O'Donnell named head of Rural Development

HARRISBURG - Matthew J O'Donnell, of Camp Hill, Cumberland County, has been ap-pointed chief of the division of rural services for the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, according to State Agriculture Secretary Penrose Hallowell.

O'Donnell, 40, assumed his duties February 25 at an annual salary of \$19.951.

Hallowell said he was pleased that O'Donnell had accepted the appointment He cited O'Donnell's background in all levels of management, business administration and marketing as positive attributes for his new position

"Matt has a strong background, including years of experience in farm marketing, food distribution and farm equipment sales. I am sure he will be able to apply that experience on behalf of the state's farm and rural community," Hallowell said.

As chief of rural services, O'Donnell will be responsible for the supervision of rural coordinators in the Department's seven regions of the state.

The rural services program is geared toward improving rural economic development in Pennsvlvania. through the state's Rural Development Council, economic development initiatives and promotional activities to increase sales of Pennsylvania agricultural products.

The division also works with agribusinesses in helping them adapt the "Pennsylvania Agriculture – We're Growing Better" logo as a marketing tool.

O'Donnell has been involved in marketing and sales since his graduation from Upsala College with a B.S. in business administration and marketing in 1960. He previously had received an associate degree in business administration from Windham College in 1958

He most recently worked as district manager for the Stull Equipment Company of Chester, supervising the eastern area of the state with marketing of agricultural lawn and garden equipment.

He had previously served as marketing representative for the Pennsylvania Agricultural Marketing Cooperative

Association of the Pennsylvania Farmers Association, where he developed a marketing program, sold and coordinated delivery of farm products to schools, mstitutions, wholesale and retail food distributors.

Kepresentative to serve on development group

HARRISBURG - Rep. Noah Wenger has been appointed to serve on the Rural Development Committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures for the 1981-82 State-Federal

Wenger said the NCSL is an organization which officially represents the nation's 7500 state

quality and effectiveness of state legislatures and assure that states have a strong, cohesive voice in the federal decision-making process. In addition, interstate com-munication and cooperation is also

Federal Assembly are made by the

"As vice-chairman of the House

Agriculture Committee it will be a particular advantage to serve on NCSL's Rural Development Committee," Wenger said.

"Priority issues which we expect to face include:

-effects of federal energy programs on rural areas;

-domestic and international marketing of agricultural products:

--foreign and corporate ownership of farmland;

-coordination of federal and state rural development programs.

"We will continue to study issues such as land conservation and preservation, financing rural development, rural energy needs and resources, and transportation regulatory reform from the rural perspective









