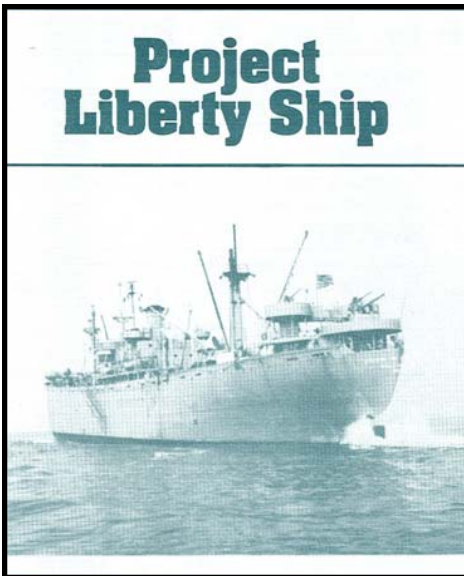


1941—1950

World War II and Post War

1942 to 1945



When World War II hit, all building construction ceased. Most of the owners' time was spent calling on large fabricators trying to obtain sub-contracts. Because Standard Iron was a small operation, it had difficulty obtaining direct government contracts until it was awarded a contract for ladders for the Liberty ships. Sixty percent of the contract had been completed when Standard Iron received word that the remainder of the contract was being cancelled due to the end of the war.

1945

North Minneapolis Location



Picture before the 1964-65 office addition.

Due to growth, Standard Iron moved in 1945 to a new building along 2nd Street North between 27th and 30th Avenue North. The top floor housed a large drafting room and office. The manufacturing area was 100 x 200 feet located directly behind the office.

During the period right after World War II, Standard Iron continued to supply miscellaneous metals for the booming construction industry. At that time, Standard Iron also began to fabricate parts for farm implement manufacturers, which didn't become a major factor in the business until the 60s.

1946



For 16 years, Standard Iron operated as a partnership. In 1946, it became necessary to incorporate as a C Corporation. The first officers of the company were: Heine Demeules, President; Zez Demeules, Vice President; Rollie Demeules, Treasurer; and Chuck Demeules, Secretary. (Pictured left to right: Rollie, Zez, Heine, Chuck)

In 1947, Heine's son, David, joined the company becoming assistant superintendent. When Zez became ill, David took over as plant superintendent.