

WSM, APRIL 10, 1949
Representative Albert Gore

Good Morning, Friends:

The most important event of the week in Washington, or for that matter of any week in Washington, was the signing of the North Atlantic Pact on last Monday.

Meanwhile, the Senate spent ^{still} another week debating a bill to extend for another year the Economic Cooperation Act, more familiarly known as the Marshall Plan. The debate has been quite prolonged, and it seems to me unnecessarily so.

While the Senate has been talking and talking and talking and doing little but talking, the House of Representatives has been grinding out legislation and the annual appropriation bills to the end that there is a tremendous back log of work *already piled up for the Senate.*

Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan came before a joint session of the House and Senate Agriculture Committees last Thursday and unveiled his long awaited recommendations for an agriculture program.

You will recall that the 80th Congress passed the so-called long ^{Asken} range agriculture bill last year, but this ^{as called} long range bill does not become effective until next January; meanwhile, the agriculture program established under the late President Roosevelt by which prices are supported at 90 percent of parity remains in effect throughout 1948. The long range bill, which as I said becomes effective next January, would allow those price supports to be reduced to 60 percent of parity.

In the campaign last fall the farm program became an issue and many a Democratic candidate spoke out against reducing price supports to 60 percent of parity and, furthermore, criticized the Republican 80th Congress for denying the Commodity Credit Corporation adequate storage facilities ^{thereby} making it ^{more} possible for the government to purchase wheat and corn and ~~thereby~~ ^{thus} support the price at 90 percent of parity.

Secretary Brannan made a number of effective campaign speeches in farm states along these lines. To the surprise of many, when the votes were counted on November 2, a majority of the farmers had voted the Democratic ticket. Thus, the Administration ^{was bound to offer something} ~~proposal~~ in substitution for the long range program, enacted by the Republican Congress. ^{It} has been awaited with keen interest. I will not undertake to discuss Secretary Brannan's recommendations in detail this morning, but in general the Secretary chooses a new approach and proposes to support not just prices but ^{parity} ~~income~~ to farmers at a level in excess of ^{also} the present law of 90 percent of parity. ^{The Sec. not only goes the Rep. help one better but also the present program}

million but by 500 000 souls. Some of close to the physical front the world. One nation, Norway, a common frontier with Russia. But the frontier between freedom and the enemies of freedom is not wholly geographical. It runs through every street, along every highway. We all stand guard upon it.

2. We stand defensively, as every speaker yesterday insisted, in strong hope that this is the way to avoid the folly and horror of war. No one not blind with fanaticism or willfully betraying the visible truth can read in the North Atlantic Pact, or in one word uttered ~~by the pact~~, a menace to any nation. The frontiers which we have now resolved to hold are our own. Not one word, not one thought suggested by any word, threatened an advance beyond those frontiers.

Behind an iron curtain
What was said and what was done was said and done in the bright blaze of publicity. The voices went round the world. Here was no deed done in a dark room. This pact means nothing except as it is supported by the common people of every signatory country, by the farmers, the working men, the small merchants. No government in this alliance is free to move aggressively. Each is bound by a democratic contract to keep the peace so long as peace and freedom can alike be maintained.

3. The decision now passes from our hands. If the Russian leaders want peace, as the Western democracies most passionately desire it, it is now offered them, now and to the end of time.

NEWSPRINT IN ARGENTINA

From Buenos Aires comes word that the two great Argentine newspapers, the Nacion and the Prensa, are now forced to operate on a week-to-week basis as a result of the "nationalization" of newsprint. Within the last few days officials of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce have visited the plants of both publications and taken control of some 13,000 tons of paper.

This is the upshot of a decree of 1 October (unsuccessfully contested the courts) by which President F

any food fatal at the Following his carbohydrates indicated by celiac developed an a which laid the and basic treatment At today's to be presented gathered from the world. The pioneering effort fifty years of patients, how of children : world who a the work of

EA

The signi Security P Atlantic C bloc, forme and Comm still expand consisting tions, is t which, w failures, l with hon nity cul of life. princip World organ victor peac

Ir
bee
bu
ci
q
t
r