

Mr. MILLER. Exactly. I hope no member of this committee will for a single moment get the idea that the proponents of this bill are not acting in good faith or that we are dealing in subterfuge and fraud.

We are not trying to put a canal across Florida as a stepping stone to a bigger canal later on.

These times are when we need all the faith and vision we can get. Let us not strain at gnats and swallow camels on this proposition.

I think this proposal is as closely related to the national welfare as any suggestion which is now receiving the consideration of the Congress.

This waterway, which will tie the great industrial machinery of the Nation here in the Northeast with the great storehouses of natural resources in the great Southwest, is a necessary war measure, gentlemen, and I sincerely trust you will so regard it.

We have two gentlemen from San Antonio, who will take but a few moments and who want to get away today. They are interested in this fuel matter. They will take but a few moments each. The first gentleman I want to present is a former colleague of some of the Members of Congress who represented a district in the State of Illinois in Congress some 20 years ago. He is the Honorable Allen Moore, a producer of oil in southwest Texas, and he appears in behalf of the emergency oil transportation committee in Texas, a committee created for the sole purpose of bringing this grave situation to the attention of Congress. Mr. Moore.

STATEMENT OF ALLEN MOORE, REPRESENTING THE EMERGENCY OIL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE OF TEXAS

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I do not intend to take the time of the committee to go over many of the points which have been presented so ably, but I do want to say that it appears to me, and I think it appears to you gentlemen, that this is more than a sectional matter and it is a matter of national emergency. It is a matter which we are particularly interested in because we produce oil. The production is needed up here on the Atlantic seaboard to show it is not a matter affecting any one locality, and I would like to read into the record a telegram received by our San Antonio committee a few days ago when Mr. Mansfield's bill, the committee bill, was first brought to the attention of that committee, and, of course, there are gentlemen on the west coast who are interested out there in the production of oil and some of them are also interested in the Texas production, and they sent wires to this committee, and here is one from R. Elmo Thompson, president, Superior Oil Corporation, which is in Tulsa, and, of course, in this district, and he went ahead to say:

MAY 11, 1942—10:31.

D 131 TWS paid 3—BF, Tulsa, Okla., 11 952A.

HENDERSON COQUAT,

Chairman, Hotel Stephen F. Austin, Austin, Tex.:

Our company desires to record its sympathetic and active support to the purposes of your committee. It is our position all oil operators desire and intend to cooperate to the fullest degree with our Government in the war effort and recognize they must sustain financial shocks in its adjustment period. Management cannot intelligently plan a program to sustain financial shocks as long as no constructive program for ultimately relieving the transportation