STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND (D-SC) FOR HIS WEEKLY RADIO BROADCAST, AUGUST 1-2, 1959 (RECORDED JULY 30, 1959)

MY FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS:

The Senate this week passed an Industrial Uses for Agriculture bill/aimed at enlarging upon the existing programs of research in agriculture. The day after this bill passed, the Agriculture Department announced/that research in agriculture has produced results/worth several billion dollars in the past few years.

I supported this Industrial Uses for Agriculture bill. It should open the door for more intelligently planned research/than ever before/for many of our South Carolina crops/such as cotton, soybeans, and grains, particularly corn.

Listen to some of the discoveries of the Agriculture Department:

1. Corn starch/used as a source for packaging materials, permanent finishes on fabrics, and constituents in plastics, detergents, and lacquers;
2. Cottonseed meal/to be used in rations for poultry and swine/thereby increasing the market by 300,000 tons a year;
3. A starch from cereal crops/such as corn, wheat, or grain sorghum, to be used in tanning leather, sizing papers, and as a binding agent in many industrial products;
4. Wheat flour/as an adhesive;
5. A special low-cost treatment/to make cotton cloth rot resistant/for outdoor use.

In the past, more than 150 agricultural utilization research projects/have been commercialized by industry. Positive action of this nature/should eventually enable the farm people of the United States/to earn a better living.
Miss Anne Goldsmith of Greenville, South Carolina, the Peach Queen of 1959, visited the Capitol this week. She presented peaches to President Eisenhower, which were accepted by one of his aides on his behalf, and also distributed peaches among a number of senators. Miss Goldsmith was accompanied on the trip by Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Taylor and their son Jimmy. I am always pleased to have growers and representatives of our great South Carolina peach industry call on me in Washington, and give me the opportunity to help them advertise this outstanding South Carolina product. South Carolina is the leading fresh peach State in the Union. Our peaches are not only the greatest in number, but also the prettiest in appearance and most delicious in taste.

I am spending considerable time these days preparing for what appears to be a certain showdown over so-called civil rights legislation. Presidential candidates in the Senate seem to be determined to bring a bill to the Senate floor and to win passage before the close of this session of the Congress. They feel that they must continue to vie for the minority bloc votes in huge Northern cities. These bloc votes control to a large extent the outcome of the presidential elections because of the present operation of the electoral college voting system. Until this system is changed to prevent one man's vote or a small bloc of votes from swinging the 46 electoral votes of a State like New York, we will continue to be faced with more and more demands for so-called civil rights bills which seek to punish the South. I have in the electoral system sponsored such a change for the past several years.

You will recall that in 1957 when so-called civil rights legislation was being considered, we were told that this would be the civil rights
bills to end all civil rights bills. I knew this was not true, and that was one of the reasons I fought so vigorously that unconstitutional measure, which compromised the right of jury trial. I do not now favor passage of any such legislation, and I shall do my utmost to make certain that the so-called civil rights Act of 1957 is the last such law to be put on the statute books.

With this fight in the offing, the Congress may not adjourn this year until sometime in September. Ordinarily the session is concluded in August.

This is Strom Thurmond in Washington.