

of money, of more efficient operation for us to build any lines into Georgia.

Mr. MACDONALD. How far is it from the end of your line into Georgia? I see the map but I can't quite make out the distance.

Mr. FITE. It is very close up there in the north end. It may be within 25 miles of the line, but that is not a heavy line, Mr. Chairman. That is a distribution line. The heavy transmission lines don't go any closer to Georgia than that point below Jacksonville which is probably 100 miles.

Mr. MACDONALD. When you were describing Jacksonville I think you used the phrase that it was a municipal operation.

Mr. FITE. Yes, sir.

Mr. MACDONALD. Where do they get their power? Do they generate it themselves?

Mr. FITE. They generate it.

Mr. MACDONALD. Just by themselves?

Mr. FITE. Yes, sir; they have a generating system.

Mr. MACDONALD. And it is only used in Jacksonville.

Mr. FITE. That is right.

Mr. MACDONALD. And you have no connection with them?

Mr. FITE. We do have connections, two connections with them.

Mr. MACDONALD. Would you explain that to me because I don't quite understand it.

Mr. FITE. Yes. They are for emergency purposes. They were made at the order of the Federal Power Commission under the emergency powers of that Commission during the war. They said we need this to prevent the building of duplicate lines and the use of copper so we were interconnected.

Mr. MACDONALD. I thought you said that the interconnection was ordered during the war, to connect you up with the gray line over there.

Mr. FITE. Well, it did. Both of them were involved.

Mr. MACDONALD. But Jacksonville also——

Mr. FITE. Yes, sir; both of them.

Mr. MACDONALD (continuing). Is interconnected.

Mr. FITE. Yes, sir.

Mr. MACDONALD. Don't you think it would be a good thing to interconnect into Georgia so that perhaps the prices might go down even more? I think you said that it was reduced about 33⅓ percent.

Mr. FITE. I said I do not think so.

Mr. MACDONALD. If I may just finish my question.

Mr. FITE. Yes. Excuse me, sir.

Mr. MACDONALD. And also from the standpoint of avoiding black-out. I am familiar with backouts and blackout conscious and it has happened any number of times in my home State along the last period of a year, a year and a half.

Mr. FITE. Well, I will try to answer each one of your questions separately. With respect to continuity of service and avoiding blackouts, I don't think that further interconnection with Georgia are going to help the situation at all. I think it might even hurt it because if you get much stronger interconnections into Georgia, into the Atlanta area and on into TVA, say, where there are big pools of power, and you begin to depend on them with these hurricanes that we have down