

C-PF8201

56/6

CANAL APPEAL

Sailing from Bristol to Westminster by canal and river is a little convey with a mission - to carry a petition to the Queen against the Bill which threatens to close the Kennet-Avon Canal. Twenty thousand signatures have been collected from people to whom the canal is a means of livelihood or a source of pleasure.

This 86-mile canal linking Bristol with the Thames at Reading is now the only direct waterway crossing Southern England, and its defenders point out that if it is closed, the only inland route from coast to coast will be a tortuous and lengthy one through the Midlands. Whatever the arguments for its closing, no one can be happy to see yet another of Britain's historic canals, (waterways of business or recreation) condemned to death.