

the financial returns from the industry is much below what the industry, more carefully managed, would yield.

Your memorialists believe that the cultivation, establishment and maintenance of the present system for tanning, dyeing and marketing the seal skins in question is monopolistic in character and therefore in contravention of sound governmental and economic principles, and is causing considerable loss of revenue to the Government, and to the other nations which share in the proceeds derived from the sale of such skins.

WHEREFORE, your memorialists most respectfully urge that the contract between the Government and the Foulke Fur Company of St. Louis be abrogated at the earliest possible date, and that in the future the seal skins of Pribilof Islands be sold while in a salt state in open market to the highest bidder, and that any profits of the Government from the industry be covered into the treasury of the Territory of Alaska.

We commend this memorial to your earnest consideration.

Adopted by the Senate, April 14, 1923.

Adopted by the House, April 23, 1923.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 9.

TO THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

Your memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of the Alaska Legislative Assembly, respectfully show:

One of the greatest industries of Alaska is mining. To a very large extent the wealth and prosperity of the country depend upon the development of its mineral lands. At present there is doubt and confusion as to the law governing the location of placer mining claims in Alaska. An Act of Congress applicable only to Alaska was passed on August 1st, 1912, 37 Statutes at Large, 242, whereby not more than two claims in any one calendar month could be located by any one person in the Territory of Alaska. The provisions of this act were changed, or attempted to be changed, by acts of the Alaska Legislative Assembly in the years 1913 and 1915, the latter act, Chapter 10 of the Session Laws of Alaska, 1915, is still effective and some of the provisions thereof are in conflict with the Act of Congress of August 1st, 1912.

The Act of Congress of August 1st, 1912, covers subject matter upon which your memorialists are best advised as to

the needs of Alaska. One of the things vitally necessary to encourage and stimulate prospecting for mineral placer lands is certainty as to the law. The Act of August 1st, 1912, is defective and not well conceived in all respects, since it limits the location of placer claims by any one person in the Territory of Alaska to the number of two during any one calendar month, and it is sometimes impracticable, if not impossible, to show that the locator of a certain claim did not, during the same calendar month, either in person or under power of attorney, locate other placer claims in excess of the number allowed by law in some other district of Alaska, possibly hundreds, if not thousands, of miles distant.

Upon this particular subject the Alaska Legislative Assembly is best qualified to speak. The Act of August 1st, 1912, was passed and approved before the passage or approval of the act creating this assembly. No reason apparent to your memorialists now exists why the Act of Congress of August 1st, 1912, should not be repealed and legislation on the subject matter of the act be left to the Legislature of Alaska.

WHEREFORE your memorialists respectfully pray that the Act of Congress of August 1st, 1912, relative to the location of placer mining claims in Alaska, 37 Statutes at Large, 242, be forthwith repealed.

Passed by the Senate, April 17, 1923.

Passed by the House, April 23, 1923.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 10.

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

Your memorialists, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, do respectfully represent:

That the administration of the United States Bureau of Education, Alaska Division, now located at Seattle, Washington, by reason of being there located, works a hardship upon the Indians and Eskimos over whom it has supervision, and an injury to the Territory because of the location being so far distant from the field of operations.

That the great distance from the field, and nature of the location creates obstacles to efficient and economical operation that are difficult to overcome.