

New French Premier Faces Many Of Same Old Difficult Problems

By CHARLES M. McCANN
United Press Correspondent

France has a new cabinet after its 37-day political crisis, but it still has not got a stable government.



The National Assembly, the controlling house of parliament, has confirmed Felix Gaillard as France's 24th premier since its liberation in World War II.

Gaillard received an impressive confirmation vote—337 to 133.

He managed to get the support of the Socialists, the conservative bloc of Independents and the left-of-center Popular Republicans as well as his own Radical Socialist Party. All are represented in the new cabinet.

Gaillard calls his cabinet a "government of national unity." Unfortunately, it is not really that. The Socialists, the Independents and the popular republicans all cordially detest each other.

Hence the prospect is that Gaillard will have to perform a precarious balancing act to keep himself in office. Whether he can get the necessary support for legislation to solve France's

serious political and economic problems is questionable.

These problems include the future of Algeria, the keeping down of prices and wages, the budget deficit and social security benefits. Any one of them could overthrow Gaillard.

The crisis was ended largely because it had gone on so long. Deputies were beginning to get angry letters from their constituents. It was reported, apparently on good authority, that President Rene Coty was threatening to resign and, in doing so, to deliver a merciless blast against parliamentary irresponsibility. There was talk of bringing in Gen. Charles De Gaulle, the wartime Free France

leader, to head a "strong man" cabinet.

At least Gaillard is young—he is 38—and vigorous, and he brings fresh blood into the cabinet. Six months ago, when he was made finance minister in the cabinet of Maurice Bourges-Maunoury which fell on Sept. 30, he was practically unknown.

Gaillard proposes first to put the Algerian problem before the National Assembly. This includes getting the continuation of special governmental powers to deal with the revolt which is draining France of men and money. It also includes trying to get approval of a law which would give Algeria a considerable measure of home rule but

would leave it still, politically, a part of France.

It was the Algerian issue which brought down the Bourges-Maunoury cabinet. It might bring the downfall of Gaillard because the Socialists and the Conservatives disagree radically on a solution.

Then Gaillard plans to ask for special powers to deal with the pressing problem of government finances, and finally to propose some constitutional changes that would make government more stable.

Paris dispatches are already somewhat pessimistic over Gaillard's prospects. But it seems unlikely that any of the divergent groups supporting him will

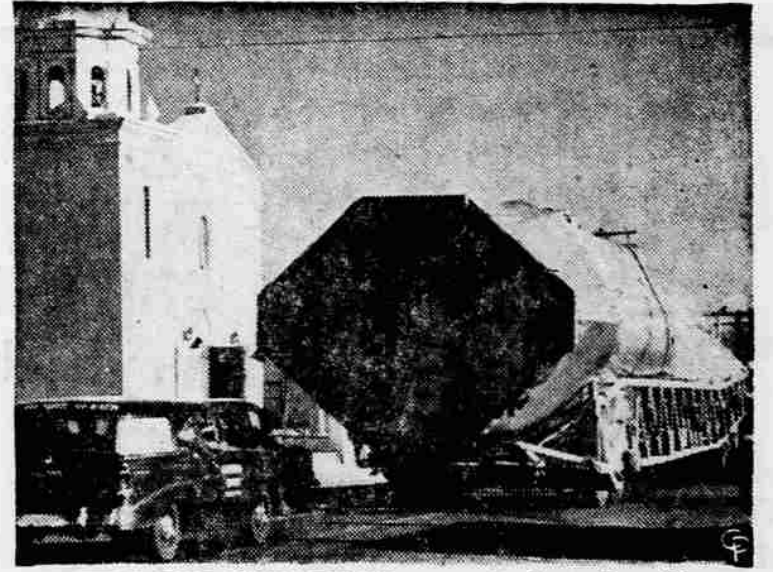
want to take responsibility for causing a new cabinet crisis soon.

CORROSION EXPERT DIES

Columbus, Ohio—Dr. Donald Eugene Stough, 27, a foremost expert on the corrosion resistance properties of titanium, "wonder metal" developed for supersonic aircraft, died here Wednesday from influenza complications.

FRENCH HISTORIAN DIES

Paris—Dr. Firmin Roz, 91, French historian who proposed the Atlantic Union Committee for Closer Relations between North Atlantic Treaty Organization countries, died Tuesday.



MOVING THROUGH TOWN en route from San Diego, Cal., to test center in Florida, Atlas intercontinental ballistics missile is shrouded for security. (International)

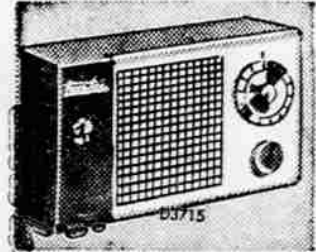
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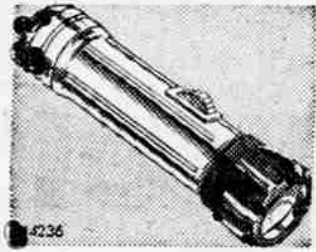
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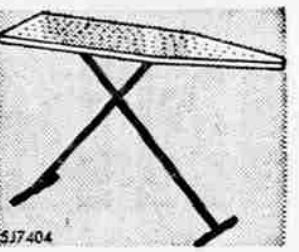
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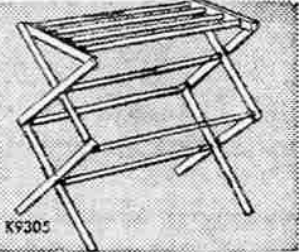
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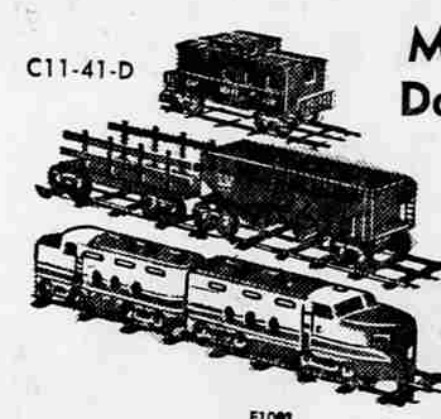
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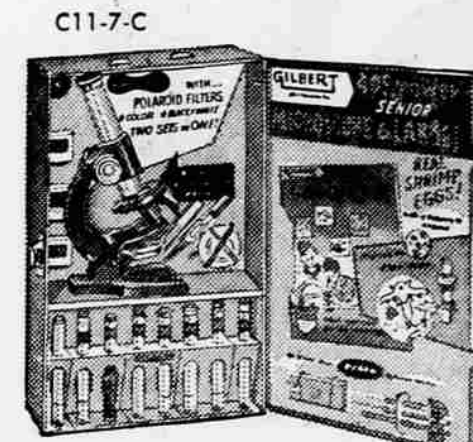
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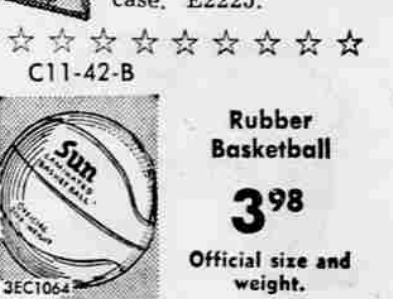
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