



Government News / Business

EPA's proposed operating budget for fiscal 1974 is up \$44 million for a total of \$515 million. Increases are to help EPA implement recent major legislation. The budget calls for \$4.4 million for the pesticide program.

Secretary of Agriculture Earl L. Butz has announced the nomination of Robert W. Long to be assistant secretary of agriculture for conservation, research and education. Long, 50 was a senior vice president of Bank of America where he has been in charge of all agricultural loans, domestic and international. If the nomination is approved, he will be responsible for the Forest Service, Soil Conservation Service, Agricultural Research Service, Cooperative State Research Service, Extension Service and National Agricultural Library.

Harold Wake, President of Perma Rain Irrigation, Lindsay, California has announced the acquisition of Bud Wil, Inc. of Anaheim. This move will help Perma Rain increase capacity in making plastic fittings and shapes for the industry.

More on noise . . . Under the Noise Control Act of 1972, the Environmental Protection Agency has been granted authority to set standards for any product or class of products which may be noise producing. Both domestic and imported products are subject to the Law. Manufacturers of mis-labeled products or those which do not conform to the Law are subject to fines of up to \$25,000 per day for each violation and imprisonment of up to one year. Further, a manufacturer must issue a warrant that a product is in compliance at the time of sale. He is also required to maintain records, provide information and supply products coming off the assembly line to EPA, if requested.

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.

Toro Company has launched a campaign to organize a nationwide network of elite service dealers. This cadre corps would be measured on their ability to achieve a consistent, high standard of after-sale service for consumer products. Minimum requirements include a well-equipped and well-stocked shop, skilled personnel and a commitment to perform prompt, high-quality service on any Toro consumer product, regardless of point of purchase, says Toro.

If you average more than 13.57 miles per gallon on your passenger car, consider yourself above average. Statistics released by the Federal Highway Administration show that the annual miles per vehicle rose, on the average, to 10,121 in 1971. Gallons of fuel consumed per vehicle, also rose to 746. Figuring a gallon of fuel costs 34.9 cents, the average motorist spent \$260.35 in 1971 for gas. Now for the kicker. Motorists owning 92,799,000 autos spent \$24,160,219,650.00 to purchase 69,228,054,000 gallons of fuel.