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Alaska Seas' Proves from the MIAMI HERALD Ocean-Going Western

By GEORGE BOURKE Herald Amusement Editor

A sea-going Western might be an apt capsule description of "Alaska Seas." Instead of cattle to be rustled there are salmon, and the "chase" is run in trawlers rather than on horses. But from there on the plot similarities are quite obvious.

Robert Ryan plays the big, handsome but ne'er-do-well cowboy—we mean salmon fisherman—who doublecrosses everybody, including his best friend, Brian Keith, and the girl, Jan Sterling, who is uncertain whether she loves Brian or Robert.

The time of the story is that era just after the government has clamped restrictions on the taking of salmon headed to their up-stream spawning grounds.

Keith is member of a co-operative which has been granted a license to take salmon within limits. He tries to befriend Ryan when he is down and out but Ryan double-crosses him and traffics "rustled" salmon with Gene Barry, a cannery owner who won't pay the cooperative a fair price for their cattle — or rather for their fish.

There is as much action and violence as you'll find in a Western — but somehow it doesn't add up to the same excitement without the pounding hooves and the sage brush although an ice avalanche sequence does make up somewhat for the lack.

"Alaska Seas" is at the Royal and Variety Theaters, and will open at the Trail on Wednesday.