

MANY WILL MAKE THEIR DEBUTS IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY THIS SEASON

Several Young Women to Be Introduced to Society Here.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 7. NEARLY always there are several who select Thanksgiving Day as a propitious and appropriate day for a debut, but so far this season there is only one who has announced herself as a Thanksgiving debutante, and that is Miss Virginia Pottle, daughter of Mrs. Walter Swallow. The only other who has definitely settled on a date for her launching is Miss Emma Stitt, daughter of Rear Admiral and Mrs. Edward Rhodes Stitt. Admiral Stitt is Surgeon-General of the navy. Miss Stitt has picked December 1. Her sister, Mary, made her bow last season, and made a pronounced hit, which Emma will be put to it to equal. But Emma is as pretty as a picture—or as big sister—and while she was not out last season she was occasionally to be seen at the parties of the younger set.

Another navy debutante who is sure to have a lot of fun is Miss Eugenie Lejeune, daughter of Major-Gen. John A. Lejeune, commandant of the Marine Corps and Mrs. Lejeune. Her elder sister, Laura, was one of the popular debutantes last season. Gen. Lejeune would tell you that he is not a society man; he doesn't particularly like getting into dress uniform and standing around at pink teas; but he did it uncomplainingly last season for one daughter, and with two in the field the stalwart Marine Corps commandant is likely to get pretty thoroughly tamed. Miss Beatrice Pitney, only daughter of Justice and Mrs. Mahlon Pitney is another of the season's debutantes who is bound to come in for a whole lot of attention. She's not only a society girl, but her mother's pretty and being her mother's daughter will help a whole lot. Mrs. Pitney has always been active socially, and last spring the Pitneys bought the house on R street, in which they had lived for years, until forced out by the emergency of war time congestion. Then they took for a couple of seasons one on Massachusetts avenue which didn't suit them so well; and last spring they bought up their former home, and had it all done over. The stage is all set, swept and garnished, for that little debutante. But the date isn't. The Pitneys have been detained in Morristown, by the "slight illness" of Justice Pitney. I believe he was the only absentee when the Supreme Court called on the President last Monday. One trusts the assurance that it really is slight and that they will soon be back in Washington, but really the friends here are a bit worried, and Justice Pitney's associates seemed distinctly concerned. Miss Beatrice, by the way, was one of the bridesmaids at the Harding-Pell wedding at Fride's Crossing early in September.

Another debutante is Mrs. John R. Mitchell's pretty daughter, Miss Louise Anderson. Mr. Mitchell is a Minneapolis banker who came to Washington a couple of years ago to serve on the Federal Reserve Board. Then there is

Rosamond Castle, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William R. Castle, who is bound to profit by the popularity of her parents, until she has had time to develop a personal popularity for herself; Mr. Castle is one of the younger State Department men, who with their wives make up a very smart little coterie in Washington, all people with a distinct gift for entertaining.

Also there is Dorothy Warren, pretty young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bates Warren, who has been counted among this year's debutantes. But I seem to have heard that Mrs. Warren had changed her mind on that and decided to send Dorothy abroad for a year instead. And Mrs. Stanton Peelle's pretty daughter, Betty Byrne, who had also been listed as one who would be presented this season, but who seems likely to delay for another year. That is not astonishing, for Miss Betty is an attractive child, but rather fragile looking, and it would seem the part of wisdom not to let her "go" too hard for another year. You know the debutante's pace. Her first season is likely to be a pretty strenuous one. So I shouldn't wonder if Mrs. Peelle decided to keep Betty quiet for another year.

Frederica McKenney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick McKenney, is another girl who is expected to make her formal debut. She played around a good deal with the younger set last season, but she was not supposed to be formally "out." She is a younger sister of that very good looking Virginia McKenney who came out a couple of years ago.

Washington had rather counted on Beesie McKenney, the daughter of Mrs. Leigh Palmer, but the Palmers have gone off to New York to live, and I hear, anyhow, that Mrs. Palmer is deciding to defer Beesie's debut for a year. The Palmers count as navy folk, though really Leigh Palmer resigned from the navy shortly after his marriage to Mrs. McKenney, an attractive widow with two small daughters, Leigh C. Palmer was in his time one of the White House aids. I think it was during the "raft" regime, and he was well and widely known. After marrying Mrs. McKenney he resigned from the navy and went into business. Then when the war came along he, of course, went back into the service. But he's out again now and the Palmers have gone to New York, and presumably are permanently lost to Washington.

Other Possibilities.

There are half a dozen others who may or may not come out. Nancie Turner Benoit, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Benoit; Carolyn Thom, daughter of the Corcoran Thoms; Virginia Selden, Virginia Edwards and Alice Millburn—all of whom played around a bit with the debutantes of last season and were regarded as likely to be formally presented this season.

It's curious, but I don't seem to remember a single army girl who is likely to come out this winter. Jane Moffett, daughter of Rear Admiral Moffett of the Navy Air Service, may be added to daughter of Rear Admiral Moffett of the head men in naval aviation, and I understand that pretty Jane has a yearning to become an aviatrix rather than a debutante. But I gather, too, that Admiral Moffett goes "right up in the air" when she speaks of it.

Nor has one as yet heard anything of Congressional and Senatorial debutantes. Congress may develop one or

two, but at present that set is more occupied with its political fences than with its daughters' debuts. Most of them are away just now—and you would have omitted to see the unanimity and the expedition with which they got away as soon as they were allowed to. It was a fine demonstration of the "Stand up on the order of your going" idea.

Also there is a Miss Catherine Peddiffe of Cardiff, Wales, for whom Admiral and Mrs. Robinson gave a dinner Wednesday night, who is announced as one of the season's debutantes.

It had been in the back of my head that Miss Beatrice Henderson, granddaughter of Mrs. John Henderson, would be making her debut this season. But Mrs. Henderson says "not for two years yet." Beatrice has gone back to Foxcroft School. But her grandmother did give her a fine send-off—a tea dance on Wednesday afternoon, with many of the younger diplomats—the ones who have been playing tennis on the courts of Henderson Castle and swimming in the Henderson pool all summer—among the guests.

Among the Diplomats.

Getting around to the diplomats—the corps seems to be settling down for the winter quite rapidly. The British Ambassador and Lady Geddes are back—he came early in the week, and she arrived yesterday. The Spanish Ambassador and Mme. Riano are back. The Chilean Ambassador, Senor de Rathieu, is back, and his wife will follow in a few weeks.

The French Ambassador and Mme. Jusserand are reported as sailing for this side on October 21, and the Belgian Ambassador and Mrs. Cartier are sailing, a couple of days earlier on the Lapland. There has as yet been no word of the Italian Ambassador's return, except positive assurance that he would return here, and will sail shortly for Italy.

The real grief in the diplomatic corps is that the Grouitchs are leaving. They are ever so popular, and the blow was quite unexpected. There had been rumors a year ago when they were abroad that they would not return, but they came back. Mme. Grouitch tells me that there has been a post at court awaiting her husband for a year or more, but that she wished to finish up. But now his successor, Dr. Pavichic, has arrived and the Grouitchs are really going. Mme. Grouitch has announced that she will be at home informally Fridays in October, so that her friends may have an opportunity to wish her bon voyage. Dr. Grouitch will probably sail about the first of November, but Mme. Grouitch, while she will leave Washington, will not leave the country until she has made a tour of the principal cities where her Serbian relief is well organized, and do what she can to put it in shape to carry on without her.

Some of our own diplomats who have been at home on leave are getting back to their posts. The Ambassador to France, Myron Herrick, sailed early last week. So, too, did Major Sherman Miles and family, detailed to Constantinople. Major Miles has had a curious experience. He had been ordered to Fort Sill, and had either just arrived or was on his way there when orders came for him to switch off and go to Constantinople, all of a sudden. And so they have started, Major and Mrs. Miles, Mrs. Miles's mother, Mrs. Holden Noble, three children, one large and loving dog and all their household goods. The last seems a good deal of an undertaking, but it also seems that if they want any household goods it is as well to take them with them.

A Brave "Mover."

Mrs. Miles is certainly a brave lady. They were at Sofia, Major Miles being military attaché in Bulgaria, when the United States and Bulgaria fell out. Major Miles was transferred to Russia, and it was impossible to take their belongings into Russia, so they put them in storage in Sofia, and by the time that it might have been possible to get them out they had pretty well evaporated. They acquired what they could in Russia and had to abandon their belongings there. Now they are headed for Constantinople, and nothing daunted Mrs. Miles expects to go to housekeeping there. She will, however, not go at once. She is not quite so reckless as she sounds. They will stop at Paris and look the situation over from there before deciding on taking the children—not forgetting the dog—to Constantinople.

Washington at this time of year always reminds me of a game of "stage coach" or "Marching to Jerusalem," or some other of the plays dear to the heart of childhood that involve a general uprooting, from which it will emerge with nearly everybody in somebody else's place or in some one else's house. It takes six months to get them straight-

ened out, and by that time they are preparing for another upheaval.

For instance, one is told that Mr. and Mrs. Henry White, when they come down for the winter—which will probably be late in the fall—will occupy their own house on Crescent place. It is the handsome house which Henry White, former United States Ambassador to France, built about ten years ago up back of Henderson Castle—a house designed for large entertaining as well as for comfort and beauty—almost on the site of Walt Whitman's log cabin, that was moved to Rock Creek Park by the California Society some years ago and dedicated, with considerable ceremony, as a literary shrine.

Mr. White loaned his home to Uncle Sam for the use of the French High Commission that came over here just

after the United States entered the war. But after Mrs. White's death it seemed rather more home than a lone widower—even a genial widower who entertained a good deal—needed, especially when the widower was named as the Republican member of the American Peace Commission and had an indefinite stay in Paris ahead of him. So he rented it to Senator and Mrs. Peter Golet Gerry, who needed a handsome residence. And when he returned to Washington and wanted to settle down Mr. White took a less pretentious house in the Du Pont Circle neighborhood. It was entirely adequate to his needs until he married Mrs. Sioane (originally Emily Vanderbilt) of New York. They divide their time between Washington and New York

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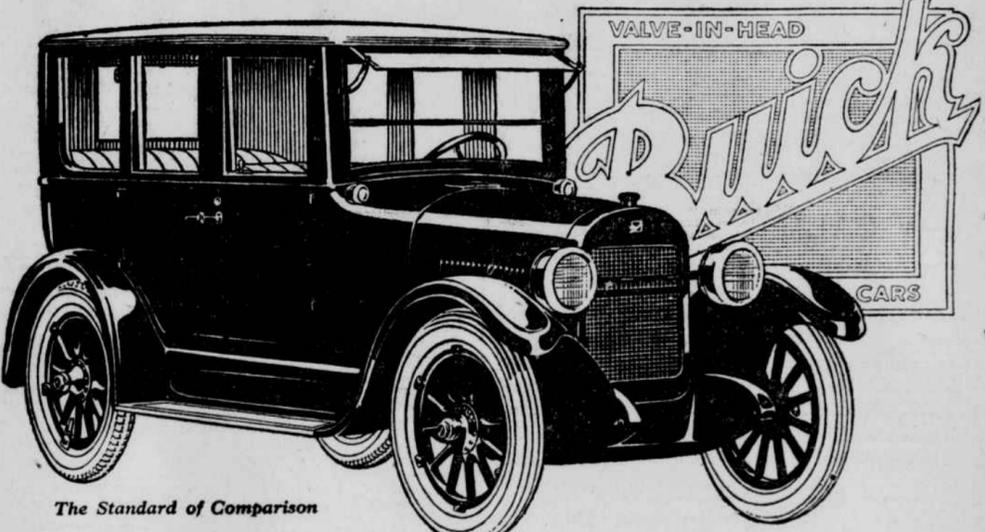
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