

EXTENSION OF THE INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY SYSTEM

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 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 be in order. Are you ready to proceed, Mr. Miller?

Mr. MILLER. Yes.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I would like to insert in the record some quotations from an Associated Press dispatch appearing in the *Washington Post* this morning, from New York, entitled "United States Gasoline Supply Drops for the Ninth Week."

The following quotation is from the dispatch.

The national gasoline supply in the ninth consecutive decline dropped 1,516,000 barrels during the week ending May 16 to a total of 99,134,000 barrels, the American Petroleum Institute reported today.

A sizable part of the decline was in the combined five regional totals, which included the rationed east-coast area.

Heavy fuel storage also dropped to 78,826,000 from the 80,155,000 barrels the week before.

Mr. Chairman, just for the purpose of orienting ourselves in this presentation I want to again repeat that the proponents of this bill do not advocate and urge the proposals it contains as a complete remedy or panacea for the conditions which it seeks to aid.

At the outset of this hearing I stated on behalf of the proponents, that in our opinion all of the various suggested remedies will be needed to meet the situation which this bill is intended to help. We submit that every possible remedy which can be practically and economically applied should be embraced with the least possible delay. Those remedies include the greater utilization of the inland waterways, the Mississippi River-Chicago, Ill., waterway to the Great Lakes as a gateway on the one hand; the Mississippi River and the Ohio to the Pittsburgh district on the other, and possibly a great pipe line from the Southwest to the East.

When those remedies have been applied there will still, according to the testimony presented to this committee, be a great deficiency. This proposal we submit offers the quickest and most economical relief to aid in the solution of the problem.

I state this in order there may be no misunderstanding on the part of the public. I have been told that the impression has been created