STATEMENT BY J. STROM THURMOND

The results of yesterday's primary is not a victory for Strom Thurmond— it is a victory for clean, honest, upright, and progressive government in South Carolina.

Our people have spoken in no uncertain terms. They have directed that there be no turning back of the clock of progress, that there be no reverting to reactionary government and that ring rule in the political affairs of this state be brought to an end.

A new day has dawned. The people are aroused. They are determined that the clique of self serving politicians who have so long held the power of life and death over our political life be driven from control in our state house. Furthermore, the people have served notice that those who have made their profits in the traffic of liquor shall not dominate the political life of this state.

I regard the results of the primary yesterday as a mandate from the people to bring an end to political ring rule in South Carolina and to clean up the present liquor mess in our state. I have every reason to believe that the legislature will cooperate in carrying out this crystal clear mandate of the ballot box. I know personally practically every member of the new legislature, and I predict this state is going to see a surge of new vigor and progressiveness in our legislative halls next January.

The demand of the people for more rigid law enforcement against underworld tendencies in our state will be heeded. No one is going to be above the law in South Carolina. The decisions of our courts are going to be fully respected, and there will be no abuse of the pardoning power during the 4 years I am in the Governor's office. I am mindful and shall not forget the promises I made during the campaign to promote the interest of the farmer, to protect gains made by labor; to encourage team work between management and employees by assuring square deals for
both; and promote in every way the industrial growth of our state; to improve our educational facilities and give our youth a better break in life; to expand facilities to improve the health of our people; to fully develop and utilize our natural resources; and to help the veterans in every way possible to meet their pressing housing and educational problems.

These were the promises of my campaign. They shall be the goals of my administration. While fully mindful of the difficulties ahead, I feel confident they will be attained.

To those who voted for me, I want to express my deepest appreciation for your support and confidence. To those who worked so untiringly in my behalf I shall forever be grateful. No candidate ever had a more loyal, enthusiastic and aggressive group of supporters. We faced powerful forces, well financed and well organized. It was the loyalty and the hard work of these supporters and these voluntary workers who made our victory possible. The results of the primary yesterday speak for their effectiveness and is a tribute to their stand for good government.

To those who could not see their way clear to vote for me, I want them to know that I shall enter the Governor's office with no ill will and I harbor no hate. The fine vote given me in every County demonstrates that our victory was a united expression from all over the state for good government. I call on those who voted for me and against me in every section of the state to now join hands and let's all pull together for a bigger, a better, and happier South Carolina.

We have everything it takes to make a great and powerful state. With the proper leadership in all branches of government and in all segments of our economy, including business, industry and agriculture, we will move forward to greater heights and attain a position which will be the envy of every other state.

With God's help, I hope to inspire that leadership in South Carolina.