South Carolina's Senator Strom Thurmond's decision this fall to inform the people of the state of what is happening in Washington resulted in many miles of traveling and many speeches. He best depicted the scene troubling so many South Carolinians and other opponents of "creeping socialism" in his three major addresses delivered at Rock Hill, Olanta and Columbia.

At Rock Hill on October 9, before the Young Executives Club, Senator Thurmond criticized the work of the 85th Congress, stating:

"The actions taken in the legislative halls of the 85th Congress justifies the statement that in Congress, as well as in the Supreme Court, Socialism is preferred."

Illustrating his remarks with fact after fact, Senator Thurmond concluded his critique with:

"Analytical criticism, while usually helpful, will not by itself erase Congressional preference for Socialism...

"The power to overcome the influence which I have mentioned lies solely with the individual citizens of this great country. There must be a reawakening on the part of all our people in their concern for individual liberty and freedom of initiative. This awakening must then be translated into effective political action on the local, state and national levels throughout the country. It can only be done by the renunciation of self-serving interests by the individual in favor of broad principles of constitutional government...

"It is never easy to stand alone, but principle sometimes requires that this be done. Taking a positive and strong stand in favor of principle in the face of adversity and personal denunciation is just as important for the individual citizen as it is for his representative in the halls of government...

"Experience proves that debate in the Congress, no matter how factual or persuasive, has little or no effect on minds that were closed on election day by commitments to pressure groups seeking special interest legislation and governmental action."

Before the Pee Dee area Citizens Councils at Olanta on October 14, Senator Thurmond examined the present day Judiciary, emphasizing at the outset:
"I am not biased against the Supreme Court as an institution. I am biased only in favor of the Constitution of the United States, as written."

Reviewing Supreme Court decisions of the past few years and explaining the background of the "political appointed" judges, Senator Thurmond concluded his discussion with:

"The vital choice we face in this country today is whether we shall have judicial tyranny or judicial limitation... For those who cherish liberty and the Constitution, the choice is an easy one. The battle, however, to limit the Court and stem the swelling tide for Socialism will not be easy...

"The best formula for success I know is to fight the battle with a firm clenched fist rather than an open palm turned in the direction of Washington."

And in Columbia on December 1, before Rotarians, Kiwanians and Lions of that city, Senator Thurmond turned his attention to the Executive branch of the government -- "the largest and most powerful branch as supplemented by the quasi-executive independent agencies."

Included among the many statistics quoted by South Carolina's junior senator were:

"The 2,325,434 Executive department, non-military personnel approximates the gross population of South Carolina.

"There are 2,116 organizations which comprise our Executive Department -- 2,116 tentacles that control and regulate every phase of our existence.

"The Executive Department is the world's largest real estate agent, owning 409.5 millions of acres of land -- more than 21 times the total land area of South Carolina.

"Since 1900, the Federal budget has multiplied 140 times, although the population has little more than doubled."

Reviewing how all this has come about through countless usurpations by the Executive, Senator Thurmond concluded:

"Potentially, the remedy to an overbalance of Executive power lies in Congress. Obviously, Congress is unwilling to insist on Executive adherence to the Constitution. The solution lies with the American people. Congress is your tool. It is the branch of government most responsive to your wishes. If you strongly insist by voices raised in protest, enforced by judicious use of the ballot, no part of government at the present time is beyond your control."