

# News of the Month . . .

## **INDUSTRY**

### **Panogen and Larvacide Join Forces**

A joint announcement by Petrus Hellman, president of Panogen, Inc., and Conrad C. Johnson, president of Larvacide Products, Inc., reveals that the two companies are joining forces as a result of the Panogen group's acquiring the stock of Larvacide Products, Inc.

Larvacide will continue to operate as a separate company under management of Johnson. Richard P. Porter remains with Larvacide as vice president in charge of sales. The company will make its headquarters at Ringwood, Ill., instead of New York, where it has been for many years.

In the joint announcement Hellman stated, "Our added manpower and resources will provide improved service to our combined trade throughout the country."

Panogen, Inc., manufactures and sells seed-treating chemicals and equipment and a soil treatment for the greenhouse and nursery trade. Charles M. Hutchinson, whose election as Panogen vice president was recently announced, continues as sales manager for Panogen, Inc.

Larvacide Products, Inc., distributes soil and industrial fumigants, soil covers, and similar items.

### **Shell to Make Methyl Parathion**

Shell Chemical is building a new unit at its Denver plant to produce methyl parathion insecticide. The plant is to be completed early this month. F. W. Hatch, manager of Shell's agricultural chemical sales division, said that the company is adding methyl parathion to its line of insecticides primarily to help fight boll weevil infestations in southern cotton crops. Methyl parathion, in combination with endrin, has proved effective in combating cotton boll weevils that have become resistant to some of the controls previously used.

### **Mixed Fertilizer Plant for Southwestern Agrochemical**

Facilities for water soluble mixed fertilizers and sulfuric acid are being built at Chandler, Ariz., for Southwestern Agrochemical Corp. Both are being designed by D. M. Weatherly Co. of Atlanta, Ga., and built by Utah Construction Co. of San Francisco.

The water soluble mixed fertilizer unit will use the Weatherly DiaPhos Process. The contact sulfuric acid plant is to have a capacity of 60 tons a day.

### **Nichols Merges 2 Firms**

On March 1, Nichols Seed Co. and Nichols Fertilizer & Chemical Co. of Oklahoma City merged to form the Nichols Seed & Fertilizer Co.

Announcement of the merger was made by Earl Nichols, former president of the fertilizer and chemical company, who is president of the combined organization.

John I. Taylor, former president of the Oklahoma Farm Bureau, was named general manager of the merged companies.

Nichols pointed out that "through centralized management, unification of personnel, and joint operation of trucks and equipment, we shall be able to improve the quality and economy of production and distribution of Nichols products to southwestern farmers, ranchers, and gardeners."

The Nichols organization began in 1931 as a retail store and now operates four plants in Oklahoma with 1500 dealers in Oklahoma and surrounding states.

### **Olin Mathieson Completes Fluoride Facility**

A sodium silicofluoride plant, built at a cost of more than \$750,000, is now in full production at Pasadena, Tex., S. L. Nevins, vice president of Olin Mathieson, announces.

Adjoining the Ammo-Phos fertilizer plant of the plant food division, the new unit recovers fluorides from phosphoric acid manufactured at this location.

Sodium silicofluoride is used principally as an ingredient of insecticides, for the fluoridation of municipal water supplies, as a laundry scouring agent, and in the manufacture of elemental aluminum and ceramic glazes.

### **Pebbled Ammonium Nitrate Being Made by Allied**

Nitrogen Division of Allied Chemical has begun producing pebbled ammonium nitrate fertilizer at Hopewell, Va., where it has been making liquid ammonium nitrate and other nitrogen solutions for a number of years. In the new facilities, liquid ammonium nitrate is dehydrated, pebbled, coated, bagged, and shipped. Shipment is by rail in 80- and 100-lb. bags.

In addition to the pebbled product (which contains 33.5% N), Allied also makes a 20.5% nitrogen fertilizer that contains ammonium nitrate and limestone.

### **Du Pont Building Ammate Plant at East Chicago**

A unit to manufacture sulfamic acid and Ammate weed and brush killers will be built by Du Pont on the site of its present plant at East Chicago, Ind., it is announced.

The new unit will double the company's production of these two products. The company's other manufacturing facility for these two products is on the East Coast.

Construction has started, and it is expected to be completed late in 1957.

### **Bag Filler Patent Being Litigated**

A Federal lower court in Florida has declared that a patent on an automatic bag packer, held by Inglett & Corley, Inc., is invalid because of prior public use. The decision came in a suit by Inglett & Corley claiming patent infringement against Everglades Fertilizer Co., Inc., which had purchased a Kraftpacker bag filling machine from Kraft Bag Corp. The decision was handed down by the court in granting Everglades' motion for summary judgment.

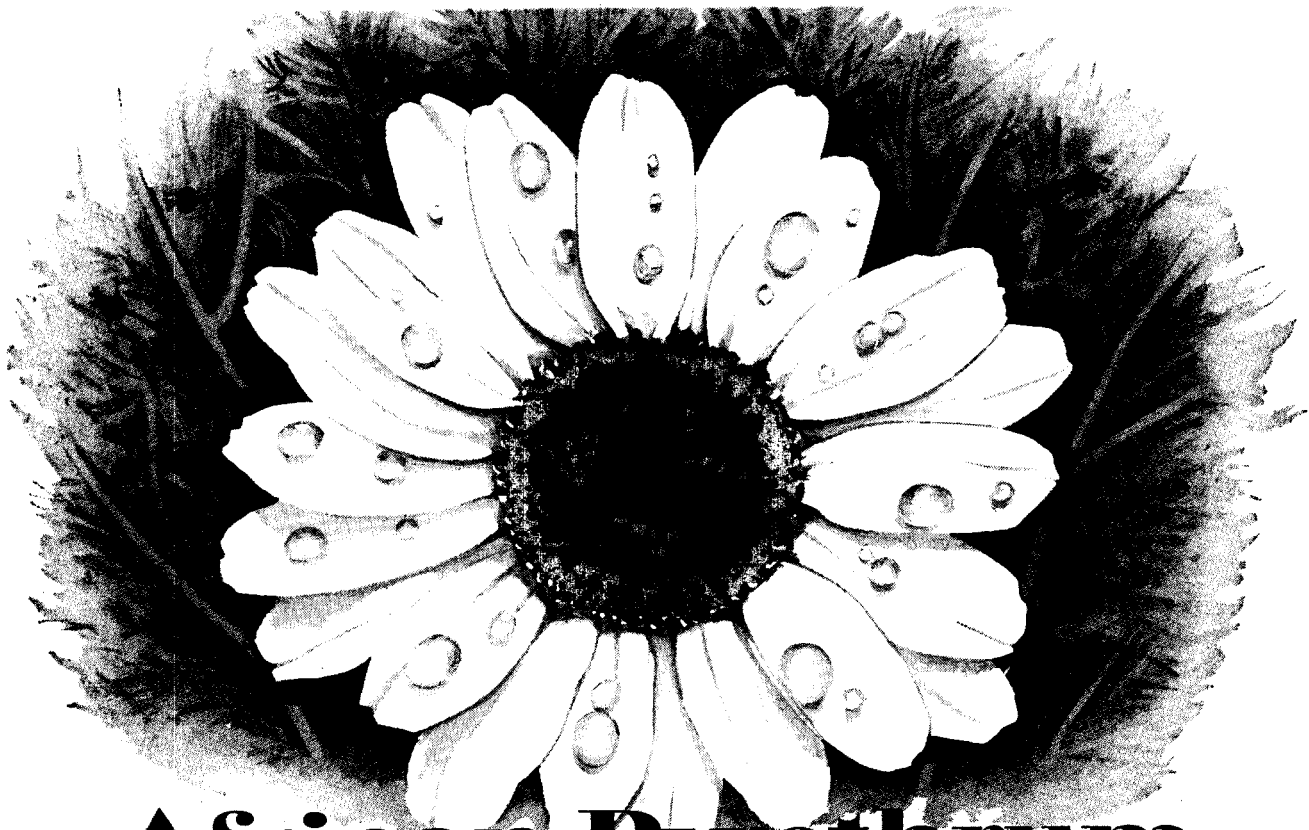
Inglett & Corley has appealed the decision to the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

Meanwhile, Inglett & Corley is proceeding with a similar case in Virginia. The Federal court in the Virginia case has refused a motion by the defendant for summary judgment, and the case has been tried on its merits. Final argument is to be held in Norfolk on May 3, and a decision is expected shortly afterwards.

### **Aqua Ammonia Plant in Michigan**

Rn'S Fertilizer Co. of Akron, Mich., has started operation of its Carlile-designed liquid fertilizer plant. The reactor circuit incorporates a combination ammonium phosphate cooler and aqua ammonia converter.

This is the first aqua ammonia converter in Michigan and the Rn'S Fertilizer Co. will start a controlled aqua ammonia program with the guidance of J. C. Carlile Corp. The application and distribution methods used by Rn'S will be patterned after the ex-



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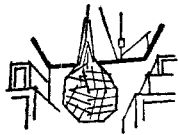
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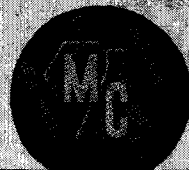
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For more data, see  
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perience gained by the J. C. Carlile Corp. with aqua converters installed on the West Coast and in Mexico.

The plant has a production of about 20 tons per hour and during peak seasons it is expected to run at 10 to 12 hours per day. Beans and sugar beets are the leading crops of the Akron, Mich., area.

Harry Rohlfis and Stanley Smith are the owners, and Bill Anderson is the plant manager.

## **ASSOCIATIONS**

### **Expanding Markets, Theme for NPFI's Meeting Next Month**

A panel discussion on "How Big is the Fertilizer Market?" will lead off the opening session of the National Plant Food Institute's meeting next month in White Sulphur Springs, W. Va. Moderating the June 10 panel discussion will be O. E. Anderson, Secretary of the Ohio Bankers Association. Also on the panel will be: E. T. York of American Potash Institute, who will discuss the market from the soils and crops standpoint; Wilbur Renk, Wisconsin farmer, speaking from the farmer's viewpoint; Gordon B. Nance, professor of agricultural economics, University of Missouri, who will present the economic standpoint.

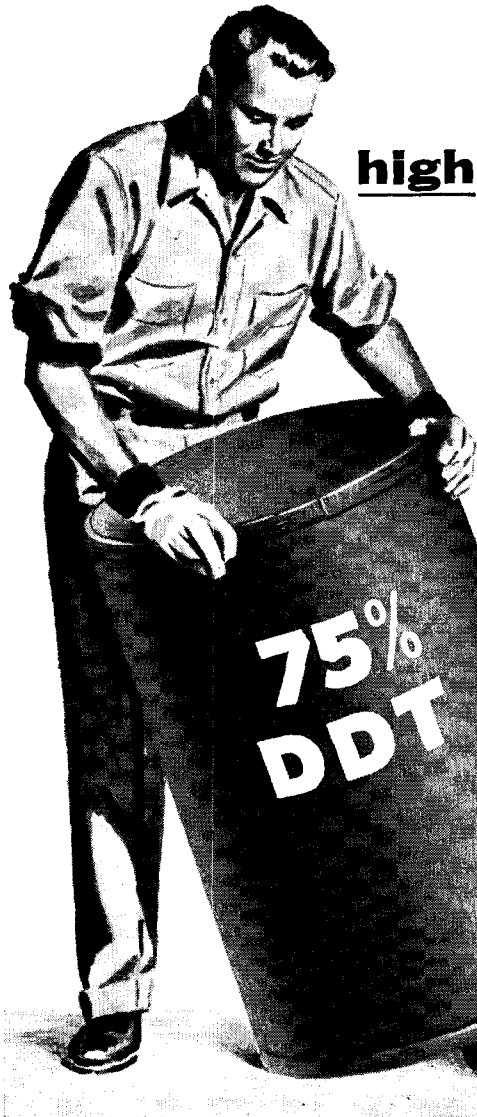
Also speaking at the June 10 session, first day of the two-day meeting, will be Russell Coleman, NPFI executive vice president, who will discuss "How Can Industry Expand the Market?"

Sen. Karl E. Mundt (R.-S. D.) will be heard on June 11. He is a member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry. "The Current Economic Outlook for Business" will be the topic of Raymond Rodgers, professor of banking at New York University's graduate school of business administration.

Other events during the meeting include committee meetings, hospitality hours, and presentation of scrolls to winners of NPFI's Soil Builder's Award for Editors.

### **Nomination Asked for Ag and Food Award**

Nominations are requested for the third annual Charles F. Spencer Award, an AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY award administered by the Kansas City Section, recognizing achievement in the field of agricultural and food chemistry. This citation, the only one in the ACS award family to honor work in agricultural and food chemistry, was founded in 1955 by Kenneth A. Spencer, president of Spencer Chemical, in memory of his father. The award is presented an-



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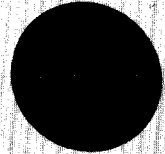
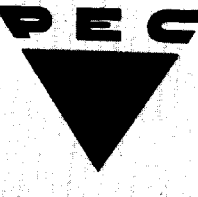
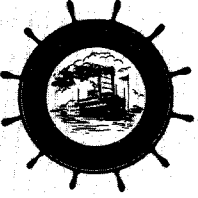
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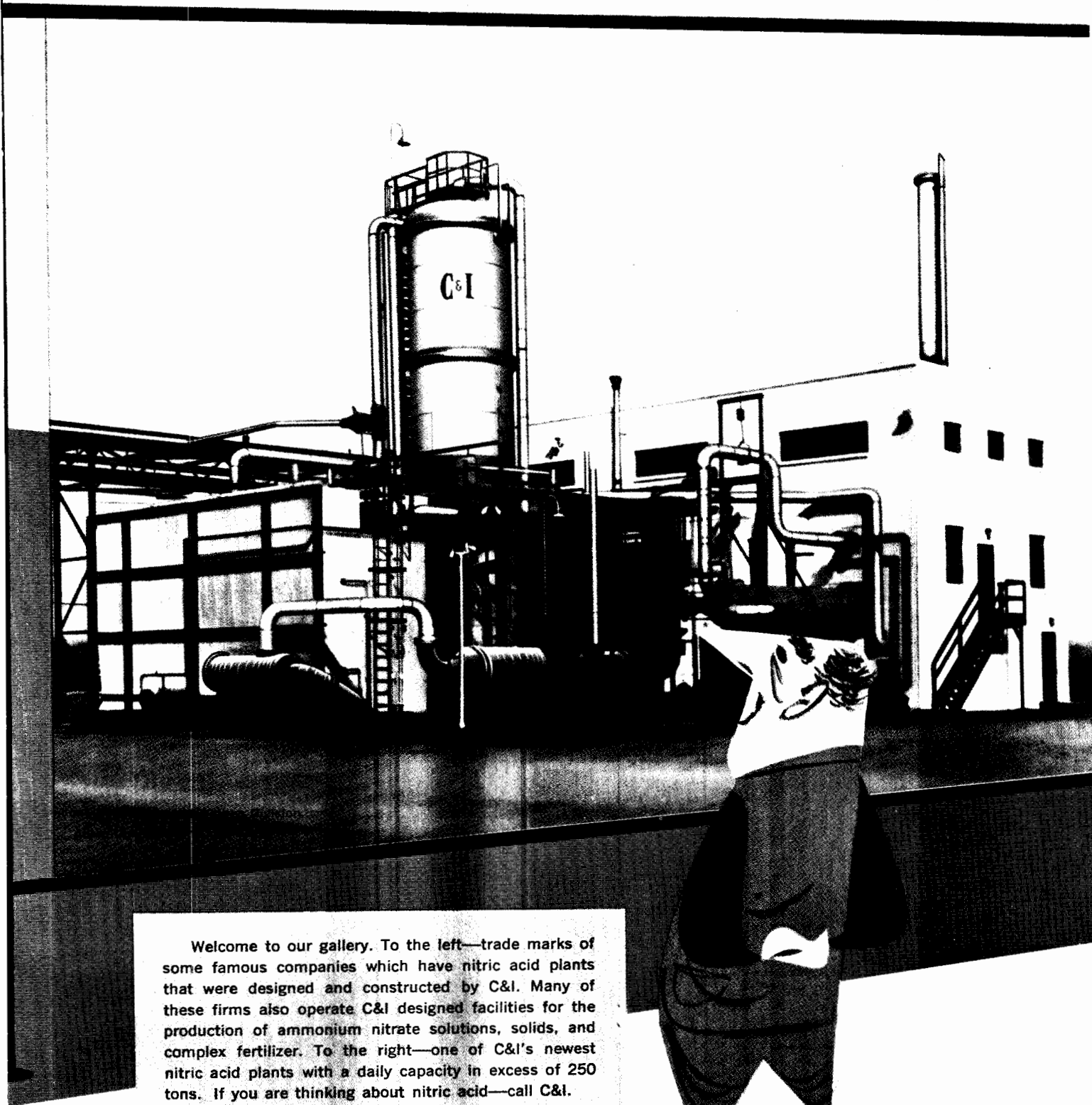
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Welcome to our gallery. To the left—trade marks of some famous companies which have nitric acid plants that were designed and constructed by C&I. Many of these firms also operate C&I designed facilities for the production of ammonium nitrate solutions, solids, and complex fertilizer. To the right—one of C&I's newest nitric acid plants with a daily capacity in excess of 250 tons. If you are thinking about nitric acid—call C&I.



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nually and consists of the Charles F. Spencer medallion, an honorarium of \$500, and round-trip travel expenses to Kansas City for the presentation.

Selection of the winner will be made by a jury of 12 persons appointed by the Kansas City Section from ACS membership at large.

Work to be eligible for recognition must be in the general field of agricultural or food chemistry, although it may specialize in industry, education, or research. Nominees for the award need not be ACS members but they must be U. S. citizens and have done their work within the U. S. Nominating blanks and instructions are available on request from: Chairman, Charles F. Spencer Award, AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY, 425 Volker Blvd., Kansas City 10, Mo. Nominations must be received by June 1.

The 1956 winner was C. A. Elvehjem, biochemist and dean of the graduate school, University of Wisconsin. Ralph M. Hixon of Iowa State College was the 1955 winner.

### NPFI to Survey Buying Influences on Farmers

A national survey to determine the factors which influence the farmer to buy fertilizers is to be undertaken soon by the National Plant Food Institute, as a preliminary step in expanding the fertilizer market.

"Information obtained in the survey more clearly will point the direction that should be followed to achieve an expansion of the fertilizer market," Russell Coleman, NPFI executive vice president, said.

"The fertilizer industry has a productive capacity of 25 to 50% more plant food than it is now selling. Yet agricultural leaders say that fertilizer usage should be at least twice the present consumption. The need for an accelerated promotional program, conducted in harmony with the recommendations of the land-grant colleges and other recognized agricultural agencies, is apparent."

Dr. Coleman said that "plans for a forward looking program to achieve greater fertilizer acceptance and usage now are in the preliminary stages," and added that "shortly, a detailed promotional program will be presented to institute members for their consideration."

### World Fertilizer Congress

The Third World Fertilizer Congress is to be held this year—in Heidelberg, Germany, from Sept. 9 to 12. It is held every fifth year under the

sponsorship of the Confederation Internationale des Ingenieurs et Techniciens de l'Agriculture and the Centre International des Engrais Chimiques. Further information can be obtained by writing Dr. L. Schmitt, Rheinstrasse 91, Darmstadt, Germany.

### Conference on Systemics Cancelled

The Agricultural Research Institute has announced it has had to cancel plans to hold an International Conference on Systemic Pesticides this year. The reason given is insufficient funds. Total funds subscribed are \$14,250, something short of the \$25,000 considered to be the minimum necessary. ARI, which is affiliated with the National Research Council and the National Academy of Sciences, says it will consider holding the conference in 1958 if sufficient interest continues.

### PEOPLE

**Z. Z. Dworkin** has been named manager of sales for the newly organized Glenn Chemical Co., Chicago. The company will manufacture an insect repellent called Tabutrex. Mr. Dworkin was with Fairfield Chemical for seven years.

**John H. Payne, Jr.**, has been honored with the Gaston Du Bois Award of the inorganic chemicals division of Monsanto. Dr. Payne's award was for work in fertilizer formulations, particularly in pioneering the use of the IBM 702 electronic data processing machine for rapid calculation of granulated fertilizer formulations (*AG AND FOOD*, November 1956, pages 925-28).

**S. B. Johnson**, assistant plant manager at Monsanto's Barton plant, Luling, La., has been designated special assistant to the director of manufacturing of Monsanto's inorganic chemicals division.

**Robert Becker** has been promoted to manager of the industrial foods department of Stein, Hall & Co., Inc.

**James E. Iliff** has joined Davidson-Kennedy Associates Co. as vice president-general manager. He will direct the Chicago office of the engineer-contractor firm. Iliff was formerly with Blaw-Knox.

**Joseph A. Howell**, former president of Virginia-Carolina Chemical Corp., has been retained by Commercial Solvents as a consultant in the field of agricultural chemicals.

**Gail M. Dack**, director of the Food Research Institute, has won the 1957 Pasteur Award, given annually by the Society of Illinois Bacteriologists, Inc. He was cited for outstanding contributions to food microbiology, especially in regard to the etiology of bacterial food poisonings.

**J. J. Broening** has joined the staff of American Bio-Chemical Laboratory, Inc. The company said his experience will enable it to expand activities along the line of insecticide testing.

**Clifford A. Scott** has taken over the position of animal feed products manager in the market planning department of Merck's chemical division. He has been with the company since 1946 in various sales positions.

**Byron M. Kern** has been named general manager of the agricultural chemicals division of Spencer. He was previously general manager of engineering and construction.

**Melvin Calvin** of the University of California received the AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY Award for Nuclear Applications in Chemistry at the recent National Meeting in Miami, Fla. Dr. Calvin, who is professor of chemistry and director of the bio-organic division of the university's radiation laboratory, was honored for his research contributions to peaceful uses of atomic energy.

**Edith B. Pryor** has joined the research department of Monsanto's inorganic chemicals division as food technologist.

**Gerald L. Dennis** has been appointed manager of field sales for Naugatuck Chemical Division of U. S. Rubber. He was formerly Los Angeles district manager.

**Lawrence L. Cecil, Jr.**, has joined Diamond Alkali as staff assistant in the export sales department. He is to devote his attention chiefly to promotion of agricultural chemical sales. He was formerly with U. S. Pipe & Foundry.

**Carl R. Fellers** will retire from his position as head of the food technology department of the University of Massachusetts in July. He has been head of the department for 16 years.

**Walter Dannenbaum**, former head of Du Pont's ammonia department (now part of the polychemicals department), has retired from his position as a vice president and member of the executive committee of the company. He will stay on the Du Pont board, however.