

sec news digest

a daily summary from the securities and exchange commission

Issue 73-114
(SEC Docket, Vol. 1, No. 20 - June 26)

June 13, 1973

COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMISSION COMMENTS ON COMPOSITE TAPE PLAN. The SEC has announced that it has sent a letter of comment to the sponsors of the consolidated tape plan jointly filed by the New York, American, Midwest, Pacific and PBW Stock Exchanges and the NASD on March 2, 1973, pursuant to Rule 17a-15 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, providing for reporting of prices and volume of completed transactions with respect to securities registered on exchanges.

The letter sets forth the Commission's comments on various aspects of the plan, including: provisions for future amendments to the plan, evaluation of the performance of the "processor" under the plan, high-speed transmission of data, eligibility criteria for securities to be included, limitations on certain kinds of retransmission of data, market indentification, trading halts and suspensions, trading hours and various technical matters.

As indicated in Securities Exchange Act Release No. 10026 (March 5, 1973), announcing the receipt of the plan, the Commission will afford the plan's sponsors an opportunity to respond to the Commission's comments no later than July 10, 1973, and any such response will be made publicly available. All interested persons may submit written comments with respect to the Commission's letter. All comments should be submitted by July 10, 1973 and should be addressed: Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 500 North Capitol Street, Washington, D.C. 20549 and should refer to File No. 87-433. (Release 34-10210)

INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS COMMON STOCK PURCHASES DROP IN FIRST QUARTER. During the first three months of 1973, four major institutional investor groups -- private noninsured pension funds, open-end investment companies, life insurance companies, and property and liability insurance companies -- purchased \$14.0 billion and sold \$12.3 billion of common stock for their portfolios, according to data released today by the Securities and Exchange Commission. Gross purchases were lower than, and sales higher than, those in the first quarter of 1972. This resulted in net purchases of \$1.7 billion in common stock for their portfolios. This compares with \$2.9 billion in the same period a year earlier and \$2.9 billion in the final 1972 three-month period. For further details, see the June 13, 1973 edition of the SEC Statistical Bulletin.

TRADING SUSPENDED IN SECURITIES OF TEN COMPANIES. The SEC has announced the suspension of over-the-counter trading for one ten-day period commencing on June 13 and terminating at midnight (EDT) on June 22, 1973 of the securities of National Environment Corporation located in Anaheim, California; National Institute for Better Reading Incorporated located in Long Island City, New York; Sandia International Metals Corporation located in Albuquerque, New Mexico; Seaferro Incorporated located in Miami, Florida; and Western Land Corporation located in Chicago, Illinois.

The Commission initiated the suspensions because the companies failed to comply with the reporting provisions of the Exchange Act resulting in the lack of current and accurate information available to the public. (Rel. 34-10219)

In addition, the Commission has announced the temporary suspension of over-the-counter trading for one ten-day period commencing on June 12 and terminating at midnight (EDT) on June 21, 1973 in the securities of Develco, Inc., located in North Carolina, (not to be confused with Develco, Inc., a Nevada Corporation located in Rhode Island); Input, Inc., located in Illinois; Sports World Communications Corp., located in Arizona; Supreme Oil and Gas Corp., located in California; and TMA Company, located in Illinois.

The Commission initiated the suspension because the companies failed to comply with the reporting provisions of the Exchange Act resulting in the lack of current and accurate information available to the public. (Rel. 34-10216)

ECOLOGICAL SCIENCE COMMON STOCK DELISTED. The Commission has issued an order under the Securities Exchange Act granting the application of the American Stock Exchange to strike the common stock of Ecological Science Corporation, of Miami, Florida, from listing and registration. Trading in the stock has been suspended by the Exchange since May 1971.

The company admittedly failed to meet a numerical guideline of the Exchange for continued listing, in that it had a net tangible asset deficit and had sustained net losses in its two most recent fiscal years. The Exchange had rejected certain policy arguments for continued listing presented by the company, in particular that the former management which had assertedly engaged in wrongdoing resulting in the company's poor financial condition had been replaced with responsible management. The company asked the Commission to consider the same arguments. The Commission held, however, that under the statutory scheme, where a delisting application is based on a numerical guideline or rule which the company in fact fails to meet, the Commission cannot substitute its own discretion for that of the exchange and must grant the application. (Rel. 34-10217)

DECISIONS IN ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING

DECISION REVOKING SIEREGA & CO. AND BARRING PRESIDENT FINAL. The SEC announced that the decision of an administrative law judge revoking the broker-dealer and investment adviser registrations of Sierega & Company, Inc., of Los Angeles, and expelling the firm from NASD membership, has become final. The decision also barred the firm's president, Donald L. Sierega, from association with any broker-dealer and from acting in various capacities for a registered investment company, and prohibited the firm's subsidiary, Sierega Management & Research Company, Inc. (Management) from acting as investment adviser for a registered investment company.

The firm was principal underwriter for Olympus Fund, Inc., a registered investment company, and Management acted as the Fund's investment adviser. According to the decision, respondents caused the Fund to engage in excessive portfolio transactions in order to generate commissions for their benefit, and failed to reimburse the Fund for \$20,000 in expenses which Management was obligated to repay. (Rel. 34-10207)

LEONARD WALKER SANCTIONED. The SEC has suspended Leonard Walker, Bayside, N.Y., from association with any broker, dealer, investment adviser, or investment company for six months, commencing June 25, 1973. Thereafter, on condition of making a showing of adequate supervision, he may become reassociated with a broker-dealer in a non-supervisory and **non-proprietary** capacity and reassociated with an investment company or investment adviser.

According to the decision, during 1967-1969 respondent, while a registered representative of broker-dealers, violated the antifraud and bookkeeping provisions of the securities laws by establishing nominee and profit-sharing accounts at **various** broker-dealers in order to purchase and sell shares of new issues of securities intended for distribution to the public.

The Commission's action was taken pursuant to an offer of settlement in which respondent, without admitting or denying the charges, consented to the findings and sanctions. (Rel. 34-10208)

HOLDING COMPANY ACT RELEASES

OHIO EDISON COMPANY. The SEC has issued an order regarding Ohio Edison Company, Akron holding company, and its subsidiary Pennsylvania Power Company, authorizing Ohio Edison to issue and sell 3,000,000 shares of common stock (\$9 par) at competitive bidding and (2) of the subsidiary to sell 340,000 common shares (\$30 par) to the parent. The proceeds will be used, together with other funds, to finance the companies' 1973 construction programs and to pay outstanding short-term promissory notes. Ohio Edison will also use a portion of the proceeds to purchase said shares of common stock of Pennsylvania Power Company. (Rel. 35-17999)

METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY. The SEC has issued an order upon an application of Metropolitan Edison Company, Berks County, Pa. subsidiary of General Public Utilities Corporation, authorizing two amendments of its first mortgage **indenture** and deed of trust dated November 1, 1944. Metropolitan Edison proposes to eliminate the covenant which requires it to conform to all valid requirements of any governmental authority relative to any mortgaged property and to include, as bondable property additions, the value of plant and equipment as to which all currently obtainable governmental permission has been received, but as to which further governmental permission must be obtained in the future. The affirmative vote of the holders of 75% of the first mortgage bonds outstanding is required for approval of the proposed amendment. (Rel. 35-18001)

INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT RELEASES

AMERICAN CAPITAL CORPORATION. The SEC has issued a notice giving interested persons until July 6 to request a hearing on an application of American Capital Corporation, a Texas corporation, for temporary exemption from Section 7 of the Act, subject to certain conditions, until such time as the Commission has acted upon its application under Section 3(b)(2). (Rel. IC-7857)

AMERICAN-SOUTH AFRICAN INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED. The SEC has issued a notice giving interested persons until July 6 to request a hearing on an application by American-South African Investment Company, Johannesburg, So. Africa closed-end management investment company, for an order declaring that Wesley A. Stanger, Jr., a director of Applicant, shall not be considered an "interested person" of Applicant solely by reason of his being a registered representative of Riter, Pyne, Kendall, & Hollister, a registered broker-dealer under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. (Rel. IC-7860)

SECURITIES ACT REGISTRATIONS FILED

ALMADEN VINEYARDS, INC., One Maritime Plaza, San Francisco, Calif. 94111 - 1,700,000 shares of common stock owned by National Distillers and Chemical Corporation. National **proposes** to offer the Almaden shares in exchange for common stock of National at a ratio to be determined later. Lehman Brothers Inc., duPont, Glore Forgan Inc. and Dominick & Dominick Inc. have agreed to head a group of underwriters who will solicit acceptance of the exchange offer. Almaden makes California wines. National produces and markets alcoholic beverages and through subsidiaries produces and sells titanium, helium, high density polyethylene and other products. (File 2-47937 - May 4)

NATIONAL HMO CORP., 104 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10017 - 100,000 shares of common stock, to be offered for sale at \$7.00 per share through underwriters headed by Chestman Securities Co., Inc., 15 Maiden Lane, New York 10038. National HMO administers and provides non-medical personnel for two outpatient health centers. Net proceeds will be used for **leashold improvements, equipment and operating** expenses for two additional health centers and for working capital. (File 2-47941 - May 4)

PAN OCEAN OIL CORPORATION, 645 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022 - 185,000 shares of common stock, which may be offered for sale from time to time by Louis Marx, Jr., the selling **shareholder, at prices** current at the time of sale (* \$13.50 per share maximum). The company is principally engaged in the acquisition of undeveloped oil and gas properties and in oil and gas exploration. (File 2-47959 - May 7)

CRUTCHER RESOURCES CORPORATION, 1500 Main Bldg., Houston, Tex. 77002 - 698,775 shares of common stock. It is proposed to offer these shares in exchange for all the outstanding stock of Homco International, Inc., at an estimated rate of 1.75 Crutcher shares for each Homco share. Crutcher manufactures and designs room and central air conditioning and heating units and, through a subsidiary, manufactures and sells various other types of equipment. Homco is in the oil field service and supply business. (File 2-47960 - May 8)

ADRs FOR HITACHI, LTD. First National City Bank, 111 Wall St., New York, N.Y. 10015, filed a registration statement seeking registration of 5,332 American Depositary Receipts for common stock of Hitachi, Ltd., a Japanese corporation (**File 2-48000 - May 10**)

GULFPOINT ASSOCIATES, 3635 Noble Ave., Dallas, Tex. 75204 - \$13,948,600 of resort condominium units, to be constructed on Padre Island, Texas (with an opportunity to join a limited partnership rental pool) to be offered for sale at an average price of \$46,651 per unit by SDI Securities, Inc., wholly-owned subsidiary of Southwestern Dynamics, Inc. (SDI). GulfPoint is a joint venture composed of SDI and South Padre 60, Inc. (File 2-48001 - May 10)

MISCELLANEOUS

OVER-THE-COUNTER REGISTRATIONS REPORTED. The following issuers of securities traded over-the-counter have filed registration statements with the Commission pursuant to requirements of Section 12(g) of the Securities Exchange Act (companies which currently file annual and other periodic reports with the SEC are indented by "***").

FILE No.	O- Registrant	Location
7015	Aid Auto Stores, Inc.**	Woodside, NY
7030	American Housing Systems Corp.**	Beachwood, OH
7028	Atlantic Control Systems, Inc. **	Brooklyn, NY
7250	BCC, Inc. **	Cleveland, OH
7016	Bacardi Corp. **	San Juan, PR
6993	Beacon Photo Service, Inc. **	Rockville Centre, NY
7003	Caltran Systems, Inc. **	Clifton, NJ
7017	Carlyle Real Estate Limited '72 **	Chicago, IL
7245	Colorado Energy Corp.	Boulder, CO
7029	Dain, Kalman & Quail, Inc. **	Minneapolis, MN
7018	A. B. Dick Co. **	Chicago, IL
6988	Eldorado International, Inc. **	Minneapolis, MN
7020	Environmental Control Products, Inc.**	Charlotte, NC
7006	Environmental Research Corp.**	St. Paul, MN
7005	Florida Bancorp, Inc. **	Pompano Beach, FL
7034	Foundation Financial Corp. **	Chatham, NJ
7032	Funk Seeds International, Inc. **	Bloomington, IL
6990	Heilig-Meyers Co. **	Richmond, VA
7031	Hoosier Engineering Co. **	Dublin, OH

OVER-THE-COUNTER REGISTRATIONS CONT.

7025	Inexco Northern Exploration Co. **	Houston, TX
7002	Intercontinental Energy Corp. **	New York, NY
7024	Kiddle Products, Inc. **	Squantum, MA
7012	Leader National Corp. **	Cleveland, OH
7014	Leonard Silver International, Inc.**	Chelsea, MA
6997	Macrodata Corp. **	Woodland Hills, CA
7019	Monterey Vineyards**	McFarland, CA
7022	Mrs. Smith's Pie Co. **	Pottstown, PA
6994	New Brunswick Scientific Co., Inc.**	New Brunswick, NJ
7011	Ocean Fisheries, Inc. **	San Diego, CA
7023	Pacific Western Industries, Inc. **	Seattle, WA
7246	Petroleum Development Corp.	Palm Springs, CA
6989	F. D. Rich Housing Corp. **	Stamford, CT
6999	Salem Carpet Mills, Inc. **	Winston Salem, NC
6998	Southeastern Inns Corp. **	Nashville, TN
7033	Speidel Newspapers, Inc. **	Reno, NV
7009	Sullair Corp. **	Michigan City, IN
7027	Sunoco Exploration Partnership, Ltd.**	Dallas, TX
7010	Sunoco Exploration Partnership, Ltd.**	Dallas, TX
7004	Trust Mortgage Corp. **	Hato Rey, PR

TRADING SUSPENSIONS CONTINUED. The SEC has ordered the suspension of (a) exchange and over-the-counter trading in the securities of BBI, Inc. and U. S. Financial Incorporated for the further ten-day period June 13-22, inclusive, and (b) over-the-counter trading in the securities of Beneficial Laboratories, Inc., Proof Lock International Corporation and Triex International Corporation for the further ten-day period June 13-22, inclusive.

SECURITIES ACT REGISTRATIONS. Effective June 12: BTR Realty, Inc., 2-47805; Clow Corp., 2-47966; Communications Satellite Corp., 2-48051; First International Bancshares, Inc., 2-47448 (90 days); Itek Corp., 2-48105; LCA Corp., 2-48123; Marsh & McLennan Savings Plan and McLennan Corp., 2-47997; Midlantic Banks Inc., 2-47404; Municipal Investment Trust Fund, Fourteenth Monthly Payment Series, 2-48036; Northwestern Public Service Co., 2-47864; Ohio Edison Co., 2-48124; Triangle Pacific Forest Products Corp., 2-48022.

NOTE TO DEALERS. The period of time dealers are required to use the prospectus in trading transactions is shown above in parentheses after the name of the issuer.

* As estimated for purposes of computing the registration fee.

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