

NIXON LINK ISSUE IN KANSAS FIGHT

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Dole, Ex-G.O.P. Chairman,
Challenged by Roy Bid
for His Senate Seat
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By PAUL DELANEY
Special to The New York Times

TOPEKA, Kan., Nov. 5—Senator Robert J. Dole, a former Republican national chairman, sought re-election today against Representative William R. Roy, a Topeka obstetrician and lawyer.

Mr. Roy, a two-term Congressman, was the only Democrat in the state's five-man Congressional delegation.

In a race for the governorship, State Attorney General Vern Miller, a Democrat, opposed State Senator Robert F. Bennett, a Republican.

In the bitterly fought Senate campaign, Senator Dole told Kansas voters they would lose his potential power in Congress unless they returned him to Washington. He would be the ranking Republican on the Senate Agriculture Committee in the next session of Congress, he constantly reminded voters.

He also hammered away at what he called Mr. Roy's liberalism, and linked the doctor to pro-abortion views and to what he termed the efforts of "left-wing" labor to "gain another Senator."

Representative Roy pointed to Senator Dole's relationship with former President Richard M. Nixon and attacked the Senator's Congressional record, saying it was out of step with the views of most Kansans, a charge that Mr. Dole also made against his opponent. Further, Dr. Roy accused the Senator of paying more attention to national affairs and personal ambitions than to the problems of Kansas.

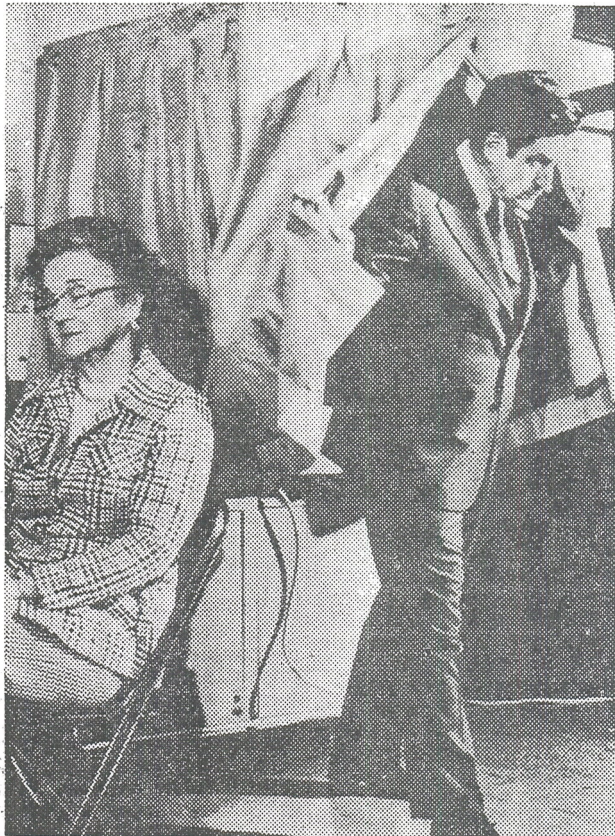
Accusations Made

Each side accuse the other of mud-slinging.

Despite the bitterness, the two candidates appeared on the same platform numerous times and held several debates.

On Sept. 25, polls by Kansas television stations and a private research organization gave Dr. Roy a 50 per cent to 42 per cent lead in the race. Admittedly shaken by those findings, Senator Dole left Washington immediately and spent the entire month of October campaigning across the state.

Mr. Dole served as Republican National Chairman for two years and was a staunch defender of the former President. Because of Republican discontent with the Watergate scandal and worsening economic conditions,



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Representative William R. Roy, Kansas Democrat, leaving booth after voting yesterday in Topeka.

his political base was weakened.

According to Senator Dole, President Ford's pardon of Mr. Nixon, the amnesty program and modification of the grain deal with Russia did not help his campaign.

However, aides to the Senator believe that a trip to Kansas this past weekend by President Ford "probably helped."

Some Kansans believe the political alignment in the election would have been completely different had not the administration of Gov. Robert C.

Docking been rocked by scandals. The popular Democrat was expected to challenge Senator Dole, and was considered a formidable contender. However, Governor Docking refused to run after an aide and his brother were charged in connection with kickback schemes.

In the governorship race, Mr. Miller was the favorite, but he ineffective campaigning by Mr. Bennett closed the gap. Mr. Miller, a former sheriff, was regarded as a good lawman. Mr. Bennett is considered an expert in state government.