

Newsletter301

Keith's Corner/McGill News

February 14, 2025

“Work”

Work, is a word that stokes a different size fire in the inhabitants on this ole mud ball called Earth!! Especially those that speak, read and write. The ones that don't do such things don't know the meaning of the work, work, since they spend their time looking for something or someone to eat and a place to get out of the weather.

In the early days of Earth, humans lived that way. Then for some reason things changed. They started doing things together, much like wolves and other animals hunt in packs. With plenty of meat available one cave dude became lazy and didn't want to go on the hunt. The others would not share and after a few days the now hungry cave dude noticed that the hunters were always hunting for good sticks of wood to replace the clubs they broke on the hunt. He had found a secret place, full of good sticks and was soon trading sticks for meat. Thus, the beginning of working for food.

This morphed into our present day working for all we have. Then someone invented gubberment. Now, gubberment doesn't do anything but take part of our work and give it to someone that doesn't work. Hopefully this will change soon.

Growing up in McGill in the 1930s-40s work was just a part of our life. We had chores (for the younger folks , that is work you did for your parents, like getting in the wood for the stove, mowing the lawn etc etc.), that we did all the time. It was just part of growing up.

As a teenager we made extra money by mowing lawns, weeding yards, dog sitting and many other odd jobs.

At age 13 I delivered the Salt Lake Tribune every morning, 7 days a week for \$1.10 a day.

At 15 I spent the summer working at the old McGill Dairy putting up hay for \$3.00 a day. I worked 90 days straight and made \$270.

The summer of 1951 I worked at the Coca-Cola building in Ely. I worked with Lou Dragalich. We bottled coke almost every day. I had to inspect each and every bottle as it came off the production line. Here is a photo of a paycheck. Made \$1.10 an hour.

COCA-COLA BOTTLING CO.
of Ely Pay for Period Dec 1, 1951

COCA-COLA BOTTLING CO.
of Ely Pay for Period Dec 1, 1951

Employee's Name Keith Libeon Pay for Period Ending Dec 1, 1951

Registration Number _____

Date hired _____ Date Discharged _____

Place of Employment _____ Schedule hours This period 10pt1

DAYS AND HOURS WORKED									
Hours	SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.	Total Days	Total Hours
REGULAR	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	40	110
OVERTIME		2	2	2	2	2	2	12	1.60
									19.20

Salary (if paid on fixed Weekly or Monthly Basis) _____

Remuneration Other Than Cash (Room, Board, Tips, etc.) _____

Gross Earnings	63.80
DEDUCTIONS	10.00
% Withholding Tax	10.00
% Federal Old Age Pension Tax	.96
% State Un. Ins. Tax (if any)	
Total Deductions	10.96
Net Earnings	52.84
Less: Remuneration Other Than Cash	
Net Pay This Period	52.84

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE TIME SHOWN ABOVE IS CORRECT

Employee Sign here Keith Libeon

RECEIVED-MCKEE CO., MARLBORO, LOS ANGELES, 15-2372

The summer of 1952, my buddy, Fred Ley and I registered for work at the employment office. We got a day job with Bath Lumber. There was a boxcar full of sacks of cement parked on the rail siding by the Coca-Cola building. We luggered the sacks out of the boxcar, carried them to a truck, drove to the west end of Ely to the back door of Bath Lumber and packed the bags inside and stacked them. Now that is a hard days work. We were paid \$10 each.

The employment office then told me to report to the White Pine County Hospital by the duck pond. I went to work there as a janitor for the rest of the summer. My pay was \$1.00 an hour.

In the summer of 1953, between junior and senior classes , those of us McGill heathens that were 17 years old got to work at Nevada Northern, building new track in the freight yards. It was only for 2 weeks and we made \$1 an hour. Then I worked for Teleweld for 2 weeks at \$1 an hour. We worked on the track from Ely to Ruth fixing the worn rails.

Then Dave Robb, Bill Schroeder and I went to work for Isbell Construction Co., doing road construction. We lived and worked at Ferguson Springs north of McGill. I think we made around \$1.25 an hour.

My senior year at high school I drove school bus from McGiull to Ely. I drove the freshman and sophomore girls. We drivers made \$40.00 a month.

The day after graduating from high school we McGill renegades went to work on the Bull gang at KCC. As the summer wore on we were sent to many different jobs all over the KCC plant. Here is my first payroll check from KCC. We made \$1.70 an hour.

My generation grew up with a good understanding that you had to work to have anything. We had to do a lot of hard physical work alongside men. It was hard but, we learned a lot. I feel sorry for the kids today that can't get jobs that require hard work. I think doing hard work as a teenager, like bucking bales, digging ditches with a pick and shovel, hardened my back bones and muscles. I have never had any back problems. Plus, the memories are so precious in my older years.

Here is another paycheck from KCC. Note the different pay rates. When working on the Bull gang we were sent to other departments to work for a short time. KCC paid different wages for such different jobs. We would receive a blue copy of a rate change, even if it was for a few hours. The pay rates were not much different than a few cents. But, a penny was worth something back then.

DATE			EMPLOYEE NAME			SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		AMOUNT	
MO.	DAY	YR.	PAYROLL NUMBER			HOURS	RATE	DEDUCTIONS SHOWN AS "CR"	④ 82256
6 1 9 5 4			3 0 2 4	KEITH B GIBSON					
6 2 6 5 4				REGULAR PAY		2 4 0 0 1 1 1 3 4 3		4 0 .29	
6 2 6 5 4				REGULAR PAY		3 2 0 0 1 1 1 3 4 3		5 3 .72	
6 2 9 5 4				REGULAR PAY		8 0 0 1 1 1 3 8 7		1 3 .87	
6 2 9 5 4				REGULAR PAY		1 6 0 0 1 1 1 3 4 3		2 6 .86	
6 3 0 5 4				REGULAR PAY		8 0 0 1 1 1 3 4 3		1 3 .43	
								\$ 0 0 1 4 8 .17	
				SOC. SEC				2 .97 CR	
				F I TAX				2 2 0 0 CR	
				COMM LEAGUE				.50 CR	
						NET PAY	\$ 0 0 1 2 2 .70		
THIS IS YOUR STATEMENT OF EARNINGS AND DEDUCTIONS FOR PERIOD SHOWN. PLEASE DETACH AND RETAIN THIS STUB.									

