

## Vine Killing Ups Quality Of Potatoes

Potatoes should not be dug until the vines have been dead 10 days to 2 weeks. Properly matured potatoes are less easily skinned or bruised, according to Elmer Pifer, extension agronomist from the Pennsylvania State University.

If potato vines have not been killed by early frosts or by insects, killing can be done by mechanical beaters or by chemicals. Vine beaters with rubber flails or chains do a good job of destroying the vines but they destroy only two rows at a time.

Chemical sprays can be applied with regular potato spray

equipment. In most cases a good vine kill can be obtained with chemicals in 4 to 10 days, depending on the weather after application. A repeat application in 5 to 7 days may be necessary to kill the lower part of vines where growth is very heavy.

Research work has shown that chemical vine killers achieve more effective vine kill and better ripening and skin-set than mechanical beating. Vine beaters should be used only when necessary to remove dead or partially dead tops.

The most effective chemical for vine killing is sodium arsenite. Sodium arsenite is very poisonous so great care must be taken to avoid spraying where material can drift to areas where cattle graze, Che-

mical vine killers should be applied 10 to 14 days before harvest. (Not closer than 7 to 10 days).

Chemical vine killing is of great value in the control of late blight tuber rot where blight is present on the foliage. Most tuber infections result when the digging operation mixes tubers with blighting tops. Killing the vines before harvest removes the danger of infection when digging. **DEAD VINES DO NOT CARRY LATE BLIGHT.**

Various brands of sodium arsenite carry widely different percentages of actual chemical — follow the label directions to obtain the correct dilution, Pifer said.

### Best Use Of Fan

To use a ventilating fan most effectively in the kitchen, run it as your building up moisture while cooking, advises Helen Bell, Penn State home management extension specialist. This keeps turning the moisture out of the room instead of letting it build up and expecting the fan to clear the room quickly.

## USDA Records Tax Exemption Variations

Tax boards in some states offer the farmers many more tax exemptions than other states do, according to a report issued this week by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. And the differences are much more marked on some personal and farm property than on others.

Here are a few of the differences: Tractors are taxed in 34 states; seven states completely exempt from machinery and tools. Sheep less than nine months old in Iowa are exempt, but in Vermont they become taxable at four months. Seven states do not tax livestock, while 17 grant partial exemptions through varying methods.

The report prepared by USDA's Economic Research Service, describes how states tax personal property that is used in agriculture. It compares exemptions by state and region in the following categories:

Farm tools and machinery, livestock, poultry, growing crops, stored crops and seed, tractors and farm trucks and automobiles used in production.

A free copy of the report "Taxation of Tangible Personal Property Used in Agriculture," ERS-86, may be obtained from the Division of Information, Agricultural Economics, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

### Brucellosis Dept.

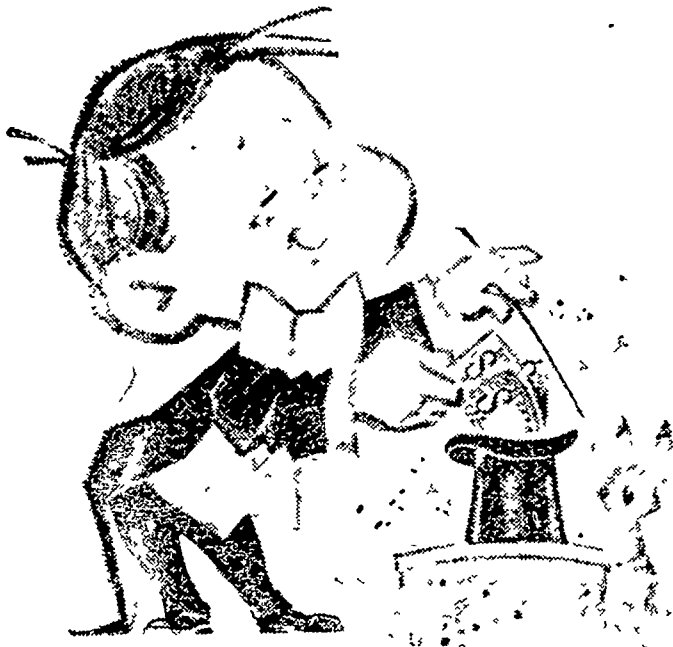
(Continued from Page 13) received his public school education there, was graduated from Gettysburg College, taught school for five years, and in 1944 received his V. D. degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

He and Mrs. Guise, the former Lois Harbold, Dallastown, are parents of three children: Judith, 17; Steven, 15; and Mark, 8.

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Ernest J. Neill (center), first editor of Lancaster Farming, is shown above following his appointment as chairman of the public relations committee of the American Feed Manufacturers Association. Emmett Barker (left), public relations director for the AFMA, is shown with the AFMA plaque of appreciation as it was given to the immediate past chairman of the committee, John L. Schlick (right), public relations director for Murphy Products Co., Burlington, Wis.



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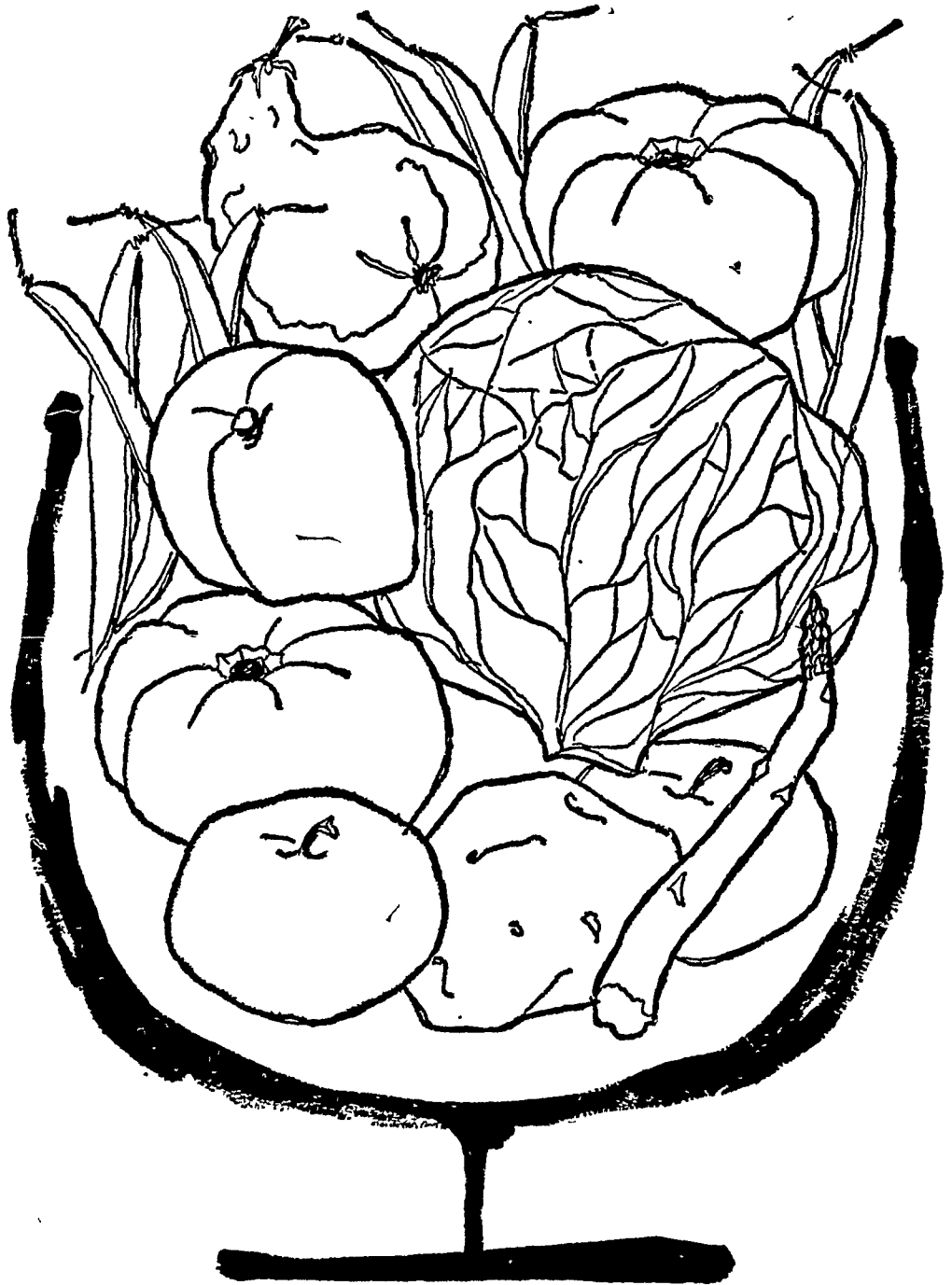
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