

aries, are at present served by the long winter mail route from Cordova or Valdez, via Fairbanks, Tanana and Nulato, covering over one thousand miles in length, which fact with the consequent delays incident to storm and stress of winter travel in the North and the long route traversed, entails loss and delay, hampering and seriously interfering with the transaction of such business as requires reasonable despatch; and

Whereas, the Board of Road Commissioners for Alaska have cut, marked, defined and improved a good winter trail from Seward, Alaska to the town of Iditarod, Alaska, which trail is approximately five hundred miles in length and, if used for the purpose, would afford a more prompt and efficient mail service to the district above referred to;

Therefore, we respectfully request and urge that an emergency contract be let to some responsible bidder, to carry the mail destined to Takotna, Iditarod, Ophir and Diskaket, from December 1, 1913, to May 1, 1914, over the said winter trail leading from Seward, Alaska, to Iditarod, Alaska.

And your memorialists will ever pray.

Passed the Senate, April 29, 1913.

Passed the House, April 29, 1913.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 31.

To the Honorable, the President, the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

Your memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of the Territory of Alaska, do respectfully submit the following to your kind consideration:

That the Alaska Road Commission, since its creation under the Act of Congress, approved January 27, 1905, has constructed approximately nine hundred miles of

wagon road and many hundreds of miles of sled roads and trails in all sections of the Territory of Alaska.

That such construction has resulted in great benefit to the country and has aided, more than any other instrumentality, in developing the various sections of our Territory.

That these road are not merely of local importance, but they form a well devised system of highways calculated to serve the entire Territory.

That the expenses incurred in such road and trail building are defrayed by an annual appropriation made by the Honorable, the Congress of the United States, and by a portion of what is known as the "Alaska Fund." The amount appropriated by the Honorable, the Congress of the United States for this year amounts to one hundred and fifty five thousand dollars, fifty five thousand of which, or so much thereof as may be required, is to be expended in the construction of a dam to protect the property of the Government near the town of Valdez, from destruction by nearby glaciers; that the average amount per annum, available from the Alaska funds amounts to one hundred thirty seven thousand dollars, the total of which moneys is barely sufficient to keep the roads constructed in repair.

In view of these facts, we respectfully request that Congress increase its annual appropriation for the construction and maintenance of roads so that a sufficient amount thereof may be set aside for further construction and extension of the road system now laid out.

And your memorialists will ever pray.

Passed the Senate, April 29, 1913.

Passed the House, April 29, 1913.