

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NEWS DIGEST



A brief summary of financial proposals filed with and actions by the S.E.C.

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Statistical Release No. 1932. The SEC Index of Stock Prices, based on the closing prices of 300 common stocks for the week ended October 11, 1963, for the composite and by major industry groups compared with the preceding week and with the highs and lows for 1963 is as follows:

	1957-59 = 100		Percent Change	1963	
	10/11/63	10/4/63		High	Low
Composite	147.0	148.2	-0.8	149.0	130.6
Manufacturing	137.9	139.2	-0.9	140.7	121.1
Durable Goods	136.0	136.1	-0.1	136.9	116.2
Non-Durable Goods	139.9	142.1	-1.5	144.3	125.8
Transportation	127.2	127.7	-0.4	131.7	106.4
Utility	183.6	184.3	-0.4	184.3	170.3
Trade, Finance & Service	178.2	180.4	-1.2	180.9	153.8
Mining	130.2	131.0	-0.6	135.6	104.2

SECURITIES ACT REGISTRATION STATEMENTS. During the week ended October 10, 1963, 19 registration statements were filed, 13 became effective, 1 was withdrawn, and 287 were pending at the week-end.

ISRAFUND RECEIVES ORDER. The SEC has issued an order under the Investment Company Act (Release IC-3791) declaring that Israfund-The Israel Fund, Inc., of New York, has ceased to be an investment company.

AUSTRAL OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION FILES FOR OFFERING. Austral Oil and Gas Exploration Corporation, 20 Exchange Place, New York, filed a registration statement (File 2-21795) with the SEC on October 11 seeking registration of \$7,500,000 of interests under exploration agreements of the company, to be offered for public sale in \$50,000 commitments. No underwriting is involved. The agreements will give each participant contractual rights to acquire direct ownership interests (or contractual rights thereto) in oil or gas exploration prospects, properties or leases and to explore for oil or gas by engaging in the drilling of an exploratory well or wells thereon and to engage in development or further exploration activity having as its objective the disclosure and production of reserves of oil, gas or other hydrocarbons from any such prospect, property or lease. Each participant will be required to make certain exploration budget advances to be applied against his proportionate share of the costs of acquiring the interest and drilling exploratory wells thereon. Of the proceeds from the offering, about 15% will be applied to acquisition of property interests, 70% to drilling of exploratory wells, 5% for delay rental payments, seismic and geophysical costs, and 10% for general and administrative expenses. All of the company's stock is owned by Austral Oil Company Inc., which is 60% owned by Fox, Wells and Rogers, a New York limited partnership, and 40% by Winthrop Brothers, a New York general partnership. R. McLean Steward is board chairman of the company, principal organizer of its parent and a general partner of Fox, Wells and Rogers. C. Wardell Leisk is president. The company will retain a percentage interest in all interests in each drilling block.

ASSOCIATES INVESTMENT FILES EXCHANGE OFFER. Associates Investment Company, 320 Associates Building, South Bend, Ind., filed a registration statement (File 2-21796) with the SEC on October 11 seeking registration of 198,000 shares of common stock. It is proposed to offer such stock in exchange for the outstanding common stock of First Bank and Trust Company of South Bend, at the rate of 1.2 shares for each share of the Bank. No underwriting is involved.

The company is engaged in the purchase of retail installment obligations, wholesale financing of dealers, personal installment loans, and commercial loans and other installment receivables. The prospectus states that the purpose of the company in making the exchange offer is to obtain a full-service commercial bank and to further diversify and expand the company's business. In addition to certain indebtedness and preferred stock, the company has outstanding 3,573,355 shares of common stock, of which the Bank holds of record 13.29% and management officials as a group own 5.68%. O. C. Carmichael, Jr. is board chairman, J. D. Barnette is vice chairman and E. Douglas Campbell is president. Carmichael is also board chairman and Barnette is president of the Bank. According to the prospectus, over the years each institution has to the extent permissible promoted the business and activity of the other. Mr. and Mrs. Carmichael and Mr. and Mrs. Judd Leighton (the wives are daughters of the late E. M. Morris, company founder) together hold about 40% of the outstanding shares of the Bank and have accepted the exchange offer. Leighton is a director of the company and vice chairman of the Bank.

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CENTRAL MUTUAL TELEPHONE FILES FOR RIGHTS OFFERING. Central Mutual Telephone Company, Inc., Manassas, Va., filed a registration statement (File 2-21797) with the SEC on October 11 seeking registration of 38,564 shares of common capital stock. It is proposed to offer such stock for subscription by stockholders at \$23.50 per share, and at the rate of one share for each three shares held. The underwriter, Folger, Nolan, Fleming & Co., Inc., 725 Fifteenth St., N. W., Washington, D. C., will receive 35¢ per share in respect to all the 38,564 shares, plus an additional 75¢ in respect of each share of additional stock acquired by the underwriter through exercise of rights purchased by it and each share of unsubscribed stock.

The company is an independent telephone company furnishing local and toll telephone service to most of Prince William and Stafford Counties and part of Fairfax County, Va. The net proceeds from the stock sale will be used to pay part of the cost of the company's continuing construction program (estimated at \$1,000,000 in 1964) and to partially pay \$1,000,000 of outstanding bank loans which, together with other funds, have been and will be used to finance the construction program in part. In addition to certain indebtedness, the company has outstanding 115,692 shares of common stock, of which management officials as a group own 22%. George B. Cocke is president.

SECURITIES ACT REGISTRATIONS. Effective October 11: Oxy-Catalyst, Inc. (File 2-21665).
Effective October 13: Intra State Telephone Co. (File 2-21687).
Effective October 14: The National Union Insurance Company of Washington (File 2-21638); Tennessee Life Insurance Co. (File 2-21717).
Withdrawn October 11: The First American Israel Mutual Fund (File 2-20649); Tower Apartments Associates (File 2-21019).

CLARIFICATION RE GULF COAST LEASEHOLDS CASE. The SEC News Digest of October 11th reported the imposition of sentences against the defendants in this action, including fines of \$25,000 each against Roy B. Kelly, Milton J. Shuck, Martin Teller and Gulf Coast Leaseholds and a \$15,000 fine against F. W. McDonald & Co. All such fines were remitted, except \$10,000 of the fine against Gulf Coast Leaseholds.

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