

STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND (D-SC) ON SENATE FLOOR, MAY 7, 1959.

MR. PRESIDENT:

Last Friday the Public Relations Committee of the Air Pollution Control Association met in Columbia, South Carolina, which is considered a model city among communities with active programs designed to keep the atmosphere clean. The committee assembled in the capital of South Carolina at the instance of one of its members, D. C. Galloway, Columbia's air pollution control officer.

I believe that the meeting in this locale will prove most helpful to the APCA committee and to the entire membership of the organization, for during their short stay the visitors discovered one important reason why Columbia's air pollution control program has been so effective. At a luncheon, a group of individuals who typify dedicated civic-minded men and women took time out to sit down and meet Columbia's guests. Executives of the Chamber of Commerce, city officials, and representatives of private business organizations were in attendance. From this affair the committee learned that close cooperation of citizens' groups and individuals with air pollution control officials is all-important to any air sanitation program.

During the luncheon an invitation was extended to the APCA to hold an annual meeting in Columbia. I hope that it will not be too long until the organization comes to South Carolina for a convention. The APCA has for more than a half century been responsible

for remarkable progress in the science of reducing atmospheric pollutants. Its membership is made up of municipal, state, and federal air pollution experts and representatives of private industry throughout the United States and Canada.

To experience the effectiveness of APCA's contributions, one needs only to recognize the conditions that would prevail in the absence of air pollution control programs in our industrial cities. The old assumption that industrial smoke, gasses, fumes, and odors are a sign of prosperity is no longer acceptable. Our air pollution control engineers have shown how to enjoy a high rate of industrial activity and a clean atmosphere at the same time. They applied technical knowledge to the boiler room and proved that any fuel can be burned with little or no smoke if proper equipment and proper combustion methods are utilized. They are continuing to develop new devices and techniques for the further reduction of atmospheric pollutants.

Throughout its history, the APCA has met regularly to exchange information without any cost to the Federal government. I might point out at this time that the Senate recently approved a bill to extend the work of the Health, Education, and Welfare Department in the field of air pollution. I am hopeful that this agency of the Federal government will proceed with economic caution so that the work of the APCA will not be duplicated and that no non-essential offices or activities will be established. Industrial communities throughout South Carolina are vitally interested in advancing air pollution control, but we consider it a local problem and are

prepared to deal with it as such.

When the APCA meets in Los Angeles next month at its 1959 annual meeting, I trust that the board of directors will give close attention to Columbia as a site for a forthcoming convention. You can be sure that everyone in South Carolina will welcome the opportunity to be host to this outstanding organization.

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