

# Ex-Secretary's Article Scores Mrs. Onassis

## Former First Lady Held Inensitive To Her Husband

By FRED FERRETTI

The agent who sold a candid account of Mrs. Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis' White House years written by her personal secretary said yesterday that when the book is published "it will contain a great many passages of high praise for Mrs. Kennedy . . . some things good and kind."

Very few passages of praise for the former First Lady are contained in the first serialized excerpt from the book, "My Boss, Jackie Kennedy," by Mary Barelli Gallagher.

The article, in Ladies' Home Journal, pictures Mrs. Kennedy as a woman who overspent, then, to compensate, went on economy binges; as a wife who appeared to be rather insensitive to the wishes of her husband; as an employer who was tightfisted about raises, and as a person who desired expensive jewelry with such a passion that she sacrificed personal gifts to get what she wanted, and then economized further by requesting her staff to shop where trading stamps were dispensed.

The book was edited by Frances Spatz Leighton, the collaborating author with Mrs. Lillian Rogers Parks in the 1961 best-seller, "My 30 Years Backstairs at the White House."

That book detailed White

House life from the time of President William McKinley, when Mrs. Parks's mother was presidential maid, through the years from Presidents Calvin Coolidge through Dwight D. Eisenhower, when Mrs. Parks was a maid.

The release of the book prompted President and Mrs. Kennedy to exact written pledges of secrecy from all White House staff members. Pierre Salinger, White House press secretary under President Kennedy, disclosed that signed pledges had been received from the staff.

It was not clear then whether all White House staff members had signed the promise not to write about their employers.

Nor was it clear yesterday whether Mrs. Gallagher had signed a pledge in 1961. Her agent, Oscar Collier, of Seligmann & Collier, said that Mrs. Gallagher "does not remember signing such a pledge." He added that even if she had "it really wouldn't mean anything."

It is doubtful if such a pledge would be legally enforceable.

Mrs. Gallagher, who was secretary to Mrs. Onassis' mother, Mrs. Hugh D. Auchincloss, before moving to the White House, writes that the former First Lady ordered her staff to cut down on drinks to White House guests.

"She instructed Anne [Lincoln of the staff] to tell the butlers to refill those glasses that looked relatively unfinished and didn't have lipstick marks on the edge. Jackie said to pass them around again."

On the other hand, Mrs. Gallagher wrote, Mrs. Kennedy

spent \$21,461.61 more than the \$100,000 President Kennedy earned in 1962.

Mrs. Gallagher wrote that Mrs. Kennedy sold off her old and unwanted clothing under Mrs. Gallagher's name and address. As the various items were sold and the checks remitted, she wrote: "I would deposit it in my personal account. At the same time I would write out a check for the same amount to be deposited in Jackie's account."

Of Mrs. Kennedy's relationships with her husband, Mrs. Gallagher says:

"I sometimes thought it would be nice if Jackie would eat breakfast with the Senator—or at least come downstairs to see him off." And:

"I always felt there were two things that John F. Kennedy wanted in his home; a comfortable, familiar, unchanging place to read in peace and quiet—and no money worries. Strangely enough these two things remained elusive."

Mrs. Gallagher recounts her personal attempts to get in salary. There was a 15-month battle, she says, during which Mrs. Kennedy became angry and stamped her foot for emphasis. Mrs. Gallagher eventually received an increase, apparently not as high as the \$8,000 or \$9,000 she wanted.

Mrs. Gallagher says Mrs. Kennedy wanted an antique pin valued at \$6,160 and got it by selling an aquamarine given her by the Government of Brazil, a gold and emerald pin she had received while visiting Greece, a diamond clip she had received as a wedding gift and a ruby and diamond pin that had been a Christmas gift from President Kennedy.

## Agent Says Author Uses 'High Praise' in Book to Come

The First Lady netted \$4,400, Mrs. Gallagher says, and made up the difference herself after being dissuaded from removing diamonds from a sword given her husband by King Saud of Saudi Arabia.

Mrs. Kennedy also discovered trading stamps, Mrs. Gallagher wrote, and instructed her staff to shop at stores that gave the stamps so that with them "we can trade them in for these marvelous gifts."

Mr. Collier would not reveal the proceeds thus far from publication and serial rights, except to say that it was "in six figure."

Serial rights for Britain have been purchased by The London Daily Mirror and sales have already been made in Japan, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Germany, Italy and France.

Mr. Collier was asked if the material had been offered for sale in Greece, where Mrs. Onassis now lives with her husband, Aristotle Onassis.

"The sale to smaller countries," Mr. Collier said, "is handled by United Press International's international foreign department. I expect that it will be offered to Greece."

Mrs. Gallagher was unavailable to comment on her manuscript. However, through her publisher and agent, she let it be known that she had nothing to add to the published material.