

in the State, why not lift the rationing in that State and let them use it?

Major PARTEN. I gave the reason that it is just a whole lot short, a saving in transportation, in moving the products by tank cars from Atlanta from the east coast of—

Mr. PETERSON (interposing). Yes; but here is the physical fact that it is not moving. They are standing around there with these barges loaded. Why not let the people use the gasoline; unload the barges and let them go back for another load?

Major PARTEN. I will say one thing, Congressman, this will be looked into by the Transportation Office, and if it is found in this check-up your information is correct, we can tank cars out of Florida and out of Georgia.

Mr. PETERSON. I think it is only fair to that section in view of the fact they have an ample supply of gasoline, which is not being moved, that you should modify the rationing to permit the same use as the other States where they have an ample supply of petroleum products, and I certainly trust you will take that matter up.

Major PARTEN. I will be glad to look into it.

Mr. SCHULTE. How is most of the oil brought into the Chicago district at the present time?

Major PARTEN. Mostly by pipe line.

Mr. SCHULTE. The construction of this new pipe line you mention will result in some diversion and capacity coming from the other sections. Is that going to interfere with the industries up there?

Major PARTEN. No. It will boost and rehabilitate the supplies to your industries in the Chicago district.

Mr. SCHULTE. So they will not be affected by this project?

Major PARTEN. No; on the contrary they will be helped; your industries will be helped; your supply will be greater. The present status of the oil supply in that area with the decline of production in the Illinois Basin—it is causing a drain on the Illinois supply and this emergency has unduly hurt the oil production in the Illinois Basin, and we must get more petroleum into the Illinois Basin by winter. And that is one of the most significant reasons for this 24-inch pipe line.

Mr. SCHULTE. Then we have every reason to believe it will not adversely affect the Chicago area.

Major PARTEN. I would certainly say that all of these pipe lines are going to insure the supply of adequate fuel for your industries in that area.

Mr. SCHULTE. Thank you.

Mr. PETERSON. Major Parten, I think that these facts have not been brought to your attention, and I think it is well, if the chairman is willing, that I bring them to you by reading a few excerpts from this letter of the Governor of Florida, which I have hurriedly glanced through. It states:

Last Sunday I went down to the port of St. Marks, just below Tallahassee, and found three loaded barges of gasoline tied up which had been there at that time for various periods of time.

The names of the barges I gave a while ago.

They were unable to discharge their cargo because the storage facilities were already filled. Yesterday afternoon, Friday, May 15, I caused another check to be made of this situation and found that two of said barges were still