

BOB DOLE
1ST DISTRICT, KANSAS

243 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
AREA CODE 202
225-2715

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

DISTRICT OFFICE:
101 FEDERAL BUILDING
GREAT BEND, KANSAS 67530
AREA CODE 316
SW 2-5423

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

COUNTIES:		
BARTON	HODGEMAN	RAWLINS
CHEYENNE	JEWELL	REPUBLIC
CLARK	KEARNY	ROOKS
CLOUD	KIOWA	RUSH
DECATUR	LANE	RUSSELL
EDWARDS	LINCOLN	SALINE
ELLIS	LOGAN	SCOTT
ELLSWORTH	MEADE	SEWARD
FINNEY	MITCHELL	SHERIDAN
FORD	MORTON	SHERMAN
GOVE	NESS	SMITH
GRAHAM	NORTON	STAFFORD
GRANT	OSBORNE	STANTON
GRAY	OTTAWA	STEVENS
GREELEY	PAWNEE	THOMAS
HAMILTON	PHILLIPS	TREGO
HASKELL	PRATT	WALLACE
		WICHITA

NOT FOR RELEASE UNTIL FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER 22, 1967

Congressman Bob Dole, speaking on the topic "Campaigning in Rural America" at the Midwest Republican Women's Regional Conference in Chicago today, predicted that Republican candidates will make tremendous gains in rural America in the 1968 elections.

Dole stated, "The Administration's record, as it relates to the American farmer, is a sorry one. The result is that the number of farms has been going down at the rate of 100,000 per year. The most recent parity ratio issued on August 30 was nearly at the depression level of 75 --- 6 points under a year ago. The official figures show that the index of prices received by farmers is down 15 percentage points from a year ago. The index of costs is up 8 percentage points from a year ago. This terrible crunch on Rural Americans is reflected by the U. S. Department of Agriculture's latest figures on farm income from 1967, which now indicate a drop of about \$1.8 billion from a year ago -- down 11 percent. This reduced net farm income resulting from the scissors effect of higher costs and lower prices is being felt in every town in the United States. President Johnson's inflationary policies resulting from fiscal irresponsibility are being paid for in the form of higher costs by every farm family. It is regrettable farm people have had to be witness to a policy under which a serious effort was made by the Administration to blame the farmer for higher food price levels. There is something wrong when a Secretary of Agriculture states that he is pleased to report that farm prices are expected to fall, as he did in the recent past -- and they did fall!!!!

"Wheat is down. Corn is down. Soybeans are down. Hogs are down. Milk is down. Poultry is down. Eggs are down. --- And, in my opinion, Johnson and Freeman are down and almost out in Rural America."

Congressman Dole urged the women in attendance that they must be constructive and do more than criticize the Administration's poor farm record. He added that Republicans on the House Committee on Agriculture and the Republican Task Force on Agriculture have been and will continue to make positive suggestions to improve farm income.