

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 5

TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

WHEREAS, during the past year Alaska has been visited by a dreadful scourge of Spanish Influenza, bringing death to nearly one hundred whites and sixteen hundred natives and

WHEREAS, owing to the vastness of the Territory, the difficulty of transportation and high cost of supplies, the combating of the epidemic and relief of resulting destitution, particularly among the natives, has been enormous; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the Territory of Alaska, in preventive and relief measures, has already exhausted every available contingent fund amounting to many thousands of dollars, not including an appropriation made by the American Red Cross; and

WHEREAS, there are obligations outstanding which should be paid, amounting to nearly \$100,000.00, over 90 per cent. of which were incurred for the relief of natives who everywhere else in the United States are considered to be wards of the Government and who, by solemn treaty between the United States and Russia, proclaimed June 20, 1867, are morally entitled from the United States under Article III of said treaty, to the same consideration as is given to the native tribes of the United States.

THEREFORE, we, your memorialists, urge that you make every effort to have appropriated sufficient funds to alleviate the distressing situation. We respectfully draw to your attention the fact that the tax payers of the Territory are few in number and that practically all the resources of the country are tied up in governmental withdrawals or under governmental control and are thus exempt from territorial control. What limited funds are available to the Territory are needed for our schools, roads, charities and constructive policies and that even now the assembled Legislature is faced with the need of providing additional funds necessary to the conduct of the Territory.

It is with pride that we can point to our patriotic endeavors. We have led all the states and territories in every campaign, whether for loans to the Government or gifts to the great war charities; twelve per cent. of our population—not man power merely, but total population—was enrolled in the Army or the Navy of the United States.

With a depleted population and with a mining industry almost at a standstill on account of prohibitive transportation and operating costs, Alaska is facing the problems of recon-

struction under burdens not shared in by any state, as we have had none of the abnormal war industries and profit within our borders.

For relief, such as your wisdom cannot but recognize to be just, we, your memorialists, do every pray.

Adopted by the House April 9, 1919.

Adopted by the Senate April 17, 1919.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 6

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

We, your memorialists, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in fourth regular session assembled, do most respectfully and earnestly represent that:

WHEREAS, the salt herring industry of Alaska is of the greatest importance to the people of the Territory of Alaska, as well as to the people of the United States, as this industry has steadily grown from an output of 8,956 barrels in 1915, 18,079 barrels in 1916, and 22,557 barrels in 1917, to 105,394 barrels during the past year; and

WHEREAS, with the ending of the world war it will be impossible for this industry to be sustained without Governmental aid to offset the advantage European producers have in the New York market on account of low trans-atlantic freight rates; and

WHEREAS, the cost of shipping a barrel of salt fish from points in Europe to New York or Philadelphia is but \$2.00 per barrel, against the cost of over \$6.00 per barrel for freight on Alaska herring to the same points; and

WHEREAS, the fishing industry of Alaska should be fostered, built up and expanded;

THEREFORE, we, your memorialists, would respectfully pray that the Congress of the United States pass the necessary legislation, placing an import duty on foreign salt herring of not less than \$3.00 per barrel, as the only hope of the survival of this important industry seems to be through protection to the extent of this freight deferential.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, that copies of this memorial be furnished, by the Secretary of the Territory of Alaska, to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, to the Representatives and Senators in Con-