



Government News / Business

Five Banvel herbicide pre-mixes constitute a new line of products from Velsicol Chemical Corporation. All have been Federally registered by EPA for use along utility, railroad, highway and pipeline rights-of-ways, according to Dick Fields, manager of the company's industrial vegetation control department.

Ciba-Geigy Corporation revealed in mid-January plans to construct a multi-level building near Greensboro, N.C. It will supplement the present five structures located in the corporation's complex, soon to be the home of the agricultural division.

William Erwin, an Indiana farmer who served on President Nixon's Task Force on Rural Development in 1970-71, has been named to the newly-created post of Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development. The assignment comes when USDA chief Earl L. Butz reorganized the department's organizational chart. Erwin will have the agencies of the Farmers Home Administration, Rural Electrification Administration and Rural Development Service under his control.

Check your First Aid facilities. It amounts to a black mark on an OSHA checklist if you haven't. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration says that if your place of business is not "in near proximity" to a hospital, clinic or infirmary, you are required to have a First-Aid kit approved by a consulting physician and an employee who is trained to render first aid. A member of your work force who has received special first aid instruction will qualify for the latter requirement.

Johnson Hydraulic Equipment Company of Minneapolis has become Johnson Hydraulics Division of Arps Corporation. Duane Solem becomes General Manager of the Division. All present relationships will continue as in the past.

William D. Ruckelshaus, the Environmental Protection Agency's conductor, will continue to lead the band for four more years. A White House statement in late December said that Nixon considers EPA "one of the most important new agencies in government" and that Ruckelshaus will "continue to be a strong force in environmental protection."

Since its inception two years ago, EPA has been playing Tempest and Fugit in whipping together legislation surrounding environmental issues. The crescendo came with the passage of the Federal Noise Control and Abatement Act, the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments and the Federal Environmental Pesticide Control Act -- all in 1972. Although cleaning up the environment is similar in scope to learning to breathe under water, the Administrator's score calls for action and his baton is the cudgel on environmental violators. Currently the orchestra is tooting and bowing in the areas of air and water pollution. But only a phrase or two away the tuba section will strengthen the underpinning on noise, pesticides and other targeted areas. You can bet that this ditty will continue until the last stanza.