People & Places



PEOPLE

Joseph B. Flavin, chairman and chief executive officer of the Singer Company, has been elected to the board of directors of Pfizer Inc. . . . Yoav Givon has been named to the new post of coordinator of international sales for Mazer Chemicals, Inc. . . . Gerald G. Wilson has been elected vice president, fine chemicals, for General Mills Chemicals, Inc., a Henkel Company Robert D. Dyer has been named director of marketing for chemicals for The Harshaw Chemical Co.... Perry J. Gehring, director of the Dow U.S.A. Toxicology Laboratory, has been named director of Health and Environmental Research for Dow Chemical U.S.A.... Cargill has promoted James F. Lawrence to assistant vice president of its chemical products division Bernard A. Schwetz, research manager in the toxicology research laboratory of health and environmental research has been appointed director of the toxicology research laboratory for the Dow Chemical Co. . . . Oswald U. Anders has been appointed research scientist at Dow Paul W. Baker has been named director of research for the Organic Chemicals Division of the Richardson Company.



Durkee Industrial Foods Group/SCM Corp. is working on a \$3 million, two year renovating of its Louisville, Kentucky, plant and refinery that produces Durkee's Mel Fry, Melvo, Kaola Gold and Dress All oils and shortenings.... Cargill has begun operation of an EMI-supplied deodorizer at its Gainsville, Georgia, plant for deodorized soybean, peanut, cottonseed, corn and palm oils.



G.G. Wilson



R.D. Dyer



P.W. Baker

Price outlook reviewed

Oilseed commodity prices should remain strong for the first half of this crop year, through March, and then may slacken somewhat, David Bartholomew, oilseed manager for Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner & Smith told a meeting of the AOCS North Central Section in September.

Strong demand, partially by foreign buyers whose currencies are relatively high in value compared to the dollar, is a key factor in the first half support, Bartholomew said. He also said that the Oct. 1 crop estimate, which was still ten days away at the time of his talk, was expected to be lower than the Sept. 1 crop estimate. This would cause some buyers to get into the market.

Prices in the second half of the year will be somewhat dependent on how soybean crops are faring in Brazil and Argentina. Those crops are planted from October through December, he said, with harvest starting in late February. After two consecutive years of dry weather, rain patterns may be more favorable for soybeans this year, he said.

In other observations, Bartholomew said he has found that demand for fats and oils rises as supply increases. Thus, while many soybean producers felt threatened by the Malaysia expansion of palm oil production, the end result has been to increase markets overall.

Latin American banana plantations hard hit by disease are being replanted in palm, he said, noting that a palm planting is being tried along the Amazon River also. In India, a 2 per cent annual population increase means India's annual population increase is equivalent to adding another New York City, which means the Indians should be importing vegetable oil for some time. India became self-sufficient in grain during the past few years, he said, and the currency that formerly had to be spent to import grains now buys the next commodity up the food ladder – fats and oils.

And, when asked about investing in the commodities market, Bartholomew replied, "I don't consider that an investment. Investing is what you do when you buy stock in Kraft, or Swift, or buy real estate. It's speculation in the commodities market. Speculators are a special breed; successful speculators are an endangered species."

Hazardous materials seminar

The American Trucking Association's Operations Council is presenting a series of one day seminars on hazardous materials and wastes. The seminar is designed for managers and supervisors who direct the handling, shipping or transporting of hazardous materials and wastes. Similar workshops for employees who prepare, package, ship, transport or store such materials also is available. More than 30 such seminars will be held between now and next summer. For specific dates and locations, contact: The Operations Council, ATA, 1616 P St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.