

SCRIPT OF SENATOR STROM THURMOND FOR TELEVISION FILM CLIP ON CIVIL RIGHTS BILL, RECORDED JUNE 21, 1957.

Two events of the week should cause Americans to have great fear for the results to the foundations of Constitutional government in this country.

The House of Representatives passed the so-called civil rights bill, and the Senate voted, 45 to 39, to permit the bill to be taken up without referring it to the Judiciary Committee for study and consideration. If the bill should be forced through the Senate, without a guarantee of trial by jury, it will rob American citizens of a basic right, and even with such an amendment would be totally unacceptable.

Earlier, the Supreme Court handed down a set of new decisions which afford more than constitutional protection to Communists and outlaws.

I regret that a majority of the Congress appears to be as determined to deprive citizens of so vital a right as trial by jury, while the Supreme Court is opening larger loop-holes for Communists to escape the consequences of conviction by our juries.

I shall fight the so-called civil rights bill in every way possible and I hope the decisions of the Court will persuade the Congress to enact a law to curb the power of the Court.

END