

sota resources, thereby retarding the logical development of the industry and depriving the state and the northwest of the benefits justly due, to the great detriment of the general public;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, By the Senate of the state of Minnesota, the House of Representatives concurring, that the action heretofore taken by the governor and the attorney general in the name of the state in hearings before the Federal Trade Commission on an application for the issuance of a complaint in said "Pittsburgh Plus" matters are hereby approved and their acts confirmed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the facts and conditions in relation to such "Pittsburgh Plus" practice are such as to warrant and require the issuance of such complaint, and the Federal Trade Commission is hereby respectfully requested and urged to issue such complaint with as much expedition as reasonably possible, and upon final hearing thereof to grant to the public so discriminated against the utmost possible relief.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a duly authenticated copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Federal Trade Commission.

Approved March 10, 1921.

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#### RESOLUTION No. 5.

*A concurrent resolution memorializing the congress of the United States to reimburse claimants who suffered loss and damage on account of the forest fires that devastated northern Minnesota in October, 1918.*

WHEREAS, during the fall of 1918, the Government of the United States, as a war measure, was operating the principal railroads of Northern Minnesota, and during the month of October of that year, while said railroads were being so operated by the Government, destructive forest fires swept over large sections of the State, destroying several hundred lives and thousands of homes, causing a property loss aggregating millions of dollars; and,

WHEREAS, it is claimed by many of the fire sufferers that inadequate patrolling and negligent operation of said roads by the railroad administration contributed to, or caused, tremendous losses to said fire sufferers for which the railroad administration is legally liable, and there are now pending before the Courts of Minnesota thousands of actions against the railroad administration, in more than two hundred of which it has already been determined by the trial courts that the railroad administration is legally liable therefor; and,

WHEREAS, the vast number of cases, the multitude of witnesses required in proving each case, the tracing each fire and the time

required in trying said cases, have so congested said State courts, that adequate and just relief to all said fire sufferers cannot, in the ordinary conduct of said courts, be obtained for many years to come, which is causing and will continue to cause great hardship, not only to plaintiffs in said cases, but also to litigants in other actions, and the general public as well; and,

WHEREAS, many of the persons who lost property in said fires have been greatly impoverished thereby and handicapped in carrying on their farming and other usual vocations by reason of the loss of buildings, stock, equipment and other property; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota shortly after said fires made an appropriation of a million, eight hundred thousand dollars for temporary relief, and other large appropriations have been made by public and other bodies, all of which said appropriations have been wholly inadequate to permanently relieve the situation or compensate the sufferers for their loss; and,

WHEREAS, said railroad administration has made no settlement or adjustment of any of the thousands of pending cases, but, on the contrary, has defended at great length each of the cases already tried at great expense to both said railroad administration and said plaintiffs;

Now, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate, the House concurring, that in the interest of justice and with a proper regard for the public welfare, for the purpose of avoiding expense incident to litigation, and for the purpose of rebuilding the devastated territory and permitting the courts of Minnesota to take care of the ordinary business coming before them, we earnestly request the Congress of the United States to take such steps as may be deemed best and most expeditious for promptly disposing of said large number of pending cases, and for the prompt relief and reimbursement to said Minnesota Fire Sufferers who sustained loss in October, 1918, as a result of the operation of railroad properties in Northern Minnesota by said railroad administration as aforesaid.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Governor of this State be, and he hereby is, requested to bring this matter to the attention of the President of the United States, and of each of the members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives.

Approved March 15, 1921.

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#### RESOLUTION No. 6.

*A concurrent resolution requiring the state boards of grain appeals to establish as "Minnesota Grades" of grain substantially the grades which were effective immediately prior to the adoption of the federal standards.*