

petroleum products, standing off the coast of Florida ready to be unloaded but all of the facilities in Florida are filled to capacity; that no one can unload the gasoline because they cannot dispose of it; that there are many tugs and barges tied up at St. Marks. He states:

The name of the tug and barges tied up at St. Marks yesterday which had been there for days were as follows:

1. Tug—*Dr. Spero*;
2. Barge—*Coastal No. 1*; capacity 4,500 barrels;
3. Barge—*Citizens No. 77*; capacity 9,000 barrels.

Of course, I have not read this letter through.

Major PARTEN. I certainly will be interested to run that down, and I will be glad to give you the information when I get it.

Mr. PETERSON. This is a letter addressed to Hon. Harold L. Ickes, Petroleum Coordinator, Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C., and is dated May 16, 1942, and I do know of my own personal knowledge from recent conversations with people through my State that all of the facilities are loaded, that they have plenty of gasoline and they cannot dispose of it because we have the rationing program.

Now, with this gasoline available and not being moved up to the East, why should this rationing be placed on Georgia? Do you know of any reason why it should be?

Major PARTEN. Well I can see a transportation reason.

Mr. PETERSON. If they have the gasoline on hand and it cannot be shipped out why not let them use it.

Major PARTEN. I think that in the rearrangement we are going to examine and I think you will find—

Mr. PETERSON (interposing). When it is found necessary ration it, but in the meantime why not let them use it.

Major PARTEN. I cannot judge that; I do not know the answer because I am not the person best qualified to discuss the question of curtailment of consumption or rationing. The rationing organization is in the hands of the Price Administration.

Mr. PETERSON. I thought you would be an expert witness and could give your opinion on it.

Major PARTEN. Well I think this: I think we have all got to make some sacrifice in this matter for the other fellow.

Mr. PETERSON. All right, then why not subject other States to the same restrictions which have as much oil and gas available as Georgia and Florida; why not make it apply to all States where it is available and not just pick out two States that have plenty of gasoline; take all the States that have plenty of gasoline and make rationing apply to all of them.

Major PARTEN. Of course, the rationing program is in the hands of the Office of Price Administration.

The curtailment that was first put into effect by the Petroleum Coordinator's Office, or to be put into effect was dependent upon tanker transportation. Since the first curtailment program recommendations from the Office of the Petroleum Coordinator we have completed some lines into that area, and we have operated on a somewhat altered situation both in Georgia and Florida which have not depended as much on tanker transportation, and that was the turning point on which curtailment, so called, was recommended.

Mr. PETERSON. Then, if the facilities are not adequate to take care of the petroleum products and they have an ample supply available