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Excerpts of Letter From Doctor Annie D. Denmark, President of Anderson College, to Governor Thurmond Concerning a Request for Her Appearance Before a Legislative Committee. 1949 January 28

Strom Thurmond

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"I reiterate what I wrote in that letter, that I have no political aptitudes. I have had no experience in the field of appearing before legislative committees, as requested of me in your letter of January 11th. I felt it would be better to leave that to someone who could be of more value to the undertaking.

I am amazed that the word "political" could connote to your mind "something which is not entirely above-board and entirely honest." I was wholly sincere in my use of the word.

You do not need to argue the merits of the Regional Council for Education to me. I have spent a great deal of time this fall in reading and studying to make contribution to the advancement of its far-reaching program. The last thing I could wish would be any controversy which might arouse unfavorable publicity for this great undertaking. For my part I deeply regret it."