

News from Senator

# BOB DOLE



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## DOLE PLEASED WITH RECENT BLOCK TOUR THROUGH KANSAS

WASHINGTON -- "The decision by Agriculture Secretary Block to visit Kansas at my invitation last week reflects his interest in and concern for the economic conditions facing U.S. farmers today," stated Senator Bob Dole (R.-Kan.) this afternoon. "The Secretary's three-day tour through the state fully exposed him to agricultural problems across the state, and to the devastating effect which sustained double-digit inflation and interest rates have had on the rural backbone of America."

Dole's comments followed his return from the Wheat State, having accompanied Block to 16 meetings with farmers, ranchers, dairymen, producer cooperatives and other agriculture-related groups in Emporia, Manhattan, Norton, Russell, Dodge City, Independence and Kansas City. In Manhattan, Secretary Block delivered the 56th annual lecture in the Alfred M. Landon series, detailing his outlook for recovery in the farm sector as part of the Administration's national economic plan.

"Although the amount of time we could spend touring the state was limited, Secretary Block was able to gain an appreciation for the differences in farming practices in each part of Kansas," said Dole. "In return, Kansas grain and soybean producers and representatives of industries dependent on agriculture were given a unique opportunity to share their concerns with the Secretary and hear his views on the future of American farming."

In addition to the Landon lecture in Manhattan, Block attended the Agriculture Appreciation Night in Emporia, town meetings in Norton, Russell and Independence, and the annual meeting of the Kansas Association of Wheat Growers in Dodge City. Accompanying Block during various parts of the tour were U.S. Congressmen Bob Whittaker (Fifth District), Jim Jeffries (Second District) and Pat Roberts (First District). All five congressional districts were included in the October 29-31 visit.

"There are undoubtedly some differences which remain between the Administration's direction on farm policy and the positions of some of the producer groups and individuals who participated in the meetings," Dole concluded. "There is no doubt, however, that Secretary Block is sincere in his promise to restore profitability to American agriculture, and that he gave frank and honest answers to the pressing questions directed to him throughout the course of the tour."