

DEGAULLE

L.T. - DeGaulle Thursday, May 29, 1958

In France, it seems to be all over but the shouting, and there's plenty of shouting - vive DeGaulle! The General - the head of the French government.

Under consitutional forms, it went like this:-

President Coty summoned the wartime leader to Paris for a third time. Cheering crowds hailing DeGaulle, as he entered the Elysee Palace - by the side door. Which is traditionally reserved - for the Premier. President Coty met him, and asked him to form - what he called ^A "Government of national safety". The General - accepting the mandate. He'll take office, if assured of the support of a non-Communist majority in the National Assembly.

But what's the meaning of "a government of national safety". The understanding is that, as Premier, DeGaulle will have special powers. Which would make him independent of those parliamentary majorities, so changeable and fickle in France. Overturning one cabinet after another - with France having twenty-five ~~XXXX~~ governments since the end of World ^{War II}

Tonight General DeGaulle laid down one major condition - that he shall have full power for a period of time to make changes in the French constitution - then to submit these changes to a plebiscite of the people.

Today, the French people were swinging to the side of DeGaulle. Paris - grown suddenly serious, tense, losing - the careless, gay spirit prevailing until now - with jokes - about the crisis. Paris and all France today - apprehensive. Seeing in DeGaulle - the only way out.

But what about the Communists? They are still - violently hostile. Threatening labor demonstrations. But the Reds appear to be more or less isolated. With other leftist factions - moving to the side of the sixty-seven year old soldier, leader of the Free French in the Second World War.

The political drama in Paris today - was focused on a caucus of the Socialist Party. The decision - resting with ninety-one Socialist members of the National Assembly.

Last night, when DeGaulle came to Paris, apparently to become the head of the government - the Socialists had blocked him. Stubbornly refusing - to accept the General. And, if they voted against him, he could not get a majority in the National Assembly.

Today, President Coty issued a solemn statement - that, if DeGaulle were not installed as head of the government, there ~~was~~ would be Civil War in France.

In Algeria, the rebel army chiefs issued a warning - that, if DeGaulle did ~~not~~ not assume power with no delay, they would take action. Which everybody took to mean - paratroop forces from Algeria in an aerial invasion of France.

Such were the factors confronting the caucus of the Socialists, today. The decision - brought about by one of their own members, ~~the~~ former President of the Republic, Vincent Auriol

Who stepped in - with action of his own.

Sending a letter to DeGaulle - imploring him to take no action against the Republic. Not⁺ to associate himself with ^{the} rebel Generals in Algeria and Corsica. But, on the contrary to preserve the Republic.

DeGaulle replied - he was afraid that anarchy, and civil war, would come about. Afraid - the army in Algeria would intervene with force. He vowed that he had no wish to become the head of the government - by force. But - ~~may~~ only by popular mandate, legally.

To the caucus of Socialists, Auriol read the letter from ~~the~~ DeGaulle. The former President giving a warning in these words: - "civil war is at our gates."

So what did the Socialist representatives do? They voted, and the count was - sixty-two to twenty-nine. In favor of DeGaulle.

~~And~~ Apparently, the deciding factor was the letter

~~from the~~

from the General. A leader of the left wing opposition, Mitterand, said: "One cannot remain insensible to General DeGaulle's letter".

The political drama inside the caucus of the Socialists - was the factor decisive in bringing DeGaulle to power, today.

TUNISIA

The United States and Britain -to reject an urgent request from Tunisia. For weapons, - armament for use against the French in Algeria.

The Tunisian government argued - that the French army in Algeria was in rebellion, out of control of the government in Paris. And, therefore - might go on a rampage against the Tunisians.

Today, however, the word in Washington was - that the rebel French Generals in Algeria have given assurances, they ~~mean~~ mean Tunisia no harm, and will keep the ~~peace~~ peace.

So, on that basis, the Tunisian request for armament - is rejected. The British and Americans believing - that shipments of weapons would only stir up more unrest in North Africa.

CARDINAL

In Rome - a solemn requiem for Cardinal Stritch of Chicago. In St. Ignatius Church- fifteen Cardinals and a throng of other prelates, diplomates and officials of the Italian government. The Church - crowded with twenty-five hundred people.

The far-famed choir of the Sistine Chapel sang the requiem - as the funeral ceremonies were solemnized. The body of Cardinal Stritch - then taken to the Rome airport. To be flown - to Chicago.

MOSCOW

Another American musical triumph - in Moscow.

The Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra - playing a series of concerts in the Soviet capital. Audiences - in wild ovations.

And today, journalistic plaudits. Izvestia, the official government newspaper - summing up the cheers with what it called "the richness, skillful ~~xxx~~ mastery and brilliant virtuosity of ~~xx~~ our guests."

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BRAZIL

There's danger ~~in~~ of a general war breaking out - in the Matto Grosso. Jungle tribes - threatening to ~~take~~ take the warpath against each other. Why? Well, a newspaper in Brazil, today, explained it in a headline worthy of our own tabloids.

"Jungle Goddess causes tribal war" said the newspaper

In addition to the "jungle goddess" the story features - an American missionary. Trying, apparently - to play a benevolent role.

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In the tribe of the Xvantes, a marriage was arranged for an Indian maiden. Who, however, didn't like the bridegroom selected for her. So, on the eve of her wedding, she fled. Making her way to another tribe, somewhat more civilized - under the protection of American missionary Robert Butler.

Her father was ready to lead a war party - to get the girl back. But the chief of the Xvantes, wanting to keep the peace - went for a talk with missionary Butler. He ^{*ck*} was ^{*the chief,*} ambushed and killed - by warriors from Butlers' village. In

retaliation for which - his own tribesmen killed four of
Butler's Indians.

So the feud was on - with other tribes joining in.

Threatening - a general war in the Matto Grosso - all because
of a "jungle goddess".

But then - didn't Helen of Troy start the most famous
war of all?

REORGANIZATION

Democrats in Congress - express bewilderment.

Because President Eisenhower, yesterday - attacked the Defense reorganization bill prepared by the Armed Services Committee

of the House. The Democrats pointing out - that President Eisenhower, previously, had ^{expressed} ~~stated his~~ approval of the bill.

They thought everything was fine. So, why does he now say - the bill would cause disunity and promote wastefulness?

Well, President Eisenhower did express approval.

But - with reservations. Arguing - there should be changes in the measure.

There seems to be some sort of mix-up - the

Democrats in a state of astonishment and chagrin.

OIL

A federal grand jury brought anti-trust law charges, today - against twenty-nine oil companies. Including the largest - headed by Standard Oil of Indiana, New Jersey and Ohio. The Texas Company and so on. The indictment alleges - price-fixing.

The case goes back to Nineteen Fifty-Seven - the time of the Suez Canal crisis. Mid-eastern oil shipments - impeded by the closing of the canal. Bringing - a hike in the price of oil in this country. The ~~huge~~ increase - almost the same for all the ~~big~~ companies. The department of justice - suspecting collusion.

An investigation followed - culminating with the indictments ~~in~~ today. Charging - a conspiracy to violate the anti-trust laws.

MERGER

The merger of the United Press and the International News Service is the subject of a rumpus in Congress. The combination of the two great ~~PR~~ news agencies to form the United Press International - is denounced by Congressman Emanuel Celler of New York and Senator Kefauver of Tennessee. The Senator - asking the Department of Justice to take up the matter. Possibly - seeking a court injunction against the merger.

Today, Congressman Keating of New York spoke scathingly of what he called - "Trigger-happy anti-trust zealots." He pointed out that Congress doesn't know the facts behind the consolidation of the U P and the I N S, which was compelled by economic reasons, according to Frank Bartholomew, President of the United Press International.

ADD MERGER

The Department of Justice calls the merger okay.

Because the I N S was doing badly - business failing.

COMMITTEE

A witness, giving evidence, collapsed at a Congressional hearing, today. Succumbing - to a heart attack. Frank Miller of Freeport, Louisiana - Chairman of the Southwestern Gas and Electric Company.

Testifying - against a bill connected with power-dams. Reading a statement - when, suddenly, he slumped in his chair.

The first one to reach him was Congressman Miller of Nebraska. The legislator - also a physician. He made the diagnosis quickly - a coronary. Frank Miller, sixty-eight years old.

APARTMENT HOUSES

Philadelphia - to have the largest apartment house in the world. So announced - by the Pennsylvania Railroad and developer Sylvester Lowery.

Called Penn Towers, the building will be thirty stories high, and occupy an entire city block, with nine hundred apartments - ~~and~~ thirty three hundred rooms! Exceeding- the largest apartment houses in New York.

Situated in the downtown area, Penn Towers will be completed in the spring of Nineteen Sixty. Philadelphia to be - the apartment house champion.

MUMBLER

A strange, grim story comes from the Mississippi state prison. About - the "mumbler". J. C. Cameron, who had an impediment of speech - which caused him to chew ~~his~~ up his words, in an ~~an~~ almost unpronounceable way.

"The mumbler" convicted of capital crime. Given - a death sentence. "The mumbler" executed in the Mississippi gas chamber, last night.

At the last moment, he recited the twenty-third psalm. Clearly, distinctly, without any impediment of speech.

"The Lord is my shepherd - I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures - he leadeth me beside the still waters".

No mumbling whatever - especially when the doomed man at the gas chamber came to the fourth verse.

"yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil- for thou art with me; ~~thy~~ thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

The mumbler - speaking his last words, with the clearest of enunciation.

JOKES

A radio friend, Albert Rapp of the University of Tennessee, sends me - a handsomely printed monograph published by ^{the} Roxburge Club of San Francisco, a group of bibliophiles.

The book is ~~xxx~~ called - "the ancient Greeks and Joe Miller." With translations - from a jokebook of Hellenic antiquity.

Right off the bat, I noticed a familiar wheeze - the one about the man who trained his donkey to go without eating. And had nearly succeeded - when the donkey died.

Another wheeze ~~xxxx~~ in the Joe Miller of the Ancient Greeks goes like this: A professor met a friend, and said:

Why, I heard that you were dead.

The fellow replied: Well, I'm alive.

~~Then~~ The professor said: But I assure you, the man who told me is much more truthful than you."

Another whimsy tells of a ~~an~~ man who asked a shopkeeper where somebody lived. To which the shop-keeper replied: "I'm alone, but if you will watch my shop, I'll go along and show you."

Jokes that got a laugh - in Athens - more than

two thousand years ago, Don - about four hundred B.C.

The fox was in a hole. The hunter - thrusting the butt of his shotgun down into the hole. Whereupon the gun fired, and peppered his ace with buckshot.

Examination showed that, when the butt of the gun was pushed into the hole - the fox, while screwing around, pulled the trigger with his paw.

The next thing we know, we'll be hearing about the fish that caught the fisherman.

FOX

Well, I have something cockeyed!

Over in England - a fox -- shot a hunter - which seems like a British version of "man bites dog."

The fox was in a hole. The hunter - thrusting the butt of his shotgun down into the hole. Whereupon the gun fired, and peppered his arm with buckshot.

Examination showed that, when the butt of the gun was pushed into the hole - the fox, while scrambling around, pulled the trigger with his paw.

The next thing we know, we'll be hearing about the fish that caught the fisherman.