

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

# NEWS DIGEST

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



Washington 25, D.C.

FOR RELEASE August 25, 1958

## Statistical Release No. 1550

The SEC Index of Stock Prices, based on the closing prices of 265 common stocks, the week ended August 22, 1958, for the composite and by major industry groups compared with the preceding week and with the highs and lows for 1958, is as follows:

	1939 = 100		Percent Change	1958	
	8/22/58	8/15/58		High	Low
Composite	351.9	350.0	+0.5	354.1	299.0
Manufacturing	441.9	439.9	+0.5	446.1	373.3
Durable Goods	399.6	397.0	+0.7	401.6	332.2
Non-Durable Goods	472.5	471.0	+0.3	478.6	402.2
Transportation	284.2	279.0	+1.9	285.6	219.7
Utility	173.5	173.2	+0.2	174.8	155.5
Trade, Finance & Service	331.6*	323.0	+2.7	331.6	263.2
Mining	341.0	341.4	-0.1	346.2	261.3

\*New High

## TROPICAL GAS PROPOSES PREFERRED STOCK OFFERING

Tropical Gas Company, Inc., Miami, filed a registration statement (File 2-14316) with the SEC on August 22, 1958, seeking registration of 25,544 shares of Convertible Preferred Stock, \$100 par. It is proposed to offer this stock for subscription by common stockholders at the rate of one preferred share for each 27 shares held. The record date, subscription price and underwriting terms are to be supplied by amendment. Glore, Forgan & Co. is listed as the principal underwriter.

Of the net proceeds of the preferred stock sale, \$1,250,000 is proposed to be used to acquire the capital stock of Southeastern Natural Gas Corp., and approximately \$1,060,000 will be applied to the payment of the company's outstanding short-term bank loans and short-term notes payable to suppliers, and to the repurchase of notes receivable currently discounted. The company intends to apply the balance of such proceeds to the purchase of equipment and facilities to meet the increasing demand for liquefied petroleum gas service in its operating areas, and to provide the additions to working capital required by such increased demand.

According to the prospectus, holders of all the shares of Southeastern Natural Gas stock owned the company an option on August 4, 1958, to acquire such securities for a cash consideration of \$1,250,000. The company intends to exercise such option and to pay for the acquisition out of the proceeds of this financing.

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OVER

## THIOKOL CHEMICAL PROPOSES STOCK OFFERING

Thiokol Chemical Corporation, Trenton, N. J., filed a registration statement (File 2-14317) with the SEC on August 22, 1958, seeking registration of 113,500 shares of its \$1 par Capital Stock. The company proposes to offer such stock for subscription by holders of its outstanding capital stock at the rate of one new share for each 12 shares held. The record date, subscription price and underwriting terms, as well as the names of the underwriters, are to be supplied by amendment.

According to the prospectus, Thiokol is engaged in the research, development and production of rocket engines for the nation's defense and space exploration program. Net proceeds of this financing will be added to the company's general funds and be available for general corporate purposes, including expansion of facilities principally at its Utah Division which, it is anticipated will involve expenditures approximating \$4,500,000 during 1958-59. In addition to this offering, the company is also considering the sale to one or more institutional investors of from \$5,000,000 to \$7,000,000 of fifteen to twenty-year unsecured notes. The proceeds of these notes are expected in the first instance to be applied to the reduction of short-term indebtedness. However, such proceeds will be available for additional capital expenditures.

According to the prospectus, 182,662 shares of outstanding stock are owned of record by Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, of which amount Robert Lang, a director of the company, is the beneficial owner of 106,088 shares.

## UNITED SECURITY LIFE FILES FOR OFFERING

United Security Life & Accident Insurance Company, Louisville, Ky., filed a registration statement (File 2-14318) with the SEC on August 22, 1958, seeking registration of 120,000 shares of Class A common Stock, to be offered for public sale at \$3 per share. The stock is to be offered for public sale on a "best efforts" basis through two of its promoters, each of which is an officer and director, who will be paid commissions in the maximum amount of 15% per share. The promoters are Edmond M. Smith, president, of Louisville, and William W. McPike, secretary, of Clarksville, Ind.

The company was organized under Kentucky law on August 1, 1957. It is now qualified to do business only in Kentucky, but the management plans to seek qualification to do life and accident insurance business in additional states. Net proceeds of this stock offering will provide the reserves required to be held in life and accident insurance policies, and to pay the necessary expenses in producing insurance. The company now has outstanding 1,000 Class B shares, held in equal amounts by Smith, McPike and one other person, Sam Manly III, of Louisville, (who also owns in the aggregate 6,600 Class A shares), as well as 32,904 Class A shares. The 32,904 shares were sold to general agents and agents and their friends in Kentucky, most of which was subscribed for on a 10% paid at the time it was bought and the balance to be paid when the stock is issued. The company proposes to notify each agent that the stock is being registered and that they may rescind their purchase of stock and the company will redeem same at the price paid therefor.

## GAS INDUSTRIES FUND ACQUISITION OF HOUSTON SECURITIES CLEARED

The SEC has issued an exemption order under the Investment Company Act permitting Gas Industries Fund, Inc., Boston investment company, to acquire not to exceed 2,000 units of securities of The Houston Corporation, each unit consisting of \$100 of debentures and five shares of common stock. These securities are being offered for public sale by underwriters at \$150 per unit, with an underwriting discount of \$6 a unit.