Fashions at the Capital

The Well Dressed Woman of Smart Society, What She Wears; The Time and Place.

By MARGARET WADE.

With winter lingering in the lap of spring there is naturally a greater display of velvet and furs than one expects to see in Washington during Lent. There is also a greater display of evening gowns and of jewels than is quite compatible with a season supposed to be a period of rest, either for spiritual or physical well-being, but that is not on account of the weather.

The woman who packed away her low evening gowns on Ash Wednesday mistook the spirit of the times in quite as conspicuous a degree as she who packed away her furs was mistaken in the possibility of the Weather Bureau.

The small dance of Mr. Medzikhovsky, of the Russian Embassy, on Wednesday evening, and several other smaller dances with quite the usual number of dinners brought out new evening gowns in spite of the declining season. This class of dress, unlike street and afternoon wear, has no particular season for its own, since beads have become the embellishment for velvet, and fur the favorite trimming for tulle.

Thus far the supposed-to-be spring season has shown little change in the general appearance of gowns or millinery, although one hears of a widening of the skirt as well as the girdle, with a general tendency to a more conservative line in all costumes. Here is where Washington shows its supremacy as a reformer. Few maids and matrons of the Capital have ever accepted extreme fancies inspired by Leon Bakst, and exploited by Paul Poiret, yet the suggestion of these new prophets, modified to the taste and style of the women of Washington are shown in every up-to-date shop window to later appear at the dansantes and spring weddings, not to mention the ordinary occasion for smart attire in which Washington life abounds.

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That famous saying of Sheridan in "She Stoops to Conquer," that "women and music should never be dated," might, it seems, be applied with equal truth to some few rich and rare gowns, now that feminine attire has become a daily text for the press, the pulpit and forum. There are some gowns which hold their own at all seasons by reason of the true principals of art and common sense governing their construction, totally regardless of current fads and fashions.

To this very limited class belongs the superb magpie costume worn by Mrs. William F. Draper, one of Washington's foremost resident hostesses, and widow of the former Ambassador to Italy. This particular creation is of satin, in inch-wide stripes of white and black, made in the individual lines adopted uniformly by this particular matron.

The trained skirt opens in front from waist to hem, revealing a narrow pointed panel of white satin and point lace. The top shows a rounded decollatage with reveres of black velvet forming a deep "V" from shoulders to waistline, both back and front. In front the narrow ends of these reveres are held by a large ornament of highly cut crystals and secondary jewels that cross the base of the bodice like an implecement of former years. Above this gorgeous embellishment is a flat banding of point lace, which also forms oblong motifs on the half-length sleeve of the striped satin.

Except for the clasp of brilliants, and the lace the latter applied as a part of the gown proper, rather than as an embellishment, there is no hint of trimming anywhere, while the severely cut lines have been removed from all suggestion of basque, peplum, sash, pleat or girdle, as though the gown had been made for a seventeenth century palace, instead of a twentieth century drawing-room in the most democratic capital of the world. Worn with a double string of pearls and diamond tiara its wearer is conceded first place among the well-gowned women of smart society in any part of the world.

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Mrs. Thomas Gedney Patten, wife of Representative Patten, of New York, who is a recent addition to the Congressional circle, and at the same time an acknowledged acquisition to the smart resident set, is a handsome young matron, famous for her good clothes as well as her good manners.

Mrs. Patten wore a white satin dinner gown a few nights ago, which shows the magpie motif in color, but in unusual combination. The top of the gown is entirely of white, and from its appearance might be draped directly on its wearer's slender figure without aid of scissors or needle, so perfect are the lines of rich silver-like satin that fall from a seamless yoke of rhinestones that form the top of the square cut bodice and a large part of the short sleeve. Just where the fullness of the skirt gets its start no one but the designer of this creation can tell, but the long ripples of satin above a narrow train are unmistakable evidence that yards and yards of material are employed. This undetermined fullness, which can hardly be called drapery, may be two-toned satin, as its under side as shown with every movement of its wearer is black, and black of a high polished cut jet variety. Topped by a black aigrette head dress in Mrs. Patten's prematurely gray hair, and completed by black slippers with the new jet buckles this costume is deservedly famous after two appearances only.

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Mlle. Ernestine van Rappard, one of the guests of Mr. Medzikhovsky on Wednesday evening, is wearing a white satin dance frock that is the very embodiment of both youth and springtime. This young daughter of the new Minister from the Netherlands is tall and fair with the slender figure of a Parisian. Her white satin gown, or this particular white satin gown, is made with a close, round skirt and smooth fitting peplum, scalloped about its edge and embroidered in silver. The peplum has its greatest length directly in the back where it comes half way down the skirt. The silver embroidery is a very delicate pattern of vine and leaf five or six inches deep, placed just above the scalloped edge. There is also a generous sprinkling of silver on the satin and tulle bodice which follows the prevailing modish close style with long shoulders and slightly bloused back.

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Mrs. John Philip Hill, the former Miss Susanne Carroll, of Baltimore, who is a recent guest of Mrs. Richard Townsend, wore one of the handsomest of the several vivid emerald green gowns that are so popular this season. This now prevailing shade, which is equally becoming to blonde and brunette, shows to advantage, Mrs. Hill's dark hair and clear white complexion. The skirt is narrow with a slight train as becomes even so youthful a matron as this recent bride. There is an 18-inch flounce of rich old lace over which is hung a short, coat-like tunic in the same handsome lace.

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Although many fashion writers claim the much-trimmed hat will return with the flowers of spring, those knowing ones who have been to New York, or have had direct information from Paris show no sigh of abandoning the sparsely decorated, close-fitting hat that made itself a leader in the millinery world in midwinter. In spite of the almost daily snowstorm one straw hat at least has appeared on Connecticut avenue with its wearer, Mrs. George Marye. This is a black Spanish turban in Milan straw with its trimming long, well-tied loops of black satin slanting earthward instead of skyward, which, after all is a distinction and must be regarded as a new fashion.

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The short fur jacket that London and Paris considers a spring and autumn accessory with modish cloth skirts is shown to perfection in the smart costume of Mrs. Borden Harriman, late of New York, but now residing in Washington, where she has the distinction of being one of the first society women to occupy an important post under the national government. Mrs. Harriman is distinctly a believer in fur coats. For day or for evening she has coats that go to the ankle, for afternoon wear she has one of the smartest chinchilla jackets on the straight line with scalloped back, which is a model later to appear in many new cloth coats. This jaunty little coat fits smoothly above the shoulders, is collarless and untrimmed. At no point does it extend more than two inches below the normal waist line. The soft gray and white fur is made up lengthwise in the body of the garment with a formed band of six or eight inches showing the reverse line going about the lower edge. Mrs. Harriman wears this with a dark cloth skirt and tops it with a small black hat showing a white and gray upstanding ostrich plume.

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A cold-weather visiting toilet of broadtail and long-piled velvet of the old-fashioned reliable kind is one of the individual modish gowns worn by Mrs. Elsie Cobb Wilson, who designs her own clothes with the same artistic success that has already given her an enviable reputation on interior decoration. Mrs. Wilson's black gown shows a panel of broad tail on each side of the narrow skirt, the front and back of which are of the velvet. The jacket, much the same model as Mrs. Harriman's, is entirely of fur except as regards the loose, long sleeves. With this she carries a muff of broad tail and wears a small black velvet hat with soft aigrette in white.

Young Mrs. Wilson's blouse, showing when she opens this cold-weather jacket, is one of the ra-smart white blouses coming back to the fashionable wardrobe. It is fine unfigured nel in ivory tint, mounted on self-colored satin all in fine unstitched pleats.

The return of the blouse and its humble sister, the shirtwaist, is not the least of the problems of dress every woman will be called upon to decide for herself in the next few weeks.

* * * *

A between-season demi-toilet of the first class is that worn by Mrs. Blaine Elkins, just back from a visit to New York, where the private views and "sales," all direct importations, presented themselves with last week's blizzard. This is a one-piece gown on conservative lines, of the latest tone taupe. Whether it is silk or satin depends entirely on ones' prejudices, as the background is a corded silk, the small brocade leaf pattern high luster satin. In this we see the same narrow skirt of the past six months, the same V front and neck, with possibly the V extending slightly lower.

The drapery is quite full about the hips after the fashion of a panier, with broad box plaits in front. The top of this gown shows the loose shoulder from which long, narrow sleeves extend to the wrist. Possibly the most significant feature in this is the return of the belt, not merely a girdle. There is a girdle of black moire ribbon going completely around the waist, and this is supplemented by a leather belt of a most glorified variety which starts from the under arm seams and fastens in front with an antique gold buckle. The belt is two inches deep, of taupe color inlaid in round medallions of crimson and yellow fine enough in their execution to be mistaken for enamel. In saying the belt starts from the under arm seams it must not be assumed that the latter loses itself in a seam, that would be much too ordinary a process for the inventor of this gown. The ends are clamped to the waist by small antique slides matching the above mentioned buckle.

In this we see the first suspicion of the lowered waistline which some people say is to be a feature of next summer's gowns, while other fashion prophets equally well informed aver that the empire style is returning in such force as to make the belts mount upward.

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Whatever the spring colors may be, there will be no discount on the firmly established taupe. In millinery this tone has come to be almost as stable as black, the all-taupe hat being accepted as the successor of the one indispensable all-black hat, supposed to go with anything.

Mme. Hauge is wearing a velvet hat that shows Paradise, or Gourra in taupe color arranged in a charming, novel way, which is practically a fringe flat on the otherwise narrow, round brim.

Miss Margaret Cameron, formerly of New York, but now claimed as one of the distinct acquisitions to Washington's permanent winter colony, is wearing a taupe hat that bears a strong resemblance to the old-time sailor, but by reason of its quality, and the graceful grouping of Gourra plumes across its front becames a chapeau of distinction suited alike for grave or gay companies. Miss Cameron wears this either morning or afternoon with an extremely modish taupe-colored tailored suit in poplin or a very fine serge.

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One of the smart and distinctive evening wraps of the season, which has been conspicuous for its individuality in this once almost unnoticed realm of dress, is that worn by Mrs. H. B. F. Macfarland. This is a long kimona-shaped garment which by its unusual coloring shows itself to be an old-time cashmere shawl made up in 1914 cloak lines. The predominating colors are terra cotta and green with the ground of white. Mrs. Macfarland has this lined in white satin and finished in cords and frogs of heavy white silk.

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The old blue in its best coloring is shown in a very smart evening gown of Miss Harriet Southerland, daughter of Rear Admiral William H. H. Southerland, whose home in N street is again open to society. This shows a trained skirt under an overdress of Spanish lace, the latter a revival of the genuine Spanish weave in a rich cream color. Between the lace and the blue velvet a flounce of pinkish tulle gives a new and delicate color tone that is extremely chic. The top of the gown is of the lace showing touches of blue with a girdle of blue velvet, a line of glistening rhinestones outlined the surplice neck.

—Edmonston Photo, Washington, D. C.

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AFTER-DINNER SECRETARIAL CLASSES are held on Mondays and Wednesdays at the Leola Gale Barber School of Rhythm and Correlated Arts, 1003 Columbia Road.

SOCIETY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE.

America the imperial collection of Persian products to be exhibited at the San Francisco fair. They will attend the coronation of the Shah, in July, before returning to America.

Miss Helen Gelaski, of Richmond, is spending some time here, the guest of friends.

The Counselor of the Italian Embassy and Mme. Catalani will sail from New York on Tuesday on the steamship Kaiser Wilhelm II of the North German Lloyd. They will spend the spring months in Paris.

Other Washington passengers on the Kaiser Wilhelm II are Mr. and Mrs. J. C. McNally.

Mrs. James H. Patten gave yesterday at the Congressional Club a buffet luncheon in honor of her mother, Mrs. A. C. Latimer, who has been her house guest for some time. Mrs. Patten was assisted by Mrs. Bulkley, Mrs. Gard, Mrs. Sweet, and Mrs. Oscar Underwood.

Among the boxholders at the Belasco Theater today, when Vice President Marshall will speak under the auspices of the Young Women's Christian Association, will be Mrs. Marshall, Mrs. Josephus Daniels, Mrs. Redfield, Mrs. Burleson, Mrs. John W. Foster, Mrs. Joseph W. Folk and Mrs. Wallace Radcliffe; also Judge George E. Martin, of the Customs Court, and Mrs. Martin.

Mrs. S. Lansburgh entertained a number of friends at tea Wednesday afternoon.

Mrs. Albert L. Mills will not receive on Mondays until after Easter.

Master Louis Phelan, the nine-year-old son of Representative and Mrs. Phelan, of Massachusetts, gave a birthday party yesterday afternoon to about thirty-five of his young friends.

Mrs. R. S. Lyons, of Baltimore, spent a few days in the city during the past week, the guest of friends.

Mrs. Thomas R. Marshall will be the guest of honor at the College Women's Club tea tomorrow afternoon, from 4 to 6, at 1329 F street northwest. Mme. Ali Kuli Khan will talk on "Women in Persia." The hostess will be Mrs. John Cummings, assisted by the members of Section XII—Miss Virginia Alexander, Miss Jane Bartlett, Mrs. E. B. Behrend, Mrs. H. G. Brouse, Mrs. W. K. Butler, Miss Marion Butler, Miss Marion Clark, Miss Jean D. Cole, Miss Catharine C. Custis, Mrs. T. H. Daniel, Miss Grace B. Finney, Miss Mary E. Griffith, Miss Cara P. Gurgan, Miss Florence Hedges, Miss Mary E. Heller, Mrs. A. G. Hensley, Miss Anna E. Jenkins, Miss Myra H. Jones, Miss Mary A. Matthews, Miss Catharine T. Plant, Mrs. J. C. Plant, Miss E. A. Read, Mrs. T. B. Rhodes, Mrs. C. S. Riddell, Miss Marie K. Saunders, Miss Katharine A. Smith, Dr. Ada R. Thomas, Miss Emma H. Turner, Mrs. R. H. Turner, Mrs. O. L. Veerhoff, Miss Laura E. Vernon and Miss Flora Wilson.

Miss Margaret Wilson will also attend the tea, being the special guest of Section XII.

To Receive Wednesday

Mrs. Mary Burks Somervell and the Continental Chapter have sent out invitations for a reception Wednesday afternoon, March 18, from 4 until 6 o'clock, at Belcourt Seminary, in honor of Mrs. William Cumming Story.

Senator and Mrs. Sutherland have with them for several months their daughter, Mrs. C. W. Lawrence, of Salt Lake City.

Capt. and Mrs. Warren Beach will not open their house, 1811 H street, this year for the spring months, but go farther South for the season.

Miss Ernestine Eiseman has returned to the Bristol School, after spending some time in her home in Atlanta, Ga.

Representative and Mrs. Henry T. Rainey have visiting them Miss Mary Scott, the registrar of Knox College, Galesburg, Ill.; Miss Ruth Fairbanks and Miss Mabel Fairbanks Mathews both of Jacksonville, Ill.

Mr. and Mrs. John Sidney Webb have taken possession of their handsome new home in Massachusetts avenue.

Mrs. Henry J. Porter, jr., who has been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Culp for several weeks, has returned to her home in Birmingham.

Mr. Sidney Gundersheimer has returned to his home in Baltimore after a short visit to friends here.

Announcement is made by Mrs. Frank H. Smith of the engagement of her niece, Miss Helen M. Berry, of Fulton, Ill., and Mr. Millard W. Jones, of Morris, Pa. The wedding will take place in Washington during the coming summer.

Sir Charles and Lady Ross, who spent the week-end in Washington, sailed on the Olympic Wednesday for England, much earlier than their usual custom. This is on account of the recent burning of one of Sir Charles' country places in England by the militant suffragettes a short time ago, and while the house was not completely destroyed, most of the beautiful portraits and furniture were ruined by smoke and water. Lady Ross probably will remain in London for the spring season and Sir Charles, following a trip to Southern Europe, which may extend to Constantinople, expects to return to Quebec late in the spring in order to get some salmon fishing in June, before returning to his estate in Scotland for the grouse shooting.

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Anderson, Mr. Morgan Badford, jr., and Mr. and Mrs. Norton M. Little are prominent among Washington people at the McAlpin this week.

Mr. Ernest Evans and Miss Winn, who have been seen so frequently at the tea and supper dances at the New Willard this season, danced on Monday afternoon at the McAlpin for Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, president of the national suffrage party, who is still confined to the McAlpin as a result of her recent accident. Following a consultation Dr. Shaw's physicians decided that it would not be wise for her to attempt the trip to Florida which she had contemplated next week. If her condition continues to improve, she will sail in April for Italy, where she is booked to speak in Rome at the International Council.

Miss Alma Moser, of Baltimore, spent a few days in the city during the past week.

At the "Talk on Current Events" tomorrow morning in the auditorium at Woodward & Lathrop's, in addition to the general review of the World's Work for the past week, Miss Janet Richards, will touch particularly on District affairs, including the drastic provisions of the Johnson-Prouty measure, the smoke nuisance, and the social difficulty of Washington society concerning its "calling list."

Brief mention will also be made of the interesting and significant ceremony at the annual banquet of the National Geographic Society last Tuesday night, when a gold medal was presented by the President to Colonel Goethals.

The Interstate Suffrage Club will hold its regular weekly reception tomorrow, from 3 to 6 o'clock, in the parlors of the interstate clubhouse, 1306 G street northwest.

Mrs. Anna Hendley, president of the Anthony League, assisted by the members of her organization, will act as hostess for the day.

From 4 to 5 o'clock Herr Peter Peters and Prof. Mori will give a cello and piano recital. This is Herr Peters first appearance in Washington, although he is no stranger in the other large cities, and music-lovers will be given a rare opportunity. Richard Harding Davis pronounced him "one of the greatest performers on the cello in America."

Prof. Mori is well known as a performer and composer of great ability. He has consented to render some of his own compositions.

Admission is free to all members of the club.

The Washington Alliance of Jewish Women will hold its regular meeting Tuesday at 2:30 p. m. in the vestry of the Eighth Street Temple, when the following program has been arranged: Hon. John D. Works will address the meeting; Miss Hattie Stein will discuss current topics; Mrs. Cawthon will sing, and Mrs. Paul Bleyden and Mrs. Levi H. David will render piano duets. A social hour will conclude the meeting.

The Lucy Holcomb Chapter, D. A. R., will hold a spring hat sale on Monday, March 16, from 10 a. m. to 7 p. m., at the home of Mrs. Charles W. Richardson, State regent, 1317 Connecticut avenue. This sale is for the educational and patriotic work of the society. A large number of stylish spring hats will be exhibited. The public are invited.

Mr. and Mrs. John Philip Hill have arrived at the Shoreham from Baltimore to spend some time.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard T. Beale, of Philadelphia, have arrived in Washington and are at the Shoreham.

Mr. and Mrs. Short A. Willis left Washington yesterday morning for Texas, accompanied by their two young sons, Master Richard and Master Henry Hawley Willis, and Miss Nash, of Cazenovia, N. Y. Mr. and Mrs. Willis will make their winter home near Galveston. Their bungalow, which is now in process of erection on their estate, will be finished shortly. Miss Olive Willis is already in Galveston visiting relatives, and will join her parents on their arrival.

Mrs. Willis was formerly librarian general of the N. S. D. A. R., and during

CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE.

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ATLANTIC CITY RECOVERS FROM RECENT BLIZZARD

Snow is Speedily Removed from Boardwalk

By CHARLES K. ABBOT.

Atlantic City, N. J., March 7.—Only a week ago Atlantic City was experiencing one of the most severe snowstorms, accompanied by a high northwest wind, that has swept the resort in nearly twenty-five years. During the first two days of the week traffic was totally paralyzed, while transportation facilities to and from the resort were practically cut off and telegraph and telephone wires were broken down, resulting in almost complete isolation. Notwithstanding these uncontrollable events the appearance of the resort today would not impress the visitor with the fact that anything unusual had occurred.

Immediately after the storm had subsided the Boardwalk was cleared of snow, and thousands of visitors who had been confined indoors for two days were able to resume their promenades or enjoy the comfort of a rolling chair. A succession of clear, warm, sunny days aided materially in the removal of the snow from all sections of the resort and the vehicular traffic has now resumed normal proportions. As a result of the storm important steps will doubtless be taken shortly that will eventually lead to the placing of all overhead wires in underground conduits, which is a matter of greatest importance to every resident of, and visitor to, the resort.

To Advertise Winter Charms.

Through the co-operation of the Hotel Men's Association and the chamber of commerce, it is expected that an attractive electric sign will be placed in a central location along the Boardwalk indicating to the summer throng the attractions and advantages of visiting Atlantic City during the winter months. While Atlantic City has thousands of visitors during the winter season, it is certain that many more people would avail themselves of a visit to the resort during this season of the year if they were more familiar with the delightful climatic conditions that are generally characteristic of the resort throughout the winter.

An extension of twenty feet will be added to the Boardwalk from Maryland to New Hampshire avenues and work will commence within a few days. This will serve materially to reduce the congestion in this particular location that has resulted in the development of the inlet section; and the improvement will be welcomed by thousands of visitors who frequent this part of the famous thoroughfare.

Within the next few weeks many of the hotels that are now closed will be prepared to receive guests for Easter and the resort is daily assuming increased activity.

With the progress of the Lenten season there does not seem to be any lack of enthusiasm regarding dancing, which continues to be as popular as hitherto-fore.

Many Guests at Hotels.

Since the opening of the Clarendon Hotel, in Virginia avenue, a few weeks ago, after the completion of extensive repairs, which included running hot and cold water in every room, the number of guests has been steadily increasing, and this house will doubtless be filled to its capacity before Easter.

The Hotel Dolphin, which was formerly situated in Virginia avenue, near the beach, has removed to a very select location in St. Charles place, being the first house from the Boardwalk. For some time the management of this hotel has been desirous of securing a larger house, that could more readily accommodate the increased patronage. The new Hotel Dolphin has been completely renovated and furnished throughout, and now offers every comfort for the enjoyment of its guests, including an elevator, electric lights, steam heat, and other desirable features.

Within a few feet of the Boardwalk and occupying a very central location, near the principal theaters and places of amusement is the Hotel Mervine, in New York avenue, which is now under the sole proprietorship of Mr. Stanton R. Cole. This is an exceptionally well-appointed house for family patronage, and is liberally conducted at reasonable rates.

Among the recent arrivals in the resort are registered the following residents of Washington: Capt. J. Guest, U. S. A., and Mrs. Guest, Mrs. John H. Bell, Mrs. J. D. Wright, Rev. C. J. Wingate, Mr. and Mrs. T. Janney Brown, and Mrs. Thornton N. Motley.

Prominent Baltimoreans who have recently arrived at the resort include Mr. and Mrs. Louis S. Hutzler, W. J. Silk, Miss Carrie Silk, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Burke, Dr. and Mrs. R. H. Follis, Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. M. Lane, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Carter, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Young, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Krieger, Miss Ethel M. Miller, Charles Carroll, jr., George M. Stieff, John C. Legg, Norman James, Michael Jenkins, Mr. and Mrs. Waldo Newcomer, H. D. Wilcox, F. K. Murphy, Miss Hack, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Warner, Mrs. James W. Sanders, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Wight, Mr. and Mrs. Armour Jenkins, Miss Feeney, Miss McGuire, Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Wands, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Urner, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Jones, Miss Florence J. Thomas, and Miss Helena Hogue.

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