

be referred to the department of the government charged with the construction of roads and bridges in Alaska, and that the construction of said bridge be authorized to be begun without delay.

Passed the Senate, April 26, 1913.

Passed the House, April 29, 1913.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 24.

To the Honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

We, your memorialists, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, do most respectfully and earnestly represent that

Whereas, the Seward Peninsula during the winter has a population of approximately five thousand people exclusive of natives; and

Whereas, the production of gold on said Peninsula since the discovery of placer deposits in 1898 has aggregated some sixty-five millions of dollars in bullion, which output gives promise of an annual increase in the future, by reason of the new method of extraction of the precious metals by means of dredges, there have been during the last three years installed, and there being now in operation, thirty seven dredges on the Peninsula, and the probability being that within five years the number of dredges will be largely increased, which dredges can commence working in May and continue until December; and

Whereas, navigation usually closes the latter part of October, by the formation of ice in Bering Sea, and does not open until the following June, by reason of which fact, for the want of properly equipped vessels to navigate through the ice fields of Bering Sea, the dredge crews are unable to leave that Northern country during the winter

months, and should they do so, will be unable to return at the time at which mining operation with dredges should commence, and thus from four to six month each year is lost, nor can much needed repairs and equipment be secured until the following spring, thereby entailing great loss to both laborers and operators of dredges and other forms of mining; and

Whereas, during the past years the absence of communication by water between Seward Peninsula and the States has very seriously hampered and retarded the mining operations in that part of Alaska, and will, under the modern methods of working the placer fields, and in view of the opening up and development of quartz mines continue to retard such operation still more in the future; and

Whereas, it is greatly to be desired that constant communication be maintained by water between Seward Peninsula and the States during the winter months, now closed to navigation; and

Whereas, the usefulness and practicability of ice breaking vessels has been thoroughly demonstrated by the Dominion of Canada in the Northumberland Straits, and by the Russian Government in the Baltic Sea, under the same conditions as exist in the Bering Sea;

Therefore, we, your memorialists, hereby respectfully urge the Congress of the United States to assist the people of the Seward Peninsula and Northwestern Alaska in establishing and maintaining winter navigation in Bering Sea, by means of properly equipped ice-breaking boats of modern types, by making the necessary appropriation for building and maintaining them, under the Revenue Cutter Service. Such ice-breaking boats could take the place of Revenue Cutters in the summer, and make semi-monthly trips between Dutch Harbor and Nome in the winter from November to June inclusive, whose duty it shall be to carry mail and passengers and freight for hire. Your memorialists represent that such

service if so established will, also, be of vital importance in patrolling the Phribolof (Seal) Islands and facilitate direct communication with officers of the army and other branches of the Federal government.

And your memorialists will ever pray.

Passed the Senate, April 23, 1913.

Passed the House, April 25, 1913.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 26.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled:

Your memorialists, the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Alaska do most respectfully and earnestly represent that

Whereas, the fishing industry of Alaska now in the early stages of development, bids fair to be the greatest industry of its kind in the world, and

Whereas, we believe the waters of Alaska and the fish therein to be the property of the people and the heritage of future generations, and

Whereas, we believe it to be our duty to use every effort toward the protection and conservation of this great natural food supply of the nation, and

Whereas, the history of the fisheries of this nation shows us that the depletion and destruction of migratory fish has been caused by the lack of restriction and regulation of the methods of fishing, and

Whereas, the salmon fishery of this territory is being prosecuted for the purpose of obtaining dividends for the present and without due regard to the conservation of the fish supply for future generations, and

Whereas, we believe that upon the restriction and regulation of the gear and methods of fishing now, depends the future of this great industry.