

Radio:

Commander Hooper who was the head of the radio division of the Bureau of Engineering in the Navy Department during the war seems to have pressed the idea of the necessity of an all American company, even before the war ended. The Navy, he said, is never free to give full encouragement to the American Marconi Company, because of its non-American character. The attempts that had been made had all fallen flat until the appeal was made to Mr. Young, then the Vice-President of the General Electric in charge of policies.- not well known to the general public but intimately known to the Department of the Navy handling communications. After the all-American company was a realized fact, Cooper, getting credit for the accomplishment, had known Young particularly as a man whose sense of patriotic duty of financial consideration was the determining factor in the success of conclusions of the negotiation.

Hooper says that the Navy was able to build up the radio service so that trans-ocean communications were made reliable and effective throughout the year. It was the fact that President Wilson was able to get through the radio all necessary confidential communications to transmit them the same from Paris to the Administration in Washington, that made him so determined in the matter of securing an American control of communications - the cable being of course entirely in British hands. Hooper says that



led them to make a contract for seven million dollars worth of the improved apparatus, the contracts which were interrupted by the telegram from Admiral Bullard. All this seems to be in Hooper's mind, seems to have been before Bullard arrived, that is he was alarmed by the appearance in New York at the General Electric offices of the British Marconi representative. There seems here to be a conflict in regard to dates as it actually happened with Young's testimony for Hooper says that on April 3rd, 1919, Bullard arrived in Washington to take up his new duties as director of naval communications and he at once laid before him the situation, urging a conference with the directors of the General Electric Company. He says that it was he that arranged that Bullard see Young and the conference took place on the date, April 7th. Compare this with Young's statement. He thinks that there was much drastic questioning by the officials, Coffin, Rice, Stone, Davis, of Bullard; and when they got through they were convinced very much, regardless of financial consideration agree to the Navy suggestion. It was the Navy that suggested that the General Electric go into the radio operating business itself, or make some arrangement with existing American companies to handle the radio situation in such a way as to guarantee American public interest. Hopper thinks that the American Marconi Company, that is the American directors, were in a receptive mood having been uneasy themselves about the British control. It was Davis and Malay, according to Hopper