

H. 1049.—HORRY DELEGATION: A Bill to authorize the Town Council of the Town of Windy Hill Beach in Horry County to levy an annual tax not exceeding sixty mills upon all of the taxable property in the town.

Without reference.

H. 1050.—HORRY DELEGATION: A Bill to provide that the Town of Windy Hill Beach in Horry County may clean up vacant lots when the owner thereof after notice refuses to do so and assess the owner for the expenses incurred; and to make the lien created apply as in cases involving liens for taxes.

Without reference.

H. 1051.—Mr. MAY: A Bill to amend Act No. 313 of the Acts and Joint Resolutions of the General Assembly of South Carolina, 1959, creating a commission to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the participation by the State in the War Between the States, so as to add to the membership of the Commission the Division President of the South Carolina Division of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Division Commander of the South Carolina Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Referred to Committee on Ways and Means.

H. 1052.—Mr. TOOLE: A Bill to provide for the establishment of the Office of Ministerial Recorder in certain municipalities and to repeal Sections 15-1058 through 15-1058.3, 15-1081 through 15-1084 of the 1962 Code and Act No. 888 of 1964, relating to the Office of Ministerial Recorder for the cities of Columbia, Rock Hill and Cayce.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

H. 1053.—Mr. TOOLE: A Bill to provide for an alternative arrest procedure by Sheriffs, Constables and Municipal Police Officers.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

RETURNED WITH CONCURRENCE

The Senate returned to the House with concurrence the following:

H. 1040.—Messrs. Hammett, Ballard, Finch, Clary H. Smith, Eubanks, Pruitt, Stephen, Wofford, Fendley, Comer, Jolly and Weatherford: A Concurrent Resolution providing for the elec-

tion of a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of South Carolina to succeed the Honorable J. Davis Kerr, deceased.

Received as information.

CHANGE IN DESK NUMBERS

In order for Delegations to be seated together the following changes were made on January 13, 1965.

Mr. Grant of the Richland Delegation is shown on the diagram to be seated in Desk No. 35 and Mr. Schumacher of Oconee in Desk No. 62

Mr. Grant is now in Desk No. 62.

Mr. Schumacher is now in Desk No. 35.

COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO ESCORT THE GOVERNOR

The SPEAKER appointed Messrs. GRANT, COMER and HARTNETT of a Committee to escort the Governor.

JOINT ASSEMBLY ADDRESSED BY GOVERNOR DONALD S. RUSSELL

At 12:00 noon the Senate appeared in the Hall of the House.

The President of the Senate called the Joint Assembly to order and announced that it convened under a term of a Concurrent Resolution adopted by both Houses.

The Clerk of the House read the Concurrent Resolution:

H. 1001.- Mr. Blatt: A Concurrent Resolution inviting His Excellency, Donald S. Russell, Governor, to address the General Assembly in Joint Session at 12:00 Noon, on Wednesday, January 13, 1965.

Governor Russell was escorted into the Hall of the House by a committee composed of Senators Morris, Stevens and Reel and Messrs. Grant, Comer and Hartnett.

The President of the Senate introduced Governor Russell who then addressed the Joint Assembly as follows:

LT. GOVERNOR McNAIR, SPEAKER BLATT, MEMBERS OF THE SENATE, MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

Each New Year is more than just a measure of time. It represents a new and important starting point.

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Today, we are at this new starting point for 1965. And ours is the task to chart a course which shall assure unprecedented opportunities for progress by all our people, a course which shall boldly and courageously face up to the problems, new and old, confronting us, and a course which shall give us a continuing sense of movement, growth and development in the year ahead.

This is no easy responsibility. Undoubtedly, some of our problems are both novel and formidable. They present us with grave alternatives and difficult choices. It would be naive of us to minimize some of the difficulties presented by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. The Supreme Court decision on state legislative reapportionment can, if strictly applied in our State, alter significantly the structure of our legislative government. But neither despair nor self-pity will enable us to solve these and other problems or to counter their difficulties.

These problems are not more perplexing or insoluble than those which have often confronted our people in the past. The movement of history is a constant story of adjustment. And we, who today are writing our own history, must fashion our programs in the light of the changes we may choose to make and the changes that may be forced by unwanted circumstances. This may mean basic alterations in, or even drastic modifications or curtailment of, some of our governmental activities. But the decisions in all these matters must be made, not in an atmosphere of despair but after calm deliberations and with proper regard for the future of our State.

In a very real sense, the measure of our leadership for 1965 will be whether we, rejecting alike despair and pessimism, shall inspire in our own way the creative energy and force of our people for education and economic progress, shall so deal with the problems of today that they may not become stumbling blocks for the opportunities of tomorrow, and shall translate into positive action a true sense of destiny for our State and its people in this era of throbbing growth for America.

As we approach this task, we have much cause for optimism. We have just experienced the greatest period of industrial growth in the history of our State. Industry has demonstrated its faith and confidence with over \$281,000,000 of industrial ex-

pansion in South Carolina in 1964, providing for our people an increase in annual payrolls of an estimated \$116,000,000 and of 14,000 additional jobs. In a recent issue of *Business Week*, it is reported that between October, 1963, and October, 1964, we led the entire nation in percentage of increase in total personal income—actually more than twice the national percentage. This is the kind of leadership we seek. More importantly, we are beginning to experience the development of industries which supplement our agricultural economy and offer new opportunities for diversified and increased incomes for our farmers, a group to whose interest we must never be blind. And, while we have not done all we would have liked, we have inaugurated changes in our state support of public education which offer bright promises for the future.

There is progress in South Carolina. 1964 set a record for us in economic growth, in improved personal income, in a growing standard of living, and in a greater sense of progress. Our responsibility is to see that such progress continues at an accelerating rate.

This record of growth has been stimulated, if not achieved, by what we in government have done in the past. It is often stated—and with truth—that the government does not create either wealth or jobs. It does not plough the farmer's field. It does not turn the wheels of industry. But government—and that means what you and I do—does determine whether states and nations have that kind of climate in which free men and free enterprise can prosper and whether persons of whatever economic status may be provided with the fullest education in skills and talents of which they are capable. I believe our record of growth in incomes, in industry, in education and in public service during 1964 is a testimonial to the type of climate we have generated for our State in the past.

But our future depends not so much on what we have done in the past as on what we do now. We create and maintain in a large degree this climate with our attitude towards taxation and with the use we make of state resources. It is axiomatic that states cannot discharge their basic responsibilities without adequate tax revenues. But the impact of such taxes, if too onerous, can become a burden on progress. The recent federal income tax reduction was a frank recognition of this fact; and the bene-

ficial effect of such tax reduction in the growth of gross national product demonstrated that increases in tax revenue can often be best achieved by that tax policy which is based upon increasing tax revenue by increasing economic growth. And that is the policy we have so wisely and with such success followed in South Carolina in recent years and which I earnestly recommend we shall continue to follow.

On the other hand, we must give proper consideration to public needs. Our public resources, limited as they necessarily are, should be carefully husbanded and applied selectively where there are both the greatest need and the greatest promise of benefit to our people. With this in mind, we on the Budget and Control Board have proposed a long needed change in our policy at our state supported institutions of higher learning, which, if approved, will enable us to stretch farther our tax dollar in this area. For years the enrollment at these institutions has included a substantial number of students from without the State. It is true that there was an increased tuition fee for such out-of-state students, but such increase, which, incidentally, was earmarked for the construction of new buildings and not for operating expenses, fell far short of the cost to the taxpayers for such students. The actual burden assumed by the State for each out-of-state student, after taking into account the differences in out-of-state tuition rates, ranged from approximately \$500 to over \$1,000 per school year. The aggregate of this burden to the State is almost \$3,000,000 per year.

Clearly, a state such as South Carolina, handicapped financially in providing educational opportunities for its own citizens, can ill afford the luxury of assuming the financial burden of educating the citizens of other, often wealthier, states. In the budget before you, we have recommended that fees (as distinguished from tuition) for out-of-state students at the state supported colleges be increased to cover approximately one-half the cost to the State for providing such education. We used this formula to avoid too large an increase at one time, though we are of the opinion consideration may well be given eventually to recouping the full cost. As a result of this action, it is estimated that the operating revenues of these institutions will be increased approximately \$1,400,000 per year, without any increased cost to the taxpayers of this State.

Again the Budget and Control Board was confronted with a request for an increase of considerably over \$1,000,000 in the operating budget of the Technical Education Committee. This addition was required if our new Technical Education Centers, already built, were to be staffed and operated. There could be but one answer to the request. The federal government, however, makes available a substantial additional sum this year and will make an additional \$3,000,000 available next fiscal year for vocational education. One-third of such allocation can be used either for construction or instruction in our technical education program. We have instructed that such sum be allocated to the Technical Education Committee, to be used to meet their additional instruction costs in 1965-66, thereby avoiding an increase of over \$1,000,000 in state appropriations for this activity.

We are thus practicing frugal allotment of resources and economy in government in order to give proper support to essential public services. But this is a never-ending business. There are always demands upon the public purse, many of a most appealing nature. It is always easy to appropriate public funds; it seems to satisfy everyone, most of whom never give a thought to where the money is to be had. And, when funds are not currently available, it is always suggested that we can issue bonds. We need to remember that the most expensive appropriations ever made are those which are financed on borrowed money. To put it a little more clearly, every dollar appropriated through bond issues is ultimately costing the State \$1.30.

This, of course, does not mean that we should always operate on a pay-as-you-go basis. It does emphasize that normally bond issues should be avoided and that, as a general rule, appropriations should never be made if there is not available current revenue to meet them. Naturally, some exceptions must be made—and we shall subsequently discuss a few vital ones—but these should be confined to matters of both imperative and immediate public need.

Nor should we ever forget the importance of a balanced budget. To a large extent, our favorable business climate has been created by the responsible attitude commendably maintained by this General Assembly in its policy toward appropriations. We can take great pride in the fact that our State, though far less wealthy than New York, for instance, can borrow on more ad-

vantageous terms than New York. The reason is not difficult to fathom. It is to our consistent policy of operating with a balanced budget and of avoiding appropriations beyond our reasonable revenue expectations.

Actually, one of the great burdens of government at all levels is the continuous tendency to duplication and proliferation of agencies. At the same time there is a hardened policy against ever abolishing or curtailing a governmental agency. Yet it is obvious that, just as in business, so in government, bureaus and services become obsolete and unnecessary. There must be machinery in government for constant review of the activities of our various agencies in order to eliminate duplications and to prune away unnecessary activities.

In the field of governmental efficiency and economy we have made increasingly apparent progress, following many of the guidelines authorized by the 1964 General Assembly. The operations of the General Services Division, underway now only six months, have already proved exceptionally effective in reducing purchasing costs, freeing needed office space, standardizing vehicle usage, and, in general, placing the operations of state government on a businesslike and highly efficient basis. For example, reorganized and centralized procedures for purchasing and distribution of certain office supplies in the Columbia area have reduced average unit price by 49 per cent; and the price of janitorial supplies has been reduced by 51 per cent. Records transfers to central storage have released 2,782 square feet of valuable office space, equivalent to 5 per cent of the space in the Wade Hampton Office Building. Forty state automobiles have been sold under regulations adopted by the Budget and Control Board and others personally assigned have been placed in general agency use.

These are but examples of savings which can be effected if we give continuing and careful scrutiny to the framework and structure of state government as it grows to meet the needs of the people of South Carolina. I believe that such review of the operations of state government should be on a continuing basis and that the legislature should be involved in it.

The General Assembly many years ago provided the machinery for this review through the creation of a Reorganization Commission. Unfortunately, the Commission itself has been over-

looked. I propose that the Commission be reactivated and I am prepared to make my appointments as soon as the General Assembly shall indicate its concurrence.

Throughout our term, our major interest has been in the field of public education. It remains so. And we have definitely made commendable progress in this field. We hope to continue this record in keeping with this policy. We have sought constantly to direct most of our increased revenue into the support of education. This year continues this policy. We must meet about a \$3,000,000 deficit in our school appropriation over last year's appropriation. In addition, the normal increment in teachers' salaries of \$1,250,000 must be provided. And our payments into the retirement fund and for social security have increased almost \$5,000,000, more than half of which, i.e., \$2,700,000.00, is for the benefit of public school teachers and administrators. We accordingly have what might be described as built-in increases, largely for public education, of about \$9,250,000. After canvassing the other pressing needs of the State and seeking to channel every dollar we can into public education, we have allocated \$2,500,000 for a cost-of-living adjustment in teachers' salaries. We have had to give some consideration to other state employees and needs and, after doing so, this sum, it appears, represents all we have remaining and all that we can safely allocate out of the estimated increased revenues set forth in our Budget Report.

I have consulted with the Board of the South Carolina Public Service Authority and, at my request, the Authority has agreed to increase its state contribution by a minimum of one half million dollars. This will accordingly increase to this extent our estimated revenue for 1965-66. Moreover, in recent years, the Electric Cooperatives have expressed their willingness to pay a fair tax to the State. Certainly, the State needs all the revenue it can secure. Yet, we are faced with the paradoxical situation in which a potential taxpayer expresses a willingness to pay a fair tax to a state in desperate need, but, because of disagreement between the private power companies and the Cooperatives, we have been unable to agree upon any tax. No one can be sure what is a fair tax under the unique operations of the Cooperatives which are different in so many respects from a normal business; but certainly we should have tax which even

the Cooperatives themselves believe fair, and that without delay. We can be conservative in the tax until we have had some experience, in order that we may insure that it does not unfairly burden these Cooperatives which have been and are so valuable to our people. After acquiring experience with the tax and its impact upon the operations of the Electric Cooperatives—an experimental period as it were—the General Assembly could better determine the fair and proper amount and nature of the tax to be imposed. I recommend that the General Assembly promptly provide a tax upon the Electric Cooperatives.

I propose further that you allocate this additional sum of \$500,000 to be realized in fiscal 1965-66 from the Public Service Authority as well as all receipts from the tax on the Electric Cooperatives to a teachers' equalization fund, to be used exclusively for the equalization of teachers' salaries and including appropriate provision for mandatory reciprocal local contributions, under terms as may be fixed by the State Board of Education. This would enable us to make a long recognized contribution to assisting the weaker school districts. Its allocation should, as we have said, incorporate reciprocal local contributions and should be exclusively allocated for increases in teachers' salaries. Such a state fund, supplemented by local contributions, would represent a substantial improvement in our over-all teachers' salary program and would establish a salutary precedent in our continuing program to promote public education in the State.

I have another recommendation in the education field. In no area of education is the need more pressing or immediate than in adult education. Upon its success much of our industrial development depends. Already, in some parts of our State, industrial growth is threatened because of the lack of educational and skill qualifications of so many of our citizens. Proud as we are of the progress we have made, we must never forget that we have thousands of citizens unqualified for modern employment. We would be blind to our responsibilities if we failed to provide them with opportunity to be a part of our progress. We have been attacking this problem through many programs of basic and vocational adult education. Such programs have been extended in recent months to youthful school dropouts, the very group that eventually becomes our juvenile delinquents and permanent relief customers. They have largely been financed

with federal funds under the Manpower Development and Training Act. The Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 and federal legislation presently proposed will substantially increase the financial support available for these programs. Unfortunately, all these programs are not coordinated and supervised under a single department or agency. There is considerable danger of duplicating and competing applications and activities from several agencies. It is important that we act promptly to place all these activities financed under these various Acts under a single agency. I accordingly recommend that the Technical Education Committee be given the responsibility for administering all basic and vocational adult educational programs under the Manpower Development and Training Act, the Economic Opportunity Act and new proposed related federal legislation, subject to the general supervision and control of the State Board of Education.

The Technical Education Committee is already engaged extensively in this field. With its expertise, its background of experience and its statewide organization, I am confident that it can give dynamic leadership to these programs and can enlist the fullest support of all agencies of state and federal government as well as of private foundations.

The fiscal policies which I have outlined to you in financing public services are dependent on one key assumption: that South Carolina will continue to attract an ever-enlarging amount of industrial and economic activity. If we are to predicate our progress educationally and governmentally on a growing economy, we must be certain, insofar as possible, that our economy will continue its robust growth. If industrial and economic expansion falters, the total progress of our State falters with it.

In October, I outlined at the Governor's Conference on Business, Industry, Education, Agriculture and the Government a Four Point Program for Economic Growth, designed to develop the full potentialities of South Carolina's natural and human resources, involving certain increases in the appropriations and broadening of the activities of the State Development Board. I shall not restate that program in this message but I do earnestly recommend its full approval by you. I cannot over-emphasize the importance of constant and far-sighted economic research and planning for the future as provided by this program.

The Supreme Court of the United States, through a series of recent decisions, has thrust upon the states a matter of grave consequence to South Carolina and, in particular to the General Assembly. I refer, of course, to decisions which require both houses of a state legislature to reflect, in some fashion, the population pattern of the state in order to satisfy the provisions of the Fourteenth Amendment. I think we are all unanimous in our feeling that the Court's decisions are unwarranted and we shall utilize every appropriate means to secure either Congressional or Constitutional reversal of the effect of such decisions. We cannot, however, blind ourselves to the problem or refuse to consider now what we shall do should the decisions not be checked and should we be faced with an adverse ruling.

I deem it to be of overwhelming importance that we avert, if at all possible, any situation which would find a federal court drafting a plan of representation for the people of South Carolina in their own General Assembly. Therefore, I recommend that there be established immediately a panel of distinguished legislators and citizens to consider the entire matter and to draft contingency plans which could be put into effect immediately if the Court's ruling is allowed to stand and if South Carolina's government is successfully challenged thereunder. I think it would ill behoove this great State to turn over to any federal court jurisdiction in such a matter, and I do not think hastily-summoned special sessions which race to meet court-imposed deadlines are proper and productive forums in which to decide the composition of a legislative body such as this one. Rather, intelligent and reasonable men should be charged with searching out alternatives in a calm and deliberative atmosphere while there is still time. We have the time now. Let us utilize it wisely.

The mounting fatality rate on our highways is a source of shame for all South Carolinians. Alarmed by our miserable record in the field of traffic safety, I have recently fostered the organization of the privately-endowed South Carolina Traffic Safety Council, governed by a group of South Carolina's outstanding citizens. The Council, only now beginning its work, will, I am sure, create and nurture that spirit of urgency and concern among our people from which will grow needed rules and statutes to regulate effectively the ever-growing volume of

traffic on our streets and highways. However, I do not believe the General Assembly can remain indifferent in the face of a new record for traffic fatalities in the year just ended. It is imperative that at least a start be made in placing constructive traffic safety legislation on the books, and I recommend that we begin in the field of driver re-examination. Specifically, I believe that the General Assembly, as a bare minimum, should prescribe mandatory re-examination for any motorist whose driver's license has been suspended as a result of a moving traffic violation before such license is returned. Should this proposal be enacted, those persons whose driver's licenses have been suspended for driving under the influence of intoxicants, reckless driving, or an accumulation of points under chapter 6 of the 1962 Code of Laws would be required to take the standard examination or re-examination. Such a proposal is reasonable and prudent and, if enacted, will give us valuable experience with which to formulate further moves in this field. It is my sincere hope that the General Assembly will look with favor upon it.

As a result of recent political developments within our State, a complete review of our election laws is in order. Since our general election is assuming greater importance, our primary and general elections should not be so far apart. Moreover, it is generally agreed that the selection of party nominees through simultaneous primary elections accords far more with democratic philosophy than selection by convention.

Reliance upon private financing of primary elections should no longer be a part of our political life, since the State itself stringently regulates the conduct of nominating procedures and primary elections as well as general elections.

If we are to have simultaneous primary elections, other changes in our primary election laws might be required. These should be carefully considered by the General Assembly.

I accordingly recommend a general revision of our primary election laws to provide for simultaneous party primaries, financed by the State, with such other changes and provisos as may be appropriate.

The domestic dairy industry of our State is vital to our public health and to the economic well-being of a large segment of our agricultural population. We have made significant gains

in the development of this industry in recent years. However, a pressing need is an adequate law to stabilize effectively the fluid milk market of South Carolina. This problem must be resolved in order to provide a constant and adequate wholesome supply of a basic commodity which materially affects the health and welfare of the people of this State.

Prior to 1963, production of grade A milk was increasing at a rate of eight to ten per cent a year to meet the demands of the State's expanding industrial economy. In 1963, the increase over the previous year was only two per cent and in 1964 production was three tenths per cent below 1963, while the demand for fresh fluid milk continued to increase at the rate of about six per cent per year.

It is incumbent upon the legislature to pass adequate laws which will effectively solve the problems which now threaten our dairy industry. Failing to do so will be inviting federal encroachment in a local matter which can best be handled on a local basis. Therefore, I recommend that the General Assembly submit to the people a Constitutional Amendment empowering the legislature or its designated agents to provide for the control and regulation of milk and milk products.

South Carolina is fortunate that over the years its state government has been staffed with able and dedicated public servants. For many of these, the rewards of private employment would have been more remunerative. However, they have remained with state government and have rendered invaluable service. I regret that we are not able to provide more adequately for these employees. The Budget and Control Board has, however, included a general cost-of-living salary adjustment of approximately three per cent for all state employees and I earnestly commend this recommendation to you.

In the interest of state employees, I recommend also that a personnel compensation and classification system be created. We need such a personnel system to assure equal compensation for equal jobs and equal responsibility. Devising that system will be a complicated and laborious task, but the longer we delay it, the more complicated it becomes. South Carolina's devoted governmental employees are entitled to an orderly salary scale advancement and promotional system. I earnestly suggest to you the creation of a special committee to prepare such a system and to present it for consideration by the 1966 General Assembly.

Before concluding this phase of my remarks, I would like to mention quite briefly several items which affect the welfare and advancement of the State but which are not before you in specific form.

The Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 will be implemented in South Carolina in every fashion which we deem helpful to our people. To insure that programs under this Act accord with local sentiment, I have requested each delegation to designate a local coordinator, and I have appointed Mr. Edwin M. Culpepper as State Coordinator to render assistance to local communities.

The Special Committee on Nursing, created at my request last year, will shortly present a far-reaching report. I commend that report to you, knowing in advance that it has been carefully formulated and that its recommendations, if effected, will help place South Carolina in the vanguard of nursing education and health care in the nation.

Finally, I would like to commend the thousands of volunteer private citizens who render patriotic assistance to the State each year, with little or no remuneration. Particularly among this group, I cite the Beautification and Community Development Committee appointed in 1964. Rendering its service on a voluntary basis, the Committee will, I am sure, make an extremely worthwhile contribution in enhancing the beauty and attractiveness of our vast natural endowments.

I have given you my views regarding the current operations of the state government. Now, I would direct your attention to the long range development of the potentialities of the state and the government with a Capital Improvements Program.

It is inevitable that space needs will continue to grow as the population of the State increases. Much of that growth will take place in the Capital City, the center of our governmental activity. Land acquisition in the Capital Complex has already become a serious problem. In order to prevent land acquisition from becoming impossibly expensive, I believe that the State should move now to acquire substantial additional acreage in the Capital Complex area. Accordingly, I have conferred with officials of the City of Columbia regarding an urban renewal project which would gain for the State approximately 12 acres of land within sight of the State House. I shall immediately direct

a letter to the City Council of Columbia formally requesting a feasibility study for an urban renewal project in this area. At this time, there will be no cost involved to the State, but if the project is ultimately concluded, the State would have to bear a certain cost for the acquisition of the 12-acre tract. Preliminary estimates indicate that the State would be gaining valuable land adjacent to the present Capital Complex at a cost far less than that paid for recently-acquired land similarly situated.

The program will take from two to five years to complete, including the relocation of families in the area. A not inconsiderable factor in our decision to undertake this project is the knowledge that the families who will be relocated must be placed in decent housing, improving their environment and their physical comfort. The elimination of a blighted area in South Carolina's Capital City is a third favorable factor.

I indicated earlier the continuing expense of public enterprises financed by debt and counseled that such methods of financing should only be resorted to in order to meet immediately pressing needs for which there were no available funds. I do feel that there are four fields where these requirements are met. I shall discuss these separately.

First, the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, an excellent and responsible professional agency which has rendered invaluable service to South Carolina in recent years, must have a new headquarters building, and I hope the legislature will authorize such. The \$350,000 requested for this purpose includes \$30,000 for renovations to existing buildings for use as training facilities. The renovated facilities would be used for a Police Training Center where law enforcement officers from any community, regardless of size, would have the opportunity for basic and advanced training. I feel that the Training Center, operated under the auspices of SLED's expert personnel, would substantially improve law enforcement standards in our State.

In a state growing educationally and culturally each year, it is appropriate that we move to strengthen significantly our public library system. The State Library Board, as most of you know, renders outstanding leadership and service to the public and to local libraries throughout the State. I believe that the constructive use of goods books by our population complements the rising educational attainments of our people. In line with

this, I shall convene in the early spring a Governor's Conference on Public Libraries. It is my hope that the General Assembly will join in this emphasis on voluntary learning by authorizing the construction of a new building in Columbia for the State Library Board. Under the Library Services and Construction Act, federal funds are available on a 66% federal—34% state matching basis. Approximately \$130,000 is now available in earned funds towards providing the state's contribution. I request from the legislature the necessary additional matching amount required to permit this undertaking to go forward.

Third, I recommend to you urgently needed improvements at John G. Richards Industrial School and the South Carolina Industrial School for Negro Girls. John G. Richards must have authorization for the construction of a gymnasium at a cost of \$170,000 if authorities there are to carry out an adequate program of recreation and guidance for the young people in that institution. Serious disciplinary problems are created by the lack of adequate indoor athletic and recreational facilities, and the gymnasium is a necessity, in my opinion.

I submit with even greater urgency a request for additional dormitory space at the Industrial School for Negro Girls. Facilities there are dreadfully overtaxed, and additional dormitory space is an absolute necessity. I submit to you a request for \$150,000 for the construction of additional dormitories at this institution.

The legislative program which I have outlined is drawn within the framework of a frugal budget utilizing all of our prospective revenue and providing for the long range needs of the State. I have asked for vigorous moves in education, in reapportionment, in traffic safety, in industrial development, in governmental efficiency, in law enforcement, and in library services.

It is my hope that we may move forward in each of these fields, ever concerned that South Carolina's progress shall continue unabated on all fronts. I express to you in advance my gratitude and that of the people of South Carolina for the endeavors which you are about to undertake. I know that in all that you do, your interest shall be, like my own, to build a great state now and for the future.