

PRESS RELEASE FROM THE OFFICE OF  
CONGRESSMAN BOB DOLE (R-KANSAS)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
MAY 31, 1962

Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kansas) notified Horace Godfrey, Administrator of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture today unless regulations governing the controversial sedimentation test of wheat are modified, he will offer an amendment to the Administration farm bill, when it reaches the House floor. Dole stated the amendment would protect those farmers who store wheat on their farms and would become effective immediately and apply to the 1962 crop. Dole explained that under present USDA regulations farmers will be paid a premium for 1962 wheat with a high sedimentation value, however recent tests have indicated sedimentations values will drop during early months after harvest so that farmers who had received a premium could be in a position of having to return that amount to the government when the wheat was delivered. If farmers were given the option of proceeding under the "protein test" or the "sedimentation test with an allowable 3 percent tolerance" the farmer would receive payment for the true value of his wheat and would have the same protection offered warehousemen under present USDA regulations, Dole stated.

Cong. Dole stated the value of the sedimentation test was highly questionable and said it should not have been adopted until all facts were available to the USDA. He called it "another example of what can happen in the bureaucratic USDA" and said it should make farmers cautious of statements made by department public relations experts, who a year ago, were telling farmers the sedimentation test would be a bonanza to them.

A reasonable solution now would be to limit the application of the sedimentation test until its value is determined and then decide whether it should be used and if so, how extensively. As it is now, warehousemen and state grain inspection agencies will be required to invest thousands of dollars in purchasing sedimentation testing equipment when the ultimate value to the farmers is extremely doubtful.