

# EXTENSION OF THE INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY SYSTEM

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 1942

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON RIVERS AND HARBORS,  
*Washington, D. C.*

The committee met at 10:30 a. m., Hon. Joseph J. Mansfield (chairman) presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will please come to order.

Mr. Miller, you may proceed.

## FURTHER STATEMENT OF ROY MILLER, ACTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, INTRACOASTAL ASSOCIATION OF LOUISIANA AND TEXAS

MR. MILLER. Mr. Chairman, I would like to direct the attention of the committee to two headlines in the press this morning. One is a statement that gasoline for private use probably will be rationed on a Nation-wide basis beginning July 1. The second is that two more ships have been sunk in the Gulf of Mexico, according to an announcement made yesterday afternoon by the Navy Department.

Mr. Chairman, I take the liberty of suggesting to the committee that it might be helpful in its consideration of this bill if the views of the Navy Department concerning the bill could be obtained. Certainly one of the arguments in favor of it is the service which the project will render in the national emergency.

I make that suggestion for the consideration of the committee.

MR. RANKIN. Why should they ration gasoline in those areas where they have a superabundance of it?

MR. MILLER. Mr. Rankin, I do not know.

MR. BEITER. In connection with the story that appeared in the papers, I read that the rationing of gasoline was to conserve rubber, and that that is why they are rationing it.

MR. RANKIN. I will say to the gentleman from New York [Mr. Beiter] that so far as the South is concerned, we do not have to be restricted on gasoline to conserve the rubber supply. We have a superabundance of gasoline in Texas, and also in Mississippi, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana.

MR. RODGERS. And also in western Pennsylvania.

MR. RANKIN. They do not have to harass us down there. We will do our duty, as we always have done it. If this is just trying to harass those people, it is all wrong, and before they get through with it the rubber supply may be gone. At any rate, I do not see why they should do that where there is a superabundance of oil and gas. I am perfectly willing to save rubber, but I cannot see