

the advisability of taking appropriate steps to improve agricultural conditions in the Second Division, Alaska, and suggests the following program:

- (a) Institute a survey of agricultural conditions in said Division;
- (b) Obtain all possible information regarding new vegetation suitable to climatic conditions of said Division;
- (c) Consider and encourage livestock and poultry development therein;
- (d) Establish methods for increased Second Division agricultural development;
- (e) Disseminate your findings among the people of the Second Division as widely as possible to bring about an improved agricultural situation in said Division.

AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

Passed by the House February 24, 1947.

Passed by the Senate March 1, 1947.

Approved by the Governor, March 7, 1947.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 18

TO THE HONORABLE JULIUS A. KRUG, SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR:

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in Eighteenth Regular Session assembled, respectfully acknowledges receipt of your letter of January 24, 1947, to the Honorable Ernest Gruening, Governor of Alaska, dealing with the regulation of fish traps and the control of fisheries.

Your Memorialist highly appreciates the expression of your view that this important question should not be left to administrative regulation; and that the question being whether Territorial or Federal legislation should be sought, you have reached the conclusion that it would be desirable that the Legislature of Alaska be given

the first opportunity to deal with this problem. Your view in this respect coincides with the previously often expressed wishes of the Territorial Legislature, which, time after time, has sought to secure the transfer of the control of the Alaska fisheries from the Federal government to the Territorial government.

Your Memorialist is pleased to inform you that the Eighteenth Territorial Legislature has already acted. It has taken the most important step ever taken in this direction by providing for a referendum of the Alaska electorate on the question of whether fish traps should be abolished. This referendum is to take place at the next regular election. The Act provides for an expression on the abolition of traps over a period of ten years, thus giving ample opportunity for adjustment on the part of the trap owners, relieving them of possible financial hardship and giving adequate time for the Territory, the fishermen and other workers, as well as the salmon industry, to adjust themselves fully to this important change should the voters so decide.

Your Memorialist asks that you note that it deemed this matter of such importance that it felt the issue should not be decided by the Legislature itself, but by the entire people of the Territory.

Your Memorialist further points out that dependent upon the action of the people, the Legislature will have from them an important indication as to what steps it should take thereafter.

Your Memorialist therefore respectfully urges, in view of the positive action taken by the Alaska Legislature, that no further Federal legislation in the matter of fish traps be favored by the Department of the Interior until the people of Alaska have expressed themselves at the next general election, and the subsequent Legislature has had the opportunity to consider the people's verdict and to take whatever legislative action it may deem suitable.

AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

Passed by the House March 5, 1947.

Passed by the Senate March 4, 1947.

Approved by the Governor, March 11, 1947.