

Mr. CULKIN. Is there any possibility of regaining control of our coastal waters?

Mr. ALLEN. That is a question that should be referred to the Navy Department.

Mr. RANKIN. I want to hear your answer to the question of the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. ALLEN. We have four forms of transportation which are at present in use and will be going into greater use if we are to have the necessary supply of oil. I want to enumerate them: The most important at present is the railroad tank cars which are being used at an out-of-pocket loss, and a very considerable loss, on every barrel of oil transported by the oil companies. Another would be the barges on the inland and intracoastal waterways. They are being pushed along as rapidly as possible. Then, there are tank trucks which are used, but their use is limited at present by the short-haul requirements of the Office of Defense Transportation. The use of tank trucks has been greatly limited, also, by the inability to get an adequate supply of rubber tires.

The CHAIRMAN. They will not be practicable for long-distance hauls.

Mr. ALLEN. Some operators claim that they are. The Office of Defense Transportation holds that long hauls should be for railroads, and the shorter hauls for tank trucks.

The CHAIRMAN. They are generally used for transportation for local dealers?

Mr. ALLEN. Yes, sir.

Finally, there is the matter of the immediate improvement of pipe lines. You will note I have at present omitted tankers from that category, because tankers are now practically omitted. We must therefore develop what might be called mostly overland transportation at least equal to the total amount of transportation facilities which were available prior to the war by tankers. That is a job in which time absolutely is of the essence.

I would like to read and insert in the record, if I may, Mr. Chairman, a statement issued by the Petroleum Coordinator recently, about the program designed primarily to increase fuel-oil supplies in the East which will in part answer your questions, after which we can have a further discussion of the subject.

The statement of the Petroleum Coordinator for War says:

A far-reaching program, designed to increase heavy fuel-oil supplies, in the East, and to increase still further the extraordinary movement of oil by tank car, is called for by a directive issued by the Office of the Petroleum Coordinator for War.

The program provides for:

1. Formation of a Joint Tank Car Subcommittee for the East, Middle West, and Gulf coast districts, charged with the responsibility of obtaining maximum efficiency in the use of all tank cars employed by the petroleum industry, assuring that such tank cars are utilized to meet the critical problems of petroleum supply in these districts.

Last week 46,000 tank cars were in service, a number considered beyond the realm of possibility only a few weeks ago. That number is steadily increasing.

The statement of the Office of Petroleum Coordinator for War continues:

2. Movement of 75,000 additional barrels of heavy fuel oil daily from the Gulf coast and 75,000 barrels daily from the Middle West.