

Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kans), principal speaker at an Appreciation Dinner for Texas Republican Congressman Bob Price, said there is every reason for optimism among Republicans for even greater victories in 1968.

Dole said 1966 was a good year for the Republican Party, and for that matter, all Americans, regardless of Party. "It was," he said, "a year when the chickens came home to roost -- and L.B.J. was lucky he wasn't in the hen house."

In his remarks to the Texas audience, Dole stated, "The most important single question here and in the world today, in my opinion, is whom will the 90th Congress represent. Will it represent the people, the nation and the public interest, or will it follow in the deep ruts of the 89th Congress and so many Congresses before?"

"The 90th Congress has an opportunity to change the course of the world if it acts wisely and responds to the will of the people. The elections last November represented a resounding repudiation of the Johnson Administration policies and programs. The results were highly significant.

"In this, the 90th Congress, you will find time after time the great majority of Republican Members of Congress voting for the people -- the individual -- and the great majority of Democrat Members, time after time, voting for L.B.J. and his programs. Even some who profess to be convinced that Johnson programs are ill-founded will vote the L.B.J. line.

"The most recent example of this occurred just three days ago on Wednesday, June 21, when many so-called "conservative Democrats" voted to raise the debt ceiling so as to increase the borrowing authority of the Treasury Department to a maximum of \$365 billion. This represents an increase of \$29 billion, on top of an increase of \$6 billion already granted this year. Even more important, many Democrats voted against the almost identical issue on June 7 and then switched their votes just two weeks later -- which proves that when the White House exerts enough pressure, the great majority of Democrats in the Congress would rather 'switch than fight'."