

National Rivers and Harbors Congress



what IT IS
IT DOES

DEVELOPMENT OF LAND AND WATER RESOURCES IDEAL POST-WAR PROGRAM

When the present emergency is ended, we will be permitted to become active again in our efforts to promote the orderly development, conservation and use of the Nation's water and land resources for flood control, navigation, irrigation, soil conservation, and related purposes.

Such a program has been adopted and authorized by Congress in the recently-passed Flood Control and Rivers and Harbors Acts, comprising projects in every part of the United States with an estimated total cost of approximately four and one-half billion dollars. Detailed plans are ready in many cases so that actual construction could start as soon as the necessary appropriations are made by Congress. These projects are ideally suited for our post-war public works program. A larger percentage of the money spent on this type of work goes to labor than almost any other kind of public construction, averaging more than 80 per cent, so that many million man-hours employment will be provided. By undertaking such *useful permanent* projects, we will avoid wasting the taxpayers' money on useless make-work or "leaf-raking" projects.

The projects we advocate will (1) provide permanent capital investments which will increase the national wealth and the Nation's tax base; (2) save human life and property from the devastating floods which every year take increasing toll; (3) benefit every consumer, producer and manufacturer by insuring low-cost transportation for heavy products and those best suited for water transport; (4) supply a firm irrigation water-supply to 5,000,000 acres of land, thus protecting against future droughts and providing new farm opportunities for more than 50,000 families and returning veterans, all on a self-liquidating basis; (5) strengthen the national defense and the national economy; and (6) assist rural and urban populations as well and add to social security and economic welfare by providing—

- (a) protection and restoration for millions of acres denuded annually by soil erosion;
- (b) irrigation of arid and semi-arid areas with resultant increase in production;
- (c) reforestation; increased recreational facilities; pollution abatement; and
- (d) cheap power which will assist in defraying the cost of the projects.

DIRECTORY NATIONAL RIVERS AND HARBORS CONGRESS

Washington 6, D. C.

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An Organization to Promote the Sound and Orderly Development of Our Water and Land Resources

Forty-nine Years of Achievement

IN OCTOBER, 1901, a group of public-spirited citizens—Congressmen, public officials, water experts and others from all parts of the country—met at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Md., and banded themselves together in a non-partisan, non-profit organization which they called the National Rivers and Harbors Congress. The sole purpose of the Congress is, and always has been, to further a sound and coordinated development of the Nation's water and land resources. The Congress was a pioneer in the struggle for the protection of our natural resources and has taken the leadership in this fight for nearly five decades.

It is generally agreed by those who know the field that America owes her present system of improved harbors and waterways directly to the efforts of the National Rivers and Harbors Congress. Down through the years, the organization has cooperated closely with the United States Congress, which has always sought its recommendations and advice, and has given a ready ear to its counsel.

Assists Local and Sectional Organizations

The Congress has for its purpose the promotion of continued improvement and development of the Nation's rivers, harbors, lakes and water and land resources, and the investigation and approval of practical projects throughout the country. It advocates the orderly development of our soil and water resources for purposes of flood control, navigation, irrigation, and all beneficial uses.

It provides a forum for discussion of all problems relating to land and water development and use, serves as a clearing house for coordinating the activities of local and sectional organizations, and affords a means for securing united action by all the interests concerned with the various phases of land and water conservation.

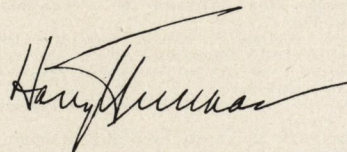
THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, March 7, 1950.

To the National Rivers and Harbors
Congress:

It gives me great pleasure to send greetings and congratulations to the fortieth convention of the National Rivers and Harbors Congress.

The work which you are doing has increased in importance ever since it began at the turn of this century. As our country has grown in material possessions as well as in world leadership, your organization's program has kept pace with our national needs.

The sound development of our land and water resources is a critically important factor in insuring the over-all health and strength of our country. By your work in this vital field you are making an important contribution to the strength of America and the peace of the world.



Stimulates Public Sentiment

The Congress maintains permanent headquarters in Washington, D. C., where its annual conventions are usually held. From its offices, by group and sectional meetings, as well as its conventions and special sessions, through its news bureau, publications and field agents, it keeps constantly before Congress, the Administration and the public the desirability of needed water and land improvements and their fullest utilization for the public benefit.

Parent Organization

The Congress is the country's oldest and largest water organization and occupies a semi-official

status by reason of its close liaison with the governmental agencies, legislative and executive, responsible for these public works, and the personnel of its directorate and official staff.

It acts in an advisory capacity to the United States Congress and the Government agencies charged with matters pertaining to river and harbor development, flood control, irrigation and reclamation, soil and water conservation, and related subjects. Its work has been endorsed by every President of the United States from Theodore Roosevelt to Harry Truman, as well as by Cabinet Members, Governors, and other high officials.

Membership Nation-Wide

The membership of the Congress is composed of States, cities, chambers of commerce, waterway and similar associations, firms and individuals located in every State in the Union, its territories and insular possessions.

All members of the Senate and House of Representatives are honorary members of the Rivers and Harbors Congress and many of them take an active part in the work of the organization. The officers of the Corps of Engineers of the United States Army engaged in river and harbor work are likewise ex-officio members of the Congress.

Recommendations and resolutions adopted by the Congress are presented by committees to the President of the United States, the Vice President, Speaker of the House of Representatives, the proper congressional committees, the Secretary of the Army, Secretary of the Interior, Commissioner of Reclamation, Chief of Army Engineers, and other appropriate officials and agencies, and endeavor to see that the policies adopted by the Congress are enacted into law.

In each presidential election year committees are appointed to present to the Resolutions Committees of the Democratic and Republican conventions proposed planks advocating continued improvement of the Nation's rivers and harbors and flood control for incorporation in the platforms of the national political parties.

Projects Committee

The Projects Committee of the National Rivers and Harbors Congress is composed of an expert in each of the engineering divisions of the United States. Congressman Sid Simpson, of Illinois, is Chairman of the Committee, and Mr. H. H. Buckman, of Florida, is Vice Chairman.

The committee's purpose is to assist sponsors of individual projects in preparing and presenting their data, so that they may be placed in line for approval. The projects recommended by the committee and endorsed by the Congress are vigorously pressed for inclusion in the Government's public works program, and appropriations or allocation of funds sought therefor.

New Officers Reactivate Congress

Hon. John L. McClellan, senior United States Senator from the State of Arkansas, was reelected President of the Congress at its recent 40th Convention. Formerly a member of the House of Representatives where he served on the Flood Control Committee, Senator McClellan is now a member of the Senate Committee on Public Works and chairman of the subcommittee having jurisdiction over all river-harbor and flood control legislation. Senator McClellan is also chairman of the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments and a member of the Appropriations Committee.

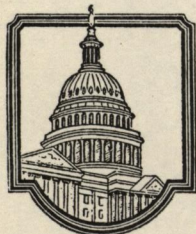
Assisting President McClellan are two National Vice Presidents: Senator Francis Case of South Dakota, member of the Public Works Committee, and former Representative William M. Whittington of Mississippi, for many years Chairman of the House Public Works and Flood Control Committees.

Representative Dewey Short of Missouri, ranking minority member of the House Armed Services Committee, is Chairman of the Board of Directors which is composed of outstanding leaders throughout the United States in the Congress' field of activity. A Vice President heads the organization in each State, and an Advisory Committee functions actively in nearly every State and district.

JOHN L. MCCLELLAN
PRESIDENT
WILLIAM H. WEBB
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
J. G. BURKE
SECRETARY - TREASURER

FRANCIS CASE
WM. M. WHITTINGTON
NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

DEWEY SHORT
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
SID SIMPSON
CHAIRMAN, PROJECTS COMMITTEE
H. H. BUCKMAN
VICE CHAIRMAN



OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

NATIONAL RIVERS AND HARBORS CONGRESS

WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

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PHONE NATIONAL 7025

PRESIDENT'S CALL FOR SPECIAL MEETING OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

WHEREAS, since June 25, 1950, the armed forces of the United States have been engaged in conflict with the forces of a foreign nation; and

WHEREAS, on December 16, 1950, President Truman proclaimed the existence of a national emergency; and

WHEREAS, it now appears unlikely that the armed conflict hereinbefore referred to will be settled in the very near future; and

WHEREAS, the threatening international situation continues to constitute a grave peril to our domestic peace and tranquility;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John L. McClellan, President of the National Rivers and Harbors Congress, hereby issue this call for a special meeting of the officers and directors of the said Congress to convene at the Mayflower Hotel in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, on Friday, the 11th day of May, 1951, at the hour of 1:00 P. M., Eastern Daylight Saving Time, to take such action as may be deemed appropriate or desirable in the premises.

The permanent Projects Committee of the Congress will meet at 10:00 A. M. on Thursday, May 10, 1951, in the Mayflower Hotel, to consider individual projects for which the endorsement of the Congress is desired. The Committee's rule requiring personal appearance before it is waived, and proponents of projects are requested to furnish in writing and by mail the supporting data called for by the Committee for each project. (Application blanks will be sent upon request to this office.)

Presidents, or the executive heads, of chambers of commerce; navigation, flood control, irrigation-reclamation and conservation associations; industrial, business, agricultural, labor and civic organizations, are invited to attend the meeting of the officers and directors of the Congress and to give them the benefit of the views of the organizations referred to.

Assurance has been given by the management of the Mayflower Hotel that sufficient accommodations will be available provided a majority of those attending share double rooms. Early reservations are, therefore, advisable in order to insure satisfactory arrangements.

Dated at Washington, D. C., this 15th day of March, A. D. 1951.

ATTEST:



J. G. Burke

Secretary.

John L. McClellan

President.