

PRESS RELEASE FROM THE OFFICE OF
BOB DOLE, M. C., (R-KANSAS)
Rm. 244 House Office Building
Washington 25, D. C. (Ext 2715)

FOR RELEASE:
SUNDAY A.M.s
March 31, 1963

A record crowd of more than 280 Kansans attended the annual Kansas State Society of Washington, D. C. Dinner-Dance at the Mayflower Hotel. *1st night*

Highlights of the evening, according to Congressman Bob Dole, President of the Society, included presentation and crowning of the Kansas Cherry Blossom Princess, and presentation of the first annual Kansan of the Year Award.

The Kansas Princess, Patricia Thiele of Scott City, Kansas, a senior at Fort Hays Kansas State College, arrived in Washington on Saturday afternoon (March 30) with her mother, Mrs. Richard Thiele. The Dinner-Dance is the first in a series of events which will keep Patti busy through Saturday, April 7.

The Kansan of the Year Award was presented to Senator Frank Carlson. The award was presented by Thurman Hill, a prominent Washington lawyer, a former Kansan, long active in Democratic politics. The inscription on the plaque presented to Carlson read as follows: "The Kansas State Society of Washington, D. C. proudly acclaim Frank Carlson, United States Senator, 1963 Kansan of the Year, in recognition of dedicated, selfless service coupled with an unswerving sense of duty and responsibility throughout more than 32 years service to Kansas, and the Nation, as a State Legislator, Congressman, Governor, and United States Senator--a record of achievement unprecedented in the annals of Kansas political history."

The presentation was a complete surprise to Senator Carlson, the only Kansan ever to be a member of the State Legislature, Member of Congress, Governor and U. S. Senator.

Other activities of the evening included musical selections by a 16-piece Navy orchestra, marimba played by Mrs. Larry Langdon, formerly of Lucas, Kansas, now residing in Arlington, Virginia, awarding of door prizes, election of new officers, dancing.

The present officers of the Society are: Bob Dole, President; Paul Aiken, Vice President, Mrs. Garner Shriver, Secretary, Mrs. J. Floyd Breeding, Treasurer; John R. Lewis, Sergeant-at-Arms.