

● Forester

(Continued from Page 1)
trees were dead, or nearly dead.

We stopped at Jackson's sawmill, between Quarryville and Kirkwood, where some of the dead trees were being sawed into lumber.

"The lumber is sound. We have been buying quite a bit of this kind of timber," David Jackson told us. "But," he said, "if these trees are not cut before next year, they will begin to rot. They won't be worth much next year at this time."

Kitch said he is going to recommend that all woodlot owners in the area cut out all the Chestnut Oak trees big enough for timber, and plant Tulip Poplar in the skid roads.

"If you write that, they will work me to death," Jackson said. But he added that he would be interested in timbering woodlots with the dead trees if they were sound.

Kitch said he believes Tulip Poplar would be a more desirable tree in many of these woodlands because they grow much faster and there is a good demand for poplar lumber. With the oaks cut out and some of the competition pushed out of the skid roads, Kitch believes the poplar should do well.

"Many of these woodlots are right next to corn fields, and where corn will grow, Tulip Poplar should grow," Kitch said.

What is causing the untimely demise of these sound trees?

Kitch believes it is a combination of factors. For two successive years, a heavy population of cankerworms nearly defoliated the trees. It seems that the worms have a preference for Chestnut Oaks. There is also a widespread infestation of a disease called Pit Making Oak Scale in the area. Neither of these pests is enough to kill the tree by itself, but the two of them in combination can sap the vigor of a healthy tree. When the

tree loses vigor, it is susceptible to attack by a bark beetle which works in the cambium layer — the growing layer just under the bark. The beetles make trails through the cambium layer cutting off the flow of food and water up to the tree branches. When the trails completely girdle the tree, the leaves dry up and the tree dies.

Kitch knows he will have a big job ahead of him for the next few months cruising woodlands to mark trees for timbering, but he feels it is important to remove the trees while they are still valuable. In one woodlot where we stood, eleven large trees with

sight in the dense forest were dead. Kitch scaled several of the trees and estimated they would yield up to 300 board feet of lumber each. This many dead trees could easily be worth several hundred dollars per acre. But if they are not harvested soon, they will be a complete loss.

Fortunately, most of the damage thus far has been confined to the area of Lancaster County south of Route 372.

At present we have no practical control measures, Kitch said. The cankerworms could be sprayed, but it is not economically feasible to spray large areas of woodland. He is hoping it is a local problem and only a temporary one.

This has been a busy summer for Kitch. The dry weather has caused an abnormally large number of forest fires, and this has kept him from his regular duties for a good portion of the summer.

His normal duties include cruising and marking farmer woodlots for timbering, working with farmers and sawmill operators in drawing up fair agreements, aiding in tree planting, improving woodlands, and any other tree problem the landowner has.

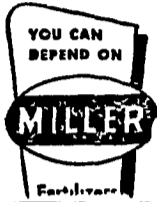
Kitch was born and raised in Brownstown, Lancaster County, but spent his summers with his uncle, John W. Hershey, of Downingtown, Hershey, the proprietor of a nut tree farm, instilled a fondness for trees in Kitch. After graduation from West Earl Township High School and a hitch in the army in Europe, he enrolled in the forestry school at the Pennsylvania State University.

After graduation from Penn State, Kitch worked for a while in the accounting department at New Holland Machine Company and three years for a bottled gas company.

When Pennsylvania initiated the cooperative forest management program in 1956, he went to work as a full time forester. "We are cooperating with the federal government in the program to try to insure a continuous supply of lumber from Lancaster County," he said.

"The way some woodlands

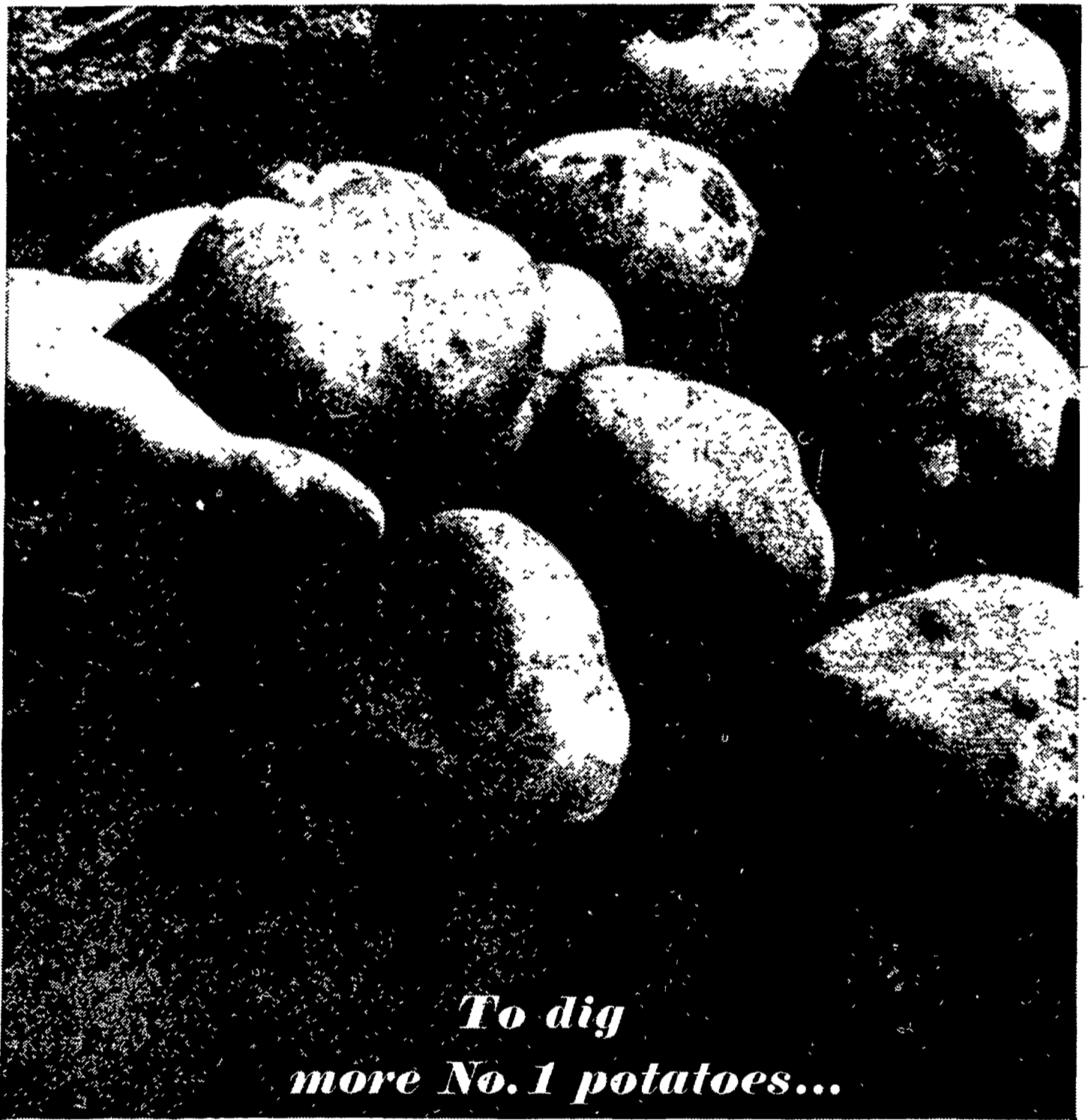
(Continued on Page 10)



Lancaster Co. Distributors for Manzate
MILLER CHEMICAL and FERTILIZER CORP.

P. O. Box 25, EPHRATA

Phone 733-6525



To dig
more No. 1 potatoes...

■ "Manzate" gives you safe, sure control of early and late blight on potatoes. For powerful disease protection that gives you bonus yields—more No. 1's, spray with easy-to-use "Manzate." Proven by years of use, "Manzate" effectively controls a wide range of diseases on other vegetable crops, too. On all chemicals, follow labeling instructions and warnings carefully.

Stop diseases
before they start...

spray **DUPONT** MANZATE®... regularly

Better Things for Better Living...through Chemistry

MANZATE AND OTHER DUPONT PRODUCTS

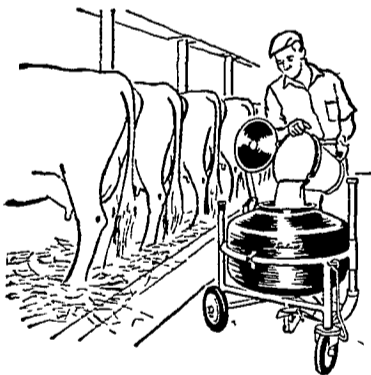
distributed by

J. C. EHRlich CHEMICAL CO., INC.

736 East Chestnut Street

Phone 397-3721

Lancaster, Penna.



Transfer Milk
Efficiently From Cow
to Bulk Cooler

The "Sputnik" MILK-PORTER is the cleanest, most efficient method for transferring milk from cow to bulk cooler.

- Manufactured from heavy gauge stainless steel.
- Lid seals tightly to keep milk germ free.
- Passes through openings 29" and over.
- Moves quiet and easily on rubber-tired, ball bearing wheels.
- Does away with long, expensive pipe lines, milk pumps and releaser.
- Two sizes.
- Low-cost sanitizing.

For Further Information,

Write:

MILK PORTER CO., LTD.

2 Eastpark Boulevard, Scarborough, (Metro Toronto) Canada

Dealer Inquiries Invited

Approved for City of Philadelphia

Amos H. Rutt

R. D. 2, Quarryville, Penna. ST. 6-3897