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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
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[c. 1947]

STATEMENT IN FREIGHT RATE CASE BY GOVERNOR THURMOND

I am deeply gratified to learn of the favorable decision in the Southern Governors' freight rate case before the United States Supreme Court. At the hearing in Washington recently, I felt confident that the outcome would be favorable. This opinion affirms the order of the Interstate Commerce Commission raising freight rates in the North and East by ten per cent, and lowering those in the South and a portion of the West by ten per cent. The Court's action will partially eliminate the discrimination toward the South in freight rates which has existed since the Civil War.

This decision will stimulate the establishment of new industries, the location of businesses, and the development of agriculture in South Carolina and the South. Goods manufactured here and agricultural products produced in our Southland can now be shipped to the markets of the nation and the world on a more equitable basis.

Although this case brings a measure of relief to South Carolina and the South, for which we are justly proud, it does not completely eliminate the discrimination in freight rates. We expect to continue the fight until this has been accomplished.