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BERNARD MAINWARING, Editor and Publisher
GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor Emeritus

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RED INVASION OF LAOS

Military leaders in the Far East are quoted as regarding the invasion of the little mountain kingdom of Laos by the Red Chinese backing the Viet Minh rebels in Indochina as the greatest threat to the security of Southeast Asia since World War II. It is perhaps the real objective of the POW exchange and truce negotiations in Korea, which enable the communists to divert their troops from the stalemate war.

A communist victory in Laos would leave the northeast border of neighboring Thailand unprotected and open the gateway to the Gulf of Siam which washes the Malay Peninsula, Cambodia and Cochinchina. It is apparent also that the major objective of the communists is no longer the rich Tonkin delta of Northern Viet Nam, but the Gulf of Siam.

There are said to be 60,000 Indochina communist sympathizers in the five northeastern provinces of Thailand, a potential fifth column that could spearhead a Red drive from the Mehong river at the Thai border through the flat rice lands to the coast, from Northern Viet Nam, across Thailand and Burma to India.

The Methong river is the military key to the picture. It is one of the five biggest Asian waterways, flowing 2000 miles from the Tibetan plateau into the China Sea at the Cochinchina delta, in Southern Viet Nam, forming the Thailand and Laos boundary.

The Laos or Laotians are a friendly people, too easy going to compete successfully in commerce. They are agriculturists, their chief occupations are in connection with rice, coffee, tea, opium, silk and herds. The cutting of teak timber is done by the wilder tribes in the hills. They are of low stature, yellow complexion, high cheek bones, small flat nose, oblique eyes, black hair and scanty beard. They are lazy, superstitious, hospitable people, and unworshipful. Their government is now divided between France and Thailand. Most of them are Buddhists.

Laos is celebrated as the land of tigers and "millions of elephants," the latter quote taken from Laos ancient name Lane Xang. The country is about the size of Montana. Its population is about 1,800,000. But 50,000 Chinese are now supplementing the Viet Nam rebels, who for six years have fought guerrilla war against the French, with munitions supplied by China.

EXIT FOR DE GAULLE?

General De Gaulle, who would have been one of the most admirable characters in French history if he had let post-war politics alone, is probably through as a major political force in that country.

French municipal elections Sunday revealed a sharp reduction in strength by De Gaulle's party, which he calls the "rally of the French people," or the R.F.P. Their membership on the Paris city council dropped from 26 to 11 and there were comparable losses in the lesser cities of France.

The R.F.P. reached its peak in 1947, held it until 1951, and has since declined, as De Gaulle's refusal to cooperate with other parties except on his own extreme terms alienated more and more support. Unless there is a complete breakdown in France's unpredictable government, which would cause demand for a "man on horseback" De Gaulle is probably through as a major force or threat.

If only this man, who was the chief symbol of French resistance after the shameful surrender in 1940, had retired on his rich laurels following the liberation. As it is he is just another war hero who lost his laurels by espousing the uncertain trade of politician.

French communists seem to have about held their own, as a minor but still menacing element in a country so badly divided. Their hopes also rest on a breakdown of government by the moderate elements.

LET THE BUYER BEWARE

There's an old Latin phrase that describes business as it used to be conducted. It is caveat emptor, or "let the buyer beware." Modern business in America has repudiated this ancient concept and says in effect "let the seller beware" if anything is later found wrong with the goods.

But we thing the allied command in Korea had better recall the old motto when it begins to receive deliveries on that offer of \$100,000 for a communist flier and a Russian made jet. The offer, broadcast all through the combat region, is designed to undermine the morale of enemy fliers and in the hope of getting one of his new planes.

But we never did trust the foxy Reds and we don't now. Rather we suspect they're already working up a stunt to extract several \$100,000 fees for old crates they won't mind our seeing, and for fourth rate fliers they don't want anyway.

We'd hate to see the hard pressed U.S. taxpayer rooked even to the tune of a mere \$100,000 in a multibillion dollar war, and we'd hate even more to see the Reds gain a laugh at our expense.

So let's beware of the Reds when they fly in with planes for sale.

Women Get Dumber and Dumber Nancy Declares

London (AP)—Lady Nancy never at a lower ebb than it is in the United Kingdom today. Astor said Tuesday that women are just getting dumber and dumber.

"I really do think that never has the press printed more pictures of more absolutely dead women than it is doing today. I mean these mass-produced movie stars. The press has never used women in a more ridiculous way, and yet we have magnificent women in this country."

The magnificent women, she lamented, do not receive the attention they deserve. "Women today take everything for granted," she said. "They have a dumbness about them because they do not know why we got the vote. The women's movement was

OUT ON AN OLIVE LIMB



POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

By 1960 You'll Reserve Your Baby Sitter Months Ahead

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP) — You think it's hard to find a good baby sitter today?

Well, here is the way the problem will probably size up by 1960:

Joe McFarb and his wife, Mary Ann, decide to take a night off from parenthood and go out and see a movie. But who will stay home and watch little Junior? Joe calls up the Happy Home Baby Sitting Agency, and the conversation runs as follows:

Joe — I would like a good baby sitter for tonight, and—
Agency — For tonight? Are you kidding? We are booked up through the spring and summer. How about next fall?
Joe — I don't know what movie will be showing next fall. Mary Ann and I want to see the one that's on tonight. Maybe you'll have a cancellation.

Agency — We don't like to do business on an emergency basis.

Usually our sitters insist on having met our clients socially, to be sure they are proper people. They can't afford to get mixed up with the wrong crowd.

Joe — Look, I'm in a real spot. Can't you help a fellow?
Agency — It's against the rules, but — I'll try to speed up the formalities.

Joe humbly — Gee, thanks, what do I have to do?
Agency — Well, you and your wife and son had better drop down to our office at once. Bring along a recent photo of your home. We will also need a letter of credit from your bank, and a character testimonial from your pastor.

Joe dazedly — That all?
Agency — No, we'll have to have a copy of your son's lat-

est school report card, an estimate of his personality by his teacher, and a certificate from a doctor stating he is free from contagious diseases.

We also require written permission for us to consult your family psychiatrist privately to get his opinion on the status of any unresolved conflicts within your home.

Joe weakly — Is that all?
Agency — Well, of course, naturally you are prepared to pay our usual limousine costs for picking up your sitter and co-sitter and returning them to their homes. They will expect a hot meal on their arrival, and refreshments in your refrigerator in case they should wish to entertain a few friends while on duty. It goes without saying that your television set must be in perfect condition.

Joe — Wait a minute. You lost me. What is this business about a co-sitter?

Agency — All baby sitters today insist on bringing a co-sitter along for company. You know, like airplane pilots do.

Joe — How much is all this going to cost me?
Agency — Our minimum fee is \$75, but right now we aren't taking on any more of these charity cases.

Joe — Look, mister, all I want is some nice elderly lady who knows about kids and would like to pick up maybe \$5 watching little Junior for us while we take in a movie. Don't you know of any baby sitters like that?
Agency — I do. We had one like her, and made the mistake of selling her to a museum that wanted to preserve her for historical purposes. Well?

Joe — Look, Mister, I want to make you a proposition. To

OPEN FORUM

PORTLAND ATTITUDE

To the Editor:

I have never seen such confusion as Portland is creating by trying to evade Oregon's law on daylight saving. Doesn't the big city belong to this state any more?

What's the use of having laws if they aren't to be observed. Why can't we live in peace and harmony instead of confusion? This thing burns me up.

R. Martin,
Salem, Ore.

"SIR WINSTON," EH?

Albany Democrat Herald
"Sir Winston Churchill" doesn't sound quite as fitting in American ears as the plain name without the "Sir." It's all right with us, however, if he likes it that way. No man in English history is more entitled to whatever there may be in the line of honors. He didn't need it, for his place in history is secure. In the hearts of freedom-loving people there should always be a Churchill. And if it can keep on (with a bit of American help) producing such as he, there'll always be an England too. To the great majority of his countrymen he will continue to be just "good old Winnie." What he can't be called—but no doubt will be, too frequently—is "Sir Churchill."

heck with the movie. What I want to know is, if I shoot Junior, can Mary Ann and I go to work for you as baby sitters?

Agency — You can. But be quick. I've got four jobs waiting for you right now. All high class.

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Franco's Obstinacy May Save \$125,000,000

BY DREW PEARSON

Washington — It has now been just about a year since the U.S. congress voted \$125,000,000 for Dictator Franco—on condition Franco in turn give the United States air and naval bases in Spain. But despite all the earlier publicity about Franco's desire to cooperate, the money so far has not been spent and in a few more weeks the appropriation will automatically revert to the treasury. It may save the taxpayers considerable money.

This illustrates a new and recent technique for conducting our foreign affairs — by and through the agents of foreign governments.

Under the constitution, the president and state department are supposed to conduct our foreign affairs by and with the consent of the senate. But in recent years some foreign governments have hired Washington lawyers with influence in high places to go over the heads of the state department and White House.

Further, they have sometimes been amazingly successful, as for instance, the China lobby, shown in a recent column to have been able to make Formosa almost more important than American lives in Korea; able also to overrule both a democratic and a republican state department.

As another illustration, the Spanish lobby was able to get \$125,000,000 appropriated for Franco at a time when the state department opposed the appropriation, at a time when congress was supposed to be economizing, and at a time when Franco himself would not, and still has not granted air and naval bases to the United States in return.

One reason Franco has not accepted U.S. terms for air and naval bases is because he thinks his lawyer-agents in Washington are potent enough to go over the heads of the state, air force and navy departments. And in the past, like the China lobby, they have been able to do so.

LAWYERS INSTEAD OF AMBASSADORS

Here is the case history of certain lawyers for foreign governments and how they operate.

Chief attorney for Franco in Washington is Charles Patrick Clark, who does not conceal his connection but registers with the justice department as provided under the foreign agents registration act. He received \$103,489.55 from the Spanish embassy in 1951 and \$108,250 in 1950. The extra \$5,000 in 1950 was for breaking the ice on the first U.S. loan to Spain. In 1952 he got \$75,500.

Another Franco attorney who dutifully registers with the justice department is Max Truitt, son-in-law of the popular ex-vice president, Alben Barkley. He received \$22,000 in 1951 and \$11,000 in 1952.

Mr. Clark's lobbying activities have chiefly been through certain friends he has carefully cultivated in congress. Among them are Congressman Eugene Keogh of Brooklyn, democrat; ex-senator Owen Brewster of Maine, republican; and Senator Pat McCarran of Nevada, republican. All three have been

taken on hospitable junkets through Spain, usually with Attorney Clark as the chaperone.

One of the most interesting among these associations is Congressman Keogh, who though in congress ever since 1938, for 11 years took no appreciable interest in Spain. Then suddenly after a decade of silence, Keogh strangely became the champion of Dictator Franco. He littered the Congressional Record with statements favorable to Spain. He interrupted congressional debates to defend Spain. He offered an amendment to include Spain in Marshall Plan money.

This began in 1949. It was in that same year that Keogh paid a visit to Spain, along with Franco attorney Charles Patrick Clark, and while riding on a Spanish train was reported to have had \$5,000 stolen, together with his pants, when he hung them too near a sleeping car window.

UNUSUAL TAX FEE

Shortly thereafter in early 1950, Keogh received a total of \$4,500 from Clark, which Clark claims was for help which the congressman gave him for a client in a tax case. Since another New York congressman, Vincent Quinn of New York, has now been indicted for taking a fee in a federal tax case, this puts Keogh in a bad position any way you look at it.

Another solon who pulled Spanish coals out of the congressional fire for Lawyer Clark was the likeable, busy little senator from Maine, Owen Brewster. The two were close friends, lived near each other in the Mayflower hotel, frequently played gin rummy together. During this period, Brewster was the constant defender of Franco in the senate, urged that funds be voted him.

On April 25 for instance, Clark made a big hullabaloo about the importance of playing gin rummy with Brewster, getting a check cashed for

\$1,000 in \$20 and \$10 bills just a few hours before the game. Two days later Brewster introduced an amendment to the Marshall Plan appropriation permitting Spain to dip into ECA money. This was against the policy of the state department and the White House. Brewster spoke vigorously for his amendment, debated back and forth with his colleagues, and toward the close of debate asked two minutes extra to speak for his Spanish amendment.

While he lost out on his April 27 move, Brewster kept plugging for the cause of his lawyer friend, Charley Clark. Finally, with the aid of Pat McCarran, Congressman Keogh and Max Truitt, a \$62,500,000 loan was put across for Franco — despite the fact that the White House and state department, supposed to be in charge of foreign policy, were opposed.

Next year, the lawyers for Spain wangled another \$125,000,000 out of congress, making a total of \$187,500,000. But despite this, Franco still has not given us either air or naval bases.

Before the money was voted Franco talked enthusiastically about American bases in Spain. But once he knew the money was available, he clammed up. For one entire year, air force and naval representatives have been haggling in Madrid. But Franco won't deal. He not only wants more money but he wants to spend it his own way.

Perhaps this is the result of a system whereby Washington lawyers representing foreign governments, can go over the heads of the executive branch of government and get money out of congress. When you can get something for nothing, it's only human, after all, to hold out for it without giving bases in return.

That's one of the dangers of diplomacy by Washington lawyers, and it's also one reason why the foreign agents registration act was passed.

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Salem 32 Years Ago

By BEN MAXWELL

April 28, 1921

A survey made by the Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen shows the minimum food cost for April for the average family was \$1.46 a day in Portland, \$1.85 in Aberdeen, Wash.

C. I. Lewis, organization manager of Oregon Grower's Cooperative association since August 1, 1919, has been promoted to the position of assistant general manager. Lewis is recognized as the highest authority on horticultural matters in the northwest.

Fake cures, especially those for the tubercular, are a problem that the county nurse must continuously combat among Marion county patients. Two afflicted persons, seemingly well on the way toward recovery under competent treatment, have died as a consequence of reverting to treatment by quacks.

A black walnut tree planted 53 years ago by Mrs. Eugene Breyman and now growing on the lawn of the R. P. Boise

home at Court and Cottage street has been nominated for a place in the hall of fame for trees. It has a circumference of 10 feet and 11 inches. (This black walnut was felled several years ago.)

Wanted: A slogan of five or less words for Oregon Syrup of Prunes, a tonic laxative.

New directors for Salem Rotary club are: C. P. Bishop, J. William Chambers, J. W. Sayres, C. P. Griffith, T. B. Kay, John H. McNary and H. H. Olinger.

Agents of the Anti-Saloon league, operating under contract with the Marion county court in a campaign to rid this section of prohibition violators, did not receive the \$7 a day as promised by their contract, says F. W. Snyder, chief field agent of the organization in Oregon.

Two young inebriates were locked in Lebanon's jail a few nights ago after they assisted the city marshal in prying open a lock that had rusted shut from lack of usage.

Giles French in Philosopher's Role

(Eugene Register-Guard)

Usually at this season of the year, Giles French, long time editor of the Sherman County Journal, is in the midst of the legislative rumpus at Salem. Giles is now retired from active politicking—after his many years of service as a member of the house—but sitting on his hill-top at Moro, he has been illuminating his paper with some of the quips which used to enliven legislative debate. The Oregon Voter has selected these few which we think worthy to pass on:

When a man gets philosophical about his job it is time he got another one.

Educational TV is probably a misnomer. No one has proven that TV is educational. Uncle Emmett, who has been reading a book, says he wonders if the Greek ideal of simple living and high thinking has been reversed.

The newspapers that have been so upset by McCarthy have the power to silence him if they will.

Thank goodness no one blows a whistle in a baseball game.

Hallinan, 1952 candidate for president, is said to owe \$65,000 in income taxes. No wonder he wanted to be president.

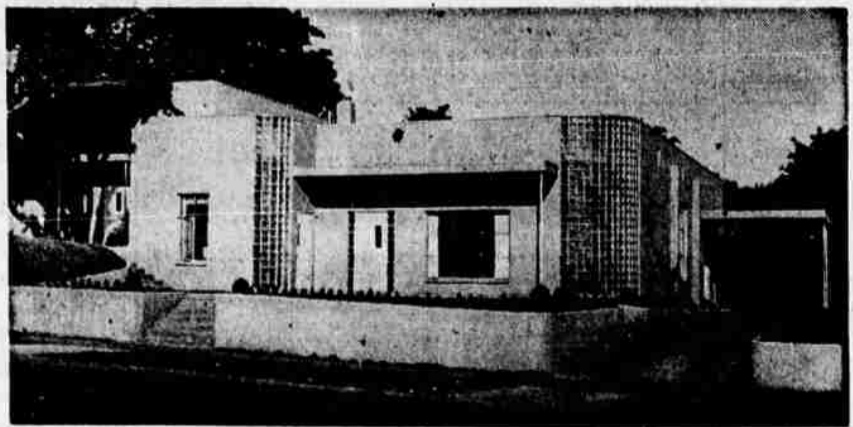
As the legislature passes new laws about continuing

levies it might be a good thing for someone to look into the legality of them.

It may be that the most deserving are the most ashamed of getting old age pensions although it hasn't been proven. Since we have television surely the whites are going to quit criticizing the Indians for trading their sustenance for a handful of bright colored beads.

We are quite certain that Portland State will eventually obtain greater status as a school. Its greatest difficulty now seems to be the attitude of some of its supporters who are already planning a new campus, degrees in several fields and an athletic program of larger size.

It is difficult to believe that anybody as dynamic as Giles French can be permanently retired from politics. Giles is one of the few genuine old-time personal journalists. As a legislator, he had a great deal to do with improving Oregon tax laws. He is still campaigning to abolish personal property taxes with their many inequities and absurdities. If Oregon has a constitutional convention, it is our hope that the people across the mountains will make him one of their delegates.



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