

Bob Dole

REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE

Phyllis Danner

KANSAS DAY INTRODUCTION

TOPEKA, KANSAS

JANUARY 27, 1979

Women are strong

IT'S NO SECRET WHY WE KANSANS ADOPTED FOR OUR STATE'S MOTTO THE WORDS "AD ASTRA PER ASPERA". TO THE STARS THROUGH DIFFICULTY. FOR OVER A HUNDRED YEARS, SINCE OUR BIRTH IN THE TURMOIL OF PRE-CIVIL WAR AMERICA, THE PEOPLE OF THIS STATE HAVE RESPECTED INDIVIDUAL EFFORT AND COMMUNITY SERVICE. THAT'S THE SPIRIT THAT GAVE KANSAS WOMEN THE VOTE DECADES BEFORE THE NATION DID THE SAME. THAT'S THE SPIRIT WHICH SAID THAT NO PROFESSION WAS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THAT OF AGRICULTURE, THAT WE OWED OUR FARMERS MORE THAN RESPECT.

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-2-

THAT KIND OF DETERMINATION LIVES STILL IN THE HEARTS OF THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS. IT MOTIVATES THEIR CONVICTION, A CONVICTION ON WHICH OUR PARTY IS BUILT, THAT LIFE HAS ITS GREATEST REWARD IN OVERCOMING ADVERSITY. IT MOVES THEM TO AGREE WITH US THAT NO GOVERNMENT CAN PROMISE PROSPERITY TO ALL MEN, BUT THAT ANY GOVERNMENT SHOULD PROMISE A CLIMATE IN WHICH EACH MAN AND WOMAN CAN ACHIEVE HIS OR HER OWN PROSPERITY.

TO THE STARS THROUGH DIFFICULTY -- THERE MAY BE NO BETTER EXPRESSION OF WHAT WE CHERISH ABOUT THIS PLACE WE CALL HOME.

-3-

AND IT'S NOT A BAD INTRODUCTION FOR THIS EVENING'S MAIN SPEAKER. PETE DUPONT IS HEIR TO AN OLD AND DISTINGUISHED NAME IN AMERICAN POLITICS AND INDUSTRY. YET HE HAS NEVER BEEN CONTENT TO REST UPON ANCESTRAL LAURELS. A GRADUATE OF PRINCETON AND HARVARD LAW SCHOOL, WHERE, I MIGHT ADD, HE WAS A CLASSMATE OF MY WIFE, ELIZABETH, A MEMBER OF PAST AMERICA'S CUP CREWS, PETE AND HIS WIFE, ELISE, GOT INTERESTED IN POLITICS IN THE EARLY SIXTIES, WHEN TOGETHER THEY ORGANIZED THE LARGEST TELEPHONE DRIVE IN DELAWARE REPUBLICAN HISTORY.

FOUR YEARS LATER, PETE DUPONT WAS ELECTED TO THE DELAWARE LEGISLATURE WITHOUT OPPOSITION. THERE HE WAS A LEADER IN THE FIGHT FOR CONSUMER PROTECTION, GOVERNMENT REFORM AND MORE EFFICIENT AID TO CITIES. IN 1970, THE VOTERS OF DELAWARE SENT PETE TO WASHINGTON FOR THE FIRST OF THREE TERMS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. HE BECAME A FAMILIAR SIGHT ON THE HILL, DRIVING AN OLD BUICK AND CONTINUING HIS INTEREST IN MAKING CONGRESS WORK FOR THE PEOPLE, INSTEAD OF THE OTHER WAY AROUND.

-4-

THREE YEARS AGO, HE WAS ELECTED GOVERNOR OF DELAWARE BY THE BIGGEST MARGIN IN NEARLY 50 YEARS. HIS TERM OF OFFICE HAS BEEN MARKED BY REFORM OF THE PATRONAGE-RIDDEN STATE GOVERNMENT, BY DRAMATIC STEPS FORWARD IN DELAWARE'S PRISONS, AND BY A VIGOROUS CAMPAIGN TO SELL THE STATE AS A RECEPTIVE HOME TO NEW INDUSTRY AND THE JOBS THAT COME WITH NEW INDUSTRY.

THOMAS JEFFERSON CALLED DELAWARE "THE DIAMOND STATE" BECAUSE, IN HIS WORDS, IT WAS BOTH "SMALL AND PRECIOUS". WELL, THIS EVENING, IT IS MY PLEASURE TO INTRODUCE TO YOU A REPUBLICAN GEM WHOSE FUTURE PROSPECTS MAY BE PRECIOUS, AND ARE ANYTHING BUT SMALL. HE IS PROVING TO THE DOUBTERS THAT REPUBLICANS CARE ABOUT PEOPLE, AND AREN'T AFRAID TO MAKE EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT WORK TO THEIR BETTERMENT. AND I NEEDN'T REMIND ANY OF YOU THAT THESE ARE THEMES OUR PARTY MUST STRESS IF WE HOPE TO RECAPTURE THE WHITE HOUSE IN 1980. AND PETE DUPONT IS CERTAIN TO BE ONE OF THE MEN SERIOUSLY CONSIDERED AS A POTENTIAL PRESIDENT.

-5-

PETE, I'M DELIGHTED TO WELCOME YOU TO KANSAS, WHERE
PEOPLE HAVE ALWAYS CARED ABOUT EACH OTHER, AND ALWAYS
ACCEPTED IN MUTUAL CONCERN THAT THE WAY TO THE STARS
IS THROUGH DIFFICULTY OVERCOME.