

## HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 18.

TO THE HONORABLE, THE POSTMASTER GENERAL OF  
THE UNITED STATES:

1. Your memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in regular session assembled, respectfully represents:

2. Whereas, the Merchant Marine Act was passed in 1928 for the purpose of aiding United States shipping and improving mail service and the method of transporting freight and passengers, and

3. Whereas, under the provisions of this Act definite amounts have been provided by law to be paid for carrying United States mails between ports in the United States and foreign ports, and

4. Whereas, there is a wide discrepancy between the amounts provided in such Act for carrying mails between the United States and foreign ports and the amounts now paid to vessels carrying the mails between Seattle and points in Alaska on the Seattle-Seward run and the Seattle-Skagway run, and

5. Whereas, the maintenance and improvement of the present regular steamship service is vital to the future of Alaska, and

6. Whereas, since the Merchant Marine Act has made provisions for encouraging United States shipping between ports in the United States and foreign ports, it is only fair that some such aid be also extended for the purpose of aiding and improving the steamship service between the United States and ports in Alaska.

NOW, THEREFOR[E], your memorialist prays that on the expiration of the present contract for the carriage of mail between Seattle, Washington and points in Alaska on the Seattle-Seward run and on the Seattle-Skagway run, new contracts be made at materially increased rates more nearly in line with those prescribed by the Merchant Marine Act of 1928, thus affording Alaska trade and shipping similar encouragement and assistance to that given by the Act to the United States foreign trade.

Passed the House, April 25, 1929.

Passed the Senate, April 30, 1929.

## HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 19.

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

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

WHEREAS, the laws governing the fishing industry in Alaska are criminal statutes and provide penalties in cases where the guilt of the accused is established in accordance with the provisions of law; and,

WHEREAS, these laws divide the procedure into two classes, to-wit: action against the person or persons and against the gear (meaning the boats, nets and traps used); and,

WHEREAS, these two classes are made independent of each other so that prosecutions may be made against the gear in admiralty proceedings (which are, of course, before the Judge of the court without a jury) or following the common law form, against the person before a jury; and,

WHEREAS, it seems to be the practice of the United States Attorneys in Alaska to proceed in admiralty and to refuse to try the person before a jury; and, thus, in effect, the citizens of Alaska are being tried for crime without a jury, and often deprived of their property without due process of law, inasmuch as the persons are willing in every case to submit their case to a jury and are prevented by the policy of the United States Attorneys above mentioned; and,

WHEREAS, the intent of the law governing the fisheries, (to confiscate property used in unlawful acts) is the same as that of the Volstead Act, which we take to be a declaration of policy approved by Congress,

WE, your memorialist, memorialize the Congress of the United States to amend the Fishery laws that govern Alaska to conform to the Volstead Act in regard to the seizure and forfeiture of property so that no seizure or forfeiture shall be made unless or until a conviction of guilt has been secured or found against the parties charged with committing the crime of unlawful fishing.

Passed the House, April 27, 1929.

Passed the Senate, May 1, 1929.