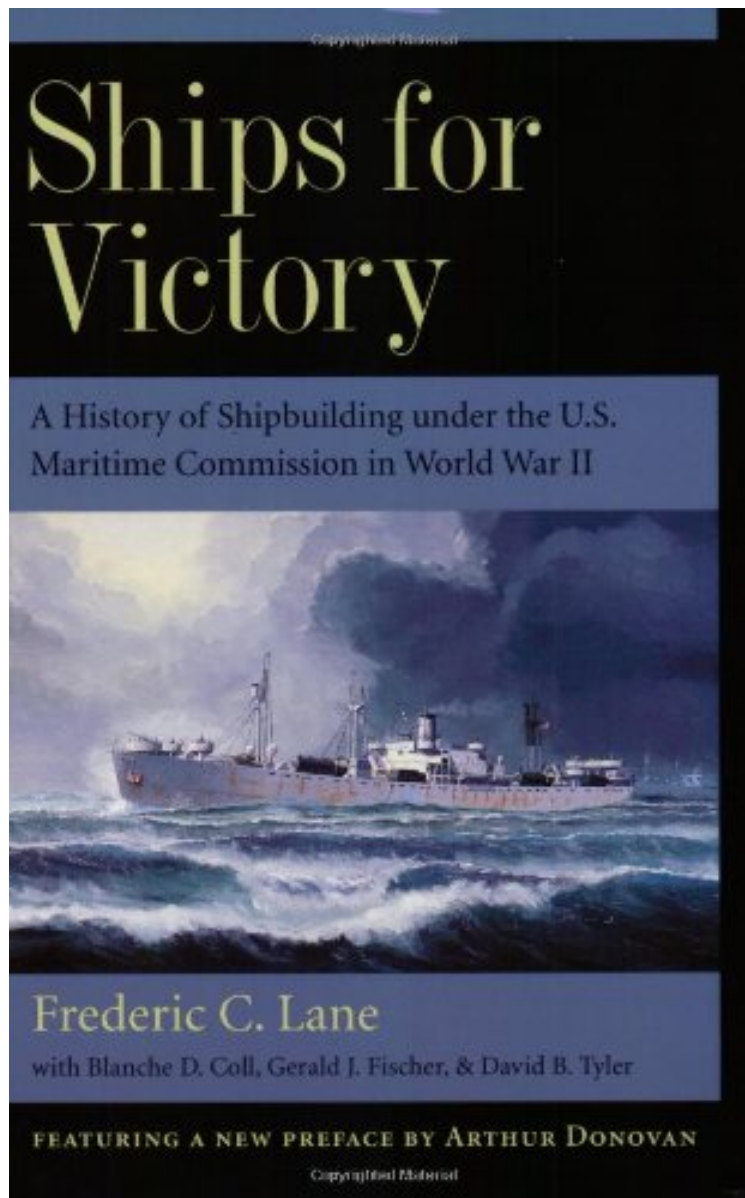


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Ships for Victory: A History of Shipbuilding under the U.S. Maritime Commission in World War II

Frederic Chapin Lane

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for Victory: A History of Shipbuilding under the U.S. Maritime Commission in World War II:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The ultimate and highly destined account of the Liberty Ship and Victory Ship programs in WW II. By Bayard B. The ultimate account, I think, of the American Liberty Ship and Victory Ship programs. I suspect that this is the primary source for just about all other books on the subject of the American cargo shipping effort of World War II. It was originally published in 1951 and uses the Maritime Commission and other original records to tell its story.. I especially appreciated the chapters on the production effort, the analysis of issues such as labor productivity, and the discussion of the particular design features of the Liberty Ship that made it easy to produce. There is also extensive discussion on the establishment and layout of the new shipyards that were constructed to produce the ships. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. No Rhetoric, Just the Facts! By Jan Ferris Koltun Excellent, authoritative and well-written, this book is the classic history of its kind. The new (2001) edition should give courage to new generations of Americans who may not know the immensity of the challenge we met in World War II. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By John B. Excellent reference book on all aspects of shipbuilding during World War II.

During World War II, America's shipbuilding industry, mobilized under the U.S. Maritime Commission, set records of production that have never been equaled. Given the daunting task of building ships faster than they were being sunk, shipbuilding firms across the country found new ways to increase their efficiency and scale of production. Huge new shipyards were built, a labor force of 640,000 was employed, and over 55 million deadweight tons of ocean-going ships were delivered, including the famous Liberty and Victory ships. First published in 1951, *Ships for Victory* chronicles this remarkable wartime program in magisterial detail: the development of revolutionary construction methods; the upheavals in management, awarding of contracts, and allocation of steel and other materials; the recruitment, training, housing, and union activities of the workers; the crises, confusions, and scandals that arose; and the role of shipbuilding within the total war effort.

"Tells the story of the gigantic task accomplished by American shipyards during World War II... This important book shows how the development of streamlined methods of construction made possible standards of production which would have seemed fantastic only a few years before." (Publishers Weekly) "An excellent and very readable account of the U.S. Maritime Commission's experience... The volume is thoroughly documented; the authors are always thoughtful of the reader in explaining technical shipping terms; and the approach is dispassionate, frank, and duly critical. The volume represents a fine addition to our wartime administrative histories." (American Political Science) "Lane has done a pioneering job in this scholarly and monumental history of shipbuilding under the U.S. Maritime Commission in World War II... Not only a highly informative but an absorbing book." (Evening Sun (Baltimore)) "A war and all account of an economic and manufacturing miracle. A brilliant book." (Work Boat World) "This excellent book describe the whole programme in great detail." (Asia Pacific Shipping) "The shipbuilding program of the U. S. Maritime Commission in WW II was one of the greatest industrial efforts in our history?and the most successful. In four years it produced just under 6,000 ships! This book provides the most complete account ever written of that magnificent program and is a wonderful resource for historians, researchers and ship enthusiasts. The original 1951 edition has been almost impossible to obtain and I applaud the Johns Hopkins Press for their decision to reprint this invaluable work." (Captain Brian Hope, Chairman, Project Liberty Ship) From the Publisher "Tells the story of the gigantic task accomplished by American shipyards during World War II . . . This important book shows how the development of streamlined methods of construction made possible standards of production which would have seemed fantastic only a few years before."—Publishers Weekly "An excellent and very readable account of the U.S. Maritime Commission's experience . . . The volume is thoroughly documented; the authors are always thoughtful of the reader in explaining technical shipping terms; and the approach is dispassionate, frank, and duly critical. The volume represents a fine addition to our wartime administrative histories."—American Political Science "Lane has done a pioneering job in this scholarly and monumental history of shipbuilding under the U.S. Maritime Commission in World War II . . . Not only a highly informative but an absorbing book."—Evening Sun (Baltimore) "The shipbuilding program of the U. S. Maritime Commission in WW II was one of the greatest industrial efforts in our history ~ and the most successful. In four years it produced just under 6,000 ships! This book provides the most complete account ever written of that magnificent program and is a wonderful resource for historians, researchers and ship enthusiasts. The original 1951 edition has been almost impossible to obtain and I applaud the Johns Hopkins Press for their decision to reprint this invaluable work."—Captain Brian Hope, Chairman, Project Liberty Ship About the Author Frederic C. Lane (1900-1984) was a noted maritime historian of medieval and Renaissance Venice. Among his many books are *Venetian Ships and Shipbuilders of the Renaissance* and *Venice, A Maritime Republic*, both available from Johns Hopkins. Arthur Donovan is a professor of humanities at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy.