RIVER TRANSPORTATION

By Teresa Branson

GRADE LEVEL: Elementary

Prepared in partial fulfillment of requirements for "INDIANA AND THE NEW NATION, 1776-1876" a project of the Historic Southern Indiana Project of the University of Southern Indiana 8600 University Boulevard Evansville, Indiana 47712 (812) 465-7014

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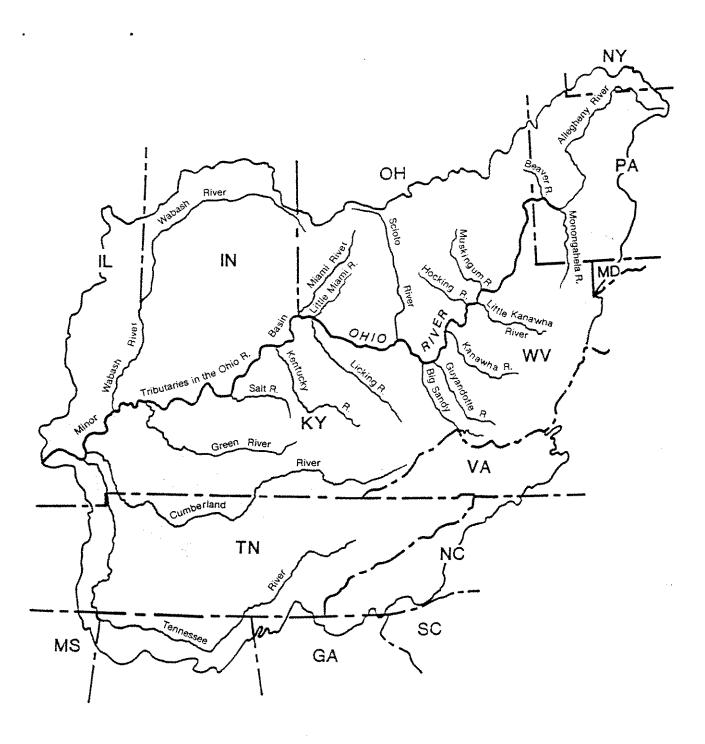
LESSON ONE: The Wabash and the Ohio Rivers

PURPOSE: The students will locate the Wabash and the Ohio River. The students will be able to name some of the effects both rivers had on Indiana. Students will recognize some of the problems of river travel.

MATERIALS: Transparencies of Major Rivers of Indiana, Ohio River, and Counties of 1816 in Indiana. Also copies of each map for each student or group of students. Materials from this packett.

PROCEDURE:

- * Using the transparency of the Ohio River discuss the relationship of the Ohio River to the eastern states and to Indiana.
- * Have students trace the Ohio River on their maps with a blue crayon or marker.
- * Show trasparency of Indiana Rivers. Locate the Wabash River. Discuss its importance to the state as a major highway. Point out the Wabash's relationship to the St. Joseph and Kankakee Rivers. Remind students of La Salle's first night in Indiana.
- * Have the students locate the Wabash river on their maps and trace with a blue crayon or marker.
- * Have students locate other possible Portages connecting to the Wabash river. Mark with a green X.
- * Show the Transparency of Counties of 1816 in Indiana.
- * Discuss with students possible reasons for the location of the first counties in the state along the Ohio River. Be sure they include the Indians still owning land to the north as well as its relationship to the river.
- * Discuss problems with river travel. Have the students list possible problems that might arise in the summer and winter that would hinder river travel.



LESSON TWO: Flatboats, Keelboats, and Ferryboats

PURPOSE: The students will learn the uses and descriptions of each type of boat.

Materials: Pages 115 - 117 of "Living Indiana History", Pictures of each type of boat, copy of "Impact of the Ohio River on the Development of Mt. Vernon" (pg. 4 & 5), and information in this packet.

PROCEDURE:

* Have students research these different types of boats. Discuss each boat's characteristics and uses.

* Make these headings across the top of the board or chart paper: WHAT TYPE, USES, DESCRIPTION, ADVANTAGES, and DISADVANTAGES. Under TYPE list the different types of boats from this lesson. Have the students fill in the other columns. * Have students choose one type of boat and make a drawing of it. Then, write a paragraph about it's trip down the Ohio. Where was it going? Why was it being used instead of another type of boat? Who was riding on it? What things did it encounter along the way?

Flatboats

Flatboats were rectangular with a cabin on top and flat bottoms. They were steered by a man at the end of the boat with a long pole. Other poles were use to help push away from the shore, get past sandbars, floating logs, or snags in the river. Flatboats were only able to go down stream. It was usually sold as firewood when it reached New Orleans. If a family was using it to move, the wood was often used to build an open-faced cabin or other shelter until the cabin could be built.

Ferryboats

Ferryboats were used to help people cross the river when a ford, or low place in the river, could not be found. Usually an operator would live near the river and earn his living by hauling people across the river. The ferryboats were attached to a cable that ran from one side of the river to the other. This kept the ferry from drifting down stream. They were strong wooden rafts large enough to carry a settler and his belongings or a farmer and his crops and animals.

Keelboats

Keelboats were long and narrow and easier to steer than flatboats. With the help of sails and poles the keelboats could travel upstream. Usually 6 to 8 men were needed to pole upstream. They had poles long enough to reach the bottom of the river. One end of the pole was placed on the river bottom. Then, they pushed the top of the pole with their shoulders as they walked up the deck. This moved the boat upstream. When they reached the end they had to quickly run back to their places and start over again before the boat could float back downstream again. Other keelboats used rowers and oars. Either way it was a long difficult trip. It would often take 3 months to get back upriver from New Orleans to Indiana.

GLASS BOATS

I WAS NEVER SAW A "GLASS BOAT", THOUGH I HAVE HEARD OF THEM SINCE LEAVING THE RIVER COUNTRY, SO I READ WITH MUCH INTEREST LAST WEEK CLARENCE WOLFE'S PARAGRAPHS ABOUT THE GLASS BOAT IN THE NEW HARMONY TIMES. MR. & MRS. WOLFE HAD BEEN TALKING WITH MR. & MRS. THOMAS MUMFORD OF NEW HARMONY, WHEN SAYS MR. WOLFE, "IN OUR DISCUSSION MRS. MUMFORD MADE A STATEMENT ABOUT THE GLASS BOATS WHOSE COMING BROUGHT A THRILL TO THE DWELLERS ALONG THE BANKS OF THE WABASH THREE-QUARTERS OF A CENTURY AGO. IT WAS THE FIRST TIME WE HAD EVER HEARD THIS PHASE OF NAVIGATION MENTIONED.

"BOTH MR. & MRS. MUMFORD RECALL THE VISITS OF THE "GLASS BOAT", WHICH WAS NOT, AS THE NAME IMPLIES, CONSTRUCTED OF GLASS, BUT CARRIED AS ITS CARGO A MULTITUDE OF PIECES OF GLASSWARE OF EVERY SHAPE AND DESIGN," MR. WOLFE CONTINUED. "IT WAS A CRUDE AFFAIR, A CABIN BUILT UPON A FLATBOAT AND STEERED BY A STERN OAR, WITHOUT PROPELLING POWER, AND DEPENDING UPON THE ALWAYS PLACID CURRENT OF THE WABASH TO CARRY IT ON TO ITS DESTINATION, SOMETIMES, NO BOUBT, TO NEW ORLEANS. THE "GLASS BOAT," LIKE THE BUTTERFLY, LASTED FOR ONE BRIEF SEASON, AND AT THE END OF ITS JOURNEY IT WAS DISMANTLED AND ITS TIMBERS USED FOR BUILDING PURPOSES. NO ONE EVER SAW A "GLASS BOAT" GOING UP STREAM.

"THE COMING OF THE "GLASS BOAT" WAS LOOKED FORWARD TO WITH PLEASURE BY THE PEOPLE OF THOSE EARLY DAYS, FOR IT MEANT A REPLENISHING OF THE CUPBOARDS OF THE TOWN. THE BOAT USUALLY ANCHORED AT A CONVENIENT PLACE BENEATH THE BANK AND SOON THE PEOPLE OF THE TOWN HURRIED TO THE RIVER. THE CHILDREN, IN ANTICIPATION OF THE BOAT'S COMING, HAD BEEN GATHERING AND SAVING RAGS WHICH WERE BARTERED FOR CHOICE BITS OF GLASSWARE DEAR TO THE CHILDISH HEART. THEIR ELDERS MADE PURCHASES OF MORE PRACTICAL STUFF, TUMBLERS, CAKE PLATES AND BOWLS OF VARIOUS SIZES, WHICH TO THIS DAY ARE TO BE FOUND IN THE RECESSES OF THE CUPBOARD, UNTIL RECENTLY STORED AWAY ON REMOTE SHELVES OR IN THE ATTIC UNTIL THE CRAZE FOR OLD GLASSWARE BROUGHT THEM OUT. IT IS AN INTERESTING FACT THAT MANY OF THE PRIZED PIECES OF THE LOCAL COLLECTOR CAME TO NEW HARMONY SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO ABOARD THE "GLASS BOAT" AND WHERE PERHAPS PURCHASED WITH THE RAGS GATHERED BY CHILDREN WHO DURING THE INTERVENING YEARS HAVE FOUND REST AND PEACE BENEATH THE GRASSGROWN SLOPE OF MAPLE HILL."

FROM: THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR, SEPT. 23, 1934 A HOOSIER LISTENING POST, BY KATE MILNER RABB

COMES THE GLASS BOAT"

By LOUISE A. BALDWIN

"Hello! The Boat"—was a welcome and familiar cry along the Ohio river in the years immediately preceding the Civil War, when the water-lanes from Pittsburgh to New Orleans were an important factor in the trade of those early days.

Trading-scows or "Yankee Notion Boats" which followed the crops as they ripened—through the corn belt, the cotton belt, the sugar canewere hailed by the inhabitants of every little river-town and landing and plantation, because they furnished a link with important centers of trade.

No boats were more welcome nor more eagerly awaited than the Glass Roats so-called because of their stock of glassware of all kinds, from the fine French china, manufactured in Cincinnati, to cut-glass from Pittsburgh.

Older Resident Remember

Many older residents of Posey county remember the visits of these Glass Boats, and how for months before their arrival, the women and children saved rags, and broken glass, so that they might have something to trade for badly needed dishes. Brides-to-be stocked their hope-chests, saloons and barber shops bought the beautifully painted or exquisitely cut bottles, and many a man surreptitiously traded pecans or honey or coonskins for a set of chinaware with which to surprise his

clay banks of the levee were strewn with cinders and ashes for a foothold. A large bell suspended on a drew a large and curious crowd.

In size, the Glass Boats varied greatly, most of them being built with reference to the particular needs of the families using them. Most of them were barges, with a rectangular cabin which was divided into four rooms, arranged "shotgun" fashion. The long front room was used for display of goods; the rooms in the rear provided living quarters for the owner family.

Through the center of the storeroom was a long, tiered table on which were arranged the sets of dishes, the vases and the fine glass bottles which were for sale or trade. Clear glass lamps were also sold, filled with "ruby oil", a tinted kerosene, which gave the lamps a decorative appearance and added their selling value.

Oil-Flares Guided Traders

For the benefit of those who wished to do their trading during evening hours, flaming oil-flares on tall lighted the way to the water's edge. Over the entrance hung a smoky torch-basket and the display-room was lighted by flickering lanterns filled with lard oil.

For the families of the proprietors of the storeboats, life on the river did not differ much from that on ing stores disappeared. Upon the arrival of the boat, the land, except for the actual work of navigation. Living quarters were glassware cherish in their cupboards comfortable, and there was ample pieces prized particularly because room for the storage of provisions they were purchased over seventy. pole above the roof, clanged a wel- and cargo. They are the best the five years ago aboard a Glass Boat.

. TO THE MT. VERNON WHARF come and soon the townspeople were country-side afforded-fresh fruits hurrying to a common center, the and vegetables, country cream and wharf. Handbills were passed ad butter. All drank the water dipped vertising the wares on board, and out of the river on which they often an added attraction like a happened to be floating. In one performing bear or an alligator, corner of the living-room stood the settling barrel. Here the river water, dipped up in buckets, was left to settle before drinking. At the bottom of the barrel, after it was three-quarters empty, one might find a rich layer of Ohio river mud, intermingled with odds and ends of all kinds, including sometimes, a fish or two.

> The boats were propelled by a long oar astern which served as a rudder, and a short oar in front known as the "gouger." Although these were used to maneuver the boat out of shallow water, the main reliance was upon the current. Drifting along leisurely, they tried to reach the Mississippi river before winter, as the boats were not built substantially enough to withstand the ice that formed in the Ohio during severely cold weather.

Journey One-Way Passage

The journey of the Glass Boats was a one-way passage. Arriving in New Orleans, they were dismantlpoles stuck in the deep clay banks ed and the wood sold for building purposes. Their owners, disposing also of the cargo they had collected enroute, returned upstream by steamboat.

With the outbreak of the Civil War, which made river-travel dangerous for small craft, the float-

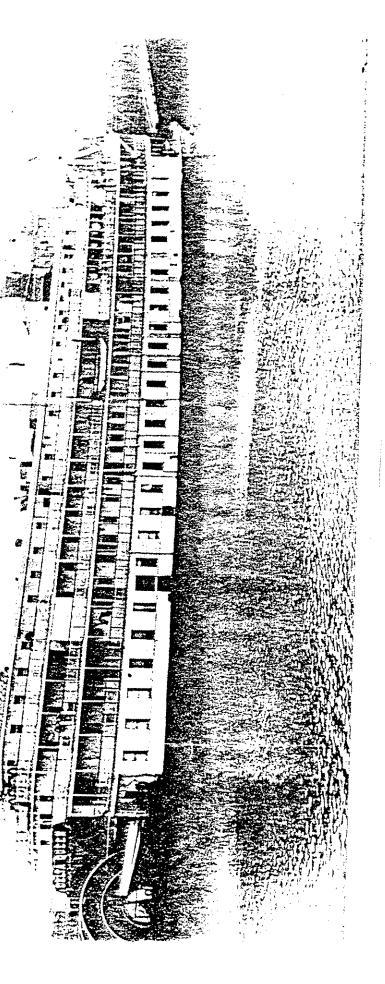
But today many collectors of old

子,是是这种,我们是一个,我们也是一个,我们也是一个,我们就是一个,我们就是一个,我们就是一个,我们是一个,我们的一个,我们也是一个,我们就是一个,我们就是一个,

LESSON THREE: Steamboats and Showboats
PURPOSE: Students will identify steamboats uses for
transporting people and merchandise as well as its importance
to the settlers along the Ohio.

MATERIALS: Information from this packet, pages 118-121 of "Living Indiana History", copy of IMPACT OF THE OHIO RIVER ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF MT. VERNON, a copy of THE NINETEENTH STATE "Steamboating on the Ohio" cassette tape, slides of the Howard Steamboat Museum in New Albany.
PROCEDURE:

- Play "Steamboating on the Ohio" to the class.
- * Discuss the designs of the steamboats and why they were a better way for farmers to get produce to market. What were the advantages and disadvantages of using the steamboats?
- Discuss the use of steamboats as Showboats.
- * Locate Jeffersonville and New Albany on a map of Indiana and discuss their shipbuilding days. Show slides of Howard Steamboat Museum.
- * Have students write a letter to a friend describing their journey aboard a steamboat, be sure to describe things they would have seen, heard, and done while on the boat. OR write a letter to a friend describing a showboat and a play they might have seen on board.



LEE WAS BUILT IN NEW ALBANY BY THE FAMOUS ROBERT HOWARD FAMILY, BOATS.

THERE WERE OTHER DANGERS FOR THE STEAMBOATS BESIDES THE MANY BURNED AND SANK WHEN THEIR BOILERS EXPLODED OR THE SPARKS FROM THE FURNACES WOULD CATCH THEM ON SANDBARS AND SNAGS. FIRE. Mt. Vernon Western Star mt. Vernon, IN Thursday Cct. 23, 1890

Steamer John S. Hopkins.

The champion of all the sternwheelers, the John S. Hopkins, resumes her place in the mail trade between Evansville and Paducah to-day, after a withdrawal of some sixty days, during which time she has been thoroughly rebuilt and repaired in every particular. Her hull and cabin work was done at the Madison Marine Ways; her en gines by the Mechanics Foundry; her boilers by Pelz & Co.; her chimneys and sheet Iron works by Kreipke & Co.; her cabin and joiner work by Jacob Meyer & Son; her painting by Wm. A. Woods and Son; her outfit in linens, tapestries, etc., by Lahr, Hopkins Co., and queensware, cuttlery, etc., by Blackburn & Lunkenheimer, making the steamer as good as new in every detall. Sakir.

The steamer Hopkins has been favored with a most remarkable career. She has made more trips between Evansville and Paducah than any other steamer ever accomplished, and by her promptness and punctuality her name has become more familiar than any other steamer that has been connected with the trade between Evansville and Cairo. This boat was originally constructed in Pittsburgh in 1880, creating a new era and departure in fast sternwheel

mail and passenger packets, displacing the sidewheel hoats and accomplishing their service with much better results than ever accomplished by any sidewheel boat. The evidence of her superior construction, as to her machinery, hull and general make-up, is verified by the success of her operations.

She has likewise created a revolution in the character of navigating the Ohio River with Packet steamers. As an an evidence of her superiority over other boats of her class and kind during her existence of ten years, she has proven herself not only to be one of the fastest and safest boats that navigate the Ohio, but without disparage ment to others, every attempt that has been made (which have been many) to improve on her plan of construction have failed to improve on her, either in speed, economy, capacity or safety, she never having failed to show her heels to all rivals. During her business career she bus at no time ever lost a life or limb, she has never met with an accident of any character that caused detention of a trip, and has proven in every particular, a most servicable, economical and successful boat.

She resumes her place to-day in the trade between Evansville and Paducah officered by the following competent and agreeable men: Captain, Geo. S. Throop; clerks, Jas. Howard, Jr., and William Crozler; pilots, Wm. Luty and John Throop; engineers, B. W. Reynolds and Chas. Dexter; mate, John Watts; carpenter, John Powell; her steward being the incomparable chef de cuisine. John Cooper, making the boat and crew unequalled without question. In her new condition she certainly invites a full share of the business from the general public, with which she has ever been favored.

TEN THOUSAND PADS.

Immense Preparations for the Elec-

An Army of Twenty-one Thou-

RITTORA

Show-Boat Sinks At Local Wharf

Steamer Jewel and Cotton Blossom Floating Theatre Go Down Just West of Water Works.

The steamer Jewel and floating theater Cotton Blossom, the former used in towing the latter, and both owned by Capt. Otto Hittner of Parkersburg, West Virginia., were torn loose from their moorings by the moving ice Saturday night at 7:00 o'clock, and sank on the reef just west of the water works plant. The Cotton Blossom, which is broken in two, has her nose touching the bank, and the Jewel is lying lengthwise at the stern of the former, water covering her lower deck. Both these boats have been lying at our wharf for the past three months, and the freeze up in the river was so sudden that Capt. Hittner was unable to remove them to a safe harbor. These two boats cost when new about \$25,000, and both will be wrecked when the ice again begins to move. The loss is partly covered by insurance.

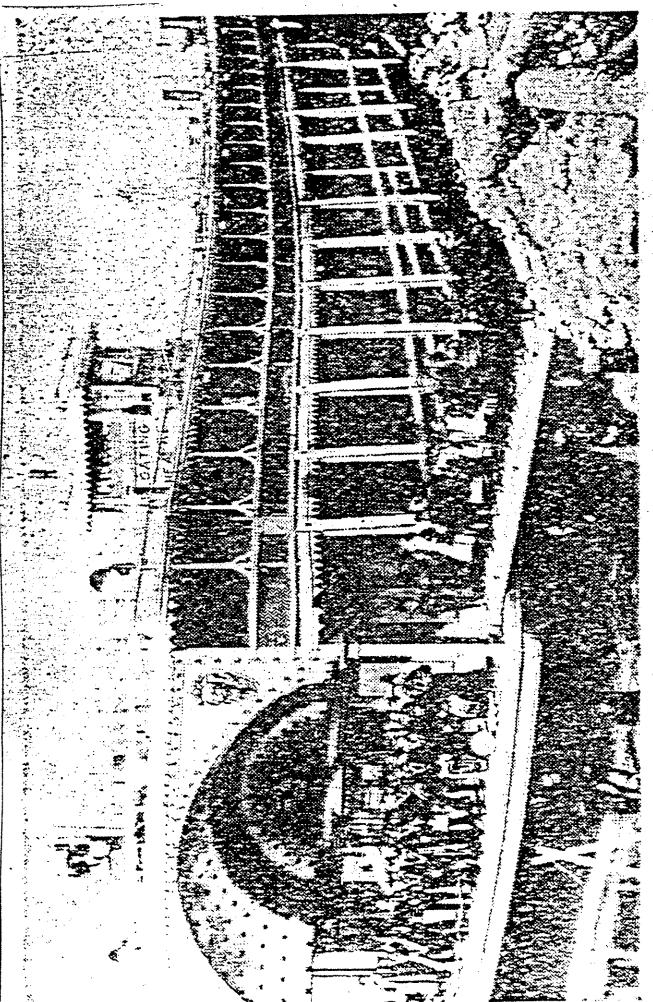
The dismentled steamer Clyde, lying above the Hominy Mills, and belonging to the Flesher Boat Co., also broke loose and was carried down the stream by the ice and lodged against the model covered barge, Belle V. Flesher, and it is feared both will be lost when the break comes. The steamer D. T. Flesher and barges, tied in clear water below McFaddin's creek, are supposed to be in safe harbor as they are lying in the bend of the river, which has thus far not been frozen over, but when the thick ice begins to move it may strike and break them loose from their mooring s. A flatboat belonging to the Fleshers, was carried down to the foot of Store street and sunk.

The marine adjuster was in the city yesterday and satisfactorily settled the loss sustained by Capt. Hittner, and after making the settlement sold the theatre-boat Cotton Blossom back to Capt.

Hittner, and the towbaot Jewelm

Hittner, and the towboat Jewel, to the Flescher Co., the price paid for these boats is kept private, but it is said the figures were very low. Both boats are now being dismantled, and a big crew of men are at work to get everything off the boats before the ice breaks, as what is left will be swept away by the heavy ice when the break comes.

From: The Western Star (a weekly paper)
Mt. Vernon, Indiana Thursday, Manuary 10, 1918



Modern Temple of Amusement. Luter the THIS IS THE SHOWBOAT which bore the name Discubarth-Henderson Floating Theatre-The New

probably is better remembered by that name. It was destroyed by ice in 1917.

Menke Showboat Golden Rod Gets Steel Hull; May Resume Touring

Only the present high stage. Workmen have been cutt: (of the Mississippi river is presout the deck and compartme: venting Capt. J. W. (Billy) of the barge so that the Gold Menke from going ahead on Rod will fit inside. When co what is to be the first steel pleted the main deck of the hulled showboat on the western showboat and the top of t rivers, a recent issue of The barge's hull will be flush.

in Mt. Vernon. He spent sev- Louis Shipbuilding and Steral seasons here during the Company drydock. There t heyday of the Ohio river show- barge will be submerged a boat.

Journal continued, Capt. Menke be raised and pumped out a plans to make his boat self-the showboat will have a ste propelled, another "first." The hull, 230x45 feet. The prese Golden Rod, the Menke show wood hull is about the sar boat, has become an institution beam but only 161 feet long. on the St. Louis waterfront; Propelling Machinery where it has had a 10-year con- Ample room will remain i tinuous run.

last year, according to The showboat will again tour t Waterways Journal, bought a rivers, making "one nig former DPC oil barge from the stands" as of old. US Maritime Commission.

Waterways Journal said. fit the showboat into the bar Capt. Menke is well known both will be towed to the the Golden Rod floated in What's more, the Waterways position over it. The barge w

> the installation of propelli Utilizes Oil Barge and auxiliary machinery.

Capt. Menke in December of Once completed, the Men

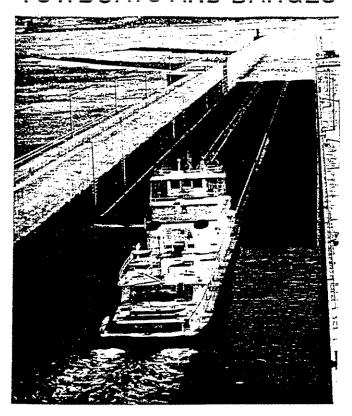


LESSON FOUR: Barges and Tows

PURPOSE: Students will learn uses of barges and tows in transporting commodities.

MATERIALS: US Army Corps of Engineers Ohio River Navigation System 1988 Report (pgs. 6, 7, and 9) included in this packet. Transparency of page 9. PROCEDURE:

- * Discuss with students the sizes and different types of towboats and barges.
- * Use the Southwind Maritime Centre Tonnage figures for 1977 1989. Have students look at the commodities that have been transported from Southwind and decide what types of barges were probably used.
- * Have students choose one type of barge. Draw a picture of the tow showing what it is transporting. Lable the picture.
- * Use the transparency of the Cargo Capacity Comparison Sheet. Discuss differences in amounts that each can haul and make some comaparisons as to which would be the cheapest way to haul different items.



Coal tow downbound out of Smithland Locks and Dam

system are generally powered with engines of 300 to 7,000 horsepower. The Ohio River towboats seldom exceed 6,500 horsepower and push an average maximum size tow of about 30 barges. (Refer to TABLE 35 for average tow configurations at ORB locks).

Four types of barges are used: open hopper, covered hopper, deck, and tank. The dimensions and capacities of several of the basic types are shown on <u>PLATE 3</u>. These may be further catagorized by length and width into 47 barge types in use on the Mississippi River System and the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway.

Open hopper barges can be used for all types of bulk solid cargo and provide about 45 percent of the tonnage capacity on the inland waterways. Covered hopper barges provide nearly 25 percent of the capacity; tank barges about 22 percent; and deck barges eight percent. Barge hulls are shaped to facilitate their

assembly into a tow that provides an efficient underwater configuration, similar to that of a single vessel. The leading barges in the tow usually have raked bows to reduce drag and the other barges have squared bows to provide efficient tow makeup.

An integrated tow is designed to function as a single vessel which is especially applicable to the movement of chemical and petroleum products. They are made up of tank barges and are rarely broken up in order to use the barges independently.

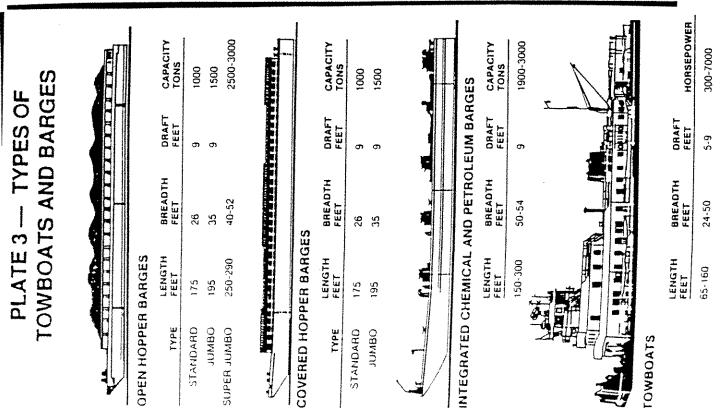
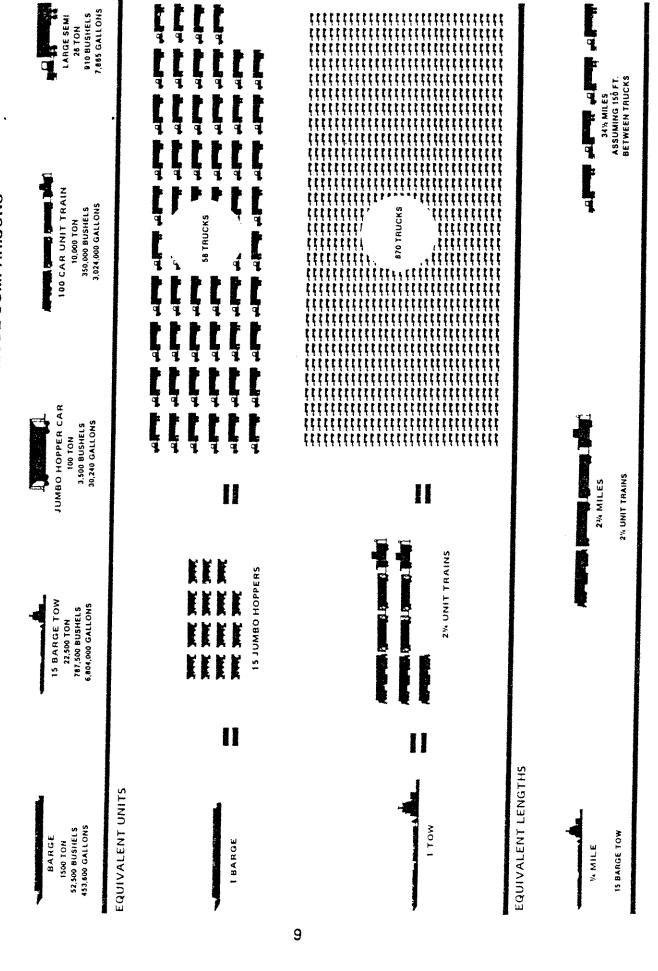


PLATE 4 — ALTERNATE TRANSPORTATION MODE COMPARISONS



SOUTHWIND MARITIME CENTRE TONNAGE

YEAR	COMMODITY	TONS
1977	Grain .	84,355.78
•	Fertilizer	69,871.47
	Logs Manhole Covers	2,659.00
	Coal	167.66
	TOTAL TONS FOR 1977	200.00 157,253.9 1
1978	Grain	311,331.42
	Fertilizer	59,061.23
	Iron Castings, Logs and Pipe TOTAL TONS FOR 1978	16,069.30
	13.00 TON 1370	386,461.95
1979	Grain	507 477 A
	Fertilizer	583,177.83 58,649.07
	Logs, Manhole Covers, Coal, Salt, Soybean Oil, Steel and	00,045.07
	Construction Equipment TOTAL TONS FOR 1979	29,253.41
	TOTAL TONS FUR 1979	671,080.31
1980	Grain	
,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Fertilizer	530,706.32
	Manhole Covers	64,387.39 898.80
	Logs	4,883.12
	Pipe Mochinery	2,367.75
	Machinery Poles	555.00
	TOTAL TONS FOR 1980	1,010.23
		604,808.61
1981	Grain	070 500 40
	Fertilizer	870,522.12 61,908.14
	Pipe, Manhole Covers, Logs	11,262.63
	TOTAL TONS FOR 1981	943,692.89

SOUTHWIND MARITIME CENTRE TONNAGE

YEAR	COMMODITY	TONS
		TONO
1982	Grain .	1,521,716.31
•	Fertilizer Pipe	143,832.51
	Logs	4,121.79
	TOTAL TONS FOR 1982	4,467.39 1,674,138.00
		1,011,100.00
1983	Grain	
. 500	Fertilizer	975,030.04
	Coal	241,631.41 646,030,23
	Pipe	2,975.87
	Logs	4,918.28
	Bridge Parts, Coking Coal and Petroleum Coke TOTAL TONS FOR 1983	6,536.00
	TOTAL TONG FOR 1903	1,877,121.83
4004		
1984	Grain Fontilian	1,123,981.12
	Fertilizer Coal	221,331.23
	Pipe	2,183,420.05
	Logs	4,029.93 5,011.29
	Tubing	645.71
	TOTAL TONS FOR 1984	3,538,419.33
100=		
1985	Grain Fertilizer	1,302,093.23
	Coal	181,438.79
	Pipe	2,197,825.43
	Logs	5,625.26 2,923.11
	Equipment	1,528.41
	TOTAL TONS FOR 1985	3,691,434.23
• • • •		
1986	Grain	1,013,488.02
	Fertilizer	156,683.30
	Coal Pipe	2,867,207.79
	Logs	7,702.31
	Bridge Parts, Vessel	5,028.50
	TOTAL TONS FOR 1986	3,134.83 4,053,244.75
		1,400,2,17,70

SOUTHWIND MARITIME CENTRE TONNAGE

YEAR	COMMODITY	TONS
1987	Grain Fertilizer Coal Pipe Logs Steel TOTAL TONS FOR 1987	1,250,716.38 204,652.37 2,546,958.15 6,004.55 2,054.95 1,174.31 4,011,560.71
1988	Orain Fertilizer Coal Pipe Logs TOTAL TONS FOR 1988	885,140.39 184,869.62 2,529,939.34 . 5,863.76 2,742.15 3,608,555.26
1989	Grain Fertilizer Coal Pipe Logs Coke Containers TOTAL TONS FOR 1989	1,313,904.84 193,058.59 2,951,202.93 1,905.09 3,968.51 1,355.07 3,677.05 4,469,072.08
	TOTAL TONNAGE THROUGH SOUTHWIND 1977 THROUGH 1989	29,686,843.86

oftoura?

LESSON FIVE: The Port System and Locks & Dams on the Ohio River

PURPOSE: Students will become aware of the need for the lock and dam system. Students will compare commodities shipped from Mt. Vernon in it's youth to those being shipped out of Southwind Maritime Centre today.

MATERIALS: Transparency of "Plate 9-Ohio River Plan and Profile", Transparency of Cargo Capacity Comparison Sheet, Copy of Ohio River Map Charts 29-32. Southwind Maritime Centre, U.S.A. video, information from this packet, and a copy of IMPACT OF THE OHIO RIVER ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF MT. VERNON (pg.4,6,11-13).

PROCEDURE:

- * Show the transparency of "Ohio River Plan and Profile" to the students. Pointing out the drops in elevation of the river as it flows from Pittsburgh to Cairo. Discuss the hazards and problems these elevation differences would cause in shipping. Ask students why locks and dams would be necessary to make transporting good safter.
- * Show students the Ohio River Chart 29- 32. Explain that this is the "road" map for the barge captains as they travel up and down the river. Point out how the maps match and how the river does not flow in a straight line. Also point out the mile markers in the middle of the river are numbering the miles below Pittsburgh. You might also tell them that a captain is only licensed to pilot one part of the river. When he gets as far as he is licensed to go he trades tows with a captain who has gone as far as he can. Then, they both turn around and go back over their same route. Ask how this would be good for the captains and how it could be bad.
- * Show students the "Southwind Maritime Centre, U.S.A." video (9.32min.).
- * Make lists of items shipped from Mt. Vernon by river per the video and the research paper. Have students brainstorm reasons for the changes and what was happening to the state to cause these changes. For example: Why would deerskins no longer be shipped down river? What has happened to allow us to ship more grain than logs?
- * Using the SOUTHWIND MARITIME CENTRE TONNAGE charts have students choose two or three years from 1977 1989 and have them compare the differences in commodities shipped each year, and make a bar graph to show those differences.
- * Using the same charts have students make a line graph showing the changes in TOTAL TONS for each year from 1977-1989.
- * Using the same charts have students choose one year and make a pie graph showing the portions each commodity represents of the total tonnage for that year.

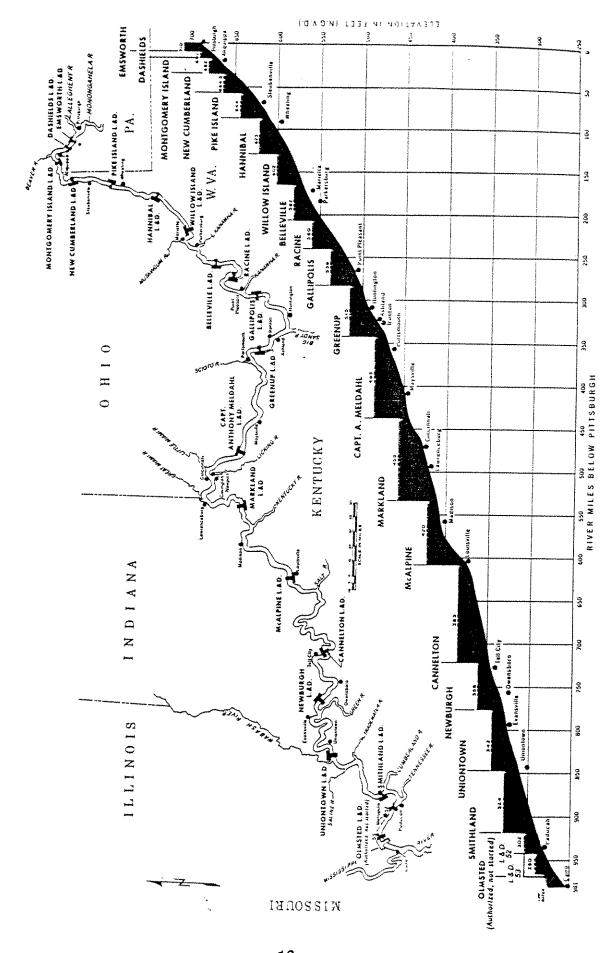
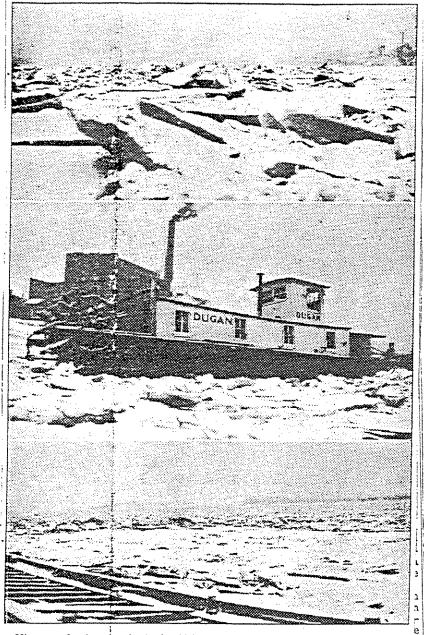


PLATE 9 — OHIO RIVER PLAN AND PROFILE

MT. VERNON, IND., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1936

FIRST PHOTOS OF THE ICE GORGE AT MT. VERNON!



Views of the ice-locked Ohio (Center Ferry boat Dugan, secure-n river taken by The Western Star's ly locked by the ice. (Lower) View & camera man early this week. (Up- taken from the top of a barge, per) A close up view of the huge looking up stream. As far as the cakes of ice, looking down stream. eye can see, only ice is visible.

ice at Mt. Vernon Saturday when men from Ken- years. At no tucky came to this city and a hey state, has number from here walked across auch ice in the the ice to the Kentucky shore.

The gorge in the Ohio originally extended as far down the stream as Carrsville. The gorge at that place broke Friday with a roar.

That the gorge has been materially affecting the stage of the Ohio is indicated by the rapid drop of nearly eight feet at Dam 49 during the 24 hours ending Friday afternoon, but the stream rose lagain for a few feet before coming to a stand-

were made esent ice jam

Some of Flood Passing under Ice as Evidenced by Rising Stage at -Uniontown Dam

DYNAMITING IS HELD INEFECT

Louisville District Engineer's Office Says Only Thaw Will Release Ice Barrier

LATE BULLETIN

The Ohio ice gorge broke at Owensboro this afternoon and at 3:15 o'clock the river there was filled with heavy running ice. Slight breaks also occurred at the Henderson railroad bridge and at Dam 48, but the river jammed again.

A 100-mile-long ice gorge, one of the most extensive on record, locked the Ohio river from above Dam 49 at Uniontown, Ky. to Rockport, Ind. at noon today.

There was no indication at that hour of a break of any consequence.

Fears among shipping and lowland agricultural interests mounted hourly as they speculated on the effect of the release of the wall of overflow water above the gorge when the break did come. -

43-Foot Stage in Sight.

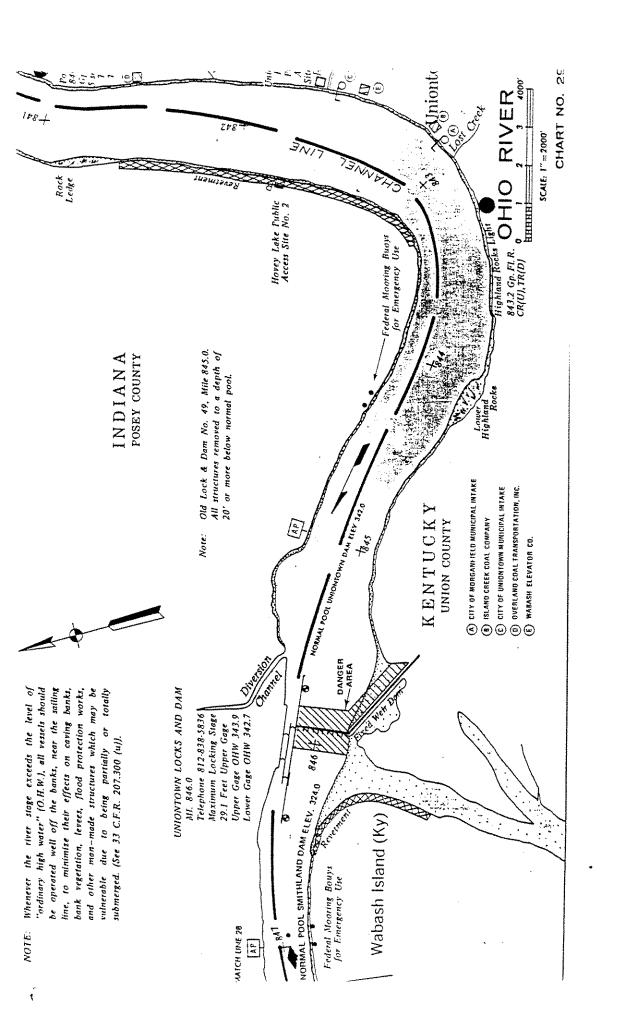
The Weather Bureau continued its forecast of a 43-foot stage at Evansville, which may be further increased by the continued thaw. At the same time a continuance of the thaw appeared the only means of releasing the gorge.

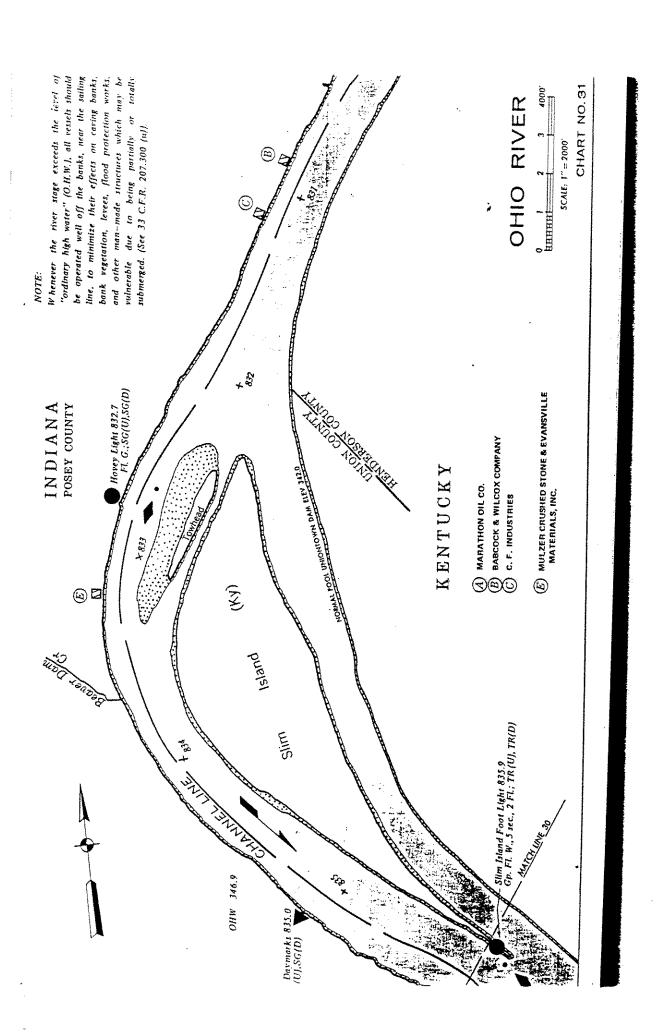
On the appeal of local shipping and agricultural interests The Democrat today contacted the district engineer's office at Louisville, Ky, relative to releasing the gorge by dynamiting at its head near Dam 49. Captain Gulledge informed the newspaper that dynamiting had been tried as a means of releasing a gorge at Louisville but had proved ineffective. "It would take all the dynamite in the world to break the gorge loose to any extent," Captain Gulledge said.

River Rising at 49

That some of the overflow water is passing under the gorge is evidenced by the whirlpool at the head of the gorge and the rising stage at Dam 49. The river rose 1.3 feet at Dam 49 in the 24 hours ending this morning, the stage at that hour being 23.4 feet. The Evansville stage at 7 o'clock was 36.3 feet.

Unsettled weather with little a tomporature was forecast





N

"ordinary high water" (O.H.W.), all vessels show line, to minimize their effects on caving ban! bank vegetation, levees, flood protection wari be operated well off the banks, near the sails due to being partially or totaand other man-made structures which may NOTE: Whenever the river stage exceeds the level

CHART NO. 32

CULMINATION: Southwind Maritime Centre

PURPOSE: Students will become familiar with the Mt. Vernon

port site.

MATERIALS: Map of Southwind Maritime Centre provided in

packet.
PROCEDURE:

* Tell the students they will "visit" the Southwind River Port. Show the map of the port. Discuss the various companies located at the port and how materials can be brought to the river for shipment. Discuss various activities that might be taking place at the port. What the buildings might be used for.

* Arrange a tour of the Southwind Maritime Centre. If a tour can not be arranged, Mr. Snyder does visit schools. Call Don Snyder Port Director 812-838-4382. Or write to: Port Director, 1700 Bluff Road, Mt. Vernon, IN 47620.

* Have students write a paragraph describing the trip. Should also write thanking the port director for the tour.