

JOURNAL
OF THE
HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE
TERRITORY OF ALASKA

SEVENTH SESSION

BEGUN AND HELD AT
JUNEAU, THE TERRITORIAL CAPITAL
MARCH 2, 1925.

Adjourned Sine Die, April 30, 1925.

C. H. WILCOX
Speaker

LAWRENCE S. KERR
Chief Clerk

ALASKA DAILY EMPIRE PRINT
JUNEAU, ALASKA

Committee to notify the Governor that the House is organized and is ready to receive any message he may have for it: Mr. Elliot of the 2nd Division; Mr. Paul of the 1st Division; and Mr. Watson, of the 4th Division. This Committee was instructed to act jointly with a like Committee of the Senate.

Thereupon a recess was declared for one hour.

Pursuant to recess the House was called to order at 4:15 P. M., by the Speaker.

TEMPORARY RULES.

On motion of Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. Murray, the Rules of the House of the Sixth Session were adopted as the temporary rules of the House, pending the adoption of permanent rules for the session.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

Mr. Hardy, Chairman of the Committee on Legislative Employees, submitted the following report:

House of Representatives,

Juneau, Alaska, March 3, 1925.

MR. SPEAKER:

We, your special Committee on Legislative Employees, to whom was referred the matter of inquiry into the qualifications of applicants for employment, have duly considered the same, and respectfully report: We recommend the selection of the following: Chaplain, The Rev. A. P. Kashevaroff; Assistant Clerk, Harry F. Morton; Engrossing Clerk, Darlyne Berry; Enrollment Clerk, A. H. Ducey; Messenger, Agnes G. Manning; Watchman, Harriet Barragar; Doorkeeper, Harry E. Brown.

Respectfully submitted,

N. O. HARDY, Chairman.

We concur in this report:

R. N. SUNDQUIST,
BEN A. GRIER,
GEO. C. MOODY,

Special Committee.

Thereupon, on motion of Mr. Murray, seconded by Mr. Ross, after a short discussion, the report of the Committee was adopted, and each of the employees recommended by the Committee was declared elected.

Mr. Elliot, for the Committee to notify the Governor, reported that the Governor will address the Legislature at a joint session, to be held tomorrow afternoon, at 2 o'clock.

Thereupon Mr. Murray, as Notary Public, administered the oath of office to Lawrence S. Kerr, Chief Clerk; Harry F. Morton, Assistant Clerk; Byron Olson, Sergeant-at-Arms; Darlyne Berry, Engrossing Clerk; A. H. Ducey, Enrollment Clerk; Agnes G. Manning, Messenger; Harriet Barragar, Watchman; and Harry E. Brown, Doorkeeper.

Thereupon, on motion of Mr. Murray, seconded by Mr. Grant, the House adjourned until 10 o'clock, A. M., March 4, 1925.

LAWRENCE S. KERR,

Clerk of the House.

Approved March 4, 1925.

C. H. WILCOX,

Speaker of the House.

THIRD DAY.

House of Representatives,

Juneau, Alaska, March 4, 1925.

Pursuant to adjournment the House was called to order at 10 o'clock A. M., by Speaker Wilcox.

Roll call showed all members present.

Prayer was offered by the Chaplain.

The President appointed Messrs. Pratt of the Senate, and Grier of the House, a committee to escort the Governor to the rostrum.

On motion of Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. Aldrich, the courtesy of the floor was extended to all Territorial officials.

His Excellency, Governor Scott C. Bone, escorted by the members of the committee appointed for that purpose, arrived at the rostrum of the House and was seated with the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. George G. Bruce, Chaplain of the Senate.

The President of the Senate announced the purpose of the joint session, and introduced Governor Bone.

Thereupon the Governor delivered the following message:

MESSAGE OF GOVERNOR SCOTT C. BONE

Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, and Members of the Territorial Legislature:

Assembled in Seventh Biennial Session, I give you cordial official greeting as you take up the work before you, and bespeak deliberation and harmony in your proceedings, with zealous regard for the public welfare.

Throughout the country today economy is the watchword. The Nation and the States in unison are advocating and compelling it as the only means of lightening the burdens upon the masses.

Chiefly high taxation is due to over-organization and expensive administration. Alaska happily on this score has no just cause for complaint.

I said two years ago and today repeat:

"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 builded 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 function of self-government.

"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."

The Territory has profited by the experience of the States. It should further profit by it and continue to build itself aright. There is not a commonwealth or municipality in the Union which would not, if it could, return to a simple form of government.

I repeat:

"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."

Alaska's statute books are not unduly encumbered, but might well be relieved of some acts that serve no good purpose or are inoperative. If this Legislature enacted no new laws, but confined its labors to the appropriations and the strengthening of needed laws and the elimination of dead-letter enactments, it would render the best possible service.

A MEMORABLE BIENNIUM

The biennium has not marked an appreciable growth in population or development of industry, but it has witnessed a steady progress. Almost uniformly all settled communities have gone ahead and are in improved con-

dition. Some have made notable advancement and the immediate future is bright for all. Stability and prosperity in the country at large must certainly be shared in substantial degree by this Northland.

The biennium passed will ever be memorable because for the first time a President of the United States, the late Warren G. Harding, with members of his Cabinet, visited the Territory, journeying along its coast and into the interior. His tribute to the citizenship of Alaska and its scenic wonders as voiced in his last public utterance is cherished by the whole-hearted people who welcomed him so warmly and patriotically. His visitation, preceded by that of a large body of Congressmen, was of incalculable value in centering attention upon and enlisting national interest in this last of American frontiers. The Territory is better known and understood for his coming, and the benefits derived therefrom undoubtedly will reach far into the future and prove enduring.

ALASKA'S PARAMOUNT NEED

Alaska needs capital and people. It must have both, if it would go forward and make the most of its resources and opportunities. This is too manifest for comment. Every true Alaskan realizes the fact. Capital means population. The one follows the other. Therefore, Alaska must be made inviting to capital. Otherwise it will not risk the natural hazards of investment so far away. Imposition of taxes beyond the requirements of the Territory and based wholly upon ability to pay is clearly unwise public policy and not conducive to growth and development.

EXPENSES WITHIN THE BUDGET

It is gratifying to report that expenditures for the two years, save in two minor particulars, have been kept within the appropriations. This is due to the exercise of administrative economy and a careful looking ahead.

The Pioneers' Home, although it has had a larger average number of inmates than ever before, finishes the biennium without a deficit, and its management has been most efficient and successful.

Similarly the Territorial schools have been conducted and maintained within the budget allotted and this, too, is ascribable to efficiency and foresight.

Owing to an insufficient appropriation it became necessary to curtail pension allowances to prevent an exhaustion of the fund at the opening of the Winter season, but this was done with the utmost care in order to reduce hardships to the very minimum. Every dollar provided for pensions has gone to the beneficiaries without the least administrative cost. Experience has demonstrated that uniformity of allowance of \$15 or \$20 to men and \$45 to women entitled to relief would be more satisfactory and that allowances to non-residents are inadvisable because of inability to keep check upon them.

Only in the matter of bounty on eagles and wolves has a deficit been incurred, and this is explained in the Treasurer's Biennial Report.

AUDIT OF THE TREASURY

In compliance with the law a detailed audit of the Treasury was made by a firm of certified public accountants and this shows the fiscal affairs of the Territory in excellent condition, with every dollar expended properly accounted for and a healthy balance on the credit side of the ledger. The present income from all sources is sufficient to meet administrative needs economically administered for the next two years, but appropriations cannot with safety be materially increased in the aggregate, as a reduction in revenues in some directions is anticipated.

THE FISHERIES

A wise enactment by Congress has vested complete jurisdiction over the Alaska fisheries in the Department of Commerce and, with Territorial cooperation, a policy of conservation has been inaugurated to safe-guard the fisheries for the future. In framing regulations due consideration has been and will be given to all rights or interests involved, with public rights held paramount, and it is confidently believed that this policy will redound to the mutual benefit of fishermen and packers alike in the perpetuation of the industry and also the good of the Territory. The Department is displaying a ready willingness to modify or alter regulations to meet local conditions and the initial steps toward inaugurating a permanent policy of conservation are most promising. Inasmuch as authority is definitely and specifically fixed by

governmental act, any Territorial effort tending to nullify that act or render it inoperative would be extremely short-sighted and certainly not receive the sanction of Congress. The Territorial Fish Commission is rendering a most valuable service through its propagating stations and its work should continue to receive liberal support.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE AND SCHOOL OF MINES

Reports of Territorial institutions and boards will be transmitted in due course, with recommendations. The Agricultural College and School of Mines, now in its third year, has shown a splendid growth and deserves helpful consideration at your hands. The status it has already reached demonstrates its usefulness and guarantees its future. Its support should be in keeping with its normal expansion and increasing requirements, always with the thought that it is a Territorial, not a sectional, institution, destined ultimately to be the pride of the entire Northland.

The Bureau of Biological Survey, of the Department of Agriculture, believes that it is most desirable to establish a reindeer experiment station in connection with the Agricultural College at Fairbanks, where work could be done of direct practical benefit to the development of the reindeer industry in the Territory. It is estimated that the sum of \$20,000 would be required to establish such a station. The Bureau keeps experts in the field and proposes hereafter to maintain headquarters at Fairbanks, and hopes to have the active cooperation of Alaska in developing one of the Territory's major resources. The idea is an excellent one and is here commended, although it seems equitable that the Bureau should bear a share of the cost of establishing the station.

GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE

Alaska has been represented at the last two annual conferences of Governors, and that distinguished body has been invited to visit this country in connection with its next annual session on the North Pacific Coast. I suggest that the Legislature supplement and reinforce the invitation already extended by the Governor and that a reasonable appropriation be made to entertain the Governors while guests of the Territory, in the event

of their acceptance, and it is further recommended that a membership fee be provided for Alaska's participation in these annual conferences which deal with problems of importance to a State in the making.

VOTING QUALIFICATION

Knowledge is the very essence of citizenship. Education is its base. Ability to read and write should be made the essential pre-requisite of the franchise. Otherwise it becomes a mockery and a travesty. To protect the purity of the ballot an educational qualification test is imperative. Therefore, this Legislature should amend and strengthen the election laws by adding a qualification clause, applicable alike to all voters regardless of previous condition. In so legislating in a spirit of absolute fairness Alaska will make no departure from established precedent, but emulate progressive commonwealths.

MEMORIAL TO FORMER GOVERNOR

The grave of the only former Governor buried in Alaska, Hon. John G. Brady, is unmarked. I recommend as a fitting tribute to his long service that an appropriation be made for a memorial stone to mark his resting place in the National Cemetery at Sitka.

LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

The Alaska Historical Library and Museum, now attractively housed as a result of provision made by the last Legislature, is already crowded for room, and the use of the entire building will ultimately be required. Unfortunately the priceless collection is constantly exposed to the hazard of fire.

Publicity regarding Alaska is continuously disseminated through the Governor's office. Many thousands of informative pamphlets have been circulated during the biennium and provision for a continuation of this work is important.

Recommendations in detail will reach you from the various branches of the Territorial Government and to these I bespeak your favorable consideration.

The Governor's Office will be at your constant call to aid and facilitate your work throughout the session, and I bid you God-speed in the pursuance of your duties.

Senator Dimond moved, and was seconded by Mr. Sheldon, that the thanks of the Legislature be extended to the Governor for his kind message and for courtesies extended to the Legislature, and those to be extended in the future. Unanimously carried.

The Rev. A. P. Kashevaroff, Chaplain of the House offered prayer.

Thereupon, on motion of Senator Aldrich, seconded by Senator Dimond, the joint session adjourned.

IN THE HOUSE.

The House was called to order at 2:35 o'clock, P. M., by the Speaker, all members being present.

Mr. Ross moved, and was seconded by Mr. Murray that the Governor's message be spread upon the Journal of the House, but that it be omitted from the advance sheets thereof. Motion carried.

On motion of Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. Jensen, the courtesy of the floor was extended to former members of the House who may be present, at any time.

Thereupon, on motion of Mr. Sherman, seconded by Mr. Ross, the House adjourned until 10 o'clock, A. M., March 5, 1925.

LAWRENCE S. KERR,
Clerk of the House.

Approved, March 5, 1925.

C. H. WILCOX,
Speaker of the House.

FOURTH DAY.

House of Representatives,

Juneau, Alaska, March 5, 1925.

Pursuant to adjournment the House was called to order at 10 o'clock, A. M., by Speaker Wilcox.

Roll call showed all members present.

Prayer was offered by the Chaplain.

The journal of the proceedings of the third day was read and approved.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. Sheldon presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 1, extending the greetings of the Legislature to the President, Vice-President, and the Congress of the United States, and inviting them to visit Alaska, and the resolution was read the first time.

Mr. Murray moved, and was seconded by Mr. Grant, that the rules be suspended, the first reading of the resolution be considered the second and third, and that the resolution be put on its final passage. The motion carried unanimously.

The question being: "Shall the Resolution pass?", the roll was called with the following result:

Yeas, 16:—Elliot, Ferguson, Grant, Grier, Hardy, Jensen, Moody, Murray, Nylen, Paul, Ross, Sheldon, Sherman, Sundquist, Watson, Mr. Speaker.

Nays, 0.

The Speaker announced that he was about to sign the Resolution and it was ordered transmitted to the Senate.

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF HOUSE BILLS.

House Bill No. 1, by Mr. Grant, entitled, "An Act to require certain educational qualifications for voters", was introduced and read first time. The Speaker instructed the Clerk to keep the bill on file, pending the appointment of the standing committees of the House.