

upon them is of no value in the developing or prospecting of the ground, and such expenditure upon such claims is an absolute waste and serves no purpose except to technically comply with the law.

2. That after the ground has been prospected, the owners may have to delay the actual mining operations until roads are built, so that dredges or other machinery can be transported to the premises, for which reason roads are often a prerequisite to the commencement of productive mining.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, your Memorialists, respectfully recommend that owners of mining claims, in lieu of the annual labor required to be performed, be permitted to pay one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each claim to the Clerk of the District Court in the Division wherein the claim is situated, to be by him transmitted to the Territorial Road Commission and to be by the latter expended for construction or maintenance of roads in the Recording Precinct in which the claim is situated; and we firmly believe that such change in the law will materially aid in the speedier development of many mining regions.

And your Memorialists will ever pray.

Adopted by the House, April 15, 1921.

Adopted by the Senate. April 27, 1921.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 14.

TO THE HONORABLE, THE PRESIDENT, THE SENATE,
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE SECRETARY
OF WAR, AND THE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS OF THE
UNITED STATES:

Your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of the Territory of Alaska, do respectfully submit the following for your consideration:

That the Alaska Road Commission, since its creation under the Act of Congress approved January 27, 1905, has constructed approximately 5,000 miles of military and post 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 greatly in developing the various sections of our Territory;

That these roads and trails are not merely of local importance, but they form a well-balanced system of communication planned 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" and other moneys contributed from various sources.

That due to the curtailed appropriations during the War Period, sufficient funds were not available for ordinary maintenance, as a result of which considerable deterioration has resulted. Furthermore, the system as a whole has not been completed so that many routes cannot be utilized throughout without breaking loads due to uncompleted intermediate sections;

That the newly organized Alaska Road Commission has now completed an investigation of the entire system and as a result submitted estimate for \$955,000 for the next fiscal year for the rehabilitation, repair and improvement of the system;

That the Government Railroad, now nearing completion, will need a system of feeder roads and trails in order to provide traffic. The Alaska Road Commission contemplates the completion of a system of such feeders and one-half of the amount asked for will be expended on roads and trails directly tributary to the Government Railroad;

That the restoration and construction of roads planned by the Alaska Road Commission will greatly aid in relieving the hardship created by the rise in prices and the consequent cessation of gold mining;

That we endorse and approve the program of the Alaska Road Commission and consider it one of the most important steps projected for the development of Alaska.

In view of these facts we respectfully request that the Congress in its consideration of the Annual Appropriation for the support of the Army, 1922, include at least the full amount of \$955,000 in its item for the "construction, repair and maintenance of military and post roads, bridges, and trails, Alaska," and, if possible, to increase the same in order that substantial results may be obtained without disastrous delay.

And your Memorialists will ever pray.

Passed by the House, April 9, 1921.

Passed by the Senate, April 14, 1921.