

If there is any further information which you desire, I shall be glad to furnish it to the best of my ability.

Yours very truly,

SANFORD SERVICE CO.,  
FRED L. SANFORD, *General Manager.*

Mr. MILLER. Mr. Chairman, if the committee will wait for just a moment, Representative Boggs, of Louisiana, would like to make a brief statement.

The CHAIRMAN. We will be glad to hear you.

#### STATEMENT OF HON. HALE BOGGS, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

Mr. BOGGS. I shall only make a brief statement, Mr. Chairman. I have taken the liberty of appearing to tell you that I know of no project anywhere within the Gulf coast area which is considered more important to the whole economy of that section of the Nation than the completion of the intracoastal waterways. This proposal has been pending here for a period of years and the people of my section have always recognized its importance. The Intracoastal Canal has been a source of constantly expanding commerce.

At the present time, as Congressman Boykin has just told the committee—and he has just returned from a trip to Mobile and New Orleans—we are beginning to realize more and more, particularly as a result of the submarine menace, the vital importance of this protected waterway.

I fully understand the necessity for building the pipe line immediately, and it should be done without delay. But there are many very commanding reasons for completing the canal link across Florida. The first being that all types of commerce can move from Mexico to Maine without fear of submarines. If the canal was now completed rationing might not be necessary in the East.

The proposed pipe line is necessarily limited to the transportation of petroleum products—crude oil, gasoline, and so forth.

Mr. GREEN. In limited quantities?

Mr. BOGGS. In limited quantities.

Now, there are many other strategic materials that come from Texas, Louisiana, and the southwestern part of our country, particularly in the field of chemicals—sulfur, salt, and the chemical derivatives of petroleum. They cannot be transported by pipe line. But they can be transported economically and efficiently by barge.

In addition, by the completion of this short link across Florida we not only tie up the great Gulf coast area with the Atlantic seaboard, but we also tie into that picture the vast network of inland waterways which we have built throughout the Mississippi Valley. I can envisage the day when, with the completion of this link, we will have made possible a system of commerce throughout the East, the South, the Midwest, and the Mississippi Valley which will break down many of the barriers which have heretofore interfered with the normal flow of commerce and trade, particularly between the South and the North. This should contribute materially to the normal economic development of the entire Nation.

I know of no more important project from the standpoint of winning the war. Certainly from the war standpoint it is absolutely vital that