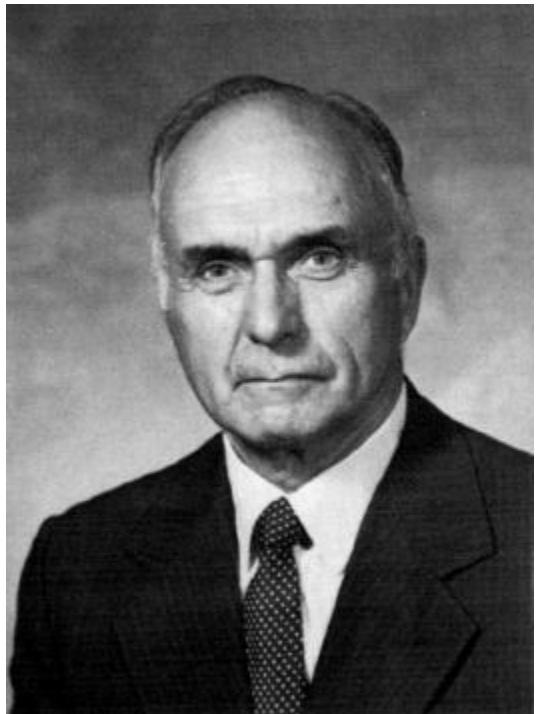


JOSEPH L. HARRINGTON (1985)



Joe Harrington was born in Patten, Maine where he attended local schools and, in 1940, graduated from the University of Maine with a B.S. in Agronomy with highest honors. In 1944 he married Margaret Cheney and they have three daughters, two sons and eight grandchildren. He was a captain in the U.S. Marines from 1941 to 1945. Joe retired in February 1985 from his most recent position as Director of the Division of Plant Industries of the Maine Department of Agriculture and Secretary of the Maine Seed Potato Board. His entire life has been devoted to the potato industry which started on his own potato farm in Patten, Maine from 1945 to 1955. He then joined the Michigan Cooperative Extension Service as a potato marketing agent. In 1957 he joined Frito-Lay, Inc. and was instrumental in developing some new areas for potato chip raw product supplies particularly Maine, Michigan and Colorado. He was also a leader in developing a concept of pre-season contracts. After a brief return to Maine to work with the Snow Flake Canning Co., he returned to Michigan in 1964 to serve as General Manager of the Chief Wabasis Potato Growers Association in McBride. It was through Joe's leadership that the Association changed from a tablestock

and fresh marketing organization to one that today deals almost entirely with potato chip contracts and raw product production. Joe was a leader in the total Michigan potato industry and served as a member of the Michigan Potato Industry Council from 1966 to 1970 and Chairman in 1968-69. In 1970 the Council evolved as the current Michigan Potato Industry Commission. In 1971 Joe left the Chief Wabasis organization and worked with H.H. Evon, Sunshine Biscuit and Bachman Foods before joining the Maine Department of Agriculture in 1978. Joe truly has devoted his career to the betterment of the entire potato industry.

He has been a member of The Potato Association of America and has been particularly active in the Certification Section by serving both as a Director and as Chairman. One support letter stated that "Joe Harrington exemplifies those individuals whose dedication and contribution to the potato industry should be the criteria for measuring honorees for lifetime membership in The PAA." His sense of integrity and forthright manner of dealing with people exemplifies the type of person that makes the U.S. potato industry strong. Our sincere congratulations to Joe and Margaret and their family for this well deserved recognition.

~R.W. Chase
Michigan State University