

# Mayor Of Atlanta Urges Race Discrimination Ban

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Mayor Ivan Allen Jr. of Atlanta broke the pattern of southern antagonism to President Kennedy's civil rights program Friday by urging Congress to outlaw racial discrimination in restaurants, hotels and other private businesses.

At the same Senate Commerce Committee hearing, Gov. Donald S. Russell of South Carolina said that enactment of the controversial public accommodations proposal would aggravate race tensions.

The hearing was enlivened by another conflict between acting committee chairman John O. Pastore, D-RI., and Sen. Strom Thurmond, D-S.C. The two engaged in a snappish verbal exchange when Pastore accused Thurmond of asking "loaded questions to catch tomorrow's headlines."

Allen testified that Atlanta has made a start toward integration. But he said failure of Congress to pass an anti-discrimination law might encourage communities where voluntary efforts have begun to lapse back into previous segregation practices.

"Failure by Congress to take definite action at this time," the Georgian said, "is by inference an endorsement of the right of private business to practice racial discrimination and, in my opinion, would start the same old round of squabbles and demonstrations that we have had in the past."

However, Allen urged Congress to write into the program a provision giving local communities reasonable time to try voluntary means to end segregation.

Gov. Russell, in his opposition to the legislation, said it "offers no sound remedy for the delicate and complex problem of racial relations."

The South Carolina executive said it would militate against "The cordial atmosphere essential to peaceful relations."

Elsewhere on the civil rights legislative front:

—Norman Thomas, long-time Socialist candidate for president,

called charges the Negro integration movement was Communist-inspired "ridiculous."

He told a House judiciary subcommittee: "This is not a result of Communist action. It is the result of failure to give the people who were freed from chattel slavery the rights of citizens. They would be less than men if they did not protest."

—Gus Tyler, assistant president of the AFL-CIO International Ladies Garment Workers Union, endorsed the proposals to insure job equality for Negroes and denied that his union prevents its Negro and Puerto Rican members from filling high offices.

—James Farmer, director of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), and Roy Wilkins, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), appeared before a Senate subcommittee to advocate passage of a bill setting up a fair employment practices commission.

**McNamara Gives Order**