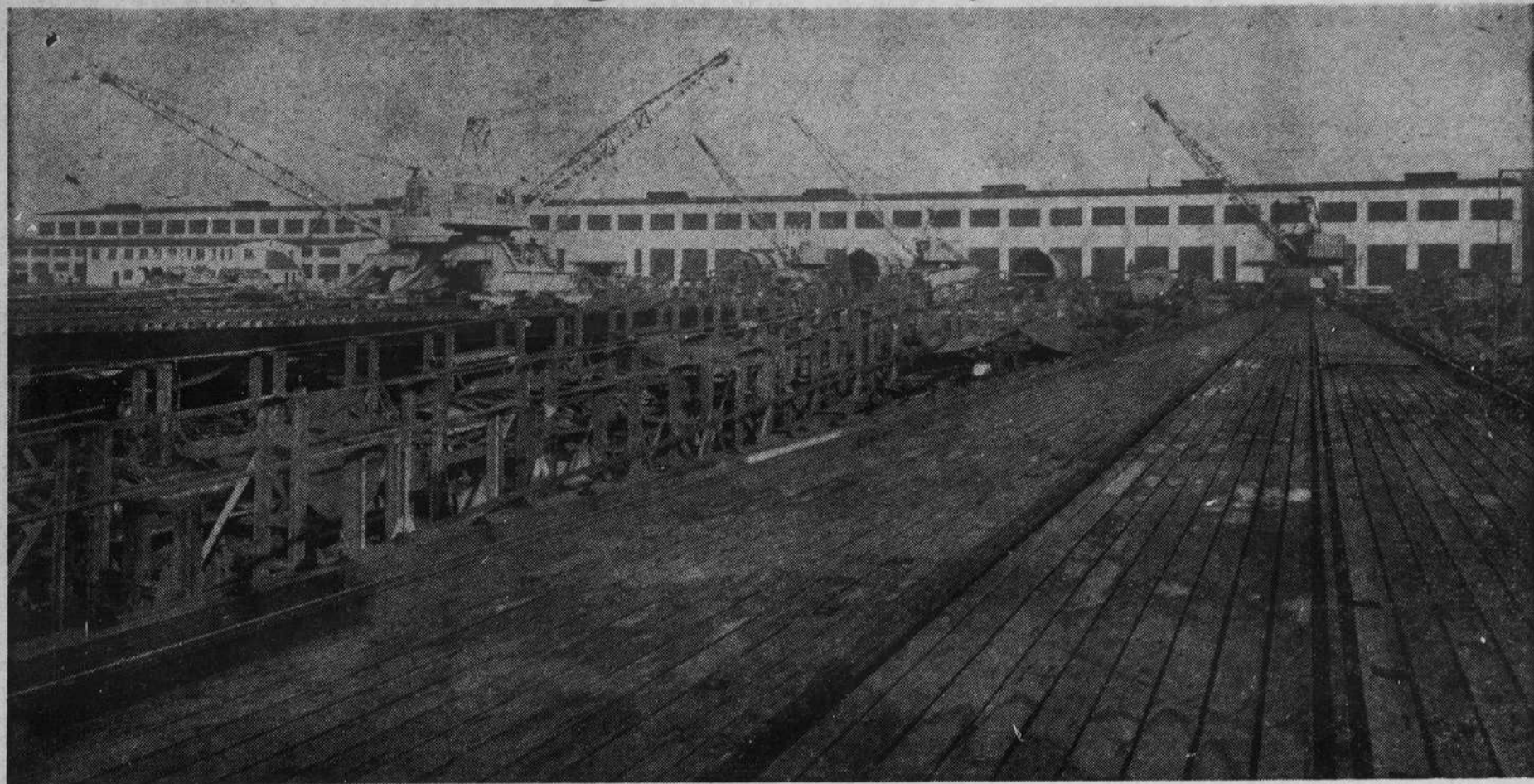


# Submarine Hulls Building Between Victory Yard Craneways



—Official U. S. Navy Photograph

A view of the craneways with submarine hulls building on both sides. Several Gantry Cranes, which load large fabricated parts and material on the boats, are stopped temporarily during the change of ships. The

huge building that runs the length of the picture in the background is the 900-foot long Fabricating and Welding Assembly Shop.

## L. Y. Spear Opens the "V" Yard

### Mrs. O. P. Robinson Welds First Keel On U. S. S. Dace

VICTORY YARD, July 30, 1942—(THE SUB)—At a colorful ceremony, with the program broadcast over the nation, the Victory Yard was officially opened on July 22 and the keel of the U. S. S. Dace, first submarine to be constructed in this yard, was laid.

When the first section of the keel had been placed upon the blocks, Mrs. O. Pomeroy Robinson donned a heavy apron, leather gloves and a welding hood, and with the assistance of Foreman Theodore A. Risch welded the initials "OPR" on the keel plate. Mrs. Robinson was chosen for this honor in recognition of the outstanding work General Manager Robinson has done to further the submarine program.

The program opened with the blessing of the yard by the Rev. Clarence R. Wagner, rector of Bishop Seabury Memorial Church, and the selection, Anchors Aweigh, played by the Electric Boat Company Employees' Band.

President Lawrence Y. Spear officially opened the yard, which is on the site of the former Groton

Iron Works, where freighters were constructed between 1918 and 1920.

Mr. Spear pointed out that shortly after Pearl Harbor the working design and other preliminaries were well in hand and that the construction schedule was planned to have the first keel laid on July 22. He asserted that the new yard would double what has been quadrupled in the main plant.

**Spear Congratulates Workers**  
Congratulating the workers for their achievements in submarine construction, Mr. Spear said that he knew their excellent work would be continued in the new yard.

Rejoicing in the dedication of the Victory Yard, Dr. Katherine Blunt, president of Connecticut College, told of women in war industry and

### EBCo President



L. Y. Spear

asserted that students are being trained for this at the summer war session of the college. One hundred students from the war session were guests at the ceremonies and formed a "V" for Victory in the ways where the keel for the Dace was laid down.

Rear Admiral Thomas Withers, commandant of the Portsmouth, N. H., Navy Yard, telling of Submarines in the War said that "American submarines are the best in the world, and none can compare with them at all."

Rear Admiral Withers was commander of submarines, Pacific Fleet, at the time of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, and said that "when the war came our submarines were ready and they have been at it ever since. They are fighting a strictly offensive war."

When the war came, the Navy's greatest advantage was that its submarines were of standard design and submarine officers have been aided greatly by the Electric Boat Co., Admiral Withers declared. He pointed out that submarines "come home with their heads up and ready to go again." He said that morale is high among the submarine men.

Rear Admiral Withers was a leader in taking over the palatial Royal Hawaiian Hotel as a recreation place for men in from patrol, and he said that there they are the recipients of every care, luxury and pleasure that can be given as they rest after their hazardous missions.

The rear admiral told that Electric Boat Co. submarines have distinguished themselves in the war,

and recounted experiences through which many of them have gone.

After Admiral Withers' address honors were accorded the Electric Boat Co. submarines Grampus, Thresher and Grayback, winners of the Navy Cross, and the Shark, Perch and Sealion, which were lost in action. When the names of Navy Cross winners were announced there was the sharp roll of a drum, and notes of taps were sounded for the submarines which were lost in action.

The keel laying ceremony followed, and the program concluded with the National Anthem.

First and second shift workers at the main plant assembled at stated places and heard the program over an amplifying system.

In the United States there is one motion picture theatre seat for every 12 inhabitants.

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### Inside The Fabricating Shop



—Official U. S. Navy Photograph

An inside view of the Fabricating and Welding Assembly Shop. This huge building was constructed with corrugated galvanized iron on wood frames. The wood frames were pre-fabricated and shipped in from Portland, Oregon.

COMPLIMENTS

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