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Statement for special South Carolina edition of the Railroad Journal

Strom Thurmond

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Never before in history has South Carolina faced a more hopeful future. In industrial expansion, in agricultural development, in governmental advances, and in every phase of human betterment our State is reaching upward to higher and better things.

In the field of industrial development, South Carolina is winning nation-wide recognition because of our amazing expansion. During 1948 alone, a total of $230,000,000 in new industries either began operation, began construction, or were announced. Since the war, our industrial gains have amounted to $423,000,000.

Our payrolls now exceed half a billion dollars annually, and the jobs created by new industries last year should increase that figure by $28,000,000.

South Carolina's farm income reached a new high point of more than $400,000,000 in 1948. Our agricultural growth may be illustrated by the fact that we are now producing as much cotton as we did 20 years ago, on half as many acres, releasing vast acreages for diversification.

These factors, combined with a sound, stable, efficient government, are producing a condition of economic and social welfare which is helping to make South Carolina one of the most desirable places on earth in which to live.