

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 13.

TO THE HONORABLE, THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR:

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

WHEREAS, in the village of Unalakleet and vicinity situated on the Bering Sea Coast on the Seward Peninsula of Alaska, more than three hundred (300) natives reside; and

WHEREAS, there is no physician or hospital at Unalakleet and the nearest point at which medical services can be procured is at Nulato on the Yukon River, a distance of One Hundred and Fifty (150) miles; and

WHEREAS, such condition is absolutely dangerous to the life and health of the natives, as well as the white residents of the community, and the latter are frequently called upon to render services and attendance to natives who are sick and in distress; and

WHEREAS, the occurrence of an epidemic would endanger the lives of the whole community;

NOW, THEREFORE, we your memorialists, earnestly request that sufficient funds be appropriated from the National Treasury or diverted from funds already appropriated to the uses of the Bureau of Education, for the purpose of establishing a Government Hospital at Unalakleet, and also that a competent physician be employed to conduct the same and render the necessary medical services in connection therewith, and

We, your memorialists, will ever pray.

Passed the House, April 25, 1917.

Passed the Senate, April 27, 1917.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 14.

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SECRETARY OF WAR, THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR AND COL. W. P. RICHARDSON, CHAIRMAN ALASKA ROAD COMMISSION:

Your memorialists, the Senate and House of representatives of the Territory of Alaska, respectfully represent

Conscious, as we are, of our dependence, upon Federal Government for administrative improvements, appreciating and profoundly grateful for all its great work, in our behalf in

the past, and realizing that this territory is at the threshold of an era of great and wonderful development of its vast and immeasurable resources; and

WHEREAS, there are still many section unserved and woefully lacking in any kind of transportation facilities, and believing that the building of roads to sections where such roads would tend to develop a district, which would accrue to the industrial advancement of the Territory commensurate with all expenditures made, therefore in accordance with these principles we desire to call your attention to the lack of transportation facilities now existing in the Cache Creek Mining District, and we further believe there is no more promising section in the Territory, or one more in dire need of immediate wagon road facilities, than the said Cache Cheek country, to which a road can be built on practically water grade, by following some such route as this: Commencing at a point about five miles from the mouth of Sunshine Creek, at and on the Main Line of Government Railroad, thence crossing the Susitna River, for the present, on a cable ferry; thence in a due northwesterly direction to said Cache Creek, approximate distance of thirty miles; that said mineral district comprises an area of about eighteen hundred square miles; that said proposed wagon road would serve and make accessible hundreds of acres of agricultural, grazing and timber land; that the only means of ingress and egress to said district, is by small boats, launches or through a trailless country, causing intense hardship and enormous expense, which at times seems to be sufficient to prohibit further attempts of development along any lines of endeavor or investment; and

WHEREAS, a reasonable estimate of cost of said road, including the ferry, will not exceed Three Hundred Dollars per mile; and

WHEREAS, since the discovery of mineral in said Cache Creek country, from 1905 to 1916 inclusive, and despite enormous expenses, there has been produced, over seven hundred thousand dollars in gold and over five thousand dollars in silver; that the freight rates into said district are over eighty dollars per ton and that this charge can be easily cut into half by building said road; that within the aforementioned area, there are now, not less than thirty mining camps, in more or less condition of real and bona fide stages of development consisting of placer, hydraulic, dredging and lode mining; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Engineering Commission, in its report for year 1915, said of this district: "When a railroad is constructed, it is thought, that a wagon road can be built from

the forks of the Chulitna and Susitna Rivers, a distance of about forty miles. It is quite probable, that there are valuable gold lodes all through the district and along the foothills of the Mt. McKinley Range."

RESOLVED, THEREFORE, That we respectfully urge upon you, the necessity of building this wagon road this summer, in view of the great benefit which would be conferred upon the people of Alaska now, and for all future years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Territory of Alaska, be instructed to forward certified copies of this memorial to the following: One to the Secretary of War, one to the Secretary of Interior and one to Colonel W. P. Richardson, Chairman of Alaska Road Commission.

Passed the House, April 23, 1917.

Passed the Senate, April 28, 1917.