

the silt, gravel, debris and water carried in volume by said stream "backs up," has no outlet, fills old channels, over-flows, and causes great damage to the property of the residents of said town of Seward; and, in time of extraordinary water, threatens the lives of said residents;

That by reason of said continued obstruction at the mouth of said stream, the town of Seward, before incorporation in the year 1912, and since said date of incorporation, has been compelled to and has expended a sum approximating Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) in an effort to confine said stream in proper channels and prevent loss and destruction;

That under a plan now adopted by said town of Seward it is believed by an expenditure of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) adequate protection will be afforded to the town, its people and property contained therein.

WHEREFORE, your memorialists pray that the Congress of the United States grant Federal aid to be given to the said town of Seward, Alaska, to the extent of the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) to be expended in Public Works seeking to protect the lives, property and railroad property, from the ravages of Lowell Creek; the same to be expended under and by direction of some Engineer Officer of the United States Army.

Passed by the Senate, April 15, 1921.

Passed by the House, April 19, 1921.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 8.

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SECRETARY OF WAR, THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY, THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES, AND THE DELEGATE TO CONGRESS FROM ALASKA.

We, your Memorialists, respectfully present for your consideration and helpful assistance the following matters of grave importance to the Territory of Alaska:

(1) That Alaska is so situated that a proper and fairly expeditious mail service seems impossible of attainment and that in consequence the people of the Territory are more dependent upon telegraphic service than are the people of any other part of the United States:

(2) That the War Department, early in the development of Alaska, laid cables and operated telegraph lines and radio stations to many parts of Alaska to great benefit to the residents of the Territory. The people of Alaska have been duly appreciative of the splendid work performed by the Signal Corps of the War Department and have supported the military cable and telegraph system to the extent of making it practically, and perhaps entirely, self-supporting;

(3) Now, however, it comes to the attention of your Memorialists, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska.

(a) That the present cable is in such a condition that only about one-tenth of the current applied at one end reaches the distant end. This condition would not be alarming if the low insulation existed in some particular piece of the cable, but as a matter of fact, it is distributed throughout the entire length making it impossible to bring the cable up to a reasonable insulation which would permit of duplexing.

(b) It has been down about 16 years and is very much in the category of a temporary railway that has served its purpose and has to give way to better construction.

(c) The number of breaks in the cable have increased during the past few years notwithstanding efforts to strengthen it by insertion of new cable in known weak spots. The cable ship has consequently been kept on repair work far out of proportion to that required of cables of commercial systems. Cable 48—Seattle-Sitka—carries the bulk of the traffic between Seattle and Alaska and southeastern Alaska is the most densely populated of the Territory.

(d) Cable 49—Sitka-Valdez—has been interrupted over two months. Numerous efforts to bring the cable aboard have resulted in failure owing to its worn-out condition, and the ship is still endeavoring to make repairs.

THEREFORE, We, your Memorialists, realizing the chaos the Territory would be plunged in if the existing cables shall fail entirely; the great loss which would result to life and property; the many cases of unrelieved distress and the general disturbance to business, wherein not only would the Territory, but the nation, suffer in a financial way, earnestly petition that steps be taken to install a cable of sufficient efficiency to provide for present and future needs.

We further draw to your attention the military necessity of maintaining the lines of communication to the highest state of efficiency. We understand that plans of the military department of the United States contemplate the establishment of a base at the ice free port of Dutch Harbor, 2,000 miles north of Honolulu and the same distance from San Francisco and on the great circle sailing routes from the Pacific Coast to the Orient. That Dutch Harbor is recognized as the key-point to all the Pacific Ocean north of the equator and must be included in any military or naval plans should there be any disturbance of the peace on the Pacific, and that to connect Dutch Harbor with the military bases on the Puget Sound or San Francisco, the present cable line is the principal link in the proposed system.

That the gravity of the situation may be recognized; we, your Memorialists, will forever pray.

Adopted by the Senate, April 11, 1921.

Adopted by the House, April 12, 1921.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 10.

TO THE HONORABLE, THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

We, your Memorialists, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in regular session assembled do most respectfully represent that:

WHEREAS, our Government is spending over fifty million dollars in Alaska railroads, chiefly for the development of Alaska's mineral resources,

WHEREAS, from the sea terminal of said railroad to the nearest markets in the United States the distance is some twelve hundred miles by boat,

WHEREAS, for many years past it has been impossible for those mines in Alaska not under the ownership or control of some transportation or allied interest to secure dependable transportation for their ore to a smelter in the United States;

WHEREAS, such mines have no adequate protection against extortion or dishonest practices at the smelter in the United States, even if they should get transportation for their ore thereto;