MESSAGE OF J. STROM THURMOND, GOVERNOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK, WADE HAMPTON HOTEL, COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA, NOVEMBER 8, 1950.

It is with deep regret that I cannot be present to extend you a message of welcome. Although I cannot be with you in person, I shall be with you in spirit and shall be wishing for you a great conference.

As Governor of the State, it is a distinct pleasure to extend a hearty welcome to you on behalf of the State of South Carolina and to express my appreciation for the splendid work you are doing to improve the standard of living in our State.

Down through the years your great organization has been of tremendous importance in concentrating public attention upon problems in our society, and in bringing about their solution. It has rendered outstanding service to South Carolina as a medium for the cooperation of all groups. Without such cooperation there can be no progress.

We have long known that South Carolina's difficulties in the past have been basically economic. Poverty goes hand in hand with poor health, low educational standards, and indifferent citizenship. On the other hand, adequate income means better State services and high individual and family standards.
South Carolina's phenomenal industrial growth of the past few years indicates that we are now approaching a desirable balance of agriculture and industry which will insure adequate incomes for all our people. We may, therefore, look forward with confidence to a day when many of our most vexing public welfare problems will be made less difficult by the helping hand of prosperity.

As we approach that future day, the activities of the South Carolina Conference of Social Work must continue to be a vital and necessary part of our mutual effort for the public good.

With best wishes for a most successful meeting this year,

Cordially yours,

J. Strom Thurmond
Governor