It gives me great pleasure to announce the appointment of Peter Thomas Bradham, of Manning, as Secretary of State of South Carolina, to succeed the late William P. Blackwell.

Mr. Bradham has had many years of experience as a public official. He is at present serving as Clerk of Court of Clarendon County, and in this capacity he has also carried on the duties of Judge of Probate.

He is the son of the late Thomas A. Bradham and the late Mrs. Mary Holladay Bradham, and was born in 1901 on a farm near Manning. After graduating from the Manning High School, he attended Furman University, and was engaged in farming and clerical work prior to his election as Auditor of Clarendon County in 1934. Mr. Bradham served in this position for 10 years, and in 1944 was elected Clerk of Court. He was re-elected to this position without opposition in 1948.

A deacon in the Manning Baptist Church, Mr. Bradham has been active in church work all his life. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternal society.

Mr. Bradham is married to the former Miss Sarah Brooke Jones, the daughter of the late Dr. E. Pendleton Jones, a famous Baptist preacher. They have two children, Frances Mae Bradham, 12, and Mary Sue Bradham, 8, and an adopted niece, Miss Annie Jones, 16, also makes her home with them. Mrs. Bradham is a teacher in the Manning High School.

Mr. Bradham's unusual qualifications and his long record of faithful service as a public official render him eminently qualified to serve South Carolina as Secretary of State. I am gratified that he has accepted the appointment, and I feel that our State is fortunate in securing his services.

I have recommended to Mr. Bradham that he give consideration to retain the entire present personnel of the office of Secretary of State.