

THURMOND INSISTS

ON LOYALTY OATHS

WASHINGTON, D. C.-- Senator Strom Thurmond's vigorous statement on the Senate floor in opposition to a bill abolishing "loyalty oath" requirements of students getting scholarships under the National Defense Education Act of 1958 helped defeat the bill for this session of Congress. In his closing remarks he said:

"Mr. President, patriotism may be becoming old-fashioned; but, as far as I am concerned, patriotism is one of the highest qualities of character which a man can possess. I do not know of any quality I would rather have attributed to me than that I am a loyal, true, patriotic citizen. If a person does not love his country, and if he is not willing to take an oath that he will support the Constitution, I say he has no business getting a loan or a grant from the Government of the United States. Furthermore, I should like to see him detected, apprehended, and punished, because he is dangerous, and a menace to society."

The bill, advanced by Senator John Kennedy (D-Mass.) was recommitted to Committee.

'TEXTILE IMPORTS

HURT' -- THURMOND

WASHINGTON, D. C.-- In a strong Senate speech, Senator Strom Thurmond (D-SC) has urged his colleagues to support the recent petition submitted to the Secretary of Agriculture by the National Cotton Council for the purpose of limiting low-wage cotton textile imports from foreign countries.

The Secretary has the power to take action under Section 22 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act to provide relief against imports if it is found that they "tend to render ineffective or materially interfere with" the government's agriculture program. Thurmond had advised that the petition be filed after his special Senate Textile Subcommittee recommended earlier in the year that action be taken to curb textile imports.

Two facts brought out in the South Carolinian's lengthy address were:

"Effective August 1 of this year, domestic manufacturers of cotton will have to pay eight cents per pound more for their raw material than will their foreign competitors...The cost of raw cotton makes up well over half of the average price of a yard of gray cloth in the United States.

"The number of bales of cotton imported into the United States in textile form, including yarn, cloth and fabricated articles has increased from 37,510 in 1948 to 286,630 in 1958, and exports of yarn and cloth have decreased from 689,000 to 362,000 bales.

The Senator warned that the present high influx of imports poses a serious threat to our farm program as well as our domestic textile industry. The entire cotton industry, from grower to manufacturer, is vital to South Carolina and the nation, the Senator told his colleagues.