



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 225-6521

Joe Reppert—Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- FEBRUARY 9, 1973

WASHINGTON, D.C., FEB. 9, 1973 -- In a telegram to Secretary of Agriculture, Earl Butz today, Senator Bob Dole demanded that wheat prices be increased and stabilized. The following is the text of that telegram:

SECRETARY BUTZ:

DEMAND THAT IMMEDIATE ACTION BE TAKEN TO INCREASE AND STABILIZE WHEAT PRICES. PRICES PAID TO FARMERS IN KANSAS HAVE DROPPED \$1.00 PER BUSHEL IN THE LAST 30 DAYS AS A RESULT OF THE CRITICAL SHORTAGE OF RAILROAD FREIGHT CARS. FIFTY CENTS OF THIS DROP OCCURED THIS WEEK AS A RESULT OF COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION (CCC) LOADING ORDERS AND OFFERS TO SELL CCC STOCKS. REALIZE ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS AND INCREASED SHIPPING FOR EXPORT HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THIS MATTER, BUT ACTION BY USDA IN CHANGING CCC POLICY IS ESSENTIAL IMMEDIATELY TO CORRECT THIS DISASTROUS PRICE DROP.

Senator Dole spoke with Secretary Butz and explained that prices have dropped from \$2.52 to less than \$1.60 in some areas of Kansas. Dole said, "This week wheat prices dropped 29 cents Wednesday and 20 cents Thursday. This disastrous drop must be stopped and an alteration in USDA policy is the only way the car shortage can be changed to produce immediate action."

Dole was assured by Butz that he would look into the matter immediately and attempt to turn the situation around.