

● Letter

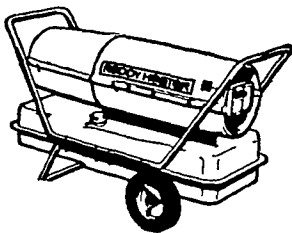
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On The prices of breeding cattle seem to be holding at a rather high level. A few days ago I read that the average price on 1872 Santa Gertrude's this year was \$1401.00. The average price on pure bred Brahmas this year was \$933.00. I do not have the prices of the other breeds, except for Polled Hereford at the Sydney Royal Show, on 111 head, sold there; averaged \$1,895.00. The price of the best grades of meat cattle has been holding about 28 to 30 cents per lb dressed weight. Average to good, dairy cows are selling for about \$200.00 per head. A letter from my nephew in Pa stated that straw was selling as high as \$40.00 per ton. Over here there is very little that is even baled, it sells for 20 to 25 cents a bale. The headers are set high to just clip the heads and the straw is very often burned in the field.

I do read articles in some farm magazines that are advocating the discontinuance of the burning practice, and recommending that the straw be used for mulch. I personally feel sure it would help to hold moisture in the soil, which is a great problem here. The area that I cover in my sales work has had reasonably good rain but about 1/2 of Queensland has had very little relief from the drought. They are just now starting to consider making laws governing the hunting seasons and license fees, here in Queensland. There does seem to be very little in the way of wild life, as I have only seen about 25 kangaroos, 6 foxes, 10 possums, 5 Kolas, and 100 hares (Jack-rabbits). I enjoy receiving the LANCASTER FARMING paper and reading the records of those good Lancaster County cows. Many people take their vacations over the holidays and go to the many beautiful beaches.

kindest regards to all,  
Amos Hively  
26 Leslie St.  
Toowoomba  
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4350

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**3-Bank Consolidation Becomes Effective**

The consolidation of The Harrisburg National Bank & Trust Co., The Conestoga National Bank in Lancaster and The First National Bank of York becomes effective at the close of business December 31, forming The Commonwealth National Bank.

Total assets of the combined banks will be more than \$360 million, and there will be 28 offices serving south-central Pennsylvania in Dauphin, Lancaster, York, Cumberland and Perry Counties.

"The name is new but the bank really is not," said George L. Morrison, Jr., president. "The three banks are all among the oldest in Pennsylvania. Men connected with them always have been active in the growth of the area, and we are now even better able to assist in future growth."

Harrisburg National was founded in 1814; First National, in 1864, and Conestoga, in 1889.

Corporate headquarters for The Commonwealth National Bank will be in Harrisburg, but the bank will operate as three divisions, each with its own president.

George W. Reily, III, will be chairman of the board and John C. Peck will serve as vice chairman.

John R. Biechler, president of Conestoga National, will be president of the Lancaster division, which includes Conestoga's eight offices. These consist of two in Lancaster and one in Centerville, Landisville, Lititz, Manheim Township, Millersville and Rohrerstown.

Executive vice presidents will be Charles R. Alexander and Robert J. DeLaney, Jr. in Harrisburg; Herbert W. Kauffman, Jr. in Lancaster, and Harry Wallick in York.

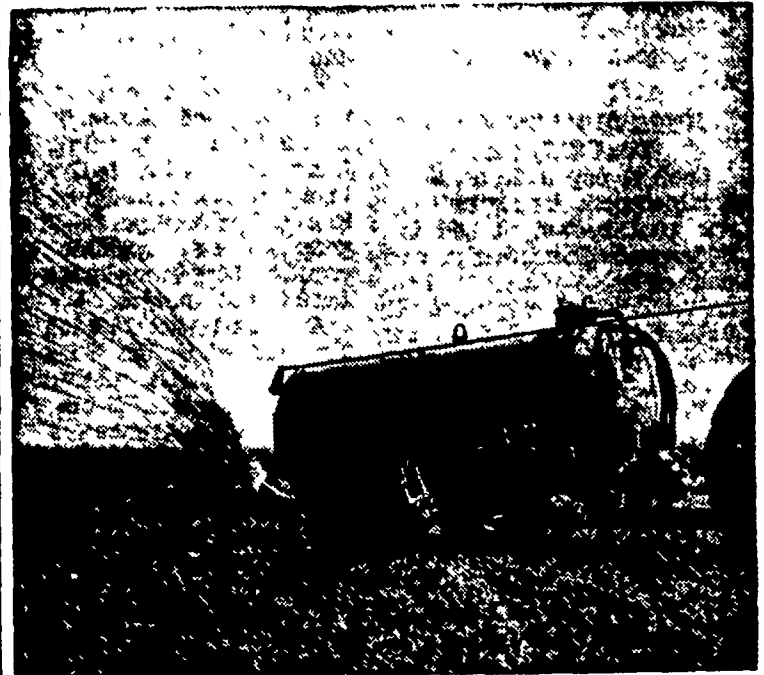
Commonwealth National has developed a new corporate symbol to go with its new name. The symbol — modern, triangle-shaped design — represents the three banks' achievements of the past and their progress in the future.

The new symbol spells out the

name "Commonwealth National Bank," which is next to a contemporary version of the tricorn hat popular in Colonial times. Each element represents one of the banks.

chosen because it clearly shows how the three banks are linked with the past and came together to form a new family of banks. He said the symbol will be reproduced on all bank signs and printed material.

Morrison said the symbol was



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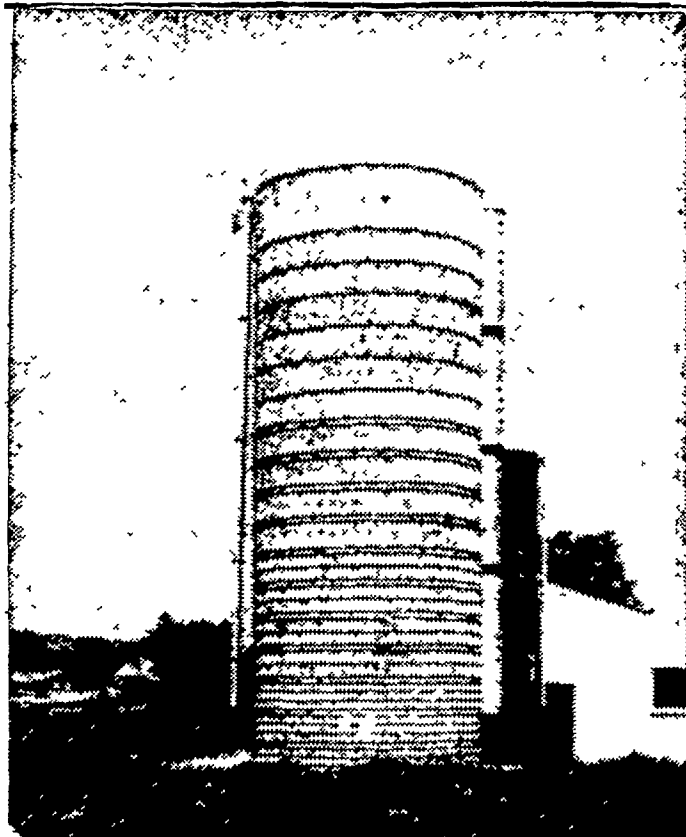
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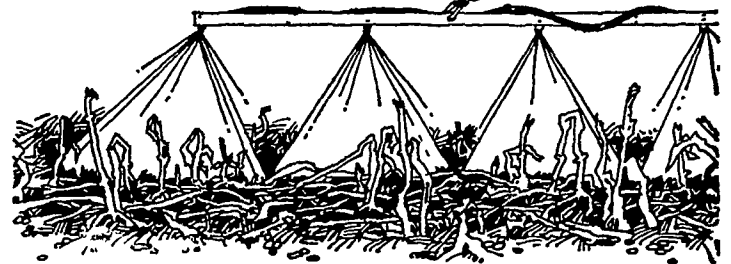
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