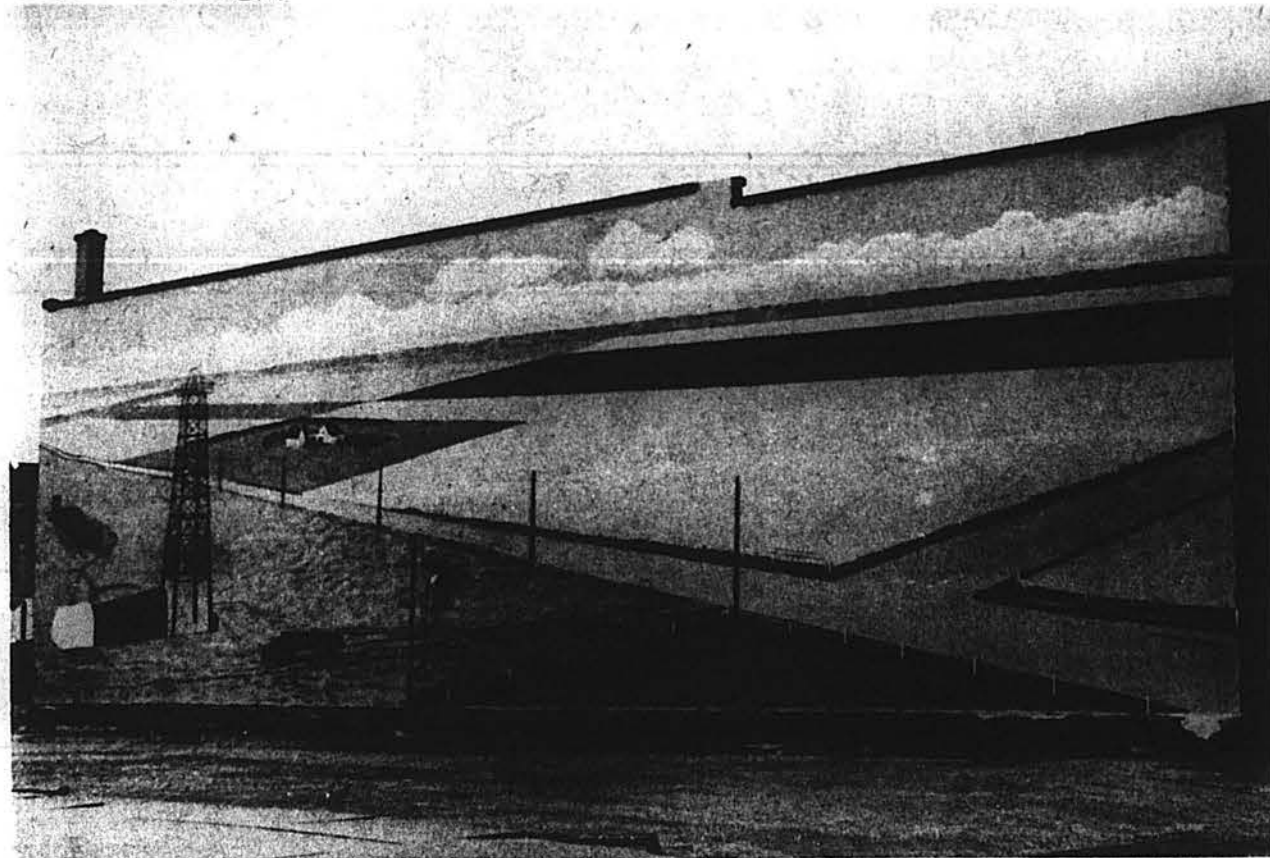


202. 1987



MURAL PORTRAYS RUSSELL'S PAST — A mural painted on the south side of the Sellens Pool Hall building (now occupied by Frank's Cleaners) at 8th and Main streets depicts Russell from a view atop

an old steel oil derrick, based on a 1928 photo of such a scene. A typical summer day in the 1920s is shown, with cattle and harvest scenes, and fields of county farms. (Staff Photo)

## Mural Captures Russell

Passersby stopped and stared as Buck Arnold and his co-workers transformed a bare wall into a colorful portrait of Russell's past.

The Hays artist was commissioned to paint the mural as part of Russell's preparations for Sen. Bob Dole's presidential announcement Monday, Nov. 9.

"That is quite a project," said one onlooker, who was impressed with how fast the work was going. On the afternoon Arnold worked, a large number of people stopped to watch him paint and to chat with the artist. Some were local residents and others were just passing through Russell and heard about the mural in the news.

Russell Chamber of Commerce member Brad Selbel said that he approached Arnold about the project. However, funding came from Russell merchants' donations.

We were planning to do this anyway, but the Dole announcement moved it from the back burner to the front burner. The project is part of Russell's effort to spruce up before the announcement.

The mural depicts a view from a top of an old steel oil derrick, which for the most part is based on a 1928 photo of such a scene, Arnold said. He added, however, that he has taken a certain amount of creative license and added a few things. "My father was in the oil business for 30 years," he said.

"We included what is characteristic of Russell, and oil is Russell," the artist said. He explained that he planned to show a "typical summer day" in the 1920s. There are cattle and harvest scenes, in addition to what is in the photograph.

Arnold said that he and his crew worked afternoons for more than two weeks on the painting.

"We have about 25 hours in on it so far," he noted, adding that

they should be close to being finished by the end of the week. "We'll be close enough to being done that we'll be the only ones that will know it's not."

He added that they are trying to get done by Nov. 9. "That's why we're flying."

The 100-foot by 35-foot mural covers most of the wall that will face Dole's stage, where he will announce his presidential candidacy. Although the senator will have his own backdrop, the painting will be visible.

"It'll be good exposure," Arnold said.

He added that although he was getting paid some for the work, the exposure and the experience were more important to him.

"My name is not all that big yet," he noted that he has already gotten a lot of attention and press coverage.

"This is the biggest I've ever worked," he commented, and the size of the undertaking presents many problems. "Just getting the perspective is difficult."

Arnold explained that he worked from a scaled drawing of the scene. On this sketch, he scribbled in the actual sizes of the subjects.

According to the artist, 14 gallons of paint were required just to prepare the wall. For the picture, they have used more.

"So far we've used about 20 gallons and the first estimate was for 50 (to complete the project). He said that he used enamel paints because it sets up so fast that he can go over the same spot twice in one day.

On a daily basis, Arnold is the owner of Buck's Signs & Graphics, Hays.

"I've got quite a bit of work back in Hays, and all this time I'm spending over here might get some people mad, but you don't get a chance like this very often."

He works only in the afternoon, because mornings are filled with

company business.

"You've got to pay your dues," the aspiring artist said, adding that he has painted signs for about 10 years. "I've done art all my life, drawing or painting."

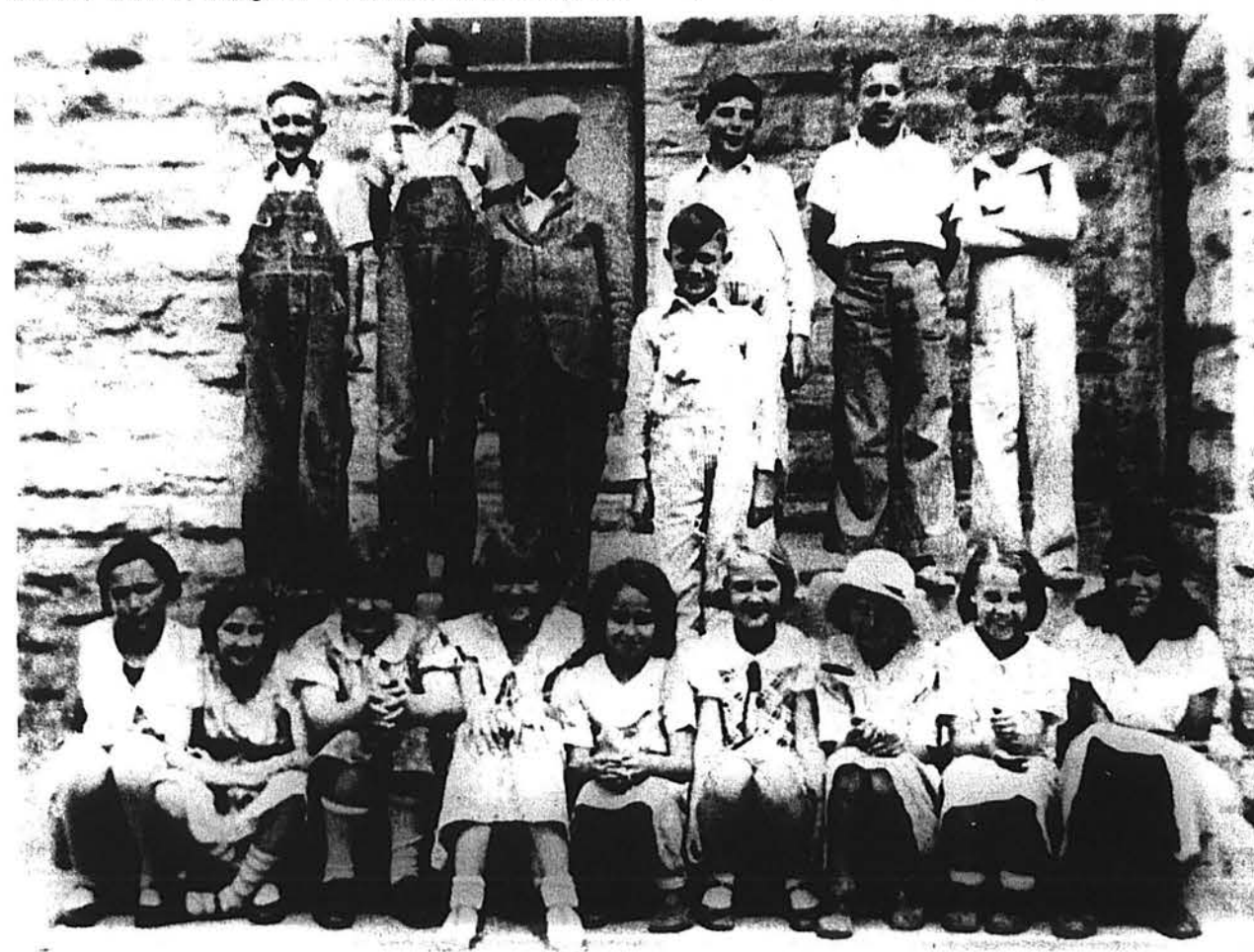
Arnold graduated from Fort

Hays State University with a masters of fine arts degree.

When asked where he would sign his work, he said that he didn't know. "That's not that big of a deal."



IN JUNIOR HIGH — Bob Dole was an eighth grader at the time they posed for this picture. Their mother always kept her children looking neat and clean. Her skill as a seamstress was a big help, especially in clothing her two daughters.



A FOURTH GRADER at Simpson School, Bob Dole is the second from the right in the back row. As a youngster, he parted his hair on the left side. Dole

was born and reared in Russell and was graduated from Russell High School in 1941.

## 'They Care About People'

Williams Says of the Doles

By IRENE H. JEPSEN

"Bob was not a clock watcher, he would work as many hours as was needed to complete a job," Roger W. Williams said of Bob Dole.

Dole was company attorney for R. C. Williams, Inc., beginning when he completed law school and continuing up until the time he went to Washington, D.C.

R. C. Williams is Kansas' largest oil field trucking firm.

Employees in the R. C. Williams company numbered about 100 with four locations — Russell, Liberal, Oberlin and Pratt — at that time. Dole was Russell County attorney for eight of those years and conducted his duties as company attorney in conjunction with his duties as county attorney.

"As the attorney for our company," Williams said, "he handled all the legal problems in his private practice office. Included were collections on bad accounts, not always a desirable situation but Bob could handle difficult situations with good manners and firmness. He always had good rapport."

"Everything he did as attorney for the company was satisfactory. He did a great job."

Roger Williams was mayor of Russell from 1963 to 1965, and as such had to go to Washington on city business from time to time.

"Bob was always helpful in my getting to see the proper people. He assisted in any way he could, as a help to me in taking

care of the city business.

"I admire Bob Dole for what he has accomplished; for what he stands for."

"He's always done a great job in anything that he has done, in all of his offices. He knows the needs of the American people and does his best to meet these needs."

"Seeking the presidency or becoming the president would be for Bob Dole simply the next step in the progression of working for the best of everyone in the nation, rather than it being a self-gratifying goal."

"Bob Dole loves his work, he loves to do the best that he can. This is why he ran for county attorney, and then on to the next step and then the next step — not to climb ladders, but because you have to climb the ladder to get to the next position. It's the best way to accomplish the things that you believe need to be accomplished."

"He has people in mind all the time, what is 'for' them and what will help them."

Mr. Williams was asked to comment on Elizabeth Dole.

"On my trips to Washington I visited with Mrs. Dole in her office. She was always gracious."

"As a White House team, the Doles would be the best we could ever have. They are personable, have a high energy level, a high intellectual level, and would give their time ungrudgingly."

"They both care about the people."



ROGER W. WILLIAMS  
Long-Time Mayor of Russell  
In Daily News/Record Building

## Washington Panorama

# The Dole Duo

By EDGAR POE

Washington Bureau  
The Times-Playmate  
Sept. 15, 1987

Baton Rouge, La.

WASHINGTON Here in this feverish political capital it is taken for granted that Vice-President George Bush is the leading Republican presidential candidate in the South, and the Rev. Jesse Jackson is ahead of the pack among the Democratic hopefuls in the region. Tomorrow, of course, could be another story.

The biggest political news of recent days was that Elizabeth Hanford Dole, secretary of the Department of Transportation, was resigning so she can make an all-out campaign for her husband, U.S. Sen. Robert Dole of Kansas, for the Republican nomination. He is the Republican leader of the Senate, and will formally announce his candidacy for president in October.

A native of North Carolina, Mrs. Dole is planning to open a Dole-for-President regional office in Charlotte in behalf of his run in the Super Tuesday regional primary in the South on March 6. She is an honorary Phi Beta Kappa recipient from Duke University, her alma mater.

In time she is expected to make a series of talks in Louisiana and other states that are partici-

pating in the Super Tuesday primary. She has a number of personal friends with Louisiana connections, including Carolyn Long, wife of former U.S. Sen. Russell B. Long, D-La. Mrs. Long like Mrs. Dole, is a native North Carolinian.

Mrs. Dole, at a luncheon with editors and reporters of the Washington Times, said she will begin soon a two-week, 12-state swing through the South and border states. She denied that she has any intention of seeking national office.

Nevertheless, it is known that she has a group of staunch backers in Washington who believe she would make a capable vice-president.

Mrs. Dole told The Washington Times people, "We have been asked about it around the country. The questions are serious and may show something about this country being ready, at last, to have a woman on the ticket."

Former U.S. Rep. Geraldine Ferraro, D-N.Y., ran for vice-president on the losing Democratic ticket in 1984. She was the first woman candidate for president or vice-president on a major party ticket.

Mrs. Dole said the GOP candidacy of the Rev. Pat Robertson is

to be taken seriously, and that Bush is strong in Iowa and the South. A poll by the Des Moines Register showed Bush and Dole each with about one-third of the vote in Iowa.

The early pre-convention testing grounds of Iowa and New Hampshire are getting substantial attention, as always, even though the final results are not always compatible with majority sentiment in the rest of the country.

The Super Primary is expected to have far more political clout in the presidential nominating process next year than what comes out of Iowa and New Hampshire.

## Talking Politics

### Relaxation for Dole

Bob Dole's idea of relaxation, said his old friend and campaign manager, Robert Ellsworth, "is to sit around and talk political strategy."

"My father," said Robin Dole, a Washington, D.C., lobbyist, "actually loves being on the road, campaigning 12 hours a day."

All his close friends are political junkies — people such as Robert Strauss, former Democratic Party chairman, political lobbyist William Timmons and Tom Korologos, and pollster and political strategist Tully Plesser.

The best friend he ever had, Kansas newspaperman and longtime GOP National Committeeman McDill "Huck" Boyd, died earlier this year. "They both loved politics — and each other," said campaign manager Ellsworth.

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