

FROM: THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN BOB DOLE

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GOODLAND, Kans., Sept. 20 -- Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate Bob Dole today said "bewilderment and discontent of the farmer is spreading, and its effect will be felt."

Speaking at the dedication of a Great Western Sugar company factory near here, Congressman Dole said, "In the wake of a year when the cost-price squeeze became disastrously tight, the farmer is also experiencing further aggravations."

"His political power is slipping at both the federal and state levels with more and more persons moving into the cities," he said.

"There have been increasing efforts by the Department of Agriculture -- the farmer's own Department -- to emphasize consumer and other related services," he said.

"The farmer's operations are being affected more and more by the minimum wage law, the National Labor Relations Act and other legislation originally designed for an industrial setting," he added.

"The end result, understandably, is a growing feeling among farmers that the U.S. is more concerned about low prices and the welfare of the consumer than it is with their existence and wellbeing," Dole said.

In his remarks, Dole, a ranking member of the House Agriculture Committee, predicted a one-year extension of the 1965 Food and Agriculture Act will pass during this session of Congress, "perhaps next week."

"A one-year extension will give the new Administration, whether Mr. Nixon or Mr. Humphrey, a year to either devise a new program or revise and improve the present one," he added.

"Those who advocate a long term or permanent extension of the 1965 Act," Dole said, "are taking the pressure off the leaders in both political parties."

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to exist on present-day prices," he added, "Pressure must be kept on both major parties to improve farm income."

Failure to do so, Dole said, "means urban and suburban America will feel the pinch as well as the farmers."

Noting that 3.5 million persons migrated from the farms to the cities in the last eight years, Dole said, "Urban problems simply cannot be divorced from rural problems."

The Congressman urged passage of legislation to provide tax incentives to industry locating in rural areas and tax incentives for businesses willing to train unskilled workers.