

THE BIG JOB

BASIC MAGNESIUM NEWS LETTER

NUMBER 32

BASIC MAGNESIUM, INCORPORATED, Las Vegas, Nevada

FEBRUARY 4, 1943

VICTORY GARDEN CLUB TO ORGANIZE

That vegetables may sprout and bloom in the Townsite and Trailer Camp, all persons interested in forming a Victory Garden Club are invited to attend an organization and informational meeting in Room 7 at the school at 7:30 Tuesday night, Feb. 9. Information as to preparation of soil, planting, cultivation and varieties which do best in this region will be available. Whether it will be best to cultivate individual plots or to prepare larger areas with small plots assigned to individual families will be discussed. Federal authorities are urging all persons to plant vegetables--and since canned goods will soon be rather severely rationed there has been an insistent call by local residents for information and organization. So--if you're interested, come to the meeting.

TO BUILD MODEL COMMUNITY

With work already well under way on 300 dwellings across the main road from Basic Townsite, plans have already been approved for construction of a model community for negroes adjacent to the new Three Kids Mine road northwest of Anderson's camp. The community will consist of 324 dwellings and dormitories for 175 single men. There will also be an administration building and a commodious community house. The town will be attractively landscaped. Acreage will be provided for outdoor recreation. Paul Williams is architect for the project which will be developed by the Federal Public Housing Authority. The dwellings of concrete brick will be of the same type as are under construction by O. J. Sherer near the Townsite. Both will have cooling and electric refrigeration. Bids for the construction of the new project will be opened in a few days. To speed completion of both these new housing projects the Southern Nevada Industries, makers of concrete brick, have put on an extra shift and are now turning out 10,000 bricks a day.

Hi, CABALLERO!

He's one of the colorful characters drawn to Nevada to help make magnesium and win the war. He is Eudoro Lucero, Castilian descendant of the Spanish conquistadores. In New Mexico he hung up his saddle and came to Basic. Eudoro's son is in the Army. Eudoro is in Metals Unit No. 4.



Here's Ray Spiering, Guard, holding the 8-pound Golden-Eagle, picked up on the highway with a broken wing. The big bird has a wing spread of 7 feet. The sheriff took the eagle to Dr. Louis Bernkrant in Vegas. He put splints on the wing. But the eagle wouldn't eat. He sent out a call for live mice. None arrived. So Doc bought a pigeon and put it in the cage. That evening he went out to see if the eagle had eaten his dinner. The pigeon was asleep--perched on the eagle's back. Doc is now trying to whet the big bird's appetite with baby chicks.

CAN YOU HELP REDUCE THIS?

During the seven work days starting Monday Jan. 11 there were 2561 maintenance and production workers absent from the job. For the week starting Monday, Jan. 18 the list had risen to 3041. The following table showing absentees by the days show the heaviest layoff on payday and the days immediately following. Look it over folks and write your own answer, remembering that the boys in action NEED MAGNESIUM.

Continued

THE BIG JOB ~ BASIC MAGNESIUM NEWS-LETTER

HERE'S 183 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

Lots of Gray hairs around the project. The Old Timers are making the stuff the kids need. Here's a trio with an aggregate age of 183 years. They're Martie Stack, Refinery, from Ohio; Bill McCafty, Preparation, from New York; Roger Cashman, Metals No. 4, from Reno. All-American, what?



BMI ABSENTEES

Week Of	Number	Week Of	Number
Jan. 11	Absent	Jan. 18	Absent
Monday	330	Monday	389
Tuesday	335	Tuesday	432
Wednesday	332	Wednesday	413
Thursday	319	Thursday	392
Friday	390	Friday	483
Saturday	390	Saturday	484
Sunday	465	Sunday	448
TOTAL	2561		3041

MEMBER OF A FIGHTIN' FAMILY

For the past year and a half H. A. Giffen (Foreman of Sample Preparations in the Chem. Lab.) has been an employee of BMI. Not until the story broke that the American fleet had reached England, and that King George had been a guest of Admiral Robert C. Giffen, Commander of the task force in British waters, did his fellow-workers learn that brother Harry Giffen comes from a distinguished Navy family. At the present time two are prisoners in the Philippines, another is a Major now on foreign service, one is officer on a submarine and another is a flying officer on a carrier. Formerly a mining man, when the need for trained workers arose, Harry got on the job--and stayed. Naturally he is proud of his fighting family. "And I'm on a task force too--in a way, it's magnesium. And I'll stay on the job till it's done."

BENEFIT DANCE NEXT TUESDAY

Sgt. Marvin Dodge resigned the Basic Guard force not long ago to join the Navy. Shortly thereafter he was stricken with a severe case of arsenic poisoning and has had a prolonged siege in a Los Angeles hospital. So his former fellow-workers at BMI are helping him. Next Tuesday night they're going to stage a benefit dance at the School Aud. It will take the place of the regular old-fashioned dance. But there will be square as well and modern dances. Tickets will be a dollar a couple. The BMI-USO committee cancelled its regular dance to help out.

VFW--There is an organization meeting at the school at 7:30 on Feb. 8. Come and bring your discharge papers.

FEBRUARY STILL A BIG MONTH

Washington was born in February. So was Lincoln. The month includes St. Valentine's Day. But these significant days pale to comparative unimportance in these parts this year. The Townsite grocery store is slated to open Feb. 18. Yippee!

GIRLS FORM HOSTESS CLUB

The girls of BMI, McNeil and other companies operating at the plant are forming a Hostess Club. According to Toni Hazzard (Transportation), chairman of the committee, the Club will number about 200 members. Main function is to be available for dances at Army Camps as well as to entertain the soldiers here. Other plans include visiting the sick and injured at the hospital, entertaining shut-in children and extending the hand of friendship to new girls. It's a full program, Toni says, and the girls are showing great enthusiasm. Good going!

GIRL SCOUTS: Starting Saturday, Feb. 6 will meet in the school auditorium from 4:30 to 6. Girls from 10 to 18 are invited. Girls from 7 to 10, interested in becoming Brownies will meet in the First Grade room at the same time.

RED CROSS: Women with Red Cross First Aid Certificates who will volunteer as substitute instructors are requested to leave their names and addresses at Red Cross headquarters in the Girls' Townsite Apartments, or 'phone them in to Basic 105. Red Cross Sewing every Wednesday starting at 9:30 a.m. in Lounge at Women's Apartments, Townsite.

WHAT'S COOKIN'!

(All Events at School Unless Otherwise Indicated. Events marked with * sponsored by BMI-USO Committee with proceeds going into BMI Recreation Fund.)

SATURDAY, Feb. 6--*Moving Pictures, 2 p.m.
MONDAY, Feb. 8--Regular PTA Meeting, 7:30 p.m.--(No volley ball)--*Arts and Crafts in small bldg.--*Swingaroo Dance 1 to 5 a.m.

TUESDAY, Feb. 9--*Benefit Dance, 8 to 12 p.m.--Victory Garden Club organization meeting, 7:30 p.m., Room 7.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 10--High School Graduation Program 8 p.m.--(No badminton)--*Arts and Crafts in small building.

THURSDAY, Feb. 11--*Moving pictures 7 and 9 p.m.