

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 December 26, 1956

Statistical Release No. 1424

The SEC Index of Stock Prices, based on the closing prices of 265 common stocks for the week ended December 21, 1956, for the composite and by major industry groups, compared with the preceding week and with the highs and lows for 1956, is as follows:

	<u>(1939 = 100)</u>		<u>Percent Change</u>	<u>1956</u>	
	<u>12/21/56</u>	<u>12/14/56</u>		<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>
Composite	342.2	343.7	- 0.4	366.2	319.0
Manufacturing	439.1	441.0	- 0.4	468.6	398.6
Durable Goods	423.9	425.0	- 0.3	437.6	369.4
Non-Durable Goods	453.4	456.1	- 0.6	500.8	425.2
Transportation	314.3	314.8	- 0.2	353.0	303.2
Utility	151.8	151.9	- 0.1	161.5	151.6
Trade, Finance & Service	283.8*	288.3	- 1.6	325.5	283.8
Mining	356.2	362.7	- 1.8	383.2	326.8

* New low.

Cooperative Grange League Federation Exchange, Inc., Ithaca, New York, filed a registration statement (File 2-12976) with the SEC on December 21, 1956, seeking registration of \$1,200,000 of 4% Subordinated Debentures, due January 1, 1966, 10,000 shares of \$100 par 4% Cumulative Preferred Stock, and 150,000 shares of \$5 par Common Stock, to be offered for sale at their principal amount or par value. The debentures and preferred stock are to be offered without limitation and may be purchased by both farmer and non-farmer patrons of the company and by other persons. The offering of common stock is restricted to present members of the company and to farmers interested in becoming members. Proceeds will be added to working capital funds to be used for general corporate purposes.

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Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company, Shreveport, La., filed a registration statement (File 2-12977) with the SEC seeking registration of 964,454 shares of its \$5 par Common Stock. These shares are presently outstanding shares owned by Tri-Continental Financial Corporation; and they are to be offered for public sale by such owner through an underwriting group headed by Eastman Dillon, Union Securities & Co. and Stephens, Inc. The public offering price and underwriting terms are to be supplied by amendment. The company will receive no part of the proceeds.

The 964,454 shares constitute 21% of the outstanding shares of Arkansas Louisiana common stock. Of this stock, 807,070 shares were acquired from W. R. Stephens Investment Company, Inc.

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Brewster-Bartle Drilling Company, Inc., Houston, filed a registration statement (File 2-12978) with the SEC on December 21, 1956, seeking registration of \$2,000,000 of 5% Subordinated Convertible Debentures due January 1, 1972, and 100,000 shares of \$2 par Common Stock. The debentures are to be offered for public sale by the issuing company; and the public offering price and underwriting terms are to be supplied by amendment. The 100,000 common shares are presently outstanding stock and are to be offered for public sale by the holders thereof; and the public offering price and underwriting terms are to be supplied by amendment. White, Weld & Co. and Rowles, Winston & Co. are named as the principal underwriters.

The company is engaged in the business of drilling oil and gas wells. During 1956 it acquired equipment consisting principally of new marine drilling units at an aggregate cost of approximately \$4,000,000. These acquisitions were financed through the issuance of long term debt and short term loans outstanding on December 15, 1956, in the amounts of \$1,360,000 and \$625,000, respectively, accounts payable to suppliers amounting to \$900,000, and retained earnings.

Contemporaneously with the sale of the 5% debentures the company is selling for investment \$2,000,000 of Series Debentures due January 1, 1958-72. The net proceeds of such sale and from the sale of the 5% debentures are to be applied as follows: (1) to pay off the indebtedness created in connection with the equipment acquisitions; (2) to discharge the company's 4½% Serial Notes issued in 1953; of which \$420,000 remain outstanding; (3) to provide \$50,000 as the company's initial investment in Brewster-Bartle Offshore Company; and (4) for additions to such investment and other general corporate purposes. The company and Kerr-McGee Oil Industries, Inc., proposed to form Brewster-Bartle in January, 1957, which will construct and operate offshore drilling equipment.

The 100,000 common shares are being sold by S. A. Brewster and W. O. Bartle, Board Chairman and President, respectively, after which sale they will continue to own 341,602 shares and 176,000 shares, respectively, representing 37.96% and 19.56%, respectively, of the outstanding common stock. In connection with the sale of the Serial Debentures, the purchasers will acquire an option to purchase a total of 50,000 common shares, or 40 shares for each \$1,000 of debentures, the initial exercise price being \$15 per share. The company also has agreed to sell the two

underwriter firms common stock subscription warrants, at 25¢ per warrant share, entitling each underwriter to purchase 10,000 common shares, also at an initial price of \$15 per share.

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Missouri Public Service Company, Kansas City, filed a registration statement (File 2-12979) with the SEC seeking registration of 319,894 shares of its no par Common Stock. These shares are to be offered for subscription by common stockholders at the rate of one additional share for each five shares held. The record date, subscription price and underwriting terms are to be supplied by amendment. Kidder, Peabody & Co. is named as the principal underwriter.

The company also has signed agreements with certain institutional investors under which the company proposes to issue to such investors at 100% of the principal amount \$5,000,000 of 4-3/4% First Mortgage Bonds, Series J, due 1987. It is expected that these bonds will be issued shortly after the sale of the additional common stock. Net proceeds from the sale of the bonds and stock will be used to repay short term bank loans (incurred for construction purposes) which are outstanding in the amount of \$8,395,000. The balance of the proceeds will be added to the company's general funds and will be expended in connection with its construction program for 1957. Construction expenditures in 1957 are estimated at \$10,847,612.

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Southwestern Public Service Company, Dallas, filed a registration statement (File 2-12980) with the SEC on December 21, 1956, seeking registration of 291,967 shares of its \$1 par Common Stock. The company proposes to offer these shares for subscription by its common stockholders of record January 16, 1957, at the rate of one additional share for each 14 shares then held. Unsubscribed shares will be offered for sale to company employees. The subscription price and underwriting terms are to be supplied by amendment. Dillon, Read & Co., Inc. heads the list of underwriters. Net proceeds are to be applied to the payment of bank loans obtained for property additions and improvements and, to the extent of the balance of such proceeds, toward the payment of further construction expenditures. Construction expenditures are estimated at \$12,300,000 for the 1957 fiscal year and \$10,450,000 for the 1958 fiscal year.

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International Duplex Corporation, San Francisco, filed a registration statement (File 2-12981) with the SEC on December 21, 1956, seeking registration of 500,000 shares of its 1¢ par Common Stock, to be offered for public sale at \$1 per share. Terms of the underwriting, to be made on a "best efforts" basis, as well as the names of the underwriters, are to be supplied by amendment; however, the selling commission is to be 20¢ per share.

Organized under Delaware law in 1953, the company's principal business is "the distribution of commercial laundry equipment through its own organization and through subsidiary companies to be formed and the establishing and operation of New Style, One Stop, Laundry and Dry Cleaning Launderettes." The company, which was founded by Eugene R. Farny, of San Rafael, President, has no operating history. Net proceeds of the sale of the 500,000 common shares, estimated at \$365,000, are to be used as follows: \$225,000 will be set aside and used for the cost of equipping and establishing five Super Launderettes in selected locations; and the balance will be added to general funds for corporate purposes, working capital, and financing of inventories and accounts receivable.

The company now has outstanding 600,000 common shares, of which three directors acquired 100,000 shares at 1¢ per share; 200,000 shares were sold at 25¢ per share to seventeen persons, some of whom are directors and officers; and 300,000 for certain equipment. The company also has or will issue to certain persons warrants for the purchase of 300,000 common shares, the warrants being exercisable at an initial price of 80¢ per share.

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