My fellow South Carolinians:

On Tuesday, the United States Supreme Court handed down its long-awaited decree as to when and how to end segregation in our public schools. This court order came a year after the Court upset all legal precedents and ruled that segregation is unconstitutional. When the decision was made May 17, 1954, the Court directed the parties involved in the suit, and invited other interested parties, to present arguments as to when and how to carry out the segregation ruling.

In April of this year, two distinguished South Carolina attorneys, the Honorable Robert M. Figg, Jr., of Charleston and the Honorable S. E. Rogers of Summerton, represented School District 1 of Clarendon County, South Carolina, on this question. They argued that the enforcement of the 1954 ruling should be left up to the federal district courts and that no deadline should be set for ending segregation. In presenting their arguments before the Court, Mr. Figg and Mr. Rogers pointed out that local conditions differ in regard to the many and varied problems surrounding integration. They argued that the handling of this problem should be left to those familiar with local conditions.

Although the decree of the Court, handed down on Tuesday, did concede that conditions differed in different localities, there is one point which South Carolinians must not forget. The Court did not in any way alter its decision of May 17, 1954, in which it declared segregation unconstitutional.
The Court reached its decision by relying on sociologists and book-writers instead of upon the Constitution of the United States and our long series of legal precedents, going back to the Plessy versus Ferguson decision in 1896. It gave greater weight to unauthoritative views expressed by unknown individuals than it did to the studied and time-tested decrees of a long line of distinguished men who served on the Supreme Court in years past.

We, in South Carolina who believe in Constitutional principles, should not be deluded into believing that the Court order issued Tuesday intended to modify last year's opinion. What the decree of Tuesday amounts to is implementation of the court's previously stated decision.

However, as we consider how to meet and cope with this problem, we must not be discouraged. New methods must be used to meet this problem. There can be no doubt that every effort to force upon us the decree of a Court which depended on the personal views of sociologists instead of well-established Constitutional principles will be contested every step of the way. As a representative of the people of South Carolina, I shall continue to fight for Constitutional government and the rights of the States to control their own internal affairs. My bill to limit jurisdiction in school cases to Federal District Courts would present appeals to higher courts. This bill is now pending before the Senate Judiciary Committee, and I shall endeavor to
On Wednesday, I delivered a memorial address in tribute to the late Senator Burnet Maybank before the 42nd annual convention of the Rivers and Harbors Congress here in Washington. I appreciated this opportunity to pay tribute to a great South Carolinian who made such outstanding contributions to the development of our river and harbor facilities in South Carolina. His work in this and other fields will not soon be forgotten by those who will continue to enjoy the benefits of his splendid endeavors for years to come.

In closing this week, I would like to mention a matter that will be of interest to our federal employees in South Carolina. The Senate has passed a new postal pay bill that meets the objections of the President. It is expected that it will win speedy House approval and that it will be acceptable to the President. It provides for an 8.1 per cent pay increase, which is long overdue to our faithful postal employees. Another bill, increasing the pay of other federal employees, is expected to follow passage of the postal pay measure.

That's about all the time for this week. I hope you'll tune in again next week for another report on my activities in Washington. Thank you.

THE END