



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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DOLE COMES OUT FOR \$3 A BUSHEL TARGET PRICES FOR '77 WHEAT

Washington -- Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) said today he would urge the Senate Agriculture Committee to approve an increase in the target prices for the 1977 wheat crop from \$2.47 a bushel to "somewhere in the neighborhood of \$3 a bushel." A House Agriculture subcommittee last week recommended a \$2.90 support price for the current year's crop.

"A target price of \$3 for the 1977 crop will not even be adequate to meet the cost of production," Dole said in a statement issued from his Senate office here.

"But given the Administration's opposition to any target price increase on the 1977 crop, a \$3 level is within the range of what can reasonably be expected to pass the House and Senate and be enacted into law," he said.

~~LATER~~ LATER STEPUPS PREDICTED

Dole predicted that target prices would gradually be stepped up for the 1978, 1979, 1980, and 1981 crop years when the farm bill is drafted by the Senate committee soon after the return from an Easter recess.

The Carter Administration proposal calls for no increases in support levels for this year's wheat crop and a later maximum target of \$2.60 a bushel.

Rejecting that as inadequate, Dole said the present state of the farm economy makes a \$3 target price "a very modest goal."

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