

ARTICLE BY J. STROM THURMOND, GOVERNOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA, FOR USE IN 1949 LABOR DAY EDITION OF "TRADE UNION COURIER", NEW YORK, N. Y., PREPARED AUGUST 11, 1949.

The idea of the Trade Union Courier to fight Communism by showing how Democracy works in times of recession as well as in prosperous eras, as outlined in its letter of July 22, is to be commended.

Our people do not want a return to the depression days of the 1930's and they should presently study all available means of preventing a recurrence of wide-spread unemployment.

The rank and file of our working people do not want Communism. The fine men and women who are employed in our industries and in our trades deserve high-type leadership which realizes its responsibilities.

South Carolina, therefore, is seeking to maintain a high level of employment through the development and utilization of natural resources, as well as through encouraging the establishment of new industries and the expansion of existing ones.

The state's phenomenal industrial growth since the end of the war has been financed by both outside and local capital and the people of the state are being encouraged to invest in South Carolina by establishing their own businesses. The appeal to industry has been made on a basis of friendly government, productive labor, mild climate, proximity to raw materials and consumer outlets.

The trend has been toward an industrial instead of an agricultural economy, and now for the first time the state has more industrially-employed workers than agricultural workers. The fact that many workers could return to the land for a livelihood, would probably lessen the effects of widespread unemployment. In fact,

many industrial workers still live on and operate farms, the farm work being carried on by members of their families.

Textiles are the state's greatest industry, and recent diversification in this field has led not only to the utilization of more natural resources but has broadened the consumer outlets. These two factors are expected to lessen the effects of any increasing unemployment.

The labor demand has been met almost entirely by local supply, to a considerable extent by persons with no previous industrial experience.

The state government has taken the position that it can best help industry maintain high employment levels by offering a stable government and a reasonable tax structure.

The state government has also taken the lead in research to develop and attract new industries, through the utilization of undeveloped natural resources. This has been particularly true in studies of clays, shales and various rocks and minerals.

The state has a sound unemployment compensation system and although there has been a definite increase in the number of unemployed there has been no dangerous drain upon the commission's resources.

There has been no curtailment in the state's road-building program, and the construction of the \$45,000,000 Clark's Hill hydro-electric project in the western part of the state has furnished some employment.

Present conditions in no way warrant the inauguration of any public works program, although the state would be ready to cooperate with the federal government if such a program were started on a nationwide scale.

South Carolina believes that its effort to raise the levels of economic opportunity for all its people is the best possible way of meeting the threat of a recession.