

Mr. RANKIN. What is the capacity of that pipe line across from Carrabelle, Fla.?

Mr. ALLEN. Across to what point?

Mr. RANKIN. The pipe line coming from Carrabelle to St. Joseph.

Mr. ALLEN. Yes; the southeastern pipe line, Mr. Rankin, for products running up to Chattanooga; that is the one I believe you refer to.

Mr. RANKIN. Does that come from the Texas field?

Mr. ALLEN. Yes.

Mr. RANKIN. What is the capacity—daily delivery capacity?

Mr. ALLEN. My recollection is about 24,000 barrels daily.

The CHAIRMAN. That is an 8-inch pipe.

Mr. RANKIN. Eight inches.

The CHAIRMAN. So I am told.

Mr. ALLEN. It is not being used to its complete capacity at the present time, I believe. Mr. Swanson informs me that the rate of capacity is 30,000—daily capacity—but it is unable to operate above 18,000 per day on account of the lack of pumps and pumping facilities.

Mr. RANKIN. It is totally inadequate to meet the needs.

Mr. ALLEN. Yes.

Mr. RANKIN. As they exist at this time.

Mr. ALLEN. There is also the Plantation pipe line extending up to Greensboro, N. C.

Mr. RANKIN. What you are advocating is to bring the oil through the intercoastal waterway to Florida in barges.

Mr. ALLEN. Yes.

Mr. RANKIN. And then pipe it across Florida temporarily until the Florida canal is finished.

Mr. ALLEN. Any way to augment the present flow by water from Texas to Florida.

Mr. RANKIN. But you would bring it by water around to the Florida coast?

Mr. ALLEN. Yes.

Mr. SMITH. Mr. Allen, you spoke of steel priorities. You have had some recent experience with the War Production Board concerning steel?

Mr. ALLEN. Almost daily.

Mr. SMITH. There is an acute shortage, is there not, at the present time?

Mr. ALLEN. Very definitely.

Mr. SMITH. And it is becoming more aggravated as time goes on.

Mr. ALLEN. It is for that reason that a part of Major Parkin's duties have been to survey all existing pipe-line systems that are not being used and determine, as far as possible, where they can be dug up and relaid where they will do the most good. There is something like 1,400 miles of pipe line that—

Mr. SMITH (interposing). As you know, I have been advocating for more than 2 years the building of some cargo ships out of wood instead of steel on the ground that I have been of the opinion that, sooner or later, we would have a shortage of steel, and that condition exists now, and has for some time.

Mr. ALLEN. And probably will exist for some time in the future also.

Mr. SMITH. Yes.