"I am going to read the following statement so that there can be no possibility of my being misunderstood on what I have to say.

A close and reliable friend of mine has brought me first-hand information that the leading henchman and go-between of the Barnwell ring already has started raising money to use against me in my campaign. This henchman of the ring told my friend that they were out to defeat Strom Thurmond, and that they would raise a big fund for that purpose.

"He said he had not decided just what other candidate they would support but that they were waiting to pick up a man that they thought might be strong enough to beat me.

"I gladly accept the challenge of opposition from that crowd.

"It will be interesting to see whom they lavish their money on in this race.

"I doubt seriously if there are many candidates in this field who would want the support of the Barnwell ring with its record of manipulations and false treatment of the public trust.

"I know one thing, that the money that gang raises is not coming from the good people of the state."
RING RULE

It is a matter of common knowledge that the government of South Carolina is under the domination of a small number of cunning and conniving men, whose influence extends even into the Governor's office.

Ring rule is inconsistent with democracy. When the ring rules, the people are deprived of their right of self-government. Instead, we have government of the ring, by the ring, and for the ring. The people of South Carolina do not like that kind of government, and they are demanding a change, a big change. The people want a governor who will be loyal to them, and not the puppet of a small group of scheming politicians.

It is vital that the next Governor furnish effective leadership and not allow the functions of his office to be usurped or controlled by others. As Governor, I shall see that the office is conducted on the high plane on which it should stand.