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Victory Labor-Management Production Committees of Butte, Anaconda and Great Falls

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IN this issue of Copper Commando, which is devoted to McQueen Addition, Butte, we want you to get acquainted with a flock of nice people.

We took over seventy pictures in homes, schools, churches, clubs and stores, and we come up with what we hope is a good cross section of the friendly faces you see around McQueen today.

The large picture on our front cover shows part of the headframe of the Leonard mine and the mountains in the background, with McQueen—or some of it, anyway—nestling at the foot of the range. Another view of McQueen appears on the opposite page; that particular picture was taken from the highway to Helena. We wish that we had been able to get a picture of the whole community, but it stretches out pretty much and we couldn't get a view that really suited us.

You will notice five small pictures also on the front cover—these were picked at random from our large file and give you an idea of what some of the fine folks of McQueen look like. The little girl and boy in the top picture are Louis Vicivich and his cousin, Patricia Woods. Louis is the son of Albert Vicivich, an old-time miner whose home we visited during our trip to McQueen. In the second picture, one of McQueen's best loved miners, Antone Stepan of the Tramway, is shown as he comes home, anxious to find out from his nice wife what's cooking.

On page 6 of this issue, we show you a close-up of Antone and his two boys. The third picture is one we just happened to catch on the street. These nice kids are Theodore Larsen, Barbara Lee Matule and Howard Vivian.

Everybody in McQueen knows Gabe Predovich and his nice wife, who have lived there for sixteen years. Gabe, who is also shown with his wife on page 6, has worked around the mines for twenty-five years and is now at the Precipitating Plant at the West Colusa. They have one girl. The bottom picture on our front cover shows two youngsters in front of Ceserani's store. They are Bobby Kovicicich and Donald Sherick.

Pride in the community is to be seen everywhere in McQueen. But that is true not only of McQueen—it is true of all communities where miners live. It is not a matter of nationality or of religious belief. It is purely and simply a matter of community pride.
A COMMENDO COMMUNITY STORY

This is McQUEEN

THIS issue of Copper Commando, official Victory Labor-Management Production Committee newspaper of the Anaconda Copper Mining Company and its Union Representatives, is dedicated to the people of McQueen Addition in Butte, a typical residential section of copper workers. Virtually all the homes in McQueen are those of miners. We show a part of McQueen in the picture above.

We have seen the miner, in earlier issues, doing his great war job in the mines. We thought you might like for a change to visit a typical mining community. We put the names of several communities in a hat and pulled out McQueen.

The boys who write the books and magazine articles glory in the robust history of Butte and have earned fat fees describing the miner as he isn't. It is our purpose in this issue to take you through a typical mining community and show you actually what it looks like.

While the copper worker has remained on his production job, yielding the metals so vital to a successful finish to the war, he has found the time to build his home, work his garden, raise his children and live as he likes.

Let us tell you how this story originated: Your editors undertook this article at the suggestion of a miner's wife who said to us, "The miner has always been damned in print as a rough sort of guy. Actually we take as much pride in our homes and our families as any other group of people. Won't you show us as we really are?"

Your editors are proud to do it. It was a lot of fun to "cover" McQueen and we met an awful lot of nice people. We saw the outside and the inside of many nice homes.

In these pages we want to tell you all about it.
ON this page are typical scenes around McQueen. Here at the left we have a view in Ceserani's store. The store is operated by John Ceserani, second from the left, and his two sons, Victor and Ernest. Here the good people of McQueen do their shopping in Ceserani's large and neat market. In the picture below is McQueen's Volunteer Fire Department. These boys respond cheerfully to the fire siren and make sure that McQueen homes are secure against the ravages of fire. In the center of the picture with the axe is Martin Jovick, chief of McQueen's Fire Department. In the picture below is the Holy Savior Church, at whose head is Reverend Michael Pirovat. We show you church congregations later. The three pictures of homes we show you are those of Aldo Favero, Louis Bertoglio and Sam Mandich of the Tramway; also the homes of Jack Halse, Ernest Laity, Martin Jovick, Jack Mitchell, Floyd Massey and Tony Brocco. We show you too the homes of Tony Paglino, Fred Dobel and Tony Patrick. The bottom picture shows Albert Vicivich with his son and wife and sister-in-law, Mrs. John Rozich.
McQUEEN

THESE are views of McQueen's youngsters in school and at play. McQueen has two fine schools—one is the Holy Savior, the parochial school under the direction of Sister Mary Charles. The other is Franklin School whose principal is Miss Esther Elderkin. The schools are close to one another.

Virtually all the children shown here are the sons and daughters of Butte miners.

Both schools are large, bright and cheerful, and it is the function of both institutions to give full educational advantages to McQueen's sons and daughters. They are a lively and spirited bunch of kids, all of them, but they take their studies earnestly too. The scholastic standard in both schools is surprisingly high.

McQueen boasts two fine Parent-Teacher groups—we pay them a visit on page 12 of this issue.

Franklin first graders with teacher, Ethel Orso.

Seventh and eighth graders at Holy Savior.

Holy Savior girls play ball at recess.

Fifth and sixth graders at Holy Savior.

Holy Savior youngsters enjoy their writing.

Miners' sons and daughters assemble for recess.

Franklin's well-stocked library is always busy.

Here are Holy Savior pupils at blackboard.

Holy Savior youngsters catch up on reading.

Here's an end run with good interference.

Pupils at Franklin enjoy cooking.

Franklin first graders like their story books.
McQUEEN HAS GRAND PEOPLE

At the left we see Gabe Predovich and his wife busy painting their nice McQueen home. Mrs. Predovich digs in and helps, too. In the center picture is John K. Bailey, engineer at the Franklin School, who has watched many McQueen youngsters grow to manhood and womanhood—he has a boy himself in the South Pacific. At the right is a view at the Franklin school, where the children join in singing in the large auditorium.

McQUEEN, to give you some of its historical background, is actually an outgrowth of Meaderville, approximately three blocks east and west and six blocks north and south.

It was launched as a Butte suburb gradually, as workers with a zeal to own their own homes and to live in pleasant surroundings, were encouraged to move up the grade from Meaderville. McQueen remained, however, a community close to the mines and shops where the workers live.

According to Sam Treloar, head of the famous Butte Mines Band (he is shown here in the top picture of the center column with his brother and brother’s wife—Sam is standing at the left in the picture), McQueen really began to take shape quite a few years ago as a community. Streets and curb stones were laid and sewers installed; the residents, realizing that here was to be a fine community, built or improved their homes. Today it is indeed a fine mining community.

As we have indicated, most of the men who live in McQueen work in the Butte mines. McQueen is a community of many nationalities, but all Americans. Not only do these people take great pride in their homes, which in many cases they have built with their own hands, but they take a pride in the community itself. They have regular meetings in the school house to discuss problems affecting McQueen, and each person has a voice.

McQueen is peopled with many children—clean-cut, nice-looking youngsters, many of whose pictures we will show you in later pages. The McQueen people are great lovers of flowers and the McQueen gardens during the season are something really to see.

On this page we show you views of various folks around McQueen whom we think you ought to know. They are typical of the folks who live there—earnest, industrious and full of proper pride.
ON this page, and on the two pages following, we are happy to show you varied activities of the fine little community of McQueen.

The fact which strikes so many visitors to this section is the deep religious feeling which exists among its people. Here each Sunday at the Holy Savior Church, the good Catholics of McQueen assemble before Father Pirnat. Across the street and down a few steps, grown-ups and children gather at the Unity Methodist Episcopal Church. On this page we have various views of the church activities on a typical Sunday in McQueen.

On the following page we invite you to visit the McQueen Athletic Club, a fine club to which virtually all of the men of McQueen belong. The club is primarily a social gathering place, but it sponsors many useful and helpful events. It promotes good sportsmanship and good fellowship and its members have walked away with many a trophy in the sports field. The club has given nearly ninety of its members to the Armed Forces of Uncle Sam and their pictures are displayed prominently on the wall of the club.

On page 9 we wanted to show you some of the youngsters of McQueen. It would take a cold heart indeed not to fall in love with these bright and cheerful boys and girls who come chiefly from miners' homes.

As we have said, McQueen people are religious. Sit in their homes and talk to them; you will find that many have sons or relatives in the Armed Forces and that they pray sincerely for their safe return. Many mothers in McQueen know the agonies of saying goodbye to their boys; too many already know the emptiness and suffering that accompany a message of regret from the War Department or Navy Department. In many of the homes in McQueen you might visit, you will see pictures of boys in uniform on the pianos or sideboards or on the bedroom dressers. Service flags in windows are commonplace today. Those service boys, you may be sure, have something to return to in terms of a nice community. For McQueen does not forget its own. The people have pulled together all during the war to keep the community shipshape. No one in McQueen has forgotten that their sons and brothers and friends must come back to a better McQueen than they left. Probably that accounts for the number of folks you see fixing gardens, trimming lawns, painting fences and doing the general tidying up that is the pleasure and privilege of the American home-owner.

When the last shot is fired and the Axis powers are driven finally to cover, the boys will come home. They will be glad to know that the copper workers in McQueen have done their war job, too. For these men, the fathers and brothers of the boys in the fighting forces, have stuck to their jobs with a fine spirit that is the spirit of McQueen.
Here are the trophies won by the members of the McQueen Athletic Club. Left to right are Tony Panion, Al Boksich, club president, Mac Fabatz, Steve Spear, Louis Spear and Frank Quilici. All these trophies were won by the club or by club members over the past few years.

Here we show you various views in and around the club. The picture above shows a congenial group in the new club rooms acquired in July; below, at left, is a group of club members and their sons enjoying the Sunday sunshine. At right, the officers in official conference.
McQUEEN HAS NICE YOUNGSTERS
McQueen Has Busy Groups

Yes, McQueen has busy groups. These are school groups—groups at Franklin School, at the Holy Savior School and the Unity M. E. Church. At the top, left, is a group of youngsters at singing exercises at Franklin School. The large picture at the right shows parents and children outside McQueen’s neat Unity M. E. Church on a recent Sunday. The center pictures show exercises in the auditorium at Franklin School, with the Allegiance to the Flag being recited in the picture to the right. Above, at the left, is a group from Holy Savior; right, group from Franklin.
McQueen

People and Places

No story about McQueen could possibly be complete without mention of Sam Treloar. He is universally respected, not only in the McQueen he knows and loves, not only in Butte, but in many parts of this country and the world where his contributions to music are well known.

He is the head of the famous Butte Mines Band, which Sam founded many years ago. He has brought pleasure to people over many years.

Let us tell you a little about Sam Treloar who, at seventy-eight, is healthy and vigorous. While many think that Sam came to Butte as a mining man, actually he came here as a musician in 1887, engaged as a silver cornetist in the band at the Alice Mine. He came to us from Leadville, Colorado, where he had worked in mines both as a miner, a mining engineer and an executive. He was thoroughly familiar with mining, having worked in mines in England as a boy. Sam Treloar worked in and around the mines of Butte for nearly twenty years and was known to all workers and officials of the Butte Mines Company to which he belonged. He was active in earlier days in union activities, being a member of the Miners’ Union, of the Silver Bow Trades and Labor Council, and the president of the Musicians’ Union. He has represented his union groups in national conventions throughout the country. Later, he became superintendent of mines for the Lexington organization in Butte. Still later he went to Utah for the Utah Metals and Mining Co. as general manager.

Sam is best known, of course, for his Butte Mines Band, which he founded. His efforts over the years have resulted in many thousands of dollars being donated by the band to charitable causes in and around Butte. Years ago he organized units in state institutions where inmates learned to play under Sam’s skillful direction. His Butte Mines Band put the name of Butte and the state on the musical map of America by winning three first prizes in national band contests. At the time judges classified the band among the greatest industrial musical organizations of the nation.

Although he has shown little interest in holding public office, he did serve in the Legislature from Silver Bow County during the sixteenth and seventeenth sessions, where he was chairman of the Mines and Mining Committee, the Revenue and Taxation Committee and other groups. Today Sam Treloar lives quietly on Oak Street, McQueen, with his brother and sister-in-law. But he has never relaxed his interest in music, and whenever the Butte Mines Band appears, you can count on it that Sam’s erect and dignified figure will be out in front.

Typical Miner

Actually there are many typical miners in McQueen—men who work every day at the Leonard or the Tramway or the Badger or the Mountain Con or some other mine; men who have wives and children and homes and hobbies.

Well known to McQueen folks is Sam Mandich. Sam lives at 2107 Oak Street and is a miner at the Tramway. He has worked in the mines for over twenty years. We got a picture of him with his daughter, Ann, shown at the left in the picture, his sister-in-law, Frances Beckey, Mary Orlich, and Mrs. Mandich.

The Mandich family has three other children, two boys and a girl.

Actually there is nothing unusual about a miner in McQueen having such a nice home and family. There are many just like the Mandiches throughout McQueen and, of course, throughout the other communities in and near Butte.

They have a fierce loyalty to Butte. Many of them came from distant countries to settle here, to take up their work and make their homes in this area.

They Buy Bonds

As the Sixth War Bond drive got under way, we noted great activity in McQueen. For the people there are great investors in War Bonds. Not only have they given generously to all war causes, but they all know that one sure way to insure early victory is to Buy Bonds.
McQUEEN MOTHERS

McQUEEN has its mothers and lovely mothers they are. These are the women who maintain the trim and tidy homes of McQueen’s men; these are the mothers who raise McQueen’s nice youngsters.

We visit two Parent-Teacher groups on this page. In the picture at the top and at the bottom of the page we show you the Holy Savior St. Helena unit of the Parent-Teachers’ Association. The president of this group, Mrs. Hugo Bendt, is seated second from the left in the front row of the top picture.

The Franklin School Parent-Teacher group followed up its regular meeting with a friendly game of cards. In the center picture, in the back row, we see the president, Mrs. Guy Isola, standing at the rear fourth from the left. These groups meet regularly to discuss child problems, but probably more important than that, since child problems in McQueen seem few, to lay plans for the sponsoring of worthy charitable affairs to aid the community.

These mothers are energetic, friendly and progressive. They feel that they form an important part of the backbone of the community in which they live. Most of them are the wives of miners on the Butte Hill. They realize that their husbands have done and are doing a magnificent war job. Like good American mothers the country over, these women of McQueen are doing their share as well.

“THIS IS McQUEEN”

THIS is a sort of off-the-record message to our readers, and we hope you folks will give it a look.

Frankly, as we say, “This Is McQueen” is an experiment. We thought it might be a nice thing to show how the copper miner of Butte lives, to show his family, his home, his church, his schools, and so on.

Did you like this particular issue? It is a departure from our usual policy and before we try doing any others, we’d like to know, from you people of both labor and management, whether this article on McQueen rang the bell with you.

We’d like to do other communities, not only in Butte but in Anaconda and Great Falls and East Helena. But we want to know first how you folks feel about it. After all, Copper Commando is your newspaper and not ours.

How about letting us know what you think?

BOB NEWCOMB and MARG SAMMONS
Editors of Copper Commando

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