

## Ida's Notebook

Ida Risser

On a cold, cold Saturday morning, Allen and I bundled up in several layers of clothes and joined a group at Chickies Rock near Columbia, Pa. There were about 30 folks on the tour of Susquehanna River Overlooks and we were all dressed for the temperature that didn't go above 20 degrees all day. Only our faces suffered from the river breeze.

There are seven overlooks that are open to the public throughout the year. The inspiring vistas in Lancaster County include wooded

river hills and bird migrations. Speaking of which we were lucky enough to see three bald eagles. I'm glad that Allen had taken his binoculars along so that we could see their coloring as they soared high overhead. There were swans on the river too. But, one of the sights that I'll remember are the gulls. I really can't adequately describe the thousands of white birds that looked like a snow flurry as they hunted for fish. We were told by our guide that they catch small fish that come through

the dam's tailrace.

We saw both Safe Harbor Dam and the Holtwood Dam from lookouts high above the river. Some places are accessible only by long foot paths while others can be reached by vehicle on gravel driveways.

Of the 18 cars that started on the trip there were only 12 remaining by the time that we reached Face Rock Overlook, owned by Pa. Power & Light Co., to view Holtwood Dam. The last stop going south was Susquehannock State Park but we also started for home as we had already been there.

It is a trip that I'd like to repeat in the fall to see the colorful autumn leaves.



## Mechanization Has

(Continued from Page B12)

planted "for instant impact," and those who plant the trees do not consider if the tree is right for the area.

Those who have the 'too' problems, including soil that is too wet, planting too deep, using too much mulch, soil conditions that are too cold, or too many plants placed together "don't know what's going on."

Many of the problems stem from using too much mulch. "I don't know why this is occurring, except maybe to sell more mulch," he said.

McMullin said that we overlook the simple things that are there, such as synthetic burlap or twine that engulf the trunk and root system of the tree that's been planted; planting huge root trees such as poplars too close to buildings (McMullin said poplars should not

be used unless they are "completely away from buildings"); uprooting of parts of the tree root system and consequent dying back of the upper leaves; planting ewes in areas of poor drainage; and other problems.

The first thing is to find out whether the symptoms are caused by man or by nature. Some problems are caused by nature and others are man-made (mice and rodents are considered man-made problems).

"The number 1 'too' problem, 'too little knowledge,'" he said, "is the same as being 'too stupid.'"

Also speaking at the symposium was Bill Thomas, Longwood Gardens, who spoke about alternative variety selection ("Selecting Conifers For the Landscape") for arborists. In addition, Bruce Fraedrich, Bartlett Tree Experts, spoke about pesticide spill handling.



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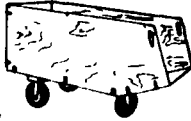
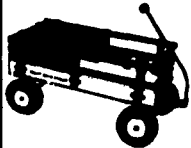
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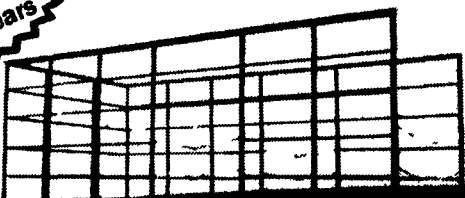
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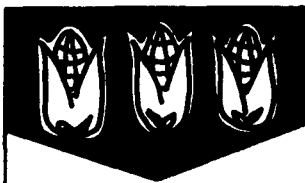
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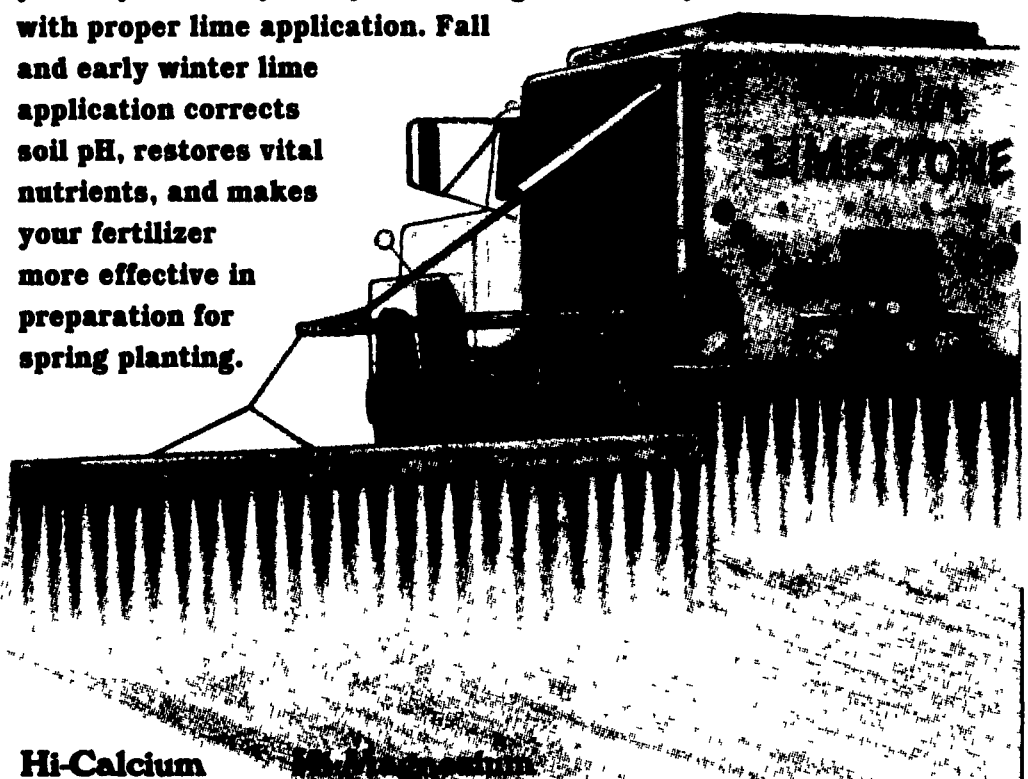
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