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'Bub' Dawson Says:

# Bob Dole Would Make Outstanding President

By IRENE H. JEPSEN

"He was witty then, and he's witty now, he was a hard worker then, and he's a hard worker now."

He is one of the most powerful men in Washington, D.C. He is Senator Bob Dole.

"Then" was about 50 years ago, when as a freshman in high school, Bob Dole was a soda jerk at Dawson's Drug Store.

G. B. "Bub" Dawson worked in the family-operated store with Dole at that time.

"He was a soda jerk working after school and weekends, at the most about 20 hours a week. His wages were \$2 per week, and 'all the ice cream he could eat,'" Dawson said.

"He was outgoing, clever, and direct, always quick with a sharp retort — and never a smart aleck."

Dawson's Drug Store began in 1902 with Fred Dawson as owner. Ernest, "Bub's" father, began as a pharmacist for his brother in 1915. When Fred died in 1923, Ernest bought the store and it became a family business with him and his three sons, Ernie, Chet and "Bub." The Dawsons and the Doles were family friends and Bob was hired as fountain help in the early 30s.

"The store was open until 10:30 each night in hopes of catching some nickel trade after the second show let out," Dawson recalled. "Bob would begin each day at 6:30 a.m. by jogging, and that was before jogging was popular, would go to school, sometimes have basketball practice after school, and then work in the store until closing time. Even after becoming County Attorney

in 1953 he was still a hard worker. Many nights we would see the lights burning in his office after we closed the store. He never idled around much."

After working for the Dawsons for a year or two, Dole went to work for Carl Missimer at Russell Drug, "probably for more money," Dawson mused. "That was in the 'Dirty Thirties' when day turned to night by 4 o'clock because of dust storms. And everybody was poor. Everybody was in the same boat."

"Eisenhower once said, 'Everybody in Kansas was poor but nobody knew it.' But in the '30s, the drugstore fountain was the gathering place for the young people, 'the watering hole' for the town, and Dawson's was the most popular."

After graduating from high school in 1941, Dole went to college and then into World War II. He wanted to be a doctor, but after he was wounded in Italy he decided to become a lawyer. The townspeople came to his aid after he returned to Russell from a three-year stay in an Army hospital. Needing further surgery, a doctor in Chicago volunteered to operate for nothing, but there would be hospital expenses.

Chet Dawson was at that time Commander of Russell's Veterans of Foreign Wars Post and he started a fund for Dole.

"Just about every counter in town had a cigar box labeled 'Bob Dole Fund' and \$1,800 was collected. Almost everyone in town contributed, banks, everybody. Dole always likes to tell that 'one guy gave \$100 and one lady gave a nickel.'"

"He always comes home to make his important announce-

ments, and the reason is because the people here were so good to him. He loves Russell and is sentimental about his hometown. He grew up with small-town values, and that's important, because he empathizes with people who are poor, and who hurt. His foundation for the hurt and the lame is testimony to that.

"And I think he is absolutely the most qualified person to become President of the United States. I really do," Dawson added. "He has gone through every office from County Attorney to a State Legislator to the House of Representatives to the Senate; he's been head of the Republican Party, and he's been head of the Senate — and all those except the party chairmanship are elective offices, which attests to his popularity. Everybody loves him."

"The senators like him. The congressmen like him. And I think he can get more done than any other candidate running for

office because he is loved and he's had the experience.

"He would be tough, telling it like it is. That we're going to have to get along without some of the things we're used to in order to reduce the debt."

"He's the only one telling it like it is, and he's honest. He states what he thinks he can or cannot do. And he can do more because of his association with Congress, where he is respected and exhibits the ability to get along."

Dole is also famous for his wit. "His wit is ascerbic," Dawson said. "For example, in a recent television interview it was prompted by a statement that more Republicans than Democrats have name recognition. Dole was asked about a Democratic nominee from Massachusetts. Dole was asked, 'What about Dukakis?' and he snapped back, 'I don't know. I've never had it.' And, at a meeting in Denver, Dole pointed to three men in the front row, stating, 'I'd put those three men down as 'doubtful.' The men were wearing 'Dump Dole' hats."

About Elizabeth: "I think Elizabeth is one of his greatest assets. She is brilliant, clever, sharp as a tack, and so kind. Yes, one of his greatest assets."

In conclusion, Dawson said, "Bob is not only a good politician — he is a good statesman. He will persevere in a goal he believes in and have the cooperation of those needed to complete that goal. People who work for him say he is a perfectionist. He wants it done when he wants it done, and he wants it done now."

"But Dole never forgets his roots, or anyone's kindness."

**Dole Is Ferociously Ambitious Politician**

Bob Dole is a ferociously ambitious politician. He is not the Grand Old Party's candidate of new — or even old — ideas. This is a tough, skillful, self-made and ferociously ambitious politician who almost died from his terrible World War II wounds.

He is a bewildering set of contradictions: Angry and funny, successful and insecure, talkative — the party's best orator — and reticent, a Tartar to work for and also a man with genuine compassion for the underdog.



G. B. "BUB" DAWSON



AT AGE 4, Bob Dole was very serious as the cameraman snapped this picture.



A POWERFUL RUNNER, Bob Dole almost broke the indoor track record at The University of Kansas his freshman year in 1941. Here he is leading his opponents on the outdoor track. Mount Oread can be seen in the background. At Russell High School, Dole had lettered in football, basketball and track. At KU, he lettered two years in football and one year in track.

## Bob Dole Forces Win In Puerto Rico Caucus

Sept. 21-Oct. 4  
 Senate Republican Bob Dole won a major caucus victory in Puerto Rico this weekend. Dole supporters won 60 percent of the contested precincts in an island-wide election, where the voter turnout was heavy.

Mayor Alejandro "Junior" Cruz, Dole Chairman for Puerto Rico, said today, "Dole supporters have achieved control of the Republican Caucuses and provided a great victory for the senator."

On Sunday, Puerto Rico Republicans had island-wide precinct caucus elections. Valid caucuses were held in 90 of Puerto Rico's 104 precincts.

Dole forces won in 60 percent of the contested precincts. 8,000 Republicans attended from across the island, which was much larger than the predicted turnout.

Cruz, mayor of Guaynabo, swept his home precinct unanimously. The Dole slate swept to

victory by similar margins in dozens of other precincts. Several prominent Bush supporters were defeated, including GOP National Committeeman Mickey Galib.

Senator Dole congratulated Mayor Cruz for organizing this tremendous victory. "This is one more step towards winning the nomination at the National Convention," Dole said. "I look forward to meeting with Mayor Cruz soon and thanking him personally."

Donald Devine, Senior Consultant to Senator Dole, reported from San Juan, "The senator won a great victory today. While the other campaigns focused on straw polls, the Dole organization was paying attention to the real thing. The Puerto Rican Convention will set the rules for the delegate selection process, and may even select the delegates themselves. It is a great coup for Dole."

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