

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 6

TO THE POSTMASTER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES:

The Legislature of the Territory of Alaska respectfully represent:

That the mail service as now established and operated between Juneau, Sitka and wayports, is entirely inadequate, inefficient and unsafe. This service supplies a territory with upwards of two thousand five hundred people, and the development of this country, like other parts of Alaska, is largely dependent upon proper mail service and the passenger and transportation facilities incident thereto.

The government is spending vast sums of money in the development and opening up of Alaska, and we feel that the Post Office Department should give that feature of the mail service some consideration. This service is now supplied with a gasoline boat 65 feet long, which is entirely inadequate for the purpose of mail service between Juneau, Sitka and wayports, and the length of time required between said points for the delivery of mail is unusually long, unsatisfactory, very inconvenient to the residents and business people of Sitka and way ports and entirely inadequate, for proof and substantiation of which we, your memorialists, would refer your department to the Postmaster of Juneau, Alaska, for data covering the subject of this memorial.

Wherefore, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska respectfully and earnestly memorialize you, the Postmaster General of the United States, require the present service to be improved on said route; stipulate in a new contract that this service shall be supplied with a safe and suitable steamboat of at least 400 tons burden, and insist upon the mail being delivered on schedule.

And we, your Memorialists, will ever pray, etc.

Passed the Senate Apr. 24, 1917.

Passed the House May 3, 1917.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 7

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, UNITED STATES SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

We, your Memorialists of the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, do most respectfully request that,

Whereas, there are in the Territory of Alaska very extensive and valuable oil fields, the principal of which are: (1) Katalla-Chilkat, (2) Nuchawak, (3) Yakataga, the former containing 26½ square miles; the second 4¾ square miles and the third 21¼ square miles, but in all 52½ square miles, which is only a small

fraction of the known area of oil lands, all of which have been thoroughly investigated and reported upon by the most competent oil experts in the United States. These reports show very rich yields, high grade product and easily accessible territory, being on the coast of Alaska, near Kayak Island; numerous heavy surface seepage of oil at Katalla Meadow, Burl's Creek, the Barrett Claim and Chilkat, all in the Katalla field and the Yakataga, Yukon and Cathleen Creeks all in the Nuchawak field and at Oil, Crooked, Poul and Johnstone Creeks in the Yakataga field.

Whereas, the laboratory tests of the samples taken from these oil fields show a very high percentage of distillate and gas oil, and

Whereas, the people of Alaska residing in close proximity to these fields use annually more than seven million gallons of distillate and gasoline in the general course of their industrial and maritime pursuits for which they are forced to pay exorbitant prices, owing to long distances from point of supply and heavy demand for product, and

Whereas, as these oils are seeping away and going to waste without any possibility of ultimate recovery.

Now, therefore, we, your Memorialists, would respectfully urge that your honorable body give earnest attention to the formulation of a plan leasing these oil lands according to the terms of H. R. Bill No. 406 or on the usual basis of one-eighth royalty or under whatever provisions or restrictions you may deem it proper to impose. Thereby releasing to the people of Alaska and the entire Western Coast of the United States a product of one of our richest resources of which there is at this time dire need.

And, be it further resolved, that a copy hereof be presented to the President of the United States, the Vice-President of the United States, to the Speaker of the U. S. House of Representatives, to the Chairman of the Committee on Public Lands in the U. S. Senate, to the Chairman of the Committee on Public Lands in the U. S. House of Representatives, the Delegate to Congress from Alaska, and the Secretary of the Interior.

Passed the Senate, Apr. 18, 1917.

Passed the House, Apr. 25, 1917.