

45. 1976

Ford-Dole

(Continued From Page 1)

vention adjourned, Dole — known in Washington and Kansas for his quotability and wit — said, "I won't say it's downhill from now on — but the slope isn't so bad."

Picked for his farm appeal, conservative record and his campaigning ability, Dole told the delegates in his acceptance speech Republicans ought not to be "deterred or discomfited" by those who interpret the long and hard-fought primary campaign as a sign of division in Republican ranks.

Dole's name — "a four-letter word you can use" — was placed in nomination by Vice President Nelson Rockefeller, longtime leader of the party's liberal wing, and seconded by Nevada Sen. Paul Laxalt, Reagan's national campaign chairman.

Rockefeller said Dole "can take the heat" of a national campaign. "And if you ask those of us who really know him, he can not only take it — believe us, he can really dole it out."

There was a report Ford could not find his nominee, and a Dole spokesman confirmed that Ford placed his call at 10:18 a.m. CDT and did not get through until 10:31, apparently because Dole was not in the room Ford thought he was in.

His room was just down the hall from another more prominent contender and Dole said, "I thought the President called John Connally and got the wrong number."

Russell—

(Continued From Page 1)

had a rough row to hoe, but he is an outstanding politician and an outstanding citizen. He will add a lot to the party ticket."

Mary Lou Morgenstern — "Bob will be a big help to Ford with the farm vote. He is aggressive and a hard campaigner. I am real proud to think that we have someone from Russell named as a candidate for the vice-presidency. Vernon always enjoyed going to the Ball Game and the High School trips."

Mrs. Robert Kercher — "I think Bob would make a great vice-president. And, then, with his nomination, people of the nation will know that there is something west of Kansas City and Topeka, and his candidacy will give us a lot of recognition, which we deserve."

Mrs. Dean Banker — "I was very, very surprised, but I know that Bob is very capable and is well qualified for the job. And then, Russell, you know, is bigger than Plains, Ga."

Don Woelk — "As one of Bob's coordinators in his first race for Congress in 1960, I know he will be a big asset to the Ford ticket. Dole is a tireless campaigner, and I am sure Ford's strategists had looked him over well and studied every possible angle of his candidacy."

Page 2 — The Russell Daily News, Friday, August 20, 1976

EDITORIALS

Welcome Home, Bob!

Today's visit to Russell by U.S. Sen. Bob Dole is one of the homecomings about which his hometown friends have long dreamed. Few dared to hope that this favorite son would return as the vice-presidential candidate. The possibility that he could be accompanied by the President, Gerald Ford, seemed even more remote. When the Republican Presidential package was wrapped and tied in Kansas City Thursday, civic pride reached the button-bursting point.

With city-wide cooperation, arrangements were finalized for a real homecoming, a Bob Dole Day which is not diminished by the time schedule which condensed it to an hour.

The appearance of President Gerald Ford in Russell with Bob Dole is far more than a political gesture. It marks the opening of a full-scale, all-out political campaign in which the Ford-Dole team has to win to survive. It is more than window dressing, too. There are many common bonds between the men in their beliefs, ideals, and approach to the American Way which they hope will be adopted in a sweeping victory in November.

Bob Dole is a man with a plan. In his years of public office, he has held, in the practical, down-to-earth manner of those who are sincere, to the concepts which make this nation great. While Russell is his home, he has represented his district, his state, and hopes to represent his nation.

But today, Bob Dole is the boy who worked hard in high school, was an athlete, carried newspapers, worked at the soda

fountain and went off to college—and to war. He is the same young man who overcame tremendous odds, largely through the help of his friends at home, the terrible wounds of war. He is the same sobered soldier who heard Dr. Klician in Chicago, a surgeon responsible for his rehabilitation, admonish: "Don't worry about what you have lost. Think now about what you have left and what you can do with it."

"What you can do with it" is the Bob Dole story. His charm, wit, practical practice of the art of debate, conference, and compromise; and his determination to overcome challenges are proof of what he did and is doing with it.

Bob Dole is the man today whose shadow was cast many years ago when he grew up in Russell, learned Russell values, benefitted from Russell environment, and shaped in the form provided by a set of circumstances which made the boy into the man and the man into leader.

It is true that the fateful date, Nov. 2, lies ahead. Today, Bob Dole is a vice-presidential candidate. Tomorrow he may be vice-president or he may be practicing law somewhere. Russell people care, of course, about the spin of fortune's wheel that lies ahead. But today, they are assured that Bob Dole is what they've long known—a hometown boy who is someone special. And most of those honoring him have had a part in that effective and perfectly natural development of Bob Dole, Russell's hometown boy.—R.T.T.

Page 6 — The Russell Daily News, August 20, 1976

Ford-Dole Team Predicts Victory

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (UPI) — President Ford entered battle against the Democrats and his own underdog image today, challenging Jimmy Carter to debate and predicting victory in November.

His running mate for the difficult fray is Kansas Sen. Robert J. Dole, 53, a fellow Midwest conservative and a slashing partisan infighter, who enjoys wide respect within the Republican party.

Ford accepted his party's hotly contested presidential nomination Thursday night at the final session of a turbulent Republican National Convention, which overwhelmingly ratified his surprising choice of Dole.

After a campaign strategy meeting with GOP party leaders, Ford flies west to Russell, Kan., for a barbecue picnic in Dole's wheatlands hometown, then takes his family to Vail, Colo., for

a 10-day vacation to plot campaign strategy.

Ford's appearance and speech were enthusiastically greeted, but Ronald Reagan's appearance destroyed the convention timetable again and again, until he finally joined Ford on the rostrum.

"We must go forth from here united, determined that, as a great general said a few years ago, there is no substitute for victory," Reagan said.

The band blared, "California, Here I Come," the crowd roared and danced in the aisles and Reagan turned and grasped Ford's hand, his free hand resting on the shoulder of the man who destroyed his White House dreams.

Vice President Nelson Rockefeller reached over to shake Reagan's hand and said one word: "Beautiful." Ford urged the public to oust

the "vote-hungry, free-spending" Democratic majority in Congress, and promised a balanced federal budget by 1978.

At the last minute, against the advice of some of his political strategists, the President inserted this challenge into the text of his 25-minute, nationally televised speech:

"This year the issues are on our side. I'm ready — eager to go before the American people and debate the real issues face-to-face with Mr. Carter."

"The people have the right to know first hand exactly where both of us stand." In Plains, Ga., even before the cheers for Ford's challenge had died, Carter leaped to accept.

"I'm asking President Ford to join me in a debate or a series of debates on the choices facing the American people," he said in a statement read to reporters by press secretary Jody Powell. It would be the first presiden-

tial debates since 1960, when Nixon and John Kennedy met in four nationally televised appearances. Those debates are widely credited with helping Kennedy win the presidency that year.

Ford discarded Watergate as a thing of the past, overcome by what he called the example of "honesty, decency and personal integrity" he had set in the past

two years. And, in a preview of a major campaign issue he will stress this fall, the President told cheering, chanting GOP delegates and a television audience: "After 22 long years of majority misuse, let's change the United States Congress!"

The convention made Dole the President's running mate by an

unofficial roll call vote of 1,921 to 337, with 102 abstentions, and then voted to give Dole the nomination by acclamation.

Carter congratulated Ford on his victory during a three-minute telephone call from Georgia at midmorning Thursday. Ford said his party was reuniting quickly. "I anticipated that," Carter replied. "I'm not surprised."

San Francisco Chronicle

The Largest Daily Circulation in Northern California

112th Year No. 187

★★★

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 1976

777-1111

20 CENTS

Dole Is Chosen as GOP Running Mate

Kansas City

President Ford surprised his fellow Republicans yesterday by selecting Senator Robert J. Dole of Kansas as his running mate, then electrified the convention by challenging Democratic rival Jimmy Carter to debate him on television.

Mr. Ford said he is "ready to debate the real issues" with Carter.

The challenge, a dramatic, last-minute addition to the President's speech, was greeted by a roar of approval from the partisan crowd.

And it was promptly accepted by Carter in Plains, Ga., who called on the President to join him in a series of debates on "the choices facing Americans."

Carter said he hopes the candidates can settle on a format that will allow "tough examination" of the choices by newsmen.

He said there should be the "fullest and most detailed" examination of the programs offered by both sides.

The debates, if they are staged, would be the first between presidential candidates since the Nixon-Kennedy debates in the 1960 campaign. They would also be the first in history between an incumbent president and his challenger.

The President, giving one of the most powerful speeches of his political career was interrupted many

times by applause and three times by standing ovations. The crowd also gave him a standing ovation at the close of his speech.

He pledged in his acceptance speech to fight "with a total will to win a great victory."

"This nation is sound," the 38th President told the final session of the Republican National Convention. "This nation is secure. This nation is on the march to full economic recovery and a better quality of life for all Americans."

The 2250 delegates assembled in Kemper Arena ratified their nominee's selection of Dole, a 53-year-old conservative known for aggressive partisanship and a savage wit.

A movement by some Southerners to draft Ronald Reagan, Mr. Ford's vanquished adversary, fizzled earlier, and there was no organized opposition to the Kansan.

Some hard-core conservatives in such pro-Reagan states as Texas, Oklahoma and Florida refused however, to back Dole and voted for Senator Jesse A. Helms of North Carolina or other rightwing figures. In California, 84 of the delegates abstained and, overall, Dole lost 378 votes that were cast in protest.

Beneath the gaiety of the delegates as they welcomed their

Why Ford Picked Dole

By Rudy Abramson
Los Angeles Times

Kansas City

A few minutes after 10 a.m. yesterday, President Ford looked around a circle of hollow-eyed political advisers who had talked through the wee hours of night, and told them Senator Robert J. Dole of Kansas was his choice for a running mate.

They had stopped near dawn

for three hours of sleep and had come back with clearer heads to think over their tentative decision once more.

When they quit for their nap, the consensus was Dole. Now it was still Dole, and Mr. Ford decided they had talked enough.

He placed a call to another convention hotel a five-minute ride away and, within the hour, the Kansas senator was delivered in a

rented economy car to a national television audience.

The decision had been one of the toughest for Gerald Ford since he emerged from relative obscurity to begin practicing politics on a national stage two years ago.

When he sat down with his most trusted political advisers to decide finally on a companion to help him meet the challenge of Jimmy Carter and Walter Mondale,

Back Page Col. 4