

HEINL RADIO BUSINESS LETTER

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HOOPER CHARGES REVIVE STORY FLY HAD ADMIRAL RETIRED

The bitter reply of Chairman James L. Fly to the criticism of him by Rear Admiral S. C. Hooper, U.S.N., Retired, revealed by the Cox FCC Investigating Committee, revived the old story that Mr. Fly was instrumental in having Admiral Hooper retired. Also that the feeling had become so bitter between the two men that when the Admiral called on Fly socially, the latter never returned the call.

At any rate the Cox-Hooper-Fly joust bares another Administration squabble which can't be pleasing to the country at large. Admiral Hooper charged Mr. Fly, among other things, of pre-war opposition to wire-tapping and to banning Japanese broadcasts in Hawaii, which might have prevented the Pearl Harbor disaster. Also that the FCC Chairman devoted too much time to trust-busting instead of tending to his other duties. Mr. Fly retorted to the Cox Committee which sprang the Hooper accusations that "If such a committee can be depended on to give us an opportunity, we will prove each of the Hooper charges false."

In its leading editorial Monday morning, the Washington Post, which has consistently denounced Representative Cox, said:

"The Army and the Navy have made it clear that they do not intend to take part in Representative Eugene Cox's smear campaign against the Federal Communications Commission. The Cox Committee resurrected a denunciation of the FCC, prepared more than a year ago by Rear Admiral Hooper (retired), and published it with great fanfare as representing an official Navy view. It also dug up some notes on the Hooper document, written by an Army officer, and described them as 'corroborative'. But the Navy Department has now declared succinctly that the Hooper memorandum 'was not an official statement by the Navy and expressed the personal views of Admiral Hooper'. The Army said: 'The notes do not express the view of the War Department, but merely this officer's own comment.'"

"The incident affords insight into the ethical level upon which the Cox Committee inquiry is being conducted. But it should occasion no surprise. For nothing better than this can be expected of a Congressman whose ethical values permit him to head an investigation of an agency in the defamation of which he has a direct personal interest. The FCC long ago presented to the Department of Justice evidence showing that Congressman Cox had accepted a \$2500 fee for representing a Georgia radio station in proceedings before the Commission.

"It is apparent that Congressman Cox is now using his legislative office to implement his personal vindictiveness against the FCC. This affront to elementary principles of justice is made possible by the callousness of his own colleagues in the House of Representatives and by the pusillanimity of the Attorney General of the United States. It rests upon members of the House to remove Eugene Cox from the investigative post which he has so flagrantly abused. They now have a chance to do so as a result of his appeal to the House for fresh instructions. It rests upon the Attorney General, likewise, to present to a grand jury the evidence now in his possession that Cox has violated Section 113 of the Criminal Code by acting on behalf of a private client before a Government agency while he was a member of the national legislature.

"Until the House or the Attorney General can be roused to a sense of responsibility, the Cox investigative farce may be expected to continue. But its long-term effects may not be so laughable as this latest bombshell which exploded in Cox's face. For they will cast a shadow upon the whole system of congressional inquiry and upon the integrity of the American judicial process."

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CONGRESSIONAL SPANKING FOR PETRILLO IF WLB FAILS?

The War Labor Board round in the Capital of the transcription fight last Friday was clearly Mr. Petrillo's. If the Labor Board, which now has the matter under advisement isn't able to curb him, the next move will be Congressional action - the transcription people hope.

Senator Clark (D), of Idaho, has had his eye on Petrillo for a long time and even had him down to Washington for a well remembered going over some little time ago. The Idaho Senator, however, laid off to give the music czar and the record manufacturers a chance to get together without his assistance.

Senator Tunnell (D), of Delaware, only last week introduced a bill which would prevent any such strike or boycott as Petrillo's. This might be considered in the Fall if the WLB failed to act. The wording of the Tunnell bill is:

"That from and after the date of enactment of this Act, it shall be unlawful for any person, for the purpose of preventing the manufacture or production of records for radio transcription, whether made of wood, wax, metal, or any other material, to counsel, persuade, direct, induce, threaten or compel either singly or through conspiracies any employee or employees or prospective employee or employees from working to produce or manufacture such records for transcription. Further, it shall be unlawful for any person to threaten or compel radio-broadcasting stations or other broadcasters to refrain from the use of radio-transcription records because of objection to the manner in which such records were manufactured or

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produced, or because the same were not produced by particular persons or organizations."

Also there comes a reminder from Representative Hoffman (R) of Michigan, that he introduced a bill (H.R. 7441) a year or so ago which evidently he now has some hope of reviving. It would make punishable any attempt to directly or indirectly interfere in any way with any musical or other radio program.

Assurances were given that a decision might be forthcoming from the WLB very shortly. It can accept jurisdiction and order further hearings to determine the merits; it can refuse jurisdiction, or it can immediately order Mr. Petrillo to allow the musicians to resume the making of transcriptions.

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BOWES' AMATEUR BRINGS DOWN HOUSE IMITATING FIRST LADY

A young soldier on Major Bowes' amateur hour last Thursday night struck a jack-pot with an imitation of Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt. The applause which followed almost blasted the microphone. It was supposed to be the First Lady of the Land addressing the Girl Scouts of Peoria and Frank Kent or Westbrook Pegler should try to get a copy of the script.

Major Bowes introduced the soldier as a nephew of Frank Crowninshield, famous editor and said Mr. Crowninshield was in the audience. If he was, he must have had the time of his life because the boy was good.

Among those he took for a ride were Noel Coward, Monte Woolley, and Katherine Hepburn. One might have thought when he undertook to do Churchill that would have been enough for anyone to get away with in a Bowes spot. However, his best was yet to come. At the mere announcement by Major Bowes that it was to be Mrs. Roosevelt, a gale of laughter swept over the house and by the time the boy had finished his imitation, he had them rolling in the aisles. Nobody on a Major Bowes program ever made a bigger hit than this young soldier. Such a hit, in fact, that the radio bureau of the Republican National Committee should lose no time signing him up - that is if the Administration doesn't have him court-martialed or Chairman Fly doesn't hear about it.

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FLY SAYS HE GIVES UP HOPE OF FAIR PROBE BY REP. COX

Chairman James L. Fly said Monday that the Cox Committee on the Hill, investigating the FCC, had already done its worst and that he had given up all hope of a fair investigation. In the meantime, the President having thrown a monkey-wrench into the proceedings by refusing to allow the naval and military officers to testify plus the desire of Committee members to take a little vacation, the hearings seem to be stalled for the time being. At the office of Chairman Cox, it was said that there would not be another meeting for at least two weeks. Chairman Cox himself said there was a possibility of assembling around July 19. There were skeptics who believed the Committee would not really get down to business again until Congress reconvened in early Fall.

Committee Counsel Eugene L. Garey made it known Monday night that the Committee believed that he believed Chairman Fly could be hauled up for contempt for refusal to answer questions and for the latter's part in gumming the works.

Mr. Fly said that the most startling questions that could be put had already been published as the conclusions of the Committee.

"A hearing for me to disprove the charges would be too anti-climatic to interest the Committee", the Chairman declared, characterizing the committee's actions as a cheap and irresponsible bid for publicity and that the investigation was punitive and irresponsible in its origin.

"Everybody must be shocked by the conduct and methods and processes of the Committee", he said. "At the same time, don't see how any of us could assert we were surprised.

"I think I ought to stress we must all appreciate the tremendous importance of Congress as an investigative force. We certainly must stand ready to cooperate with the Congress at all times, in any responsible effort to exercise that important function."

Mr. Fly said that "I should think the delegated representatives of Congress should not do anything to impair the investigating function", but that at all times "it should be responsible in its purposes and fair in conduct".

Hd did not answer the question about whether the President acted on Fly's advice in ordering the Government witnesses not to testify on the proposal to transfer intelligence functions from the FCC to the military, as being against the "public interest".

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ALLIED BROADCASTS WAGE WAR ON SICILIAN NERVES

The Allied invasion of Sicily was preceded by the dropping of millions of pamphlets and beaming of special broadcasts designed to break the morale of the people, Office of War Information officials have disclosed.

First pamphlets dropped, it was understood, were directed largely to the civilian population of the invaded isle. The next step, it was understood, will be release of new pamphlets urging enemy soldiers to surrender and pointing out that the pamphlets represent a safe-conduct pass.

A force of OWI representatives accompanied the invading armies and, according to officials, will work closely with the military officials in future steps in psychological warfare maneuvers.

First public word of the invasion, officials said, came through the transmitters of the OWI's short-wave station at Algiers which was set up about a month ago. It is Station UNR (United Nations Radio) and its theme song is "Over There".

The broadcast, carrying the announcement of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, was monitored into the War Department at approximately 12:05 A.M. Saturday.

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ESTATE OF TELEVISION PIONEER JENKINS' WIDOW \$260,000

Mrs. Grace L. Jenkins, who died in Washington in June at the age of 61, left an estate of nearly \$260,000, which will be divided between surviving members of her own and her husband's family, according to a petition for probate filed in District Court.

Mrs. Jenkins, the widow of Dr. C. Francis Jenkins, a pioneer in the television field, resided in the Capital for many years.

Real estate bequeathed by Mrs. Jenkins and located at 5502 Sixteenth Street, Northwest, was valued at \$18,000 and personal property at \$241,854.

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War developments undoubtedly will bring improvement in broadcast transmitters, but General Electric engineers see no radical changes that will prematurely obsolete present equipment, according to Paul L. Chamberlain of the company's Electronics Department. "We expect television broadcasting to develop rapidly after the war, along with FM radio broadcasting. Manufacturing experience gained in the production of electronic equipment for war will undoubtedly result in lower-priced television receivers after the war and this, plus public demand, should accelerate the expansion of television service", he predicts.

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FDR FINALLY SIGNS "SUBVERSIVE" FCC EMPLOYEE BILL

Without comment but waiting 10 days to do so, notwithstanding the fact that it delayed the pay of thousands of employees, President Roosevelt finally signed the \$142,000,000 Urgent Deficiency Bill Monday. The inference was drawn that the President took this way of showing his displeasure in the fact that the bill prohibited him from drawing from this special fund to finance non-war projects for which appropriations have been requested of Congress and denied. Also it was said the rider on the bill was offensive to him that provides that Dr. Robert Morss Lovett, Government secretary to the Virgin Islands, Goodwin B. Watson and William E. Dodd, Jr., both of the Federal Communications Commission, go off the Federal payroll forever on November 15, unless appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate.

The Kerr subcommittee, which brought the rider before the House, announced just before recess that it would not continue its examination of Federal workers, charged by the Dies Committee on Un-American Activities with subversive tendencies, until November 15.

The so-called subversive rider was five times rejected by the Senate before the upper house bowed to the will of a tremendous majority in the lower chamber.

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POINTS TO HONESTY OF RADIO AND PRESS ADVERTISING

The teapot tempest before the Boren-Halleck House Committee over compulsory grade labelling has subsided, for the moment at least, with the resignation of Dr. J. K. Galbraith from the Office of Price Administration.

"With the moral support of Mrs. Roosevelt, Dr. Galbraith has been waging a battle for this radical change in American business practice - a change which manufacturers and advertising experts believe would destroy millions of dollars of value in established brand names, lower the standards of merchandise, and eventually give the consumer less for her money than she buys today", says the Editor and Publisher.

"If cheating of the consumer through advertising was a common fault of American business, Editor & Publisher would be quick to endorse any sound plan for correction of that abuse. All the evidence, however, is against the theory that the consumer loses because advertising and packages do not carry full specifications of the product. The Federal Trade Commission three years ago issued a report of its examination of 875,483 advertisements - newspaper, radio, and direct mail. In only 236 instances, or 3-1000 of 1 per cent of the original total, was formal action by the Commission required in the public interest. If all other activities of business - or of government, for that matter - measured up to this level of honesty, the American public would be fortunate, indeed."

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"MICROPHONE HYPNOSIS" APPRAISED BY "LIFE"

"Life" of June 7th, with two pages of pictures on the subject, has this to say of the "high-speed Radio Svengali, who wants to dehypnotize Germany":

"Many people find that almost any radio program has a hypnotic effect on them, inducing a deep slumberous trance. A couple of weeks ago the Blue Network took a step toward carrying this involuntary hypnosis a little farther by helping Dr. Ralph Slater show that he could intentionally hypnotize people over the radio. Dr. Slater's main purpose was to demonstrate his unique method of wining the war.

"Ralph Slater is a high-speed hypnotist who says that the Germans have been hypnotized into fighting this war by Hitler's high-pitched voice and microphone technique. As proof, he has photographs which show Germans sitting around in a trance. Slater insists that he can dehypnotize them by short-wave radio.

"To demonstrate, Slater sat some subjects in a New York City studio, went into the control room where they could not see him and, by talking through a microphone, put them into a trance. Then he came out and made them do the silly things all hypnotists make their subjects do. Although the performance was not broadcast, Slater said it showed that he could hypnotize people by radio. It did not show anything else. Slater thinks Hitler hypnotized Lindbergh when he pinned the medal on the flier in 1938. But Goring pinned the medal on, not Hitler. Still Slater wants to broadcast to Germany and would also like to put on a domestic show."

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PATENTS ULTRA SHORT-WAVE GENERATOR

Fritz Ludi, of Baden, Switzerland, assigned by mesne assignments a patent for an ultra-high frequency generator to "Patelhold" Patentverwertungs & Elektro-Holding A. G. of Glarus, Switzerland. The device is an ultra short-wave generator, which can generate an electron beam in a partial vacuum. In it there is a modulator to subject the beam to high frequency potential variations and an inductor to produce ultra-high frequency alternating voltages.

The use to which the device is designed to be put was unexplained. Ultra short-wave generators, however, can be used in types of broadcasting, "atom-smashing" inductothermy and many other uses. Undoubtedly this latest development could be adapted to numerous uses. The device received patent No. 2,323,613.

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ARMY CURBS OVERSEAS VOICE DISKS

A ban on shipment of phonograph disks recording personal messages to soldiers overseas was announced last week by the War Department.

As a result of a plan adopted by several commercial companies, the department said, large numbers of such recordings addressed to soldiers are being received in the mails, although transmittal of such messages either to or from soldiers is prohibited by War Department regulations.

"Strict enforcement of these regulations is necessary to safeguard against the transmitting of secret military information through this medium", the department said.

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INCREASE IN RADIO OWNERSHIP IN SWITZERLAND

Radio-set owners in Switzerland numbered 729,231 at the end of 1942, an increase of 48,925, or 7.2 percent, compared with 1941. The number of radio owners has mounted steadily since 1924, when approximately 17,000 were reported. By 1927 the total had grown to 39,000; by 1930, to 104,000; and by 1933, to 300,000.

Telephone broadcasting (wired wireless) was started in 1932, with 8,283 subscribers; last year the total was 70,657.

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DOESN'T FAVOR FCC DICTATING STATIONS' BUSINESS TERMS

Referring to the recent Supreme Court radio decision in an article generally condemning the New Deal, the Saturday Evening Post recently had this to say:

"If you are taking up the New Deal as a single and indivisible body of political doctrine, can you leave out the effort to pack the Supreme Court, purge senators who got off the party line, and through administration of the Wagner Act, deny to employers the right to ordinary expression of opinion. New Dealers are not very proud of these episodes at the moment, perhaps because they feel the chill of a new mood in the political wind. But, if you insist that the New Deal is all of a piece, and that it must be accepted or rejected in toto like the Koran or the Book of Mormon, then you must include the apocryphal chapters along with the true revelation.

"Included also, possibly at the top of the list, must be administrative acts by the New Dealers. For example, the Federal Communications Act, which gives the Federal Communications Commission power to police the traffic of the air waves and regulate various technical radio problems, would be approved by most people. Fewer would endorse the Commission's effort, sanctioned by the Supreme Court, to dictate financial and contractual relations between broadcasting networks and individual stations, with unpredictable consequences to American broadcasting. But it is through such administrative acts as this, even more than through legislation, that the New Deal exhibits many of its aims and purposes.

"As for us, we prefer not to make the going too tough for the New Deal's defenders. They, to say nothing of common sense, will fare better if the legislation passed since 1933 is considered in its historic setting, in the light of the spirit of its enforcement, and with recognition of the fact that American progress is no monopoly of a group of professors et al, hastily assembled to answer the question: 'What can we try next?'"

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 ::: TRADE NOTES :::
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The Radio Division of the Department of Transport, Canada, sold 1,728,880 private radio receiving licenses in the year ended March 31, 1943. This was an increase of 6 percent over the preceding year.

Said to be a protege of Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Melvyn Douglas, movie and radio star, was jumped from private first class in the Army to Captain as a result of an order from the War Department. Douglas, whose real name is Husselberg, will engage in a radio project to promote the sale of War Savings Bonds.

It is illegal for retailers who in March, 1942, sold flashlights and batteries separately, now to require the purchaser to buy a flashlight case when he only wants a new battery, the Office of Price Administration said in answer to numerous complaints received from the general public.

Frank E. Mullen, NBC Vice-President and General Manager, will address the Summer Radio Workshop of New York University on July 15th. Mr. Mullen will speak on "Private Enterprise and Radio's Future". The Workshop, an annual feature sponsored by the University and directed by Robert J. Landry, is in session for six weeks.

The FCC authorized the continuance of its manpower survey of 1st and 2nd class radiotelephone operators. The postcard survey will be mailed to the remaining 19,000 licensees to ascertain how many of this number are available for full- or part-time employment in the communications industry.

A radio direction-finding device has been designed by South African engineers and is being manufactured in the Union, the foreign press reports. Substantial quantities of the equipment have already been made and shipped overseas for use of the armed forces.

The Federal Communications Commission has continued the hearing of KMTR of Los Angeles, Calif., now until July 28 in re application for renewal of license.

Only twelve years old and already a veteran of radio, Mary McIntyre recently celebrated the first anniversary of her own radio program, "Story Time" presented over W85A, General Electric's frequency modulation station in Schenectady. On the program, heard twice each week, Mary reads children's stories.

Farnsworth Television & Radio Corp. earned \$1,170,005 or 85 cents a share in the fiscal year ended April 30, compared with \$642,237 or 46 cents a share in the preceding year. Price reductions of \$1,153,656 were made during latest period on Government contracts as a result of renegotiation and a cash refund of \$6,998,913 was agreed upon.

Richard Carlson has been appointed as Director of Personnel and William B. Robertson as Director of Budget and Planning of the Federal Communications Commission.

Before his appointment to the FCC, Mr. Carlson was Technical Director of the Supervision Improvement Program of the U. S. Civil Service Commission. From 1939 to 1942 he served as Director of Personnel for the Civil Aeronautics Administration.

Mr. Robertson grew up in West Virginia, attending grade school and high school in Charleston. He was graduated from Harvard College in 1923 and from the Graduate School of Business Administration of New York University in 1928. He was connected with the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation and affiliated bureaus of the Department of Agriculture until his transfer to the FCC.

A speech on race relations, which was to have been given by Prof. Maurice R. Davie of Yale University over Station WTIC in Hartford was cancelled last week, the station said, because of a reference in the script to Red Cross policy on colored blood donors.

The statement in Prof. Davie's talk to which the station objected was, he said:

"Perhaps no single incident has done more to damage Negro morale than the gratuitous insult to the race by the American Red Cross in first refusing to accept the blood of Negro donors and then in segregating it, for no scientific reason whatsoever."

Miles Laboratories, Inc., Elkhart, Ind., is charged in a complaint issued by the Federal Trade Commission with disseminating advertisements in radio broadcasts and periodicals which fail to reveal the harmful potentialities that may result from excessive use of Dr. Miles Liquid Nervine, Dr. Miles Nervine Tablets and Dr. Miles Anti-Pain Pills. The complaint also charges that the respondent corporation's advertisements misrepresent the therapeutic value of Liquid Nervine and Nervine Tablets.

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LOYD BRIGGS NEW R.C.A. COMMUNICATIONS V-P AND GEN. SUPT.

Loyd A. Briggs, General Superintendent, of R.C.A. Communications, Inc., was elected Vice President and General Superintendent at a meeting of the company's Board of Directors last Friday.

Mr. Briggs, former European Communications Manager of RCAC in London, is a veteran of the international radio communications field. Starting in 1916 as a telegrapher for the Chicago and Northwestern Railway, he served during World War I as a radio man in the Transatlantic Communications Service of the United States Navy. He joined the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company of America a few weeks before it was acquired by the Radio Corporation of America in 1919.

With RCA ever since, Mr. Briggs has served as supervisor, technician, traffic engineer, manager of the RCA Frequency Bureau, and as European Communications Manager, holding the latter post from 1934 to 1938. He has been attached to RCAC's central office at 66 Broad Street, New York, since 1938, first as Assistant to the Vice President and General Manager and more recently as General Superintendent.

As the representative of RCA and RCAC, Mr. Briggs attended all of the major international conferences and technical committee meetings on radio and telegraphy from 1929 to 1938.

Mr. Briggs, a native of East Gary, Indiana, makes his home at Cranford, N. J.

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SYLVANIA TO HAVE NEW INTERNATIONAL DIVISION

As the first step toward preparation for increased world-wide operation, Sylvania Electric Products Inc., announces the formation of an International Division with Walter A. Coogan as Director. As part of its expanded activities, the International Division will include the operations formerly carried on by the Foreign Sales Dept.

"With a substantial increase in personnel, a much wider scope of operation is planned. To facilitate the movement of Sylvania Products to all parts of the world, the International Division will provide engineering counsel, prompt delivery, more frequent and personal contact with the market in each country", says a Sylvania press release.

"In addition to being prepared for an increased demand for Sylvania incandescent lamps, fluorescent lamps and fixtures, radio and electronic tubes, the new International Division will be geared to the coming age of electronics. There will be new Sylvania products, many of which are at this time carefully guarded secrets.

"World-wide distribution of Sylvania Products is now new. Sylvania has enjoyed export business from the time when radio first became commercially important. Now when world trade has a new purpose and a new meaning, the International Division has been organized to meet this new need."

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