

more than two billion tons of coal ranging in rank from sub-bituminous to anthracite, including unknown quantities of metallurgical-grade coking coal, remains undeveloped because no highway links the coal field with port facilities at Cordova; and

WHEREAS, it already has been demonstrated that construction of the Copper River Highway not only is feasible from the engineering standpoint, but also may be placed in the "low-cost" construction category since use of the abandoned Copper River and Northwestern Railroad bed, including several steel bridges which are in good condition, are involved; and

WHEREAS, the 109 mile right-of-way is the property of the United

States Government; and

WHEREAS, construction of the Copper River Highway would provide an alternate route from the Gulf of Alaska to defense installations in Interior Alaska, important to the defense scheme of the Territory,

NOW THEREFORE, your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in Twenty-second Regular Session Assembled, respectfully urges that the construction program of the Copper River Highway, now under way on a piecemeal basis, be accelerated to permit development of resources of the region at the earliest possible moment.

And your Memorialist will ever pray.

Passed by the House, March 4, 1955

Passed by the Senate, March 8, 1955

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 18

To the Chairman of the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committees; Chairman of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committees; and the Honorable E. L. Bartlett, Delegate to Congress from Alaska:

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska in Twen-

ty-second Regular Session assembled, respectfully submits that:

WHEREAS, the operations of the Government of Alaska have increased immeasurably since the Organic Act was adopted for the Territory; and

WHEREAS, more than 300 bills

are being considered by this session of the Legislature and it will be manifestly impossible to properly consider even a major portion of the same within the 60 days allotted to the bienninal session; and

WHEREAS, the economic and tax problems of the Territory, accumulated during the two years prior to the session, are virtually impossible to solve during the 60-day session; and

WHEREAS, governmental affairs in Alaska would be greatly expedited by providing for a 60-day session of the Legislature in odd-

numbered years and a 30-day session in even-numbered years,

NOW THEREFORE, your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, respectfully requests that Congress amend the Organic Act of the Territory of Alaska by providing that the Legislature of Alaska meet for 30 days commencing on the third Monday in January of even-numbered years, in addition to the regular 60-day session presently provided for in odd-numbered years.

And your Memorialist will ever pray.

Passed by the House, March 10, 1955

Passed by the Senate, March 19, 1955

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 21

To the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare; Surgeon General of the U. S. Public Health Service; the Delegate to Congress from Alaska; and the Governor of Alaska:

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in Twenty-second Regular Session assembled, respectfully represents that:

WHEREAS, the Public Health Service, a branch of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare after July 1, 1955 will own

and operate hospitals for Indian beneficiaries throughout Alaska, and

WHEREAS, within Alaska there will be two agencies carrying out health programs, namely the U. S. Public Health Service, a Federal agency, and the Territorial Department of Health which leads to confusion, inefficiency and duplication; and

WHEREAS, the Parran team, which has recently reported on Alaska's health problems, recom-