

STATE OF THE UNION...Union membership will be mandatory if a new bill gets through Congress. H.R. 281, known as the anti-double breasting bill, calls for compulsory union membership for construction workers, including landscape firms and contractors. Such a law could escalate labor costs, reducing the ability of some firms to compete for landscape bids. The American Association of Nurserymen is asking landscape managers to oppose the bill. Write your representative at U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515; (202) 224-3121.

HOLE-HEARTED RESEARCH...Preliminary athletic turf studies at the University of California at Riverside by Matt Leonard, Ph.D., with polyethylene covers determine that the hole size in the covers has some effect on turfgrass ground temperatures. Leonard evaluated hole sizes of 1/4, 1/2, and 3/4 inches on five-inch centers and concluded that the smaller hole size seemed best because more heat could be retained longer.

GETTING IT STRAIGHT...Turf Seed sells wildflower mixes, not Tee-2-Green, as we reported in the May issue of LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT. In addition, we reported in the April issue that since Jacklin Seed Co. was increasing its bentgrass growing acreage by 35 percent, supplies of Pennlinks, Penncross and Seaside bentgrasses would be good. However, Gayle Jacklin points out that high demand may keep supplies limited.

HOUSEHOLD CHORES...How many pesticides is the average person exposed to during the day? The EPA wants to know. A study is looking at homes in Springfield, Mass., and Jacksonville, Fla. About 50 participants will carry personal air monitors to determine their exposure to about 30 different household pesticides during routine daily activities. Identical monitors will be placed in the homes and yards of the participants. Several participants will be asked to perform pesticide applications. The results are due in late 1988.

PALM TREES IN NEW YORK?...In the "On Design" feature in June (page 63) pictures at the bottom of the page were reversed. The Oyster Bay, N.Y. residence by Alley Pond Nurseries Huntington, Inc. of Dix Hills, N.Y. is set in a wooded area containing redbuds, weeping hemlock and birch. The Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., project designed by Roland Lieber of Naples, Fla. and installed by Friends Landscape of Ft. Lauderdale, contains tropical Alexander palms and bougainvillea. We apologize for the mix-up.

DEALING WITH DROUGHT...According to Fred V. Grau, Ph.D., of the Musser Foundation and National Sports Turf Council, soil fortified with a teeming microbial population delays drought effects. By furnishing organic nitrogen, he says, the turf is maintained in an organic system. "In this system, fine soil particles are formed into grape-like clusters by the process of flocculation. Turf that has been nourished continually and consistently with ureaform (Nitroform) is the last to exhibit drought effects."

NEWS from page 10

tion Program during the 1960s. He has worked with Patricia Nixon, Rosalyn Carter and Nancy Reagan on AAN's National Landscape Awards Program.

He also serves as the vice president on the board of the National Wildflower Research Center.



Ablon

Leonard Ablon, vice president of sales for Western Landscape Construction, a subsidiary of Environmental Industries, Inc., Calabasas, Calif., will retire after 25 years with Environmental. He will continue with EII in an advisory role.

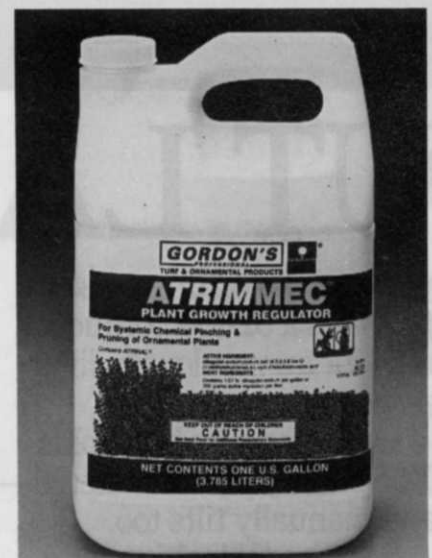
Ablon joined EII subsidiary Valley Crest Landscaping in June, 1962, and was instrumental in the growth of the company over the following years. In 1965 he became president of V.C. Irrigation, a company established to handle irrigation installation for Valley Crest Landscape and other contractors. He remained president until 1969, when V.C. Irrigation merged with Valley Crest Landscaping.

PRODUCTS

Growth regulator can reduce pruning

A new plant growth regulator registered for use on shrubs, hedges and trees has been released by PBI-Gordon.

According to the company, Atrim-



mec Plant Growth Regulator will cut pruning and labor costs by 50 percent or more.

The active ingredient in Atrimmec, atrinal, interrupts apical domi-

continued on page 16