WELCOME ADDRESS BY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AT G & F
CELEBRATION --- J. Strom Thurmond.

Mr. Chairman, Friends, and Guests:

On behalf of the Chamber of Commerce of Edgefield, it is a
pleasure for me to welcome you on this auspicious occasion—
and all.

It is a special pleasure to welcome the officers and stock-
holders of the Georgia & Florida Railroad; also we extend a hearty
welcome to the Captains of the Industries, enterprises, and banking
Institutions, who are here from North and South; and we welcome all
other persons who are present at this time. Your presence indicates
the interest which you manifest in this new railroad, and that you
are possessed of civic pride above the average.

We feel that the inception of the Georgia & Florida railroad
through the virgin territory which it now traverses will be mutually
advantageous to both the railroad and our town and county, so it
is a great pleasure for us to witness the completion of this exten-
sion.

Edgefield is justly proud of the service rendered by one of
her citizens in the promotion of this extension; and I dare say
that he has done as much, or more, than any layman along the en-
tire route to promote, assist and arouse interest in the extension
of the Georgia & Florida line. I refer to our distinguished fel-
low-townman, J. H. Cantelou.

The Chamber of Commerce of Edgefield delivers to each of
you a master key to our town and county, and also to the hearts
of our people. All is yours to see and enjoy on your brief visit,
which we wish could be prolonged.

The Chamber of Commerce emphasizes the fact that this is
the propitious place for the people of the North, and of the South
to meet and invest their capital, skill, and their good will, in
the development of the resources of our splendid county.

The Savannah River horses, and the Broad River horses are har-
nessed, and are now pulling to this county volumes of power. All
that is necessary to cut large dividend melons is, to utilize this
power already here in the operation of industries and enterprises.

We again welcome you, and invite you to locate in our town
and county, and share in the golden harvest ready for reapers.