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Speaker: Senator J. Allen Frear
Transcribed by: David Cardillo

[00:00]


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. In spite of continued disturbances abroad, Congress, during this past week, gave affirmative attention to a number of very important legislative matters. Among them was approval by both the House and Senate of a Conference Report Bill which adjusts postal rates and also provides for an increase in compensation for the nation’s post office employees. Presumably, the bill will be signed by the President, thus clearing the way for its prompt implementation. This legislation, though long in coming, will, I hope, prove of benefit not only in the operation of the Post Office Department, but in providing recognition of the post office employees as well. In another major action, the Senate Finance Committee approved a bill to provide unemployment compensation benefits to individuals out of work. A similar measure has already passed the House, and in all probability, the matter will be brought before the Senate in the very near future. Two other very important and far-reaching legislative items are also nearing Senate attention. One of these is the foreign aid bill. The other, a recommended extension of the Reciprocal Trade Law. Both measures are controversial for many reasons, and it is quite possible the Senate and House will differ broadly in acting upon provisions of both measures. Perhaps of most immediate concern is the Foreign Aid Bill, which was in the process of receiving attention by the House of Representatives when the anti-American demonstrations occurred last week and the preceding week in Latin America, Europe, and the Middle East. Whether or not these outbursts will result in any major changes in the Mutual Security Program for next year is problematic. But certainly, as I indicated earlier, a re-examination of certain aspects of foreign policy is clearly indicated in light of current world conditions. During the upcoming week, the House of Representatives will further consider legislation to authorize the admittance of Alaska into the Union, while the Senate will turn to several bills, among them measures to authorize additional funds to complete the inter-American highway. With Congress moving into the latter stages of the present session, night meetings of the Senate are likely to become more frequent, with several indicated for the middle part of the present week immediately preceding Memorial Day. In this connection, a very solemn observance will be
taking place in the rotunda of the Capitol later this week when Congress and the nation pay tribute to the Unknown Soldiers of World War II and Korea. Impressive ceremonies are scheduled here at the Capitol and later at Arlington National Cemetery, during which government leaders and the general public will join in appropriate recognition of these and the many other young Americans who have given their lives in the defense of our country. In Delaware this Friday, May 30th, there will also be a number of observances by veteran’s groups and other organizations which will pay particular tribute to the men from our own state who gave their lives during the conflicts of the past years. Against the background of the recent violence and bloodshed occurring in the Middle East and elsewhere, let us hope that this Memorial Day observance for our unknown soldiers and all war dead will reawaken and strengthen the determination of peace-loving people anywhere to labor unceasingly in the cause of world tranquility.

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 04:49]