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LENEXA, Kans., Feb. 21 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole tonight said business and industry, with the support of government, ^{are} "our primary hope" for upgrading the quality of life in America's cities and suburbs.

Speaking here at a "Salute to Industrial Progress" dinner, Dole said, "The private economy of the U.S. has shown the greatest capacity for creating employment in the history of man's experience."

"Because of this capacity," he added, "American business and industry are the prime forces through which we can hope to achieve the healthy urban and suburban environment to which all Americans living there are entitled and deserve."

Noting a "quiet, but forceful" shifting of jobs in manufacturing, wholesale and retail trade and services from the cities to suburban locations, Dole said, "A"Major factors in the move have been the need for larger industrial sites and the interstate highway system."

The significance of highway transportation to industrial progress, he said, is illustrated in Johnson county with the opening of I-35.

"This highway greatly elevated the importance of the entire county as a wholesale trade center for the area west and south of Kansas City."

Pointing out the number of wholesale trade establishments nearly tripled from 1958 to 1967, he added, "This represents a movement of warehouses from the central city and older industrial areas to more suburban locations in Johnson county."

Predicting the movement of industry to the suburbs will continue, Dole said, "This is particularly true because trucking has become an increasingly important means of moving goods and services and because most inner cities including Kansas City no longer have the land available for efficient new trucking and wholesaling operations."

On industrial progress in Lenexa, Dole said, "Your city has exactly the kind of industry more Kansas communities should seek -- light industry, warehousing, distribution facilities and offices."

"And the business and community leaders here are doing an excellent job of creating the kind of dynamic and healthy community to which more and more families and industries will be attracted."

"But in Lenexa and throughout the state," Dole said, "we must continually search for new methods and apply the best ones to help bring even more new industry into the state."

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"What this requires is a fantastic job of coordination among business, industry and all levels of government to develop and promote locational advantages in Kansas over those in other states."

"America's cities and her suburban areas face overwhelming problems," Dole concluded. "But there is overwhelming hope, in no small part due to the fact business and industry are moving with confidence and vigor in Kansas and across the nation."