

U
mes
Gaffney - Sept 14
[1954]

STATEMENT OF STROM THURMOND

The people of South Carolina are justifiably angered and alarmed over the fact that thirty-one men have arrogated unto themselves the previous right of naming the United States Senator. They will not take it lying down.

I have said I favored a primary, and I still favor it. A primary could still be held if those who have denied it would follow the course open to them under the law.

But the people will not be denied. They are going to demand their right to a free and democratic choice by going to the polls on November 2d and writing in their votes.

As far as I am concerned, this campaign is one of principle and not of personalities. The principle involved is the greatest heritage we have as citizens in a democracy - the privilege of electing those whom we choose to represent us in governmental affairs.

South Carolinians have been known throughout the years as fighters for high principle. They will fight again now.