

PRESS RELEASE FROM THE OFFICE OF  
CONGRESSMAN BOB DOLE (R-KANSAS)  
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Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kansas) charged today that "Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman's obstinacy and the Senate filibuster of a handful of Democratic liberals against the communications satellite bill have created a chaotic situation for American farmers."

He pointed out that wheat growers in Kansas and neighboring states are "fast approaching planting time but they still don't know how many acres of wheat they will be allotted for 1963 or what the level of price support will be."

"Had Mr. Freeman shown any disposition to compromise and accept a workable farm bill, legislation providing a voluntary feed grain program and an improved wheat plant could have been enacted months ago," Dole said. "Instead he insisted upon a program of unprecedented production controls which neither farmers nor the Congress would support. The result may very well be no farm bill at all.

"The Senate had been scheduled to act on farm legislation last week, but the filibuster halted this. Moreover, when the communications satellite bill was referred to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with instructions to report it back by August 10, it was also agreed that no action would be taken on the farm bill prior to that date. Now it appears that the filibuster will commence anew as soon as the communications measure again reaches the floor. It could run for days or even weeks.

"Unless the Senate will agree soon to a one-year extension of the present wheat and feed grain program, already approved by the House, there will be no farm bill this year.

"If a temporary extension of the present wheat program were to win approval, farmers would take the same 10 percent cut below their regular acreage allotments as in 1962. If the two price plan is enacted, as proposed by the Senate, the cut would be at least 20 percent. If no law is enacted, there would be no acreage cut and farmers would operate as they did in 1961. Whatever plan becomes effective, wheat growers must approve it in a national referendum and that also takes time.

"With the present confused situation, the wheat farmer doesn't know what to do. He can't fight nature. He is now preparing his land for seeding. Understandably, the farmer in winter wheat areas is beginning to wonder whether the New Frontiersmen are as concerned with his problems as their news releases indicate."

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