

built at Long Beach and phosphoric acid facilities will be enlarged at Trenton. Expansion of units for sodium tripolyphosphate and new facilities for tetrasodium pyrophosphate will be undertaken at St. Louis. A new acid burner is scheduled for the Monsanto, Ill., plant.

### Dieldrin Soon to Be Sold for Household Use

Shell Chemical has announced that its insecticide dieldrin will soon be available for use in homes. Until now, its use has been mostly on farms, ranches, and lawns. USDA has granted label acceptance for the use of dieldrin as a spray or dust in households for controlling roaches, ants, silverfish, ticks, carpet beetles, paper nest wasps, and mud daubers.

### IM&C Acquires Refractory Plant

International Minerals & Chemical Corporation has acquired Sonsel Refractories Corporation at Brighton, Mich. The newly acquired plant will continue production of zirconium refractories under a patented process and other special refractories on an expanded scale as part of International's industrial minerals division.

### C&I Acquires Rights to License Stengel Process

The Chemical & Industrial Corp., Cincinnati, Ohio, has recently acquired the right from Commercial Solvents Corp. to license the Stengel process for ammonium nitrate production. This process makes it possible to produce granular ammonium nitrate in almost a single step from nitric acid and ammonia. The Stengel process will produce ammonium nitrate solutions or a dry, molten salt. Chemical & Industrial Corp. is prepared to design and erect plants using this process.

### Research

#### Peat Soil Conditioner Developed in Holland

A soil conditioner and fertilizer based on black peat has been developed in Holland. Intermittent reduction and oxidation of peat in an autoclave using ammonia and oxygen produces the product known as X2. Field tests showed X2 to give increases in crop yields of up to 25%. Investigations at Wageningen Agricultural University were reported during the recent International Peat Symposium at Dublin.

### "Maneb" Selected Name for Fungicidal Chemical

The coined name maneb has been selected by the Interdepartmental Committee on Pest Control for the fungicidal chemical manganese ethylenebisdithiocarbamate. The American Phytopathological Society, the American Medical Association, and the American Chemical Society have also agreed to the selection. The Interdepartmental Committee is made up of representatives of the Departments of Agriculture, Interior, Army, Navy, Air Force, and Health, Education, and Welfare.

The chemical has previously been known by its chemical name and also as manganese EBD, MnEDB, and MED. The name maneb refers to the pure chemical and technical grade should indicate the percentage of the pure chemical present.

### Atomic Agriculture in Canada

Chalk River, Canada's Oak Ridge is serving as a source of isotopes for agricultural research for Canadian researchers investigating a variety of agricultural problems. Studies as diverse as measurement of soil moisture habits of cutworms and production of humus are under way.

At Saskatchewan University phosphorus-32 has been used as a tracer to study the uptake of phosphorus by wheat and barley seeds and seedlings. More than 90% of the phosphorus is apparently absorbed by the grain and seedlings within the first 13 days after germination. To study the movement of cutworms and other underground insects, pieces of radioactive wire were cemented to the larvae. The movements and activities of the larvae underground could then be followed with radiation detection devices.

The effects of phosphate fertilizers on high lime soils is being studied with radioactive phosphorus at Ontario Agricultural College. Workers there are also investigating the amount of available phosphorus occurring naturally in the soil with isotopes.

Carbon-14 has been used to test soil conditioning chemicals and to tag amino acids in plants to determine how organic materials affect production of humus in plants.

### BHC Found to Cause Off-Flavor in Olives

Musty off-flavor of olives, reported from three different areas of California recently, has been traced to certain insecticides by University of California Research scientists.

Food technologist Reese H. Vaughn and Pomologist Hudson T. Hartmann, on the Davis Campus, found that the unusual musty flavor in canned ripe olives is caused by benzene hexachloride.

Tests at the University's Wolfskill experiment orchard in winters show that when the chemical is sprayed on the leaves, applied to soil under the trees, or painted on fresh pruning cuts, the off-flavor may develop in processed fruits. Lindane, a purified form of benzene hexachloride, also produced the off-flavor.

If the insecticide drifts into olive groves from nearby crop fields, it will flavor the fruit, the researchers warned.

### Education

#### Award for Agricultural Bibliographies

Entries are being accepted now for the Oberly Memorial Award made every two years by the American Library Association for the best bibliography in the field of agriculture or the natural sciences.

Further information about entries is available from J. Richard Blanchard, librarian, University of California Library, Davis, Calif., who is chairman of the Oberly Memorial Fund Committee.

Points to be considered in judging the bibliographies, according to Blanchard, are: accuracy, scope, usefulness, format, and special features such as explanatory introductions, annotations, and indexes.

#### Research Fellowship Set Up as Memorial to Sir Jack Drummond

The appeal for funds for the Sir Jack Drummond Memorial has closed and the trustees of the fund have announced that more than \$750,000 has been received. A research fellowship has been established for work in nutrition and the fellowship will be available for work in any research institute in Britain or overseas.

Headquarters for administration of the trust will be in the University College, London.

### People

#### Culpepper Replaces Riley As Spencer VP for Sales

Joe E. Culpepper has been elected vice president and will continue to serve as general sales manager for Spencer Chemical. J. R. Riley, Jr., vice president in charge of sales for the company, has resigned but will continue to be active as a director, member of the executive