

# Lt. Governor sees hope for farm exports

HARRISBURG — Lt. Gov. William W. Scranton 3d said Friday he's optimistic that his recent trade mission to the Far East will soon open up new overseas markets for Pennsylvania products.

Scranton, who is chairman of the Governor's Small Business Council and Energy Council, led a nine-member delegation to the fourth-annual United States-Republic of China Business Conference May 26-30 in Taipei.

The lieutenant governor said the Republic of China told Pennsylvania Farmers Association representatives, who accompanied him on the trip, that they were specifically interested in the possibility of importing eggs, peaches, grape products, dairy products and dairy processing equipment.

"We have opened the lines of communication between Pennsylvania and Taiwan," Scranton said. "The PFA and our state Department of Agriculture have agreed to begin exchanging detailed information on pricing and product structure."

"I talked to Chinese government and business officials about a program of trade development with their country which would include greater exposure of Pennsylvania products to Taiwan markets," said Scranton. "I will be discussing this with administration and business officials here in Pennsylvania, and I'm hopeful that the Commonwealth can soon enter into agreements for developing trade with Taiwan."

In addition to attending the conference, the lieutenant governor met personally with President Chiang Chung-kuo of the Republic of

China; Premier Sun Yun-suan; K.H. Chang, minister of economic affairs; K.H. Shao, director general of the Board of Foreign Trade; David Chu, president of the Taiwan Power Company and K.H. Wu, chairman of the Chinese External Trade Development Council.

"Both government and industry officials in Taiwan seemed responsive to Pennsylvania's export possibilities," said Scranton. "They experienced particular interest in our agricultural products."

The lieutenant governor said he thinks trading could expand beyond agricultural products.

"One government official told me that they look to New York for financing, California for electronic technology and Penn-

sylvania for manufactured goods," he said.

Scranton said his biggest disappointment is that Pennsylvania coal sales to Taiwan in the near future appear doubtful.

"Our coal is among the highest quality in the world," he said. "However, our underdeveloped and antiquated coal-haul transportation system and port-loading facilities are decided disadvantages in selling our coal."

The lieutenant governor said the Carter administration must fulfill its promise to revitalize our railroads.

"On several occasions President Carter and Vice President Mondale have committed themselves to improving Pennsylvania's coal industry," he said. "A

major part of that job involves rebuilding the rail transportation system.

"Our inability to quickly move coal from our mines through our ports and into foreign market has almost removed Pennsylvania from competition with other coal-producing states and nations. We stand to lose the substantial economic benefits of today's coal boom if the rail system in the Commonwealth is not immediately upgraded."

Scranton postponed the second leg of his trade

mission to Seoul, South Korea, because of a State Department advisory discouraging travel in that nation due to political unrest



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