

© 1989 Alaska Council on Economic Education Written by Stave Jackstadt & Lee Huskey Art by John Dawson

Over the next year, we will be printing the book Adventures in the Alaska Economy as a serial. Every week we will present approximately one and a half pages. The book, an economics text presented in comic book form, is the result of a collaboration between economics professors Steve Jackstadt, Lee Huskey and artist John Dawson.

The book will be available after February 1990 and may be obtained by calling the Alaska Council on Economic Education at 786-1901.

The first commercial salmon canneries opened in Southeast Alaska in 1878. This was about the same time gold was discovered near Juneau. Gold and salmon became the two major industries of the Alaska territorial economy.

Salmon have always been abundant in Alaska's streams. Salmon were an important part of the economy of the coastal Alaska Natives before the Russians came. Although Russian fur traders used salmon for their own food, it took almost 140 years for the commercial potential to be realized. Why didn't the commercial salmon industry start before 1878?

