

Mr. JOHNS. There were quite a few people with reservations that are for the St. Lawrence seaway, and that is the reason the bill has never passed.

Mr. MACLEAY. Judge Culkin is fully aware of our position, as we have talked about it time and again.

Mr. CULKIN. Sometimes it has not been with the bill as written.

Mr. RANKIN. Before you leave the stand, Mr. Macleay, I want to clarify the proposition you mentioned a while ago, when you made reference to the meeting at Sheffield, Ala., 18 years ago. You favored the building of the dam below the mouth of Bear Creek?

Mr. MACLEAY. Yes.

Mr. RANKIN. In order to enable the Army engineers to connect the Tennessee River down the Tombigbee to the Gulf.

Mr. MACLEAY. Yes.

Mr. RANKIN. They built that dam below the mouth of Yellow Creek, the Pickwick Dam, and that has been tremendously favorable for this reason, that if they had not you would have had a lift going south and also a lift coming north. But now, using Yellow Creek you only have a lift one way, so that the placing of the dam below the mouth of Yellow Creek has been greatly favorable to the Tombigbee project.

Mr. MACLEAY. I remember very well we made a plea before the engineers to see that the dam was placed where it would do the most good, and the testimony that was submitted.

Mr. RANKIN. It would shorten the distance between the Tennessee River and Mobile by about 1,000 miles.

Mr. MACLEAY. Gentlemen, just in closing, I would like to say that the Mississippi Valley Association, which is represented in 23 States in the Middle West and the South, is in favor of this bill, which is before you, and we will, if the committee reports the bill favorably, get in touch with the Members of Congress from the Middle West area and ask them to support the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, Mr. Macleay.

Mr. MACLEAY. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF MAJ. J. R. PARTEN, DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION, OFFICE OF PETROLEUM COORDINATOR

Mr. MILLER. Mr. Chairman, it is a particular pleasure to present the next witness. He is a prominent citizen of Texas and has been active in the public affairs of our State for many years. He at one time was chairman of the board of regents of our great State university. He is a practical oil man with many years experience. He was recently called to Washington as Director of Transportation in the Office of the Petroleum Coordinator. I am pleased to present Maj. J. R. Parten.

The CHAIRMAN. We are pleased to hear you, Major. You may proceed in your own way and conclude your statement before questions are asked, if you wish.

Major PARTEN. Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I am deeply appreciative of the kind introduction of my famous Texan, Mr. Roy Miller.

I wish also to say to the committee that I am deeply appreciative of the consideration shown me by extending my time until this morn-