

**MSS 315, Senator J. Allen Frear, Jr. Papers,
Special Collections, University of Delaware Library,
Newark, Delaware.**

**Special Collections Department, University of Delaware Library / Newark, Delaware
19717-5267 / Phone: 302-831-2229 / Fax: 302-831-6003 / URL:
<http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec/>**

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>

This Week In Congress Radio Address: Peace Time Uses of Atomic Energy, 1954 May 12
Speaker: Senator J. Allen Frear
Transcribed by: David Cardillo

[00:00]

Announcer: The Week in Congress, recorded on May 10th, 1954, and played on WDOV on May 12th, 1954.

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. Amidst all of the unpleasant news, which has been reaching us in recent days concerning the fighting in Indochina, and the grave threats of future conflict with all of their terrible implications on mankind through the possible use of nuclear weapons, it is refreshing to note that individuals here in the United States are thinking actively of ways and means to encourage a better standard of living for all through peaceful use of the tremendous power of atomic energy. Since the development of the atomic bomb, most of us have thought largely in terms of the destructive ability of the atom. But today, it is clearly recognized that many affirmative uses for its vast energies are also available. This week in Washington, public hearings opened on legislation to amend the Atomic Energy Act. The basic purpose of this bill is to authorize transfer of certain restricted atomic data to our allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, under suitable safeguards, of course. This proposal is principally military, but in addition, the bill provides the means for licensing what we hope will be a great new industry in the field of atomic energy. Coincident with the start of public hearings, I was highly pleased to note a news dispatch from New York which says that private industries of the United States, having taken note of the vast power of uranium, from which atomic energy is harnessed, are reported ready to invest one hundred million dollars to develop the atom for peaceful purposes. This is a highly encouraging and tremendously hopeful sign for the future, for it indicates that the adventuresome, pioneering spirit of American free enterprise is continuing to move ahead, ready to explore new horizons in order to create a better tomorrow for all. Only in a country which is free can we expect an effort of this type. In military dictatorships, the government controls everything and everybody. There is no opportunity for individuals or industries, however qualified, to act on their own. But here in the United States, which has risen to the position of world leadership, largely through the unrestricted application of the free enterprise principles, the concentrated effort by industrial leaders to

establish an atomic energy industry carries with it a tremendous and far-reaching significance. I suppose we can only estimate the potentialities for the use of atomic energy. So great are the energy sources from atoms when properly harnessed that we hear of fantastic results which are presumably obtainable through the use of even a small amount of atomic power. In announcing its willingness to invest the sum of one hundred million dollars for industrial development of the atom, major manufacturers are understood to have proposed that this sum be spent over a ten-year period. Presumably this means that at the end of just one short decade, we may be in a position to move forward with atomic energy to a degree practically undreamed of a short time ago. And knowing the ability of our scientists, our business and industrial leaders, and our workers, it would not be too surprising if many of our goals in the peaceful use of atomic energy were attained far ahead of schedule. The imagination and boldness which have always characterized American ingenuity in past years can once again be expected to dominate our endeavors in the peaceful development of atomic energy just as they did in the successful creation of atomic weapons. Sometimes, we hear it said that the United States has reached its limit of economic advancement. That no new horizon lies ahead. Surely, this has never been true in the past, and there is no reason to expect that we shall find any barriers in the future. [05:04] On the contrary, such obstacles, which may have seemed to arise with the limitations of our inventions and our achievements of the past, will surely be overcome through the virtually immeasurable scope of peaceful atomic progress. Those of us now living, as well as the future generations of Americans who will follow, should be able to confidently look forward toward a richer and fuller life because of what free men, acting with their God-given intelligence, are able and willing to undertake on our behalf. They say that the future belongs to those who prepare for it. Therefore let us hope that the use of atomic energy in its peaceful form will dominate nuclear research in the days ahead, and that the nations of the world, aware of what the atoms' destructive capabilities can mean, will turn their efforts to the challenge of its peaceful application, which lies before them, and thus prepare for an era of rich and abundant accomplishments that all may share the benefits.

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.

[06:42]