

Lie Detector Suggested for Kellems Probe

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A suggestion that the lie detector may be necessary when witnesses—notably Drew Pearson, smear columnist—are summoned to testify in the Senate mail censorship investigation, came yesterday from Senator Reed (R.), of Kansas.

"We're going to hear some plain and fancy lying, and I may ask the committee to get a lie detector," remarked Reed, whose resolution for the inquiry has received the unanimous approval of the Senate Post Office Committee, and is expected to pass the Senate this week. "Witnesses will be forced to testify under oath, and if any are found lying they will be prosecuted for perjury."

Pearson has been labeled a "chronic liar" by President Roosevelt, and the author of "monstrous falsehoods" by Secretary of State Hull. His sponsor on the radio is a company, manufacturing a laxative, which has been accused by the Federal Trade Commission of false and deceptive advertising.

The investigation was prompted by the airing of excerpts from the private correspondence of Miss Vivien Kellems, Connecticut businesswoman, with a German engineer in Argentina. Pearson read them on his radio program and Representative Coffey (D.), of Washington, spread them in the Congressional Record.

The excerpts are distributed by the Office of Censorship to Government bureaus, and Reed said the location of the leaks had been narrowed down to three Government agencies which he refused to name. He has exonerated Censorship Director Byron Price of blame. Price has promised to co-operate in the inquiry.