

SENATE MEMORIAL NO. 2

To the Honorable E. L. Bartlett, Delegate to Congress from Alaska; the Honorable Waino Hendrickson, Acting Governor of Alaska; Mr. A. F. Ghiglione, Acting Regional Engineer, Bureau of Public Roads; and Mr. Irving Reed, Highway Engineer, Territory of Alaska.

Your Memorialist, the Senate of the Territory of Alaska, in Twenty-third Session assembled, respectfully represents:

WHEREAS, the region between Klawock and Hollis, on Prince of Wales Island, Alaska, is a source of great potential mineral and timber wealth; and

WHEREAS, the Harris River and Klawock Lake on said Prince of Wales Island furnish excellent recreational facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Ketchikan Pulp Company has already commenced the construction of a road leading from Hollis to the west; and

WHEREAS, the construction of a road between Klawock and Hollis will greatly aid the economic de-

velopment of the villages of Klawock, Hydaburg, and Craig on the western coast of Prince of Wales Island; and

WHEREAS, the construction of such a road would enable at least five logging camps on said western coast to transport logs overland from their sites to Hollis, thereby obviating the necessity of moving said logs by raft around the hazardous Cape Chacon and Clarence Strait; and

WHEREAS, such a road would also permit the fishing fleets to transport their catches overland from the western coast to Hollis;

NOW, THEREFORE, your Memorialist prays that the construction of a road between Klawock and Hollis, Alaska, be accorded a high priority in the planning and development of the Alaska road system.

And your Memorialist will ever pray.

Passed by the Senate February 9, 1957.

SENATE MEMORIAL NO. 3

To the Honorable Fred A. Seaton, Secretary of the Interior; Honorable Henry M. Jackson, United States Senator; Honorable Warren G. Magnuson, United States Senator; Honorable Wayne Morse, United States Senator; Honorable Richard Neuberger, United States Senator; Honorable John L. McClellan, Chairman, Senate Committee on Government Operations; Honorable James E. Murray, Chairman,

Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs; Honorable Clare E. Hoffman, Chairman, House Committee on Government Operations; Honorable Clair Engle, Chairman, House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs; Honorable E. L. Bartlett, Delegate to Congress; Honorable Glenn L. Emmons, Commissioner of Indian Affairs; Honorable William Olson, Director, Alaska Native Service.

Your Memorialist, the Senate of the Territory of Alaska, in Twenty-Third Session assembled, respectfully represents:

WHEREAS, the Congress enacted the Wheeler-Howard Act (25 U.S.C. 468 et seq.) with the purpose manifested therein "of promoting the economic development" of American Indians; and

WHEREAS, the Congress recognized the desirability of specifically applying the Wheeler-Howard Act to Alaska (25 U.S.C. 473a) to encourage the Indians and Eskimos to engage in business enterprises, thus allowing them the opportunity of becoming self-sufficient and improving their standard of living; and

WHEREAS, numerous small business operations have been commenced and are presently operated by Indians and Eskimos throughout Alaska who have negotiated business loans under this Act in an attempt to secure fair and proper returns for their labors; and

WHEREAS, certain questionable purchasing practices have been forced and imposed on the various Indian small business men by the Alaska Native Service, a Department of the Interior agency, as a condition to their receiving any loans with which to make necessary merchandise purchases; and

WHEREAS, the various Indian small businessmen have been economically pressed, limited and required to make all such merchandise purchases through the Alaska Native Industries Cooperative, which organization imposes a 10% "service charge" over retail and freight costs; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the

above, certain monies have also been borrowed by the Indians under the Wheeler-Howard Act, particularly in Southeastern Alaska, to purchase fishing boats and to operate canneries; and

WHEREAS, this industry employs all the adult population of many Communities throughout Southeastern Alaska, and thousands of Indians earn their livelihood in this undertaking and depend entirely on fishing; and

WHEREAS, the fishermen and cannery operators have been subject to tremendous and devastating declines in the salmon runs in Alaska, notwithstanding conservation measures imposed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, a United States Department of the Interior agency, limiting the permissible catch, which measures have caused the libel of many fishing boats and the failure of numerous canneries operated by persons other than Indians; and

WHEREAS, the salmon runs appear to be increasing and substantially improving, and the permissible catch would appear to be subject to increase thus easing the existing financial crisis, and lending strong encouragement to the economy in the immediate future; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Native Service, although aware of the above prospects and of the known hardships suffered by the Indians heretofore because of reasons beyond their control, now are in the process of (1) repossessing numerous fishing boats, (2) modifying, limiting and restricting leases of canneries to Indians and, (3) are indicating a disposition to negotiate the leasing of such canneries, with-

out bid or competition, to persons other than Indians; and

WHEREAS, such fishing boats will be sold at public sale at a fraction of their value because of the great number of boats subject to legal action and the canneries are subject to being negotiated under private sale, all of which will cause ruinous consequences to many Indian Communities and greatly endanger and impair the public interest.

NOW THEREFORE, it is respectfully requested that a Congressional investigation be made immediately into the Alaska Native Service's handling and administration of the Wheeler-Howard Act

program in Alaska and that necessary steps be taken to (1) correct the mandatory purchasing practices which have attached to the borrowing of money by Indians engaged in small business, and (2) prevent the present wholesale foreclosure of fishing boats and repossessing or leasing of canneries so that this very beneficial program may be allowed to continue and achieve its primary purpose of assisting the Indians and Eskimos to attain economic independence and improved living conditions.

And your Memorialist will ever pray.

Passed by the Senate February 15, 1957.

SENATE MEMORIAL NO. 4

To the Honorable Arthur Sommerfield, Postmaster General, Washington, D. C.; to the Honorable Fred A. Seaton, Secretary of the Interior; to the Honorable Henry M. Jackson, United States Senator; to the Honorable Wayne Morse, United States Senator; to the Honorable Warren G. Magnuson, United States Senator; to the Honorable Richard Neuberger, United States Senator; to the Honorable E. L. Bartlett, Delegate to Congress.

Your Memorialist, the Senate of the Territory of Alaska, in Twenty-third Session assembled, respectfully represents:

WHEREAS, it has been the apparent policy of the United States Post Office Department to honor statesmen, scholars, explorers and other outstanding Americans by issuing a commemorative postage stamp; and

WHEREAS, Judge James Wickersham has distinguished himself as an outstanding American and particularly as a distinguished Alaskan, having, among other feats, the following accomplishments to his credit:

(a) Was appointed to the Alaska Federal Bench in 1900;

(b) Assisted in establishing the present judicial system now existing in the Territory; creating the first court in the Interior of Alaska;

(c) Led the first expedition ever to attempt to climb (1903) Mt. McKinley, the highest peak on the North American Continent; later introduced bill to Congress creating Mt. McKinley National Park;

(d) Named city of Fairbanks, 1902, and established the seat of the Court in this Interior Alaska city;