Address of J. Strom Thurmond, State Councilor of South Carolina of Junior Order, of U. A. M. over Station W A I M, at Anderson, April 27, 1936.

Ladies and Gentlemen: I wish to thank Solicitor Pant for his kind words of introduction. As State Councilor of The Junior Order for South Carolina, I wish to say that it is a great pleasure for us to hold our annual convention in your beautiful and progressive city. Every courtesy possible has been extended to us and our reception has been most hospitable.

The name of our order is somewhat misleading and it might be well to explain the same. The word "Junior" in our name bears no relation to the age of our members, nor is the word "Mechanics" to be taken literally. It reflects in no manner to artisans or mechanical workers, but embraces every profession, and lawyers, doctors, preachers, laborers and all classes of men are members of our order. We use the word "Mechanics" in a speculative sense. The mechanic is a man who takes the raw materials and fashions them into finished products, physically speaking; he is a builder of things, physical and material, while the Junior Order is an organization which builds loyal American citizens.

You have just heard discussed two of the great principles of our order, the orphans' home and education, and I shall now say a few words in regard to our other two big principles.

First, Immigration. - The Junior Order has done as much, or more, than any other organization in the country to restrict undesirable immigration and deport vicious and criminal-minded foreigners and those who enter this country illegally.

It is estimated that The United States is supporting, by way of employment or the dole, 8,000,000 foreign citizens, and in the meantime, it is estimated there are 8,000,000 employable Americans now out of work. We are told that three and one-half millions of foreign citizens in this country are here in violation of law. They slipped in, were smuggled in, or entered in some other illegal manner. Such a person is frequently a
dangerous one to have in this land, and Bruno Richard Hauptman, who kidnapped the Lindbergh child, is a typical example of the illegal alien in this country. We are informed there are about 1,500,000 aliens actually on relief in The United States and that it cost our government approximately $500,000,000 a year to support them, which is equivalent to a weekly contribution of about twenty-five cents by every wage earner in The United States. A great many aliens are here purely to hoard, having no interest in this country, its flag, institutions or ideals, and it is estimated that they have been sending about $100,000,000 annually which they have saved to their respective home lands.

A great many of the foreign-born element are a menace to this country. In the Miami Herald sometime back it was stated: "Unemployment, relief, unrest and subversive attacks directed at our government are problems which may be found closely allied, and to which a partial solution could be found by the deportation of disloyal aliens."

Foreigners who have failed to apply for, or obtained citizenship papers, probably millions; many of them cannot speak English; they crowd our cities and slums; they are easy prey of radical agitators. Hundreds or thousands of these are entered in the relief rolls supported by American tax payers, or else they hold jobs and deprive Americans of employment. They are often to be found in the 'liberal' classes, engaged in strikes, or may be organized for attacks on individuals and Government. There is no good reason why The United States should continue to extend her hospitality to these unfriendly and undesired guests.

It behoves us, as individuals and as a nation, to ever keep on the alert and guard against and protect our citizens from such teachings as communism, fascism and all other isms except Americanism.

The next and last great principle for which the Junior Order stands is Insurance. All true-blooded, one hundred per cent. American citizens should be proud to claim membership in the Junior
Order even if there were no insurance feature connected therewith; however, our great order has an excellent Funeral Benefit Department that cares for the families of our members in the darker hours of human existence. I am informed that our Funeral Benefit Department over the years, has delivered claims to about 65,000 different homes, aggregating over two millions of dollars. Any organization that has rendered such a splendid service to the citizens of our nation deserves commendation.

The Junior Order is the largest patriotic fraternity in the United States and is the largest secret fraternity of any kind in South Carolina. The high principles and lofty ideals for which it stands has attracted citizens throughout the country and its membership has grown by leaps and bounds. The dues of most of the councils of the Junior Order are about $12.00 per year, the exact amount depending on the rent and other expenses to be borne by the respective local councils.

It gives me great pleasure to announce to the radio audience that the Daughters of America, which is the auxiliary of the Junior Order, is also holding its annual convention in Anderson at this time. Mrs. Eva Lewis, of Orangeburg, is the State Councilor of the Daughters of America, and this organization is composed of some of the finest ladies in the State, and is accomplishing great results in South Carolina.

In closing, I wish to take this opportunity to thank Station W A I M for its kindness in extending to the Junior Order the privilege of broadcasting over its station this evening. I wish also to thank the officials of Anderson College for their hospitality while at this station.

I thank you for your attention.