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YARD'S 1944 PROGRAM CALLS FOR 56 SHIPS



LAUNCHING — Confident and with a smile on his bright face, little Mr. 1944, ably impersonated by Tommy Langley, 14-months-old son of Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Langley, heaves the old champagne (kid size) toward the bow of our S. S. New Year. Tommy, whose dad is a Fitters Quarterman and lives at No. 6 Court U, Lake Forest, enjoyed his role of sponsor although kibitzing bystanders chided him about it being girls' work.

"Shucks, that's nothing," he retorted, "It hasn't been so long since I was christened myself."

We Deliver 79 Vessels During 1943

Substantial Number Of Ships Will Be Taken By Navy

The yard's production program for 1944 calls for the delivery of the 56 vessels remaining on our first C-2 contract and it will take the cooperation and intensive work of each individual here to accomplish it.

Reviewing 1943 briefly as we enter the new year, we find that we have done a good job during the past 12 months. We launched 72 Liberty ships and delivered 75. In addition, 14 C-2's went down the ways and four were delivered.

While the outline of work for 1944 may seem large, the fact that we conquered the material problem last month to the extent that "the log jam" in the river was broken and we turned over the four good ships to the U. S. Maritime Commission gives us a good send-off for the year. The change from construction of the emergency Liberty craft to up-to-date C-2's has not been an easy time. We have nothing to be ashamed of, however, for the time from keel laying to launching and launching to delivery on the first C-2 was better than that ever done before by any shipyard.

In keeping our eye on the goal of 56 ships this year, plans for the first four months call for a progressive increase in the number of deliveries.

As most of us know, the first C-2 ships were turned over to the U. S. Navy and will, in all probability, play important parts in the coming invasions of Western Europe and the Japanese-held islands in the Pacific.

A substantial number of these ships are to be taken by the Navy. It is imperative that they be built quickly and well because the duration of the war may very well depend on how we do this job. Therefore, as we go about our daily work, let us remember that on our shoulders is a good portion of the responsibility for winning the war in 1944.

Our record on Liberty ships should inspire us to a corresponding level of achievement on the C-2's.

During the first two and one-half years of its existence, the yard made a great name for itself as an efficient and quick producer of Liberty vessels. Because of this record, we were the first of the new yards to be asked by the Maritime Commission to build a long-range and faster ship, one that not only will be of great use in carrying war cargoes but can also compete efficiently under peacetime conditions.

Here Is Advice On Beating Flu

That Tiny Virus Can Be Just As Mean As Any Jap

By C. D. DAVIS, M. D.
Medical Examiner.

The Japs, Germans and the flu—
We've got to lick all three. You know something of the first two, and here's some dope on the flu.

The Fuehrer of the Flu is a Virus. A Virus doesn't have a mustache, doesn't have slanting eyes,—so far as we know. No one, in fact, has ever been able to look one in the face. The most powerful microscope, so far, has only shown his shadow. But he is a tough, tricky little varmint.

Watch That Cough

He attacks like a swarm of our P-38's—when the guy next to you coughs or sneezes in your face. Yep, that's him, several trillions of him, and he heads straight for the warm, soft lining of your nose and throat, into which he power dives, then it's every man for himself.

A couple of days later, you, an American, realize, perhaps that you've been attacked — another Pearl Harbor! As soon
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Marines Wounded On Tarawa Enjoy Our Gift Of Cigarettes

Are Distributed At Aid Station In Captured Japanese Dugout

Some of the four and a half million cigarettes we so generously gave to Uncle Sam's fighting forces early last summer were enjoyed by wounded Marines during their bitter and costly battle to take Tarawa from the Japanese in the Gilbert Islands campaign.

We learned of this a few days ago when the following card was received from Lieut. M. M. Green, Medical Corps, USNR:

"Your Camels were opened by us on Tarawa on the third day of the Gilbert Islands campaign. I passed them around in an aid station I had in a captured Jap dugout and they were certainly appreciated. Thought you'd like to know just when they came in so good."

According to other messages of appreciation, many of the cigarettes were given to the Marines just before they hit Tarawa.

Since the cigarettes, purchased with \$10,162.09 contributed by shipbuilders in every department of the yard, were shipped
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J. B. McDonald's Son South Pacific Hero

While his father, J. B. McDonald, a member of the cafeteria organization, was helping feed shipbuilders here, Lieut. (jg) John B. McDonald was busy shooting Jap planes out of the South Pacific skies with the result that he wears the Distinguished Flying Cross today.

Lieut. McDonald, a native of Raleigh, was one of six Naval air heroes to receive
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Nursery Program Can Be Expanded

Designed To Take Care Of The Children Of Working Mothers

The city-wide nursery school program is so flexible that if present and prospective women employees of the yard want to enroll their children in any one of the eight centers there is ample room and, where necessary, new shifts and perhaps a new center can be operated, Mrs. Elizabeth Williams, business manager of the nursery school program, said recently.

Two nursing centers are now functioning in Maffitt Village,
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Sloane Adopts Insurance Plan

Employees of W. & J. Sloane here have followed us in adoption of the cooperative group insurance plan presented by the Aetna Life Insurance company and it is now in effect.

The response to presentation of the program was most gratifying and 97 per cent of the approximately 300 employees approved it after the various benefits

were explained by the Aetna representatives. The plan has been in operation since December 1.

The set-up at the Sloane unit is identical to the program established in the yard last fall. Its employees are given the same protection in life, accident and sickness insurance as the shipyard has provided for its workers.