

JOURNAL
OF THE
HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE
Territory of Alaska

SIXTH SESSION

Begun and Held at
Juneau, The Territorial Capital
MARCH 5, 1923

Adjourned Sine Die, May 3, 1923

CASH COLE
Speaker

E. EARLE BLOSSOM
Chief Clerk

Moved by Mr. Decker, seconded by Mr. Polley, that the selection of membership for Standing Committees as named by the Committee on Committees be appointed. Unanimously carried.

Mr. Speaker appointed as a Special Committee on Printing and Purchasing, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Raelson and Mr. Shepard.

Mr. Polley moved that a Special Committee be appointed to remedy the faulty acoustics of the Hall of the House. Mr. Callahan seconded the motion. Unanimously carried.

Mr. Speaker appointed as a Special Committee to improve the acoustics of the Hall of the House, Mr. Polley, Mr. Price and Mr. Raelson.

Mr. Shepard moved, seconded by Mr. Daly that the House adjourn until 10 o'clock a. m., March 1, 1923. Carried.

E. EARLE BLOSSOM,	CASH COLE,
Chief Clerk of the House.	Speaker of the House.

THIRD DAY

House of Representatives,

Juneau, Alaska, March 7, 1923.

The House met pursuant to adjournment at 10 o'clock a. m.

Speaker Cole in Chair.

Roll call showed all members present.

Prayer by the Chaplain.

The Journal of the previous day was read and approved as corrected.

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Communication was read by the Clerk informing the House that a Committee on Arrangements had been appointed by the Senate to confer with the House for a Joint Meeting to be held on March 7, 1923, at 2 o'clock p. m., in the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker appointed Mr. Shepard, Mr. Raelson and Mr. Staser as a committee to confer with the Senate Committee on Ar-

rangements for a Joint Meeting of the Senate and House to be held on March 7, 1923, at 2 o'clock p. m., in the Hall of the House.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

The Clerk read the report from the Senate submitted by a joint conference of Senate and House Committees on Elections, Election Laws and Mileage, recommending that the Official Mileage Table as adopted by the Special Disbursing Agent of the Appropriation for Legislative Expenses, Territory of Alaska for 1923, be adopted for this session.

It being moved and seconded, the recommendation of the Committee was adopted.

READING OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND RESOLUTIONS

The Clerk read House Concurrent Resolution No. 2, introduced by Mr. Johnston, resolving that the Standing Committee on Printing and Purchasing be instructed to confer with a like Committee of the Senate to serve as a Joint Committee on Printing and Purchasing.

Mr. Johnston moved that the House rules be suspended and that the first reading be considered the second and third and that the resolution be put upon its final passage. Unanimously carried.

The question being "Shall the Resolution Pass?" the roll was called:

Yeas, 16:—Callahan, Daly, Decker, Foster, Grant, Johnston, Keys, Murray, Polley, Price, Raelson, Ross, Shepard, Staser, Wilson, Mr. Speaker.

Nays, 0.

And so the Resolution passed.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

As directed by Mr. Speaker, the Clerk read the resignation of Miss Rose McLaughlin, Enrolling Clerk.

Mr. Johnston moved that the resignation of Miss Rose McLaughlin as Enrolling Clerk be accepted and that Mrs. Stella Young be transferred to that position, and that Mrs. M. J. Sabin be appointed Assistant Clerk.

The motion was duly seconded and passed.

Mr. Price moved that the Committee on improving the acoustics of the Hall of the House be discharged with a vote of thanks.

The motion was duly seconded and carried.

Mr. Foster moved that the House adjourn until 2:00 o'clock p. m. Mr. Raelson seconded the motion. Carried.

AFTERNOON MEETING

The House met pursuant to adjournment at 2:00 o'clock p. m.

Speaker Cole in the Chair.

Roll call showed all members present.

Mr. Speaker appointed Mr. Wilson and Mr. Polley to notify the President of the Senate that the House had been called to order and was ready to call the Joint Meeting to order for receiving the Governor's message.

Mr. Ross moved that the courtesy of the House be extended to all Territorial Officials within the Hall. Carried.

The Sergeant-at-Arms by direction of Mr. Speaker escorted the Territorial Officials to the Floor of the House.

JOINT MEETING

The Speaker of the House called the Joint Meeting to order.

Mr. Speaker appointed Mr. Polley and Mr. Wilson as a committee to escort the President of the Senate to the Chair.

INVOCATION

Prayer by the Chaplain of the Senate.

President Hunt of the Senate addressing the members of the Legislature and audience in the Hall announced the purpose of the Joint Meeting.

The President appointed Senator Chamberlin and Representative Ross to escort the Governor to the platform of the House.

The President of the Senate introduced his Excellency, the Governor of Alaska, Scott C. Bone.

MESSAGE OF GOVERNOR SCOTT C. BONE

Mr. President, Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Alaska Territorial Legislature:

I esteem it a high privilege, in pursuance of custom, to appear before your honorable body.

You are assembled in sixth biennial session under most propitious circumstances. Abnormal times are passing. Improved conditions are at hand.

Alaska's potentialities are so manifest; its resources so manifold, that it cannot mark time or retrograde.

In growing volume of commerce, in steadily expanding industry, the year just closed showed unmistakable signs of returning prosperity in which the entire Territory is already sharing or soon will begin to share.

An awakened general interest in Alaska and a strengthened faith in its future are certainly tending to invite population and stimulate enterprise. Indeed, this Legislature may well be imbued with a spirit of supreme optimism and resolute courage in taking up the work the people have given you to do. To have a part in the constructive, upbuilding affairs of an empire in the making—to contribute toward the solution of pioneer problems in the inceptive stages of progress—is a distinction that will endure. I congratulate you upon your opportunity for service. In the annals of Alaska the records of the Territorial Legislature become imperishable. It is no fleeting honor thus bestowed upon you. Seeing this wonderland come into eminence, your children and your children's children will proudly cherish the memory of the work performed here.

Mindful of the duties and obligations imposed upon me as Governor and recognizing that the welfare of Alaska is our united aim, it is my will to cooperate with you in the fullest degree and be of every possible aid in your deliberations and proceedings.

A MEMORABLE DECADE

Ten years have elapsed since the first Legislature at this Capital. The decade is the most memorable of the ages. A stupendous conflict shook the world. America's intervention brought peace. Alaska's response to the country's calls in dire emergency rebounds to the Territory's everlasting glory. Contributions generously given and sacrifices freely made brought no compensatory rewards in war prosperity. But the stress of war demonstrated the Territory's inherent patriotism and sturdy Americanism and revealed the spirit of Alaska at its very best. Well may that fine chapter be recalled with pride.

Slowly the world is regaining its bearings. Quickest in recovery, the American Republic today is the strongest exponent of stable democracy and assured civilization. Its banner shines resplendently, and Alaska—soberly and patiently working out its destiny—in due season will surely add a bright star to that banner.

The Territory has met and overcome obstacles incident to re-adjustment following the war with less difficulty than other sections of the national domain. It has been singularly blessed by

Providence and Nature and has passed through the ordeal strongly equipped for better years to come.

Numerically the Territory has witnessed a decline since the first Legislature here assembled. The population is less today than then. Untoward, unforeseen events—primarily the European cataclysm—explain the decrease in numbers. But Alaska has a more permanent citizenry than ten years ago. It has become a country of homes. The Territory, in spite of adverse conditions, has not stood still.

Although many of the hopes and dreams of the first law-makers are unrealized, the laws they enacted put into operation the limited form of government sanctioned by Congress and it has functioned smoothly and efficiently. In framing the Territorial structure the initial Legislature building well and its successors have uniformly been guided by foresight and wisdom in completing and securing the structure. In the prudent handling of its affairs, the Territory has thus emphasized its just appeals for an extension of its functions of self government.

TERRITORIAL SCHOOL SYSTEM

Foremost of Alaska's achievements since becoming a Territory is the establishing upon a firm foundation of a public school system, which inspires pride of citizenship and must ever command a fostering care. Year by year the enrollment has increased. The progressive standards of Alaska schools are recognized in the States. A primary need of growth has been met. No land can be developed without schools and no other domain in its early days ever made more distinct or signal progress in this respect than has Alaska. To the educational advantages offered by the Territory is clearly to be ascribed the multiplying number of homes and permanent residents. That the school system will be wisely safeguarded and promoted henceforth is confidently to be assumed.

SIMPLICITY OF ADMINISTRATION

Alaska officially is not over-organized. The simplicity and inexpensiveness of its local government are in striking contrast with the complicated bureaucratic system of federal control. Of necessity compelled to keep within its revenues, the Territory is not burdened with excessive overhead costs, but conducts its affairs at a minimum of expense, with scrupulous regard for the outlay of public monies. Prudence is still required. Conditions do not yet warrant administrative expansion.

A trend toward over-organization, Federal, State and City, throughout the Union, has made for heavy public indebtedness and high taxation, with the accompanying ills of inefficient government, and Alaska may further profit by this mistaken policy by con-

tinuing studiously to avoid it. Not until population is substantially increased and revenues largely augmented will more elaborate official machinery be justified.

A multiplicity of laws tends to retard rather than advance progress and development. Simplicity of legislation and simplicity of administration are equally important and mutually conducive to good government.

FINANCES

In the aggregate, during the biennium, the Territory has kept well within the limits of appropriations provided. In some instances material unexpended balances revert to the general fund. In other cases expenditures have unavoidably exceeded the provisions made.

The report of the Territorial Treasurer covers transactions in detail and a close examination of this report is invited.

An expert and comprehensive audit of the treasury, as required by law, has just been completed. It covers a period of six years since the only preceding audit and discloses a competent and faithful handling of Territorial finances. This audit is analytical and illuminating, and will doubtless prove useful to your honorable body for guidance in making estimates for the ensuing two years. The Governor, the Secretary of the Territory, and the Clerk of the United States Court of the First Judicial Division are constituted by law (Session 1913, Chap. 77, Sec. 7-k) a Board of Audit and in performance of duty make quarterly examination in the interim of the quadrennial expert audits provided for.

RELIEF AND PENSIONS

In the care given to needy pioneers, men and women, and other deserving persons, the Territory has been provident and generous. It has set an excellent example to older communities in the administration of its charities. Its pension system involves no costly methods of handling. Money appropriated for relief goes directly to those in need. It is doubtful whether any other Territory ever made as good a record in caring for its own.

The Alaska Pioneers' Home is efficiently managed and it is gratifying to note for the last calendar year a marked reduction in maintenance costs, approximately nearly \$12,000, without in the least curtailing the comforts of the institution. Looking ahead, it is clear that the present old and decaying structures must, within a few years, be rebuilt or replaced with new buildings. Grounds for gardening and small farming in connection with the institution would greatly facilitate its successful management.

Extension of Territorial charities should be approached with

caution consistent with growth and possible revenues. Under the liberal existing system the outlay must naturally increase with increasing population.

A merging of the appropriations for the relief of destitution and the care of dependent children is advisable and here recommended, as their aims are virtually the same. For the biennium a deficit of the fund at the disposal of the Juvenile Courts developed, owing to the unusual demands, whereas the relief fund shows a substantial balance. The establishment of two government training schools has been authorized and this will obviate the necessity and added expense of sending dependent children to distant points outside the Territory.

The system of transporting insane persons outside the Territory for care and treatment under contract is commendable only in its economical phase as affecting Alaska. Otherwise it is objectionable and a better system must be devised and substituted as soon as the Territory means will permit.

MINE INSPECTION WORK

The Territorial Mine Inspector, who had served with recognized fidelity and competency, resigned on June 30, 1922, to accept the position of Supervising Engineer for Alaska of the Federal Bureau of Mines. Under a cooperative arrangement with that Bureau and a coordination of work the Territory was enabled to retain the benefit of his services without cost, except as to clerk hire incident to his continued duty as Labor Commissioner and minor office expense. Thus a saving of several thousand dollars to the Territory was effected, with an improved and enlarged service. The current mining report, prepared jointly, which has been placed in your hands, is a most complete and satisfactory review of mineral conditions in the Territory and attests convincingly the value of coordination. I strongly recommend, in view of the fact that the Bureau of Mines is now equipped for larger field activities in Alaska, that the cooperative arrangement be perpetuated, and that the Territory provide a reasonable fund to meet its just share of the expense of the combined service. Such an arrangement is operative in connection with the mining industry in Utah and has abundantly demonstrated its economy, efficiency and general usefulness.

THE FISHERIES

Conservation of the fisheries of Alaska is of the utmost importance. Under a system of reservation and regulation by zone, the government, through the Department of Commerce, is now undertaking, for the first time in the history of these fisheries, to compel conservation. Alaskans justly look with disfavor upon such re-

serves of water or land and oppose the principle involved, but the system inaugurated as the only immediate alternative possesses the virtue of centralized authority and responsibility and is promising of desired results. Therefore a test of its equity and utility, or lack thereof, may well be awaited with patient consideration. Obviously its aims are for the public good. The first fishing season under this system should demonstrate its merits or defects, its success or failure, as bearing upon the future of the fisheries and the welfare of Alaska, and so furnish a sound basis for legislation.

The need of conservation, long realized by all interests, however divergent their views as to method, emphasizes the wisdom of continuous propagation. The Territorial Fish Commission is organized and, in preliminary part, equipped for and has rendered a useful service. Its hatcheries operated successfully during the season just closed and tentative plans for future work, subject for your approval, should be most productive. The Bureau of Fisheries has indicated its desire to work in closest cooperation with the Territorial Fish Commission and to give heed to practical recommendations received from the Territory. In readily surrendering one of its most capable men, an experienced Alaskan, to join the Commission as Hatchery Superintendent the Federal Bureau gave evidence of its appreciation of the work being done by the Territory. Liberal provision for the continuance of salmon propagation and its reasonable extension during the biennium seem fully justified by existing conditions. As canneries profit by this work an increased tax upon their product and upon non-resident fishermen is manifestly warranted.

HISTORICAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

A pressing duty devolves upon the Territory to provide for the upkeep and safe housing of the Alaska Historical Library and Museum, its status having been definitely fixed as a Territorial institution. The collection of historical works, books, papers and curios, is most valuable and could not be replaced in the event of loss. It is of the highest importance to preserve the rare collection and guard it closely. The Alaska Historical Association will place before you the urgent needs. Had the institution remained under Federal jurisdiction, as originally created, Congress at its recent session would have been asked to meet the emergency. Under the changed situation action by the Legislature cannot safely be delayed.

ELECTION LAWS

Familiarity with the Alaska primary and election system has given added smoothness to its operation and, save for minor amendments to perfect and clarify the general act, legislation on this subject does not appear necessary or advisable. The system in provid-

ing means to express the popular will achieves its paramount aim and purpose. Changes calculated to produce confusion should be avoided whenever possible.

PUBLICITY

Popular ignorance of Alaska is the Territory's heaviest handicap. Systematic, continuous and intensive publicity is necessary to overcome this. The President's prospective visit has aroused wide-spread interest in this still unknown land and created during the year an unprecedented demand for information. Inquiries from all parts of the Union, as well as foreign countries have received prompt attention. The Governor's office is a clearing house of publicity and this branch of executive work has grown steadily, without cost to the Territory. Pamphlets and leaflets prepared by the late Publicity Bureau have been broadly disseminated to advantage, and special articles requested by newspapers and magazines have reached millions of readers. Informative material should always be available and kept revised and up to date. For this and kindred purposes, to the end of promulgating facts about Alaska, a small publicity fund could profitably be employed and the suggestion of such provision is respectfully submitted.

EPOCHAL EVENTS

Two epochal events have marked the biennium now closing—the completion and operation of The Alaska Railroad, built by the government at an expenditure of \$56,000,000, and the opening of the Alaska Agricultural College and School of Mines.

The importance of the railroad project cannot be overestimated. It opens interior Alaska, making accessible vast resources previously beyond reach and transforming valleys hitherto a wilderness. Unprecedented Winter travel bespeaks changing conditions and the dawn of a new day and brighter era. The operation of the railroad means early solution of other transportation problems and Alaska will now go forward more rapidly than ever before. Of necessity the government must push the building of roads and trails in order to bring the railroad into a full measure of usefulness and make it pay. A colonization plan that will insure homesteading and create

permanent settlement becomes most urgent and to hasten such an eventuation I recommend that your honorable body memorialize Congress to grant land rights to Alaska soldiers of the World War. Rewarding service to country, the government would simultaneously insure good citizenship.

In the notable opening in September last of the Alaska Agricultural College and School of Mines, there came into being the first

institution of higher and technical learning in the Northland. It supplements and becomes a valuable adjunct to the Territorial school system, and in six months has attained a remarkable growth. The fact of its establishment attracted wide attention. It proclaimed Alaska's progress. Great colleges have had more modest beginning than this new and promising institution at Fairbanks. I recommend to this Legislature adequate provision for the institution and shall later acquaint you with its plans and needs.

The President of the United States, I am pleased to assure you, is definitely planning to visit Alaska during the coming Summer. This visitation will make the current biennium the most memorable in Alaskan history and the benefits of it will be far reaching in focusing the eyes and mind of the world upon the Northland and impressing truth and fact.

OFFICIAL COOPERATION

Reports of Territorial officials placed in your hands cover in detail their work during the biennium. A careful examination of these is commended, with due consideration of the recommendations therein contained. I give grateful recognition to the spirit of cooperation uniformly received from official associates. Mutual helpfulness and harmonious relations, so essential to administrative efficiency, have been maintained in gratifying degree. Service is the official watchword.

My predecessors have wisely enjoined upon former Legislatures the wisdom of subordinating partisan and sectional interest and feeling to the general good. This is too clear to call for repetition or reassertion at this time. Alaska's welfare as a whole must ever be made paramount and guide those entrusted with legislative and executive responsibility.

As Governor, I am specifically charged with the duty of seeing that the laws of the Territory are enforced. I could not, if I would, and be true to my oath, differentiate as to laws. Whether Federal or Territorial, they are equally binding and held in equal respect. Alaska is a law-abiding land. In no other domain are life and property more secure than in this Northland. The Territory, to its credit, has made a singularly fine record in the enactment of just and equitable laws intended to promote growth and progress. It has exercised its powers wisely. By continued prudence in legislation it will strengthen its claim to further governmental rights and thus hasten statehood.

In the performance of the work before you I pledge to you the fullest measure of cooperation and bid you God-speed.

Senator Chamberlin moved that a vote of thanks be extended to the Governor for his message, and for the kind and helpful advice embodied therein.

Senator Ayer seconded the motion. Unanimously carried.

BENEDICTION

Prayer by the Chaplain of the House.

Senator Aldrich moved that the Joint Meeting adjourn. Seconded by Senator Dimond. Carried.

IN THE HOUSE

The House was called to order by Speaker Cole.

Mr. Murray moved that the Governor's message be spread upon the House Journal but omitted from the advance sheets thereof. Carried.

Mr. Murray moved that the House adjourn until 10 o'clock a. m., March 8, 1923. Seconded and carried.

E. EARLE BLOSSOM,	CASH COLE,
Chief Clerk of the House.	Speaker of the House.

FOURTH DAY

House of Representatives,
Juneau, Alaska, March 8, 1923.

The House met pursuant to adjournment at 10 o'clock a. m.

Speaker Cole in Chair.

Roll call showed all members present.

Prayer by the Chaplain.

Journal of the previous day was read and approved.

On motion of Mr. Staser, seconded by Mr. Ross, the House adjourned until 10 o'clock a. m., March 9, 1923.

E. EARLE BLOSSOM,	CASH COLE,
Chief Clerk of the House.	Speaker of the House.

FIFTH DAY

House of Representatives,
Juneau, Alaska, March 9, 1923.

The House met pursuant to adjournment at 10 o'clock a. m.

Speaker Cole in Chair.

Roll call showed all members present.

Prayer by the Chaplain.

Journal of the previous day was read and approved as corrected.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND RESOLUTIONS

House Joint Resolution No. 1 by Mr. Price, relating to an appropriation of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) to be expended by the Committees of the Senate and House on Judiciary and Federal Relations, for the employment of additional clerical help was introduced, read first time, and referred to the committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Mr. Johnston, Chairman of the Committee on Printing and Purchasing reported progress and stated that bids had been received on printing of House stationery.

Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. Wilson, moved that the Committee on Printing and Purchasing be authorized to accept or reject any or all bids for House printing and stationery. Carried.

Mr. Ross moved, seconded by Mr. Staser that the House adjourn until 10 o'clock a. m., March 10, 1923. Carried.

CASH COLE,
Speaker of the House.

E. EARLE BLOSSOM,
Chief Clerk of the House.