

Seaman Fisheries' automated ice plant has 105-ton daily capacity.

are available, and a new net shop is being planned.

Seaman Fisheries also has a large ice plant built by Mobile Refrigeration Company, Inc., which is located next door to the processing plant. It has a 105-ton daily capacity and 200-ton storage capacity. Two trawlers can be iced or fueled at one time. Bill Hardy is the ice plant foreman.

Seaman is in the midst of a major expansion, and when it is completed later this year, the company will have an ultra-modern freezer plant for fish and shrimp with a 30,000-pound daily capacity. It will be equipped with two lanes of Sort-Rite graders. The

plant will be completely air conditioned to maintain a constant temperature of 50 degrees. To meet the strict sanitary standards set by the FDA, the entire plant will be steam cleaned daily, and its design calls for air curtains.

Seaman Fisheries is known for its famous "green fleet." The company currently owns 11 modern steel trawlers, all of which are painted a bright green. An additional three boats are under construction at Superior Fabricators, Inc. in Bayou La Batre, and the shipyard will eventually have built a total of 10 Seaman boats. Henry Alfred "Nook" Seaman, Kent's brother,

is boat manager and maintains constant daily communications with the fleet. The boats follow a rigorous preventive maintenance program.

"We have the most modern fleet in the bayou," says Seaman, "and we will soon have the most modern processing plant, too." Seaman says that he can supply brokers across the nation with unlimited supplies of certain seafood products; Seaman Fisheries has several tractor-trailer rigs and will deliver anywhere in the nation.

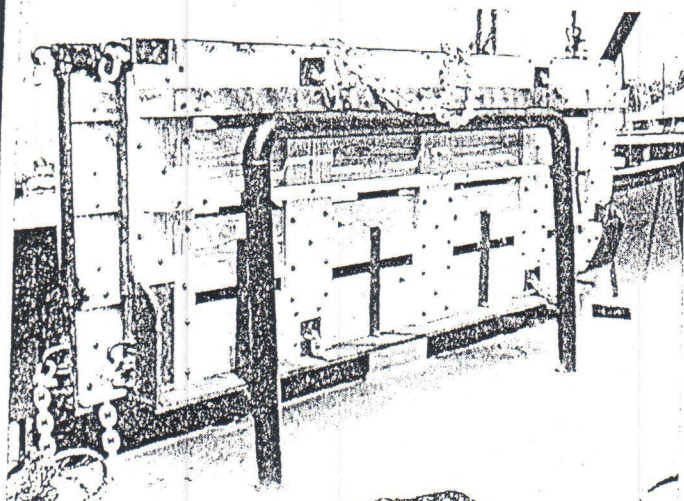
Seaman says that for the 10-month period ending in October 1972, his company produced over one million pounds of shrimp and over three million pounds of fish.

## Sea Pearl Seafood

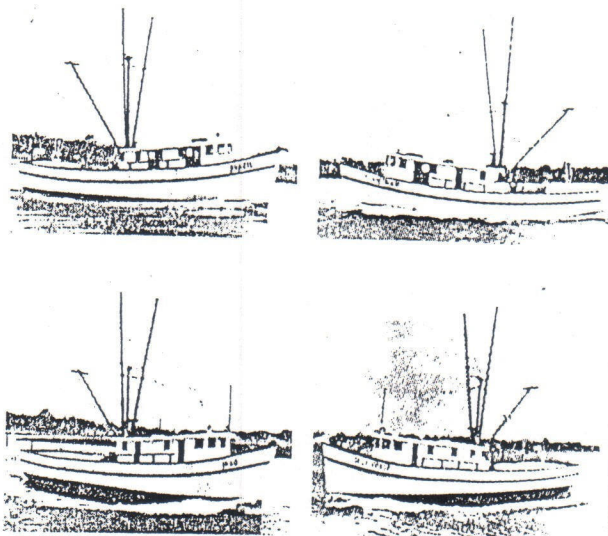
JOE LADNIER of Sea Pearl Seafood Company, Inc. at Bayou La Batre fully expects that 1971's record sale will be easily surpassed by the current season. He is especially optimistic over Alabama oyster production. "This should be a very good year for oysters," he says, "and the first decent season for the past five years."

Sea Pearl is the only seafood company in Bayou La Batre that is freezing oysters. "I really feel that the

## THOMPSON'S BOARDS FISH THE WORLD



Quality Food's new 75-foot trawler "Camasi-N" is equipped with Thompson boards.



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From Alaska to Brazil, South Vietnam to Iraq, and Texas to Florida, modern trawlers increase catches with Bubba Thompson's Boards. We also feature "back door service" at our 140-foot dock for removing and replacing trawl cable or general boat repairs. See us for your marine hardware needs. We are distributors for Indurall Paints, Wall Rope, National Wire, Crosby-Laughlin Fittings, B & L Blocks and BCM poly shrimp baskets.

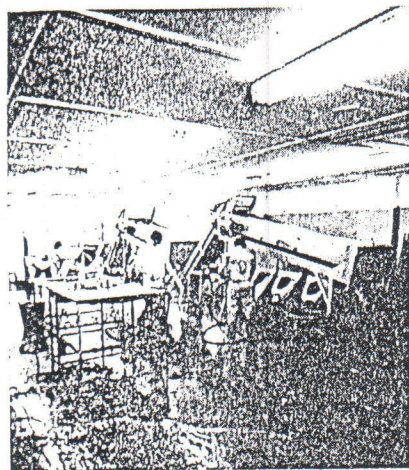
## THOMPSON'S BOARD SHOP, INC.

P.O. Box 225  
Bayou La Batre, Ala. 36509  
(205) 824-2184



future of marketing oysters depends on freezing them," said Ladnier. "I believe it's the only way that you can supply the consumer with a true quality product." Ladnier is betting that he is right by installing a large plate freezer which will be used for IQF oysters in the near future. He will also use the freezer for shrimp.

Ladnier founded Sea Pearl in late 1965 when he purchased a processing plant on the bayou from the Gulas family of Mobile. Today the modern 4,500-square-foot air conditioned Sea Pearl plant is supplied by an in-



Sort-Rite equipped grading room at Sea Pearl Seafood.



Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ladnier display Sea Pearl Seafood carton.

dependently owned fleet of 20 trawlers.

Shrimp from the trawlers is processed and packaged under the "Sea Pearl" brand. The company started freezing shrimp in August 1971. All shrimp is marketed by Schulman-Shepard, Inc., New Orleans.

Sea Pearl offers strictly boat unloading and receiving and will go either box weight or graded prices depending on the captain's wishes.

Ladnier, who has been a commercial fisherman or processor all his

life, is the son of Leo Ladnier of Ladnier Can Distributors, Inc., also of Bayou La Batre. His brother, Billy Ladnier, is vice president and his wife Dawn is secretary. Several local boat captains have an interest in Sea Pearl.

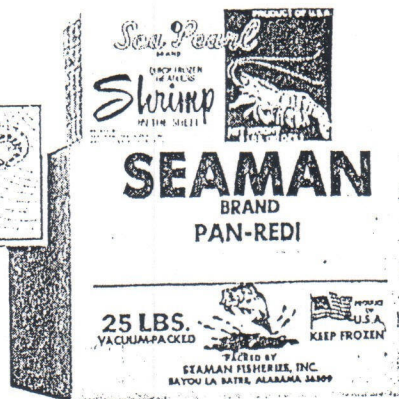
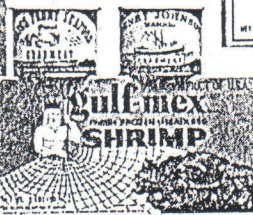
## S.E.E., Inc.

BAYOU LA BATRE'S four-year-old marine electronics dealership, the family-owned S.E.E., Inc., reflects the tremendous growth in the shrimp fleet during the past decade. S.E.E. President George Grant, better known to fishermen as "Uncle George," is very proud of that fact that all S.E.E. employees are either relatives or local residents. "Fishing is still pretty much a family oriented business," he explains.

S.E.E. provides servicing for all electronics equipment that it sells. "When a captain buys a piece of equipment from us," says Grant, we will continue to service it until someone throws it overboard—we live with what we sell." The company will also service equipment sold by other dealers.

Grant is assisted by Fred "Buddy" Johnson, secretary-treasurer, and Don-

What do Seaman Fisheries, Joe's Seafood, Quality Foods, Sea Pearl, Ramos Seafood, Water Front Seafood, Henry Johnson, Rice Seafood, Miller Johnson, Thompson Seafood, Mexican-Gulf Fisheries, Waters Seafood and other leading Gulf Coast processors all have in common?



They all use high quality seafood cartons and containers from

# LADNIER CAN DISTRIBUTORS, INC.

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Bayou La Batre, Ala. 36509

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Featuring Olinkraft seafood cartons, HTH sanitizer and Thuron Blue Sugar Fly Bait for progressive processing plants.

Specializing in plain or personalized crabmeat and oyster containers from the Southern Can Company.



Steiner credits much of his business success to his wife and vice president, Ingeborg, a native of Stuttgart, Germany, who was a business consultant before their marriage. Another big help is Joe Barber, who supervises the net shop.

## Thompson's Board Shop

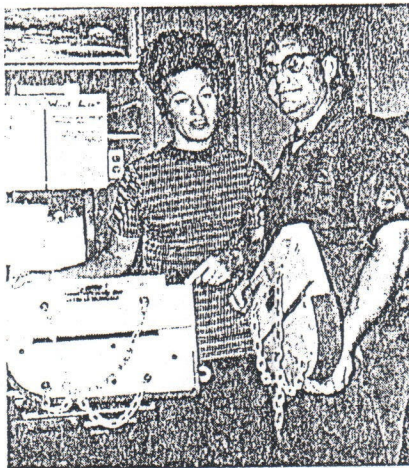
FROM ALASKA to Brazil, from South Vietnam to Iraq, from Texas to Florida, there are boats with trawl boards manufactured by Bubba Thompson, who is himself a veteran shrimp fisherman. A native of Heron Bay, Alabama, and son of retired shrimp fisherman William E. Thompson, he founded Thompson's Board Shop, Inc. in late 1966 on purchasing the assets of a small Bayou La Batre board shop operated by Mertz McDonald as a division of the Old Independent Seafood Company.

The Thompson shop can provide "back door service"—the 6,000-square-foot building is located directly on the bayou and features a 140-foot repair dock that can handle up to four trawlers. Trawl cable of any length can be quickly removed and replaced on a boat-to-dock or dock-to-boat basis. Thompson points out

that he moves over a million feet of National Wire cable a year, which makes him the company's largest distributor. Thompson's trawl boards are available in any size. About 3,000 pairs are constructed annually; meet-

lin fittings, B&L Blocks and BCM poly shrimp baskets. The well equipped board shop also offers general overboard boat repairs, including muffler replacement.

Bubba Thompson is assisted by his



At left, husband and wife team Bubba and Sharron Thompson of Thompson's Board Shop display some of the fruits of their labor. At right, interior of shop where about 3,000 trawl boards are made each year.

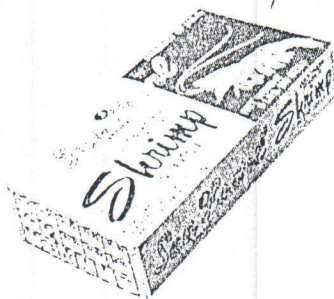


ing the demand keeps 15 craftsmen employed.

The company also carries a general line of marine hardware, being a distributor for Indurall paint, Wall rope, National Wire, Crosby-Laugh-

wife, Sharron, who acts as vice president and bookkeeper. Inside the shop, Thompson relies on the services and experience of Claude Thompson, board foreman, and Curtiss Zirlott, maintenance and repair foreman.

## THE HOME OF DELICIOUS SEAFOOD



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- Daily supply from independently owned fleet of 20 trawlers.

- Stalls for 36 oyster shuckers—200,000 pounds a year production.
- Fresh and frozen oysters—quality and freshness are guaranteed.

SEE JOE LADNIER ABOUT SEA PEARL'S PLANNED IQF OYSTERS