SUGGESTION PLAN MAKES EXCELLENT START

COMPANY TIES FOR SECOND IN SHIPS PER WAY

Builds Nine During January Averaging 43.5 Days

"How do you stand in comparison with the other yards in the production of Liberty ships?"

As an employee of the North Carolina Shipbuilding company you probably have been asked that question many times.

Here's the answer, based on the reports of ship construction in January throughout the nation, compiled and released by the United States Maritime commission:

During the past month we were tied for second with two west coast yards—Richmond Shipyard No. 1, Permanente Metals corporation, Richmond, California, and the California Shipbuilding Corporation, Wilmington—in the number of ships delivered per day. Next, we rank third in the average minimum days of construction per ship among the nation's nine consistent producers of Liberty freighters.

Then, our yard topped the East Coast in the number of vessels per way and number turned over to the Maritime commission and last, we were fourth in the total number of Liberty freighters built in January, a month during the peak of the construction month. We were first in the number of ships delivered per day, for a total of 43.5 days, this is the shortest construction time in the history of the yard for such ships.

We have reduced the average time from production of vessels from 240 days to 43 days for the first nine delivered to the 43.5 days in slightly less than a year. The Zeil Vancou, launched on December 6, 1941, and the first to be completed by the yard, required 280 days. The time required to deliver the ships has been reduced each month. In November when we built seven, the average was 117 days and in December, when nine were completed, 47 days.

The construction record of the year was set in January when nine days were below the national average for Liberty shipyards of 52.6 days.

In January, the Oregon Shipbuilding Corporation in Portland, Oregon, led the country by delivering 11 vessels with an average time of construction of 32.8 days each.

In making these comparisons we must point out how the more recently completed Liberty Shipyard at North Bay, Marinship, Panama City and Brunswick, Ga., have not met their expected stride.

THE WINNERS — Here are the top place winners in the Suggestion contest for the Feb. 1-4 period. On the extreme left, Fred Kusao, former of Hitlers Dept., is presenting a $25 War Savings Bond to the winner of the Ship Carpenters Dept., is receiving his $25 bond from W. J. Robertson, former of that department.

The Moultrie and The Battle Of Spitzenbergen

Here is an interesting story of the 12th ship built here.

Told by a merchant seaman who sailed on her, it is a story of construction good ships.

Mr. Frank Maslany, Seaman, told with pride, his experiences in the Moultrie, named for the Larger Marline, Panama City and Brunswick, Ga., have not met their expected stride.

The Ship was the Battle of Spitzenbergen and we were awarded for ten days in succession by hundreds of American fighters as well as by Heines. When we finally got into battle, we got the biggest attack of all while in the harbor. Each attack was followed by observation planes which in turn were dropped two incendiary bombs before leaving our com- bination. During these engagements our convoy shot down sixty-two enemy planes, the Moultrie ac- accounting for more than her part.

Point Rationing of Canned Fruits, Vegetables Begins

Point rationing of all canned, bottled, frozen fruits and vegetables, plus dried fruits, fruit juices and canned goods in here. At first glance, it looks a bit complicated but a study of the system shows it's relatively simple.

By registering during the last week in February, housewives received War Ration books No. 3 for their families. The blue coupons in the book are for canned goods; the red one will be used later for meat. A, B and C Blue coupons may be "spent" in March. The figures—1, 2, 4 or 8—are the point values. These 12 stamps add up to 48 points and each member of every family is entitled to the 48 points. Thus, a family of three has 144 points for use during March.

(Continued on page 4)

LEWIS, WHITE
AWARDED WAR SAVINGS BONDS

Ninety Suggestions Are Offered In Three Days

With almost a hundred suggestions received during the first three days after establishment of the boxes throughout the yard, the Suggestion System made an excellent start here last month with every indication that it will play an important part in improving the operations of the company in the future.

All the proposals submitted showed considerable thought and covered a wide variety of safety and other fields. Eight departments were represented among those submitted and the Committee is well pleased with the fine early response, considered a real welcome of the program itself.

The 19 Suggestion boxes were placed at convenient points in the yard on Feb. 1 and the first collection of suggestions was on Feb. 4. A total of 90 were offered and the Committee soon began the task of investigating, studying and judging them.

The winners have been noti- fied and those whose proposals are for War Savings Bond and stamp prizes have been in- formed of their suggestion. How- ever, this does not mean that all suggestions have been completed as further suggestions from the de- partments of costs, is being carried on and they are being held in abeyance. While every inch was worth consideration, there was none that could be termed "revolution- ary" or starting new improvemen- t of operations in the yard but it is a step in the Committee's program all showed, however, that the employees are giving real thought to better... (Continued on Page 4)

Hurst's Suggestion Improves Production

If the Suggestion system plan is to be fully effective in the future, the Suggestion Dept., would be a winner of one of the larger prizes.

His suggestion—a book- let, "No Fear of Welding"—was written and adopted several months ago in the yard. It has been in force since then while it cannot be considered a new effort, it was produced before the suggestion system was established, the company not knowing at the time of its effective of efforts is im- provement of production.