

Appearing before Senator Tom Hennings' (D-Mo.) Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights Tuesday was Governor Ernest F. Hollings of South Carolina and a group of South Carolina's other most distinguished men in public life. Senator Hennings presided while Governor Hollings made a 45-minute statement in opposition to proposed so-called civil rights legislation. Frequent interruptions for questioning by members of the Subcommittee ran the length of his statement to an hour and a half. The young South Carolina chief executive was emphatic in telling the group that South Carolina had no civil strife at present but that passage of the politically-inspired bills before the Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights would result in discord among South Carolinians -- white and Negro.

State Senator Edgar Brown of Barnwell County sat on Governor Hollings right and put his statement in the Record. The same was true of Senator Marion Gressette of Calhoun County, State Democratic Chairman Tom Pope of Newberry, Senator Robert McNair of Allendale and Attorney General Daniel McLeod (at the end of the table). That's Congressman Robert Hemphill sitting between Senator McNair and Attorney General McLeod.

Senator Olin Johnston, a member of the Subcommittee, is also an intent listener.

The same is true of Senator Sam Erwin (D-NC), a committee member, and Senator Strom Thurmond (D-SC), the South's first witness before the group when hearings commenced earlier in the month.

Senator Thurmond addressed the group briefly following Governor Hollings' statement welcoming the South Carolinians and assuring members of the Subcommittee that the Governor spoke for 90 per cent of the State's population.

In the afternoon, the same South Carolinians appeared before the House Judiciary Subcommittee holding similar hearings.

END

NOTE: Names in script in order of appearance in film.