Ackley Manufacturing Company, Clackamas, Ore. has been purchased by The Stanley Works, New Britain, Conn. Ackley will be operated as a wholly owned subsidiary.

The Ohio Agriculture department has filed charges against a tree surgeon for operating without a license. The charge stems from a complaint of a customer to the local newspaper consumer column about an unsatisfactory spraying job. When a reporter called the agriculture department, he was told the arborist did not have a license. The arborist admitted he had no license, but said no one else in the town of over 100,000 had one either. Conviction could bring a fine of up to $200 on each count under the use and application act.

The flood of east coast recreational vehicles to the midwest and western states this year has brought good news and bad news to area residents. First the good news. Tourist trade boomed. Now the bad news. Gypsy moth invaded areas that heretofore were geographically immune to this marauder. Latest area to be hit is Iowa's Rock Creek State Park. Other first timers include Tennessee and West Virginia.

New Jersey joins a growing number of states to establish a department of environmental protection. Like others, this department grew out of the bureau of water pollution control -- some states have combined the commissions of air, water and natural resources into a department -- and now has the capability of dealing with the ever-growing problem of polluted rivers, streams and groundwater. Watch for increased activity at the state level from these new departments.

The Cost of Living Council has reversed an earlier ruling and has now exempt nursery stock from all price controls "after the first sale by the grower." American Association of Nurserymen President Kenneth J. Altorfer says that action by AAN was largely responsible for the reversed decision. The Council agreed with AAN that any individual firm might grow part of what it sells and buy a part, and it is neither practical nor useful to attempt to control only the price of the purchased portion. Thus, all sales of growing nursery stock are exempt from price controls.

Congressional leaders on the Labor Department Appropriations Bill have attached a rider that bars use of Federal funds to inspect establishments with fewer than 15 employees until June 30, 1973. The President has vetoed the bill and the House has upheld the veto. At presstime, the bill has been referred back to the House committee to refigure the proposed expenditures. It may be only a matter of time before the rider becomes law. If it does, there will probably be a grace period for most operators.