

PRESS CONFERENCE, LASSEN HOTEL, FEBRUARY 12, 1968
REMARKS OF CONGRESSMAN BOB DOLE

FIRST LET ME SAY I APPRECIATE YOUR COMING. THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF THIS PRESS CONFERENCE IS TO EMPHASIZE NOT ONLY MY CANDIDACY FOR THE U. S. SENATE, BUT MY INTEREST IN SEDGWICK COUNTY.

I ANNOUNCED MY CANDIDACY FOR THE REPUBLICAN NOMINATION FOR THE U. S. SENATE ON DECEMBER 20 ---- ONE DAY AFTER SENATOR CARLSON ANNOUNCED HIS PLANS NOT TO SEEK REELECTION. AT THAT TIME, I INDICATED THAT I WOULD NOT ACTIVELY CAMPAIGN IN SEDGWICK COUNTY "FOR A REASONABLE TIME" BECAUSE MY FRIEND, GARNER SHRIVER, MIGHT ALSO HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE SENATE. I BELIEVE A REASONABLE TIME HAS ELAPSED AND FROM NOW UNTIL AUGUST ---- AND HOPEFULLY UNTIL NOVEMBER ---- I WILL VISIT SEDGWICK COUNTY MANY, MANY TIMES.

THIS IS A SIGNIFICANT REPUBLICAN DAY, AS REPUBLICANS AND OTHERS TODAY CELEBRATE THE BIRTHDAY OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN. I NOTED THAT IN LINCOLN'S CAMPAIGN PLAN FOR THE STATE LEGISLATURE IN 1840, HE SAID THE FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS SHOULD BE TO, "APPOINT ONE PERSON IN EACH COUNTY AS COUNTY CAPTAIN AND TAKE HIS PLEDGE TO PERFORM PROMPTLY ALL THE DUTIES ASSIGNED HIM." THIS I HAVE DONE. MY SEDGWICK COUNTY "CAPTAIN" IS PAUL BERRY.

PAUL IS PRESIDENT OF THE JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF WICHITA THIS YEAR, IS A TRUSTEE AT GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, IS A DIRECTOR OF THE WICHITA STATE BANK, HAS BEEN PRESIDENT OF THE SALES EXECUTIVES INTERNATIONAL, IS A PAST BOARD MEMBER OF THE YMCA, HAS BEEN AVIATION CHAIRMAN FOR THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, AND, IN ADDITION, IS PRESIDENT OF THE BERRY TRACTOR COMPANY.

NEEDLESS TO SAY, I AM PLEASED PAUL HAS AGREED TO ACCEPT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR LEADING MY CAMPAIGN IN SEDGWICK COUNTY. HIS EAGERNESS TO BE OF ASSISTANCE IS ENCOURAGING AND REMINDS ME OF A LINCOLN ANECDOTE:

**"A WOMAN CAME TO THE WHITE HOUSE ONE DAY ON AN UNUSUAL
ERRAND, WHICH PRESIDENT LINCOLN SUSPECTED WAS A PRETEXT, BUT
HE TOOK HER AT HER WORD AND GAVE HER THE FOLLOWING NOTE TO A
MAJOR RAMSEY, OF THE QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.**

**"MY DEAR SIR, THE LADY BEARER OF THIS SAYS SHE HAS TWO SONS
WHO WANT TO WORK. SET THEM AT IT IF POSSIBLE. WANTING TO WORK
IS SO RARE A MERIT THAT IT SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED."**

**WANTING TO WORK IN POLITICS UNFORTUNATELY IS SO "RARE A
MERIT" IT MUST BE ENCOURAGED. PAUL WILL HAVE SOME ANNOUNCEMENT
CONCERNING LOCAL "DOLE FOR SENATE" ACTIVITIES IN A FEW MINUTES
AND IF THERE ARE ANY VOLUNTEERS IN THE ROOM, JUST SEND PAUL A
NOTE.**

**SINCE DECEMBER 20, I HAVE VISITED 46 CENTRAL AND EASTERN KANSAS
COUNTIES. AS MANY OF YOU KNOW, I HAVE REPRESENTED 58 CENTRAL
AND WESTERN KANSAS COUNTIES IN THE CONGRESS, SO I HAVE BEEN CON-
CENTRATING MY ACTIVITY IN OTHER AREAS.**

**AT THIS POINT IN TIME, I AM "THE LEADING CANDIDATE" SINCE NO
OTHER HOPEFUL HAS ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTIONS. WHILE I VERY MUCH
LIKE THE PRESENT ARRANGEMENT, IT PROBABLY WILL NOT CONTINUE
THROUGH THE AUGUST PRIMARY. IN THE MEANTIME, "DOLE FOR SENATE"
COMMITTEES ARE BEING ORGANIZED IN A NUMBER OF COUNTIES NOW, AND
AT THIS POINT I FEEL MOST ENCOURAGED.**

**LET ME ADD ONE OTHER THOUGHT, AND THEN I WILL RESPOND TO
QUESTIONS. I AM CONVINCED THAT 1968 WILL BE A REPUBLICAN YEAR
AND THAT MANY DEMOCRATS AND INDEPENDENTS ACROSS THE COUNTRY
WILL SUPPORT GOOD REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES. REPUBLICANS, BY AND
LARGE, LEARNED A SIGNIFICANT LESSON IN 1964, AND I FIRMLY BELIEVE
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY IS NOW AND WILL BE UNITED FOLLOWING THE
NATIONAL CONVENTION IN MIAMI IN AUGUST.**

**ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE ARE OBVIOUS SIGNS THAT DEMOCRATS
ARE HAVING THEIR PROBLEMS. WHILE L. B. J. IS THE MOST LIKELY
NOMINEE, THERE ARE DIVISIVE FORCES WITHIN THE DEMOCRAT PARTY ---
AND DISENCHANTMENT AMONG INDEPENDENTS AND REPUBLICANS WHO
SUPPORTED L. B. J. IN 1964. THIS WILL BE A MOST INTERESTING YEAR
POLITICALLY, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO PARTICIPATING IN IT WITH
OTHER CANDIDATES ON LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL LEVELS.**

NOW IF THERE ARE ANY QUESTIONS, I WILL TRY TO RESPOND.