
HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 2.

TO THE ALASKA ROAD COMMISSION.

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

That at the present time, when transportation on the lower Yukon River has almost ceased to be, a good automobile road across Kaltag Portage has become a matter of prime necessity to develop and accommodate traffic, and especially to expedite the transportation of mail. Such a road will reduce the present summer route of communication between Kaltag and Unalakleet approximately five hundred miles.

The time required by boat from St. Michaels to Kaltag at the present time is six days; by automobile from Unalakleet to Kaltag the time required would be eight hours at a speed of ten miles an hour. The time required at the present between Nome and Kaltag by water is eight day or more, depending upon the length of time it is necessary to wait for boats at St. Michaels. If the road herein requested be constructed communication between Kaltag and Nome will require only about twenty-four hours. The country through which the road will pass is highly mineralized both on the Yukon and the Norton Sound side of the mountains, and the valleys contain vast forests of timber well fitted for use as lumber and in mines.

Your memorialists further believe that if the road herein referred to be constructed it will very materially stimulate the tourist traffic between Seward and Nome for the reason that Kaltag Pass is rich in scenery, while the lower Yukon below Kaltag presents to view only a level country.

WHEREFORE, your memorialists urge that a substantial automobile road across the Kaltag Pass be constructed at the earliest possible date.

And your memorialists will ever pray.

Passed the House, April 17, 1925.

Passed the Senate, April 20, 1925.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 3.

TO THE BUREAU OF FISHERIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE:

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

WHEREAS on the 20th day of March, 1925, at Juneau, Alaska, the Grand Igloo of the Pioneers of Alaska, a fraternal organization composed of persons who have resided in Alaska since December 31, 1906, and most of them being persons who came to Alaska in the very early days of its settlement and in a true sense are pioneers of Alaska, knowing the conditions in said Territory through long residence and observation, and being devoted to the best interests of said Territory, adopted a resolution, in words and figures as follows, to-wit:

"The Grand Igloo Pioneers of Alaska, in convention assembled, at Juneau, Alaska, this 20th day of March, 1925, do hereby present the following facts to the Legislature now in session at Juneau, with the request that the same be drafted into a memorial and sent to the Bureau of Fisheries for consideration.

SUMMARY SALMON CAUGHT SEASON 1924 IN YUKON RIVER
BETWEEN 35 MILES ABOVE AND 35 MILES BELOW
TANANA FISH DRIED FOR DOG FEED.

85 Tons Dist.
15 Tons Others.

100 Tons
34 Tons Loss thru weather conditions

134 Tons Total catch dry.
1 pound Dry Fish equals 3½ pounds Green Fish
1 Tons Dry Fish equals 3½ Tons Green Fish
134
3½

402
67

469 Tons caught in 1924—Between above points.

VALUE IN DOLLARS—DRY FOR DOG FEED

100 Tons at 8 cents per pound or \$160.00 Ton
100 x \$160.00—\$16,000.00.

VALUE AS COMMERCIAL FISH

134* Tons at 15 cents or \$300.00 Ton
134 x \$300.00—\$40,200.00

*Includes 34 tons wasted and thrown back account of weather conditions.

40,200 pounds x 3½—\$140,700.00 which is total value—hard salted or mild cured—or last year's catch.

SALES

Out of the 100 tons fish caught and dried last year, the totals below represent the amount still held over:

At Tanana	38 Tons
At Fort Yukon	17 Tons
	—
	55 Tons with N. C. Co.
	8 Tons with T. C. Co.
	—
	63 Tons still on hand

Therefore, no market for dry salmon next season, sufficient being on hand for next year's demand.

A guarantee can be had on the price of fish next year at not exceeding 12½ pounds [cts.] which is fair considering shrinkage and labor involved in caring for held over fish.

SUMMER POPULATION

400 Natives
75 White Fishermen
—
475

These being facts we suggest the following:

FIRST: That actual resident fishermen be allowed to fish as usual, allowing them the right to cure their fish as they please, either dry or salted, and that no restrictions be placed on their market.

SECOND: The market for dry fish being entirely gone as compared with previous years, the means of a living for the native and resident fishermen has been decreased this much. Some means must be offered whereby they can produce. No special permits are asked for or are wanted.—Simply the right for each and every fisherman to take their usual amount of fish from the river, to prepare it as they please, sell as they please and get the most out of their labor possible, which is the right of these people and can not consistently be refused.

The main point is, we, the residents of this Territory, i. e., vicinity of Tanana and Ruby, wish to be allowed to change our catch of merchantable fish from dried fish for dog feed to human consumption food (on account of no market) into commercial fish with no market restrictions.

Tanana is acknowledged the dry fish center of the Yukon—residents of the Yukon and for two or three hundred miles down the Yukon River desire to secure the best price for their fish product in the market.

Further, the natives must live and also be self supporting, and desire the privilege of using the means at hand to support their families.

The whites and old timers are in practically the same fix—they desire to secure the best market for their produce in order to support their families. The population is dwindling; this is one solution in prospect and will prove the means of making 400 to 500 people contented and financially self supporting.

And this request is made by the Pioneers—addressed to the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, one copy to the House and one to the Senate.

Adopted by the Grand Igloo, Pioneers of Alaska, in convention assembled, at Juneau, Alaska, this 20th day of March, 1925." And,

WHEREAS your memorialists are familiar with the provisions of the resolution so adopted by said Grand Igloo of the Pioneers of Alaska, and believe that the same sets forth truthfully and accurately the conditions with relation to the matter in said resolution treated;

WHEREFORE your memorialists respectfully pray that the recommendations of said resolution be adopted and carried out by the Bureau of Fisheries of the Department of Commerce, or that Congress pass a law permitting only the bona fide residents of the Yukon River and its tributaries to fish thereon and sell as they see fit.

And your memorialists will ever so pray.

Passed the House, April 15, 1925.

Passed the Senate, April 20, 1925.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 5.

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

Your petitioner, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in seventh biennial session assembled, respectfully represents: