

Senator Returns Some Milk Money

Washington

Republican Senator Robert J. Dole of Kansas said yesterday he is returning \$15,000 he received in recent months from three dairy farmers' cooperatives whose political contributions have been a focus of controversy.

In addition, the Washington Star-News said Democratic Governor Wendell R. Anderson of Minnesota has returned \$5000 he received from a producer cooperative.

The Star-News reported both actions and Dole confirmed that the account involving him is correct.

Their actions were disclosed in financial reports filed for public inspection this week, the Star-News said. This is believed to be the first time such well-known figures have publicly rejected dairy farmers' money.

The dairy contributions

have been a subject of investigation because of a government decision to increase the federal milk support price in 1971 after the cooperatives pledged substantial contributions to President Nixon's re-election campaign. They eventually gave more than \$400,000.

The Star-News said the dairy interests have continued to contribute to Republicans and Democrats, liberals and conservatives. It said the industry has given millions since 1969 to members of the House and Senate, state legislators and other politicians.

The account said the pace of giving has continued unabated in the past 2½ years, with scores of Congress members accepting annual donations of \$5000, \$10,000 or more.

The organizations involved were named as Mid-America Dairymen, Inc., of Springfield, Mo., and its political committee; Dairymen, Inc., of Louisville, Ky., and its political arm; and Associated Milk Producers, Inc., of San Antonio, Tex., and its political committee.

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