

Mr. DUGAN. If it became necessary to take the power units out of these shrimp boats and put them into specially designed tugboats, that could be done very readily.

Mr. CULKIN. I suppose that you could even put two of those tugboat units into one tow—

Mr. DUGAN. There are ample of them there.

As to the construction of the actual barges, I have a definite statement here from the Jacksonville labor union under date of March 13, 1942, stating:

The Jacksonville Metal Trades Council advises that under a survey just completed they have on file applications from 10,750 mechanics and laborers who are not now employed in any shipyard or other defense industry; that within 90 days there will be an additional 15,000 mechanics available for the shipbuilding industry in Florida. We are further advised that upon 24 hours' notice 2,000 skilled mechanics and laborers can be furnished any organization in the State of Florida, and that thereafter there may be furnished 200 additional men each day until substitute crews are provided for each shipyard operation.

Now, the State, through the Governor, is providing at the present time the largest vocational training program in the United States. Florida will train any man or any woman to do a specific operation in the defense production program, including shipbuilding. We have taken over night clubs, hotels, old garages, and everything else, and have hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of men and women in shipbuilding training right now.

Mr. RODGERS. Are you going to file something to show the number of those boats that there are?

Mr. DUGAN. Yes, sir. I have just been advised that tomorrow I am going to get a detailed list of those boats, showing the size and the power. It is on its way up here from Florida now.

I have a composite, if you are interested in it, of the existing shipyards. It includes their ways, their manpower, tools, machinery, production capacity, and possible expansion. The State of Florida will back financially any of these shipbuilding companies and aid them in setting up their management and production program for this defense effort.

Mr. RODGERS. Are these shrimpers all through the Gulf?

Mr. DUGAN. In both the Atlantic and the Gulf. They are in the southeastern freight trade on the Atlantic, the coast of Florida, and through the western part of the Gulf coast.

Mr. RODGERS. And they are available now?

Mr. DUGAN. Immediately available. They could be put into operation in 24 hours.

Mr. HALL. Tell us something about the steel pipes.

Mr. DUGAN. I do not know anything about that, sir.

Mr. HALL. Wouldn't that be one of the defense items?

Mr. DUGAN. Yes. A survey is being made at the present time, but the information has not been forwarded to me here. I can get that information for you. We have 64 engineer observers in the State getting information for that tabulation.

Mr. HALL. Can you get it in the next few days?

Mr. DUGAN. I think we can.

Mr. Rodgers. You spoke about wooden barges. Is there lumber available to build them?