

*Please return to
Sen. Thurmond*

MR. PRESIDENT:

It is my intention to vote for the bill under consideration, not because it covers the entire field in which legislation is needed, but because it is a step in the right direction.

I heartily support the purpose of some of the amendments proposed, because the need for them has been shown. One of the principal reforms we should try to effect/is the return to our working men and women/of control over their own organizations.

I regret, however, that the amendments are being proposed now/because they have not been subjected to hearings and the orderly procedures of the Senate/which I deem to be necessary if ~~we~~ we are to pass sound legislation. The so-called civil rights bill of last year is an example of the folly which can be created and foisted upon the American people/when normal and orderly legislative procedures are thrown to the wind.

Labor, management, the Administration, and the public have a right to be heard on the ~~merits~~ merits and demerits of any labor legislation of this magnitude. The Senate has been assured by the Labor Subcommittee chairman and the Labor Committee chairman that hearings will be held/and a bill reported to the Senate on ~~these~~ the subject of these amendments. I do not believe that the vote of the Senate on these amendments ~~will~~ reflect the true attitude of the Senate toward the merits of the amendments, since many members are voting against them solely because they have not been considered by the Labor Committee/in accordance with the normal procedures.

Although I favor enactment of the substance of some of the pending amendments, I must vote against them today. I want to make it clear that I intend to support some of the legislation embodied in these amendments in the Labor Committee/and on the Senate floor when the Labor Committee reports a bill on the subject later in the session.