Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

Use of materials from this collection beyond the exceptions provided for in the Fair Use and Educational Use clauses of the U.S. Copyright Law may violate federal law. Permission to publish or reproduce is required from the copyright holder. Please contact Special Collections Department, University of Delaware Library, http://www.lib.udel.edu/cgi-bin/askspec.cgi
Mr. Kelly: From Washington, DC, transcribed, United States Senator J. Allen Frear reports again to the people of Delaware on current congressional affairs. Ladies and gentlemen, Senator Frear.

Senator Frear: Thank you, Mr. Kelly. There were some slight but definite signs last week that the nation’s economic slump, the most severe we have experienced since the Great Depression of the 1930s, may have about reached its lowest point. However, there is no concrete indication that the economy has yet begun turning upward. Indications of a possible leveling off were seen in increased orders from manufacturers and in an upward boost of manufacturer’s sales. In addition, factory inventories were reduced, reportedly by about a half a billion dollars. Another economic barometer, the stock market, held to a modest though steady climb. And retail sales in department stores were slightly ahead of the same period last year. Unemployment dropped slightly, too, but it is doubtful that any great significance should be attached to this development because spring always brings additionalhirings in various industries. While the country in general was cheered by these brighter economic reflections, the sober realizations remained that conditions are still substantially less than normal, and Congress continues to devote a major part of its attention and interest to ways and means of speeding national recovery. In the House of Representatives, a bill was passed providing unemployment compensation for workers whose benefits have expired. The Senate Finance Committee, to which the bill will now be referred, can be expected to give the legislation early attention. Talk of a possible tax reduction continued, too, with most emphasis being placed on the likelihood that any such relief will be directed to the excise field. Specifically, to automobiles and freight and possibly passenger traffic. These latter categories would be of special help to the nation’s railroads, which badly need assistance. Oddly enough, in spite of the depressed state of many major and basic industries, food prices continue at a high, and in some cases, at a record level. This situation is especially unfortunate for those persons who are either out of work or employed part-time. Various explanations have been offered by the Department of Agriculture, government economists, and representatives of the food industry to account for this condition. But so far, at least, the nation’s housewives have found scant encouragement in their attempts to reduce their family's costly food budgets. A realistic drop in this cost of
living category would surely be a major benefit to the average consumer.
Meanwhile, despite its major preoccupation with the domestic economy,
Congress and the nation kept a careful eye on international affairs. In
particular, the newest Cold War dispute between the United States and
Russia. This was, of course, the Soviet’s attempt to label our nation as a
threat to peace because of alleged threats to Russia by American aircraft
flying near the Red borders over the Arctic route. When its efforts to
successfully propagandize this incident failed, the United States promptly
offered its proposal for an international inspection of the Arctic regions to
guard against a surprise attack of the type that the Kremlin seem to fear.
But again, as so often in the past, when the Reds had a real opportunity to
display peaceful intentions, they promptly vetoed the suggestion in the
Security Council. This, incidentally, was the eighty-third time that Russia
has employed the veto since the world organization was founded in San
Francisco thirteen years ago. The result of this latest Soviet maneuver
will, hopefully, bring even closer together the United States and its NATO
allies in a common, collective effort to deter Red aggression by adequate
preparedness.

[05:04]

Mr. Kelly: Thank you, Senator Frear. From the nation’s capital, you have heard
United States Senator J. Allen Frear in his regular report to the people of
Delaware on current congressional affairs. Senator Frear will be heard
again next week at this same time, speaking from the Senate Office
Building in Washington.

[End 05:27]