



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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DOLE MEETS TO DISCUSS LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Import quotas for livestock and credit for livestock producers was discussed this morning when Senator Bob Dole and other Congressional agriculture leaders met with Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz and Presidential Economic Counsellor Kenneth Rush at the White House. Other Congressional leaders attending were Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Herman Talmadge (D-Ga), House Agriculture Committee Chairman W.R. Poage (D-Tex) and House Agriculture Committee member Wiley Mayne (R-Ia).

Dole said that while Butz is aware of the problems facing livestock producers around the Nation, he thought more positive action should be taken by the executive and legislative branches of government. "I still feel quotas should be imposed," Dole said. "A reasonable bill to impose quotas would pass the Senate." ~~Imposition of quotas would offer symbolic, psycho-se~~
~~logical and real relief for livestockmen.~~ "Congressman Poage expressed optimism that the House might also approve such a measure.

Dole said the agenda of the White House conference scheduled for Monday was also discussed. "I expect several announcements could come Monday," Dole said. "Among them could be a USDA announcement of plans to purchase up to \$50 million of beef, pork and chicken for school lunch programs. Besides being good for the livestock industry, this would be good business since prices are low now. I also expect a very frank discussion of the retail and wholesale profit margins. There is evidence that profit margins have risen considerably."

Senate hearings will begin Monday on legislation to extend credit to segments of the livestock industry. Dole's bill that would guarantee credit is among those to be discussed by the Senate Agriculture Credit Subcommittee.

"What is needed," Dole said, "is not just a crash program to help those whose business is agriculture, but a realistic effort to help an important industry and to protect the consumer, for the consumer will ultimately pay if the livestock industry continues to suffer."