

Monarchy to Be Restored

★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★

Forecast for Deposed King Is 'Continued Reign'

King Gambrinus has gone into semi-retirement but well may emerge in regally restored triumph before long.

The statue of the king, which had looked out over Wilmington from a perch on the Diamond State Brewery for many years, was gently removed from its niche yesterday by contractors demolishing the brewery for the Adams-Jackson freeway.

GAMBRINUS, whose once-colorful robes are now weather-worn and whose right

hand went off with a storm a few years ago, has been retired to Cohen Brothers Furniture Store on Market Street.

"We've put him inside the front window for the time being," Joseph Cohen, store president and owner of the brewery building, said today, but he left no doubt that the king's reign is not yet over.

"We feel he is a piece of Delawareana, if there is such a word," Cohen said, "and we intend to have the statue restored to its original form and kept in Delaware."

That could be a tough job, Cohen admitted.

THE FIRST STEP will be an attempt to find out who originally cast the metal statue, Cohen said.

"After that, we'll try to find out what the king's original colors were and see if they can't be duplicated."

The statue dates to the 1880s and boasted a flowing beard, crown and colorful cloak. Gambrinus' right hand rests on a barrel and hops. Before the storm, his left hand held aloft a tankard of brew.