

us that the matter was referred to the Oil Coordinator's Office, where it continues to rest.

Mr. PETERSON. You mean you have never gotten a conference with the Oil Coordinator?

Mr. WALKER. Yes; we have gotten a conference with the Oil Coordinator's Office on several occasions, and have in our files a favorable letter from Mr. Ralph K. Davies in which he said the thing had great merit.

Mr. PETERSON. What is stopping it; why will it not move on?

Mr. WALKER. Well, when you consider, sir, that the Oil Coordinator's Office is composed practically 90 or 95 percent of the representatives of the major oil companies and we come along with an independent line, we have not got much of a chance.

And the point there—and I would like to wind this up, Mr. Chairman—is that this pipe line, the independent pipe line, would be of service to all and augment the inland waterway system,

Mr. PETERSON. Do you mean to say that it appears as a possible reason that you were not given more favorable consideration on the part of the offices with whom you have taken this up is due to the fact that those administering this Federal law are representing, approximately 95 percent of them, the big oil companies?

Mr. WALKER. There is no question about that insofar as I am concerned, and we have been through this for 11 months.

Mr. DONDERO. Have you discussed this matter with the Commerce Committee of the Senate?

Mr. WALKER. We appeared before Senator Maloney's committee, in which we put in testimony of what we were trying to do; we told about the situation which might develop from sinkings. I was reading that testimony over the other day, and it seemed more like a prophecy than testimony.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, for the committee's indulgence. We did not intend to make this so long, but I will say, in conclusion, that the use of inland waterways is one of the things that would be helpful, and we are 100 percent for cooperating with the committee in this matter.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.

Mr. RANKIN. If you do not get permission to build the pipe line directly to the Atlantic seaboard, would you still be in favor of the project that we are discussing here?

Mr. WALKER. We are in favor of it.

Mr. RANKIN. You are in favor of it?

Mr. WALKER. There is no question about it, for it does not interfere with the source of this oil. In other words, as you can see from the map, this oil comes from the Gulf fields, and what we propose is to bring oil from the mid-continent fields.

Mr. PETERSON. In other words, you would like to get the Mississippi oil to the coast.

Mr. WALKER. We would like to get the oil to the eastern seaboard to keep people from freezing to death next winter.

Mr. RANKIN. And you think we will need all of these projects?

Mr. WALKER. There is no question, we will need all of these projects.

Mr. RANKIN. And then some.

Mr. WALKER. Yes.