



# NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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## DOLE CHECKS BALING WIRE OUTPUT

Garden City, Kans.--Senator Bob Dole today contacted the major baling wire companies to determine the quantities of wire being shipped into Kansas.

Officials at Colorado Fuel and Iron Steel Company and the largest U. S. baling wire producer told the Kansas Senator that the company plans to ship 4,260 spools of baling wire, equivalent to 213 tons, into the state in June. CF&I indicated that 3900 tons of its wire will go into Kansas this year, equal to the amount shipped last year. 29,600 boxes or 1480 tons were shipped between January 1 and May 31, 1974. The Pueblo, Colo., company expects shipments throughout the summer and into the fall to continue at a level of about 5000 spools per month.

Armco Steel, the second largest baling wire producer, estimates that about 25 percent of its output, equivalent to about 396 tons or 7920 rolls per month, are being sold in Kansas. The Kansas City-based company expects annual production to reach 19,000 tons this year, up 27 percent from last year.

"All the experts tell me that the shortage will be at least 30 percent of the expected demand this year," Dole said, "but I think farmers and custom balers have a right to know what is happening in wire production and where supplies are going."

Dole said he would help individuals in need of wire to find out when and where wire shipments in Kansas are going.

Both CF&I and Armco stated that production facilities are being kept at full capacity. The companies have also stated that any dealer profiteering on wire from the two major brands would be cut off. Company officials discredited rumors of hoarding by the producers, saying that warehouses are empty and inviting interested persons to inspect their warehouses.

Department of Agriculture officials informed Dole that higher prices for wire are drawing several new companies into baling wire production. The Senator indicated he has been in touch with these new companies to see if additional wire can be shipped into Kansas.