

BOOK REVIEW

Veteran salmon-packer Larry Freeburn provides a nostalgic look at the evolution of Alaska's earliest fishing industry in a new book released this month by Alaska Northwest Publishing Company. **THE SILVER YEARS**, a remarkable album of more than 400 collector's photos, period advertisements and journal reports, records the history of Alaska's canned salmon industry from late 19th century through its heyday to its present state of decline.

Photographs contained in the 168-page softbound book were collected together from numerous private sources and portray fishing gear, crews and vessels, cannery workers, plants and successive "last words" in equipment, and the romantic ships that transported the product to market.

What nature appears to lay out for the asking—and a little hard work—has bred many "fevers" in Alaska. Though the symptoms of gold fever are described most thoroughly in print, the dizzying search for other colors of natural wealth has been equally intense.

None has demanded greater risk, ~~livened~~ more dreams, fostered more heroism—or cussedness—or filled and then emptied more pockets than the commercial pursuit of silvery fish.

THE SILVER YEARS, also being issued to members of the

Alaska Geographic Society as one of the quarterly numbers of **ALASKA GEOGRAPHIC**, is available in either book or **GEOGRAPHIC** format in many fine bookstores or may be requested from the publisher, Box 4-EEE, Anchorage, Alaska 99509. Single copies are \$7.95.