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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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GOP REFLECTS ATTITUDES OF YOUNG VOTERS, DOLE SAYS

Greensboro, N.C. -- Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) said today the future of the Republican Party is promising because GOP positions on emerging issues are more in tune with the attitudes of young voters.

The 1976 Republican Vice Presidential nominee told a statewide conference of North Carolina Young Republicans that the party is under fewer constraints and inhibitions than the Democratic Party. For that reason, he said, Republicans are better able to devise innovative workable solutions to difficult problems.

"Young people don't like to be hassled, by the government or anyone else," he said. "They don't want to be told how to run their lives."

A generation that likes to "tell it like it is" knows that unilateral disarmament is folly in a dangerous world in which not all leaders can be trusted, Dole asserted.

PLENTY OF REAL PROBLEMS

The Senate also suggested that younger voters are most likely to be turned off quickest by the "public relations blitz" that has marked the early weeks of the Carter Administration.

Referring to an advertising slogan proclaiming the new generation's taste for "the real thing" Dole said there is a full agenda of "real problems" awaiting the President's attention.

"It is past time for some of the creative energy (devoted to public relations gimmicks) to be channeled into more substantive areas," he urged.

"If the White House team is half as imaginative when it comes to governing the nation as it has been merchandising the new Chief Executive, we need not worry," he said.

FORD-DOLE TICKET DID BETTER

Dole cited opinion polls during the last election campaign which he said indicated that the Ford-Dole ticket was running considerably stronger among younger voters than Republican candidates have been doing in recent years. He said this trend reached both the college educated and non-college educated younger voting groups.

"Because the Democratic Party is so committed to government action, so tradition-bound, so tied to past programs that have never worked, it is the Republican Party which offers the exciting opportunities for new approaches, the practical application of new ideas."

For example, he said the jobs tax credit which was added to the tax bill approved by the Senate Finance Committee should be an incentive for the private sector employment of the hard-core jobless in the inner city. The proposal would encourage employers to add marginal workers to the payroll because some of the extra cost could be deducted from their income taxes. Dole was an early Senate sponsor of the employment tax credit approach. The Carter Administration reluctantly endorsed a version of the tax credit in hearings before the Finance Committee after the provision had been approved by the House.

Discontinuance of the draft and allowing states to prohibit compulsory union membership if they wish are two examples of Republican stands in favor of greater individual freedom and responsibility, the Kansas Senator said. He predicted that more younger voters would become active in the Republican Party, presaging a revival of Republican strength throughout the country.

Urging Republican unity, he praised Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.). Recalling that Helms had supported former Gov. Ronald Reagan for the Presidential nomination, Dole said that Helms campaigned vigorously for the Ford-Dole ticket after the national convention.