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Luncheon and presentation on community development in Sandy Grove, S.C.

Strom Thurmond

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NEWS RELEASE FROM SENATOR STROM THURMOND, APRIL 5, 1957.

WASHINGTON--The story of Sandy Grove Community--its past, present and projected future--was presented here today (Friday, April 5) by Mrs. Hettie H. Rickett.

Sandy Grove is a rural community near Cassatt in Kershaw County and the South Carolina Congressional delegation, along with other distinguished guests, heard the story at a luncheon in the old Supreme Court Room in the United States Capitol.

Food served at the luncheon was sent from Sandy Grove and prepared in the Senate kitchen. A group of members of the Sandy Grove Rural Community Development Club were present at the luncheon as Mrs. Rickett described the efforts of the community to develop its full potential.

Senator Strom Thurmond, acting as host, Congressman Robert Hemphill, giving the invocation, and Congressmen McMillan, Dorn, and Ashmore, all made brief comments complimenting the Sandy Grove group.

Under Secretary of Agriculture True Morse was present and pointed out that the Agriculture Department was using such projects as the one being carried on independently by Sandy Grove as pilot programs for rural development.

Dr. David E. Price, United States assistant surgeon general for Public Health, also spoke briefly, commending the community effort at Sandy Grove.
Miss Pearl McIver, chief of Public Health Nursing, Washington, predicted that great results could be accomplished through the program being sponsored by the Sandy Grove Club.

In her description of the work projected by the Sandy Grove Club, Mrs. Rickett, who is Director of Public Health Nursing in South Carolina for the State Board of Health, took the theme of "Yesterday Meets Tomorrow in Today" in Sandy Grove.

She discussed the various needs of the community, including health requirements, education, development of the land, etc. She also told of how natives of the community were now returning to live there and help in developing its resources. She told of a number of persons who had assisted in the project and of others who had given personal assistance to her in seeking counsel as to how the plan could be put into effect.

Mrs. Rickett showed photographs to the group and told them of how she visualized the changes which would take place during the 10-year program. Color slides also were shown to illustrate various development ideas which Mrs. Rickett stated would be put into effect.

The menu of food produced at Sandy Grove was as follows:
Fruit cocktail, turkey and dressing, country ham, sweet potatoes, mixed greens (turnip greens & cabbage), spring onions, pickled peaches, relish, preserves, hot biscuits, butter, strawberry shortcake & whipped cream.

(Attached is a list of persons who attended the luncheon.)