

INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

During this campaign, I have brought to the attention of the people of South Carolina the pardon racket which we have cleaned up since I became Governor.

I want to tell you this morning about another racket I have cleaned up in South Carolina. This racket was not as destructive to law and order as the pardon racket but it struck at the very heart of good government. It also took from the pockets of working people funds which rightfully belonged to them.

I refer, of course, to the Industrial Commission.

It was a matter of common knowledge that an amazing number of the cases before this commission seem<sup>ed</sup> to find their way into the hands of a "select few" lawyers, often when the act applies automatically and no lawyer's services are needed.

It was a matter of common knowledge that exorbitant amounts have been allowed by the commission as attorneys' fees, out of awards made to injured employees or their widows and orphans under the compensation law. Not only have our working people received less from their compensation than the law intended and provided for them, but our State has suffered for a number of years because it has the highest compensation insurance rates of any in the Southeast.

Our people grew sick and tired of hearing about such cases as the one in which a young boy, awarded \$6,000 for a fractured skull, was ordered by the hearing commission to pay \$2,000 attorney's fee out of





I was criticized for naming a woman to the Commission. As Governor, I have appointed more women to positions of responsibility than in any other administration. They make fine public servants and Miss Clayton was no exception. As you can testify, she has worked hard all of her life, was entitled to the position on merit, and she had held a union card.

Despite all of this, her confirmation was fought by a small group of Senators, most of whom are active supporters of my opponent. but we forced a showdown and won by a vote of approximately three to one.

It was a great victory for clean government and I will always look with pride on this accomplishment in behalf of the working people of South Carolina.

I am not one who goes around giving just lip service about being a friend of labor. I get results for our working people.

<sup>3</sup>  
C O P Y