

\$ Argos  
\$ Culver  
\$ LaFaz  
\$ Plymouth  
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# News Notes

Work Brings People Together; News Brings Friends Together.

## NEWS FROM ARGOS

Bud Powers has successfully completed a course in CPR Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation. This involved four-three hour courses and was put on by the American Red Cross. Our bank sponsored Bud in these courses.

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There seems to be a particular little blond gal missing here at the Argos Branch. We miss you very much, Diana, but we all wish you the best of luck at the Plymouth branch in your new position.

\*\*\*\*

Jean & Rowdy Rensberger, Karen & Ed, spent one week of her vacation at Nashville and Brown County sightseeing. They reported the weather as cold but no snow.

\*\*\*\*

Gladys and Gene Snyder and two daughters spent two weeks over Christmas vacationing in Florida. They spent some time with her parents and visiting friends. They also visited Disneyworld and several other points of interest. They reported the weather as quite chilly for Florida.

\*\*\*\*

The remainder of employees here at Argos were content to have our Holidays off to spend with our families here and away.

\*\*\*\*

We here at Argos want to extend to everyone responsible for the planning of our Bank Christmas Party a THANK YOU for such a wonderful party. We all agreed it was one of the best ever. We will be looking forward to the party next year.

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Our NEWS NOTES paper for last month was quite interesting and very attractive in design and was well worth waiting for.

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We have been issuing quite a number of Christmas Clubs and we are having good response on lock box payments.

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Tad VanDerWeele, son Virginia and Lynn VanDerWeele left this week on a trip to Seattle, Washington. He will be visiting an aunt and uncle and doing some traveling.

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Karen Rensberger, daughter of Jean & Rowdy Rensberger, has been accepted at the University of Notre Dame for the school term beginning in September. She has also been nominated for a scholarship at Notre Dame for the school year. Karen has also been accepted at Purdue University School of Science. GOOD LUCK, Karen, whichever University you choose.

\*\*\*\*

I'm sure our feelings here are the same as everywhere else. Please let's slow down the Winter and hope for an early Spring.

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This is all until next month and we people here at Argos wish everyone a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Reporter: Frances Mattix

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## FARMERS STATE BANK NEWS

Larry and Diana Weiss (teller line) were in Indianapolis Sunday to attend the Indiana Pacers-Chicago Bulls basketball game.

\*\*\*\*

Roy and Esther Reed's son, Marlin was married to Barbara Weekling last Friday evening at Sunrise Chapel. In spite of all the snow and bad weather all went well.

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Junior and Paula Davenport (receptionist) are vacationing in Florida this month.

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Reporter: Carolyn Kelly

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## PLYMOUTH NEWS

Earl Houin was the recipient of the "Outstanding Young Farmer" Award presented by the Plymouth Jaycees on January 19th. Earl was chosen from 20 nominees. He shares this honor with his wife, Susie (drive-in-teller) who has contributed much to his successful achievement.

\*\*\*\*

Bob and Esther Milner spent two weeks in Arizona.

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Plymouth news continued .....

We welcome Diane Holderead to the Plymouth office. Diane recently transferred to our office from Argos, and is working with Marilyn Kuskye in the Data Processing Department.

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Mr. & Mrs. Dale L. Cramer are at home at 727 South Michigan Street, Plymouth, after their marriage on January 21st.

\*\*\*

Mr. & Mrs. Joe Warnacut (formerly, Joyce Crocker) are at home in Bloomington after their marriage on January 1st. They are both students at Indiana University.

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Chris Crocker, Los Angeles, CA spent a few days in Plymouth. She was here to attend Joyce's wedding.

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Recent guests of the Bob Milner's were Phil and Marilyn Milner and their 3 children from Antigonish, Nova Scotia. They also visited with Marilyn's mother, Agnes Fisher.

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Crayton and Virginia Holderead celebrated their 42nd anniversary on December 15th. They travelled to Kokomo for the celebration.

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Peg and Jim Clevenger spent a week's vacation in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Peg has a nice tan despite the cooler than normal temperatures.

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In December, 1976, the Plymouth office received 147 new Safety Deposit Boxes. This brings our total capacity to 859 boxes. We have 4 sizes available ranging from \$5.00 to \$20.00, to better serve the needs of our customers. Mildred Young is in charge of this department. All record keeping and yearly billings are done by her. We wish to thank her for this report.

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Kim Wyman, daughter of Jerry & Bev Wyman, was married on January 30th to William Herrmann in what turned out to be a three-day wedding. The proposed date, Friday, January 28th, was a severe snow storm, so everyone stood by until the weather finally permitted on Sunday, January 30th. In spite of the delay, the wedding turned out quite well. (A good thing cannot be ruined.)

Kim and Bill both are recent graduates of Indiana University, Bloomington, and upon their return from a Florida honeymoon, they will reside in Culver.

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Ann Christiansen is in Australia. She will return to Plymouth on February 14th. Perhaps she will have some interesting highlights of her trip in our next issue.

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Wayne and Billie Holderead are happy to announce the marriage of their daughter, Jo Ellen, to James E. Dick of Pittsburg, PA. on Saturday, January 29th. They are now living in Warsaw. Jo Ellen's grandparents are Crayton and Virginia Holderead.

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Reporter: Jean Webster

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C U L V E R N E W S

AUDITING DEPARTMENT

Instead of having a lost week-end, we lost January 28th and 29th. In all the years this reporter has worked in the bank, this is the only time that we were unable for two days to post the general ledger, because of "disruption" of our data processing and mail services and so few customers because of being snowed-in.

\*\*\*

Auditing has been busy with year-end reporting and also with our firm of auditors, who were completing our 1976 audit by researching year-end figures. On February 1st, FDIC examiners came in to do their annual examination. It is a modified version this year, concentrating mostly on loans and their collateral, payment status, etc, eliminating the things accomplished in our internal and CPA audits.

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Reporter: Margaret Swanson

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LEGAL DEPARTMENT

February is a month of dates for Jan Houin: Troy was 4 on the 5th; the 9th was Jan's first anniversary back at work; the twins will be 6 on the 13th; Jan & Al will be married 7 years on the 14th.

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Karen & Ron Mendenhall have acquired a 7 yr. old quarter horse, "Babe" for their daughter, Melissa, to ride. She won prizes last year on Dolly, so good luck this year.

\*\*\*

We were all very fortunate not to have any bad luck on the roads in this winter weather. Ron and Karen M. did have trouble with their furnace pilot light blowing out, and the temperature got down to the lower 30's in their home. Needless to say, Karen & Melissa moved to the neighbors.

Legal Department news continued .....

Charlotte starts her trip to the Orient the 4th of March and we will expect a full report in our April issue.

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Reporter: Esther Reed

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TELLER TIDBITS

NEWS FLASH!!!!!! NEWS FLASH!!!!!!

Kay Davis reports she heard birds singing today!

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Janet Kibort celebrated her birthday Feb 7. Sandy Lewis baked a cake for Janet which we all enjoyed.

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Starting Monday, the tellers will be welcoming Deb Burnett to the line. Deb will be trained as a teller, then move to the data processing department. Deb and Mike Overmyer (a Culverite) are planning a March 6th wedding and will be residing on North Main St. in Culver, IN. Welcome to The State Exchange Bank, Deb!

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The tellers would like to thank Kay Davis for filling in this past month at the last minute when we've been out with the flu and colds. You've been a great help to us, Kay.

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This is a busy week for all those who have children in school. The girls have been busy winning basketball games in the tourney, the junior high basketball tournament will be played this week, and the band contest is Saturday, Feb. 12th. As if that isn't enough to keep everyone hopping there are several make-up basketball games for the boys high school team to play. I'm sure the school officials are glad for the break in weather.

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Reporter: Karen Thomas

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DATA PROCESSING DEPARTMENT

Martha Miller, daughter of Donald and Jane Davis won the General Mills Family Leader of Tomorrow Award from the Culver Community Schools. She received the highest score on the tests given and is now eligible for the Indiana State Award.

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Fern Little is recuperating at the home of her son, Dan Little, after having an operation. Her address is Mrs. Fern Little, c/o Daniel R. Little, 1890 N. Governor Lane, Hoffman Estates, IL 60172.

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Marlene is doing better from her operation. She has a partial release from the doctor but still is unable to come back to work. She hopes it's not too much longer.

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Reporter: Linda Shedrow

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STATE EXCHANGE FINANCE COMPANY NEWS

We would like to thank Marcia for the interesting articles in the holiday issue of our paper. Probably the article on the Christmas gifts was enjoyed by many as it may have brought back memories in their own families.

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The holidays are past, but several in our department did travel over the holiday. Elizabeth Allen reported they had a wonderful time in Florida with all their family.

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Millie Ditmire enjoyed her visit with her Mom and Dad from Phoenix, but the visit was too short.

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Martha Kalinowski opened her home for a Christmas Party for all the girls here in the Insurance Department. A lovely meal was enjoyed by all along with a gift exchange and an evening of chatter.

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Helen Phillips probably was the most excited over her Christmas gift. She received an engagement ring from Tim Durkes of Rochester, Indiana. Congratulations Helen!!

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Over the New Year's week-end Norma Houghton and family went to Mt. Vernon, Indiana where they visited with her Mother and family.

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With the tons of snow we have had in the past several weeks, it seems like we had another holiday with not being able to get to work. People on the street could not remember the last time the bank would have been closed due to weather. It will be a winter to remember. However, with the couple of days of sunshine, people are back in the swing. Basketballs are in full swing, band contest is rescheduled for the week-end of February 12th, so already the "winter holiday" begins to fade.

Reporter: Margaret Dehne

DATE PROCESSING DEPARTMENT

In order to discuss the checking and savings by the Data Processing Department, I think it will be best to break it down in to the various areas of responsibility. To those familiar with banking, these areas will generally be self-explanatory by title definition.

But first, let me summarize for you some facts about general things in this department. For instance, we make up statements for more than 12,000 checking customers, at least every 3 months unless they have requested specifically to do so. In numerous cases, customers get statements more often than monthly. How often, this greatly depends on transaction volume processed and the customer's ability to reconcile. Betty Castleman and Jean Kindred can provide you with greater details on this area. We, of course, wish to minimize statement preparation because mail costs are so high. However, statements can be requested as often as daily if that need exists.

Secondly, the proof machine operators, Diane Holdread, Betty Nolin, Marilyn Kuskye, (Dee Brown - part time), Jane Davis, Joyce Wilson, and Marlene Shoddy handle an average of 22,000 documents daily. This means not only much work in their respective duties but a tremendous load for filming, filing and counting for statement makeup.

The third area, phone inquiry, is also shared by all personnel, whether it be an address change, an account balance inquire, a stop payment or a question as to what checks have cleared. Currently, there are 20 persons including Argos, Plymouth, and Culver with responsibilities in the data processing area of checking and savings accounting.

The following will acquaint you with who does what in this department:

Let's start with the proof machine operators who I mentioned above. These girls cross check every transaction that takes place in the bank to assure that for every debit, we have a credit. Transactions are funneled to these girls not only from our teller lines but from every other area in the bank as well. At days end, they submit grand totals to the auditing department for preparation of the banks daily statement of condition.

Theresa Fitterling heads our savings area. Savings and checking are much alike in accounting, the two differences being reduced transaction volume and the payment of interest on the account balance in savings. Theresa handles all of the areas in savings that follow for checking with the exception of new account and address changes which are handled by Pat Krou.

Any new accounts opened or address changes are handled by Pat Krou for both check and savings. She is also responsible for our file maintenance and signature card files.

Each evening, all checking and savings debit and credit entries, as well as, all new account and address data, are boxed and sent to

Indiana Information Controls in Valparaiso for updating to our account masterfiles. What IIC does with our data is a story in itself, which we won't cover now, suffice it to say "they post our work."

Upon return of our data in the morning, we also receive various reports and Mirco Fiches trial balances as a result of the work done by IIC.

Our checking debit and credit entry runs are verified and balanced by Linda Shedrow and Patti Jo Strang. Any rejected documents are validated by them and re-entered. Items which overdraw accounts are also reversed and charged back to where they came from by these girls.

Stop payments and balance holds, as well as, special statement requests are processed and validated daily by Jean Kindred.

Betty Castleman, Terry Babcock, and Liz Davis handle the screening of work for signatures, improper endorsements, missing dates, etc. In addition, they film and cancel all checks and deposits prior to sending to IIC and upon return from IIC.

Our customer balance and inquire phones are handled primarily by Fern Little. She also assists the other areas mentioned above plus the looking up of miscellaneous projects and details concerning checks, deposits, and statements.

Overdrafts are reviewed by Martha Ives and myself to determine which checks will be returned. Martha then validates those return check decisions with the Plymouth and Argos personnel to determine who might have deposits and loans going through which would cover the overdraft. In addition, Martha and I handle the wire transfer of funds in and out of our bank as well as maintaining proper reserve balances with our many correspondent banks. If our balances exceed our needed reserves on a daily basis, she and I invest or liquidate balances as required.

Last, but certainly not least, (or we would all be out of business) is our check imprinting area handled by Lynn Geiger at Culver and Dee Crossgove at Plymouth. These two girls also take care of ordering specialized deluxe checks for our commercial accounts.

The above comprises, in general terms, what goes on in data processing.

Jack Keldenich  
Cashier

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STUNTED GROWTH

Although it's just a small amount,  
We have a joint-owned bank account.  
It will stay small without a doubt,  
I put in -----my wife takes out,

WHAT IS AIB?

The American Institute of Banking is the educational wing of the American Bankers Association. AIB was founded in 1898 by Joseph Chapman, Jr., a note teller of the Northwestern National Bank in Minneapolis. His initial idea was simply to bring together for instructive education, those persons in his bank interested in banking related subjects. Obviously, the idea blossomed, more banks in his area became interested and offered to share the costs for instructors, as well as, class rooms and materials. Before long, the idea spread across the nation and banks organized the AIB on a national basis to set up Regulation and Standards.

The idea of standards and regulation was to provide a means of measuring the accomplishment of the students that could be recognized by banks throughout the Nation. This is now possible via the use Certificates which AIB issues for varying degrees of course completion. As of 1975, there are more than 384 chapters with class enrollments of 140,473 students, making AIB the largest source of banking education in the world.

AIB's educational programs are designed to provide students with the maximum flexibility in achieving educational objectives consistent with their particular aspirations and career goals. There are a minimum number of required courses in the curriculum. The student has considerable latitude in selecting courses within subject content areas which satisfy specific needs and objectives.

Every student is encouraged to engage in an individualized educational program by devoting the necessary time to educational planning. This involves two levels of understanding: first, a student must have an accurate assessment of his or her own talents and interest; and second, should have a clear idea of the various opportunities available. Effective planning involves the meshing of these factors.

AIB provides the student with the opportunity to achieve understanding at these two levels. A student should first take courses that provide a general orientation to banking. In so doing, one not only learns more about the opportunities that exist, but also gains insight into various banking areas.

Based on initial interest, the student should then select courses that prove to be a good test of his or her abilities and aptitudes. Once one's interest and aptitudes converge on a specific career objective, learning can be intensified by taking advanced courses.

The young banker should take advantage of every opportunity to gain guidance from more experienced bankers, teachers, and other professional people, and should participate in as many challenging study and work experiences as possible. By using the full resources available through the employing bank, colleagues in banking, and the facilities of AIB, the young banker can achieve a successful and rewarding career in the banking industry.

I am currently serving as this bank's AIB director. We are a member of the South Bend Chapter which conducts two 15 week semesters. The fall semester starting in September and the spring semester starting in January. Course offerings are published in each office well in advance of each semester. Classes meet Wednesday evening from 7:00 to 9:30 and transportation is provided by the bank for student convenience. Our bank has also chosen to pay all fees connected with AIB classes which amount to \$65.00 per student, per class taken. This includes textbooks.

Finally, let me note that the South Bend Chapter of AIB has developed a program in conjunction with Indiana University to interchange course credits in work towards a two year associate of science degrees in Banking & Finance. In this arrangement, credits for courses taken at AIB apply towards the above degree and courses taken at IU apply towards AIB certificates of accomplishment.

Any employee desiring further information on the above can contact me at extension 65 in Culver.

Jack Keldenich  
Cashier

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BIRTHDAYS  
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JANUARY

FEBRUARY

- |                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Cam Tinsley .....6  | Mary Alice Horst ....4 |
| Rose Ann Odell...10 | Marilyn Downs .....6   |
| Martha Ives .....14 | Janet Kibort .....7    |
| Betty Nolin .....17 | Terry Babcock .....7   |
| Mildred Ditmire..18 | Jane Davis .....11     |
| John Deery .....24  | Judy Kamin .....15     |
| Ken Koerber .....25 | Rose Strang .....17    |
| Jon Bixel .....27   | Lynne Geiger .....20   |
| W. O. Osborn ....27 | Bob Milner .....21     |
| Linda Shedrow...27  | Martha Kalinowski ..21 |
| Claudia Neff ....28 | Frances Mattox .....22 |
|                     | Carl Adams, Jr. ....26 |

!!!!!! HAPPY BIRTHDAY !!!!!!

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Loretta Yagelske is working in the Loan Department of the Culver bank. She was formerly in this department and has come in part-time to help. The girls thank her for her help in getting the backlog of work caught up in the department.

Reporter: Penny Lukenbill

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Banking is like ballet...it keeps you on your toes!

BRANCH BANK HEARING

Fifty people attended the Bremen branch hearing Thursday, January 11 at the Holiday Inn in Plymouth, In. There were six commissioners present of the eight member board from the Financial Institution of Indiana Board of Review. One of their legal councils and the Secretary of the department were present. The Farmers State Bank was represented by attorney, Henry Ryder of Indianapolis and observing attorney, John Newcomb of Bremen. The protesting Bremen State Bank had as its council, Warren McGill of South Bend.

The Farmers State Bank, as applicant, called its witnesses first. Bank employees, Alan Cummins, manager, and Burl Nifong Assistant Vice President, were witnesses. They both testified to the substantial number of customers that the Farmers State Bank has in Bremen and cited agricultural loans as a prime area that the bank has been active in. The planned by-pass at the north edge of Bremen was mentioned as a definite asset to the growth of the Bremen area. The Farmers State Bank is now helping with the economic growth of Bremen and the proposed branch would give the area more convenient service.

Burl Nifong, as the proposed manager of the Bremen branch, attested to the full service of the proposed bank and the fact that it would be open on Saturdays, and 10½ hours more each week to supply the needs of its customers.

Each of these witnesses was examined by the protesting attorney with questions directed to the businesses located at the proposed site.

Mr. Ryder called seven people from Bremen as witnesses to testify to the need of the new bank in Bremen. Not all the witnesses were customers of the Farmers State Bank, but all were in favor of the new branch.

Witnesses for the protestor were then presented by Attorney McGill. The first witness was the town lawyer, David Holmes. He only testified to his residency in Bremen and to being present at the town board meetings. The one other witness was the President of the Bremen State Bank. He was questioned as to the "credibility of a community" in the area where the proposed bank would be located. One question which caused a few ruffled feelings was when a commissioner asked if the witness thought "A farm should be considered a business?" The question came in reference to a statement made that there was no business in the northern zoned area of Bremen. Other witnesses had testified to a fertilizer business, a dairy business and the Rader International Farm Equipment business. The witness who was asked the question said, "You might consider farming a business. Some farms are incorporated." The commissioner asked him "What do you consider a business?" The reply was "Some industry or commercial house in town." The farm lady in the side row whispered, "With the taxes we're paying this year, I'd say farming is a BIG business!"

The meeting was ended after the final summation of each lawyer. The decision of the branch bank will be made later.

Mr. Ryder, the attorney for our bank, was a credit to his profession and to our bank. He reviewed the facts clearly and concisely through his questioning of the witnesses. Win or lose, the choice of council was excellent.

Al Cummins should be acclaimed for leadership in preparing the branch bank presentation. Al spent many hours of detailed work in preparing the branch bank application. The application was sent to the bank commissioners in October. Attorney Ryder said he had been the attorney for many branch hearings but had never seen a better outlined and detailed report as Al had made for the Commission.

The branch bank decision is not yet made, but the Farmers State Bank presented the case with dignity and confidence. Whatever the outcome, we can be proud of the people who have been involved!

...Estimating... it will be seven or eight weeks before we know the outcome.

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My Kingdom for a tractor? Successful Farming Magazine says farmers this year will pay \$30,000. to \$51,000 for large four-wheel tractors...Bumper sticker seen in Kansas: "If you complain about farmers, don't talk with your mouth full."

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ATTENTION ALL PERSONNEL:

This has been a cold winter for everyone and utility bills have gone sky high. If you would like to arrange for a three-month, very low interest loan to enable you to pay your January, February and, possibly, March heat and light bills, please feel free to contact any one of the following loan officers:

- Culver - Larry Davis
- Plymouth - Larry Miller
- Argos - Jack Carpenter
- LaPaz - Burl Nifong

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BANK LENDING POLICY:

The Loan Department has developed a written Bank Lending Policy consisting of approximately fourteen pages. The policy will be approved by the Board of Directors and will then be used by all of the loan officers in making loans to customers of the bank.

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