## Potato Stocks Down Substantially

Storage stocks of potatoes held by Pennsylvania growers and local dealers totaled 1,250,000 cwt. (hundred-weight) on February 1, 1973. This was 48 percent less than the 2,400,000 cwt. on hand February 1, 1972. Potatoes held by processors in excess of normal supplies for

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current operation were included in the estimate.

Total stocks on hand February 1 amounted to 26 percent of the 4,800,000 cwt. produced in Pennsylvania during 1972. Pennsylvania's 1972 potato production was 39 percent below the 1971 production of 7,810,000 cwt.



Disappearance (sales, home use, shrinkage, etc.) during January was 700,000 cwt. compared with 1,100,000 cwt. for January of last year. Disappearance from time of harvest to February 1 was 3,550,000 cwt. compared with 5,410,000 cwt. for the comparable period a year

Stocks of Irish potatoes held in storage for all uses by growers, local dealers and processors in fall production areas totaled 106.6 million cwt. on February 1, 1973. This is 14 percent, 17.8 million cwt, less than the 124.4 million cwt on hand a year earlier, and 156 million cwt. less than the 122.2 million cwt. on hand February 1, 1971.

In the eight Eastern States, February 1, 1973 supplies totaled 21 6 million cwt., 33 percent less or 10 6 million cwt. below the 32 2 million on hand a year earlier. Maine stocks of 17.8 million cwt this year, compared with 24.8 million last year, are down 28 percent. February 1, 1973 stocks in Upstate and Long Island, New York, and Pennsylvania are also sharply below year earlier levels as the result of active demand for the smaller crops produced in

Stocks in the eight Central States of 20.3 million cwt. were 6.4 million cwt, 24 percent, less than the February 1, 1972 stocks of 26.7 million. North Dakota stocks of 7.8 million cwt. this year compares with 10.2 million cwt. a year earlier, while Minnesota at 5.9 million cwt. is down from 83 million cwt on hand last year Michigan stocks of 2.8 million cwt. this year match the year earlier level, but stocks in other

### **Benefit Banquet Slated Feb. 24**

the Mennonite Church, which has historically refused to bear arms, and is globally expressed in deeds of mercy through its central agency at Akron, Pa -The Mennonite Central Committee (MCC).

Formed in 1920, MCC has put over 4500 volunteers in more than fifty countries since that time and sent millions of dollars in relief goods to masses in suffering conditions

Central Region States are less than last year.

For the eight Western States, February 1, 1973 stocks totaled 64.8 million cwt., only slightly less than the 65 5 million cwt on hand a year earlier Idaho at 42 0 million cwt is slightly higher than the 41.5 million cwt. of last year, while Washington at 103 million is slightly less than a year ago In Montana, Wyoming, and Utah, supplies this year are higher than a year earlier. Estimated stocks in Colorado, Oregon, and California are below a year earlier.

Disappearance from the 1972 fall crop production of 2341 million cwt to the February 1, 1973 stocks of 106.6 million cwt. was 127.5 million cwt. Comparable disappearance from the 1971 production was 129 4 million and for the 1970 crop 131 3 million

In addition to individual and group contributions to the outreach of MCC, various areas of this country have organized "Auction Sales" to raise dollars for relief The first such action began 17 years ago in Morgantown. Last year's Auction gave over \$50,000 to MCC and this year's, scheduled for April 28, is expected to give even more

It is traditional to precede the Auction with a benefit banquet to pay operation costs of the relief auction, allowing maximum sale receipts for direct relief of human suffering

Rev. John L Rush reports that this year's banquet will again be served in the Twin Valley High School at Morgantown on Saturday, February 24, for \$3 00 a plate Persons can write to Tickets, Box 22, Morgantown, Pa 19543 for either 4:30, 5 15, or 6:00 pm tickets After the ham-loaf dinner, a 7.00 p.m. program features well-known recording artist, Marlene Hershey, on the organ, the Cheerful Anthems Chorus, and Mr Lewis Strite of Harrisonburg, Va as guest speaker Mr. Strite has just completed a world tour.

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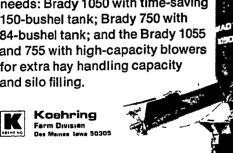
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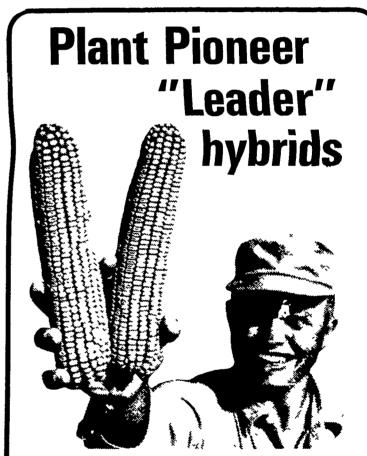




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