

JERSEY GOVERNOR REVIVES OLD NAVIGATION PROJECT

Recalls Plan to Make 12-Foot Chan- nel 150 Feet Wide at East- ton-Phillipsburg Line

Trenton, N. J., Jan. 14 (AP)—Sufficiently extensive development of the Delaware river for navigation could bring a net value of \$18,000,000 a year to New Jersey in electric energy, Governor Morgan F. Larson stated in his first annual message to the Legislature today.

The pictured development would involve a series of dams and locks and would provide a number of banked lakes extending as far as Port Jervis, from which dam water power would be capable of development to the extent of approximately 2,000,000,000 kilowatt hours per year, with a net value in excess of \$18,000,000, the Governor said.

"Within a radius of fifty miles," he continued, "of the various dam sites there is a population in excess of 2,000,000 people affording a ready market for such power at desirable rates."

The executive pointed out, however, that unless such a project was undertaken by the United States War Department the concurrence of Pennsylvania would be necessary to carry it out.

Considerable time was devoted by the Governor to the subject of inland waterways and he cited the approval by the War Department of the proposed ship canal between Delaware river and Raritan Bay. This section is the last necessary to be

complete an inland water way from Maine to Florida which can be navigated by craft unsuitable for ocean service.

The Governor recalled that as far back as 1872, the chief engineers of the War Department proposed to provide a navigable channel in the Delaware River, 12 feet deep and 150 feet wide as far as Easton, Pa.-Phillipsburg, N. J., line, but that at that time the project was deemed inadvisable because of insufficient commerce.

"Subsequent investigation of the project," said the Governor, "to extend such a navigable channel as far as Port Jervis, N. Y., has been included in the report of the chief of engineers on a number of occasions including an extended report in 1924 at which time it was found that the areas to the north and west of Easton are rich in natural resources and are highly developed industrially, producing large quantities of cement, iron and steel, anthracite coal, etc., and that a waterway with facilities for economical service of this territory might conceivably carry a large tonnage."

Port and navigation projects, the Governor said, "should receive the encouragement and support not only of the Legislature but also of our commercial organizations and citizens."