

Ray Boudt

REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE
GOP FUNDRAISING DINNER

Jim Gray

LUBBOCK, TEXAS
AUGUST 12, 1978

Dave Vester

(4)

Women
Dinner
From
Evening

1978 IS A YEAR OF HOPE -- AND OPPORTUNITY -- FOR THE REPUBLICAN PARTY, FOR OUR NATION, FOR CITIZENS EVERYWHERE WHO YEARN FOR COMMON SENSE IN GOVERNMENT, FOR A GOVERNMENT THAT IS COMPASSIONATE YET FRUGAL, IDEALISTIC BUT NOT FOOLHARDY, RESPONSIVE TO THE PEOPLE'S NEEDS AND MINDFUL OF POCKETBOOK REALITIES.

REPUBLICAN VISION FOR TEXAS

THIS CAN BE A WATERSHED YEAR IN TEXAS POLITICS, IN AMERICAN POLITICS, A YEAR WHEN THE REPUBLICAN VISION FOR AMERICA IS BOLDLY IMPRINTED ON THE FABRIC OF GOVERNMENT. TEXAS REPUBLICANS

Paul Schumacher

T.V.
Dinner
Who Is Responsible?

REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE

GOP FUNDRAISING DINNER

Lubbock, Texas

August 12, 1978

1978 is a year of hope -- and opportunity -- for the Republican party, for our nation, for citizens everywhere who yearn for common sense in government, for a government that is compassionate yet frugal, idealistic but not foolhardy, responsive to the people's needs and mindful of pocketbook realities.

REPUBLICAN VISION FOR TEXAS

This can be a watershed year in Texas politics, in American politics, a year when the Republican vision for America is boldly imprinted on the fabric of government. Texas Republicans have nominated an outstanding slate of candidates -- Bill Clements for Governor, Jim Baker for Attorney General, Joe Robbins for State Senator, George Bush for Congress, and, of course, John Tower for re-election to the Senate. It's an outstanding ticket, a signal to the people of Texas and the rest of the nation that Texas Republicans are serious about winning in 1978, that the Republican party is ready, willing and able to lead this state and nation into the next decade.

And just as the people of Lubbock have supported the Red Raider football team season after season, I'm confident that the Republican team will garner outstanding support here this November.

Having visited Lubbock and Texas Tech during the 1976 Presidential campaign, I think I know something about the people here. A few years back, I recall a football game at Jones Stadium between Texas Tech and my alma mater, the University of Kansas. Sometime during the second half, tornado sirens wafted across the city and the take cover warning went out. But the football game went on. The crowd stayed. And Texas Tech won. That's what I call taking your football seriously. And it's going to take just that sort of commitment by Republicans here this year to win in November. But win we must. It's important not only for Lubbock and Texas, but the entire nation.

NEED FOR LEADERSHIP

For too long, government and the politicians who populate it have drifted further and further away from the well-established American notion of statecraft -- of limited government, of individual freedom, of the right of American citizens to live their lives as they see fit.

The people of Texas are like people everywhere. They want government made more manageable. They want their taxes lowered. And they're looking for political leaders who share this philosophy, not for political opportunists who mimic the mood of the moment just to win elections.

And that's the strength of our party in 1978. Unlike our opponents, unlike President Carter, men like George Bush, Joe Robbins, Bill Clements, Jim Baker, and John Tower won't have to change their philosophy of government to win in 1978.

That's because the concerns, the fears, the frustrations, the hopes and dreams of the American people this year are and have been Republican concerns, fears, frustrations, hopes and dreams for years.

There's not a force in American society today better equipped to stop government meddling in Americans' private lives, to restore Americans' sagging fortunes around the globe, to put an end to government-induced double-digit inflation, and to press for meaningful tax reduction, than the Republican party. But only if we act together, motivated by what unites us, not inhibited by what divides us.

The public may be cynical about the personalities and processes of politics. But the people want strong leaders, men and women who understand their frustration with government and are ready, willing, and able to do something about it.

REPUBLICANS CAN PROVIDE LEADERSHIP

The Republican party can and must provide this leadership in 1978. On the national level, we must contrast our initiatives on tax reduction, spending restraint, national defense and economic growth with a lack of clearly focused policies from the White House and the Congress. And President Carter seems eager to help us. On issue after issue, policy after policy, the Administration has stumbled, hesitated, shifted direction and confused both its supporters and detractors.

But the President's disappointing performance will not be enough. People won't vote for Republicans in Texas or anywhere simply because we say Democrats are bad and we're available.

We've got to give the people of Texas, the people of America, a positive reason to vote for our candidates, and I think we're doing just that.

DEMAGOGUERY AT THE WHITE HOUSE

Take taxes, for example. President Carter has proposed more tax increases and opposed more tax reduction than any President in recent history. He's already signed a \$225 billion Social Security tax hike, proposed another \$125 billion in energy taxes and threatened to impose \$12 billion in oil import fees. And he has repeatedly resisted Republican efforts to make meaningful reductions in federal taxes.

Indeed, nearly every effort to reduce taxes in Washington has been met with strong opposition by President Carter, by demagogic charges of tax windfalls for the wealthy, by trumped-up statistics designed to lead the American people to believe that Republican-sponsored tax reduction programs will benefit only a chosen few.

I, for one, don't think the American people are going to fall for such demagoguery. We mustn't let them. We must press on with the battle for meaningful income tax relief for individual taxpayers. We should continue to lead the charge for scaled-down capital gains taxes to afford tax relief to homeowners and to reinvigorate the private economy.

INDEXING & OTHER TAX PROGRAMS

We mustn't let the American people forget that Republicans understood the need for tax relief long before "Proposition 13 Fever" swept the nation. I have proposed legislation to exclude inflation-induced phantom increases in wages from federal income taxes. This so-called "indexing" of the tax system would keep more money in the hands of the people who earned it and less in the belly of big government.

It would force the big spenders in Congress to vote for tax increases and not permit inflation to automatically increase federal revenues by pushing working Americans into higher and higher tax brackets each year. It's a bold plan, one which would put a lid on taxes and force federal spending restraint.

Other Republicans -- Congressman Kemp, Senator Roth, Senator Javits, and Congressman Steiger -- have sponsored similar tax reduction programs.

And the overwhelming logic of such tax relief plans has attracted many Democrats to our cause.

Administration spokesmen have attacked such tax cut proposals as irresponsible and unrealistic. But the American people know better. We aren't advocating -- and shouldn't advocate -- unrealistic spending and tax reduction policies that would really force government to abandon its commendable efforts to help the needy, turn a deaf ear to the unquestioned needs of our cities, or dismantle the defense establishment. We know that government can be a positive force in American society, that government can provide a wide range of important public services without incurring huge budget deficits, without extracting unnecessary billions of dollars in taxes each year from the American people, and without double-digit inflation.

COTTON FARMER NEEDS INCOME PROTECTION

Government should certainly do something to help the American farmer. I don't have to tell you here in Lubbock about the vicious cost-price squeeze afflicting cotton farmers. Yet the Carter Administration has steadfastly refused to adopt innovative new government policies which could provide cotton farmers and other agricultural producers with a reasonable prospect of making a decent profit.

Let's face it. Lubbock area cotton producers have enough problems coping with Mother Nature. The last thing they need is to have their government ignore their pleas for help. There are many things government can and should do for cotton farmers. The flexible parity program which I proposed would have provided reasonable income protection for farmers without unduly burdening

the federal treasury. It would have placed control of production in the hands of the farmers, not at the whim of bureaucrats in Washington.

But President Carter refused to support this plan. He called it inflationary. He said it wasn't necessary.

And the Administration has dragged its feet on measures that would increase exports of American agriculture products. As you know, most of the cotton grown here is exported and I believe we should be doing everything possible to break down trade barriers, to encourage the purchase of Texas cotton by all the nations of the world. We should insist on strong farm representation on the multilateral trade talks in Geneva.

OSHA & THE COTTON INDUSTRY

Here at home, we should not permit burdensome government regulations to smother the cotton industry. I know we all share a strong concern for worker health and safety. But the cotton dust standards proposed by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) could cost nearly \$2 billion. Such huge expenditures threaten the livelihoods of nearly four million people who depend on cotton for a living. The loss of jobs and a severely contracted cotton industry have a most serious impact on communities such as Lubbock and others across the Cotton Belt. Moreover, the proposed OSHA standards are highly inflationary and can only exacerbate the double-digit inflation already introduced to our economy during the last year.

We Republicans have an obligation to speak out against such government over-regulation, to fight for more equitable international trade policies, to work in the best interests of cotton farmers and other agricultural producers. And I know that John Tower and George Bush will be working hard for farmers when the 96th Congress convenes in January.

RESTORING THE TWO-PARTY SYSTEM

Overtaxation, crime, overspending, government meddling, the energy crisis, health care, farm policy, urban policy -- these are the issues our party must address if we are to reassert our leadership role in America. I firmly believe that the Republican party offers the best hope for Texas and for our nation. I know that the vast majority of the people in Lubbock, in Texas, and throughout the nation share our basic values, our philosophy, our concern about government gone awry, our desire to do something about high taxes and wasteful spending, our commitment to American strength.

1978 can be the year when we take the first steps towards restoring balance and reinvigorating the two-party system in America. If we are successful this year, if Republicans make meaningful gains in November, the hopes and dreams of the average American can be realized.

It's a challenge, an opportunity, we must not let pass.