

ADDRESS OF J. STROM THURMOND, GOVERNOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA, ON "BAND DAY" RADIO PROGRAM (STATION WIS) AT WINNSBORO, SOUTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 1949, 12:30 P.M.

Superintendent McKnight, Sen. Lyles, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I wish every mother and father in South Carolina could be here in Winnsboro today to see and hear this fine group of young people. They come from every community in Fairfield county, and are gathered together to make one of the best school bands I ever heard.

It is an inspiring sight -- all the more so, when you realize that an entire county is cooperating to provide a new interest and a new enthusiasm for its young people.

The Fairfield band organization was made possible with funds provided by the County Legislative Delegation. It is now in its third year under the able direction of W. E. Miller, and has the cooperation of many interested citizens. Every grade from the 1st to the 12th is represented in this group of more than 250 young musicians.

In my opinion, there is no finer activity for young people than a school band program. Playing an instrument in a band provides an outlet for talent and energy which is seldom found elsewhere. It is entertainment and recreation for the growing child, and in addition it teaches discipline, teamwork, and community spirit in such a pleasant way that the average child quickly develops good traits of personality.

The sponsors of this program deserve whole-hearted congratulations. They would like to see the plan spread to other counties over the State, and I most certainly agree with them.

Congratulations to the capable and enterprising members who make up this band, and here's hoping other counties will follow the lead of progressive Fairfield County in such a worthy project. Thank you.

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