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Now, he said, the federal regulations are having "a serious impact on inflation, cost and productivity." The compliance cost to businesses is passed on to consumers in the form of higher prices for products.

In some cases, business has invited regulation to raise barriers against competition, Johnson said. For example, a company producing safety glass advocated laws demanding that the glass be installed in buildings. No other glass companies had the technology to make this safety glass, he said.

"I'm not apologizing for the business community," Johnson said. "These are my own views," and not necessarily those of Standard Oil of Indiana.

Johnson, 43, received his bachelor's

degree in political science and economics from UNL in 1959. He received his juris doctor degree from NU's College of Law in 1964.

From 1971 to 1973 he was a legislative affairs assistant to the Secretary of Defense. In 1973 he began working for Standard Oil of Indiana.

"Since the early '60s we have continued to ask more and more of Uncle Sam. Now we are just beginning to grapple with the monster (of federal regulations)," he said.

Many of the regulations' goals are worthwhile, but the business community should have responded to society's needs without being forced to by the federal government, he said.

Few regulations

The oil industry faced few regulations before 1973. Now the Department of

Energy and other agencies have been created. The Emergency Petroleum Allocation Act was enacted to preserve free market forces.

But, Johnson said, regulations actually inhibit the free enterprise system.

"It's impossible to help one part of the industry without hurting another."

A congressional "pass-through" act demands that refiners of crude oil pass their cost savings on to consumers, he said.

Investment curtailed

The result is that "more and more investment has been curtailed" because the savings passed on to consumers cannot be reinvested by the crude oil refiners.

Johnson said 87 percent of Nevada's land, 96 percent of Alaska's land, and 30 percent of Oregon's land is federally owned. The federal government also owns a considerable amount of land in California, Utah, Washington and New Mexico.

Despite the crucial need to develop America's national and domestic oil supplies, he said, only 10 percent of our crude oil reserves comes from these federally-owned lands.

Several solutions

Johnson listed several solutions to the growth of regulation and the delay of progress.

"The management of regulation has been too long overlooked. Government

service should be sought, not feared. Also, the economic education of people might be useful."

The administrators of regulatory programs should be educated in economics so the economy and inflation can be considered whenever regulations are passed. "We need to weigh the impact of regulations on inflation."

Johnson said a truism by a man called Epstein is often quoted in the halls of big industries:

"If you think the problem is bad now, wait until Congress solves it."

Mellerdrammers begin

Theater, Inc. of Lincoln will open its mellerdrammers season Thursday with "Fireman, Save My Child" and "The Perils of Priscilla."

Cast members include: Paul Ahrens, Ron Chapman, Sandy Chew, Donna Dumrow, Joel Fay, Susan Joy, Cindy Mikkelson, Don O'Neill, Clesta Peters, Charles Radloff, Phillop Rooney, Kathy Scheidt, Anne Smeltzer and Lois Walton. The show begins at 8:30 p.m. Shows are on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights through July 12 in the upper level of Starship Enterprise, 826 P St.



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June Campus Events

<p>19 Thurs Collegium VII, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Brown Bag Lecture-ship, 12 noon, Nebraska Union. Administrators' Luncheon, 12 noon, Nebraska East Union. Outdoor movie, dusk, Love Library. Sheldon Film Theater, 7 & 9 p.m., Sheldon: The Man Who Knew Too Much; Save the Planet.</p>	<p>21 Sat Make-up day for July 4 holiday. Sheldon Film Theater, 3, 7 & 9 p.m., Sheldon: The Man Who Knew Too Much; Save the Planet.</p>	<p>25 Wedn Summer Film Festival, 12 noon, Nebraska Union: Mideast: Pioneers of Science; Discovering Country and Western Music; Clown Princes. Coffeehouse, 8 p.m., Harper Hall Snack Bar.</p>
<p>20 Fri All-State ends. Collegium VII, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sheldon Film Theater, 7 & 9 p.m., Sheldon: The Man Who Knew Too Much; Save the Planet.</p>	<p>22 Sun Sheldon Film Theater, 3, 7 & 9 p.m., Sheldon: The Man Who Knew Too Much; Save the Planet.</p>	<p>26 Thurs Last day to submit masters theses (at least one week before oral exams) for 8-week and First 5-week Sessions. Brown Bag Lecture-ship, 12 noon, Nebraska Union. Sheldon Film Theater, 7 & 9 p.m., Sheldon: Secret Agent; Hi De Ho Musical, A Little Night Music, 8 p.m., Kimball</p>
	<p>24 Tues Last day to submit drops for First 5-week Session. Last day to change to or from pass/no pass for First 5-week Session.</p>	

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