, no men friends allowed, and that sort of thing, Lillian in her best dramatic voice said "Phooey!" Returning to normal, she continued: "Sabotage--that's what it is--trying to frighten away the boy friends." The Housing people have done a swell job--the apartments are small, but a lot of thought has gone into them. There are recreation and visiting lounges, luggage and laundry rooms.

Lillian, who besides being one of Mike Forbes' luminaries, is an active sports-woman, should know whereof she speaks. She can cook too, boys. Line forms on the left.

## SOFTBALL LEAGUE TO ORGANIZE

Under the driving personality of Big Tex Norwood, Central Fire Station, there's an inter-departmental soft ball league in the making. Plan is to have teams representing any and all departments of Basic and McNeil that think they'd like to join up. Gloves, bats, mitts et cetera are already available from last year's purchase by the BMI Recreation Club. More will be purchased out of BMI Recreation Council funds. Equipment will be kept at the Central Fire Station and will be signed out and in for play or practice. To complete arrangements and organize a league a meeting of all interested will be held in Room 8 at the school Monday night, Jan. 18 at 7:30. How about your department?

## PICKED UP ON THE RUN

Hey, Uncle Hiram, "the Hired Man" at Gabbs--thanks for your poem about Mary Simons. But it's too long to publish in this little sheet.....Why not salt some of that dough into good Nevada real estate. You can buy

a new two-bedroom house in Vegas for \$5,000 --\$450 down, then \$69.17 a month for 24 months and \$36.50 a month thereafter. Other new houses are available for rent at \$50 a month. Call at D-12, BMI Administration building for further details.....Earl Evans, BMI cashier is the project's champion catch-as-catch-can treasurer. Every time he sticks his nose into a meeting he's elected. The Toastmasters' club gave him charge of their dough the day after he'd been named keeper of the cash for the BMI Recreation Council.. That Council by the way represents all elements in the BMI-USO recreation program--Norm Clay of BMI Office Engineers is chairman.....Ruth Ann McBride, popular and attractive girl of BMI Tabulating is in Basic Hospital with severe injuries suffered in an automobile accident the other day. She will be in a cast for several weeks. Dorothy Bradman of Tabulating headed a committee to help out. You might see Dorothy in D-10 if you're interested.....Arts and Crafts folks working on leather are grateful to Eddie Cleeton, McNeil masonry boss for providing them with a flock of flat rejected brick to serve as bases for leather tooling..... Other night at the Square Dance the guitar player was late. So the guard called Plant Protection and they routed Robert Lloyd-Jones out of bed and he pinch-played with his squeeze-box. Dog-gone decent of Bob..... By the way that Tuesday night dance is a honey and we ain't just woofin'. Pretty near 200 turn out every week.....Folks who attend the BMI-USO movies Thursdays, and kids who attend both Thursdays and Saturday afternoons will be glad to know that a large screen has finally arrived. Earl Brothers of the Boulder Theatre will be glad too. He loaned us the little one.....

## WHAT'S COOKIN'

(All Programs in School Auditorium)

- THURSDAY, Jan. 14, Moving Pictures--7 and 9 p.m.
- SATURDAY, Jan. 16, Moving Pictures--2 p.m.
- MONDAY, Jan. 18--Volley Ball, 7:30 p.m. 25 cents. Softball meeting to organize for all interested, Room 8 at 7:30.
- Arts and Crafts, 7:30.
- Sewing for Red Cross in Lounge of Women's Apartments at 9:30 a.m.
- TUESDAY, Jan. 19--Old Fashioned Dancing 8 to 12. (Instruction 7 to 8)
- WEDNESDAY, Jan. 20--Badminton, 7:30. 25 cents
- Hill Billy Band practice
- Arts and Crafts 7:30 p.m.
- THURSDAY, Jan. 21 --Moving pictures 7 and 9 p.m.

The Board of Directors of the Red Cross extend an invitation to all women for tea in the lounge of the Women's Apartments on Pacific Ave., Thursday, Jan. 21 at 3 p.m.