

HE TOOK THE OATH

My friends, I was reared in a Christian home. My father, who was active in political affairs in his day, impressed upon me early in life that whether in politics or business your word had to be your bond if you succeeded.

When I ran for Governor in 1946, I took an oath that I would support the principles and policies of the Democratic party of South Carolina if elected. Before I would have gone back on my word of honor and repudiated the oath I made to the party which elected me, I would have resigned as Governor.

Even if I had thought Harry Truman was greater than Franklin Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, Andrew Jackson and Thomas Jefferson combined, I would not have supported him for President in defiance of the solemn policy adopted by the Democratic Party of South Carolina.

When my opponent ran for the Senate in the 1944 Democratic primary he took this oath:

"I will support the political principles and policies of the Democratic Party of South Carolina during the term of office for which I may be elected."

My opponent did not swear to support the principles and policies of the National Democratic party. He swore that if elected to the Senate, he would support the principles and policies



of the South Carolina Democratic party during his six year term in office.

In 1948, the Democratic Party of South Carolina adopted as its solemn policy that it would oppose the election of Harry Truman as President or any other candidate for President who favored the Civil Rights Program.

When my opponent repudiated his oath and supported and raised money to elect Harry Truman over the opposition of the party which had honored him with a seat in the Senate, he forfeited any right he has to ever again ask the real Democrats of South Carolina to vote for him for any office or bestow upon him any trust.

Those who stabbed the Democratic Party of South Carolina in the back and repudiated its principles should not now try to get back in the Party and seek favors from Party membership. They should sail under their true colors and offer themselves openly on the Truman Party ticket, for which they attempted to sell out the Democratic Party of South Carolina.

I tell you today, and mark well what I say, the good Democrats of our State are not going to keep in the Senate a man who violated an oath he swore to uphold and in so doing helped elect as the President the man who stabbed South Carolina and the South in the back.