

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:

I.

That this body has repeatedly gone on record as opposing the present system of caring for the insane of this Territory, which is a system of contract with a private institution, whereby that institution gains a profit and commercializes the misfortune of human beings.

II.

That at the second session of this Legislature House Joint Memorial No. 23 passed both houses thereof and was presented to the President and the Congress of the United States. That this memorial contained a report of the committee of the Legislature, made after careful investigation of complaints lodged against the management of the institution having this contract with the Legislature and various officials, and may be found at pages 238-243 of the Session Laws of Alaska, 1915.

III.

That at the third session of the Legislature of Alaska a similar memorial (House Joint Memorial No. 7) again passed both houses of the Legislature and was submitted to the President and the Congress of the United States. This memorial may be found at pages 246-250 of the Session Laws of Alaska, 1917.

IV.

That at the fifth session of the Alaska Legislature a memorial (House Joint Memorial No. 18), almost identical with those hereinabove mentioned, again passed both houses of the Legislature and was sent to the President and the Congress of the United States. This memorial may be found at pages 199-200 of the Session Laws of Alaska, 1921.

V.

That the memorials, and the report on which they were based, were passed after very careful investigation and mature consideration, and it is the moral conviction of the members of this body that any system of caring for the insane by contract with a private institution, conducted with the sole aim of making and gaining a profit from such contract, and under which commercial greed is very often apt to outweigh the considerations of human sympathy and christian charity which characterizes the attitude of the governments of the various American States toward the mentally defective within their borders, is not only contrary to the true principles of American government, but is extremely cruel and inhuman.

VI.

That while this body is of the opinion that the insane of Alaska should be kept and cared for within the Territory, it also believes that it is a matter for investigation by experts whether or not the climatic and other conditions within the Territory of Alaska would tend to retard the recovery of the patients if maintained in Alaska. And if such investigation be made, and the experts report adversely on the matter of establishment and maintenance of a hospital for insane in Alaska, then it is our belief that contracts should be entered into by the United States with one of the States on the Pacific Coast, for the maintenance and care of the insane of Alaska in one or more of their regularly maintained State hospitals for the insane, to the end that those mentally dependent may receive the human care and treatment which is due them.

VII.

That in this connection attention is respectfully invited to the provisions of Chapter 48, Session Laws of the State of Washington, 1921, which is as follows:

CHAPTER 48.

STATE HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.

AN ACT relating to the observation, maintenance, care, treatment and custody, in the State hospitals for the insane, of persons entitled thereto, or requiring the same, at the expense of the United States, and authorizing contracts therefor.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

Section 1. The director of business control shall have the power, in the name of the State, to enter into contracts with any duly authorized representative of the United States government providing for the admission to, and the separate or joint observation, maintenance, care, treatment and custody in, the State hospital for the insane, of persons entitled to, or requiring the same, at the expense of the United States, and contracts providing for the separate or joint maintenance, care, treatment and custody of such persons committed to such hospitals in the manner provided by law, and to execute and perform such contracts, which contracts shall provide that all payments due the State of Washington from the United

States, for services rendered under said contracts, shall be paid into the State treasury and covered into the State institutional revolving fund, to the credit of the institution furnishing the service.

Section 2. Until such time as the director of business control shall be appointed and qualified, and assume and exercise the duties of his office, the State board of control shall have the power to perform, in the name of the State, all things authorized by the provisions of this act.

Section 3. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety and the support of the State government and its existing public institutions and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the House February 15, 1921.

Passed the Senate March 2, 1921.

Approved by the Governor March 8, 1921.

VIII.

That it is the opinion of this body that a contract with a State institution would not only remove the objections hereinabove stated to the present contract system, but would result in a material saving to the government in the cost of maintenance of the insane patients.

WHEREFORE, your petitioner respectfully and earnestly urges that the existing contract for the care of the insane of Alaska with the Morningside Sanitarium of Portland, Oregon, be revoked;

That an investigation be made, by experts qualified to judge, as to the advisability of establishing a hospital for the insane within the Territory of Alaska; and,

That, in the event these experts report adversely upon the project of the establishment of a hospital for the insane in Alaska, that a contract be entered into with the State of Washington, or with some other Pacific Coast State, for the care of the Alaskan insane at one or more of such State institutions.

And your memorialist will ever pray.

AND BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska that copies of this petition be immediately forwarded by the Secretary of the Territory to the President and

the Congress of the United States, to the Secretary of the Interior, and to the Delegate to Congress from Alaska.

Passed the House, April 17, 1925.

Passed the Senate, April 21, 1925.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 8.

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SECRETARY OF WAR OF THE UNITED STATES:

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

That the mouth of the Tanana River, where it empties into the Yukon, forms a delta which is so badly cut up and divided into small channels, that it is not only difficult, but in fact dangerous for the steamers and small boats operating between Nenana and Holy Cross to traverse the route covered by them;

That the steamers "General J. W. Jacobs" and "General Jeff C. Davis," both owned and operated by the United States Government in connection with the operation of the Alaska Railroad, and a number of lesser, privately owned, craft, all of which act as feeders for the railroad, carry on a weekly mail, freight and passenger service along the said route, and in so doing are compelled to cross the mouth of the Tanana;

That no work of any sort has ever been done or attempted to deepen the channel at the mouth of the Tanana, and the same is gradually filling and becoming more shallow and difficult to enter from the Yukon, and is now at a point where before long it will be almost impossible for these steamers and other boats to continue in their work.

WHEREFORE, your memorialists respectfully petitions that immediate provision be made for the survey of the mouth of the Tanana River with a view of employing some engineering method to confine the various channels formed by the delta of the Tanana into one deep channel, to permit the safe and speedy ascent and descent of these craft from the Yukon to the Tanana and return.

That a copy of this memorial be sent to the Hon. Dan Sutherland, Delegate from Alaska.

And your memorialist will ever pray.