

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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SPRINGFIELD MOTOR LODGE FILES FINANCING PROPOSAL

Springfield Motor Lodge Associates, New York, filed a registration statement (File 2-14407) with the SEC on October 1, 1958, seeking registration of \$880,000 of Participations in Partnership Interests in Springfield Motor Lodge Associates, to be offered at \$10,000 per participation. No underwriting is involved.

Associates is a partnership consisting of Larence A. Wien of Weston, Conn., and Alvin S. Wien of Riverdale, N. Y. It has contracted to purchase the 120-room Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge in Springfield, Va., for a purchase price of \$800,000 in cash. The property will be owned by Associates free and clear of any mortgages. In addition to the purchase price, Associates will incur expenses of \$100,000 in connection with the purchase and related transactions.

Each of the two partners in Associates contributes \$10,000 to the partnership capital; and Wien is offering participations of \$440,000 in his partnership interest. The total partnership capital will be \$900,000, which will be used to pay the balance due under the purchase contract (\$675,000) and to reimburse the partners for the deposits advanced by them (\$125,000), to defray costs incident to the acquisition (\$85,000), and to pay expenses of this offering (\$15,000). Purchasers of participations will share proportionately in the ownership of the partnership interests in Associates.

Associates will not operate the property. The purchase will be made subject to a 21-year lease, renewable for two like terms, under which Skylark Motel Corporation, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the seller, will continue to operate the Motor Lodge.

UNION ELECTRIC PURCHASE OF FOSS ELECTRIC CLEARED

The SEC has issued an order authorizing Union Electric Company, St. Louis, to purchase substantially all the properties of Foss Electric Company, Inc., in exchange for 9,133 shares of Union Electric common stock at an agreed value of \$30 per share, or an aggregate of \$273,990. Foss Electric is engaged in the purchase, transmission and distribution of electric energy in Henry, Lee and Van Buren Counties, Southeastern Iowa. The outstanding stock of Foss Electric is owned by members of the Foss family.

INTERNATIONAL NICKEL GRANTED EXEMPTION

The SEC has issued an order granting an application of The International Nickel Company, Inc., of New York City, for an exemption of itself and its subsidiaries from all provisions of the Securities Exchange Act.

International Nickel states that it does not own or control directly or indirectly any public-utility properties. It has entered into an agreement whereby it will acquire irrevocable options to purchase, or designate others to purchase, any or all of the 300 outstanding shares of capital stock of Industrial Gas Corporation, a West Virginia corporation, which will produce, transport and sell natural gas to International Nickel and other customers. The exemption order is effective upon the exercise of such options.

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GENERAL PUBLIC UTILITIES PROPOSES STOCK OFFERING

General Public Utilities Corporation, New York, filed a registration statement (File 2-14408) with the SEC on October 1, 1958, seeking registration of 530,000 shares of Common Stock. The stock is to be offered for subscription by holders of outstanding GPU common stock at the rate of one new share for each 20 shares held. The record date and subscription price are to be supplied by amendment, as is the fee to participating dealers.

Of the net proceeds realized from this stock offering, GPU will utilize \$10,000,000 to pay short-term bank loans effected in 1958, the proceeds of which were used in 1958 for additional investments in its domestic subsidiaries. The balance of the net proceeds will be added to the general corporate funds of GPU and utilized for additional investments in domestic subsidiaries or for reimbursement of GPU's treasury for such additional investments theretofore made during 1958.

SPRECKLES COMPANIES EXEMPTED FROM SEC REPORTING

The Securities and Exchange Commission has granted an application of Spreckles Companies, of San Francisco, Calif., from exemption from the reporting requirements of Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

In connection with a registration statement proposing the public offering of securities which was filed in 1949 under the Securities Act of 1933, Spreckles undertook to keep the information in that statement current by filing annual and other periodic reports. The Commission concluded, upon the basis of the present exemption application, that the continued filing of such reports is not necessary in the public interest and for the protection of investors. The company's application showed, among other things, that Spreckles' stock is not actively traded, that all its outstanding securities, consisting of 369,461 common shares, are held by 13 record owners, and that the company knows of no more than 19 beneficial owners. Furthermore, 96% of the Spreckles stock is held by three persons, of whom one, American Sugar Refining Company, is record owner of an absolute majority of such stock and is a parent of Spreckles. American Sugar files annual and other reports with the Commission and presently files complete financial statements of Spreckles Sugar Company and incorporates by reference the financial statements of Spreckles. Of the latter's total assets of \$5,500,000, approximately \$3,800,000 are represented by an investment in 50% of the outstanding stock of its subsidiary, Spreckles Sugar, all the remaining outstanding stock of which is owned by American Sugar

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