• Industry Items

BUCKBEE MEARS Co., St. Paul, Minn., announced it has signed a licensing agreement with Union Carbide Corp. to apply parylene coating to electronic devices. The agreement is effective immediately. Buckbee-Mears, through its subsidiary B H Electronics of Clear Lake, Wis., intends to provide a custom coating service for those firms interested in using parylene as an insulating medium or for conformal coating of electronic devices. Parylene is a generic name for members of a unique polymer series that are vapor phase deposited and formed as continuous films from a fraction of a micro to several mils thick. It is a primary dielectric exhibiting a very low dissipation factor, high dielectric strength and a dielectric constant invariable with frequency. Chemically, parylene is inert and insoluble in all organic solvents up to 150 C.

Armour Industrial Chemical Co., Chicago, Ill., announced the purchase of the remaining 45% interest in Italcolloid S.p.A., Milan, Italy, from the Boeri family and other Italian interests. Italcolloid operates a modern industrial chemical plant in Arese, a suburb of Milan. The plant produces a line of fatty acid nitrogen derivatives, esters and peroxides which are marketed in Italy to a number of industries including plastics, food, and leather. Italcolloid also markets the entire line of some 250 chemical specialties produced by Armour. Early last year Armour obtained full ownership of Armour Hess Chemicals, Ltd. of the United Kingdom and at that time increased its interest in Italcolloid. Since Armour gained majority interest in Italcolloid in February of 1968, numerous improvements have been made in plant equipment and processes. Italcolloid will continue under the direction of Guido Righi as General Manager.

An "Educational Systems Operation" has been established by Varian Associates, Palo Alto, Calif., as a unit of the company's Instrument Group. Organized under Peter Llewellyn, who until now was Manager of Ion Chemistry Research for Varian's Analytical Instrument Division, the new operation will concentrate on low cost analytical instruments, teaching aids and information suitable for educational use in the physical and life sciences. Equipment and services will be priced within the reach of universities, colleges and junior college systems in the United States. This unified line of low cost instruments, intended primarily for educational institutions, also is expected to find many applications within industry for low cost research, industrial investigations, and solving simple analytical problems.

During the past year ASHLAND CHEMICAL Co., Columbus, Ohio, has significantly increased its facilities for making fatty nitrogen chemicals, and the company expects to further increase this manufacturing capacity in 1970. A wide range of fatty nitrogen products now is made by Ashland at two United States locations, and construction will begin shortly on a new plant in Belgium that will meet increasing requirements for the products in Europe and elsewhere overseas. The Belgian plant will be operated by a new firm, Lilachim S.A., which recently was formed by Oleochim S.A. of Belgium and the Swedish firm of Liljeholmens Stearinfabriks Aktiebolag. Oleochim is jointly owned by Ashland and Petrofina S.A. Among Ashland Chemical's fatty nitrogen products are fatty amides used as anti-block and slip agents in plastics manufacturing, and in printing inks; primary fatty amines, largely used as chemical intermediates; amine acetates, which go principally into water treatment preparations; fatty diamines for anticorrosion applications; tertiary fatty amines with uses that range from mining solvent extraction reagents to intermediates for cosmetics; fatty amine/ethylene oxide adducts, which are used in textile finishing, as dyeing aids and antistatic agents; quaternary ammonium compounds for fabric softeners and rinses; and other products used as asphalt emulsifiers.

