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Statement of Governor Thurmond on Columbia Record's 50th Anniversary "South Carolina Of Tomorrow."

Strom Thurmond

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"As our beloved State of South Carolina faces the next 50 years, I have the highest hope in her future.

"Working together, there is almost nothing that South Carolinians cannot accomplish. We have the natural resources and some of them we are just beginning to develop. We have more of our own money for investment in our enterprises than we have ever had before. We are determined to have freight rates which will give us the vital equality we need in that respect. We are developing our ports. Our industries, in this age of advancing science, are growing and new industries are coming in and will come in increasingly under the steps we are taking in that direction. Our agriculture is steadily improving, and we are producing more and more livestock and dairy products. We are enlarging our health services. We are making progress in education and will step up that essential investment. Already through the increase in pay our teachers are now to receive, we have bolstered our public school system.

"Last but not least we have men and women of magnificent heritage, loyalty and enterprise. In South Carolina's future will be a higher per capita income for our people. The times are relatively prosperous, but we are still far down on the list of states in per capita income. Out of our improving agriculture and expanding industry and commerce will come a higher income for our people. We should leave nothing undone to advance our progress and development so that a new day will dawn for the people of South Carolina."
"Money is not everything. We are progressing in other aspects of the life of our State. We are more and more recognizing the importance of law enforcement and high standards in government. South Carolina's future should be distinguished by a more rigid enforcement of our laws. As I look into the future, I am heartened by the response that has come to our current efforts to rigidly and impartially enforce the law.

"Our future in South Carolina should be brightened by these prospects. During my tenure as Governor, I shall not relent one moment in endeavors for the good of the South Carolina of the future. I shall need help and I call upon our people for their counsel and support. I shall work to bring about that capability in our State government which is required to go along with the efficiency and enterprise which are and will sustain and enlarge our economic life. I shall continue to throw the weight of my office behind any movement when government can contribute to a fuller life for the people of South Carolina.

"We are living in an age of unrest. We hope and pray earnestly for the solution of world problems. If wars should come in this future of which we speak, we shall find South Carolinians ready to answer the call of their country. In every war we have left our fields and factories as patriots unexcelled anywhere and the records of South Carolina valor are glittering history.

"For all the uncertainty, I hold high hopes of an era of peace and progress for our State and Nation. We are on the upgrade in South Carolina. There yet remains much to be done, but, under steadily improving circumstances we are on the way to doing it. That is the spirit of South Carolina today, and it is the force that gives one confidence in the future."